



2019 New Mexico Turkey Harvest Results

In 2019, 14,983 turkey licenses were sold. This number was down from 17,696 in 2018, which had a particularly high number of spring licenses sold. Reporting is mandatory for turkey hunters, and 11,422 license holders filed a report, yielding a return rate of 76.2%. Eighty percent of reporting license holders said they went hunting. The average harvest success rate for hunters across the year was 26.3%. A total of 2874 turkeys were reported harvested in 2019.

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
2017	10,507	2,611	4,490	848
2018	13,361	2,541	4,335	383
2019	10,789	2,220	4,194	654

* Online reporting was voluntary in 2011 and 2012

Spring

There were 10,789 spring turkey licenses sold in 2019. Of the license holders, 8,093 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 75.0%. Eighty-three percent of reporting license holders (6,690) said that they went hunting. The average number of days spent afield per hunter was 3.8 days, though the greatest number of hunters spent 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 2,220 turkeys in the spring season, with 1,764 as first turkeys and 456 as second turkeys. The success rate on first bird harvest was 26.4%. Of the spring hunters who harvested a first turkey, 25.9% were successful at harvesting a second turkey. For the purpose of this report, age was classified by beard length, and a male with a beard less than 4 inches

was considered a juvenile (two years or younger). The proportion of juvenile males harvested was 8.8%. Twelve 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 8,919. The estimated total of spring turkeys harvested was 2,960, with estimated first and second harvests of 2,352 and 608, respectively.

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

<i>GMU</i>	<i>Hunters</i>	<i>Days Hunted</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>First Harvest</i>	<i>Success on First Turkey</i>	<i>Second Turkey</i>	<i>% of Beards >4"</i>	<i>Hunter Rating</i>
1*	23	60	2	1	4%	1	50%	3.0
2	240	841	79	65	27%	14	81%	3.6
3	3	7			0%			4.0
4	122	335	52	40	33%	12	83%	3.8
5	129	414	26	23	18%	3	89%	3.1
6	700	2,523	64	58	8%	6	87%	3.1
7	17	41	7	5	29%	2	86%	3.8
8	16	85	3	3	19%		100%	3.6
9	203	728	19	16	8%	3	84%	3.0
10	304	1,225	47	40	13%	7	96%	3.1
12	19	83	3	3	16%		67%	3.3
13	45	145	4	4	9%		75%	2.9
14	280	980	48	40	14%	8	88%	3.1
15	334	1,326	54	48	14%	6	91%	3.1
16	703	2,592	196	156	22%	40	94%	3.5
17	100	301	30	25	25%	5	87%	3.1
18	46	137	10	10	22%		90%	3.1
19**	4	16			0%			4.5
20	36	67	19	15	42%	4	100%	3.9
21	107	373	28	25	23%	3	96%	3.1
22	13	43	3	2	15%	1	100%	3.5
23	138	591	44	37	27%	7	91%	3.4
24	301	1,052	110	85	28%	25	91%	3.6
25**	2	5			0%			1.5
26**	3	12			0%			3.0
27**	5	8	3	2	40%	1	100%	4.6
29	2	11			0%			3.5
30**	4	7	4	3	75%	1	100%	5.0

31**	3	4	1	1	33%		100%	4.0
32	58	148	28	21	36%	7	86%	4.0
33*	3	10	1	1	33%		100%	4.0
34	1,207	3,945	350	282	23%	68	94%	3.6
35	13	43	2	2	15%		50%	3.5
36	335	1,136	132	101	30%	31	95%	3.6
37	162	532	49	41	25%	8	94%	3.6
38	17	46			0%			3.5
39	40	91	24	19	48%	5	83%	3.7
40	35	69	19	15	43%	4	89%	3.8
41	20	32	16	12	60%	4	94%	3.9
42	121	274	87	62	51%	25	84%	4.2
43	71	212	20	17	24%	3	90%	3.4
44	4	11			0%			3.3
45	473	1,687	132	105	22%	27	97%	3.5
46	121	435	64	47	39%	17	86%	4.2
47	50	108	26	21	42%	5	88%	3.7
48	60	212	21	19	32%	2	90%	3.6
49	149	658	48	39	26%	9	90%	3.8
50	4	10			0%			3.0
51	211	746	51	44	21%	7	79%	3.4
52	69	213	15	14	20%	1	87%	3.4
53	49	212	13	11	22%	2	92%	3.8
54	24	69	13	10	42%	3	92%	4.4
55	116	289	78	54	47%	24	96%	4.3
56	39	85	31	21	54%	10	94%	4.4
57	118	286	75	52	44%	23	93%	4.2
58	63	98	48	29	46%	19	100%	4.6
59	29	68	21	18	62%	3	90%	4.1
Grand	7,563	25,737	2,220	1,764	26.4%	456	91%	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.

