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MICHIGAN DEER HARVEST SURVEY REPORT 2008 SEASONS

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ABSTRACT

A survey of deer hunters was conducted following the 2008 hunting seasons to estimate hunter participation, harvest, and hunting effort. In 2008, an estimated 694,000 hunters spent 9.7 million days afield. Statewide, the number of people hunting deer increased 2% and their hunting effort was unchanged between 2007 and 2008. Hunters harvested nearly 490,000 deer, approximately the same number taken in 2007. Statewide, 47% of hunters harvested a deer. About 25% of the hunters took an antlerless deer and 32% took an antlered buck. About 16% of deer hunters harvested two or more deer. About 50% of deer hunters statewide supported antler point restrictions on buck harvest in the Upper Peninsula (UP), and 56% of the hunters that preferred to hunt in the UP supported these restrictions.

INTRODUCTION

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC) and Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have the authority and responsibility to protect and manage the wildlife resources of the state of Michigan. Harvest surveys are one of the management tools used to accomplish this statutory responsibility. Estimating hunter participation, harvest, and hunting effort (hereafter referred to as estimates) 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, trends in deer-vehicle collisions, population modeling, and input received from the public are used to monitor deer populations and establish harvest regulations.

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Estimating harvest, hunter numbers, and hunting effort were the primary objectives of the deer harvest survey. This survey also provided an opportunity to collect information about management issues. Questions were added to the questionnaire to investigate hunter satisfaction with the 2008 hunting season and deer numbers. Deer hunters were also asked whether they supported the antler point restrictions that were enacted in the UP, and questions were added to investigate whether these restrictions had influenced deer hunting activity (hunting effort, harvest, and satisfaction) in the UP.

During 2008, white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) could be harvested primarily during the following hunting seasons: youth, archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, early antlerless, late antlerless, and special hunts for disabled hunters. In order to harvest a deer, hunters had to possess a hunting license (firearm, archery, combination, or antlerless license) (Table 1).

A harvest tag was issued as part of the hunting license. Hunters could purchase a maximum of two licenses 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, two antlered deer during the firearm season, or one deer during each season (Table 1). If two antlered deer were taken, regardless of type of license, one needed to have at least one antler with four or more points (qualifying points must be at least one inch).

New antler point restrictions were adopted in 2008 for the taking of antlered deer (bucks) in the UP. Under this new regulation, the regular buck tag of a combination deer license could only be used to tag a buck with at least three antler points on one side. The restricted tag could only be placed on a buck with a minimum of four points on one side. Hunters who chose not to purchase the combination tag were restricted to one buck only (without any new antler point restrictions) in the UP, all seasons combined, even if they purchased both archery and firearms licenses.

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 three inches during any season with equipment appropriate for the season. Use of each antlerless license was restricted to a single deer management unit (DMU) designated at the time of purchase. Antlerless licenses were available for most of the state, except in nine DMUs (007, 021, 027, 036, 042, 048, 066, 131, and 152) in the UP and four DMUs (010, 028, 040, and 072) in the Lower Peninsula (LP). Antlerless licenses were issued specifically for either public or private lands. Public land antlerless licenses were not available in all DMUs that had private land licenses. The number of licenses available in DMUs open to antlerless deer hunting was established by the NRC (Appendix A).

A private land antlerless deer hunting license was valid for taking antlerless deer only from privately-owned lands within the DMU specified on the license with permission of the

landowner. A private land license was not valid on land enrolled in the Commercial Forest Act program (Commercial Forest Lands). Antlerless licenses for DMUs where demand was expected to exceed supply were allocated using a random drawing. In DMUs where supply of licenses was expected to exceed demand, antlerless licenses could be purchased directly from a license vendor on a first-come, first-served basis. To purchase a private land antlerless license, hunters had to provide the contact phone number of the private landowner granting permission to deer hunt in the DMU. Hunters were limited to a maximum of five private land antlerless deer licenses, of which no more than two could be for the UP and the Northern LP, excluding the area in the northeast LP where management focuses on eradication of bovine tuberculosis from the deer herd. Hunters could purchase one private land antlerless deer license each day, up to the season limit of five.

A public land antlerless deer hunting license allowed an individual to hunt for antlerless deer on publicly-owned lands (including state, federal, and county lands) open to hunting and Commercial Forest Lands within the DMU for which it was issued. A public land license was invalid on any privately-owned lands except Commercial Forest Lands. Antlerless licenses for use on public lands were allocated among people that applied for these licenses using a random drawing. In select DMUs, licenses available after the drawing was completed were made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters could purchase one left-over antlerless license for public lands per day until the license quota had been met. Hunters could not purchase both a public land and private land antlerless license on the same day.

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 (e.g., controlling disease, crop damage, or deer abundance). These permits allowed hunters to take one 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 also must have purchased a valid deer hunting license for the season in which they were hunting and abide by all other hunting regulations.

Managed Deer Hunt permits were antlerless permits that could be used during special seasons on some public lands (e.g., state parks, state wildlife areas, and some federal land). These permits were issued by special random drawings. To use these permits, the hunter also must have purchased a valid deer hunting license and abide by all other hunting regulations.

The youth firearm season was held during September 27-28 on public and private lands statewide. Youths 10-16 years of age could take one deer of either sex using a firearm license or combination license. Only an antlerless deer could be taken with an antlerless license or DMA permit. Youths participating during this season had to be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. Youths 10 and 11 years of age were restricted to archery-only equipment. Youths 12 and 13 years of age could use archery equipment or firearms, but firearm hunting was restricted to only private land. 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 (October 1 through November 14 and December 1, 2008, through January 1, 2009). Archery licenses, antlerless licenses, combination licenses, and DMA permits could be used to take deer during the archery seasons using archery equipment.

Deer could also be taken during the special disabled firearm hunt October 16-19, 2008. Hunters could take deer on private lands or public lands requiring an access permit. Only hunters that were issued a permit to hunt from a standing vehicle; veterans with 100% disability as defined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and legally blind people could participate in this season. A veteran with 100% disability also could take a deer during the youth firearm season (September 27-28).

The statewide regular firearm season occurred November 15-30. The muzzleloader season was held December 5-14 in the Upper Peninsula (UP), December 12-21 in the northern LP, and December 5-21 in the southern 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 early antlerless firearm season occurred from September 18-22. Hunters pursuing deer during this season had to have purchased an antlerless license and possess an unused antlerless harvest tag (including DMA permits) and were limited to hunting on private land. The area open to hunting during the early antlerless season was limited to all or portions of 47 counties in the LP (Alcona, Allegan, Alpena, Arenac, Barry, Bay, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Iosco, Isabella, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Mecosta, Midland, Monroe, Montcalm, Montmorency, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Oscoda, Ottawa, Presque Isle, Saginaw, St. Clair, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Van Buren, Washtenaw, and Wayne).

The late antlerless firearm season occurred from December 22, 2008, through January 1, 2009. Hunters pursuing deer during this season had to have purchased an antlerless license and possess an unused antlerless harvest tag (including DMA permits) and were limited to hunting on private land. The area open to hunting during the late antlerless season was limited to 35 counties in the LP (Alcona, Allegan, Alpena, Barry, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Clinton, Crawford, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Huron, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Montcalm, Montmorency, Oakland, Oscoda, Otsego, Ottawa, Presque Isle, St. Joseph, Sanilac, Shiawassee, Tuscola, Van Buren, and Washtenaw).

METHODS

The Wildlife Division provided all hunters the option to report information about their deer hunting activity voluntarily via the internet. This option was advertised through a statewide news release and on the DNR web site, and an email message was sent to all license buyers

that had provided an email address to the DNR (76,452 licensees). Hunters reported whether they hunted, the days spent afield, and whether they harvested a deer. Following the 2008 deer hunting seasons, a questionnaire was sent to 51,122 randomly selected individuals who had purchased a hunting license (firearm, archery, antlerless, or combination deer hunting licenses) and had not already voluntarily reported harvest information via the internet. 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 primarily 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 CL 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 five groups (strata) based on the type of license purchased and season that it was valid. The first stratum consisted of people eligible only for the archery, regular firearm, and muzzleloader hunting seasons (N = 452,078). The second stratum consisted of people eligible to hunt during archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, early antlerless, and late antlerless seasons (N = 233,577). The third stratum consisted of people eligible to hunt during archery, regular firearm, muzzleloader, late antlerless, and youth seasons (N = 39,356). The fourth stratum consisted of people eligible to hunt in the disabled hunts (N = 938). The fifth stratum consisted of people that had voluntarily reported information about their hunting activity via the internet before the random sample was selected (N = 8,049). The random sample consisted of 28,823 people from the first stratum, 14,485 from the second stratum, 6,880 from the third stratum, and 938 from the fourth stratum. The stratified sampling design accounted for the varying probabilities of being selected from the 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 (Albert 1995), except in the UP, where two ecoregions were combined. Ecoregions are regions having similar soils, vegetation, climate, geology, and physiography. Estimates were also calculated for each DMU (Figure 2, Appendix B). Deer harvested from unknown locations were allocated among areas in proportion to the known harvest.

Statistical tests are used routinely to determine the likelihood that the differences among estimates are larger than expected by chance alone. The overlap of 95% confidence intervals was used to determine whether estimates differed. Non-overlapping 95% confidence intervals was equivalent to stating that the difference between the means was larger than would be expected 995 out of 1,000 times, if the study had been repeated (Payton et al. 2003).

Questionnaires were initially mailed during mid-January 2009, and two follow-up questionnaires were mailed to nonrespondents. To increase the number of questionnaires returned, respondents that returned their questionnaire promptly were eligible to win a prize of a firearm or bow. Although 51,122 people were sent the questionnaire, 1,175 surveys were undeliverable resulting in an adjusted sample size of 49,947. Questionnaires were returned by 29,554 people (59% 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 some previous years. To reduce bias caused by this lower response rate, an adjustment was made on the 2008 estimates to make them comparable to the 2007 estimates (74% response rate). Estimates of harvest, hunting effort, and hunter numbers were reduced by 3.6, 2.7, and 1.2%, respectively, to make estimates comparable to 2007. These reductions reflected the average decline noted between estimates calculated when 65 and 74% of the responses were used in 2000 and 2001 surveys.

RESULTS

In 2008, 733,998 people purchased a license to hunt deer in Michigan. The number of people buying a license in 2008 increased 1% from 2007 (724,239 people purchased a license in 2007). Most of the people buying a license were male (91%), and the average age of license buyers was 42 years (Figure 3). Nearly 9.1% (67,158) of the license buyers were younger than 17 years old. Less than 1% (5,782) of the license buyers were younger than 12 years old.

The number of 2008 deer harvest tags sold for all license types combined increased nearly 7% from 2007 (Table 2). License buyers were issued an average of 2.2 harvest tags. About 89% of the license buyers obtained three or fewer harvest tags, and nearly 99% had five or fewer harvest tags (Figure 4). Hunters most frequently obtained antlerless and combination harvest tags (Figure 5). About 49% of the license buyers purchased at least one antlerless license (359,371 people), and greater than 98% of antlerless license buyers purchased three or fewer antlerless licenses, public and private licenses combined (Figure 6).

The number of hunting licenses sold (including antlerless licenses) increased by nearly 4%, while the number of harvest tags issued increased 7% between 2007 and 2008 (Table 2).

The increase in harvest tags issued was greater than the increase in license sales because combination licenses included two harvest tags.

The antlerless license quota on private lands was increased 8% from 547,300 in 2007 to 572,200 licenses in 2008 (Appendix A). The quota for public land antlerless licenses increased about 16% from 56,900 to 65,900 between 2007 and 2008. The number of antlerless licenses sold increased 19% between 2007 and 2008 (Table 2).

About 94.5 $\pm$ 0.2% (693,817 hunters) of the people buying a license in 2008 actually spent time hunting deer (Table 3). Most hunters (642,317) pursued deer during the regular firearm season (Figure 7). Statewide, the number of people hunting deer during all seasons combined increased nearly 2%.

Hunter participation (number of hunters) decreased significantly during the archery (-5%), muzzleloader (-5%), late antlerless (-11%) and youth (-7%) seasons (Table 3). In contrast, significantly greater number of people hunted during the regular firearm season (4% increase).

About 45% of the days hunters spent pursuing deer throughout the state occurred in the regular firearm season (Figure 9). About 42% of the hunting effort occurred during the archery season. Nearly 13% of the hunting effort occurred in the other hunting seasons (muzzleloader, early antlerless, late antlerless, youth, and disabled hunter seasons). Statewide, hunters devoted an average of 14.4 days afield hunting deer during all seasons combined (Table 4). Archers had the greatest number of days available to hunt deer (77 days) and devoted the greatest number of days afield ($\bar{x}$ = 14.6 days/hunter) (Figure 10, Table 4). For all seasons combined, hunting effort statewide was nearly unchanged between 2007 and 2008 (Table 3). Hunting effort decreased significantly during the muzzleloader (-6%), late antlerless (-24%), and youth (-8%) seasons, while increasing 4% during the regular firearm season. Hunting effort during the archery season was not significantly different between 2007 and 2008.

Nearly 490,000 deer were harvested in 2008, nearly unchanged from the number taken in 2007 (Figure 11, Tables 5-6). Statewide, the harvest of antlerless deer increased 12%, but harvest of antlered deer decreased 7% from last year (Table 5). Between 2007 and 2008, deer harvest decreased significantly during the archery (-16%), late antlerless (-16%), and youth (-21%) seasons. Harvest in the regular firearm season increased 7%, while harvest in the muzzleloader season did not change significantly between 2007 and 2008.

About 61% of the deer harvested (sexes combined) in 2008 were taken during the regular firearm season (Figure 13). Nearly 53% of the antlerless deer and 69% of the antlered bucks were harvested in the regular firearm season. Hunters took 22% of the harvested deer (sexes combined) during archery season. During the archery season, hunters took 20% of the antlerless deer and 24% of the antlered bucks harvested.

About 87% of the animals harvested (sexes combined) in 2008 were taken on private lands (Table 7). Statewide, most of the antlerless deer (90%) and antlered bucks (84%) were harvested on private lands.

Statewide, 47% of the deer hunters harvested at least one deer (all deer seasons and sexes combined) in 2008 (Figure 14, Table 8). About 25% of the hunters took an antlerless deer, and 32% took an antlered buck. About 16% of deer hunters harvested two or more deer.

Hunters were most successful in taking a deer during the regular firearm season (Figure 15, Table 9); 38% of the hunters in this season took a deer. Nearly 26% of the hunters took an antlered buck and 17% harvested an antlerless deer during the regular firearm season. Among the major seasons, hunter success was lowest in the muzzleloader season (21% successful).

