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Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign



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Colleen Callahan, Director
Illinois Department of Natural
Resources

Jennifer Wellman,
Federal Aid Coordinator

Mike Wefer,
Chief, Division of Wildlife
Resources



2020-2021 Illinois Hunter Harvest Report



Craig A. Miller, Ph.D.
Program Leader and Principal Investigator
Human Dimensions Research Program
Illinois Natural History Survey

Prepared by
Eric M. Walberg, Craig A. Miller,
Lauren J. Stephens, and Brent D.
Williams

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ILLINOIS HUNTER HARVEST REPORT

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

WILDLIFE HARVEST AND
HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH PROGRAM

STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NUMBER: W-112-R-30
STUDY 101
JOB NO. 101.1

Craig A. Miller, Ph.D.
Program Leader and Principal Investigator
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ABSTRACT

A random sample of 5,000 Illinois resident hunters was selected from adult 2020 Illinois resident Habitat Stamp and hunting license holders. Selected individuals were mailed an 8-page self-administered questionnaire designed to query hunters about their hunting activities and harvest in Illinois. We received 2,240 questionnaires, 2,052 of which were usable, for a 42% response rate. Illinois resident license sales increased 3% from 2019-20 (242,704) to 249,554 for the 2020-21 seasons. Total days afield decreased for rabbit, quail, pheasant, woodcock, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, turkey, red fox, gray fox, and opossum. Harvest increased for 6 game species (wild pheasant, groundhog, deer, raccoon, gray fox, and coyote) from 2019-20. Hunters were also asked questions regarding hunting activity and harvest in Illinois, proposed hunting regulations, impacts of COVID-19 on hunting, ticks and tick-borne diseases, and perceived effects of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and Blue Tongue Virus (BTV) on deer hunting. Estimates of wild quail and pheasant harvested beginning with the 2011-12 season were calculated differently than previous estimates to include harvest of captive-raised birds distinct from wild birds, so comparisons with seasons prior to 2011-12 are to be made with caution.

OBJECTIVE

To survey resident hunters (18-24 game animal categories) annually to determine their activities and harvest in Illinois.

METHODS

A random sample of 5,000 hunters was selected from the Illinois resident hunting license database to receive questionnaires regarding harvest(s) in Illinois during the 2020-21 hunting seasons. All Illinois resident license types were included in the sample frame except for Youth License holders ($n = 16,188$). Methods for survey questionnaire mailings and follow-up reminders followed those of Miller et al. (1999). We mailed recipients a self-administered, 8-page questionnaire (Appendix A), cover letter (Appendix B), and postage-paid return envelope (hereafter referred to as survey packet) 27 May 2021. This mailing was followed with a thank

you/reminder postcard (Appendix C) 18 June 2021. On 6 July 2021, a survey packet was mailed to non-respondents, and a second thank you/reminder postcard was mailed 22 July 2021. A final survey packet was mailed 10 August 2021. Data were coded, entered, and analyzed using SPSS 28.0 (SPSS Inc. 2021). Estimates for species harvested, number of hunters, and days afield were computed using the formulas in Anderson and Campbell (1993). Harvest estimates of game species included only those harvested by Illinois resident hunters; non-resident harvests were not included.

The formulas utilized are:

- a. Number of hunters for a species, a binomial;

$$\pm 2N \sqrt{\frac{pq}{n}}$$

Where N = total hunting license sales

n = number licensees in sample

p = proportion of licensees in sample hunting a species

q = 1 – p

- b. Mean season kill per hunter for a species:

$$\pm \frac{1.96s}{\sqrt{n_1}}$$

Where s = standard deviation of mean kill per hunter

n₁ = number of licensees in sample that hunted species

- c. Total harvest:

$$\pm 2N \times \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}} \times \frac{N - n_1}{N}$$

Prior to the 2011-12 license year, no effort was made to distinguish wild pheasant or wild quail from captive-raised birds harvested on put-and-take operations in harvest estimates and reporting. Beginning with the 2011-12 survey, hunters were provided options for separately reporting wild bird and captive bird days afield and harvest. For the 2012-13 season harvest estimates, a different method of reporting was used, and respondents were asked to provide harvest and effort for birds with no prompt as to whether they were wild or captive. In a follow up section, hunters were asked to provide their effort and harvest for shooting preserves.

For that year only estimates for wild effort and harvest were made by subtracting the reported shooting preserve numbers from the total reported. Questionnaires from 2013-14 to present use the 2011-12 line of inquiry, wherein hunters are asked to separately provide wild and non-wild harvest and effort. Therefore, comparisons across years are to be made with caution.

RESULTS

Section 1 – Hunter Harvest

License Sales

We sampled 5,000 Illinois resident hunters and received 2,052 usable questionnaires for a 42% response rate. A total of 249,554 (including youth) Illinois residents purchased hunting licenses during 2020-21 hunting seasons, a 3% increase from 2019-20 (242,704; Figure 1.1, Table 1.1).

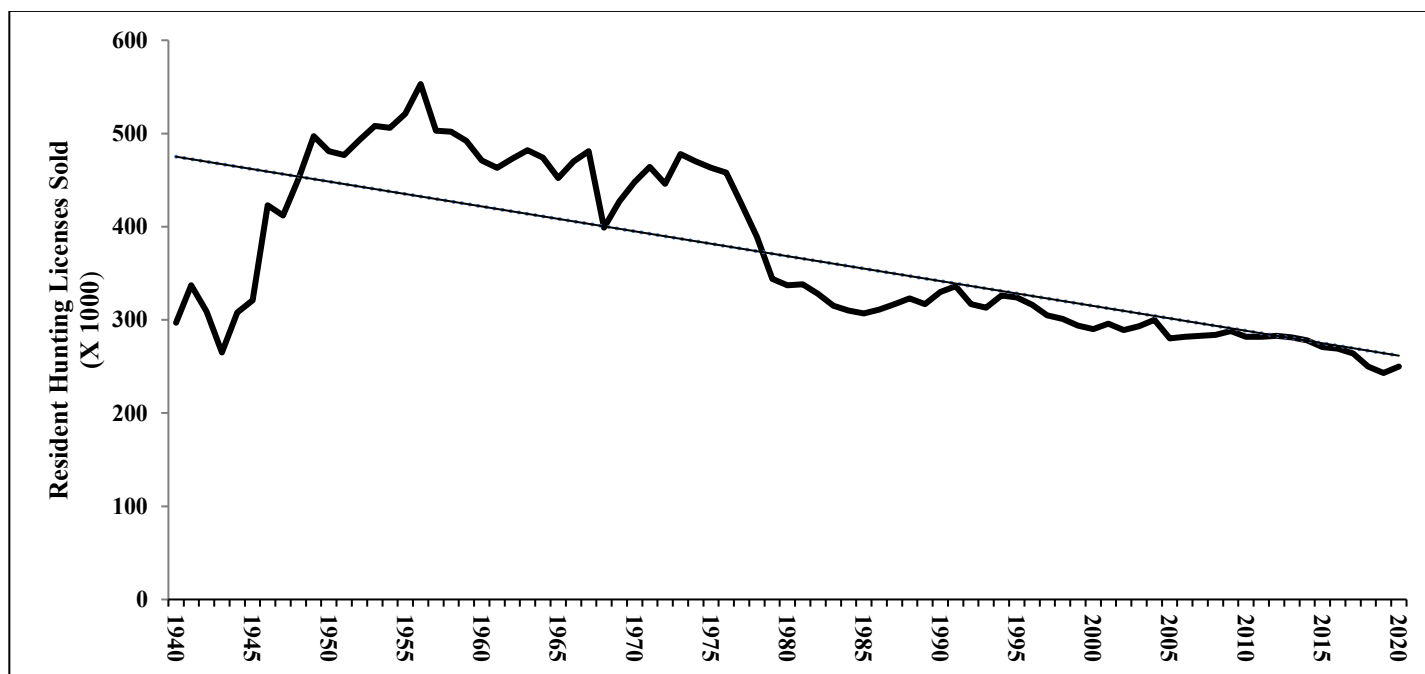


Figure 1.1. Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1940-2020.

Most respondents (97%) reported that they purchased a hunting license during 2020 (Figure 1.2) and 84% indicated that they hunted in Illinois during the 2020-21 hunting seasons (March 2020 – February 2021) (Figure 1.3). Over one-third (34%) of hunting license holders reported that they purchased their hunting license online and 59% of online license purchasers saved their license as a PDF.

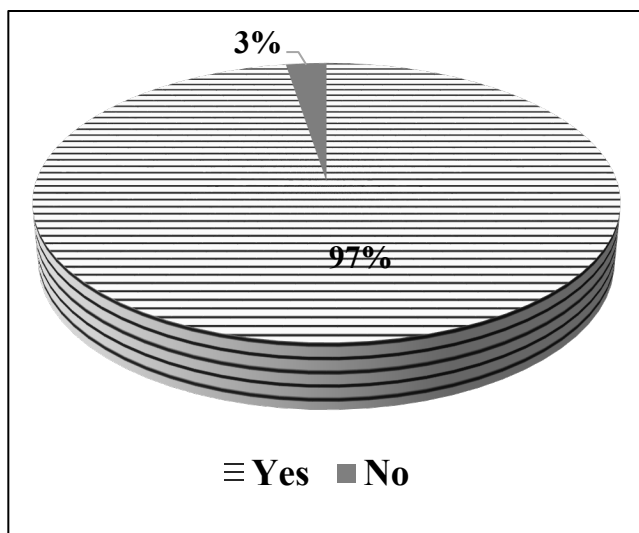


Figure 1.2. Percentage of hunters who purchased a hunting license in 2020 ($n = 2,052$).

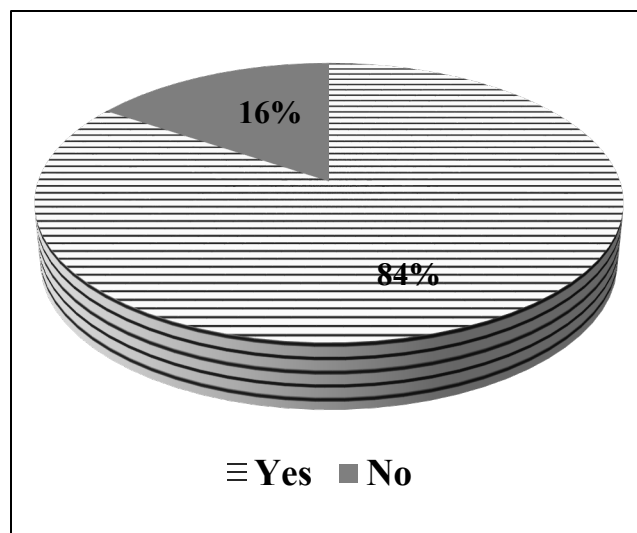


Figure 1.3. Percentage of license purchasers who hunted any wildlife species in Illinois between March 2020 and February 2021 ($n = 1,998$).

Harvest

Harvest estimates for large and small game are presented in Table 1.2; 95% confidence intervals (CI) for all species are provided in Table 1.3. Harvest estimates for the 14 species excluding deer and turkey are presented by wildlife management units (WMUs) and administrative regions in Tables 1.4 - 1.38. Maps of WMUs and administrative regions are provided in Appendices F and G. Rail and snipe harvest estimates are no longer included in the questionnaires due to no or extremely low participation and harvest data for these species. Similarly, statewide gray fox harvest was very low. Special care should be given when examining these estimates as low responses (n) produce large confidence intervals.

A total of 15 Illinois hunters reported harvesting a total of 49 Eurasian Collared-Doves and 6 were unsure whether they harvested this species during the 2020-21 hunting season. Seventy-six Illinois hunters reported downing but not retrieving a total of 219 mourning doves in Illinois during the 2020-21 season and an additional 10 hunters were unsure. One hundred and forty-four hunters reported observing a total of 463 bobcats while furbearer hunting in Illinois during the 2020-21 season. Only 8% of respondents hunted small game on public land in Illinois during the 2020-21 season. Harvest estimates for all species from 2010 – 2020 are presented in Table 1.39 and percent change in harvest is provided in Table 1.40. Season dates and bag limits for species hunted are in Appendix H.

Estimates from 2020-21 suggest an increased harvest over the previous year for 6 game species: wild pheasant, groundhog, deer, raccoon, gray fox, and coyote. Decreases in harvest estimates occurred for 9 species: rabbit, wild quail, dove, woodcock, crow, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, turkey, and opossum. Total days afield decreased for rabbit, quail, pheasant, woodcock, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, turkey, red fox, gray fox, and opossum. Rabbit hunting trends (i.e., total days afield and total harvest) from 2002-2013 and 2014 to current year are not directly comparable due to changes in length of the 2014-15 season (Figure 1.4); however, standardizing harvest for all years by the total estimated days hunted per season and harvest/hunter/day made comparisons possible (Figure 1.5). Rabbit hunter effort and harvest reveal that hunter days afield per hunter have remained relatively consistent since 2009. Trends in estimated number of hunters, harvest, and days afield for dove, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, and coyote from 2010-20 are provided in Figures 1.6-1.9.

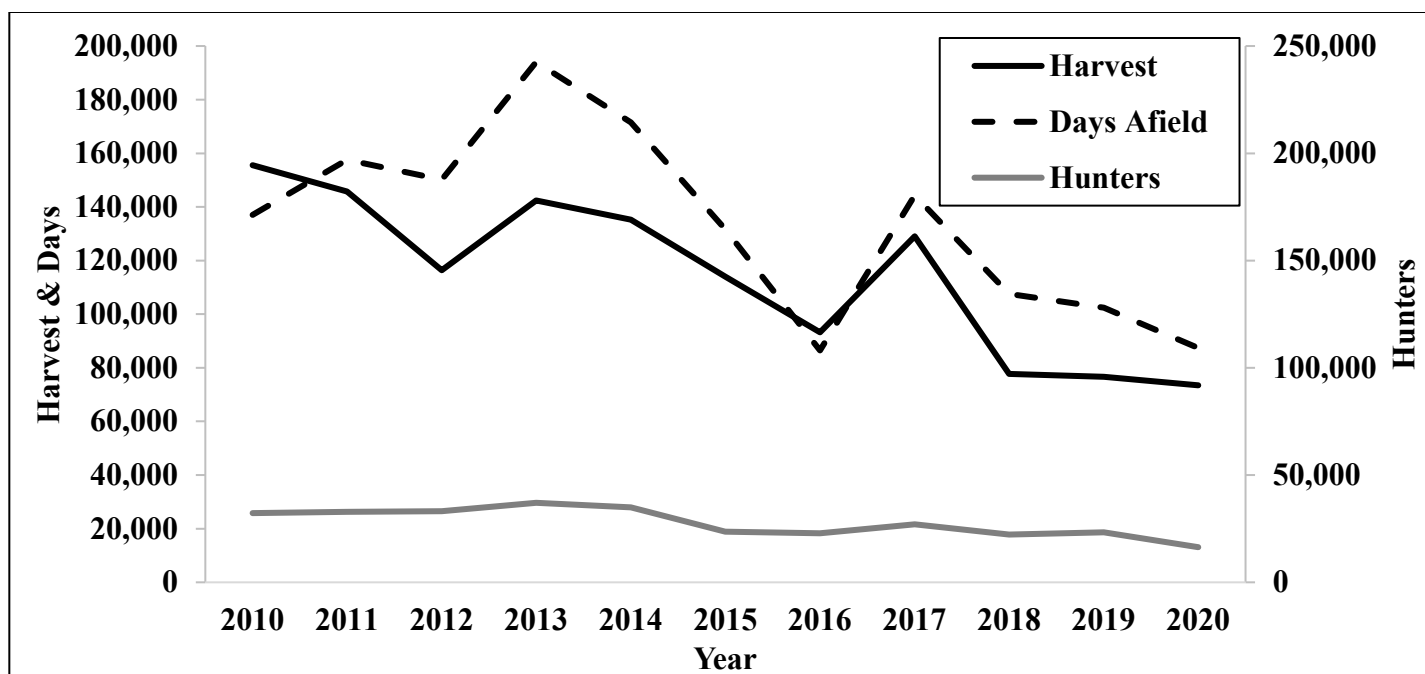


Figure 1.4. Illinois RABBIT harvest and hunter activity (2010-2020).

