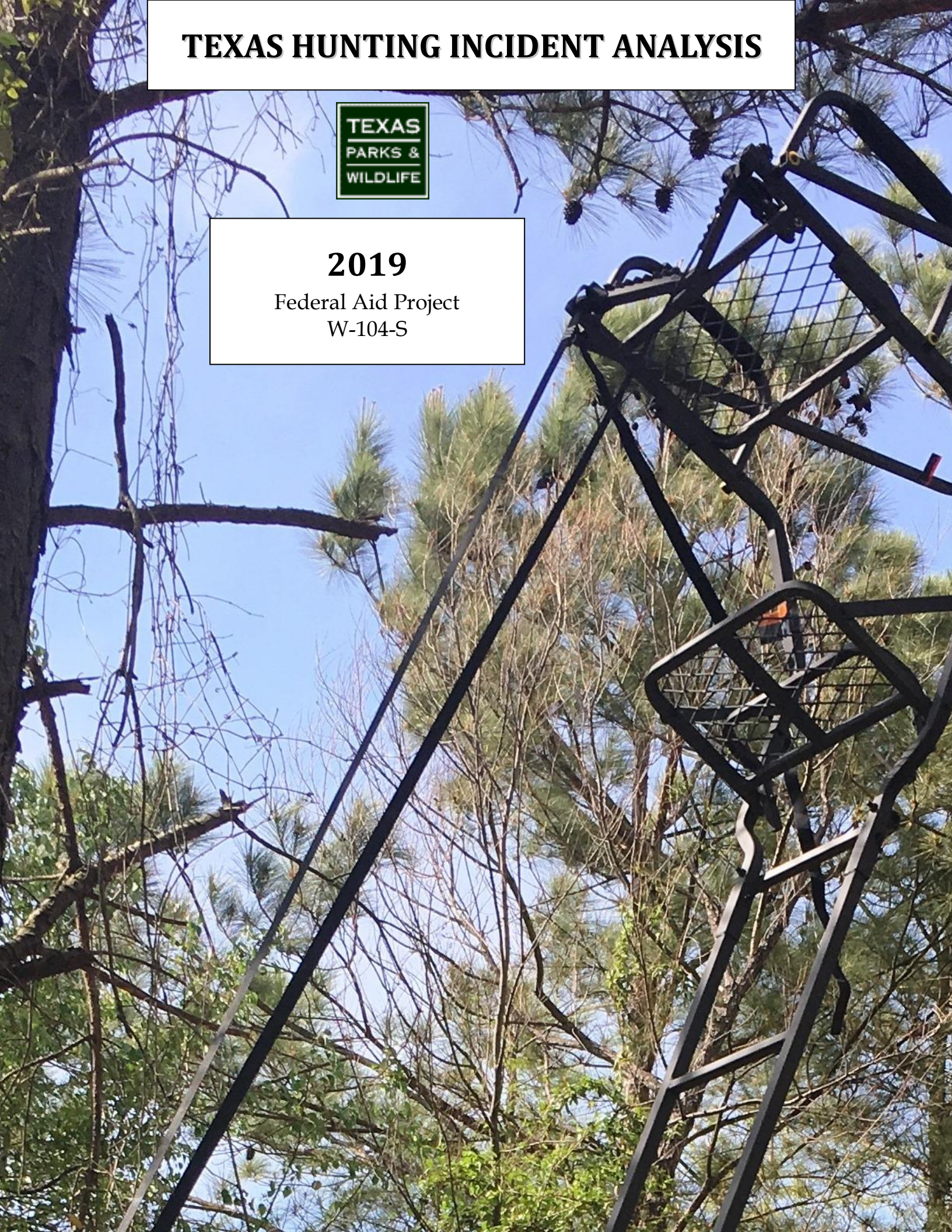


TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENT ANALYSIS



2019

Federal Aid Project
W-104-S



TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENT DATA (1966-2019)

