

Illinois Youth Turkey Hunters Set New Harvest Record

by Illinois Department of Natural Resources
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SPRINGFIELD – Illinois youth turkey hunters harvested a preliminary total of 2,006 birds during the 2024 youth turkey season, breaking the previous harvest record of 1,733 set in 2020.

The dates for this year's season were March 30-31 and April 6-7. A total of 6,001 youth turkey permits were issued this year, compared to 5,283 in 2023. In 2023, a total of 1,297 turkeys were taken.

The top five counties for harvest during this year’s youth season were Randolph, 71; Fayette, 66; Jefferson, 63; Marion, 62; and Pike, 54. A preliminary total of 160 wild turkeys, or 8% of this year’s harvest, were taken on public land.

The following table shows youth turkey season preliminary harvest figures by county with numbers from 2024 and 2023.

County	2024	2023
ADAMS	49	37
ALEXANDER	23	27
BOND	18	14
BOONE	4	2
BROWN	35	14
BUREAU	14	10
CALHOUN	26	22
CARROLL	8	5
CASS	19	17
CHAMPAIGN	3	3
CHRISTIAN	6	10

CLARK	32	14
CLAY	49	35
CLINTON	30	9
COLES	7	3
CRAWFORD	31	12
CUMBERLAND	15	13
DEKALB	1	0
DEWITT	2	2
EDGAR	8	8
EDWARDS	15	13
EFFINGHAM	34	10
FAYETTE	66	26
FORD	2	1
FRANKLIN	36	34

FULTON	24	14
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GALLATIN/HARDIN	44	33
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GREENE	29	13
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GRUNDY	6	5
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HAMILTON	46	36
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HANCOCK	28	19
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HENDERSON	13	9
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HENRY	10	10
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IROQUOIS	4	1
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JACKSON	42	24
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JASPER	42	11
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JEFFERSON	63	52
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JERSEY	25	15
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JO DAVIESS	27	18
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JOHNSON	27	23
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KANKAKEE	4	2
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KENDALL	0	0
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KNOX	14	7
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LAKE	0	1
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LASALLE	1	0
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LAWRENCE	9	8
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LEE	8	12
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LIVINGSTON	4	3
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LOGAN	4	3
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MACON	7	2
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MACOUPIN	46	28
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MADISON	35	21
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MARION	62	46
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MARSHALL/PUTNAM	11	11
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MASON	15	10
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MASSAC	22	15
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MCDONOUGH	3	4
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MCHENRY	11	5
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MCLEAN	5	3
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MENARD	14	8
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MERCER	13	8
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MONROE	25	6
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MONTGOMERY	27	15
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MORGAN	7	4
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MOULTRIE	5	2
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OGLE	18	13
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PEORIA	12	7
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PERRY	43	23
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PIATT	2	2
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PIKE	54	39
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POPE	27	25
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PULASKI	23	14
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RANDOLPH	71	48
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RICHLAND	16	11
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ROCK ISLAND	9	11
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SALINE	26	15
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SANGAMON	13	5
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SCHUYLER	22	19
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SCOTT	8	2
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SHELBY	23	17
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ST CLAIR	38	26
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STARK	1	1
STEPHENSON	18	16
TAZEWELL	10	2
UNION	33	26
VERMILION	17	5
WABASH	5	5
WARREN	5	0
WASHINGTON	20	11
WAYNE	41	24
WHITE	41	25
WHITESIDE	15	9
WILL	3	5
WILLIAMSON	46	18
WINNEBAGO	18	13

WOODFORD	13	12
Total	2,0061,297	