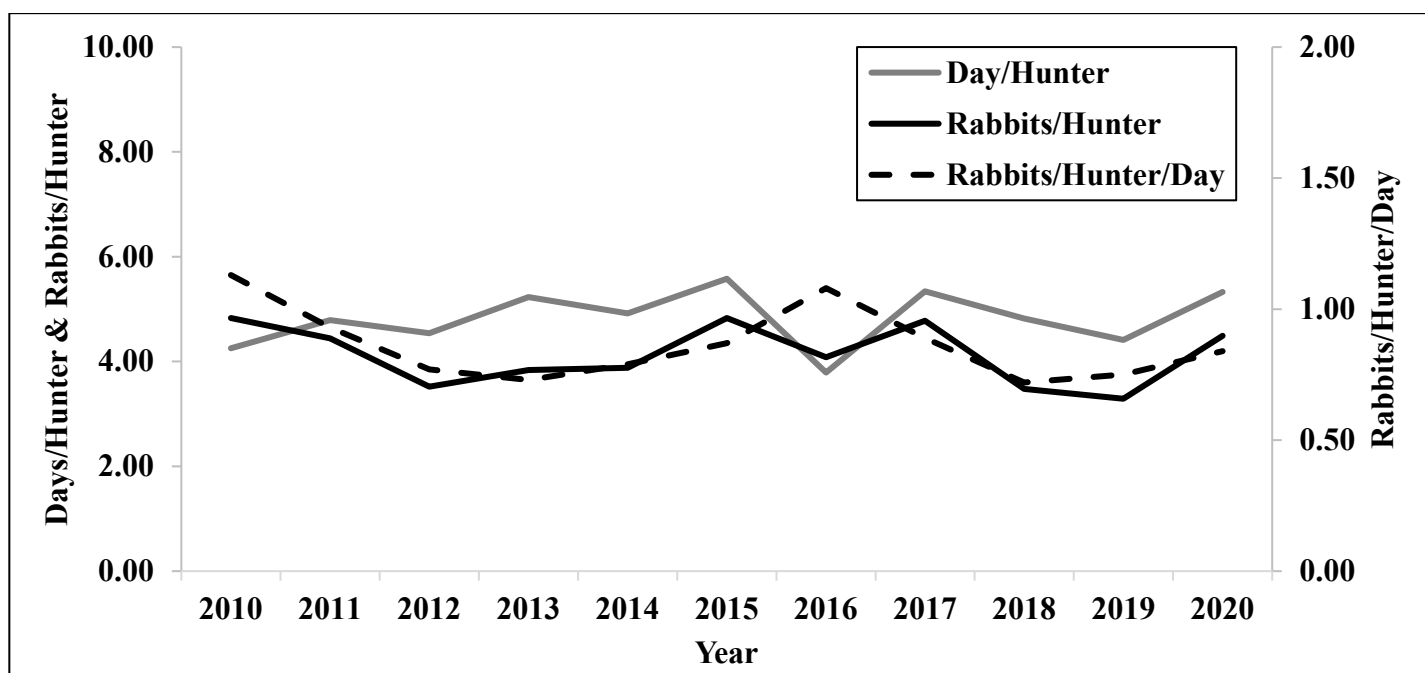


Figure 1.5. Number of days per hunter, harvest per hunter, and harvest per day per hunter from 2010-2020 for RABBIT hunting in Illinois.

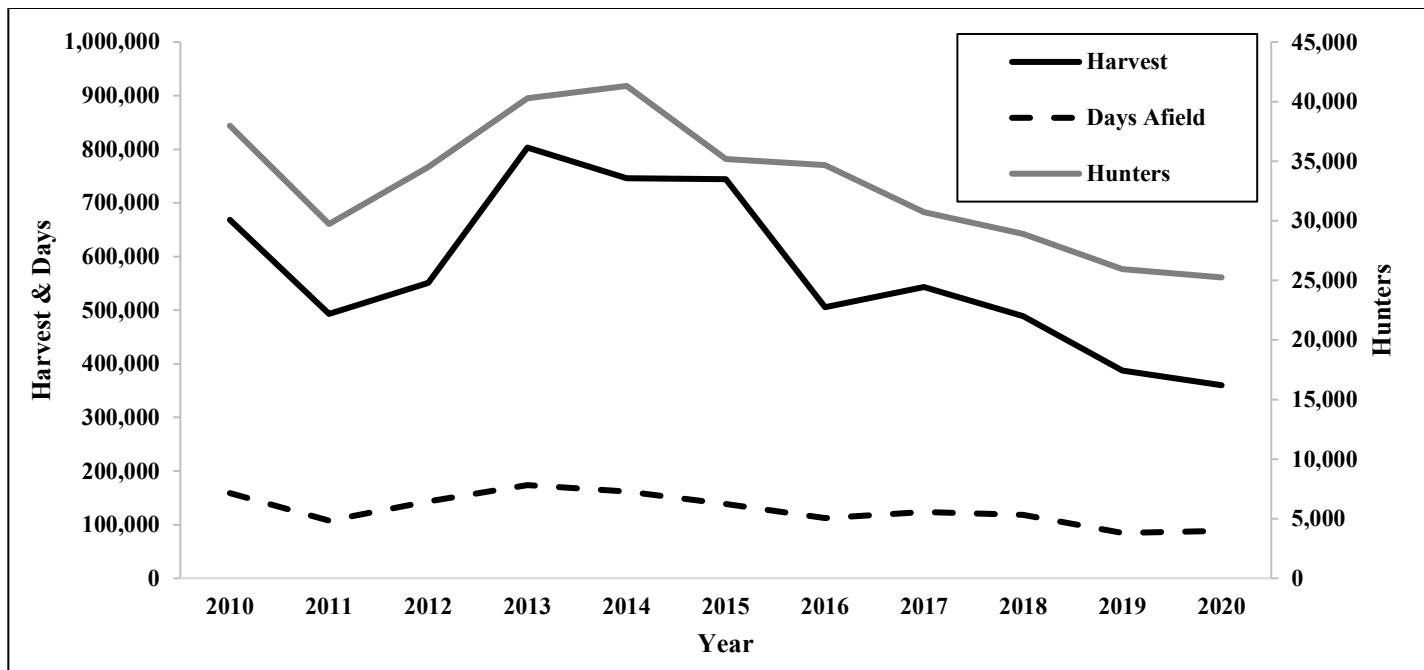


Figure 1.6. Illinois DOVE harvest and hunter activity (2010-2020).

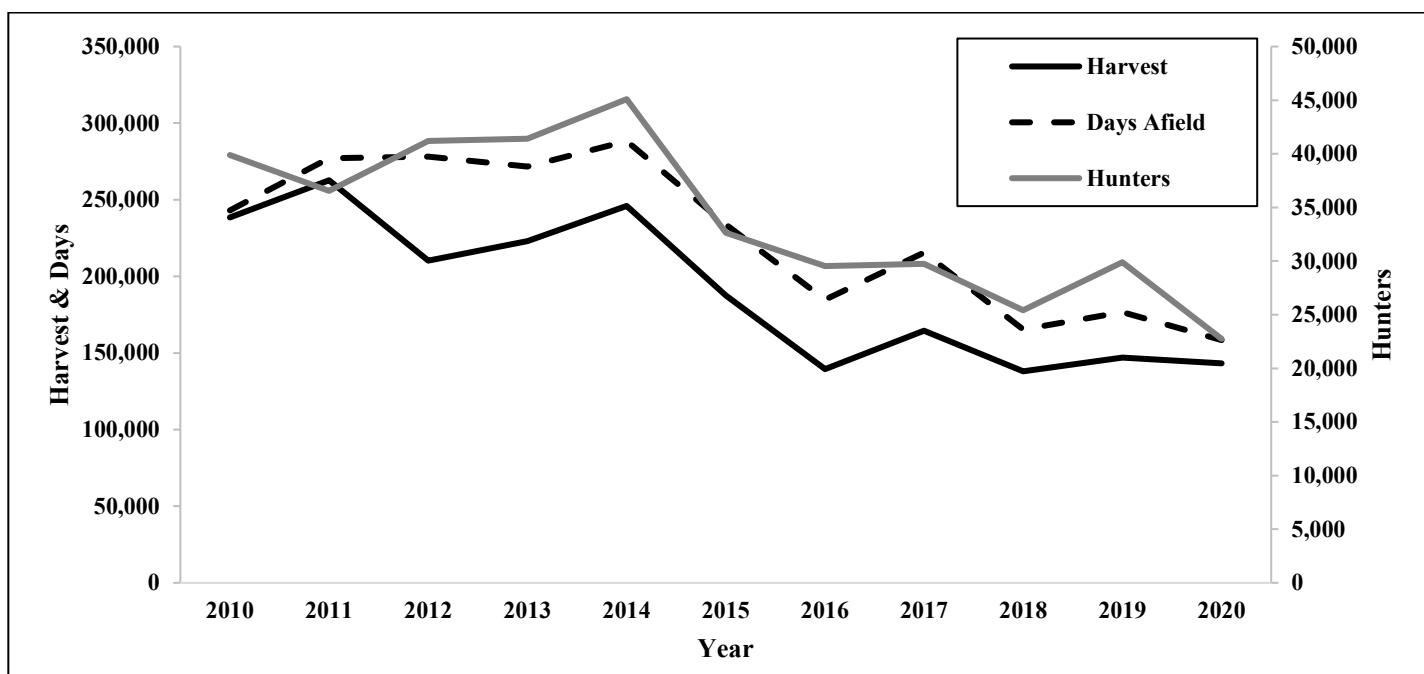


Figure 1.7. Illinois FOX SQUIRREL harvest and hunter activity (2010-2020).

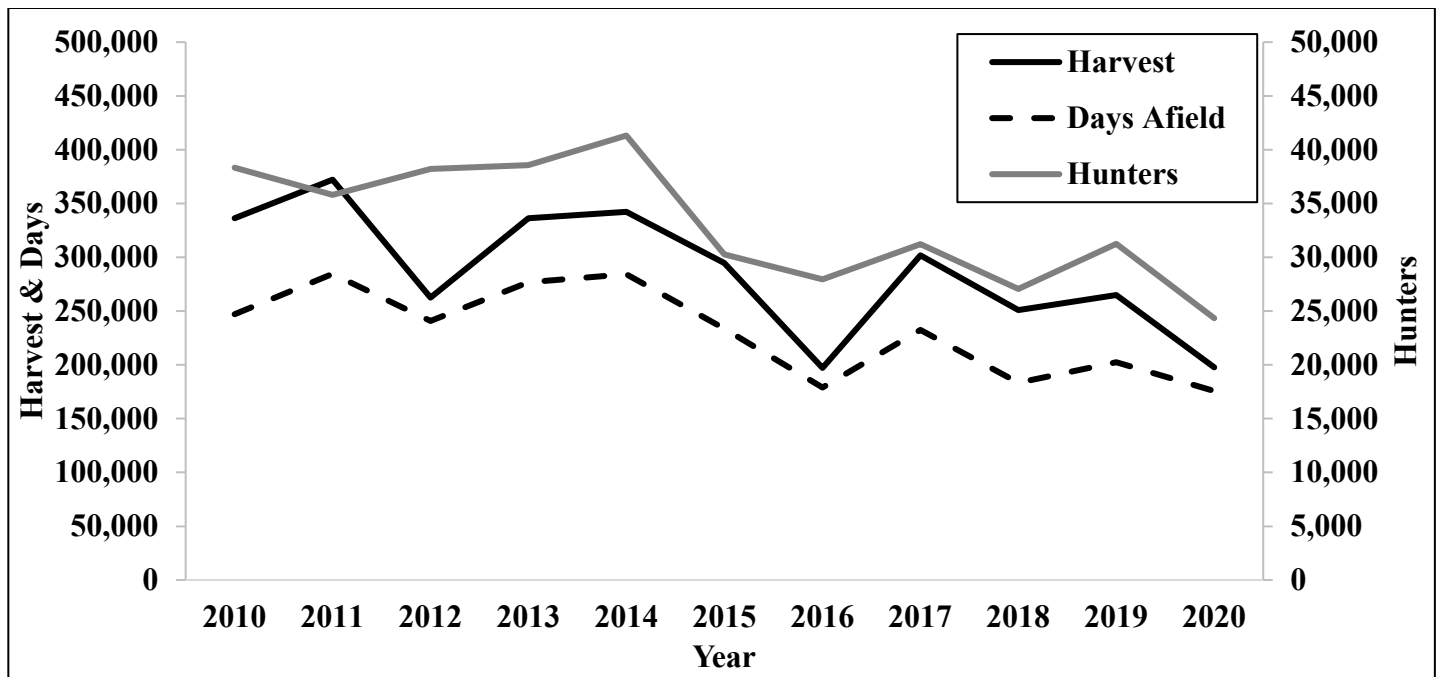


Figure 1.8. Illinois GRAY SQUIRREL harvest and hunter activity (2010-2020).

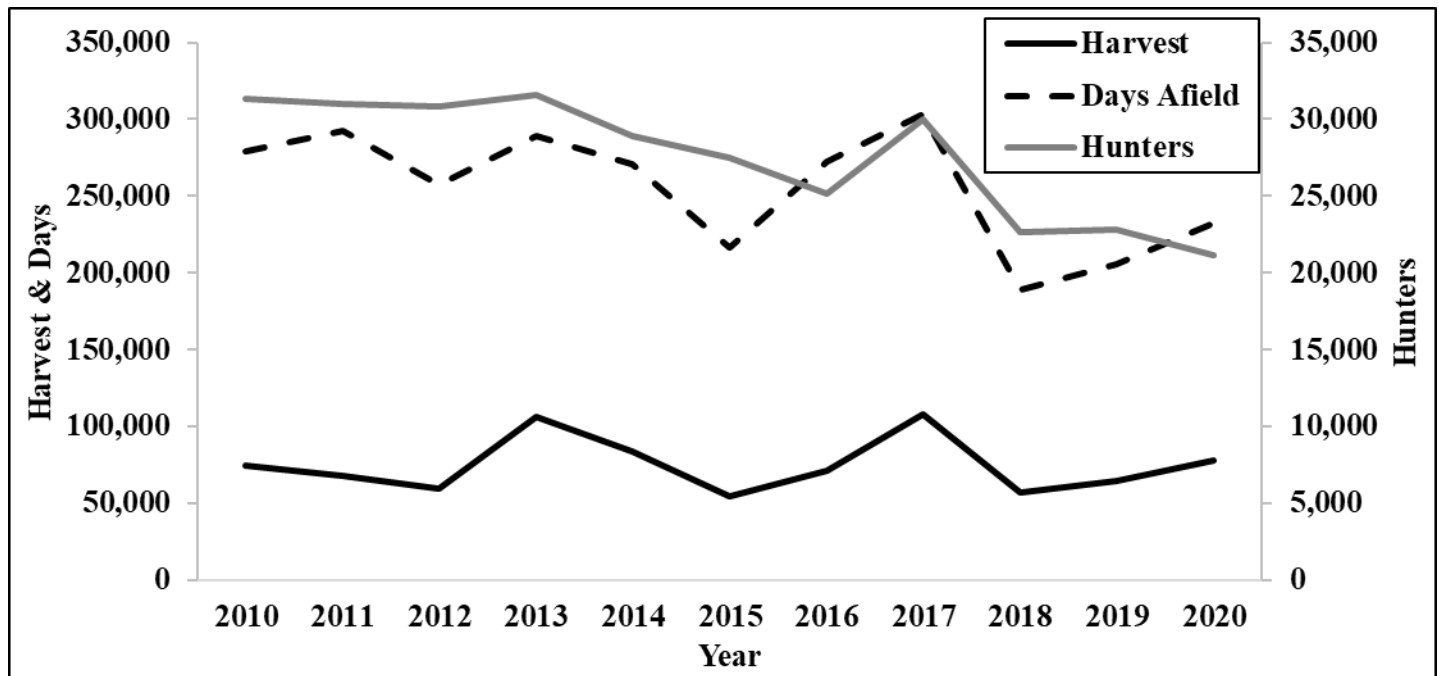


Figure 1.9. Illinois COYOTE harvest and hunter activity (2010-2020).

Table 1.1. Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1938-2020.

Year	Licenses (x 1,000)	Year	Licenses (x 1,000)
2020	250	1978	389
2019	243	1977	424
2018	250	1976	458
2017	264	1975	463
2016	269	1974	470
2015	271	1973	478
2014	278	1972	446
2013	281	1971	464
2012	283	1970	448
2011	282	1969	427
2010	282	1968	399
2009	288	1967	481
2008	284	1966	470
2007	283	1965	452
2006	282 ^d	1964	474
2005	280	1963	482
2004	300	1962	473
2003	293	1961	463
2002	289	1960	471
2001	296	1959	492
2000	290	1958	502
1999	294 ^c	1957	503
1998	301	1956	553
1997	305	1955	521
1996	316	1954	506
1995	324	1953	508
1994	326 ^b	1952	493
1993	313	1951	477
1992	317	1950	481
1991	336	1949	497
1990	330	1948	451
1989	317	1947	412
1988	323	1946	423
1987	317	1945	321
1986	311	1944	308
1985	307	1943	265
1984	310	1942	309
1983	315	1941	337
1982	328	1940	297
1981	338	1939	322
1980	337	1938	294
1979	344 ^a		

^a Includes Sportsmen's (combination hunting/fishing) licenses beginning in 1979.

^b Includes senior citizen (≥ 65 years) hunting licenses beginning in 1994.

^c Includes senior citizen (≥ 65 years) Sportsmen's (combination hunting/fishing) licenses beginning in 1999.

^d Includes apprentice hunting licenses beginning in 2006 (Apprentice license sales include non-residents).

Table 1.2. Summary of statewide data from the 2020-21 Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 2,052$).