* *Voluntary* * Hunter Education Program 1972-1987

Calendar Year	Fatalities	Non-Fatal	Accidents	Hunting Licenses Sold	Accidents/ 100,000 Licenses	Fatalities/ 100,000 Licenses	Students Certified
1966	28	53	81	644,653	12.6	4.3	-
1967	23	70	93	797,846	11.7	2.9	-
1968	37	68	105	854,693	12.3	4.3	-
1969	24	68	92	895,593	10.3	2.7	-
1970	19	53	72	935,793	7.7	2.0	-
1971	24	68	92	978,285	9.4	2.5	-
1972	30	55	85	966,332	8.8	3.1	2,119
1973	22	58	80	1,011,963	7.9	2.2	4,314
1974	16	52	68	1,037,925	6.6	1.5	6,094
1975	11	66	77	1,051,834	7.3	1.0	8,531
1976	11	52	63	1,050,349	6	1.0	10,043
1977	17	64	81	1,080,530	7.5	1.6	11,298
1978	20	63	83	1,091,794	7.6	1.8	10,890
1979	10	43	53	1,093,716	4.8	0.9	10,775
1980	13	56	69	1,160,375	5.9	1.1	12,166
1981	19	53	72	1,174,023	6.1	1.6	13,187
1982	23	74	97	1,216,032	8	1.9	13,323
1983	17	63	80	1,325,474	6	1.3	14,131
1984	21	39	60	1,140,174	5.3	1.8	13,052
1985	15	57	72	1,100,991	6.5	1.4	11,284
1986	13	55	68	1,162,785	5.8	1.1	11,195
1987	12	69	81	1,189,566	6.8	1.0	8,611
Voluntary	425	1299	1724	22,960,726	7.5	1.85	161,013



