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Summary of 2003-04 Ohio Deer Seasons

Waterloo Wildlife Research Station

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Our Management Strategy

The goal of Ohio's deer management program is to provide a deer population that maximizes recreational opportunity including viewing, photographing, and hunting deer while minimizing conflicts with agriculture, motor travel, and other areas of human endeavor. This has been the goal of our deer program for over 40 years. Public surveys indicate strong support for this approach. Farmer attitude survey data and deer-vehicle accident rates are used to establish and update target population goals for each of Ohio's 88 counties. We believe these targets represent a reasonable compromise between those interests with opposing opinions on appropriate deer population levels. Furthermore, although these targets are based on social values, the resulting populations have never exceeded the biological carrying capacity of the habitat. Deer herd condition data collected annually and through periodic studies confirm this. Our deer management goal ensures that Ohio's deer herd is maintained at a level that is acceptable to most, and biologically sound. Maintaining the deer population at or near target is accomplished through harvest management.

Seasons, Permits, and Bag Limits

A valid hunting license (resident = \$19, nonresident = \$125) and Special Deer Permit (\$24) are required (landowners were exempt) to hunt deer in Ohio. Hunters could harvest up to 2 deer using Special Deer Permits provided that they did not exceed the bag limit in any Deer Zone (Fig. 1). Hunters were allowed only 1 antlered deer. The Urban Deer Permit (\$15), valid for an antlerless deer only, could be used in urban deer zones and during most DOW special and controlled hunts. A maximum of 4 deer could be harvested using Urban Deer Permits, but a hunter was required to first purchase at least one Special Deer Permit before purchasing Urban Deer Permits.

Hunters had the opportunity to harvest deer during any of Ohio's 4 deer seasons including the 107-day, statewide either-sex archery season, Oct. 4, 2003-Jan. 31, 2004, the 4-day statewide either-sex primitive hunt, Dec. 27-30, and the buck-only 6-day early primitive hunt, Oct. 20-25 at Shawnee State Forest, Wolf Creek Wildlife Area/ Wildcat Hollow, and Salt Fork Wildlife Area. The 7-day, either-sex gun season ran from Dec. 1-7, statewide. Hunters in Zone R were restricted to harvesting bucks after the first 2 days of the gun season.

Harvest Summary

A total of 197,790 deer was harvested this year, a 3.3% drop from last season (Table 1). Regulation changes were largely responsible for this year's modest decline. Coshocton County led the state in total harvest. A complete statewide harvest summary by county and season and for the top 5 counties is presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

Hunters harvested 116,236 deer during this year's week-long gun season, nearly 13% less than last year. Coshocton, Muskingum, Guernsey, Tuscarawas and Athens counties led the state in total gun harvest. Archers reported harvesting a record 50,564 deer during this year's 4-month archery season (Table 1). Once again, both the crossbow (29,397) and vertical bow (21,167) harvests broke records set last season. Crossbow and vertical bow hunters harvested nearly 22% more deer than last year. Licking County led the state in both crossbow and vertical bow harvests (Table 3). Trumbull, Coshocton, Ashtabula, and Tuscarawas rounded out the top 5 counties in crossbow harvest while Knox, Coshocton, Muskingum, and Clermont completed the list of top 5 counties in vertical bow harvest.

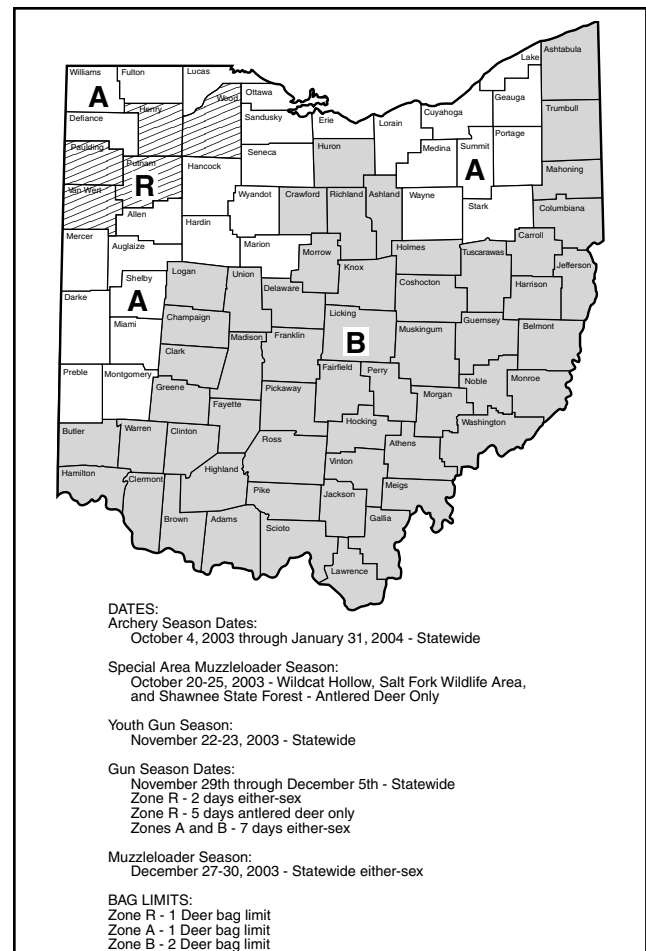


Figure 1. Ohio's 2003-04 deer zones.

Table 1. Ohio's 2003-04 deer harvest by season and percent change from the previous year.

Season/Hunt	Antlered ¹	Antlerless	Total ^{1,2}	% Change
Gun	46,074	69,209	116,236	-12.9
Crossbow	16,464	12,639	29,397	3.7
Vertical Bow	11,472	9,537	21,167	3.0
Archery	27,936	22,176	50,564	21.8
Salt Fork ³	85	0	85	-6.6
Wildcat Hollow ³	72	0	72	-8.9
Shawnee ³	20	0	20	-60.0
Statewide Muzzleloader ⁴	6,462	17,334	24,053	11.4
Muzzleloader	6,639	17,334	24,230	5.1
Statewide Youth ⁵	2,736	2,553	5,325	0
NASA/Plumbrook ⁶	189	348	537	0
Ravenna Hunt	145	509	662	23.0
Season Total	83,955	112,129	197,790	-3.4t

¹Column total includes 236 antlered deer for which season of harvest could not be determined

²Row totals include 1,706 deer with incomplete harvest data.

³Special muzzleloader season for antlered deer only Oct 20-25, 2003.

⁴Statewide either-sex muzzleloader season Dec 27-30, 2003.

⁵This was the first year for the statewide, 2-day, either-sex hunt, Nov 22-23, 2003

⁶Hunts resumed in 2003 after a 2-year break following the 911 terrorists acts..

A record 24,053 deer was harvested during the 4-day statewide primitive season, December 27-30 (Table 1). This year's harvest exceeded last year's record total by nearly 12%. Jefferson County had the highest primitive harvest followed by Coshocton, Muskingum, Athens, and Belmont counties (Table 3). Hunters purchased 515,928 permits and harvested 197,790 deer for a permit success rate of approximately 38% (Table 4).

Legislation was passed in 2002 that permitted Sunday hunting without any sign-up or acreage requirements for private landowners. Participation increased significantly as a result (Fig. 2). Hunters once again capitalized on additional hunting opportunity, taking nearly 16% of the total archery harvest on Sunday (Fig. 2). The Sunday gun harvest increased slightly from 5.8% to 6.3% of the total this year.

Age, Sex, and Condition Data

Each year during the gun season, DOW personnel will age approximately 5-7% of the harvest. Typically, this amounts to between 6,000-8,000 deer. A total of 8,337 deer was examined at check stations in 22 counties this year. The distribution of those check stations is presented in Figure 3. A total of 39% of deer aged this year was antlered bucks; yearlings (1.5-year-olds) accounted for 58% of the bucks. Antler measurements from yearling bucks provide an

Table 2. Ohio's 2002-03 antlered and antlered deer harvest by county and season.

