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MICHIGAN DEER HARVEST SURVEY REPORT 2004 SEASONS

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ABSTRACT

A survey of deer hunters was conducted following the 2004 hunting seasons to estimate hunter participation, harvest, and hunting effort. In 2004, an estimated 713,000 hunters spent 10,183,000 days afield. Statewide, the number of people hunting deer declined by about 4% and hunting effort declined by about 2% since 2003. Hunters harvested nearly 456,000 deer, a decrease of nearly 9% from the number taken in 2003. Statewide, 45% of hunters harvested a deer. About 24% of the hunters took an antlerless deer and 30% took an antlered buck. About 15% of deer hunters harvested two or more deer.

INTRODUCTION

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has the authority and responsibility to protect and manage the wildlife resources of the State of Michigan. Harvest surveys are one of the primary management tools used by the DNR to accomplish its statutory responsibility. Estimating hunter participation, harvest, and hunting effort are the primary objectives of these surveys. Estimates derived from harvest surveys as well as information from deer harvest check stations, deer pellet group surveys, reports of automobile accidents involving deer, and population modeling are some of the methods used to monitor deer populations and establish harvest regulations.

During 2004, white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) could be harvested primarily during the following hunting seasons: youth, archery, early antlerless, early antlerless in Deer Management Unit (DMU) 055, regular firearm, muzzleloader, and late antlerless. In order to harvest a deer, hunters had to possess a hunting license (firearm, archery, combination, or antlerless license) (Table 1).

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A harvest tag was issued as part of the hunting license. Hunters could purchase a maximum of two harvest tags for taking an antlered deer (either one combination license or both a firearm and an archery license). Archery and firearm licenses included one harvest tag, while the combination license had two harvest tags. A firearm license allowed a person to take one deer with at least one antler three inches or longer (Table 1). An archery license allowed an individual to take one deer of either sex. A person with a combination license could take two deer of either sex during the archery season or two antlered deer during the firearm season (Table 1). If two antlered deer were taken, one of these deer needed to have at least one antler with four or more points (qualifying points must be at least one inch).

Antlerless licenses could be purchased in addition to archery, firearm, or combination licenses. Antlerless deer licenses allowed hunters to take deer without antlers or with antlers shorter than 3 inches during any season with equipment appropriate for the season. Use of each antlerless license was restricted to a single DMU designated at the time of purchase. Antlerless licenses were available for most of the state except in portions of the Upper Peninsula (UP). Antlerless licenses were valid for either public or private lands. Public land antlerless licenses were not available in all DMUs. The number of licenses available in DMUs open to antlerless deer hunting was established by quota.

Antlerless licenses for use on public lands were allocated among people that applied for these licenses using a random drawing. In contrast, antlerless licenses for private lands could be purchased directly from a license vendor on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters could purchase one antlerless license for private lands per day until the license quota had been met.

Deer Management Assistance (DMA) permits were special antlerless permits issued to landowners where the number of antlerless licenses was insufficient to meet the objective of specific landowners (i.e., controlling disease or the deer population). These permits allowed hunters to take an antlerless deer per permit during any deer season on the land where issued or adjacent private lands with the landowner's permission. To use these permits, the hunter must also have purchased a firearm, archery, combination, or antlerless deer license for the season in which they were hunting.

The youth season was held during September 25-26 on public and private lands statewide. Youths 12-16 years of age could take one deer using either a firearm license, combination license, antlerless license, or DMA permit. Youths participating during this season had to be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. All youths 12 and 13 years of age were restricted to archery-only hunting. Youth hunters could take no more than one deer during the season.

The archery season occurred statewide on public and private lands. This season was divided into an early and late season (i.e., October 1 to November 14 and December 1, 2004, to January 2, 2005). Archery licenses, antlerless licenses, combination licenses, and DMA permits could be used to take deer during the archery seasons using archery equipment.

The statewide regular firearm season occurred November 15-30. The muzzleloader season was held December 3-12 in the Upper Peninsula (UP) and December 10-19 in the Lower Peninsula (LP). Hunters were allowed to take deer on both public and private lands with firearm and combination deer hunting licenses during the regular firearm and muzzleloader seasons. Antlerless licenses (including DMA permits) also could be used during the firearm seasons.

The late antlerless firearm season occurred from December 20, 2004, through January 2, 2005. Hunters pursuing deer during this season had to possess an unused antlerless license (including DMA permits) and were limited to hunting on private land. The area open to hunting during the late antlerless season was limited to 19 counties in the LP.

There was an early antlerless firearm deer season in DMU 055 in the UP during September 16-22. In eight special regulation DMUs in the northeastern Lower Peninsula (within Alcona, Alpena, Crawford, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties), an early firearm season for antlerless deer also was held October 9-17. Hunters participating during these early antlerless seasons had to possess an unused antlerless license (including DMA permits), and hunting was restricted to private lands only.

Deer could also be taken on private lands during the special disabled firearm hunt (October 16-17, 2004). Only hunters that were issued a permit to hunt from a standing vehicle could participate in this season, and this study did not attempt to estimate harvest or participation during this limited hunt.

METHODS

Following the 2004 deer hunting seasons, a questionnaire was sent to 52,357 randomly selected individuals who had purchased a hunting license (firearm, archery, antlerless, or combination deer hunting licenses). Hunters receiving the questionnaire were asked to report seasons in which they pursued deer, number of days spent afield, and number of deer harvested. Hunters were instructed not to report hunting effort and harvest associated with DMA permits because landowners obtaining these permits already were required to report the number of deer harvested to the DNR.

Estimates were based on information collected from random samples of hunting license buyers. Thus, these estimates were subject to sampling errors (Cochran 1977). Estimates were calculated using a stratified random sampling design (Cochran 1977) and were presented along with their 95% confidence limit (CL). In theory, this confidence limit can be added and subtracted from the estimate to calculate the 95% confidence interval. The confidence interval is a measure of the precision associated with the estimate and implies the true value would be within this interval 95 times out of 100. Unfortunately, there are several other possible sources of error in surveys that are probably more serious than theoretical calculations of sampling error. They include failure of participants to provide answers (nonresponse bias), question wording, and question order. It is very difficult to measure these biases.

License buyers were assigned to one of four groups (strata). The first stratum consisted of people eligible only for the archery, regular firearm, and muzzleloader hunting seasons (N = 611,802). The second stratum consisted of people eligible to hunt during archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, early antlerless, and late antlerless seasons (N = 114,628). Hunters in the third stratum were eligible to hunt during archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, early antlerless, and late antlerless seasons, as well as the special early antlerless season in DMU 055 (N = 2,503). The fourth stratum consisted of people eligible to hunt during archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, early antlerless, late antlerless, and youth seasons (N = 26,997). The random sample consisted of 37,121 people from the first stratum and 6,786 people from the second stratum. An additional 2,468 people were included from the third stratum, and 5,982 people were from the fourth stratum. The stratified sampling design accounted for the varying probabilities of being selected from the four strata so estimates could be reliably extrapolated from the sample to all license buyers.

Estimates were calculated separately by the area where the hunt occurred. The state was divided into eight areas that closely matched the DNR's wildlife management administrative units (Figure 1). The state was also divided into three ecological regions (UP, northern LP, and southern LP). These regions generally matched major ecoregions, except in the UP where two ecoregions were combined (Albert 1995). Ecoregions are regions having similar soils, vegetation, climate, geology, and physiography. Estimates were also calculated for each DMU (Figure 2, Appendix A). Deer harvested from unknown locations were allocated among areas in proportion to the known harvest.

Questionnaires were initially mailed during mid-January 2005, and two follow-up questionnaires were mailed to nonrespondents. To increase the number of questionnaires returned, everybody that returned their questionnaire promptly was eligible to win a prize (i.e., firearm or bow). Although 52,357 people were sent the questionnaire, 1,201 surveys were undeliverable resulting in an adjusted sample size of 51,156. Questionnaires were returned by 35,394 of people receiving the questionnaire (69% response rate).

Estimates of harvest, hunting effort, and hunter participation are affected by the willingness of people to complete and return their questionnaires. This problem can confound comparisons of estimates made between years if response rates vary greatly. The percentage of people returning their questionnaire this year was lower than previous years. To reduce bias caused by this lower response rate, an adjustment was made on the 2004 estimates to make them comparable to the 2003 estimates (74% response rate). Estimates of harvest, hunting effort, and hunter numbers were reduced by 1.2, 1.2, and 0.5%, respectively, to make estimates comparable to 2003. These reductions reflected the average decline noted between estimates calculated when 68 and 74% of the responses were used in 2000 and 2001 surveys.

RESULTS

In 2004, 755,930 people purchased a license to hunt deer in Michigan. The number of people buying a license in 2004 declined 4% from 2003 (787,935 people purchased a license in 2003) but was similar to the number of licensees in 1995 (764,938). Most of the people

buying a license were male (92%). The average age of the license buyers was 41 years (Figure 3). Nearly 7.5% (56,603) of the license buyers were younger than 17 years old.

The number of 2004 deer harvest tags sold for all license types combined decreased 4.5% since 2003 (Table 2). License buyers were issued an average of 2.3 harvest tags. About 88% of the license buyers obtained three or fewer harvest tags, and 98% had five or fewer harvest tags (Figure 4). Hunters most frequently obtained antlerless and combination harvest tags (Figure 5). About 51% of the license buyers purchased at least one antlerless license (388,076 people), and 96% of antlerless license buyers purchased three or fewer antlerless licenses (Figure 6).

The number of hunting licenses sold decreased by 3%, while the number of harvest tags issued decreased 4.5% between 2003 and 2004 (Table 2). The decrease in harvest tags issued was larger than the decline in license sales because some 2003 antlerless licenses included two harvest tags, but no antlerless licenses had two harvest tags in 2004.

About 94.3 $\pm$ 0.1% (712,894 hunters) of the people buying a license in 2004 actually spent time hunting deer (Table 3). Most hunters (652,798) pursued deer during the regular firearm season (Figure 7). Statewide, the number of people hunting deer during all seasons combined declined 4.1%. Hunter numbers declined about 5.5% in the UP, 6.4% in the northern LP, while the number of hunters in the southern LP was nearly unchanged between 2003 and 2004.

Hunter participation declined by about 5% in the regular firearm season. The number of people hunting in the archery, early antlerless firearm season in northeast LP, late antlerless firearm season, and early antlerless in DMU 055 seasons was statistically unchanged between 2003 and 2004 (Figure 8, Table 3). In contrast, greater numbers of people hunted during the youth (8%) and muzzleloader (7%) seasons.

About 46% of the days hunters spent pursuing deer throughout the state occurred in the archery season (Figure 9). About 44% of the hunting effort occurred during the regular firearm season. Nearly 10% of the hunting effort occurred in the muzzleloader and late antlerless seasons. Statewide, hunters devoted an average of 14.5 days afield hunting deer during all seasons combined (Table 4). Archers had the greatest number of days available to hunt deer (78 days) and devoted the greatest number of days afield ($\bar{x}$ = 14.7 days/hunter) (Figure 10, Table 4).

For all seasons, hunting effort statewide was virtually unchanged between 2003 and 2004 (Table 3). Hunting effort increased during the early antlerless season in DMU 055 and in the youth season but declined during the regular firearm season. Hunting effort during the archery, muzzleloader, early antlerless, and late antlerless seasons was similar to levels reported in 2003.

Nearly 456,000 deer were harvested in 2004, a decrease of nearly 9% from the number taken in 2003 (Figure 11, Tables 5-6). Statewide, the harvest of antlered bucks decreased 10%, and the antlerless deer harvest decreased 8% from last year (Table 5). Between 2003

and 2004, deer harvest decreased 14% during the regular firearm season. Harvest in the other seasons did not change significantly between 2003 and 2004.

About 59% of the animals harvested (sexes combined) in 2004 were taken during the regular firearm season (Figure 13). Most of the antlerless deer (53%) and antlered bucks (64%) were harvested in the regular firearm season. Hunters took 28% of the harvested deer (sexes combined) during archery season. During the archery season, hunters took 26% of the antlerless deer and 29% of the antlered bucks harvested. Few antlered bucks (5%) were taken in the muzzleloader season. The muzzleloader and antlerless seasons accounted for about 20% of the antlerless deer harvested.

