

2009
TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS
ANALYSIS



Federal Aid Project
W-104-S



For more information about hunting accidents
or the hunter education program in Texas, call (512) 389-8142

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENT PROFILE

- Violated a cardinal rule of hunter safety
- Anglo male; 29 years of age (average)
- Hunted deer with rifle; hog with handgun/rifle; or dove/quail with shotgun
- Was **not** under the influence of alcohol
- Did not attend a hunter education (safety) course or program
- Did not wear any type of hunter orange clothing
- Was situated in or around vehicle
- Sustained a non-fatal injury
- If not self-inflicted – swung shotgun on game outside of safe zone of fire
- Had over 10 years of hunting experience
- If self-inflicted – handled firearm carelessly in a stand/vehicle; carried loaded firearm in/around vehicle
- Distance of muzzle to wound was within 50 yards, mostly within 10 yards
- Victim was in light to open cover with clear visibility (weather)
- Accident occurred towards dusk; fatigue a factor
- Accident occurred on weekend during September or November



2009 Significant Factors

- **Hunting and handling near/from vehicles and careless handling** (lack of muzzle control with loaded firearm) main causes of accidents.
- Rifle incidents up in 2009.
- **January 31** and **November 15** were bad days with three accidents each.
- Fatalities down by three in 2009.
- Slightly more hunter education graduates in the incident data and no reported alcohol use.
- **Self inflicted accidents higher.**
- Number of youngsters involved in accidents was slightly higher.
- **Number of law violations at time of incidents up considerably.**

**HUNTING ACCIDENT DATA (1966-2009)
ACCIDENT VERSUS LICENSES SOLD IN TEXAS**

CALENDAR YEAR	HUNTER ACCIDENTS	HUNTING LICENSES SOLD	ACCIDENTS PER 100,000 LICENSES	STUDENTS CERTIFIED
1966	81	644,653	12.6	-
1967	93	797,846	11.7	-
1968	105	854,693	12.3	-
1969	92	895,593	10.3	-
1970	72	935,793	7.7	-
1971	92	978,285	9.4	-
1972	85	966,332	8.8	2,119
1973	80	1,011,963	7.9	4,314
1974	68	1,037,925	6.6	6,094
1975	77	1,051,834	7.3	8,531
1976	63	1,050,349	6.0	10,043
1977	81	1,080,530	7.5	11,298
1978	83	1,091,794	7.6	10,890
1979	53	1,093,716	4.8	10,775
1980	69	1,160,375	5.9	12,166
1981	72	1,174,023	6.1	13,187
1982	97	1,216,032	8.0	13,323
1983	80	1,325,474	6.0	14,131
1984	60	1,140,174	5.3	13,052
1985	72	1,100,991	6.5	11,284
1986	68	1,162,785	5.8	11,195
1987	81	1,189,566	6.8	8,611
1988 (Mandatory HE)	70	1,189,000	5.9	18,043
1989	78	1,193,000	6.5	36,708
1990	53	1,132,917	4.7	24,590
1991	81	1,103,903	7.3	28,682
1992	62	1,053,063	5.9	25,453
1993	58	1,077,055	5.4	26,942
1994	51	1,083,227	4.7	34,972
1995	40	1,060,000	3.8	31,215
1996	31	990,000	3.1	24,998
1997	51	960,000	5.3	30,625
1998	40	1,011,500	3.9	31,052
1999	44	1,010,455	4.3	37,775
2000	52	1,145,000	4.5	39,049
2001	43	1,076,159	4.0	28,062
2002	35	1,024,495	3.4	37,847
2003	44	1,082,225	4.1	33,769
2004	29	1,091,178	2.7	31,171
2005	31	1,082,593	2.9	31,442
2006	32	1,115,772	2.9	29,532
2007	30	1,112,099	2.7	30,960
2008	26	993,533	2.6	32,308
2009	29	1,011,936	2.9	43,880
TOTALS	2,734	46,559,836	5.9	850,088

- **PRIOR TO MANDATORY HUNTER EDUCATION** - One hunting accident/**13,318** hunting licenses issued.
- **AFTER MANDATORY HUNTER EDUCATION** - One hunting accident/**21,528** hunting licenses issued.

