

TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENTS ANALYSIS



2016

Federal Aid Project
W-104-S

For more information about hunting accidents/incidents
or the hunter education program in Texas,
email education@tpwd.texas.gov or call (512) 389-8140

TEXAS HUNTING INCIDENT DATA (1966-2016)

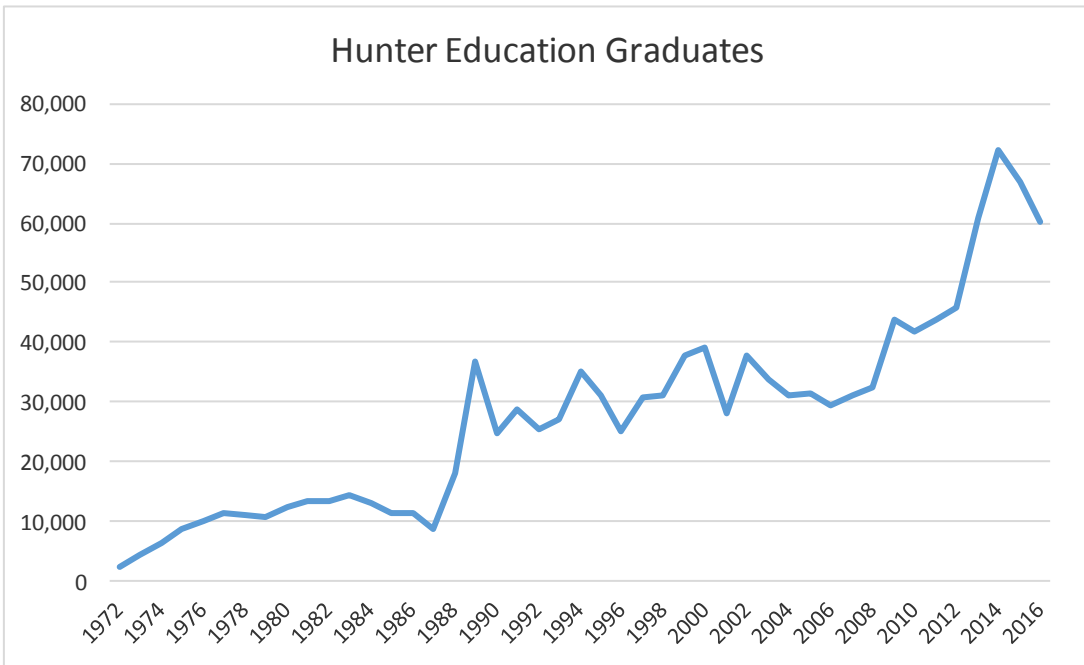
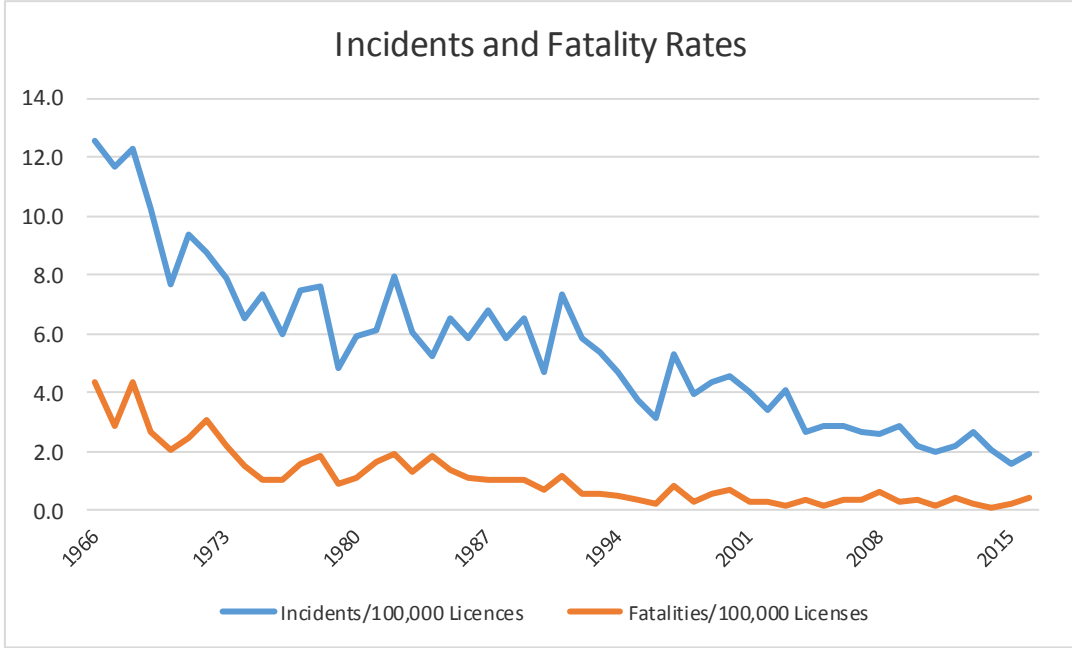
** Voluntary * Hunter Education Program 1972-1987*