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Adams				
Gun	773	803	1,144	1,062
Crossbow	192	230	156	171
Vertical Bow	166	194	128	122
Muzzleloader	95	152	250	344
Youth	0	40	0	29
Total	1,237	1,419	1,678	1,728
Allen				
Gun	183	143	293	208
Crossbow	65	66	31	40
Vertical Bow	54	68	23	27
Muzzleloader	29	8	41	40
Youth	0	10	0	17
Total	331	295	388	332
Ashland				
Gun	418	565	595	1,032
Crossbow	196	280	83	187
Vertical Bow	106	156	37	163
Muzzleloader	57	74	144	291
Youth	0	38	0	63
Total	777	1,113	859	1,736
Ashtabula				
Gun	912	910	1,391	1,799
Crossbow	337	458	145	385
Vertical Bow	199	263	54	266
Muzzleloader	96	121	188	398
Youth	0	45	0	70
Total	1,544	1,797	1,778	2,918
Athens				
Gun	1,550	1,350	2,607	1,902
Crossbow	303	278	203	157
Vertical Bow	284	300	260	171
Muzzleloader	177	204	538	572
Youth	0	55	0	44
Total	2,314	2,187	3,608	2,846
Auglaize				
Gun	174	146	131	233
Crossbow	54	49	33	22
Vertical Bow	52	38	28	22
Muzzleloader	18	11	46	36
Youth	0	15	0	17
Total	298	259	238	330
Belmont				
Gun	1,463	1,281	2,220	1,542
Crossbow	346	300	204	147
Vertical Bow	146	143	125	86
Muzzleloader	181	196	574	585
Youth	0	45	0	34
Total	2,136	1,965	3,123	2,394
Brown				
Gun	641	595	967	747
Crossbow	195	191	78	104
Vertical Bow	177	188	97	135
Muzzleloader	88	92	208	237
Youth	0	27	0	23
Total	1,101	1,093	1,350	1,246
Butler				
Gun	211	210	292	277
Crossbow	124	132	120	121
Vertical Bow	120	121	131	104
Muzzleloader	49	59	106	88
Youth	0	8	0	14
Total	504	530	649	604
Carroll				
Gun	614	819	872	1,319
Crossbow	223	298	70	166
Vertical Bow	84	153	21	102
Muzzleloader	79	143	187	368
Youth	0	43	0	50
Total	1,000	1,456	1,150	2,005

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Champaign				
Gun	284	319	529	487
Crossbow	132	132	121	145
Vertical Bow	87	106	115	109
Muzzleloader	6	43	20	117
Youth	0	18	0	24
Total	509	618	785	882
Clark				
Gun	175	117	244	236
Crossbow	87	107	75	79
Vertical Bow	100	75	75	92
Muzzleloader	21	35	41	56
Youth	0	13	0	6
Total	383	347	435	469
Clermont				
Gun	529	381	855	674
Crossbow	315	285	319	299
Vertical Bow	235	240	298	324
Muzzleloader	73	83	231	218
Youth	0	22	0	20
Total	1,152	1,011	1,703	1,535
Clinton				
Gun	228	186	365	357
Crossbow	79	87	54	69
Vertical Bow	76	83	64	65
Muzzleloader	19	25	67	65
Youth	0	17	0	13
Total	402	398	550	569
Columbiana				
Gun	721	746	779	1,186
Crossbow	215	361	85	210
Vertical Bow	116	183	36	92
Muzzleloader	87	113	220	293
Youth	0	50	0	56
Total	1,139	1,453	1,120	1,837
Coshocton				
Gun	1,732	1,646	3,354	2,662
Crossbow	490	468	470	382
Vertical Bow	270	279	357	296
Muzzleloader	187	215	579	592
Youth	0	80	0	91
Total	2,679	2,688	4,760	4,023
Crawford				
Gun	201	281	257	484
Crossbow	68	84	26	54
Vertical Bow	47	56	13	27
Muzzleloader	19	6	30	25
Youth	0	9	0	17
Total	335	436	326	607
Cuyahoga				
Gun	12	10	33	28
Crossbow	81	113	169	170
Vertical Bow	29	36	62	68
Muzzleloader	5	1	10	10
Youth	0	2	0	1
Total	127	162	274	277
Darke				
Gun	126	130	131	205
Crossbow	51	62	30	25
Vertical Bow	54	51	28	26
Muzzleloader	23	10	57	34
Youth	0	22	0	16
Total	254	275	246	306
Defiance				
Gun	285	278	409	387
Crossbow	63	60	37	40
Vertical Bow	60	74	34	40
Muzzleloader	28	28	60	78
Youth	0	17	0	14
Total	436	457	540	559

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Delaware				
Gun	349	343	578	617
Crossbow	193	223	228	241
Vertical Bow	155	185	218	198
Muzzleloader	27	52	110	160
Youth	0	14	0	23
Total	724	817	1,134	1,239
Erie				
Gun	107	84	156	130
Crossbow	74	109	56	67
Vertical Bow	45	55	20	17
Muzzleloader	11	16	26	21
Youth	0	8	0	8
Total	237	272	258	243
Fairfield				
Gun	643	602	1,218	922
Crossbow	237	231	208	131
Vertical Bow	194	209	194	134
Muzzleloader	40	88	122	220
Youth	0	44	0	36
Total	1,114	1,174	1,742	1,443
Fayette				
Gun	93	146	101	161
Crossbow	25	51	15	19
Vertical Bow	26	31	9	20
Muzzleloader	5	24	21	29
Youth	0	10	0	5
Total	149	262	146	234
Franklin				
Gun	119	114	245	225
Crossbow	122	133	170	146
Vertical Bow	83	96	124	156
Muzzleloader	7	28	52	69
Youth	0	8	0	2
Total	331	379	591	598
Fulton				
Gun	168	182	201	213
Crossbow	39	43	22	23
Vertical Bow	45	51	17	18
Muzzleloader	14	16	29	23
Youth	0	11	0	10
Total	266	303	269	287
Gallia				
Gun	1,305	1,093	2,246	1,649
Crossbow	145	142	127	87
Vertical Bow	133	151	115	96
Muzzleloader	129	146	441	356
Youth	0	41	0	24
Total	1,712	1,573	2,929	2,212
Geauga				
Gun	339	299	520	526
Crossbow	262	259	296	295
Vertical Bow	158	150	236	213
Muzzleloader	51	42	95	146
Youth	0	17	0	14
Total	810	767	1,147	1,194
Greene				
Gun	167	190	338	306
Crossbow	140	112	126	87
Vertical Bow	119	103	127	91
Muzzleloader	25	29	59	69
Youth	0	10	0	8
Total	451	444	650	561
Guernsey				
Gun	1,656	1,324	2,983	2,270
Crossbow	418	384	370	255
Vertical Bow	219	222	232	145
Muzzleloader	168	172	474	529
Youth	0	82	0	67
Total1	2,552	2,267	4,059	3,266