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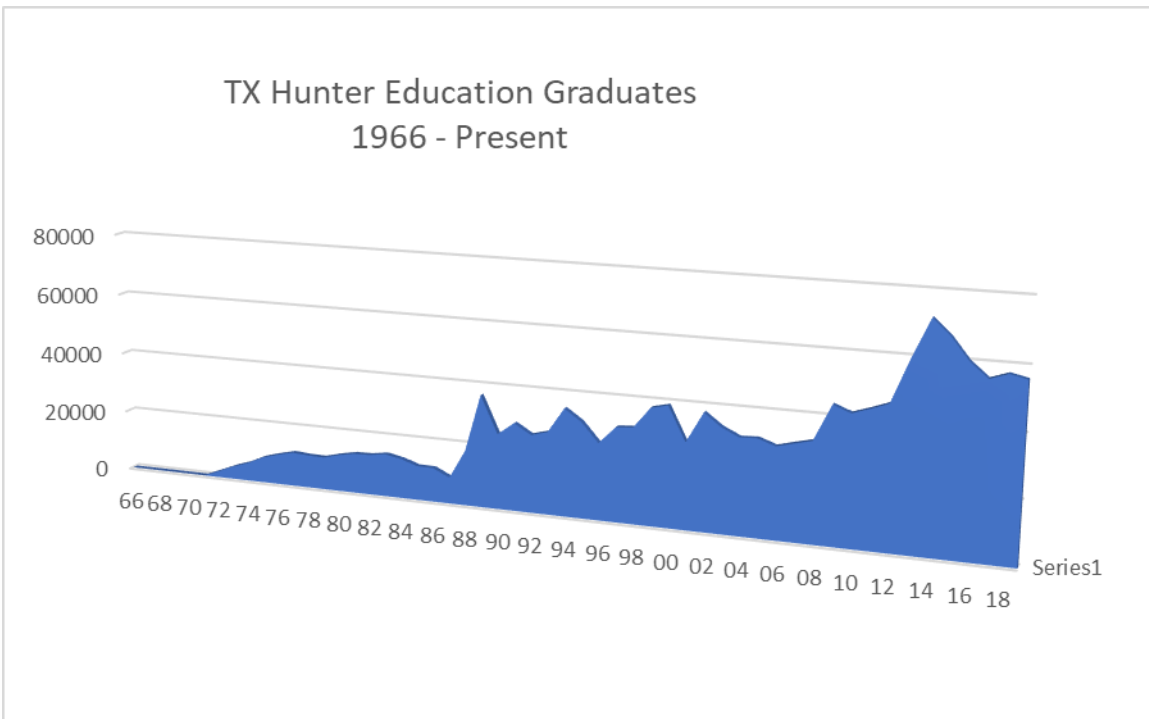
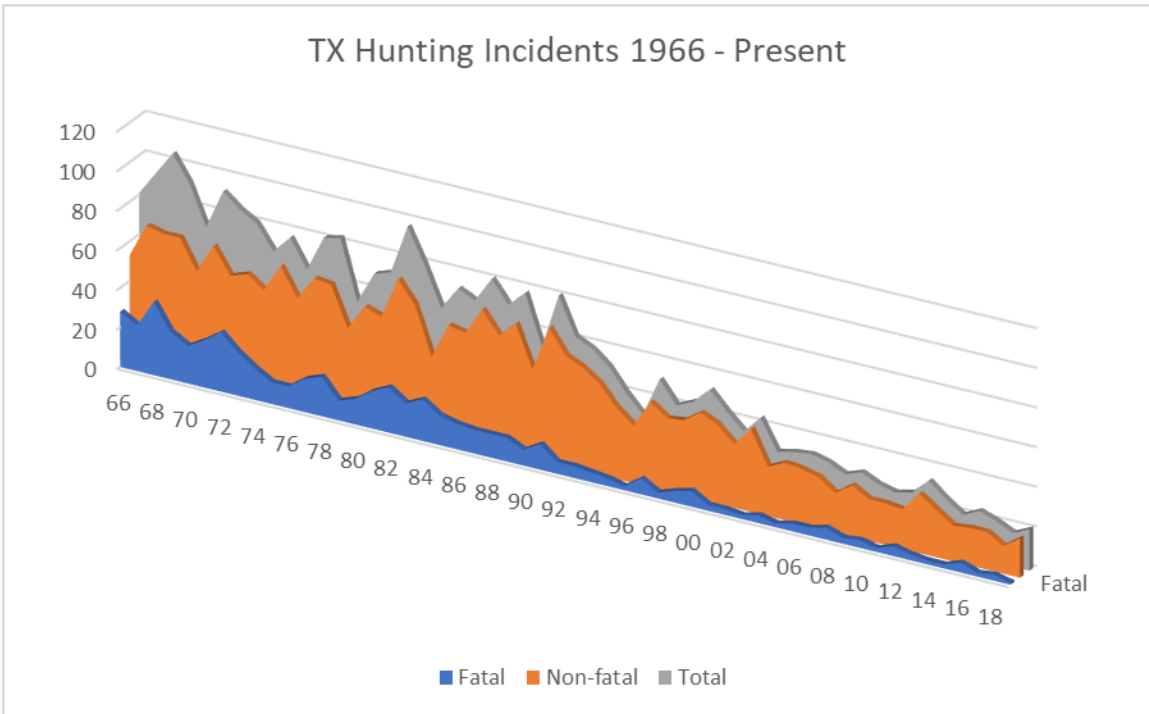
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* *Mandatory* * Hunter Education Program 1988 - Present

