

Ohio Deer Summary

SUMMARY OF 2016-17 & FORECAST FOR 2017-18
OHIO DEER SEASONS

OUR DEER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The goal of Ohio's deer program is to provide a deer population that maximizes recreational opportunities including viewing, photographing, and hunting, while minimizing conflicts with agriculture, motor travel, and other areas of human endeavor. This has been the ODNR Division of Wildlife's goal for over 50 years. Historically, farmer and rural landowner attitude surveys have been used to establish population goals for most counties. While the ODNR Division of Wildlife believes these goals represent a reasonable compromise concerning appropriate deer population levels, we have updated population goals using a combination of farmer and hunter surveys completed during the fall of 2015. Maintaining the deer population at or near goal is accomplished through harvest management.



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE



2016-2017 SEASON SUMMARY SEASONS AND PERMITS

A valid hunting license (resident = \$19, nonresident = \$125, youth = \$10, senior = \$10) and a deer permit (either-sex = \$24, antlerless = \$15, youth = \$12, senior = \$12) are required to hunt deer in Ohio. Hunters could harvest up to six deer with a combination of either-sex and antlerless permits (Figure 1); however, they were limited to one antlerless permit per county. Antlerless Permits were valid only in 10 urban counties during the first nine weeks of the archery season, as well as during all ODNR Division of Wildlife controlled hunts.

Hunters were limited to one antlered deer, and had the opportunity to hunt deer during Ohio's four seasons, including archery (Sep. 24, 2016 - Feb. 5, 2017), gun (Nov. 28 - Dec. 4, 2016), bonus gun (Dec. 17-18, 2016), and muzzleloader (Jan. 7-10, 2017). Youth (17 and under) season was Nov. 19-20, 2016.

The ODNR Division of Wildlife issued 445,166 deer permits during the 2016-17 license year, 4.5 percent fewer than last year and the seventh consecutive year that sales have declined (Table 1). Permit sales for 2016-17 were down nearly 29% from the recent peak in 2009-10. The decreasing trend is likely due to several factors including fewer deer in many areas of the state; the statewide buck harvest of 78,132 was 18% lower than the record 2006-07 adult buck harvest (Figure 2). Also, to encourage herd growth in many areas of the state, antlerless permits were only valid in 10 urban counties. As a result, antlerless permit sales were down 82% compared to the 2013-14 season (the last season that antlerless permits were valid statewide).

FIGURE 1: 2016-2017 WHITE-TAILED DEER BAG LIMIT MAP

■ - Two Deer County, ■ - Three Deer County (Antlerless permits are NOT valid), ■ - Three Deer County, ■ - Four Deer County

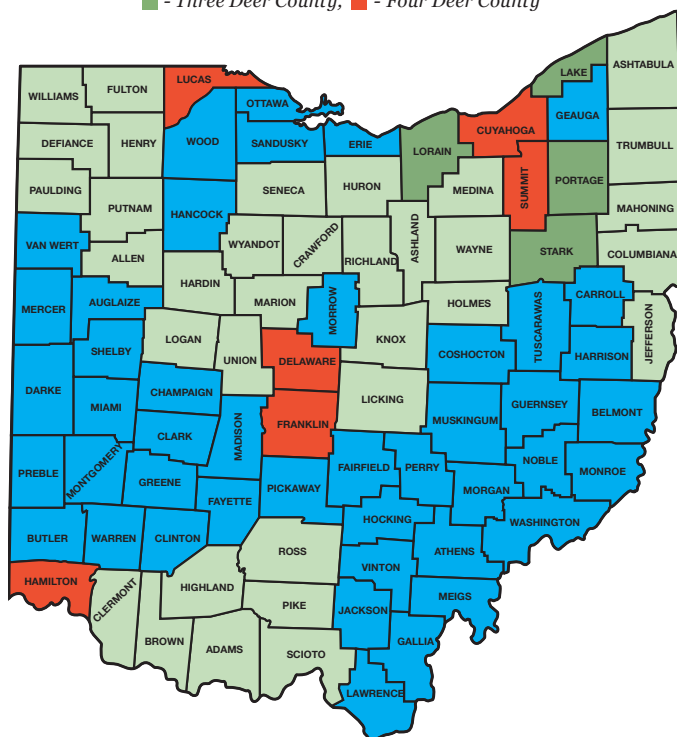
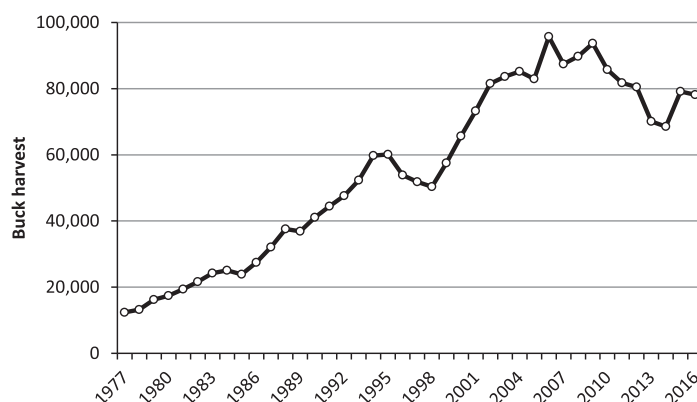


TABLE 1: OHIO DEER PERMITS ISSUED 2007-2016.

Year	Permit			Total
	Youth	Either-Sex	Antlerless-only	
2007-08	65,647	411,522	101,197	578,366
2008-09	67,338	396,704	147,400	611,442
2009-10	67,828	394,620	162,460	624,908
2010-11	66,300	380,462	162,655	609,417
2011-12	62,864	377,302	163,383	603,549
2012-13	64,634	397,333	126,918*	588,885
2013-14	60,961	373,315	101,400	535,676
2014-15	58,227	378,921	57,230	494,378
2015-16	58,055	392,533	15,514	466,102
2016-17	52,706	373,791	18,669	445,166

*Restrictions on the use of the antlerless permit began in 2012 and were expanded through 2015.

FIGURE 2: STATEWIDE BUCK HARVEST, 1977-2016.



HARVEST SUMMARY

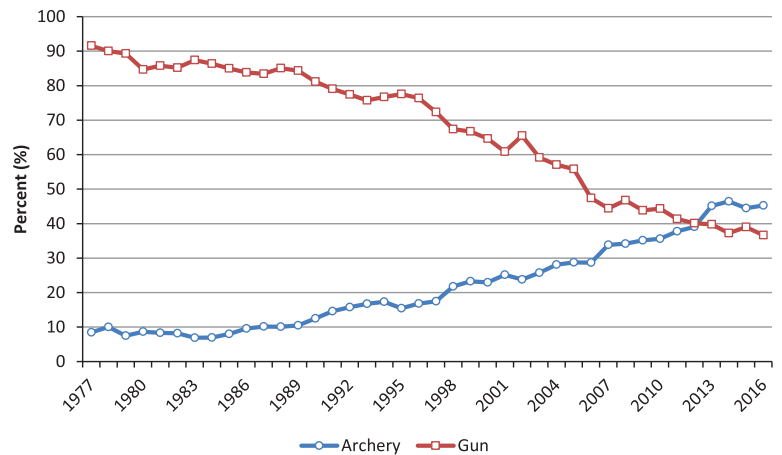
Hunters harvested 182,169 deer during the 2016-17 season, comparable to the three-year average (Table 2). The total includes 78,132 bucks, 85,254 does, and 18,783 button bucks. Coshocton County once again led the state with 5,929 deer killed. A harvest summary by season for the top five counties is presented in Table 3, and a complete harvest summary by county and season is available in Appendix 1.

The harvest total during the traditional statewide gun season was 66,758 deer, 3% less than the three-year average (Table 2). Coshocton, Muskingum, Tuscarawas, Ashtabula, and Knox counties led the state in gun harvest (Table 3). The bonus gun season harvest was 9,228 deer. Ashtabula County hunters led the way, harvesting 422 deer during the two-day season, with Guernsey (302), Trumbull (266), Tuscarawas (260), and Muskingum (256) counties rounding out the top five.

Archers reported harvesting 82,488 deer this year, nearly equivalent to the three-year average (Table 2). Archers accounted for 45% of the entire deer harvest, and for the fourth year in a row, more deer were taken during archery season than the week of gun season. By comparison, just a decade ago the archery harvest only accounted for about 25% of the annual harvest (Figure 3). This shift in the harvest is likely due to the ever-increasing interest and participation in archery hunting. In 1981, only one of three gun hunters also bowhunted. This year, 76% of gun hunters also hunted the archery season.

Crossbow hunters harvested 50,880 deer this year, an increase of 2% over the three-year average (Table 2). Licking County led the state with 1,541 deer, followed by Coshocton, Ashtabula, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas counties. This year's vertical bow harvest (compounds,

FIGURE 3: PERCENT OF THE TOTAL DEER HARVEST TAKEN DURING THE ARCHERY AND TRADITIONAL 7-DAY GUN SEASON, 1977-2016.



recurves, and longbows) was 31,608 deer, 4% fewer than the three-year average. Licking County archers led the state with a harvest of 1,005. This is the 10th consecutive year that Licking County has held the top spot for vertical bow harvest. Coshocton and Muskingum moved up to take the second and third spots, with Knox and Tuscarawas rounding out the top five vertical bow harvest counties.

There were 15,843 deer harvested during the four-day statewide muzzleloader season, an increase of 13% over the three-year average harvest (Table 2). Muskingum County was the top spot for muzzleloader hunters with a harvest of 602 deer, followed by Coshocton, Tuscarawas, Harrison, and Guernsey counties, respectively.

Youth hunters took 5,930 deer this year during the 2-day youth season, a decrease of 9% compared to the three-year average (Table 2). Top harvest counties for the two-day youth season were Coshocton, Guernsey, Tuscarawas, Muskingum, and Meigs counties.

TABLE 2: BUCK, DOE, BUTTON BUCK, AND TOTAL HARVESTS BY SEASON, 2016-17 AND THREE-YEAR AVERAGE.

	Bucks*		Does		Buttons		Total		
	2016	3yr avg.	2016	3yr avg.	2016	3yr avg.	2016	3yr avg.	Diff. (%)
Gun									
Traditional (7-day)	25,514	25,537	33,236	34,914	8,008	8,094	66,758	68,545	-2.6
Bonus (2-day)	2,889	-	5,076	-	1,263	-	9,228	-	-
Archery									
Crossbow	25,483	24,030	20,852	21,104	4,545	4,583	50,880	49,717	2.3
Vertical Bow	15,892	15,619	13,502	14,808	2,214	2,477	31,608	32,904	-3.9
Total	41,375	39,648	34,354	35,912	6,759	7,060	82,488	82,621	-0.2
Muzzleloader	4,384	4,040	9,641	8,339	1,818	1,644	15,843	14,023	13.0
Youth	3,232	3,383	2,001	2,334	697	818	5,930	6,535	-9.3
Total	78,132	75,274	85,254	87,839	18,783	18,989	182,169	182,102	0.0

*Includes bucks at least 1.5 years old with antlers less than three inches in length (1,651), and bucks with shed antlers (855).

TABLE 3: BUCK, DOE, BUTTON BUCK, AND TOTAL HARVESTS BY SEASON FOR THE TOP FIVE COUNTIES, 2016-17.

Season	County	Bucks*	Does	Buttons	Total	Rank	
						2016	2015
Gun	Coshocton	819	1,238	268	2,325	1	1
	Muskingum	759	1,095	258	2,112	2	2
	Tuscarawas	751	1,044	250	2,045	3	4
	Ashtabula	624	1,020	302	1,946	4	3
	Knox	662	988	292	1,942	5	7
Bonus Gun	Ashtabula	99	244	79	422	1	2
	Guernsey	87	169	46	302	2	5
	Trumbull	61	157	48	266	3	25
	Tuscarawas	88	123	49	260	4	3
	Muskingum	79	145	32	256	5	4
Crossbow	Licking	745	659	137	1,541	1	1
	Coshocton	803	604	116	1,523	2	3
	Ashtabula	570	671	171	1,412	3	2
	Trumbull	560	573	179	1,312	4	5
	Tuscarawas	667	491	96	1,254	5	4
Vertical Bow	Licking	468	479	58	1,005	1	1
	Coshocton	540	394	65	999	2	4
	Muskingum	465	285	33	783	3	6
	Knox	371	337	65	773	4	3
	Tuscarawas	400	295	35	730	5	7
Muzzleloader	Muskingum	148	377	77	602	1	3
	Coshocton	171	346	74	591	2	1
	Tuscarawas	156	301	57	514	3	2
	Harrison	118	319	62	499	4	10
	Guernsey	120	302	68	490	5	6
Youth	Coshocton	123	72	27	222	1	1
	Guernsey	112	70	15	197	2	5
	Tuscarawas	97	55	26	178	3	2
	Muskingum	87	55	20	162	4	4
	Meigs	92	47	13	152	5	9
Total	Coshocton	2,531	2,807	591	5,929	1	1
	Muskingum	2,216	2,400	502	5,118	2	3
	Ashtabula	1,705	2,588	747	5,040	3	5
	Tuscarawas	2,180	2,340	519	5,039	4	4
	Licking	2,017	2,449	505	4,971	5	2

*Includes bucks at least 1.5 years old with antlers less than three inches in length and bucks with shed antlers.