Species	Total Hunters	Percent of License Sales	Average Bag		Total Harvest	Days Hunting	
			Daily	Season		Average /Hunter	Total Hunter Days
Rabbit	16,377	7.02%	0.84	4.49	73,467	5.33	87,342
Non-Wild Quail	4,094	1.75%	4.69	32.03	131,126	6.83	27,977
Wild Quail	4,435	1.90%	1.05	7.51	33,322	7.13	31,616
Non-Wild Pheasant	18,310	7.85%	2.00	11.15	204,138	5.58	102,240
Wild Pheasant	8,529	3.65%	0.68	3.17	27,067	4.68	39,918
Dove	25,247	10.82%	4.07	14.26	360,057	3.50	88,479
Woodcock	341	0.15%	0.33	0.33	114	1.00	341
Crow	1,706	0.73%	0.49	2.20	3,753	4.53	7,733
Groundhog	2,957	1.27%	0.72	3.92	11,600	5.42	16,035
Gray Squirrel	24,337	10.43%	1.12	8.12	197,542	7.22	175,707
Fox Squirrel	22,745	9.75%	0.90	6.30	143,181	6.97	158,420
Turkey-Spring	37,643	16.13%	0.10	0.42	15,694	4.23	159,103
Turkey-Fall Shotgun	3,526	1.51%	0.02	0.06	227	3.16	11,145
Turkey-Fall Archery*	10,690	4.58%	0.01	0.10	1,024	12.61	134,765
Turkey-Compound/Recurve	5,914	2.53%	0.01	0.08	455	14.31	84,612
Turkey-Crossbow	5,004	2.14%	0.01	0.11	569	10.02	50,153
Deer-Regular Firearm	124,871	53.51%	0.13	0.57	71,306	4.56	568,858
Deer-Muzzleloader	24,224	10.38%	0.12	0.29	7,051	2.35	56,863
Deer-Archery*	99,397	42.59%	0.04	0.71	70,169	16.72	1,662,335
Deer-Compound/Recurve	56,636	24.27%	0.04	0.63	35,937	17.05	965,421
Deer-Crossbow	50,608	21.69%	0.05	0.68	34,232	13.77	696,914
Deer-LWF	15,353	6.58%	0.11	0.28	4,322	2.51	38,553
Deer-CWD	5,459	2.34%	0.12	0.23	1,251	1.92	10,463
Raccoon	4,776	2.05%	0.87	14.60	69,714	16.76	80,063
Red Fox	455	0.19%	0.07	0.25	114	3.75	1,706
Gray Fox	341	0.15%	0.10	0.67	227	7.00	2,388
Coyote	21,153	9.06%	0.33	3.67	77,561	10.98	232,229
Opossum	796	0.34%	1.08	4.00	3,184	3.71	2,957

* Total archery hunters are less than the sum of hunters by type because some used both Compound/Recurve and Crossbow.

Table 1.3. Estimated number (\pm 95% confidence interval) of resident licensed hunters and harvest in Illinois, 2020-21 season ($n = 2,052$).

Species	n	Total Estimated Hunters		Estimated Average Season Bag			Total Estimated Harvest		
Rabbit	144	16,377	\pm 2,632	4.49	\pm	1.76	73,467	\pm	31,560
Non-Wild Quail	36	4,094	\pm 1,353	32.03	\pm	28.42	131,126	\pm	124,827
Wild Quail	39	4,435	\pm 1,407	7.51	\pm	4.26	33,322	\pm	21,778
Non-Wild Pheasant	161	18,310	\pm 2,771	11.15	\pm	3.14	204,138	\pm	66,153
Wild Pheasant	75	8,529	\pm 1,933	3.17	\pm	1.13	27,067	\pm	11,557
Dove	222	25,247	\pm 3,200	14.26	\pm	2.00	360,057	\pm	68,658
Woodcock	3	341	\pm 394	0.33	\pm	0.65	114	\pm	227
Crow	15	1,706	\pm 878	2.20	\pm	1.13	3,753	\pm	2,720
Groundhog	26	2,957	\pm 1,152	3.92	\pm	1.47	11,600	\pm	6,284
Gray Squirrel	214	24,337	\pm 3,149	8.12	\pm	1.61	197,542	\pm	47,393
Fox Squirrel	200	22,745	\pm 3,056	6.30	\pm	1.28	143,181	\pm	35,403
Raccoon	42	4,776	\pm 1,459	14.60	\pm	7.95	69,714	\pm	43,792
Red Fox	4	455	\pm 454	0.25	\pm	0.49	114	\pm	227
Gray Fox	3	341	\pm 394	0.67	\pm	0.65	227	\pm	319
Coyote	186	21,153	\pm 2,958	3.67	\pm	1.55	77,561	\pm	35,096
Opossum	7	796	\pm 601	4.00	\pm	2.70	3,184	\pm	3,153

Table 1.4. Summary of 2020-21 RABBIT hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Rabbit (<i>n</i> = 144)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	682	4.17	0.17	0.83	569	3,298
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	1,137	6.94	0.67	2.20	2,502	3,753
Mississippi Border-South	1,592	9.72	0.55	2.64	4,208	7,620
Western Prairie/Forest	1,365	8.33	0.74	5.33	7,278	9,780
Central Sand Prairie	569	3.47	0.94	6.20	3,526	3,753
Grand Prairie	7,165	43.75	0.71	3.19	22,859	32,298
Southern Plain	2,502	15.28	1.28	7.27	18,196	14,216
Wabash Border	796	4.86	0.36	1.86	1,478	4,094
Shawnee Hills	341	2.08	1.82	37.67	12,851	7,051
Unknown	227	1.39	0.00	0.00	0	1,478
Statewide	16,377	100.00	0.84	4.49	73,467	87,342

Table 1.5. Summary of 2020-21 NON-WILD QUAIL hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Non-Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 36)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	227	5.56	0.80	6.00	1,365	1,706
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	227	5.56	4.00	6.00	1,365	341
Western Prairie/Forest	455	11.11	3.71	15.75	7,165	1,933
Central Sand Prairie	114	2.78	0.50	2.00	227	455
Grand Prairie	455	11.11	13.62	126.00	57,318	4,208
Southern Plain	2,388	58.33	3.57	23.62	56,408	15,808
Wabash Border	227	5.56	2.06	32.00	7,278	3,526
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	4,094	100.00	4.69	32.03	131,126	27,977

Table 1.6. Summary of 2020-21 WILD QUAIL hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 39)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	227	5.13	2.57	9.00	2,047	796
Mississippi Border-South	455	10.26	2.31	9.25	4,208	1,820
Western Prairie/Forest	227	5.13	0.38	3.00	682	1,820
Central Sand Prairie	682	15.38	0.30	2.00	1,365	4,549
Grand Prairie	1,137	25.64	0.54	3.70	4,208	7,733
Southern Plain	1,251	28.21	1.36	14.45	18,082	13,306
Wabash Border	227	5.13	2.86	10.00	2,275	796
Shawnee Hills	114	2.56	2.00	4.00	455	227
Unknown	114	2.56	0.00	0.00	0	569
Statewide	4,435	100.00	1.05	7.51	33,322	31,616

Table 1.7. Summary of 2020-21 NON-WILD PHEASANT hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Non-Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 161)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,365	7.45	3.68	21.75	29,683	8,075
Northeast Moraine	2,161	11.80	2.13	15.84	34,232	16,035
Mississippi Border-North	114	0.62	2.00	6.00	682	341
Mississippi Border-South	114	0.62	2.00	2.00	227	114
Western Prairie/Forest	1,478	8.07	4.58	24.31	35,937	7,847
Central Sand Prairie	569	3.11	1.66	18.60	10,577	6,369
Grand Prairie	7,620	41.61	1.43	7.84	59,706	41,851
Southern Plain	2,843	15.53	1.52	7.44	21,153	13,875
Wabash Border	114	0.62	1.25	10.00	1,137	910
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	1,933	10.56	1.58	5.59	10,804	6,824
Statewide	18,310	100.00	2.00	11.15	204,138	102,240

Table 1.8. Summary of 2020-21 WILD PHEASANT hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 75)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	910	10.67	0.69	1.38	1,251	1,820
Northeast Moraine	455	5.33	0.71	4.25	1,933	2,729
Mississippi Border-North	114	1.33	1.40	7.00	796	569
Mississippi Border-South	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Prairie/Forest	341	4.00	0.08	0.67	227	2,729
Central Sand Prairie	569	6.67	0.91	4.20	2,388	2,616
Grand Prairie	5,686	66.67	0.65	3.18	18,082	27,635
Southern Plain	227	2.67	0.33	0.50	114	341
Wabash Border	114	1.33	2.50	20.00	2,275	910
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	114	1.33	0.00	0.00	0	569
Statewide	8,529	100.00	0.68	3.17	27,067	39,918

Table 1.9. Summary of 2020-21 DOVE hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Dove (<i>n</i> = 222)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	682	2.70	3.75	7.50	5,118	1,365
Northeast Moraine	1,592	6.31	4.77	10.21	16,263	3,412
Mississippi Border-North	1,137	4.50	5.04	11.60	13,192	2,616
Mississippi Border-South	3,412	13.51	5.14	20.57	70,169	13,647
Western Prairie/Forest	2,843	11.26	4.53	17.92	50,949	11,259
Central Sand Prairie	1,933	7.66	3.71	13.76	26,612	7,165
Grand Prairie	7,506	29.73	3.40	13.09	98,259	28,886
Southern Plain	4,776	18.92	3.70	12.33	58,910	15,922
Wabash Border	796	3.15	4.00	13.14	10,463	2,616
Shawnee Hills	455	1.80	6.85	22.25	10,122	1,478
Unknown	114	0.45	0.00	0.00	0	114
Statewide	25,247	100.00	4.07	14.26	360,057	88,479

Table 1.10. Summary of 2020-21 WOODCOCK hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Woodcock (<i>n</i> = 3)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	114	33.33	1.00	1.00	114	114
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	114
Southern Plain	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	114
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	341	100.00	0.33	0.33	114	341

Table 1.11. Summary of 2020-21 CROW hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Crow (<i>n</i> = 15)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	114	6.67	0.20	1.00	114	569
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	227	13.33	0.29	1.00	227	796
Western Prairie/Forest	227	13.33	1.00	1.00	227	227
Central Sand Prairie	114	6.67	0.00	0.00	0	227
Grand Prairie	455	26.67	1.56	3.50	1,592	1,024
Southern Plain	455	26.67	0.34	3.50	1,592	4,663
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	114	6.67	0.00	0.00	0	227
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	1,706	100.00	0.49	2.20	3,753	7,733

Table 1.12. Summary of 2020-21 GROUNDHOG hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Groundhog (<i>n</i> = 26)						
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
WMU			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	227	7.69	1.00	1.00	227	227
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	682	23.08	0.49	4.33	2,957	6,027
Western Prairie/Forest	341	11.54	0.73	3.67	1,251	1,706
Central Sand Prairie	114	3.85	1.00	1.00	114	114
Grand Prairie	341	11.54	1.27	4.67	1,592	1,251
Southern Plain	910	30.77	0.74	3.25	2,957	3,980
Wabash Border	227	7.69	0.87	10.00	2,275	2,616
Shawnee Hills	114	3.85	2.00	2.00	227	114
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,957	100.00	0.72	3.92	11,600	16,035

Table 1.13. Summary of 2020-21 GRAY SQUIRREL hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Gray Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 214)						
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
WMU			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	910	3.74	0.38	1.50	1,365	3,639
Northeast Moraine	227	0.93	0.91	5.00	1,137	1,251
Mississippi Border-North	796	3.27	0.84	2.29	1,820	2,161
Mississippi Border-South	4,890	20.09	1.53	11.79	57,659	37,643
Western Prairie/Forest	1,706	7.01	0.56	2.93	5,004	8,871
Central Sand Prairie	910	3.74	0.83	4.38	3,980	4,776
Grand Prairie	5,231	21.50	0.69	3.93	20,584	29,683
Southern Plain	6,937	28.50	1.33	9.54	66,189	49,926
Wabash Border	910	3.74	1.07	17.63	16,035	15,012
Shawnee Hills	1,592	6.54	1.14	14.50	23,086	20,243
Unknown	227	0.93	0.27	3.00	682	2,502
Statewide	24,337	100.00	1.12	8.12	197,542	175,707

Table 1.14. Summary of 2020-21 FOX SQUIRREL hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Fox Squirrel ($n = 200$)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,024	4.50	0.55	2.00	2,047	3,753
Northeast Moraine	114	0.50	10.00	10.00	1,137	114
Mississippi Border-North	910	4.00	1.05	2.63	2,388	2,275
Mississippi Border-South	3,753	16.50	1.14	8.82	33,094	29,114
Western Prairie/Forest	2,047	9.00	1.01	4.17	8,529	8,416
Central Sand Prairie	1,024	4.50	1.73	10.78	11,031	6,369
Grand Prairie	6,710	29.50	0.86	5.10	34,232	39,804
Southern Plain	5,004	22.00	0.59	4.55	22,745	38,439
Wabash Border	910	4.00	1.16	20.38	18,537	16,035
Shawnee Hills	1,024	4.50	0.77	8.78	8,984	11,600
Unknown	227	1.00	0.18	2.00	455	2,502
Statewide	22,745	100.00	0.90	6.30	143,181	158,420

Table 1.15. Summary of 2020-21 RACCOON hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Raccoon ($n = 42$)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	114	2.38	0.75	3.00	341	455
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	227	4.76	2.46	86.00	19,561	7,961
Mississippi Border-South	1,024	21.43	1.27	25.22	25,816	20,357
Western Prairie/Forest	569	11.90	0.52	12.00	6,824	13,079
Central Sand Prairie	341	7.14	1.14	2.67	910	796
Grand Prairie	1,706	35.71	0.44	7.07	12,055	27,635
Southern Plain	796	16.67	0.43	5.29	4,208	9,780
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	4,776	100.00	0.87	14.60	69,714	80,063

Table 1.16. Summary of 2020-21 RED FOX hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Red Fox (<i>n</i> = 4)					
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	-	-	-	-	-	-
Western Prairie/Forest	227	50.00	0.09	0.50	114	1,251
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	114	25.00	0.00	0.00	0	114
Southern Plain	114	25.00	0.00	0.00	0	341
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	455	100.00	0.07	0.25	114	1,706

Table 1.17. Summary of 2020-21 GRAY FOX hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Gray Fox (<i>n</i> = 3)					
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	114	33.33	0.25	1.00	114	455
Western Prairie/Forest	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	1,137
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	114	33.33	0.14	1.00	114	796
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	341	100.00	0.10	0.67	227	2,388

Table 1.18. Summary of 2020-21 COYOTE hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Coyote (<i>n</i> = 186)					
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,251	5.91	0.38	2.73	3,412	8,871
Northeast Moraine	682	3.23	0.15	0.83	569	3,867
Mississippi Border-North	796	3.76	0.16	3.00	2,388	14,898
Mississippi Border-South	2,275	10.75	0.24	2.45	5,573	23,428
Western Prairie/Forest	2,388	11.29	0.23	2.29	5,459	23,541
Central Sand Prairie	1,365	6.45	0.06	0.33	455	7,961
Grand Prairie	6,937	32.80	0.28	3.34	23,200	83,930
Southern Plain	3,980	18.82	0.59	7.91	31,502	52,996
Wabash Border	455	2.15	0.53	8.00	3,639	6,824
Shawnee Hills	910	4.30	0.20	1.25	1,137	5,573
Unknown	114	0.54	0.67	2.00	227	341
Statewide	21,153	100.00	0.33	3.67	77,561	232,229

Table 1.19. Summary of 2020-21 OPOSSUM hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Opossum (<i>n</i> = 7)					
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	227	28.57	0.95	9.00	2,047	2,161
Western Prairie/Forest	114	14.29	1.00	1.00	114	114
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	227	28.57	2.00	2.00	455	227
Southern Plain	114	14.29	1.00	1.00	114	114
Wabash Border	114	14.29	1.33	4.00	455	341
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	796	100.00	1.08	4.00	3,184	2,957

Table 1.20. Percent change in harvest from 2019-20 to 2020-21 in Wildlife Management Units for selected species.

Wildlife Management Unit	Rabbit	Non-Wild Quail	Wild Quail	Non-Wild Pheasant	Wild Pheasant	Dove	Gray Squirrel	Fox Squirrel	Raccoon	Red Fox	Gray Fox	Coyote
Northwest Hills	-54%	229%	---	183%	0%	-74%	-31%	-52%	-97%	---	---	-68%
Northeast Moraine	-100%	---	---	7%	272%	52%	-74%	4093%	---	---	---	-22%
Mississippi Border-North	-64%	---	31%	119%	9%	9%	-82%	26%	231%	---	---	-8%
Mississippi Border-South	-63%	-72%	268%	-86%	-100%	17%	-17%	176%	84%	---	10%	-23%
Western Prairie Forest	-3%	1627%	228%	621%	118%	62%	-71%	-5%	-24%	---	---	-42%
Central Sand Prairie	89%	-56%	-61%	18%	109%	173%	-4%	-50%	193%	---	---	-51%
Grand Prairie	46%	678%	62%	-1%	0%	-40%	-36%	-30%	13%	---	---	43%
Southern Plain	-23%	60%	-38%	-14%	-92%	-9%	-17%	188%	-68%	---	---	139%
Wabash Border	29%	-8%	-69%	-45%	---	-13%	-3%	118%	-100%	---	---	251%
Shawnee Hills	93%	-100%	---	-100%	---	195%	-22%	1135%	-100%	---	---	-50%

^a Percentage change could not be calculated in certain WMU's due to no harvest in 2019 and/or 2020 in those units.