About 87% of the animals harvested (sexes combined) in 2004 were taken on private lands (Table 7). Statewide, most of the antlerless deer (90%) and antlered bucks (84%) were harvested on private lands. Overall, harvest decreased 16% and 8% between 2003 and 2004 on public and private lands, respectively.

Statewide, 43% of the deer hunters harvested at least one deer (all deer seasons and sexes combined) in 2004 (Figure 14, Table 8). About 23% of the hunters took an antlerless deer, and 28% took an antlered buck. About 14% of deer hunters harvested two or more deer.

Hunters were most successful in taking a deer during the early antlerless season in DMU 055 (Figure 15, Table 9); 63% of the hunters in this early antlerless season took a deer. Hunter success was lowest in the muzzleloader season (19% successful). Hunter success ranged from 27 to 34% for the other seasons.

About 34% of the hunters harvested a deer (sexes combined) during the regular firearm season (Table 9). Nearly 22% of the hunters took an antlered buck and 16% harvested an antlerless deer during the regular firearm season.

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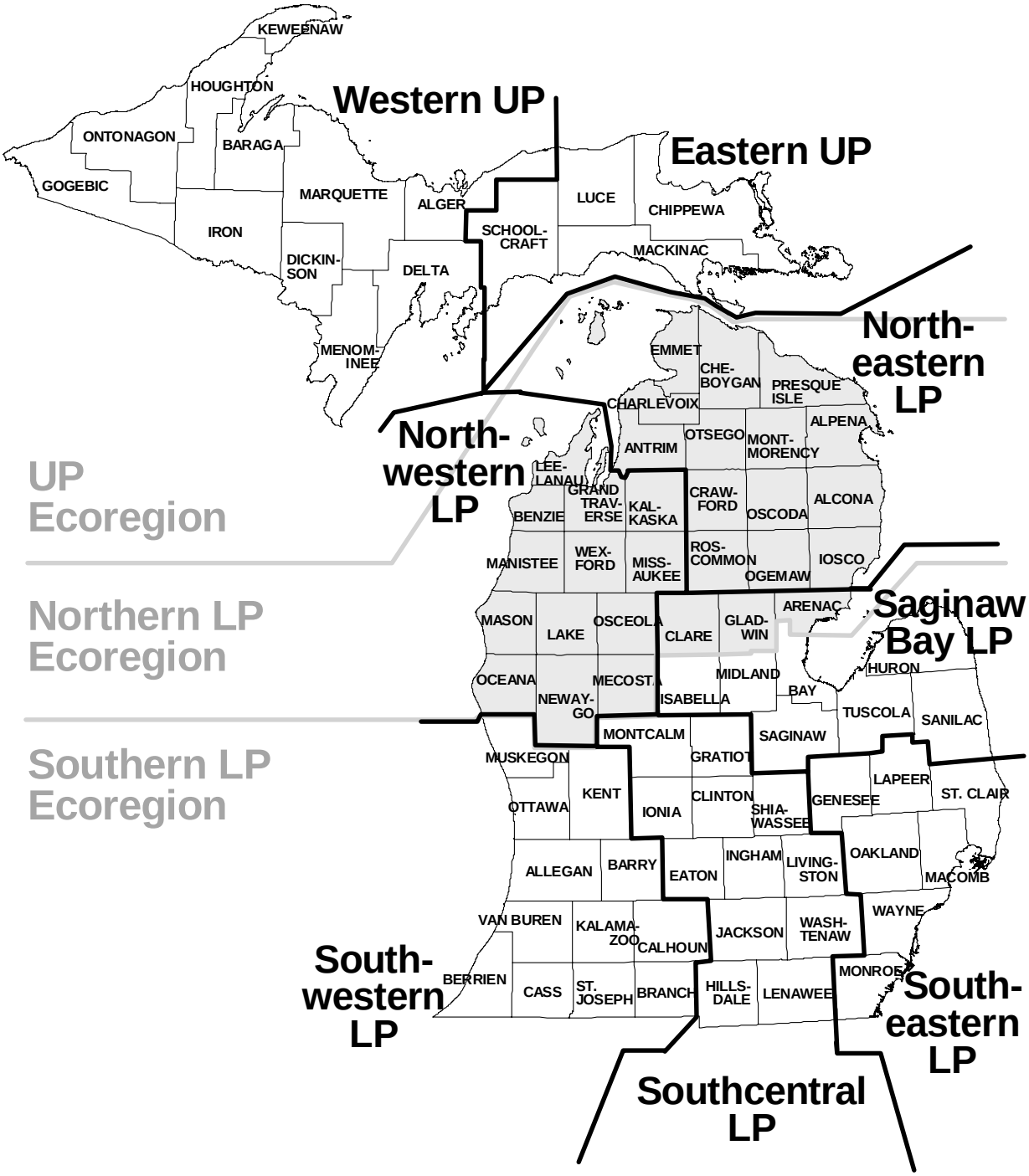

Figure 1. Areas used to summarize deer harvest in Michigan for the 2004 hunting seasons.

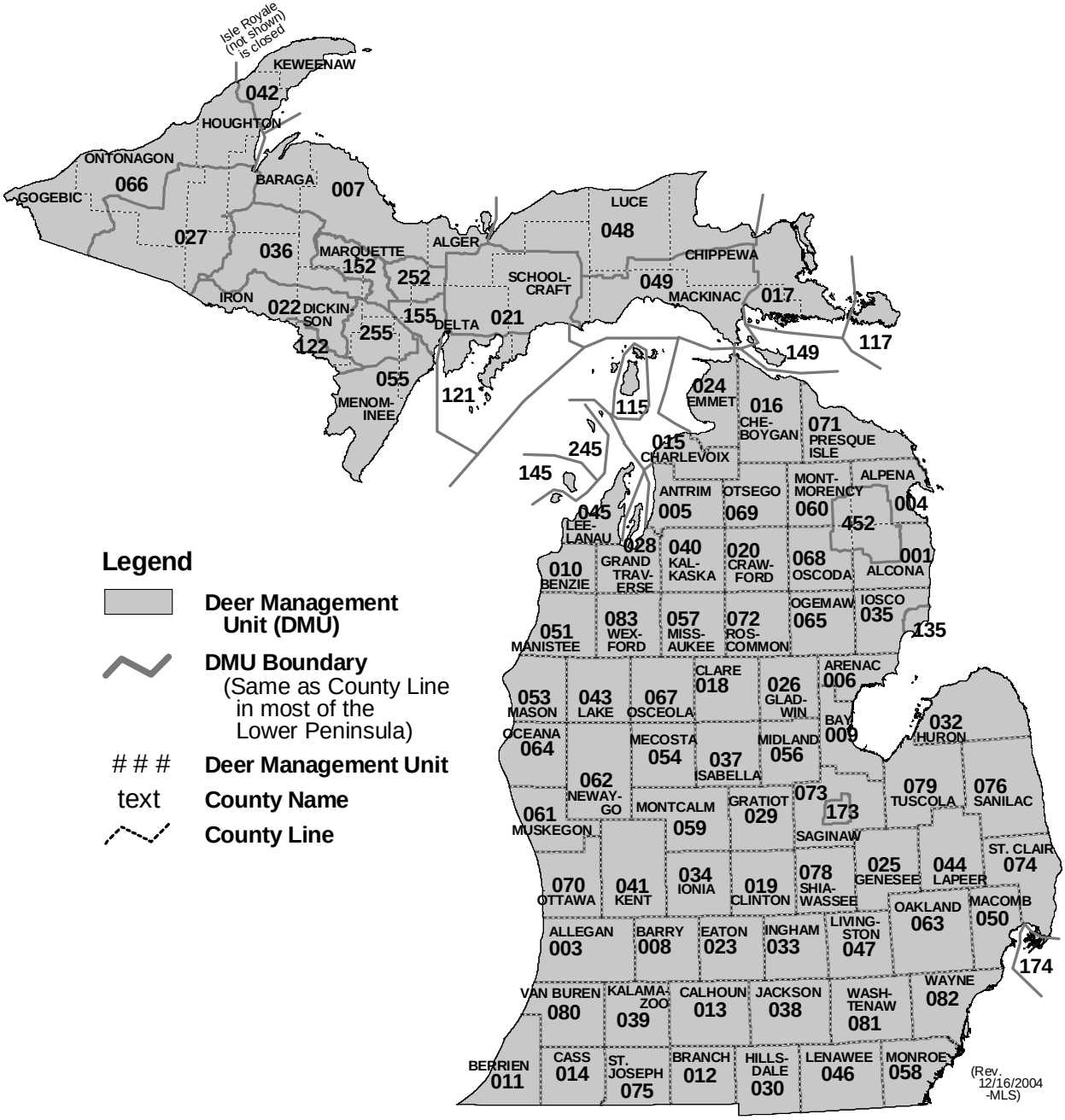

Figure 2. Deer Management Units in Michigan for the 2004 hunting seasons.

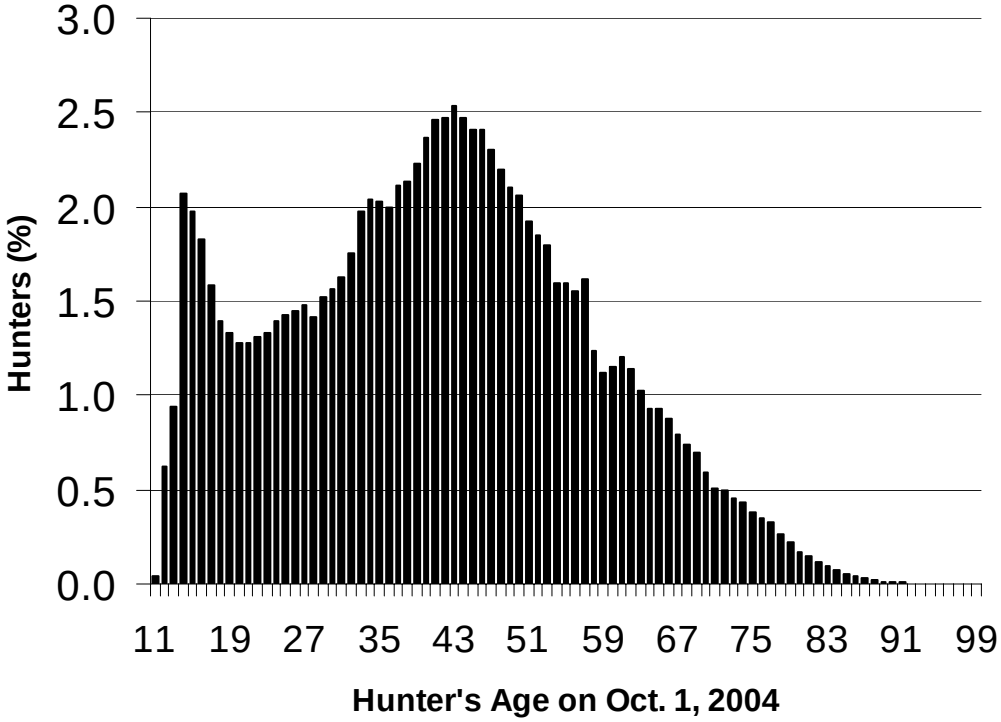

Figure 3. Age of people that purchased a deer hunting license in Michigan for the 2004 hunting seasons ($\bar{x}$ = 41 years).

