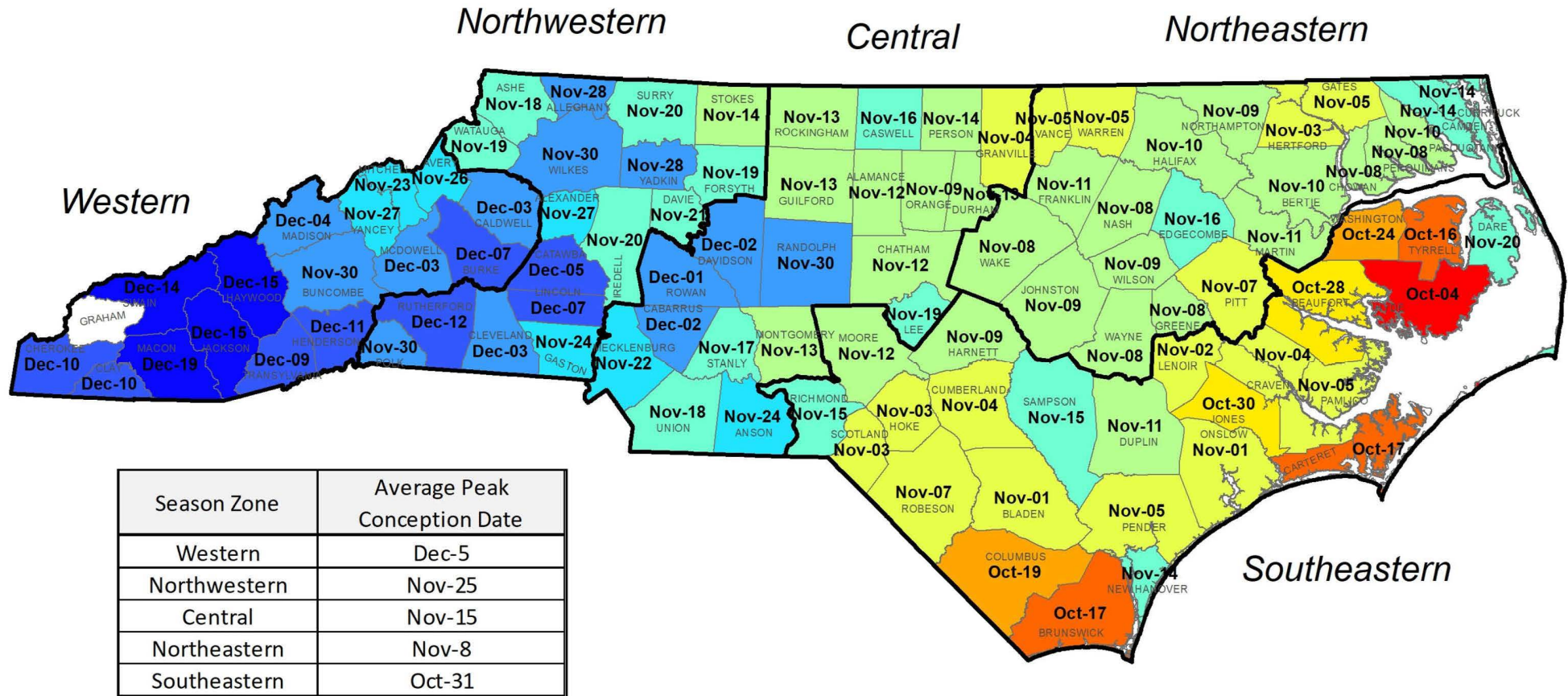


Estimated Peak Conception Dates

Updated 2025



Peak conception dates are estimated for each county based on reproductive data collected by biologists from various sources, including roadkill and late season hunter harvested does. The accuracy/precision of the estimated peak conception date for any given county can be influenced by the number of samples collected, and typically there is less confidence in estimates that are based on few samples (see page 2 for county sample sizes). Within any given area, there is considerable variation in the timing of conception activity, and some does are bred before peak conception while others are bred well after peak conception. Little variation exists in peak breeding activity from one year to the next within a given area as doe estrus cycles are triggered by shortening day length during the fall, rather than weather events, including moon phase.

Number of reproductive samples collected through May 2025. Additional samples are needed in some counties to increase precision/accuracy of estimated peak rut dates.

COUNTY	SAMPLES
ALAMANCE	12
ALEXANDER	5
ALLEGHANY	10
ANSON	12
ASHE	11
AVERY	19
BEAUFORT	8
BERTIE	23
BLADEN	11
BRUNSWICK	36
BUNCOMBE	18
BURKE	42
CABARRUS	6
CALDWELL	18
CAMDEN	6
CARTERET	31
CASWELL	5
CATAWBA	18
CHATHAM	13
CHEROKEE	13
CHOWAN	13
CLAY	9
CLEVELAND	5
COLUMBUS	19
CRAVEN	38
CUMBERLAND	6
CURRITUCK	6
DARE	7
DAVIDSON	15
DAVIE	7
DUPLIN	10
DURHAM	6
EDGECOMBE	8
FORSYTH	5

COUNTY	SAMPLES
FRANKLIN	12
GASTON	17
GATES	25
GRAHAM	1
GRANVILLE	5
GREENE	15
GUILFORD	19
HALIFAX	6
HARNETT	9
HAYWOOD	10
HENDERSON	18
HERTFORD	15
HOKE	7
HYDE	311
IREDELL	11
JACKSON	5
JOHNSTON	6
JONES	12
LEE	9
LENOIR	7
LINCOLN	11
MACON	15
MADISON	8
MARTIN	6
MCDOWELL	14
MECKLENBURG	11
MITCHELL	16
MONTGOMERY	105
MOORE	22
NASH	8
NEW HANOVER	6
NORTHAMPTON	10
ONslow	65
ORANGE	7

COUNTY	SAMPLES
PAMLICO	10
PASQUOTANK	7
PENDER	17
PERQUIMANS	15
PERSON	9
PITT	21
POLK	6
RANDOLPH	11
RICHMOND	33
ROBESON	18
ROCKINGHAM	20
ROWAN	10
RUTHERFORD	12
SAMPSON	7
SCOTLAND	5
STANLY	45
STOKES	47
SURRY	25
SWAIN	5
TRANSYLVANIA	9
TYRRELL	6
UNION	9
VANCE	6
WAKE	21
WARREN	8
WASHINGTON	11
WATAUGA	10
WAYNE	11
WILKES	29
WILSON	11
YADKIN	12
YANCEY	15
TOTAL	1,776