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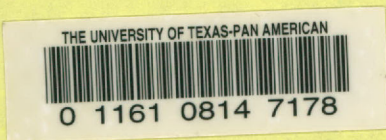
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1990
TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS
ANALYSIS



Federal Aid Project
W-104-S



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PWD-RP-9200-141-3/91

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS 1966-1990

<u>CALENDAR YEAR</u>	<u>FATAL</u>	<u>NON-FATAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1966	28	53	81
1967	23	70	93
1968	37	68	105
1969	24	68	92
1970	19	53	72
1971	24	68	92
1972	30	55	85
1973	22	58	80
1974	16	52	68
1975	11	66	77
1976	11	52	63
1977	17	64	81
1978	20	63	83
1979	10	43	53
1980	13	56	69
1981	19	53	72
1982	23	74	97
1983	17	63	80
1984	21	39	60
1985	15	57	72
1986	13	55	68
1987	12	69	81
1988	12	58	70
1989	12	66	78
1990	8	45	53
TOTALS	457	1,468	1,925

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENT TOTALS 1990

HUNTING ACCIDENT: Event attributed directly or indirectly to a firearm or bow and causes injury or death to any person(s) as a result of a person's actions while hunting.

ACCIDENTS

Total Accidents	53
Fatal	8
Non-fatal	45

EQUIPMENT TYPE

Rifles	24 or 45%
Shotguns	21 or 40%
Handguns	8 or 15%

PRIMARY ANIMAL HUNTED

White-tailed Deer	25 or 47%
Dove	9 or 17%
Quail	5 or 9%
Rabbits	3 or 6%
Pheasants	2 or 4%
Ducks	1 or 2%
Miscellaneous	7 or 13%
<u>Unknown</u>	<u>1 or 2%</u>
TOTAL	53 or 100%

SHOOTER'S AGE

1-9	2 or 4%
10-19	12 or 23%
20-29	15 or 28%
30-39	7 or 13%
40-49	5 or 9%
50-59	4 or 8%
60 & over	1 or 2%
<u>Unknown</u>	<u>7 or 13%</u>
TOTAL	53 or 100%

HUNTER JUDGEMENT

-Victim out of sight of shooter	2
-Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	10
-Victim mistaken for game	7
-Victim moved into line of fire	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	22

SAFETY & LAW VIOLATION

-Removing/Placing firearm in vehicle	4
-Discharge firearm in vehicle	5
-Improper crossing of obstacle	1
-Horse play	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	11

SKILL AND APTITUDE

-Shooter stumbled and fell	4
-Trigger caught on object	1
-Loading firearm	<u>2</u>
TOTAL	7

MISCELLANEOUS

-Ricochet	2
-Careless handling	10
-Obstruction in barrel	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	13

SELF INFLICTED?

18 OR 34%

HUNTER EDUCATION GRADUATES?

5 OR 9%

COMPARISON ANALYSIS
ACCIDENTS VERSUS LICENSES SOLD
IN TEXAS

CALENDAR YEAR	NUMBER OF HUNTER ACCIDENTS	NUMBER OF FIREARM HUNTING LICENSES SOLD	HUNTING LICENSES SOLD (IN 1,000s) PER ACCIDENT	STUDENTS CERTIFIED UNDER TP&W HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM
1966	81	644,653	8.0	-
1967	93	797,846	8.6	-
1968	105	854,693	8.1	-
1969	92	895,593	9.7	-
1970	72	935,793	13.0	-
1971	92	978,285	10.6	-
1972	85	966,332	12.0	2,119
1973	80	1,011,963	12.6	4,314
1974	68	1,037,925	15.3	6,094
1975	77	1,051,834	13.7	8,531
1976	63	1,050,349	16.9	10,043
1977	81	1,080,530	13.3	11,298
1978	83	1,091,794	13.2	10,890
1979	53	1,093,716	20.6	10,775
1980	69	1,160,375	16.8	12,166
1981	72	1,174,023	16.3	13,187
1982	97	1,216,032	12.5	13,323
1983	80	1,325,474	16.6	14,131
1984	60	1,140,174	19.0	13,052
1985	72	1,100,991	15.3	11,284
1986	68	1,162,785	17.1	11,195
1987	81	1,189,566	14.7	10,900
1988	70	1,189,000	17.0	18,043
1989	78	1,193,000	15.3	36,708
1990	<u>53</u>	<u>1,100,000</u>	<u>20.7</u>	<u>24,590</u>
TOTALS	1,925	26,452,726	13.7 (Average)	242,643