NON-RESIDENT HUNTERS

Among permit buyers (excluding landowners), non-resident hunters accounted for 12% of the deer permits issued, 12% of the harvest (16,279 deer), and 18% of the antlered harvest (9,888 bucks) in the 2016-17 season. Eighteen percent of non-resident harvest (2,970 deer) was taken on public land, which is more than twice the rate of residents (8%). The non-resident harvest was 61% antlered. By comparison, the resident harvest was only 40% antlered. The top five nonresident states (by total harvest) were Pennsylvania (2,918), Michigan (1,807), West Virginia (1,484), North Carolina (1,187), and Florida (1,066). The top five counties for non-resident deer harvest were Athens (22.2%), Pike (21.4%), Adams (21.2%), Morgan (20.7%), and Meigs (19.5%).

Nearly two-thirds (61%) of non-resident harvest occurred during archery season, with the gun and muzzleloader seasons accounting for an additional 25% and 11%, respectively (Table 4). Nonresidents also took a larger percentage of their harvest during archery season than either residents or landowners. Seventy percent of the antlered and almost half of the antlerless deer harvested by nonresidents were taken during archery season.

LANDOWNERS

Landowners reported harvesting 49,021 deer, nearly 30% of the resident harvest. The proportion of the harvest taken by landowners increased substantially from 1995 (19%) to 2005 (28%), and has gradually increased to almost one-third of the resident harvest. Landowners harvested the majority of their deer (44%) during the gun season, 43% during archery, and 8% during the statewide muzzleloader season (Table 4). Though resident and nonresident hunters harvested the greatest percentage of their antlerless deer during the archery season, landowners took 47% of their antlerless deer during the gun season. Landowner proportion of the total county harvest varied considerably across the state, but was greatest among southeastern counties. Meigs County led the state with landowners accounting for 40% of the total reported harvest. Landowners also accounted for a significant portion of the total harvest in Washington (39%), Gallia (39%), Monroe (37%), and Scioto (36%) counties (Table 5).

TABLE 4: PROPORTION OF ANTLERED, ANTLERLESS, AND TOTAL HARVEST BY SEASON, FOR ADULT RESIDENTS, NON-RESIDENTS, AND LANDOWNERS DURING THE 2016-17 DEER SEASON.

	Antlered Harvest			Antlerless Harvest			Total Harvest		
	Resident	Non-resident	Landowner	Resident	Non-resident	Landowner	Resident	Non-resident	Landowner
Archery	55	70	53	43	48	36	48	61	43
Gun	35	22	38	39	31	47	37	25	44
Bonus Gun	4	2	4	6	3	7	5	2	6
Muzzleloader	6	7	4	12	18	10	9	11	8

TABLE 5: TOP 10 LANDOWNER HARVEST COUNTIES FOR THE 2016-17 DEER SEASON.

County	Percent of Total Harvest by Landowners	Percent of Antlered Harvest by Landowners (Rank)	Percent of Antlerless Harvest by Landowners (Rank)
Meigs	40	37 (2)	43 (2)
Washington	39	33 (6)	44 (1)
Gallia	39	39 (1)	38 (5)
Monroe	37	34 (5)	39 (4)
Scioto	36	31 (8)	40 (3)
Holmes	36	35 (3)	37 (7)
Guernsey	35	34 (4)	36 (8)
Athens	34	30 (12)	37 (6)
Jackson	33	31 (10)	35 (10)
Tuscarawas	33	31 (9)	34 (12)

TABLE 6: PUBLIC LAND AND TOTAL HARVEST, BY RESIDENCY STATUS, IN THE TOP COUNTIES FOR PUBLIC LAND ACREAGE DURING THE 2016-17 DEER SEASON.

County	Public Land			Resident Harvest			Non-resident Harvest				
	Acres*	% of County Area Open to Public Hunting	% of County Harvest Taken on Public Land	Public Land	County Total	% of Harvest Taken on Public Land	Public Land	County Total	% of Harvest Taken on Public Land	% of County's Total Harvest Taken by NR	% of County's Public Land Harvest Taken by NR
Lawrence	82,100	28	28.0	386	1,599	24.1	157	343	45.8	17.7	28.9
Scioto	72,200	18	16.3	258	2,054	12.6	145	425	34.1	17.1	36.0
Muskingum	50,300	12	17.1	599	4,282	14.0	278	836	33.3	16.3	31.7
Vinton	49,300	19	22.8	404	2,196	18.4	203	472	43.0	17.7	33.4
Hocking	45,100	17	22.1	506	2,758	18.3	219	517	42.4	15.8	30.2
Washington	39,800	10	11.1	301	2,891	10.4	78	511	15.3	15.0	20.6
Morgan	38,400	14	20.7	464	2,373	19.6	155	619	25.0	20.7	25.0
Coshocton	36,800	10	14.0	620	5,123	12.1	213	806	26.4	13.6	25.6
Athens	32,600	10	15.6	404	2,836	14.2	164	810	20.2	22.2	28.9
Monroe	30,500	10	11.7	254	2,333	10.9	47	238	19.7	9.3	15.6

*Lands open to public hunting that are owned or administered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources or U.S. Forest Service (Wayne National Forest), rounded to the nearest 100 acres.

PUBLIC LAND

While public land only accounts for roughly 4% of the total land area in the state, resident and non-resident hunters reported harvesting 16,656 deer, just over 9% of the season total, on public land. Antlered bucks accounted for 39% of the public land harvest, slightly less than the proportion of antlered bucks in the private land harvest (42%). With just over 80,000 acres of public land including the Wayne National Forest, Crown City Wildlife Area, and Dean State Forest, Lawrence County once again held the top spot for the proportion of harvest taken on public land (28%; Figure 4). The other top counties were Vinton (22.8%), Hocking (22.1%), Lucas (20.8%), and Morgan (20.7%). Nonresident hunters accounted for more than 25% of the public land harvest in eight of the top 10 counties (Table 6).

DEER AGE STRUCTURE

In 2016, ODNR Division of Wildlife personnel aged 5,649 deer during the weeklong gun season, just over 8% of the reported harvest. Data was collected from 62 processors in 48 counties. Figure 5 shows how the age structure of the antlered harvest has changed over time. The proportion of yearlings in the antlered buck harvest has been steadily declining since the late 1990s. In the early to mid-1980s, nearly 70% of the bucks harvested were yearlings. Today, that percentage is down close to 40%. A reduction of this magnitude would normally be a result of some type of regulation change, such as antler point restrictions. In Ohio's case, the decline in yearling buck harvest is likely due to at least two factors. Most importantly, Ohio hunters seem to be aware of the benefits of allowing bucks to mature, and have acted on their own self-imposed restrictions. Second, the growth of the deer herd over time, coupled with liberal antlerless harvest opportunities, likely reduced the pressure on the antlered segment of the population.

FIGURE 4: PERCENT OF HARVEST TAKEN ON PUBLIC LAND DURING THE 2016-17 DEER SEASON.

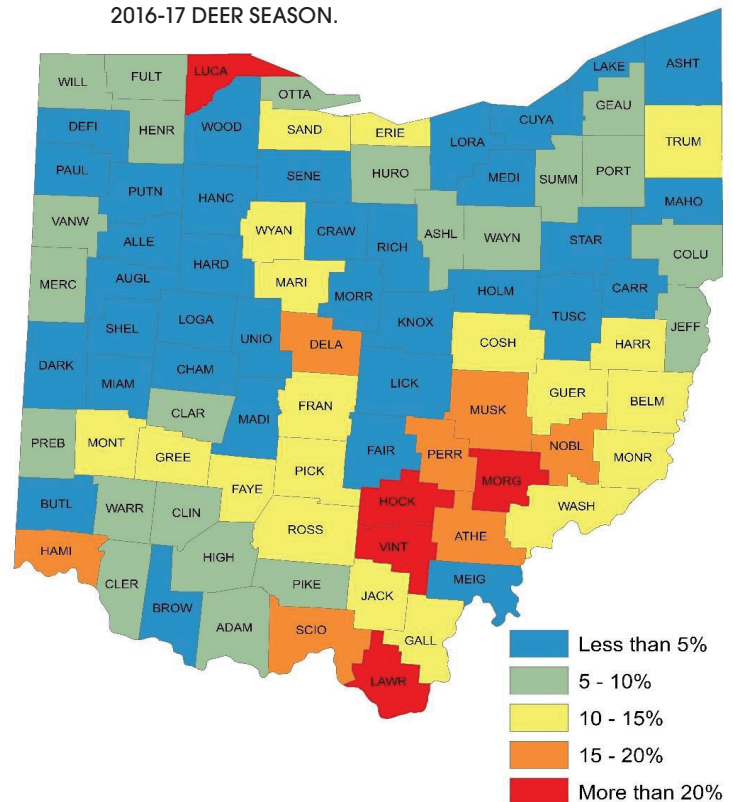
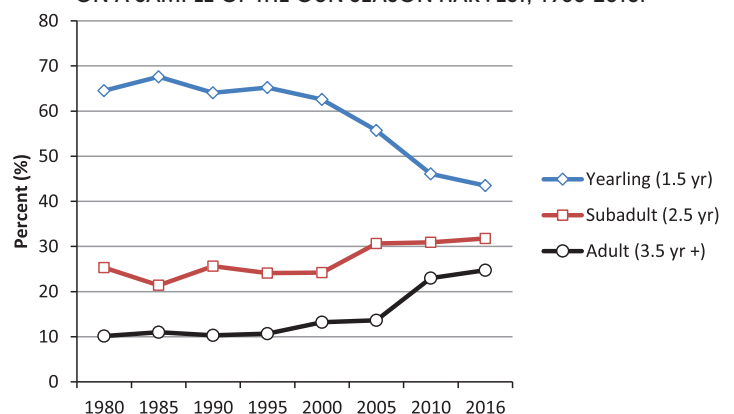


FIGURE 5: STATEWIDE TRENDS IN ANTLERED BUCK AGE STRUCTURE BASED ON A SAMPLE OF THE GUN SEASON HARVEST, 1980-2016.

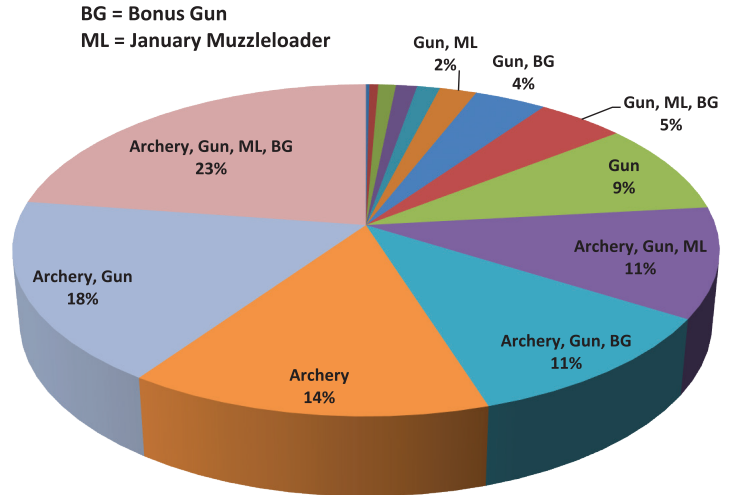


HUNTER SUCCESS, PARTICIPATION RATES, AND EFFORT

This year, 216,251 resident adults purchased at least one either-sex or antlerless-only permit and 71,991 harvested at least one deer, for a 33% hunter success rate (Table 7). Hunter success rates differed markedly on public and private land. Thirty-two percent of private land hunters were successful, as compared to only 15% of public land hunters. Because our deer hunter surveys are limited to resident adult hunters, rates may be different for nonresident hunters, as well as youth, disabled veterans, free and reduced cost seniors, and landowners.

During the 2016-17 season, 80% of hunters bowhunted, while 82%, 45% and 43% reported hunting in the gun, bonus gun, and muzzleloader seasons, respectively (Table 7; Figure 6). Hunter effort has remained relatively constant since 2001, though the average number of days hunted seems to have dipped slightly this year. During the 2016-17 season, archery, gun, and muzzleloader hunters spent, on average, 17.0, 3.5, and 2.1 days hunting those seasons, with hunters averaging 18.0 days in the field over the course of the entire season (Table 8). Roughly one in five archery hunters reported a deer harvest and gun hunters posted a success rate of almost 18% (Table 7). When considering success rates, it is important to remember that success in any particular season is very much dependent upon success in other seasons. More than 75% of

FIGURE 6: SEASON-SPECIFIC HUNTER PARTICIPATION RATES BASED ON RESULTS OF THE 2016-17 DEER HUNTER SURVEY.



gun hunters are also bow hunters that likely hunt prior to the gun season. Because most hunters participate in multiple seasons and many choose to hunt bucks only, season-specific success rates have limited value and certainly cannot be compared with other states where hunters have season-specific

TABLE 7: PARTICIPATION AND SUCCESS RATES FOR RESIDENT ADULT HUNTERS ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND FOR THE 2015-16 AND 2016-17 DEER SEASONS.

