

**New Jersey  
Hunting & Trapping Data  
2019 – 2020**



Species	Subcategory	Killing Dates (includes all "Regulation Sets")	Total days hunting/ trapping	Total Killed 2019-2020 except where noted	Status
<b>White-tailed Deer</b>	Fall bow	9/14 - 9/27/19; 9/28 - 10/25/19	42	14,071 <sup>1</sup>	D
	Youth Bow Hunt	9/21/19	1	330 <sup>1</sup>	
	Youth Firearm Day	11/23/19	1		
	Permit Bow	10/26 - 12/24/19; 12/26 - 12/31/19	66	11,223 <sup>1</sup>	
	Six-Day Firearm	12/9 - 12/14/19; except Sundays	6	4,850 <sup>1</sup>	
	Permit Muzzleloading rifle	11/25 - 11/27/19; 11/29; 12/2 - 12/3/19 12/9 - 12/14/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19 12/21 - 12/24/19; 12/26 - 12/31/19 1/1 - 1/31/20; 2/1 - 2/8/20, except Sundays	56	4,126 <sup>1</sup>	
	Permit Shotgun	11/25 - 11/27/19; 11/29/19 12/9 - 12/14/19; 12/18 - 12/20/19 1/4 - 2/8/20, except Sundays	44	7,757 <sup>1</sup>	
	Winter Bow	1/1 - 2/15/20	46	3,293 <sup>1</sup>	
<b>White-Tailed Deer: TOTAL</b>				45,650 <sup>1</sup>	
<b>Black Bear</b>	Bow, muzzleloading rifle, shotgun	10/14 - 10/19/19; 12/9 - 12/14/19; 12/16 - 12/21/19	18	315 <sup>2</sup>	INC
<b>Gray Squirrel</b>		9/28 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19; 12/19 - 12/31/19; 1/1 - 2/22/20; except Sundays	120	60,735 (2017-2018) <sup>3</sup>	S
<b>Gray Squirrel</b>	Muzzleloading rifle	9/28 - 11/8/19; 1/4 - 2/22/20; except Sundays	78		

<b>Woodchuck</b>	Bow, muzzleloading rifle or shotgun	3/1 - 9/25/19; 3/2 - 9/30/20; except Sundays	180 (2019 season)	32,035 (2017-2018) <sup>3</sup>	S
	Bow or shotgun	9/28 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19 12/19 - 12/31/19; 1/1 - 1/31/20 2/1 - 2/17/20; except Sundays	115		
<b>Raccoon</b>	Hunting	10/1/19 - 3/1/20; except Sunday evenings	132	10,988 (2017-2018) <sup>3</sup>	S
	Trapping	11/15/19 - 3/15/20	122	3,277 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Opossum</b>	Hunting	10/1/19 - 3/1/20; except Sunday evenings	132	2,272 (2017 - 2018) <sup>3</sup>	S
	Trapping	11/15/19 - 3/15/20	122	649 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	
<b>Skunk</b>	Trapping	11/15/19 - 3/15/20	122	289 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	S
<b>Weasel</b>	Trapping	11/15/19 - 3/15/20	122	12 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	S
<b>Mink, Muskrat, Nutria</b>	Trapping	North: 11/15/19 - 3/15/20 South: 12/1/19 - 3/15/20	122	Mink: 1,027 Muskrat: 4,558 Nutria: (2018/2019) <sup>4</sup>	Mink S Muskrat S Nutria I
<b>Beaver, River Otter</b>	Trapping	12/26/19 - 2/9/20 & 1/1 - 2/9/20 on select Wildlife Management Areas	46	Beaver: 608 River Otter: 39 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	Beaver INC River Otter S
<b>Fox, Coyote (includes Red Fox and Gray Fox)</b>	Bow and arrow only	9/28 - 11/8/19	42	Fox: 11,027 (2017 - 2018) <sup>3</sup> Coyote: 88 (2017 - 2018) <sup>3</sup>	Red fox S Gray Fox S Coyote INC
	Firearm or bow and arrow	11/9 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19 12/19 - 12/31/19; 1/1 - 3/14/20 except Sundays	102		
	Special Permit Season (Firearm or bow and arrow)	1/1 - 3/14/20; except Sundays	64		
	Trapping	11/15/19 - 3/15/20	122	Red Fox: 3,613 Gray Fox: 130 (2018 - 2019) <sup>4</sup>	