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

* *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
Mandatory	146	1,040	1,186	32,104,409	3.7	0.45	1,080,458	114,632
TOTAL	571	2,339	2,910	55,065,135	5.3	1.04	1,241,471	114,632

- HUNTING INCIDENT RATE (AVE.) DURING VOLUNTARY PROGRAM - 7.5 per 100,000 hunting licenses issued.
- HUNTING INCIDENT RATE (AVE.) DURING MANDATORY PROGRAM - 3.7 per 100,000 hunting licenses issued.
- HUNTING FATALITY RATE (AVE.) DURING VOLUNTARY PROGRAM - 1.85 per 100,000 hunting licenses issued.
- HUNTING FATALITY RATE (AVE.) DURING MANDATORY PROGRAM - 0.45 per 100,000 hunting licenses issued.



Texas Hunting Incidents 2012 – 2016

* 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	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total	25	33	26	20	24
Fatal	5	3	2	2	5
Non-fatal	20	30	24	18	19

SHOOTER'S AGE					
0-9 yrs. of age	1	1	2	1	0
10-19	8	7	8	1	5
20-29	6	6	3	3	3
30-39	4	7	3	1	4
40-49	4	4	5	4	3
50-59	0	4	1	4	4
60 & over	0	1	2	5	3
Unknown	2	3	2	1	2
TOTAL	25	33	26	20	24

SHOOTER'S EQUIPMENT					
Rifles	11	20	8	4	6
Shotguns	11	10	17	15	14
Handguns	3	3	1	1	3
Muzzleloader	0	0	0	0	0
Bow/Air Gun	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	25	33	26	20	24

ADDITIONAL FACTS					
	Percentage in parenthesis (%)				
Violated Game Law	7 (28)	9 (27)	5 (19)	3 (15)	5 (21)
Self-Inflicted	6 (24)	17 (52)	6 (23)	6 (30)	6 (25)
Alcohol or Drugs a Factor	0 (0)	5 (15)	3 (11)	2 (10)	2 (8)
Shooter Completed Hunter Ed	8 (32)	11 (33)	9 (35)	10 (50)	10 (42)
ONLINE-ONLY HE	N/A	0 (0)	1 (4)	2 (10)	3 (13)

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 were due to lack of hunter judgment
- 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 generally under 15 yards
- Incident occurred towards dusk; fatigue a possible factor

Significant for 2016

- 10 (42%) incidents were caused by swinging on game outside of a SAFE ZONE OF FIRE, MOVING INTO LINE OF FIRE or being OUT OF SIGHT OF SHOOTER
- A rise in fatal incidents (5) occurred in 2016; two (2) victims that were MISTAKEN FOR GAME (hog, exotics)
- CARELESS HANDLING led the list on incidents (6) in 2016 due to pointing firearm in unsafe direction
- DOVE hunting with 7 continued to (29%) lead the list of animals hunted at time of incidents; quail up to 4 in 2016
- Regarding equipment used, SHOTGUNS continue to be the dominant firearm involved in hunting incidents
- Under half (10) were HUNTER EDUCATION graduates
- 3 (13%) shooters completed ONLINE-ONLY Hunter Ed.
- 2 (8%) incidents involved ALCOHOL use, and 5 (21%) involved LAW VIOLATIONS, slightly up in 2016

MAIN CONTRIBUTING FACTOR	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
HUNTER JUDGMENT					
Victim out of sight /moved into line of fire	2	3	4	2	5
Victim hit by shooter swinging on game	7	3	9	11	5
Victim mistaken for game	0	2	3	0	2
TOTAL	7	8	16	13	12

