

HumanDimensions
Research Program

Illinois Natural History Survey
Prairie Research Institute
University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign



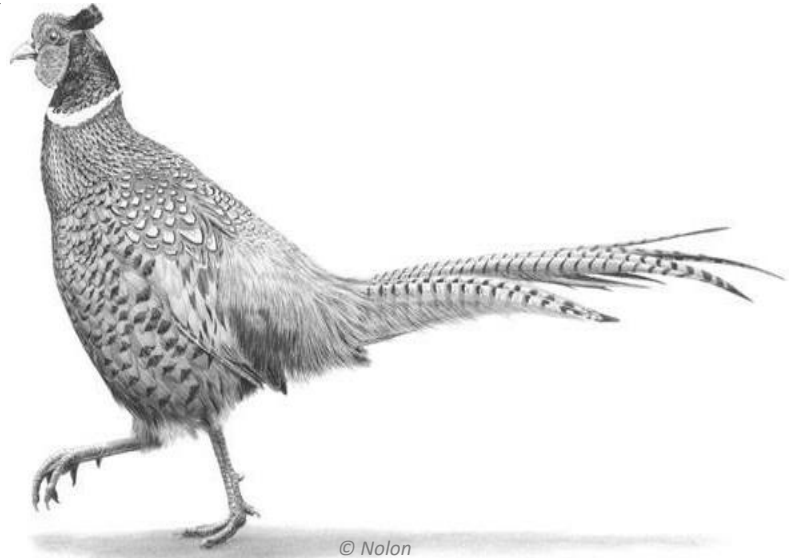
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2018-2019 Illinois Hunter Harvest Report



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2018-19
ILLINOIS HUNTER HARVEST REPORT

JOB COMPLETION REPORT

WILDLIFE HARVEST AND
HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH PROGRAM

STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NUMBER: W-112-R-28
STUDY 101
JOB NO. 101.1

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Champaign, IL
November 27, 2019

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration
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SECTION 1: HUNTER HARVEST

LIST OF FIGURES

	<u>Page</u>
Figure 1.1.....Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1940-2018.....	3
Figure 1.2.....Percentage of hunters who purchased a hunting license in 2018.....	3
Figure 1.3.....Percentage of license purchasers who hunted any wildlife species in Illinois between March 2018 and February 2019 ..	3
Figure 1.4.....Illinois rabbit harvest and hunter activity 2008-2018.....	5
Figure 1.5.....Number of days per hunter, harvest per hunter, and harvest per day per hunter from 2008-2018 for rabbit hunting in Illinois.....	5
Figure 1.6.....Illinois dove harvest and hunter activity 2008-2018	6
Figure 1.7.....Illinois fox squirrel harvest and hunter activity 2008-2018.....	6
Figure 1.8.....Illinois gray squirrel harvest and hunter activity 2008-2018	7
Figure 1.9.....Illinois coyote harvest and hunter activity 2008-2018.....	7

LIST OF TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
Table 1.1Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1938-2018.....	8
Table 1.2Summary of statewide data from the 2018-2019 Hunter Harvest Survey.....	9
Table 1.3Estimated number of resident licensed hunters and harvest in Illinois.....	10
Table 1.4Rabbit hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	11
Table 1.5Non-wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU)	11
Table 1.6Wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	12
Table 1.7Non-wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	12
Table 1.8Wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU)	13
Table 1.9Dove hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	13
Table 1.10Woodcock hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	14
Table 1.11Crow hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	14
Table 1.12Groundhog hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	15
Table 1.13Gray squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU)	15
Table 1.14Fox squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	16
Table 1.15Raccoon hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	16
Table 1.16Red fox hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU)	17
Table 1.17Gray fox hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	17
Table 1.18Coyote hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	18
Table 1.19Opossum hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU).....	18
Table 1.20Percent change in harvest from 2017-18 to 2018-19 in Wildlife Management Units for selected species	19
Table 1.21Rabbit hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	20
Table 1.22Non-wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	20
Table 1.23Wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	21
Table 1.24Non-wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	21
Table 1.25Wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	22
Table 1.26Dove hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	22
Table 1.27Woodcock hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	23
Table 1.28Crow hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	23
Table 1.29Groundhog hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	24
Table 1.30Gray squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	24
Table 1.31Fox squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	25
Table 1.32Raccoon hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	25
Table 1.33Red fox hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	26
Table 1.34Gray fox hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR).....	26
Table 1.35Coyote hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	27
Table 1.36Opossum hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions (AR)	27
Table 1.37Percent change in harvest from 2017-18 to 2018-19 in Administrative Regions for selected species	28
Table 1.38Distribution of hunting effort and harvest in 2018	29
Table 1.39Statewide data from resident Illinois hunters, 2008-2018	34
Table 1.40Percent change in statewide harvest by species (1-year, 5-year, 10-year)	40

SECTION 2: HUNTER ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS

LIST OF FIGURES	<u>Page</u>
Figure 2.1..... Change in hunting effort over the past 5 years	41
Figure 2.2..... Percentage of respondents who have taken someone hunting for their first time within the last 5 years.....	43
Figure 2.3..... Age group of those who were taken on their first hunt	43
Figure 2.4..... Percent of hunters that observed dead deer from July through October 2018.....	44
Figure 2.5..... Percent of hunters that reported dead deer they observed to the IDNR	44
Figure 2.6..... Percentage of deer hunters who use the White-tailed Deer Illinois website.....	45
Figure 2.7..... Percentage of deer hunters who think IDNR should implement a statewide program to increase the number of hunters to help control Chronic Wasting Disease through hunting	45
Figure 2.8..... Believe that the non-hunting public has a positive image of Illinois hunters	46
Figure 2.9..... Gender distribution of Illinois hunters	46

LIST OF TABLES	<u>Page</u>
Table 2.1Species hunted and number of hunters who relied exclusively on public land to hunt	48
Table 2.2 Hunters’ perceptions on IDNR allowing trappers to use cable restraints on private lands.....	48
Table 2.3 Hunting effort for any game species over the past 5 years	49
Table 2.4Species hunted and number of hunters who hunted or trapped for the first time within the past 3 years.....	49
Table 2.5Frequency on how often public lands are hunted on	49
Table 2.6 Reasons why respondents have switched the public land sites that they hunt	50
Table 2.7 Hunters’ perceptions on whether IDNR should establish sites exclusively for mentored training of youth and adult hunters	50
Table 2.8 Reasons for not taking a new hunter out on their first hunt	50
Table 2.9Species that hunters were excluded from hunting due to a private hunting lease	51
Table 2.10Number of dead deer Illinois hunters reported to the IDNR during 2018	51
Table 2.11 Top Illinois counties in which hunters observed deer believed to have died from EHD or BTV	52
Table 2.12 Deer hunters’ perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTV on the deer population in areas hunted during 2018.....	53
Table 2.13 Deer hunters’ perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTV on the Illinois deer population during 2018	53
Table 2.14 Change in number of deer seen by Illinois deer hunters during the 2018-19 season compared to 5-years ago.....	54
Table 2.15 Change in number of deer harvested by Illinois deer hunters during the 2018-19 deer season compared to 5-years ago.....	54

LIST OF APPENDICES	<u>Page</u>
Appendix A..... Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey: 2018-19 Season.....	55
Appendix B..... Cover letter sent with first mailing of the 2018-19 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey	63
Appendix C..... Thank you/reminder postcard sent as follow-up to the mailings.....	65
Appendix D..... Cover letter sent with second mailing of the 2018-19 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.....	66
Appendix E..... Cover letter sent with third mailing of the 2018-19 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.....	68
Appendix F..... Map of IDNR Wildlife Management Units.....	70
Appendix G..... Map of IDNR Administrative Regions.....	71
Appendix H..... Season dates, bag limits, and shooting hours for the 2018-19 hunting season in Illinois.....	72

ABSTRACT

A random sample of 5,000 hunters was selected from adult 2018 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 2,631 questionnaires, 2,284 of which were usable, for a 47% response rate. Illinois resident license sales decreased 5% from 2017-18 (263,495) to 250,007 for the 2018-19 seasons. Total days afield for rabbit, quail, non-wild pheasant, dove, crow, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, turkey, deer, red fox, gray fox, coyote, and opossum decreased. Harvest increased for 5 game species (wild quail, wild pheasant, groundhog, deer, and red fox) from 2017-18. Hunters were also asked questions regarding hunting activity and harvest in Illinois, recruitment and retention, perceived effects of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) and Blue Tongue Virus (BTV) on deer hunting, and their attitudes toward wildlife and hunting in Illinois. Estimates of wild quail and pheasant harvested beginning during 2011-12 were calculated differently than previous estimates to include harvest of captive-raised birds distinct from wild birds, so comparisons across years 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 2018-19 hunting seasons. All Illinois resident license types were included in the sample frame except for Youth License holders (n=15,055). 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) 21 June 2019. This mailing was followed with a thank

you/reminder postcard (Appendix C) 09 July 2019. On 22 July 2019, a survey packet was mailed to non-respondents, and a second thank you/reminder postcard was mailed 12 August 2109. A final survey packet was mailed 27 August 2019. Data were coded, entered, and analyzed using SPSS 26.0 (SPSS Inc. 2019). 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.

Prior to 2011-12, 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 separate reporting wild bird and captive bird effort and harvest. In 2012-13, 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 non-wild. 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, and 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 2,284 usable questionnaires for a 47% response rate. A total of 250,007 (including youth) Illinois residents purchased hunting licenses during 2018-19 hunting seasons, a 5% decrease from 2017-18 (263,495; Figure 1.1, Table 1.1).

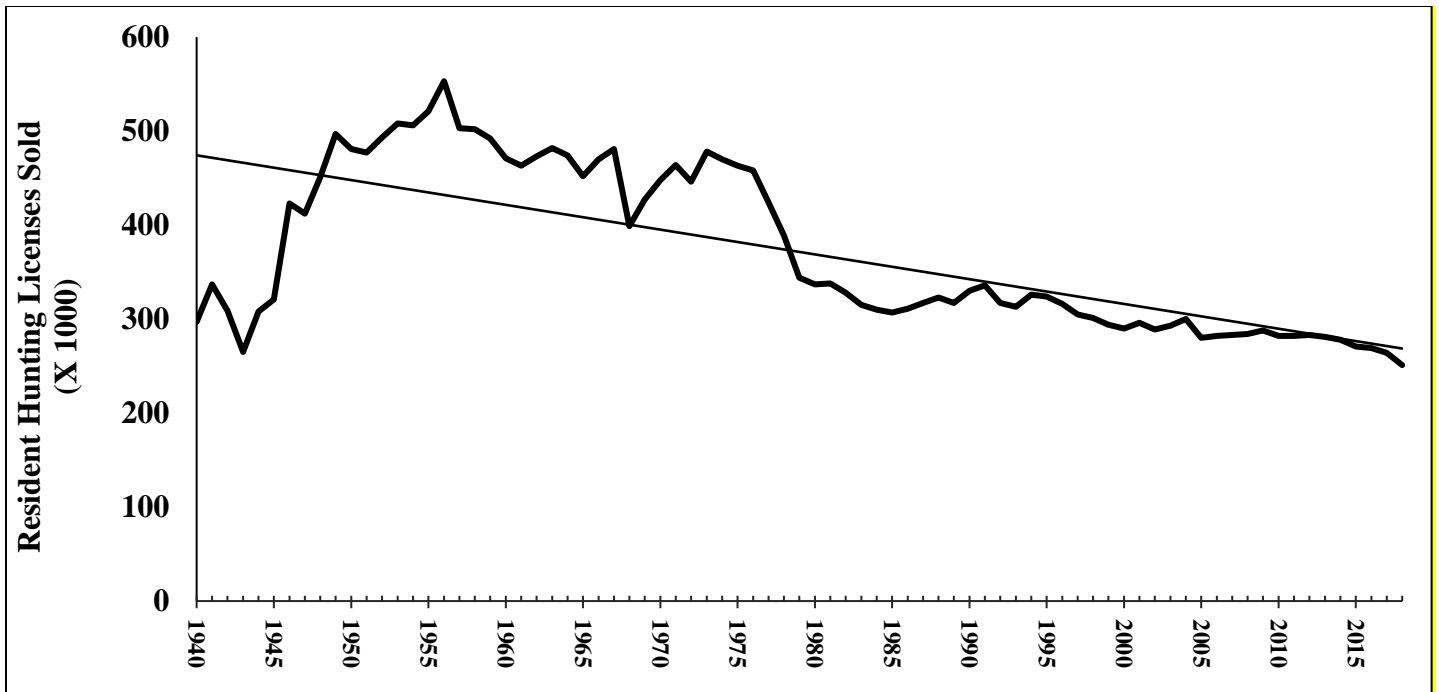


Figure 1.1. Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1940-2018.

Most respondents (97%) reported that they purchased a hunting license during 2018 (Figure 1.2) and 88% indicated that they hunted in Illinois during the 2018-19 hunting seasons (March 2018 – February 2019) (Figure 1.3). Over one-quarter (26%) of hunting license holders reported that they purchased their hunting license online and 66% of the online license purchasers saved their license as a PDF.

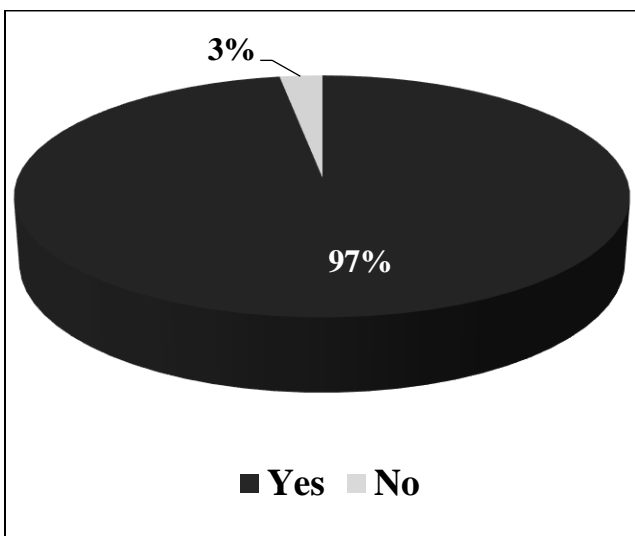


Figure 1.2. Percentage of hunters who purchased a hunting license in 2018 ($n = 2,273$).

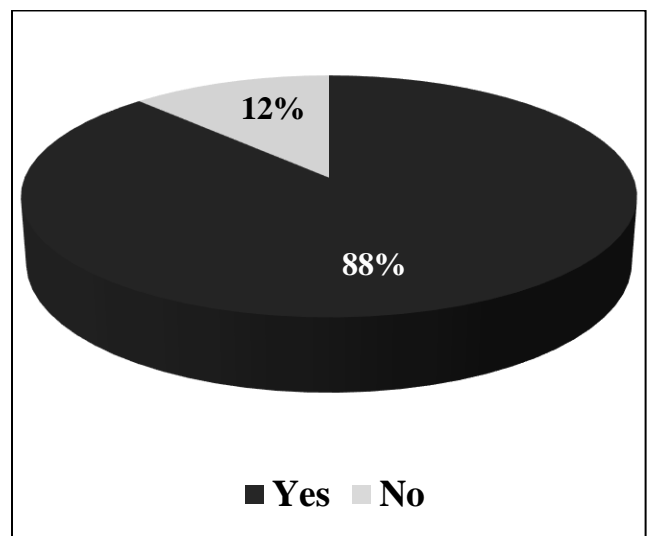


Figure 1.3. Percentage of license purchasers who hunted any wildlife species in Illinois between March 2018 and February 2019 ($n = 2,208$).

