



2016 New Mexico Turkey Harvest Results

In 2016, 14,001 turkey licenses were sold. This number was up from 13,252 in 2015. Reporting for turkey hunters is mandatory, and 10,889 license holders filed a report, yielding a return rate of 77.8%. Eighty percent of reporting license holders said they went hunting. The average harvest success rate for hunters throughout the year was 25.3%. A total of 2,766 turkeys were reported harvested in 2016.

Table 1. New Mexico turkey hunting license sales and reported harvests

<i>Year</i>	<i>Spring Licenses Sold</i>	<i>Reported Spring Harvest</i>	<i>Fall Licenses Sold</i>	<i>Reported Fall Harvest</i>
2011*	9,656	624	2,431	45
2012*	8,524	540	2,828	240
2013	9,284	1,459	2,989	258
2014	8,916	1,960	3,336	555
2015	9,462	2,155	3,790	556
2016	10,159	2,339	3,842	427

* Online reporting was voluntary in 2011 and 2012

Spring

There were 10,159 spring turkey licenses sold in 2016. Of the license holders, 7,827 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 82.5%. Eighty-three percent of reporting license holders (6,461) said that they went hunting. The average number days hunters reported hunting was 3.9, with the greatest number of hunters spending 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 2,339 turkeys in the spring season, 1,873 as first turkeys, and 466 as second turkeys. The success rate on first bird harvest was 29%. Of the spring hunters who harvested a first turkey, 24.9% were successful at harvesting a second turkey. For the purpose of this report, age was estimated by beard length, and a male with a beard less than 4 inches was considered a juvenile. The proportion of juvenile males harvested was 19%. Additionally, fourteen bearded hens were harvested. Harvest information reported for each Game Management Unit is listed below.

Using the number of non-reporting license holders, estimates for the total number of hunters and harvests can be made. The estimated total number of spring hunters was 8,386. The estimated total of spring turkeys harvested was 3,036, with estimated first and second harvests of 2,431 and 605, respectively.

Table 2. New Mexico turkey spring hunting statistics broke down by GMU.

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>First Turkey</i>	<i>Success on First Harvest</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	21	67	4	75%	4	19%		2.8
2	232	793	93	73%	79	34.1%	14	3.7
3*	7	33	0		0	0%		3.6
4	100	288	42	88%	34	34%	8	3.8
5	164	524	31	94%	28	17.1%	3	3.3
6	782	2802	151	90%	127	16.2%	24	3.3
7	8	38	1	0%	1	12.5%		2.4
8	9	46	2	100%	2	22.2%		3.3
9	222	732	43	74%	35	15.8%	8	3.4
10	297	1198	59	71%	49	16.5%	10	3.3
11*	1	2	0		0	0%		3
12	11	46	2	100%	2	18.2%		3.8
13	62	180	12	75%	10	16.1%	2	3.2
14	346	1150	79	66%	64	18.5%	15	3.3
15	347	1289	86	80%	70	20.1%	16	3.4
16	1131	3968	414	99%	326	28.8%	88	3.7
17	97	395	28	75%	23	23.7%	5	3.2
18	24	78	5	60%	3	12.5%	2	3.1
19	1	3	0		0	0%		1
20	26	49	9	44%	8	30.8%	1	3
21	104	327	40	83%	35	33.7%	5	3.5
22	16	81	4	100%	4	25%		4
23	112	446	38	79%	30	26.8%	8	3.4
24	280	1056	92	82%	76	27.1%	16	3.4
25	3	5	0		0	0%		2.3
26	1	2	0		0	0%		5
28	2	5	0		0	0%		2
29	1	3	0		0	0%		4
30	5	15	1	0%	1	20%		3.4
31	3	10	1	100%	1	33.3%		3

32	51	108	31	58%	24	47.1%	7	3.8
33	5	15	3	67%	3	60%		4
34	1186	3832	345	82%	277	23.4%	68	3.5
35*	5	21	1	100%	1	20%		3.2
36	318	1043	106	86%	82	25.8%	24	3.6
37	212	737	68	82%	58	27.4%	10	3.5
38	26	78	8	88%	6	23.1%	2	3.3
39	50	91	35	71%	25	50%	10	4.3
40	30	56	19	84%	15	50%	4	3.8
41	15	26	13	54%	10	66.7%	3	3.9
42	88	209	67	82%	45	51.1%	22	4.3
43	42	120	14	86%	12	28.6%	2	3.6
44	3	10	1	100%	1	33.3%		3.3
45	433	1665	134	79%	111	25.6%	23	3.4
46	84	277	49	73%	37	44%	12	4
47	20	41	14	79%	12	60%	2	3.8
48	73	226	42	74%	35	47.9%	7	3.7
49	152	677	67	82%	49	32.2%	18	3.7
50	3	9	1	0%	1	33.3%		3.7
51	182	700	37	89%	34	18.7%	3	3.4
52	53	193	19	84%	14	26.4%	5	3.4
53	41	174	11	82%	9	22%	2	3.4
54	23	52	13	92%	10	43.5%	3	4.1
55	90	206	66	92%	47	52.2%	19	4.4
56	22	57	16	88%	13	59.1%	3	4.2
57	91	274	53	83%	39	42.9%	14	3.9
58	38	72	30	87%	19	50%	11	4.7
59	22	48	16	69%	13	59.1%	3	4
UNK	7	4	1	100%	0	0%	1	4.3
TOTAL	6,461	24,924	2,339	80.9%	1,873	80.1%	466	3.5