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Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Hamilton				
Gun	179	123	350	292
Crossbow	205	191	305	296
Vertical Bow	193	181	346	332
Muzzleloader	50	32	137	99
Youth	0	7	0	1
Total	627	534	1,138	1,020
Hancock				
Gun	257	258	313	282
Crossbow	78	94	38	42
Vertical Bow	96	108	22	25
Muzzleloader	14	22	26	49
Youth	0	14	0	24
Total	445	496	399	422
Hardin				
Gun	284	238	317	256
Crossbow	59	63	24	20
Vertical Bow	47	45	20	12
Muzzleloader	26	27	37	47
Youth	0	11	0	11
Total	416	384	398	346
Harrison				
Gun	1,483	1,248	2,604	1,879
Crossbow	349	350	305	261
Vertical Bow	189	181	199	163
Muzzleloader	176	176	575	574
Youth	0	56	0	63
Total	2,197	2,011	3,683	2,940
Henry				
Gun	148	126	87	126
Crossbow	28	32	14	23
Vertical Bow	31	43	7	15
Muzzleloader	8	13	22	24
Youth	0	13	0	14
Total	215	227	130	202
Highland				
Gun	612	639	1,009	913
Crossbow	167	195	137	154
Vertical Bow	144	140	91	107
Muzzleloader	67	92	156	226
Youth	0	50	0	35
Total	990	1,116	1,393	1,435
Hocking				
Gun	1,240	1,092	2,337	1,812
Crossbow	309	283	275	230
Vertical Bow	250	218	265	171
Muzzleloader	143	141	410	432
Youth	0	56	0	59
Total	1,942	1,790	3,287	2,704
Holmes				
Gun	987	924	2,010	1,555
Crossbow	422	371	411	366
Vertical Bow	288	239	350	310
Muzzleloader	115	131	382	334
Youth	0	77	0	93
Total	1,812	1,742	3,153	2,658
Huron				
Gun	418	469	665	942
Crossbow	143	171	55	134
Vertical Bow	92	142	38	81
Muzzleloader	29	49	81	186
Youth	0	35	0	58
Total	682	866	839	1,401
Jackson				
Gun	1,076	972	2,166	1,542
Crossbow	244	233	256	237
Vertical Bow	213	210	277	218
Muzzleloader	132	135	404	397
Youth	0	59	0	38
Total	1,665	1,609	3,103	2,432

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Jefferson				
Gun	1,805	1,444	2,752	1,746
Crossbow	378	329	295	208
Vertical Bow	214	221	170	131
Muzzleloader	215	200	674	612
Youth	0	97	0	52
Total	2,612	2,291	3,891	2,749
Knox				
Gun	1,249	1,176	2,547	1,971
Crossbow	385	356	369	280
Vertical Bow	310	329	399	296
Muzzleloader	133	154	531	517
Youth	0	93	0	83
Total	2,077	2,108	3,846	3,147
Lake				
Gun	96	74	268	199
Crossbow	123	139	199	220
Vertical Bow	51	70	121	126
Muzzleloader	24	17	51	58
Youth	0	1	0	4
Total	294	301	639	607
Lawrence				
Gun	942	744	1,327	904
Crossbow	165	167	84	64
Vertical Bow	166	177	141	105
Muzzleloader	103	114	253	238
Youth	0	29	0	28
Total	1,376	1,231	1,805	1,339
Licking				
Gun	1,200	1,277	2,173	1,772
Crossbow	575	556	495	399
Vertical Bow	356	395	387	313
Muzzleloader	96	181	275	488
Youth	0	75	0	69
Total	2,227	2,484	3,330	3,041
Logan				
Gun	426	434	818	802
Crossbow	127	139	131	126
Vertical Bow	126	141	154	131
Muzzleloader	38	54	128	144
Youth	0	21	0	37
Total	717	789	1,231	1,240
Lorain				
Gun	263	249	485	480
Crossbow	267	303	295	328
Vertical Bow	79	110	95	118
Muzzleloader	37	39	104	117
Youth	0	16	0	18
Total	646	717	979	1,061
Lucas				
Gun	59	65	183	146
Crossbow	75	95	177	169
Vertical Bow	52	63	165	128
Muzzleloader	13	14	43	32
Youth	0	4	0	7
Total	199	241	568	482
Madison				
Gun	126	143	110	170
Crossbow	37	50	23	33
Vertical Bow	45	67	21	40
Muzzleloader	14	19	32	40
Youth	0	14	0	6
Total	222	293	186	289
Mahoning				
Gun	231	231	408	462
Crossbow	169	213	160	192
Vertical Bow	81	81	60	91
Muzzleloader	38	59	104	130
Youth	0	13	0	15
Total	519	597	732	890

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Marion				
Gun	172	183	204	183
Crossbow	53	49	29	31
Vertical Bow	40	34	10	19
Muzzleloader	18	14	31	29
Youth	0	13	0	13
Total	283	293	274	275
Medina				
Gun	212	227	333	313
Crossbow	196	253	149	155
Vertical Bow	68	90	79	81
Muzzleloader	25	50	69	78
Youth	0	6	0	7
Total	501	626	630	634
Meigs				
Gun	1,206	1,135	1,838	1,573
Crossbow	171	198	129	128
Vertical Bow	157	169	115	95
Muzzleloader	140	161	443	462
Youth	0	75	0	36
Total	1,674	1,738	2,525	2,294
Mercer				
Gun	115	122	129	193
Crossbow	27	32	18	21
Vertical Bow	32	37	28	22
Muzzleloader	12	8	47	49
Youth	0	10	0	13
Total	186	209	222	298
Miami				
Gun	115	123	209	114
Crossbow	85	83	42	28
Vertical Bow	60	59	18	22
Muzzleloader	14	12	21	37
Youth	0	12	0	8
Total	274	289	290	209
Monroe				
Gun	1,381	1,122	2,244	1,397
Crossbow	194	235	224	164
Vertical Bow	86	93	96	83
Muzzleloader	194	137	611	408
Youth	0	55	0	39
Total	1,855	1,642	3,175	2,091
Montgomery				
Gun	63	54	98	71
Crossbow	67	52	62	73
Vertical Bow	46	51	57	44
Muzzleloader	7	13	18	31
Youth	0	3	0	9
Total	183	173	235	228
Morgan				
Gun	1,196	1,076	2,168	1,623
Crossbow	180	154	129	107
Vertical Bow	100	125	99	75
Muzzleloader	104	111	361	347
Youth	0	48	0	33
Total1	1,636	1,680	2,757	2,185
Morrow				
Gun	443	453	767	661
Crossbow	205	184	135	120
Vertical Bow	127	127	76	85
Muzzleloader	57	49	80	116
Youth	0	36	0	30
Total	832	849	1,058	1,012
Muskingum				
Gun	1,850	1,730	3,250	2,530
Crossbow	353	384	273	234
Vertical Bow	289	335	259	236
Muzzleloader	177	216	466	567
Youth	0	100	0	75
Total	2,669	2,765	4,248	3,642

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Noble				
Gun	1,203	1,087	2,038	1,508
Crossbow	142	160	138	134
Vertical Bow	92	106	102	82
Muzzleloader	144	139	366	375
Youth	0	56	0	39
Total	1,581	1,548	2,644	2,138
Ottawa				
Gun	70	73	119	136
Crossbow	42	48	21	18
Vertical Bow	19	24	9	11
Muzzleloader	10	11	17	20
Youth	0	11	0	18
Total	141	167	166	203
Paulding				
Gun	167	201	141	183
Crossbow	32	51	25	19
Vertical Bow	48	50	24	23
Muzzleloader	24	26	44	46
Youth	0	9	0	14
Total	271	337	234	285
Perry				
Gun	1,270	1,069	2,403	1,723
Crossbow	263	257	216	150
Vertical Bow	163	184	178	141
Muzzleloader	116	130	412	403
Youth	0	64	0	58
Total1	1,835	1,810	3,209	2,475
Pickaway				
Gun	297	284	398	374
Crossbow	104	119	58	72
Vertical Bow	55	78	59	53
Muzzleloader	33	33	70	72
Youth	0	18	0	10
Total	489	532	585	581
Pike				
Gun	665	667	982	860
Crossbow	160	163	93	92
Vertical Bow	109	101	72	84
Muzzleloader	78	103	164	217
Youth	0	37	0	15
Total	1,012	1,071	1,311	1,268
Portage				
Gun	325	287	467	473
Crossbow	251	311	265	348
Vertical Bow	115	128	115	178
Muzzleloader	60	60	110	138
Youth	0	20	0	20
Total	751	806	957	1,157
Preble				
Gun	137	120	198	157
Crossbow	56	79	42	38
Vertical Bow	71	75	36	20
Muzzleloader	23	42	67	55
Youth	0	13	0	12
Total	287	329	343	282
Putnam				
Gun	140	143	103	107
Crossbow	51	53	28	30
Vertical Bow	49	51	17	27
Muzzleloader	13	24	44	46
Youth	0	9	0	23
Total	253	280	192	233
Richland				
Gun	472	572	622	972
Crossbow	243	336	106	243
Vertical Bow	130	185	25	138
Muzzleloader	51	65	137	159
Youth	0	41	0	45
Total	896	1,199	890	1,557