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 available by wildlife management units (WMUs) and administrative regions in Tables 1.4 - 1.38. Maps of WMUs and administrative regions are in Appendices F and G. Rail and snipe harvest estimates are no longer included in the questionnaires because respondents no longer hunt or provide harvest data for these species. Similarly, statewide gray fox harvest is very low. Special care should be given when examining these estimates due to small sample sizes and large confidence intervals. In addition, 32 Illinois hunters reported harvesting a total of 138 Eurasian Collared-Doves and 12 were unsure whether they harvested this species during the 2018-19 hunting season. Harvest estimates for all species from 2008 – 2018 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 2018-19 suggest an increased harvest over the previous year for 5 game species: wild quail, wild pheasant, groundhog, deer, and red fox. Decreases in harvest estimates occurred for 11 species: rabbit, dove, woodcock, crow, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, turkey, raccoon, gray fox, coyote, and opossum. Due to changes in methods used to estimate harvest of wild quail and wild pheasant, figures were not comparable to previous estimates (except for 2011-12). Rabbit hunting trends 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 made comparisons possible (Figure 1.5). Rabbit hunter effort and harvest reveal that hunter days afield per hunter have remained relatively consistent since 2008. Trends in estimated number of hunters, harvest, and days afield for dove, fox squirrel, gray squirrel, and coyote from 2008-18 are provided in Figures 1.6-1.9.

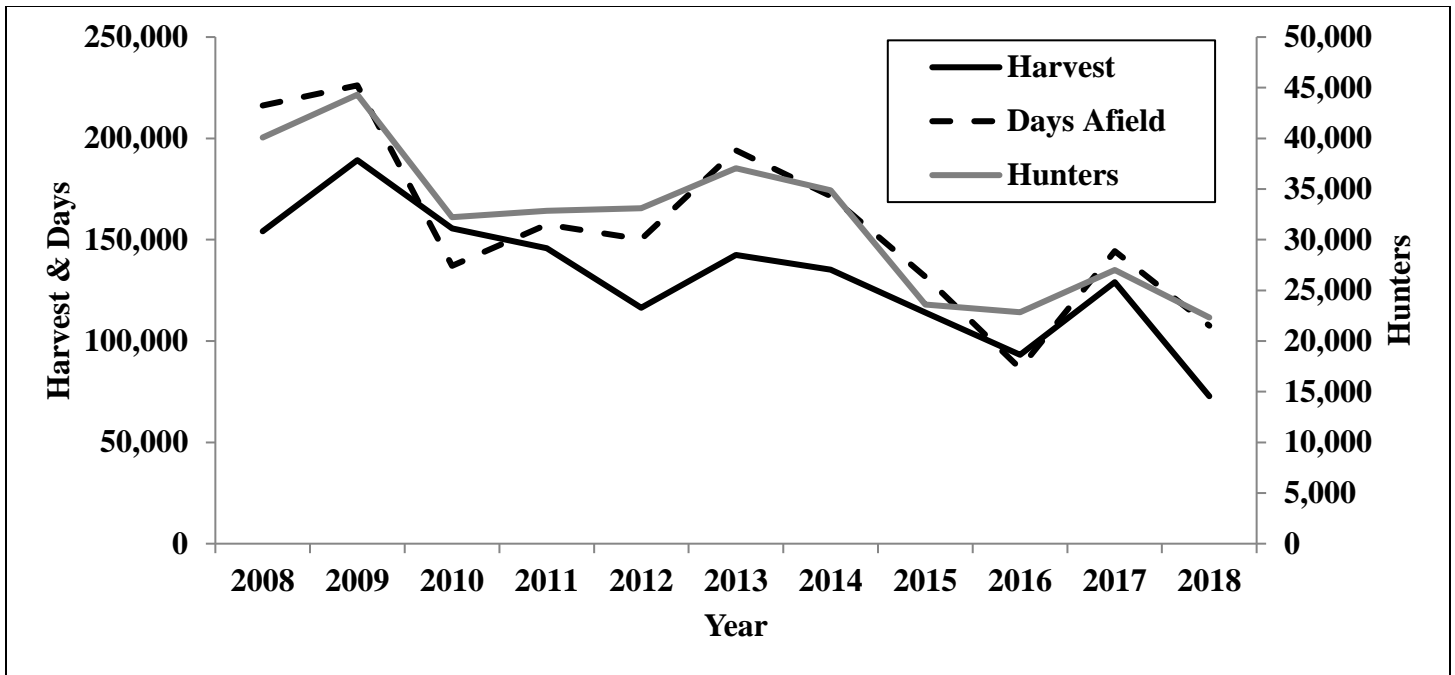


Figure 1.4. Illinois rabbit harvest and hunter activity (2008-2018).

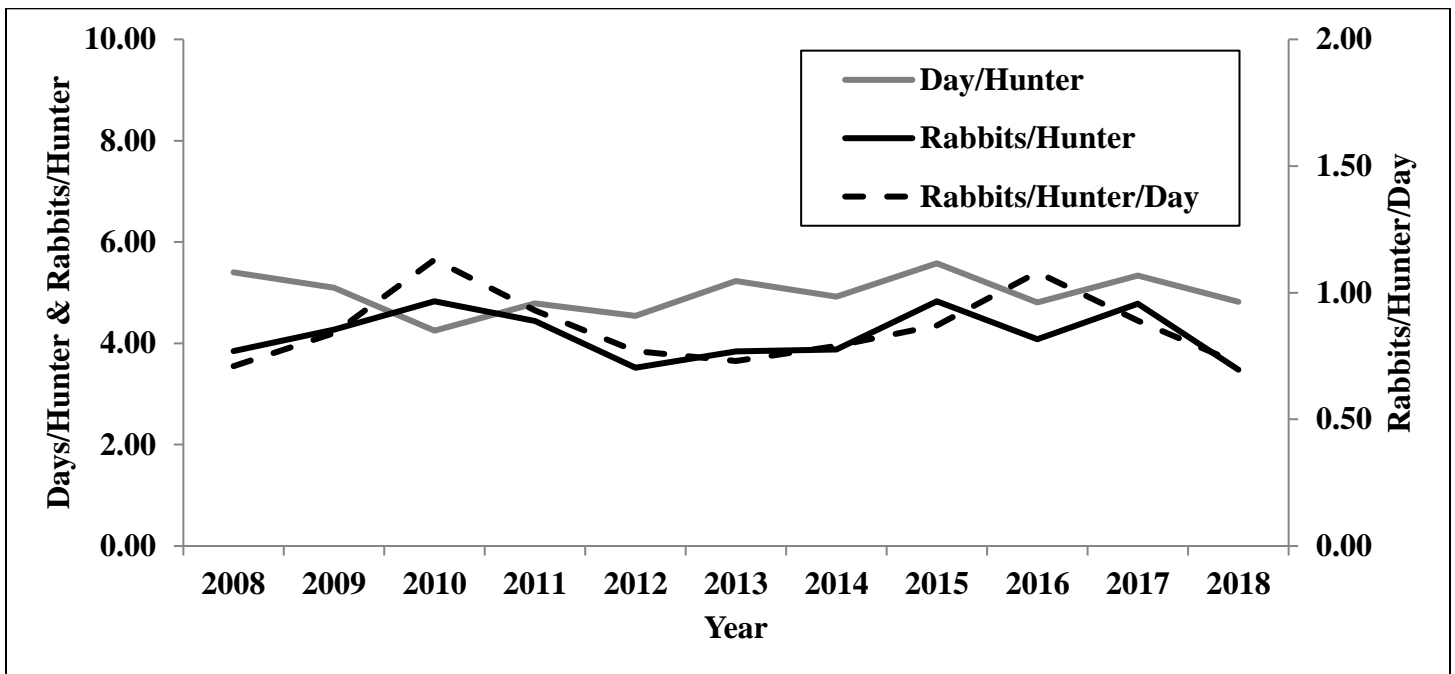


Figure 1.5. Number of days per hunter, harvest per hunter, and harvest per day per hunter from 2008-2018 for rabbit hunting in Illinois.

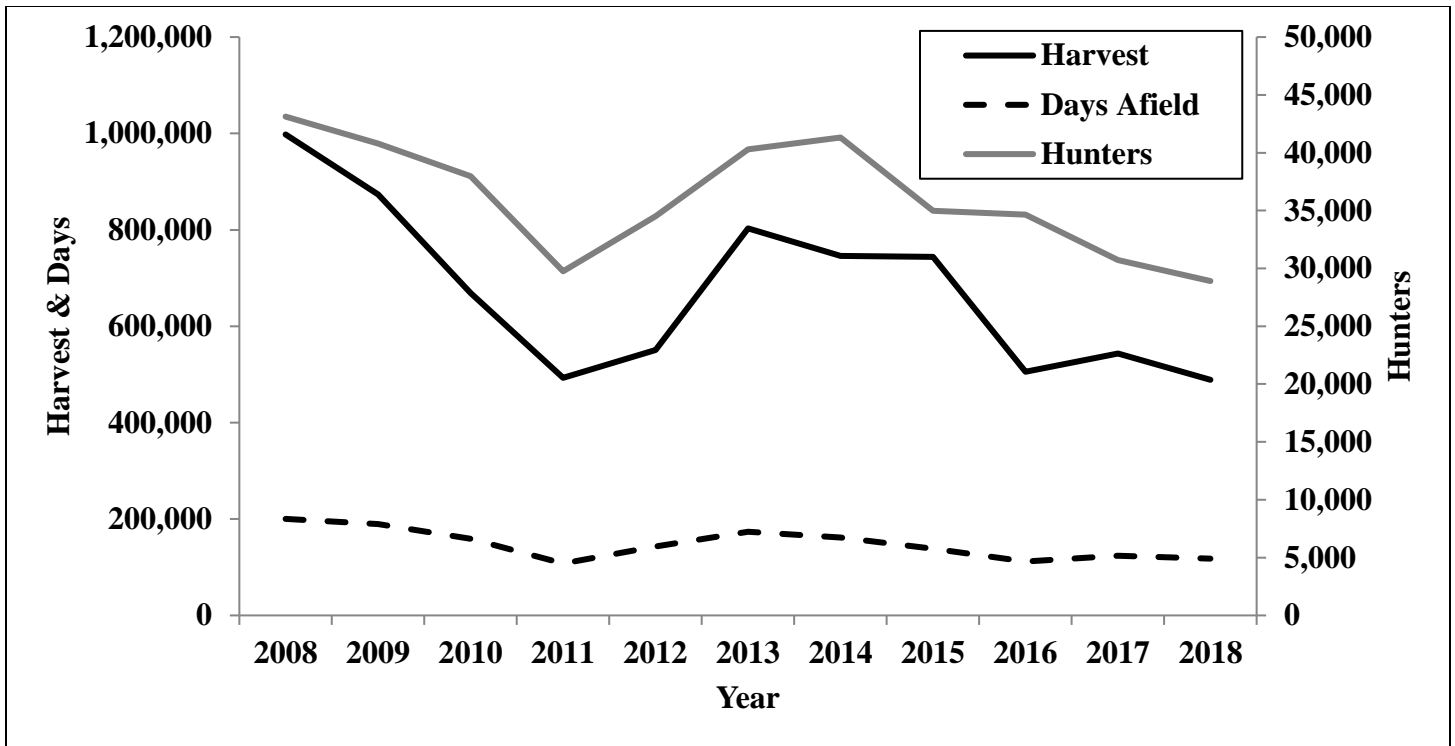


Figure 1.6. Illinois dove harvest and hunter activity (2008-2018).

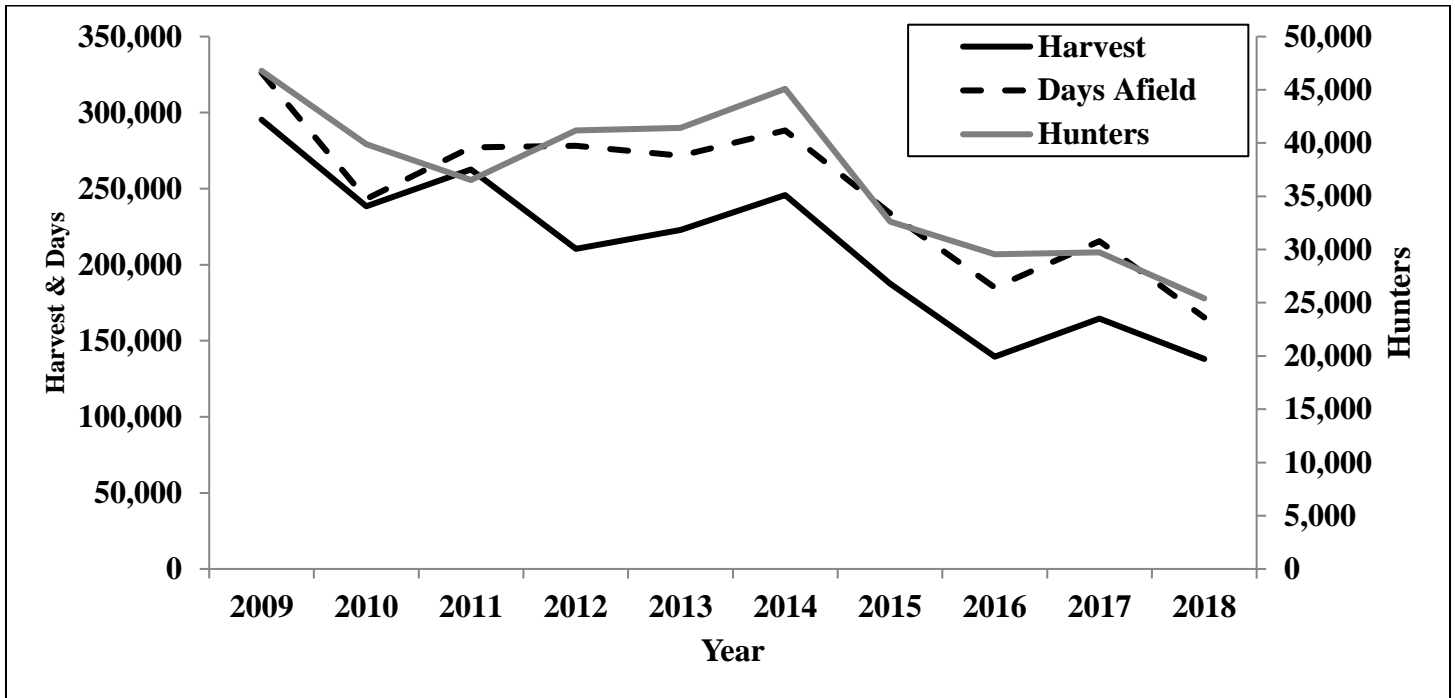


Figure 1.7. Illinois fox squirrel harvest and hunter activity (2008-2018).

