

Connecticut Wild Turkey Program Report

2023 Spring and Fall Seasons

**Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Bureau of Natural Resources
Wildlife Division**



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Table of Contents

Introduction.....	4
2023 Spring Turkey Season.....	4
Spring Turkey Hunter Survey Results	9
2023 Fall Firearms Turkey Season	13
2023 Fall Archery Turkey Season	14
Wild Turkey Brood Survey.....	17
Population Dynamics.....	19
Summary	22
Appendix A. Connecticut spring turkey harvest by town, 2013 – 2023	24
Appendix B. Spring turkey harvest from state-owned and managed lands, 2022 and 2023.....	28
Appendix C. Ruffed grouse observations (seen or heard) from turkey hunter surveys, 2013 – 2023	30
Appendix D. Connecticut fall firearms turkey harvest and hunter numbers, 1990 – 2023.....	34
Appendix E. Connecticut fall archery turkey harvest and hunter numbers, 1983 – 2023.....	35

List of Tables

- Table 1. Connecticut’s spring turkey harvest on private and state lands, 2022 and 2023.
- Table 2. Connecticut’s spring turkey hunter participation rate and estimated hunter numbers, 2022 and 2023.
- Table 3. Turkeys harvested during the spring 2022 and 2023 seasons by Turkey Management Zone.
- Table 4. Harvest distribution among hunters, 2017 – 2023.
- Table 5. Date of the season median harvest, 2017 – 2023.
- Table 6. Number of survey respondents hunting in each Turkey Management Zone, 2023.
- Table 7. Summary of hunter and non-hunter interference during the Spring Wild Turkey Season, 2023.
- Table 8. Composition of the 2023 fall firearms season harvest.
- Table 9. Wild turkey harvest by town during the 2022 and 2023 fall firearms seasons.
- Table 10. Wild turkey harvest during the 2022 and 2023 fall firearms seasons by Turkey Management Zone.
- Table 11. Wild turkey harvest by town during the 2022 and 2023 fall archery seasons.
- Table 12. Wild turkey harvest during the 2022 and 2023 fall archery seasons by Turkey Management Zone.
- Table 13. Wild turkey brood survey data for Connecticut, 2007 – 2023.
- Table 14. Wild turkey brood survey data by month for Connecticut, 2023.

List of Figures

- Figure 1. Connecticut’s spring wild turkey season harvest, 1981 - 2023.
- Figure 2. Distribution of the 2023 spring turkey harvest in Connecticut.
- Figure 3. Connecticut’s 13 Turkey Management Zones, 2023.
- Figure 4. Ruffed grouse population growth index reported on spring turkey hunter surveys from 2005 – 2023.
- Figure 5. Average number of days spent afield between state and private land spring turkey hunters, 2018-2023.
- Figure 6. Trend in Spring Wild Turkey Season hunter satisfaction versus harvest per hunter (individual success rate) from 2018-2023.
- Figure 7. Poults per hen (PPH) from 2018-2023.
- Figure 8. Perception of hunters regarding wild turkey population growth from 1999 – 2023.
- Figure 9. Trend in spring turkey harvest from 1981 – 2023.
- Figure 10. Catch per unit of effort (CPUE) for Connecticut’s spring wild turkey seasons, 1991 – 2023.
- Figure 11. Ratio of juvenile to adult turkeys taken during Connecticut’s spring wild turkey seasons, 1981 – 2023.

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Introduction

The wild turkey is an important component of our state's wildlife diversity. The goal of the Connecticut Wild Turkey Management Program is to manage the wild turkey population at a level compatible with available habitat and various land uses, and to allow for a sustained yield of turkeys for use by the people of Connecticut. Wild turkeys continue to be of moderate abundance throughout the state, providing the public with hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities.

To successfully manage a statewide wild turkey population, biologists must take a holistic approach. Factors that should be considered include harvest, hunter participation and effort, annual productivity, predator-prey interactions, seasonal weather conditions, species density dependence, diseases, and habitat modifications. On an annual basis, harvest, hunter dynamics, and productivity are presented in the Turkey Summary booklets. Other variables are obvious in effect but their current influence unknown (disease, predator-prey, and habitat), while others are known yet unpredictable (weather), and the influence of density dependence or lack thereof is not known. Because many factors play a role in the dynamics of a statewide wild turkey population, biologists must consider all parameters to facilitate positive changes and ensure that turkey populations are managed properly.

The 2023 wild turkey hunting seasons continued to demonstrate variability. From 2020 to 2022, harvest and hunter participation declined across all wild turkey hunting seasons. In 2023, spring harvest numbers increased, though hunter numbers declined slightly in all seasons except fall archery. The 2023 turkey hunter participation numbers currently demonstrate a level not seen since the mid-1990s.

Connecticut maintains three wild turkey hunting seasons, which include spring, fall archery, and fall firearms. For the majority of Connecticut's wild turkey hunters, spring is the most popular season, and for this reason, the 2023 spring season highlights are presented first, followed by the spring turkey hunter survey information, annual brood survey data, fall firearms season highlights, and fall archery season information.

2023 Spring Turkey Season

Overall Results

The 43rd annual statewide spring turkey season was open from April 26 – May 27, 2023. A total of 4,303 Resident Game Bird (RGB) hunters participated in the spring season as of June 1 and 1,279 birds were harvested (Figure 1). The 2023 spring harvest consisted of 367 juvenile and 905 adult males, and 7 bearded females. The number of participating hunters decreased by 10.7% (517 hunters) and harvest increased by 12.3% (140 birds) from the 2022 totals (Table 1 and 2).

To provide a quality turkey hunting experience for Connecticut's junior hunters (ages 12 to 15), the 19th annual Youth Wild Turkey Junior Hunter Days took place from Saturday, April 15 to Saturday, April 22, 2023 (excluding Sunday, April 16). Participants harvested 43 wild turkeys, one fewer bird than the previous year. For the 2023 season, 59 juniors harvested their first wild turkey, 37% (22) of which were during the junior season. Overall, 80 juniors (64% as derived from the spring turkey hunter survey) took part in the Junior Hunter Days with a 54% success

rate. Junior Wild Turkey Hunter Training Days have been well received by all participants, both youth hunters and mentors.

Figure 1. Connecticut’s spring wild turkey season harvest, 1981 – 2023.

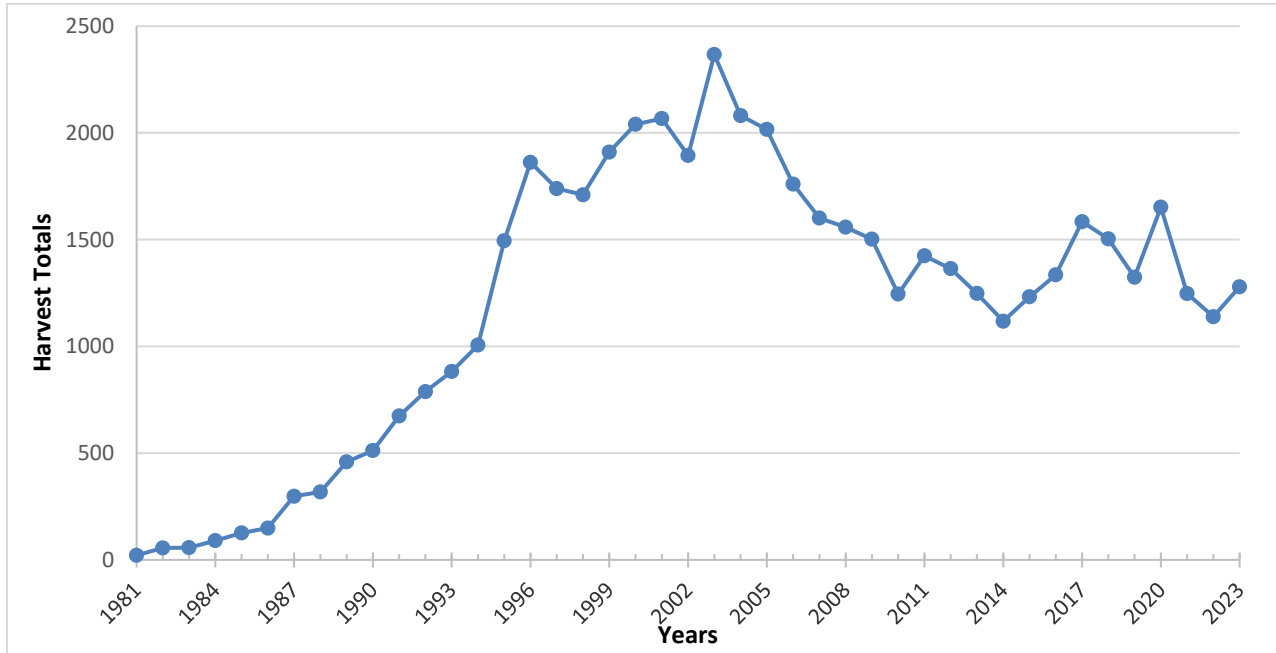


Table 1. Connecticut’s spring turkey harvest on private and state lands, 2022 and 2023.

Total Harvest			
Land Type	2022	2023	% Change
Private Land	890	976	9.7%
State Land	249	303	21.7%
Overall Total	1,139	1,279	12.3%

Table 2. Connecticut’s spring turkey hunter participation rate and estimated hunter numbers, 2022 and 2023.

Year	RGB Hunters	Participation Rate ³	Estimated Hunter Numbers
2022	6,986 ¹	69%	4,820
2023	6,941 ²	62%	4,303

¹ RGB hunters permitted from 12/1/21 to 5/28/22.