SKILL/APTITUDE					
Trigger caught on object	0	3	1	0	0
Loading/Unloading gun	3	0	1	0	1
Improper crossing	0	0	0	0	1
Careless handling	5	8	5	5	6
Dropped firearm	1	1	0	0	0
Shooter stumbled/fell	2	2	1	0	1
Careless Bow Handling	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	11	14	8	5	9

SAFETY					
Removing/placing firearm in vehicle	0	2	0	0	0
Discharge of firearm in/on vehicle	2	2	2	1	1
Improper crossing obstacle; Walking with loaded firearm	2	2	0	0	1
Horseplay	2	0	0	0	0
Failure to use fall restraint	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	6	7	2	1	2

OTHER					
Ricochet	1	1	0	0	0
Obstruction in Barrel or Faulty Equipment	0	3	0	0	1
Mixed Ammo/Incorrect Substitution	0	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	1	4	0	1	1
GRAND TOTAL	25	33	26	20	24

ANIMAL HUNTED					
	Percentage in parenthesis (%)				
Dove	9 (36)	6 (18)	12 (46)	12 (60)	7 (29)
Deer	4 (16)	8 (24)	6 (23)	2 (10)	3 (13)
Rabbit/Hare	0	2 (6)	1 (4)	1 (5)	1 (4)
Feral Hog/Peccary	5 (20)	5 (15)	1 (4)	1 (5)	2 (8)
Quail/Pheasant	0	0	4 (15)	3 (15)	4 (17)
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0
Ducks/Geese	2 (8)	2 (6)	0	0	2 (8)
Coyote/Bobcat	0	2 (6)	0	0	1 (4)
Squirrel/Prairie Dog	0	1 (3)	1 (4)	1 (5)	1 (4)
Nongame birds/Snake	3 (12)	1 (3)	0	0	1 (4)
Furbearers/Raccoons	2 (8)	1 (3)	0	0	1 (4)
Exotic	0	2 (6)	1 (4)	0	1 (4)
Unknown	0	3 (1)	0	0	0
TOTAL	25	33	26	20	24

2016 FATAL INCIDENT FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (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? (Shooter)
1-2	Mitchell	45/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	After moving into thicker cover, shooter swung and shot at a flushing quail outside of a safe zone of fire; with the victim covered from view by a small juniper. The pellets struck victim primarily in the face/shoulder from about 20-25 yards away.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; never walk in front of another hunter's zone of fire; wear hunter/blaze orange clothing to be seen; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
2-6	Maverick	74/M	Rifle	Hog	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter mistook victim for a feral hog crawling under a fence running into a nearby pasture. Victim was struck in the left side, thru the torso, by a .308 caliber (cal.) bullet. He was wearing camo clothing, and the incident happened at dusk.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; clearly identify the target prior to raising the firearm towards it; use binoculars to identify game; wear hunter/blaze orange to be seen; avoid colors of clothing that resemble animals being hunted; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
4-1	Young	56/M	Rifle	Exotic	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter mistook victim for a red stag (exotic) standing in an open field. Shooter claimed he thought it was the two stags he saw earlier, and thought they were facing him when he took the shot. Victim was struck in center of the body, thru the spine and heart, by a .30-06 cal. bullet. He was wearing camo clothing and the incident happened at dusk. Victim was with another hunter.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; clearly identify the target prior to raising the firearm towards it; use binoculars to identify game; wear hunter/blaze orange to be seen; avoid colors of clothing that resemble animals being hunted; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
7-12	Wise	56/M	Handgun	Armadillo	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim and shooter were both riding horses. Shooter took a shot at an armadillo with his semi-automatic .380 handgun, spooking the horse and causing a second shot to fire as the horse jumped. Alcohol may have been a factor. Bullet struck the victim in the elbow thru the left chest.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; never shoot from a moving vehicle/boat or while on horseback; never use animals as practice targets; avoid alcohol and other drugs while hunting; obey the law (never hunt from public road); complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-13	Parker	44/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Right after firing a shot from his double-barrel shotgun, shooter turned towards victim with a loaded second barrel, which went off just as the muzzle was pointed at the victim. The shot pellets penetrated victim's right back torso at extremely close range.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot; (remember that in semi-automatic and double-barrel (hinged) action firearms, the chamber may be loaded immediately after taking a shot and that the 'safety' is usually in the 'off' position'); handle firearms carefully; complete hunter education, even if not required.					