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENTS 1966-2009

CALENDAR YEAR	FATAL	NON-FATAL	TOTAL
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
MANDATORY HUNTER EDUCATION			
1988	12	58	70
1989	12	66	78
1990	8	45	53
1991	13	68	81
1992	6	56	62
1993	6	52	58
1994	5	46	51
1995	4	36	40
1996	2	29	31
1997	8	43	51
1998	3	37	40
1999	6	38	44
2000	8	44	52
2001	3	40	43
2002	3	32	35
2003	2	42	44
2004	4	25	29
2005	2	29	31
2006	4	28	32
2007	4	26	30
2008	6	20	26
2009	3	26	29
TOTALS	549	2,185	2,734

TEXAS HUNTING ACCIDENT TOTALS 2009

HUNTING ACCIDENT: An accident/incident resulting from a discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).

ACCIDENTS	2007	2008	2009	VIOLATED GAME LAW	2007	2008	2009
Total Accidents	30	26	29		9 (30%)	7 (27%)	12 (41%)
Fatal	4	6	3				
Non-fatal	26	20	26				
ANIMAL HUNTED				EQUIPMENT TYPE			
Dove	5 (17%)	7 (27%)	4 (14%)	Rifles	13 (43%)	9 (35%)	16 (55%)
White-tailed Deer	8 (27%)	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	Shotguns	13 (43%)	13 (50%)	11 (38%)
Rabbit/Hare	2 (7%)	1 (4%)	2 (7%)	Handguns	3 (10%)	4 (15%)	2 (7%)
Feral Hog/Peccary	5 (17%)	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	Muzzleloader	0	0	0
Quail/Pheasant	4 (13%)	3 (11%)	2 (7%)	Bow	1 (4%)	0	0
Turkey	1 (3%)	0	2 (7%)	TOTAL	32(100%)	26(100%)	29(100%)
Ducks/Geese	1 (3%)	1 (4%)	1 (3%)	SHOOTER'S AGE			
Coyote	0	2 (8%)	2 (7%)	0-9	0	0	0
Squirrel	1 (3%)	0	1 (3%)	10-19	6 (20%)	5 (19%)	8 (28%)
Misc. (non-game birds, snake, raccoon)	3 (10%)	2 (8%)	3 (10%)	20-29	8 (27%)	3 (12%)	5 (17%)
TOTAL	30 (100%)	26 (100%)	29 (100%)	30-39	4 (13%)	5 (19%)	6 (21%)
HUNTER JUDGMENT				40-49	4 (13%)	5 (19%)	3 (10%)
Victim out of sight of shooter/moved into line of fire	2	3	2	50-59	4 (13%)	2 (8%)	4 (14%)
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	5	2	4	60 & over	3 (10%)	4 (15%)	3 (10%)
Victim mistaken for game	2	1	0	Unknown	1 (4%)	2 (8%)	0
TOTAL	9	6	6	TOTAL	30 (100%)	26 (100%)	29 (100%)
Removing/placing firearm in vehicle	1	3	1	MISCELLANEOUS/ TREE STAND FACTOR			
Discharge of firearm in/on vehicle	8	6	6	Failure to use haul line	1	0	0
Improper Crossing of an obstacle; Walking with loaded firearm	2	1	0	Obstruction in Barrel and Faulty Equipment	1	0	1
Firearm fell from insecure rest/Using firearm as a club	0	1	0	TOTAL	2	0	1
Alcohol, drugs or horseplay	1	1	0	SKILL AND APTITUDE			
TOTAL	12	12	7	Loading/unloading gun	2	0	0
SHOOTER HAD COMPLETED HUNTER ED.	12 (40%)	7 (27%)	11 (38%)	Careless handling	5	6	12
				Careless handling while climbing into/out of tree stand	0	0	0
				Dropped firearm	0	1	2
				Shooter stumbled and fell	0	1	1
				TOTAL	15	8	15
				SELF-INFLICTED	12 (40%)	12 (46%)	17 (59%)
				ALCOHOL/DRUGS A FACTOR	1 (3%)	0	0

