

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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## 1979 HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES SET RECORD

People who hunted and fished last year spent a record \$3<sup>7</sup>/<sub>3</sub> million on licenses, tags, permits, and stamps, Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announced today.

"Total income from license sales of all kinds was \$29 million over fiscal year 1978 totals, and included \$199 million for hunting licenses (up \$14 million over 1978) and \$174 million for fishing licenses (up \$15 million from 1978)," Greenwalt said.

The total number of hunting license holders in the United States was 16,551,886, up from 16,277,225 in 1978. Fishing license holders increased from 2<sup>6</sup>/<sub>0</sub>,150,352 in 1978 to 27,947,397 in 1979.

States use the revenues from hunting and fishing license sales to conduct their fish and wildlife conservation programs. The numbers of hunting and fishing license holders are used by the Fish and Wildlife Service in determining the funds apportioned to each State under the Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration programs. Under these programs, States are reimbursed for up to 75% of the cost of approved projects. For the current fiscal year, which ends September 30, 1980, \$117 million was apportioned in Federal Aid funds for fish and wildlife conservation.

The number of license sales and license holders does not fully reflect 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-by-State breakdowns of license sales are shown in accompanying tables.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO FISHERMEN  
FISCAL YEAR 1979

State	Paid Fishing License Holders 1/	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Fishermen
Alabama	580,411	545,037	76,859	621,896	\$ 2,209,694.50
Alaska	188,641	130,458	72,090	202,548	2,301,632.00
Arizona	433,972	396,734	158,217	554,951	2,832,768.00
Arkansas	608,975	526,105	170,133	696,238	4,967,338.50
California	2,403,877	6,029,000	61,297	6,090,297	20,300,328.00
Colorado	613,650	465,650	156,750	622,400	4,909,500.00
Connecticut	192,234	201,213	3,334	204,547	740,106.00
Delaware	13,992	15,603	2,635	18,238	75,505.50
Florida	829,891	653,706	190,458	844,164	3,218,672.50
Georgia	658,703	768,622	32,311	800,933	2,460,286.75
Hawaii	7,987	7,943	110	8,053	26,284.50
Idaho	432,751	313,046	166,298	479,344	2,610,031.00
Illinois	768,794	829,184	38,038	867,222	2,979,444.00
Indiana	731,299	699,490	80,251	779,741	2,620,045.00
Iowa	473,802	453,892	68,234	522,126	1,988,174.50
Kansas	325,877	296,042	32,972	329,014	1,742,610.00
Kentucky	614,165	508,085	145,290	653,375	2,934,895.00
Louisiana	456,104	412,415	49,301	461,716	1,032,496.00
Maine	262,302	181,217	81,085	262,302	2,083,723.50
Maryland	138,481	160,113	17,154	177,267	715,095.35
Massachusetts	199,608	217,690	5,302	222,992	1,546,204.05
Michigan	1,290,053	1,294,946	323,924	1,618,870	8,810,155.00
Minnesota	1,497,484	860,988	279,606	1,140,594	8,720,290.87
Mississippi	425,328	375,831	49,497	425,328	2,663,594.50
Missouri	834,754	1,240,082	208,942	1,449,024	5,550,796.00
Montana	340,655	441,129	326,619	767,748	3,838,857.00
Nebraska	197,296	202,746	16,010	218,756	1,653,564.75
Nevada	169,155	99,526	69,773	169,299	1,286,182.00
New Hampshire	123,214	88,296	36,905	125,201	1,157,043.50
New Jersey	181,346	272,469	6,982	279,451	1,614,654.00
New Mexico	202,204	148,097	69,356	217,453	1,909,214.01
New York	839,391	824,576	69,739	894,315	5,332,787.00
North Carolina	470,197	500,895	45,306	546,201	3,577,849.00
North Dakota	153,159	138,390	15,558	153,948	601,512.00
Ohio	929,698	898,031	30,692	928,723	5,154,089.00
Oklahoma	606,152	489,417	123,810	613,227	3,398,552.75
Oregon	747,616	890,189	217,630	1,107,819	6,191,466.00
Pennsylvania	1,008,744	948,704	60,040	1,008,744	7,323,334.00
Rhode Island	29,565	28,440	1,813	30,253	91,698.00
South Carolina	411,015	369,399	63,565	432,964	2,064,473.25
South Dakota	130,371	95,422	36,513	131,935	632,619.00
Tennessee	685,156	776,994	227,144	1,004,138	5,009,971.50
Texas	1,681,368	1,567,032	114,336	1,681,368	6,866,583.00
Utah	446,400	301,372	177,765	479,137	2,896,390.50
Vermont	141,709	94,192	48,006	142,198	742,140.00
Virginia	476,719	706,954	105,783	812,737	2,579,041.50
Washington	953,700	1,156,409	156,605	1,313,014	6,594,217.00
West Virginia	264,068	479,883	48,950	528,833	1,992,698.50
Wisconsin	1,495,885	1,048,993	409,932	1,458,925	9,598,708.75
Wyoming	279,479	125,558	172,487	298,045	1,706,504.00
<b>TOTALS 3/</b>	<b>27,947,397</b>	<b>30,276,205</b>	<b>5,121,407</b>	<b>35,397,612</b>	<b>\$173,853,821.03</b>