Table 1.21. Summary of 2020-21 RABBIT hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Rabbit (<i>n</i> = 144)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	4,094	25.00	0.59	2.42	9,894	16,718
Region 2	1,024	6.25	0.52	1.78	1,820	3,526
Region 3	3,071	18.75	0.56	2.74	8,416	15,012
Region 4	5,459	33.33	0.79	4.21	22,973	29,114
Region 5	2,502	15.28	1.41	12.14	30,365	21,494
Unknown	227	1.39	0.00	0.00	0	1,478
Statewide	16,377	100.00	0.84	4.49	73,467	87,342

Table 1.22. Summary of 2020-21 NON-WILD QUAIL hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Non-Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 36)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	569	13.89	2.23	13.40	7,620	3,412
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	341	8.33	2.06	23.33	7,961	3,867
Region 4	1,933	47.22	6.18	37.06	71,647	11,600
Region 5	1,251	30.56	4.83	35.09	43,898	9,098
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	4,094	100.00	4.69	32.03	131,126	27,977

Table 1.23. Summary of 2020-21 WILD QUAIL hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 39)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	569	12.82	0.58	3.80	2,161	3,753
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	341	7.69	0.83	5.00	1,706	2,047
Region 4	2,047	46.15	0.77	4.22	8,643	11,259
Region 5	1,365	30.77	1.49	15.25	20,812	13,988
Unknown	114	2.56	0.00	0.00	0	569
Statewide	4,435	100.00	1.05	7.51	33,322	31,616

Table 1.24. Summary of 2020-21 NON-WILD PHEASANT hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Non-Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 161)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	4,208	22.98	2.60	16.00	67,326	25,930
Region 2	5,345	29.19	1.75	11.11	59,365	33,890
Region 3	2,843	15.53	1.19	5.68	16,149	13,533
Region 4	2,502	13.66	2.46	14.95	37,416	15,239
Region 5	1,478	8.07	1.92	8.85	13,079	6,824
Unknown	1,933	10.56	1.58	5.59	10,804	6,824
Statewide	18,310	100.00	2.00	11.15	204,138	102,240

Table 1.25. Summary of 2020-21 WILD PHEASANT hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 75)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	2,388	28.00	0.71	2.57	6,141	8,643
Region 2	1,137	13.33	0.58	2.20	2,502	4,322
Region 3	3,298	38.67	0.75	3.55	11,714	15,694
Region 4	1,592	18.67	0.63	4.21	6,710	10,690
Region 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	114	1.33	0.00	0.00	0	569
Statewide	8,529	100.00	0.68	3.17	27,067	39,918

Table 1.26. Summary of 2020-21 DOVE hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Dove (<i>n</i> = 222)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	5,459	21.62	3.14	12.96	70,738	22,518
Region 2	2,388	9.46	4.39	9.62	22,973	5,231
Region 3	2,957	11.71	3.44	12.04	35,596	10,349
Region 4	9,780	38.74	4.45	15.77	154,213	34,686
Region 5	4,549	18.02	4.91	16.83	76,538	15,580
Unknown	114	0.45	0.00	0.00	0	114
Statewide	5,247	100.00	4.07	14.26	360,057	88,479

Table 1.27. Summary of 2020-21 WOODCOCK hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Woodcock (<i>n</i> = 3)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	114	33.33	1.00	1.00	114	114
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	114
Region 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 5	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	114
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	341	100.00	0.33	0.33	114	341

Table 1.28. Summary of 2020-21 CROW hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Crow (<i>n</i> = 15)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	569	33.33	1.38	2.20	1,251	910
Region 2	114	6.67	0.20	1.00	114	569
Region 3	114	6.67	1.67	5.00	569	341
Region 4	227	13.33	0.20	0.50	114	569
Region 5	682	40.00	0.32	2.50	1,706	5,345
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	1,706	100.00	0.49	2.20	3,753	7,733

Table 1.29. Summary of 2020-21 GROUNDHOG hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Groundhog (<i>n</i> = 26)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	682	23.08	1.18	3.33	2,275	1,933
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	227	7.69	1.00	8.00	1,820	1,820
Region 4	1,024	34.62	0.44	3.00	3,071	6,937
Region 5	1,024	34.62	0.83	4.33	4,435	5,345
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,957	100.00	0.72	3.92	11,600	16,035

Table 1.30. Summary of 2020-2021 GRAY SQUIRREL hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Gray Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 214)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	3,867	15.89	0.63	2.94	11,373	18,082
Region 2	1,251	5.14	0.39	2.45	3,071	7,847
Region 3	2,275	9.35	0.73	4.70	10,690	14,557
Region 4	8,871	36.45	1.47	8.96	79,495	54,020
Region 5	7,847	32.24	1.17	11.75	92,232	78,698
Unknown	227	0.93	0.27	3.00	682	2,502
Statewide	24,337	100.00	1.12	8.12	197,542	175,707

Table 1.31. Summary of 2020-21 FOX SQUIRREL hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Fox Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 200)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	4,890	21.50	0.86	3.77	18,424	21,494
Region 2	796	3.50	0.27	1.71	1,365	5,004
Region 3	3,071	13.50	0.93	6.07	18,651	20,016
Region 4	8,075	35.50	1.27	7.63	61,640	48,675
Region 5	5,686	25.00	0.70	7.50	42,647	60,730
Unknown	227	1.00	0.18	2.00	455	2,502
Statewide	2,745	100.00	0.90	6.30	143,181	158,420

Table 1.32. Summary of 2020-21 RACCOON hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Raccoon (<i>n</i> = 42)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	1,706	35.71	0.42	7.20	12,282	29,114
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	455	9.52	0.43	13.75	6,255	14,671
Region 4	1,933	40.48	1.63	21.24	41,055	25,133
Region 5	682	14.29	0.91	14.83	10,122	11,145
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	4,776	100.00	0.87	14.60	69,714	80,063

Table 1.33. Summary of 2020-21 RED FOX hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Red Fox (<i>n</i> = 4)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	341	75.00	0.08	0.33	114	1,365
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 5	114	25.00	0.00	0.00	0	341
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	455	100.00	0.07	0.25	114	1,706

Table 1.34. Summary of 2020-21 GRAY FOX hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Gray Fox (<i>n</i> = 3)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	1,137
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	114	33.33	0.00	0.00	0	796
Region 4	114	33.33	0.25	1.00	114	455
Region 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	341	100.00	0.05	0.33	114	2,388

Table 1.35. Summary of 2020-21 COYOTE hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Region in Illinois.

Coyote (<i>n</i> = 186)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	6,482	30.65	0.22	2.95	19,106	85,408
Region 2	1,137	5.38	0.14	0.60	682	5,004
Region 3	3,071	14.52	0.32	3.52	10,804	33,549
Region 4	6,369	30.11	0.30	3.04	19,333	65,165
Region 5	3,980	18.82	0.64	6.89	27,408	42,761
Unknown	114	0.54	0.67	2.00	227	341
Statewide	21,153	100.00	0.33	3.67	77,561	232,229

Table 1.36. Summary of 2020-21 OPOSSUM hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Opossum (<i>n</i> = 7)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	341	42.86	1.67	1.67	569	341
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	341	42.86	0.95	6.33	2,161	2,275
Region 5	114	14.29	1.33	4.00	455	341
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	796	100.00	1.08	4.00	3,184	2,957

Table 1.37. Percent change in harvest from 2019-20 to 2020-21 in Administrative Regions for selected species.

Administrative Regions	Rabbit	Non-Wild Quail	Wild Quail	Non-Wild Pheasant	Wild Pheasant	Gray Squirrel	Fox Squirrel	Dove	Raccoon	Red Fox	Gray Fox	Coyote
Region 1	-17%	41%	108%	34%	6%	-32%	-49%	-1%	-44%	-	-	-13%
Region 2	-8%	-	-100%	43%	34%	-59%	-6%	-40%	-100%	-	-	-6%
Region 3	29%	42%	37%	-2%	6%	-65%	-28%	-48%	-7%	-	-	-8%
Region 4	-16%	112%	8%	84%	85%	-18%	8%	8%	96%	-	10%	23%
Region 5	5%	249%	-39%	-21%	-100%	-19%	63%	16%	-43%	-	-	94%

^a Percentage change could not be calculated in certain regions due to no harvest in those regions.

Table 1.38. Distribution of hunting effort and harvest among resident Illinois hunters in 2020, from the 2020-21 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
RABBIT	---	---	0	33.3%
	1-5	76.4%	1-5	50.7%
	6-10	11.1%	6-10	9.0%
	11-14	2.1%	11-14	1.4%
	15-19	4.9%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	1.4%	20-24	2.1%
	25+	4.2%	25+	3.5%
NON-WILD QUAIL	---	---	0	19.4%
	1-5	69.4%	1-5	27.8%
	6-10	13.9%	6-10	25.0%
	11-14	2.8%	11-14	2.8%
	15-19	2.8%	15-19	2.8%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	2.8%
	25+	11.1%	25+	19.4%
WILD QUAIL	---	---	0	41.0%
	1-5	61.5%	1-5	28.2%
	6-10	15.4%	6-10	7.7%
	11-14	5.1%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	7.7%	15-19	7.7%
	20-24	5.1%	20-24	2.6%
	25+	5.1%	25+	12.8%
NON-WILD PHEASANT	---	---	0	16.1%
	1-5	70.8%	1-5	36.0%
	6-10	11.2%	6-10	23.0%
	11-14	5.6%	11-14	3.7%
	15-19	5.0%	15-19	4.3%
	20-24	4.3%	20-24	5.6%
	25+	3.1%	25+	11.2%
WILD PHEASANT	---	---	0	38.7%
	1-5	74.7%	1-5	42.7%
	6-10	14.7%	6-10	6.7%
	11-14	1.3%	11-14	5.3%
	15-19	6.7%	15-19	4.0%
	20-24	2.7%	20-24	2.7%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%
DOVE	---	---	0	14.0%
	1-5	86.5%	1-5	17.6%
	6-10	10.4%	6-10	23.4%
	11-14	1.4%	11-14	6.8%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	9.9%
	20-24	0.9%	20-24	8.1%
	25+	0.9%	25+	20.3%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
WOODCOCK	---	---	0	66.7%
	1-5	100.0%	1-5	33.3%
	6-10	0.0%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%
CROW	---	---	0	33.3%
	1-5	93.3%	1-5	60.0%
	6-10	0.0%	6-10	6.7%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	6.7%	25+	0.0%
GROUNDHOG	---	---	0	7.7%
	1-5	61.5%	1-5	65.4%
	6-10	26.9%	6-10	15.4%
	11-14	3.8%	11-14	7.7%
	15-19	3.8%	15-19	3.8%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	3.8%	25+	0.0%
GRAY SQUIRREL	---	---	0	14.5%
	1-5	60.7%	1-5	40.7%
	6-10	22.9%	6-10	22.9%
	11-14	1.9%	11-14	7.0%
	15-19	3.7%	15-19	5.1%
	20-24	5.1%	20-24	5.6%
	25+	5.6%	25+	4.2%
FOX SQUIRREL	---	---	0	18.0%
	1-5	62.0%	1-5	48.5%
	6-10	22.5%	6-10	20.0%
	11-14	2.0%	11-14	4.0%
	15-19	3.0%	15-19	2.0%
	20-24	5.0%	20-24	3.5%
	25+	5.5%	25+	4.0%
TURKEY – SPRING	---	---	0	66.8%
	1-5	76.7%	1	26.0%
	6-10	19.0%	2	6.0%
	11-14	3.3%	3	1.2%
	15-19	0.6%	---	
	20-24	0.3%	---	
	25+	0.0%	---	

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
TURKEY – FALL SHOTGUN	---	---	0	93.5%
	1-5	87.1%	1	6.5%
	6-10	12.9%	2	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	---	
	15-19	0.0%	---	
	20-24	0.0%	---	
	25+	0.0%	---	
TURKEY – FALL ARCHERY (RECURVE & COMPOUND)	---	---	0	92.3%
	1-5	26.9%	1	7.7%
	6-10	21.2%	2	0.0%
	11-14	3.8%	3	0.0%
	15-19	11.5%	---	
	20-24	19.2%	---	
	25+	17.3%	---	
TURKEY – FALL ARCHERY (CROSSBOW)	---	---	0	88.6%
	1-5	43.2%	1	11.4%
	6-10	29.5%	2	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	3	0.0%
	15-19	6.8%	---	
	20-24	6.8%	---	
	25+	13.6%	---	
TURKEY – FALL ARCHERY (ALL COMBINED)	---	---	0	90.4%
	1-5	34.0%	1	9.6%
	6-10	23.4%	2	0.0%
	11-14	3.2%	3	0.0%
	15-19	9.6%	---	
	20-24	13.8%	---	
	25+	16.0%	---	
DEER – ARCHERY SEASON (RECURVE & COMPOUND)	---	---	0	60.8%
	1-5	20.5%	1	27.3%
	6-10	23.1%	2	7.4%
	11-14	7.2%	3	2.4%
	15-19	10.4%	4	1.6%
	20-24	13.3%	5	0.0%
	25+	25.5%	6+	0.4%
DEER – ARCHERY SEASON (CROSSBOW)	---	---	0	55.1%
	1-5	31.2%	1	32.1%
	6-10	24.7%	2	8.3%
	11-14	5.2%	3	1.3%
	15-19	10.6%	4	1.8%
	20-24	9.4%	5	1.1%
	25+	18.9%	6+	0.2%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
DEER – ARCHERY SEASON (ALL COMBINED)	---	---	0	55.8%
	1-5	22.4%	1	30.9%
	6-10	22.8%	2	7.9%
	11-14	7.6%	3	2.4%
	15-19	10.3%	4	1.9%
	20-24	12.2%	5	0.6%
	25+	24.7%	6+	0.5%
DEER REGULAR FIREARM SEASON	1	6.6%	0	54.5%
	2	12.8%	1	35.2%
	3	17.8%	2	9.1%
	4	10.9%	3	1.1%
	5	12.1%	4	0.1%
	6	12.8%	5	0.0%
	7	27.0%	6+	0.0%
DEER – MUZZLELOADER-ONLY SEASON	1	14.6%	0	74.2%
	2	36.2%	1	22.5%
	3	49.3%	2	3.3%
	4	0.0%	3	0.0%
	5	0.0%	4	0.0%
	6	0.0%	5	0.0%
	7	0.0%	6+	0.0%
DEER – LATE WINTER ANTLERLESS SEASON	1	22.2%	0	77.0%
	2	37.8%	1	18.5%
	3	22.2%	2	3.7%
	4	10.4%	3	0.7%
	5	2.2%	4	0.0%
	6	2.2%	5	0.0%
	7	3.0%	6+	0.0%
DEER – SPECIAL CWD SEASON	1	43.8%	0	83.3%
	2	27.1%	1	10.4%
	3	25.0%	2	6.2%
	4	2.1%	3	0.0%
	5	2.1%	4	0.0%
	6	0.0%	5	0.0%
	7	0.0%	6+	0.0%
RED FOX	---	---	0	75.0%
	1-5	75.0%	1-5	25.0%
	6-10	25.0%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
GRAY FOX	---	---	0	33.3%
	1-5	33.3%	1-5	66.7%
	6-10	66.7%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%
RACCOON	---	---	0	11.9%
	1-5	50.0%	1-5	40.5%
	6-10	11.9%	6-10	19.0%
	11-14	2.4%	11-14	4.8%
	15-19	2.4%	15-19	2.4%
	20-24	7.1%	20-24	4.8%
	25+	26.2%	25+	16.7%
COYOTE	---	---	0	48.4%
	1-5	52.7%	1-5	38.7%
	6-10	24.2%	6-10	7.0%
	11-14	1.6%	11-14	1.1%
	15-19	2.7%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	7.0%	20-24	0.5%
	25+	11.8%	25+	4.3%
OPOSSUM	---	---	0	0.0%
	1-5	85.7%	1-5	71.4%
	6-10	0.0%	6-10	28.6%
	11-14	14.3%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%