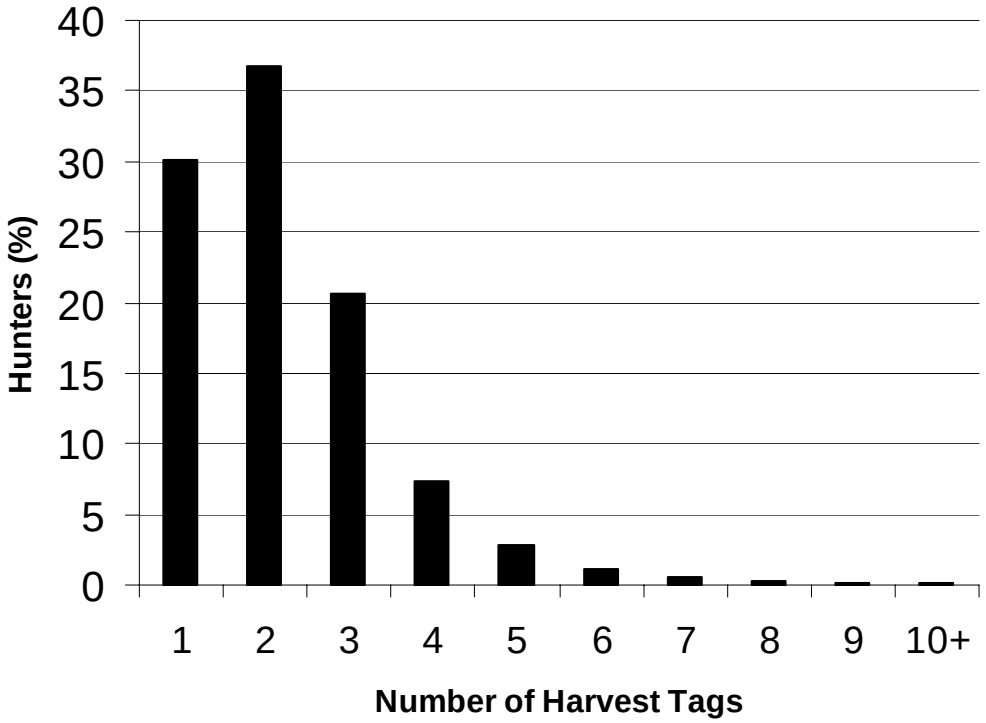

Figure 4. Number of harvest tags (all license and tag types) issued per person for hunting deer in Michigan during the 2004 hunting seasons ($\bar{x}$ = 2.3 tags). Licenses were purchased by 755,930 people.

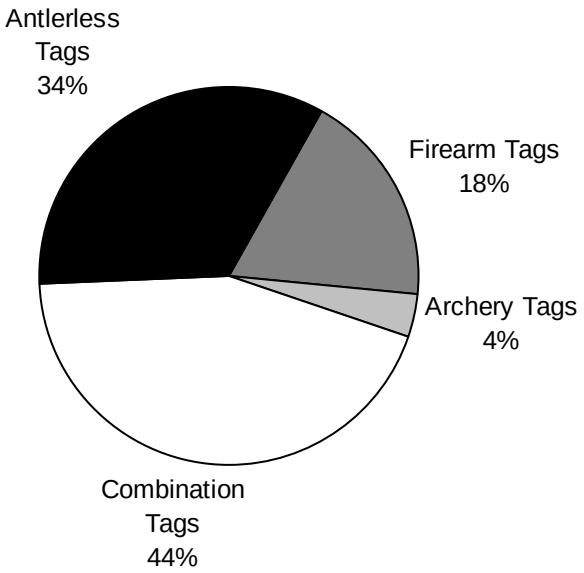

Figure 5. Types of harvest tags issued for deer hunting in Michigan during the 2004 hunting seasons.

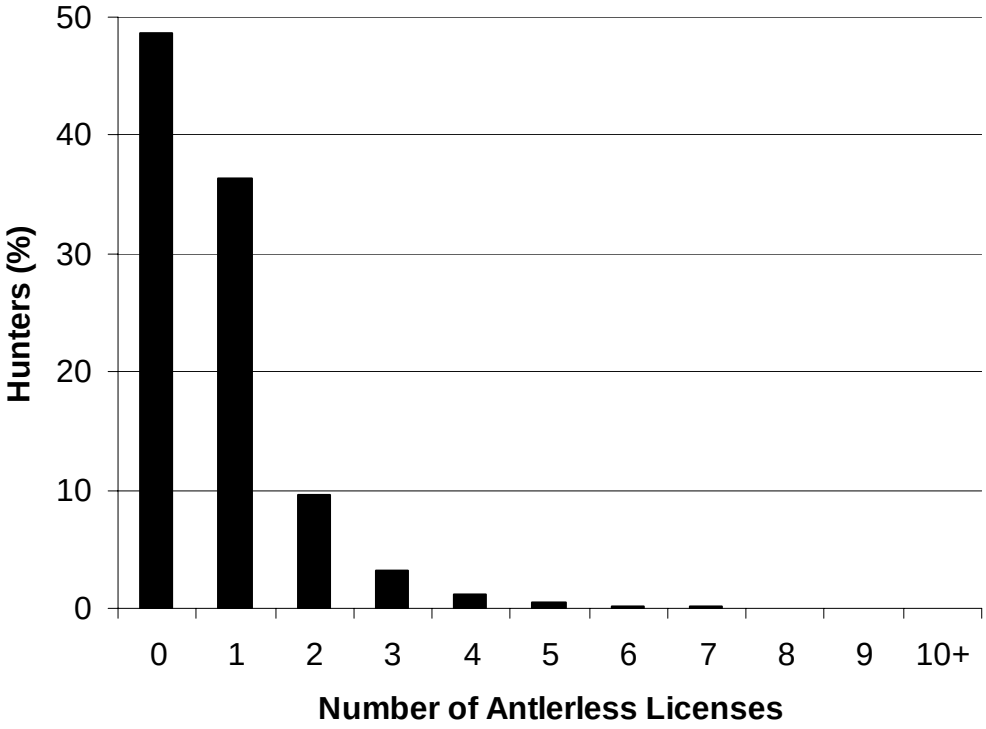

Figure 6. Percentage of deer hunting license buyers (all license types) purchasing an antlerless license in Michigan, 2004. Antlerless licenses were purchased by 388,076 of 755,930 people (51%) buying deer hunting licenses.

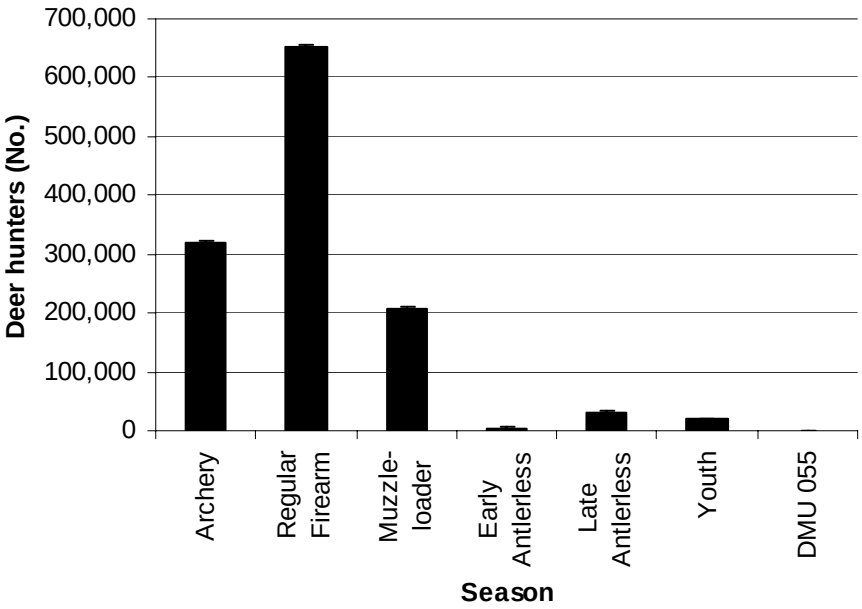

Figure 7. Number of people hunting deer in Michigan during the 2004 hunting seasons. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

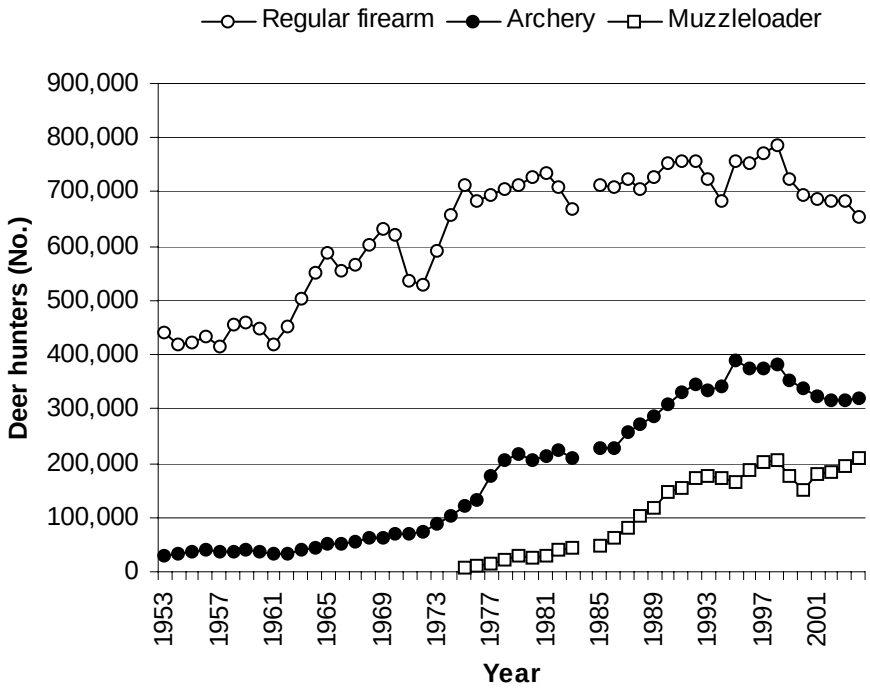

Figure 8. Number of people hunting deer in Michigan during the regular firearm, archery, and muzzleloader seasons, 1953-2004.

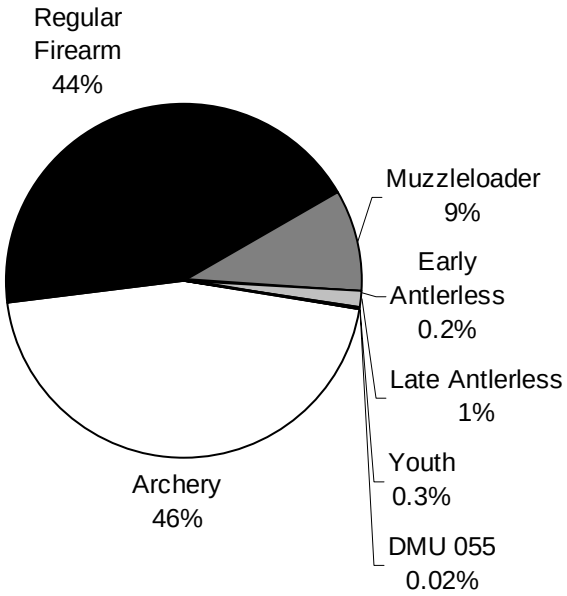

Figure 9. Distribution of hunting effort among deer hunting seasons in Michigan, 2004.