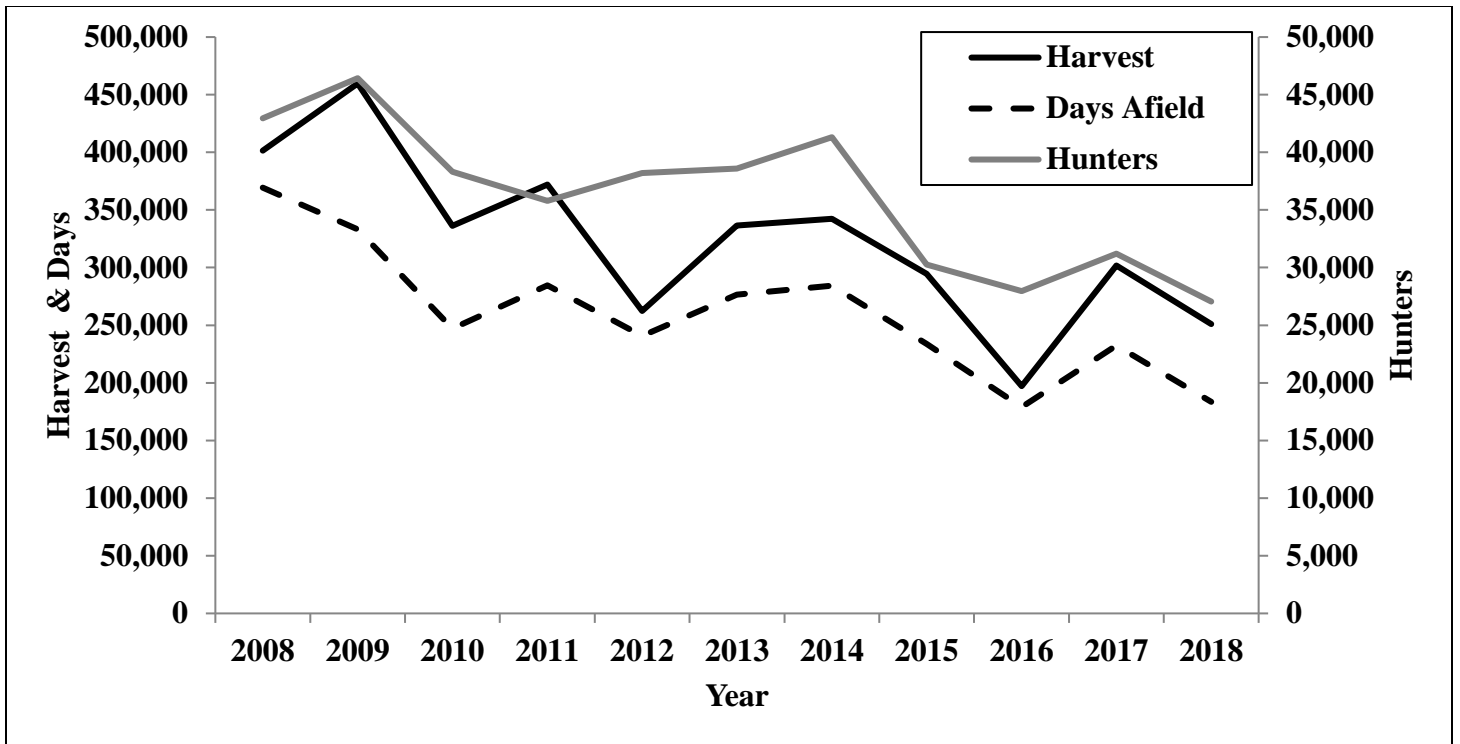


Figure 1.8. Illinois gray squirrel harvest and hunter activity (2008-2018).

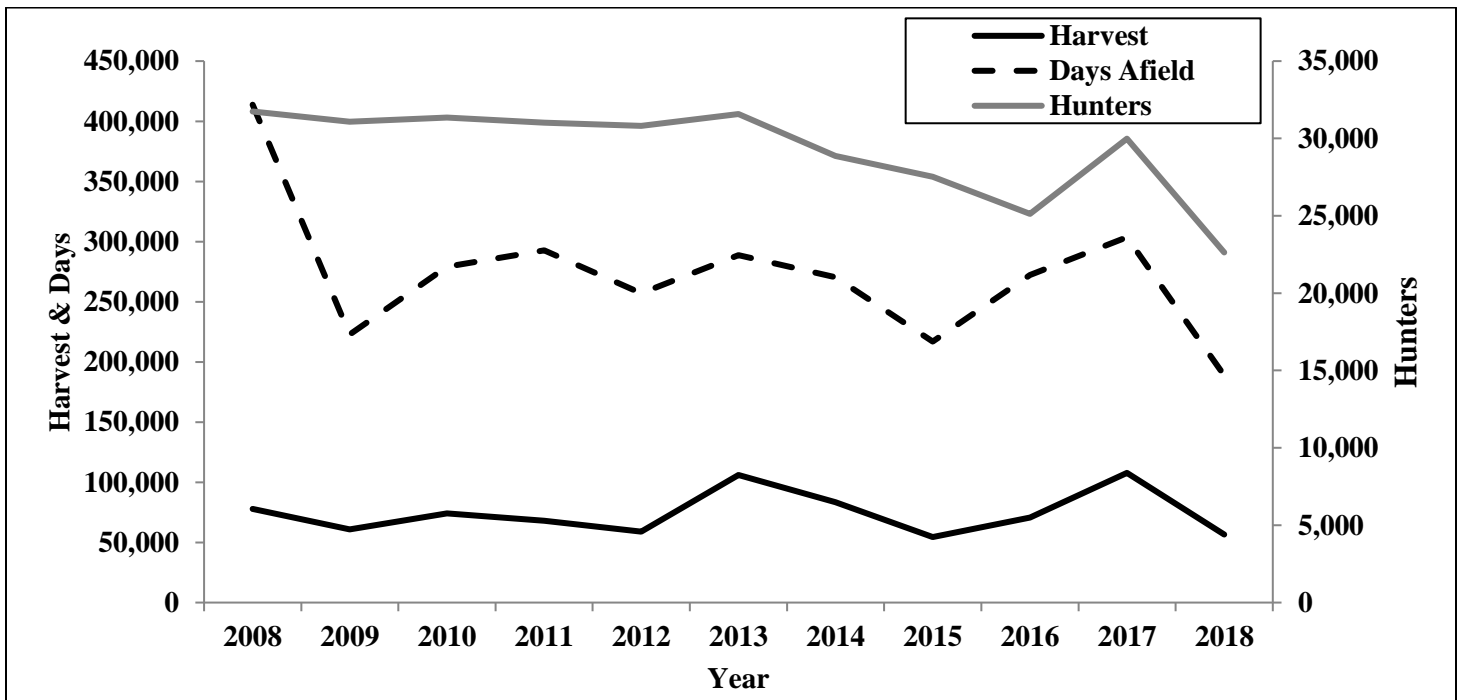


Figure 1.9. Illinois coyote harvest and hunter activity (2008-2018).

Table 1.1. Number of resident hunting licenses purchased in Illinois, 1938-2018.

Year	Licenses (x 1,000)	Year	Licenses (x 1,000)
2018	251	1977	424
2017	264	1976	458
2016	269	1975	463
2015	271	1974	470
2014	278	1973	478
2013	281	1972	446
2012	283	1971	464
2011	282	1970	448
2010	282	1969	427
2009	288	1968	399
2008	284	1967	481
2007	283	1966	470
2006	282 ^d	1965	452
2005	280	1964	474
2004	300	1963	482
2003	293	1962	473
2002	289	1961	463
2001	296	1960	471
2000	290	1959	492
1999	294 ^c	1958	502
1998	301	1957	503
1997	305	1956	553
1996	316	1955	521
1995	324	1954	506
1994	326 ^b	1953	508
1993	313	1952	493
1992	317	1951	477
1991	336	1950	481
1990	330	1949	497
1989	317	1948	451
1988	323	1947	412
1987	317	1946	423
1986	311	1945	321
1985	307	1944	308
1984	310	1943	265
1983	315	1942	309
1982	328	1941	337
1981	338	1940	297
1980	337	1939	322
1979	344 ^a	1938	294
1978	389		

^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 2018-19 Hunter Harvest Survey ($n = 2,284$).

Species	Total Hunters	Percent of License Sales	Average Bag		Total Harvest	Days Hunting	
			Daily	Season		Average /Hunter	Total Hunter Days
Rabbit	22,322	9.50%	0.72	3.48	77,769	4.82	107,601
Non-Wild Quail	5,246	2.23%	3.01	13.80	72,420	4.59	24,071
Wild Quail	6,995	2.98%	0.86	5.07	35,490	5.90	41,250
Non-Wild Pheasant	21,397	9.11%	1.73	7.82	167,367	4.53	96,902
Wild Pheasant	12,241	5.21%	0.54	2.54	31,066	4.68	57,298
Dove	28,906	12.30%	4.14	16.91	488,832	4.09	118,093
Woodcock	720	0.31%	0.22	1.57	1,132	7.14	5,143
Crow	2,057	0.88%	1.35	4.45	9,155	3.30	6,789
Groundhog	2,983	1.27%	0.62	4.90	14,607	7.90	23,557
Fox Squirrel	25,409	10.81%	0.84	5.43	138,050	6.51	165,310
Gray Squirrel	27,054	11.51%	1.37	9.28	251,000	6.78	183,415
Turkey-Spring	38,987	16.59%	0.09	0.40	15,739	4.46	174,054
Turkey-Fall Shotgun	5,041	2.15%	0.03	0.12	617	3.61	18,208
Turkey-Fall Archery*	14,196	6.04%	0.02	0.21	2,983	11.08	157,286
Turkey-Compound/Recurve	8,538	3.63%	0.01	0.18	1,543	12.67	108,218
Turkey-Crossbow	6,378	2.71%	0.03	0.23	1,440	7.69	49,068
Deer-Regular Firearm	127,043	54.07%	0.15	0.63	80,546	4.16	529,053
Deer-Muzzleloader	21,191	9.02%	0.13	0.34	7,304	2.63	55,652
Deer-Archery*	89,187	37.96%	0.04	0.62	54,932	15.21	1,356,940
Deer-Compound/Recurve	60,281	25.66%	0.03	0.51	30,963	15.47	932,504
Deer-Crossbow	34,770	14.80%	0.06	0.69	23,968	12.21	424,436
Deer-LWF	15,019	6.39%	0.09	0.21	3,086	2.32	34,770
Deer-CWD	5,246	2.23%	0.05	0.14	720	2.65	13,887
Raccoon	5,041	2.15%	0.97	16.06	80,958	16.59	83,632
Red Fox	617	0.26%	0.27	5.67	3,498	21.00	12,961
Gray Fox	617	0.26%	0.02	0.17	103	11.00	6,789
Coyote	22,631	9.63%	0.30	2.50	56,681	8.34	188,764
Opossum	617	0.26%	1.00	6.17	3,806	6.17	3,806

* 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, 2018-19 season ($n = 2,284$).

Species	n	Total Estimated Hunters	Estimated Average Season Bag	Total Estimated Harvest
Rabbit	217	22,322 \pm 2,883	3.48 \pm 0.74	77,769 \pm 19,646
Non-Wild Quail	51	5,246 \pm 1,453	13.80 \pm 9.64	72,420 \pm 54,899
Wild Quail	68	6,995 \pm 1,671	5.07 \pm 2.69	35,490 \pm 20,855
Non-Wild Pheasant	208	21,397 \pm 2,829	7.82 \pm 1.60	167,367 \pm 41,280
Wild Pheasant	119	12,241 \pm 2,185	2.54 \pm 0.84	31,066 \pm 11,876
Dove	281	28,906 \pm 3,230	16.91 \pm 2.76	488,832 \pm 97,908
Woodcock	7	720 \pm 543	1.57 \pm 1.53	1,132 \pm 1,349
Crow	20	2,057 \pm 916	4.45 \pm 2.29	9,155 \pm 6,212
Groundhog	29	2,983 \pm 1,101	4.90 \pm 2.31	14,607 \pm 8,757
Fox Squirrel	247	25,409 \pm 3,054	5.43 \pm 0.89	138,050 \pm 28,424
Gray Squirrel	263	27,054 \pm 3,139	9.28 \pm 1.65	251,000 \pm 54,023
Raccoon	49	5,041 \pm 1,425	16.06 \pm 7.47	80,958 \pm 44,368
Red Fox	6	617 \pm 503	5.67 \pm 9.56	3,498 \pm 6,192
Gray Fox	6	617 \pm 503	0.17 \pm 0.33	103 \pm 206
Coyote	220	22,631 \pm 2,901	2.50 \pm 0.79	56,681 \pm 19,603
Opossum	6	617 \pm 503	6.17 \pm 3.52	3,806 \pm 3,706

Table 1.4. Summary of 2018-19 rabbit hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Rabbit (<i>n</i> = 217)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,234	5.53%	0.21	1.83	2,263	10,698
Northeast Moraine	309	1.38%	0.32	2.33	720	2,263
Mississippi Border-North	1,132	5.07%	0.96	2.36	2,675	2,777
Mississippi Border-South	2,263	10.14%	1.11	3.77	8,538	7,715
Western Prairie/Forest	2,160	9.68%	0.70	2.81	6,069	8,641
Central Sand Prairie	926	4.15%	0.91	3.56	3,292	3,600
Grand Prairie	6,995	31.34%	0.60	2.90	20,265	33,535
Southern Plain	5,555	24.88%	1.00	5.22	29,009	29,009
Wabash Border	823	3.69%	0.28	1.88	1,543	5,452
Shawnee Hills	720	3.23%	0.92	4.71	3,395	3,703
Unknown	206	0.92%	0.00	0.00	-	206
Statewide	22,322	100.00%	0.72	3.48	77,769	107,601

Table 1.5. Summary of 2018-19 non-wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Non-Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 51)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	514	9.80%	1.46	3.80	1,955	1,337
Northeast Moraine	103	1.96%	6.00	6.00	617	103
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	514	9.80%	2.40	4.80	2,469	1,029
Western Prairie/Forest	823	15.69%	3.00	7.13	5,864	1,955
Central Sand Prairie	103	1.96%	2.33	7.00	720	309
Grand Prairie	1,029	19.61%	3.74	11.60	11,933	3,189
Southern Plain	1,440	27.45%	1.55	9.43	13,579	8,744
Wabash Border	617	11.76%	4.83	57.17	35,284	7,304
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	103	1.96%	0.00	0.00	-	103
Statewide	5,246	100.00%	3.01	13.80	72,420	24,071

Table 1.6. Summary of 2018-19 wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 68)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	411	5.88%	0.25	1.00	411	1,646
Northeast Moraine	206	2.94%	4.00	6.00	1,234	309
Mississippi Border-North	206	2.94%	0.00	0.00	-	720
Mississippi Border-South	823	11.76%	0.59	2.75	2,263	3,806
Western Prairie/Forest	514	7.35%	0.36	2.00	1,029	2,880
Central Sand Prairie	823	11.76%	0.45	2.88	2,366	5,246
Grand Prairie	1,440	20.59%	0.43	2.50	3,600	8,332
Southern Plain	1,749	25.00%	0.90	4.71	8,229	9,155
Wabash Border	720	10.29%	1.81	22.71	16,356	9,052
Shawnee Hills	103	1.47%	0.00	0.00	-	103
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	6,995	100.00%	0.86	5.07	35,490	41,250

