



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release July 20, 1984

David Klinger (202) 343-5634

REVENUES RISE BUT PARTICIPATION DROPS SLIGHTLY IN LATEST HUNTING AND FISHING FIGURES

Slightly fewer American hunters and anglers spent a greater amount of money for licenses to pursue their sports in 1983 than the preceding year, the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today.

A record \$520 million went toward buying hunting and fishing licenses, tags, permits, and stamps last year, according to data from State fish and game agencies. At the same time, the total number of license holders dropped slightly, from 46,329,867 in 1982 to 45,503,447.

There were 16,372,904 licensed hunters in 1983 who spent \$277 million; in 1982, there were 16,748,541 hunters who spent \$259 million. There were 29,130,543 licensed anglers in 1983 and \$244 million in licensing expenditures (compared with 29,581,326 anglers and \$227 million spent in 1982).

Fluctuations in the number of sportsmen from year to year are not unusual, and can generally be attributed to weather, changes in State licensing requirements, and strengths of particular hunting and fishing forecasts.

These figures only approximate the actual number of hunters and anglers in the United States. They do not include, for example, people who are exempt from paying a fee for hunting or fishing licenses. In many States, special provisions are made for senior citizens, people under 16 years of age, the handicapped, and certain military personnel. Also, most coastal States do not require licenses for saltwater fishing. In addition, some people purchase licenses in more than one State and, therefore, are counted more than once.

(over)

Revenues from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses are used by the States to finance most of their fish and wildlife management programs including the matching of funds received as Federal grants. The numbers of license holders in each State are used to determine the amount of funds apportioned to the States under the "Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration" programs. Under these programs, the States are reimbursed for up to 75 percent of the costs of approved projects undertaken to benefit their fish and wildlife resources. The sources of these funds are excise taxes on various types of hunting and fishing equipment. For the current fiscal year, which ends September 30, 1984, \$120 million was apportioned in Federal Aid funds for fish and wildlife conservation.

A State-by-State breakdown of license sales is shown in the attached tables.

NUMBER OF PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO HUNTERS
FISCAL YEAR 1983

State	Paid Hunting License Holders 1/	Resident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Nonresident Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Total Hunting Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps 2/	Gross Cost To Hunters
Alabama	288,427	319,487	26,596	346,083	3,830,150
Alaska	90,094	138,878	16,343	155,221	3,366,258
Arizona	186,977	341,750	12,002	353,752	4,107,640
Arkansas	337,345	617,678	39,207	656,885	5,110,085
California	523,390	877,977	5,612	883,589	8,207,765
Colorado	358,823	520,785	136,548	657,333	20,110,660
Connecticut	82,085	138,941	2,288	141,229	921,270
Delaware	27,247	33,463	4,857	38,320	309,069
Florida	257,739	453,063	3,766	456,829	4,043,450
Georgia	370,655	847,813	27,531	875,344	4,566,305
Hawaii	11,443	11,654	305	11,959	84,124
Idaho	249,928	506,300	52,592	558,892	7,437,396
Illinois	329,240	554,370	8,960	563,330	4,926,277
Indiana	338,994	542,006	11,061	553,067	3,846,318
Iowa	276,216	660,751	72,903	733,654	5,007,285
Kansas	254,599	249,386	45,772	295,158	4,412,167
Kentucky	314,773	446,750	10,491	457,241	3,799,189
Louisiana	413,332	622,522	10,828	633,350	3,311,490
Maine	241,733	208,952	38,072	247,024	4,066,366
Maryland	174,318	302,464	49,204	351,668	2,829,655
Massachusetts	117,800	193,685	3,018	196,703	1,540,383
Michigan	890,519	1,410,952	21,090	1,432,042	13,309,786
Minnesota	484,148	888,651	12,536	901,187	10,702,909
Mississippi	303,572	316,155	38,475	354,630	3,461,635
Missouri	482,367	865,384	34,605	899,989	6,569,686
Montana	236,487	1,054,313	156,423	1,210,736	6,891,804
Nebraska	173,926	321,337	42,858	364,195	4,247,552
Nevada	55,063	90,428	5,729	96,157	1,304,068
New Hampshire	82,740	103,998	13,044	117,042	1,345,962
New Jersey	131,086	236,896	2,928	239,824	3,433,659
New Mexico	149,466	142,509	19,326	161,835	3,897,221
New York	791,568	1,291,501	58,451	1,349,952	13,139,470
North Carolina	351,030	508,856	12,810	521,666	4,210,747
North Dakota	96,232	345,506	32,962	378,468	2,506,157
Ohio	491,935	814,335	8,125	822,460	6,555,783
Oklahoma	312,721	438,617	6,153	444,770	3,704,441
Oregon	378,254	897,455	33,627	931,082	7,565,302
Pennsylvania	1,313,191	2,083,429	124,490	2,207,919	14,828,523
Rhode Island	12,810	17,778	862	18,640	118,840
South Carolina	207,648	241,423	37,701	279,124	3,257,307
South Dakota	167,703	354,090	108,845	462,935	4,568,522
Tennessee	541,617	800,772	11,201	811,973	5,766,335
Texas	1,050,496	1,425,390	28,588	1,453,978	7,542,231
Utah	251,808	325,083	15,666	340,749	5,363,130
Vermont	117,261	108,893	25,165	134,058	1,600,233
Virginia	462,009	822,845	70,574	893,419	6,321,718
Washington	311,155	753,330	5,280	758,610	7,981,799
West Virginia	336,676	457,127	69,677	526,804	4,524,615
Wisconsin	756,761	1,237,363	26,325	1,263,688	13,339,077
Wyoming	187,497	245,615	83,757	329,372	12,714,029
TOTALS 3/	16,372,904	27,188,706	1,685,229	28,873,935	276,605,843