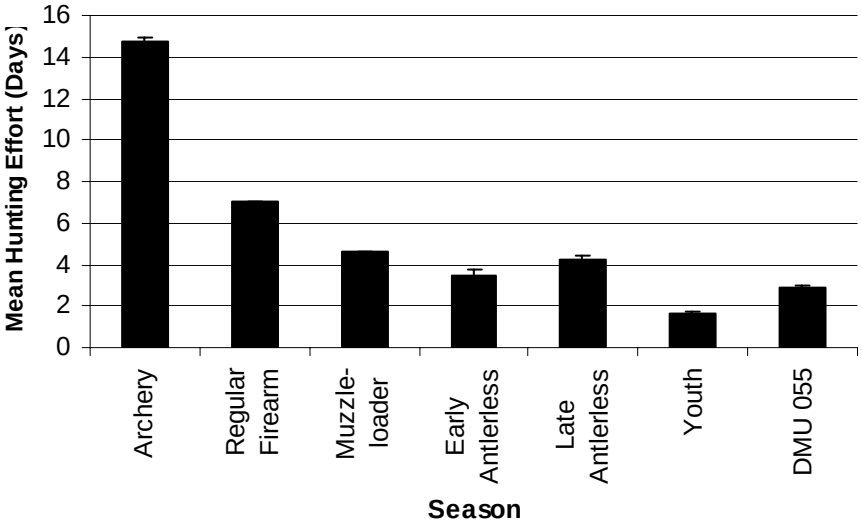

Figure 10. Mean number of days spent hunting deer in Michigan during the 2004 hunting seasons. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

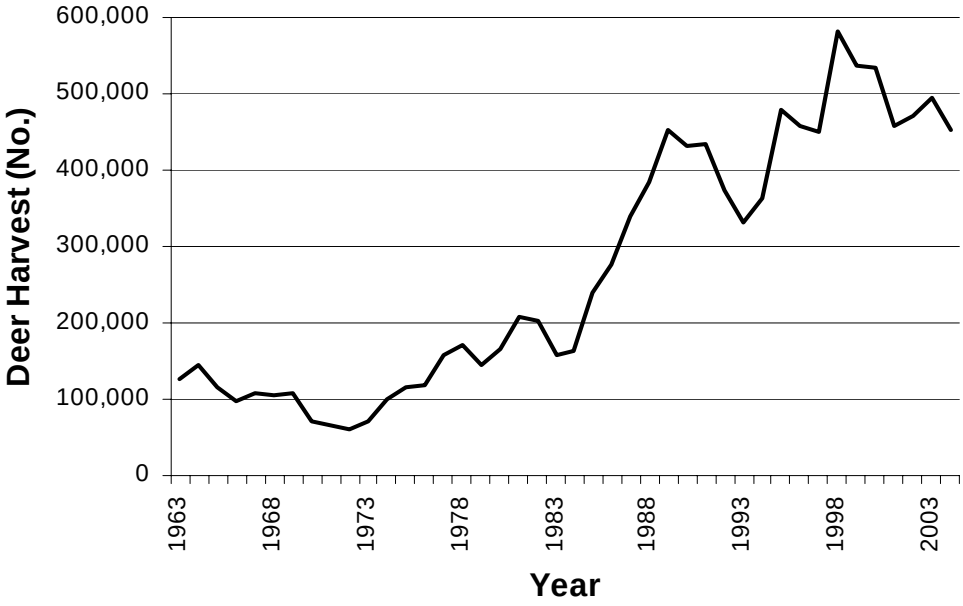

Figure 11. Number of deer harvested in Michigan's hunting seasons, 1963-2004. Harvest from all seasons and for all deer sexes was combined.

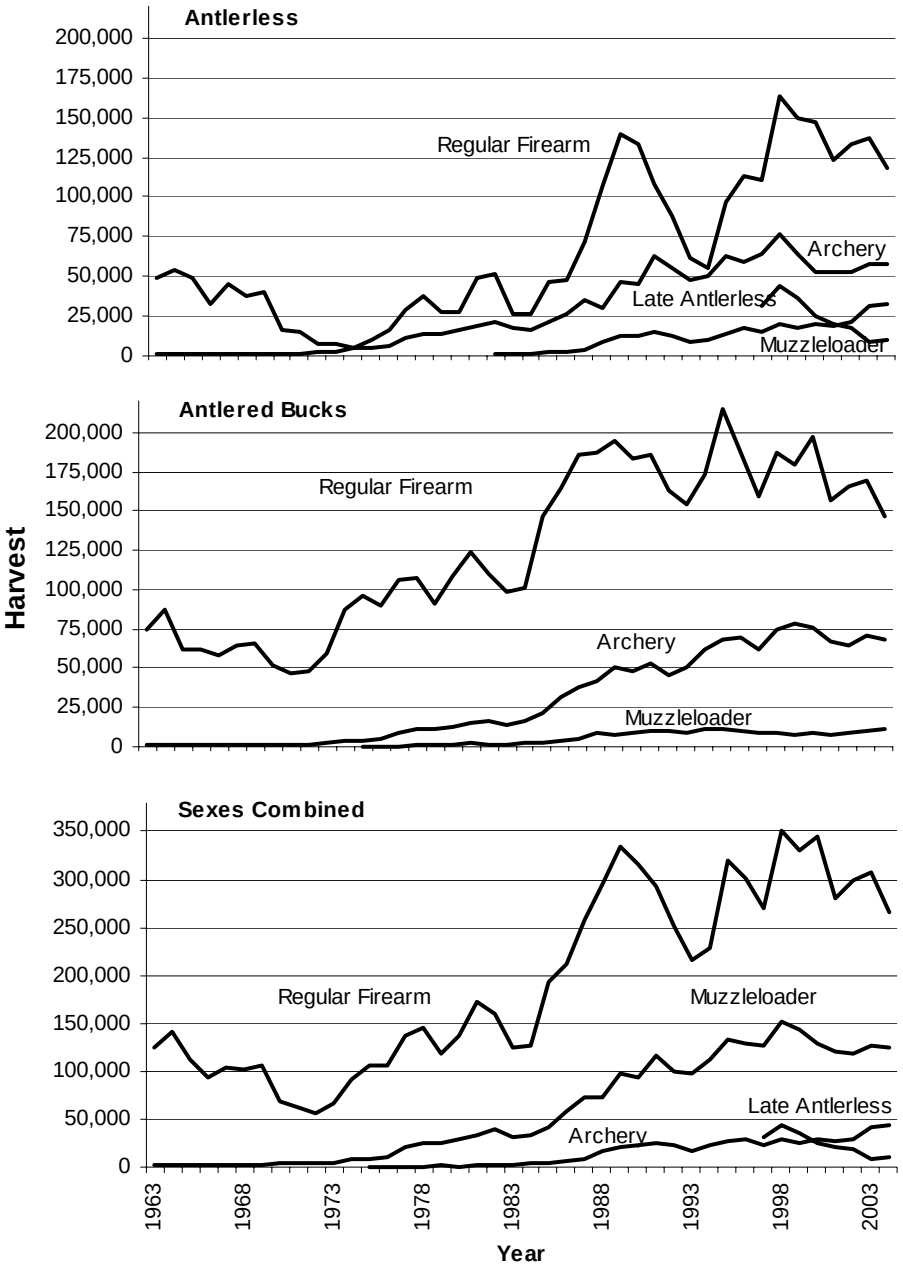

Figure 12. Number of deer harvested in Michigan's hunting seasons, 1963-2004. Harvests for early antlerless, early antlerless in DMU 055, and youth seasons were not shown.

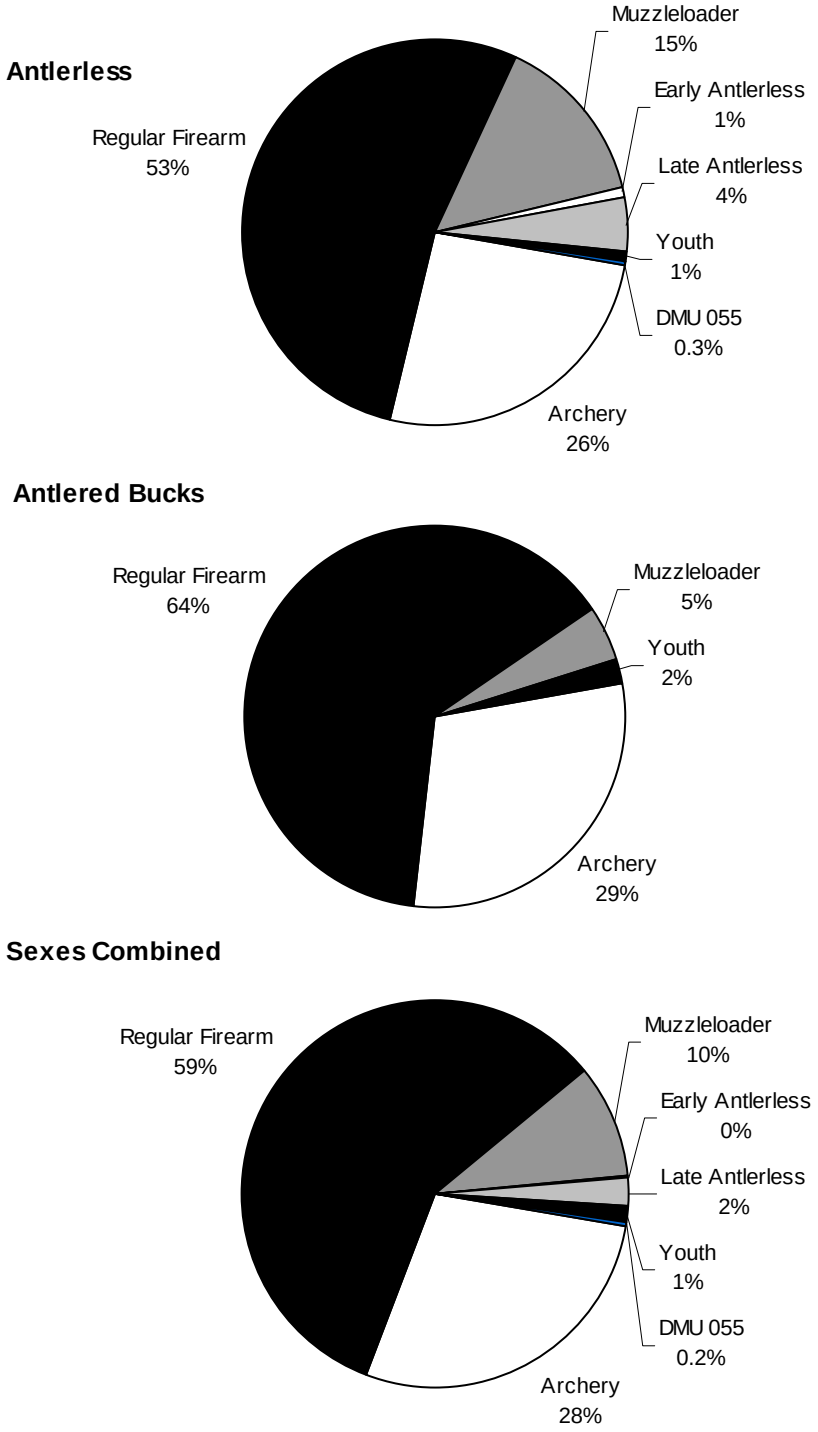

Figure 13. Distribution of harvest among deer hunting seasons in Michigan, 2004.

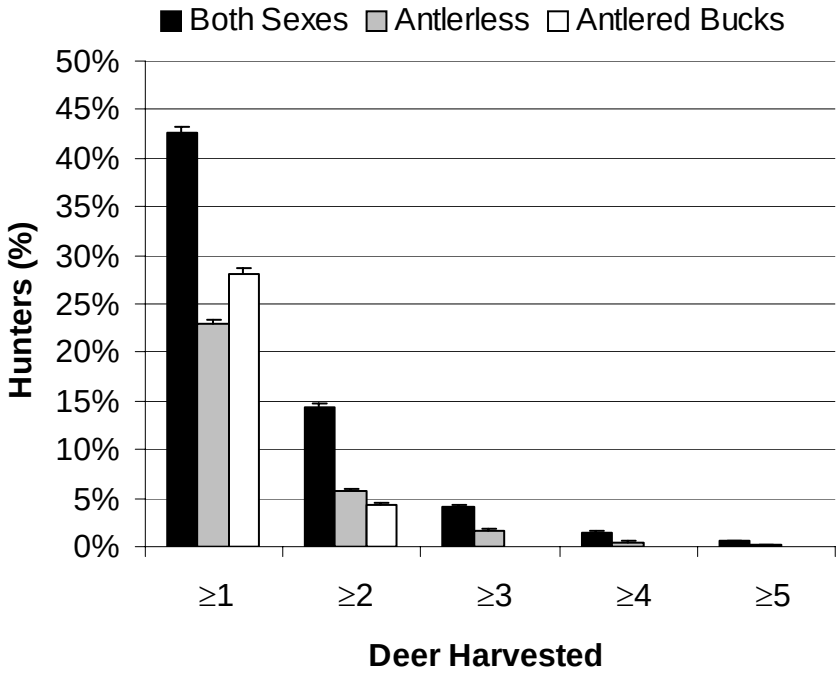

Figure 14. Percentage of hunters harvesting a deer in Michigan, 2004. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