Deer hunters were asked to report how satisfied they were with (1) number of deer seen, (2) number of antlered deer [bucks] seen, (3) number of deer taken, and (4) their overall hunting experience. Statewide, less than 50% of hunters were satisfied with numbers of deer seen, bucks seen, deer taken, and their overall hunting experience in 2008 (Tables 10-13). Highest levels of satisfaction were reported among hunters in the southern LP.

Statewide, about 50% of hunters supported the antler point restrictions on buck harvest implemented for the UP (Table 14), however, most (75-83%) hunters in Michigan reported they were not impacted by the antler point restrictions (Tables 15-18).

About 56% of the hunters that preferred to hunt in the UP supported the antler point restrictions. Among hunters preferring to hunt in the UP, 73% reported no change in their hunting effort as a result of these restrictions (Table 15). About 10% of UP hunters reported their overall harvest of deer increased because of the restrictions, but 35% reported their harvest of deer decreased (Table 16). Similarly, 5% of UP hunters reported their harvest of antlerless deer increased, but 11% reported their harvest of antlerless deer decreased because of the restrictions (Table 17). Nearly 51% of UP hunters reported the restrictions did not affect their overall satisfaction with their deer hunting experience (Table 18). In contrast, 10% of UP hunters reported improved overall satisfaction while 35% reported decreased satisfaction.

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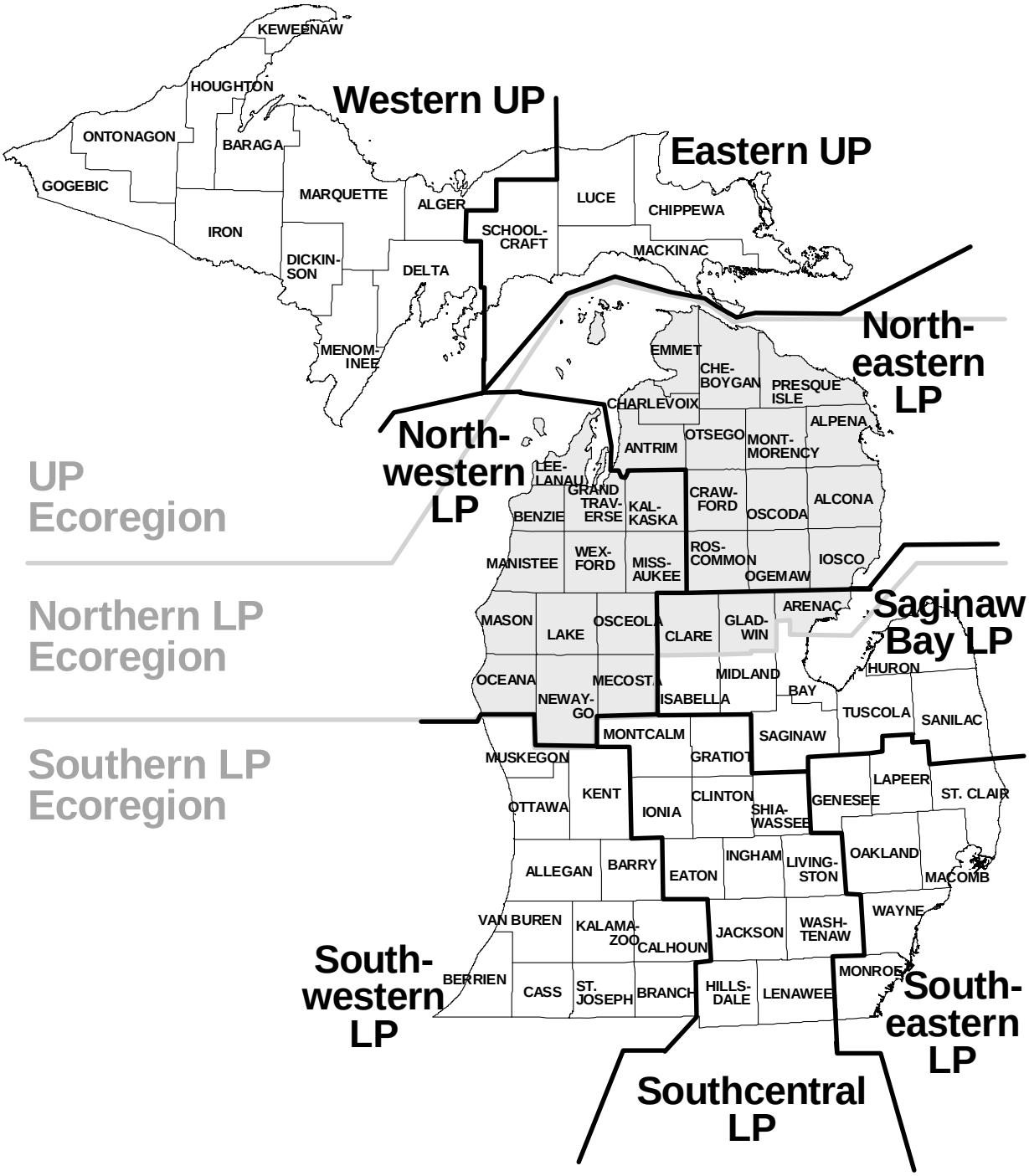

Figure 1. Areas used to summarize deer harvest in Michigan for the 2008 hunting seasons.

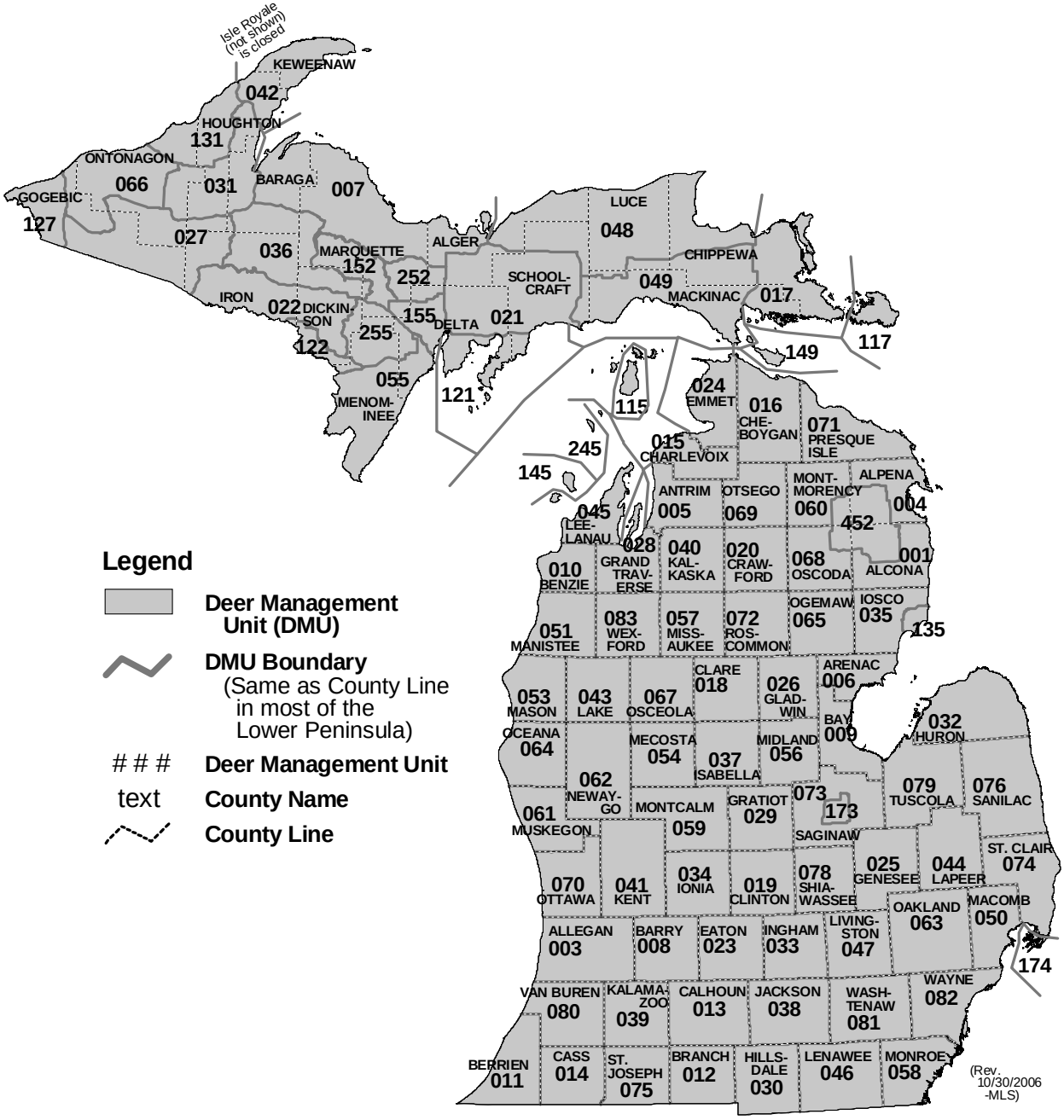

Figure 2. Deer Management Units in Michigan for the 2008 hunting seasons.

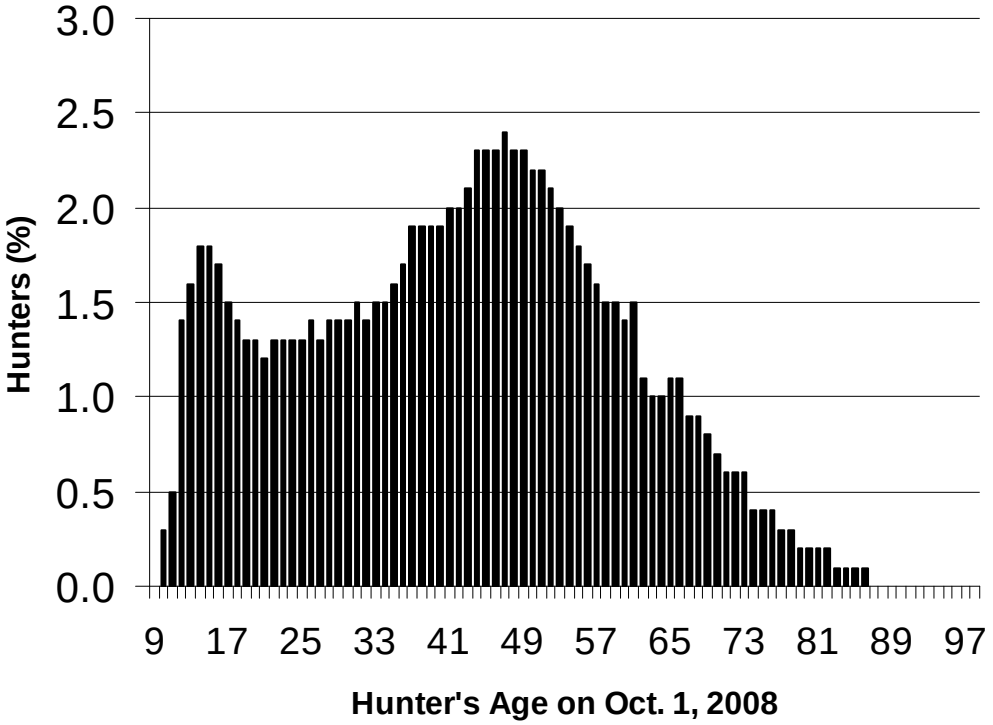

Figure 3. Age of people that purchased a deer hunting license in Michigan for the 2008 hunting seasons ($\bar{x}$ = 42 years).

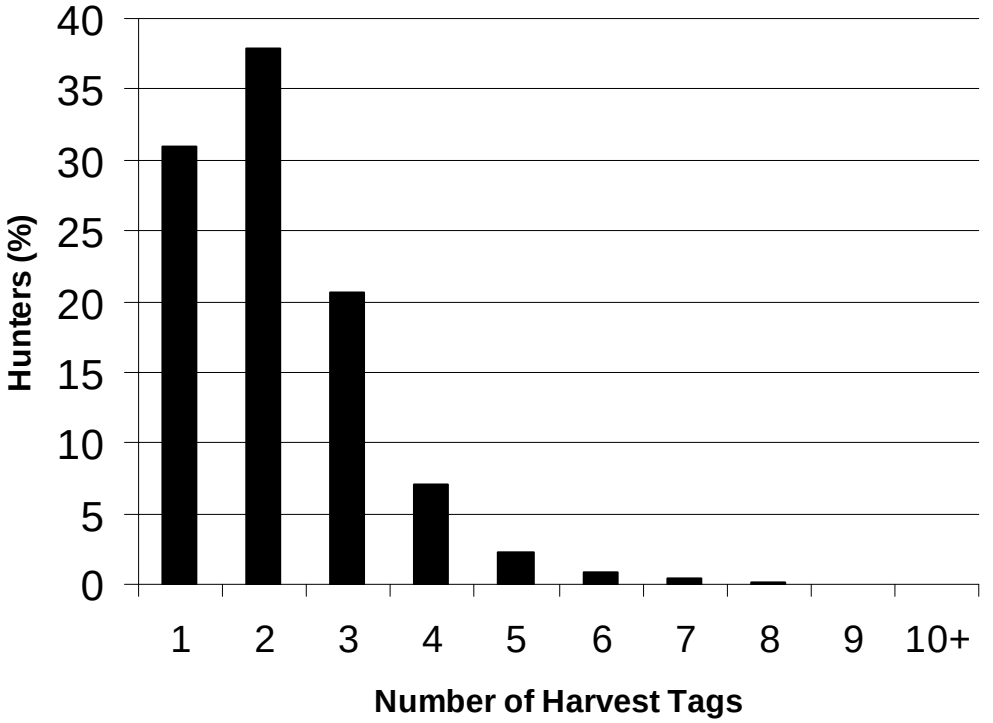

Figure 4. Number of harvest tags (all license and tag types) issued per person for hunting deer in Michigan during the 2008 hunting seasons ($\bar{x}$ = 2.2 tags). Licenses were purchased by 733,998 people.

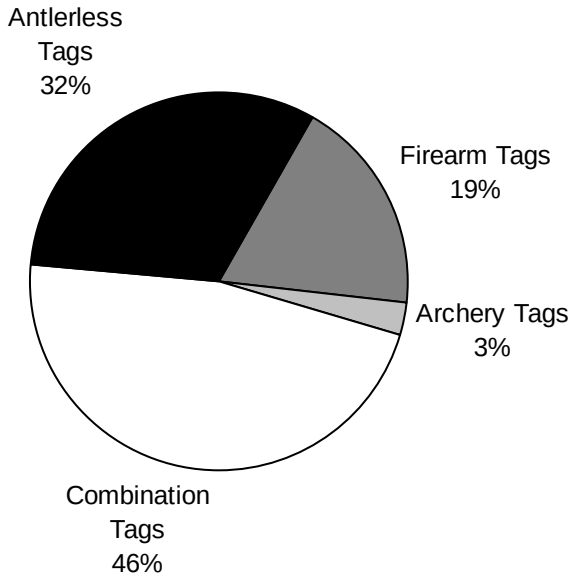

Figure 5. Types of harvest tags issued for deer hunting in Michigan during the 2008 hunting seasons.