<b>Feral Hogs</b>		Deer hunters in Deer Management Zones 25 and 65 may hunt feral hogs during the regular deer seasons			
<b>Rabbit, Hare, Jackrabbit</b>		9/28 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19; 12/19 - 12/31/19; 1/1 - 1/22/20 except Sundays	120	28,619 rabbit only (2017 - 2018) <sup>3</sup>	Black-tailed & White-tailed jackrabbits   European Hare
<b>Pheasant</b>		11/9 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 17; 12/19 - 31/19; 1/1 - 2/17/20 except Sundays	79	Total: 62,948 (2017 - 2018) <sup>5</sup> pen-raised only	D
	Youth Pheasant Hunt/Youth Upland Bird Hunt Day	11/2/19, 11/4 - 11/8/19; 11/2/19 & 11/4 - 11/8/19; on Wildlife Management Areas	6		
	Hunting on semi-wild preserves	11/9/19 - 3/15/20; Sunday only	19		
	Hunting on commercial shooting preserves	9/1/19 - 5/1/20; Sundays only	35		
	Hunting of released birds on wildlife management areas	2019: 11/9, 12, 14, 16, 19, 21, 23, 26, 28, 30 & 12/5, 21, 24, 28, 31	15		
<b>Partridge</b>		11/9 - 12/7/19; 12/16-17; 12/19 - 31/19; 1/1 - 2/17/20 except Sundays	79	Total pen-raised only 14,501: Chukar Partridge: <sup>5</sup> 375: Hungarian Partridge (2017 - 2018) <sup>5</sup>	Chukar
	Youth Upland Bird Hunt	11/2/19	1		
	Hunting on semi-wild preserves	11/9/19 - 3/15/20; Sundays only	19		
	Hunting on commercial shooting preserves	9/1/19 - 5/1/20; Sundays only	35		

<b>Northern Bobwhite (quail)</b>	Peaslee & Greenwood Wildlife Management Areas only except Sunday (pen-raised)	11/9 - 12/7/19; 12/16 - 12/17/19; 12/19 - 12/31/19; 1/1 - 31/20 except Sundays	65	12,229 (2017-2018) <sup>5</sup>	RP
<b>Crow</b>		8/12 - 12/7/19; 12/16/19 - 3/21/20 Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday	120	20,894 (2017-2018) <sup>5</sup>	American S Fish S
<b>Turkey</b>	Fall Turkey	10/26/19; 10/28/19 - 11/2/19 Hunting period N	7	80 (2018) <sup>5</sup>	Eastern Wild Turkey I
	Youth Upland Bird Hunting Day	11/2/19	1		
	Spring Gobbler	4/20 - 5/22/20 Includes hunting periods A -E	33	2,739 (2019) <sup>6</sup>	
	Youth Turkey Hunt Day	4/18/20	1		
	Spring Gobbler, youth	4/18 - 5/22/19	35		
<b>Ruffed Grouse</b>	closed		0	213 (2018) <sup>5</sup>	D
<b>Woodcock</b>		North Zone: 10/17 - 10/31/20; 11/3 - 11/28/20 South Zone: 11/7 - 12/1/20; 12/17/20 - 1/2/21	59	2,900 ±75% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	American Woodcock RP
<b>Coot</b>		same as duck seasons		900 ±169% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	American Coot U
<b>Rail and Gallinule</b>		9/2 - 11/21/19	81	900 ±127% (2018) <sup>7</sup> (Rail) 300 ±190% (2018) <sup>7</sup> (Gallinule)	Yellow U Black I Clapper INC King SC Virginia RP
<b>Duck</b>	All NJ duck species, including mallards, scaup, eiders, mergansers	North Zone: 10/10 - 10/17/20; 11/7/20 - 1/7/21 South Zone: 10/17 - 10/24/20; 11/14/20 - 1/14/21 Coastal Zone: 11/14 - 11/17/20;	69 70 70	54,800 ±20% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	Wood RP American Black RP Fulvous Whistling P