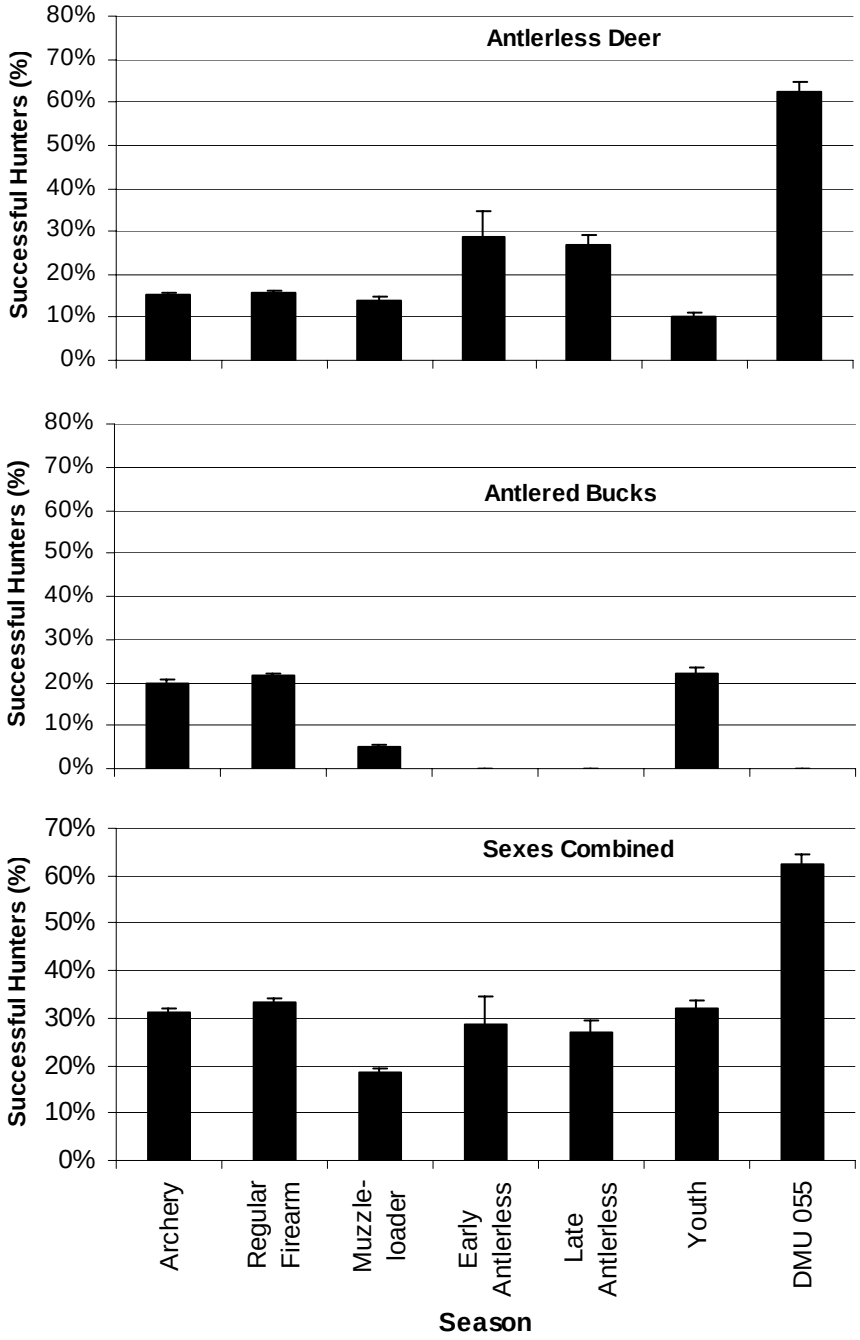

Figure 15. Percentage of hunters harvesting a deer in Michigan's deer hunting seasons, 2004. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

Table 1. Kind of deer that could be taken during the 2004 Michigan deer hunting seasons for each combination of season and hunting license.

Type of license (harvest tag) or permit	Season	Kind of deer that could be harvested[a]
Archery License	Archery seasons	Antlerless or antlered deer[b]
Firearm License	Regular Firearm, Youth[c], or Muzzleloading seasons	Antlered deer only[b]
Combination License[d] (Regular harvest tag)	Archery season	Antlerless or antlered deer
Combination License[d] (Regular harvest tag)	Regular Firearm, Youth, or Muzzleloading seasons	Antlered deer only
Combination License[d] (Restricted harvest tag)	Archery seasons	Antlerless deer or a deer that has at least 1 antler with 4 or more antler points, 1 or more inches in length
Combination License[d] (Restricted harvest tag)	Regular Firearm, Youth, or Muzzleloading seasons	A deer that has at least 1 antler with 4 or more antler points, 1 or more inches in length
Antlerless License	All seasons	Antlerless deer only
Deer Management Assistance (DMA) permit[e]	All seasons	Antlerless deer only

[a]Antlered deer had antlers at least 3 inches in length; antlerless deer included deer without antlers and deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length. Hunters could harvest a maximum of 2 antlered deer per year (all seasons combined); maximum antlerless limit varied by region of the state.

[b]If a person took 2 antlered deer during all seasons combined, one of the antlered deer must have had at least 1 antler with 4 or more antler points, 1 or more inches in length.

[c]All youths 12 and 13 years of age were restricted to archery-only hunting. Hunters could harvest only 1 deer in the youth season.

[d]Combination licenses included two harvest tags (i.e., regular and restricted harvest tags).

[e]Permits issued to landowners in areas where the number of antlerless licenses was insufficient to meet the objective of specific landowners (i.e., controlling disease or the deer population). To use these permits, the hunter must also have purchased a firearm, archery, combination, or antlerless deer license for the season in which they were hunting.

Table 2. Number of Michigan deer licenses purchased and harvest tags issued, 2002-2004.

Licenses or Harvest Tags	Number Purchased or Issued 2002	2003	2004	Change Between 2003 and 2004 (%)
Firearm Licenses				
Resident	304,294	296,570	267,661	-9.7
Non-resident	14,772	14,791	13,229	-10.6
Senior	32,461	32,719	32,638	-0.2
Military	24	27	444	1544.4
Subtotal	351,551	344,107	313,972	-8.8
Archery Licenses				
Resident	54,136	51,724	47,984	-7.2
Non-resident	3,228	3,122	2,840	-9.0
Junior	9,254	8,946	8,337	-6.8
Senior	2,962	3,182	3,166	-0.5
Military	29	19	135	610.5
Subtotal	69,609	66,993	62,462	-6.8
Combination Licenses[a]				
Resident	299,140	309,319	307,592	-0.6
Non-resident	1,603	1,688	1,738	3.0
Junior	30,852	33,040	33,895	2.6
Senior	25,813	27,650	29,074	5.2
Military	137	157	356	126.8
Subtotal	357,545	371,854	372,655	0.2
Antlerless Licenses[b]				
Resident	597,721	575,077	568,138	-1.2
Non-resident	5,312	4,930	4,824	-2.2
Junior	4,890	4,941	4,667	-5.5
Military		23	266	1056.5
Deer Management Assistance	6,312	6,434	6,728	4.6
Subtotal	614,235	591,405	584,623	-1.1
Total Licenses Sold	1,392,940	1,374,359	1,333,712	-3.0
Harvest Tags Issued				
Firearm	351,551	344,107	313,972	-8.8
Archery	69,609	66,993	62,462	-6.8
Combination	715,090	743,708	745,310	0.2
Antlerless	653,446	631,734	584,623	-7.5
Total Harvest Tags	1,789,696	1,786,542	1,706,367	-4.5

[a]Combination licenses included two harvest tags. Other license types had one harvest tag.
[b]In 2003, two harvest tags were issued with 40,329 antlerless licenses sold for eight management units in northeast LP.

Table 3. Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Archery								
West UP	24,034	23,496	1,386	-2.2	272,535	261,903	20,732	-3.9
East UP	8,309	9,612	911	15.7	83,977	94,942	12,828	13.1
NE LP	48,205	49,372	2,011	2.4	480,367	502,677	28,189	4.6
NW LP	66,731	63,253	2,229	-5.2	811,884	759,157	37,048	-6.5
Sag. Bay	57,399	56,803	2,129	-1.0	744,319	718,878	36,503	-3.4
SW LP	52,156	57,171	2,125	9.6	782,368	799,367	39,308	2.2
SC LP	63,965	67,073	2,295	4.9	949,983	929,624	42,395	-2.1
SE LP	35,403	37,537	1,761	6.0	473,737	512,910	32,503	8.3
UP	32,124	32,899	2,772	2.4	356,512	356,844	24,380	0.1
NLP	131,308	129,047	3,898	-1.7	1,509,844	1,505,356	51,024	-0.3
SLP	181,889	189,839	3,869	4.4	2,732,815	2,717,256	72,767	-0.6
Statewide[c]	314,961	318,161	3,990	1.0	4,599,171	4,579,457	92,324	-0.4
Regular Firearm								
West UP	82,208	78,293	2,439	-4.8	606,131	588,690	21,739	-2.9
East UP	29,940	27,673	1,528	-7.6	203,292	189,923	12,130	-6.6
NE LP	130,686	121,369	2,988	-7.1	791,349	732,052	22,838	-7.5
NW LP	141,433	129,837	3,025	-8.2	852,111	772,457	23,090	-9.3
Sag. Bay	101,181	101,342	2,761	0.2	614,456	618,802	21,175	0.7
SW LP	100,577	97,750	2,667	-2.8	679,481	633,793	21,694	-6.7
SC LP	117,566	116,149	2,909	-1.2	752,159	708,498	22,609	-5.8
SE LP	44,589	43,555	1,893	-2.3	262,128	250,649	13,285	-4.4
UP	111,412	105,292	1,637	-5.5	809,423	778,613	24,894	-3.8
NLP	300,924	281,152	3,044	-6.6	1,839,867	1,715,448	34,703	-6.8
SLP	319,370	313,003	3,476	-2.0	2,111,817	2,000,802	38,172	-5.3
Statewide[c]	683,951	652,798	2,696	-4.6	4,761,106	4,494,864	57,523	-5.6

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Muzzleloader								
West UP	17,193	18,543	1,235	7.9	85,599	92,537	6,930	8.1
East UP	6,958	7,125	787	2.4	32,901	34,430	4,289	4.6
NE LP	24,378	26,165	1,495	7.3	99,301	110,184	7,259	11.0
NW LP	30,244	29,965	1,582	-0.9	126,433	118,038	7,243	-6.6
Sag. Bay	32,188	35,175	1,715	9.3	130,007	143,953	8,242	10.7
SW LP	36,867	39,852	1,806	8.1	166,745	170,073	8,971	2.0
SC LP	41,161	43,574	1,892	5.9	174,643	179,314	9,074	2.7
SE LP	17,988	19,724	1,302	9.7	74,450	79,932	6,150	7.4
UP	23,966	25,537	1,449	6.6	118,500	126,968	8,150	7.1
NLP	62,505	66,015	2,298	5.6	260,039	271,024	11,155	4.2
SLP	115,922	124,191	2,979	7.1	511,540	530,469	15,789	3.7
Statewide[c]	194,809	207,666	3,613	6.6	890,079	928,461	21,061	4.3
Early Antlerless								
West UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	5,944	4,835	647	-18.7	20,062	16,684	2,605	-16.8
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SC LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	5,944	4,835	647	-18.7	20,062	16,684	2,605	-16.8
SLP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Statewide[c]	5,944	4,835	647	-18.7	20,062	16,684	2,625	-16.8