2016 NON-FATAL INCIDENTS FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (A)*

Firearm/Bow & Hunting Related-- accidents/incidents 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? (Shooter)
1-3	Medina	46/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter swung on fast, low-flying quail outside of a safe zone of fire, about 20 yards from the victim. The pellets struck victim in the lower extremities. Victim wore a blaze orange cap.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; never walk in front of another hunter's zone of fire; wear hunter/blaze orange clothing to be seen; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
2-6	Menard	33/M	Shotgun	Quail	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter shot at quail and reloaded; then shot again. His over-and-under shotgun fell apart during the second shot, and he injured his left hand due to faulty equipment or a wrong load.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always inspect firearms before use; use and only carry the proper ammunition that matches the firearm and the game hunted; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
2-13	Limestone	26/M	Rifle	Skunk	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	After spotting a skunk in his yard, victim retrieved a loaded .22 firearm from within his friend's vehicle and it went off as the muzzle was pointed towards his foot.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or hunt from a vehicle; carry unloaded firearms in cases, separate from ammunition; always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot; never use animals as practice targets; obey the law (hunter education law); complete hunter education especially if required.					
2-20	Mitchell	64/M	Shotgun	Quail	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	After moving into thicker cover, shooter swung and shot at a flushing quail outside of a safe zone of fire; with the victim having moved into the line of fire of the shooter. The pellets struck victim in the face/neck/arms/chest from 28 yards away. Victim was wearing a camo coat/vest.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always maintain a safe zone of fire; communicate with hunting companions; know where others are positioned at all times; never walk in front of another hunter's zone of fire; wear hunter/blaze orange clothing to be seen; identify what is in front of and behind the target before shooting; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
4-15	Clay	18/M*	Rifle	Coyote	No	Yes*
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter noticed that his (loaded) .270 cal. rifle was not in the seat properly as he and his friend were getting out of the car to hunt varmints. The firearm discharged as he adjusted it, sending a bullet thru the seat/door and striking his friend in his cell phone and upper right thigh.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Never carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle or hunt from a vehicle; carry unloaded firearms in cases, separate from ammunition; always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
6-21	Limestone	32/M	Handgun	Hog	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	While standing in the back of his truck, shooter discharged his loaded handgun as he attempted to holster it.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction at all times; treat firearms as if loaded and handle them carefully, especially short-barreled arms; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
9-2	Erath	64/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter shot at a dove, and as he went to retrieve it, the dove flew away. The shooter again swung on the dove, but this time outside of a safe zone of fire, towards victim who was standing in a nearby ditch. About 25 pellets struck victim in head and upper torso from 50-60 yards.					
<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; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-4	Brown	66/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was "peppered" by pellets, one that lodged in his neck, others that hit throughout his torso. It is unknown who the shooter was, though another hunter did talk victim into going to the hospital because of the bleeding from shooter's neck.					
<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 the required hunter education training.					
9-5	Childress	19/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter swung on victim outside of his safe zone of fire. Victim was sitting behind some cover and was struck by pellets in his upper right shoulder area from about 25-30 yards.					
<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; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-11	Cameron	21/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter had loaded shotgun on the ground between him and victim and as he went to pick it up, it discharged. A load of pellets struck victim in his right buttocks.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot; handle firearms carefully; always unload before placing firearm on the ground or against a secure rest; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
9-17	Coleman	UNK/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	UNK
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was "peppered" by pellets, one that lodged in his right arm and torso. It is unknown who the shooter was. Victim was retrieving downed bird near some other hunters at the time.					
<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, what is in front of/behind the target before shooting; obey public safety laws and apply what was learned in hunter education.					
9-24	Live Oak	50/M	Shotgun	Dove	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Victim was in the line of fire of three other hunters and was struck by a pellet in his eye. It was determined that the pellet came from one of the hunter's direct line of fire; however, it could possibly have come from all three of the other hunter's shotgun blasts. Alcohol may have played a role in the incident.					
<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, what is in front of/behind the target before shooting; avoid alcohol and other drugs while hunting; complete the hunter education course, even if not required.					
10-1	Montgomery	12/M	Shotgun	Deer	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was sitting on a chair on ground in front of a deer stand and discharged shotgun towards his stepdad as victim was climbing down from the stand. Shooter was attempting to put the firearm in the "safe" position as the muzzle was pointed towards the tree/stand.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot; hunt under direct supervision; be familiar with how to safely load/unload a firearm; complete hunter education, even if not required.					