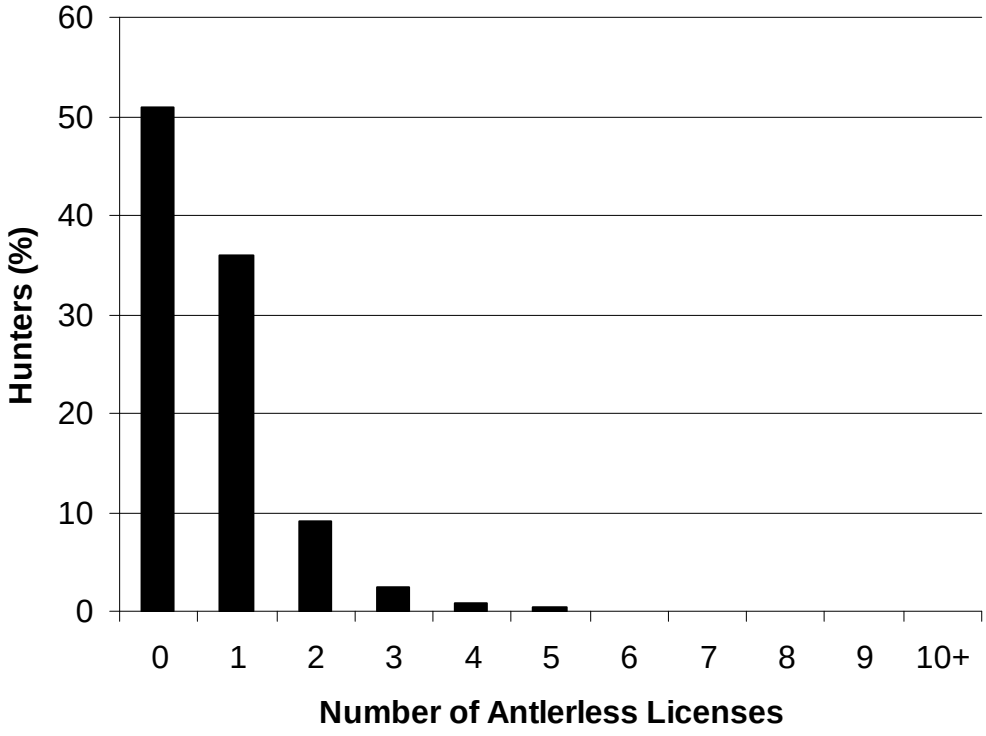

Figure 6. Percentage of deer hunting license buyers (all license types) purchasing an antlerless license in Michigan, 2008. Antlerless licenses were purchased by 359,371 of 733,998 people (49%) buying deer hunting licenses.

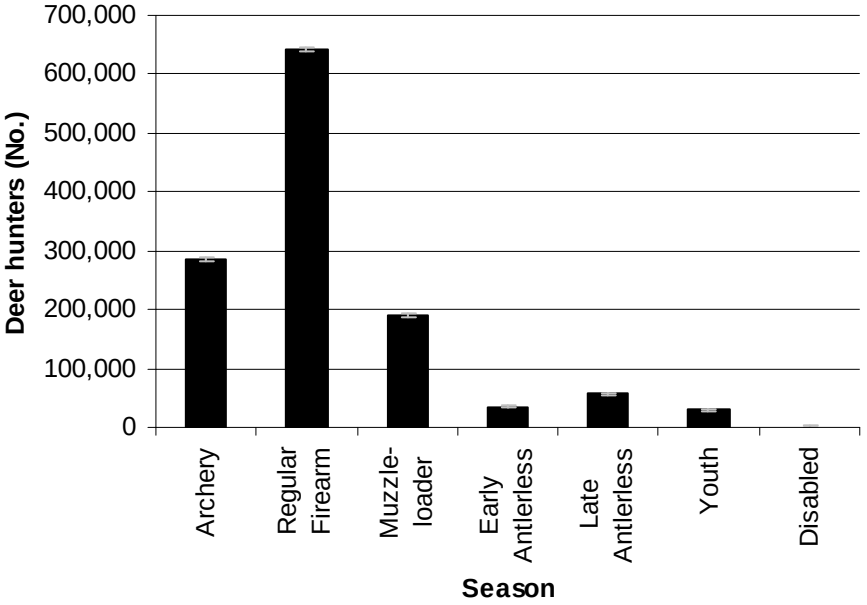

Figure 7. Number of people hunting deer in Michigan during the 2008 hunting seasons. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

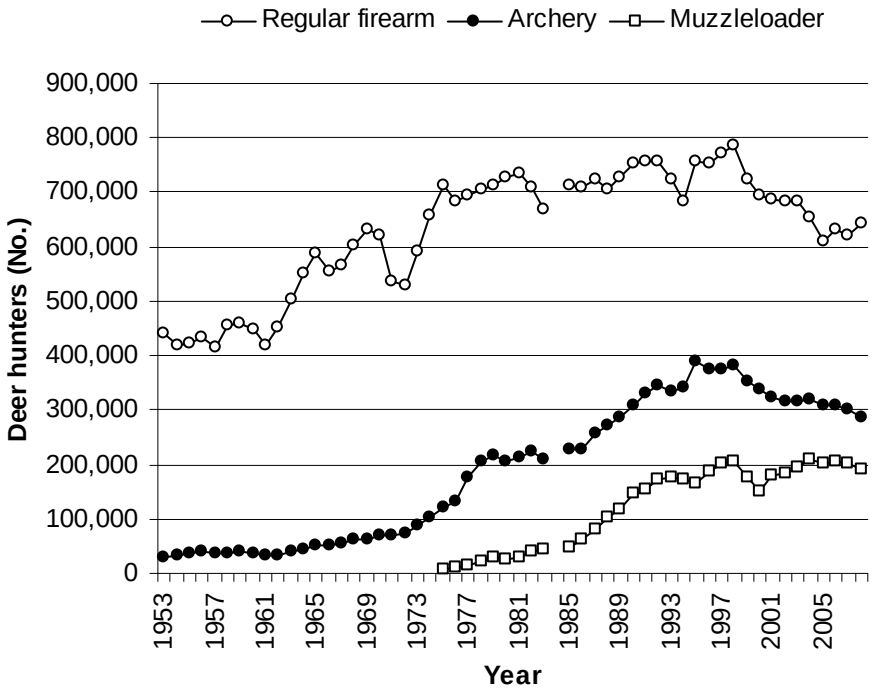

Figure 8. Number of people hunting deer in Michigan during the regular firearm, archery, and muzzleloader seasons, 1953-2008.

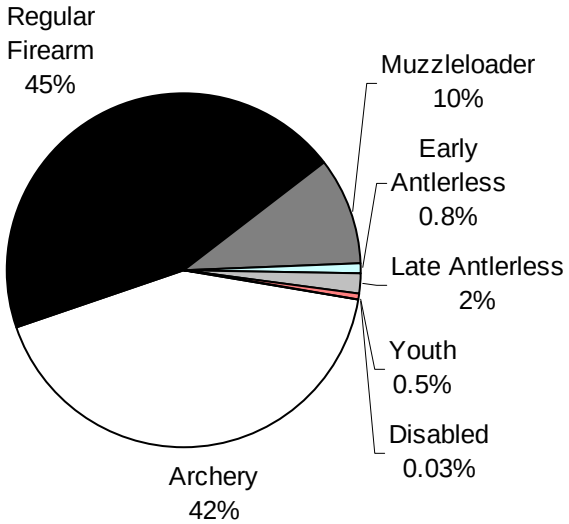

Figure 9. Distribution of hunting effort among deer hunting seasons in Michigan, 2008.

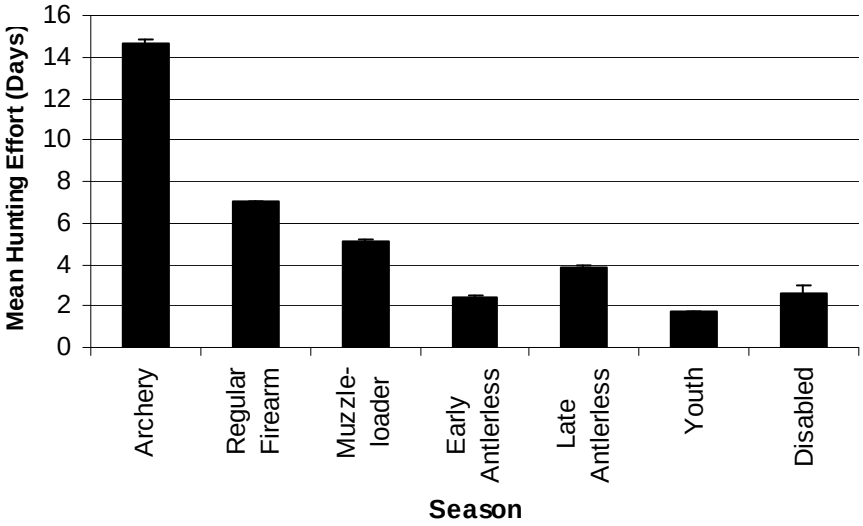

Figure 10. Mean number of days spent hunting deer in Michigan during the 2008 hunting seasons. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

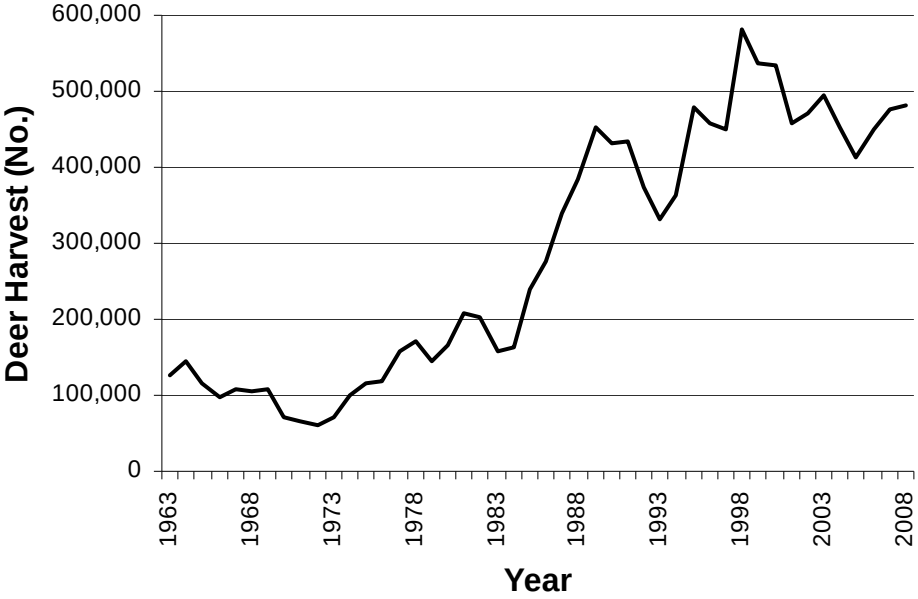

Figure 11. Number of deer harvested in Michigan's hunting seasons, 1963-2008. Harvest from all seasons and for all deer sexes was combined.

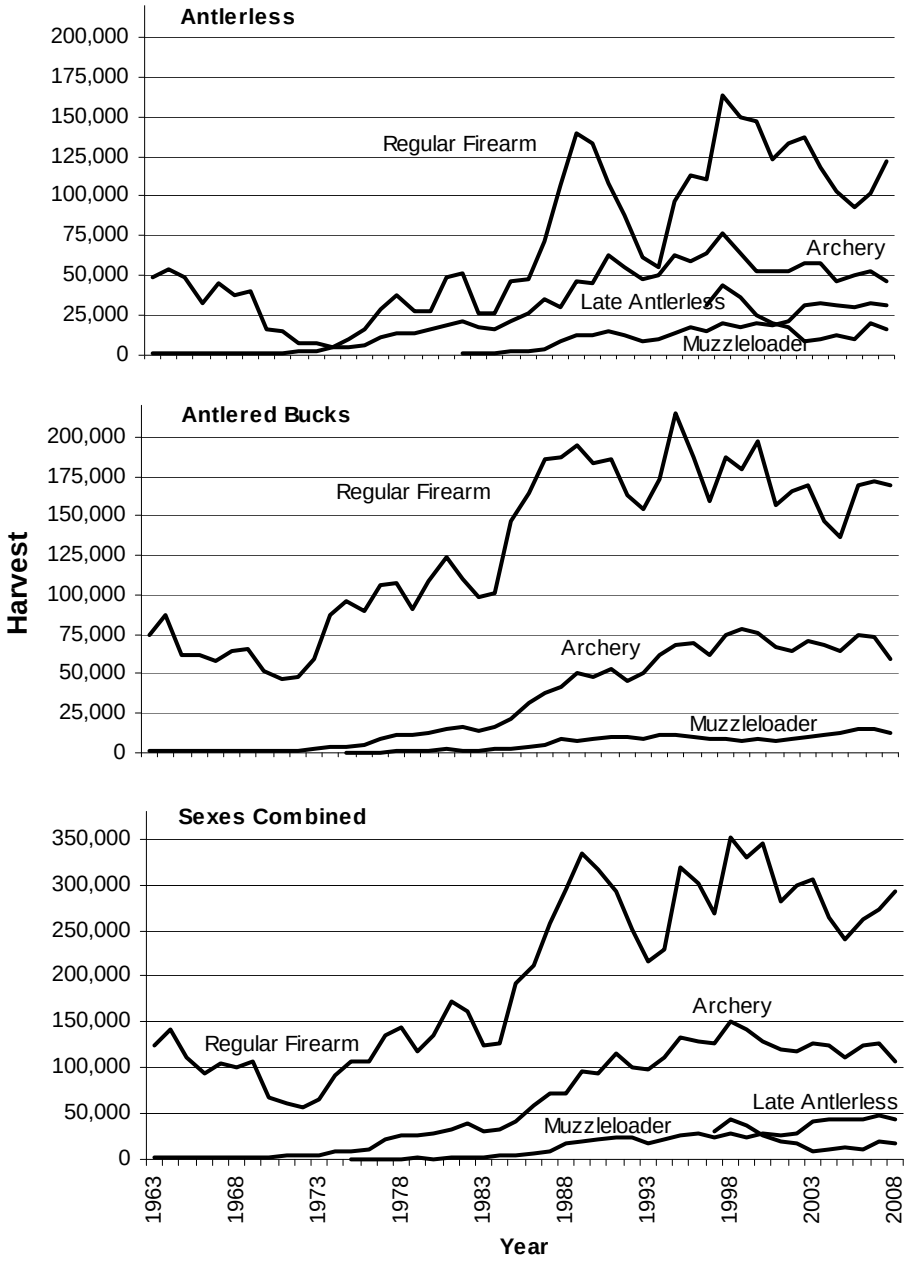

Figure 12. Number of deer harvested in Michigan's hunting seasons, 1963-2008. Harvests for early antlerless, youth, and special disabled hunter seasons were not shown.

