

Understanding the Drawing Odds

The Utah drawing odds reports are provided to show how many applicants there were for each hunt, how many of them were successful in drawing a permit, and general chances for drawing in future years. Drawing odds can fluctuate from year to year for a multitude of reasons, including permit number changes, total applicants, applicants changing units each year, etc.

Due to these variables, it can be difficult to understand how to read and use the draw odds to your benefit. Below are some further details that can help you better navigate the draw odds and help in your future draw applications.

DRAW ODDS DISCLAIMER

The following drawing odds and points reports should be used for informational purposes only. These reports do not guarantee that you will draw a permit in any given year. When you review the drawing odds, please keep in mind that the reports only reflect hunters' first-choice selections.

Starting Point - Filters

Draw Name *
--- Select One ---

License Year *
--- Select One ---

Species *
--- Select One ---

Hunt Type
--- Select One ---

Hunt Number
--- Select One ---

 **Reset Filters**

 **Print**

Please complete the required fields in the filter to view draw odds.

To begin using the draw odds, you'll first select which Draw you want to review, followed by the License Year, Species, Residency and Age (where relevant). You may also further filter by hunt type or hunt number.

Draw Name *

License Year *

Species *

Residency *

Hunt Type

Hunt Number

A

B

Reset Filters

Print

C	D	E	F							
Search Hunt	Summary	Total Quota Splits	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
[ELK] - Bull Elk Bonus Point Bonus Point Bull Elk No Weapon: G	Total Quota: 0 1st Choice Permits: 0 1st Choice Apps: 21060 1st Choice Succ: 0%	Max Rnd: 0	0 of 2119 0%	0 of 1926 0%	0 of 1821 0%	0 of 1663 0%	0 of 1527 0%	0 of 1450 0%	0 of 1373 0%	0 of 1218 0%
		Reg Rnd: 0	0 of 2119 0%	0 of 1926 0%	0 of 1821 0%	0 of 1663 0%	0 of 1527 0%	0 of 1450 0%	0 of 1373 0%	0 of 1218 0%
[EB3000] - Beaver, East Limited-Entry Limited-entry Bull Elk Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 15, 2026	Total Quota: 21 1st Choice Permits: 21 1st Choice Apps: 500 1st Choice Succ: 4.20%	Max Rnd: 11	0 of 63 0%	0 of 58 0%	0 of 41 0%	0 of 35 0%	0 of 46 0%	0 of 39 0%	0 of 24 0%	0 of 36 0%
		Reg Rnd: 10	0 of 63 0%	1 of 58 1.72%	0 of 41 0%	1 of 35 2.86%	2 of 46 4.35%	0 of 39 0%	0 of 24 0%	0 of 36 0%
[EB3002] - Book Cliffs, Little Creek Roadless Limited-Entry Limited-entry Bull Elk Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 15, 2026	Total Quota: 4 1st Choice Permits: 4 1st Choice Apps: 62 1st Choice Succ: 6.45%	Max Rnd: 2	0 of 7 0%	0 of 7 0%	0 of 3 0%	0 of 6 0%	0 of 5 0%	0 of 8 0%	0 of 4 0%	0 of 11 0%
		Reg Rnd: 2	0 of 7 0%	0 of 7 0%	1 of 3 33.33%	0 of 6 0%	0 of 5 0%	0 of 8 0%	0 of 4 0%	0 of 11 0%
[EB3003] - Cache, Meadowville Limited-Entry Limited-entry Bull Elk Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 15, 2026	Total Quota: 8 1st Choice Permits: 8 1st Choice Apps: 17 1st Choice Succ: 47.06%	Max Rnd: 4	0 of 6 0%	0 of 4 0%	0 of 3 0%	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	1 of 1 100.00%	N/A N/A	1 of 1 100.00%
		Reg Rnd: 4	1 of 6 16.67%	1 of 4 25.00%	2 of 3 66.67%	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	0 of 1 0%	N/A N/A	0 of 1 0%

- A. Reset Filters - Start Over
- B. Print the currently showing hunts/categories selected
- C. Search for a specific hunt or unit by typing in a Hunt Number or part of a Unit Name
- D. Summary of permits for a hunt:
 - a. Total Quota: How many permits were available for the specific hunt number
 - b. 1st Choice Permits: How many permits were issued as an applicant's first choice selection
 - c. 1st Choice Apps: How many total people chose that hunt as their first choice selection
 - d. 1st Choice Succ: The percentage of how many people successfully drew out on their first choice for that hunt

- E. The Total Quota Splits column shows the expected split of permits for limited-entry and once-in-a-lifetime splits. This is a 50/50 split between max point holders and everyone else, with odd numbers going to the max points, and single permit numbers going to the regular round. The regular round is a random round, with applicants' points still increasing their chances of drawing.
- F. These are the bonus/preference point categories. The number represents the number of points someone (or their group) had at time of application.
- G. This is the column of hunts offered, with the Hunt Number and unit name listed first, followed by the Species and then the weapon and season dates.

