



2020 New Mexico Turkey Harvest Results

In 2020, 18,497 turkey licenses were sold. This number was up from 14,983 in 2019. Reporting is mandatory for turkey hunters, and 15,233 license holders filed a report, yielding a return rate of 82.4%. Seventy-eight percent of reporting license holders said they went hunting. The average harvest success rate for hunters across the year was 20.5%. A total of 2,826 turkeys were reported harvested in 2020.

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
2020	12,717	2,125	5,780	701

* Online reporting was voluntary in 2011 and 2012

Spring

There were 12,717 spring turkey licenses sold in 2020. Of the license holders, 10,394 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 81.7%. Eighty percent of reporting license holders (8,387) said that they went hunting. The average number of days spent afield per hunter was 4.4 days, though the greatest number of hunters spent 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 2,125 turkeys in the spring season, with 1,755 as first turkeys and 370 as second turkeys. The success rate on first bird harvest was 20.9%. Of the spring hunters who harvested a first turkey, 21.1% 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 great than 4 inches

was considered an adult (older than two years). The proportion of adult males harvested was 78.2%. 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 10,261. The estimated total of spring turkeys harvested was 2,600, with estimated first and second harvests of 2,147 and 453, 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*	38	100	3	3	78%	0	100	2.8
2	312	1,205	108	92	30%	16	61.1	3.4
3*	6	19	2	1	17%	1	100	4.2
4	118	411	32	31	26%	1	90.6	3.4
5	241	799	35	31	13%	4	62.9	3.1
6	847	3,283	75	65	8%	10	78.7	3.0
7	16	51	6	5	31%	1	66.7	4.1
8**	18	113	1	1	6%		100	3.1
9	275	1,060	32	27	10%	5	65.6	3.1
10	385	1,784	38	31	8%	7	55.3	2.9
11	4	9	0		0%			1.8
12	25	70	0		0%			2.7
13	82	289	9	8	10%	1	44.4	3.1
14	369	1,369	46	41	11%	5	63.0	3.1
15	402	1,821	57	49	12%	8	63.2	3.0
16	869	3,436	169	142	16%	27	80.0	3.2
17	171	646	28	22	13%	6	67.9	3.1
18	93	379	28	24	26%	4	75	3.4
19**	3	8	1	1	33%		0	3.33
20	34	97	16	14	41%	2	87.5	3.8
21	119	426	21	19	16%	2	100	3.1
22	24	110	4	4	17%	0	100	2.9
23	164	635	42	34	21%	8	64.3	3.0
24	366	1,537	79	68	19%	11	87.3	3.2
26**	2	9	0		0%			2.0
27**	3	5	1	1	33%		100	2.7
29	1	1	0		0%			2.0
30**	10	31	0		0%			2.5

31**	3	12	0		0%			3.0
32	82	220	45	33	40%	12	68.9	3.7
33*	4	12	1	1	25%		100	2.5
34	1578	5,872	321	270	17%	51	81.6	3.3
35	13	40	4	2	15%	2	50	3.5
36	470	1,896	152	121	26%	31	89.5	3.5
37	218	771	51	43	19%	8	.82	3.2
38	38	114	5	4	11%	1	40	2.8
39	48	123	20	15	31%	5	75	3.3
40	33	87	12	8	24%	4	83.3	3.8
41	23	57	12	8	35%	4	58.3	3.3
42	155	349	96	69	45%	27	78.1	4.0
43	88	349	25	20	23%	5	84	3.3
44	2	5	0		0%			4.5
45	510	2,186	108	95	19%	13	76.9	3.4
46	139	564	60	48	35%	12	76.7	3.9
47	48	158	24	20	42%	4	83.3	3.6
48	83	330	23	20	24%	3	73.9	3.2
49	211	996	56	48	23%	8	875	3.4
50	11	38	0		0%			2.9
51	305	1,144	58	53	17%	5	77.6	3.3
52	110	419	23	19	17%	4	69.6	3.5
53	58	299	16	13	22%	3	100	3.7
54	8	15	5	4	50%	1	100	4.5
55	71	228	38	32	45%	6	78.9	4.1
56	42	95	26	17	41%	9	96.2	3.8
57	87	268	56	40	46%	16	78.6	4.0
58	34	96	25	17	50%	8	96	4.4
59	39	86	27	19	49%	8	88.8	3.9
UNK	7	11	3	2	29%	1	66.7	3.7
TOTAL	9,515	36,543	2,125	1,755	20.9%	370	78	3.3