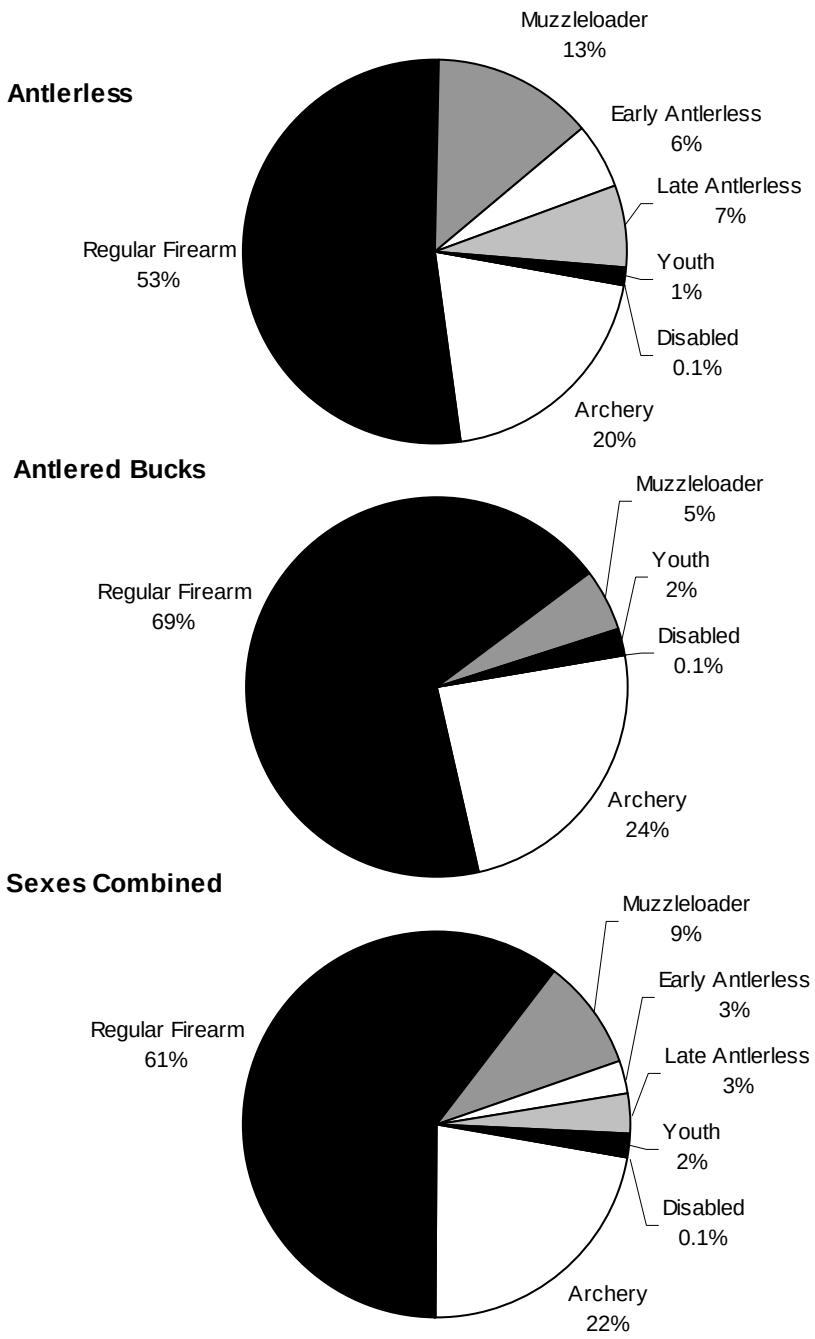

Figure 13. Distribution of harvest among deer hunting seasons in Michigan, 2008. Antlered deer had antlers at least 3 inches in length; antlerless deer included deer without antlers and deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length.

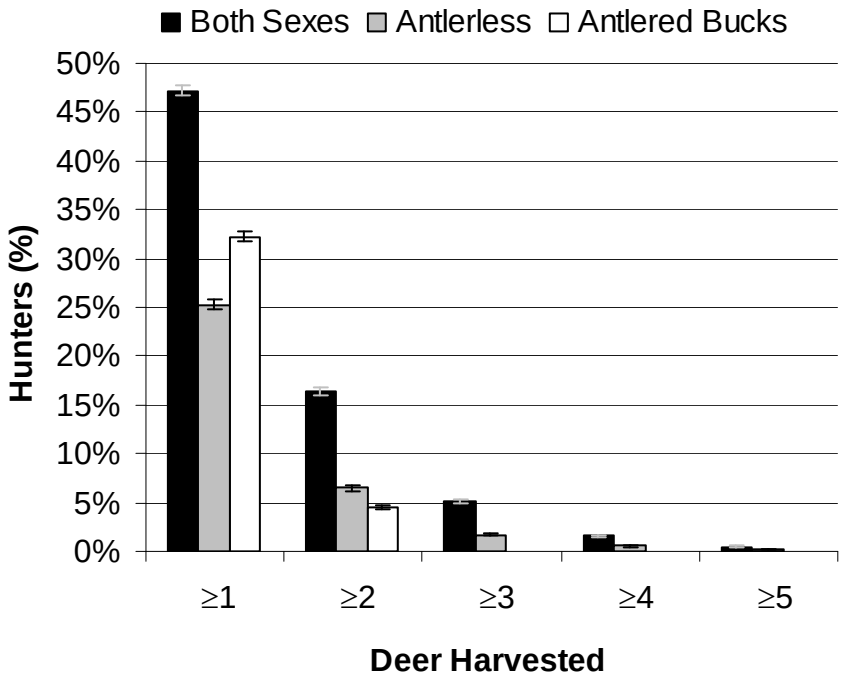

Figure 14. Percentage of hunters harvesting a deer in Michigan, 2008. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits.

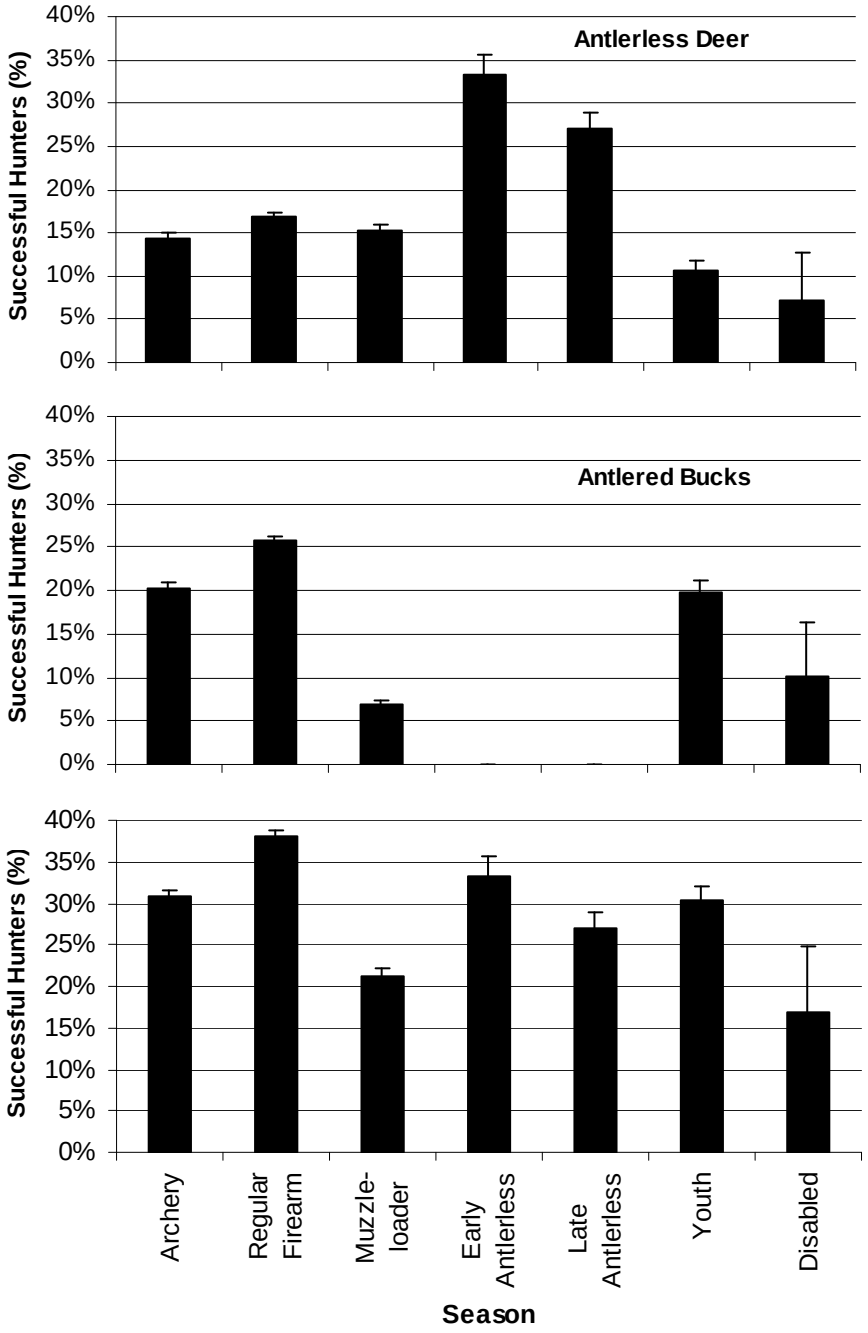

Figure 15. Percentage of hunters harvesting a deer in Michigan's deer hunting seasons, 2008. Error bars represent the 95% confidence limits. Antlered deer had antlers at least 3 inches in length; antlerless deer included deer without antlers and deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length.

Table 1. Kind of deer that could be taken during the 2008 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, or Muzzleloading seasons	Antlered deer only[b]
Firearm License	Youth and 100% disabled veteran hunt[c]	Antlerless or antlered deer
Combination License[d] (Regular harvest tag)	Archery season	Antlerless or antlered deer
Combination License[d] (Regular harvest tag)	Regular Firearm, or Muzzleloading seasons	Antlered deer only
Combination License[d] (Regular harvest tag)	Youth and 100% disabled veteran hunt	Antlerless or antlered deer
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
Combination License[d] (Restricted harvest tag)	Youth and 100% disabled veteran hunt	Antlerless or antlered deer
Antlerless License[e]	All seasons	Antlerless deer only
Deer Management Assistance (DMA) permit[f]	All seasons	Antlerless deer only
Managed Deer Hunt permit[g]	Specified season	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).

[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, each point being 1 or more inches in length.

[c]All youths 10 and 11 years of age were restricted to archery-only hunting. Hunters could harvest only 1 deer in the youth and 100% disabled veterans season.

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

[e]Although antlerless licenses were only valid for taking an antlerless deer, a person with a valid antlerless deer hunting license that killed a male deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length can choose to tag the male deer with any deer hunting license (firearm, archery or either combination license).

[f]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.

[g]Permits for special hunts on designated public lands (e.g., some state parks, game areas, and federal property). These permits valid only during specific dates, which varied among areas. Permits issued to applicants using a lottery (i.e., random selection). To use these permits, the hunter must also have purchased a valid deer hunting license.

Table 2. Number of Michigan deer licenses purchased and harvest tags issued, 2006-2008.

Licenses or Harvest Tags	Number Purchased or Issued 2006	2007	2008	Change Between 2007 and 2008 (%)
Firearm Licenses				
Resident	247,950	231,339	249,345	7.8
Non-resident	12,462	12,335	13,299	7.8
Senior	33,402	32,733	35,243	7.7
Military	693	833	822	-1.3
Subtotal	294,507	277,240	298,709	7.7
Archery Licenses				
Resident	44,882	38,832	35,564	-8.4
Non-resident	2,899	2,895	2,579	-10.9
Junior	5,374	4,583	4,098	-10.6
Senior	3,493	3,443	3,379	-1.9
Military	252	226	208	-8.0
Subtotal	56,900	49,979	45,828	-8.3
Combination Licenses[a]				
Resident	301,160	303,547	285,698	-5.9
Non-resident	1,815	1,886	1,889	0.2
Junior	49,475	51,290	49,092	-4.3
Senior	32,717	36,358	36,043	-0.9
Military	794	1,129	1,484	31.4
Subtotal	385,961	394,210	374,206	-5.1
Antlerless Licenses				
Resident	409,026	409,584	487,987	19.1
Non-resident	3,113	3,013	3,204	6.3
Junior	5,217	4,678	5,799	24.0
Military	523	851	1,408	65.5
Deer Management Assistance	7,099	9,512	12,213	28.4
Managed Deer Hunt	1,185	974	604	-38.0
Subtotal	426,163	428,612	511,215	19.3
Total Licenses Sold	1,163,531	1,150,041	1,229,958	6.9
Harvest Tags Issued				
Firearm	294,507	277,240	298,709	7.7
Archery	56,900	49,979	45,828	-8.3
Combination	771,922	788,420	748,412	-5.1
Antlerless	426,163	428,612	511,215	19.3
Total Harvest Tags	1,549,492	1,544,251	1,604,164	3.9

[a]Combination licenses included two harvest tags. Other license types had one harvest tag.