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Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Ross				
Gun	1,006	921	1,609	1,309
Crossbow	309	278	168	179
Vertical Bow	200	195	141	185
Muzzleloader	112	143	294	349
Youth	0	67	0	58
Total	1,627	1,604	2,212	2,080
Sandusky				
Gun	150	148	229	220
Crossbow	73	70	27	35
Vertical Bow	44	65	20	28
Muzzleloader	13	21	62	56
Youth	0	14	0	7
Total	280	318	338	346
Scioto				
Gun	682	564	1,269	684
Crossbow	168	146	122	75
Vertical Bow	150	130	153	79
Muzzleloader	72	94	209	182
Youth	0	27	0	21
Total	1,111	1,019	1,753	1,041
Seneca				
Gun	301	274	416	406
Crossbow	118	147	55	52
Vertical Bow	68	79	23	21
Muzzleloader	27	35	55	76
Youth	0	25	0	19
Total	514	560	549	574
Shelby				
Gun	182	161	149	269
Crossbow	60	68	57	31
Vertical Bow	57	44	20	17
Muzzleloader	24	9	71	23
Youth	0	12	0	28
Total	323	294	297	368
Stark				
Gun	238	229	380	392
Crossbow	192	203	136	145
Vertical Bow	52	71	51	59
Muzzleloader	41	42	102	106
Youth	0	31	0	17
Total	523	576	669	719
Summit				
Gun	82	83	178	148
Crossbow	268	284	305	337
Vertical Bow	96	116	141	144
Muzzleloader	29	34	66	77
Youth	0	8	0	2
Total	475	525	690	708
Trumbull				
Gun	544	538	1,010	1,107
Crossbow	324	449	223	437
Vertical Bow	177	223	127	268
Muzzleloader	58	87	170	239
Youth	0	34	0	66
Total	1,103	1,331	1,530	2,117
Tuscarawas				
Gun	1,547	1,305	2,898	2,013
Crossbow	445	472	418	356
Vertical Bow	310	264	308	243
Muzzleloader	159	189	535	498
Youth	0	86	0	92
Total	2,461	2,316	4,159	3,202
Union				
Gun	268	246	406	354
Crossbow	95	84	61	53
Vertical Bow	69	78	52	44
Muzzleloader	33	25	71	57
Youth	0	12	0	16
Total	465	445	590	524

Table 2. Continued

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
VanWert				
Gun	103	128	49	96
Crossbow	40	39	27	23
Vertical Bow	17	25	10	9
Muzzleloader	20	4	29	8
Youth	0	14	0	6
Total	180	210	115	142
Vinton				
Gun	1,053	915	2,104	1,447
Crossbow	161	181	165	127
Vertical Bow	166	170	181	135
Muzzleloader	97	100	352	302
Youth	0	44	0	36
Total	1,477	1,410	2,802	2,047
Warren				
Gun	231	207	392	334
Crossbow	155	198	169	164
Vertical Bow	132	142	138	153
Muzzleloader	29	33	102	118
Youth	0	9	0	10
Total	547	589	801	779
Washington				
Gun	1,656	1,343	2,552	1,863
Crossbow	214	208	164	113
Vertical Bow	150	166	129	126
Muzzleloader	182	220	513	534
Youth	0	71	0	44
Total	2,202	2,008	3,358	2,680
Wayne				
Gun	210	267	318	343
Crossbow	130	137	61	86
Vertical Bow	95	108	37	46
Muzzleloader	41	39	80	85
Youth	0	30	0	26
Total	476	581	496	586
Williams				
Gun	367	368	468	506
Crossbow	83	86	28	35
Vertical Bow	127	140	43	41
Muzzleloader	14	32	29	48
Youth	0	17	0	22
Total	591	643	568	652
Wood				
Gun	148	161	98	122
Crossbow	63	75	49	44
Vertical Bow	87	73	38	35
Muzzleloader	20	13	31	46
Youth	0	13	0	15
Total	318	335	216	262
Wyandot				
Gun	293	269	418	348
Crossbow	73	80	40	36
Vertical Bow	77	60	36	47
Muzzleloader	36	37	61	62
Youth	0	24	0	20
Total	479	470	555	513

¹Total antlered harvest in 2003 exceeds the sum of the individual seasons because season of harvest could not be determined for 236 deer.



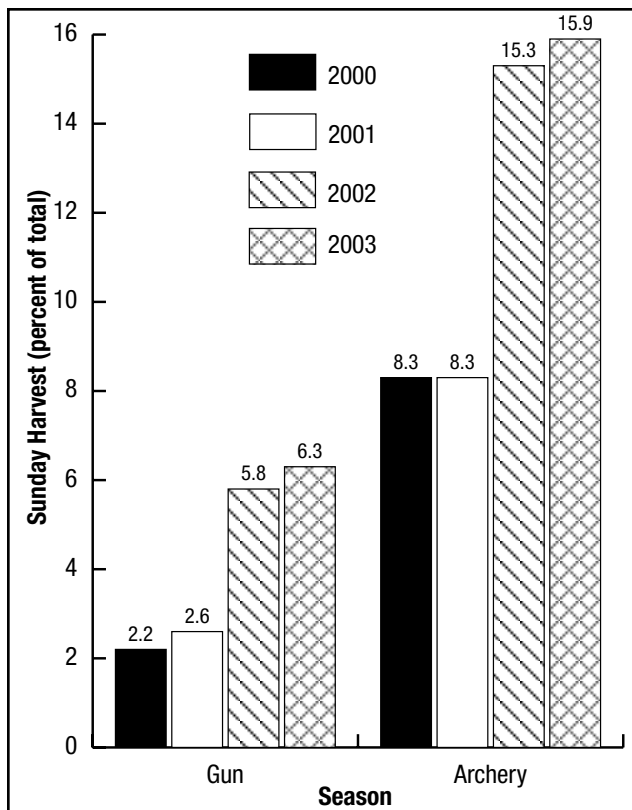


Figure 2. Proportion of the gun and archery harvest taken on Sundays, 2000-2003. Legislation that removed all Sunday hunting restrictions was implemented in 2002.

annual assessment of the relative condition of the deer herd. Because young bucks are still growing quite rapidly, much of the animal's energy intake is devoted to body growth; antler development is secondary. Body growth will take precedence when deer are faced with dietary deficiencies. Antler development will be compromised and declines in beam diameter and number of points can be expected under these conditions. However, when there is adequate nutrition available, both body size and antler development will improve. By annually monitoring yearling antler development and changes in herd size, we are better able to understand the relationship between deer abundance and herd condition. Yearling buck antler beam data for 1973, 2003, and the average for the past 5 years are presented in Figure 4.

The incidence of spikes among yearling bucks is also tied to the condition of the herd. Many states use percent spikes in place of beam diameter measurements. For the period 1999-2003, the incidence of spikes among yearlings averaged 8%, 4% and 2% for the Hill country, Northeast, and western Farmland regions of the state, respectively.

An analysis of antler data from the early 1980s through the present suggests that the incidence of

Table 3. Ohio's 2003-04 antlered and antlerless deer harvest by season for the top 5 total harvest counties.