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

Fall

There were 4,194 fall turkey licenses sold in 2019. Of these license holders, 3,329 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 79.4%. Seventy-five percent of reporting license holders (2,487) said that they went hunting. The average number of days spent afield per hunter was 3.7, with the largest number of hunters spending 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 654 turkeys in the fall season, comprised of 453 hens and 201 gobblers. The success rate for fall harvest was 26.3%. 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 3,133. The estimated total of fall turkeys harvested was 824, with an estimated 571 hens and 253 gobblers.

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

GMU	Hunters	Days Hunted	Harvest	Success Rates	Hunter Rating	Sex of Harvest		Harvest Month	
						Hens	Gobblers	Sept	Nov
1*	14	51	0	0%	3.0				
2	55	151	14	25%	3.6	5	9	2	12
4	4	10	4	100%	4.0		4		4
5	69	266	16	23%	3.3	11	5	1	15
6	255	965	32	13%	3.3	28	4	2	28
7	5	14	1	20%	2.0		1		1
8**	3	15	1	33%	3.7		1		1
9	112	422	17	15%	3.2	10	7	6	10
10	144	540	28	19%	3.3	20	8	3	25
11	2	9	0	0%	3.5				
12	14	33	3	21%	3.6	2	1		3
13	23	80	5	22%	3.5	2	3		4
14**	5	7	2	40%	3.2	1	1		2
15	140	523	43	31%	3.5	32	11	4	37
16	329	1,321	116	35%	3.7	87	29	16	93
17	42	103	16	38%	3.5	8	8	3	13
18**	2	7	0	0%	2.5				
19**	5	16	0	0%	4.4				
20**	2	4	0	0%	1.0				
21	51	184	9	18%	3.2	6	3	1	7

22	17	74	7	41%	4.1	4	3		7
23	63	230	18	29%	3.5	14	4	1	15
24	99	367	28	28%	3.5	22	6	1	26
30**	1	5	0	0%	3.0				
32	34	94	23	68%	4.1	17	6	1	22
34	426	1,453	114	27%	3.5	87	27	6	103
35	3	7	0	0%	3.3				
36	135	430	32	24%	3.5	21	11	3	28
37	96	284	23	24%	3.4	14	9	1	20
38**	5	21	1	20%	3.6	1			1
39	4	9	1	25%	3.5		1		1
40	7	28	5	71%	3.9	3	2		4
41	3	4	2	67%	5.0	2			2
42	39	67	26	67%	4.1	15	11		23
43**	8	25	2	25%	3.9	1	1	1	1
45	134	505	15	11%	3.0	14	1	1	14
46	14	52	3	21%	3.0	2	1	1	1
47	5	10	1	20%	2.8	1			1
48	23	139	3	13%	3.1		3		3
49**	7	37	0	0%	3.6				
50**	2	11	0	0%	1.0				
51	90	313	23	26%	3.4	12	11	3	19
52	33	153	1	3%	3.0	1			1
53**	4	16	1	25%	4.5	1			
54	3	6	0	0%	3.3				
55	11	30	3	27%	3.5	2	1		3
56	8	27	1	13%	2.0		1		1
57	22	77	11	50%	4.1	6	5	2	9
58	3	9	1	33%	4.0	1			1
59	3	4	2	67%	4.3		2	1	1
TOTAL	2,582	9,212	654	26.3%	3.5	453	201	60	562

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