

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE

The 2021 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 1-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2021 hunting guide, which included most of the state. However, nonresidents were prohibited from hunting in the counties of Beadle, Brookings, Hanson, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Sanborn, Turner and Union during these dates. 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, senior or junior 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 2021, there were 25,618 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (25,148 residents, 470 nonresidents). Approximately 40% (10,000) of the resident hunters and all nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 36% for residents and 38% for nonresidents.

A projected 3,671 hunters hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the 2021 Early Fall season and they harvested a projected 33,179 geese.

Comparison of the 2012 - 2021 Early Fall Canada goose harvest statistics

Year	Number Hunters	Harvest	Average Season Bag
2012	3,636	28,788	7.92
2013	4,528	29,887	6.60
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

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2021

Last Revised: 8 June 2022

	Resident	Non Resident
EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*	25,179	470
Unique Licenseholders	25,148	470
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	3,277	394
Number Sampled by Survey	9,988	437
Number Responded to Survey	3,630	167
Responded and Participated in Season	473	140
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	3,157	27
Survey Response Rate	36.3%	38.2%
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	473	140
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	500
Average Days Hunted Canada Geese	UNK	3.57
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	4,134	1,613
Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall	8.74	11.52
Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall	UNK	1,407
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	3,277	394
Projected Canada Goose Bag	28,640	4,540
TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 33,179		
Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *2*	5.31	5.7

1 For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2021 GF79 database prior to Feb 14 2022

For nonresidents: number of Nonresident Waterfowl licenses sold in GF79

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

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST, 1996-2021

