

# MENTORED-YOUTH HUNTING PROGRAM



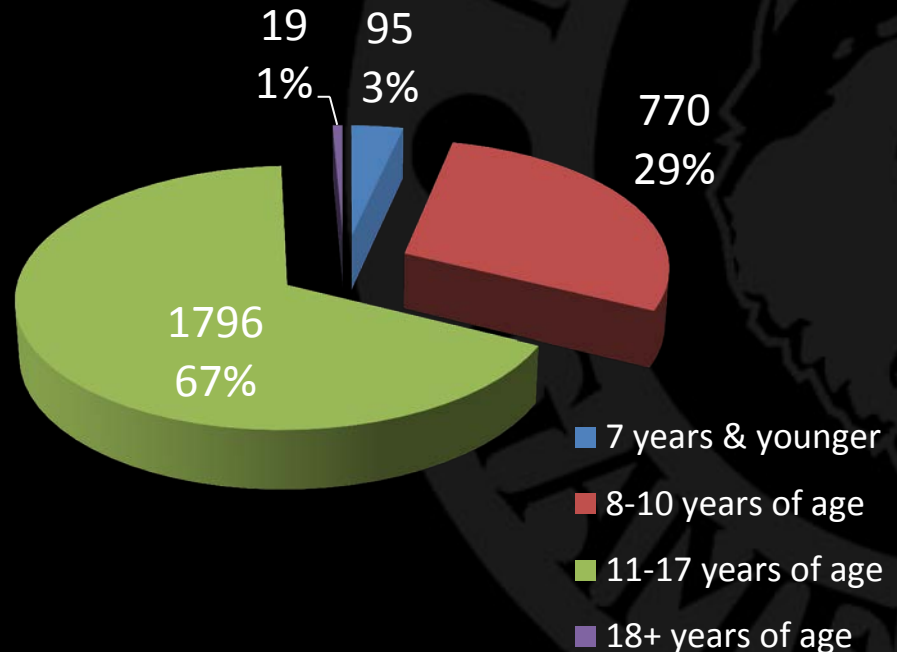
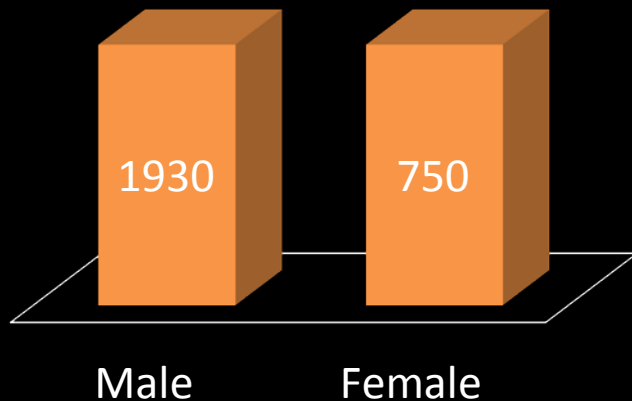
Information & Education Division



# FY13 & FY14 AT-A-GLANCE

- The majority of registered MY Hunters came from **Bernalillo, Dona Ana, Eddy, Grant, San Juan, Santa Fe and Valencia** Counties.
- **19%** of the total MY registrants signed up for a HE course; **77%** of these were 11 years of age and older.

Total MY Hunters – 2,680



# LICENSING STATISTICS



- 50% of LY13 Mentored-Youth hunters >10 drew both license years, 25% drew only in LY13 and 10% drew only in LY14.
- 77% of newly registered LY14 MY hunters >10 drew in LY14.
- Of the new LY14 MY hunters 11<, 72% drew a hunt.
- Total's for both License Years: 2,633 Jr. Game Hunting Licenses purchased; 991 Jr. Game Hunting/Fishing
- Elk and deer hunts ranked the highest for licenses sold.

# RECOMMENDATION

The Department would like to recommend that the Commission consider amending the Hunter Education Rule (19.36.3.9) to place a **minimum participation age on the Mentored-Youth Program to eight (8) years of age.**

- Conservation Officers observed unsafe firearms handling afield by Mentored-Youth participants under the age of 8.
- Data indicates very young hunters are participating in hunts, inappropriate for their age.
- Twenty-one of 36 states have set minimum age limits.
- Goal is to keep Mentored-Youth hunting the safest method of introducing first-time hunters and retaining them.