Table 3. Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Archery								
West UP	20,238	20,037	1,358	-1.0	225,343	241,077	21,683	7.0
East UP	6,862	6,536	783	-4.7	68,266	63,884	10,265	-6.4
NE LP	43,216	40,155	1,897	-7.1	453,315	402,280	26,411	-11.3
NW LP	58,290	55,945	2,207	-4.0	709,737	688,714	36,228	-3.0
Sag. Bay	53,794	50,703	2,109	-5.7	662,877	621,714	34,125	-6.2
SW LP	54,201	49,791	2,070	-8.1*	747,746	719,332	38,480	-3.8
SC LP	64,354	64,691	2,323	0.5	902,039	921,511	43,897	2.2
SE LP	35,340	31,680	1,689	-10.4*	465,984	420,693	29,739	-9.7
UP	26,993	26,336	2,759	-2.4	293,609	304,961	23,990	3.9
NLP	116,274	111,588	3,915	-4.0	1,361,855	1,291,448	48,835	-5.2
SLP	182,346	172,465	3,725	-5.4*	2,579,843	2,482,797	71,286	-3.8
Statewide[c]	300,254	285,508	4,022	-4.9*	4,235,307	4,079,206	89,868	-3.7
Regular Firearm								
West UP	71,337	73,738	2,469	3.4	502,330	538,628	21,956	7.2
East UP	23,862	23,687	1,476	-0.7	158,553	160,936	11,792	1.5
NE LP	112,031	116,584	3,047	4.1	675,269	698,492	23,103	3.4
NW LP	115,983	124,355	3,090	7.2*	692,945	726,246	23,463	4.8
Sag. Bay	97,916	99,780	2,857	1.9	600,467	600,317	21,653	0.0
SW LP	95,637	97,360	2,763	1.8	628,012	647,367	23,265	3.1
SC LP	109,987	117,855	2,941	7.2*	685,265	745,883	24,581	8.8*
SE LP	43,337	43,535	1,962	0.5	251,402	255,540	14,040	1.6
UP	94,696	96,732	1,548	2.2	660,883	699,564	24,923	5.9
NLP	253,842	271,218	2,982	6.8*	1,549,580	1,622,027	35,095	4.7*
SLP	307,224	314,499	3,400	2.4*	1,983,781	2,051,817	40,792	3.4
Statewide[c]	620,192	642,317	2,581	3.6*	4,194,243	4,373,408	59,503	4.3*

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.
*P<0.005.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Muzzleloader								
West UP	14,520	15,787	1,219	8.7	67,881	76,605	6,724	12.9
East UP	6,237	5,865	752	-6.0	30,206	28,947	4,137	-4.2
NE LP	23,555	19,148	1,343	-18.7*	96,425	78,106	6,354	-19.0*
NW LP	25,964	22,093	1,436	-14.9*	107,275	89,318	6,851	-16.7*
Sag. Bay	35,214	30,982	1,681	-12.0*	156,444	138,755	9,104	-11.3
SW LP	41,427	39,851	1,871	-3.8	216,619	209,348	12,186	-3.4
SC LP	43,829	45,344	1,975	3.5	222,682	225,066	12,275	1.1
SE LP	19,881	19,415	1,343	-2.3	98,413	94,333	7,857	-4.1
UP	20,635	21,517	1,416	4.3	98,087	105,553	7,895	7.6
NLP	57,524	49,117	2,100	-14.6	237,203	199,209	10,195	-16.0*
SLP	128,428	124,386	2,989	-3.1	660,655	635,718	20,668	-3.8
Statewide[c]	201,034	190,742	3,598	-5.1*	995,945	940,479	24,485	-5.6*
Early Antlerless								
West UP		0	0			0	0	
East UP		0	0			0	0	
NE LP		2,050	430			4,295	1,053	
NW LP		871	265			1,805	648	
Sag. Bay		5,002	663			11,136	1,722	
SW LP		9,409	911			21,757	2,496	
SC LP		11,981	1,016			26,731	2,667	
SE LP		5,379	688			11,719	1,733	
UP		0	0			0	0	
NLP		3,076	517			6,710	1,325	
SLP		31,286	1,580			70,734	4,369	
Statewide[c]		35,243	517			77,444	4,600	

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.
*P<0.005.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Late Antlerless								
West UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
East UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NE LP	3,501	2,473	476	-29.4*	13,889	7,447	1,814	-46.4*
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	7,506	5,848	730	-22.1*	26,961	20,013	3,116	-25.8*
SW LP	19,588	18,609	1,275	-5.0	83,265	66,878	5,634	-19.7*
SC LP	26,185	22,985	1,403	-12.2*	105,289	80,747	6,106	-23.3*
SE LP	5,863	5,134	689	-12.4	24,512	17,880	3,015	-27.1*
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	3,501	2,473	476	-29.4*	13,889	7,447	1,814	-46.4*
SLP	58,671	52,059	1,976	-11.3*	240,027	185,519	9,372	-22.7*
Statewide[c]	62,904	56,218	2,032	-10.6*	253,915	192,966	9,698	-24.0*
Youth								
West UP	1,439	1,447	224	0.5	2,504	2,398	392	-4.2
East UP	418	450	127	7.6	719	796	231	10.7
NE LP	3,416	2,977	314	-12.9	5,878	5,319	593	-9.5
NW LP	5,337	5,308	407	-0.5	9,018	8,984	759	-0.4
Sag. Bay	5,981	5,548	414	-7.2	10,194	9,188	762	-9.9
SW LP	4,835	4,467	378	-7.6	7,957	7,135	665	-10.3
SC LP	6,783	6,262	436	-7.7	11,075	10,405	812	-6.1
SE LP	3,211	2,604	296	-18.9*	5,328	4,284	522	-19.6
UP	1,858	1,897	255	2.1	3,223	3,194	456	-0.9
NLP	10,171	9,712	513	-4.5	17,425	16,701	1,039	-4.2
SLP	19,161	17,319	590	-9.6*	32,024	28,614	1,343	-10.7
Statewide[c]	31,236	28,956	520	-7.3*	52,672	48,509	1,762	-7.9*

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.
*P<0.005.

Table 3 (continued). Number of deer hunters and hunting effort in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.

	Number of hunters[a]				Hunting effort (days)			
Season and Area	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007	2008	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Disabled hunts								
West UP		177	116			475	325	
East UP		15	6			33	16	
NE LP		145	104			272	210	
NW LP		208	127			587	411	
Sag. Bay		275	147			494	306	
SW LP		196	127			299	192	
SC LP		389	186			749	477	
SE LP		117	104			177	216	
UP		192	117			509	325	
NLP		535	207			1,110	505	
SLP		793	258			1,469	603	
Statewide[c]		1,606	362			3,087	851	
All Seasons								
West UP	79,594	81,286	2,571	2.1	797,756	859,333	39,632	7.7
East UP	27,740	27,347	1,580	-1.4	257,632	254,607	20,209	-1.2
NE LP	127,052	129,115	3,167	1.6	1,244,568	1,196,463	45,038	-3.9
NW LP	134,962	140,392	3,231	4.0	1,519,228	1,516,582	54,951	-0.2
Sag. Bay	116,238	116,030	3,029	-0.2	1,457,063	1,401,829	55,452	-3.8
SW LP	112,928	112,686	2,927	-0.2	1,683,531	1,671,309	64,609	-0.7
SC LP	132,645	139,458	3,125	5.1*	1,926,388	2,010,307	71,929	4.4
SE LP	59,706	58,032	2,230	-2.8	845,917	804,669	45,415	-4.9
UP	106,231	107,412	2,878	1.1	1,055,388	1,113,940	44,487	5.5
NLP	289,596	301,978	3,978	4.3*	3,180,077	3,146,084	76,968	-1.1
SLP	365,993	367,763	3,714	0.5	5,496,618	5,455,076	116,659	-0.8
Statewide[c]	682,962	693,817	1,700	1.6*	9,732,083	9,715,100	147,055	-0.2

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt during the season.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
[c]Number of hunters does not add up to statewide total because hunters can hunt in more than one area.
*P<0.005.

Table 4. Mean number of days hunters spent hunting deer ($\bar{x}$ hunting effort) in Michigan by hunting season, 2008.[a]

	Season							
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzleloader		Early Antlerless	
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]
West UP	12.1	0.7	7.4	0.1	4.9	0.2	0.0	0.0
East UP	9.9	1.1	6.9	0.3	5.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
NE LP	10.2	0.5	6.1	0.1	4.2	0.2	2.3	0.3
NW LP	12.4	0.4	5.9	0.1	4.2	0.2	2.1	0.4
Sag. Bay	12.4	0.4	6.1	0.1	4.6	0.2	2.4	0.2
SW LP	14.7	0.5	6.8	0.1	5.4	0.2	2.5	0.1
SC LP	14.6	0.4	6.5	0.1	5.1	0.2	2.4	0.1
SE LP	13.5	0.6	6.0	0.2	5.0	0.2	2.4	0.2
UP	11.7	0.6	7.3	0.1	5.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
NLP	11.7	0.3	6.1	0.1	4.1	0.1	2.3	0.2
SLP	14.7	0.3	6.7	0.1	5.3	0.1	2.4	0.1
Statewide	14.6	0.2	7.0	0.1	5.1	0.1	2.4	0.1

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

Table 4 (Continued). Mean number of days hunters spent hunting deer ($\bar{x}$ hunting effort) in Michigan by hunting season, 2008.[a]

	Season							
	Late Antlerless		Youth		Disabled Hunts		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]
West UP	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	2.7	0.8	10.7	0.4
East UP	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.1	2.4	0.6	9.4	0.5
NE LP	3.4	0.4	1.8	0.0	2.4	0.4	9.4	0.3
NW LP	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	2.8	1.0	10.9	0.3
Sag. Bay	3.7	0.3	1.7	0.0	2.5	0.6	12.2	0.4
SW LP	3.9	0.2	1.6	0.0	1.8	0.4	15.1	0.4
SC LP	3.7	0.2	1.7	0.0	2.7	0.8	14.7	0.4
SE LP	3.8	0.4	1.7	0.1	2.9	0.1	14.1	0.6
UP	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	2.7	0.7	10.5	0.3
NLP	3.4	0.4	1.7	0.0	2.5	0.5	10.5	0.2
SLP	3.8	0.1	1.7	0.0	2.4	0.5	15.1	0.2
Statewide	3.8	0.1	1.7	0.0	2.6	0.4	14.4	0.2

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

Table 5. Number of deer harvested in Michigan, 2006-2008.

Season or permit	Type of deer	2006	2007	2008	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Season					
Archery	Antlerless	49,839	52,666	46,423	-11.9
	Antlered bucks	75,195	73,531	60,016	-18.4
	Sexes combined	125,035	126,197	106,439	-15.7
Regular firearm	Antlerless	92,483	101,413	122,160	20.5
	Antlered bucks	169,049	171,410	169,665	-1.0
	Sexes combined	261,532	272,823	291,825	7.0
Muzzleloader	Antlerless	29,726	32,094	31,049	-3.3
	Antlered bucks	14,722	15,080	13,085	-13.2
	Sexes combined	44,448	47,174	44,134	-6.4
Early antlerless	Antlerless	NA	NA	12,871	NA
Late antlerless	Antlerless	10,122	19,503	16,453	-15.6
Youth	Antlerless	2,793	3,490	3,007	-13.9
	Antlered bucks	6,745	7,408	5,584	-24.6
	Sexes combined	9,537	10,898	8,590	-21.2
Disabled hunts	Antlerless	NA	NA	142	NA
	Antlered bucks	NA	NA	184	NA
	Sexes combined	NA	NA	326	NA
Special permits[a]	Antlerless	5,295	7,389	9,468	28.1
Grand Total	Antlerless	190,257	216,555	241,573	11.6
	Antlered bucks	265,711	267,429	248,350	-7.1
	Sexes combined	455,969	483,984	489,922	1.2

[a]Includes deer harvested with DMA permits. These permits could be used during any deer hunting season.
*P<0.005.

Table 6. Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2007 Harvest	Antlerless 2008 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2007 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2008 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	Sexes Combined 2007 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2008 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Archery												
West UP	4,736	4,663	771	-1.5	3,888	2,859	536	-26.5	8,626	7,519	997	-12.8
East UP	960	1,113	358	16.0	909	727	281	-20.0	1,869	1,839	472	-1.6
NE LP	4,893	4,384	698	-10.4	6,249	3,998	631	-36.0	11,142	8,380	991	-24.8*
NW LP	7,611	7,281	882	-4.3	10,948	9,627	995	-12.1	18,560	16,908	1,409	-8.9
Sag. Bay	9,236	6,795	877	-26.4*	12,170	9,793	995	-19.5	21,406	16,589	1,435	-22.5*
SW LP	8,243	7,797	973	-5.4	14,228	11,222	1,067	-21.1	22,470	19,020	1,597	-15.4*
SC LP	11,744	10,440	1,149	-11.1	17,512	15,937	1,294	-9.0	29,256	26,380	1,950	-9.8
SE LP	5,242	3,951	671	-24.6	7,625	5,853	767	-23.2	12,867	9,805	1,121	-23.8*
UP	5,696	5,776	850	1.4	4,797	3,586	605	-25.2	10,494	9,358	1,103	-10.8
NLP	15,643	14,214	1,250	-9.1	20,711	16,292	1,288	-21.3	36,355	30,503	1,902	-16.1*
SLP	31,327	26,433	1,786	-15.6*	48,023	40,138	2,029	-16.4	79,347	66,578	3,003	-16.1*
Statewide	52,666	46,423	2,346	-11.9*	73,531	60,016	2,483	-18.4	126,197	106,439	3,729	-15.7*
Regular Firearm												
West UP	7,441	6,556	851	-11.9	26,496	22,743	1,495	-14.2	33,916	29,341	1,830	-13.5*
East UP	876	1,367	362	56.1	6,605	5,437	728	-17.7	7,473	6,815	865	-8.8
NE LP	11,229	15,736	1,300	40.1*	25,948	25,767	1,612	-0.7	37,166	41,516	2,210	11.7*
NW LP	9,542	16,349	1,266	71.3*	26,706	30,109	1,733	12.7	36,231	46,480	2,330	28.3*
Sag. Bay	19,787	20,980	1,552	6.0	25,839	25,415	1,597	-1.6	45,637	46,383	2,444	1.6
SW LP	19,370	23,344	1,701	20.5*	22,872	22,256	1,484	-2.7	42,258	45,569	2,478	7.8
SC LP	27,159	30,341	1,967	11.7	28,689	30,321	1,757	5.7	55,875	60,626	2,913	8.5
SE LP	6,009	7,487	930	24.6	8,255	7,615	882	-7.8	14,267	15,094	1,390	5.8
UP	8,317	7,923	925	-4.7	33,102	28,180	1,663	-14.9	41,390	36,156	2,024	-12.6*
NLP	25,706	38,090	1,979	48.2*	59,088	63,999	2,534	8.3	84,770	102,123	3,467	20.5*
SLP	67,390	76,147	3,067	13.0*	79,221	77,485	2,792	-2.2	146,663	153,545	4,564	4.7
Statewide	101,413	122,160	3,796	20.5*	171,410	169,665	4,131	-1.0	272,823	291,825	6,110	7.0*