* These GMUs are in Reservation lands, and not under the jurisdiction of New Mexico Game and Fish. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest, or reported a harvest from a Reservation Permit.

Fall

There were 3,872 fall turkey licenses sold in 2016. Of these license holders, 3,062 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 79.9%. Seventy-two percent of reporting license holders (2,212) said that they went hunting. The average days hunting per hunter was 3.9, with the largest number of hunters spending 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 427 turkeys in the fall season, 210 hens, and 217 gobblers. The success rate for fall harvest was 19.3%. Reported information for each Game Management Unit is listed below.

Using the number of non-reporting license holders, estimates for the total number of hunters and harvests can be made. The estimated total number of fall hunters was 2,775. The estimated total of fall turkeys harvested was 536, with estimated 263 hens and 273 gobblers.

Table 3. New Mexico turkey fall hunting statistics broke down by GMU.

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Hunter Rating	Success Rates	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	8	30	0	2.3	0%	0	0	0	0
2	56	231	20	3.1	35.7%	4	16	0	20
3*	3	18	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
4**	2	5	0	1	0%	0	0	0	0
5	60	297	2	3.1	3.3%	1	1	1	1
6	324	1024	37	3.2	11.4%	18	19	2	35
7	4	24	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
8**	3	5	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
9	142	596	25	3.1	17.6%	13	12	5	20
10	129	532	24	3	18.6%	15	9	2	22
12	3	6	0	3.3	0%	0	0	0	0
13	31	110	1	2.8	3.2%	1	0	0	1
14**	4	8	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
15	109	461	14	3.1	12.8%	6	8	1	13
16	300	1256	52	3.3	17.3%	22	30	3	49
17	22	68	1	2.8	4.5%	0	1	0	1
18**	5	13	1	3.4	20%	1	0	0	1
19**	1	1	0	2	0%	0	0	0	0
20**	2	4	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
21	51	199	8	2.8	15.7%	4	4	2	6
22	11	44	3	2.5	27.3%	2	1	0	3
23	66	305	5	3.1	7.6%	1	4	0	5
24	85	236	23	3.4	27.1%	13	10	0	23
25**	2	7	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0

26**	4	11	1	3	25%	0	1	0	1
29	1	3	0	5	0%	0	0	0	0
30**	3	3	1	2.7	33.3%	1	0	0	1
32	19	63	6	3.6	31.6%	1	5	1	5
34	410	1370	85	3.3	20.7%	51	34	7	78
36	108	416	29	3.4	26.9%	11	18	1	28
37	80	298	18	3.3	22.5%	13	5	2	16
38**	4	14	0	2.8	0%	0	0	0	0
39**	3	6	0	2.3	0%	0	0	0	0
40	10	16	6	3.7	60%	0	6	0	6
41	2	4	2	5	100%	1	1	1	1
42	16	38	12	3.8	75%	6	6	0	12
43**	2	5	0	2.5	0%	0	0	0	0
45	112	460	26	3	23.2%	13	13	1	25
46	15	43	5	3.4	33.3%	2	3	0	5
47	1	1	0	2	0%	0	0	0	0
48	22	84	3	2.8	13.6%	1	2	1	2
49**	3	6	0	3.7	0%	0	0	0	0
51**	9	26	1	2.9	11.1%	1	0	0	1
52**	7	21	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
53**	1	3	0	3	0%	0	0	0	0
54	6	20	2	3.8	33.3%	1	1	0	2
55	12	58	6	4.3	50%	2	4	0	6
56	4	8	2	4.5	50%	1	1	0	2
57	18	76	6	4	33.3%	4	2	0	6
58	3	11	0	3.7	0%	0	0	0	0
59	1	1	0	5	0%	0	0	0	0
UNK	2	0	0	3.5	0%	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2,212	8,545	427	3.18	19.3%	210	217	36	391

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** These GMUs are closed to fall turkey hunting. Hunters may have misreported GMU of harvest.