2009 FATAL ACCIDENTS (A)*

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
4-5	Stephens	15/M	Shotgun	Turkey	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	15-year old shooter and four friends returned from a turkey hunt. While near the friend's truck, he carelessly pointed his shotgun towards the 18-year old victim, safety off. He claims to have dropped the shotgun which discharged, sending pellets through victim's lower left abdomen. Shooter did not have a license. NOTE: Investigation of a homicide in this case is pending.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never walk in front of a muzzle; always unload firearm when not in use; use the proper carry techniques; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
5-17	Throckmorton	62/M	Shotgun	Snake	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter, who was not a hunter, nor had a license, saw a snake and borrowed his friend's shotgun. He carelessly discharged the gun after he fell down a slope, sending pellets through his upper torso. He apparently was using the gun as a crutch right before the fall. The incident was under investigation, but the medical examiner's report did not prove another motive/cause.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; handle firearms carefully; use a proper carry method; always control muzzle if tripping or falling; leave safety mechanism on until firing the shot; unload firearm when not in use; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
10-3	Upshur	30/M	Handgun	Feral Hog	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and friends were bow hunting hogs and upon game retrieval, shooter put a handgun in his pocket. While putting hogs and gear into truck, the handgun dropped from shooter's pocket and discharged, sending bullet through his lower right abdomen and exiting his shoulder.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; handle firearms carefully; use a proper handgun holster and unload firearm when not in use; apply what is learned in hunter education.					

