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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1954

## FISHING LICENSE SALES CONTINUE TO CLIMB

Fresh-water fishing continued its upward trend of popularity during the year ended June 30, 1953, with the record sale of 17,652,478 anglers' licenses, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay was advised today by John L. Farley, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The gross revenue derived by the 48 States from these license sales amounted to \$35,602,903.

Compared with the previous year when 17,127,896 fishing licenses were sold by the various States for \$33,609,539, the 1952-53 season totals represent an increase of 524,582 in licenses and \$1,993,364 in revenue.

Nonresident fishermen purchased 2,518,396 licenses in fiscal year 1953, an increase of 210,171 over the 2,308,225 of the previous year. States which attracted the greatest number of out-of-state anglers were Wisconsin, with 301,250 nonresident license sales; Michigan, with 297,727; Minnesota, with 289,332; and Tennessee, with 231,330.

In the number of licenses issued, Michigan yielded first place (for the first time since fiscal year 1948) to California which headed the list with 1,158,465. Michigan was in second place with 1,146,387, while Wisconsin held third place with 1,011,813. Minnesota was fourth with 922,718; Illinois, fifth, with 829,165; New York, sixth, with 798,291; Tennessee, seventh, with 791,371; Ohio, eighth, with 785,998; Pennsylvania, ninth, with 757,625; and Missouri, tenth, with 630,455.

For comparative purposes, the first 10 in the license sales line-up are shown for 1952-53 and 1951-52.

	<u>1952-53</u>		<u>1951-52</u>
California	1,158,465	Michigan	1,124,338
Michigan	1,146,387	California	1,059,367
Wisconsin	1,011,813	Wisconsin	1,038,712
Minnesota	922,718	Minnesota	930,556
Illinois	829,165	Ohio	874,910
New York	798,291	New York	794,436
Tennessee	791,371	Tennessee	762,055
Ohio	785,998	Illinois	750,968
Pennsylvania	757,625	Pennsylvania	664,286
Missouri	630,455	Missouri	654,268

In fiscal year 1953, Indiana issued 21,679 permanent free permits for fishing, hunting, and trapping to veterans. From 1945 through 1953, Indiana has issued

**FISHING LICENSES SOLD IN THE UNITED STATES**  
July 1, 1952 to June 30, 1953

State	Resident	Non-Resident	Total Licenses	Anglers' Fees
Alabama	195,904	17,846	213,750	\$ 249,673
Arizona	82,384	43,963	126,347	335,305
Arkansas	271,625	118,811	390,436	725,256
California	1,143,037	15,428	1,158,465	3,475,705
Colorado	277,593	92,555	370,148	749,746
Connecticut	97,491	4,308	101,799	353,096
Delaware	8,787	1,682	10,469	23,599
Florida	219,678	99,099	318,777	934,992
Georgia	381,893	5,452	387,345	251,446
Idaho	173,228	60,764	233,992	632,885
Illinois	807,209	21,956	829,165	883,323
Indiana	517,187	32,341	549,528	613,817
Iowa	336,682	14,019	350,701	502,240
Kansas	270,467	5,495	275,962	425,625
Kentucky	359,551	84,385	443,936	804,826
Louisiana	89,159	13,556	102,715	134,892
Maine	130,535	67,807	198,342	604,601
Maryland	93,434	19,479	112,913	205,855
Massachusetts	202,673	6,610	209,283	603,637
Michigan	848,660	297,727	1,146,387	2,218,908
Minnesota	633,386	289,332	922,718	2,283,316
Mississippi	123,180	50,075	173,255	261,924
Missouri	580,851	49,604	630,455	1,308,417
Montana	178,800	32,648	211,448	386,440
Nebraska	199,522	9,390	208,912	322,061
Nevada	23,314	23,646	46,960	166,571
New Hampshire	77,668	45,270	122,938	396,153
New Jersey	135,322	10,258	145,580	542,951
New Mexico	67,746	39,780	107,526	359,472
New York	759,688	38,603	798,291	1,789,335
North Carolina	280,664	49,168	329,732	562,436
North Dakota	72,989	860	73,849	39,075
Ohio	744,888	41,110	785,998	1,558,055
Oklahoma	357,314	53,131	410,445	867,384
Oregon	278,283	24,440	302,723	1,122,579
Pennsylvania	732,005	25,620	757,625	1,567,570
Rhode Island	21,855	414	22,269	41,822
South Carolina	255,429	10,463	265,892	335,025
South Dakota	98,161	26,067	124,228	297,317
Tennessee	560,041	231,330	791,371	755,292
Texas	369,366	6,651	376,017	623,427
Utah	135,678	5,833	141,511	358,508
Vermont	71,883	33,351	105,234	218,510
Virginia	388,967	4,247	393,214	527,768
Washington	435,879	23,812	459,691	1,071,908
West Virginia	209,222	10,939	220,161	408,814
Wisconsin	710,563	301,250	1,011,813	2,056,118
Wyoming	124,341	57,821	182,162	645,228
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15,134,182</b>	<b>2,518,396</b>	<b>17,652,478</b>	<b>\$35,602,903</b>

This tabulation includes general and special licenses, permits, and stamps and the gross cost to anglers. The cost of combination licenses has been evenly split between the fishing and hunting tabulations.

527,632 of these permits. Since such permits are free, they cannot be counted for Indiana's benefit when Federal aid funds are apportioned under the Dingell-Johnson sport fish and Pittman-Robertson wildlife restoration programs.

The first 10 States in the amount of revenue collected in 1952-53 are listed below in comparison with 1951-52:

<u>1952-53</u>		<u>1951-52</u>	
California	\$3,475,705	California	\$3,217,004
Minnesota	2,283,316	Michigan	2,153,445
Michigan	2,218,908	Wisconsin	2,067,692
Wisconsin	2,056,118	Minnesota	2,062,805
New York	1,789,335	New York	1,783,149
Pennsylvania	1,567,570	Pennsylvania	1,363,405
Ohio	1,558,055	Ohio	1,279,137
Missouri	1,308,417	Missouri	1,114,888
Oregon	1,122,579	Oregon	1,102,311
Washington	1,071,908	Colorado	1,080,399

Alaska reports the sale of 54,732 fishing licenses, which brought in a revenue of \$102,347. Resident licenses numbered 36,227; nonresident, 18,505. In the previous year the sale of 43,495 fishing licenses (29,826 resident; 13,669 nonresident) brought \$74,938. One-half of the revenue received from fishing and hunting license sales in Alaska is required by law to go into "miscellaneous receipts" of the United States Treasury; the remainder is credited to the Territorial school fund.

In the Territory of Hawaii, according to the Board of Commissioners of Agriculture and Forestry, 2,617 fresh-water game fishing licenses were purchased in fiscal year 1953 at a cost of \$6,268. This represents an increase of more than four times over the figures reported for 1952 when 627 licenses were sold for \$1,517. The increase is due in large part to the stocking of certain areas with bluegill sunfish, a project under the Dingell-Johnson sport fish restoration program. Fishing licenses in Hawaii, however, are required for the taking of introduced fresh-water game species only. As the bulk of the fishermen ply their sport in salt water, the number of licenses sold gives an incomplete measurement of the degree of sport fishing activity in Hawaii.

The appended tabulation includes general and special licenses, permits, and stamps and the gross cost to anglers. The cost of combination licenses has been evenly split between the fishing and hunting tabulations.

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