Calendar Year	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Accidents	Hunting Licenses Sold	Accidents/ 100,000 Licenses	Fatalities/ 100,000 Licenses	Students Certified	Deferrals Sold
1988	12	58	70	1,189,000	5.9	1.0	18,043	-
1989	12	66	78	1,193,000	6.5	1.0	36,708	-
1990	8	45	53	1,132,917	4.7	0.7	24,590	-
1991	13	68	81	1,103,903	7.3	1.2	28,682	-
1992	6	56	62	1,053,063	5.9	0.6	25,453	-
1993	6	52	58	1,077,055	5.4	0.6	26,942	-
1994	5	46	51	1,083,227	4.7	0.5	34,972	-
1995	4	36	40	1,060,000	3.8	0.4	31,215	-
1996	2	29	31	990,000	3.1	0.2	24,998	-
1997	8	43	51	960,000	5.3	0.8	30,625	-
1998	3	37	40	1,011,500	3.9	0.3	31,052	-
1999	6	38	44	1,010,455	4.3	0.6	37,775	-
2000	8	44	52	1,145,000	4.5	0.7	39,049	-
2001	3	40	43	1,076,159	4	0.3	28,062	-
2002	3	32	35	1,024,495	3.4	0.3	37,847	-
2003	2	42	44	1,082,225	4.1	0.2	33,769	-
2004	4	25	29	1,091,178	2.7	0.4	31,171	-
2005	2	29	31	1,082,593	2.9	0.2	31,442	-
2006	4	28	32	1,115,772	2.9	0.4	29,532	-
2007	4	26	30	1,112,099	2.7	0.4	30,960	-
2008	6	20	26	993,533	2.6	0.6	32,308	-
2009	3	26	29	1,011,936	2.9	0.3	43,880	12,545
2010	4	21	25	1,141,924	2.2	0.4	41,785	13,997
2011	2	21	23	1,165,248	2	0.2	43,645	15,101
2012	5	20	25	1,155,542	2.2	0.4	45,719	15,438
2013	3	30	33	1,227,025	2.7	0.2	59,597	17,257
2014	2	24	26	1,284,933	2.0	0.2	72,026	11,898
2015	2	18	20	1,259,259	1.6	0.2	66,961	14,025
2016	5	19	24	1,271,368	1.9	0.4	60,115	14,371
2017	2	19	21	1,248,450	1.7	0.2	55,507	12,113
2018	3	14	17	1,235,590	1.4	0.2	57,440	11,004
2019	1	20	21	1,244,526	1.7	0.1	56,209	9,036
Mandatory	152	1,093	1,245	35,832,975	3.5	0.42	1,249,614	146,785
TOTAL	577	2,392	2,969	58,793,701	5.0	0.98	1,410,627	146,785

➤ **HUNTING INCIDENT RATE (AVE.) DURING VOLUNTARY PROGRAM - 7.5 per 100,000** hunting licenses issued.

➤ **HUNTING INCIDENT RATE (AVE.) DURING MANDATORY PROGRAM - 3.5 per 100,000** hunting licenses issued.



Texas Hunting Incidents 2015 - 2019

* TYPE "A" Incidents - resulting from a discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes the injury or death of any person(s)

INCIDENTS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total	20	24	21	17	21
Fatal	2	5	2	3	1
Non-fatal	18	19	19	14	20

SHOOTER'S AGE					
0-9 yrs. of age	1	0	0	1	0
10-19	1	5	7	3	5
20-29	3	3	5	4	3
30-39	1	4	3	3	2
40-49	4	3	0	2	2
50-59	4	4	3	2	2
60 & over	5	3	2	1	2
Unknown	1	2	1	1	5
	20	24	21	17	21

SHOOTER'S EQUIPMENT					
Rifles	4	6	5	7	6
Shotguns	15	14	13	7	14
Handguns	1	3	3	3	1
Muzzleloader	0	0	0	0	0
Bow/Air Gun	0	1	0	0	0
	20	24	21	17	21

ADDITIONAL FACTS					
	Percentage in parenthesis (%)				
Violated Game Law	3 (15)	5 (21)	9 (43)	3 (18)	5 (24)
Self-Inflicted	6 (30)	6 (25)	8 (38)	6 (35)	8 (38)
Alcohol or Drugs a Factor	2 (10)	2 (8)	1 (5)	2 (12)	2 (10)
Shooter Completed Hunter Education	10 (50)	10 (42)	5 (24)	8 (47)	6 (28)
ONLINE-ONLY HE	2 (10)	3 (13)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
MILITARY Exempt	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (4)

Incident profile over time:

- Incidents were highly preventable thru proper training.
- Over half had not completed hunter education training.
- Victims were not wearing hunter orange clothing.
- Most incidents due to hunter judgment errors; carelessness.
- Most shooters had over 10 years of hunting experience.
- Most shooters were *not* under the influence of alcohol.
- If self-inflicted, shooters handled firearms carelessly.
- Distance of muzzle to wound was typically under 15 yards.
- Incident occurred towards dusk; fatigue a possible factor.