Table 1.7. Summary of 2018-19 non-wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Non-Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 208)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	2,057	9.62%	1.40	3.85	7,921	5,658
Northeast Moraine	2,469	11.54%	1.69	16.00	39,502	23,351
Mississippi Border-North	206	0.96%	1.00	1.00	206	206
Mississippi Border-South	823	3.85%	2.21	9.13	7,509	3,395
Western Prairie/Forest	1,749	8.17%	3.43	11.71	20,471	5,966
Central Sand Prairie	823	3.85%	1.40	3.50	2,880	2,057
Grand Prairie	9,361	43.75%	1.56	6.40	59,870	38,473
Southern Plain	3,395	15.87%	1.60	7.97	27,054	16,870
Wabash Border	309	1.44%	2.50	5.00	1,543	617
Shawnee Hills	206	0.96%	1.33	2.00	411	309
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	21,397	100.00%	1.73	7.82	167,367	96,902

Table 1.8. Summary of 2018-19 wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
			Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 119)			
Northwest Hills	926	7.56%	0.37	1.67	1,543	4,218
Northeast Moraine	411	3.36%	1.36	4.75	1,955	1,440
Mississippi Border-North	206	1.68%	0.67	1.00	206	309
Mississippi Border-South	206	1.68%	0.00	2.00	411	1,029
Western Prairie/Forest	617	5.04%	0.67	0.67	411	617
Central Sand Prairie	823	6.72%	0.21	1.38	1,132	5,452
Grand Prairie	8,127	66.39%	0.48	2.39	19,442	40,325
Southern Plain	926	7.56%	1.53	6.44	5,966	3,909
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	12,241	100.00%	0.54	2.54	31,066	57,298

Table 1.9. Summary of 2018-19 dove hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
			Dove (<i>n</i> = 281)			
Northwest Hills	1,029	3.56%	4.83	19.30	19,854	4,115
Northeast Moraine	1,132	3.91%	2.49	8.36	9,464	3,806
Mississippi Border-North	1,337	4.63%	3.86	12.46	16,665	4,320
Mississippi Border-South	4,320	14.95%	4.45	18.74	80,958	18,208
Western Prairie/Forest	2,777	9.61%	3.93	15.59	43,308	11,007
Central Sand Prairie	2,469	8.54%	5.35	27.63	68,202	12,756
Grand Prairie	8,538	29.54%	3.91	14.24	121,591	31,066
Southern Plain	5,143	17.79%	4.79	20.22	104,000	21,705
Wabash Border	720	2.49%	4.09	12.86	9,258	2,263
Shawnee Hills	1,337	4.63%	3.15	11.62	15,533	4,938
Unknown	103	0.36%	0.00	0.00	-	3,909
Statewide	28,906	100.00%	4.14	16.91	488,832	118,093

Table 1.10. Summary of 2018-19 woodcock hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Woodcock (<i>n</i> = 7)						
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	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	103	14.29%	0.13	1.00	103	823
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	411	57.14%	0.30	2.25	926	3,086
Southern Plain	206	28.57%	0.08	0.50	103	1,234
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	720	100.00%	0.22	1.57	1,132	5,143

Table 1.11. Summary of 2018-19 crow hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Crow (<i>n</i> = 20)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	514	25.00%	1.53	5.20	2,675	1,749
Northeast Moraine	103	5.00%	0.00	0.00	-	309
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	206	10.00%	0.91	5.00	1,029	1,132
Western Prairie/Forest	206	10.00%	1.00	2.00	411	411
Central Sand Prairie	103	5.00%	1.33	20.00	2,057	1,543
Grand Prairie	411	20.00%	1.56	3.50	1,440	926
Southern Plain	411	20.00%	2.33	3.50	1,440	617
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	103	5.00%	1.00	1.00	103	103
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,057	100.00%	1.35	4.45	9,155	6,789

Table 1.12. Summary of 2018-19 groundhog hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Groundhog (<i>n</i> = 29)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	309	10.34%	0.41	5.67	1,749	4,218
Northeast Moraine	206	6.90%	1.00	1.00	206	206
Mississippi Border-North	206	6.90%	1.67	2.50	514	309
Mississippi Border-South	514	17.24%	0.58	3.80	1,955	3,395
Western Prairie/Forest	206	6.90%	1.17	17.50	3,600	3,086
Central Sand Prairie	206	6.90%	0.37	6.50	1,337	3,600
Grand Prairie	103	3.45%	0.11	4.00	411	3,703
Southern Plain	1,029	34.48%	0.87	2.70	2,777	3,189
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	206	6.90%	1.11	10.00	2,057	1,852
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,983	100.00%	0.62	4.90	14,607	23,557

Table 1.13. Summary of 2018-19 gray squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Gray Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 263)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,234	4.56%	0.84	3.00	3,703	4,423
Northeast Moraine	206	0.76%	1.35	13.50	2,777	2,057
Mississippi Border-North	1,234	4.56%	1.12	3.83	4,732	4,218
Mississippi Border-South	4,526	16.73%	1.74	11.77	53,286	30,552
Western Prairie/Forest	1,955	7.22%	1.01	7.37	14,402	14,299
Central Sand Prairie	617	2.28%	0.66	6.50	4,012	6,069
Grand Prairie	5,349	19.77%	0.76	3.96	21,191	27,980
Southern Plain	8,641	31.94%	1.42	11.31	97,725	68,922
Wabash Border	1,646	6.08%	2.20	14.19	23,351	10,595
Shawnee Hills	1,646	6.08%	1.81	15.69	25,820	14,299
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	27,054	100.00%	1.37	9.28	251,000	183,415

Table 1.14. Summary of 2018-19 fox squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Fox Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 247)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	1,132	4.45%	1.00	4.36	4,938	4,938
Northeast Moraine	206	0.81%	1.63	6.50	1,337	823
Mississippi Border-North	1,337	5.26%	0.70	3.08	4,115	5,864
Mississippi Border-South	4,320	17.00%	0.76	4.88	21,088	27,672
Western Prairie/Forest	3,498	13.77%	1.01	6.15	21,500	21,191
Central Sand Prairie	617	2.43%	0.97	5.17	3,189	3,292
Grand Prairie	5,555	21.86%	0.75	4.56	25,306	33,947
Southern Plain	6,275	24.70%	0.78	6.64	41,662	53,389
Wabash Border	1,646	6.48%	1.08	5.88	9,670	8,950
Shawnee Hills	823	3.24%	1.00	6.38	5,246	5,246
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	25,409	100.00%	0.84	5.43	138,050	165,310

Table 1.15. Summary of 2018-19 raccoon hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Raccoon (<i>n</i> = 49)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	926	18.37%	1.21	19.11	17,693	14,607
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	514	10.20%	0.77	6.00	3,086	4,012
Mississippi Border-South	720	14.29%	1.64	9.86	7,098	4,320
Western Prairie/Forest	617	12.24%	1.49	18.83	11,624	7,818
Central Sand Prairie	103	2.04%	1.67	150.00	15,430	9,258
Grand Prairie	720	14.29%	0.36	10.00	7,201	20,059
Southern Plain	1,234	24.49%	0.84	13.33	16,459	19,648
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	206	4.08%	0.61	11.50	2,366	3,909
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	5,041	100.00%	0.97	16.06	80,958	83,632

Table 1.16. Summary of 2018-19 red fox hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Red Fox (<i>n</i> = 6)					
	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	103	16.67%	0.00	0.00	-	1,234
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	103	16.67%	0.33	30.00	3086	9,258
Grand Prairie	103	16.67%	0.10	1.00	103	1,029
Southern Plain	309	50.00%	0.21	1.00	309	1,440
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	0.27	5.67	3,498	12,961

Table 1.17. Summary of 2018-19 gray fox hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

WMU	Gray Fox (<i>n</i> = 6)					
	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	103	16.67%	0.00	0.00	-	3,086
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	103	16.67%	0.00	0.00	-	1,234
Western Prairie/Forest	206	33.33%	0.17	0.50	103	617
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	206	33.33%	0.00	0.00	-	1,852
Southern Plain	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	0.02	0.17	103	6,789

Table 1.18. Summary of 2018-19 coyote hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Coyote (<i>n</i> = 220)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	2,469	10.91%	0.19	1.58	3,909	20,162
Northeast Moraine	823	3.64%	0.35	3.00	2,469	6,995
Mississippi Border-North	926	4.09%	0.48	4.00	3,703	7,715
Mississippi Border-South	2,777	12.27%	0.28	1.93	5,349	19,339
Western Prairie/Forest	3,189	14.09%	0.31	2.45	7,818	25,614
Central Sand Prairie	514	2.27%	0.55	4.40	2,263	4,115
Grand Prairie	6,481	28.64%	0.18	1.48	9,567	53,286
Southern Plain	3,703	16.36%	0.51	4.81	17,796	34,564
Wabash Border	926	4.09%	0.28	3.44	3,189	11,213
Shawnee Hills	823	3.64%	0.11	0.75	617	5,761
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	22,631	100.00%	0.30	2.50	56,681	188,764

Table 1.19. Summary of 2018-19 opossum hunting effort and harvest in Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in Illinois.

Opossum (<i>n</i> = 6)						
WMU	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Northwest Hills	206	33.33%	1.33	2.00	411	309
Northeast Moraine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-North	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mississippi Border-South	206	33.33%	1.25	10.00	2,057	1,646
Western Prairie/Forest	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central Sand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Prairie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southern Plain	206	33.33%	0.72	6.50	1,337	1,852
Wabash Border	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shawnee Hills	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	1.00	6.17	3806	3806

Table 1.20. Percent change in harvest from 2017-18 to 2018-19 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	-52%	-25%	-17%	-60%	211%	-46%	36%	697%	308%	-100%	---	-10%
Northeast Moraine	-58%	-72%	---	-42%	---	5%	40%	80%	---	---	---	299%
Mississippi Border-North	-58%	-100%	-100%	-92%	-58%	-35%	-73%	-61%	-72%	---	---	-83%
Mississippi Border-South	-64%	232%	1%	116%	-72%	26%	-42%	-36%	-62%	---	---	-69%
Western Prairie Forest	-48%	-62%	-65%	120%	-86%	-29%	-22%	-26%	-20%	---	---	-25%
Central Sand Prairie	33%	-3%	12%	-66%	-58%	40%	1519%	-37%	---	---	---	-9%
Grand Prairie	-56%	-68%	53%	-46%	52%	-8%	33%	-13%	-6%	-83%	-100%	-51%
Southern Plain	70%	-47%	2%	32%	168%	13%	27%	41%	-51%	-17%	---	-30%
Wabash Border	-80%	3460%	69%	211%	-100%	-70%	-55%	-56%	-100%	-100%	---	-20%
Shawnee Hills	-51%	-100%	-100%	-72%	---	-56%	5%	-2%	218%	---	---	-72%

^a Percentage change could not be calculated in certain WMU's due to no harvest in 2017 and/or 2018 in those units.

Table 1.21. Summary of 2018-19 rabbit hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Rabbit (<i>n</i> = 217)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	4,115	18.43%	0.59	2.88	11,830	19,957
Region 2	1,749	7.83%	0.51	2.88	5,041	9,875
Region 3	4,629	20.74%	0.61	3.02	13,990	22,837
Region 4	6,069	27.19%	0.95	3.07	18,619	19,648
Region 5	5,555	24.88%	0.81	5.09	28,289	35,078
Unknown	206	0.92%	0.00	0.00	-	206
Statewide	22,322	100.00%	0.72	3.48	77,769	107,601

Table 1.22. Summary of 2018-19 non-wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Non-Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 51)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	1,543	29.41%	2.44	5.53	8,538	3,498
Region 2	206	3.92%	6.20	15.50	3,189	514
Region 3	617	11.76%	3.52	18.17	11,213	3,189
Region 4	1,234	23.53%	2.46	5.33	6,584	2,675
Region 5	1,543	29.41%	3.04	27.80	42,896	14,093
Unknown	103	1.96%	0.00	0.00	-	103
Statewide	5,246	100.00%	3.01	13.80	72,420	24,071

Table 1.23. Summary of 2018-19 wild quail hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Wild Quail (<i>n</i> = 68)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	1,132	16.18%	0.21	0.82	926	4,320
Region 2	206	2.94%	4.00	6.00	1,234	309
Region 3	1,029	14.71%	0.39	2.80	2,880	7,304
Region 4	2,469	35.29%	0.53	3.00	7,407	13,990
Region 5	2,160	30.88%	1.50	10.67	23,043	15,327
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	6,995	100.00%	0.86	5.07	35,490	41,250

Table 1.24. Summary of 2018-19 non-wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Non-Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 208)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	5,349	25.00%	2.34	6.98	37,341	15,945
Region 2	5,966	27.88%	1.38	9.83	58,635	42,485
Region 3	3,498	16.35%	2.16	7.12	24,894	11,521
Region 4	4,629	21.63%	1.82	6.40	29,626	16,253
Region 5	1,955	9.13%	1.58	8.63	16,870	10,698
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	21,397	100.00%	1.73	7.82	167,367	96,902

Table 1.25. Summary of 2018-19 wild pheasant hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Wild Pheasant (<i>n</i> = 119)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	2,880	23.53%	0.42	1.46	4,218	9,978
Region 2	2,160	17.65%	0.30	1.52	3,292	10,904
Region 3	4,732	38.66%	0.62	3.11	14,710	23,866
Region 4	2,057	16.81%	0.69	3.85	7,921	11,521
Region 5	411	3.36%	0.90	2.25	926	1,029
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	12,241	100.00%	0.54	2.54	31,066	57,298

Table 1.26. Summary of 2018-19 dove hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Dove (<i>n</i> = 281)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	5,555	19.29%	3.79	14.04	77,974	20,574
Region 2	3,395	11.79%	2.19	7.97	27,054	12,344
Region 3	4,012	13.93%	4.09	14.46	58,018	14,196
Region 4	10,081	35.00%	5.23	23.22	234,129	44,748
Region 5	5,761	20.00%	4.11	15.91	91,656	22,322
Unknown	103	0.36%	0.00	0.00	-	3,909
Statewide	28,906	100.00%	4.14	16.91	488,832	118,093

Table 1.27. Summary of 2018-19 woodcock hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Woodcock (<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	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	411	57.14%	0.30	2.25	926	3,086
Region 4	206	28.57%	0.10	0.50	103	1,029
Region 5	103	14.29%	0.10	1.00	103	1,029
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	720	100.00%	0.22	1.57	1,132	5,143

Table 1.28. Summary of 2018-19 crow hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Crow (<i>n</i> = 20)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	720	35.00%	1.54	7.71	5,555	3,600
Region 2	309	15.00%	0.71	1.67	514	720
Region 3	103	5.00%	0.50	1.00	103	206
Region 4	411	66.67%	1.13	4.25	1,749	1,543
Region 5	514	25.00%	1.71	2.40	1,234	720
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,057	100.00%	1.35	4.45	9155	6,789

Table 1.29. Summary of 2018-19 groundhog hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Groundhog (<i>n</i> = 29)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	720	24.14%	0.32	5.14	3,703	11,727
Region 2	206	6.90%	1.00	1.00	206	206
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	1,234	41.38%	0.96	6.33	7,818	8,127
Region 5	823	27.59%	0.82	3.50	2,880	3,498
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	2,983	100.00%	0.62	4.90	14,607	23,557

Table 1.30. Summary of 2018-19 gray squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Gray Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 263)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	2,880	10.65%	0.72	3.96	11,418	15,945
Region 2	1,132	4.18%	1.09	5.36	6,069	5,555
Region 3	3,086	11.41%	0.77	4.30	13,270	17,282
Region 4	10,184	37.64%	1.48	9.68	98,548	66,659
Region 5	9,773	36.12%	1.56	12.45	121,694	77,974
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	27,054	100.00%	1.37	9.28	251,000	183,415