Season/County	Antlered		Antlerless	
	2002	2003	2002	2003
Gun				
Coshocton	1,850	1,646	3,250	2,662
Muskingum	1,732	1,730	3,354	2,530
Guernsey	1,656	1,324	2,983	2,270
Tuscarawas	1,805	1,305	2,752	2,013
Athens	1,547	1,350	2,898	1,902
Crossbow				
Licking	575	556	495	399
Trumbull	490	449	470	437
Coshocton	445	468	418	382
Ashtabula	422	458	411	385
Tuscarawas	418	472	370	356
Vertical Bow				
Licking	356	395	387	313
Knox	310	329	399	296
Coshocton	289	279	259	296
Muskingum	288	335	350	236
Clermont	270	240	357	324
Muzzleloader				
Jefferson	215	200	674	612
Coshocton	194	215	611	592
Muskingum	187	216	579	567
Athens	181	204	574	572
Belmont	176	196	575	585
Youth¹				
Knox	0	93	0	83
Tuscarawas	0	86	0	92
Muskingum	0	100	0	75
Coshocton	0	80	0	91
Holmes	0	77	0	93
All				
Coshocton	2,679	2,688	4,760	4,023
Muskingum	2,669	2,765	4,248	3,642
Licking	2,461	2,484	4,159	3,041
Guernsey	2,552	2,267	4,059	3,266
Tuscarawas	2,612	2,316	3,891	3,202

¹This was the first year for the statewide, 2-day, either-sex hunt, Nov 22-23, 2003.



Summary of 2003-04 Ohio Deer Seasons

spikes, and correspondingly mean number of points, may be more sensitive to regulation changes than beam diameter measurements. Regulation changes that relax the pressure on the antlered segment of the herd reduce the occurrence of spikes. Because harvest regulations are likely to fluctuate annually, yearling beam diameter will likely be the only index to consistently provide an accurate "herd health" check.

The age data collected each year are used to estimate adult buck harvest mortality, the adult sex ratio, and fawns per adult doe in the harvest (Table 5). By extrapolating this sample to harvest data from the entire state, we can estimate changes in herd size and generate population estimates for the upcoming season. The value of the age data resides not in the annual "snapshot," but rather the long-term trends. For example, declines in number of fawns per adult doe in the harvest might signal a decline in the productivity of the herd. The average age of all deer in this year's harvest sample and for the last 5 years, is presented in Figure 5.

Deer-vehicle Accidents

Because they represent a significant cost to the public, the DOW has monitored deer-vehicle accident trends since the 1940s. Moreover, deer-vehicle accident trends should reflect fluctuations in deer populations if changes in traffic volume are considered and accident reporting rates do not vary over time. Statewide, there was a total of 31,729 reported deer-vehicle accidents in 2003, up 4.7% from the previous year (Table 6).

Deer Damage Complaints

Because target levels for most of Ohio's rural counties are based on farmer tolerances, the likelihood of widespread agricultural problems should be minimal when deer populations are at target. However, some localized damage is still likely to occur and in these instances, producers may be eligible for a Deer Damage Control permit. In 2003, a total of 1,510 crop damage complaints was received by the DOW, an increase of nearly 9% from last year (Table 7). A total of 6,926 deer was killed on damage permits this year, an increase of 30% over last year.

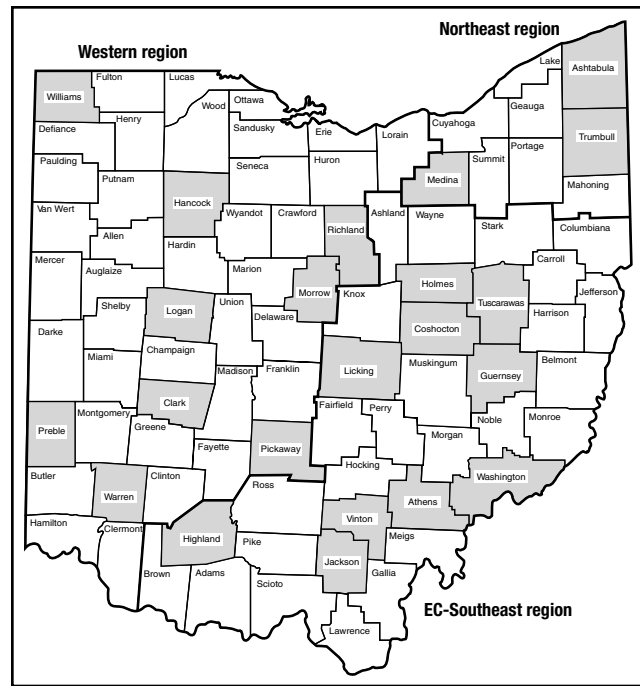


Figure 3. Distribution of the deer aging stations for the 2003-04 deer season.

Beginning in 1997, the DOW began issuing damage permits that were valid only during deer season. The goal was to reduce abuse and hunter dissatisfaction, while still effectively addressing bona fide damage problems. Where hunting was ineffective (damage occurring outside the hunting season or deer simply were not available for harvest during legal shooting hours), the traditional out-of-season permit would be issued. A total of 3,252 deer was harvested on in-season damage permits this year, accounting for 47% of all deer taken on damage permits and nearly 59% more than last year (Table 7). A total of 3,674 deer was killed on out-of-season permits, an increase of 12% over last year.

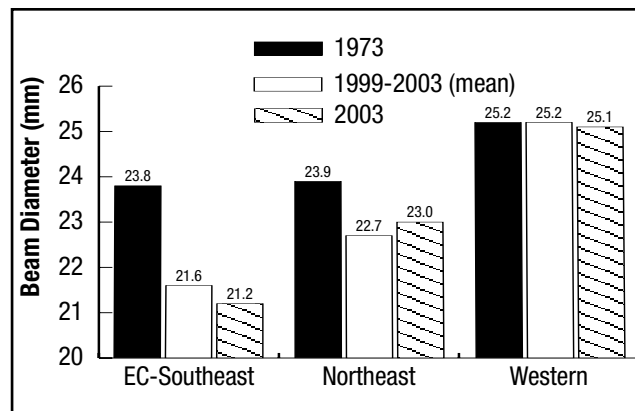


Figure 4. Mean yearling beam diameter from gun season harvest samples for select years.

Table 4. Deer harvest data, 1900-2003.^a

Year	Number of Open Counties in Gun Season	Number of Permits Sold	Number of Deer Harvested ^b	Deer Harvested per Number of Permits Sold ^c
1900	88	?	?	?
1901-42	Season closed			
1943	3	8,500	168	1 : 50.6
1944	3	9,200	117	1 : 78.6
1945	3	7,700	62	1 : 124.2
1946	Season closed			
1947	8	9,669	1,000	1 : 9.7
1948	13	23,044	1,600	1 : 14.4
1949	Season closed			
1950	19	22,728	3,500	1 : 6.5
1951	Season closed			
1952	27	14,081	450	1 : 31.3
1953	40	30,033	4,000	1 : 7.5
1954	Season closed			
1955	42	36,419	4,200	1 : 8.7
1956	88	48,263	3,911	1 : 12.3
1957	88	46,466	4,784	1 : 9.7
1958	88	42,777	4,415	1 : 9.7
1959	88	38,414	2,960	1 : 13.0
1960	88	27,430	2,584	1 : 10.6
1961	Season closed			
1962	88	23,049	2,114	1 : 10.9
1963	88	33,298	2,074	1 : 16.1
1964	88	32,400	1,326	1 : 24.4
1965	36	12,808	406	1 : 31.5
1966	48	24,079	1,073	1 : 22.4
1967	50	28,892	1,437	1 : 20.1
1968	50	35,322	1,396	1 : 25.3
1969	56	45,078	2,105	1 : 21.4
1970	51	54,807	2,387	1 : 23.0
1971	63	74,758	3,831	1 : 19.5
1972	63	88,919	5,074	1 : 17.5
1973	59	107,933	7,594	1 : 14.2
1974	65	106,867	10,747	1 : 9.9
1975	68	125,807	14,972	1 : 8.4
1976	68	138,946	23,431	1 : 5.9
1977	73	155,445	22,319	1 : 7.0
1978	74	175,314	22,967	1 : 7.6
1979	88	193,764	34,874	1 : 5.6
1980	88	216,055	40,499	1 : 5.3
1981	88	231,948	47,634	1 : 4.9
1982	88	257,504	52,885	1 : 4.9
1983	88	264,493	59,812	1 : 4.4
1984	88	273,205	66,860	1 : 4.0
1985	88	277,714	64,263	1 : 4.3
1986	88	290,293	67,626	1 : 4.3
1987	88	297,205	79,355	1 : 3.7
1988	88	373,435	100,674	1 : 3.7
1989	88	284,909	91,236	1 : 3.1
1990	88	295,127	98,468	1 : 3.0
1991	88	338,186	119,215	1 : 2.9
1992	88	359,250	126,113	1 : 2.8
1993	88	385,068	138,752	1 : 2.8
1994	88	425,797	170,527	1 : 2.5
1995	88	496,890	179,543	1 : 2.8
1996	88	475,288	158,000	1 : 3.0
1997	88	439,814	153,159	1 : 2.9
1998	88	365,875	118,270	1 : 3.1
1999	88	361,125	126,770	1 : 2.8
2000	88	438,744	150,432	1 : 2.9
2001	88	469,055	165,124	1 : 2.8
2002	88	507,723	204,652	1 : 2.5
2003	88	515,928	197,790	1 : 2.6