Significant for 2019

- A wave of faulty equipment/obstructions in barrel incidents by dove hunters, which tend to be rare.
- A decrease in fatal incidents (down 2) in 2019.
- SWINGING ON GAME OUT OF SAFE ZONE led the list of incidents with 7 (33%); OUT OF SIGHT with two (10%).
- DOVE hunting incidents, with 13, were way up in 2019; HOG hunting incidents were down considerably.
- SHOTGUNS were used in 2/3 of incidents; handguns one.
- Six (6) HUNTER EDUCATION graduates were involved in hunting incidents; one person was military exempted.
- Two incidents (10%) involved ALCOHOL, and five (24%) involved LAW VIOLATIONS, slightly back up in 2019.
- There were five non-fatal TYPE B incidents (See page 10) involving falls from elevated stands, the number one hunting incident in North America.

MAIN CONTRIBUTING FACTORS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
I. HUNTER JUDGMENT					
Victim out of sight /moved into line of fire	2	5	3	4	3
Victim hit by shooter swinging on game	11	5	5	3	7
Victim mistaken for game	0	2	2	0	0
SUBTOTAL	13	12	10	7	10

II. SKILL/APTITUDE					
Trigger caught on object	0	0	0	0	0
Loading/Unloading gun	0	1	1	3	0
Improper crossing	0	1	0	0	0
Careless handling	5	6	7	5	3
Dropped firearm	0	0	1	0	0
Shooter stumbled/fell	0	1	0	1	1
Careless Bow Handling	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL	5	9	9	9	4

III. SAFETY					
Removing/placing firearm in vehicle	0	0	1	0	0
Discharge of firearm in/on vehicle/fell from insecure rest	1	1	0	1	2
Running or entering/exiting stand with loaded firearm	0	1	0	0	0
Horseplay	0	0	0	0	0
SUBTOTAL	1	2	1	1	2

IV. OTHER					
Ricochet	0	0	0	0	1
Obstruction in Barrel or Faulty Equipment	0	1	0	0	3
Mixed Ammo/Incorrect Substitution	1	0	1	0	1
SUBTOTAL	1	1	1	0	5
GRAND TOTAL	20	24	21	17	21

ANIMAL HUNTED					
Dove	12	7	8	1	13
Deer	2	3	2	2	4
Rabbit/Hare	1	1	1	0	0
Feral Hog/Peccary	1	2	4	8	2
Quail/Pheasant	3	4	2	3	1
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0
Ducks/Geese	0	2	2	1	0
Coyote/Bobcat	0	1	0	0	0
Squirrel/Prairie Dog	1	1	0	1	0
Nongame birds/Snake	0	1	2	0	0
Furbearers/Raccoons	0	1	0	0	0
Exotic	0	1	0	1	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	20	24	21	17	21

2019 FATAL INCIDENTS - FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (A)*

* Firearm/Bow & Hunting Related - Accident/incident resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes death to any person(s).

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
7-20	Scurry	24/M	Rifle	Exotic (Aoudad)	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Five hunters from NM and a guide were in canyon country hunting aoudad. Shooter and victim were in a separate canyon walking along a ledge when the shooter, with with rifle slung over his shoulder, stumbled and fell on some loose rocks. He hit his head and momentarily blacked out. In the process of falling, his rifle discharged, safety in 'off' position. Bullet fatally struck victim in chest, exiting his back. Shooter was a firefighter, and after he came to, attempted CPR on the victim, to no avail. Victim's body was transported by ATV, after being retrieved by rescuers.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload when crossing barriers or difficult terrain; keep finger outside the trigger and handle firearms carefully; complete hunter education, even if not required.					