	Participation Rate			Estimated Number of Hunters			Number of Successful Hunters			Success Rate (%)		
	2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change
Total				226,348	216,251¹	-4.5	74,188	71,991²	-3.0	32.8	33.3³	1.6
Private				212,324	204,404 ⁴		66,203	64,398	-2.7	31.2	31.5	1.0
Public				72,668	63,249 ⁵		10,060	9,661	-4.0	13.8	15.3	10.3
Archery	0.81	0.80 ⁶	-1.1	183,002	172,920⁷	-5.5	37,268	36,170	-2.9	20.4	20.9	2.7
Private				171,664	163,447 ⁸		33,969	32,875	-3.2	19.8	20.1	1.6
Public				58,752	50,576		4,611	3,894	-15.5	7.8	7.7	-1.9
Gun	0.78	0.82	4.7	176,222	176,346	0.1	34,168	31,411	-8.1	19.4	17.8	-8.1
Private				165,304	166,686		29,361	27,058	-7.8	17.8	16.2	-8.6
Public				56,575	51,578		5,091	4,642	-8.8	9.0	9.0	0.0
Bonus Gun	0.27	0.45	62.4	62,237	96,537	55.1	4,749	4,799	1.1	7.6	5.0	-34.9
Private				58,381	91,249		4,109	4,297	4.6	7.0	4.7	-33.1
Public				19,981	28,235		671	510	-24.0	3.4	1.8	-46.2
Muzzleloader	0.32	0.43	35.2	71,799	92,708	29.1	6,564	8,308	26.6	9.1	9.0	-2.0
Private				67,350	87,629		5,778	7,248	25.4	8.6	8.3	-3.6
Public				23,051	27,115		799	1,097	37.3	3.5	4.0	16.7

¹The number of adult resident hunters who purchased at least one deer permit during the 2016-17 season. Excludes non-residents, youth, seniors, disabled veterans, and landowners.

²The number of adult resident hunters that reported harvesting at least one deer during the 2016-17 season.

³The number of successful adult resident hunters divided by the total number of adult resident hunters that purchased a deer permit.

⁴Among respondents to the 2016-17 deer hunter survey, 94.5% indicated that they hunted at least once on private land during the season. This rate is applied to the known number of licensed adult hunters to estimate the total number of hunters hunting private land at least once during the 2016-17 season.

⁵Among respondents to the 2016-17 deer hunter survey, 29.2% indicated that they hunted at least once on public land during the season. This rate is applied to the known number of licensed adult hunters to estimate the total number of hunters hunting public land at least once during the 2016-17 season.

⁶Among respondents to the 2016-17 deer hunter survey, 80% indicated that they hunted at least one day during the 2016-17 archery season.

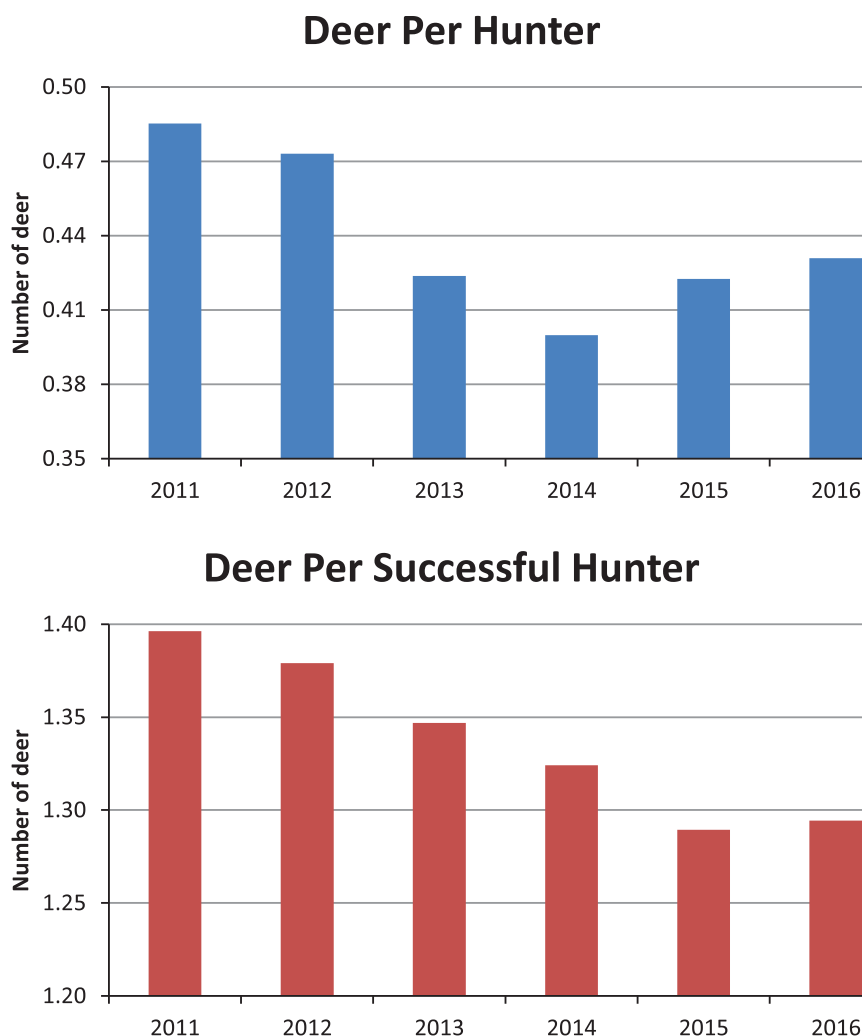
⁷Estimated total number of licensed resident adults that hunted during the 2016-17 archery season. Estimate is based on an 80% participation rate among the 216,251 resident adults who purchased at least one deer permit during the 2016-17 deer season.

⁸Proportion of hunters hunting private land at least once during the 2016-17 season (94.5%) multiplied by the estimated total number of resident adult archers (172,920).

TABLE 8: AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS SPENT HUNTING IN 2001, 2011-13, AND 2015-16 DEER SEASONS.

	2001	2011	2012	2013	2015	2016
Archery	20.8	19.3	19.2	19.7	20.3	17.0
Gun	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.5
Bonus Gun	-	1.6	1.5	-	1.6	1.5
Statewide Muzzleloader	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.1
All Seasons	17.3	19.9	20.0	19.7	20.3	18.0

FIGURE 7: AVERAGE NUMBER OF DEER PER HUNTER AND PER SUCCESSFUL HUNTER, 2011-2016.



permits. Additionally, these estimates are derived from surveys of adult, resident hunters that purchased a deer permit. Therefore, season participation and success rates of nonresidents, youth, disabled veterans, seniors, and landowners are currently unknown.

From 2011 to 2014, there was a steady decline in the number of deer taken per hunter. In 2011, 243,126 resident adults harvested 117,988 deer, or 0.49 deer per hunter. This figure declined to 0.47 in 2012, 0.42 in 2013, and in 2014 there were 0.40 deer harvested per resident adult. However, this trend began to reverse in 2015 with a slight increase up to 0.42, and again in 2016 to 0.43 deer harvested per hunter. Similarly, there has also been a steady decline in the number of deer taken by successful hunters. Successful hunters averaged harvesting 1.40, 1.38, 1.35, 1.32, 1.29, and 1.29 deer from 2011 to 2016 (Figure 7).

Ten years ago, in spite of large deer populations and liberal bag limits, only 18% of successful hunters harvested more than one deer during the 2006 season. This changed dramatically with the introduction of the \$15 antlerless permit in 2007. From 2007 to 2011, there was a steady increase in the percentage of successful hunters harvesting more than one deer, peaking at 27% in 2011. This percentage has steadily declined since 2012, down to 22% in 2016, and is likely

FIGURE 8: PERCENT OF SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS TAKING ONE, TWO, THREE, OR MORE THAN THREE DEER DURING THE 2016-17 SEASON.

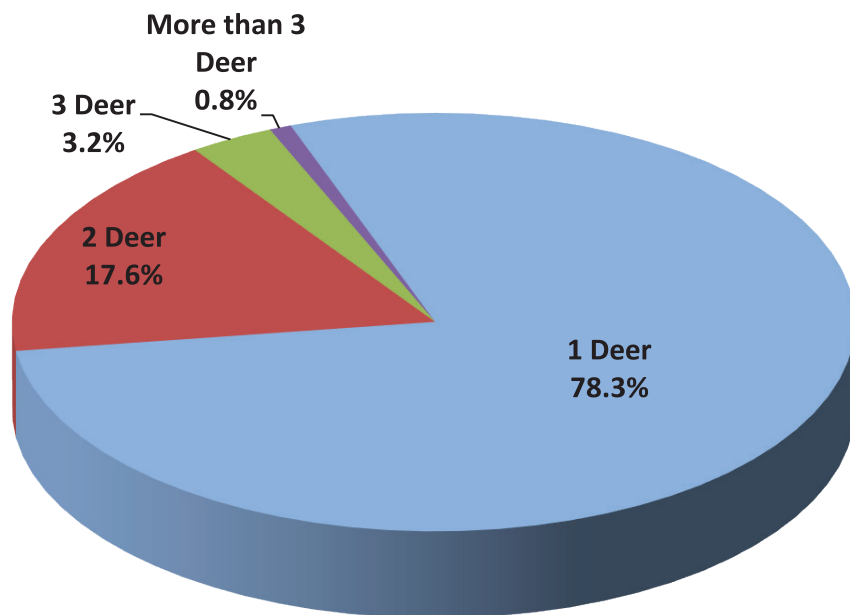
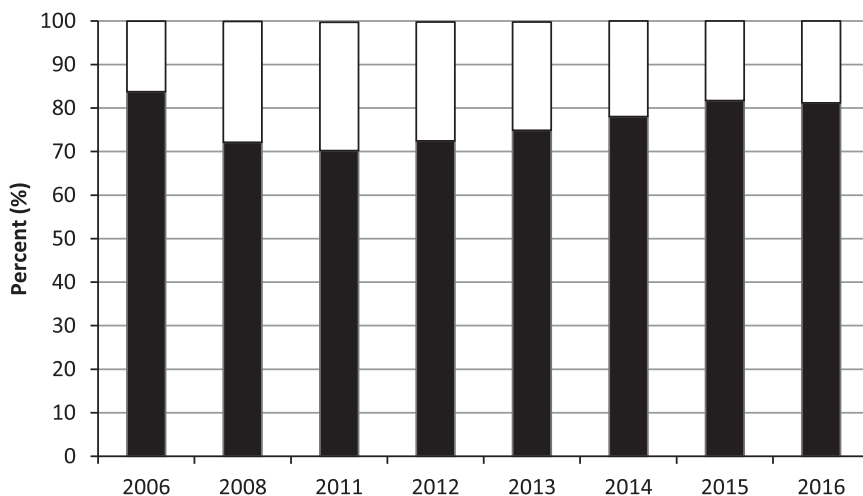


FIGURE 9: AMONG HUNTERS HARVESTING MULTIPLE DEER, PERCENT TAKING TWO (BLACK) AND THREE OR MORE (WHITE) DURING THE 2006, 2008, AND 2011-2016 SEASONS.



due to several factors including a smaller deer population, and recent restrictions on the use of the antlerless permit. Of important note is the fact that statewide bag limits have little impact on both the number of deer harvested per hunter and the percentage of hunters harvesting multiple deer. For example, in 2012 the statewide bag limit was 18 deer. That year, successful hunters averaged 1.40 deer and only 27% reported harvesting more than one. The following year, the statewide bag limit was reduced by 50% to nine deer, yet the proportion of hunters bagging multiple deer and the average number of deer harvested dropped by just 3%.

As in years past, the vast majority of successful hunters (78%) harvested only a single deer in the 2016-17 season. This year, 17.6% of successful hunters bagged two deer, 3.2% harvested three, and only 0.8% took four or more deer (Figure 8). Again, to emphasize the limited influence of a large bag limit, less than 1% of successful hunters harvested five or more deer in any given year, and specifically in 2016, only 97 of the 216,251 permit buyers (0.04%) filled their bag limit.

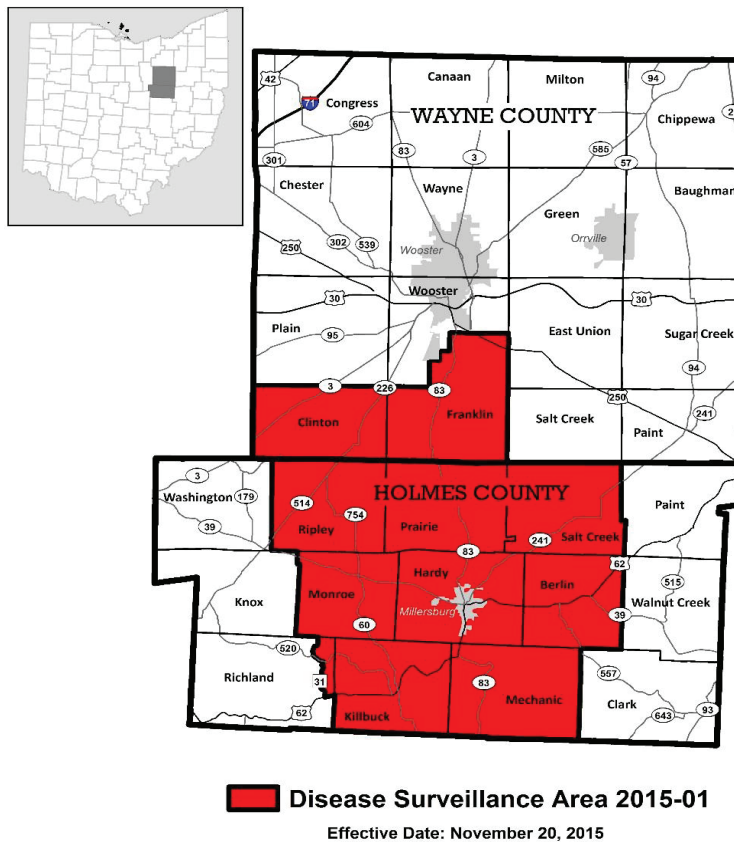
Figure 9 shows how the number of deer harvested per successful hunter has changed over time. In 2006, prior to the introduction of the antlerless permit, almost 84% of multiple-harvest hunters bagged only two deer, and only 16% took three or more. By 2011, with the availability of \$15 antlerless permits, almost 30% of those hunters taking multiple deer harvested at least three. As deer populations declined and restrictions were placed on the use of the antlerless permit, the number of hunters taking three or more deer declined each year from 2012 to 2015. In the 2016-17 season, of hunters harvesting multiple deer, 81% bagged only two, and 19% took three or more (Figure 9).