^a Season length, bag limit, type of season (e.g., buck-only versus either-sex) and weather have varied among years and have affected total harvest, hunter success rates, and the number of hunters in the field in a given year.

^b Harvest estimates based on hunter questionnaires 1946-60 and mandatory check thereafter.

^c Because license-exempt hunters generally account for 20-25% of the total harvest, the permit success rate for license buyers is somewhat lower than shown.

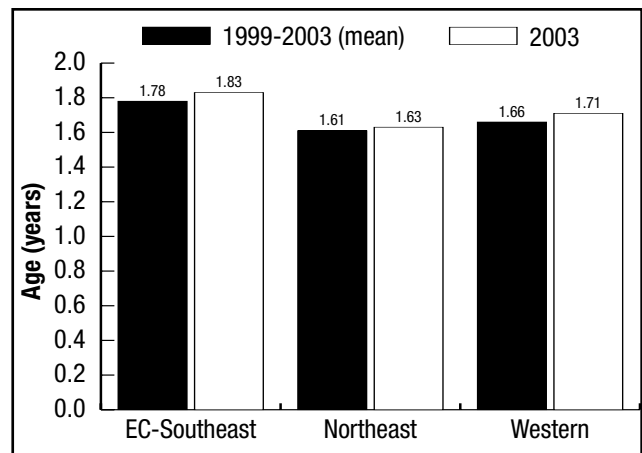


Figure 5. Mean age of all deer sampled by region for gun season harvest samples, 1999-2003. Annual means are based on sample sizes that generally ranged from 5-7% of the total gun season harvest.



Table 5. Estimated harvest rate of antlered deer, pre-season adult (1.5 years old and older) sex ratio, and fawns per adult doe in the gun season harvest sample. Estimates are based on 8,337 deer sampled during the 2003 gun season.

Variable	Region		
	EC-Southeast	Northeast	Western
Buck harvest rate¹			
5-year average ²	0.55	0.57	0.57
2003	0.53	0.55	0.55
Adult sex ratio			
5-year average	1.51 ³	1.48	1.51
2003	1.63	1.57	1.50
Fawn/adult doe			
5-year average	.98	.99	.99
2003	.95	0.95	0.98

¹The proportion of antlered deer alive at the start of the gun season that will be harvested.

²Average based on data from 1999-2003 seasons.

³For example, for every 100 adult bucks alive at the start of the gun season, there will be approximately 150 adult does.

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Table 6. Deer-vehicle accident trends as compiled by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 1999-2003

County	Year				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Champaign	174	152	131	79	56
Delaware	535	450	640	547	577
Fairfield	533	577	591	493	505
Fayette	152	184	165	195	223
Franklin	504	440	543	489	511
Knox	523	584	699	632	612
Licking	357	323	379	338	324
Logan	386	432	548	561	449
Madison	130	153	201	149	147
Marion	169	196	280	296	308
Morrow	290	314	343	318	319
Pickaway	292	258	297	302	336
Union	296	283	372	332	364
District 1 Total	4,341	4,346	5,189	4,731	4,731
Allen	232	252	406	404	405
Crawford	190	195	254	238	286
Defiance	258	291	311	335	354
Erie	222	220	252	219	318
Fulton	209	182	206	181	190
Hancock	273	296	303	373	500
Hardin	180	158	224	199	275
Henry	121	98	172	170	186
Huron	229	236	265	320	359
Lucas	273	235	257	239	266
Ottawa	121	135	166	167	151
Paulding	85	110	164	159	181
Putnam	116	94	145	121	130
Richland	550	626	707	699	753
Sandusky	232	229	269	256	320
Seneca	273	289	337	308	381
VanWert	73	89	122	118	194
Williams	310	341	389	378	453
Wood	241	247	311	294	337
Wyandot	193	203	216	244	322
District 2 Total	4,381	4,526	5,476	5,422	6,361
Ashland	341	354	374	432	488
Ashtabula	377	410	492	554	583
Carroll	228	214	253	245	279
Columbiana	342	351	392	381	447
Cuyahoga	518	461	509	476	525
Geauga	366	379	380	425	443
Harrison	204	199	243	220	219
Holmes	271	315	411	392	383
Jefferson	196	244	269	270	253
Lake	349	318	361	345	341
Lorain	420	352	431	419	517
Mahoning	390	380	446	443	516

Table 6. Continued

County	Year				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Medina	353	342	411	389	426
Portage	399	411	447	494	500
Stark	380	441	526	519	591
Summit	663	623	716	674	642
Trumbull	359	415	459	477	482
Tuscarawas	428	422	491	502	591
Wayne	318	327	493	434	506
District 3 Total	6,902	6,958	8,104	8,091	8,732
Athens	493	486	487	413	388
Belmont	226	248	204	160	185
Coshocton	373	447	537	612	577
Gallia	383	298	380	361	261
Guernsey	366	433	475	475	435
Hocking	256	209	193	146	127
Jackson	445	454	405	376	318
Lawrence	232	192	234	202	135
Meigs	225	244	258	204	207
Monroe	48	33	54	32	36
Morgan	208	189	185	186	191
Muskingum	587	601	757	637	703
Noble	199	171	226	228	213
Perry	340	327	317	279	243
Pike	208	153	221	146	119
Ross	549	472	621	518	555
Scioto	334	268	324	252	206
Vinton	211	190	240	229	233
Washington	372	324	359	312	336
District 4 Total	6,055	5,739	6,477	5,768	5,468
Adams	293	304	307	323	332
Auglaize	193	200	257	238	266
Brown	309	310	350	382	359
Butler	484	424	467	484	498
Clark	260	244	303	265	218
Clermont	554	562	565	561	541
Clinton	269	258	297	295	290
Darke	152	189	261	224	272
Greene	435	444	494	493	445
Hamilton	724	697	703	731	791
Highland	389	211	433	399	394
Mercer	122	127	185	179	177
Miami	319	245	306	327	390
Montgomery	384	311	411	415	395
Preble	190	161	213	214	214
Shelby	247	274	332	339	373
Warren	422	368	456	425	482
District 5 Total	5,746	5,329	6,340	6,294	6,437
Statewide	27,425	26,898	31,586	30,306	31,729

Table 7. Deer damage complaints, number and type of kill permit issued, and number of deer harvested and killed on in-season and out-of-season permits, respectively, 1999-2003.