* 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 5,780 fall turkey licenses sold in 2020. Of these license holders, 4,839 filed an online harvest report for a return rate of 83.7%. Seventy-four percent of reporting license holders (3,565) said that they went hunting. The average number of days spent afield per hunter was 4.0, with the largest number of hunters spending 2 days afield. Hunters reported harvesting 701 turkeys in the fall season, comprised of 399 hens and 302 gobblers. The success rate for fall harvest was 19.7%. 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 4,258. The estimated total of fall turkeys harvested was 837, with an estimated 476 hens and 361 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*	16	51	2	13%	3.0	0	0	0	0
2	73	273	18	25%	3.5	5	13	2	14
3	2	4	0	0%	2.5				
4	17	60	6	35%	3.6	5	1		6
5	133	485	25	19%	3.5	15	10		23
6	481	1,995	58	12%	3.2	43	15	7	48
7	9	37	2	22%	3.6	1	1	1	1
8**	5	13	1	20%	3.2	1			1
9	147	601	22	15%	3.2	13	9	3	19
10	168	883	4	2%	2.8	4		1	2
11	2	5	0	0%	4.0				
12	22	89	1	5%	2.6	1			1
13	42	183	1	2%	2.5	1			1
14**	19	91	2	11%	2.8	2			2
15	160	743	9	6%	2.9	3	6	3	6
16	363	1,653	23	6%	2.9	14	9	4	18
17	89	337	10	11%	2.8	6	4	2	8
18**	8	24	0	0%	2.8				
20**	5	8	1	20%	2.0		1		1
21	57	233	8	14%	3.2	4	4		8
22	20	94	4	20%	3.3	1	3		3
23	83	375	15	18%	3	7	8		14
24	115	436	11	10%	3.1	6	5	1	10

31**	2	2	0	0%					
32	45	118	23	51%	3.8	14	9	1	21
34	668	2,335	205	31%	3.6	133	72	8	187
35	4	11	0	0%					
36	175	690	36	21%	3.4	16	20	9	25
37	86	314	10	12%	2.8	3	7		10
38**	9	24	0	0%	3.4				
39	10	34	2	20%	2.8		2		2
40	16	42	12	75%	3.9	7	5		12
41	9	19	5	56%	3.8	2	3	1	3
42	54	141	43	80%	4.4	16	27	1	42
43**	7	36	0	0%	3.9				
44	2	10	0	0%	3.5				
45	212	813	34	16%	3.4	20	14	3	28
46	41	168	15	37%	3.8	5	10	2	12
47	17	39	6	35%	4.2	1	5		5
48	50	217	15	30%	3.3	7	8	1	12
49**	8	31	2	25%	3.9	1	1		2
50**	7	22	3	43%	4.3	3			3
51	163	622	43	26%	3.4	27	16	1	41
52	64	275	6	9%	3.3	5	1	3	2
53**	6	35	3	50%	4	2	1	1	2
54	7	28	0	0%	2.7				
55	13	38	3	23%	2.8	2	1	0	3
56	3	8	0	0%	3.3				
57	25	99	8	32%	3.9	1	7	1	7
58	7	28	2	29%	4.0	1	1	2	
59	2	11	1	50%	3.0		1		1
TOTAL	3,565	14,901	701	19.7%	2.4	399	302	58	608

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