

# Estimated Bear Harvest

**REMINDER:** It is **MANDATORY** to report on your hunting license, **regardless** of success. The Department of Natural Resources and Renewables relies on harvest reporting data for important management decisions, and so efforts to improve this reporting compliance level will be made over the coming hunting seasons.

Year	General Bear Harvesting Licences Sold	Senior Bear Harvesting Licences Sold	Corrected Bear harvest Estimates (General)	Corrected Bear harvest Estimates (Senior)
2018	3,982	6,685	438	174
2019	3,869	5,805	426	151
2020	3,766	4,822	414	125
2021	4,586	6,149	504	160
2022	4,516	6,922	497	180

## How is bear harvest estimated?

In 2015, DNR staff aimed to correct historical black bear harvest numbers based on licence sales. These correction factors are based on follow up calls to hunters that did not submit their mandatory bear harvest report. The following correcting methods were used to estimate harvest based on the number of licences sold:

### General licences:

To determine a "kill" estimate:

(General licences sold) x (0.11) = Estimated number of licence holders that hunted and killed a bear.

To determine a "no kill" estimate:

(General licences sold) x (0.47) = Estimated number of licence holders that hunted and did not kill.

To determine a "did not hunt" estimate:

(General licences sold) x (0.31) = Estimated licenses not used.

### Senior licences:

To determine a "kill" estimate:

(Senior licences distributed) x (0.026) = Estimated number of licence holders that hunted and killed a bear.

To determine a "no kill" estimate:

(Senior licences distributed) x (0.31) = Estimated number of licence holders that hunted and did not kill.

To determine a "did not hunt" estimate:

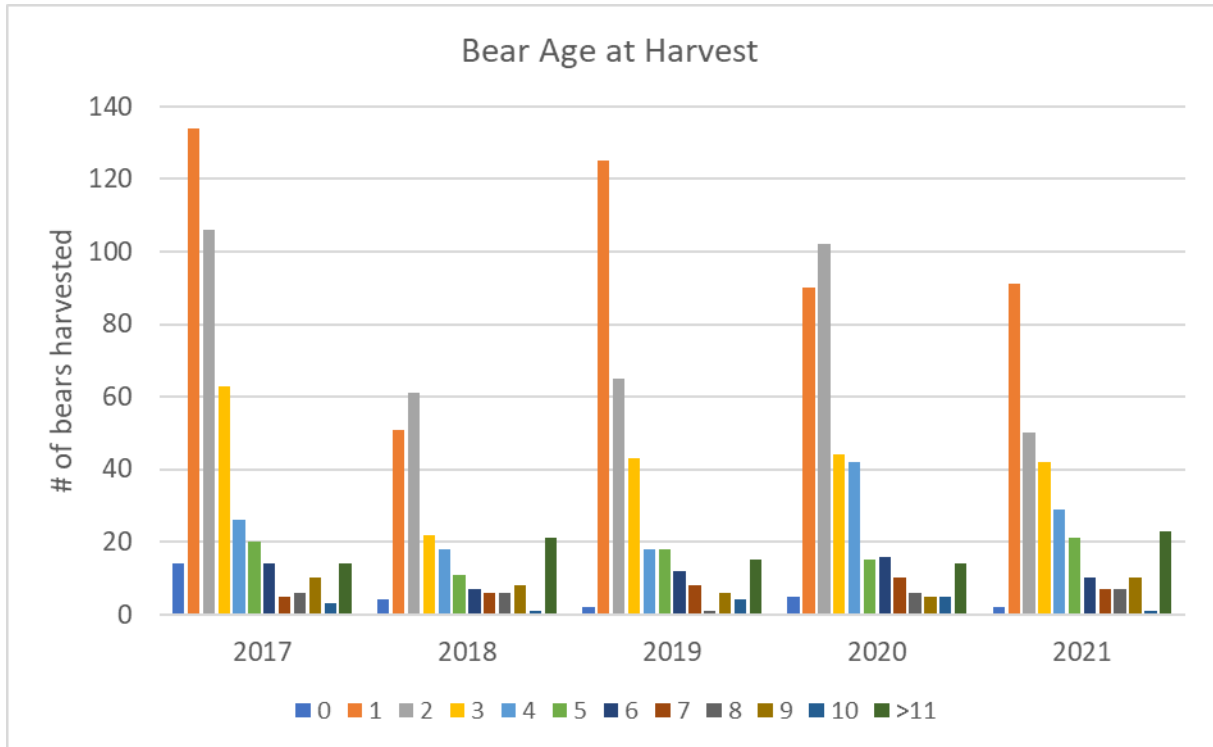
(Senior licences distributed) x (0.61) = Estimated licenses not used.

Note: there are a proportion of reports that come back "incomplete"; therefore the totals do not equal 100%.

**Reported Black Bear Harvest by County\***

<b>County</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Annapolis	20	33	31	50	16
Antigonish	16	20	11	12	8
Cape Breton	2	3	4	1	2
Colchester	25	56	24	53	13
Cumberland	53	98	48	68	36
Digby	6	18	20	21	11
Guysborough	12	36	16	26	23
Halifax	28	22	28	38	24
Hants	16	23	24	36	12
Inverness	3	16	5	10	3
Kings	21	21	26	44	10
Lunenburg	11	8	21	29	16
Pictou	26	47	19	47	8
Queens	13	16	19	25	9
Richmond	0	0	0	0	0
Shelburne	8	6	14	12	7
Victoria	8	3	3	2	2
Yarmouth	12	8	18	11	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>204</b>

\*These harvest numbers are only those that were reported. This table does not account for the estimation determined in the Harvest Table.



Bear pre-molar teeth are submitted as part of a mandatory collection from hunters and trappers when successful in harvesting a bear. The ages were determined by cementum tooth analysis performed by Matson's Laboratory.

**Black Bear Snaring Information:**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b><i>Harvest Information</i></b>					
Licences sold/distributed	319	328	352	255	398
Did not hunt	85	91	114	95	87
Returned blank	16	35	130	144	78
Returned no kill	41	47	50	38	39
Returned with kill	65	86	49	110	45
<b><i>Sex Ratio</i></b>					
Male	26	38	26	61	24
Female	29	15	11	33	12
Unknown	7	5	5	16	9
<b><i>Effort Information</i></b>					
Number of snares	229	267	170	286	142
Number of snare days	3094	3086	1969	2754	1332
Number of snare nights	1239	1442	1128	1434	794

Please note all data for snaring combines senior and general license data.

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