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Adams					
1999	11	7	9	2	3
2000	15	13	27	4	13
2001	13	13	56	0	0
2002	37	29	92	2	0
2003	46	38	137	6	7
Allen					
1999	1	0	0	1	0
2000	3	1	0	3	2
2001	6	4	2	2	0
2002	5	1	0	2	0
2003	2	0	0	1	0
Ashland					
1999	7	0	0	7	19
2000	10	4	12	7	20
2001	9	2	17	6	32
2002	17	11	23	7	51
2003	22	20	56	9	57
Ashtabula					
1999	3	1	1	0	0
2000	8	4	12	4	10
2001	19	12	22	3	11
2002	16	12	23	7	51
2003	16	8	29	8	28
Athens					
1999	39	16	66	23	60
2000	40	20	91	25	133
2001	35	23	138	20	147
2002	47	28	149	29	187
2003	53	34	200	28	140
Auglaize					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	1	1	1	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	1	1	2	0	0
Belmont					
1999	12	6	7	9	28
2000	15	10	17	9	30
2001	23	17	33	7	25
2002	31	22	61	17	34
2003	37	29	82	20	69
Brown					
1999	13	7	3	8	19
2000	10	7	17	4	12
2001	10	7	20	3	17
2002	27	23	77	5	30
2003	30	23	102	2	6
Butler					
1999	12	3	4	8	32
2000	11	0	0	11	32
2001	18	2	5	16	37
2002	10	1	2	9	26
2003	19	11	8	14	5
Carroll					
1999	2	0	0	2	2
2000	4	1	0	3	17
2001	5	4	14	3	12
2002	20	14	42	10	88
2003	20	16	51	12	72
Champaign					
1999	2	2	5	0	0
2000	7	2	6	4	5
2001	4	2	10	1	0
2002	6	2	5	2	1
2003	7	3	16	2	1
Clark					
1999	10	6	11	3	0
2000	6	3	9	3	15
2001	6	3	12	3	8
2002	15	5	6	11	8
2003	14	10	20	8	11

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Clermont					
1999	9	6	7	4	25
2000	13	4	17	11	51
2001	10	0	0	10	43
2002	16	5	5	11	46
2003	23	6	25	18	64
Clinton					
1999	13	7	13	3	5
2000	8	5	16	2	0
2001	10	5	8	3	0
2002	29	19	13	11	3
2003	12	11	15	2	0
Columbiana					
1999	3	1	0	2	5
2000	2	0	0	2	3
2001	4	0	0	4	6
2002	15	10	11	9	16
2003	15	9	31	9	32
Coshocton					
1999	30	23	76	7	39
2000	33	18	89	16	80
2001	33	22	103	15	61
2002	46	29	149	26	232
2003	61	59	407	21	228
Crawford					
1999	4	1	3	3	7
2000	2	0	0	2	3
2001	6	3	4	2	1
2002	2	2	0	2	4
2003	8	7	10	2	2
Cuyahoga					
1999	42	10	5	29	63
2000	42	9	16	32	119
2001	46	4	2	35	59
2002	39	2	0	26	37
2003	25	16	1	1	30
Darke					
1999	1	0	0	1	4
2000	1	0	0	1	4
2001	1	0	0	1	6
2002	1	0	0	1	1
2003	1	0	0	1	1
Defiance					
1999	1	1	2	0	0
2000	1	1	0	1	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	2	1	0	1	2
Delaware					
1999	5	0	0	4	2
2000	5	5	7	0	0
2001	5	5	18	0	0
2002	14	1	0	10	4
2003	23	6	20	14	31
Erie					
1999	3	0	0	3	6
2000	6	1	3	4	9
2001	3	1	0	3	11
2002	4	3	1	2	5
2003	5	3	2	2	7
Fairfield					
1999	22	12	29	15	60
2000	31	13	39	27	98
2001	36	23	52	25	91
2002	43	18	49	37	133
2003	51	20	70	42	173
Fayette					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0

Summary of 2003-04 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Franklin					
1999	15	3	3	13	26
2000	15	7	3	13	27
2001	16	5	0	14	52
2002	16	3	2	15	27
2003	20	1	2	17	45
Fulton					
1999	2	1	3	1	0
2000	2	1	2	1	1
2001	1	1	2	0	0
2002	1	1	1	0	0
2003	2	2	4	0	0
Gallia					
1999	20	0	0	15	39
2000	10	0	0	8	3
2001	7	1	1	4	9
2002	6	1	1	5	26
2003	5	3	15	1	4
Geauga					
1999	7	1	1	6	37
2000	10	0	0	9	40
2001	10	1	2	9	29
2002	8	5	3	3	22
2003	17	2	5	14	55
Greene					
1999	8	2	1	5	15
2000	12	8	12	4	13
2001	17	8	17	10	21
2002	23	14	31	9	12
2003	18	11	37	7	16
Guernsey					
1999	7	2	10	5	34
2000	11	4	28	8	30
2001	17	8	39	11	52
2002	35	25	70	19	72
2003	34	31	90	15	59
Hamilton					
1999	38	0	0	35	102
2000	34	0	0	32	83
2001	20	0	0	20	52
2002	23	0	1	22	61
2003	31	0	0	29	47
Hancock					
1999	8	4	1	3	4
2000	6	5	3	2	8
2001	8	6	5	6	10
2002	11	9	9	6	8
2003	11	7	14	6	14
Hardin					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	1	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	2	2	2	0	0
Harrison					
1999	7	3	3	6	13
2000	7	5	10	4	22
2001	10	6	26	5	26
2002	22	14	26	13	46
2003	12	9	49	7	68
Henry					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	1	0	0	0	0
2002	1	0	0	1	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
Highland					
1999	7	0	0	6	20
2000	8	5	7	4	13
2001	24	11	7	15	42
2002	49	30	45	29	87
2003	31	26	56	20	91

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Hocking					
1999	15	7	36	14	156
2000	13	3	44	12	140
2001	12	6	45	11	172
2002	20	16	76	19	187
2003	25	22	82	16	110
Holmes					
1999	6	2	4	5	16
2000	3	2	12	1	1
2001	14	10	47	4	6
2002	18	14	80	5	29
2003	20	5	147	17	48
Huron					
1999	2	1	2	0	0
2000	3	1	0	2	0
2001	2	2	0	1	2
2002	2	1	4	1	1
2003	8	2	7	6	6
Jackson					
1999	20	7	18	13	20
2000	12	6	23	7	29
2001	20	14	47	14	36
2002	19	8	31	16	27
2003	25	17	90	19	47
Jefferson					
1999	13	8	13	4	35
2000	24	13	64	8	47
2001	22	16	52	15	99
2002	69	42	140	41	143
2003	35	30	108	22	136
Knox					
1999	34	17	39	26	108
2000	48	40	121	30	223
2001	67	50	232	39	326
2002	72	9	13	65	397
2003	81	35	147	59	623
Lake					
1999	17	1	2	16	30
2000	24	1	0	22	37
2001	24	1	7	23	42
2002	22	1	0	20	35
2003	32	4	11	27	70
Lawrence					
1999	43	8	26	36	32
2000	19	9	11	15	15
2001	25	11	15	20	46
2002	24	11	35	14	33
2003	19	17	36	11	19
Licking					
1999	13	0	0	13	21
2000	23	1	13	22	40
2001	16	3	22	15	51
2002	30	2	11	27	88
2003	36	4	11	32	159
Logan					
1999	4	0	0	4	12
2000	3	0	0	3	6
2001	5	0	0	5	13
2002	8	0	0	8	33
2003	13	1	1	6	17
Lorain					
1999	9	0	0	8	18
2000	8	2	3	6	20
2001	8	1	1	6	20
2002	15	2	1	12	14
2003	11	1	1	7	6
Lucas					
1999	4	0	0	3	0
2000	3	0	0	3	5
2001	6	2	0	5	3
2002	4	0	0	4	4
2003	8	4	0	0	9

