

MICHIGAN  
**WILDLIFE**  
COUNCIL

**Fact Sheet – By the Numbers**

- Hunting contributes \$2.3 billion to Michigan’s economy annually.
- Hunting supports more than 34,400 Michigan jobs.
- Nearly 700,000 people hunt in Michigan each year.
- Hunting and fishing licenses pay for the conservation of our wildlife and natural resources, providing more than \$62 million in revenue per year.
- Of that money, nearly \$40 million comes from hunting license sales.
- In 2017, 89% of hunting licenses were purchased by men, while 11% were purchased by women.
- In 2017, the majority of hunting license purchases took place in Oakland (5.38%), Macomb (4.62%), Kent (4.61%), Wayne (4.48%), and Genesee (3.61%) counties.
- Out-of-state purchases of Michigan hunting licenses most frequently come from Wisconsin, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Florida. Out-of-state hunting license purchases accounted for 4% of sales.
- 60 percent of hunters hunt only deer.
- Hunting and fishing equipment purchases are also a key source of funding for conservation projects. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, commonly called the Pittman-Robertson Act, is a tax on sporting arms, handguns, ammunition and archery equipment.
- The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, otherwise known as the Dingell-Johnson Act, assesses a similar levy on fishing-related equipment. In 2017, the Michigan DNR received \$24.2 million in Pittman-Robertson funds and \$12.5 million in Dingell-Johnson funding.
- Wildlife management and license funding is key to the comeback or protection of many game and non-game species in Michigan, including elk, peregrine falcons, wild turkey, osprey and the Kirtland’s warbler.
- Michigan has 20 million acres of forest land.

- There are 400,000 acres of land dedicated to Michigan's game and wildlife areas.
- There are 111,838 acres of public game and state forest areas that receive active habitat management or maintenance.
- Michigan has the second-highest amount of public land among states east of the Mississippi River. Only New York has more.
- There are 59 endangered wildlife species that can be found in Michigan.
- 87 percent of Michigan's adult population participates in outdoor recreation activities of some kind, including pursuits such as paddle sports and bird-watching.
- 41 percent of the adults living in the state participate in fee-based outdoor recreation activities such as hunting, fishing and camping.
- Michigan's fish and wildlife management and habitat conservation efforts receive roughly \$40 million in federal funds annually, based on the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.
- About \$5.1 billion is generated from wildlife-associated recreation in Michigan annually. That's more than the combined revenues of the state's three highest-grossing agricultural commodities (\$4.5 billion total for dairy products, corn and soybeans.)
- Hunters can donate part or all of their deer harvest to help feed the hungry through the nonprofit organization Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger.
- Game species with dedicated hunting seasons include bear, elk, whitetail deer, wild turkey, ruffed grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, cottontail rabbit/snowshoe hare, pheasant, quail, squirrel and woodcock.

Sources: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Division and Scorecard 01/16; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service