Table 1.39. Statewide data from resident Illinois hunters, 2010-2020.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
RABBIT						
2010	32,225	1.13	4.83	155,552	4.25	137,089
2011	32,863	0.93	4.44	145,773	4.79	157,523
2012	33,093	0.77	3.52	116,353	4.54	150,150
2013	37,066 ^a	0.73	3.84 ^a	142,401 ^a	5.23 ^a	194,029 ^a
2014	34,874	0.79	3.88	135,275	4.92	171,482
2015	23,586	0.87	4.83	113,999	5.58	131,689
2016	22,842	1.08	4.08	93,188	3.79	86,483
2017	27,005	0.89	4.78	129,080	5.34	144,317
2018	22,322	0.72	3.48	77,769	4.82	107,601
2019	23,258	0.75	3.29	76,627	4.41	102,481
2020	16,377	0.84	4.49	73,467	5.33	87,342
WILD QUAIL						
2010	14,110	1.64	7.07	99,812	4.32	60,967
2011 ^b	12,668	0.87	3.68	46,633	4.25	53,793
2012 ^c	11,266	0.90	4.19	47,175	4.66	52,456
2013 ^b	10,779	0.72	4.79	51,628	6.61	71,295
2014 ^b	11,328	0.84	4.78	54,199	5.71	64,639
2015 ^b	7,665	0.52	3.79	29,089	7.28	55,820
2016	7,728	1.06	4.65	35,912	4.37	33,752
2017	8,548	0.67	3.46	29,607	5.16	44,100
2018	6,995	0.86	5.07	35,490	5.90	41,250
2019	6,749	1.15	6.71	45,270	5.82	39,248
2020	4,435	1.05	7.51	33,322	7.13	31,616
WILD PHEASANT						
2010	24,213	0.70	2.66	64,451	3.83	92,670
2011 ^b	12,301	0.57	2.24	27,539	3.93	48,285
2012 ^c	17,427	0.48	1.69	29,396	3.49	90,905
2013 ^b	14,940	0.33	1.38	20,613	4.22	62,974
2014 ^b	15,549	0.60	2.66	41,316	4.40	68,415
2015 ^b	13,955	0.55	1.77	24,765	3.24	45,207
2016	10,001	0.52	1.47	14,660	2.82	28,184
2017	12,264	0.54	1.95	23,908	3.59	43,977
2018	12,241	0.54	2.54	31,066	4.68	57,298
2019	13,706	0.52	1.72	23,570	3.33	45,582
2020	8,529	0.68	3.17	27,067	4.68	39,918
DOVE						
2010	37,974	4.21	17.61	668,547	4.18	158,688
2011	29,742	4.57	16.57	492,765	3.62	107,769
2012	34,501	3.85	15.97	550,962	4.15	143,109
2013	40,281	4.62	19.94	803,159	4.31	173,794
2014	41,316	4.61	18.05	745,902	3.91	161,708
2015	35,183	5.38	21.27	744,140	3.96	138,371
2016	34,661	4.51	14.58	505,375	3.23	112,053
2017	30,722	4.39	17.68	543,203	4.02	123,630
2018	28,906	4.14	16.91	488,832	4.09	118,093
2019	25,958	4.58	14.92	387,185	3.26	84,622
2020	25,247	4.07	14.26	360,057	3.50	88,479

Table 1.39 - continued.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
WOODCOCK						
2010	1,219	0.72	1.14	1,394	1.57	1,916
2011	1,102	0.50	1.67	1,836	3.33	3,672
2012	704	0.40	1.00	704	2.50	1,760
2013	189	0.00	0.00	0	1.00	189
2014	444	0.33	0.50	222	1.50	666
2015	590	0.14	2.00	1,179	14.0	8,255
2016	909	1.82	3.88	3,523	2.13	1,932
2017	1,239	0.37	1.00	1,239	2.70	3,345
2018	720	0.22	1.57	1,132	7.14	5,143
2019	415	0.71	1.25	519	1.75	727
2020	341	0.33	0.33	114	1.00	341
CROW						
2010	3,135	4.30	13.39	41,980	3.11	9,755
2011	3,121	1.24	3.65	11,383	2.94	9,180
2012	3,168	0.64	2.94	9,329	4.61	14,610
2013	2,458	1.05	4.62	11,347	4.38	10,779
2014	3,998	0.87	2.17	8,663	2.50	9,996
2015	1,179	1.77	3.83	4,521	2.17	2,555
2016	2,387	1.60	7.14	17,047	4.48	10,683
2017	1,610	1.28	8.38	13,503	6.54	10,530
2018	2,057	1.35	4.45	9,155	3.30	6,789
2019	1,350	5.71	14.92	20,143	2.62	3,530
2020	1,706	0.49	2.20	3,753	4.53	7,733
GROUNDHOG						
2010	2,961	0.52	2.00	5,923	3.82	11,322
2011	3,488	0.72	3.32	11,566	4.58	15,973
2012	2,112	0.35	1.42	2,992	4.08	8,625
2013	4,160	0.91	3.73	15,507	4.09	17,020
2014	4,443	0.92	8.95	39,761	9.75	43,315
2015	2,359	0.55	3.50	8,255	6.33	14,938
2016	1,818	0.38	2.69	4,887	7.06	12,842
2017	3,097	0.67	2.72	8,424	4.04	12,512
2018	2,983	0.62	4.90	14,607	7.90	23,557
2019	2,180	0.39	2.48	5,399	6.43	14,017
2020	2,957	0.72	3.92	11,600	5.42	16,035
GRAY SQUIRREL						
2010	38,322	1.36	8.77	336,190	6.45	247,004
2011	35,801	1.31	10.39	372,144	7.95	284,569
2012	38,198	1.09	6.87	262,455	6.30	240,804
2013	38,579	1.22	8.72	336,430	7.17	276,671
2014	41,316	1.20	8.28	342,297	6.88	284,322
2015	30,269	1.26	9.73	294,629	7.72	233,698
2016	27,956	0.75	7.05	197,172	6.4	178,989
2017	31,217	1.30	9.67	301,766	7.44	232,394
2018	27,054	1.37	9.28	251,000	6.78	183,415
2019	31,253	1.31	8.48	264,976	6.48	202,470
2020	24,337	1.12	8.12	197,542	7.22	175,707

Table 1.39 - continued.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
FOX SQUIRREL						
2010	39,890	0.98	5.98	238,468	6.10	243,171
2011	36,535	0.95	7.19	262,722	7.58	277,042
2012	41,190	0.76	5.11	210,351	6.75	278,121
2013	41,416	0.82	5.38	222,963	6.56	271,754
2014	45,092	0.85	5.45	245,894	6.39	288,321
2015	32,627	0.80	5.75	187,509	7.17	233,895
2016	29,547	1.10	11.27	139,555	6.26	184,899
2017	29,731	0.76	5.54	164,633	7.25	215,547
2018	25,409	0.84	5.43	138,050	6.51	165,310
2019	29,903	0.83	4.92	147,024	5.91	176,616
2020	22,745	0.90	6.30	143,181	6.97	158,420
TURKEY-SPRING						
2010	51,038	0.12	0.51	25,955	4.26	217,217
2011	44,430	0.12	0.49	21,664	4.14	183,960
2012	44,183	0.14	0.46	20,243	3.30	145,926
2013	49,358	0.11	0.43	21,181	3.94	194,596
2014	42,204	0.10	0.43	17,992	4.39	185,254
2015	42,651	0.14	0.58	24,569	4.23	180,433
2016	39,321	0.11	0.48	18,865	4.24	166,716
2017	42,986	0.10	0.39	16,600	3.86	165,748
2018	38,987	0.09	0.40	15,739	4.46	174,054
2019	40,183	0.10	0.46	18,482	4.56	183,365
2020	37,643	0.10	0.42	15,694	4.23	159,103
TURKEY-FALL SHOTGUN						
2010	8,710	0.09	0.26	2,264	2.94	25,606
2011	7,895	0.10	0.30	2,387	2.98	23,500
2012	6,689	0.13	0.32	2,122	2.39	16,018
2013	6,619	0.17	0.49	3,215	2.80	18,533
2014	3,776	0.07	0.24	889	3.41	12,883
2015	4,128	0.11	0.33	1,376	2.90	11,990
2016	4,205	0.08	0.27	1,136	3.35	14,092
2017	4,707	0.10	0.29	1,363	2.97	13,998
2018	5,041	0.03	0.12	617	3.61	18,208
2019	3,530	0.06	0.18	623	2.82	9,968
2020	3,526	0.02	0.06	227	3.16	11,145
TURKEY-FALL ARCHERY						
2010	17,768	0.01	0.15	2,613	15.21	270,171
2011	15,789	0.01	0.10	1,652	15.13	238,855
2012	11,618	0.01	0.18	2,112	14.73	171,097
2013	18,344	0.01	0.18	3,215	15.78	289,530
2014	13,550	0.00	0.07	889	17.64	239,008
2015	14,348	0.01	0.22	3,145	16.40	235,271
2016	10,342	0.02	0.22	2,273	12.80	132,395
2017 ^d	14,494	0.01	0.18	2,601	14.46	209,601
2018 ^d	14,196	0.02	0.21	2,983	11.08	157,286
2019 ^d	12,252	0.01	0.12	1,454	14.61	179,004
2020 ^d	10,690	0.01	0.10	1,024	12.61	134,765

Table 1.39 - continued.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
DEER-REGULAR FIREARM SEASON						
2010	186,385	0.16	0.67	124,895	4.24	790,829
2011	176,800	0.14	0.63	111,808	4.46	789,175
2012	159,128	0.15	0.67	105,968	4.42	702,696
2013	163,771	0.11	0.49	80,373	4.45	729,216
2014	158,821	0.12	0.53	83,520	4.26	675,932
2015	144,661	0.14	0.60	86,875	4.28	618,741
2016	138,873	0.14	0.59	82,392	4.31	597,995
2017	135,398	0.13	0.57	76,804	4.33	586,189
2018	127,043	0.15	0.63	80,546	4.16	529,053
2019	132,073	0.14	0.60	79,846	4.31	569,719
2020	124,871	0.13	0.57	71,306	4.56	568,858
DEER-MUZZLELOADER-ONLY SEASON						
2010	34,664	0.11	0.30	10,277	2.59	89,709
2011	37,269	0.12	0.31	11,383	2.65	98,773
2012	24,644	0.09	0.28	6,865	3.22	79,388
2013	29,123	0.11	0.27	7,943	2.57	74,888
2014	28,432	0.08	0.23	6,442	2.83	80,410
2015	27,714	0.09	0.23	6,489	2.75	76,262
2016	22,842	0.08	0.22	5,000	2.62	59,777
2017	23,041	0.13	0.34	7,804	2.67	61,567
2018	21,191	0.13	0.34	7,304	2.63	55,652
2019	22,116	0.09	0.24	5,295	2.69	59,599
2020	24,224	0.12	0.29	7,051	2.35	56,863
DEER-ARCHERY SEASON						
2010	108,870	0.03	0.55	59,922	18.86	2,053,021
2011	107,769	0.03	0.59	63,340	17.86	1,924,973
2012	82,028	0.03	0.56	46,295	19.05	1,562,760
2013	104,390	0.03	0.45	46,711	17.40	1,816,799
2014	95,737	0.03	0.50	47,757	17.88	1,712,153
2015	96,899	0.03	0.58	56,410	18.80	1,822,022
2016	90,233	0.03	0.48	43,185	16.69	1,506,352
2017 ^d	101,208	0.03	0.50	50,790	16.67	1,686,842
2018 ^d	89,187	0.04	0.62	54,932	15.21	1,356,940
2019 ^d	96,666	0.04	0.63	60,949	17.18	1,660,565
2020 ^d	99,397	0.04	0.71	70,169	16.72	1,662,335
DEER-LATE WINTER ANTLERLESS SEASON						
2010	56,961	0.11	0.29	16,548	2.55	145,101
2011	51,773	0.10	0.26	13,586	2.61	135,124
2012	42,422	0.11	0.29	12,146	2.56	108,608
2013	38,768	0.08	0.18	6,997	2.35	90,963
2014	23,323	0.09	0.23	5,331	2.58	60,196
2015	21,817	0.11	0.27	5,897	2.46	53,658
2016	17,728	0.09	0.20	3,523	2.33	41,366
2017	18,706	0.06	0.14	2,601	2.38	44,472
2018	15,019	0.09	0.21	3,086	2.32	34,770
2019	15,159	0.07	0.16	2,492	2.23	33,745
2020	15,353	0.11	0.28	4,322	2.51	38,553

Table 1.39 - continued.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
DEER-SPECIAL CWD SEASON						
2010	---	---	---	---	---	---
2011	12,484	0.14	0.32	4,039	2.34	29,191
2012	9,329	0.05	0.11	1,056	2.13	19,891
2013	7,754	0.08	0.15	1,135	1.95	15,129
2014	7,108	0.20	0.53	3,776	2.63	18,659
2015	6,486	0.03	0.06	393	2.03	13,169
2016	4,887	0.07	0.19	909	2.49	12,160
2017	7,185	0.06	0.14	991	2.34	16,847
2018	5,246	0.05	0.14	720	2.65	13,887
2019	4,569	0.07	0.16	727	2.30	10,487
2020	5,459	0.12	0.23	1,251	1.92	10,463
RACCOON						
2010	8,884	1.08	10.18	90,405	9.41	83,612
2011	10,098	1.05	10.80	109,054	10.29	103,914
2012	10,210	0.91	8.62	88,013	9.48	96,814
2013	9,077	1.12	15.50	140,699	13.85	125,759
2014	7,552	1.17	11.24	84,852	9.62	72,635
2015	7,665	1.05	10.62	81,372	10.15	77,834
2016	5,796	0.87	11.27	65,345	12.96	75,119
2017	7,061	1.15	13.32	94,023	11.60	81,883
2018	5,041	0.97	16.06	80,958	16.59	83,632
2019	7,164	1.10	9.64	69,047	8.74	62,610
2020	4,776	0.87	14.60	69,714	16.76	80,063
RED FOX						
2010	1,394	0.04	0.13	174	3.38	4,703
2011	918	0.03	0.20	184	6.80	6,242
2012	528	0.29	0.67	352	2.33	1,232
2013	1,324	0.09	1.29	1,702	14.57	19,289
2014	1,555	0.20	0.86	1,333	4.29	6,664
2015	1,179	0.28	1.33	1,572	4.83	5,700
2016	909	0.15	1.13	1,023	7.63	6,932
2017	1,239	0.12	1.50	1,858	12.30	15,237
2018	617	0.27	5.67	3,498	21.00	12,961
2019	519	0.00	0.00	0	9.40	4,880
2020	455	0.07	0.25	114	3.75	1,706
GRAY FOX						
2010	1,045	0.04	0.17	174	4.00	4,181
2011	918	0.03	0.20	184	6.80	6,242
2012	176	0.00	0.00	0	1.00	176
2013	1,135	0.15	3.00	3,404	20.17	22,883
2014	889	0.04	0.25	222	6.50	5,775
2015	393	0.00	0.00	0	3.50	1,376
2016	227	0.00	0.00	0	5.5	1,250
2017	743	0.07	1.00	743	14.50	10,777
2018	617	0.02	0.17	103	11.00	6,789
2019	623	0.02	0.17	104	9.50	5,918
2020	341	0.10	0.67	227	7.00	2,388

Table 1.39 - continued.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
COYOTE						
2010	31,354	0.27	2.36	74,031	8.91	279,229
2011	31,027	0.23	2.20	68,113	9.44	292,831
2012	30,805	0.23	1.91	58,969	8.34	256,998
2013	31,582	0.37	3.35	105,903	9.14	288,774
2014	28,876	0.31	2.89	83,520	9.36	270,328
2015	27,517	0.25	1.98	54,444	7.88	216,795
2016	25,115	0.26	2.81	70,687	10.84	272,291
2017	29,978	0.36	3.60	107,774	10.12	303,500
2018	22,631	0.30	2.50	56,681	8.34	188,764
2019	22,843	0.31	2.83	64,583	8.98	205,170
2020	21,153	0.33	3.67	77,561	10.98	232,229
OPOSSUM						
2010	2,090	1.48	5.42	11,322	3.67	7,664
2011	2,937	0.59	4.31	12,668	7.31	21,480
2012	2,816	0.45	3.38	9,505	7.44	20,947
2013	1,702	0.82	8.11	13,805	9.89	16,831
2014	1,999	0.71	5.67	11,328	8.00	15,993
2015	786	0.56	2.25	1,769	4.00	3,145
2016	1,818	0.37	3.56	6,478	9.63	17,501
2017	1,982	0.50	4.50	8,919	8.94	17,715
2018	617	1.00	6.17	3,806	6.17	3,806
2019	1,661	0.47	4.38	7,268	9.31	15,471
2020	796	1.08	4.00	3,184	3.71	2,957

^a 2016-17 figures, other than the standardized average daily bag, are not directly comparable to previous years due to increased season length in 2017-18 season.

^b 2011-12 and 2013-14 to present not directly comparable to previous years due to changes in harvest reporting on the questionnaire; hunters distinguished between wild and non-wild pheasant, quail, and partridge from 2012-2016.

^c 2012-13 is not directly comparable to current or previous year estimates.

^d Hunters were asked to report Compound/Recurve activity separately from Crossbow this year. Archery effort was created by combining all archery activity. Number of hunters are not summative because some hunters used multiple archery methods.

Table 1.40. Percent change in statewide harvest by species for 1-, 5- and 10-year time periods, from the 2020-21 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.