		11/26/20 - 1/30/21 "2-bird scaup days" Youth Days: 10/3 & 10/10/20, 11/7/20 Youth & Veterans/Military Day: 2/6/20 Veterans/Military Day: 2/13/21	59 3 1 1		Ring-necked S Harlequin S Ruddy D Scaup RP Merganser S Common Eider RP King Eider S
<b>Canada Goose</b>		North & South Zones: 11/26 - 11/28/20; 12/26/20 - 1/26/21 Coastal Zone: 11/14 - 17/20; 11/26/20 - 1/30/21 Youth Days: 10/3, 10/10 & 11/7/20 Youth & Veterans/Military Day: 2/6/20 Veterans/Military Day: 2/13/21	35  70  3 1 1	19,257 (2018) <sup>7</sup>	INC
<b>Light Goose / Snow Goose</b>		10/16/20 - 2/15/21 (regular season) 2/16/21 - 4/13/21 (conservation order) <sup>8</sup>	123 58	Snow goose: 822 (2018) <sup>7</sup>	Snow goose INC
<b>Snipe</b>		9/12/20 - 1/14/21	125	800±139% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	S
<b>Brant</b>		Same as duck seasons		9,000 ±29% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	RP
<b>Sea Duck (includes scoters, eiders)</b>	sea duck area only	11/7/20 - 1/15/21	70	4,500 ±58% (2018) <sup>7</sup>	Scoters RP Common Eider RP King Eider S

## Hunting on National Wildlife Refuges in New Jersey\*\*

Hunting is permitted on selected wildlife refuges. Each refuge allows the hunting of specific animals on specified dates. In some refuges, permits are required and/or special hunting conditions apply. No hunting is permitted on Sundays.

Animals that may be hunted in different refuges include: deer, migratory game birds, turkey, rabbits, squirrels, waterfowl, black bears.

The Wallkill River NWR partners with the National Wild Turkey Federation to offer “mentored hunts” for youth, women, and disabled hunters.

National Wildlife Refuges that allowed hunting in the 2019-2020 season:

- Cape May NWA
- Great Swamp NWA
- Edwin B. Forsythe NWA
- Supawna Meadows NWR
- Wallkill River NWA

\*\* *New Jersey Hunting and Trapping Digest, August 2019: 2019-2020 Hunting and Season Dates and Limits*; Division of Fish and Wildlife, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

## Status Symbol Sources

**Mammals of New Jersey** - <https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/chkmamls.htm>

**Birds of New Jersey** - <https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/chkbirds.htm>

### Mammal status symbols

E – endangered   T – threatened   D – decreasing   INC – increasing   S – stable   U – undetermined   I – introduced   P – peripheral

### Bird status Symbols

E – endangered   T – threatened   D – decreasing   INC – increasing   S – stable   U – undetermined   I – introduced   P – peripheral  
RP – regional priority   SC – special concern

## Citations

- 1 [https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/pdf/2020/19-20\\_deer\\_totals.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/pdf/2020/19-20_deer_totals.pdf)
- 2 [https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bearseas19\\_harvest.htm](https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bearseas19_harvest.htm)
- 3 [https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/pdf/smallgame\\_harv\\_summary.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/pdf/smallgame_harv_summary.pdf)
- 4 [https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/fur\\_trap\\_harv\\_summary.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/fur_trap_harv_summary.pdf)
- 5 [https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/gamebird\\_harv\\_summary.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/gamebird_harv_summary.pdf)
- 6 <https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/trkhrvpo.htm>
- 7 <https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/surveys-and-data/HarvestSurveys/MBHActivityHarvest2017-18and2018-19.pdf>
- 8 <https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/news/2018/lightgoose18.htm>

“A CO (conservation order) is a special management action, authorized by the “Migratory Bird Treaty Act” that is needed to control certain wildlife populations when traditional management programs are unsuccessful in preventing overabundance of that population. The CO allows an extended time period outside of traditional hunting seasons as well as additional methods for taking light geese without bag limits. The intent of the CO is to reduce and/or stabilize North American light goose populations that are above population objectives.”

## Resources for Season Dates and “Harvests”

Hunting and Trapping Seasons: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Fish and Wildlife 2019- 2020  
<https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2019/dighnt19.pdf>

Migratory Bird Seasons: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Fish and Wildlife 2020-2021  
[https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/2020/20-21mig\\_seasons.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/2020/20-21mig_seasons.pdf)

Migratory bird hunting activity and harvest during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 hunting seasons  
<https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/surveys-and-data/HarvestSurveys/MBHActivityHarvest2017-18and2018-19.pdf>

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