Five-year average before hunter education program (CY 1966-CY 1970) - One hunting accident/9,320 hunting licenses sold.

First five-year average of hunter education program (CY 1971-CY 1975) - One hunting accident/12,550 hunting licenses sold.

Second five-year average of hunter education program (CY 1976-CY 1980) - One hunting accident/15,690 hunting licenses sold.

Third five-year average of hunter education program (CY 1981-CY 1985) - One hunting accident/15,630 hunting licenses sold.

Fourth five-year average of hunter education program (CY 1986-CY 1990) - One hunting accident/16,700 hunting licenses sold.

Twenty-five year average (CY 1966-CY 1990) - One hunting accident/13,742 hunting licenses sold.

(CY - Calendar Year)

HUNTING ACCIDENT DESCRIPTIONS

1990

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SHOOTER'S AGE</u>	<u>FIREARM</u>	<u>GAME HUNTED</u>	<u>SELF INFLICTED?</u>	<u>FATAL?</u>	<u>HUNTER ED. GRADUATE</u>
Hardeman	29	Rifle	Deer	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The hunter did not properly identify his target. The 43-year old victim was hit in the stomach when he was mistaken for game.					
La Salle	41	Rifle	Feral Hog	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The hunter was removing a loaded rifle from a vehicle. The rifle discharged when the trigger caught a projection. The bullet passed through both legs of the 59-year old victim.					
Fort Bend	19	Shotgun	Raccoon	No	Yes	No
Comments:	While in a tree the 28-year-old victim was shot in the right rib cage when he was mistaken for game. The shooter and the victim were both under the influence of intoxicants or drugs.					
Anderson	35	Rifle	Unknown	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The shooter laid the rifle down in the rear of a vehicle. He improperly checked to make sure it was unloaded by pulling the trigger. The rifle discharged and the bullet struck the 29-year old victim in the head. The victim was sitting in the front seat at the time.					
Willacy	32	Shotgun	Quail	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The 32-year old shooter discharged a loaded shotgun in the back seat as he was getting out of the vehicle, sending the shot through the seat and striking the 63-year old victim in the back.					
Polk	9	Shotgun	Deer	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The 10-year-old victim and the shooter were next to the base of a tree. The shooter heard a sound coming from the victim's direction, and pointed the shotgun toward the sound. The victim stood up as the shooter fired. The slug struck the victim under the chin.					
Smith	24	Shotgun	Deer	No	Yes	No
Comments:	The 17-year-old victim was mistaken for game and was shot in the right chest. Neither the shooter nor the victim had a hunting license.					
Bastrop	17	Rifle	Deer	Yes	Yes	No
Comments:	While walking from a vehicle to the house, the victim apparently stumbled with a loaded rifle. The bullet struck him in the chin.					
Terrell	Over 50	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
Comments:	The shooter was riding in the back of a pickup truck with a loaded firearm when the truck suddenly made a stop, causing the shooter to fall into the bed of the truck and lose control of the loaded rifle causing a discharge. The bullet went through the bed, cab, seat, and through the left lower abdomen of the 74-year old victim.					
Hardeman	Unknown	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
Comments:	A 24-year old male victim was struck in the neck and a 29-year old female was hit in her lip when a shooter swung on game out of his safe zone-of-fire.					
Floyd	37	Shotgun	Pheasant	No	No	No
Comments:	The 8-year old victim was walking behind the shooter. The shooter swung on game outside of his safe zone and fired, striking the victim in the face and chest.					