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Late Antlerless								
West UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	4,893	3,848	579	-21.3	17,110	14,927	2,764	-12.8
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	1,927	2,412	456	25.2	6,446	10,327	2,472	60.2
SW LP	13,781	12,955	1,013	-6.0	50,729	53,216	5,241	4.9
SC LP	9,489	9,752	892	2.8	34,421	38,866	4,518	12.9
SE LP	2,682	2,844	495	6.0	9,557	10,960	2,331	14.7
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	4,893	3,848	579	-21.3	17,110	14,927	2,764	-12.8
SLP	27,667	27,619	1,375	-0.2	101,153	113,368	7,709	12.1
Statewide[c]	32,799	31,898	1,444	-2.7	118,263	128,295	8,248	8.5
Youth								
West UP	848	676	125	-20.3	1,435	1,158	222	-19.3
East UP	224	273	80	21.6	355	474	143	33.4
NE LP	2,009	1,823	201	-9.3	3,499	3,230	376	-7.7
NW LP	3,810	4,034	285	5.9	6,138	6,890	538	12.2
Sag. Bay	3,526	4,077	287	15.6	5,845	6,775	531	15.9
SW LP	3,010	3,194	259	6.1	4,944	5,239	463	6.0
SC LP	3,978	4,327	300	8.8	6,472	6,929	541	7.1
SE LP	1,275	1,654	196	29.7	1,999	2,708	335	35.5
UP	1,072	934	146	-12.8	1,790	1,632	264	-8.8
NLP	6,716	7,035	351	4.7	11,127	12,172	720	9.4
SLP	10,830	11,960	405	10.4	17,770	19,599	902	10.3
Statewide[c]	18,520	19,947	363	7.7	30,687	33,402	1,188	8.8

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	2003	2004	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Early Antlerless in DMU 055								
West UP	753	771	28	2.4	1,841	2,050	85	11.3
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SC LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
UP	753	771	28	2.4	1,841	2,050	85	11.3
NLP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
SLP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Statewide[c]	753	771	28	2.4	1,841	2,050	85	11.3
All Seasons								
West UP	92,096	87,490	2,559	-5.0	967,185	945,779	38,876	-2.2
East UP	34,533	31,885	1,633	-7.7	320,400	319,633	23,615	-0.2
NE LP	147,547	137,084	3,129	-7.1	1,411,342	1,379,058	48,735	-2.3
NW LP	161,860	149,424	3,186	-7.7	1,796,642	1,656,773	56,119	-7.8
Sag. Bay	120,383	120,310	2,952	-0.1	1,501,249	1,499,002	55,756	-0.1
SW LP	115,295	116,544	2,859	1.1	1,684,378	1,661,775	60,839	-1.3
SC LP	137,504	137,266	3,103	-0.2	1,917,917	1,863,553	64,226	-2.8
SE LP	61,456	61,379	2,211	-0.1	822,096	857,641	44,961	4.3
UP	125,118	118,192	2,904	-5.5	1,287,585	1,265,412	45,486	-1.7
NLP	339,398	317,687	3,975	-6.4	3,657,823	3,535,268	80,704	-3.4
SLP	374,973	372,108	3,925	-0.8	5,475,801	5,382,533	109,397	-1.7
Statewide[c]	743,471	712,894	1,806	-4.1	10,421,209	10,183,213	143,729	-2.3

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.

Table 4. Mean number of days hunters spent hunting deer ($\bar{x}$ hunting effort) in Michigan by hunting season, 2004.[a]

	Season															
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzle-loader		Early Antlerless		Late Antlerless		Youth		Early Antlerless in DMU 055		All Seasons	
Area	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]	$\bar{x}$ days	95% CL[b]
West UP	11.3	0.6	7.5	0.1	5.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	2.9	0.1	10.8	0.3
East UP	10.0	1.0	6.9	0.2	4.9	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.5
NE LP	10.3	0.4	6.1	0.1	4.3	0.1	3.5	0.3	4.0	0.4	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1	0.3
NW LP	12.1	0.4	6.0	0.1	4.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.3
Sag. Bay	12.9	0.4	6.2	0.1	4.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.6	0.3
SW LP	14.2	0.5	6.5	0.1	4.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.4	0.4
SC LP	14.1	0.4	6.2	0.1	4.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.8	0.4
SE LP	13.9	0.6	5.8	0.2	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.5	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	14.1	0.5
UP	11.0	0.5	7.4	0.1	5.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	2.9	0.1	10.7	0.3
NLP	11.8	0.3	6.1	0.1	4.2	0.1	3.5	0.3	4.0	0.4	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.2	0.2
SLP	14.6	0.3	6.5	0.1	4.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.3	0.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6	0.2
Statewide	14.7	0.2	7.0	0.0	4.6	0.1	3.4	0.3	4.3	0.2	1.7	0.0	2.9	0.1	14.5	0.2

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Table 5. Number of deer harvested in Michigan, 2002-2004.

Season or permit	Type of deer	2002	2003	2004	Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Season					
Archery	Antlerless	53,258	57,299	57,658	0.6
	Antlered bucks	64,517	70,292	67,719	-3.7
	Sexes combined	117,775	127,592	125,377	-1.7
Regular firearm	Antlerless	133,524	136,625	118,028	-13.6
	Antlered bucks	165,412	169,720	146,793	-13.5
	Sexes combined	298,936	306,345	264,821	-13.6
Muzzleloader	Antlerless	20,792	31,684	32,215	1.7
	Antlered bucks	8,233	10,589	10,793	1.9
	Sexes combined	29,026	42,273	43,008	1.7
Early antlerless	Antlerless	2,307	2,875	1,640	-43.0
Late antlerless	Antlerless	17,876	9,165	9,905	8.1
Youth	Antlerless	2,004	2,325	1,991	-14.4
	Antlered bucks	3,142	3,872	4,350	12.4
	Sexes combined	5,146	6,197	6,341	2.3
DMU 055	Antlerless	811	798	713	-10.6
Special permits[a]	Antlerless	4,338	4,502	4,617	2.6
Grand Total	Antlerless	234,911	245,274	226,768	-7.5
	Antlered bucks	241,304	254,473	229,654	-9.8
	Sexes combined	476,215	499,747	456,422	-8.7

[a]Includes deer harvested with DMA permits. These permits could be used during any deer hunting season.

Table 6. Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2003 Harvest	Antlerless 2004 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2003 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2004 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Sexes Combined 2003 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2004 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Archery												
West UP	5,812	5,184	822	-10.8	4,482	2,948	515	-34.2	10,286	8,130	1,026	-21.0
East UP	1,645	1,336	368	-18.8	1,048	1,026	300	-2.1	2,690	2,362	525	-12.2
NE LP	6,848	5,560	769	-18.8	5,952	4,994	673	-16.1	12,792	10,553	1,088	-17.5
NW LP	8,884	8,276	1,016	-6.8	10,055	9,546	943	-5.1	18,937	17,822	1,498	-5.9
Sag. Bay	10,049	9,429	1,009	-6.2	12,311	11,160	1,040	-9.4	22,360	20,588	1,577	-7.9
SW LP	7,939	10,006	1,160	26.0	12,490	13,172	1,154	5.5	20,438	23,179	1,802	13.4
SC LP	10,243	11,485	1,209	12.1	16,828	17,524	1,319	4.1	27,084	29,011	1,972	7.1
SE LP	5,879	6,381	875	8.5	7,126	7,350	842	3.1	13,005	13,731	1,332	5.6
UP	7,457	6,520	901	-12.6	5,530	3,974	596	-28.1	12,976	10,492	1,152	-19.1
NLP	19,397	17,258	1,408	-11.0	19,268	17,268	1,261	-10.4	38,651	34,525	2,038	-10.7
SLP	30,445	33,879	2,057	11.3	45,495	46,477	2,148	2.2	75,965	80,360	3,266	5.8
Statewide	57,299	57,658	2,657	0.6	70,292	67,719	2,570	-3.7	127,592	125,377	4,030	-1.7
Regular Firearm												
West UP	11,206	8,858	945	-21.0	23,434	19,287	1,318	-17.7	34,639	28,151	1,718	-18.7
East UP	2,210	1,386	370	-37.3	5,552	4,821	646	-13.2	7,762	6,210	778	-20.0
NE LP	18,956	13,595	1,187	-28.3	26,078	20,306	1,381	-22.1	45,034	33,904	1,911	-24.7
NW LP	23,075	16,832	1,342	-27.1	25,443	21,550	1,407	-15.3	48,518	38,382	2,088	-20.9
Sag. Bay	21,434	20,379	1,520	-4.9	26,122	22,884	1,474	-12.4	47,557	43,261	2,291	-9.0
SW LP	24,488	22,697	1,623	-7.3	22,926	22,017	1,454	-4.0	47,414	44,710	2,406	-5.7
SC LP	29,119	27,521	1,791	-5.5	31,280	29,726	1,698	-5.0	60,399	57,243	2,693	-5.2
SE LP	6,135	6,760	842	10.2	8,886	6,201	758	-30.2	15,021	12,959	1,189	-13.7
UP	13,416	10,244	1,015	-23.6	28,986	24,108	1,468	-16.8	42,401	34,360	1,886	-19.0
NLP	47,675	36,429	1,969	-23.6	58,852	48,320	2,124	-17.9	106,528	84,751	3,081	-20.4
SLP	75,533	71,355	2,863	-5.5	81,882	74,365	2,669	-9.2	157,416	145,709	4,269	-7.4
Statewide	136,625	118,028	3,635	-13.6	169,720	146,793	3,726	-13.5	306,345	264,821	5,612	-13.6

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2003 Harvest	Antlerless 2004 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2003 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2004 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2003 to 2004	Sexes Combined 2003 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2004 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2003 to 2004
Muzzleloader												
West UP	3,086	2,548	485	-17.4	1,449	1,114	310	-23.1	4,535	3,661	605	-19.3
East UP	754	710	355	-5.8	451	562	231	24.5	1,205	1,270	429	5.4
NE LP	3,168	2,623	526	-17.2	981	962	290	-1.9	4,150	3,585	612	-13.6
NW LP	4,151	2,855	550	-31.2	1,006	937	283	-6.9	5,157	3,791	626	-26.5
Sag. Bay	5,257	6,482	808	23.3	1,700	1,622	380	-4.6	6,957	8,105	914	16.5
SW LP	6,083	6,151	819	1.1	2,277	2,338	451	2.7	8,361	8,488	969	1.5
SC LP	7,236	8,531	984	17.9	1,933	2,149	433	11.2	9,169	10,682	1,109	16.5
SE LP	1,949	2,316	461	18.9	791	1,108	310	40.1	2,740	3,424	571	25.0
UP	3,839	3,257	601	-15.2	1,900	1,676	387	-11.8	5,740	4,932	741	-14.1
NLP	8,580	7,402	881	-13.7	2,549	2,190	436	-14.1	11,129	9,593	994	-13.8
SLP	19,265	21,556	1,519	11.9	6,139	6,926	778	12.8	25,404	28,483	1,763	12.1
Statewide	31,684	32,215	1,861	1.7	10,589	10,793	977	1.9	42,273	43,008	2,162	1.7
Early Antlerless												
West UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	2,875	1,640	429	-43.0	0	0	0		2,875	1,640	429	-43.0
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SC LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	2,875	1,640	429	-43.0	0	0	0		2,875	1,640	429	-43.0
SLP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Statewide	2,875	1,640	429	-43.0	0	0	0		2,875	1,640	429	-43.0

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless				Antlered Bucks				Sexes Combined			
	2003 Harvest	2004 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004	2003 Harvest	2004 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004	2003 Harvest	2004 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2003 to 2004
Late Antlerless												
West UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	1,793	1,110	343	-38.1	0	0	0		1,793	1,110	343	-38.1
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	657	515	243	-21.6	0	0	0		657	515	243	-21.6
SW LP	3,704	4,347	719	17.4	0	0	0		3,704	4,347	719	17.4
SC LP	2,262	2,890	596	27.8	0	0	0		2,262	2,890	596	27.8
SE LP	750	1,043	346	39.2	0	0	0		750	1,043	346	39.2
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	1,793	1,110	343	-38.1	0	0	0		1,793	1,110	343	-38.1
SLP	7,372	8,795	1,025	19.3	0	0	0		7,372	8,795	1,025	19.3
Statewide	9,165	9,905	1,085	8.1	0	0	0		9,165	9,905	1,085	8.1
Youth												
West UP	104	44	32	-57.6	147	101	49	-31.4	251	145	58	-42.3
East UP	35	43	32	23.7	56	50	34	-9.9	91	93	47	3.0
NE LP	361	243	76	-32.6	361	288	82	-20.4	723	531	112	-26.5
NW LP	457	429	100	-5.9	796	870	142	9.3	1,253	1,300	174	3.8
Sag. Bay	486	401	97	-17.6	880	1,007	153	14.4	1,366	1,407	181	3.0
SW LP	250	322	87	28.8	440	582	117	32.4	690	905	145	31.1
SC LP	472	394	96	-16.7	913	1,165	165	27.6	1,385	1,558	190	12.5
SE LP	160	115	52	-28.3	279	288	82	3.0	439	402	97	-8.4
UP	139	87	45	-37.3	203	151	59	-25.4	341	238	74	-30.2
NLP	971	809	138	-16.7	1,381	1,431	183	3.6	2,352	2,240	229	-4.7
SLP	1,216	1,095	160	-9.9	2,289	2,768	254	21.0	3,504	3,863	300	10.3
Statewide	2,325	1,991	217	-14.4	3,872	4,350	320	12.4	6,197	6,341	386	2.3