2009 NON-FATAL ACCIDENTS (A) *

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
1-9	Freestone	79/M	Shotgun	Coyote	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	From his property, shooter shot at a coyote towards the road. A large pellet struck a neighbor in his head. The neighbor was bending over in his front yard at the time.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; never shoot towards a house, structure, road or domestic animals; be aware of anything that is within the maximum range of the firearms being used; know where others are positioned at all times; complete hunter education or similar training any time you expect to use a firearm.					
1-12	San Augustine	50/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and friends were among a pack of hogs and dogs, and in a panic to escape a wounded hog, shooter fired his .30/30 rifle twice, sending bullet/shrapnel into the leg of the victim who was standing near the hog at the time.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; complete hunter education.					
1-31	Zapata	12/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	12-year old shooter carelessly discharged his .243 rifle while pointing it towards his foot. He had taken the safety off, thinking he heard a deer in the brush. He and his father were illegally hunting without landowner consent and walking towards a blind at the time of the incident.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; handle firearms carefully and use a two-hand or another proper carry method while hunting; always control muzzle if tripping or falling; leave the safety mechanism on until firing the shot; complete hunter education; obey the law.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
1-31	Throckmorton	17/M	Rifle	Rabbit	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Teenage shooter and friends were hunting from a pickup at night, spotlighting for varmints and rabbits. He carelessly discharged his .22 rifle while pointing the muzzle towards the back side roof of the cab. Bullet went through the cab and struck the victim who was sitting on the storage box in the bed of the truck. Bullet struck victim in the arm pit.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never hunt from a moving vehicle even if it is legal; handle firearms carefully; for transport, store unloaded firearm in a secure case separate from ammunition; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
1-31	Lamar	12/M	Rifle	Non-game birds	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Young shooter had just returned from hunting with his grandfather and friend. Grandfather had gone inside the house while the shooter attempted to unload a "dud" from his gun. He then carelessly discharged his .22 rifle while pointing it towards his friend's ankle/shin area. Shooter had not completed hunter education and was unaccompanied at the time of the incident.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never walk in front of a muzzle; handle firearm carefully, especially while loading and unloading; always unload firearm when not in use; use the proper carry techniques; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
2-19	Anderson	50/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was preparing to depart his ground stand. As he checked the safety on his .300 caliber rifle, he carelessly discharged it while his wrist laid next the muzzle. The resulting blast through the muzzle break/ported barrel caused damage to his wrist.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; remember that a safety mechanism is not a substitute for muzzle control; handle and load or unload firearms carefully; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
2-22	Van Zandt	25/M	Rifle	Squirrel	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was illegally trespassing, hunting squirrels without a license and without proof of hunter education. He got mud stuck in the muzzle of his .22 rifle while carelessly crossing a fence. Back at his trailer, while attempting to clear the mud from the muzzle, he carelessly discharged the rifle, sending the bullet through the palm of his hand.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully, especially while loading and unloading; unload the firearm immediately after hunting; unload a firearm and control muzzle while cleaning it; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
5-3	Stephens	42/M	Rifle	Turkey	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carried a loaded .30/30 rifle on his ATV rack. He hit a bump in the road which discharged the rifle, sending the bullet through his right arm operating the steering bar.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never hunt from a moving vehicle even if it is legal; handle firearms carefully; for transport, store unloaded firearm in a secure case separate from ammunition; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
5-25	Anderson	10/M	Rifle	Rabbit	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged a loaded towards the victim after the victim has set the rifle against a tree and told the shooter it was unloaded. Bullet struck victim in the knee.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; complete hunter education.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
9-3	Runnels	66/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on game outside of his safe zone of fire. Victim was partly hidden behind a mesquite tree and was struck in the back and legs from three pellets. Only the back pellet penetrated the skin. Shooter and victim were illegally hunting over a baited area and were also over their bag limit.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education; obey the law.					
9-3	Burnet	27/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim slipped and fell while sitting on the edge of a grounded boat while hunting doves. He carelessly discharged his shotgun with hammer in the cocked position. Pellets struck him behind the ear, causing a 4 to 6-inch open gash/wound.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; handle firearms carefully; control the muzzle and use a proper carry at all times; always keep hammers in the safe or half cock position until ready to fire a shot; always unload prior to exiting/entering a stand or sitting/prone position; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-10	Eastland	30/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his shotgun while the muzzle was resting on his toe. He had just jumped into a vehicle with a loaded firearm due to a rain storm that came up.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; unload when no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; handle firearms carefully; never set a muzzle of a gun on a toe; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-18	Coleman	37/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was struck in the hand by an exploding barrel caused from faulty equipment, ammunition discharge and/or obstruction in barrel. He had fired about ten rounds immediately prior to loading and firing a shot that caused the malfunction.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; use only the correct, matching ammunition; ensure that reloaded ammunition meets proper loading standards; prior to loading observe the inside of the barrel from the breech of a hinge/break open action firearm to determine if there are obstructions in the barrel; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
10-6	Foard	27/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was struck by a bullet that traveled hundreds of yards from a rifle fired by the shooter who was hunting illegally from a vehicle/public road at hogs, while staring into a rising sun.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; be aware of the foreground and backstop prior to shooting; be aware of other hunters within the maximum range of the firearms being used; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case; apply what was learned in hunter education; obey the law.					
10-10	Smith	22/M	Handgun	Feral Hog	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged his loaded 45 cal. handgun while retrieving it from his holster. The bullet entered his thigh and exited through his lower leg. Shooter was illegally hunting without a license and had not completed the required hunter education training.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload when no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; carry holstered handguns with an empty chamber while hunting; complete hunter education; obey the law.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
10-29	Burnet	56/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter carelessly discharged a loaded rifle while sitting in his elevated stand hunting hogs. He claimed that the floor gave way and that the rifle fell towards him at the time of the incident.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it is loaded; control the muzzle at all times -- even while falling; set firearm against a secure rest; ensure that the safety is on until shooting at game; inspect elevated stands for wear and fix worn parts prior to hunting from them; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
11-8	Brooks	17/M	Rifle	Peccary	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was illegally hunting without proof of hunter education and carelessly discharged the rifle while shooting from a moving vehicle. Person driving the vehicle applied the brakes as the shooter was firing at javelina, causing shooter to point the muzzle towards the victim standing next to him in the bed of the pickup. Bullet entered/exited the arm of the victim.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; never hunt from a vehicle; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
11-12	Panola	39/M	Rifle	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter used the roll bar on his ATV as a gun rest and carelessly discharged it as the muzzle lay immediately behind a portion of the rest. Victim, who was kneeling beside the ATV at the time of the incident, was struck by bullet fragments to the neck and upper torso area.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload when no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; never hunt from a vehicle; complete hunter education.					
11-14	Hunt	53/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Non-hunting victim was covered by shooter swinging on flushing quail outside of a safe zone of fire. Victim was hot and had gone back to vehicle and removed his orange vest. He returned, toward the group, without the orange vest and was struck in the upper arm from the shot.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions, especially if coming up from behind others; know where others are positioned at all times; complete hunter education.					
11-15	Jack	49/M	Rifle	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and victim were exiting an elevated stand with a loaded .30-06 rifle. Shooter carelessly discharged it towards the victim's foot, right after she passed the gun down to him from above.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if is loaded; always unload firearm when not in use, especially before entering/exiting a stand; complete hunter education.					
11-15	Terry	20/M	Rifle	Coyote	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was illegally hunting without a hunting license or proof of hunter education. He had seen a coyote and his friend had stopped the vehicle. After quickly loading his .30-30 lever action rifle, he carelessly discharged it towards his foot while exiting the vehicle.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload when no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; never hunt from a vehicle; complete hunter education; obey the law.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
11-15	McMullen	16/M	Shotgun	Waterfowl	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was crawling through the grass with a loaded shotgun, safety off. He carelessly discharged it as it was pointed towards his own knee.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if is loaded; unload before crossing obstacles or difficult terrain or before running or crawling; complete hunter education.					
11-23	Van Zandt	30/M	Shotgun	Raccoon	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was illegally hunting without a license or proof of hunter education. He had climbed a tree and began calling for coyotes. Soon, a raccoon began to climb up the tree. As he shifted his position to shoot the raccoon, he carelessly discharged his shotgun, sending a slug through his foot.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; use an approved tree stand; gun rest and safety harness/system whenever hunting from a tree; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
11-25	Comanche	18/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	18-year old shooter was entering a stand with a loaded, cocked .30-30 lever action rifle and carelessly discharged as he was wiping some spider webs off the muzzle with his left index finger. He had not completed the required hunter education training.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if is loaded; always unload firearm when not in use, especially before entering/exiting a stand; never use the firearm as a club or stick; never put your hand over the muzzle; complete hunter education; obey the law.					
11-27	Comanche	48/F	Shotgun	Quail	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was covered by shooter swinging on flushing quail outside of a safe zone of fire.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; always stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-29	Schleicher	34/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was hunting deer, but stored a loaded .22 cal. rifle in his ATV and carelessly knocked the muzzle and discharged it as he stood next to the vehicle. The bullet struck him in the right side near his ribs and lodged near his shoulder blade area.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; unload when no longer hunting; when transporting a firearm, always make sure it is unloaded and in a case, separate from the ammunition; never hunt from a vehicle; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