Species	2020 Estimated Harvest	% Change 1 Year ^a	% Change 5 Years ^a	% Change 10 Years ^a
Rabbit	73,467	-4%	-36%	-53%
Wild Quail	33,322	-26%	15%	-67%
Wild Pheasant	27,067	15%	9%	-58%
Dove	360,057	-7%	-52%	-46%
Woodcock	114	-78%	-90%	-92%
Crow	3,753	-81%	-17%	-91%
Groundhog	11,600	115%	41%	96%
Gray Squirrel	197,542	-25%	-33%	-41%
Fox Squirrel	143,181	-3%	-24%	-40%
Turkey-Spring	15,694	-15%	-36%	-40%
Turkey-Fall Shotgun	227	-63%	-83%	-90%
Turkey-Fall Archery	1,024	-30%	-67%	-61%
Deer-Regular Firearm	71,306	-11%	-18%	-43%
Deer-Muzzleloader	7,051	33%	9%	-31%
Deer-Archery	70,169	15%	24%	17%
Deer-Late winter antlerless	4,322	73%	-27%	-74%
Deer-Special CWD Season	1,251	72%	218%	--- ^b
Raccoon	69,714	1%	-14%	-23%
Red Fox	114	---	-93%	-35%
Gray Fox	227	119%	---	31%
Coyote	77,561	20%	42%	5%
Opossum	3,184	-56%	80%	-72%

^a Compared to 2019-20, 2015-16, and 2010-11 seasons, respectively; see also Table 1.39.

^b Season began Dec. 31, 2009

Section 2 – Hunter Attitudes and Opinions

Non-Lead Ammunition

Respondents were asked to indicate how often they used non-lead ammunition while hunting deer, upland game, and/or turkeys in Illinois (Table 2.1). Thirty percent of respondents often or always use non-lead (copper, etc.) shotgun slugs when deer hunting, 19% rarely or sometimes use non-lead shotgun slugs, and 51% never use non-lead shotgun slugs. Twenty-three percent of respondents often or always use non-lead (steel, etc.) shot when hunting upland game, 21% rarely or sometimes use non-lead shot, and 56% never use non-lead shot. Thirteen percent of respondents often or always use non-lead shot (steel, etc.) when hunting turkeys, 18% rarely or sometimes use non-lead shot, and 69% never use non-lead shot.

Proposed Hunting Regulations

Respondents were asked to provide their level of agreement with statements about proposed hunting regulations in Illinois (Table 2.2). A majority of respondents (54%) disagreed that nonresident landowners should get free deer and turkey permits same as Illinois resident landowners, 17% were not sure, and 29% agreed. Nearly two-thirds of respondents (65%) disagreed that a certain number of wild turkey hunting permits should be set aside for Illinois outfitters to provide for their clients, 23% were not sure, and 12% agreed. Forty-six percent of respondents disagree that airbows should be allowed for deer hunting during the archery deer season in Illinois, 36% were not sure, and 18% agreed. Forty percent of respondents disagreed that a separate, private property-only muzzleloader rifle season should be created for hunting in Illinois, 33% were not sure, and 27% agreed.

COVID-19 and Hunting

Most respondents (76%) indicated that restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic did not affect their participation in hunting during the 2020-21 hunting season, whereas hunting participation decreased for 17% of respondents and increased for 7% of respondents (Figure 2.1). The most frequent reasons for increased hunting participation in 2020 were: (1) more free time (85%), (2) need for game meat (25%), and (3) more hunting partners (15%; Table 2.3). The most frequent reasons for decreased hunting participation were: (1) health/safety

concerns (38%), (2) fewer places to hunt (28%), and (3) less free time (24%; Table 2.4). Only 16% of respondents indicated that the COVID-19 closure of Illinois state public lands affected their ability to hunt or otherwise use those sites. Among respondents who were affected by the closure of state public lands in Illinois, 45% were prevented from scouting for deer and other fall hunting, 19% were prevented from hunting spring turkey for the season, 9% were prevented from participating in spring birdwatching activities, and 31% were affected in other ways. Nearly half of respondents (49%) that were affected by the closure of state public lands were able to find substitute activities with 69% using private land, 15% going to another state, 14% using federal land (Shawnee National Forest, etc.), and 10% finding other substitutes.

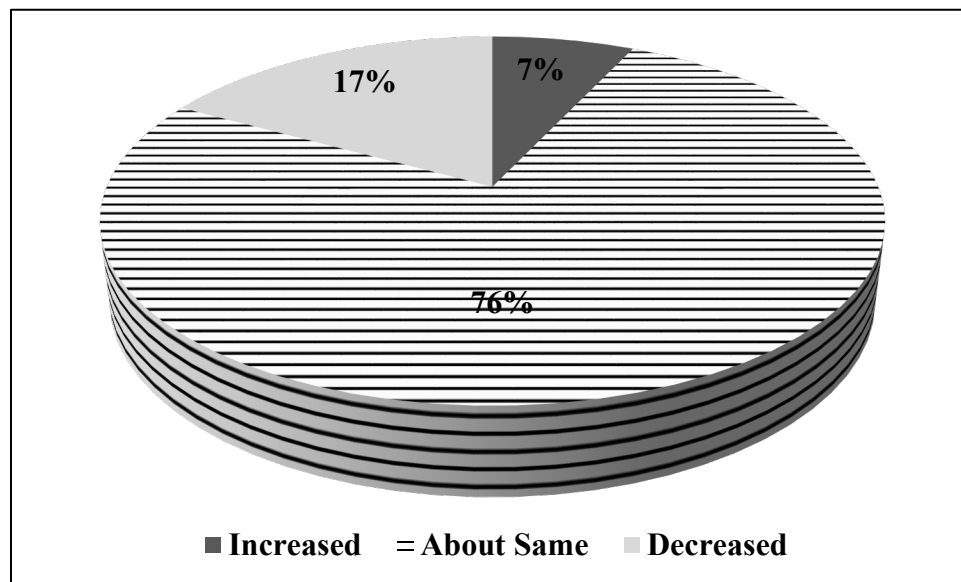


Figure 2.1. Impact of COVID-19 restrictions on hunting participation during 2020.

Hunters and Ticks

About half of respondents have read or heard about preventing tick bites in people (59%) and/or dogs and other pets (50%). Among respondents who have read or heard about preventing tick bites, the most common sources of information were: (1) articles on the internet (e.g., social media, online forums, websites) (55%), (2) articles in newspaper or magazine (41%), and (3) veterinarians (34%; Table 2.5). The most frequent tick-borne illnesses that respondents have heard about were: (1) Lyme disease (91%), (2) Rocky Mountain spotted fever (65%), and (3) Tularemia (8%; Table 2.6). Most respondents (84%) have picked a live tick off of their clothes or body after hunting. Over 60% of respondents (64%) have picked a live tick off of deer they have

harvested. Most respondents (78%) have been bitten by a tick (had it attached to their body). Only 2% of respondents have ever submitted a tick to be tested after finding it when hunting. Less than half of respondents (45%) personally know anyone diagnosed with a tickborne illness and 24% were aware of meat allergies caused by tick bites. Respondents were most concerned about ticks in: (1) tall grass/shrubs (79%), (2) along the sides of trails (54%), and (3) on the edges of pasture/fence rows (48%; Table 2.7).

Forty percent of respondents perceived there was a moderate or high risk of getting bitten by a tick when hunting, whereas 46% thought there was a slight risk and 14% felt no risk (Table 2.8). About one-third of respondents (32%) believed there was a moderate or high risk of being bitten by a tick while they were on their own property, 42% believed there was a slight risk, and 25% believed there was no risk. Thirty percent of respondents believed there was a moderate or high risk of contracting a disease from a tick bite, 56% believed there was a slight risk, and 14% believed there was no risk. Most respondents felt slight or no risk from tick-borne and other illnesses when asked, though feelings of moderate or high risk were greatest for contracting Lyme disease (28%), West Nile Virus (16%), and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (15%; Table 2.9). Compared to other disease risks, respondents felt the least risk from becoming ill from Chronic Wasting Disease (8%), E. coli food poisoning (13%), and Salmonella food poisoning (13%).

The most common practice that respondents often or always use to protect themselves from ticks was to wear long-sleeved shirts (59%), showering immediately when they get home (57%) and removing clothing and shaking it after returning indoors (45%; Table 2.10). The least common practices used by respondents to protect themselves from ticks were taping pants legs closed (9%), tucking their pants into boots/socks (39%), and wearing DEET or other insect repellent (40%). Only 18% of respondents hunted with a dog, though the most common tick bite prevention methods respondents often or always used on their dogs were checking dogs for ticks after being afield (76%), monthly topical tick preventative (e.g., Frontline, K9 Advantix) (56%), and oral tick preventative (e.g., Bravecto, Nexgard) (47%; Table 2.11). The least common tick bite prevention methods used by respondents that hunt with a dog were spray/lotion tick repellent (e.g., OFF) (19%) and tick repellent collars (e.g., Seresto, Preventic) (30%).

Hunter Attitudes Regarding Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease and Blue Tongue Virus

Approximately 6% of hunters reported observing dead deer between July and October 2020. These hunters reported seeing a mean of 2.4 (\pm 2.4) dead deer, and 10% observed ≥ 5 dead deer (Table 2.12). Only 12% of hunters who observed dead deer reported them to the IDNR, and those hunters reported an average of 1.7 (\pm 0.9) deer. Counties in which most dead deer were observed included Adams, Pike, Fulton, Hancock, and Schuyler (Table 2.13). Twenty-five percent of deer hunters believed that EHD & BTV had decreased the number of deer in the areas they hunted, 70% saw no change, and 5% indicated deer populations increased (Figure 2.2 and Table 2.14). Thirty-six percent of Illinois deer hunters believed that EHD and BTV has decreased the deer population during 2020 throughout the entire state, 52% believed there was no change, and 12% indicated the statewide deer population increased (Table 2.15). Twenty-six percent of Illinois deer hunters reported that they saw more deer during the 2020-21 deer seasons than the 5 years prior, whereas 46% of deer hunters reported seeing fewer deer and 28% saw no change (Table 2.16).

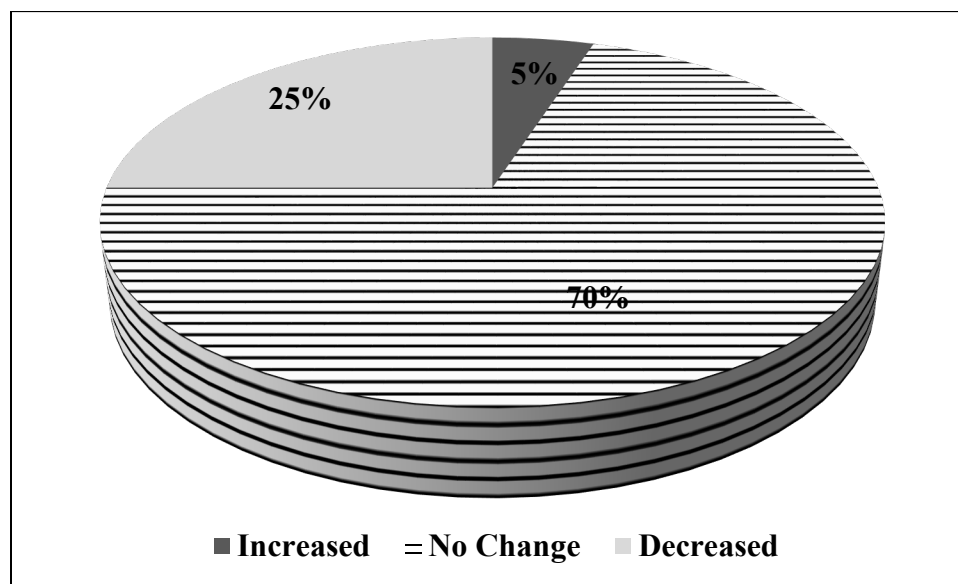


Figure 2.2. Perceived impact of EHD and BTV on the deer population during 2020 in areas that respondents typically hunt.

Background Information

Over forty percent of respondents would like reminders to renew their hunting license every year. Of hunters willing to receive reminders, the most preferred method of contact was email (77%), followed by text (47%), and 14% wanted social media reminders (Table 2.17). Over sixty percent of respondents (61%) would

like reminders about permit due dates and the most preferred methods of contact were email (74%), text (47%), and social media (15%; Table 2.18). Forty-four percent of respondents indicated that they have missed a permit application deadline because they did not know it was due. Eighteen percent of respondents received announcements from IDNR in their email, 17% used to get them, and 66% did not receive email announcements from IDNR. One-quarter of respondents (26%) have signed up for email announcements from IDNR. Most respondents (63%) indicated that they would use a website that would allow them to search the number of animals harvested by species and number of hunters that used each IDNR site by year and season. Most respondents (66%) would use a website that would show the number of permits allocated by species for each IDNR site per year. Most (90%) respondents have Internet access in their home and 83% reported having high-speed Internet access. Nearly one-third (32%) of respondents purchased their hunting license at a local sporting goods store, 32% online from the IDNR, 29% from a large chain store (Walmart, etc.), and 7% from a chain sporting goods store (Dick's, Bass Pro, Scheel's, etc.; Table 2.19). Respondents to the 2020-21 Hunter Harvest Survey were mostly male (93%), had a mean age of 52.9 years old, and had been hunting for an average of 31.2 years. Most respondents indicated their race/ethnicity is White (94%), 1.4% are Native American (American Indian), 1.0% are Latino or Hispanic, 0.6% are Black, 0.4% are Asian-American, and 1.2% are another race/ethnicity. Most frequently listed counties of residence were Cook, Madison, St. Clair, Sangamon, and Will.

References

- Anderson, W.L., and L.K. Campbell. 1993. Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey, 1992. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-112-R, Job 1, Job Completion Report 65pg.
- IBM SPSS Inc. 2021. SPSS Statistics 28.0. IBM Corporation, 1 New Orchard Road, Armonk NY, U.S.A.
- Miller, C.A., L.K. Campbell and K.D. Caldwell. 1999. 1998-99 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey Report. Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-112-R 8, Job 1, Job Completion Report 77pg.

Table 2.1. Frequency of use for non-lead ammunition.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Non-lead (copper, etc.) shotgun slugs for deer	50.9%	8.4%	11.1%	8.3%	21.2%
Non-lead shot (steel, etc.) for upland game	55.6%	9.1%	12.1%	6.7%	16.5%
Non-lead shot (steel, etc.) for turkeys	69.0%	5.2%	7.5%	5.1%	13.3%

Table 2.2. Level of agreement with proposed hunting regulations.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
Nonresident landowners should get free deer and turkey permits same as Illinois resident landowners.	34.4%	19.7%	16.5%	17.5%	11.8%
A certain number of wild turkey hunting permits should be set aside for Illinois outfitters to provide for their clients.	38.1%	27.0%	22.7%	9.8%	2.4%
Airbows should be allowed for deer hunting during archery deer season in Illinois.	29.1%	17.2%	35.9%	10.8%	7.1%
A separate, private property-only muzzleloading rifle season should be created for hunting in Illinois.	14.3%	12.6%	33.4%	25.1%	14.6%

Table 2.3. Reason that respondents increased their hunting effort during 2020.

	<i>n</i>	Percent of hunters (%)
More free time	122	85.3%
Need for game meat	36	25.2%
More hunting partners	22	15.4%
Increased finances	10	7.0%
More places to hunt	10	7.0%
More permits available	9	6.3%
Other	7	4.9%

*Respondents that indicated their hunting participation increased during 2020.

Table 2.4. Reason that respondents decreased their hunting effort during 2020.

	<i>n</i>	Percent of hunters (%)
Health/Safety concerns	130	38.1%
Fewer places to hunt	94	27.6%
Less free time	82	24.0%
Fewer/not hunting partners	82	24.0%
Other	52	15.2%
Decreased finances	51	15.0%
Fewer permits available	30	8.8%

*Respondents that indicated their hunting participation decreased during 2020.

Table 2.5. Sources of information where respondent read or heard about preventing tick bites.

	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Articles on the internet (e.g., social media, online forums, websites)	609	55.4%
Article in newspaper or magazine	820	41.2%
Veterinarian	508	34.3%
Medical professional/healthcare personnel	257	17.4%
Pamphlet	192	13.0%
Other	117	7.9%
Poster	90	6.1%

*Read or heard about preventing tick bites in people, dogs, and/or other pets.

Table 2.6. Tick-borne illnesses that respondents have heard about previously.

	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Lyme disease	1,867	91.0%
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	1,324	64.5%
Tularemia	172	8.4%
<i>Borrelia</i> infection	136	6.6%
Ehrlichiosis	105	5.1%
Anaplasmosis	89	4.3%
Babesiosis	71	3.5%
Bourbon virus	60	2.9%

Table 2.7. Areas where respondents are concerned about ticks.

	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Tall grass/shrubs	1,618	78.8%
Along the sides of trails	1,101	53.7%
On the edges of pasture/fence rows	975	47.5%
On animals' skin or coat	974	47.5%
Leaf litter in forest	727	35.4%
I don't know	207	10.1%
Other	143	7.0%

Table 2.8. Perceived risk from getting bitten by a tick.

	No Risk	Slight Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Getting bitten by a tick when hunting	14.0%	46.4%	29.6%	10.0%
Getting bitten by a tick on your property	25.4%	42.1%	23.5%	9.0%
Contracting a disease from a tick bite	14.0%	56.2%	23.0%	6.7%

Table 2.9. Perceived risk from various illnesses.

