



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way · Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne Rosenthal, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 4, 2017

CONTACT: Ed Cross

OFFICE: (217) 557-1240

CELL: (217) 685-7027

edward.cross@illinois.gov

2017 Illinois Youth Turkey Season Preliminary Record Harvest Totaled 1,541 Birds

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Youth turkey hunters harvested a preliminary record total of 1,541 birds during the 2017 Illinois Youth Turkey Season. The dates for this year's season were March 25-26 and April 1-2. This was the first year two youth turkey hunting weekends were open for the entire state. Previously, there was one weekend dedicated for the north zone and one for the south. In 2016, a total of 1,058 turkeys were harvested, combining both seasons and zones. The previous youth season record harvest was in 2012, when 1,300 birds were taken. This year, a total of 5,601 youth turkey permits were issued, including 106 permits for special hunt areas. Last year, 4,761 permits were issued, including 113 for special hunt areas.

Much of the state received rain during one or both days of the first weekend. However, it didn't seem to slow down the young hunters, as they harvested 776 birds over those two days. Weather was more favorable overall for the second weekend, and 765 birds were taken.

The table below shows Illinois Youth Turkey Season preliminary harvest figures for both the north and south zones by county, with numbers from 2016 and 2017.

North Zone County	Year	
	2016	2017
Adams	32	35
Boone	7	7
Brown	24	24
Bureau	7	9
Calhoun	20	23
Carroll	5	7
Cass	17	21
Champaign	1	6
Christian	1	1
Clark	12	11
Coles	4	6

Cumberland	5	7
DeKalb		1
DeWitt	5	8
Edgar	7	3
Ford	1	
Fulton	31	42
Greene	19	13
Grundy	3	4
Hancock	9	20
Henderson	5	14
Henry	4	5
Iroquois	1	10
Jersey	15	23
JoDaviess	30	29
Kankakee	1	4
Kendall		1
Knox	19	29
LaSalle	1	5
Lee	6	18
Livingston		1
Logan	1	7
Macon	1	4
Macoupin	31	28
Marshall	5	5
Mason	12	15
McDonough	8	13
McHenry	4	11
McLean	4	6
Menard	8	11
Mercer	12	17
Montgomery	20	31
Morgan	12	18
Moultrie	2	2
Ogle	25	23
Peoria	8	11
Pike	39	52
Putnam	2	1
Rock Island	7	12
Sangamon	11	10
Schuyler	18	27
Scott	6	8
Shelby	8	13
Stark		1

Stephenson	12	15
Tazewell	11	6
Vermilion	7	11
Warren	4	7
Whiteside	12	15
Will	2	2
Winnebago	11	13
Woodford	11	6

North Total	606	788
--------------------	------------	------------

South Zone County	Year	
	2016	2017
Alexander	7	14
Bond	18	22
Clay	15	24
Clinton	7	13
Crawford	6	16
Edwards	5	9
Effingham	6	15
Fayette	28	50
Franklin	12	16
Gallatin	12	12
Hamilton	22	34
Hardin	4	9
Jackson	21	40
Jasper	8	11
Jefferson	31	46
Johnson	13	19
Lawrence	5	13
Madison	21	19
Marion	27	41
Massac	9	14
Monroe	10	15
Perry	10	29
Pope	6	17
Pulaski	7	8
Randolph	23	40
Richland	10	8
Saline	12	24
St. Clair	11	11
Union	24	41
Wabash	1	6
Washington	8	22
Wayne	16	30

White	11	28
Williamson	26	37
<i>South Total</i>	<i>452</i>	<i>753</i>
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>1058</i>	<i>1541</i>

Follow the IDNR on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)