Date	County	Shooter's Age/Gender	Firearm	Animal Hunted	Self-Inflicted?	Hunter Ed? (Shooter)
11-26	Bosque	27/M*	Rifle	Deer	No	Yes*
<i>Comments:</i>	While attempting to load his firearm, shooter encountered difficulties and tried to unload it, discharging his rifle towards victim who was standing on the other side of the vehicle. Victim was struck by a 7mm bullet in his right arm.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot; if experiencing a jammed cartridge/shell during the loading/unloading process, maintain safe muzzle control and carefully examine and extract the ammo; only load when you are in the field and ready to take a shot at game; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-10	Winter	50/F	Rifle	Deer	Yes	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was holding two rifles as her companion was crossing a fence line. She stumbled and fell causing a discharge of one of the rifles, sending the .270 cal. bullet into her left armpit.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload before crossing an obstacle, fence and/or difficult terrain; maintain safe muzzle control even while falling; complete hunter education, even if not required.					
12-13	Webb	19/M	Handgun	Rabbit	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	While holstering his loaded handgun, shooter twirled it around his finger and discharged it towards his groin/right upper thigh.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction at all times; treat firearms as if loaded and handle them carefully, avoid 'horseplay' and showing off with loaded firearms; maintain emotions while handling firearms, especially short-barreled arms; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-14	Bowie	13/M	Air Gun	Squirrel	No	No
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and his 14-year old friend were hunting squirrels in a residential area with their pellet guns. While shooter shot at a squirrel, victim moved into line of fire and was struck by a BB between his skin and skull towards the back of his head.					
<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; hunt under direct supervision; obey the law; complete hunter education, especially when required.					
12-15	Bell	34/M	Shotgun	Waterfowl	Yes	Yes
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter was trespassing, and as he crossed a barbwire fence, pulled the loaded shotgun towards himself from the muzzle end, causing a discharge towards his abdomen.					
<i>Prevention:</i>	Always point muzzle in a safe direction; always unload before crossing an obstacle, fence and/or difficult terrain; obey the law; apply what was learned in hunter education.					
12-18	Hudspeth	30/M*	Shotgun	Waterfowl	No	Yes*
<i>Comments:</i>	Shooter and victim were chasing a wounded duck and as the shooter spotted it, he called out to victim that he was going to shoot. Before victim, who was out of sight of shooter, could respond, the shooter fired. The pellets ricocheted off the water and struck victim throughout his body.					
<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; never shoot at flat, hard surfaces such as rocks and water surfaces; apply what was learned in hunter education.					

* Shooter completed ONLINE-ONLY Hunter Education Course

2016 NON-FIREARM/BOW HUNTING RELATED (B) **

Type	Age/Gender	Fatal?	Comments
ATV Accident 8-7-2016	21/M	No	Victim and friend were riding an ATV, hunting rabbits and other "non-game" when he turned and flipped the ATV - landing on both of their legs/feet.
Fall from elevated stand 11-25-2016	64/M	Yes	Victim was hunting on PUBLIC LAND; set up faulty seat/ropes and failed to wear any type of safety harness. The rope broke, and victim fell to the ground and was found deceased.
Fall from elevated stand 12-23-2016	58/M	Yes	Victim was found deceased below a tree stand that he set up illegally on a neighboring property and without any type of safety harness. Several LAW VIOLATIONS (e.g. felon in possession of firearm, criminal trespass and hunting without license).

2016 NON-HUNTING/FIREARM RELATED (C) ***

Type	Age/Gender/ Firearm	Fatal?	Comments
Careless handling of a firearm	(43/M) Handgun	No	While working to remove a hog trap at his lease, victim discharged his semi-automatic handgun towards his hand after action had jammed. He had not taken the required hunter education training.

DEFINITIONS:

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).

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).

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)



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