

WATERFOWL

In 2024, there were an estimated 15,601 active resident migratory bird hunters in South Dakota, of which 12,614 were active waterfowl hunters. There were also an estimated 4,889 nonresidents that participated in waterfowl hunting. All nonresident waterfowl license holders that provided a valid email address and a random sample of 10,000 resident migratory bird certificate holders were surveyed. Nonresident youth license holders were not surveyed. The survey response rates were 30% for residents and 41% for nonresidents.

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), waterfowl hunters reported an overall average rating of 4.81 for residents, and 5.19 for nonresidents.

Summary comparison of the 2015 - 2024 waterfowl seasons

Year	Residents				Nonresidents		
	Active Mig Bird Hunters	Active Waterfowl Hunters	Survey Response Rate	Satisfaction	Active Waterfowl Hunters	Survey Response Rate	Satisfaction
2015	17,231	14,579	64%	4.84	4,195	78%	4.91
2016	16,461	13,770	61%	4.86	4,254	73%	4.79
2017	16,478	13,814	60%	5.04	4,523	69%	5.16
2018	15,371	12,750	60%	4.95	4,326	70%	5.10
2019	15,316	13,401	62%	5.10	4,665	70%	5.37
2020	16,819	14,597	37%	5.10	4,489	53%	5.37
2021	15,406	13,177	36%	5.11	4,646	47%	5.18
2022	15,219	12,498	33%	5.08	4,544	43%	5.41
2023	16,614	13,756	31%	5.01	4,847	42%	5.50
2024	15,601	12,614	30%	4.81	4,889	41%	5.19

WATERFOWL HUNTING SUMMARY FOR 2024

Revised: 27 May 2025

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