

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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## LICENSE SALES INCREASE FOR FISHERMEN, DECREASE FOR HUNTERS

License sales to fishermen increased to a record level last year, but hunting license sales in 1972 declined from the record mark of 1971, the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service reported today.

In all, hunters and fishermen spent more than \$214 million last year for licenses, tags, permits, and stamps, an increase of \$6 million from 1971.

Fishing license holders increased by 271,053 to a new high of 26,022,547. Fishermen spent \$107,045,535 for licenses, \$7 million more than in 1971.

Hunting license holders decreased by 675,084; the 1972 total is 15,298,243. Expenditures by hunters for licenses and permits, which exceeded \$108 million in 1971, came to \$107,310,803 last year.

License sales, however, are not accurate indicators of the actual numbers of hunters and fishermen. In several States, one sportsman may purchase separate licenses, stamps, permits or tags for taking different kinds of fish and game. Also, most States do not require persons above or below certain ages to purchase licenses, and most coastal States do not require licenses for saltwater fishing. Some persons hunt or fish in more than one State and therefore are counted more than once.

License revenues enable States to carry out fish and wildlife conservation and management activities. Additional funds come from Federal aid for fish and wildlife restoration programs, under which States are reimbursed up to 75 percent of the cost of approved projects. For the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, 1973, \$53,145,000 was apportioned in Federal aid funds for fish and game conservation.

State fish and game departments certify the numbers of paid hunting and fishing license holders to the Fish and Wildlife Service, which uses them in determining restoration fund allocations.

State-by-State breakdowns of license sales are shown in accompanying tables.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO HUNTERS  
FISCAL YEAR 1972

State	Paid Hunting License Holders 1/	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Hunters
Alabama	301,228	343,601	11,838	355,439	\$ 1,610,085
Alaska	64,056	58,747	23,535	82,282	869,514
Arizona	155,129	284,609	19,511	304,120	1,314,631
Arkansas	305,262	283,220	22,042	305,262	1,333,663
California	699,748	1,354,282	2,771	1,357,053	3,995,858
Colorado	259,454	335,942	45,268	381,210	4,707,541
Connecticut	83,723	86,141	938	87,079	268,126
Delaware	25,000	23,713	1,357	25,070	157,572
Florida	255,961	252,291	3,670	255,961	1,504,070
Georgia	307,099	300,369	6,730	307,099	1,372,751
Hawaii	10,934	10,686	248	10,934	83,865
Idaho	222,611	414,269	49,639	463,908	2,183,331
Illinois	480,190	468,155	12,035	480,190	1,725,152
Indiana	460,084	512,161	8,257	520,418	1,690,389
Iowa	359,373	363,853	30,831	394,684	1,763,125
Kansas	232,313	207,406	24,907	232,313	992,259
Kentucky	268,743	264,026	4,717	268,743	1,158,139
Louisiana	337,609	457,577	11,589	469,166	986,360
Maine	195,622	155,643	40,155	195,798	1,867,227
Maryland	192,213	279,551	10,919	290,470	1,561,533
Massachusetts	120,944	158,304	2,075	160,379	602,255
Michigan	785,752	1,057,415	19,675	1,077,090	7,233,282
Minnesota	326,776	333,012	2,249	335,261	2,020,684
Mississippi	303,409	426,601	34,363	460,964	1,414,404
Missouri	455,655	646,891	16,258	663,149	3,699,547
Montana	199,648	576,497	123,361	699,858	2,728,831
Nebraska	203,108	352,029	45,060	397,089	1,883,134
Nevada	65,660	106,243	10,653	116,896	824,059
New Hampshire	87,443	69,540	22,466	92,006	880,924
New Jersey	208,843	250,455	4,660	255,115	1,391,616
New Mexico	123,827	124,375	23,033	147,408	1,517,024
New York	662,558	1,151,998	27,538	1,179,536	4,892,439
North Carolina	396,011	589,717	8,588	598,305	2,349,850
North Dakota	97,776	222,354	18,497	240,851	884,825
Ohio	597,793	669,362	3,154	672,516	2,815,262
Oklahoma	224,834	311,022	4,860	315,882	1,244,709
Oregon	348,383	737,810	12,026	749,836	3,276,946
Pennsylvania	1,122,399	1,544,848	70,261	1,615,109	8,508,467
Rhode Island	18,037	20,302	421	20,723	68,607
South Carolina	177,657	200,688	12,982	213,670	1,238,864
South Dakota	165,651	321,309	62,684	383,993	1,743,724
Tennessee	455,305	618,311	14,240	632,551	2,012,560
Texas	783,103	983,774	15,261	999,035	2,681,610
Utah	230,582	239,204	29,795	268,999	2,547,171
Vermont	128,843	107,076	41,485	148,561	1,230,034
Virginia	436,615	849,261	69,075	918,336	2,393,856
Washington	299,841	719,976	1,643	721,619	3,684,765
West Virginia	259,832	239,101	20,831	259,932	1,240,121
Wisconsin	632,944	773,854	32,787	806,641	5,052,125
Wyoming	162,662	143,911	93,617	237,528	4,103,917
<b>TOTALS 3/</b>	<b>15,298,243</b>	<b>21,001,482</b>	<b>1,174,555</b>	<b>22,176,037</b>	<b>107,310,803</b>

