

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Megan Durham 202/343-5634

## 1978 HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES SET RECORD

People who hunted and fished last year spent a record \$344 million on licenses, tags, permits, and stamps, Interior Secretary Cecil D. Andrus reported today.

"Total income from license sales of all kinds was \$15 million over fiscal year 1977 totals, and included \$159 million for fishing licenses (up \$3 million over 1977) and \$185 million for hunting licenses (up \$12 million over 1977," Andrus said.

"The revenues derived from these license sales enable States to conduct their fish and wildlife conservation and management programs," the Secretary added. "Additional funds come from Federal Aid in 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 September 30, 1979, \$109.3 million was apportioned in Federal Aid funds for fish and wildlife conservation.

The total number of hunting license holders in the United States was 16,277,225, up slightly from 16,197,015 in 1977. Fishing license holders declined from 27,324,396 in 1977 to 26,150,352 in 1978. Fish and Wildlife Service officials said that fluctuations in the number of hunting and fishing license holders are not unusual and may be related to weather conditions, changes in counting procedures, and a variety of other causes.

The number of license sales and license holders are not accurate indicators of the actual numbers of hunters and fishermen. Paid license holders do not include hunters or fishermen who are not required to buy a license. In many States, persons below or above certain ages are not required to buy licenses, and many coastal States do not require licenses for saltwater fishing. Some people purchase licenses in more than one State and are therefore counted more than once.

State fish and wildlife agencies certify the numbers of paid hunting and fishing license holders to the Fish and Wildlife Service, which uses these data in determining Federal Aid apportionments to each State.

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 1978

State	Paid Hunting <sup>1/</sup> License Holders	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Non-Resident Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps <sup>2/</sup>	Gross Cost to Hunters
Alabama	342,831	381,009	20,061	401,070	\$ 2,263,763.50
Alaska	69,124	73,112	11,821	84,933	2,131,103.00
Arizona	188,936	317,754	14,665	332,419	2,840,477.00
Arkansas	331,649	492,099	44,116	536,215	3,385,000.50
California	569,422	942,310	3,935	946,245	6,490,432.00
Colorado	315,411	425,197	113,757	538,954	16,467,340.00
Connecticut	81,453	102,493	950	103,443	385,960.00
Delaware	27,854	25,411	2,443	27,854	230,467.95
Florida	263,136	259,998	3,138	263,136	1,637,232.00
Georgia	373,965	843,103	19,974	863,077	2,903,757.00
Hawaii	11,482	11,404	282	11,686	88,332.00
Idaho	217,415	439,560	38,074	477,634	3,880,327.50
Illinois	422,579	412,159	10,420	422,579	1,481,665.00
Indiana	419,761	529,977	9,551	539,528	1,992,064.00
Iowa	344,938	462,824	39,979	502,803	3,145,114.75
Kansas	225,680	217,770	26,663	244,433	1,936,773.00
Kentucky	323,777	404,640	11,530	416,170	2,506,821.25
Louisiana	358,811	510,224	13,295	523,519	2,757,265.00
Maine	226,612	193,538	33,074	226,612	3,597,180.00
Maryland	181,008	354,886	35,803	390,689	2,258,540.60
Massachusetts	108,570	164,387	1,962	166,349	941,657.60
Michigan	953,255	1,185,486	31,994	1,217,480	9,407,140.00
Minnesota	482,735	803,081	7,900	810,981	6,603,363.00
Mississippi	311,953	496,905	42,551	539,456	2,181,303.25
Missouri	472,128	733,953	32,621	766,574	5,552,378.00
Montana	208,341	614,420	128,370	742,790	3,996,940.00
Nebraska	151,132	285,259	26,369	311,628	2,882,060.37
Nevada	44,653	70,557	5,409	75,966	703,107.00
New Hampshire	93,032	98,184	13,096	111,280	1,284,326.75
New Jersey	178,115	275,885	2,394	278,279	2,420,331.00
New Mexico	115,701	117,108	14,081	131,189	2,544,566.84
New York	729,361	1,280,572	31,162	1,311,734	7,607,046.75
North Carolina	374,573	559,868	13,068	572,936	3,537,758.00
North Dakota	102,178	265,491	26,579	292,070	1,037,364.00
Ohio	558,579	710,619	3,488	714,107	3,881,271.00
Oklahoma	279,141	428,866	5,637	434,503	2,307,113.75
Oregon	372,770	837,660	9,219	846,879	6,157,622.00
Pennsylvania	1,286,248	1,899,007	101,968	2,000,975	15,063,058.20
Rhode Island	14,931	17,244	887	18,131	63,630.00
South Carolina	218,743	262,549	24,602	287,151	2,022,441.00
South Dakota	127,807	335,634	30,880	366,514	1,926,430.60
Tennessee	483,978	753,422	27,747	781,169	2,475,455.45
Texas	867,345	1,106,161	21,164	1,127,325	5,826,290.71
Utah	227,037	278,439	13,879	292,318	3,109,390.50
Vermont	152,682	111,869	42,355	154,224	1,806,416.00
Virginia	449,176	838,760	69,037	907,797	4,286,235.50
Washington	344,923	827,799	7,449	835,248	5,569,825.00
West Virginia	316,665	422,838	58,911	481,749	2,568,117.50
Wisconsin	739,126	1,031,517	24,270	1,055,787	8,191,728.00
Wyoming	216,503	233,139	89,468	322,607	6,773,272.00
<b>TOTALS <sup>3/</sup></b>	<b>16,277,225</b>	<b>24,446,147</b>	<b>1,362,048</b>	<b>25,808,195</b>	<b>\$185,107,255.82</b>