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
*P<0.005.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2007 Harvest	Antlerless 2008 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2007 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2008 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2007 to 2008	Sexes Combined 2007 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2008 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2007 to 2008
Muzzleloader												
West UP	2,680	2,601	513	-2.9	1,410	1,886	439	33.7	4,089	4,488	690	9.8
East UP	549	501	215	-8.7	738	536	226	-27.3	1,284	1,038	312	-19.2
NE LP	2,360	2,113	463	-10.4	1,292	1,004	308	-22.3	3,650	3,117	586	-14.6
NW LP	2,815	2,514	508	-10.7	1,183	923	292	-21.9	3,998	3,437	603	-14.0
Sag. Bay	6,441	5,739	787	-10.9	2,664	1,729	407	-35.1*	9,107	7,468	917	-18.0
SW LP	7,210	6,978	871	-3.2	3,064	2,987	539	-2.5	10,275	9,966	1,072	-3.0
SC LP	7,576	8,157	953	7.7	3,441	3,065	537	-10.9	11,018	11,222	1,133	1.9
SE LP	2,464	2,444	516	-0.8	1,289	954	298	-25.9	3,752	3,398	608	-9.4
UP	3,228	3,102	556	-3.9	2,149	2,423	494	12.8	5,373	5,526	757	2.8
NLP	6,706	6,086	799	-9.3	2,965	2,313	465	-22.0	9,672	8,398	962	-13.2
SLP	22,159	21,861	1,544	-1.3	9,967	8,350	892	-16.2	32,129	30,210	1,851	-6.0
Statewide	32,094	31,049	1,835	-3.3	15,080	13,085	1,127	-13.2	47,174	44,134	2,231	-6.4
Early Antlerless												
West UP		0	0			0	0			0	0	
East UP		0	0			0	0			0	0	
NE LP		771	285			0	0			771	285	
NW LP		421	190			0	0			421	190	
Sag. Bay		2,138	483			0	0			2,138	483	
SW LP		3,065	557			0	0			3,065	557	
SC LP		4,535	730			0	0			4,535	730	
SE LP		1,942	434			0	0			1,942	434	
UP		0	0			0	0			0	0	
NLP		1,310	364			0	0			1,310	364	
SLP		11,562	1,118			0	0			11,562	1,118	
Statewide		12,871	1,199			0	0			12,871	1,199	

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
*P<0.005.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless				Antlered Bucks				Sexes Combined			
	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008
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	1,335	564	240	-57.8*	0	0	0		1,335	564	240	-57.8*
NW LP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
Sag. Bay	2,318	2,325	538	0.3	0	0	0		2,318	2,325	538	0.3
SW LP	5,460	5,076	744	-7.0	0	0	0		5,460	5,076	744	-7.0
SC LP	9,020	7,274	899	-19.4	0	0	0		9,020	7,274	899	-19.4
SE LP	1,369	1,214	371	-11.4	0	0	0		1,369	1,214	371	-11.4
UP	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	
NLP	1,335	564	240	-57.8*	0	0	0		1,335	564	240	-57.8*
SLP	18,168	15,889	1,337	-12.5	0	0	0		18,168	15,889	1,337	-12.5
Statewide	19,503	16,453	1,365	-15.6*	0	0	0		19,503	16,453	1,365	-15.6*
Youth												
West UP	179	226	89	26.3	368	296	102	-19.6	547	522	135	-4.6
East UP	47	41	38	-13.1	141	71	50	-49.4	188	112	63	-40.3
NE LP	480	267	97	-44.4	830	666	153	-19.7	1,310	933	181	-28.8
NW LP	625	633	149	1.3	1,557	1,204	205	-22.6	2,182	1,838	253	-15.8
Sag. Bay	651	561	140	-13.9	1,591	1,209	205	-24.0	2,243	1,770	249	-21.1
SW LP	574	440	124	-23.3	764	614	147	-19.6	1,338	1,054	192	-21.2
SC LP	564	664	153	17.7	1,649	1,205	206	-26.9*	2,212	1,869	256	-15.5
SE LP	369	174	78	-52.7*	509	317	105	-37.7	878	492	131	-44.0*
UP	226	267	97	18.1	509	367	114	-27.8	735	634	149	-13.7
NLP	1,343	1,084	195	-19.3	2,744	2,252	281	-17.9	4,087	3,336	341	-18.4*
SLP	1,921	1,656	241	-13.8	4,155	2,965	322	-28.7*	6,076	4,621	402	-24.0*
Statewide	3,490	3,007	325	-13.9	7,408	5,584	443	-24.6*	10,898	8,590	549	-21.2*

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
*P<0.005.

Table 6 (continued). Number of deer harvested in Michigan by hunting season, 2007-2008.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless 2007 Harvest	Antlerless 2008 Harvest	Antlerless 95% CL[b]	Antlerless Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	Antlered Bucks 2007 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 2008 Harvest	Antlered Bucks 95% CL[b]	Antlered Bucks Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	Sexes Combined 2007 Harvest	Sexes Combined 2008 Harvest	Sexes Combined 95% CL[b]	Sexes Combined Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Disabled Hunts												
West UP		27	51			29	51			56	72	
East UP		2	2			6	3			7	5	
NE LP		3	3			0	0			3	3	
NW LP		40	51			29	51			69	72	
Sag. Bay		6	4			15	6			21	8	
SW LP		58	101			32	51			90	113	
SC LP		6	4			71	74			78	74	
SE LP		0	0			2	2			2	2	
UP		28	51			35	51			63	72	
NLP		49	51			32	51			82	72	
SLP		64	101			116	90			181	135	
Statewide		142	124			184	115			326	169	
All Seasons												
West UP	15,048	14,102	1,331	-6.3	32,143	27,806	1,717	-13.5*	47,175	41,951	2,395	-11.1*
East UP	2,433	3,030	568	24.5	8,387	6,776	848	-19.2	10,813	9,818	1,132	-9.2
NE LP	20,301	23,847	1,704	17.5*	34,309	31,434	1,809	-8.4	54,600	55,301	2,732	1.3
NW LP	20,610	27,272	1,729	32.3*	40,400	41,900	2,131	3.7	60,993	69,216	3,054	13.5*
Sag. Bay	38,442	38,540	2,351	0.3	42,267	38,164	2,020	-9.7*	80,717	76,693	3,528	-5.0
SW LP	40,843	46,739	2,743	14.4*	40,935	37,108	2,041	-9.3	81,791	83,803	3,951	2.5
SC LP	56,033	61,382	3,173	9.5	51,303	50,603	2,400	-1.4	107,360	111,933	4,611	4.3
SE LP	15,456	17,194	1,583	11.2	17,687	14,743	1,271	-16.6*	33,145	31,924	2,314	-3.7
UP	17,481	17,131	1,447	-2.0	40,529	34,582	1,915	-14.7*	57,988	51,769	2,649	-10.7*
NLP	50,763	61,451	2,669	21.1*	85,507	84,896	3,010	-0.7	136,245	146,413	4,474	7.5*
SLP	140,922	153,522	4,939	8.9*	141,393	129,056	3,792	-8.7*	282,362	282,456	7,173	0.0
Statewide	209,166	232,105	5,838	11.0*	267,429	248,533	5,221	-7.1*	476,595	480,638	8,903	0.8

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
*P<0.005.

Table 7. Number of deer harvested on public and private lands during all seasons combined in Michigan by management region, 2007-2008.[a]

Season and Area	Antlerless				Antlered Bucks				Sexes Combined			
	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)	2007 Harvest	2008 Harvest	95% CL[b]	Change from 2007 to 2008 (%)
Public Lands												
West UP	4,295	3,828	688	-10.9	11,050	8,764	942	-20.7*	15,345	12,602	1,233	-17.9*
East UP	441	495	224	12.3	3,224	2,118	478	-34.3*	3,665	2,618	538	-28.6
NE LP	4,508	5,639	770	25.1	9,563	9,171	987	-4.1	14,071	14,808	1,333	5.2
NW LP	2,208	1,574	406	-28.7	9,588	9,213	987	-3.9	11,796	10,815	1,088	-8.3
Sag. Bay	3,054	3,407	593	11.6	4,706	3,633	615	-22.8	7,760	7,031	916	-9.4
SW LP	2,095	2,968	555	41.7	2,791	2,572	520	-7.8	4,886	5,529	818	13.2
SC LP	3,520	3,990	702	13.4	4,488	3,163	583	-29.5*	8,008	7,137	1,030	-10.9
SE LP	1,380	1,512	420	9.6	1,420	1,365	379	-3.8	2,799	2,872	605	2.6
UP	4,736	4,323	723	-8.7	14,274	10,882	1,057	-23.8*	19,010	15,220	1,345	-19.9*
NLP	7,425	8,702	951	17.2	20,759	20,134	1,457	-3.0	28,184	28,859	1,827	2.4
SLP	9,339	10,387	1,088	11.2	11,797	8,984	979	-23.8*	21,136	19,333	1,599	-8.5
Statewide	21,500	23,413	1,627	8.9	46,830	40,000	2,051	-14.6	68,330	63,413	2,783	-7.2
Private Lands												
West UP	10,765	10,278	1,105	-4.5	21,103	19,027	1,416	-9.8	31,856	29,332	1,985	-7.9
East UP	1,993	2,535	517	27.2	5,166	4,654	697	-9.9	7,155	7,196	971	0.6
NE LP	15,805	18,214	1,497	15.2	24,752	22,248	1,506	-10.1	40,549	40,475	2,332	-0.2
NW LP	18,403	25,697	1,662	39.6*	30,816	32,678	1,880	6.0	49,207	58,397	2,811	18.7*
Sag. Bay	35,384	35,132	2,254	-0.7	37,556	34,539	1,922	-8.0	72,945	69,669	3,376	-4.5
SW LP	38,738	43,768	2,656	13.0*	38,136	34,549	1,968	-9.4	76,884	78,287	3,810	1.8
SC LP	52,503	57,388	3,081	9.3	46,807	47,457	2,322	1.4	99,329	104,814	4,459	5.5
SE LP	14,075	15,681	1,513	11.4	16,264	13,381	1,210	-17.7*	30,340	29,055	2,203	-4.2
UP	12,758	12,813	1,220	0.4	26,268	23,681	1,578	-9.8	39,011	36,528	2,210	-6.4
NLP	43,349	52,753	2,460	21.7*	64,758	64,739	2,621	0.0	108,089	117,530	4,013	8.7*
SLP	131,559	143,125	4,783	8.8*	129,573	120,114	3,655	-7.3*	261,165	263,167	6,920	0.8
Statewide	187,666	208,692	5,552	11.2*	220,599	208,534	4,782	-5.5*	408,265	417,225	8,341	2.2

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
[b]95% confidence limit for the 2008 estimate.
*P<0.005.

Table 8. Percentage of deer hunters harvesting deer in Michigan during all seasons, 2008.[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	14.6	1.2	2.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
East UP	10.0	1.7	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NE LP	15.6	1.0	2.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NW LP	17.2	1.0	2.3	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sag. Bay	25.3	1.2	6.4	0.7	1.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
SW LP	29.6	1.3	8.6	0.8	2.7	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.1
SC LP	31.2	1.2	9.0	0.7	3.0	0.4	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.1
SE LP	22.8	1.7	5.5	0.9	1.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.1
UP	13.5	1.0	2.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
NLP	17.6	0.7	2.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SLP	29.8	0.7	8.6	0.4	2.7	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.1
Statewide	25.3	0.5	6.5	0.3	1.7	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0
Antlered bucks[c]										
West UP	32.0	1.6	2.9	0.6						
East UP	23.4	2.5	1.9	0.8						
NE LP	22.8	1.1	2.0	0.4						
NW LP	27.2	1.2	3.2	0.5						
Sag. Bay	30.1	1.3	3.4	0.5						
SW LP	29.5	1.3	4.1	0.6						
SC LP	31.8	1.2	5.2	0.6						
SE LP	23.1	1.7	2.8	0.7						
UP	30.1	1.4	2.7	0.5						
NLP	25.9	0.8	2.7	0.3						
SLP	31.2	0.7	4.6	0.3						
Statewide	32.2	0.5	4.5	0.2						

[a]Excluded 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, 2008.[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	41.3	1.7	8.8	1.0	1.7	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0
East UP	29.7	2.7	5.5	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
NE LP	34.2	1.3	7.4	0.7	1.6	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0
NW LP	38.5	1.3	9.9	0.8	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Sag. Bay	45.9	1.4	15.4	1.0	4.1	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
SW LP	47.5	1.4	18.3	1.1	6.3	0.7	2.2	0.4	0.2	0.2
SC LP	50.2	1.3	20.0	1.0	7.5	0.7	2.6	0.4	0.3	0.3
SE LP	38.0	1.9	12.7	1.3	3.7	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.7
UP	38.7	1.5	8.1	0.8	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0
NLP	37.7	0.9	9.4	0.5	1.8	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
SLP	49.0	0.8	18.9	0.6	6.6	0.4	2.3	0.2	0.7	0.7
Statewide	47.2	0.6	16.3	0.4	5.1	0.2	1.6	0.1	0.5	0.1

[a]Excluded 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, 2008.[a]

Sex and Area	Season											
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzleloader		Early Antlerless		Late Antlerless		Youth	
	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	20.1	2.8	8.1	1.0	15.9	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	5.8
East UP	14.7	4.3	5.6	1.4	8.6	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	8.2
NE LP	10.1	1.5	12.4	0.9	10.7	2.2	33.3	9.9	22.0	8.1	9.2	3.2
NW LP	12.2	1.3	12.6	0.9	10.8	2.0	44.7	15.1	0.0	0.0	12.2	2.7
Sag. Bay	12.2	1.4	18.7	1.2	17.1	2.1	37.3	6.5	34.3	6.0	10.3	2.5
SW LP	13.7	1.5	20.5	1.3	16.0	1.8	29.7	4.5	25.3	3.1	10.1	2.7
SC LP	14.0	1.3	21.8	1.2	16.4	1.7	32.4	4.1	28.9	2.9	10.8	2.4
SE LP	11.3	1.7	15.4	1.7	11.6	2.3	33.7	6.1	21.9	5.6	6.8	3.0
UP	18.9	2.4	7.5	0.8	14.1	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.4	4.8
NLP	11.8	0.9	13.2	0.6	11.7	1.4	37.8	8.2	22.0	8.1	11.4	1.9
SLP	13.5	0.8	20.7	0.7	16.1	1.0	32.7	2.5	27.8	1.9	9.8	1.4
Statewide	14.4	0.6	16.9	0.4	15.2	0.8	33.3	2.4	27.1	1.8	10.6	1.1
Antlered Bucks												
West UP	13.9	2.4	30.4	1.7	11.6	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.9	6.4
East UP	10.5	3.7	22.8	2.7	9.3	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.2	10.5
NE LP	9.8	1.5	21.4	1.2	5.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.8	4.6
NW LP	16.6	1.5	23.6	1.2	4.2	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.2	3.5
Sag. Bay	18.8	1.7	24.7	1.3	5.6	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.3	3.4
SW LP	21.9	1.8	22.4	1.3	7.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	3.1
SC LP	23.1	1.6	24.8	1.2	6.8	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.7	3.0
SE LP	18.1	2.1	16.9	1.8	5.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4	3.9
UP	13.2	2.0	28.7	1.4	11.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.8	5.5
NLP	14.2	1.0	22.9	0.8	4.7	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.7	2.6
SLP	22.2	1.0	23.9	0.7	6.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.5	1.7
Statewide	20.2	0.7	25.7	0.5	6.9	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.8	1.4