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

2009 Non-Firearm/Bow Related (B) **

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

Type	Total	Fatal?	Comments
Drowning <i>Waterfowl</i>	2 (46/18M) No HE	Yes	Victim was retrieving a goose from sit-on-top kayak without the required life jacket and fell into 38 degree water and drowned; his father swam to him from shore and also drowned.
Fall From a Vehicle <i>Feral Hog</i>	1 (21M) With HE	Yes	Victim and his friends were shooting hogs from a moving vehicle. Victim fall from the vehicle and sustained fatal facial and skull fractures. Fatality was thought to be from a gunshot wound; but no bullet wound was found. Persons were criminally trespassing and victim had taken hunter education.
Fall from a Tree <i>Deer</i>	1 (56 M) No HE	No	Victim fell from a tree while scouting a place to hunt deer; he had walked up a leaning tree to get a better view, without the proper fall restraint device or ladder/steps.

2009 Non-Hunting Related (C) ***

*** 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.

Type	Total	Fatal?	Comments
Home/Tent Firearm Accidents <i>Rifle</i>	1 (44 M) No. HE	Yes	Shooter was found next to his vehicle in his shed on a ranch; with a discharged .30-30 lever action near his position. He was known to use it after drinking some beers and driving around the ranch looking for feral hogs.
<i>Handgun</i>	1 (14 M) No HE	No	14-year old carelessly discharged his dad's .357 handgun while the two were in a tent. Bullet entered his wrist/forearm area.
Plinking/Target Shooting <i>Rifle</i>	1 (UNK) UNK HE	No	Victim was in his yard feeding his dog and was struck in the face by a .22 cal. bullet shot by someone target shooting.
<i>Shotgun</i>	1 (23M) No HE	No	While out plinking, victim was pulling shooter out of the mud using the muzzle end of a loaded shotgun. He was struck by pellets in his hip.
<i>Handgun</i>	1 (25 M) No HE	No	While plinking at cans, shooter carelessly discharged his .45 cal. handgun with the muzzle pointed towards his friend. The bullet struck victim in left thigh and exited the left knee.
<i>Shotgun</i>	1 (39F) No HE	No	Shooter dropped a double-barrel pistol-style shotgun while shooting at a log in a pond. Pellets struck victim in the upper torso
<i>Muzzleloader</i>	1 (17M) With HE	No	Muzzleloader blew up in the hand of the shooter due to an obstruction or possible double charge.