Table 1.31. Summary of 2018-19 fox squirrel hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Fox Squirrel (<i>n</i> = 247)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	4,423	17.41%	1.55	5.60	24,791	15,945
Region 2	823	3.24%	0.78	5.25	4,320	5,555
Region 3	3,498	13.77%	0.83	4.12	14,402	17,282
Region 4	9,258	36.44%	0.79	5.67	52,463	66,659
Region 5	7,407	29.15%	0.54	5.68	42,073	77,974
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	25,409	100.00%	0.75	5.43	138,050	183,415

Table 1.32. Summary of 2018-19 raccoon hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Raccoon (<i>n</i> = 49)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	1,543	30.61%	1.31	24.33	37,547	28,700
Region 2	103	2.04%	0.43	3.00	309	720
Region 3	514	10.20%	0.51	13.00	6,686	13,167
Region 4	1,852	36.73%	1.04	11.94	22,117	21,191
Region 5	1,029	20.41%	0.72	13.90	14,299	19,854
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	5,041	100.00%	0.97	16.06	80,958	83,632

Table 1.33. Summary of 2018-19 red fox hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Red Fox (<i>n</i> = 6)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	103	16.67%	0.33	30.00	3,086	9,258
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	103	16.67%	0.10	1.00	103	1,029
Region 4	206	33.33%	0.22	1.00	206	926
Region 5	206	33.33%	0.06	0.50	103	1,749
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	0.27	5.67	3,498	12,961

Table 1.34. Summary of 2018-19 gray fox hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Gray Fox (<i>n</i> = 6)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	206	33.33%	0.03	0.50	103	3,189
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	103	16.67%	0.00	0.00	-	1,029
Region 4	206	33.33%	0.00	0.00	-	1,337
Region 5	103	16.67%	0.00	0.00	-	1,234
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	0.02	0.17	103	6,789

Table 1.35. Summary of 2018-19 coyote hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Coyote (<i>n</i> = 220)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	7,612	33.64%	0.26	2.32	17,693	68,613
Region 2	1,852	8.18%	0.36	2.00	3,703	10,184
Region 3	2,675	11.82%	0.10	0.62	1,646	16,973
Region 4	5,864	25.91%	0.25	1.93	11,316	44,748
Region 5	4,629	20.45%	0.46	4.82	22,322	48,245
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	22,631	100.00%	0.30	2.50	56,681	188,764

Table 1.36. Summary of 2018-19 opossum hunting effort and harvest in Administrative Regions in Illinois.

Opossum (<i>n</i> = 6)						
Administrative Region	Estimated Number of Hunters	Percent of Hunters	Average Bag		Estimated Total Harvest	Estimated Days Afield
			Daily	Season		
Region 1	206	33.33%	1.33	2.00	411	309
Region 2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Region 4	206	33.33%	1.33	6.00	1,234	926
Region 5	206	33.33%	0.84	10.50	2,160	2,572
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statewide	617	100.00%	1.00	6.17	3,806	3,806

Table 1.37. Percent change in harvest from 2017-18 to 2018-19 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	-22%	-57%	-76%	-35%	-24%	-34%	-42%	-25%	145%	443%	---	-31%
Region 2	146%	-52%	-43%	-21%	190%	81%	143%	-54%	172%	---	---	307%
Region 3	132%	16%	---	17%	159%	32%	85%	-6%	-31%	-70%	---	-80%
Region 4	-30%	-77%	-47%	-1%	248%	-3%	28%	7%	72%	81%	---	-54%
Region 5	-35%	144%	45%	81%	---	22%	34%	58%	-48%	---	---	96%

^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 2018, from the 2018-19 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
RABBIT	---	---	0	93.3%
	1-5	79.7%	1-5	5.0%
	6-10	11.1%	6-10	1.1%
	11-14	2.8%	11-14	0.2%
	15-19	1.8%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	2.8%	20-24	0.2%
	25+	1.8%	25+	0.1%
	---	---	0	98.2%
NON-WILD QUAIL	1-5	84.3%	1-5	0.7%
	6-10	9.8%	6-10	0.5%
	11-14	2.0%	11-14	0.1%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.1%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.1%
	25+	3.9%	25+	0.3%
	---	---	0	98.2%
	WILD QUAIL	1-5	70.6%	1-5
6-10		11.8%	6-10	0.4%
11-14		7.4%	11-14	0.0%
15-19		1.5%	15-19	0.1%
20-24		5.9%	20-24	0.0%
25+		2.9%	25+	0.2%
---		---	0	92.9%
NON-WILD PHEASANT		1-5	77.4%	1-5
	6-10	13.0%	6-10	1.9%
	11-14	3.4%	11-14	0.5%
	15-19	2.4%	15-19	0.4%
	20-24	2.4%	20-24	0.4%
	25+	1.4%	25+	0.6%
	---	---	0	96.8%
	WILD PHEASANT	1-5	73.1%	1-5
6-10		16.8%	6-10	0.4%
11-14		3.4%	11-14	0.0%
15-19		3.4%	15-19	0.0%
20-24		2.5%	20-24	0.0%
25+		0.8%	25+	0.0%
---		---	0	89.5%
DOVE		1-5	80.1%	1-5
	6-10	14.6%	6-10	2.5%
	11-14	0.7%	11-14	0.6%
	15-19	2.8%	15-19	1.1%
	20-24	0.7%	20-24	1.3%
	25+	1.1%	25+	2.6%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
WOODCOCK	---	---	0	99.8%
	1-5	42.9%	1-5	0.2%
	6-10	42.9%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	14.3%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%
CROW	---	---	0	99.3%
	1-5	90.0%	1-5	0.5%
	6-10	5.0%	6-10	0.1%
	11-14	0.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	5.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	0.0%	25+	0.0%
GROUNDHOG	---	---	0	99.0%
	1-5	65.5%	1-5	0.7%
	6-10	17.2%	6-10	0.1%
	11-14	3.4%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	13.8%	25+	0.0%
GRAY SQUIRREL	---	---	0	90.3%
	1-5	64.6%	1-5	4.9%
	6-10	21.7%	6-10	2.1%
	11-14	1.5%	11-14	0.4%
	15-19	3.8%	15-19	0.5%
	20-24	3.8%	20-24	0.5%
	25+	4.6%	25+	1.3%
FOX SQUIRREL	---	---	0	90.8%
	1-5	64.4%	1-5	6.3%
	6-10	23.1%	6-10	1.3%
	11-14	2.4%	11-14	0.5%
	15-19	3.2%	15-19	0.6%
	20-24	3.6%	20-24	0.3%
	25+	3.2%	25+	0.3%
TURKEY-SPRING	---	---	0	95.2%
	1-5	77.6%	1	3.5%
	6-10	17.7%	2	0.8%
	11-14	1.3%	3	0.5%
	15-19	1.8%	---	---
	20-24	0.5%	---	---
	25+	1.1%	---	---
TURKEY-FALL SHOTGUN	---	---	0	99.7%
	1-5	81.6%	1	0.3%
	6-10	16.3%	2	0.0%
	11-14	0.0%	---	---
	15-19	0.0%	---	---
	20-24	2.0%	---	---
	25+	0.0%	---	---

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
TURKEY-FALL ARCHERY (ALL COMBINED)	---	---	0	99.6%
	1-5	32.5%	1	0.2%
	6-10	25.3%	2	0.1%
	11-14	6.0%	3	0.1%
	15-19	15.7%	---	---
	20-24	7.2%	---	---
	25+	13.3%	---	---
TURKEY-FALL ARCHERY (COMPOUND & RECURVE)	---	---	0	99.5%
	1-5	54.8%	1	0.4%
	6-10	24.2%	2	0.1%
	11-14	6.5%	3	0.0%
	15-19	6.5%	---	---
	20-24	3.2%	---	---
	25+	4.8%	---	---
TURKEY-FALL ARCHERY (CROSSBOW)	---	---	0	99.1%
	1-5	38.4%	1	0.7%
	6-10	24.6%	2	0.2%
	11-14	7.2%	3	0.1%
	15-19	13.0%	---	---
	20-24	6.5%	---	---
	25+	10.1%	---	---
DEER-ARCHERY SEASON (ALL COMBINED)	---	---	0	90.9%
	1-5	25.6%	1	6.7%
	6-10	22.5%	2	1.8%
	11-14	8.0%	3	0.4%
	15-19	9.6%	4	0.1%
	20-24	11.6%	5	0.0%
	25+	22.7%	6+	0.1%
DEER-ARCHERY SEASON (COMPOUND & RECURVE)	---	---	0	93.3%
	1-5	35.5%	1	4.6%
	6-10	29.6%	2	1.6%
	11-14	2.4%	3	0.3%
	15-19	10.7%	4	0.1%
	20-24	6.2%	5	0.0%
	25+	15.7%	6+	0.0%
DEER-ARCHERY SEASON (CROSSBOW)	---	---	0	84.5%
	1-5	25.7%	1	11.0%
	6-10	24.5%	2	3.2%
	11-14	6.8%	3	0.7%
	15-19	11.1%	4	0.4%
	20-24	10.3%	5	0.1%
	25+	21.7%	6+	0.1%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
DEER-REGULAR FIREARM SEASON	1	7.9%	0	72.9%
	2	16.3%	1	21.2%
	3	20.2%	2	5.3%
	4	12.6%	3	0.3%
	5	11.7%	4	0.2%
	6	12.2%	5	0.1%
	7	18.9%	6+	0.0%
DEER-MUZZLELOADER- ONLY SEASON	1	17.5%	0	97.1%
	2	33.0%	1	2.7%
	3	37.9%	2	0.1%
	4	2.9%	3	0.0%
	5	2.4%	4	0.0%
	6	2.4%	5	0.0%
	7	3.9%	6+	0.0%
DEER-LATE WINTER ANTERLESS SEASON	1	26.7%	0	98.7%
	2	34.9%	1	1.2%
	3	29.5%	2	0.0%
	4	3.4%	3	0.0%
	5	2.7%	4	0.0%
	6	0.0%	5	0.0%
	7	2.7%	6+	0.0%
DEER-SPECIAL CWD SEASON	1	21.6%	0	99.7%
	2	31.4%	1	0.2%
	3	27.5%	2	0.0%
	4	11.8%	3	0.0%
	5	0.0%	4	0.0%
	6	3.9%	5	0.0%
	7	3.9%	6+	0.0%
RED FOX	---	---	0	99.8%
	1-5	33.3%	1-5	0.1%
	6-10	33.3%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	16.7%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	16.7%	25+	0.0%
GRAY FOX	---	---	0	100.0%
	1-5	33.3%	1-5	0.0%
	6-10	33.3%	6-10	0.0%
	11-14	16.7%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	0.0%	15-19	0.0%
	20-24	0.0%	20-24	0.0%
	25+	16.7%	25+	0.0%

Table 1.38 - continued.

	Days Hunting		Animals Harvested	
	Range	Percent of Hunters	Range	Percent of Hunters
RACCOON	---	---	0	98.0%
	1-5	49.0%	1-5	0.9%
	6-10	16.3%	6-10	0.3%
	11-14	2.0%	11-14	0.0%
	15-19	4.1%	15-19	0.2%
	20-24	4.1%	20-24	0.3%
	25+	24.5%	25+	0.4%
	---	---	0	95.0%
COYOTE	1-5	59.5%	1-5	4.0%
	6-10	19.5%	6-10	0.4%
	11-14	4.5%	11-14	0.2%
	15-19	4.5%	15-19	0.1%
	20-24	4.1%	20-24	0.2%
	25+	7.7%	25+	0.1%
	---	---	0	99.7%
	OPOSSUM	1-5	50.0%	1-5
6-10		33.3%	6-10	0.1%
11-14		0.0%	11-14	0.0%
15-19		16.7%	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, 2008-2018.

Species and Seasons	Estimated Total Hunters	Average Daily Bag	Average Season Bag	Estimated Total Harvest	Average Days Hunting	Estimated Total Days Hunting
RABBIT						
2008	40,077	0.71	3.85	154,216	5.43	216,255
2009	44,312	0.84	4.27	189,254	5.10	226,152
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
WILD QUAIL						
2008	21,962	1.04	6.88	151,170	6.64	145,720
2009	16,948	1.18	7.31	123,933	6.21	105,220
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
WILD PHEASANT						
2008	29,016	0.73	3.56	103,399	4.86	140,911
2009	22,244	0.64	2.89	64,262	4.48	99,747
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
DOVE						
2008	43,123	4.98	23.14	997,917	4.64	200,225
2009	40,781	4.61	21.41	873,182	4.64	189,254
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

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						
2008	802	0.18	0.60	481	3.40	2,725
2009	1,059	0.00	0.00	0	4.67	4,943
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
CROW						
2008	4,489	1.55	9.75	43,764	6.29	28,214
2009	4,414	2.20	12.24	54,022	5.56	24,539
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
GROUNDHOG						
2008	4,649	0.56	2.69	12,504	4.83	22,443
2009	3,531	0.86	5.65	19,949	6.55	23,127
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
GRAY SQUIRREL						
2008	42,963	1.09	9.34	401,411	8.60	369,350
2009	46,431	1.38	9.90	459,718	7.17	333,137
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

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						
2008	45,047	0.79	6.53	294,005	8.27	372,556
2009	46,784	0.90	6.31	295,356	6.97	326,251
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
TURKEY-SPRING						
2008	54,024	0.10	0.45	24,207	4.53	244,790
2009	54,493	0.11	0.48	25,952	4.17	227,387
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
TURKEY-FALL SHOTGUN						
2008	9,779	0.07	0.21	2,084	2.85	27,894
2009	9,533	0.08	0.30	2,825	3.70	35,309
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
TURKEY-FALL ARCHERY						
2008	16,191	0.01	0.09	1,443	16.36	264,829
2009	18,007	0.01	0.14	2,472	13.79	248,396
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

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						
2008	181,789	0.16	0.71	129,689	4.40	799,616
2009	190,490	0.16	0.72	136,821	4.39	835,755
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
DEER-MUZZLELOADER-ONLY SEASON						
2008	34,306	0.12	0.32	10,901	2.68	91,856
2009	39,546	0.12	0.33	13,241	2.73	107,868
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
DEER-ARCHERY SEASON						
2008	104,040	0.03	0.67	69,253	19.11	1,988,460
2009	105,396	0.03	0.60	63,026	18.92	1,994,053
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
DEER-LATE WINTER ANTLERLESS SEASON						
2008	62,680	0.15	0.31	19,237	2.07	129,689
2009	60,201	0.12	0.33	19,773	2.65	159,595
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

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						
2008	---	---	---	---	---	---
2009	---	---	---	---	---	---
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
RACCOON						
2008	8,657	1.30	15.33	132,735	11.80	102,116
2009	8,298	1.09	12.19	101,159	11.23	93,215
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
RED FOX						
2008	1,443	0.04	0.56	802	13.44	19,397
2009	2,295	0.05	0.31	706	6.00	13,770
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
GRAY FOX						
2008	641	0.02	0.25	160	13.50	8,657
2009	1,412	0.00	0.00	0	6.13	8,651
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

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						
2008	31,741	0.19	2.45	77,749	13.04	413,755
2009	31,072	0.27	1.95	60,731	7.17	222,797
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
OPOSSUM						
2008	2,084	0.75	4.31	8,977	5.77	12,023
2009	2,648	0.99	5.27	13,947	5.33	14,123
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

^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 2018-19 Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey.