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2003-2004.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2003 Harvest	Antlerless 2004 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2003 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2004 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Sexes Combined 2003 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2004 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Early Antlerless in DMU 055												
West UP	798	713	42	-10.6	0	0	0		798	713	42	-10.6
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SC LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SE LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
UP	798	713	42	-10.6	0	0	0		798	713	42	-10.6
NLP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
SLP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Statewide	798	713	42	-10.6	0	0	0		798	713	42	-10.6
All Seasons												
West UP	20,994	17,312	1,432	-17.5	29,496	23,445	1,478	-20.5	50,496	40,760	2,242	-19.3
East UP	4,642	3,478	668	-25.1	7,103	6,457	778	-9.1	11,748	9,937	1,105	-15.4
NE LP	34,006	24,762	1,749	-27.2	33,359	26,547	1,628	-20.4	67,362	51,310	2,622	-23.8
NW LP	36,573	28,401	1,900	-22.3	37,300	32,903	1,803	-11.8	73,872	61,307	2,905	-17.0
Sag. Bay	37,884	37,219	2,219	-1.8	41,019	36,673	1,951	-10.6	78,903	73,891	3,340	-6.4
SW LP	42,468	43,525	2,691	2.5	38,140	38,111	2,052	-0.1	80,602	81,632	3,870	1.3
SC LP	49,339	50,831	2,872	3.0	50,965	50,568	2,348	-0.8	100,303	101,398	4,256	1.1
SE LP	14,867	16,623	1,537	11.8	17,092	14,949	1,246	-12.5	31,960	31,570	2,221	-1.2
UP	25,636	20,789	1,581	-18.9	36,599	29,903	1,670	-18.3	62,244	50,697	2,500	-18.6
NLP	81,299	64,653	2,850	-20.5	82,037	69,207	2,622	-15.6	163,333	133,862	4,282	-18.0
SLP	133,837	136,708	4,618	2.1	135,837	130,544	3,756	-3.9	269,669	267,246	6,794	-0.9
Statewide	240,772	222,151	5,672	-7.7	254,473	229,654	4,891	-9.8	495,245	451,805	8,438	-8.8

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.

Table 7. Number of deer harvested on public and private lands during all seasons combined in Michigan by management region, 2003-2004.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2003 Harvest	Antlerless 2004 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2003 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2004 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)	Sexes Combined 2003 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2004 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2003 to 2004 (%)
Public Lands												
West UP	4,839	4,426	629	-8.5	10,468	8,550	888	-18.3	15,314	12,977	1,149	-15.3
East UP	678	639	235	-5.8	2,715	2,703	484	-0.4	3,397	3,344	557	-1.6
NE LP	7,564	4,982	693	-34.1	9,496	7,304	834	-23.1	17,056	12,285	1,167	-28.0
NW LP	4,007	2,333	460	-41.8	7,848	7,176	834	-8.6	11,859	9,513	981	-19.8
Sag. Bay	3,740	4,408	650	17.9	4,796	4,196	636	-12.5	8,534	8,601	983	0.8
SW LP	2,771	2,487	495	-10.3	2,692	2,359	468	-12.4	5,460	4,844	722	-11.3
SC LP	3,018	2,835	536	-6.1	3,095	2,957	531	-4.5	6,110	5,791	828	-5.2
SE LP	1,579	907	301	-42.6	1,426	968	297	-32.1	3,003	1,874	442	-37.6
UP	5,518	5,065	672	-8.2	13,183	11,253	1,011	-14.6	18,711	16,321	1,277	-12.8
NLP	12,856	9,038	920	-29.7	19,437	16,168	1,247	-16.8	32,293	25,208	1,641	-21.9
SLP	9,823	8,913	943	-9.3	9,916	8,793	911	-11.3	19,728	17,700	1,415	-10.3
Statewide	28,197	23,016	1,488	-18.4	42,535	36,213	1,853	-14.9	70,732	59,229	2,527	-16.3
Private Lands												
West UP	16,165	12,895	1,262	-20.2	19,033	14,905	1,171	-21.7	35,201	27,801	1,873	-21.0
East UP	3,964	2,840	619	-28.4	4,390	3,758	602	-14.4	8,355	6,598	940	-21.0
NE LP	26,458	19,789	1,583	-25.2	23,866	19,249	1,391	-19.3	50,323	39,038	2,301	-22.4
NW LP	32,565	26,066	1,837	-20.0	29,453	25,731	1,581	-12.6	62,016	51,797	2,695	-16.5
Sag. Bay	34,141	32,813	2,106	-3.9	36,221	32,474	1,835	-10.3	70,363	65,287	3,142	-7.2
SW LP	39,686	41,031	2,622	3.4	35,445	35,745	1,996	0.8	75,128	76,774	3,775	2.2
SC LP	46,308	47,988	2,816	3.6	47,865	47,601	2,284	-0.6	94,174	95,589	4,155	1.5
SE LP	13,287	15,713	1,506	18.3	15,665	13,979	1,207	-10.8	28,954	29,691	2,167	2.5
UP	20,130	15,735	1,406	-21.8	23,423	18,663	1,317	-20.3	43,555	34,399	2,095	-21.0
NLP	68,458	55,623	2,674	-18.7	62,606	53,050	2,289	-15.3	131,060	108,672	3,892	-17.1
SLP	123,987	127,777	4,498	3.1	125,909	121,729	3,635	-3.3	249,898	249,504	6,596	-0.2
Statewide	212,575	199,135	5,437	-6.3	211,938	193,441	4,506	-8.7	424,513	392,576	7,963	-7.5

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2004 estimate.

Table 8. Percentage of deer hunters harvesting deer in Michigan during all seasons, 2004.[a]

Sex and Area	Number of deer harvested									
	≥1 deer		≥2 deer		≥3 deer		≥4 deer		≥5 deer	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Antlerless										
West UP	15.5	1.1	2.9	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
East UP	9.2	1.5	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
NE LP	14.7	0.9	2.6	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
NW LP	15.1	0.9	2.8	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Sag. Bay	23.8	1.1	5.5	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1
SW LP	26.2	1.2	7.0	0.7	2.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.2
SC LP	26.9	1.1	6.6	0.6	2.0	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1
SE LP	20.9	1.5	4.4	0.8	1.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2
UP	13.9	0.9	2.5	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
NLP	16.2	0.6	3.1	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
SLP	26.4	0.7	6.8	0.4	2.1	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.1
Statewide	23.0	0.5	5.7	0.3	1.7	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.0
Antlered Bucks[c]										
West UP	24.9	1.3	1.7	0.4						
East UP	19.1	2.1	1.0	0.5						
NE LP	17.6	1.0	1.6	0.3						
NW LP	19.5	1.0	2.0	0.3						
Sag. Bay	26.0	1.2	3.6	0.5						
SW LP	27.4	1.2	4.9	0.6						
SC LP	30.6	1.2	5.4	0.6						
SE LP	21.1	1.5	2.8	0.6						
UP	23.7	1.1	1.6	0.3						
NLP	19.8	0.7	2.0	0.2						
SLP	29.8	0.7	5.3	0.3						
Statewide	28.1	0.5	4.3	0.2						

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season and deer taken with DMA permits.
[b]95% confidence limit.
[c]The season bag limit for antlered deer was two.

Table 8 (continued). Percentage of deer hunters harvesting deer in Michigan during all seasons, 2004.[a]

Sex and Area	Number of deer harvested									
	≥1 deer		≥2 deer		≥3 deer		≥4 deer		≥5 deer	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Sexes Combined										
West UP	36.0	1.5	7.6	0.8	1.5	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
East UP	25.8	2.3	4.1	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
NE LP	28.7	1.1	6.8	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
NW LP	30.5	1.1	7.8	0.6	1.8	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sag. Bay	42.5	1.3	13.5	0.9	3.8	0.5	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
SW LP	44.3	1.4	16.6	1.0	5.2	0.6	2.3	0.4	0.2	0.2
SC LP	47.3	1.3	17.8	1.0	5.2	0.6	1.7	0.3	0.2	0.2
SE LP	36.4	1.8	10.7	1.2	2.7	0.6	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.5
UP	33.7	1.3	6.8	0.6	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1
NLP	31.4	0.8	8.0	0.4	1.8	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
SLP	46.0	0.8	17.2	0.6	5.2	0.3	1.9	0.2	0.5	0.5
Statewide	42.6	0.5	14.4	0.4	4.2	0.2	1.5	0.1	0.6	0.1

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season and deer taken with DMA permits.
[b]95% confidence limit.
[c]The season bag limit for antlered deer was two.

Table 9. Percentage of deer hunters harvesting at least one deer in Michigan by hunting season, 2004.[a]

Sex and Area	Season															
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzleloader		Early Antlerless		Late Antlerless		Youth		Early Antlerless in DMU 055		All Seasons	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Antlerless																
West UP	17.7	2.3	9.9	1.0	12.5	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	4.6	62.8	2.0	15.5	1.1
East UP	12.7	3.2	4.6	1.2	8.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8	10.8	0.0	0.0	9.2	1.5
NE LP	10.0	1.3	10.1	0.8	8.9	1.7	29.5	6.2	26.8	6.8	13.4	3.9	0.0	0.0	14.7	0.9
NW LP	11.1	1.2	11.3	0.8	8.5	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.7	2.4	0.0	0.0	15.1	0.9
Sag. Bay	14.8	1.4	17.2	1.1	17.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	19.2	7.6	9.9	2.3	0.0	0.0	23.8	1.1
SW LP	14.4	1.4	19.7	1.2	14.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	28.4	3.7	10.1	2.6	0.0	0.0	26.2	1.2
SC LP	14.3	1.3	19.9	1.1	17.2	1.7	0.0	0.0	24.8	4.1	9.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	26.9	1.1
SE LP	14.4	1.7	14.1	1.6	11.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	31.9	8.3	6.9	3.1	0.0	0.0	20.9	1.5
UP	16.3	1.9	8.6	0.8	11.4	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.4	4.6	62.8	2.0	13.9	0.9
NLP	11.6	0.8	11.4	0.6	10.0	1.1	29.5	6.2	26.8	6.8	11.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	16.2	0.6
SLP	15.0	0.8	19.2	0.7	15.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	27.0	2.5	9.2	1.3	0.0	0.0	26.4	0.7
Statewide	15.3	0.6	15.6	0.4	14.0	0.7	28.6	6.0	27.0	2.4	10.0	1.0	62.6	1.9	23.0	0.5
Antlered Bucks																
West UP	11.9	1.9	23.6	1.4	5.9	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.9	6.7	0.0	0.0	24.9	1.3
East UP	10.7	3.0	17.4	2.1	7.5	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.4	11.4	0.0	0.0	19.1	2.1
NE LP	9.9	1.3	16.1	1.0	3.7	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.7	4.2	0.0	0.0	17.6	1.0
NW LP	14.4	1.3	16.0	1.0	3.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.5	3.2	0.0	0.0	19.5	1.0
Sag. Bay	18.4	1.5	21.3	1.2	4.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.6	3.3	0.0	0.0	26.0	1.2
SW LP	21.2	1.6	21.3	1.2	5.8	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.2	3.3	0.0	0.0	27.4	1.2
SC LP	24.2	1.5	23.9	1.2	4.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.9	3.3	0.0	0.0	30.6	1.2
SE LP	18.4	1.9	13.7	1.6	5.6	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.4	4.6	0.0	0.0	21.1	1.5
UP	11.6	1.6	22.1	1.2	6.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.1	5.9	0.0	0.0	23.7	1.1
NLP	12.9	0.9	16.5	0.7	3.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	19.8	0.7
SLP	22.5	0.9	22.4	0.7	5.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	29.8	0.7
Statewide	19.9	0.7	21.5	0.5	5.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	28.1	0.5

