### 2010 TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENTS ANALYSIS





Federal Aid Project W-104-S





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

# TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENT 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



**2010 Significant Factors** 

- RECORD LOW for total accidents
- Fatalities up by one in 2010
- Swinging on game outside of safe **zone** the #1 cause of accidents in Texas
- **Shotgun** incidents up in 2010
- **Feral hog** incidents up in 2010
- Fewer hunter education graduates in the incident data and one incident where alcohol was a factor.
- Self-inflicted accidents over 50%
- Number of law violations at time of incidents significant.

## HUNTING INCIDENT DATA (1966-2010) - Mandatory Hunter Education INCIDENT VERSUS LICENSES SOLD IN TEXAS

			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	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 1998	51	960,000	5.3	30,625 31,052	
1998	40	1,011,500	3.9 4.3	37,775	
2000	52	1,010,455 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 ** <b>2010</b> **	29 ** <b>25</b> **	1,011,936 <b>1,141,924</b>	2.9 2.2	43,880 41,785	

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

AFTER MANDATORY HUNTER EDUCATION - One hunting accident/23,904 hunting licenses issued.

\*\* All time Low \*\*

### TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENTS 1966-2010 (Mandatory Hunter Education)

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
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
2010	4	21	25
TOTALS	553	2,206	2,759

# TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENT TOTALS 2010

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

	2008	2009	2010		2008	2009	2010
INCIDENTS				VIOLATED GAME LAW	7 (27%)	12 (41%)	7 (28%)
Total Accidents	26	29	25	LAW			
Fatal	6	3	4				
Non-fatal	20	26	21	EQUIPMENT TYPE			
				Rifles	9 (35%)	16 (55%)	8 (32%)
ANIMAL HUNTED				Shotguns	13 (50%)	11 (38%)	16 (64%)
Dove	7 (27%)	4 (14%)	7 (28%)	Handguns	4 (15%)	2 (7%)	1 (4%)
White-tailed Deer	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	2 (8%)	Muzzleloader	0	0	0
Rabbit/Hare	1 (4%)	2 (7%)	1 (4%)	Bow	0	0	0
Feral Hog/Peccary	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	7 (28%)	TOTAL	26(100%)	29(100%)	25(100%)
Quail/Pheasant	3 (11%)	2 (7%)	3 (12%)				
Turkey	0	2 (7%)	0	SHOOTER'S AGE			
Ducks/Geese	1(4%)	1 (3%)	2 (8%)	0-9	0	0	0
Coyote	2 (8%)	2 (7%)	0	10-19	5 (19%)	8 (28%)	7 (28%)
Squirrel	0	1 (3%)	1 (4%)	20-29	3 (12%)	5 (17%)	5 (20%)
Nongame	2 (8%)	3 (10%)	2 (8%)	30-39	5 (19%)	6 (21%)	2 (8%)
birds/snake							
TOTAL	26 (100%)	29 (100%)	25 (100%)	40-49	5 (19%)	3 (10%)	2 (8%)
		(100 70)	(10070)	50-59	2 (8%)	4 (14%)	5 (20%)
HUNTER				60 & over	4 (15%)	3 (10%)	3 (12%)
JUDGMENT				00 & 0VC1	4 (1570)	3 (10%)	3 (1270)
Victim out of sight of	3	2	1	Unknown	2 (8%)	0	1 (4%)
shooter/moved into	3	_	1	Chkhown	2 (070)	O	1 (470)
line of fire							
Victim covered by	2	4	7	TOTAL	26 (100%)	29 (100%)	25
shooter swinging on	_	-	,	IOIAL	20 (100 /0)	25 (100 /0)	(100%)
game							(100 /0)
Victim mistaken for	1	0	1	MISCELLANEOUS/			
game	-	· ·	-	TREE STAND			
guine				FACTOR			
TOTAL	6	6	9	Ricochet	0	0	1
101112	Ü	Ü		Obstruction in Barrel	0	1	2
				and Faulty Equipment	· ·	-	_
Removing/placing	3	1	1	TOTAL	0	1	3
firearm in vehicle	9	-	1	TOTAL	· ·	-	J
Discharge of firearm	6	6	2	SKILL AND			
in/on vehicle	· ·	Ü	_	APTITUDE			
Improper Crossing of	1	0	1	Loading/unloading gun	0	0	1
an obstacle; Walking				Improper crossing	0	0	1
with loaded firearm				Careless handling	6	12	4
Alcohol, drugs or	1	0	1	Dropped firearm	1	2	1
horseplay				11			
TOTAL	12	7	5	Shooter stumbled and	1	1	1
-				fell			
SHOOTER HAD	7 (27%)	11 (38%)	6 (24%)	TOTAL	8	15	8
COMPLETED	(=- /- /	(/-)	- ( ''-)	-	,		-
HUNTER ED.							
- · ··							
				SELF-INFLICTED	12 (46%)	17 (59%)	13 (52%)
					( )	()	( , , ,
				ALCOHOL/DRUGS A	0	0	1
				FACTOR '			