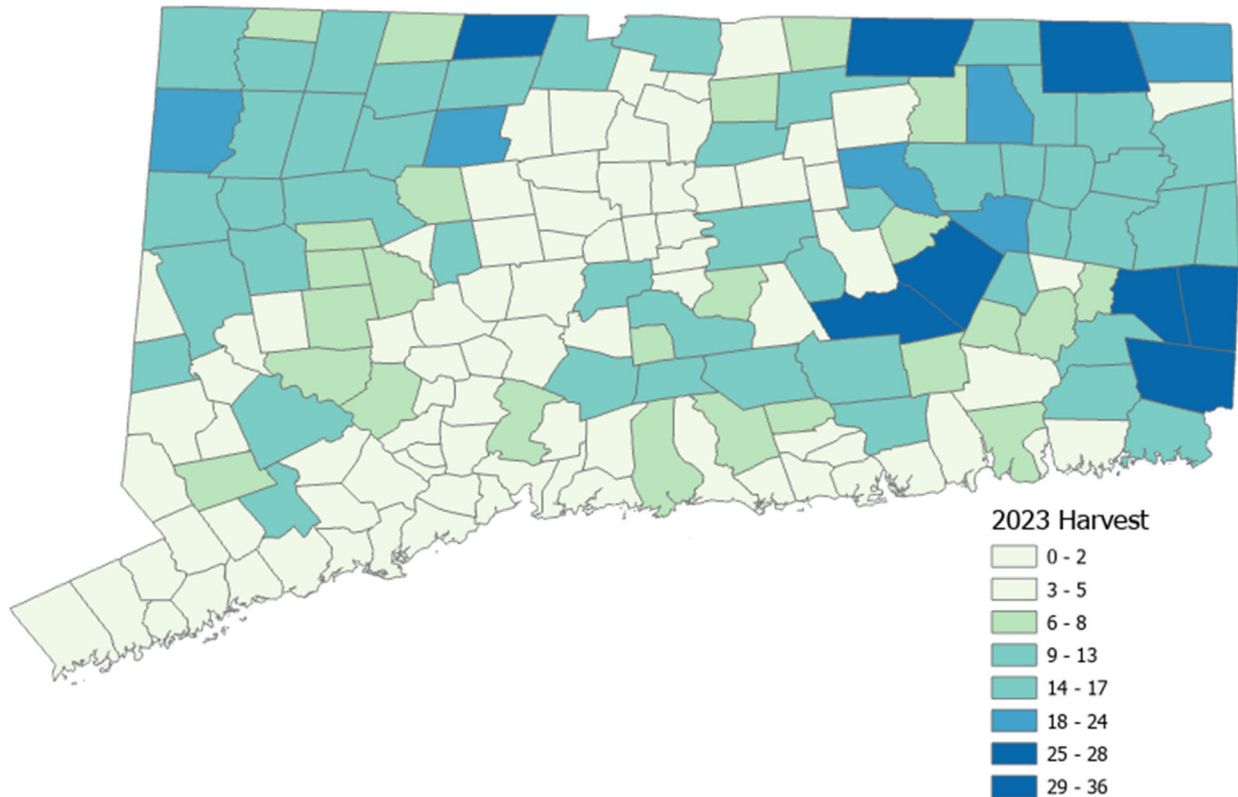
² RGB hunters permitted from 12/1/22 to 5/28/23.

³ Participation rates derived from the respective year’s Spring Turkey Hunter Surveys.

Harvest by Town

At least 1 bird was taken from 139 of Connecticut's 169 towns (Figure 2, Appendix A). Twenty or more birds were taken from 14 towns and 30 or more birds were taken from 4 towns. The towns of Voluntown (36), Woodstock (35), and Lebanon (33) had the highest reported turkey harvest.

Figure 2. Distribution of the 2023 spring turkey harvest in Connecticut.



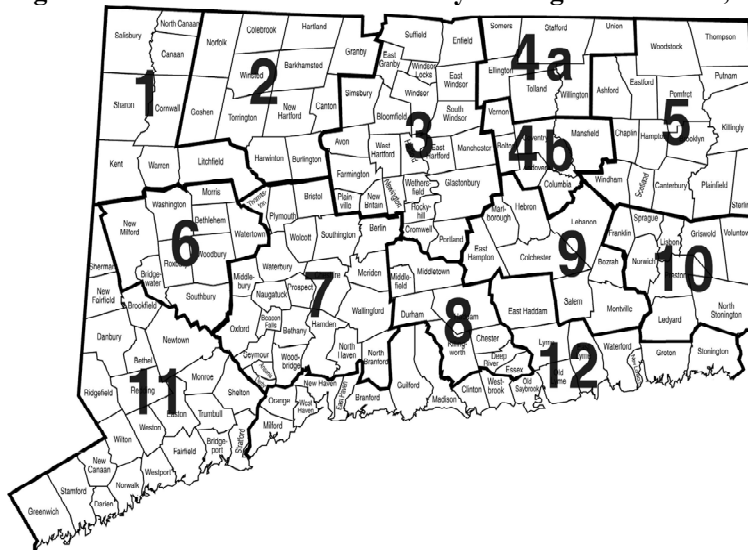
Zonal Harvest

Similar to 2022, the northeastern corner of the state (Turkey Management Zone 5) reported the highest harvest among Connecticut's 13 Turkey Management Zones (TMZs) during 2023 (Table 3, Figure 3). Prior to 2004, northwest Connecticut (Zone 1) had typically held this distinction. Zone 8 recorded the lowest harvest. Zones 8, 1, and 6 showed the only decrease in harvest from 2022 to 2023, though Zone 6 decreased in harvest from 2021 to 2022 as well. Although harvest was variable among zones, turkey populations exist in all zones and harvest is a function of hunter access and turkey densities.

Table 3. Turkeys harvested during the spring 2022 and 2023 seasons by Turkey Management Zone.

Zone	Harvest 2022	Harvest 2023	Percent Change
1	127	121	-4.7
2	116	138	18.9
3	65	82	26.2
4A	62	74	19.4
4B	49	57	16.3
5	209	216	3.4
6	58	57	-1.7
7	80	84	5.0
8	61	54	-11.5
9	76	90	18.4
10	102	147	44.1
11	52	67	28.9
12	82	92	12.2
Total	1,139	1,279	12.3

Figure 3. Connecticut’s 13 Turkey Management Zones, 2023.



Private and State Land Hunting

Private land accounted for the majority of the harvest (76%). Private land encompasses the largest amount of land, includes the best turkey habitat, and likely has more experienced hunters with lower hunter densities than state land (based on median age of successful hunters). Of the state-managed properties, Pachaug State Forest (37) and Tunxis State Forest (24) yielded the most turkeys in 2023. The most productive state land turkey hunting areas (≥ 5 birds harvested/mi² and a minimum harvest of 4 birds) was Algonquin State Forest (Appendix B).

Harvest Distribution Among Hunters

Analysis of hunter reporting data indicates the distribution of harvest among spring turkey hunters has remained relatively consistent over time (Table 4). Further analysis indicates that the harvest of additional birds, of what would have been allowed under the pre-2020 spring regulations (3/private, 2/state bag limits, AM only harvest) for the 2023 season, makes up 4.7% (n=60) of the total harvest. This percentage is similar to the 4.4% in 2022 but remains below the 5.4% seen in 2020 when regulations first changed. In 2023, 20.7% of successful hunters (n=168) harvested multiple birds in one day, 14 individuals harvested three birds (1.7%), one harvested four (0.1%).

Harvest Distribution Through the Season

Prior to the general season in 2022 (i.e., Junior Training Days were omitted), errors within the Harvest Reporting System prevented accurate recording of Harvest Time as submitted by hunters. In 2022, the reported data indicated that the median number of birds harvested were taken by 7:00 AM; in 2023 the median time of harvest increased to 8:00 AM. The median number of birds harvested for the season in 2023 was reached on May 1, one day earlier than in 2022 (Table 5).

Table 4. Harvest distribution among hunters, 2017-2023.

Year	Birds Harvested	# of Hunters	Percentage of Spring Hunters	Additional Birds
2017	5	19	0.4%	n/a
	4	19	0.4%	
	3	110	2.1%	
	2	261	5.1%	
	1	561	10.9%	
	0	4193	81.2%	
2018	5	19	0.3%	n/a
	4	21	0.4%	
	3	96	1.8%	
	2	252	4.6%	
	1	518	9.5%	
	0	4642	85.2%	
2019	5	10	0.2%	n/a
	4	16	0.3%	
	3	80	1.5%	
	2	210	3.9%	
	1	545	10.0%	
	0	4584	84.2%	
2020	5	27	0.4%	89
	4	38	0.5%	
	3	84	1.2%	

	2	246	3.6%	
	1	595	8.6%	
	0	5921	85.7%	
	5	7	0.1%	
	4	25	0.4%	
2021	3	73	1.3%	43
	2	171	3.0%	
	1	551	9.6%	
	0	4916	85.6%	
	5	16	0.3%	
	4	18	0.4%	
2022	3	66	1.3%	50
	2	183	3.6%	
	1	424	8.4%	
	0	4345	86.0%	
	5	15	0.4%	
	4	20	0.5%	
2023	3	75	1.7%	60
	2	196	4.6%	
	1	507	11.8%	
	0	3490	81.0%	

Table 5. Date of the season median harvest, 2017-2023.

Year	Date
2017	5/3
2018	5/2
2019	5/2
2020	5/5
2021	5/3
2022	5/2
2023	5/1

Spring Turkey Hunter Survey Results

The Spring Wild Turkey Hunter Survey is used to obtain a variety of information to better manage Connecticut’s wild turkey resource. The survey provides valuable insight into population growth trends, economic expenditures, and recreational benefits. It also provides turkey hunters a forum to weigh in on potential changes to the program and overall satisfaction with the Wildlife Division’s management of Connecticut’s wild turkey population. Prior to 2010, each spring turkey hunter received a mail-in survey attached to their permit. Since then, to streamline the survey process, all individuals who purchased a RGB Conservation Stamp (RGBCS) and provided an email address receive a survey.

In 2023, a total of 5,198 surveys were emailed to individuals who had purchased a RGBCS prior to the close of spring turkey season, and 31% of those hunters responded (1,596). Thirty-eight percent of the respondents had obtained a RGBCS by May 28, but did not participate in the 2023 spring turkey hunting season. This ratio was used to calculate total spring turkey hunter numbers. Of those that did hunt (total est. 4,303), most of their hunting activity occurred in Turkey Management Zones 2 and 5, which is consistent with 2021 and 2022 (Figure 3; Table 6). On average, spring turkey hunters spent an estimated \$287 on hunting-related items (stamps and license not included), totaling \$256,151. An additional \$177,002 of revenue was generated through the sales of RGBCS (as of May 28, 2023).