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

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

3/ Persons who fished in more than one State are counted in each State where they fished. Therefore, this figure exceeds the total number of license holders in the United States.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES AND COST TO HUNTERS  
FISCAL YEAR 1979

State	Paid Hunting License Holders 1/	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Non-Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits and Stamps Issued 2/	Gross Cost to Hunters
Alabama	344,777	381,056	21,501	402,557	\$ 2,321,124.25
Alaska	69,397	74,992	14,558	89,550	2,485,640.00
Arizona	197,877	323,075	12,458	335,533	2,543,042.00
Arkansas	348,281	518,142	47,696	565,838	3,710,291.50
California	534,796	849,873	4,282	854,155	6,532,769.00
Colorado	305,961	440,403	111,128	551,531	16,285,982.00
Connecticut	81,961	99,638	796	100,434	403,853.00
Delaware	27,793	25,204	2,589	27,793	235,268.05
Florida	270,484	267,304	3,180	270,484	1,707,191.25
Georgia	376,482	850,569	21,882	872,451	2,811,394.00
Hawaii	11,258	11,144	278	11,422	86,602.00
Idaho	241,765	491,850	48,517	540,367	4,444,363.00
Illinois	408,873	593,805	10,012	603,817	3,076,576.00
Indiana	405,459	528,699	9,162	537,861	2,019,526.00
Iowa	336,504	452,069	33,750	485,819	3,547,342.75
Kansas	236,015	224,889	33,008	257,897	2,163,163.00
Kentucky	322,050	412,015	12,511	424,526	2,605,382.75
Louisiana	367,704	533,451	11,406	544,857	2,834,490.00
Maine	234,418	199,101	35,317	234,418	3,289,547.50
Maryland	171,914	342,861	34,702	377,563	2,254,398.97
Massachusetts	110,931	169,999	2,250	172,249	960,782.55
Michigan	960,594	1,121,014	30,471	1,151,485	8,988,212.00
Minnesota	619,572	1,081,481	11,084	1,092,565	9,514,318.95
Mississippi	289,182	306,984	25,276	332,260	2,647,163.50
Missouri	464,466	767,185	23,845	791,030	5,662,877.00
Montana	213,677	628,286	134,010	762,296	4,405,706.00
Nebraska	167,505	306,165	37,893	344,058	3,206,899.50
Nevada	49,607	73,361	6,385	79,746	788,620.00
New Hampshire	82,705	88,396	11,253	99,649	1,127,219.50
New Jersey	173,165	276,715	2,324	279,039	2,334,548.00
New Mexico	133,881	133,840	15,883	149,723	3,045,300.24
New York	738,329	1,093,578	32,552	1,126,130	7,580,739.00
North Carolina	376,718	559,160	13,508	572,668	3,597,291.50
North Dakota	100,989	257,986	28,413	286,399	1,427,715.00
Ohio	571,391	753,882	3,400	757,282	4,233,887.00
Oklahoma	287,348	465,137	5,719	470,856	2,757,635.75
Oregon	402,959	918,651	12,608	931,259	6,748,689.00
Pennsylvania	1,279,814	1,829,494	103,557	1,933,051	14,897,766.95
Rhode Island	14,630	17,788	653	18,441	65,495.00
South Carolina	228,296	263,126	39,547	302,673	2,366,900.25
South Dakota	139,732	342,318	36,340	378,658	2,103,388.80
Tennessee	509,014	784,149	31,386	815,535	5,644,275.15
Texas	879,233	1,109,925	22,162	1,132,087	5,831,450.30
Utah	250,104	310,858	14,962	325,820	3,499,271.50
Vermont	122,180	129,713	37,923	167,636	1,803,579.00
Virginia	455,193	846,208	73,906	920,114	4,395,279.00
Washington	358,363	872,729	7,424	880,153	5,890,043.00
West Virginia	310,434	412,629	58,649	471,278	3,110,902.00
Wisconsin	756,256	1,201,188	28,048	1,229,236	9,005,704.00
Wyoming	211,849	233,846	76,543	310,389	6,240,225.00
<b>TOTALS 3/</b>	<b>16,551,886</b>	<b>24,975,931</b>	<b>1,396,707</b>	<b>26,372,638</b>	<b>\$199,239,831.46</b>

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

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