MONTHLY TOTALS-HUNTER EDUCATION

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTALS
1972	0	0	66	100	137	103	232	195	300	378	385	223	2119
1973	166	147	208	318	254	238	180	283	526	946	820	228	4314
1974	287	227	509	334	417	263	361	512	688	1499	574	423	6094
1975	653	670	470	602	607	474	277	505	929	1417	1159	768	8531
1976	808	660	770	349	715	541	160	379	1428	1454	1854	925	10043
1977	835	744	848	675	1008	603	515	526	1335	1708	1448	1053	11298
1978	740	734	1157	327	464	781	242	877	1338	1874	1326	1030	10890
1979	606	558	827	528	1071	644	226	648	1125	2172	1053	1317	10775
1980	921	767	650	689	1205	494	345	344	1892	2085	1397	1377	12166
1981	1060	333	901	453	1051	903	427	642	1654	2148	2365	1250	13187
1982	836	729	595	419	780	948	551	875	1451	2832	1825	1482	13323
1983	1173	643	1089	529	935	724	257	844	1439	3035	1545	1919	14131
1984	1351	901	442	598	754	516	347	608	1149	3051	2078	1257	13052
1985	450	425	797	376	799	372	380	1009	2135	2705	1087	749	11284
1986	553	389	67	730	1160	501	378	1314	2246	2301	1163	393	11195
1987	542	397	509	505	334	283	415	931	2174	1384	775	362	8611
1988	448	929	596	526	1158	644	865	2391	2624	3312	2692	1858	18043
1989	1392	1757	1738	1567	1561	2789	1480	4385	4624	6043	6055	3317	36708
1990	1197	584	838	1005	936	1236	705	2814	3140	5202	5210	1723	24590
1991	1030	1013	1008	805	888	1086	773	2499	4555	3844	5374	5807	28682
1992	1137	902	682	0	0	3224	799	2074	2765	5604	5079	3187	25453
1993	4772	2007	916	806	945	1282	681	2328	2386	1289	3436	6094	26942
1994	1808	4111	3015	2021	1015	1025	1841	2798	1931	2378	2900	10129	34972
1995	4549	572	1995	896	1236	1482	1253	913	2492	4526	4798	6503	31215
1996	2314	1552	761	1032	1030	1081	740	490	1309	2932	5485	6272	24998
1997	3950	4107	988	826	468	171	518	1110	2306	7513	3767	4901	30625
1998	499	763	881	578	888	847	1358	5719	6479	8148	3116	1776	31052
1999	4581	4332	3387	1984	790	1188	1095	2267	1545	4867	2349	9390	37775
2000	4734	3810	618	2048	772	1127	1000	1891	1573	6563	9045	5868	39049
2001	2345	1414	953	1018	843	1017	1057	1615	4572	3102	6318	3808	28062
2002	6968	81	76	2479	1249	1128	931	2455	5768	7939	5036	3737	37847
2003	2764	1126	1394	869	546	1088	663	3274	5278	8950	5659	2158	33769
2004	2102	1078	1346	848	786	1101	865	2689	4914	6564	5571	3307	31171
2005	1733	895	1145	970	541	1151	876	2347	5359	6597	6338	3490	31442
2006	1021	832	1136	797	752	1071	632	1945	5165	4523	7684	3974	29532
2007	1679	793	1318	668	524	892	1360	4107	5256	6376	5309	2678	30960
2008	1602	976	807	1090	471	949	1648	3770	6403	5959	6205	2428	32308
2009	3228	1650	1464	1243	910	1596	1847	4935	7778	8466	6149	4614	43880

GRAND
TOTAL

850088