	No Risk	Slight Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Contracting Lyme Disease	13.6%	58.6%	21.8%	5.9%
Contracting Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	32.7%	52.2%	12.1%	3.0%
Contracting West Nile Virus	31.8%	51.8%	13.7%	2.7%
Becoming ill from Salmonella food poisoning	39.6%	47.1%	11.1%	2.2%
Becoming ill from E. coli food poisoning	39.7%	47.0%	11.1%	2.2%
Becoming ill from Chronic Wasting Disease	52.7%	39.3%	6.4%	1.5%

Table 2.10. Practices used by respondents to protect themselves from ticks.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Wear DEET or other insect repellent	9.6%	9.2%	24.1%	35.4%	21.7%
Wear long-sleeved shirts	8.2%	7.6%	25.1%	38.9%	20.3%
Showering immediately when you get home	7.2%	9.4%	25.9%	29.2%	28.3%
Remove clothing and shake it after returning indoors	15.4%	15.5%	24.2%	25.2%	19.7%
Tuck pants into boots/socks	21.8%	15.8%	23.1%	23.1%	16.2%
Tape pants legs closed	65.7%	16.9%	8.8%	5.2%	3.4%

Table 2.11. Tick bite prevention methods respondents used on their dog.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Check dogs for ticks after being afield	8.9%	4.4%	10.9%	27.2%	48.5%
Monthly topical tick preventative (e.g., Frontline, K9 Advantix)	27.3%	6.4%	10.1%	15.6%	40.5%
Oral tick preventative (e.g., Bravecto, Nexgard)	35.5%	7.9%	9.4%	11.0%	36.2%
Tick repellent collar (e.g., Seresto, Preventic)	48.7%	8.3%	13.1%	13.8%	16.0%
Spray/lotion tick repellent (e.g., OFF)	55.1%	11.9%	13.5%	12.2%	7.4%

* Respondents that hunt with a dog.

Table 2.12. Number of dead deer Illinois hunters reported to the IDNR during 2020.*

Number of dead deer observed	Number of hunters	# of dead deer X # of hunters	Number of dead deer reported	Number of hunters	# of dead deer X # of hunters
1	50	50	1	7	7
2	36	72	2	4	8
3	8	24	3	1	3
4	10	40	4	1	4
5	6	30	5	---	---
6	1	6	6	---	---
7	1	7	7	---	---
8	0	---	8	---	---
9	1	9	9	---	---
10+	3	42	10+	---	---
TOTAL	115	271	TOTAL	13	22

*Indicates number of dead deer hunters personally observed in or next to bodies of water (creeks, ponds, lakes, etc.), were fresh enough to have died during the July-October period, and did not show any visible signs of trauma (broken bones or other wounds).

Table 2.13. Top Illinois counties in which hunters observed deer believed to have died from EHD or BTV as reported on the 2020-21 Hunter Harvest Survey.

County	Number of Illinois hunters that observed dead deer in this county
Adams	7
Pike	6
Fulton	5
Hancock	4
Schuyler	4
Crawford	3
Fayette	3
Jackson	3
Jefferson	3
Johnson	3
Knox	3
Peoria	3
St. Clair	3
Wayne	3

Table 2.14. Deer hunters' perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTV on the Illinois deer population in areas typically hunted during 2020 ($n = 1,171$).

Impact level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	40	3.4%
Decreased Moderately	75	6.4%
Decreased Slightly	173	14.8%
No Change	822	70.2%
Increased Slightly	35	3.0%
Increased Moderately	20	1.7%
Increased Considerably	6	0.5%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2020-21 season.

Table 2.15. Deer hunters' perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTM on the Illinois deer population during 2020 throughout entire state ($n = 1,149$).

Impact level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	28	2.4%
Decreased Moderately	100	8.7%
Decreased Slightly	288	25.1%
No Change	597	52.0%
Increased Slightly	111	9.7%
Increased Moderately	17	1.5%
Increased Considerably	8	0.7%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2020-21 season.

Table 2.16. Change in number of deer seen by Illinois deer hunters during the 2020-21 deer season compared to 5 years ago ($n = 1,248$).

Number of deer seen have:	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	156	12.5%
Decreased Moderately	173	13.9%
Decreased Slightly	250	20.0%
No Change	349	28.0%
Increased Slightly	188	15.1%
Increased Moderately	95	7.6%
Increased Considerably	37	3.0%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2020-21 season.

Table 2.17. Respondents preferred method of receiving reminders to renew their hunting license each year.

	Number of respondents	Percent of respondents (%)
Text	420	46.6%
Email	698	77.4%
Social Media	125	13.9%

*Respondents that want a reminder to renew their hunting license each year.

Table 2.18. Respondents preferred method of receiving reminders about permit due dates.

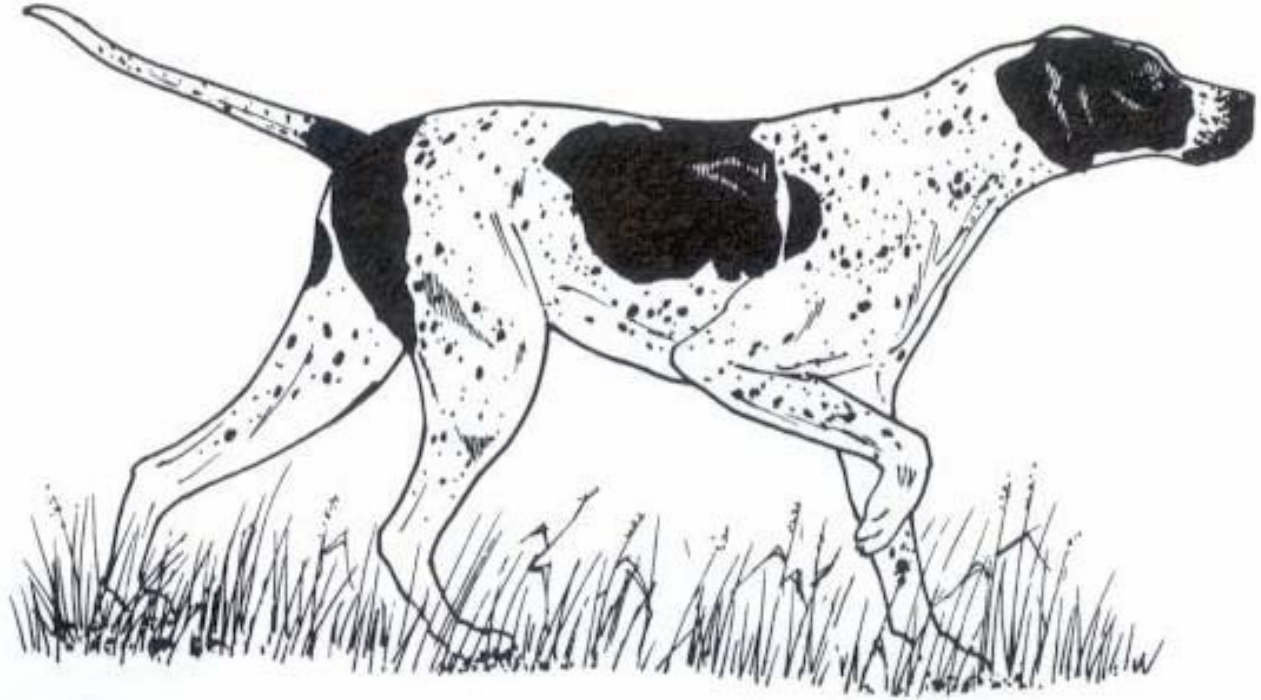
	Number of respondents	Percent of respondents (%)
Text	562	46.5%
Email	890	73.7%
Social Media	181	15.0%

*Respondents that want a reminder about permit due dates.

Table 2.19. Location where respondents purchased their hunting license ($n = 1,856$).

	Number of respondents	Percent of respondents (%)
Local sporting goods store	601	32.4%
Chain sporting goods store (Dick's, Bass Pro, Scheel's, etc.)	134	7.2%
Large chain store (Walmart, etc.)	530	28.6%
On-line from IDNR	591	31.8%

Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey 2020-21 Seasons



Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources
&
Illinois Natural History Survey



The Department of Natural Resources is requesting disclosure of information that is necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose as outlined under the Illinois Compiled Statutes, The Wildlife Code, Chapter 520. Disclosure of information is voluntary. This study is funded by the federal Wildlife Restoration Fund through your purchase of hunting arms and ammunition.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

All your responses will be kept confidential.
Please return this survey in the postage-paid return envelope provided.

Section 1. Hunting Activity and Harvest in Illinois. Please provide the following information to allow IDNR biologists to monitor game species harvest and conserve wildlife populations in Illinois.

1. Did you purchase a hunting license during 2020? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If “No,” Please go to **Section 2**)

2. Did you purchase your hunting license online? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2a. If “Yes” do you save your license as a PDF? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Did you hunt any wildlife species in Illinois between March 2020 and February 2021?

☐ Yes ☐ No (If “No,” please go to **Section 2**)

4. Please report your hunting effort and harvest in Illinois for the following species between March 1, 2020 - February 28, 2021. Include only game harvested and days you personally hunted in Illinois. Count only game you retrieved; **do not count animals you were not able to retrieve or animals that were trapped.** Count any part of a day hunted as 1 day.

Species	Number of Days Hunted	Number Harvested	County Hunted Most Often
Rabbit			
Quail (shooting preserve, club, etc.)			
Quail (wild)			
Pheasant (shooting preserve, club, etc.)			
Pheasant (wild)			
Dove			
Woodcock			
Crow			
Groundhog (Woodchuck)			
Gray Squirrel			
Fox Squirrel			
Turkey – Spring			
Turkey – Fall Shotgun			
Turkey – Fall Archery (compound & recurve only)			
Turkey – Fall Archery (crossbow only)			
Deer – Regular Firearm Season			
Deer – Muzzleloader-Only Season			
Deer – Archery Season (compound & recurve only)			
Deer – Archery Season (crossbow only)			
Deer – Late Winter Firearm Season			
Deer – Special CWD season			
Raccoon			
Red Fox			
Gray Fox			
Coyote			
Opossum			

5. Did you harvest any Eurasian collared-doves in Illinois during the 2019 season?

☐ Yes If “Yes,” how many? ☐ No ☐ Not sure

6. Did you have any mourning doves downed but not retrieved in Illinois during the 2020 season?

_____ Yes If "Yes," how many? _____ No _____ Not sure

7. If you **hunted furbearers** did you observe bobcats while furbearer hunting?

_____ Yes If "Yes," how many? _____ No

8. Did you hunt small game **on Public Land** in Illinois during the 2020-21 season? _____ Yes _____ No

9. How often do you use non-lead ammunition? Please circle the number that matches your response.

Ammunition	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Non-lead (copper, etc.) shotgun slugs for deer	1	2	3	4	5
Non-lead shot (steel, etc.) for upland game	1	2	3	4	5
Non-lead shot (steel, etc.) for turkeys	1	2	3	4	5

Section 2. Proposed Hunting Regulations. Please provide your level of agreement for the following statements by circling the number that matches your response.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
Nonresident landowners should get free deer and turkey permits same as Illinois resident landowners.	1	2	3	4	5
A certain number of wild turkey hunting permits should be set aside for Illinois outfitters to provide for their clients.	1	2	3	4	5
Airbows should be allowed for deer hunting during archery deer season in Illinois.	1	2	3	4	5
A separate, private property-only muzzleloading rifle season should be created for hunting in Illinois.	1	2	3	4	5

Section 3. COVID-19 and Hunting. Please consider restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic and respond to the following statements.

1. Which of the following **best** describes how **restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic** affected your participation in hunting during 2020. Please choose **one** response.

_____ Increased (Please go to question 2)

_____ Stayed the same (Please go to question 4)

_____ Decreased (Please go to question 3)

2. Which of the following **best** describe why your participation **increased**. Please choose all that apply.

_____ More free time

_____ More hunting partners

_____ Increased finances

_____ More permits available

_____ More places to hunt

_____ Need for game meat

_____ Other (Please identify): _____

3. Which of the following **best** describe why your participation ***decreased***. Please choose all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Less free time	<input type="checkbox"/> Fewer/no hunting partners	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased finances
<input type="checkbox"/> Fewer permits available	<input type="checkbox"/> Fewer places to hunt	<input type="checkbox"/> Health/Safety concerns
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please identify): _____		

4. Did the COVID-19 closure of Illinois state public lands affect your ability to hunt or otherwise use those sites?

☐ Yes ☐ No

4a. If yes, which of the following best describes how the COVID-19 closure affected you. Please check all that apply.

☐ Prevented me from hunting spring turkey for the season
☐ Prevented me from scouting for deer and other fall hunting
☐ Prevented my spring birdwatching activities
☐ Other (please identify): _____

4b. Were you able to find substitute activities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

4c. If yes, which of the following did you do as substitute? Please check all that apply.

☐ Used private land
☐ Used federal land (Shawnee National Forest, etc.)
☐ Went to another state
☐ Other (please identify): _____

Section 4. Hunters and Ticks.

1. Have you read or heard about preventing tick bites?

☐ Yes, in dogs and other pets
☐ Yes, in people
☐ No

2. If "Yes," where have you encountered this information?

<input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlet	<input type="checkbox"/> Article in newspaper or magazine
<input type="checkbox"/> Poster	<input type="checkbox"/> Medical professional/healthcare personnel
<input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian	<input type="checkbox"/> Articles on the Internet (e.g. social media, online forums, websites)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

3. Have you heard of any of the following tick-borne illnesses? (Please check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Anaplasmosis	<input type="checkbox"/> Babesiosis	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Borrelia</i> infection
<input type="checkbox"/> Lyme disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Tularemia	<input type="checkbox"/> Ehrlichiosis
<input type="checkbox"/> Bourbon virus	<input type="checkbox"/> Rocky Mountain spotted fever	

4. Have you ever picked a live tick off of your clothes or body after hunting? _____ Yes _____ No
5. Have you ever picked a live tick off of deer you have harvested? _____ Yes _____ No
6. Have you ever been bitten by a tick (had it attached to your body)? _____ Yes _____ No
7. Have you ever submitted a tick to be tested after finding it when hunting? _____ Yes _____ No
8. Do you personally know anyone diagnosed with a tickborne illness? _____ Yes _____ No
9. Are you aware of meat allergies caused by tick bites? _____ Yes _____ No

10. In which of the following areas are you concerned about ticks? (Please check all that apply.)

- _____ Tall grass/shrubs _____ Leaf litter in forest
- _____ Along the sides of trails _____ On animals' skin or coat
- _____ On the edges of pasture/fence rows _____ I don't know
- _____ Other (Please specify) _____

11. How much risk do you feel from the following? Please circle the number that matches your response.

	No Risk	Slight Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Getting bitten by a tick when hunting	1	2	3	4
Getting bitten by a tick on your property	1	2	3	4
Contracting a disease from a tick bite	1	2	3	4

12. How much risk do you feel from the following? Please circle the number that matches your response.

	No Risk	Slight Risk	Moderate Risk	High Risk
Contracting Lyme Disease	1	2	3	4
Contracting Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	1	2	3	4
Becoming ill from Chronic Wasting Disease	1	2	3	4
Becoming ill from Salmonella food poisoning	1	2	3	4
Becoming ill from E. coli food poisoning	1	2	3	4
Contracting West Nile Virus	1	2	3	4

13. How often do you practice the following to protect yourself from ticks? Please circle the number that matches your response.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Tuck pants into boots/socks	1	2	3	4	5
Wear long-sleeved shirts	1	2	3	4	5
Tape pants legs closed	1	2	3	4	5
Wear DEET or other insect repellent	1	2	3	4	5
Remove clothing and shake it after returning indoors	1	2	3	4	5
Showering immediately when you get home	1	2	3	4	5

14. Do you hunt with a dog? ____ Yes ____ No

15. If you answered “Yes” to the previous question, how often do you use the following tick bite prevention methods on your dog? Please circle the number that matches your response.

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Spray/lotion tick repellent (e.g. OFF)	1	2	3	4	5
Tick repellent collar (e.g. Seresto, Preventic)	1	2	3	4	5
Monthly topical tick preventative (e.g. Frontline, K9 Advantix)	1	2	3	4	5
Oral tick preventative (e.g. Bravecto, Nexgard)	1	2	3	4	5
Check dog for ticks after being afield.	1	2	3	4	5

Section 6. EHD and BTV in White-tailed Deer in Illinois. Please answer the following questions about white-tailed deer and Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and Blue Tongue Virus (BTV) in Illinois **during 2020**.

1. Using the table below, please report the number of dead deer you saw in or next to bodies of water (creeks, ponds, lakes, etc.) from **July through October 2020**. Report ONLY deer that (1) YOU actually saw; (2) were fresh enough to have died DURING the July-October period; (3) were IN or BESIDE a water source; and (4) DID NOT show any visible signs of trauma (broken bones or other wounds). DO NOT report deer that someone else told you about, if you did not actually see them.

Did you observe dead deer in this period?	If Yes, how many dead deer, meeting the criteria above did you see?	Did you report any of the dead deer you observed to the IDNR?	If Yes, how many dead deer did you report to the IDNR?
____ Yes ____ No	_____ dead deer	____ Yes ____ No	_____ reported

2. In which county did you observe the most deer that you believe died from EHD or BTV? _____ County

3. How do you think EHD and BTV impacted the deer population **during 2020** in areas **you typically hunt**? Please circle the number that matches your response.