[a]Excluded 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, 2008.[a]

Sex and Area	Season											
	Archery		Regular Firearm		Muzzleloader		Early Antlerless		Late Antlerless		Youth	
	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	31.8	3.2	35.9	1.7	26.7	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.8	7.6
East UP	23.9	5.2	26.4	2.8	17.9	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.5	12.4
NE LP	18.6	1.9	31.2	1.3	14.9	2.5	33.3	9.9	22.0	8.1	32.0	5.1
NW LP	26.6	1.8	32.7	1.3	14.7	2.3	44.7	15.1	0.0	0.0	35.4	3.9
Sag. Bay	28.1	1.9	38.6	1.5	21.8	2.3	37.3	6.5	34.3	6.0	32.6	3.8
SW LP	31.3	2.0	37.8	1.5	22.3	2.0	29.7	4.5	25.3	3.1	24.1	3.8
SC LP	32.1	1.8	40.6	1.4	22.2	1.9	32.4	4.1	28.9	2.9	30.5	3.5
SE LP	26.5	2.4	28.8	2.1	16.1	2.6	33.7	6.1	21.9	5.6	19.3	4.6
UP	30.0	2.8	33.8	1.5	24.4	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.1	6.5
NLP	24.0	1.3	32.8	0.9	15.8	1.6	37.8	8.2	22.0	8.1	35.1	2.9
SLP	31.3	1.1	39.2	0.8	21.8	1.1	32.7	2.5	27.8	1.9	27.2	2.0
Statewide	30.8	0.8	38.1	0.6	21.2	0.9	33.3	2.4	27.1	1.8	30.4	1.6

[a]Excluded 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, 2008.[a]

Sex and Area	Season			
	Disabled Hunts		All Seasons	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Antlerless				
West UP	15.3	26.4	14.6	1.2
East UP	10.4	11.8	10.0	1.7
NE LP	2.2	2.4	15.6	1.0
NW LP	18.7	22.9	17.2	1.0
Sag. Bay	2.3	1.8	25.3	1.2
SW LP	16.2	24.2	29.6	1.3
SC LP	1.6	1.2	31.2	1.2
SE LP	0.0	0.0	22.8	1.7
UP	14.9	24.4	13.5	1.0
NLP	9.1	9.5	17.6	0.7
SLP	4.8	6.5	29.8	0.7
Statewide	7.3	5.5	25.3	0.5
Antlered Bucks				
West UP	17.0	26.4	32.0	1.6
East UP	37.7	17.7	23.4	2.5
NE LP	0.0	0.0	22.8	1.1
NW LP	14.5	22.8	27.2	1.2
Sag. Bay	5.5	3.5	30.1	1.3
SW LP	16.7	24.2	29.5	1.3
SC LP	18.7	17.8	31.8	1.2
SE LP	1.3	2.0	23.1	1.7
UP	18.7	24.3	30.1	1.4
NLP	6.2	9.4	25.9	0.8
SLP	11.6	9.2	31.2	0.7
Statewide	10.1	6.3	32.2	0.5

[a]Excluded 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, 2008.[a]

Sex and Area	Season			
	Disabled Hunts		All Seasons	
	Success	95% CL[b]	Success	95% CL[b]
Sexes combined				
West UP	32.3	32.6	41.3	1.7
East UP	37.7	17.7	29.7	2.7
NE LP	2.2	2.4	34.2	1.3
NW LP	33.2	28.8	38.5	1.3
Sag. Bay	6.7	4.1	45.9	1.4
SW LP	32.0	30.6	47.5	1.4
SC LP	20.3	17.8	50.2	1.3
SE LP	1.3	2.0	38.0	1.9
UP	32.7	30.0	38.7	1.5
NLP	14.7	12.9	37.7	0.9
SLP	16.2	10.9	49.0	0.8
Statewide	16.9	8.0	47.2	0.6

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

Table 10. Proportion of deer hunters satisfied with the number of deer seen during the 2008 deer hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Level of satisfaction							
	Satisfied[b]		Neutral		Dissatisfied[c]		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]
West UP	31	2	13	1	55	2	1	<1
East UP	31	3	13	2	54	3	1	1
NE LP	29	1	12	1	58	1	2	<1
NW LP	37	1	14	1	48	1	1	<1
Sag. Bay	41	2	14	1	43	2	2	<1
SW LP	46	2	17	1	36	2	1	<1
SC LP	51	1	15	1	33	1	1	<1
SE LP	43	2	17	2	38	2	1	1
UP	31	1	13	1	55	2	1	<1
NLP	33	1	13	1	53	1	1	<1
SLP	48	1	16	1	35	1	1	<1
Statewide	40	1	14	<1	45	1	1	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]Satisfied group included hunters reporting they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied.”
[c]Dissatisfied group included hunters reporting they were “somewhat dissatisfied” or “strongly satisfied.”
[d]95% confidence limit.

Table 11. Proportion of deer hunters satisfied with the number of antlered deer (bucks) seen during the 2008 deer hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Level of satisfaction							
	Satisfied[b]		Neutral		Dissatisfied[c]		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]
West UP	22	2	12	1	63	2	3	1
East UP	21	3	12	2	64	3	4	1
NE LP	18	1	11	1	65	1	5	1
NW LP	22	1	12	1	62	1	4	1
Sag. Bay	26	1	14	1	56	2	4	1
SW LP	29	1	17	1	51	2	3	1
SC LP	33	1	17	1	47	1	2	<1
SE LP	27	2	16	2	53	2	3	1
UP	22	1	12	1	63	2	3	1
NLP	20	1	12	1	64	1	5	<1
SLP	31	1	16	1	50	1	3	<1
Statewide	25	1	14	<1	57	1	4	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]Satisfied group included hunters reporting they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied.”
[c]Dissatisfied group included hunters reporting they were “somewhat dissatisfied” or “strongly satisfied.”
[d]95% confidence limit.

Table 12. Proportion of deer hunters satisfied with their overall deer hunting experience during the 2008 deer hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Level of satisfaction							
	Satisfied[b]		Neutral		Dissatisfied[c]		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]
West UP	45	2	20	1	35	2	1	<1
East UP	45	3	21	3	32	3	1	1
NE LP	42	1	20	1	37	1	1	<1
NW LP	46	1	21	1	32	1	1	<1
Sag. Bay	48	2	20	1	31	1	1	<1
SW LP	53	2	22	1	24	1	1	<1
SC LP	57	1	20	1	22	1	1	<1
SE LP	52	2	22	2	26	2	1	<1
UP	45	2	20	1	34	2	1	<1
NLP	43	1	21	1	35	1	1	<1
SLP	54	1	21	1	24	1	1	<1
Statewide	49	1	21	<1	30	1	1	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]Satisfied group included hunters reporting they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied.”
[c]Dissatisfied group included hunters reporting they were “somewhat dissatisfied” or “strongly satisfied.”
[d]95% confidence limit.

Table 13. Proportion of deer hunters satisfied with number of deer they harvested during the 2008 deer hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Level of satisfaction							
	Satisfied[b]		Neutral		Dissatisfied[c]		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]
West UP	32	2	13	1	36	2	19	1
East UP	29	3	12	2	36	3	23	3
NE LP	26	1	12	1	38	1	24	1
NW LP	30	1	14	1	34	1	22	1
Sag. Bay	34	1	13	1	33	1	20	1
SW LP	35	2	16	1	31	1	18	1
SC LP	39	1	14	1	29	1	18	1
SE LP	33	2	13	2	32	2	22	2
UP	31	2	13	1	36	2	20	1
NLP	28	1	13	1	36	1	23	1
SLP	37	1	14	1	31	1	18	1
Statewide	33	1	13	<1	34	1	20	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]Satisfied group included hunters reporting they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied.”
[c]Dissatisfied group included hunters reporting they were “somewhat dissatisfied” or “strongly satisfied.”
[d]95% confidence limit.

Table 14. Proportion of deer hunters supporting the antler point restrictions for taking antlered deer (bucks) in the UP during the 2008 deer hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Level of support					
	Support[b]		Oppose[c]		Not sure	
	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]	%	95% CL[d]
West UP	55	2	35	2	10	1
East UP	56	3	36	3	8	2
NE LP	47	1	24	1	29	1
NW LP	47	1	24	1	29	1
Sag. Bay	47	2	24	1	29	1
SW LP	52	2	18	1	30	1
SC LP	51	1	19	1	30	1
SE LP	47	2	24	2	29	2
UP	56	2	35	2	9	1
NLP	46	1	25	1	29	1
SLP	51	1	20	1	30	1
Statewide	50	1	24	1	26	1

[a]New antler point restrictions were adopted in 2008 for the taking of antlered deer (bucks) in the UP. Under this new regulation, the regular buck tag of a combination deer license could only be used to tag a buck with at least three antler points on one side. The restricted tag could only be placed on a buck with a minimum of four points on one side. Hunters who chose not to purchase the combination tag were restricted to one buck only (without any new antler point restrictions) in the UP, all seasons combined, even if they purchased both archery and firearms licenses.

[b]Group supporting restrictions included hunters reporting they “strongly supported” or “supported.”

[c]Group opposing restrictions included hunters reporting they “opposed” or “strongly opposed.”

[d]95% confidence limit. Excluded people that did not hunt.

Table 15. The impact of the antler point restrictions on deer hunting effort in the UP during the 2008 hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Direction of change							
	Increased		No change		Decreased		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]
West UP	9	1	73	2	12	1	7	1
East UP	8	2	73	3	13	2	5	2
NE LP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	87	1
NW LP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	88	1
Sag. Bay	1	<1	11	1	2	<1	86	1
SW LP	1	<1	10	1	1	<1	88	1
SC LP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	88	1
SE LP	1	<1	10	2	2	1	86	2
UP	9	1	73	1	12	1	6	1
NLP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	88	1
SLP	1	<1	10	1	2	<1	88	1
Statewide	2	<1	19	<1	4	<1	75	1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Table 16. The impact of the antler point restrictions on the total number of deer harvested in the UP during the 2008 hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Direction of change							
	Increased		No change		Decreased		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]
West UP	8	1	43	2	25	2	24	2
East UP	9	2	41	3	23	3	26	3
NE LP	<1	<1	8	1	1	<1	90	1
NW LP	<1	<1	8	1	2	<1	90	1
Sag. Bay	<1	<1	10	1	1	<1	89	1
SW LP	<1	<1	8	1	2	<1	89	1
SC LP	<1	<1	8	1	1	<1	90	1
SE LP	<1	<1	9	1	2	1	89	2
UP	8	1	42	2	25	1	25	1
NLP	<1	<1	9	1	2	<1	90	1
SLP	<1	<1	9	1	2	<1	90	1
Statewide	2	<1	14	<1	5	<1	80	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Table 17. The impact of the antler point restrictions on the number of antlerless deer harvested in the UP during the 2008 hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Direction of change							
	Increased		No change		Decreased		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]
West UP	5	1	39	2	11	1	45	2
East UP	4	1	39	3	11	2	46	3
NE LP	<1	<1	9	1	1	<1	89	1
NW LP	<1	<1	9	1	1	<1	90	1
Sag. Bay	<1	<1	10	1	1	<1	88	1
SW LP	<1	<1	9	1	1	<1	90	1
SC LP	<1	<1	8	1	1	<1	91	1
SE LP	<1	<1	9	1	1	1	89	2
UP	5	1	39	2	11	1	45	2
NLP	<1	<1	9	1	1	<1	89	1
SLP	<1	<1	9	1	1	<1	90	1
Statewide	1	<1	13	<1	3	<1	83	<1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Table 18. The impact of the antler point restrictions on the overall satisfaction with their deer hunting experience in the UP during the 2008 hunting seasons in Michigan.[a]

Preferred hunt area	Direction of change							
	Increased		No change		Decreased		Not applicable	
	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]	%	95% CL[b]
West UP	10	1	50	2	35	2	4	1
East UP	10	2	52	3	33	3	5	1
NE LP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	88	1
NW LP	1	<1	8	1	3	<1	88	1
Sag. Bay	1	<1	10	1	2	<1	87	1
SW LP	<1	<1	8	1	2	<1	89	1
SC LP	1	<1	8	1	2	<1	89	1
SE LP	1	<1	9	1	2	1	88	2
UP	10	1	51	2	35	2	4	1
NLP	1	<1	8	1	3	<1	88	1
SLP	1	<1	9	1	2	<1	89	1
Statewide	2	<1	15	<1	7	<1	75	1

[a]Excluded people that did not hunt.
[b]95% confidence limit.

Appendix A. Antlerless deer hunting license quotas, number of antlerless licenses sold, and number of hunters purchasing an antlerless license in Michigan during 2008, summarized by Deer Management Unit and license type (public and private lands).

		Public land			Private land		
DMU[a]	DMU Name	License quota	Licenses sold[b]	License buyers[c]	License quota	Licenses sold[b,c]	License buyers[c]
001	Alcona County	3,000	2,576	2,252	7,000	3,713	3,200
003	Allegan County	3,000	2,516	2,263	12,000	9,481	7,772
004	Alpena County	2,000	1,039	914	5,000	2,856	2,494
005	Antrim County	0	0	0	5,000	4,362	3,662
006	Arenac County	700	636	626	7,500	5,708	4,663
007	Big Bay Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
008	Barry County	1,800	1,576	1,514	17,000	10,880	8,452
009	Bay County	100	73	73	3,000	2,646	2,279
010	Benzie County	0	0	0	0	0	0
011	Berrien County	200	150	150	8,000	4,321	3,470
012	Branch County	100	81	79	12,000	8,110	5,821
013	Calhoun County	100	79	78	16,000	11,775	8,734
014	Cass County	500	415	386	8,000	7,068	5,034
015	Charlevoix County	0	0	0	3,400	2,991	2,459
016	Cheboygan County	400	392	391	600	558	556
017	Sault Ste. Marie Unit	0	0	0	2,000	1,781	1,580
018	Clare County	900	769	768	8,500	7,382	6,181
019	Clinton County	1,200	1,027	919	14,000	8,894	6,872
020	Crawford County	1,200	1,176	1,174	1,500	1,288	1,191
021	Manistique Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
022	Iron Mountain Unit	2,000	1,695	1,662	4,500	3,864	3,208
023	Eaton County	100	68	68	12,800	9,238	7,218
024	Emmet County	200	193	193	1,500	1,360	1,230
025	Genesee County	0	0	0	8,500	7,303	6,141
026	Gladwin County	1,400	1,227	1,226	7,800	6,746	5,471
027	Watersmeet Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
028	Grand Traverse County	0	0	0	0	0	0
029	Gratiot County	1,600	1,373	1,195	10,000	7,598	5,535
030	Hillsdale County	400	316	284	15,000	10,269	7,786
031	Nisula Unit	0	0	0	600	590	584
032	Huron County	1,000	831	829	10,000	9,480	7,028
033	Ingham County	600	481	428	11,000	8,374	6,317
034	Ionia County	1,200	1,022	901	14,300	11,034	8,123

[a]See Figure 2 for the locations of DMUs.
[b]Number of licenses sold could exceed the quota because junior licenses do not count towards the quota.
[c]Number of license buyers does not add up to statewide total because hunters could purchase licenses in more than one DMU.
[d]Special deer hunts on public land. Licenses for these DMUs were available on a local basis.