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Madison					
1999	1	1	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	1	0	0
2003	1	0	0	1	0
Mahoning					
1999	2	1	0	2	5
2000	1	0	0	1	2
2001	2	0	4	2	8
2002	4	0	0	2	2
2003	5	0	0	4	5
Marion					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	1	1	0	0	0
2003	1	1	1	1	1
Medina					
1999	5	0	0	5	6
2000	10	4	0	10	25
2001	11	5	2	9	25
2002	17	8	6	10	26
2003	18	13	7	13	38
Meigs					
1999	11	9	25	3	4
2000	17	9	24	11	34
2001	15	12	47	4	12
2002	24	19	63	11	38
2003	21	17	87	8	6
Mercer					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	1	0	0	0	0
Miami					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	1	1	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	1	1	4	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
Monroe					
1999	55	46	13	11	9
2000	11	4	12	7	12
2001	18	6	17	15	18
2002	17	8	32	12	35
2003	23	11	54	11	28
Montgomery					
1999	12	3	5	5	3
2000	11	7	4	7	3
2001	12	6	17	15	18
2002	19	9	4	6	0
2003	19	10	0	11	0
Morgan					
1999	28	16	39	22	97
2000	16	1	10	14	51
2001	12	9	30	8	43
2002	20	18	70	7	46
2003	26	25	92	15	68
Morrow					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	2	0	0	2	3
2003	5	3	8	1	0
Muskingum					
1999	33	16	19	21	39
2000	33	11	16	22	74
2001	24	11	36	21	60
2002	48	13	38	35	148
2003	41	26	122	29	177

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Noble					
1999	3	2	0	3	18
2000	7	3	13	7	14
2001	6	2	15	5	24
2002	13	5	27	12	50
2003	10	6	12	5	15
Ottawa					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	1	0	0	1	2
2003	3	2	4	1	4
Paulding					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	2	2	2	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
Perry					
1999	6	2	1	6	19
2000	6	4	5	2	6
2001	8	3	10	6	14
2002	16	9	31	8	19
2003	15	6	52	10	29
Pickaway					
1999	7	7	0	7	11
2000	10	10	8	9	21
2001	9	8	2	7	7
2002	14	8	9	13	29
2003	15	13	7	5	10
Pike					
1999	12	9	10	5	10
2000	11	5	14	6	7
2001	8	7	14	6	7
2002	12	10	30	4	4
2003	15	13	31	9	26
Portage					
1999	5	0	0	5	23
2000	6	2	0	5	29
2001	6	2	1	6	14
2002	12	6	2	9	13
2003	13	7	5	3	43
Preble					
1999	4	1	2	1	5
2000	4	2	5	2	10
2001	4	4	4	0	0
2002	2	2	4	0	0
2003	7	6	4	2	10
Putnam					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	1	0	0	1	185
2003	0	0	0	0	0
Richland					
1999	11	0	0	8	40
2000	15	3	3	13	62
2001	12	4	20	9	80
2002	20	5	16	18	79
2003	24	8	12	21	119
Ross					
1999	26	20	76	12	89
2000	24	19	64	20	141
2001	22	19	63	11	103
2002	34	26	115	19	185
2003	37	18	122	21	127
Sandusky					
1999	1	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	1	0	0	0	0
2003	5	4	19	0	0

Summary of 2003-04 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Scioto					
1999	9	5	8	4	13
2000	8	3	13	5	23
2001	10	4	12	5	29
2002	12	8	49	10	53
2003	13	12	37	9	49
Seneca					
1999	3	1	5	2	4
2000	6	4	8	2	6
2001	8	6	21	2	6
2002	7	5	22	2	7
2003	18	14	45	2	2
Shelby					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
Stark					
1999	9	0	0	8	9
2000	10	2	7	6	9
2001	8	3	10	5	8
2002	7	1	0	6	5
2003	17	4	9	10	14
Summit					
1999	15	0	0	14	59
2000	19	1	4	12	104
2001	22	3	10	5	8
2002	20	4	5	17	58
2003	20	0	5	16	68
Trumbull					
1999	2	0	0	1	0
2000	2	0	0	2	9
2001	5	3	3	4	12
2002	10	6	6	5	13
2003	10	6	9	6	17
Tuscarawas					
1999	4	4	6	2	1
2000	9	9	28	1	1
2001	7	7	27	2	3
2002	25	19	78	12	18
2003	27	25	120	13	52
Union					
1999	4	2	4	2	1
2000	7	4	4	4	6
2001	10	8	3	5	15
2002	12	4	3	8	18
2003	9	6	1	6	21
VanWert					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	1	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	1	1	3	0	0
Vinton					
1999	15	5	21	8	7
2000	7	2	16	6	17
2001	5	5	13	4	0
2002	4	3	22	3	0
2003	5	2	29	4	4
Warren					
1999	31	9	11	20	50
2000	30	11	26	19	82
2001	31	15	21	16	48
2002	33	17	18	19	81
2003	22	9	12	13	35
Washington					
1999	21	13	27	13	27
2000	18	8	29	10	31
2001	19	11	61	10	35
2002	23	16	67	16	79
2003	36	25	71	21	69

Table 7. Continued

County/year	Complaints	Permit Type			
		In-Season		Out-of-Season	
		Permits Issued	Deer Harvested	Permits Issued	Deer Killed
Wayne					
1999	3	2	1	2	4
2000	2	0	0	2	3
2001	2	0	0	2	1
2002	6	0	0	6	6
2003	12	3	3	7	13
Williams					
1999	1	1	2	0	0
2000	3	3	11	0	0
2001	8	2	16	8	2
2002	10	10	19	3	12
2003	17	17	45	2	7
Wood					
1999	1	0	0	1	4
2000	3	0	0	3	0
2001	3	0	0	3	2
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	3	2	2	1	2
Wyandot					
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	3	1	9	0	0
2002	2	1	10	0	0
2003	6	5	23	0	0
STATEWIDE					
1999	885	351	678	564	1,674
2000	879	366	1,058	599	2,241
2001	965	481	1,551	613	2,347
2002	1390	689	2047	865	3288
2003	1510	887	3252	842	3674

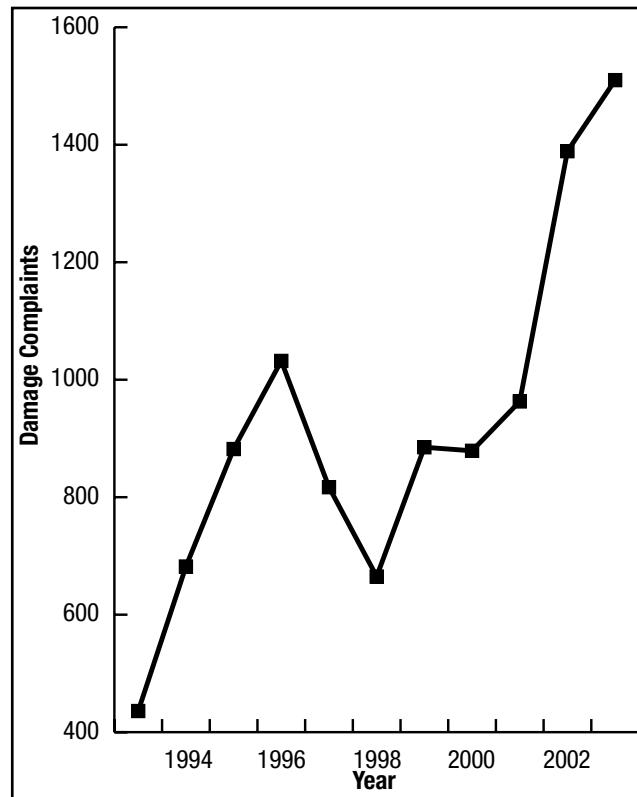
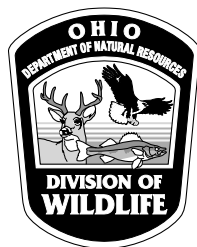


Figure 6. Statewide trends in deer damage complaints, 1993-2003.



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