Forty-six percent of spring turkey hunters (n=910) responding to the survey believed the turkey population was decreasing, an increase from 39% last year. Of the remainder, 11% believed it was increasing, 27% believed it was stable, and 16% had no opinion. Hunters were asked to rank the change in population from 2022 to 2023 as decreasing (0), slightly decreasing (1.5), stable (3.0), slightly increasing (4.5), or increasing (6.0). From this information, a turkey population growth index of 1.8 was derived for 2023, indicating a slightly decreasing turkey population. All Turkey Management Zones had a mean index below 3.0, suggesting statewide decline in wild turkey numbers from 2020 to 2023.

To collect data on ruffed grouse distribution in Connecticut, an additional question was added to the turkey hunter survey in 2005. Hunters were asked to report whether they observed ruffed grouse or heard grouse drumming, and, if so, to provide the town in which the encounter occurred. During 2023, hunters reported 67 encounters with ruffed grouse in 42 towns. The town with the highest number of grouse encounters was Hartland (Appendix C). A grouse population index was derived by dividing total grouse observations into the total number of surveys returned and then multiplying by 100. This represents the average number of grouse encountered by 100 spring turkey hunters. The 2023 index was 4.2 (Figure 4). Overall, grouse population trends indicate that Connecticut's grouse numbers continue to decline. Only 2% of the spring turkey hunters encountered grouse during the season.

The survey was also used to assess hunter preferences and activities. Of the 2023 spring hunters, 50% hunted turkeys on private land only, 12% on both private and state lands, and 38% on state land only. On average, 2023 spring turkey hunters reporting hunting effort spent approximately 5.0 days pursuing turkeys on private land and 4.5 days on state land (Figure 5). Hunters were asked what percentage of time they spent hunting in the morning and afternoon; collectively the hunters indicated that 80% of their time was spent hunting during morning hours (a 3% decrease from 2022, equal to 2021) and 20% during the afternoon. Most hunters still preferred morning hunts.

State land spring turkey hunters encountered over three times more hunter interference from other hunters than private land hunters (16% vs. 5%) and almost twice as much interference from non-hunters (8% vs. 5%). These numbers are very similar to 2021 and 2022, where the difference was a 3% increase in reported non-hunter interference and minor variation within land categories for the type (Table 7). Overall, it appears that most 2023 spring hunters were satisfied (Excellent, Good, or Fair) with the quality of the Connecticut hunt experience: Excellent – 14%, Good – 27%, Fair – 29%, Poor – 16%, and Very Poor – 14%. Generally, it appears that positive season satisfaction correlates to higher harvest rates (Figure 6).

Table 6. Number of survey respondents hunting in each Turkey Management Zone, 2023.

Zone	Hunters	%
1	91	10
2	117	13
3	78	9
4A	49	5
4B	27	3
5	109	12
6	45	5
7	70	8
8	57	6
9	77	8
10	87	10
11	54	6
12	50	5
Total	911	100

Figure 4. Ruffed grouse population growth index reported on spring turkey hunter surveys from 2005 - 2023.

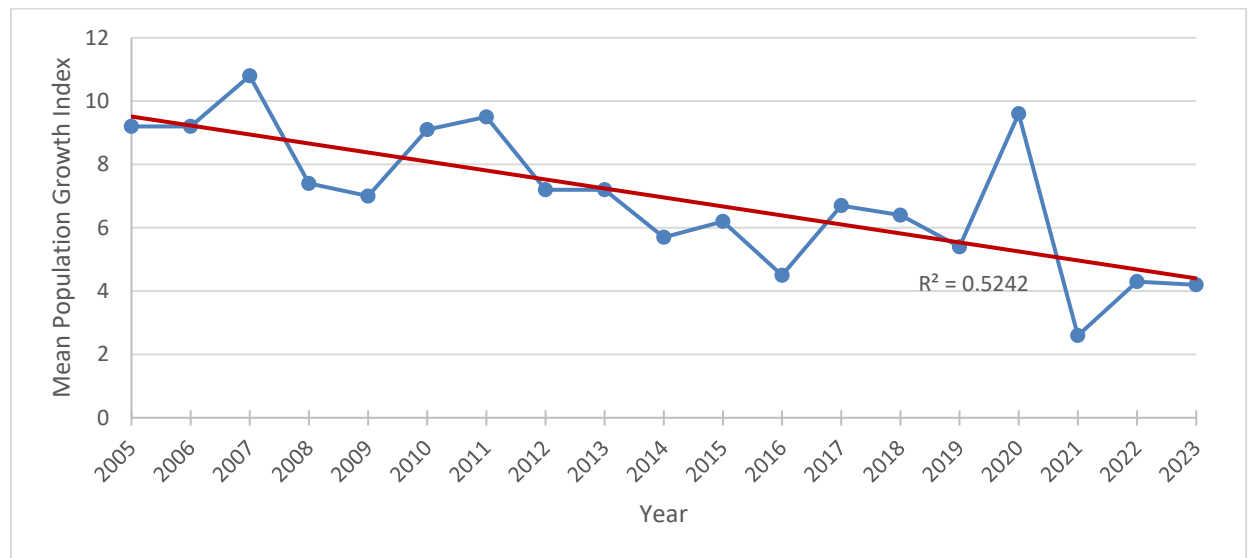


Table 7. Summary of hunter and non-hunter interference during the Spring Wild Turkey Season, 2023.

	Hunter Interference		Non-Hunter Interference	
	N=	%	N=	%
Experienced on all property types	9	1	6	<1%
Experienced on State Land	143	16	73	8
Experienced on Private Land	47	5	41	5
Did not Experience	712	78	789	87
Total	911	100	909	100
	Interference Trend (Private)		Interference Trend (State)	
	N=	%	N=	%
Same as previous year	146	16	160	18
Did not experience any	465	51	299	33
Did not hunt property type	206	23	304	33
Less than previous year	36	4	12	1
More than previous year	57	6	134	15
Total	910	100	909	100

Figure 5. Average number of days spent afield between state and private land spring turkey hunters, 2018-2023.

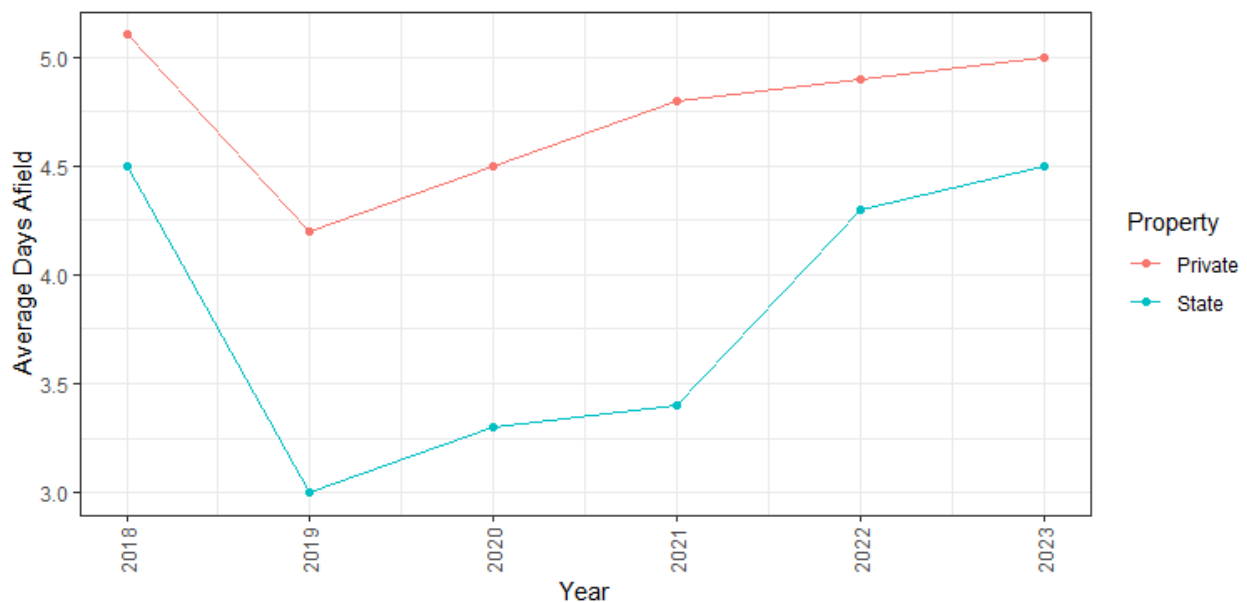
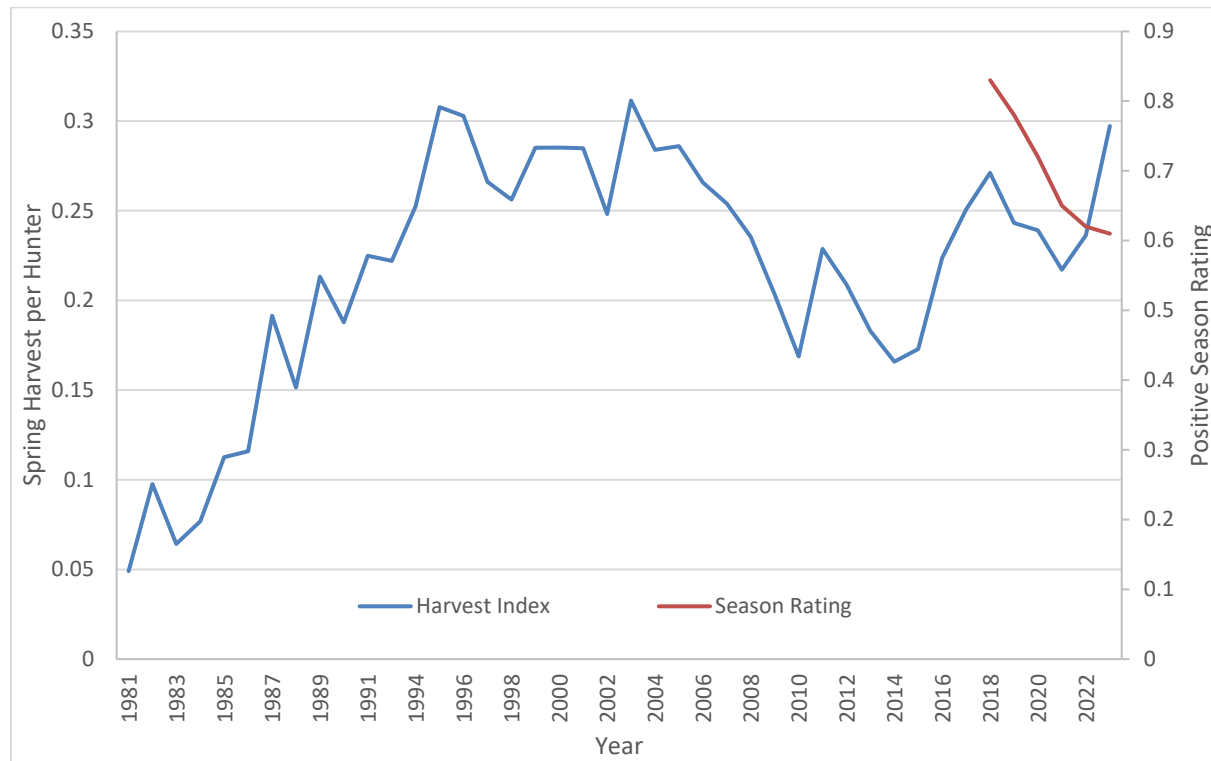


