New Jersey DEP Fish and Wildlife

2020 Black Bear Season Harvest Information

The 2020 Black Bear Season was held during two segments: the archery/muzzleloader Segment A, October 12-17 and the firearm Segment B, December 7-12. Segment B was extended for four days the following week, December 16-19, when the harvest rate objective of 20% was not met. A total of 410 bears were harvested for a harvest rate of 13.4%. Summaries of the harvest by Bear Hunting Zone and county are provided below. Sex, age and class data will be posted when available.

Hunters were required to check all harvested bears; due to COVID-19 hunters called for instructions. Data, including sex, weight and size were collected, and a tooth was extracted for aging by Matson's Lab, a wildlife laboratory offering cementum (tooth) aging.

The document linked below provides sex, age and class information on harvested bears. The bears are listed according to the number on the Possession Seal attached to each bear's ear at the check station. The seal numbers are listed numerically. Tooth ages marked N/A are the result of the lab being unable to determine an exact age due to various reasons:

2020 Black Bear Harvest Data (pdf, 228kb)

For more information on the black bear hunting season in New Jersey, visit the Black Bear Season Information page; for information on black bears in the state, visit the Know the Bear Facts page.

Summaries of the harvest by Bear Hunting Zone and county are provided below.

Black Bear Harvest by Bear Hunting Zone

Bear	Bear	s Harve	ested in	n Segm	ent A,	2020	Segmen		Bears Harvested in Segment B, 2020									Coamon	Seaso
Hunting Zone	10/1 2	10/1 3	10/1 4	10/1 5	10/1 6	10/1 7	t A Total	12/ 7	12/ 8	12/ 9	12/1 0	12/1 1	12/1 2	12/1 6	12/1 7	12/1 8	12/1 9	Segmen t B Total	n Total
Zone 1	9	13	15	13	9	10	69	6	11	1	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	25	94
Zone 2	22	28	25	31	5	29	140	9	5	1	3	3	7	0	1	1	2	32	172
Zone 3	27	19	15	9	5	6	81	3	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	10	91
Zone 4	4	13	11	8	3	5	44	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	51
Zone 5	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	62	73	66	63	22	50	336	22	19	2	11	6	9	0	1	1	3	74	410
Harvested Bears Tagged This Year	1	7	2	4	0	1	15	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	19
Cumulativ e Harvest Rate*		5.7%	7.1%	9.9%	9.9%	10.6 %	10.6%	0%	1.4 %	1.4 %	2.1%	2.1%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	2.8%	13.4%

^{*}Based On 141 Tagged Bears Available for Harvest

Black Bear Harvest by County

County	Bear	s Harve	ested in	n Segm	ent A,	2020	Segmen			Be	ars Ha	rveste	d in Seg	ment B	C	Seaso			
	10/1 2	10/1 3	10/1 4	10/1 5	10/1 6	10/1 7	t A Total	12/ 7	12/ 8	12/ 9	12/1 0	12/1 1	12/1 2	12/1 6	12/1 7	12/1 8	12/1 9	Segmen t B Total	n Total
Sussex	29	26	28	34	8	27	152	10	10	2	4	3	5	0	1	1	2	38	190
Warren	11	23	17	15	7	16	89	8	6	0	4	2	4	0	0	0	1	25	114
Passaic	3	6	4	4	2	2	21	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	25
Morris	17	14	16	8	4	4	63	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	69
Bergen	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Hunterdo n	1	3	1	2	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
Somerset	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Mercer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	62	73	66	63	22	50	336	33	24	2	11	6	9	0	1	1	3	74	410