Reading the Draw Odds

Search Hunt	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
[DB1020] - Dolores Triangle Limited-Entry Limited-entry Buck Deer ANY LEGAL WEAPON: Nov 14 - Nov 22, 2026	0 of 26 0%	0 of 27 0%	0 of 11 0%	0 of 22 0%	0 of 13 0%	0 of 19 0%	0 of 11 0%	3 of 5 60.00%	3 of 3 100.00%	1 of 1 100.00%	N/A N/A
	0 of 26 0%	1 of 27 3.70%	0 of 11 0%	0 of 22 0%	0 of 13 0%	0 of 19 0%	0 of 11 0%	0 of 5 0%	0 of 3 0%	0 of 1 0%	N/A N/A

When reviewing a hunt that uses bonus points (e.g. limited-entry and once-in-a-lifetime hunts), you'll see two rows of numbers and percentages, labeled in the image above as A & B.

A is the Max Point round. B is the regular/random round. Permits are split 50/50 between each round (with odd numbers going to the max point group; hunts with a single permit will go through the regular round only).

The yellow highlighted numbers are the number of successful applicants vs total applicants in that particular point category. The total number of applicants will always be displayed as the same amount in row A and B, since if someone is unsuccessful in the max point round, they are still considered in the regular round. The green highlighted row is the percentage of successful applicants, based on the yellow highlighted numbers. A category with "N/A" means no applicants applied with that many points.

In the example above, the highest number of points an applicant had was 23. Max points needed to draw this hunt was 21/22, as not all applicants in the 21 point category drew.

Search Hunt	Summary	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
[DB1504] - Nebo General-Season General Buck Deer Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 11, 2026	Total Quota: 683 Lifetime Apps: 6 1st Choice Permits: 600 1st Choice Apps: 612 1st Choice Succ: 98.04%	495 of 505 98.02%	78 of 80 97.50%	22 of 22 100.00%	3 of 3 100.00%	1 of 1 100.00%	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	1 of 1 100.00%	N/A N/A	
[DB1506] - Fillmore General-Season General Buck Deer Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 11, 2026	Total Quota: 274 Lifetime Apps: 10 1st Choice Permits: 284 1st Choice Apps: 435 1st Choice Succ: 65.29%	99 of 248 39.92%	156 of 157 99.36%	19 of 20 95.00%	6 of 6 100.00%	3 of 3 100.00%	1 of 1 100.00%	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	
[DB1508] - Kamas General-Season General Buck Deer Archery: Aug 15 - Sep 11, 2026	Total Quota: 128 Lifetime Apps: 1 1st Choice Permits: 137 1st Choice Apps: 247 1st Choice Succ: 55.47%	67 of 176 38.07%	60 of 61 98.36%	10 of 10 100.00%	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	

For general-season hunts (which use preference points), there will be no permit splits. All permits are issued in preference of the number of points an applicant has. The top row is still the number of successful applicants vs total applicants per point category, followed by the percentage of success for the point category.

General-season buck deer hunts will also show how many Lifetime Apps were submitted for a unit, and Dedicated Hunter hunts will also show how many Active Dedicated Hunters were already in the program for a unit.

General-season buck deer has some additional nuances to their draw odds, which are explained further below.

General-season Buck Deer Quota - Explained

The general-season buck deer quota is unique, as it is initially based on a total unit quota, not just a season quota. It also encompasses multiple types of general-season buck deer permits including Lifetime and Dedicated Hunter, plus Youth allocations.

This is how general-season buck deer quota is allocated:

1. Starts with Wildlife Board Approved Quota
2. Addition of Previous Year's Surrendered Permits
3. Subtract Lifetime Permit Holders' selections
4. Subtract Dedicated Hunters (up to 15% of the quota), which includes:
 - a. Active Dedicated Hunters
 - b. Successful Youth Dedicated Hunters (up to 20% of the 15% dedicated hunter quota)
 - c. Successful Dedicated Hunters
5. Subtract successful Youth (up to 20% of the remaining regular round quota)
6. Finally, the regular round, which is also split between residents and nonresidents (90/10), as well as the various weapon type splits for a unit.

FAQs

It seems like some general-season buck deer hunts are missing quota. What's going on there?

