

MENTORED SPRING TURKEY

There were 1,897 Mentored Spring Turkey licenses sold in South Dakota for the 2025 season. All were single tag licenses valid for a male turkey. All mentors/hunters were surveyed, and 859 responses (45%) were received. Surveys were only sent via email and no corrections were made for nonresponse bias.

The 2025 spring season ran from April 12 through May 31. Respondents reported hunting an average of 2.47 days, which projected to a total of 4,676 recreation days for the season.

An estimated 766 male turkeys and 2 female turkeys were harvested, resulting in a success rate for the season of 41%. The mean satisfaction score reported by hunters/mentors was 5.67 (1 representing "very dissatisfied" and 7 representing "very satisfied").

The five units with the highest reported harvest were Grant, Day/Codington, Minnehaha, Marshall/Roberts, and the Black Hills.

Summary of the 2016-2025 Spring Mentored Youth Turkey Seasons

YEAR	Licenses	HARVEST			%Success	Avg Days	Average Satisfaction
	Sold	Males	Hens	Total		Hunted	
2016	734	277	0	277	38%	2.68	5.78
2017	799	310	0	310	39%	2.70	5.85
2018	735	261	0	261	35%	2.32	5.82
2019	1,024	295	0	295	29%	2.03	5.63
2020	1,356	507	2	508	37%	3.04	5.76
2021	1,422	523	0	523	37%	2.54	5.71
2022	1,632	558	0	558	34%	2.47	5.55
2023	1,702	489	2	491	29%	2.52	5.53
2024	1,849	710	4	714	39%	2.13	5.77
2025	1,897	766	2	769	41%	2.47	5.67

2025 Mentored Spring Turkey Harvest Projection

Last Revised:		Licenses											
05-Aug-25		Resident		Nonresident		Response	Tag	Harvest Estimates				Avg Days	Avg
Unit/Type	Avail.	Sold	Avail.	Sold	Rate	Success	Toms	Jakes	Hens	Total	Hunted	Satsfctn	
ST1-32	Unlim	1,778	Unlim	119	45.3%	41%	625	141	2	769	2.47	5.67	

Satisfaction scale of 1=very dissatisfied to 7=very satisfied.

2025 Spring Ment Youth Turkey Harvest Distribution

Last Revised:

05-Aug-25

County	Reported Harvest				Projected Harvest				
	Toms	Jakes	Hens	Total	Toms	Jakes	Hens	Total	%
01A (Minnehaha)	20	3	0	23	46	7	0	53	6.9%
02A (Pennington-East)	2	0	0	2	5	0	0	5	0.6%
06A (Brookings)	8	2	0	10	18	5	0	23	3.0%
07A (Yankton)	11	1	0	12	25	2	0	27	3.6%
08A (Davison/Hanson)	8	2	0	10	18	5	0	23	3.0%
10A (Aurora/Douglas)	3	0	0	3	7	0	0	7	0.9%
11A (Bennett)	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0.3%
12A (Bon Homme)	7	5	0	12	16	12	0	28	3.6%
13A (Brule/Buffalo)	7	8	0	15	16	19	0	35	4.5%
15A (Butte/Lawrence)	6	0	0	6	14	0	0	14	1.8%
16A (Campbell/Walworth)	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	5	0.6%
17A (Charles Mix)	9	2	0	11	21	5	0	25	3.3%
19A (Clay)	6	2	0	8	14	5	0	18	2.4%
20A (Corson)	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0.3%
21A (Custer/Penn-Mid)	4	2	0	6	9	5	0	14	1.8%
22A (Day/Codington)	24	2	0	26	55	5	0	60	7.8%
23A (Deuel)	19	2	0	21	43	5	0	48	6.3%
24A (Dewey/Ziebach)	2	2	0	4	5	5	0	9	1.2%
27A (Fall River)	4	0	0	4	9	0	0	9	1.2%
29A (Grant)	14	3	1	18	32	7	2	41	5.4%
30A (Gregory)	9	1	0	10	21	2	0	23	3.0%
31A (Haakon)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
32A (Hamlin/Clark)	6	3	0	9	14	7	0	21	2.7%
35A (Harding)	2	0	0	2	5	0	0	5	0.6%
36A (Hughes)	4	0	0	4	9	0	0	9	1.2%
37A (Hutchinson)	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0.3%
39A (Jackson)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
40A (Jerauld/Beadle/Hand)	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0.3%
41A (Jones)	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	5	0.6%
44A (Lincoln)	6	3	0	9	14	7	0	21	2.7%
45A (Lyman)	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	5	0.6%
48A (Marshall/Roberts)	19	4	0	23	43	9	0	53	6.9%
49A (Meade/Pennington)	6	2	0	8	14	5	0	18	2.4%
50A (Mellette)	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	5	0.6%
52A (Moody)	7	0	0	7	16	0	0	16	2.1%
53A (Perkins)	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	0.3%
56A (Sanborn)	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	2	0.3%
58A (Stanley)	3	1	0	4	7	2	0	9	1.2%
60A (Tripp)	3	2	0	5	7	5	0	12	1.5%
61A (Turner)	8	1	0	9	18	2	0	21	2.7%
62A (Union)	7	0	0	7	16	0	0	16	2.1%
65A (Oglala Lakota)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
67A (Todd)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
BH1 (Black Hills)	30	3	0	33	69	7	0	76	9.8%
Unknown	10	3	0	13					
TOTALS	283	64	1	348	625	141	2	769	

Use these figures for approximations only!

Spring Mentored Youth Turkey 2009-2025