Species	2018 Estimated Harvest	% Change 1 Year ^a	% Change 5 Years ^a	% Change 10 Years ^a
Rabbit	77,769	-40%	-45%	-59%
Wild Quail	35,490	20%	-31%	-71%
Wild Pheasant	31,066	30%	51%	-52%
Dove	488,832	-10%	-39%	-44%
Woodcock	1,132	-9%	---	---
Crow	9,155	-32%	-19%	-83%
Groundhog	14,607	73%	-6%	-27%
Fox Squirrel	138,050	-16%	-38%	-53%
Gray Squirrel	251,000	-17%	-25%	-45%
Turkey-Spring	15,739	-5%	-26%	-39%
Turkey-Fall Shotgun	617	-55%	-81%	-78%
Turkey-Fall Archery	2,983	15%	-7%	21%
Deer-Regular Firearm	80,546	5%	0%	-41%
Deer-Muzzleloader	7,304	-6%	-8%	-45%
Deer-Archery	54,932	8%	18%	-13%
Deer-Late winter antlerless	3,086	19%	-56%	-84%
Deer-Special CWD Season	720	-27%	-37%	--- ^b
Raccoon	80,958	-14%	-42%	-20%
Red Fox	3,498	88%	105%	395%
Gray Fox	103	-86%	-97%	---
Coyote	56,681	-47%	-46%	306%
Opossum	3,806	-57%	-72%	-73%

^a Compared to 2017-18, 2013-14, and 2008-09 seasons, respectively; see also Table 1.39.

^b Season began Dec. 31, 2009

Section 2 – Hunter recruitment and retention

A majority of the 2,284 Illinois license purchasers sampled (82%) indicated they hunted at least one day in Illinois during the 2018-19 season. Over seventy percent of hunters (71%) reported they were not dependent on public lands to hunt (Table 2.1). Twenty percent of those who hunted deer relied exclusively on public land, along with 22% of quail hunters and 27% of pheasant hunters.

Wisconsin and Missouri allow the use of modified land snares called cable restraints. Cable restraints use a variety of safety features to reduce the likelihood of lethal and non-target catches. Over one-third of respondents agreed (36%) and 39% neither agreed nor disagreed that the IDNR should allow trappers to use cable restraints on private land (Table 2.2). Most respondents (53%) were not concerned that cable restraints would pose a threat to any non-target wildlife or domestic animals. Most respondents concerned about cable restraints believed they threatened hunting dogs (74%) and pets (74%) with fewer respondents believing there was threat to deer (47%) or other species (5%).

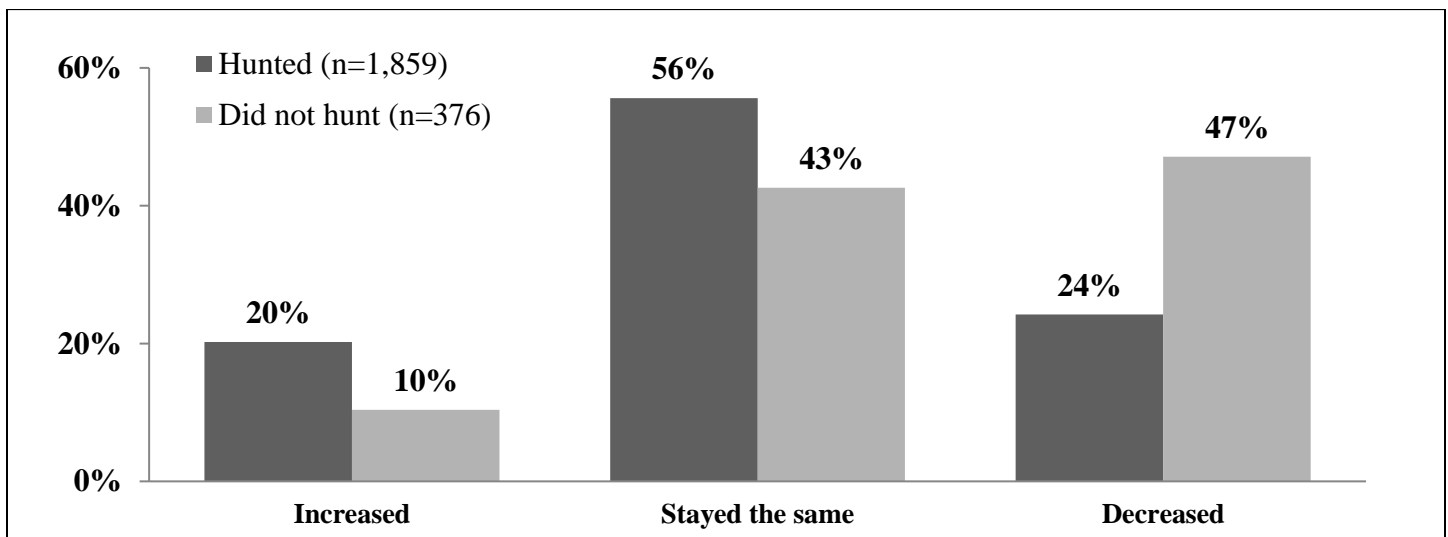


Figure 2.1. Change in hunting effort over the past 5 years ($n = 2,235$).

Most respondents felt the hunting community in Illinois is welcoming to people who are interested in hunting (77%) with no significant difference between respondents who did or did not hunt in 2018-19 (77% vs 73%, $\chi^2 = 2.87$, $p = .09$). Most respondents indicated that in the past 5 years their hunting effort for any game species has stayed the same (53%) though respondents who did not hunt in 2018-19 were significantly more likely to say they had decreased their hunting effort over the last 5 years ($\chi^2 = 84.58$, $p < .001$; Figure 2.1, Table 2.3).

Within the past 3 years, most respondents had not hunted or trapped a species for the first time (58%; Table 2.4). The most common species that were hunted or trapped for the first time within the past 3 years were: (1) deer (13%), turkey (7%), and waterfowl (4%; Table 2.4).

Nearly half of respondents never hunt on public lands (46%), though 26% hunt on public lands every year or most years (Table 2.5). Most respondents that hunted on public land believed that the IDNR should use the same tree stand regulations at all IDNR sites (81%). Among those hunters, most supported temporary stands during the season (64%) with 14% supporting temporary stands year-round and 23% supporting daily transport of stands. Most public land hunters (72%) believed that the IDNR should adjust hunter density on public sites based on availability of habitat types and region of the state where sites are located. One-quarter of public land hunters (25%) have switched the public land sites that they hunt in the past five years. The main reasons for switching public land sites were: (1) too many other hunters (50%), (2) too few of the species that they hunt (28%), and other reasons (21%; Table 2.6). One-third of respondents (34%) believed that a portion of all IDNR sites should be established for mentored training of youth and adult hunters, though having no sites establish portions for training of youth and adults hunters (30%), new sites only (20%), and existing sites only (17%) were preferred less often (Table 2.7).

Twenty-six percent of respondents convinced someone unsure about hunting to try hunting in the last year. Those who had hunted in the study year were significantly more likely to have taken someone on their first hunting trip within the last 5 years ($\chi^2 = 62.26, p < .001$; Figure 2.2). Among those hunters, the most frequent age group was 16 and under (Figure 2.3). The most frequent reasons reported for not taking someone on their first hunt were “All my friends already hunt” and “none of my friends are interested” (Table 2.8). Respondents who had never done so were more likely to provide these two reasons than those who had. Other reasons included “I’m unable to bring people with me”, “I’m a new hunter”, “waiting for grandkids/kids to grow up”, “I don’t hunt/I didn’t hunt”, and “too many people where I hunt.” Most respondents (79%) believed that the IDNR’s controlled pheasant hunting program is helpful in recruiting new youth and adult hunters. Over 40% of respondents (42%) thought that squirrel and other small game seasons should be open during the entire year, even during archery season statewide, though most thought that squirrel hunting should follow the statewide season at all IDNR sites (79%).

Most respondents (66%) believed that the IDNR should prioritize purchasing new public hunting land in areas with the greatest demand from new hunters (66%).

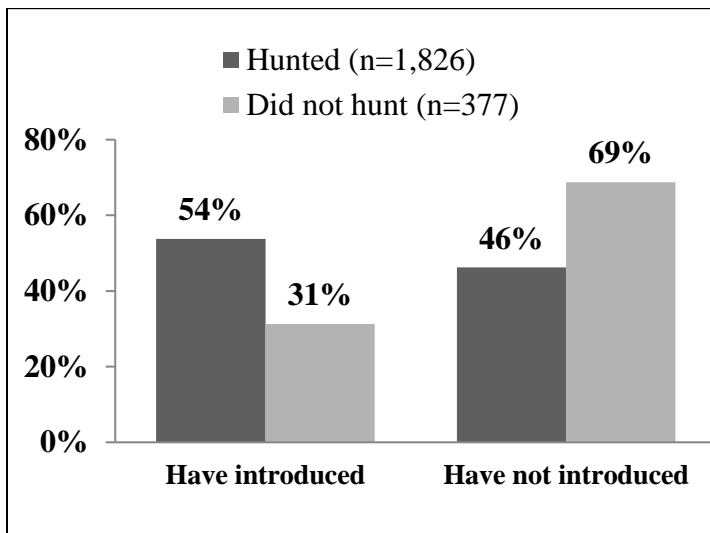


Figure 2.2. Percentage of respondents who have taken someone hunting for their first time within the last 5 years ($n = 2,203$).

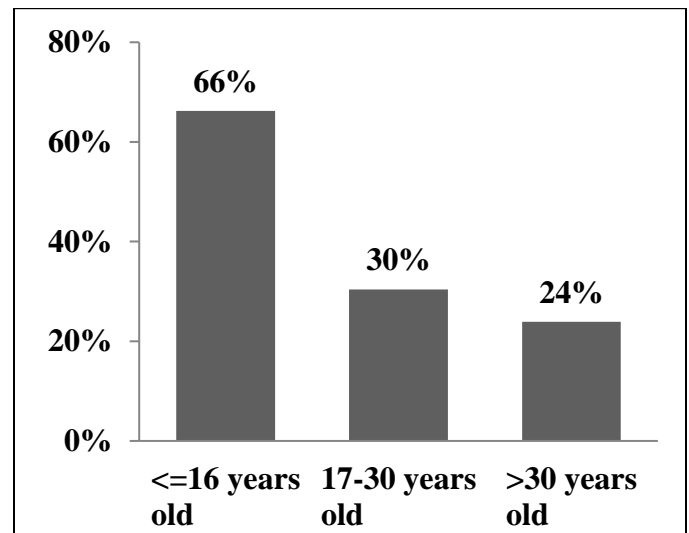


Figure 2.3. Age group of those who were taken on their first hunt ($n = 1,100$). *Restricted to those who had mentored a new hunter.

Only 12% of respondents have used a private hunting lease in the past five years. On average, private hunting leases were 227.2 acres and cost \$24.02/acre. Over 40% of respondents (43%) have been denied hunting access on private property, though most respondents were previously allowed to hunt on the property (55%). About half of those hunters (47%) were denied hunting access due to a private hunting lease. The main species that hunters were excluded from hunting due to a private hunting lease were: (1) deer (83%), (2) turkey (37%), and small game (25%; Table 2.9).

Hunter Attitudes Regarding Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease and Bluetongue Virus

Approximately 11% of hunters reported they observed dead deer between July and October 2018 (Figure 2.4). These hunters reported seeing a mean of 3.1 (± 3.9) dead deer, and 19% observed ≥ 5 deer (Table 2.10). A minority (11%) of hunters who observed dead deer reported them to the IDNR (Figure 2.5), and those hunters reported an average of 2.4 (± 1.6) deer. Counties in which most dead deer were observed included Wayne, Randolph, Fulton, Pike, and Jo Daviess (Table 2.11).

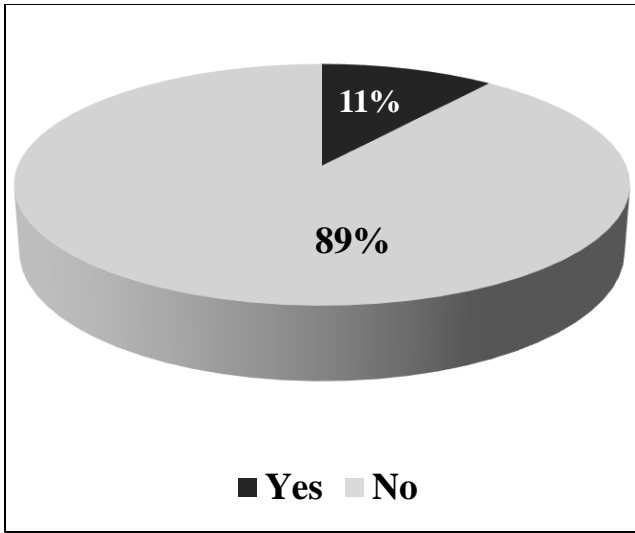


Figure 2.4. Percentage of hunters that observed dead deer from July through October 2018 ($n = 2,084$).

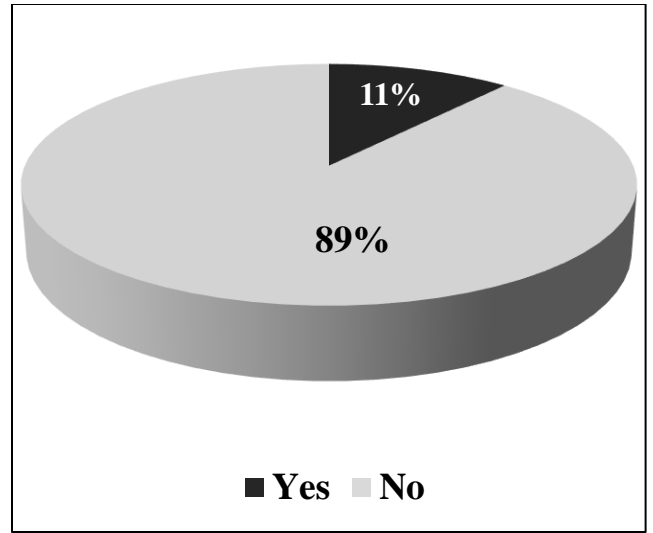


Figure 2.5. Percentage of hunters that reported dead deer they observed to the IDNR ($n = 185$).

Thirty-one percent of deer hunters believed that EHD & BTV had decreased the number of deer in the areas they hunted, 62% saw no change, and 7% indicated deer populations increased (Table 2.12). Forty-four percent of Illinois deer hunters believed that the statewide population of deer had decreased, 42% believed there was no change, and 14% indicated the statewide deer population increased (Table 2.13). Twenty-four percent of Illinois deer hunters reported that they saw more deer during the 2018-19 deer seasons than the 5 years prior, whereas 52% of deer hunters reported seeing fewer deer and 43% reported harvesting fewer deer (Table 2.14 and Table 2.15). The White-tailed Deer Illinois website was used by less than one-third of deer hunters (Figure 2.6). Most deer hunters (52%) would participate in an archery urban deer hunt if one was offered in their area. Most deer hunters (53%) believed that the IDNR should implement a statewide program to increase the number of hunters to help control Chronic Wasting Disease through hunting (Figure 2.7).