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season and deer taken with DMA permits.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Table 9 (continued). Percentage of deer hunters harvesting at least one deer in Michigan by hunting season, 2004.[a]

Sex and Area	Season															
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzleloader		Early Antlerless		Late Antlerless		Youth		Early Antlerless in DMU 055		All Seasons	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Sexes combined																
West UP	27.3	2.7	31.2	1.5	17.7	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.4	7.7	62.8	2.0	36.0	1.5
East UP	20.8	3.9	21.1	2.3	15.4	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.2	14.0	0.0	0.0	25.8	2.3
NE LP	18.4	1.6	24.6	1.2	12.3	1.9	29.5	6.2	26.8	6.8	29.1	5.2	0.0	0.0	28.7	1.1
NW LP	23.2	1.6	25.2	1.1	11.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.2	3.6	0.0	0.0	30.5	1.1
Sag. Bay	30.2	1.8	34.9	1.4	20.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	19.2	7.6	34.5	3.6	0.0	0.0	42.5	1.3
SW LP	32.0	1.8	35.9	1.4	18.9	1.9	0.0	0.0	28.4	3.7	28.3	3.9	0.0	0.0	44.3	1.4
SC LP	34.0	1.7	39.0	1.3	21.2	1.8	0.0	0.0	24.8	4.1	36.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	47.3	1.3
SE LP	29.4	2.2	26.1	2.0	16.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	31.9	8.3	24.3	5.2	0.0	0.0	36.4	1.8
UP	25.6	2.2	28.7	1.3	17.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.5	6.9	62.8	2.0	33.7	1.3
NLP	22.3	1.1	25.9	0.8	13.2	1.2	29.5	6.2	26.8	6.8	31.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	31.4	0.8
SLP	33.4	1.0	37.0	0.8	20.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	27.0	2.5	32.3	2.1	0.0	0.0	46.0	0.8
Statewide	31.3	0.8	33.5	0.5	18.5	0.8	28.6	6.0	27.0	2.4	32.0	1.6	62.6	1.9	42.6	0.5

[a]Excludes people that did not hunt during the season and deer taken with DMA permits.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Appendix A. Number of deer hunters, days spent hunting, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2004, summarized by Deer Management Unit.

Appendix A. Number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2004, summarized by Deer Management Unit.

					Deer harvested (all seasons combined)[a]					
	Hunters[b,c]		Hunting effort (days)[b]		Antlerless		Antlered bucks		Sexes combined	
DMU[d]	No.	95% CL[e]	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL
001	9,033	887	82,064	12,300	1,639	483	1,681	405	3,320	711
003	15,760	1,152	204,086	21,607	4,508	846	3,999	657	8,507	1,221
004	5,290	681	53,944	9,494	1,196	366	1,084	302	2,280	493
005	7,173	787	67,454	10,835	1,246	393	1,313	356	2,559	584
006	9,659	905	113,479	15,287	3,040	634	2,581	504	5,621	910
007	9,892	925	107,826	14,167	584	244	2,161	450	2,745	548
008	15,712	1,146	199,448	20,986	6,715	1,072	5,134	756	11,849	1,478
009	4,599	623	52,703	10,151	893	344	1,148	329	2,040	527
010	5,018	663	51,733	10,122	340	185	1,026	339	1,365	392
011	6,095	726	81,020	13,632	1,117	382	1,689	422	2,806	630
012	8,253	840	105,682	15,743	4,486	892	3,221	612	7,707	1,242
013	13,037	1,046	170,776	19,300	6,022	1,142	4,796	727	10,818	1,571
014	7,114	787	98,186	14,742	2,948	789	2,248	486	5,197	1,062
015	5,472	683	61,845	10,920	1,035	365	1,422	381	2,457	593
016	7,897	829	76,072	11,673	610	232	1,515	391	2,124	478
017	7,096	783	73,482	11,281	903	314	1,480	385	2,383	546
018	18,808	1,260	202,148	19,667	4,411	750	4,001	632	8,413	1,082
019	11,635	995	131,854	15,934	3,180	662	3,284	597	6,463	1,015
020	11,557	1,000	112,183	15,039	1,405	379	1,558	399	2,962	599
021	11,904	1,011	111,632	13,056	646	227	2,959	523	3,604	595
022	12,842	1,050	118,410	13,924	3,325	796	3,233	553	6,558	1,067
023	10,991	971	128,122	15,914	3,293	657	4,056	659	7,349	1,067
024	5,404	683	58,242	10,317	1,069	377	1,663	421	2,732	609
025	11,221	982	153,840	19,350	2,672	571	2,465	498	5,137	865
026	16,969	1,201	184,906	19,202	4,024	699	3,204	569	7,228	1,012
027	8,587	863	71,971	10,148	1,485	387	1,417	362	2,901	572
028	7,514	802	79,336	12,797	423	187	1,281	360	1,705	421
029	8,989	872	102,198	14,150	3,224	675	3,151	581	6,375	1,013
030	11,183	974	142,311	18,170	4,161	764	3,648	645	7,809	1,143
032	11,854	1,003	116,986	14,111	3,099	635	4,443	697	7,542	1,070
033	9,725	911	126,011	16,854	3,263	686	3,500	617	6,763	1,047
034	13,055	1,046	160,121	18,624	5,336	981	5,342	758	10,678	1,399

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 4,617 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]Column totals for hunting effort and harvest may not equal regional and statewide totals because of rounding errors.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one DMU.
[d]See Figure 2 for the locations of DMUs.
[e]95% confidence limit.

Appendix A (continued). Number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2004, summarized by Deer Management Unit.

					Deer harvested (all seasons combined)[a]					
	Hunters[b,c]		Hunting effort (days)[b]		Antlerless		Antlered bucks		Sexes combined	
DMU[d]	No.	95% CL[e]	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL
035	11,097	976	113,285	14,552	2,354	532	2,202	459	4,556	826
036	6,200	732	53,381	8,367	1,260	405	1,514	379	2,774	613
037	11,387	983	131,493	16,819	4,214	769	4,679	723	8,893	1,220
038	17,982	1,225	241,661	23,687	6,877	1,164	6,635	879	13,512	1,734
039	9,159	889	106,311	14,463	2,646	618	2,467	527	5,113	950
040	10,646	959	106,898	14,855	466	196	1,536	382	2,002	439
041	17,430	1,210	211,982	21,102	4,153	752	4,662	716	8,815	1,171
042	3,098	523	37,364	8,237	122	122	614	231	736	261
043	19,907	1,296	177,594	18,113	2,435	526	2,283	470	4,718	779
044	16,848	1,184	228,511	23,027	6,036	987	4,913	729	10,950	1,380
045	4,055	588	46,798	10,342	334	167	844	290	1,178	360
046	9,339	893	120,231	16,152	2,577	557	2,596	527	5,173	858
047	14,705	1,117	191,423	21,473	4,170	704	4,195	644	8,364	1,123
048	6,064	728	57,593	9,817	147	113	929	285	1,076	313
049	9,824	923	98,750	13,546	1,657	517	1,939	420	3,596	727
050	4,120	593	48,443	9,917	1,102	353	746	267	1,849	488
051	12,704	1,040	112,754	14,153	2,266	569	2,029	432	4,294	817
053	12,356	1,024	133,203	15,971	3,194	728	2,963	549	6,157	1,016
054	15,720	1,152	154,157	16,060	4,432	738	4,635	683	9,068	1,128
055	14,447	1,030	148,917	14,098	5,166	614	4,935	643	10,101	992
056	12,685	1,037	173,088	19,844	4,834	845	3,290	580	8,124	1,168
057	11,636	996	116,767	14,495	1,960	486	2,336	496	4,296	751
058	4,901	651	60,460	11,341	426	210	596	224	1,022	323
059	18,948	1,259	227,561	21,942	7,412	1,221	7,356	892	14,768	1,720
060	9,951	931	78,320	10,258	1,418	393	1,444	360	2,862	581
061	9,999	915	138,605	17,643	2,050	451	1,970	439	4,020	700
062	26,359	1,471	290,532	24,191	5,532	844	5,827	758	11,359	1,281
063	12,910	1,049	159,655	19,397	2,995	684	2,889	548	5,884	980
064	10,867	955	119,687	15,022	2,218	540	2,827	522	5,045	849
065	16,491	1,185	164,075	16,645	3,834	713	3,630	636	7,464	1,046
066	12,654	1,045	126,710	13,827	745	275	3,205	558	3,949	635
067	14,044	1,094	134,876	15,451	2,936	576	3,360	570	6,296	897

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[b]Column totals for hunting effort and harvest may not equal regional and statewide totals because of rounding errors.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one DMU.
[d]See Figure 2 for the locations of DMUs.
[e]95% confidence limit.

Appendix A (continued). Number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2004, summarized by Deer Management Unit.

					Deer harvested (all seasons combined)[a]					
	Hunters[b,c]		Hunting effort (days)[b]		Antlerless		Antlered bucks		Sexes combined	
DMU[d]	No.	95% CL[e]	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL	No.	95% CL
068	11,450	997	92,221	11,330	1,396	408	1,120	338	2,516	554
069	7,668	819	61,455	9,498	724	276	1,080	328	1,804	459
070	10,596	944	135,802	17,122	2,506	546	2,609	544	5,115	863
071	8,908	883	82,365	10,948	1,919	490	2,071	455	3,990	735
072	16,615	1,190	153,301	16,203	2,232	521	2,206	454	4,437	772
073	9,270	881	127,572	17,473	2,194	532	2,551	506	4,745	819
074	13,318	1,063	186,202	21,514	3,151	628	3,212	580	6,363	958
075	6,410	743	88,020	13,751	3,383	836	2,247	517	5,630	1,157
076	15,730	1,150	170,514	18,356	4,833	815	5,489	747	10,322	1,250
078	10,508	942	139,337	18,393	3,434	779	3,225	613	6,659	1,130
079	16,972	1,190	206,451	21,016	5,151	803	4,814	710	9,966	1,201
080	8,809	868	124,292	17,960	2,934	598	3,089	588	6,023	958
081	12,186	1,019	155,452	18,809	3,839	806	3,608	616	7,447	1,147
082	1,346	341	20,511	7,023	121	103	136	124	257	197
083	14,061	1,096	134,477	15,943	1,827	479	1,950	424	3,777	691
115	628	234	5,348	2,557	291	185	87	105	378	222
117	1,814	400	13,332	3,461	170	122	371	191	540	245
121	3,591	560	37,248	7,893	834	390	666	257	1,500	494
122	1,629	376	21,388	7,465	457	207	652	254	1,109	382
135	645	238	4,551	2,289	170	138	56	67	225	154
145	24	46	170	323	0	0	0	0	0	0
149	494	209	3,866	1,880	147	113	128	104	275	179
152	4,857	651	48,778	9,034	251	185	689	261	941	333
155	5,465	682	54,356	8,567	1,453	403	1,141	321	2,595	570
173	2,147	429	19,604	6,488	429	213	445	203	874	308
174	258	149	1,275	994	97	146	0	0	97	146
245	48	66	218	295	0	0	24	46	24	46
252	3,043	512	32,062	7,351	593	250	650	262	1,243	412
255	3,940	577	36,398	7,469	1,054	343	1,231	337	2,285	523
452	12,747	1,051	115,494	14,421	2,299	537	2,357	477	4,656	773

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[b]Column totals for hunting effort and harvest may not equal regional and statewide totals because of rounding errors.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one DMU.
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