DISEASE UPDATE

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal disease of the central nervous system of mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, and moose. CWD is disease caused by abnormal proteins, or prions (not a bacteria or virus), that ultimately destroy brain tissue. This type of disease is known as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy. This family of diseases includes bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease), scrapie in sheep, and Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease in humans.

Since 2002 the ODNR Division of Wildlife has conducted statewide CWD surveillance, testing nearly 16,000 free-ranging deer. To date, there has yet to be a wild, free-ranging deer test positive for the disease in Ohio. In 2016, staff collected 804 road-killed deer from 57 counties. An additional 536 deer harvested by hunters during the 2016-17 season and 22 deer that either appeared to be in poor condition or were displaying abnormal behavior were also collected and tested for CWD. Finally, we tested 15 escaped captive deer (11 whitetails, 3 fallow, and 1 sika) and three deer taken on crop damage permits for a total of 1,381 deer tested in 2016-17. As in previous years, CWD was not detected in any of the wild deer tested.

FIGURE 10: DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREA 2015-01 (DSA).



HOLMES COUNTY DISEASE SURVEILLANCE AREA

In October 2014, a mature buck from a shooting preserve in Holmes County tested positive for CWD, becoming the first-ever CWD-positive deer in Ohio. The shooting preserve was depopulated in April 2015, and testing revealed no additional CWD-positive animals. Subsequent testing of nearly 300 free-ranging deer in an eight-township area around the shooting preserve failed to detect any CWD-positive deer as well. However, in spring of 2015, two more CWD-positive deer were reported from a captive white-tailed deer breeding pen in Holmes County. This herd was depopulated in June 2015, and 16 additional deer tested positive for the disease, bringing the total of CWD-positive animals found in Ohio to 19 (all in captive herds). In response to these findings, the ODNR Division of Wildlife conducted targeted surveillance in the immediate vicinity of the infected facility during the summer of 2015. Staff collected 18 deer, including two that had escaped from captive facilities, with none testing positive for CWD.

Additionally, the focus area in 2015 was expanded to include two townships in southern Wayne County, and the 10-township focus area was declared a Disease Surveillance Area (DSA, Figure 10). This DSA designation will remain in effect for a minimum of three years and the following regulations apply: 1) required submission of deer harvested within the DSA to ODNr Division of Wildlife inspection stations for sampling during the gun and muzzleloader seasons, 2) prohibit the placement of or use of salt, mineral supplement, grain, fruit, vegetables or other feed to attract or feed deer within the DSA boundaries, 3) prohibit the hunting of deer by

the aid of salt, mineral supplement, grain, fruit, vegetables or other feed within the DSA boundaries, and 4) prohibit the removal of a deer carcass killed by motor vehicle within the DSA boundaries unless the carcass complies with the cervidae carcass regulations (see wildohio.gov for additional information on carcass regulations). During the 2016-17 season, the second year under DSA rules, hunters presented 377 deer for testing at inspection stations during the gun, bonus gun, and muzzleloader seasons. Combining all methods of sample collection (roadkill, mandatory submission of hunter harvests during the gun seasons, voluntary submission of hunter harvests during the archery season, and targeted surveillance), 563 deer were tested from the DSA and as previously stated, CWD was not detected in any of the wild deer tested.

FIGURE 11: PROPORTION OF YOUTH, GUN, AND BONUS GUN SEASON HARVEST TAKEN WITH STRAIGHT-WALLED CARTRIDGE RIFLES, 2014-2016.

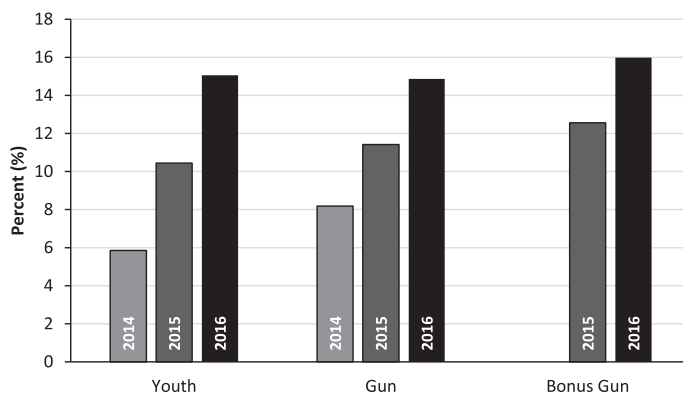
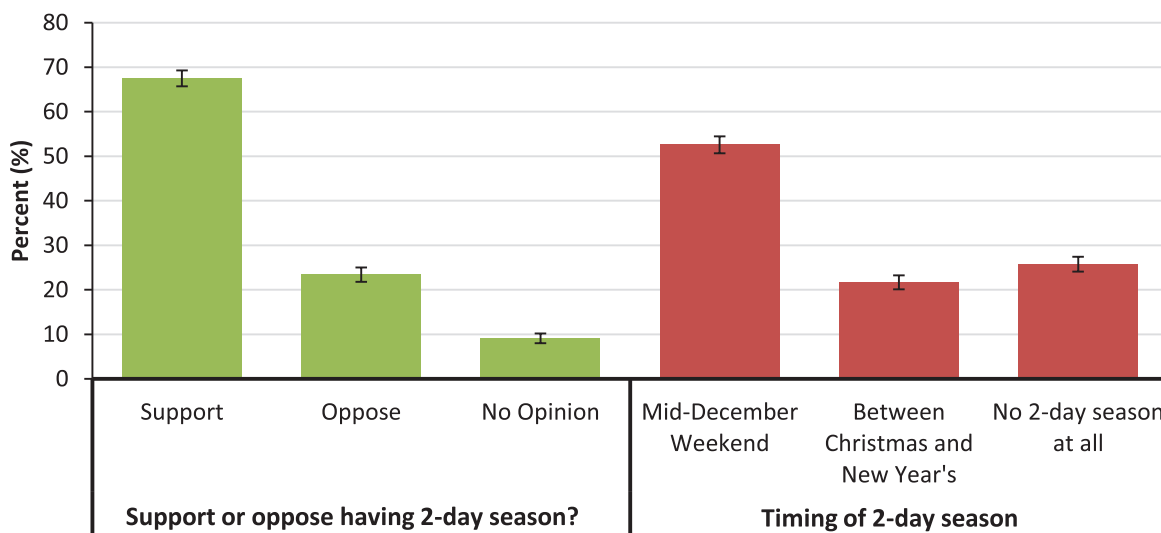


FIGURE 12: SUPPORT FOR AND PREFERRED TIMING OF 2-DAY BONUS GUN SEASON AS INDICATED BY RESPONDENTS TO THE 2016 WEBSITE SURVEY (N=1,502) AND THE 2016-17 ANNUAL DEER HUNTER SURVEY (N=1,147).



LOOKING BACK

The 2016-17 season marked the third year that a limited number of straight-walled cartridge (SWC) calibers were legal for deer hunting. Hunters harvested 893, 9,922, and 1,475 deer with SWC rifles during the youth, gun and bonus gun seasons, respectively, accounting for 15%, 15% and 16% of the total reported harvest during those seasons. The proportion of the harvest taken with SWC rifles has increased each year since the 2014 season when they were first legalized for deer hunting (Figure 11). According to the results of the 2016-17 Deer Hunter Effort and Harvest Survey, the majority of hunters (62%) still used a shotgun during the traditional seven-day gun season, 16% used a muzzleloader, and 19% used a SWC rifle. The .45-70 was the most popular choice among hunters, with 50% opting for this caliber. Other popular choices included the .44 Magnum (23%), .444 Marlin (14%), and .357 Magnum (4%).

As a result of feedback received from deer hunters during the spring 2016 comment period, the bonus gun season was moved from two days between Christmas and New Year's to a weekend in mid-December. We used two follow-up surveys during the fall of 2016 - one on our website that was open to anyone who wanted to take it, and our annual deer hunter survey sent to 10,000 randomly selected permit buyers - to formally gauge opinions on the two-day gun season. These surveys confirmed that most Ohio deer hunters (68%) were in favor of having a two-day gun season, and a majority preferred a weekend in mid-December as opposed to between the holidays (Figure 12).



2017-2018 SEASON PREVIEW BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

The ODNR Division of Wildlife remains committed to providing quality deer now and into the future. To accomplish this, hunters must harvest an adequate number of does each year to maintain the herd at a level that is not only socially acceptable to most, but that the habitat is capable of supporting in good to excellent condition. Through a combination of liberal bag limits, reduced cost antlerless permits, and other programmatic changes, including education on the importance of an adequate doe harvest, the division has successfully moved deer populations in most counties to, or very near, the population goals that were established in 2000. Regulations have become increasingly conservative over the last several years to alleviate harvest pressure on antlerless deer, and the results of the 2015 population goal setting process indicate that most areas of the state can tolerate moderate herd growth (see Population Goal Setting Surveys on page 14 for more information). Consistent with these desires, data indicate that deer populations in most areas of the state are increasing. Though slight modifications to county bag limits will occur in the 2017-2018 season, harvest regulations are designed to continue promoting modest herd growth.

Minimal changes are in store for the 2017-2018 season. Aside from minor calendar adjustments, season dates will remain the same. A modification to the rules regarding straight-walled cartridge rifles will allow any straight-walled cartridge rifle between .357 and .50 caliber for deer hunting in Ohio. After three seasons of hunting deer with straight-walled cartridge rifles with no biological impacts to the herd or additional hunter incidents, there will no longer be a published list of allowable rifles. This rule change is easily understood and enforced, while also being inclusive of a great number of rifle options.

A few notable regulation changes for the 2017-2018 season include a bag limit reduction for a group of seven northwestern counties and a bag limit increase in 21 southeastern counties. The 2015 survey results called for population growth in northwest Ohio. Most of these counties have shown stable to slightly increasing trends, but to achieve the level of growth desired for this region, further reduction in the antlerless harvest is needed. Therefore, the bag limit has been reduced from three to two. Harvest regulations in southeast Ohio have been very conservative over the previous two seasons to encourage population growth. Since these regulations have had the desired impact and population growth is underway, the bag limit has been increased from two to three in 21 southeastern counties (see Understanding Regulations, Harvest, and Population Trends on page 15 for more details).

HUNTER FEEDBACK

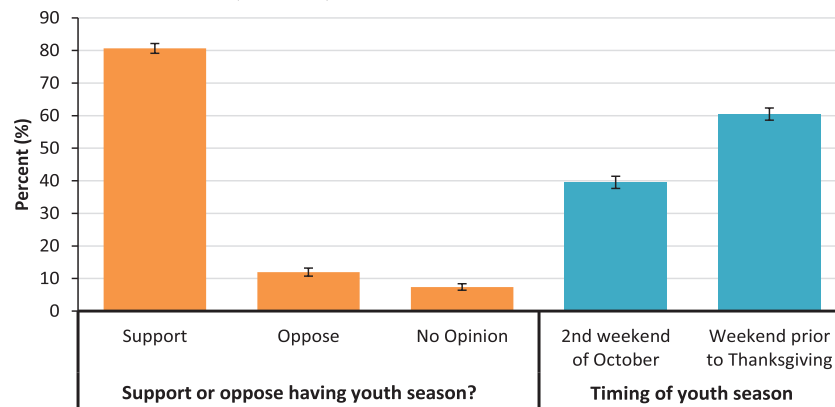
Each year since 2011, and periodically over the last several decades, the ODNR Division of Wildlife has sent surveys to a random sample of adult resident deer permit buyers. These surveys are designed to not only gather important information about season participation, hunting effort, and deer observations, but to also seek hunters' opinions on important deer management issues. In 2016, we sent survey invitations to 10,000 randomly selected resident deer permit buyers and received 1,149 responses - a response rate of 11.5%. In addition to our annual deer hunter survey, we also conducted an open survey on our website from November 2016 through February 2017. Unlike our annual surveys which are limited to only a group of randomly selected deer permit buyers, anyone could participate in the survey on our website by simply entering their customer ID. This additional survey effort yielded responses from 1,503 verified customers. While the main purpose of the open survey was to provide additional avenues for hunter input, deploying two different surveys (randomly selected participants vs. open participation) with identical questions allowed for a comparison between the two groups. Responses were similar between survey groups. Therefore, we combined responses from both surveys for the purposes of presenting overall hunter opinions in this publication.

