

# **EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE**

The 2023 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 1-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2023 hunting guide, which included most of the state. The daily bag limit was 8 geese and possession was 24. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult or senior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license and migratory bird certification. All hunters aged 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

Resident hunters were surveyed utilizing the Migratory Bird Harvest Survey that is used to assess all migratory bird harvest for the year. Hunters were asked to break down how many geese they harvested during the Early Fall season out of the total number they harvested for the year. Nonresident hunters were surveyed using a separate Early Fall Canada Goose season survey.

In 2023, there were 24,621 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (24,327 residents, 294 nonresidents). Approximately 41% (10,000) of the resident hunters and all nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 31% for residents and 37% for nonresidents.

A projected 3,008 hunters hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the 2023 Early Fall season, and they harvested a projected 25,764 geese.

## Comparison of the 2014 - 2023 Early Fall Canada goose harvest statistics

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Average Season Bag</b>
2014	5,106	28,814	5.64
2015	3,883	20,735	5.34
2016	3,366	27,660	8.22
2017	3,226	25,808	8.00
2018	2,716	17,904	6.59
2019	3,000	21,054	7.02
2020	3,857	33,769	8.76
2021	3,671	33,179	9.04
2022	3,034	28,547	9.41
2023	3,008	25,764	8.57

# EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2023

Last Revised: 11 June 2024

	Resident	Non Resident
<b>EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*</b>	24,328	294
<b>Unique Licenseholders</b>	24,327	294
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	2,746	261
Number Sampled by Survey	9,985	289
Number Responded to Survey	3,056	108
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>345</b>	<b>96</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	2,711	12
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>37.4%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	345	96
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	299
<b>Average Days Hunted Canada Geese</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>3.11</b>
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	2,952	832
<b>Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall</b>	<b>8.56</b>	<b>8.67</b>
<b>Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>814</b>
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	<b>2,746</b>	<b>261</b>
<b>Projected Canada Goose Bag</b>	<b>23,499</b>	<b>2,265</b>
<b>TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 25,764</b>		
<b>Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *2*</b>	5.48	5.10

\*1\* For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2023 database

For nonresidents: number of Nonresident Waterfowl licenses sold in database

\*2\* Based on a scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

## EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST, 1996-2023