2019 NON-FATAL INCIDENTS - FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (A)*

* Firearm/Bow & Hunting Related - Accident/incident resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes injury to any person(s).

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
2-22	Duval	UNK/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Four hunters and two guides were quail hunting when one of the hunters walked behind some brush, out of sight of the other hunters and guides. A covey flushed and the shooter (unknown which hunter fired shot towards victim) swung on game outside of a safe zone of fire. The pellets struck victim in the legs. Victim was wearing orange vest and cap.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are always positioned; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed?
9-1	Uvalde	UNK/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim moved into the line of fire of 15 other hunters all hunting in a big field in a line formation. Hunters were told by guide not to go into sunflower field in front of other hunters, but one hunter did and was struck by two pellets in the head region. It was unknown which hunter shot towards victim since there were multiple shots fired by the large group of hunters.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; comply with guide and landowner safety rules; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-1	Taylor	12/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Young shooter, who was about 20 yards from his dad and brothers, swung on victim outside of his safe zone of fire . Victim #1 (dad) was struck by pellets in his leg; victim #2 (brother, who was standing behind his father) was struck by pellets to his forearm, abdomen and shin.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, obey the law, one which states that a minor must be accompanied (within normal voice control - 2-3 yards) by a					

	person 17 years of age or older who has completed hunter education or who is otherwise exempt.					
9-1	Throckmorton	15/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter swung on victim outside of his safe zone of fire . Victim was struck by pellets to his nose and shoulder as he was walking down a fence line leaving the dove hunting field.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; always wear hunter orange while entering or leaving the dove hunting field; complete hunter education, obey the law, one which says that a minor must be accompanied (within normal voice control - 2-3 yards) by a person 17 years of age or older who has completed hunter education or who is otherwise exempt.					
9-2	Bexar	12/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Young shooter, who was about 15-20 yards from his dad and brothers, swung on victim outside of his safe zone of fire . Victim #1 (dad) was struck by pellets in his chest; victim #2 (10-year-old brother, who was sitting in a chair) was struck by pellets to legs/clavicle area; and victim #3 (4-year-old brother, who was sitting in a chair) was struck by pellets to legs/calf.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, obey the law, one which states that a minor must be accompanied (within normal voice control - 2-3 yards) by a person 17 years of age or older who has completed hunter education or who is otherwise exempt.					
9-2	Dawson	49/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was out of sight of shooter , behind a hill toward which the shooter fired three shots at flying doves. 76-year old victim was struck by several pellets in the head and chest areas and did not initially let anyone in the hunting party know that he was hit.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; always wear hunter orange while entering or leaving the dove hunting field; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-2	Medina	51/F	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	51-year old victim had used her over-and-under for years, and while shooting at doves, the barrel split (faulty equipment) injuring the thumb on her forearm hand (left-handed shooter). It is unknown whether there was an obstruction or if it was a worn barrel.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain and visually check your firearms and other equipment before use; carry the correct ammunition/loads for your firearm and ensure there are no obstructions in the barrel(s); carry field cleaning kit for your firearm; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-3	Medina	UNK/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Two victims were peppered with shot pellets shot by a group of unknown dove hunters that swung on game outside of their safe zones of fire . The shooters were across the field from the victims and departed shortly after the incident. One victim was struck by a single pellet in the chest near the sternum and the other with 8-9 pellets to the ribs, arm, and hand and leg areas.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; always wear hunter orange while entering or leaving the dove hunting field; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-5	Donley	19/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim shot some doves and went to retrieve one near a pond and heavy brush. He was momentarily out of sight of the shooter, who swung on game outside of a safe zone of fire . Between 40 and 50 pellets struck the victim from head to toe, and he was standing about 30-40 yards from the shooter.					