Figure 6. Trend in Spring Wild Turkey Season hunter satisfaction versus harvest per hunter (individual success rate) from 2018-2023.



2023 Fall Firearms Turkey Season

The fall firearms season was open statewide in 2023 for the 28th year in Connecticut. Hunters who purchased a RGBCS were able to hunt on any state land open to turkey hunting and all private lands where hunters obtained a signed landowner consent form. An estimated 1,018 hunters (derived from preliminary responses from the 2023/2024 Resident Game Bird Hunter Survey) participated during the fall firearms wild turkey season, a decrease of 6.4% from previous season. Hunters harvested 22 birds (Appendix D) during the 22-day, 2023 fall firearms season and posted a success rate of 2.2%. Hunters harvested 18 birds on private land and 4 birds on state land (Table 8). Nine hunters harvested 2 birds and 4 hunters harvested 1 during the season. The harvest consisted of 68% adults, 32% juveniles, 50% males, and 50% females. Overall, from 2022 to 2023, the fall firearms harvest decreased by 68%. The poor weather conditions during October most likely contributed to this decline, as two weekends recorded significant precipitation events. Fall firearms hunters specified that 78% of their hunts were targeted towards turkeys during the season, i.e., they set out with the intention of harvesting a turkey when they went afield.

Fall firearms hunters reported taking at least 1 bird from 8 of Connecticut's 169 towns. The towns reporting the highest harvests were Colchester and Stafford (3) (Table 9). In addition, Turkey Management Zones 4A, 5, and 10 (4 birds) reported the highest zonal harvest (Table 10).

Table 8. Composition of the 2023 fall firearms season harvest.

	Private Land	State/Public Lands	Total
Adult Hen	6	1	7
Adult Male	8	0	8
Juvenile Hen	3	1	4
Juvenile Male	1	2	3
Total	18	4	22

Table 9. Wild turkey harvest by town during the 2022 and 2023 fall firearms seasons.

Town of Harvest	Number of Birds		Town of Harvest	Number of Birds	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
Ashford	2	1	Stafford	6	3
Canton	0	0	Suffield	2	0
Colchester	6	3	Union	0	1
Eastford	0	1	Voluntown	5	2
Goshen	2	0	Warren	2	0
Kent	0	2	Willington	2	0
Lebanon	2	0	Woodstock	6	2
Putnam	3	0	Total	69	22
Scotland	1	0			

Table 10. Wild turkey harvest during the 2022 and 2023 fall firearms seasons by Turkey Management Zone.

Zone	Harvest by Year		Zone	Harvest by Year	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
1	5	3	7	3	1
2	3	0	8	5	0
3	4	0	9	8	3
4A	8	4	10	6	4
4B	0	0	11	3	1
5	14	4	12	7	2
6	3	0	Total	69	22

2023 Fall Archery Turkey Season

Connecticut’s 40th fall archery turkey season was open statewide and ran concurrently with the 2023 archery deer season. The purchase of a RGBCS allowed archers to participate in the 2023 season. These hunters could harvest turkeys on any state land open to fall archery turkey hunting or any private land where written landowner consent was obtained. An estimated 1,100 hunters (derived from preliminary responses from the 2023/2024 Resident Game Bird Hunter Survey) participated during the fall archery wild turkey season, an increase of 2.7% from the previous season. Archers reported a harvest of 54 birds and posted a success rate of 4.9%. Harvest was

reported in 42 towns, with Newtown (4) and Shelton (3) reporting the highest harvest (Table 11). Turkey Management Zones 11 (15), 5 (8), and 7 (5) reported the highest zonal harvest (Table 12). Because the fall archery wild turkey season runs concurrently with the archery deer season, hunters in Zones 11 and 12 have the additional month of January to harvest wild turkeys; all other zones close at the end of December. The 2024 January season yielded 2 harvests from 1 individual, with an estimated 145 participating hunters. Fall Archery hunters overall specified that 66% of their hunting was opportunistic during the fall season, where they set out in pursuit of another species and would consider it a turkey hunt if birds were present.

Thirty-three of the 54 birds harvested by archers were males (28 adults, 5 juveniles) and 21 were females (19 adults, 2 juveniles). The fall archery turkey harvest decreased by 34% from 2022 to 2023 (Appendix E).

Table 11. Wild turkey harvest by town during the 2022 and 2023 fall archery seasons.

Town of Harvest	Number of Birds		Town of Harvest	Number of Birds	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
Andover	0	1	North Branford	1	0
Ashford	0	1	North Haven	0	1
Avon	0	1	North Stonington	3	0
Barkhamsted	1	2	Oxford	0	1
Berlin	2	0	Plainfield	0	1
Branford	0	1	Pomfret	0	1
Canaan	0	1	Preston	1	0
Chester	0	1	Prospect	2	0
Colebrook	0	1	Redding	1	0
Deep River	1	0	Ridgefield	3	0
East Granby	0	1	Roxbury	0	1
East Haddam	3	0	Salisbury	0	1
East Hartford	0	1	Shelton	0	3
East Lyme	1	0	Somers	1	0
Eastford	0	1	Stonington	1	1
Easton	1	0	Thomaston	0	2
Enfield	1	1	Thompson	3	2
Glastonbury	1	0	Tolland	1	0
Greenwich	0	1	Trumbull	0	1
Griswold	1	2	Voluntown	1	0
Guilford	4	0	Wallingford	0	1
Hamden	1	0	Warren	0	1
Hartland	1	0	Waterford	1	1
Harwinton	1	0	Watertown	1	1
Killingly	0	1	Weston	0	2
Killingworth	1	0	Willington	2	2
Lebanon	4	0	Wilton	0	1
Lyme	1	0	Winchester	4	0
Mansfield	3	1	Windham	1	0
Marlborough	0	1	Windsor	0	1
Middletown	0	1	Wolcott	1	0
Montville	0	1	Woodbridge	1	0
New Fairfield	0	1	Woodstock	0	1
Newington	0	1	Total	82	54

Table 12. Wild turkey harvest during the 2022 and 2023 fall archery seasons by Turkey Management Zone.

Zone	Harvest by Year		Zone	Harvest by Year	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
1	0	3	7	8	5
2	8	3	8	2	2
3	8	3	9	4	3
4A	4	2	10	8	2
4B	3	2	11	10	15
5	10	8	12	12	3
6	5	3	Total	82	54

Wild Turkey Brood Survey

Since 2007, turkey brood surveys have been conducted annually from June 1 through August 31 to assess annual fluctuations in statewide wild turkey recruitment. Volunteers and DEEP staff were requested to report turkey sightings, categorized by total hens, total poults, and total number of hens with poults, and, beginning in 2021, tom and jake sightings were also collected. Numbers for 2021 male sightings were excluded due to low reporting. These observations were analyzed to obtain an annual productivity index and evaluate fall recruitment. The productivity index, or ratio of young per adult hen, was historically derived by dividing the total number of poults by the total number of hens.

Modifications were made to the 2022 brood survey to improve data quality and bring data collection and analysis in line with the standards prepared by the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) Technical Committee in 2019 (within Table 13 the previous calculation method can be found in parenthesis since 2018 with the new index analysis to be the sole number reported moving forward starting in 2023). Additionally, to increase data collection among volunteers, announcements of the survey were made in invitations to the Spring Wild Turkey Hunter Survey. By evaluating recruitment over time, biologists can monitor changes and trends in Connecticut’s statewide wild turkey population.

The 2023 brood index was 3.18 young per adult for all hens observed and 4.55 young per adult for hens observed with at least one poult (Table 13, Figure 7). A total of 343 cooperators reported 336 wild turkey observations (some were excluded due to repeated observation), including 632 hens (429 with broods and 203 without broods). The brood index was found to be variable throughout the summer months (Table 14). The brood survey information indicates that wild turkeys had a below average (five-year average of 3.42) overall productivity in Connecticut during 2023, though poult production among brooding hens remains consistent with the previous year. Variance in the poults reported by month is to be expected based on detectability and discernibility based on time of year. The 2023 spring weather was cool and somewhat damp early on throughout Connecticut, varying from the trend of 2022 and 2021. Cool conditions were present during the nesting period (May 1 – May 31), while the initial brooding period (June 1 – June 30) remained fair; the nesting period was 2/100” wetter on average than 2022 and 7 degrees colder, while the brooding period in 2023 was noted to be drier (by 7/100” on average) and an average of 1 degree cooler than 2022.

Table 13. Wild turkey brood survey data for Connecticut, 2007 – 2023.