### 2010 FATAL INCIDENTS (A)\*

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self- Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)						
1-17	Jefferson	29/M	Shotgun	Waterfowl	No	Yes						
Comments:	Shooter and victim were sitting five feet apart in a marsh, the victim on an olden wooden crate to the left of the shooter, who was in the kneeling position. As the victim stood up, he was covered by shooter swinging on the ducks outside of his safe zone of fire.											
Prevention:	hunting companie	Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; stay within a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; in a blind, decide which direction each hunter can safely shoot and stick to that direction; apply what was learned in hunter education.										
2-12	Throckmorton	20/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	Yes						
Comments:	While hog hunting himself while gett			ly discharged his load	led .22-cal. rif	le towards						
Prevention:	transporting or ge	tting into vehicle	es; use a prop	firearms carefully; under gun cases when tra at is learned in hunter	nsporting fire							
9-23	Hamilton	69/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No						
Comments:	Shooter carelessly pointing towards		oaded shotgu	n while crossing a fer	nce. The muz	zle was						
Prevention:		d before crossing	g fences and o	very firearm as if it is at ther obstacles or traveration.								
10-28	Duval	14/M	Rifle	Rabbit	No	No						
Comments:	Shooter carelessl about 20 yards in			ointing it towards the	victim, who	was standing						
Prevention:	with hunting cor	mpanions and kr	now where ev	ys stay within a safe z eryone is positioned nplete hunter educati	at all times; u	se the proper						

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self- Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)					
1-1	Brown	16/M	Handgun	Feral Hog	Yes	No					
Comments:	Shooter carelessly	discharged his lo	aded handgu	n while pointing it to	wards his cal	f muscle.					
Prevention:	firearm, always m holstered handgu the law.	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.									
1-2	Hartley	44/M	Shotgun	Pheasant	No	No					
_											
Comments:		nooter swinging o		r walking and two bl te of his safe zone of f							

		Shooter's			Self-	Hunter Ed?
Date	County	Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Inflicted?	(Shooter)
1-9	Sutton	59/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No
Comments:	with a worn, fau	lty action. The dis	scharge cause	nunters and carelessly d the bolt to imprope urns to the hand as w	rly eject and	
Prevention:		r maintenance wh		ey are in good worki faulty for any reasor		
2-5	Erath	24/M	Shotgun	Feral Hog	No	No
Comments:	tossed something	from the front wi	ndow just as	y hunting from a mo the shooter, sitting in ck victim in the forea:	the back sea	t, fired his
Prevention:	when in transport	t, keeping ammun	ition separate	unt from a moving vo e from the cased firea ucation; obey the law	rm; alcohol a	
3-7	San Saba	30/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	Yes
Comments:	Shooter carelessly inside a vehicle.	discharged his ri	fle towards h	is foot as he was atter	mpting to sho	oot a hog from
Prevention:		arefully; for trans	port, store un	unt from a moving voloaded firearm in a seeducation.		_
6-26	Bee	25/M	Shotgun	Feral Hog	Yes	Yes
Comments:		•	-	in dense brush as a h ence ricocheted and s		U -
Prevention:				of your target and wi		
8-11	Van Zandt	18/M	Rifle	Snake	Yes	No
Comments:	rifle in his other h	and. The snake s	truck at him a	nking it was dead, w and he carelessly disc him in the right foot.		
Prevention:	game you shoot a	nd never use anin	nals as target	unload before retriev practice; make sure a nplete hunter educat	ınimal is dead	l by using a
9-2	Eastland	UNK	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
Comments:	Victim was covered part of a large gro			e outside of his safe :	zone of fire. \	Victim was
Prevention:	pellets travel and	understand the sa h hunting compar	afe shot fall zo nions; know w	ays stay within a safe one or maximum dist where others are posit onable acreage.	ances that pe	llets travel;

\*(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).

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self- Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)
9-5	Lipscomb	17/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes (OK)
Comments:	Victim was covere	sight of the victir	nging on gar n and fired at	ne outside of his safe a a dove that flew out		
Prevention:		panions; know w		ays stay within a safe re positioned at all tir		
9-13	Crosby	72/M	Shotgun	Dove	Yes	No
Comments:		l and he reached f	or his pants v	loaded shotgun, to go vith both hands. In th		
Prevention:		the muzzle and u	se a proper ca	ery firearm as if it is l arry at all times; unloa unter education.		
9-18	Llano	61/F	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
Comments:				ne outside of her safe : shooter said she didn'		
Prevention:	with hunting com	panions; know w	here others a	ays stay within a safe re positioned at all tir lete hunter education.	nes; select a	
9-25	Parker	13/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
Comments:	education certification	ations. The shoot otgun towards hi	er fell while a	unting without license ttempting to shoot at was15 to 25 feet away	a bird and ca	relessly
Prevention:	carefully; control	the muzzle and u h hunting compar	se a proper ca nions; know	ery firearm as if it is l arry at all times; stick where others are posi obey the law.	to a safe zone	e of fire;
10-2	Comal	26/M	Shotgun	Non-game birds	Yes	No
Comments:	shotgun came to	rest in some cacti. e pulling it out of	As victim we	to shoot illegally at vuent to assist shooter a the muzzle end towa	nd carelessly	discharged
Prevention:				ery firearm as if it is l arry at all times; comp		
10-2	Maverick	30/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
Comments:	Victim was covered he didn't know the			ne outside of his safe z	zone of fire. S	Shooter said
Prevention:	with hunting com	panions; know w	here others a	ays stay within a safe re positioned at all tir lete hunter education.	nes; select a	