Survey results have been used in combination with permit sales and annual harvest data to inform decision makers during the regulation setting process. Additionally, many hunters find survey results interesting and have asked for a summary of our findings. Therefore, this section of the annual harvest summary is dedicated to annual hunter survey results. Our hope is this will not only be interesting and informative, but to also serve as an incentive for hunters to return their survey should they receive one in the future.

YOUTH SEASON TIMING

Anecdotal comments have criticized the timing of the two-day youth season because of its proximity to the rut and the statewide gun season. Others have suggested an earlier date to avoid foul weather, with the added benefit of reduced hunting pressure before for the gun season. Last year, we asked hunters which of the following time frames they preferred for the youth season: 1) second weekend in October, 2) third weekend in October, and 3) weekend prior to Thanksgiving (current time frame). Since support for the second weekend in October and the current time frame were nearly identical, we decided to revisit this question again this year. An overwhelming majority (approximately 80%) of respondents indicated support for having a youth season, and most (approximately 60%) preferred keeping the youth season in the traditional time-slot, the weekend prior to Thanksgiving (Figure 13)

FIGURE 13: GENERAL SUPPORT FOR AND PREFERRED TIMING OF YOUTH SEASON BASED ON THE 2016 WEBSITE SURVEY (N= 1,502) AND THE 2016-17 ANNUAL DEER HUNTER SURVEY (N= 1,147).



USE OF URINE-BASED ATTRACTANTS

Research has shown that prions, the disease-causing agent of Chronic Wasting Disease, are shed from infected animals in urine, feces, and saliva. Due to the potential risk of disease transmission via the use of urine-based attractants, at least three states have banned its use and others are considering such action. While the risk of introducing disease via urine-based products is likely low, it is not zero. Thus, we used the 2016 surveys to gauge the use of these products in Ohio. Roughly two-thirds of survey respondents reported that they use urine-based attractants for deer hunting (Figure 14). However, of those that use these attractants, most reported only using them occasionally. For those that reported using urine-based attractants, we asked if the product they used was natural or synthetic. Most hunters (65%) said they used natural deer urine, but more than 20% said they were unsure whether the product they used was natural or synthetic. We encourage hunters to use synthetic products whenever possible to eliminate the risk of introducing disease into the environment. While the ODNR Division of Wildlife has no immediate plans to take action on the issue, we asked hunters for their opinion regarding a ban on the use of urine-based attractants. A little over one-third of respondents would oppose and only one in five would support such a ban. Survey results indicate that many seem to be on the fence or have no strong feelings regarding the issue (Figure 15).

FIGURE 14: FREQUENCY OF USE OF URINE-BASED ATTRACTANTS AMONG OHIO DEER HUNTERS ACCORDING TO THE 2016 WEBSITE SURVEY (N= 1,502) AND THE 2016-17 ANNUAL DEER HUNTER SURVEY (N= 1,147).

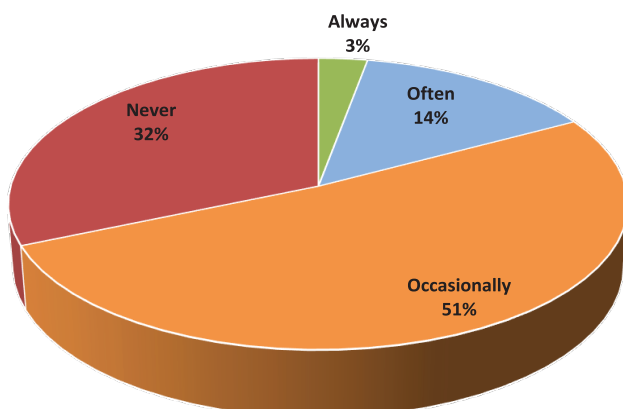
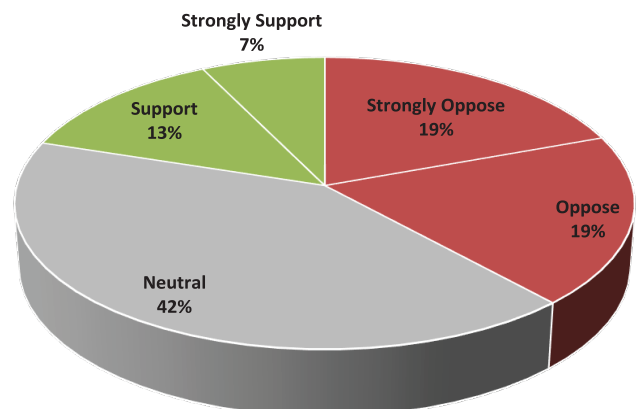


FIGURE 15: OPINIONS REGARDING A BAN ON THE USE OF URINE-BASED ATTRACTANTS ACCORDING TO RESULTS OF THE 2016 WEBSITE SURVEY (N= 1,502) AND THE 2016-17 ANNUAL DEER HUNTER SURVEY (N= 1,147).

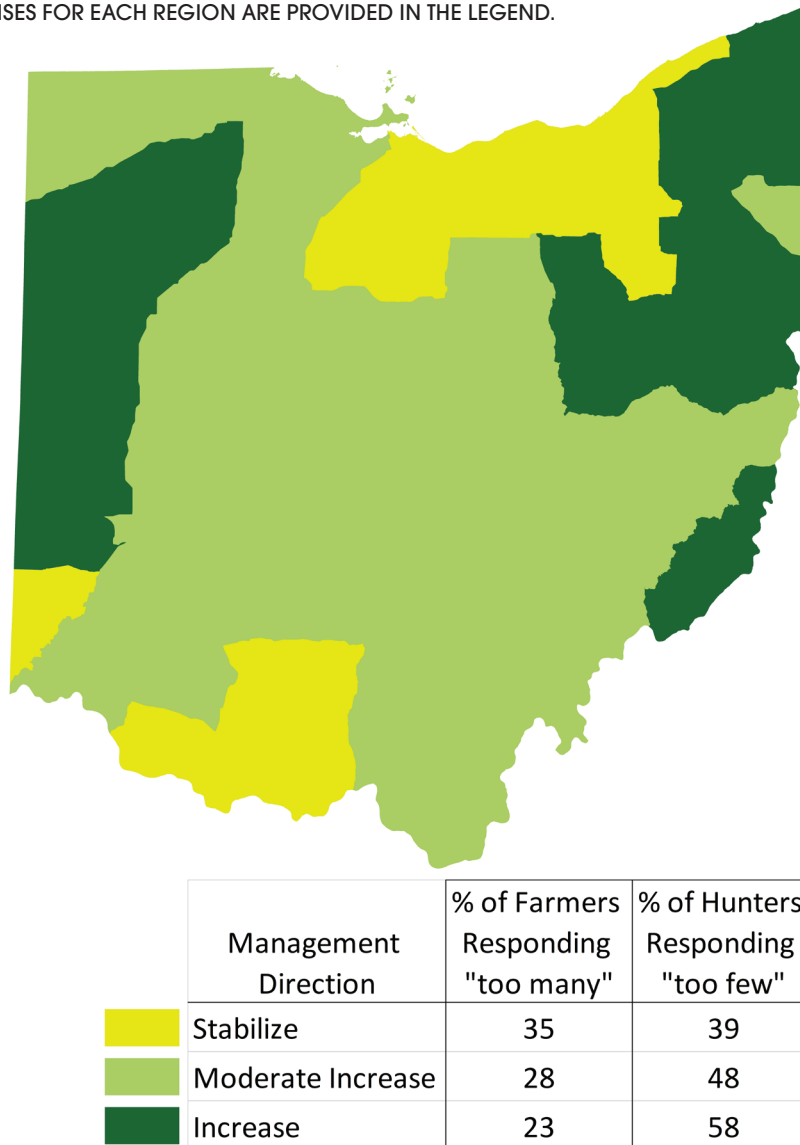


POPULATION GOAL SETTING SURVEYS

Deer population goals were revised in the fall of 2015. Historically, this process has involved only rural landowners and farmers. However, deer hunter opinions were also considered in this most recent survey. Both production landowners and hunters were asked to answer the same question: In the area that you hunt/farm, are there too many, too few, or just about the right number of deer? We sent 18,500 surveys to a randomly selected group of deer permit buyers and received 6,712 useable responses, for roughly a 36% response rate. Statewide, 50% of hunters reported too few, 5% reported too many, and 40% of hunters said that the deer population in the area they hunt the most was just about right. We mailed surveys to a random sample of production landowners totaling nearly 17,000, and received nearly 10,000 completed surveys, a 60% response rate. Statewide, 29% of farmers believed there to be too many deer, 14% reported too few, and 50% said that the deer population was just about right. Considering the opinions of both groups, our plans are to continue to manage for moderate herd growth in most parts of the state with the end goal being equal proportions of hunters and farmers reporting too few and too many deer, respectively.

Figure 16 provides a regional perspective on the desired management direction of deer populations. For much of the state, opinions of both groups would suggest that there is room for moderate herd growth (shaded light green in Figure 16), with an average of 28% of farmers and 48% of hunters reporting “too many” and “too few” deer, respectively. Alternatively, differences among the two survey groups point to room for more substantial herd growth in the northeast corner of the state as well as in some of the more agricultural portions of western Ohio, with an average of 23% of farmers and 58% of hunters reporting “too many” and “too few” deer, respectively in these regions.

FIGURE 16: REGIONAL DEER MANAGEMENT DIRECTION DERIVED FROM SURVEYS OF PRODUCTION LANDOWNERS AND HUNTERS IN 2015.
AVERAGE RESPONSES FOR EACH REGION ARE PROVIDED IN THE LEGEND.



UNDERSTANDING REGULATIONS, HARVEST, AND POPULATION TRENDS

REGULATIONS AND HARVEST

Many realize that trends in the annual buck harvest serve as the best indicator of changes in herd size. However, less known is the fact that it takes two years for a regulation change to manifest itself in the buck harvest. To illustrate this two-year lag effect, consider the following example (Figure 17). In 2015, in anticipation that survey results would express a desire for herd increases, 21 counties in southeast Ohio (along with several others) underwent a bag limit reduction from three to two. This regulation allowed more does to survive the hunting season and produce fawns in the spring of 2016. Roughly half of the fawns produced in any given year are button bucks and were afforded protection again under conservative regulations in the fall of 2016. Therefore, additional bucks produced as a result of the 2015 regulations (and afforded extra protection as button bucks under the 2016 regulations) will not show up in the buck harvest until they are at least 1.5 years old in the 2017-2018 season (this year). Likewise, due to the conservative 2016 regulations, buck harvest increases should be expected for the 2018-2019 season as well.

FIGURE 17: TIMELINE ILLUSTRATING TWO YEAR LAG BETWEEN A REGULATION CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE BUCK HARVEST.