Year	Total Hens	Total Young	Total Hens and Young	Hens without Young	Young per Hen	Young per Brood	Total Males	M:F Ratio	No. of Reports
2007	731	1,900	2,631	270	2.6	4.1	-	-	405
2008	448	988	1,436	330	2.2	4.3	-	-	224
2009	611	1,049	1,660	177	1.7	2.4	-	-	323
2010	472	1,686	2,158	105	3.6	4.6	-	-	278
2011	685	1,919	2,604	118	2.8	3.4	-	-	375
2012	435	1,089	1,524	293	2.5	3.7	-	-	244
2013	337	843	1,180	115	2.5	3.7	-	-	200
2014	579	1,561	2,140	194	2.7	4.1	-	-	313
2015	530	1,560	2,091	152	2.9	4.1	-	-	266
2016	401	1,120	1,521	123	2.8	4.0	-	-	202
2017	877	2,289	3,164	287	2.6	3.9	-	-	424
2018	1,223	2,955	4,178	378	2.89 (2.4) ^a	4.06 (3.5)	-	-	644
2019	422	691	1,113	234	2.39 (1.6)	4.30 (3.6)	-	-	203
2020	324	920	1,244	53	3.26 (2.8)	4.63 (3.4)	-	-	176
2021	579	1,920	2,499	89	4.31 (3.3)	4.84 (3.9)	-	-	328
2022*	750	2,474	3,224	109	3.9 (3.1)	4.5 (3.9)	81	0.11	429
2023	632	1,529	2,161	203	3.18	4.55	154	0.24	336

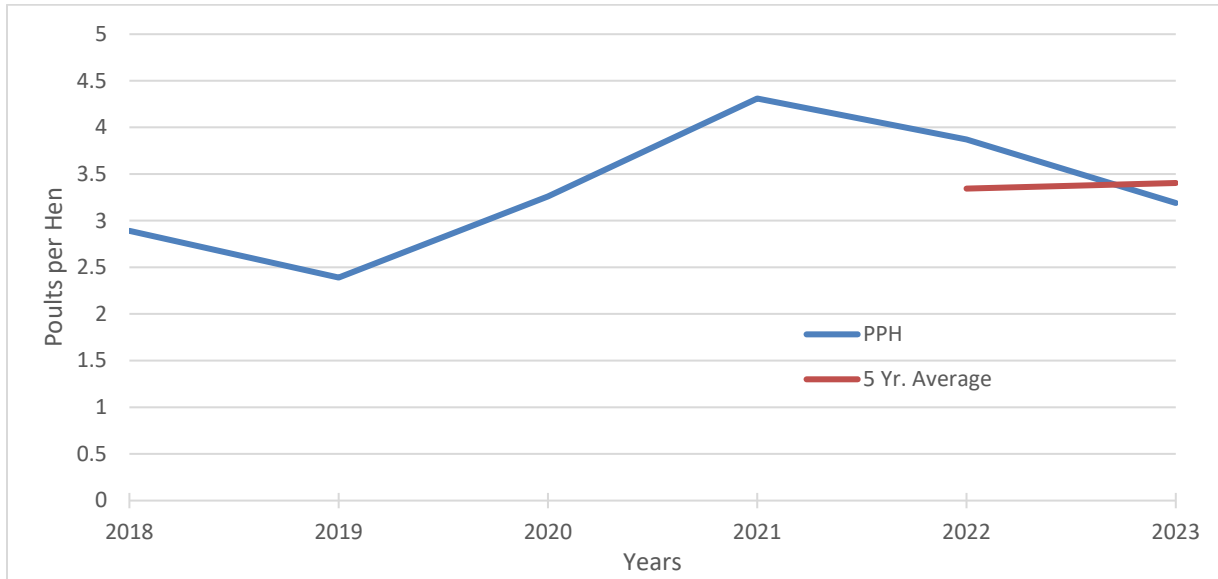
^a Data in parenthesis reflects a continuation of Connecticut's original Brood Survey Index (2007-2022) and is provided as a reference to contrast the NWTF analysis values in plain text from 2018 onward.

*Corrections made to previously reported data based on analytic software previously omitting two-word town names.

Table 14. Wild turkey brood survey data by month for Connecticut, 2023.

Month	Total Hens	Total Poults	Number of Reports	Hens Per Report	Poults Per Report
June	273	607	160	1.71	3.79
July	266	721	124	2.15	5.81
Aug.	93	201	52	1.79	3.87
Total	632	1,529	336	1.88	4.55

Figure 7. Poults per hen (PPH) from 2018-2023.



Population Dynamics

In Connecticut, to obtain insight into long-term wild turkey population trends, biologists collect data on spring wild turkey harvest, hunter participation, and a hunter perception population growth index (PPGI). The spring season information was used to represent a population index because this was the most popular season with the highest number of hunters and harvest.

The turkey population growth index is derived from a question on the annual Spring Turkey Hunter Survey (See Spring Hunter Survey Results, Figure 8). When these parameters were reviewed from 2000 to 2023, both indices show a short-term increase after a 6-year decline (Figures 8 and 9), though a longer perspective and PPGI dataset might be desired to assess the overall trend of the population.

To consider hunter independent trends in the turkey population, an analysis of all available harvest, participant, and survey derived effort was conducted. Referred to as catch per unit of effort (CPUE), an index of harvest divided by the number of hunters multiplied by the average days afield was plotted for multiple time frames (Figure 10). The CPUE indicates the theoretical harvest of 1 hunter hunting 1 day, implying how numerous turkeys are on the landscape. Figure 10 demonstrates a decline in the number of turkeys on the landscape from the early 2000s, correlating somewhat with the PPGI, though the past 10 years show an increase in bird numbers. The trend from the start of effort data keeping (1991) shows positive as the population has grown significantly from the early 1990s.

The ratio of juveniles to adults in the spring harvest, along with brood survey information, can also provide insight into wild turkey population dynamics. For example, in 2010 and 2019, data showed that a lower number of juvenile birds were harvested, indicating lower poult production the previous year (juvenile birds are approximately 1 year old). Therefore, it was expected that in 2009 and 2018, brood indices should be lower than average. The brood index in 2009 was 1.7

and 2.4 in in 2018. (Table 13, Figure 10). In 2011, the juvenile to adult ratio was the highest it had been since 1994, indicating exceptional productivity; the brood index for 2010 was the highest ever recorded (3.6). It appears that the brood survey data can provide some insight as to what the juvenile harvest will be the following spring, at least when the brood index is exceptionally high or low; the indices are less reliable when they trend towards the long-term average.

Figure 8. Perception of hunters regarding wild turkey population growth from 1999 – 2023.

