

[Deer Population](#) January 5, 2017 Georgia

Georgia Wildlife Resources Division

Currently, the estimated deer population in Georgia is 1.27 million...

Thanks to the Wildlife Resources Division for responding to our question about the calculation of this number. We provided this question:

"Is 1.27 million deer the DNR's estimate for 2016? The 2015-24 deer management plan says 1 million deer in the current year (2014, see paragraph two on page IV) and 990,000 in 2012 (Table 1-1 on page 6). The 1.27 number seems very high given these previous DNR estimates and the significant decline in the 2015 deer harvest."

Georgia Wildlife provided this response which we have used to update historical deer population estimates:

"Current deer population estimates are calculated slightly differently than they were during the development of the 10-year deer management plan, resulting in this discrepancy. The deer population has been relatively stable since that time, so there has not been any substantial increase in the population. The current calculation method was also used for prior years, which brought the 2014 estimate to 1.2 million instead of 1 million. Absolute population estimates are not generally used to make management decisions, but rather to show a general trend in the population over time."

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Atlanta Journal Constitution

... the Department of Natural Resources claims that there are currently over 1.2 million white-tailed deer in Georgia...

Note: This number was on the DNR website. According to the 2015-24 [Deer Management Plan](#) the number of deer in 2014 was about 1 million