



2024 Archery Deer Hunting Season Results

The first month of the 2024 hunting season has been an interesting one. Just prior to the start of the season, we documented our first case of eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) in a deer from Lisbon. EEE is a serious but rare illness caused by a virus that is transmitted by mosquitoes. This finding is rare in wild mammals. Not long after that, two cases of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) were confirmed in deer for a fourth year since it was first documented in our state in 2017. The first positive cases of 2024 came from deer found in two separate locations in Durham. The deer exhibited neurological symptoms and had no apparent injuries. Epizootic hemorrhagic disease was documented in a third deer exhibiting neurological symptoms from Manchester as well. Results are still pending on a few additional deer.

EHD is transmitted by biting midges (commonly referred to as sand gnats, sand flies, or no-see-ums). Outbreaks tend to occur when drought conditions are prevalent, typically in late summer and early fall, causing an increase in midge numbers. EHD outbreaks cease with the onset of a hard frost, which kills the midges carrying the virus. Outbreaks can range from a few mild cases which likely occurred this year, as opposed to the more widespread event that occurred in 2022.

Despite the 2024 season starting off with EEE and EHD, archers reported harvesting 1,061 deer during the first month of the archery season, down 3.8% from the 2023 season (1,103), and down 9.8% from the previous 3-year average (1,177). Eighteen percent (31 of 165) of towns reported 50 percent or greater declines in harvest from the 3-year average, with towns in deer management zones 7 and 11 experiencing the greatest early season impacts. Early season reports indicate that the abundance of acorns and lower permit issuance could be playing a role in lower harvest numbers.

Town by town archery harvest September 15-October 15, 2021-2024.

| Town | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 3-year avg (2021-2023) |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------------------------|
| Andover | 4 | 14 | 7 | 10 | 8.3 |
| Ansonia | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2.0 |
| Ashford | 8 | 14 | 16 | 14 | 12.7 |
| Avon | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2.3 |
| Barkhamsted | 1 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 4.3 |
| Beacon Falls | 0 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2.7 |
| Berlin | 7 | 17 | 8 | 12 | 10.7 |
| Bethany | 12 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 9.7 |
| Bethel | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 2.3 |
| Bethlehem | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1.3 |
| Bloomfield | 7 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 9.0 |
| Bolton | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3.7 |
| Bozrah | 5 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 5.7 |
| Branford | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4.3 |
| Bridgewater | 3 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 6.0 |
| Bristol | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2.3 |
| Brookfield | 13 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 9.7 |

| Town | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 3-year avg (2021-2023) |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Brooklyn | 4 | 7 | 10 | 11 | 7.0 |
| Burlington | 2 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 5.0 |
| Canaan | 18 | 6 | 13 | 8 | 12.3 |
| Canterbury | 6 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 9.7 |
| Canton | 3 | 11 | 6 | 4 | 6.7 |
| Chaplin | 12 | 9 | 13 | 11 | 11.3 |
| Cheshire | 12 | 19 | 17 | 18 | 16.0 |
| Chester | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2.3 |
| Clinton | 5 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 3.0 |
| Colchester | 12 | 15 | 7 | 20 | 11.3 |
| Colebrook | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.0 |
| Columbia | 7 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 6.0 |
| Cornwall | 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3.3 |
| Coventry | 7 | 27 | 18 | 9 | 17.3 |
| Cromwell | 0 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3.7 |
| Danbury | 5 | 8 | 10 | 7 | 7.7 |
| Darien | 4 | 12 | 6 | 19 | 7.3 |
| Deep River | 2 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3.7 |
| Derby | 4 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 3.0 |
| Durham | 7 | 6 | 10 | 6 | 7.7 |
| East Granby | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 4.0 |
| East Haddam | 10 | 14 | 16 | 17 | 13.3 |
| East Hampton | 7 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 7.0 |
| East Hartford | 0 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2.3 |
| East Haven | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3.7 |
| East Lyme | 4 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 5.3 |
| East Windsor | 9 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 8.7 |
| Eastford | 3 | 16 | 9 | 9 | 9.3 |
| Easton | 15 | 24 | 7 | 16 | 15.3 |
| Ellington | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3.7 |
| Enfield | 14 | 22 | 12 | 8 | 16.0 |
| Fairfield | 10 | 10 | 12 | 11 | 10.7 |
| Farmington | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1.7 |
| Franklin | 1 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 3.7 |
| Glastonbury | 7 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 7.7 |
| Goshen | 9 | 10 | 10 | 5 | 9.7 |
| Granby | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3.0 |
| Greenwich | 9 | 14 | 8 | 13 | 10.3 |
| Griswold | 10 | 12 | 10 | 16 | 10.7 |
| Groton | 9 | 12 | 7 | 13 | 9.3 |
| Guilford | 11 | 22 | 12 | 19 | 15.0 |
| Haddam | 11 | 12 | 9 | 9 | 10.7 |
| Hamden | 4 | 12 | 7 | 4 | 7.7 |
| Hampton | 4 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 6.0 |
| Hartford | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.3 |
| Hartland | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2.3 |
| Harwinton | 3 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4.7 |
| Hebron | 7 | 9 | 13 | 5 | 9.7 |
| Kent | 18 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8.0 |