1/ A paid license holder is one individual regardless of the number of licenses he may purchase. Data certified by State fish and game departments.

2/ Period covered not identical to period covered by certification for all States.

3/ Persons who hunted in more than one State are counted in each State where they hunted. Therefore, this figure exceeds the total number of license holders in the United States.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO FISHERMEN  
FISCAL YEAR 1972

State	Paid Fishing License Holders 1/	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Fishermen
Alabama	556,126	503,932	68,216	572,148	\$ 1,750,186
Alaska	117,650	82,088	42,347	124,435	746,130
Arizona	359,399	329,825	180,861	510,686	1,506,734
Arkansas	672,024	450,522	221,502	672,024	2,526,644
California	2,261,766	5,648,929	35,932	5,684,861	12,368,512
Colorado	609,940	427,569	199,340	626,909	3,232,040
Connecticut	167,199	163,265	3,934	167,199	591,746
Delaware	7,680	6,573	1,107	7,680	22,008
Florida	822,198	659,720	193,890	853,610	2,433,922
Georgia	629,444	687,451	28,985	716,436	2,339,813
Hawaii	7,665	7,551	114	7,665	25,235
Idaho	383,826	240,374	171,270	411,644	2,112,824
Illinois	839,718	796,242	43,476	839,718	1,957,532
Indiana	721,458	694,314	61,690	756,004	2,399,574
Iowa	479,271	469,757	32,977	502,734	1,436,936
Kansas	377,167	344,890	35,155	380,045	1,169,679
Kentucky	536,797	421,264	115,533	536,797	2,331,485
Louisiana	351,880	325,639	27,207	352,846	756,557
Maine	235,834	143,987	93,773	237,760	1,343,873
Maryland	128,629	151,532	12,392	163,924	598,028
Massachusetts	240,772	262,219	6,392	268,611	1,155,064
Michigan	1,151,012	1,308,547	234,075	1,542,622	5,044,815
Minnesota	1,486,871	1,194,256	400,499	1,594,755	5,869,799
Mississippi	383,790	271,275	122,997	394,272	1,007,588
Missouri	883,862	1,204,333	187,670	1,392,003	4,584,792
Montana	268,740	387,513	284,387	671,900	1,987,471
Nebraska	240,255	249,792	31,396	281,188	1,070,476
Nevada	137,305	80,386	59,301	139,687	751,754
New Hampshire	133,917	86,787	51,785	138,572	674,161
New Jersey	185,764	291,365	9,275	300,640	1,297,569
New Mexico	166,568	115,945	55,041	170,986	902,345
New York	775,767	750,637	52,906	803,543	3,335,004
North Carolina	451,574	517,545	49,307	566,852	2,069,362
North Dakota	132,081	122,158	11,423	133,581	327,150
Ohio	771,289	748,457	22,832	771,289	3,113,358
Oklahoma	576,773	559,925	36,486	596,411	1,886,031
Oregon	666,638	819,240	285,389	1,104,629	3,583,980
Pennsylvania	842,268	792,227	50,041	842,268	4,188,525
Rhode Island	28,083	26,958	1,125	28,083	85,199
South Carolina	348,626	297,880	59,588	357,468	1,480,000
South Dakota	184,413	126,378	59,984	186,362	625,851
Tennessee	875,779	1,045,111	259,659	1,304,770	2,026,597
Texas	1,541,693	1,511,910	30,855	1,542,765	3,083,654
Utah	347,009	257,203	92,104	349,307	1,520,391
Vermont	130,807	80,343	50,560	130,903	406,268
Virginia	482,589	745,581	73,957	819,538	1,609,088
Washington	469,761	595,201	30,068	625,269	3,606,988
West Virginia	240,932	224,260	16,772	241,032	816,200
Wisconsin	1,380,381	906,824	473,557	1,380,381	6,287,680
Wyoming	231,557	94,497	146,922	241,419	998,917
<b>TOTALS 3/</b>	<b>26,022,547</b>	<b>28,230,177</b>	<b>4,816,054</b>	<b>33,046,231</b>	<b>107,045,535</b>

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