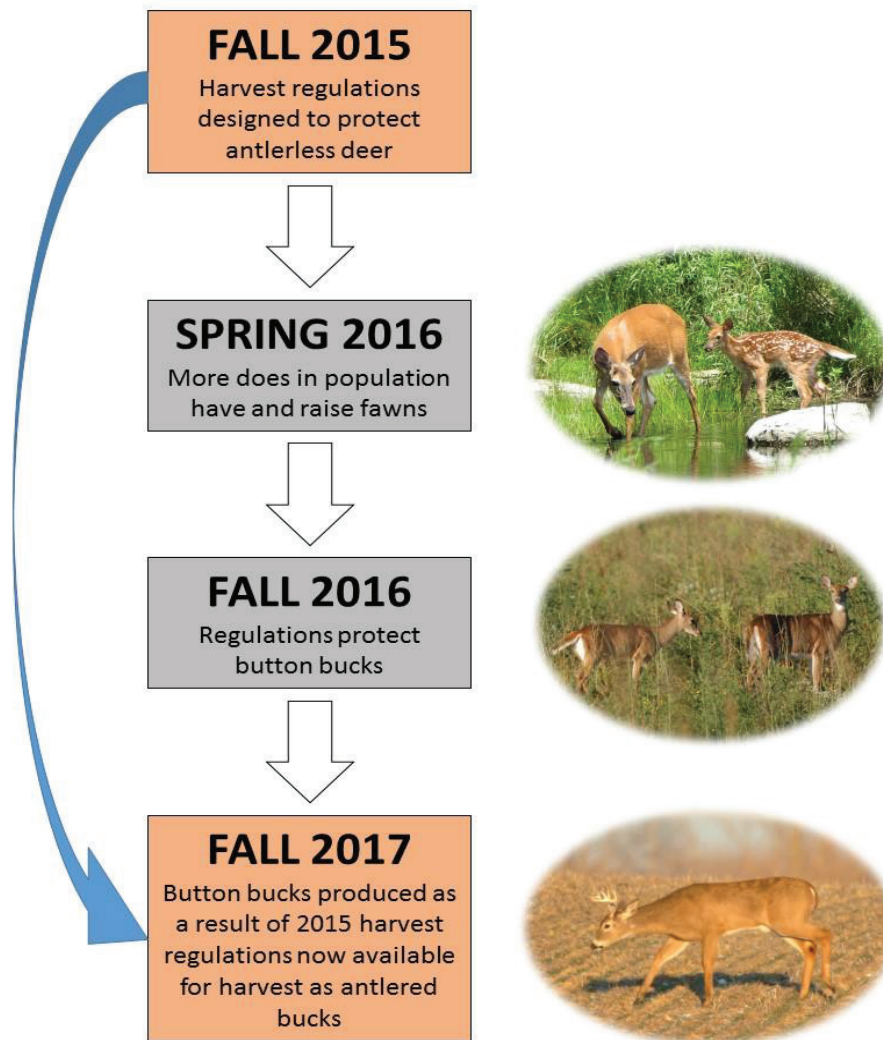
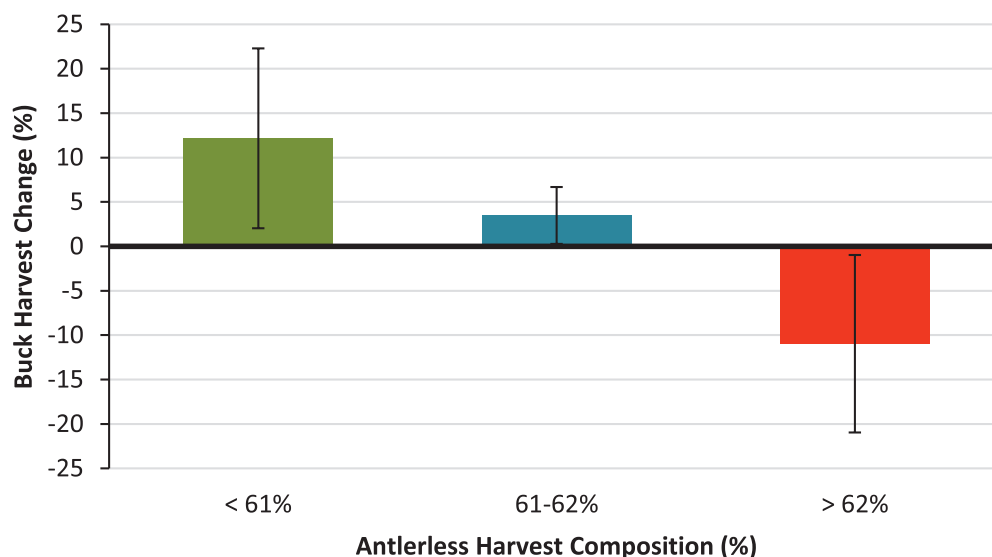


FIGURE 18: IMPACT OF ANTLERLESS HARVEST INTENSITY ON BUCK HARVEST CHANGE TWO SEASONS LATER, 2000-2014.

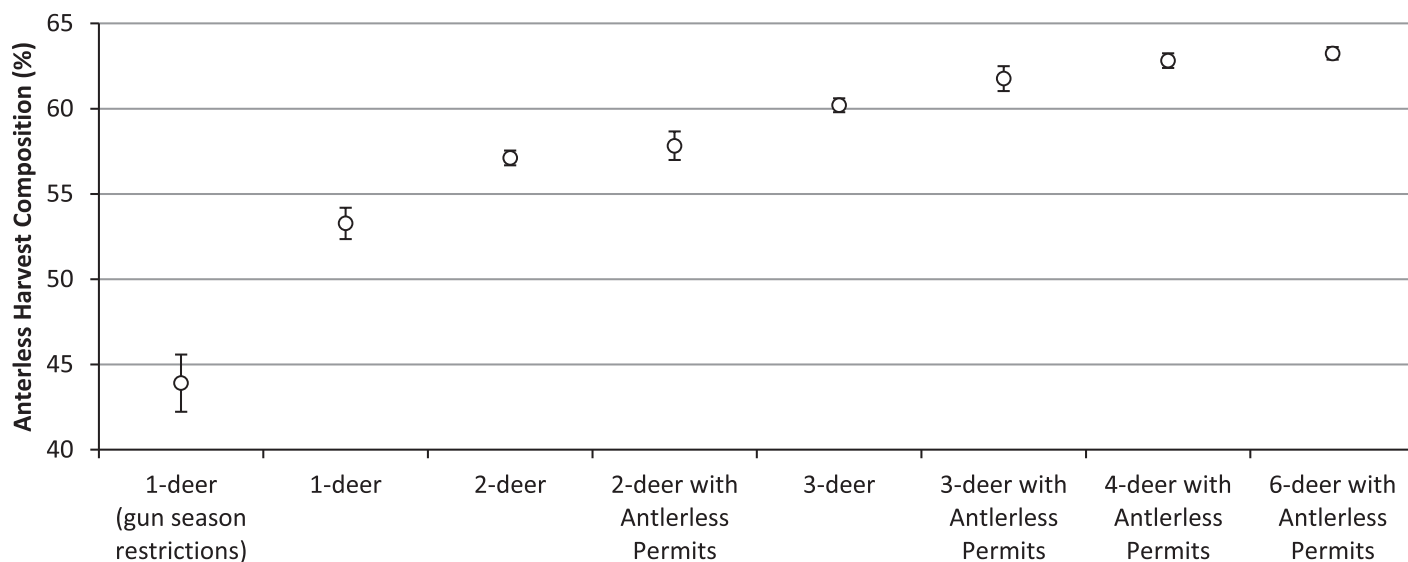


While a population response has yet to manifest itself in the harvest totals, the composition of the harvest reveals that growth is very likely in these 21 counties over the next couple of years. A predictable relationship exists between the proportion of the harvest that is antlerless and buck harvest change (i.e., population response) two seasons later (Figure 18). In general, when antlerless deer comprise 61% of the harvest or less, population growth can be expected. Antlerless harvest that is 61-62% of the total results in relative stability, and when the proportion of the harvest that is antlerless exceeds 62%, populations are typically reduced. For the 21 southeastern counties included in this year's bag limit increase, their respective 2015 and 2016 harvests were 55% and 54% antlerless, signifying this region's lowest level of antlerless harvest intensity in nearly 20 years. For these reasons,

significant herd growth is expected, and, if left unchecked, would likely exceed socially optimal levels as defined by the recent goal-setting process.

In accordance with the desire for moderate population increases in southeastern Ohio, we needed a harvest management tool that would increase antlerless harvest, but only enough to slow the rate of herd growth, not stop it completely. Analysis of historical harvest data revealed that a three-deer bag limit typically results in a harvest composition of roughly 60% antlerless (Figure 19). Recall that an antlerless harvest composition below 61% generally promotes population growth. Therefore, by increasing the antlerless harvest, but maintaining it below the 61% threshold, a three-deer bag limit should work to accomplish the population objective for this region – which is to slow, not stop, herd growth.

FIGURE 19: ANTLERLESS HARVEST COMPOSITION BY REGULATION TYPE, 2000-2016.



POPULATION TRENDS

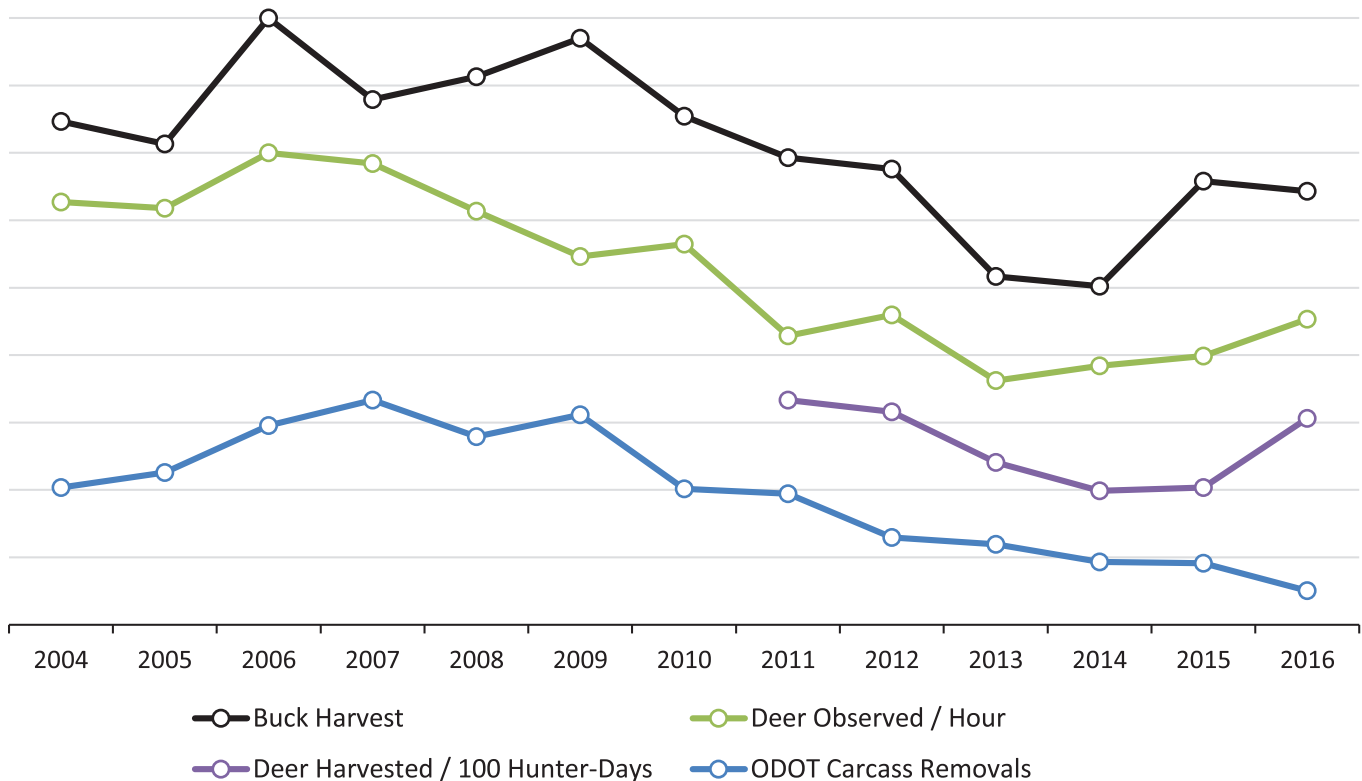
While the ODNR Division of Wildlife does not routinely count deer, we do monitor trends that reflect changes in the deer population. Some of the trends we use are the number of bucks harvested, carcasses removed from roadways, deer seen per hour, and number of days to harvest a deer. Rather than direct population estimates, each of these measures serve as an index to the size of the population over a period of time. In other words, they change when the deer population changes. Contrary to popular belief, biologists do not need to know exactly how many deer are on the landscape to properly manage the population. Rather, we only need to know whether the population is stable, increasing, or decreasing and whether its current size is at, above, or below goal. These indices provide this valuable information.

Though buck harvest is used as the primary index of deer population size, there are many variables that can influence the annual buck harvest such as weather, standing crops, mast availability, hunter participation and effort, permit types and restrictions on their use, and even harvest regulations. For this

reason, we also rely on data that are completely independent of hunter harvest, such as carcasses removed from Ohio's major roadways. We also rely heavily on annual hunter surveys. In the annual Deer Hunter Effort and Harvest Survey hunters provide information regarding their effort (number of days hunted), harvest, and opinions of the deer population in the area they hunt. Finally, participants in the annual Bowhunter Survey record time spent hunting and number of deer seen on each hunting trip. Collectively these data allow biologists to determine if the population is stable, growing, or declining and, more importantly, its position relative to goal. Figure 20 illustrates a high level of consistency between the different indices that are used to monitor population trends.

If you would like to take an active role in the management of Ohio's deer herd, we encourage anyone interested in participating in the annual Bowhunter Survey to contact us by phone at 1-800-WILDLIFE (1-800-945-3543) or via email at wildinfo@dnr.state.oh.us.

FIGURE 20: STATEWIDE DEER POPULATION TRENDS ON REPORTED BUCK HARVEST, CARCASSES REMOVED FROM OHIO ROADWAYS BY ODOT, DEER OBSERVED PER HOUR OF BOWHUNTING (ANNUAL BOWHUNTER SURVEY), AND DEER HARVESTED PER 100 DAYS OF HUNTING EFFORT (ANNUAL DEER HUNTER SURVEY), 2004-2016.



APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Adams	Gun	413	473	-12.6	575	675	94	119	1,082	1,267	-14.6
	Crossbow	445	450	-1.2	389	392	46	62	880	905	-2.7
	Vertical Bow	421	421	0.0	243	318	36	49	700	788	-11.1
	Bonus Gun	40			88		10		138		
	Muzzleloader	110	92	19.1	173	168	25	26	308	286	7.6
	Youth	86	79	9.3	44	47	9	12	139	137	1.2
	Total	1,527	1,560	-2.1	1,522	1,725	223	285	3,272	3,570	-8.3
Allen	Gun	141	145	-2.8	167	171	55	50	363	366	-0.8
	Crossbow	151	137	10.0	141	151	49	48	341	336	1.4
	Vertical Bow	72	89	-19.1	86	104	17	21	175	214	-18.2
	Bonus Gun	23			27		10		60		
	Muzzleloader	26	22	18.2	20	21	4	8	50	51	-1.3
	Youth	17	18	-7.3	16	14	4	6	37	38	-1.8
	Total	435	426	2.1	462	490	142	140	1,039	1,056	-1.6
Ashland	Gun	406	400	1.5	643	644	176	161	1,225	1,206	1.6
	Crossbow	329	324	1.5	337	326	68	77	734	727	0.9
	Vertical Bow	211	220	-4.2	237	239	33	37	481	496	-3.1
	Bonus Gun	42			74		22		138		
	Muzzleloader	58	57	2.4	148	151	33	31	239	239	0.1
	Youth	60	61	-1.1	44	52	7	16	111	129	-14.0
	Total	1,112	1,097	1.4	1,498	1,517	344	347	2,954	2,961	-0.2
Ashtabula	Gun	624	609	2.5	1,020	1,010	302	273	1,946	1,893	2.8
	Crossbow	570	548	4.0	671	642	171	169	1,412	1,359	3.9
	Vertical Bow	262	258	1.6	294	325	76	79	632	662	-4.5
	Bonus Gun	99			244		79		422		
	Muzzleloader	97	82	17.8	283	209	83	60	463	352	31.5
	Youth	40	51	-22.1	47	61	21	28	108	141	-23.2
	Total	1,705	1,620	5.2	2,588	2,471	747	676	5,040	4,767	5.7
Athens	Gun	531	571	-7.0	721	755	125	142	1,377	1,468	-6.2
	Crossbow	522	441	18.4	246	276	45	44	813	761	6.8
	Vertical Bow	434	408	6.5	242	267	38	40	714	714	0.0
	Bonus Gun	57			103		14		174		
	Muzzleloader	132	117	13.1	267	223	43	39	442	378	16.9
	Youth	64	71	-9.4	26	42	16	14	106	126	-16.1
	Total	1,746	1,657	5.4	1,618	1,696	282	295	3,646	3,647	0.0

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Auglaize	Gun	99	100	-1.3	119	136	50	45	268	282	-4.9
	Crossbow	94	98	-4.1	83	99	27	24	204	221	-7.7
	Vertical Bow	60	66	-8.6	75	67	17	17	152	150	1.3
	Bonus Gun	12			18		5		35		
	Muzzleloader	18	15	20.0	23	23	7	7	48	45	6.7
	Youth	15	17	-10.0	14	19	6	8	35	43	-19.2
	Total	300	306	-2.1	337	372	114	110	751	789	-4.8
Belmont	Gun	580	578	0.4	668	754	112	103	1,360	1,435	-5.2
	Crossbow	438	392	11.8	247	253	36	36	721	680	6.0
	Vertical Bow	213	212	0.6	132	144	14	14	359	370	-2.9
	Bonus Gun	68			134		24		226		
	Muzzleloader	100	104	-3.8	252	220	39	31	391	356	9.9
	Youth	96	95	1.4	42	47	9	8	147	150	-1.8
	Total	1,508	1,435	5.1	1,492	1,543	236	212	3,236	3,190	1.4
Brown	Gun	306	334	-8.5	431	498	86	106	823	939	-12.4
	Crossbow	322	299	7.7	249	274	34	37	605	610	-0.8
	Vertical Bow	285	267	6.7	262	287	31	30	578	585	-1.1
	Bonus Gun	54			60		10		124		
	Muzzleloader	73	69	5.8	139	141	18	22	230	232	-0.9
	Youth	46	52	-11.5	22	29	2	9	70	89	-21.6
	Total	1,095	1,063	3.0	1,172	1,318	181	219	2,448	2,599	-5.8
Butler	Gun	116	124	-6.5	137	148	36	39	289	312	-7.3
	Crossbow	220	227	-2.9	193	214	52	54	465	494	-5.9
	Vertical Bow	177	173	2.5	142	171	25	27	344	371	-7.3
	Bonus Gun	10			18		1		29		
	Muzzleloader	33	28	17.9	38	44	4	5	75	77	-3.0
	Youth	11	13	-17.5	5	8	3	4	19	25	-24.0
	Total	573	579	-1.1	536	621	122	135	1,231	1,335	-7.8
Carroll	Gun	586	553	5.9	731	781	177	182	1,494	1,516	-1.4
	Crossbow	420	433	-3.1	337	327	74	67	831	828	0.4
	Vertical Bow	265	249	6.4	192	199	29	28	486	477	2.0
	Bonus Gun	53			103		28		184		
	Muzzleloader	102	94	8.5	278	212	47	42	427	348	22.6
	Youth	70	69	1.4	38	49	19	20	127	137	-7.5
	Total	1,512	1,449	4.3	1,697	1,696	377	371	3,586	3,516	2.0

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Champaign	Gun	146	153	-4.4	168	200	42	50	356	403	-11.7
	Crossbow	151	161	-6.0	142	148	32	31	325	340	-4.4
	Vertical Bow	143	136	5.1	112	137	21	28	276	301	-8.3
	Bonus Gun	7			23		9		39		
	Muzzleloader	30	30	1.1	36	39	6	7	72	76	-4.8
	Youth	24	29	-18.2	6	13	6	7	36	49	-26.5
	Total	504	520	-3.1	498	576	116	129	1,118	1,226	-8.8
Clark	Gun	83	83	0.0	78	88	23	24	184	195	-5.8
	Crossbow	120	117	2.6	87	102	18	21	225	240	-6.3
	Vertical Bow	79	89	-11.6	80	94	12	13	171	197	-13.1
	Bonus Gun	6			14		4		24		
	Muzzleloader	14	12	16.7	24	23	4	4	42	39	8.6
	Youth	7	11	-34.4	2	4	2	3	11	18	-38.9
	Total	312	322	-3.0	286	333	63	70	661	725	-8.8
Clermont	Gun	201	236	-14.8	293	357	48	74	542	668	-18.8
	Crossbow	372	379	-1.8	376	414	70	78	818	871	-6.0
	Vertical Bow	295	308	-4.2	326	384	39	51	660	744	-11.3
	Bonus Gun	22			49		14		85		
	Muzzleloader	56	49	14.3	95	100	17	21	168	170	-1.0
	Youth	33	36	-8.3	21	23	2	4	56	63	-11.1
	Total	981	1,030	-4.8	1,169	1,343	193	245	2,343	2,618	-10.5
Clinton	Gun	115	115	-0.3	117	128	28	35	260	279	-6.8
	Crossbow	92	106	-13.2	65	88	22	24	179	218	-17.8
	Vertical Bow	78	85	-8.6	64	75	10	14	152	174	-12.8
	Bonus Gun	13			19		4		36		
	Muzzleloader	21	21	0.0	31	33	7	8	59	62	-5.3
	Youth	15	16	-6.3	8	11	2	4	25	31	-19.4
	Total	339	355	-4.4	307	362	73	91	719	808	-11.0
Columbiana	Gun	449	485	-7.5	690	688	168	163	1,307	1,337	-2.2
	Crossbow	408	415	-1.7	344	346	69	70	821	831	-1.2
	Vertical Bow	226	199	13.6	166	186	30	26	422	411	2.6
	Bonus Gun	46			113		35		194		
	Muzzleloader	84	66	27.9	170	141	39	34	293	240	21.9
	Youth	59	56	4.7	42	46	16	17	117	120	-2.5
	Total	1,284	1,268	1.3	1,545	1,549	360	345	3,189	3,161	0.9

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Coshocton	Gun	819	826	-0.8	1,238	1,266	268	259	2,325	2,351	-1.1
	Crossbow	803	727	10.5	604	562	116	102	1,523	1,391	9.5
	Vertical Bow	540	509	6.0	394	394	65	59	999	962	3.8
	Bonus Gun	51			123		36		210		
	Muzzleloader	171	154	11.3	346	302	74	67	591	523	13.0
	Youth	123	129	-4.7	72	90	27	35	222	254	-12.6
	Total	2,531	2,413	4.9	2,807	2,804	591	569	5,929	5,786	2.5
Crawford	Gun	221	222	-0.6	263	252	85	79	569	553	2.8
	Crossbow	127	122	4.1	106	107	22	26	255	256	-0.3
	Vertical Bow	67	69	-3.4	61	73	10	11	138	153	-10.0
	Bonus Gun	19			32		6		57		
	Muzzleloader	18	15	17.4	29	31	5	8	52	54	-3.1
	Youth	14	17	-16.0	19	20	1	6	34	42	-19.7
	Total	469	461	1.8	515	520	129	140	1,113	1,121	-0.7
Cuyahoga	Gun	13	11	14.7	26	21	8	7	47	39	20.5
	Crossbow	239	205	16.4	453	321	74	57	766	584	31.2
	Vertical Bow	86	79	8.9	189	149	30	30	305	258	18.4
	Bonus Gun	1			1		1		3		
	Muzzleloader	0	0		1	1	1	1	2	3	-25.0
	Youth	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Total	339	297	14.0	671	496	114	95	1,124	888	26.6
Darke	Gun	107	100	6.6	120	121	32	40	259	261	-0.6
	Crossbow	69	84	-17.5	79	93	19	23	167	199	-16.1
	Vertical Bow	68	64	6.8	79	82	23	18	170	164	3.7
	Bonus Gun	7			10		2		19		
	Muzzleloader	13	13	2.6	21	16	3	4	37	33	12.1
	Youth	7	13	-46.2	14	10	1	4	22	27	-19.5
	Total	276	281	-1.8	323	341	80	94	679	716	-5.1
Defiance	Gun	252	299	-15.6	391	413	130	125	773	836	-7.6
	Crossbow	167	145	14.9	184	181	45	48	396	375	5.6
	Vertical Bow	85	102	-16.4	118	119	23	30	226	251	-10.1
	Bonus Gun	38			66		14		118		
	Muzzleloader	15	22	-32.8	57	55	12	14	84	91	-7.7
	Youth	18	29	-38.6	29	28	16	10	63	68	-7.4
	Total	580	622	-6.7	853	859	242	241	1,675	1,722	-2.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Delaware	Gun	163	166	-1.8	189	195	59	56	411	417	-1.4
	Crossbow	238	239	-0.4	236	259	57	57	531	555	-4.3
	Vertical Bow	175	180	-3.0	214	237	34	36	423	453	-6.7
	Bonus Gun	18			22		12		52		
	Muzzleloader	18	19	-5.3	45	41	8	9	71	68	3.9
	Youth	15	17	-11.8	8	11	3	5	26	33	-20.4
	Total	630	639	-1.4	721	788	176	173	1,527	1,599	-4.5
Erie	Gun	85	77	10.9	101	102	20	27	206	206	0.2
	Crossbow	160	149	7.1	122	122	25	28	307	299	2.6
	Vertical Bow	57	63	-9.0	44	49	11	15	112	127	-11.8
	Bonus Gun	9			29		6		44		
	Muzzleloader	10	8	20.0	15	17	5	3	30	28	5.9
	Youth	30	17	80.0	30	14	12	6	72	36	100.0
	Total	377	364	3.7	395	391	96	101	868	856	1.4
Fairfield	Gun	283	278	1.8	324	356	74	83	681	716	-4.9
	Crossbow	261	251	4.0	159	188	43	47	463	485	-4.6
	Vertical Bow	196	195	0.3	139	175	25	26	360	396	-9.2
	Bonus Gun	32			43		14		89		
	Muzzleloader	33	36	-9.2	89	78	16	15	138	130	6.2
	Youth	31	37	-17.0	18	24	4	6	53	67	-20.5
	Total	842	825	2.1	781	883	177	188	1,800	1,895	-5.0
Fayette	Gun	47	56	-16.1	48	58	13	11	108	125	-13.6
	Crossbow	63	50	26.8	18	27	10	6	91	83	9.2
	Vertical Bow	39	44	-12.0	17	28	3	5	59	77	-23.7
	Bonus Gun	9			6		2		17		
	Muzzleloader	8	7	14.3	6	7	0	1	14	15	-6.7
	Youth	12	9	28.6	3	4	3	2	18	15	17.4
	Total	181	173	4.4	100	133	31	28	312	334	-6.6
Franklin	Gun	55	51	8.6	87	74	15	13	157	138	13.8
	Crossbow	148	147	0.7	163	159	35	34	346	340	1.7
	Vertical Bow	116	108	7.7	140	142	19	20	275	270	1.7
	Bonus Gun	8			11		4		23		
	Muzzleloader	11	9	17.9	13	14	3	3	27	26	2.5
	Youth	3	5	-35.7	3	4	0	1	6	9	-33.3
	Total	342	326	4.9	417	411	78	78	837	815	2.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Fulton	Gun	157	153	2.4	156	159	49	40	362	353	2.5
	Crossbow	102	102	0.3	95	90	23	27	220	219	0.3
	Vertical Bow	54	54	0.6	64	61	13	12	131	127	3.1
	Bonus Gun	21			25		10		56		
	Muzzleloader	11	6	73.7	14	14	8	6	33	26	28.6
	Youth	12	12	-2.7	6	10	2	2	20	25	-18.9
	Total	358	338	5.8	362	355	106	95	826	788	4.8
Gallia	Gun	536	510	5.0	578	678	97	129	1,211	1,318	-8.1
	Crossbow	325	295	10.3	178	184	27	26	530	505	5.0
	Vertical Bow	232	224	3.6	120	130	18	20	370	374	-1.2
	Bonus Gun	41			87		11		139		
	Muzzleloader	92	80	14.5	220	176	26	18	338	274	23.2
	Youth	66	65	1.0	42	38	6	6	114	110	3.6
	Total	1,303	1,216	7.1	1,231	1,304	186	212	2,720	2,733	-0.5
Geauga	Gun	186	175	6.1	216	236	77	75	479	486	-1.4
	Crossbow	299	305	-2.1	311	335	107	95	717	736	-2.6
	Vertical Bow	141	150	-6.0	181	198	51	53	373	401	-7.0
	Bonus Gun	42			49		14		105		
	Muzzleloader	29	25	16.0	80	61	23	17	132	103	28.2
	Youth	22	19	17.9	16	18	3	5	41	42	-2.4
	Total	729	702	3.8	864	908	278	262	1,871	1,872	-0.1
Greene	Gun	81	90	-9.7	100	98	22	24	203	212	-4.2
	Crossbow	150	141	6.1	112	122	19	22	281	285	-1.5
	Vertical Bow	110	110	0.3	97	107	14	18	221	235	-6.1
	Bonus Gun	16			16		3		35		
	Muzzleloader	15	15	2.3	21	25	11	8	47	48	-2.1
	Youth	8	11	-25.0	10	9	3	2	21	21	-1.6
	Total	384	376	2.2	359	378	73	80	816	834	-2.1
Guernsey	Gun	730	681	7.2	944	990	211	218	1,885	1,889	-0.2
	Crossbow	610	553	10.2	373	404	69	71	1,052	1,028	2.3
	Vertical Bow	329	315	4.4	241	254	36	35	606	604	0.3
	Bonus Gun	87			169		46		302		
	Muzzleloader	120	109	10.4	302	252	68	49	490	409	19.7
	Youth	112	101	10.5	70	70	15	21	197	192	2.6
	Total	2,004	1,834	9.3	2,112	2,134	449	426	4,565	4,394	3.9

