

2021 Hunting Incidents

Type A Hunting Safety Incidents are those that involve the discharge of a hunting device

Type B Hunting Safety Incidents are those that do not involve the discharge of a hunting device

Type C Hunting Safety Incidents are those that are medical issues while in the field or injuries suffered while in the field, but not from the act of hunting

Type	Injury	Cause	County	Date	Day	Time	ShooterSex	ShooterAge	Shooter Legally Hunting	Shooter Hunter Education	Implement	Species Hunted	Description
A	Minor	Careless Handling	Kane	10/9	Sat	10:35 AM	M	29	Yes	Yes	12ga. shotgun	Pheasant	The shooter and victim were in the same hunting party. The shooter shot at a bird that the dog had flushed, the victim had yelled "no shot" while the shooter heard "low shot." The shot went in the direction of the unseen victim, who suffered minor wounds to left arm, left torso/upper chest. The shooter was unaware of his zone of fire.
A	Major	Self inflicted Careless Handling	Clinton	10/16	Sat	8:45 AM	M	61	Yes	Yes	Crossbow	Deer	When attempting to shoot a deer, the hunter left his thumb in the path of the string. When the crossbow fired the string almost seperated hunters left thumb from hand.
A	Minor	Self inflicted Careless Handling	Jasper	10/26	Tue	5:45 PM	M	21	Yes	Yes	Compound bow	Deer/Coyote	While attempting to shoot a deer, the hunter used a damaged arrow. Upon release the arrow exploded and a portion of arrow hit hunter in back of hand. The hunter's camera had fallen onto arrows and he didn't check for damaged/good arrows before loading into bow. Failure to inspect equipment.
A	Major	Careless Handling	Lee	2/12	Sat	9:30 AM	M	53	Yes	Yes	20ga. Shotgun	Pheasant	The shooter and victim were in the same hunting party. The shooter shot at a bird that had flushed. The shot went in the direction of the unseen victim, who suffered wounds to his left eye/eyebrow. The shooter was unaware of his zone of fire.

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B	Minor	Misstep	Jasper	10/8	Fri	3:00 PM	F	35	Yes	Unk	Bow	Deer	The hunter was using a ladder stand and stated there was a good amount of dew when walking to the stand. When she stepped on the last rung of the stand, she slipped and fell 15 feet landing on her foot/ankle, resulting in a broken foot/ankle. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Major	Failure to inspect equipment	Jersey	10/9	Sat	9:30 AM	M	53	Yes	Yes	Compound Bow	Deer	The hunter was descending from his treestand when the strap on the climbing stick broke. He fell 18 feet suffering a C6, T12 and L3 fracture. No Fall Arrest System was being used. Failure to inspect equipment.
B	Minor	Failure to inspect equipment	Crawford	10/10	Sun	5:45 PM	M	39	Yes	Yes	N/A	Deer	Supervising adult and youth hunter were sitting in an elevated stand. The ratchet strap broke and both individuals fell to the ground breaking the adult's scapula and 4 ribs, youth suffered minor injuries. The stand had been up for 5 years. Failure to inspect equipment. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Minor	Strong winds	Brown	10/11	Mon	6:45 PM	M	58	Yes	No	N/A	Deer	Supervising adult and youth hunter were sitting in an elevated deer blind. When the blind tipped over, the supervising adult sustained 5 fractured ribs, the youth was not injured. Poor weather conditions and an improperly unsecured blind.
B	Major	Failure to inspect equipment	Henderson	10/23	Sat	7:20 AM	M	64	Yes	Yes	Crossbow	Deer	The hunter was climbing the ladder section of the stand, and noticed pins connecting ladder sections were bending. The bending of pins caused entire stand to shift and fall to the ground. He fell 15-17 feet, resulting in a broken hip, bruised ribs and bruised sternum. No Fall Arrest System was being used; Failure to inspect equipment.
B	Major	Equipment Break	Calhoun	10/30	Sat	6:50 PM	M	28	Yes	Yes	Compound Bow	Deer	The hunter was stepping from the stand to the climbing sticks when the buckle on the support strap broke. He was able to hold on to the climbing sticks but the sticks bent causing hunter to fall 20' and sustain a fractured L2 vertebra and lacerated liver. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Major	Equipment break	Fulton	11/2	Tue	3:00 PM	M	51	Yes	Yes	Crossbow	Deer	The hunter was using a climber style tree stand. The support cable broke while climbing, causing him to fall 10 feet. The fall resulted in a fractured L1 vertebra. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Minor	Improper use of equipment	Gallatin	11/19	Thu	6:38 AM	M	78	Yes	No	UNK	Deer	While sitting in the stand, the top portion of the climber tree stand shifted and hunter fell from stand. His foot caught on the carrying strap on the bottom portion of the stand stopping his fall to the ground. He was able to cut the strap holding his foot, but could not maintain a grip on the stand and fell, suffering a sprained leg and back. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Major	Fall	Effingham	11/19	Thu	4:15 PM	F	17	Yes	No	.12ga Shotgun	Deer	The hunter was using a two-person ladder stand. When she took a standing shot, the recoil caused a loss of balance. She fell 18 feet off ladder stand, sustaining a lower back injury. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
B	Major	Failure to inspect equipment	Montgomery	11/20	Fri	12:08 PM	M	52	Yes	Yes	UNK	Deer	The hunter was attaching his safety harness to the tree, when the cables that attach the platform of the stand to the support brace, broke. The safety harness tree strap broke (had been attached to the tree for a couple years), he fell 16 feet. Failure to inspect equipment.

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C	Minor	Fall	Cass	9/25	Sat	11:29 AM	M	60	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	The individual was installing a treestand. While he was on the treestand the ladder began to pull away from the tree and moved to the right. Individual put his leg out to catch himself, and hit the tree with his leg and then fell to the ground. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
C	Major	Heart Attack	La Salle	10/16	Sat	8:45 PM	M	46	N/A	Yes	N/A	Deer	The hunter suffered a heart attack while dragging a downed deer back to his truck.
C	Major	Fall	Clay	10/25	Mon	2:30 PM	M	22	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	The individual was attempting to move a treestand. Using multiple climbing sticks he unstrapped the top strap of the sticks and went to step down to the next section. When stepping down, his foot slipped. He reacted by reaching for the sticks, grabbing the unstrapped stick. He fell 15 feet, suffering a fractured vertebrae in the lower back. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
C	Major	Fall	Clinton	11/4	Thur	5:52 PM	M	54	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	The individual was prepping his stand and area. While working on the stand, he fell 20 feet. He suffered multiple fractured ribs on both sides, both lungs were collapsed, multiple vertebrae fractures and pulled apart a knee replacement which severed an artery to the lower half of his leg. No Fall Arrest System was being used.
C	Fatal	Stroke	Pope	11/16	Mon	6:30 PM	M	44	Yes	No	UNK	Deer	At the end of the day, the hunter never returned to camp. The search found him face down on the ground below his climber tree stand, which was still in the tree. Three days later he was pronounced deceased from a stroke (non-traumatic hypertension brain bleed due to stroke). He was not wearing Fall Arrest System.
C	FATAL	Heart Attack	Williamson	11/20	Sat	8:30 PM	M	67	N/A	Yes	UNK	Deer	The hunter was found deceased next to his blind, between his vehicle and stand location. He suffered a heart attack.