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SHOOTER'S AGE</u>	<u>FIREARM</u>	<u>GAME HUNTED</u>	<u>SELF INFLICTED?</u>	<u>FATAL?</u>	<u>HUNTER ED. GRADUATE</u>
Motley Comments:	64	Rifle	Plinking/Varmint	Yes	No	No
The victim improperly shot at a solid object and the bullet ricocheted, hitting him in the arm.						
Bosque Comments:	28	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The 30-year-old victim was mistaken for game. The victim was wounded in the back and chest by a bullet. Both the victim and the shooter were under the influence of intoxicants or drugs.						
Llano Comments:	13	Handgun	Rabbit	Yes	No	No
The accident was a result of improper and careless use of a handgun by a youngster who did not have permission or experience in handling the firearm. The bullet entered and exited the shooter's right leg at the knee.						
Smith Comments:	20	Handgun	Deer	Yes	No	No
The injured victim was hunting at night after legal hunting hours and carelessly handled and fired his handgun. The bullet entered the upper thigh and exited the lower thigh.						
Kerr Comments:	50	Handgun	Exotic Sheep	Yes	No	No
While crossing over an object, the hunter lost control of a loaded handgun which came out of its holster and discharged, striking him in the upper left arm.						
San Augustine Comments:	24	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The shooter's fatigue may have been a factor in his mistaking the victim for game. The 25-year old victim was struck in the right chest.						
Coleman Comments:	27	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No	Yes
While carelessly entering a vehicle with a loaded rifle and the safety off, the firearm discharged striking the shooter in the left toe.						
Webb Comments:	36	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The shooter was unloading and discharged his rifle. The 37-year old victim was sitting in the vehicle when the bullet struck his lower leg.						
Kerr Comments:	20	Rifle	Robins (Illegal)	No	No	No
The 19-year-old victim was struck by a bullet when the shooter carelessly handled and fired a rifle towards the victim, striking him below the knee.						
Cherokee Comments:	20	Rifle	Rabbit	Yes	No	No
The victim was attempting to shoot a rabbit from his vehicle and carelessly shot himself. The bullet entered his thigh and passed through his leg.						
Terrell Comments:	41	Rifle	Snake	Yes	No	No
The victim was removing his loaded rifle from a vehicle when he erroneously discharged it towards himself.						
Hidalgo Comments:	22	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
The 17-year-old victim was struck in the head while the shooter was loading a firearm.						
Uvalde Comments:	14	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No	No
The victim rested the barrel on his foot. Carelessly, he pulled the trigger and shot his right toes.						
Throckmorton Comments:	16	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
The 28-year old victim was struck in the face and shoulder when he moved into the line-of-fire of the shooter swinging on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SHOOTER'S AGE</u>	<u>FIREARM</u>	<u>GAME HUNTED</u>	<u>SELF INFLICTED?</u>	<u>FATAL?</u>	<u>HUNTER ED. GRADUATE</u>
Williamson Comments:	18	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	Yes
The 20-year-old victim was covered by the shooter swinging on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						
De Witt Comments:	26	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
The 16-year-old victim was hit by 25 pellets to the head, face and body by the shooter swinging on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						
Grayson Comments:	Unknown	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
The 29-year-old victim was covered by the shooter swinging on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire. The victim was hit in the head.						
Lampasas Comments:	13	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	Yes
The 17-year old victim was covered by a shooter swinging on game from a tank dam outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						
Live Oak Comments:	Unknown	Shotgun	Quail	No	No	No
The 28-year old female victim was injured while moving into the line-of-fire of a large group of hunters.						
Cherokee Comments:	27	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No	No
The shooter had just loaded his firearm and was attempting to put the safety on while his finger was on the trigger. He discharged the firearm, striking himself in the foot.						
Smith Comments:	Unknown	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The 27-year old victim was hit in his right leg above his ankle by a bullet from a firearm shot by an unknown shooter. The shooter was thought to be a trespasser.						
Angelina Comments:	16	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No	No
The shooter stumbled and fell. The bullet struck the shooter in the upper left shoulder upon discharge.						
Brewster Comments:	Unknown	Shotgun	Dove	No	No	No
The 38-year-old victim was struck by a pellet to her chin when a shooter swung on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						
Brown Comments:	31	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The 44-year-old victim was mistaken for game and struck in the upper right hip.						
Hopkins Comments:	14	Rifle	Deer	No	No	Yes
The 57-year-old victim was hit just above the right heel, because of an improper carry.						
Henderson Comments:	45	Handgun	Deer	Yes	No	No
The victim dropped his firearm as he stumbled and fell. The bullet entered his left thigh.						
Shelby Comments:	5	Handgun	Turtles	No	No	No
The youngster carelessly discharged a handgun. The bullet passed through the 40-year old father's right leg and lodged in his left leg.						
Wise Comments:	24	Shotgun	Quail	No	No	Yes
The 39-year old victim was hit by several pellets to his shins when the shooter swung on game outside of a safe zone-of-fire .						
Colorado Comments:	42	Shotgun	Quail	No	No	No
The 40-year old victim was hit on the left side of his body by several pellets from a shooter swinging on game outside of a safe zone of fire.						

