



WHITE-TAILED DEER SUMMARY 2025-2026: COLES COUNTY

Forest Wildlife Program, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



County Size: 510 square miles

Year Opened to Deer Hunting: 1974

Record Harvest: 1,692 (2024)

Average Harvest (previous 10 years): 1,447

Total 2025-2026 Harvest (all seasons): 1,671

Permits issued/quota 2025-2026 (excludes landowner; archery and youth are statewide):

Firearm: 1850/1850 **Muzzle:** 290/300

Late Winter: 66

Chronic Wasting Disease Detected: No

Check Station Location: N/A

Late Winter Season in 2026-2027: Yes. Deer Vehicle Accident (DVA) rates (accidents per billion miles driven) are used as an index of deer population size. Counties remain or are added to Late Winter season if DVA rates are above goal, or other factors (excessive crop damage and/or disease issues) are present.

Last year in Late Winter: 2003 - Present

Recent Archery Harvest by Bow Type

Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Compound	351	373	346	364	349
Crossbow	355	367	412	441	461
Traditional	11	9	8	9	13
Total	717	749	766	814	823

Age/Sex Composition of Recent Harvest (%)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
M - Adult	30.1	31.1	28.6	25.7	25.5
M - Yearling	17.5	16.1	18.3	15.5	17.2
M - Fawn	10.9	9.5	8.3	9.8	7.9
F - Adult	34.6	37.3	39.7	40.7	43.3
F - Fawn	6.9	6.0	5.1	8.3	6.1

M - Adult = 2.5 and older; F - Adult = 1.5 and older