Decreased Considerably	Decreased Moderately	Decreased Slightly	No Change	Increased Slightly	Increased Moderately	Increased Considerably
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

4. How do you think EHD and BTV impacted the deer population **during 2020** throughout the **entire state**? Please circle the number that matches your response.

Decreased Considerably	Decreased Moderately	Decreased Slightly	No Change	Increased Slightly	Increased Moderately	Increased Considerably
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

5. How did the number of deer **you saw** during the 2020 season compare to 5 years ago? Please circle the number that matches your response.

Decreased Considerably	Decreased Moderately	Decreased Slightly	No Change	Increased Slightly	Increased Moderately	Increased Considerably
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Section 7. Background Information. The following questions allow us to understand more about the people involved in hunting in Illinois. All responses are kept confidential.

1. How many years have you hunted in Illinois? _____ Years
2. Do you have Internet access in your home? _____ Yes _____ No
 - 2a. If “yes,” do you have high-speed Internet access? _____ Yes _____ No
3. Would you like reminders to renew your hunting license each year? _____ Yes _____ No
 - 3a. If yes, how would you like to be reminded? Please check all that apply.
_____ Text _____ Email _____ Social media
4. Would you like reminders about permit due dates? _____ Yes _____ No
 - 4a. If yes, how would you like to be reminded? Please check all that apply.
_____ Text _____ Email _____ Social media
5. Have you missed a permit application deadline because you did not know it was due?
_____ Yes _____ No
6. Do you received announcements from IDNR in your email?
_____ Yes _____ Not now, but I used to get them _____ No
7. Did you sign up for email announcements from IDNR? _____ Yes _____ No
8. Would you use a website that would allow you to search the number of animals harvested by species and number of hunters for each IDNR site by year and season?_
_____ Yes _____ No
9. Would you use a website that would show the number of permits allocated by species for each IDNR site per year?_
_____ Yes _____ No
10. Which of the following **best** describes how you purchase your hunting license? Please choose **one** response.
_____ Local sporting goods store
_____ Chain sporting goods store (Dick’s, Bass Pro, Scheel’s, etc.)
_____ Large chain store (Walmart, etc.)
_____ On-line from IDNR
11. What is your county of residence? _____ County

12. What is your gender? _____ Male _____ Female

13. Please give your age. _____ Years

14. Please give your race/ethnicity. Please check all that apply.

_____ White

_____ Black

_____ Asian-American

_____ Latino or Hispanic

_____ Native American (American Indian)

_____ Other (please specify) _____

Comments



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE!
Please return this survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources receives federal assistance and therefore must comply with federal anti-discrimination laws. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the Illinois Constitution, Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act as amended, and the U.S. Constitution, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, Department of Natural Resources, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62701-1787, (217) 782-7616 or the Officer of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.



ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dear Illinois Hunter,

Your name was randomly selected from the list of 2020 Illinois hunting license purchasers. We are asking you to provide information about your activities during the 2020-2021 hunting seasons in Illinois. **Even if you did not hunt in Illinois during the 2020-2021 seasons, we ask that you please take a few minutes to complete the portions of the questionnaire that pertain to you.** A postage paid envelope is provided for returning the questionnaire to us.

This study, jointly conducted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Illinois Natural History Survey, is an effort to learn about hunting activities in Illinois. Results of this study will help wildlife managers make decisions to improve hunting opportunities and to better manage Illinois' wildlife populations. **Your responses are voluntary and completely confidential.** By responding you will help us more effectively manage wildlife and hunting in Illinois.

If you do not wish to participate, please return the blank questionnaire so we can remove your name from our mailing list.

You may access the results of this and other studies of hunters and hunting in Illinois at <https://publish.illinois.edu/human-dimensions/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/wildlife/>.

If you have questions regarding this study, please call us at (217) 244-5121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller
Human Dimensions Research Program



1816 South Oak Street,
Champaign, Illinois 61820 USA

Appendix C

Dear Illinois Hunter,

Recently you were mailed a questionnaire about your hunting activities in Illinois. We have not yet received your response. **If you have already returned the questionnaire, we thank you. If you have not returned the questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible. Your input is very important!**

Your name and address will be deleted from our mailing list when your questionnaire is received. Thank you for your time and cooperation.



ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dear Illinois Hunter,

Your name was randomly selected from the list of 2020 Illinois hunting license purchasers. We recently mailed you a questionnaire regarding your hunting experiences in Illinois during the 2020-2021 hunting seasons. If you have already returned the questionnaire, we thank you.

If you have not returned your completed questionnaire, please do so as soon as possible. We have enclosed another copy for you. The information you and other selected hunters provide will help wildlife managers make decisions to improve hunting opportunities and to better manage Illinois' wildlife populations. **Your responses are voluntary and completely confidential.**

Even if you did not hunt in Illinois during the 2020-2021 seasons, we ask that you please take a few minutes to complete the portions of the questionnaire that pertain to you. A postage paid envelope is provided for returning the questionnaire to us.

You may access the results of this and other studies of hunters and hunting in Illinois at <https://publish.illinois.edu/human-dimensions/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/wildlife/>.

If you have questions regarding this study, please call (217) 244-5121.

Thank you for helping with this important study.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller
Human Dimensions Research Program





ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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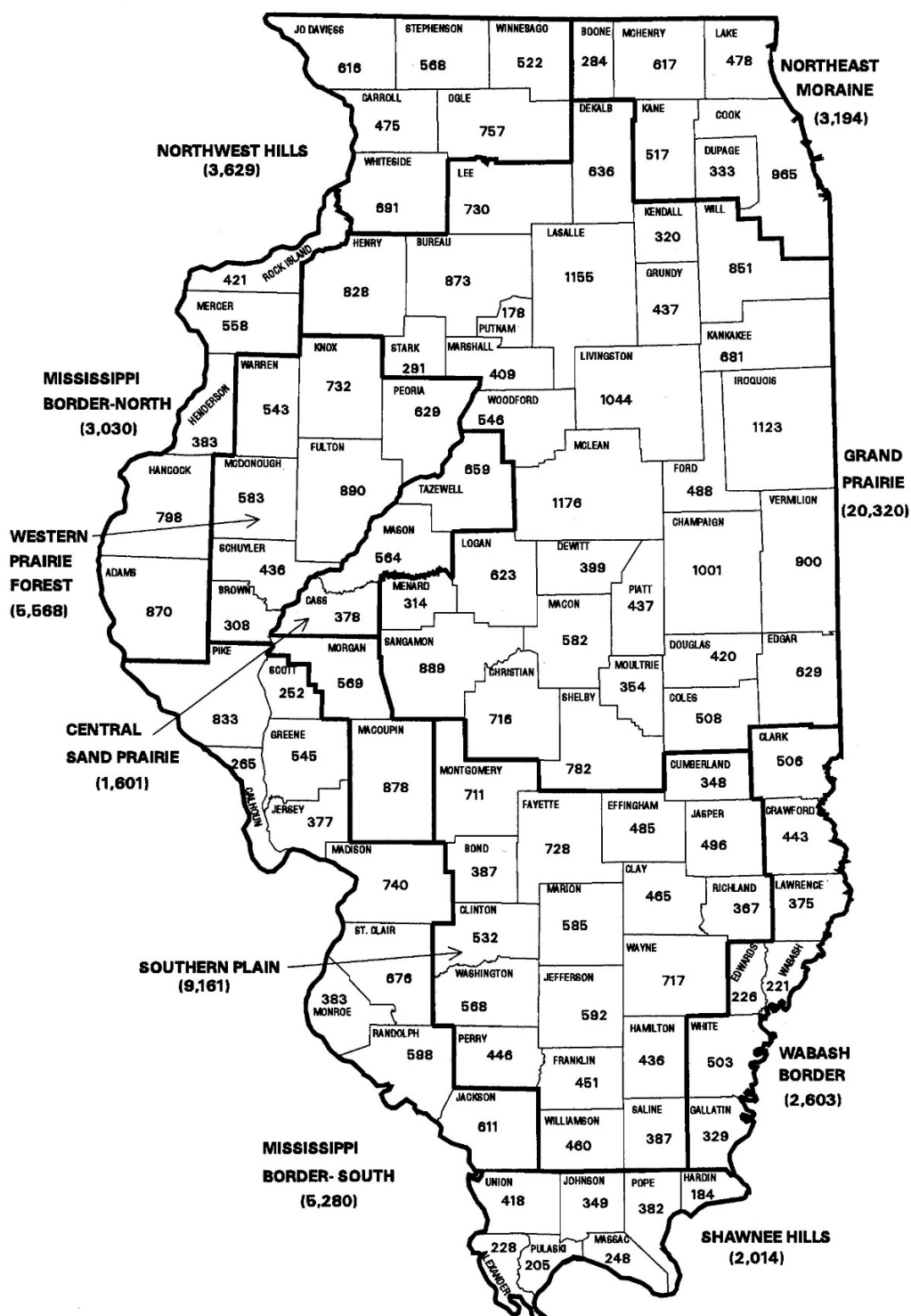
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller
Human Dimensions Research Program



Appendix F

Wildlife management units in Illinois (square miles in parentheses).



Administrative regions in Illinois.



Appendix H

DEER SEASON DATES AND LIMITS				
SEASON	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	LIMITS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Archery (Counties with a firearm season and west of Route 47 in Kane County)	1 Oct-19 Nov and 23 Nov-2 Dec and 7 Dec 2020-17 Jan 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Archery (Cook, DuPage, Lake and Kane (east of route 47) Counties)	1 Oct 2020-17 Jan 2021		One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Firearm (Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)	20-22 Nov and 3-6 Dec 2020		One deer per firearm permit	** See footnote below
Muzzleloader only	11-13 Dec 2020		One deer per muzzleloader permit	** See footnote below
Special CWD	31 Dec 2020-3 Jan 2021 and 15-17 Jan 2021		One deer per valid permit	Antlered deer limit in foot- note below does not apply to this season. See Special CWD Deer Hunting section for open counties.
Late Winter Antlerless-only (Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)	31 Dec 2020-3 Jan 2021 and 15-17 Jan 2021		One antlerless deer per permit	Counties open during this season will be posted online in October.
Youth firearm	10-12 Oct 2020		One deer	** See footnote below

FURBEARER TRAPPING REGULATIONS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon	Statewide	10 Nov 2020– 15 Feb 2021		
Opossum				
Striped Skunk				
Weasels				
Mink			None	
Muskrat				
Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i>				
Coyote				
Badger	North		2 per person per season	Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of taking a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
	South		1 per person per season	
Bobcat	See Bobcat Zone map		One by permit only	
Beaver	Statewide	10 Nov 2020–31 Mar 2021	None	
River Otter	Statewide	10 Nov 2020–31 Mar 2021	5 per person per season	
Woodchuck <i>(Groundhog)</i>	Statewide	1 Jun–30 Sep 2020	None	Must purchase Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after each otter is trapped. Must affix official CITES tag to each pelt.

TURKEY SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SEASON	DATES (inclusive)			HOURS	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Spring <i>(shotgun and archery)</i>	Season 2021			1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One tom, jake or bearded hen per permit, maximum of 3 spring permits	See map of turkey hunting zones for specific season segments in each zone
	Segment	North	South			
	1	12-16 Apr	5-9 Apr			
	2	17-22 Apr	10-15 Apr			
	3	23-28 Apr	16-21 Apr			
	4	29 Apr-5 May	22-28 Apr			
	5	6-13 May	29 Apr-6 May			
Youth Spring <i>(1 permit per year)</i>	27-28 Mar and 3-4 Apr 2021			1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.	One tom, jake or bearded hen per permit, counts toward maximum of 3 spring permits	Permit is valid to hunt individual counties or IDNR sites during season dates
Fall <i>(shotgun)</i>	24 Oct 2020-1 Nov 2020			1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2 fall permits	See map of fall firearm turkey hunting
Fall <i>(archery)</i>	1 Oct 2020-17 Jan 2021			1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One either-sex turkey per permit, maximum of 2 fall permits	Season closed during firearm deer season in counties open to firearm deer hunting

UPLAND GAME SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Doves (mourning and white-winged)	Statewide	1 Sep–14 Nov 2020 and 26 Dec 2020–9 Jan 2021	Sunrise to Sunset	15	45	No limits on Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle doves, but they may be harvested only during the established season dates and hours and using only legal methods for mourning/white-winged doves. Hunters may not remain in the field for taking Eurasian-collared doves or ringed turtle doves after they reach their daily limit for mourning/white-winged doves.
Pheasants (roosters only)	See zones map	7 Nov 2020–8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020–15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		2	6	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit. Hen pheasants are illegal to harvest or possess, except as specified on controlled hunting areas.
Quail (Bobwhite)	See zones map	7 Nov 2020–8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020–15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		8	20	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Hungarian Partridge	See zones map	7 Nov 2020–8 Jan 2021 (North zone) or 7 Nov 2020–15 Jan 2021 (South zone)		2	6	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Rabbits (cottontail and swamp)	Statewide	7 Nov 2020 - 15 Feb 2021		4	10	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Woodcock	Statewide	17 Oct - 30 Nov 2020		3	9	
Squirrels (gray and fox)	Statewide	1 Aug 2020–15 Feb 2021 Closed 20–22 Nov and 3–6 Dec 2020 in counties open for firearm deer hunting	½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	10	
Crow	Statewide	28 Oct 2020 - 28 Feb 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	No limit	No limit	

WATERFOWL SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Teal (early season)	Statewide	5-20 Sep 2020	Sunrise to Sunset	6	18	Blue-winged teal, green-winged teal and cinnamon teal are the only legal duck species during this season. Daily and possession limits are for all teal species combined (in the aggregate).
Rail (Sora and Virginia only)	Statewide	5 Sep - 13 Nov 2020		25	75	Daily and possession limits are for both rail species combined (in the aggregate).
Snipe (Wilson's snipe)	Statewide	5 Sep - 20 Dec 2020		8	24	
Ducks (but see Scaup below)	North Central South Central South	17 Oct - 15 Dec 2020 24 Oct - 22 Dec 2020 14 Nov - 12 Jan 2021 26 Nov - 24 Jan 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	6	18	Basic daily limit is 6 ducks of any species. However, daily limit can consist of no more than the following: 4 mallards (of which no more than 2 can be hen mallards), 3 wood ducks, 2 Scaup for the first 45 days in each zone, 1 Scaup for the last 15 days in each zone , 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 2 black ducks, 1 pintail and 1 mottled duck. Possession limit for ducks is three times the daily limit by species and sex.
Mergansers	Same as ducks	Same as ducks		5	15	Mergansers do not count toward your daily limit of ducks, but only 2 can be hooded mergansers. Merganser possession limit is no more than three times their daily limit, including max of 6 hooded mergansers.
Coots	Same as ducks	Same as ducks		15	45	
Scaup (Bluebills)	North Central South Central South	17 Oct - 30 Nov 2020 1 Dec - 15 Dec 2020 24 Oct - 7 Dec 2020 8 Dec - 22 Dec 2020 14 Nov - 28 Dec 2020 29 Dec - 12 Jan 2021 26 Nov - 9 Jan 2021 10 Jan - 24 Jan 2021		First Season 2/day Second Season 1/day	First Season 6 Second Season 3	FWS regulations require 45 days with 2/day bag limit, 15 days with 1/day bag limit. Will be different in each zone.

WATERFOWL SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS	
Canada Geese (early season)	North and Central	1-15 Sep 2020		5	15		
	South Central and South			2	6		
Canada Geese	North	17 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021		3	9		
	Central	24 Oct- 1 Nov 2020 and 12 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
Light Geese (Snow/Blue/Ross' Geese)	North	17 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	20	Unlimited	Daily bag limit is for both species combined (in the aggregate).	
	Central	24 Oct 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
Brant	Same as light geese	Same as light geese	1	3			
White-fronted Geese (Specklebellies)	North	19 Oct 2020 - 14 Jan 2021	2	6			
	Central	5 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South Central	14 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
	South	26 Nov 2020 - 31 Jan 2021					
Conservation Order Light Geese (Snow/Blue/Ross' Geese)	North	15 Jan - 30 Apr 2021	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Unlimited	Unlimited	The following apply to the Conservation Order only: 1) unplugged shotguns may be used and there is no limit to the number of shells that may be placed in a shotgun, 2) electronic calling devices may be used, 3) federal duck stamp not required, 4) Illinois duck stamp and hunting license is required.	
	Central, South Central, South	1 Feb - 30 Apr 2021					
Youth waterfowl	North	10-11 Oct 2020	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Same as during regular duck, goose, and coot seasons	Same as during regular duck, goose, and coot seasons	The following apply to the Youth season only: 1) youth hunters must be 17 years of age or younger and must have a hunting license and HIP registration/certification unless hunting on property where they reside; 2) no stamps are required for youths under age 16; 3) federal waterfowl stamps are required for all hunters age 16 and older; 4) hunters aged 18 years and older may not hunt waterfowl and coots during the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days, even if hunting with a Youth License.	
	Central	17-18 Oct 2020					
	South Central	7-8 Nov 2020					
	South	14-15 Nov 2020					