| Town | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 3-year avg (2021-2023) |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Killingly | 10 | 15 | 14 | 21 | 13.0 |
| Killingworth | 7 | 8 | 10 | 14 | 8.3 |
| Lebanon | 18 | 25 | 13 | 17 | 18.7 |
| Ledyard | 11 | 20 | 13 | 17 | 14.7 |
| Lisbon | 1 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 4.0 |
| Litchfield | 6 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 9.3 |
| Lyme | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4.3 |
| Madison | 1 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 4.7 |
| Manchester | 6 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5.3 |
| Mansfield | 19 | 25 | 26 | 29 | 23.3 |
| Marlborough | 3 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 4.3 |
| Meriden | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4.3 |
| Middlebury | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3.7 |
| Middlefield | 4 | 9 | 2 | 0 | 5.0 |
| Middletown | 21 | 16 | 20 | 22 | 19.0 |
| Milford | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 5.7 |
| Monroe | 7 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 7.3 |
| Montville | 5 | 13 | 7 | 9 | 8.3 |
| Morris | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3.3 |
| Naugatuck | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 4.3 |
| New Canaan | 14 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 9.3 |
| New Fairfield | 5 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 6.3 |
| New Hartford | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4.7 |
| New Haven | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.3 |
| New Milford | 14 | 12 | 16 | 11 | 14.0 |
| Newington | 3 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2.3 |
| Newtown | 27 | 32 | 17 | 13 | 25.3 |
| Norfolk | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2.7 |
| North Branford | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2.0 |
| North Canaan | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1.3 |
| North Haven | 7 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 6.7 |
| North Stonington | 10 | 14 | 9 | 6 | 11.0 |
| Norwalk | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2.3 |
| Norwich | 5 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 6.7 |
| Old Lyme | 4 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 7.3 |
| Old Saybrook | 0 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3.3 |
| Orange | 6 | 5 | 10 | 6 | 7.0 |
| Oxford | 5 | 13 | 8 | 9 | 8.7 |
| Plainfield | 18 | 20 | 14 | 12 | 17.3 |
| Plainville | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1.7 |
| Plymouth | 5 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 6.3 |
| Pomfret | 10 | 15 | 11 | 18 | 12.0 |
| Portland | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3.0 |
| Preston | 9 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 8.7 |
| Prospect | 3 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 5.0 |
| Putnam | 4 | 11 | 5 | 13 | 6.7 |
| Redding | 11 | 17 | 7 | 10 | 11.7 |
| Ridgefield | 8 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 10.0 |
| Rocky Hill | 0 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2.3 |

| Town | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 3-year avg (2021-2023) |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Roxbury | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2.0 |
| Salem | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4.0 |
| Salisbury | 14 | 9 | 13 | 8 | 12.0 |
| Scotland | 6 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 6.7 |
| Seymour | 14 | 9 | 4 | 4 | 9.0 |
| Sharon | 9 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 7.0 |
| Shelton | 5 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 8.0 |
| Sherman | 5 | 11 | 4 | 3 | 6.7 |
| Simsbury | 5 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2.3 |
| Somers | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 3.3 |
| South Windsor | 2 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 5.0 |
| Southbury | 5 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 5.0 |
| Southington | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | 6.3 |
| Sprague | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3.7 |
| Stafford | 9 | 6 | 16 | 9 | 10.3 |
| Stamford | 4 | 16 | 5 | 7 | 8.3 |
| Sterling | 5 | 14 | 8 | 14 | 9.0 |
| Stonington | 12 | 28 | 17 | 14 | 19.0 |
| Stratford | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3.0 |
| Suffield | 8 | 19 | 9 | 9 | 12.0 |
| Thomaston | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4.7 |
| Thompson | 12 | 30 | 26 | 29 | 22.7 |
| Tolland | 9 | 15 | 21 | 16 | 15.0 |
| Torrington | 9 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5.3 |
| Trumbull | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3.0 |
| Union | 5 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 7.3 |
| Vernon | 2 | 9 | 7 | 0 | 6.0 |
| Voluntown | 7 | 12 | 6 | 7 | 8.3 |
| Wallingford | 14 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 15.7 |
| Warren | 3 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4.0 |
| Washington | 4 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 4.3 |
| Waterbury | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0.3 |
| Waterford | 17 | 16 | 12 | 13 | 15.0 |
| Watertown | 5 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 5.7 |
| West Haven | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0.7 |
| Westbrook | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 2.0 |
| Weston | 4 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 4.0 |
| Wethersfield | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.3 |
| Willington | 2 | 14 | 5 | 9 | 7.0 |
| Wilton | 9 | 21 | 15 | 10 | 15.0 |
| Winchester | 1 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 2.3 |
| Windham | 9 | 8 | 12 | 5 | 9.7 |
| Windsor | 4 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2.3 |
| Wolcott | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1.0 |
| Windsor Locks | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.3 |
| Woodbridge | 8 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 7.0 |
| Woodbury | 3 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5.3 |
| Woodstock | 10 | 24 | 21 | 18 | 18.3 |
| Grand Total | 997 | 1,430 | 1,103 | 1,061 | 1,177 |