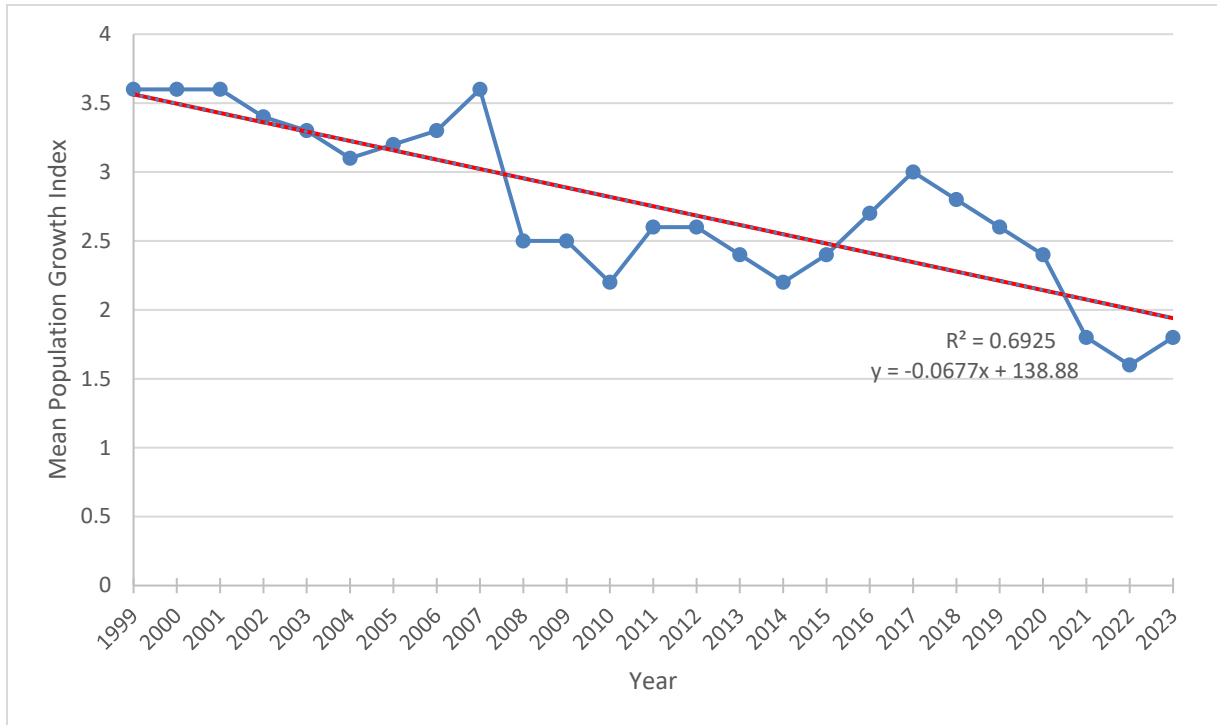
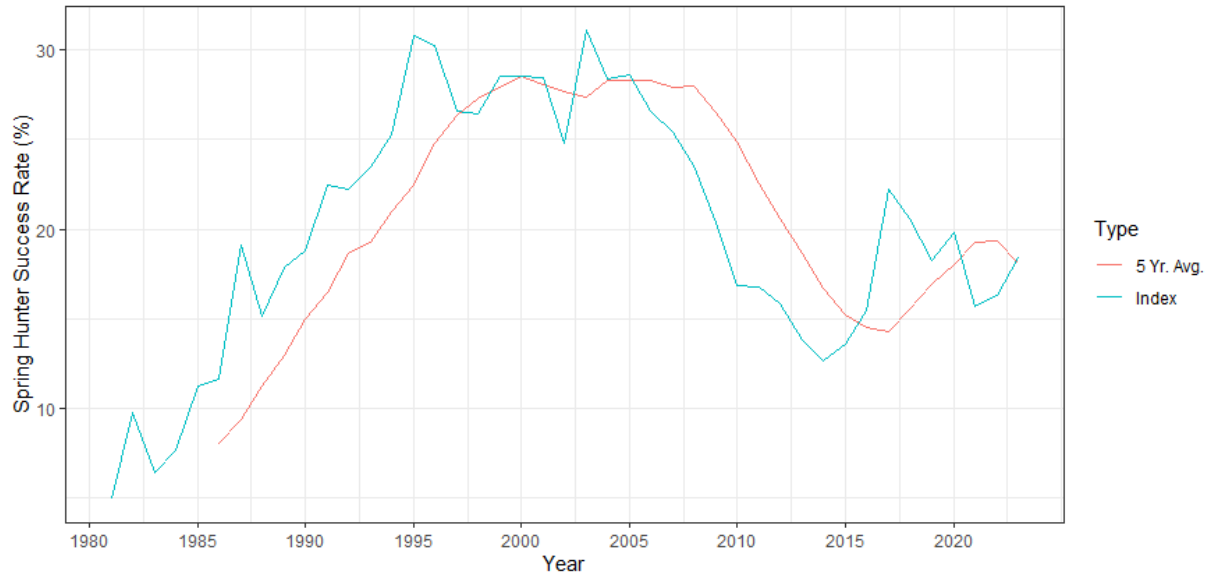
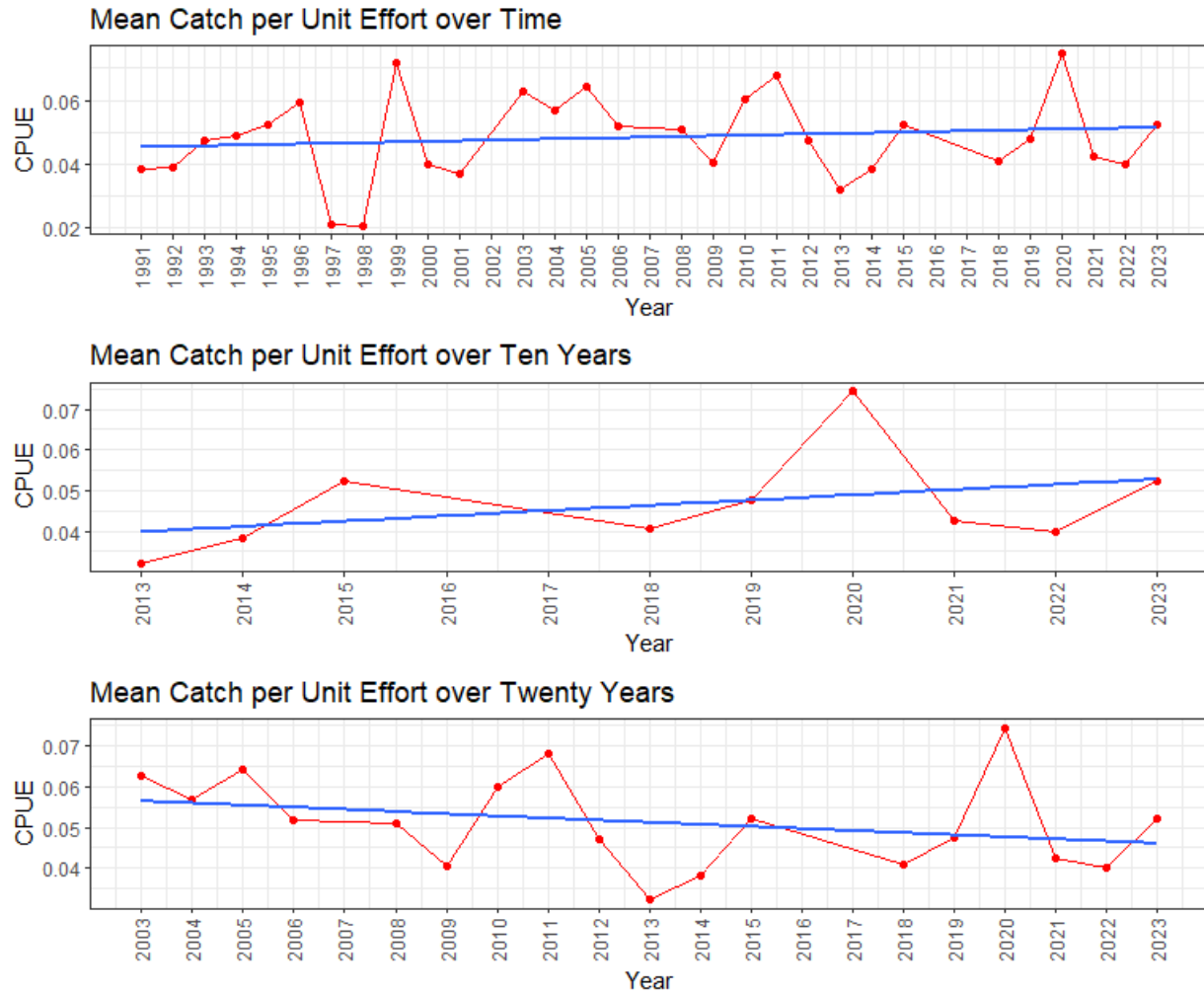


Figure 9. Trend in spring turkey harvest success from 1981-2023.



Note: Data from 2022 onward reflects the change from RGBCS issued to RGB hunters used to calculate success rate.

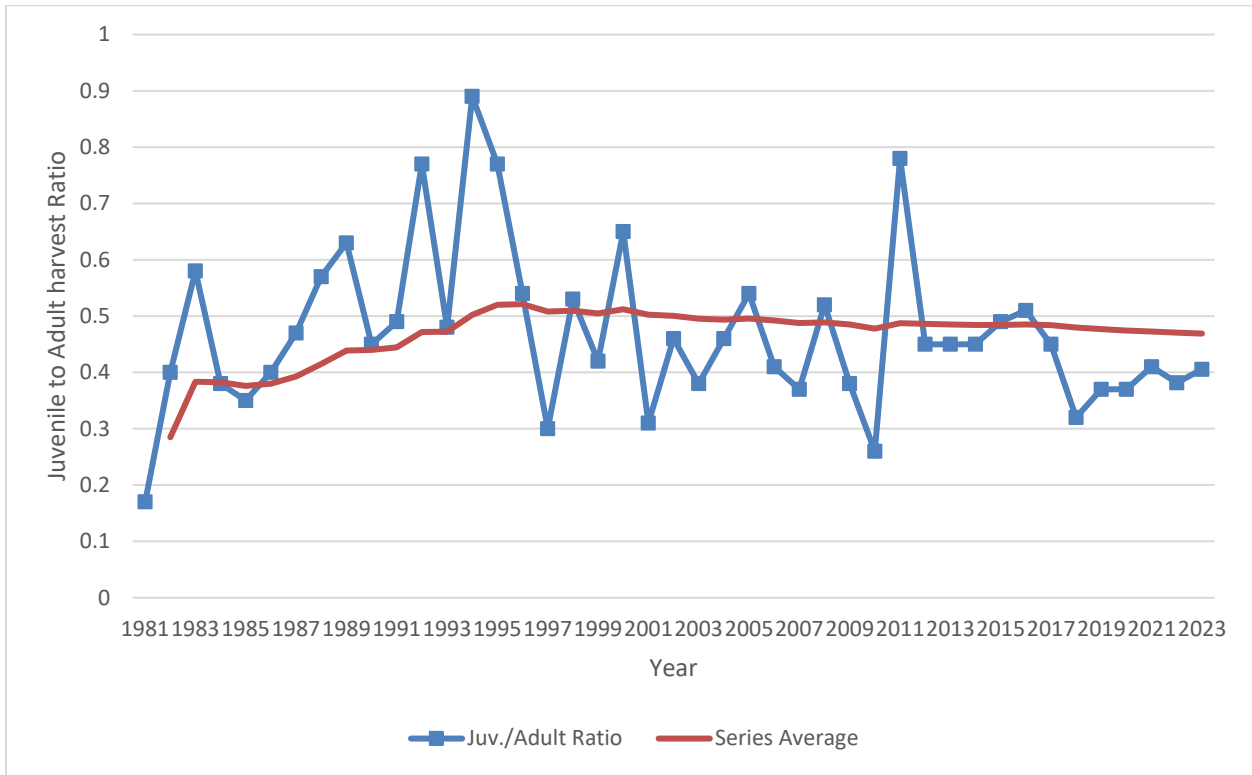
Figure 10. Catch per unit of effort (CPUE) for Connecticut’s spring wild turkey seasons, 1991 – 2023.



Summary

The state’s wild turkey population appeared to be stable from 2022 to 2023. Spring harvest success rates increased slightly from the 2022 season (Figure 9 and 10), which may signify some growth from 2022. The slight increase in the ratio of juveniles to adults harvested in the spring (Figure 11) could support this, though the change is not significant on its own. Nesting season conditions declined slightly and the poult per hen index indicated a decline in kind, as well as a drop slightly below average. Poult per brood numbers remain consistent with 2022, implying the conditions poult were presented with were similar. It is reasonable to conclude that any gains in population numbers from 2022 would be nullified by lower recruitment into the population from the 2023 brood season. While fall harvest decreased by a significant percent, its scale (a total of 76 birds harvested statewide, 18% juvenile, 42% female) and the relatively mild winter were unlikely to cause significant impact on the breeding population for the spring of 2024.

Figure 11. Ratio of juvenile to adult turkeys taken during Connecticut’s spring wild turkey seasons, 1981 – 2023.



Appendices

Appendix A. Connecticut spring turkey harvest by town, 2013-2023.