<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; obey the law by completing hunter education, prior to going afield.					
9-6	Brown	UNKM	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim shot a dove and was retrieving it when three other hunters in the group swung on game outside of their safe zones of fire . It was unknown which hunter fired the shot as they all fired shots and were using the same size ammunition. One pellet each lodged in the neck, head and ear of the victim.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are always positioned; make sure to identify the target clearly; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-9	Uvalde	31M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	31-year old victim was having shot shell ejection issues with his pump action shotgun and adapted to loading and unloading ammunition with a slight gap in the ejection port (faulty equipment). Upon firing and closing the action on a second shell, a discharge occurred in the jammed round, causing injury and powder burns to victim's right insight forearm (left-handed).					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain and visually check your firearms and other equipment before use; carry the correct ammunition/loads for your firearm and ensure there are no obstructions in the barrel(s); when firearm is not operating correctly, take it to a reputable gunsmith prior to going afield; carry a field cleaning kit for your firearm; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-14	Frio	27/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No (Military)
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim erroneously loaded a 20-gauge shot shell into an over-and-under 12 gauge which he borrowed. After firing several shots, he incorrectly loaded the wrong ammo into the top barrel and upon loading a proper round behind the obstruction, the barrel blew up and injured victim's left small finger. Victim did not complete hunter education due to military exemption.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain and visually check your firearms and other equipment before use; carry the correct ammunition/loads for your firearm and ensure there are no obstructions in the barrel(s); carry field cleaning kit for your firearm; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-21	Zavala	UNK/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was sitting in a chair field dressing dove when he was struck by pellets shot by a group of about 20 hunter who swung on game outside of their safe zones of fire . The group of hunters were between 50 and 100 yards away on the other end of the field, and several pellets lodged into the upper neck near the eye/ear of the victim.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload firearm with action open when not hunting such as on the way to a stand; keep finger outside the trigger guard unless in the act of firing a shot; only load when in the field/stand and ready to take a shot at game; obey the law; complete hunter education, especially when required.					
9-25	Dimmit	59/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim's over-and-under shotgun's barrel and fore end split as he fired at a dove. Upon further investigation, it is believed there was an obstruction in the barrel since it was determined that the correct ammunition was used/functional. The blow-up resulted in injury to the left small finger of the victim, on the hand holding the fore end of the shotgun.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain and visually check your firearms and other equipment before use; carry the correct ammunition/loads for your firearm and ensure there are no obstructions in the barrel(s); carry field cleaning kit for your firearm; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
11-4	Denton	67/M	Rifle	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and his wife were sitting in a deer stand and upon firing his .30-30 caliber rifle, a piece of bullet shrapnel ricocheted off the window ledge and injured the victim in her right temple. Both shooter and victim were consuming alcohol at the time of the incident.					

