



Fact Sheet 2.2

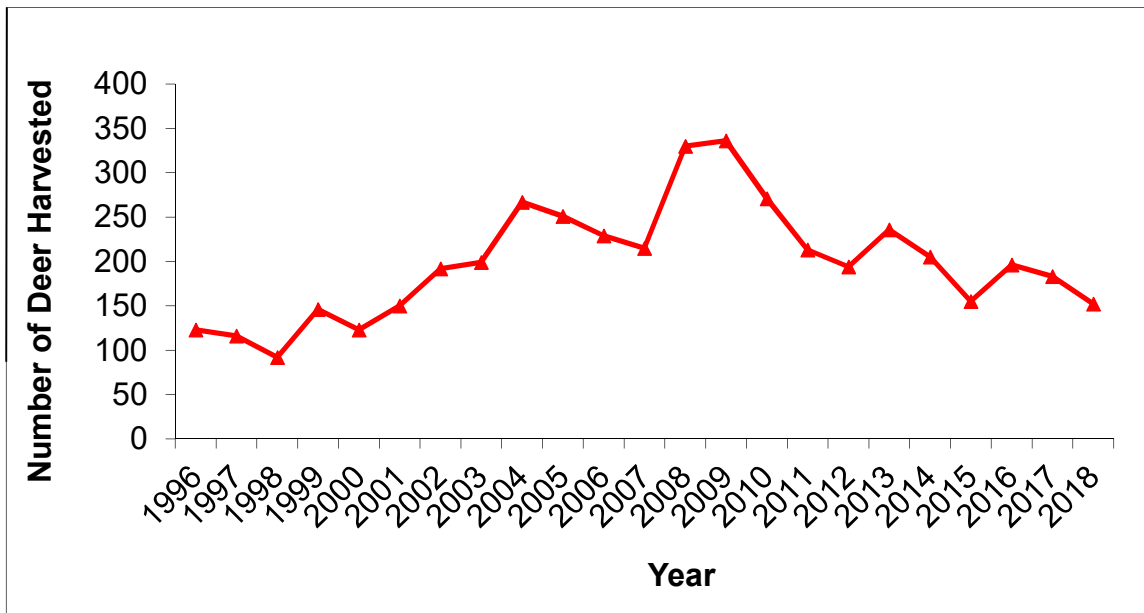
How many deer are harvested in Ridgefield?

Results of the deer harvest in Ridgefield since 1996 are presented in Figure 2.2-1 and Table 2.2-1. This data was provided by DEEP in an email from Andrew Labonte to Stefano Zandri (February 7, 2019). Since about 2009 or 2010 (the peak annual harvest) the number of deer harvested has been on a fairly continuous decline.

Data from DEEP for 2014, 2015, and 2016 for Ridgefield show the following total harvest:

Archery	97
Landowner	0
State	0
Private Land (Shotgun/Rifle)	32
Total	129

Figure 2.2-1



Some people suggest only hunting on properties where large populations of deer have been reported (referred to as “hot spots”). There is little supporting evidence that suggest that this method of hunting is effective. Dr. Ed Faison (PhD in Environmental Conservation from

University of Massachusetts, Amherst) states, “Deer are mobile and responsive to hunting pressures, so if certain areas are hunted, the deer will quickly move to other areas. Hot spots would be a moving target.”

The Bottom Line

Since about 2009 or 2010 (the peak annual harvest) the number of deer harvested has been on a fairly continuous decline. Archery accounts for the most deer kills.

Table 2.2-1

Results of Deer Harvest in Ridgefield from 1996 to 2018

Year	Archery	Shotgun/Rifle	Land-owner	Muzzle-loader	Crop Damage	Hunting (only) Total	Roadkill	Other	Roadkill and other	Total
1996	70	43	0	10	0	123	124	25	149	272
1997	67	41	0	8	0	116	107	26	133	249
1998	55	29	0	8	0	92	122	50	172	264
1999	93	43	0	10	0	146	122	35	157	303
2000	59	51	1	12	0	123	113	35	148	271
2001	90	51	0	9	0	150	106	22	128	278
2002	127	58	0	7	0	192	99	22	121	313
2003	143	45	0	11	0	199	89	36	125	324
2004	219	39	0	9	0	267	89	37	126	393
2005	213	35	0	3	0	251	84	28	112	363
2006	184	38	1	6	0	229	73	7	80	309
2007	176	30	0	9	0	215	37	16	53	268
2008	274	47	0	9	0	330	30	5	35	365
2009	253	67	0	15	1	336	61	19	80	416
2010	236	24	0	11	0	271	72	10	82	353
2011	177	27	0	9	0	213	56	9	65	278
2012	143	20	0	31	0	194	28	1	29	223
2013	164	33	0	39	0	236	19	0	19	255
2014	146	31	0	28	0	205	24	5	29	234
2015	113	37	0	5	0	155	9	4	13	168
2016	151	36	0	9	0	196	9	2	11	207
2017	138	23	0	22	0	183	14	0	14	197
2018	111	30	0	11	0	152	3	0	3	155