

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE

The 2019 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 7-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2019 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. All hunters age 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 2019, there were 25,035 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (24,993 residents, 242 nonresidents). Approximately 23% (5,866) of the resident hunters and 99% (239) of the nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 62% for residents and 42% for nonresidents.

A projected 3,000 hunters hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the 2019 Early Fall season and they harvested a projected 21,054 geese.

Comparison of the 2010 - 2019 Early Fall Canada goose harvests

Year	Number Hunters	Harvest	Average Season Bag
2010	5,767	44,183	7.66
2011	5,417	50,361	9.30
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

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2019

Last Revised: 15 June 2020

	Resident	Non Resident
EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*	24,995	242
Unique Licenseholders	24,993	242
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	2,777	223
Number Sampled by Survey	5,866	239
Number Responded to Survey	3,618	100
Responded and Participated in Season	402	92
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	3,216	8
Survey Response Rate	61.7%	41.8%
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	402	92
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	305
Average Days Hunted Canada Geese	UNK	3.32
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	2,749	853
Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall	6.84	9.27
Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall	UNK	738
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	2,777	223
Projected Canada Goose Bag	18,990	2,064
TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 21,054		
Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *2*	5.18	5.63

1 For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2018 GF79 database

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, 1996-2019