<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always be sure what is in front of and behind target and immediately in front of barrel when shooting; be sure to shoot only within a safe zone of fire, even when close to other hunters; avoid alcohol and prescriptions/ drugs before and during your hunt; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
11-4	Llano	60/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim carelessly handled his loaded rifle while in the process of climbing down from his deer stand. A tree limb may have caught the trigger as he was slinging it around to shoulder it and shoot at a buck. The bullet went through his right big toe.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload the firearm prior to departing a stand, climbing or crossing difficult terrain or obstacle/fence; be in a secure position prior to shooting and keep the safety 'on' and finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot; handle firearm carefully, especially when changing body positions; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
11-9	Smith	30/M	Rifle	Hog	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim carelessly handled a loaded rifle while in the process of dragging a feral hog out of the woods. His rifle was slung on his shoulder, muzzle pointed downward and the safety in the 'off' position when it discharged. The bullet went through his right heel.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload the firearm immediately after the hunt or when departing a stand, climbing, dragging game or crossing difficult terrain or obstacle/fence; handle firearm carefully, obey the law by purchasing a license and completing hunter education.					
11-16	Fannin	23/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim carelessly handled and discharged his loaded rifle while resting on his left foot. He was excited after he had found the doe that he had killed and forgot about the loaded rifle.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload firearm with action open when no longer hunting; keep finger outside the trigger guard unless in the act of firing a shot; control your emotions when it comes to safety; obey the law (hunted deer out of season); apply what was learned in hunter education.					
11-26	Coryell	17/M	Rifle	Hog	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter discharged a loaded rifle in a vehicle after he retrieved it from a sling-type carrier strapped to the back of the front seats and upon loading a new round into the chamber. After passing through the rear seat and exiting through the front passenger door, the bullet struck victim in her upper thigh close to the femoral artery. Shooter immediately applied a dressing and drove her to a nearby city hospital.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload prior to transporting firearms and no longer hunting; communicate with your hunting partners if they get out of position; never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle; maintain safe muzzle control and direction while loading/unloading; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-27	Schleicher	48/M	Handgun	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Driving a UHV, shooter had dropped off his hunting companion at a stand and was heading to his stand when a .22 caliber, loaded handgun fell from a storage unit inside the UHV. The handgun discharged after it fell from an insecure rest , sending the bullet through the victim's inner right thigh.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always store a firearm cased and unloaded and with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction; always unload prior to transporting firearms and no longer hunting; never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

2019 NON-FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (B) **

Type	Age/Gender	Fatal?	Comments
Heart Attack 1-6-19	47/M	YES	Victim had shot a deer, unloaded his rifle and tagged the deer. He also attempted to text/call his wife. His body was found after dark, on the trail, near his stand, face down, by his hunting companions after they grew concerned for his whereabouts.
Fall from elevated stand 11-4-19	64/F	NO	Victim slipped while descending the ladder of her 8-foot box elevated stand. She carried her rifle down with her, holding the railing with her rifle hand. She slipped and fractured her pelvis in two places because of the fall.
Fall from elevated stand 11-9-19	85/M	NO	Victim slipped and fell off a 6-ft. ground blind while waiting for his hunting companion to pick him up. He suffered a broken leg and cut near his eye.
Fall from elevated stand 11-10-19	37/M	NO	Victim slipped and fell 15 feet after installing a tree stand and attempting to sit in the seat attachment without a harness or climbing system attached to himself. The stand had been altered by the previous owner and not up to standard according to the investigation. Victim injured his L1/L3 vertebrae.
Fall from elevated stand 11-15-19	62/M	NO	Victim lowered his rifle from a tree stand using a haul line then descended using a climbing-style tree stand. He had not secured the safety pin to the climber cable prior to descending and was not wearing a harness. He fell 15 feet when the cable dislodged and suffered major injuries to his vertebrae and ribs.
Fall from elevated stand 11-15-19	50/M	NO	While descending from a tripod-style elevated stand, victim fell and hooked his leg on the lower rung of the ladder causing injury to his calf and thigh. He had placed his bow on the platform prior to descending so he was hands-free on the way down.

**** B. Non-Firearm/Bow Related** - Accidents/incidents while hunting, *not* involving the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes injury or death of any person(s).

2019 NON-HUNTING/FIREARM RELATED (C) ***

Type	Age/Gender /Firearm	Fatal?	Comments
Careless Handling 8-5-19	19/M Rifle	NO	While sitting atop the hood of his vehicle, victim carelessly handled and discharged his .22 cal. rifle while attempting to unload it after a hang-fire. He was pointing the muzzle towards his calf muscle.
Careless Handling 12-29-19	40/M Rifle	NO	Victim carelessly handled and discharged his .22 cal. rifle while unloading it. He was pointing the muzzle towards the ground as his 11-year-old was walking by, and the bullet entered and exited the victim's thigh.

***** C. Non-Hunting Related** - Other reported accidents/incidents resulting from the discharge of a firearm/bow, which causes the injury or death of any person(s), other than while hunting (reported to TPWD Game Wardens)