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Illinois' spring turkey hunters harvest record number of wild turkeys

SPRINGFIELD – Illinois hunters harvested a preliminary statewide record total of 17,208 wild turkeys during the 2024 Illinois spring turkey season.

This year's total compares with the 2023 statewide harvest of 16,123 and the previous harvest record total of 16,569, set during the spring season in 2006.

The top five counties for the 2024 spring turkey harvest were: Jo Daviess, 654; Jefferson, 472; Marion, 435; Pope, 397; and Randolph, 395.

The 2024 harvest total includes the record youth turkey harvest of 2,009 birds, which compares with the 2023 youth harvest of 1,309. The previous youth season record of 1,733 was set in 2020.

This year, hunters purchased 86,083 permits compared to 80,642 last year. Spring turkey hunting was open in 100 of Illinois' 102 counties. The 2024 regular season dates were April 8 through May 9 in the South Zone and April 15 through May 16 in the North Zone. The 2024 youth spring turkey season was March 30-31 and April 6-7 statewide.

Below are totals by county compared to last year:

County	2024	2023
Adams	318	337
Alexander	190	194
Bond	145	154
Boone	96	74
Brown	222	248
Bureau	197	196
Calhoun	246	255
Carroll	249	214
Cass	185	230
Champaign	36	21
Christian	52	60
Clark	270	238
Clay	295	270
Clinton	131	110
Coles	57	40

Crawford	238	207
Cumberland	77	95
DeKalb	14	7
DeWitt	54	47
Douglas	12	12
Edgar	125	115
Edwards	95	79
Effingham	170	129
Fayette	345	277
Ford	18	14
Franklin	252	227
Fulton	288	318
Gallatin-Hardin	253	296
Greene	160	160
Grundy	63	61
Hamilton	336	270
Hancock	291	286
Henderson	153	163
Henry	132	126
Iroquois	85	78
Jackson	334	282
Jasper	199	140
Jefferson	472	480
Jersey	178	209
Jo Daviess	654	596
Johnson	260	253
Kane	4	4
Kankakee	59	57
Kendall	18	13
Knox	235	222
Lake	20	10
LaSalle	110	103
Lawrence	180	156
Lee	110	109
Livingston	47	32
Logan	35	30
Macon	31	31
Macoupin	285	312
Madison	272	236
Marion	435	339
Marshall-Putnam	114	125
Mason	167	155
Massac	148	126
McDonough	94	126
McHenry	142	111

McLean	83	72
Menard	89	73
Mercer	237	197
Monroe	186	163
Montgomery	200	145
Morgan	136	121
Moultrie	38	26
Ogle	222	208
Peoria	138	134
Perry	297	242
Piatt	11	12
Pike	381	420
Pope	397	382
Pulaski	152	140
Randolph	395	371
Richland	143	126
Rock Island	195	201
Saline	159	126
Sangamon	100	120
Schuyler	212	258
Scott	70	92
Shelby	158	157
St. Clair	169	158
Stark	18	16
Stephenson	236	222
Tazewell	85	76
Union	316	308
Vermilion	154	162
Wabash	53	55
Warren	64	47
Washington	193	164
Wayne	371	297
White	220	165
Whiteside	165	158
Will	76	70
Williamson	360	286
Winnebago	193	205
Woodford	83	83
Total	17,208	16,123

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