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self- Inflicted	Hunter Ed. Graduate? (Shooter)						
10-16	Colorado	53/M	Shotgun	Quail	Yes	No						
Comments:	Shooter dropped his loaded shotgun while attempting to mount it to his shoulders on a covey flush. The resulting blast sent pellets through his shin.											
Prevention:	at all times ever	n while mounting	it to one's sho	ery firearm as if it is loulders or falling; use nount of gun to shoul	e a proper car	ry at all						
10-18	Wise	51/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	No						
Comments:	Shooter carelessly hog from inside a	_	22 cal. rifle tov	vards his thigh as he	was attempti	ng to shoot a						
Prevention:		arefully; for trans	port, store un	unt from a moving vo loaded firearm in a so								
10-22	Upshur	51/M	Shotgun	Squirrel	No	Yes						
Comments:	victim and thinking hand propped aga	ng he was watchi ainst the tree. Pel	ng a squirrel's llets struck vic	down a dry creek be stail, fired his 12 gau stim in torso, face and	ge towards th l hand.	ne victim's						
Prevention:	firearm towards it	; communicate w	ith companio	lutely sure of the targ ns and know where t hunter education.								
11-28	Colorado	19/M	Shotgun	Waterfowl	No	No						
Comments:	Victim was retriev outside of his safe		a pond and w	as covered by the sh	ooter swingir	ig on game						
Prevention:		panions; know w		ays stay within a safe re positioned at all tir								
12-12	Hansford	48/M	Shotgun	Pheasant	No	No						
Comments:	Victim, a blocker, Four pellets struck			ing on game outside	of his safe zo	ne of fire.						
Prevention:	hunting companie	ons; know where ing and blocking	others are pos while upland	within a safe zone o sitioned at all times; r bird hunting limits t acation.	emember tha	t the						
12-14	Bowie	12/M	Rifle	Feral Hog	Yes	No						
Comments:				d the discharge cause He was airlifted to a	-	e breech of his						
Prevention:		firearms to a gur	nsmith for mai	y are in good workin intenance when they ation								
12-29	Leon	53/M	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No						
Comments:				d with a loaded rifle. and discharged, send								
Prevention:	* -	a stand; never lea	an a firearm ag	s unload before climb gainst an insecure res	-	firearm as if						

### 2010 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).

Туре	Total	Fatal?	Comments
Fall From an ATV  Doves	<b>1</b> (40M) No HE	Yes	Victim fell from an ATV and his body was crushed upon impact; He and a friend were dove hunting at the time.
Fall from a Tree Stand Feral Hog	1 (42 M) No HE	Yes	Victim fell from a tree stand under the apparent influence of marijuana and was found dead at the scene.
Fall from a Home Made Tree Stand Deer	<b>1</b> (47M) No HE	No	Victim fell from a tree without the proper fall restraint device or ladder/steps. Nailed in steps gave way and the victim was dispersing corn while he was climbing
Fall from a Tree Stand Deer	1 (56 M) HE – California	No	Victim fell while descending from a tree stand without the proper fall restraint device; he tripped on a wire holding up camo cloth and was wearing thick gloves
Knife Laceration Feral Hog	1 (20 M) No HE	No	Victim was running with an unsheathed knife and tripped, causing the knife to pierce his hamstring area

2010 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.

Туре	Total	Fatal?	Comments
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE REPORTED in 2010

#### 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 2004	2764	1126	1394	869	546 786	1088	663	3274	5278	8950	5659 5571	2158	33769
2004	2102 1733	1078 895	1346	848 970	786	1101	865 876	2689 2347	4914 5359	6564	5571	3307	31171 31442
2005	1021	895 832	1145 1136	970 797	541 752	1151 1071	632	2347 1945	5359 5165	6597 4523	6338 7684	3490 3974	29532
2007	1679	793	1318	668	524	892	1360	4107	5256	4323 6376	5309	2678	30960
2007	1602	793 976	807	1090	52 <del>4</del> 471	892 949	1648	3770	6403	5959	6205	2678 2428	32308
2008	3228	976 1650	1464	1090	910	949 1596	1847	4935	7778	8466	6149	4614	43880
2019	3228 1799	1263	1464	1055	910	1346	1744	4338	8354	8377	6823	4241	43660 41762
2010	1177	1203	1770	1000	) <del>- 1</del>	1940	1/44	<del>1</del> 556	0004	03//	0023	741	<del>1</del> 1/04

GRAND TOTAL 891850



#### Life's better outside.

#### 4200 Smith School Road Austin, TX 78744 www.tpwd.state.tx.us

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