

# **EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE**

The 2020 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 5-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2020 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 2020, there were 26,319 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (25,855 residents, 464 nonresidents). Approximately 39% (10,000) of the resident hunters and all nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 37% for residents and 43% for nonresidents.

A projected 3,857 hunters hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the 2020 Early Fall season and they harvested a projected 33,769 geese.

## Comparison of the 2011 - 2020 Early Fall Canada goose harvest statistics

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Average Season Bag</b>
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
2020	3,857	33,769	8.76

# EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2020

Last Revised: 25 May 2021

	Resident	Non Resident
<b>EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*</b>	25,856	464
<b>Unique Licenseholders</b>	25,855	464
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	3,450	408
Number Sampled by Survey	10,000	464
Number Responded to Survey	3,725	198
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>497</b>	<b>174</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	3,228	24
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>37.3%</b>	<b>42.7%</b>
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	497	174
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	631
<b>Average Days Hunted Canada Geese</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>3.63</b>
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	4,220	1,911
<b>Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall</b>	<b>8.49</b>	<b>10.98</b>
<b>Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall</b>	<b>UNK</b>	<b>1,479</b>
<b>Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters</b>	<b>3,450</b>	<b>408</b>
<b>Projected Canada Goose Bag</b>	<b>29,291</b>	<b>4,478</b>

**TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 33,769**

## Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score \*2\*

\*1\* For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2020 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, 1996-2020