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SHOOTER'S AGE</u>	<u>FIREARM</u>	<u>GAME HUNTED</u>	<u>SELF INFLICTED?</u>	<u>FATAL?</u>	<u>HUNTER ED. GRADUATE</u>
Wise Comments:	26	Shotgun	Quail	No	No	No
The 25-year-old victim was hit in both thighs by shotgun pellets as the shooter fired at flushed quail outside of a safe zone-of-fire.						
Houston Comments:	26	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The hammer was improperly left in the cocked position before being discharged by the shooter. The 33-year old victim was hit in the lower right leg.						
Liberty Comments:	48	Handgun	Deer	Yes	No	No
The victim cocked the hammer before removing it from the leg holster. Upon pulling the handgun from the holster, he discharged it into his thigh.						
Cherokee Comments:	14	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No	No
The victim was walking on railroad tracks when he fell. The firearm discharged and the bullet struck the rail, sending fragments into his right forearm.						
Lampasas Comments:	22	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The 23-year-old victim was hit in the left shoulder. The shooter did not identify his target and mistook the victim for game.						
Mason Comments:	53	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The shooter was sitting on an ATV, improperly checking to see if his firearm was unloaded. He pushed the safety off and carelessly tested the trigger. The bullet struck the 34-year old victim in the upper right leg.						
Val Verde Comments:	Unknown	Rifle	Deer	No	No	No
The loaded firearm was being improperly removed from a vehicle at the time of the accident. The shooter was reportedly holding the gun by the butt and the victim was holding the barrel when the shooter discharged the rifle. Shrapnel from the round hit the victim injuring the right hand, upper neck and face.						
Val Verde Comments:	16	Shotgun	Rabbit	Yes	No	No
The shooter was injured when the barrel of his firearm exploded, shrapnel hitting him in the face. The shooter said he stuck the muzzle of the shotgun in the mud and had not cleaned the firearm before the incident.						
La Salle Comments:	36	Handgun	Deer	Yes	No	No
The victim was in a blind when an owl tried to fly into the shelter with him. He raised his left hand to protect himself and drew the handgun with his right hand. He fired a shot at the owl injuring the fingers on his left hand.						
Burnet Comments:	35	Handgun	Deer	Yes	No	No
Victim was climbing a tree while improperly holding a handgun when the trigger caught on an object discharging a round into the victim's wrist.						
Donley Comments:	53	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No	No
Holding the firearm improperly, the victim's thumb slipped off the hammer causing the gun to discharge hitting two of his toes.						
Shelby Comments:	10	Shotgun	Ducks	No	No	No
It was the first time for the shooter to use a semi-automatic shotgun. He failed to put the safety on and improperly fired the gun in an unsafe direction. The victim was a 12-year old, who was struck with several pellets that ricocheted off of the water.						
Lamb Comments:	Unknown	Shotgun	Pheasant	No	No	No
The 40-year old victim was struck by pellets to the left arm and left knee. The victim was out of sight of the shooter.						