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Andover	10	7	7	4	14	12	10	11	10	8	9
Ansonia	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashford	21	13	20	31	35	34	24	14	16	23	22
Avon	3	3	3	3	1	4	3	5	1	1	4
Barkhamsted	8	6	12	4	12	10	9	25	8	12	15
Beacon Falls	5	9	9	6	6	8	4	6	3	2	2
Berlin	4	10	7	6	8	18	9	17	10	9	17
Bethany	4	4	5	1	9	1	2	2	3	1	0
Bethel	3	3	0	5	3	6	4	3	1	2	0
Bethlehem	3	1	7	4	6	8	8	10	4	5	6
Bloomfield	5	3	1	3	0	2	4	5	0	6	3
Bolton	8	3	2	4	5	4	2	3	3	1	4
Bozrah	3	2	4	5	8	13	5	7	5	7	6
Branford	2	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Bridgeport	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bridgewater	4	4	6	8	2	9	10	12	10	8	2
Bristol	1	2	1	3	2	1	5	5	4	3	2
Brookfield	2	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	0
Brooklyn	10	2	3	12	11	12	11	12	10	10	11
Burlington	8	5	7	6	11	4	4	0	5	3	3
Canaan	11	14	8	11	19	8	18	22	14	19	15
Canterbury	13	7	9	5	14	15	13	16	9	18	10
Canton	8	7	7	14	7	11	5	8	5	5	3
Chaplin	10	9	8	8	11	11	13	14	15	12	17
Cheshire	6	4	4	1	7	6	2	4	4	2	3
Chester	5	5	4	3	4	9	4	7	2	1	6
Clinton	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
Colchester	15	9	13	26	7	17	14	20	21	18	25
Colebrook	10	12	9	4	11	5	15	6	6	8	8
Columbia	7	3	3	4	10	8	3	13	5	9	7
Cornwall	15	24	10	16	16	16	20	31	20	33	15
Coventry	19	18	20	18	27	32	22	30	21	19	22
Cromwell	3	5	5	5	6	5	3	5	0	0	2
Danbury	2	3	3	2	2	10	5	4	2	4	4
Darien	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Deep River	4	7	0	2	3	3	5	5	1	1	0
Derby	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Durham	12	10	9	14	11	17	12	12	9	8	9
East Granby	5	3	2	8	4	4	5	4	9	5	3

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
East Haddam	26	15	22	16	25	25	7	19	12	12	14
East Hampton	5	9	4	7	11	2	10	12	9	5	4
East Hartford	0	1	1	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0
East Haven	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
East Lyme	8	12	15	13	14	15	13	12	8	7	4
East Windsor	11	10	20	1	11	15	17	21	15	13	8
Eastford	10	11	13	22	27	19	12	19	14	9	16
Easton	3	0	3	3	11	13	5	15	10	4	12
Ellington	15	10	15	9	11	18	5	10	7	10	15
Enfield	5	4	5	6	17	8	13	11	9	5	4
Essex	3	6	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Fairfield	0	2	1	4	1	3	2	3	1	1	1
Farmington	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	3
Franklin	10	14	10	16	16	10	11	13	12	4	11
Glastonbury	13	18	12	13	11	11	15	21	12	10	9
Goshen	9	13	14	13	18	17	14	13	10	7	9
Granby	5	13	13	15	15	8	10	17	10	5	9
Greenwich	0	0	1	0	3	4	3	4	1	1	0
Griswold	12	20	14	19	10	17	21	19	15	17	27
Groton	4	1	5	4	2	4	2	7	3	4	0
Guilford	6	7	8	10	8	12	6	9	7	7	7
Haddam	17	10	23	31	27	21	14	17	13	15	17
Hamden	7	5	5	4	5	10	10	12	1	4	7
Hampton	12	10	8	8	18	12	12	18	10	12	10
Hartford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Hartland	18	9	10	13	17	15	13	18	8	16	27
Harwinton	16	12	16	25	22	16	12	13	13	16	6
Hebron	8	12	5	8	10	21	17	15	12	12	4
Kent	15	9	14	12	16	11	8	25	7	9	14
Killingly	9	2	5	9	10	10	11	14	20	10	11
Killingworth	4	4	13	13	8	9	12	10	6	11	6
Lebanon	30	27	31	24	27	31	36	38	28	22	33
Ledyard	8	6	7	12	7	14	16	15	15	15	17
Lisbon	5	2	2	4	10	10	4	10	4	8	7
Litchfield	22	13	14	12	20	15	9	18	23	23	17
Lyme	18	19	11	20	29	18	13	10	6	3	15
Madison	0	0	3	0	7	1	0	3	5	0	2
Manchester	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Mansfield	11	11	18	15	16	17	14	15	12	9	11
Marlborough	3	11	6	7	13	2	9	10	5	10	11
Meriden	0	2	0	3	0	1	3	2	2	1	1
Middlebury	3	3	1	3	7	0	2	2	1	2	1
Middlefield	10	6	12	12	15	3	10	10	4	13	6

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Middletown	11	13	21	18	12	12	15	21	13	12	10
Milford	1	5	3	3	4	3	2	4	3	4	4
Monroe	4	0	2	5	4	5	3	4	1	3	3
Montville	10	8	12	9	15	16	7	13	7	1	5
Morris	6	3	7	3	7	5	6	8	8	6	8
Naugatuck	7	3	5	6	3	2	3	6	6	5	3
New Canaan	0	0	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	0	0
New Fairfield	2	4	3	5	2	7	4	7	6	5	9
New Hartford	22	20	14	15	23	18	18	24	14	16	22
New London	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
New Milford	16	8	24	18	15	8	14	15	15	19	16
Newington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Newtown	16	10	9	17	18	12	15	15	15	10	12
Norfolk	11	19	12	13	9	17	6	10	17	12	15
North Branford	3	8	6	5	7	3	2	4	3	4	1
North Canaan	7	4	4	3	3	6	2	8	3	1	6
North Haven	5	4	5	5	8	6	2	6	3	0	3
N. Stonington	12	16	15	18	26	27	23	28	23	22	28
Norwalk	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	1	3	1
Norwich	0	0	5	3	4	0	2	6	6	4	6
Old Lyme	7	6	7	9	9	7	10	8	5	3	4
Old Saybrook	0	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	2
Orange	4	5	12	7	7	1	3	3	2	5	2
Oxford	10	5	7	10	7	7	10	13	4	7	6
Plainfield	18	14	12	20	18	17	12	16	16	7	12
Plainville	1	3	1	1	5	5	1	0	0	0	1
Plymouth	9	7	8	5	7	10	7	17	4	9	9
Pomfret	21	15	18	20	19	22	18	21	20	20	15
Portland	5	9	4	11	11	5	10	10	7	4	7
Preston	9	6	16	9	8	13	8	11	13	6	15
Prospect	2	3	2	4	1	3	0	2	2	7	3
Putnam	9	6	5	6	7	7	3	8	1	5	0
Redding	23	12	12	5	10	8	11	6	12	5	8
Ridgefield	2	2	2	6	4	5	4	7	8	1	1
Rocky Hill	7	2	1	3	4	4	3	1	1	1	0
Roxbury	6	4	10	3	12	9	0	2	2	3	3
Salem	12	7	8	7	11	10	6	8	2	6	6
Salisbury	22	11	11	14	19	11	14	17	8	11	16
Scotland	19	17	18	14	26	28	24	14	12	16	12
Seymour	8	4	4	6	5	3	0	4	3	1	1
Sharon	17	13	19	18	17	11	22	22	33	24	24
Shelton	0	2	0	5	9	3	6	9	2	2	2
Sherman	5	3	3	3	5	3	4	4	0	0	2

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Simsbury	2	6	1	1	6	4	5	4	6	3	5
Somers	12	8	8	13	11	21	4	9	15	8	6
Southbury	5	11	10	10	18	10	10	15	4	7	12
Southington	4	3	3	6	1	7	1	3	3	2	8
South Windsor	8	7	9	6	14	5	8	15	13	6	1
Sprague	6	1	3	7	2	6	4	6	1	3	0
Stafford	20	21	16	33	21	29	19	21	14	22	32
Stamford	5	6	5	4	2	2	1	0	0	1	1
Sterling	8	9	15	10	14	19	14	29	13	13	13
Stonington	11	12	19	12	15	9	16	15	8	8	16
Stratford	0	0	2	0	3	1	1	2	1	0	1
Suffield	17	28	9	25	28	20	20	26	24	12	15
Thomaston	5	2	1	3	1	0	1	2	4	6	3
Thompson	25	12	15	22	26	33	35	32	32	19	21
Tolland	6	3	5	4	5	6	8	6	7	7	5
Torrington	15	13	7	16	13	17	16	17	19	9	11
Trumbull	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Union	7	14	9	12	15	18	8	17	14	12	10
Vernon	2	1	2	4	3	2	5	2	3	3	4
Voluntown	10	9	14	19	16	20	28	22	27	23	36
Wallingford	6	8	8	5	11	12	9	4	7	7	9
Warren	10	7	7	8	15	15	17	10	13	7	14
Washington	10	9	18	13	18	13	10	17	14	12	12
Waterbury	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Waterford	6	8	15	10	16	10	4	10	3	3	6
Watertown	2	2	4	2	6	10	6	11	11	10	8
Westbrook	2	3	1	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
West Haven	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
West Hartford	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weston	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	0	0
Westport	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wethersfield	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	0
Willington	18	12	20	10	15	20	25	13	11	3	6
Wilton	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	3	3	3	5
Winchester	7	9	7	8	14	10	15	17	13	7	10
Windham	13	10	12	5	19	14	9	9	17	15	24
Windsor	1	0	1	2	8	0	0	3	5	2	1
Windsor Locks	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Wolcott	3	4	4	0	3	3	4	4	2	0	0
Woodbridge	0	0	4	0	0	3	1	4	0	2	4
Woodbury	6	7	7	5	12	8	15	15	16	8	6

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Woodstock	33	19	42	49	46	48	31	44	25	24	35
Town Not Reported	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1248	1118	1232	1335	1584	1504	1324	1652	1247	1139	1279

Appendix B. Spring turkey harvest from state-owned and managed lands, 2022 and 2023.