Appendix A (continued). Antlerless deer hunting license quotas, number of antlerless licenses sold, and number of hunters purchasing an antlerless license in Michigan during 2008, summarized by Deer Management Unit and license type (public and private lands).

		Public land			Private land		
DMU[a]	DMU Name	License quota	Licenses sold[b]	License buyers[c]	License quota	Licenses sold[b,c]	License buyers[c]
035	Iosco County	1,000	885	883	5,500	4,911	4,048
036	Amasa/Michigamme Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
037	Isabella County	100	68	68	11,000	9,514	7,497
038	Jackson County	1,600	1,296	1,238	20,000	13,832	10,565
039	Kalamazoo County	900	742	686	9,000	6,124	4,863
040	Kalkaska County	0	0	0	0	0	0
041	Kent County	1,100	895	812	14,000	13,417	10,328
042	Keweenaw Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
043	Lake County	0	0	0	3,000	2,755	2,655
044	Lapeer County	2,000	1,635	1,526	15,000	11,995	9,545
045	Leelanau County	0	0	0	400	433	431
046	Lenawee County	400	321	305	9,000	7,095	5,790
047	Livingston County	1,400	1,136	1,082	15,000	9,992	7,829
048	Newberry Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
049	Trout Lake Unit	0	0	0	1,500	1,378	1,288
050	Macomb County	200	151	146	3,000	2,670	2,298
051	Manistee County	0	0	0	2,500	2,406	2,399
053	Mason County	0	0	0	5,000	4,643	4,114
054	Mecosta County	0	0	0	14,000	10,939	8,901
055	Menominee Unit	3,000	2,639	2,021	12,000	6,945	5,719
056	Midland County	2,000	1,737	1,604	7,000	6,156	5,247
057	Missaukee County	0	0	0	3,200	2,948	2,716
058	Monroe County	200	150	149	1,800	1,563	1,318
059	Montcalm County	1,400	1,160	1,105	19,000	15,487	11,433
060	Montmorency County	3,200	2,752	2,487	7,800	4,189	3,717
061	Muskegon County	800	775	772	6,500	5,927	4,845
062	Newaygo County	0	0	0	6,000	5,995	5,813
063	Oakland County	2,500	2,004	1,878	7,000	5,721	4,678
064	Oceana County	0	0	0	4,500	4,256	3,707
065	Ogemaw County	1,000	929	927	6,000	5,161	4,390
066	Ontonagon County	0	0	0	0	0	0
067	Osceola County	0	0	0	5,000	4,624	4,138

[a]See Figure 2 for the locations of DMUs.
[b]Number of licenses sold could exceed the quota because junior licenses do not count towards the quota.
[c]Number of license buyers does not add up to statewide total because hunters could purchase licenses in more than one DMU.
[d]Special deer hunts on public land. Licenses for these DMUs were available on a local basis.

Appendix A (continued). Antlerless deer hunting license quotas, number of antlerless licenses sold, and number of hunters purchasing an antlerless license in Michigan during 2008, summarized by Deer Management Unit and license type (public and private lands).

		Public land			Private land		
DMU[a]	DMU Name	License quota	Licenses sold[b]	License buyers[c]	License quota	Licenses sold[b,c]	License buyers[c]
068	Oscoda County	3,000	2,620	2,547	3,500	3,870	3,325
069	Otsego County	500	468	467	1,000	905	875
070	Ottawa County	400	311	298	9,000	6,929	5,705
071	Presque Isle County	2,000	1,723	1,530	5,500	5,165	4,235
072	Roscommon County	0	0	0	0	0	0
073	Saginaw County	200	166	166	5,000	4,334	3,350
074	St. Clair County	600	444	443	8,000	7,085	6,103
075	St. Joseph County	300	241	222	8,000	5,945	4,435
076	Sanilac County	1,500	1,192	1,025	14,000	13,773	10,598
078	Shiawassee County	200	148	143	14,000	9,414	7,330
079	Tuscola County	2,700	2,261	1,990	14,000	10,220	8,088
080	Van Buren County	200	166	151	10,000	8,226	6,416
081	Washtenaw County	1,500	1,233	1,147	14,000	8,857	6,836
082	Wayne County	100	71	66	1,200	972	845
083	Wexford County	0	0	0	3,400	3,029	2,651
115	Beaver Island	300	196	176	700	236	200
117	Drummond Island	300	273	269	200	168	157
121	Bay De Noc	600	516	497	1,200	984	838
122	Norway Unit	200	178	160	2,500	794	696
127	Ironwood Unit	0	0	0	300	287	276
131	Twin Lakes Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
135	Tawas Unit	200	160	151	600	490	448
145	North Manitou Island	0[d]	0[d]	0[d]	0	0	0
149	Round/Bois Blanc Island	100	87	76	100	78	68
152	Gwinn Unit	0	0	0	0	0	0
155	Gladstone Unit	800	681	589	3,600	2,024	1,704
173	Shiawassee Flats	1,400[d]	1,075	1,043	400	353	270
174	St. Clair Flats	300[d]	272	205	300	123	104
245	South Fox Island	0[d]	0[d]	0[d]	0	0	0
252	Rock Unit	0	0	0	1,000	852	710
255	LaBranche Unit	1,000	910	776	1,500	1,275	1,096
452	Core Area	1,000	843	780	9,000	6,036	5,089
NA	Deer Management Assistance Permits	NA	NA	NA	NA	12,213	895
NA	Managed Deer Hunt Permits	NA	604	469	NA	NA	NA

[a]See Figure 2 for the locations of DMUs.
[b]Number of licenses sold could exceed the quota because junior licenses do not count towards the quota.
[c]Number of license buyers does not add up to statewide total because hunters could purchase licenses in more than one DMU.
[d]Special deer hunts on public land. Licenses for these DMUs were available on a local basis.

Appendix B. Estimated number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2008, 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	9,036	919	81,396	12,600	2,056	503	2,311	488	4,367	772
003	14,387	1,150	199,787	23,482	5,100	970	3,989	673	9,089	1,350
004	5,806	741	55,677	9,670	1,595	453	1,432	374	3,027	645
005	6,635	786	58,314	9,630	1,171	377	1,440	382	2,611	587
006	8,307	882	89,286	13,391	2,470	510	2,607	530	5,077	830
007	7,879	865	79,201	11,947	327	203	2,071	446	2,398	505
008	14,493	1,152	185,164	20,663	5,866	945	4,366	668	10,232	1,347
009	5,279	701	62,726	11,363	1,152	380	1,332	372	2,484	596
010	4,890	681	43,379	7,914	169	138	1,083	331	1,252	365
011	5,887	752	92,621	16,404	1,727	505	2,005	503	3,732	816
012	7,040	809	104,690	16,221	4,469	864	2,610	551	7,079	1,201
013	11,765	1,047	159,643	19,868	5,362	960	4,055	681	9,417	1,357
014	7,272	824	112,006	16,951	4,364	929	3,034	588	7,398	1,275
015	4,481	647	46,761	9,720	1,207	404	1,345	385	2,552	644
016	8,229	883	77,838	10,877	668	253	1,955	437	2,623	535
017	6,452	777	63,660	10,385	1,047	338	1,780	440	2,827	632
018	16,421	1,232	166,428	17,856	4,085	725	4,472	703	8,557	1,139
019	11,425	1,019	141,504	18,367	4,360	873	3,953	641	8,313	1,210
020	10,162	976	84,331	11,863	1,238	360	2,021	475	3,259	652
021	10,044	979	87,877	11,197	624	314	2,671	524	3,295	647
022	10,388	985	103,183	13,267	2,888	595	3,744	642	6,632	1,002
023	10,697	994	161,576	21,069	4,871	908	4,112	682	8,983	1,284
024	5,271	704	49,945	8,572	941	342	1,322	369	2,263	594
025	9,830	953	134,435	19,511	2,665	593	2,478	508	5,143	892
026	17,086	1,257	180,138	19,442	3,839	667	4,574	685	8,413	1,115
027	2,582	493	19,253	4,673	39	54	520	227	559	233
028	6,616	788	81,358	13,108	373	184	1,846	465	2,219	535
029	9,922	952	124,323	18,501	4,802	905	3,953	677	8,755	1,352
030	10,990	1,007	141,962	18,928	4,993	900	3,430	602	8,423	1,266
031	4,233	631	35,084	7,510	311	165	916	288	1,227	347
032	12,273	1,059	134,306	16,881	5,144	910	4,206	656	9,350	1,314
033	9,869	957	150,517	20,883	3,334	676	3,247	633	6,581	1,096
034	14,108	1,135	173,976	19,686	6,440	1,038	5,662	810	12,102	1,535

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 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 B (continued). Estimated number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2008, 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	10,998	1,016	113,520	15,334	2,195	515	2,405	487	4,600	794
036	3,764	597	30,596	6,655	114	101	1,246	360	1,360	387
037	11,914	1,045	124,985	15,959	4,863	819	4,675	710	9,538	1,219
038	17,837	1,281	241,812	25,711	6,582	972	4,884	742	11,466	1,418
039	8,579	896	124,249	17,395	2,512	596	2,208	503	4,720	889
040	8,079	875	63,004	9,832	192	128	1,482	390	1,674	418
041	17,091	1,244	225,969	22,602	6,105	963	5,236	758	11,341	1,413
042	2,191	454	25,407	7,623	118	103	886	299	1,004	339
043	18,278	1,301	155,256	16,284	2,060	449	3,780	631	5,840	822
044	15,848	1,202	195,768	22,277	6,214	996	4,261	680	10,475	1,359
045	4,245	631	46,164	10,060	292	156	963	317	1,255	374
046	7,912	859	117,269	17,454	2,599	666	2,357	520	4,956	1,014
047	15,146	1,180	207,037	22,546	6,147	1,006	4,387	717	10,534	1,425
048	5,565	731	45,320	7,809	251	183	1,159	356	1,410	406
049	7,384	831	69,644	10,712	905	299	1,850	427	2,755	591
050	4,481	646	59,590	12,201	1,137	424	1,141	360	2,278	624
051	10,919	1,010	105,371	14,352	1,654	415	2,574	529	4,228	726
053	12,624	1,083	124,818	15,587	3,037	563	4,132	680	7,169	1,011
054	15,224	1,185	160,263	19,095	5,218	792	5,393	788	10,611	1,257
055	13,370	1,115	139,962	16,182	4,174	734	5,392	762	9,566	1,205
056	11,929	1,053	148,026	18,276	2,628	562	2,946	541	5,574	867
057	10,949	1,010	105,151	13,838	1,599	407	2,745	543	4,344	745
058	4,074	619	48,012	10,090	801	297	436	233	1,237	428
059	18,082	1,275	220,487	22,486	8,588	1,249	7,049	882	15,637	1,771
060	10,017	971	74,858	11,187	1,875	500	1,991	438	3,866	722
061	10,143	969	125,452	18,081	2,127	518	2,041	473	4,168	789
062	25,356	1,516	276,536	24,264	5,760	801	8,152	931	13,912	1,402
063	11,526	1,033	149,042	19,119	3,035	673	2,659	549	5,694	979
064	10,777	1,004	118,679	15,595	2,563	546	3,120	579	5,683	909
065	14,684	1,164	132,987	15,864	2,818	568	4,359	690	7,177	978
066	5,088	700	49,346	9,205	127	105	1,365	376	1,492	390
067	13,315	1,103	137,977	16,631	2,947	548	4,352	657	7,299	962

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 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 B (continued). Estimated number of deer hunters, hunting effort, and deer harvested in Michigan during 2008, 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	12,408	1,079	87,918	10,206	2,096	490	1,881	422	3,977	685
069	7,153	823	58,547	9,781	604	233	1,491	397	2,095	492
070	11,197	1,011	150,886	18,632	3,345	691	2,742	547	6,087	1,022
071	9,091	925	85,457	11,885	2,526	585	2,277	474	4,803	823
072	12,156	1,070	103,140	13,108	148	106	1,838	449	1,986	467
073	9,536	937	117,531	15,995	2,095	510	2,899	569	4,994	862
074	13,760	1,123	198,726	22,421	3,125	635	3,453	609	6,578	1,043
075	6,613	786	87,144	14,640	2,999	688	2,224	482	5,223	1,019
076	15,768	1,191	197,830	22,056	6,643	1,071	5,711	773	12,354	1,517
078	10,966	998	159,480	20,386	4,133	806	3,702	640	7,835	1,154
079	13,561	1,115	167,966	20,166	5,490	942	4,415	690	9,905	1,312
080	8,703	901	114,556	16,729	2,956	634	2,890	564	5,846	952
081	12,856	1,087	183,424	21,751	4,786	840	4,262	695	9,048	1,273
082	1,510	379	21,794	7,808	107	91	374	188	481	232
083	11,798	1,049	108,479	14,440	1,465	412	2,616	525	4,081	718
115	482	211	2,973	1,755	168	138	68	74	236	159
117	1,850	420	17,364	6,153	342	188	387	202	729	327
121	3,182	547	33,094	7,688	786	291	1,018	337	1,804	480
122	2,965	532	29,392	7,131	571	278	1,137	376	1,708	521
127	3,128	543	38,859	10,102	304	178	564	221	868	293
131	2,608	498	30,630	7,852	136	113	805	298	941	326
135	636	241	5,401	2,372	140	134	165	143	305	209
145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
149	321	174	3,049	1,962	37	53	100	115	137	163
152	5,255	707	60,362	11,075	281	161	1,544	380	1,825	431
155	4,790	675	45,202	8,828	1,196	380	1,871	447	3,067	653
173	1,844	416	15,492	5,110	308	167	489	243	797	319
174	277	159	2,374	2,297	191	168	27	51	218	202
245	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
252	2,328	470	23,411	6,384	427	233	833	304	1,260	456
255	3,430	572	37,029	8,606	1,223	387	1,274	369	2,497	612
273	27	52	27	51	0	0	0	0	0	0
452	10,183	977	82,663	10,693	2,548	566	3,339	590	5,887	922

[a]Harvest estimates do not include deer taken with DMA permits. An additional 9,468 deer were taken with these permits.
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[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.
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