



OHIO HUNTER INJURY INCIDENT REPORT FOR 2003

Once again, hunting in Ohio was one of the safest outdoor recreational activities in which to participate. The annual hunter injury incident report indicates that 99.99% of Ohio's hunters experienced safe and enjoyable hunting in 2003. Only 1 out of every 16,129 hunters was injured in a hunting related shooting incident. This figure does not take into account the total number of hunting hours that sportsmen spent pursuing wild game in the state. This report includes injuries caused by a hunting implement while in the act of hunting. Statistics on injuries from falls, heart attacks, hypothermia, and other risk factors are not required to be reported to a law enforcement agency and therefore are not reported here.

Total Incidents 2003 = 31

Fatal	2 = 6% of total
Non-fatal	29 = 94% of total
Self-inflicted	11 = 35% of total
Not self-inflicted	20 = 65% of total

INTENTIONAL DISCHARGE - 15

Failure to identify target	5
Unknown	3
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	3
Victim out of sight of shooter	3
Richocet	1

ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE - 16

Shooter stumbled and fell	4
Hammer/Trigger caught on object	4
Careless handling of firearm	3
Fall while climbing into or out of treestand	1
Firearm fell from insecure rest	1
Improper crossing of obstacle	1
Loading firearm	1
Unloading firearm	1

Total Incidents 2002 = 31

Fatal	6 = 19% of total
Non-fatal	25 = 81% of total
Self-inflicted	8 = 26% of total
Not self-inflicted	23 = 74% of total

Type of Hunting Arm Involved

Shotgun	21
Muzzleloader	5
Rifle	3
Crossbow	1
Unknown	1

Species Being Hunted

Deer - Gun season	12
Rabbit/Pheasant/Quail	6
Squirrel	4
Spring Turkey	4
Deer - Muzzleloader season	2
Deer - Archery season	1
Grouse	1
Groundhog	1

Shooter Legally Hunting

Yes	- 12 = 39% of total
No	- 14 = 45% of total
Unknown	- 5 = 16% of total

Age of Shooter

10 - 19	8
20 - 29	7
30 - 39	4
40 or Over	8
Unknown	4

2003 HUNTING FATALITIES

Date	County	Self-Inflicted	Shooter's Age	Game Hunted	Implement Used	Cause
12/01	Knox	Yes	51	Deer	Muzzleloader	Crossing fence with a capped and loaded muzzleloader.
12/27	Lawrence	No	36	Deer	Muzzleloader	Shooter stumbled and fell.