General-season buck deer quota is distributed between Lifetime permit holders, Active Dedicated Hunters, New Dedicated Hunters, Youth Dedicated Hunters, Youth regular round hunters, and the final regular round (which is split by residency and weapon type). Some hunts may have a crossover round (where leftover permits of one residency type are issued to the other residency type). And some hunts may just end up with leftover quota period.

The drawing odds reports also only display 1st choice selections, so people may have been successful in 2nd-5th choices.

Why are only 1st choice selections shown in the draw odds?

Only 1st choices are considered when displaying draw odds because 2nd-5th choice selections would not give any indication on your chances of drawing. 2nd-5th choices are only considered in cases where there are leftover permits after the 1st choice round, which for many hunts does not happen. For those that do end up having 2nd-5th choices selected (mainly general-season buck deer), the successful applicants would be sporadic and inconsistent year-to-year, without a clear pattern that would help in determining future chances of drawing a specific permit.

Why do some hunts show unsuccessful applicants when it looks like they had enough points to draw?

Draw odds are based on eligible applicants at time of draw. This means that if someone is successful for one species that makes them ineligible for another, they will still be counted as an application. In other words, if someone was successful in drawing Limited-entry buck deer, they would show unsuccessful on the General-season buck deer draw odds (since you may only draw one type of buck deer permit), even if they had many general-season buck deer points. This same scenario applies to all successful limited-entry applicants, where they will show unsuccessful for any once-in-a-lifetime application they did (as an applicant may only draw one of these types of permits each year).

What happens if there are less applications than there are permits? How does residency affect this?

If a hunt has a residency split for the quota (i.e. a hunt has different permit numbers for residents and nonresidents), then a “crossover” round could occur. If there are unused permits of one residency type, then they will be given to the other residency during the running of the draw. So if there are not many nonresidents apply for a hunt, then it is possible extra quota will go to the resident applicants (and vice versa).

If there are still permits remaining after all applicants’ choices are looked at, and any applicable crossover round has occurred, then those leftover permits will be sold over-the-counter, first-come first-served. Sales dates and purchase locations for these permits will be posted on the DWR’s website soon after results are posted for a hunt.

How do group applications affect draw odds?

Group applications will show in the draw odds with the average (rounded down) of all group members’ points. This is the same number of points they went through the draw with, as well. When the draw is run and it comes to your group’s draw number, there must be enough permits still available for all group members, otherwise your group will be unsuccessful.

How does residency affect group odds?

When applying as a group with differing residencies, when the draw is run and it comes to your group’s draw number, there must be enough permits of both residency types for everyone in the group. If not, the group will be unsuccessful. This is another reason why you may see some max point groups with unsuccessful hunters, as permit numbers can greatly differ between residents and nonresidents.

The Youth general-season quotas look strange. What is Converted Youth? Also, why are there more successful applicants than Quota on some hunts?

Youth hunters are given up to 20% of the regular round of quota for general-season buck deer. This is the “Total Quota” number you will see. The “Converted Youth” is a special part of the quota where unused permits from the Archery, Muzzleloader and Early Any Legal Weapon (if applicable) hunts are converted to regular Any Legal Weapon permits for youth. This gives them additional quota set aside just for youths who apply for the Any Legal Weapon season. This converted quota is also not specific to residency, and is just issued to whichever youth would have been next to draw. This conversion also happens after all youth applicants’ 1st through 5th choices are evaluated, so a youth may draw their 2nd choice hunt, and not be included in the converted round evaluation.

Youth may also have extra quota issued through the “Crossover” round of the draw, which is where unused permits of one residency type get converted to the other residency-type. (This crossover also occurs in the regular rounds of the draw, too.)

In the example below, there were 338 unused Archery and Muzzleloader permits that were added to this any legal weapon hunt for youths. There also were not many non-resident applicants, so resident youths received even more quota.

Resident						
[DB1533] - Manti/San Rafael General-Season General Buck Deer ANY LEGAL WEAPON: Oct 17 - Oct 25, 2026	Total Quota: 808					
	Converted Youth: 338					
	1st Choice Permits: 1227	818 of 1371	363 of 368	40 of 41	6 of 6	N/A
	1st Choice Apps: 1786	59.66%	98.64%	97.56%	100.00%	N/A
	1st Choice Succ: 68.70%					
Nonresident						
[DB1533] - Manti/San Rafael General-Season General Buck Deer ANY LEGAL WEAPON: Oct 17 - Oct 25, 2026	Total Quota: 90					
	Converted Youth: 338					
	1st Choice Permits: 9	8 of 8	1 of 1	N/A	N/A	
	1st Choice Apps: 9	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	N/A	
	1st Choice Succ: 100.00%					