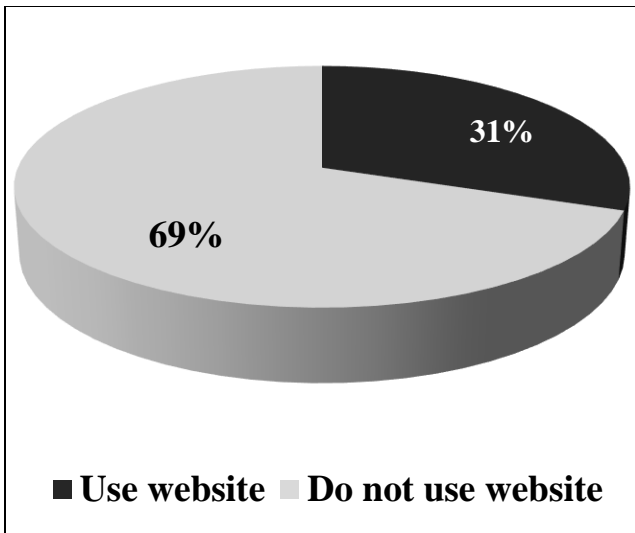


Figure 2.6. Percentage of deer hunters* who use the White-tailed Deer Illinois website ($n = 1,496$). *Hunted deer during 2018-19 season.

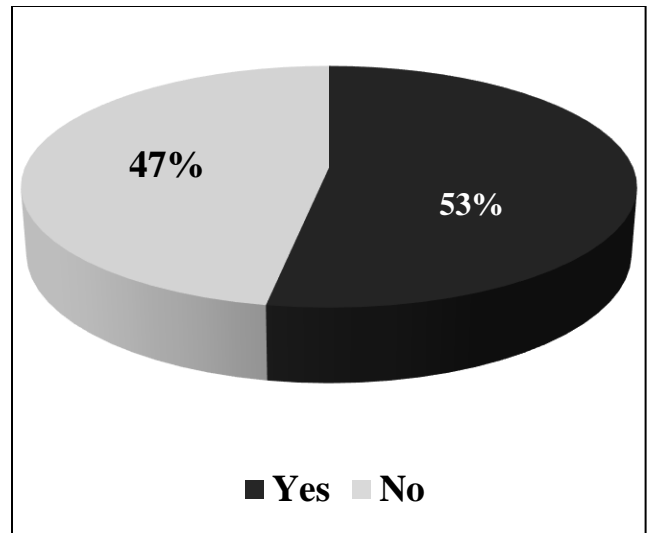


Figure 2.7. Percentage of deer hunters* who think IDNR should implement a statewide program to increase the number of hunters to help control Chronic Wasting Disease through hunting ($n = 1,457$). *Hunted deer during 2018-19 season.

Licenses and permits

Nearly half of respondents (49%) thought rabbits should be removed from the Upland Game Permit lottery. A one-time only (single use) first-time adult hunter opportunity during the youth hunting season to assist recruiting adult hunters was supported by half of respondents (49%). Respondents strongly supported several changes to reduce complexity of licensing, including: combining the Apprentice and Youth hunting licenses into a “Novice Hunter” license (81%), combining the Senior and Super Senior hunting licenses into one license (92%), and combining the required habitat stamp into the general hunting license (90%). Less than half of hunters that supported combining the habitat stamp into the general hunting license also wanted the state waterfowl stamp included (43%). Twenty-three percent of respondents believed there should be a fee charged for resident landowner deer permits. Over half of respondents (55%) supported a portion of fees from state hunting licenses and stamps being allocated to not-for-profit organizations to implement programs that recruit and retain Illinois hunters.

General Information

Over one-third of respondents (37%) would like reminders to renew their hunting license every year. Of the 814 hunters willing to receive reminders, the most preferred method of contact was email (74%), followed by text (40%), and 14% wanted social media reminders. Less than half of respondents owned their own land (41%). Most respondents (61%) 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 believed that the non-hunting public does not have a positive image of Illinois hunters (59%; Figure 2.8). Respondents believed Illinois hunters can help maintain a positive image of hunting to the non-hunting public by: (1) following the law/rules (29%), (2) be respectful to non-hunters (19%), and (3) spread the word about what hunters do and who they are (10%). Respondents to the 2018-19 Hunter Harvest Survey were mostly male (93%) (Figure 2.9), had a mean age of 52.9 years old, and had been hunting for an average of 31.9 years. Counties hunted most frequently were Will, Fulton, Jo Daviess, McHenry, Adams, and Macoupin, and most frequently listed counties of residence were Cook, Madison, Will, St. Clair, Tazewell, and Sangamon.

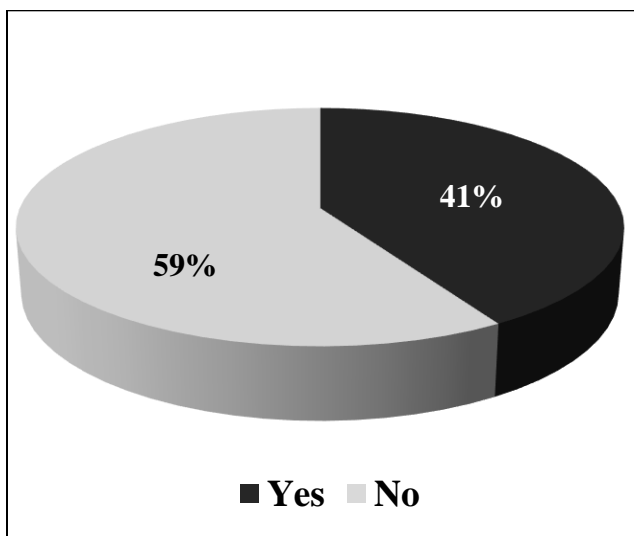


Figure 2.8. Believe that the non-hunting public has a positive image of Illinois hunters ($n = 2,103$).

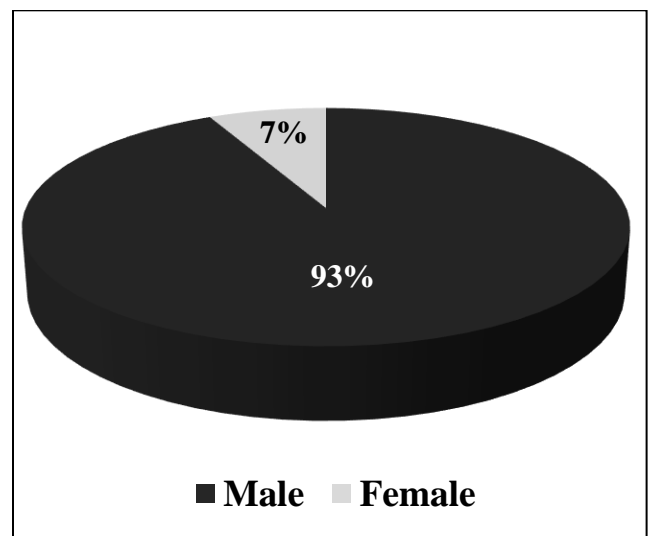


Figure 2.9. Gender distribution of Illinois hunters ($n = 2,279$).

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 Corp. 2018. SPSS for Windows. 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. Species hunted and number of hunters who relied exclusively on public land to hunt in Illinois during the 2018-19 season.

Species	Number who hunted species	Number of total hunters* who relied exclusively on public land	Percent of those who hunted species indicated	Number of total hunters who relied exclusively on public land
Deer	1,546	304	19.7%	339
Turkeys	471	63	13.4%	75
Squirrels	330	56	17.0%	71
Doves	281	47	16.7%	65
Pheasants	119	32	26.9%	116
Rabbits	217	25	11.5%	34
Quail	68	15	22.1%	28
Furbearers	272	9	3.3%	13
Ducks	---	---	---	123
Geese	---	---	---	74
Other	---	---	---	1
None	---	---	---	668

*Restricted to those who hunted targeted species during the 2018-19 season.

Table 2.2. Hunters' perceptions on IDNR allowing trappers to use cable restraints on private lands ($n = 1,892$).

Agreement level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Strongly Disagree	244	12.9%
Disagree	155	8.2%
Slightly Disagree	68	3.6%
Neither Agree nor Disagree	738	39.0%
Slightly Agree	88	4.7%
Agree	345	18.2%
Strongly Agree	254	13.4%

Table 2.3. Hunting effort for any game species over the past 5 years ($n = 2,235$).

Effort level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Increased	415	18.6%
Stayed the same	1,193	53.4%
Decreased	627	28.1%

Table 2.4. Species hunted and number of hunters who hunted or trapped for the first time within the past 3 years ($n = 2,284$).

Species	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Deer	287	12.6%
Turkey	155	6.8%
Squirrel	85	3.7%
Upland Birds	75	3.3%
Rabbit	62	2.7%
Furbearers – Hunt	42	1.8%
Furbearers – Trap	25	1.1%
Waterfowl	97	4.2%
Other	3	.1%
None	1,139	49.9%

Table 2.5. Frequency on how often public lands are hunted on ($n = 2,207$).

How often	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Every year	432	19.6%
Most years	135	6.1%
Occasional years	191	8.7%
Rarely	435	19.7%
Never	1,014	45.9%

Table 2.6. Reasons why respondents have switched the public lands sites that they hunt ($n = 278$).

	N	%
Poor quality of game	54	19.4%
Too few of the species that I hunt	77	27.7%
Too many other hunters	138	49.6%
Too many non-hunters	34	12.2%
Poor habitat quality	42	15.1%
Too far from home	48	17.3%
Other	57	20.5%

Table 2.7. Hunters' perceptions on whether IDNR should establish sites exclusively for mentored training of youth and adult hunters.

Sites	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
New site only	238	19.7%
Existing sites only	202	16.7%
All sites	410	33.9%
None	359	29.7%

Table 2.8. Reasons for not taking a new hunter out on their first hunt.

	Have introduced a hunter in the past 5 years		Have NOT introduced a hunter in the past 5 years	
	N	%	N	%
All my friends already hunt	264	24.0%	614	55.7%
None of my friends are interested	78	7.1%	180	16.3%
I do not want to share my hunting spot(s)	29	2.6%	50	4.5%
I lack the time to teach a new hunter	53	4.8%	78	7.1%
I do not have spare equipment	18	1.6%	37	3.4%
It would prevent me from hunting	14	1.3%	15	1.4%
Other	41	3.7%	103	9.3%

Table 2.9. Species that hunters were excluded from hunting due to a private hunting lease.

	N	%
Deer	366	83.2%
Turkey	162	36.8%
Upland Birds	98	22.3%
Furbearers	51	11.6%
Small Game	108	24.5%
Other	0	.0%

Table 2.10. Number of dead deer Illinois hunters reported to the IDNR during 2018.*

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	65	65	1	7	7
2	53	106	2	3	6
3	28	84	3	3	9
4	7	28	4	2	8
5	13	65	5	1	5
6	4	24	6	1	6
7	5	35	---	---	---
8	5	40	---	---	---
10	3	30	---	---	---
16	1	16	---	---	---
18	1	18	---	---	---
20	1	20	---	---	---
30	2	60	---	---	---
TOTAL	188	591	---	17	41

*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 2.11. Top Illinois counties in which hunters observed deer believed to have died from EHD or BTV as reported on the 2018-19 Hunter Harvest Survey.

County	Number of Illinois hunters that observed dead deer in this county
Wayne	10
Randolph	9
Fulton	7
Pike	7
Jo Daviess	6
Clay	5
Jasper	5
Peoria	5
Bureau	4
Cook	4
Crawford	4
Fayette	4
Jefferson	4
Knox	4
Shelby	4
Tazewell	4
Adams	3
Bond	3
Edgar	3
Hancock	3
Henry	3
Jackson	3
Kankakee	3
Lawrence	3
McDonough	3
Macon	3
Pope	3
Schuyler	3
Vermilion	3
Wabash	3
Will	3
Woodford	3

Table 2.12. Deer hunters' perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTV on the Illinois deer population in areas typically hunted during 2018 (*n* = 1,326).

Impact level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	71	5.4%
Decreased Moderately	111	8.4%
Decreased Slightly	227	17.1%
No Change	820	61.8%
Increased Slightly	62	4.7%
Increased Moderately	23	1.7%
Increased Considerably	12	.9%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2018-19 season.

Table 2.13. Deer hunters' perceptions of the impact of EHD and BTV on the Illinois deer population during 2018 throughout entire state (*n* = 1,309).

Impact level	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	56	4.3%
Decreased Moderately	145	11.1%
Decreased Slightly	381	29.1%
No Change	544	41.5%
Increased Slightly	136	10.4%
Increased Moderately	36	2.8%
Increased Considerably	11	.8%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2018-19 season.

Table 2.14. Change in number of **deer seen** by Illinois deer hunters during the 2018-19 deer season compared to 5 years ago ($n = 1,452$).

Number of deer seen have:	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	190	13.1%
Decreased Moderately	254	17.5%
Decreased Slightly	311	21.4%
No Change	348	24.0%
Increased Slightly	219	15.1%
Increased Moderately	95	6.5%
Increased Considerably	35	2.4%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2018-19 season.

Table 2.15. Change in number of **deer harvested** by Illinois deer hunters during the 2018-19 deer season compared to 5 years ago ($n = 1,437$).

Number of deer harvested have:	Number of hunters	Percent of hunters (%)
Decreased Considerably	169	11.8%
Decreased Moderately	160	11.1%
Decreased Slightly	288	20.0%
No Change	678	47.2%
Increased Slightly	110	7.7%
Increased Moderately	20	1.4%
Increased Considerably	12	.8%

*Hunted deer in Illinois during 2018-19 season.

Illinois Hunter Harvest Survey 2018-19 Seasons



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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 2018? ___ 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 2018 and February 2019?
 ___ 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, 2018 - February 28, 2019. 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	_____	_____	_____
Ground Hog (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 2018 season?
 ___ Yes If “Yes,” how many? _____ ___ No ___ Not sure

6. Which of the following did you **rely exclusively** on **public land** to hunt in 2018-19? Please check **all that apply**.

- Deer Geese Ducks Turkeys
- Pheasants Quail Squirrels Rabbits
- Doves Furbearers None Other _____

7. Wisconsin and Missouri allow the use of modified land snares called cable restraints. Cable restraints use a variety of safety features to reduce the likelihood of lethal and non-target catches. How much do you disagree or agree that IDNR should allow trappers to use cable restraints on private lands?

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

8. Are **you** concerned that cable restraints would pose a threat to any non-target wildlife or domestic animals?

- Yes No

8a. If yes, to which non-target species do you feel are threatened by cable restraints?

- Deer Hunting dogs Pets
- Other (Identify) _____

Section 2. Hunter Recruitment and Retention. Efforts are underway in Illinois and other states to recruit, retain, and reengage hunters. Please help us in these efforts by answering the questions below.

1. Do you feel the hunting community in Illinois is welcoming to people who are interested in hunting?

- Yes No

2. In the **past 5 years** has your hunting effort for **any game species**: Please **select one**.

- Increased Stayed the same Decreased

3. Within the past 3 years which of the following have you hunted or trapped **for the first time**?

- Deer Turkey Upland birds Other: _____
- Waterfowl Hunt furbearers Trap furbearers Other: _____
- Rabbit Squirrel None Other: _____

4. Which of the following best describes how often you hunt on public lands?

- Every year Most years Occasional years Rarely Never

If you never hunt on public lands in Illinois, please go to Question #8.

4a. Do you think IDNR should use the same tree stand regulations at all IDNR sites? Yes No

4b. If Yes, which of the following would you most support?

- Daily transport Temporary stands during season Temporary stands year-round

5. Do you think the IDNR should adjust hunter density on public sites based on availability of habitat types and region of the state where sites are located?