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

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

<sup>3/</sup> 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 1978

State	Paid Fishing <u>1/</u> License Holders	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Non-Resident Fish Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps <u>2/</u>	Gross Cost to Fishermen
Alabama	583,516	549,169	76,698	625,867	\$ 2,213,409.50
Alaska	179,306	129,750	65,481	195,231	2,229,049.00
Arizona	447,498	388,771	189,567	578,338	3,106,910.00
Arkansas	627,320	526,214	194,723	720,937	4,694,950.30
California	2,191,660	5,428,824	53,965	5,482,789	17,096,553.00
Colorado	611,656	448,644	170,837	619,481	4,931,528.00
Connecticut	183,826	204,519	4,429	208,948	697,044.00
Delaware	13,350	14,585	2,403	16,988	70,415.50
Florida	750,052	594,984	173,881	768,865	2,825,799.00
Georgia	617,367	727,693	29,646	757,339	2,283,336.00
Hawaii	8,575	8,573	74	8,647	28,012.50
Idaho	377,068	282,128	153,537	435,665	2,368,011.50
Illinois	718,841	688,429	30,412	718,841	1,723,664.00
Indiana	650,608	619,566	68,899	688,465	2,295,933.00
Iowa	463,518	448,500	62,540	511,040	1,945,394.50
Kansas	317,301	289,562	30,714	320,276	1,691,100.00
Kentucky	602,153	496,811	142,894	639,705	2,873,589.75
Louisiana	429,151	394,043	39,791	433,834	953,281.00
Maine	251,689	169,937	81,752	251,689	2,491,634.00
Maryland	127,969	149,821	13,272	163,093	647,942.14
Massachusetts	185,896	203,171	4,900	208,071	1,462,231.05
Michigan	1,255,073	1,337,884	322,317	1,660,201	8,937,374.00
Minnesota	1,339,098	741,216	298,971	1,040,187	8,238,752.00
Mississippi	395,032	336,447	82,032	418,479	1,400,300.25
Missouri	818,501	1,196,668	202,171	1,398,839	5,620,669.00
Montana	329,390	435,299	319,585	754,884	3,468,375.00
Nebraska	202,210	252,350	15,018	267,368	1,826,849.62
Nevada	160,331	92,690	67,759	160,449	1,211,951.75
New Hampshire	123,104	85,978	38,916	124,894	1,167,349.00
New Jersey	155,086	244,790	6,711	251,501	1,490,251.00
New Mexico	179,343	141,485	67,755	209,240	1,653,804.91
New York	822,109	755,149	66,960	822,109	5,130,020.00
North Carolina	456,063	488,147	42,897	531,044	3,420,054.50
North Dakota	159,907	145,396	15,090	160,486	444,213.00
Ohio	870,688	840,563	31,082	871,645	3,596,772.00
Oklahoma	605,626	499,222	114,797	614,019	3,297,838.75
Oregon	732,111	925,502	141,995	1,067,497	5,885,140.00
Pennsylvania	1,005,163	947,467	57,696	1,005,163	7,298,011.50
Rhode Island	30,318	29,232	1,752	30,984	93,869.00
South Carolina	399,236	353,918	59,923	413,841	1,957,044.75
South Dakota	135,884	100,948	36,457	137,405	658,261.00
Tennessee	659,315	740,965	219,310	960,275	4,726,179.70
Texas	1,482,821	1,388,832	93,989	1,482,821	6,058,110.87
Utah	369,144	227,190	144,642	371,832	2,296,197.50
Vermont	135,038	88,652	47,887	136,539	721,431.00
Virginia	431,138	658,310	96,750	755,068	2,346,299.50
Washington	567,242	669,531	43,558	713,089	5,006,152.00
West Virginia	273,354	492,873	46,209	539,082	1,790,952.50
Wisconsin	1,424,805	837,721	393,204	1,230,925	8,801,420.25
Wyoming	294,902	117,843	195,863	313,706	1,775,497.00
<b>TOTALS <u>3/</u></b>	<b>26,150,352</b>	<b>27,935,970</b>	<b>4,861,711</b>	<b>32,797,681</b>	<b>\$158,948,929.09</b>

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