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.

NUMBER OF PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS, LICENSE SALES, AND COST TO FISHERMEN
FISCAL YEAR 1983

State	Paid Fishing License Holders 1/	Resident Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps	Nonresident Fishing Licenses, Tags Permits & Stamps	Total Fishing Licenses, Tags, Permits & Stamps 2/	Gross Cost To Fishermen
Alabama	589,053	546,084	89,446	635,530	3,798,914
Alaska	256,412	172,226	104,088	276,314	3,521,482
Arizona	459,045	436,210	155,306	591,516	3,893,289
Arkansas	617,143	562,537	160,902	723,439	5,406,061
California	2,419,569	6,567,723	58,787	6,626,510	28,073,911
Colorado	715,550	583,811	250,919	834,730	5,980,822
Connecticut	188,480	189,863	4,032	193,895	1,379,408
Delaware	17,552	18,947	3,470	22,417	94,250
Florida	729,191	561,664	179,829	741,493	4,986,260
Georgia	674,641	790,318	38,254	828,572	4,492,331
Hawaii	8,495	8,494	194	8,688	27,738
Idaho	425,717	305,469	158,980	464,449	3,913,635
Illinois	764,377	831,865	52,226	884,091	5,627,407
Indiana	655,801	620,545	105,004	725,549	4,267,987
Iowa	473,262	461,419	44,578	505,997	2,874,428
Kansas	328,413	303,812	30,561	334,373	2,844,400
Kentucky	646,952	561,355	130,079	691,434	4,715,775
Louisiana	554,998	514,973	45,024	559,997	1,221,562
Maine	279,648	194,780	86,052	280,832	2,913,686
Maryland	124,973	153,067	17,766	170,833	1,118,338
Massachusetts	204,489	221,759	7,030	228,789	2,312,845
Michigan	1,390,981	1,379,736	329,264	1,709,000	12,640,414
Minnesota	1,546,385	976,742	277,875	1,254,617	12,355,806
Mississippi	445,296	383,374	67,362	450,736	2,914,825
Missouri	959,455	1,478,638	193,319	1,671,957	6,683,319
Montana	356,132	462,285	316,887	779,172	5,352,456
Nebraska	240,330	254,383	31,839	286,222	2,385,141
Nevada	173,051	100,116	66,985	167,101	1,557,362
New Hampshire	142,980	100,473	45,471	145,944	1,735,708
New Jersey	197,975	307,886	7,695	315,581	2,739,936
New Mexico	247,368	170,784	92,242	263,026	2,682,250
New York	936,977	893,799	112,032	1,005,831	8,625,450
North Carolina	485,887	548,586	76,096	624,682	4,565,547
North Dakota	183,261	158,933	24,817	183,750	720,049
Ohio	1,049,752	981,485	68,267	1,049,752	7,546,134
Oklahoma	663,058	548,209	108,062	656,271	4,858,022
Oregon	711,925	755,463	302,446	1,057,909	8,104,437
Pennsylvania	1,122,279	1,050,136	72,143	1,122,279	9,942,551
Rhode Island	29,767	27,940	1,827	29,767	179,329
South Carolina	422,403	382,065	65,273	447,338	3,107,747
South Dakota	200,077	198,059	74,614	272,673	1,593,745
Tennessee	699,086	719,463	168,544	888,007	4,813,306
Texas	1,789,298	1,697,864	91,434	1,789,298	7,994,987
Utah	372,772	493,038	132,610	625,648	5,279,411
Vermont	163,565	107,820	55,595	163,415	1,003,689
Virginia	543,362	715,343	78,433	793,776	4,011,515
Washington	852,070	995,163	111,990	1,107,153	8,420,554
West Virginia	295,681	523,815	73,417	597,232	3,107,735
Wisconsin	1,516,393	1,360,427	398,223	1,758,650	12,822,738
Wyoming	259,216	137,555	137,223	274,778	2,420,960
TOTALS 3/	29,130,543	32,516,501	5,304,512	37,821,013	243,629,652

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.