Yes No

6. In the last five years, have you switched the public land sites you hunt? Yes No

6a. If yes, which of the following reasons explain the old site and caused you to switch to another site?

Poor quality of game Too few of the species that I hunt

Too many other hunters Too many non-hunters

Poor habitat quality Too far from home

Other (Please identify) _____

7. Do you think a portion of IDNR sites should be established exclusively for mentored training of youth and adult hunters?

New site only Existing sites only All sites None

8. Last year, did you convince anyone unsure about hunting to try hunting? Yes No

9. In the last 5 years, have you taken someone hunting for their first time? Yes No

9a. If yes, approximately how many new hunters did you take on their first hunt? Please check all that apply.

New youth hunters aged **16 and below**

New adult hunters **17-30** years of age

New adult hunter **over 30** years of age

10. Which of the following explain why you did not take hunters on their first hunts?

All of my friends already hunt None of my friends are interested

I do not want to share my hunting spot(s) I lack the time to teach a new hunter

I do not have spare equipment It would prevent me hunting on those days

Other (Please identify) _____

11. Have you used a private hunting lease(s) in the past five years? Yes No

11a. If yes, for how many acres and what was the total cost? _____ Acres \$ _____ .00

12. Have you ever been denied hunting on any private property?

Yes No (If "No", please skip to Question 13)

12a. Had you previously been allowed to hunt this property? Yes No

12b. Were you denied hunting due to a private hunting lease? Yes No

12c. Which of the following species were you excluded from hunting due to a private hunting lease?

Deer Turkey Upland birds
 Furbearers Small game Other: _____

13. Do you think IDNR's controlled pheasant hunting program is helpful in recruiting new youth and adult hunters?

Yes No

14. Do you think that squirrel and other small games seasons should be open during the entire year, even during archery season statewide?

Yes No

14a. Do you think squirrel hunting should follow the statewide season at all IDNR sites?

Yes No

15. Do you think IDNR's controlled pheasant hunting program is helpful in recruiting new youth and adult hunters?

Yes No

16. Should IDNR prioritize purchasing new public hunting land in areas with greatest demand from new hunters?

Yes No

Section 3. 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 2018.**

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 2018**. 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?
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____ dead deer	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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 2018** 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 2018** 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 2018-19 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

6. How does the number of deer **you harvested** during the 2018-19 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

7. Do you use the White-tailed Deer Illinois website? Yes No

8. Would you participate in an archery urban deer hunt if one was offered in your area? Yes No

9. Do you think IDNR should implement a statewide program to increase the number of hunters to help control Chronic Wasting Disease through hunting?

Yes No

Section 4. Licenses and permits. Please answer the following questions about Illinois hunting licenses and permits.

1. Do you think rabbits should be removed from the Upland Game Permit lottery? Yes No

2. Do you think there should be a fee charged for resident landowner deer permits? Yes No

3. To assist recruiting adult hunters, would you support a one-time only (single use) first-time adult hunter opportunity **during youth** hunting season?

Yes No

4. Do you support a portion of fees from state hunting licenses and stamps being allocated to not-for-profit organizations to implement programs that recruit and retain Illinois hunters?

Yes No

5. Do you support combining the Apprentice and Youth hunting licenses into a “Novice Hunter” license to reduce complexity of licensing?

Yes No

6. Do you support combining the Senior and Super Senior hunting licenses into one license to reduce complexity of licensing?

Yes No

7. Do you support combining the required habitat stamp into the general hunting license to reduce complexity of licensing?

Yes No

7a. If yes, would you also want the state waterfowl stamp included? Yes No

Section 5. 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. Would you like reminders to renew your hunting license each year? Yes No

2a. If yes, how would you like to be reminded? Please check **all that apply**.

Text Email Social media

3. What is your county of residence? County

4. What county do you hunt in **most often**? County

5. Do you hunt on your own land? Yes No

6. What is your gender? Male Female

7. Please give your age. Years

8. Would you use a website that would allow you to search the number of animals harvested by species and number of hunters that used each IDNR site by year and season?

Yes No

9. Do you think the non-hunting public has a positive image of Illinois hunters? Yes No

9a. How do you think Illinois hunters can help maintain a positive image of hunting to the non-hunting public?

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 2018 Illinois hunting license purchasers. We are asking you to provide information about your activities during the 2018-2019 hunting seasons in Illinois. **Even if you did not hunt in Illinois during the 2018-2019 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 <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/programs/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

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



Administrative Regions of Illinois



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 2018 Illinois hunting license purchasers. We recently mailed you a questionnaire regarding your hunting experiences in Illinois during the 2018-2019 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 2018-2019 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 <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/programs/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

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 black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

Craig A. Miller
Human Dimensions Research Program



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ILLINOIS NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

Prairie Research Institute

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dear Illinois Hunter,

We recently mailed you a questionnaire regarding your hunting experiences in Illinois during the 2018-2019 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 2018-2019 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 <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/programs/hd/>. You may also find information about Illinois Department of Natural Resources wildlife management programs and wildlife in Illinois at <http://dnr.state.il.us/orc/wildliferesources/>.

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 black ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Miller".

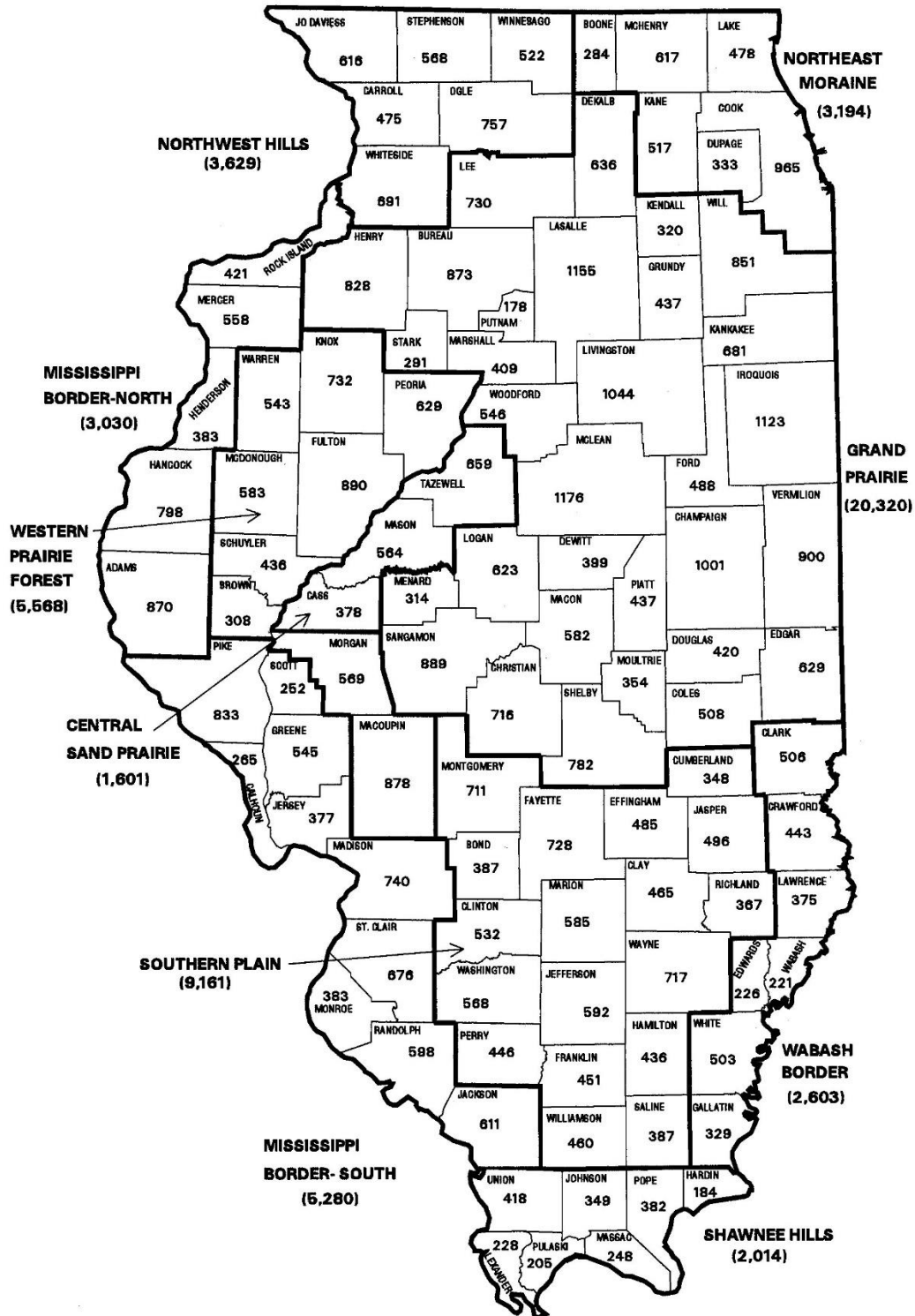
Craig A. Miller
Human Dimensions Research Program





Appendix F

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



Appendix G

Administrative regions in Illinois.



Appendix H

DEER SEASON DATES AND LIMIT				
SEASON	DATES <i>(inclusive)</i>	HOURS	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Archery <i>(Counties with a firearm season and west of Route 47 in Kane County)</i>	1 Oct–15 Nov and 19–28 Nov and 3 Dec 2018–20 Jan 2019	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Archery <i>(Cook, DuPage, Lake and Kane [east of route 47] Counties)</i>	1 Oct 2018–20 Jan 2019		One deer per archery permit	** See footnote below
Firearm <i>(Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)</i>	16–18 Nov and 29 Nov–2 Dec 2018		One deer per firearm permit	** See footnote below
Muzzleloader only	29 Nov–2 Dec and 7–9 Dec 2018		One deer per muzzleloader permit	** See footnote below
Special CWD	27–30 Dec 2018 and 18–20 Jan 2019		One deer per valid permit	Antlered deer limit in footnote below does not apply to this season. Counties open during this season will be posted in October
Late Winter Antlerless-only <i>(Shotgun, Muzzleloader, Handgun)</i>	27–30 Dec 2018 and 18–20 Jan 2019		One antlerless deer per permit	Counties open during this season will be posted in October.
Youth firearm	6–8 Oct and 16–18 Nov 2018	One deer	** See footnote below	

****No hunter, regardless of the quantity or type of permits in his/her possession, may harvest more than two antlered deer during a year, including the youth, archery, muzzleloader and firearm seasons. For this harvest limit, deer seasons are in the same year if their opening dates are within the same 12-month period that begins July 1.**

TURKEY SEASON DATES AND LIMITS				
SEASON	DATES <i>(inclusive)</i>	HOURS	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Spring <i>(shotgun and archery)</i>	15 Apr–16 May 2019 (North zone) and 8 Apr–9 May 2019 (South zone)	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 hunt periods in each zone
Fall <i>(shotgun)</i>	20–28 Oct 2018	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 2018–20 Jan 2019	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
Youth <i>(1 permit per year)</i>	30–31 Mar and 6–7 Apr 2019	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

WATERFOWL SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES (inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS	
Teal (early season)	Statewide	8-23 Sep 2018	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	8 Sep– 16 Nov 2018		25	75	Daily and possession limits are for both rail species combined (in the aggregate).	
Snipe (Wilson's snipe)	Statewide	8 Sep– 23 Dec 2018		8	24		
Ducks	North	20 Oct– 18 Dec 2018	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, 3 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 canvasback, 2 black ducks, 2 pintail and 1 mottled duck. Possession limit for ducks is three times the daily limit by species and sex.	
	Central	27 Oct– 25 Dec 2018					
	South-central	10 Nov 2018– 8 Jan 2019					
	South	22 Nov 2018– 20 Jan 2019					
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		
Canada Geese (early season)	North and Central	1-15 Sep 2018		5	15		
	South-central and South			2	6		
Canada Geese	North	20 Oct– 17 Jan 2019		2	6		
	Central	27 Oct–4 Nov 2018 and 12 Nov 2018– 31 Jan 2019					
	South-central	10 Nov 2018– 31 Jan 2019					
	South	22 Nov 2018– 31 Jan 2019					

UPLAND GAME SEASON DATES AND LIMITS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES <i>(inclusive)</i>	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Doves <i>(mourning and white-winged)</i>	Statewide	1 Sep–14 Nov 2018 and 26 Dec 2018–9 Jan 2019	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 <i>(roosters only)</i>	See zones map	3 Nov 2018–8 Jan 2019 (North zone) or 3 Nov 2018–15 Jan 2019 (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 <i>(Bobwhite)</i>	See zones map	3 Nov 2018–8 Jan 2019 (North zone) or 3 Nov 2018–15 Jan 2019 (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	3 Nov 2018–8 Jan 2019 (North zone) or 3 Nov 2018–15 Jan 2019 (South zone)		2	6	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Rabbits <i>(cottontail and swamp)</i>	Statewide	3 Nov 2018–15 Feb 2019		4	10	On the 2nd day of the hunting season, you may possess no more than twice the daily limit.
Woodcock	Statewide	21 Oct - 4 Dec 2018		3	9	
Squirrels <i>(gray and fox)</i>	Statewide	1 Aug 2018–15 Feb 2019 Closed 16-18 Nov and 29 Nov–2 Dec in counties open for firearm deer hunting		½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	5	10
Crow	Statewide	28 Oct 2018 - 28 Feb 2019	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	No limit	No limit	

FURBEARER TRAPPING REGULATIONS

SPECIES	Zone	DATES	LIMIT	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon	Statewide	10 Nov 2018– 15 Feb 2019	None	
Opossum				
Striped Skunk				
Weasels				
Mink				
Muskrat				
Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i>				
Coyote	North		2 per person per season	
Badger				
Bobcat	See Bobcat Zone map		One by permit only	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.
Beaver	Statewide	10 Nov 2018–31 Mar 2019	None	
River Otter	Statewide	10 Nov 2018–31 Mar 2019	5 per person per season	Must purchase Otter Registration Permit within 48 hours after each otter is trapped. Must affix official CITES tag to each pelt.
Woodchuck <i>(Groundhog)</i>	Statewide	1 Jun–30 Sep 2018	None	

FURBEARER HUNTING

SPECIES	DATES	HOURS	ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS
Raccoon	10 Nov 2018–15 Feb 2019 Closed 16-18 Nov and 29 Nov– 2 Dec 2018 in counties with firearm deer hunting.	Open 24 hours and season begins 1/2 hour before sunrise on 10 Nov 2018 and closes 1/2 hour after sunset 15 Feb 2019. *see archery restrictions	During Archery Deer Season bow hunting hours for raccoon, opossum, fox, coyote and striped skunk will be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE attempting to harvest a bobcat. Limit one bobcat per person per season. Must purchase Bobcat Registration Permit within 48 hours of harvesting a bobcat. Taking bobcats in closed zone is prohibited.
Opossum			
Fox <i>(Red and Gray)</i>			
Bobcat	1 Jun 2018-31 Mar 2019. Closed 17-19 Nov and 30 Nov– 3 Dec in counties open to firearm deer hunting.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	Hunters with unfilled firearm deer permits may harvest coyotes during firearm deer season by shotgun with slugs, muzzleloader or handgun from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.
Woodchuck <i>(groundhog)</i>			
Coyote	Year round	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. No time restriction 10 Nov 2018–15 Mar 2019	There is no limit on foxes, coyote, opossum, raccoon, striped skunk or woodchuck.
Striped Skunk	Closed 16-18 Nov and 29 Nov– 2 Dec 2018 in counties with firearm deer hunting.		