

Table 9. Estimated deer harvest by weapon type in South Carolina in 2023.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun	Total
Number of Deer Harvested	165,869	8,918	13,476	3,765	5,945	198	198,171
Percent Total Deer Harvest	83.7	4.5	6.8	1.9	3.0	0.1	100.0
Percent Hunter Success With Weapon	68.3	27.5	37.5	23.8	26.1	15.4	NA*

* Total is not applicable because individual hunters take deer with multiple weapons.

Table 10. Number of hunters using each type of weapon in South Carolina in 2023.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun
Residents	129,363	26,687	21,912	11,939	16,012	4,354
Nonresidents	13,258	1,739	1,098	1,896	1,440	157
Total	142,621	28,426	23,009	13,835	17,452	4,511

Total across weapons not given because hunters use multiple weapons. Total hunters = 154,715.

Table 11. Weapons utilization (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2023.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun
Residents	92.1	19.0*	15.6*	8.5*	11.4	3.1*
Nonresidents	93.0	12.2	7.7	13.3	10.1	1.1
Total	92.3	17.8	14.2	9.3	11.2	2.9

* Significant difference in weapons use category based on residency.

Table 12. Weapons preference (percent) among deer hunters in South Carolina in 2023.

	Rifle	Bow & Arrow	Shotgun	Muzzle-loader	Crossbow	Handgun	Total
Residents	79.1	11.8*	5.1*	0.9*	2.6	0.4*	100.0
Nonresidents	85.6	7.1	1.9	2.5	2.9	0.0	100.0
Total	80.4	10.9	4.5	1.2	2.7	0.3	100.0

* Significant difference in weapons preference category based on residency.