	No. Birds Harvested		Sq. Miles*	Harv./mi²	
State Land	2022	2023		2022	2023
Aldo Leopold WMA	2	2	0.87	2.3	2.3
Algonquin SF	7	11	1.87	3.7	5.88
American Legion	1	1	2.04	0.5	0.5
Assekongk Swamp WMA	0	2	1.09	0	1.8
Barber Pond WMA	1	1	0.11	9.1	9.1
Barn Island WMA	1	3	1.58	0.6	1.9
Bartlett Brook WMA	3	0	1.16	2.6	0
Bear Hill WMA	2	2	0.57	3.5	3.5
Beaver Brook SP	0	2	0.63	0	3.2
Bishops Swamp WMA	2	4	1.62	1.2	2.4
Bloomfield FCA	0	1	0.51	0	2.2
Cent. Water. SF (Canaan Block)	1	0	0.23	4.3	0
Cockaponset SF	16	19	26.85	0.6	0.7
Eightmile River WMA	1	1	0.48	2.1	2.1
Ellithorpe Flood Control Area	1	1	0.68	1.5	1.5
Enders SF	0	2	0.55	0	3.6
Franklin Swamp WMA	1	3	1.07	0.9	2.8
Goshen WMA	2	4	2.50	0.8	1.6
Great Swamp FCA	0	1	0.53	0	1.9
Hancock Brook Lake	0	4	1.10	0	3.6
Higganum Meadows WMA	1	0	0.52	1.9	0
Housatonic River WMA	2	5	0.87	2.3	5.7
Housatonic SF	15	14	17.63	0.9	0.8
John Minetto SP	1	0	1.12	0.9	0
Kollar WMA	3	2	1.40	2.1	1.4
Larson Lot WMA	1	1	0.38	2.6	2.6
Mad River Dam FCA	1	0	0.70	1.4	0
Mansfield Hollow Lake	4	7	3.14	1.3	2.2
Mattatuck SF	16	5	7.0	2.3	0.7
McKinney NWR Units	1	0	1.39	1.4	0
MDC – Colebrook Reservoir/Hogback Dam	3	3	0.46	0.5	0.5

	No. Birds Harvested		Sq. Miles*	Harv./mi ²	
State Land	2022	2023		2022	2023
Meadow Brook WMA	4	1	0.53	7.5	1.9
Meshomasic SF	5	9	14.22	0.4	0.6
Mohegan SF	1	7	1.50	0.7	4.7
Nassahegon SF	1	1	1.78	0.6	0.6
Natchaug SF	24	18	19.68	1.2	0.91
Naugatuck SF	4	6	21.15	0.2	0.3
Naugatuck SF (Great Hill Block)	1	0	0.37	2.7	0
Nehantic SF	3	7	7.91	0.4	0.9
Nepaug SF	3	1	2.10	1.4	0.5
Nipmuck SF	5	6	14.40	0.3	0.4
NU-Maromas Coop WMA	1	4	2.48	0.4	1.6
NU-Skiff Mtn. Coop WMA	4	3	1.13	3.5	2.7
Nye Holman SF	2	0	1.23	1.6	0
Pachaug SF	23	37	40.84	0.6	0.9
Paugussett SF	2	4	3.04	0.7	1.3
Paugnut SF	2	5	2.7	0.7	1.9
Pease Brook WMA	0	1	0.52	0	1.9
Peoples SF	4	3	4.60	0.9	0.7
Pootatuck SF	3	5	1.72	1.7	2.9
Quaddick SF	2	3	0.90	2.2	3.3
Quinebaug River WMA	2	1	2.20	0.9	0.5
Quinnipac River SP	1	1	0.53	1.1	1.9
Quinnipac River WMA	2	0	0.88	0.9	0
Robbins Swamp WMA	3	1	2.45	1.2	0.4
Roraback WMA	2	0	3.10	0.6	0
Rose Hill WMA	2	3	1.37	1.5	2.2
Salmon River SF	11	15	10.90	1.0	1.4
Shenipsit SF	3	4	11.85	0.3	0.3
Silvio O. Conte NWR	1	0	1.23	0.8	0
Simsbury WMA	1	3	0.57	1.8	5.3
Spignesi WMA	4	4	0.82	4.9	4.9
Sucker Brook FCA	2	0	0.24	8.3	0
Suffield WMA	1	3	0.30	3.3	10.0
Talbot WMA	3	1	0.79	3.8	1.3
Tankerhoosen WMA	0	2	0.78	0	2.6
Trout Brook Valley SP	1	3	0.47	2.1	6.4
Tunxis SF	15	24	15.88	0.9	1.5
Wagnunk Meadows	0	3	1.00	0	3.0
West Thompson Dam	1	4	2.77	0.6	2.3

State Land	No. Birds Harvested		Sq. Miles*	Harv./mi ²	
	2022	2023		2022	2023
Wood Creek FCA	0	1	0.17	0	6.0
Wyantnock SF	5	4	6.38	0.8	0.6
Yale Forest	8	2	12.03	0.7	0.2

*Calculated with 2024 Public Hunting Area Acreages

Appendix C. Ruffed grouse observations (seen or heard) from turkey hunter surveys, 2013-2023.

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Andover	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ansonia	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ashford	2	2	0	3	2	2	1	5	1	2	1
Barkhamsted	1	0	1	1	1	4	2	2	1	2	2
Beacon Falls	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0
Berlin	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bethany	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Bethel	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bethlehem	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Bloomfield	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Bristol	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Brookfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Burlington	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canaan	4	2	3	3	2	2	4	7	0	1	3
Canterbury	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
Canton	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chaplin	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	2
Cheshire	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Chester	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clinton	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Colchester	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	0
Colebrook	3	2	3	1	3	1	5	0	3	3	2
Columbia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0
Cornwall	4	3	4	2	3	3	1	3	0	2	1
Coventry	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Danbury	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Deep River	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Durham	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
East Granby	2	0	0	1	2	3	0	1	0	0	2
East Haddam	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
East Hampton	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
East Hartford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
East Haven	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
East Lyme	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
East Windsor	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	1
Easton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Eastford	1	0	1	0	4	2	2	0	1	1	0
Ellington	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	1	0	0
Enfield	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Glastonbury	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	1
Goshen	3	6	5	5	3	5	6	5	4	3	1
Granby	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1
Griswold	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Groton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Guilford	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Haddam	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Hamden	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hampton	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hartland	4	2	6	1	5	8	7	5	6	6	6
Harwinton	0	3	0	2	2	1	1	1	3	2	3
Hebron	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	0
Kent	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	2
Killingly	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	1	0
Killingworth	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lebanon	2	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	1
Ledyard	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Lisbon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Litchfield	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Lyme	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Madison	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mansfield	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	0
Marlborough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Meriden	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Middlefield	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middletown	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	1	0	2
Monroe	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morris	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Naugatuck	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
New Canaan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
New Fairfield	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
New Hartford	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	2
New Milford	0	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Newtown	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	1	1	0
Norfolk	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1
North Branford	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North Canaan	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	1	2	0	0
North Franklin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1
North Haven	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
N Stonington	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Old Lyme	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Oxford	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
Plainfield	0	0	0	0	1	5	3	4	1	0	0
Plymouth	2	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	2
Pomfret	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	2	0	0	0
Portland	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
Preston	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Putnam	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Redding	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Ridgefield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Salisbury	3	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	0
Salem	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Scotland	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Seymour	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Sharon	6	4	5	3	3	0	0	3	1	2	2
Sherman	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simsbury	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Somers	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	1
South Windsor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Southbury	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	0
Southington	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0
Sprague	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Stafford	3	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	0	1	2
Stamford	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sterling	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Stonington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Suffield	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	2	1
Thompson	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0
Tolland	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	1	0

Town	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Torrington	1	0	2	1	0	0	3	2	1	0	1
Union	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
Vernon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Voluntown	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2
Wallingford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Warren	5	4	4	3	2	0	1	0	0	1	0
Washington	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
Waterbury	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Waterford	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Watertown	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Westbrook	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weston	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Westport	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Willington	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Wilton	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Winchester	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Windham	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Windsor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
Wolcott	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Woodbury	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Woodstock	0	0	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	2
Total	81	57	74	56	82	82	70	151	53	58	66

Appendix D. Connecticut fall firearms turkey harvest and hunter numbers, 1990 – 2023.

Year	Hunter Numbers	Harvest
1990	579	52
1991	514	34
1992	402	40
1993	376	45
1994	599	54
1995	1028	121
1996	2069	124
1997	2073	140
1998	1783	112
1999	2304	290
2000	2378	190
2001	3060	287
2002	3981	188
2003	3337	134
2004	3060	234
2005	2941	156

Year	Hunter Numbers	Harvest
2006	2926	109
2007	2769	165
2008	3037	160
2009	3313	64
2010	2444	64
2011	2586	69
2012	2383	47
2013	2440	47
2014	2145	61
2015	2127	51
2016*	NA	60
2017*	NA	56
2018**	3919	66
2019	3066	32
2020	4244	58
2021	3775	44
2022	3289	69
2023^	1018	22

**Data unavailable due to the initiation of the Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.*

***Hunter participation numbers derived from intended participation indicated in the Spring Turkey Hunter Survey beginning in 2018.*

^Hunter participation numbers derived from participation indicated in the Fall Resident Game Bird Hunter Survey.

Appendix E. Connecticut fall archery turkey harvest and hunter numbers, 1983 – 2023.

Year	Hunter Numbers	Harvest
1983	434	2
1984	348	1
1985	558	8
1986	596	10
1987	848	4
1988	1071	7
1989	1380	7
1990	1094	13
1991	1755	20
1992	841	11
1993	924	19
1994	1297	25
1995	2137	43
1996	2275	27
1997	2024	41
1998	1967	36
1999	2187	64
2000	2145	41
2001	2395	73
2002	2706	64
2003	2296	58

Year	Hunter Numbers	Harvest
2004	2173	68
2005	2061	46
2006	2034	26
2007	1957	43
2008	2297	51
2009	2523	64
2010	1862	50
2011	1691	63
2012	1260	39
2013	1409	60
2014	1375	66
2015	1532	64
2016*	NA	91
2017*	NA	121
2018**	3105	115
2019	3999	79
2020	4359	107
2021	3837	67
2022	3517	82
2023^	1100	54

**Data unavailable due to the initiation of the Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp.*

***Hunter participation numbers derived from intended participation indicated in the Spring Turkey Hunter Survey beginning in 2018.*

^Hunter participation numbers derived from participation indicated in the Fall Resident Game Bird Hunter Survey.