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Hamilton	Gun	61	71	-14.5	82	101	12	18	155	191	-18.7
	Crossbow	302	315	-4.0	386	418	78	80	766	812	-5.7
	Vertical Bow	206	239	-13.9	306	380	63	70	575	689	-16.5
	Bonus Gun	6			21		2		29		
	Muzzleloader	10	14	-28.6	28	24	1	3	39	40	-3.3
	Youth	3	6	-50.0	11	7	4	3	18	16	10.2
	Total	590	653	-9.7	839	950	160	177	1,589	1,780	-10.7
Hancock	Gun	213	205	3.7	187	199	54	57	454	461	-1.5
	Crossbow	179	163	9.6	95	111	29	27	303	301	0.6
	Vertical Bow	144	126	14.3	105	105	18	19	267	249	7.1
	Bonus Gun	24			28		6		58		
	Muzzleloader	12	16	-26.5	30	30	9	8	51	54	-6.1
	Youth	23	21	7.8	14	18	3	5	40	44	-9.1
	Total	598	549	8.9	461	489	120	122	1,179	1,160	1.6
Hardin	Gun	185	198	-6.7	228	236	64	68	477	502	-5.0
	Crossbow	120	113	6.2	129	119	33	32	282	265	6.5
	Vertical Bow	105	96	9.0	104	116	29	24	238	236	0.7
	Bonus Gun	22			22		9		53		
	Muzzleloader	27	30	-10.0	71	59	13	10	111	99	12.1
	Youth	26	26	-1.3	16	19	6	6	48	51	-5.9
	Total	490	482	1.7	575	583	155	148	1,220	1,213	0.6
Harrison	Gun	592	572	3.4	805	831	176	173	1,573	1,576	-0.2
	Crossbow	497	467	6.4	304	334	50	54	851	855	-0.4
	Vertical Bow	293	270	8.4	186	217	21	26	500	513	-2.5
	Bonus Gun	55			110		28		193		
	Muzzleloader	118	96	22.5	319	233	62	41	499	371	34.5
	Youth	73	79	-8.0	30	46	13	16	116	142	-18.3
	Total	1,640	1,543	6.3	1,770	1,789	353	334	3,763	3,666	2.6
Henry	Gun	153	148	3.6	151	156	41	45	345	348	-0.9
	Crossbow	83	70	18.0	63	64	18	18	164	152	8.1
	Vertical Bow	46	48	-4.2	38	47	11	13	95	107	-11.5
	Bonus Gun	18			19		4		41		
	Muzzleloader	11	8	37.5	18	17	3	3	32	28	15.7
	Youth	9	10	-10.0	12	11	4	3	25	24	5.6
	Total	322	296	8.7	304	314	82	86	708	696	1.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Highland	Gun	357	372	-4.1	487	553	104	122	948	1,047	-9.5
	Crossbow	315	311	1.3	280	289	72	66	667	665	0.3
	Vertical Bow	251	247	1.8	226	237	38	44	515	528	-2.5
	Bonus Gun	29			79		13		121		
	Muzzleloader	72	64	12.5	116	130	28	30	216	224	-3.7
	Youth	50	59	-15.3	33	44	13	11	96	114	-15.8
	Total	1,086	1,089	-0.2	1,231	1,344	270	290	2,587	2,723	-5.0
Hocking	Gun	522	516	1.2	617	688	149	154	1,288	1,358	-5.2
	Crossbow	491	435	13.0	296	290	38	55	825	780	5.7
	Vertical Bow	327	316	3.4	192	209	26	34	545	560	-2.6
	Bonus Gun	55			74		24		153		
	Muzzleloader	103	96	6.9	227	192	36	35	366	323	13.3
	Youth	50	51	-1.3	18	31	5	8	73	90	-18.6
	Total	1,556	1,460	6.6	1,440	1,520	279	307	3,275	3,287	-0.4
Holmes	Gun	508	475	6.9	783	743	193	181	1,484	1,398	6.1
	Crossbow	487	468	4.1	446	439	78	78	1,011	985	2.6
	Vertical Bow	295	295	0.1	307	330	39	40	641	665	-3.6
	Bonus Gun	26			69		23		118		
	Muzzleloader	65	73	-10.6	183	166	41	32	289	271	6.8
	Youth	65	92	-29.1	58	65	22	32	145	189	-23.1
	Total	1,463	1,449	0.9	1,867	1,853	401	389	3,731	3,692	1.1
Huron	Gun	381	346	10.0	552	511	141	143	1,074	1,000	7.4
	Crossbow	237	224	5.6	214	221	59	53	510	499	2.3
	Vertical Bow	146	140	4.5	136	150	18	30	300	320	-6.3
	Bonus Gun	48			85		29		162		
	Muzzleloader	33	33	-1.0	80	81	20	22	133	136	-2.0
	Youth	38	41	-8.1	28	30	14	16	80	87	-8.0
	Total	887	817	8.6	1,108	1,079	284	287	2,279	2,182	4.4
Jackson	Gun	440	422	4.3	487	575	104	111	1,031	1,107	-6.9
	Crossbow	428	385	11.3	270	265	37	46	735	696	5.6
	Vertical Bow	303	287	5.5	184	201	19	24	506	512	-1.2
	Bonus Gun	54			76		19		149		
	Muzzleloader	91	83	9.2	197	170	36	29	324	282	14.8
	Youth	61	61	0.0	34	41	13	12	108	114	-5.3
	Total	1,381	1,281	7.8	1,260	1,353	229	241	2,870	2,875	-0.2

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Jefferson	Gun	459	462	-0.7	574	584	105	96	1,138	1,142	-0.4
	Crossbow	375	344	9.1	211	211	24	28	610	583	4.6
	Vertical Bow	273	245	11.6	126	144	7	14	406	403	0.8
	Bonus Gun	50			103		15		168		
	Muzzleloader	90	75	20.5	237	177	32	27	359	279	28.8
	Youth	65	67	-2.5	26	31	7	9	98	107	-8.7
	Total	1,321	1,236	6.9	1,289	1,252	190	188	2,800	2,676	4.6
Knox	Gun	662	634	4.5	988	936	292	239	1,942	1,808	7.4
	Crossbow	524	498	5.2	486	477	97	99	1,107	1,074	3.1
	Vertical Bow	371	381	-2.7	337	353	65	58	773	792	-2.4
	Bonus Gun	35			85		26		146		
	Muzzleloader	84	85	-0.8	210	191	46	45	340	320	6.3
	Youth	69	78	-11.9	55	74	20	26	144	178	-18.9
	Total	1,758	1,726	1.8	2,180	2,160	557	498	4,495	4,384	2.5
Lake	Gun	48	56	-14.8	89	77	30	22	167	155	7.7
	Crossbow	199	186	6.8	257	246	63	58	519	491	5.8
	Vertical Bow	59	66	-10.2	103	113	17	21	179	200	-10.4
	Bonus Gun	10			18		4		32		
	Muzzleloader	10	8	20.0	35	22	3	5	48	35	35.8
	Youth	2	5	-57.1	3	2	1	1	6	7	-18.2
	Total	331	330	0.2	510	482	120	110	961	922	4.2
Lawrence	Gun	395	382	3.4	353	421	47	62	795	865	-8.1
	Crossbow	285	242	17.8	141	139	7	16	433	397	9.0
	Vertical Bow	188	194	-2.9	113	125	16	13	317	331	-4.3
	Bonus Gun	45			59		9		113		
	Muzzleloader	71	59	19.7	114	95	9	11	194	165	17.3
	Youth	51	46	11.7	27	24	6	6	84	76	10.5
	Total	1,038	960	8.2	808	872	96	118	1,942	1,949	-0.4
Licking	Gun	544	587	-7.3	860	912	205	211	1,609	1,710	-5.9
	Crossbow	745	742	0.4	659	701	137	147	1,541	1,589	-3.0
	Vertical Bow	468	480	-2.5	479	553	58	82	1,005	1,115	-9.8
	Bonus Gun	56			103		36		195		
	Muzzleloader	113	104	9.0	280	238	47	42	440	384	14.6
	Youth	77	85	-9.8	43	56	18	21	138	163	-15.2
	Total	2,017	2,055	-1.8	2,449	2,615	505	538	4,971	5,208	-4.5

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Logan	Gun	230	257	-10.4	300	334	109	101	639	692	-7.7
	Crossbow	236	212	11.5	265	248	74	62	575	522	10.2
	Vertical Bow	207	193	7.1	189	216	30	29	426	438	-2.7
	Bonus Gun	18			36		6		60		
	Muzzleloader	31	40	-22.5	87	76	18	20	136	136	0.0
	Youth	45	44	2.3	17	22	12	11	74	77	-4.3
	Total	769	763	0.8	900	957	250	239	1,919	1,959	-2.0
Lorain	Gun	221	228	-3.1	340	332	122	95	683	655	4.2
	Crossbow	403	439	-8.2	476	478	122	124	1,001	1,041	-3.8
	Vertical Bow	153	168	-8.7	231	223	40	38	424	428	-1.0
	Bonus Gun	57			88		24		169		
	Muzzleloader	39	32	20.6	77	69	26	23	142	124	14.5
	Youth	32	30	7.9	22	18	8	10	62	58	7.5
	Total	914	934	-2.1	1,252	1,211	345	312	2,511	2,458	2.2
Lucas	Gun	44	45	-2.9	62	54	23	16	129	116	11.5
	Crossbow	139	125	10.9	194	189	56	56	389	370	5.0
	Vertical Bow	61	62	-1.6	102	97	19	24	182	183	-0.5
	Bonus Gun	11			15		1		27		
	Muzzleloader	4	8	-50.0	8	9	2	3	14	20	-31.1
	Youth	0	2	-100.0	4	5	2	1	6	8	-28.0
	Total	263	251	4.6	387	368	105	104	755	723	4.4
Madison	Gun	78	64	21.9	71	76	9	13	158	153	3.3
	Crossbow	87	81	7.4	47	49	7	12	141	142	-0.7
	Vertical Bow	58	65	-11.2	44	49	4	7	106	122	-13.1
	Bonus Gun	6			10		2		18		
	Muzzleloader	12	11	5.9	16	16	4	3	32	30	6.7
	Youth	11	10	10.0	5	6	5	3	21	19	10.5
	Total	256	239	7.1	195	211	31	41	482	491	-1.8
Mahoning	Gun	191	184	3.6	302	289	101	95	594	568	4.5
	Crossbow	339	330	2.8	287	291	98	97	724	718	0.8
	Vertical Bow	126	127	-1.0	134	150	34	38	294	315	-6.8
	Bonus Gun	41			74		16		131		
	Muzzleloader	35	34	1.9	80	78	20	16	135	128	5.2
	Youth	19	22	-13.6	12	20	7	13	38	55	-31.3
	Total	760	727	4.5	896	916	277	276	1,933	1,920	0.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Marion	Gun	167	148	12.6	186	175	50	46	403	369	9.3
	Crossbow	83	93	-10.8	83	86	21	21	187	201	-6.8
	Vertical Bow	68	74	-7.7	75	74	10	13	153	161	-5.2
	Bonus Gun	11			28		4		43		
	Muzzleloader	23	22	3.0	28	24	6	6	57	52	9.6
	Youth	17	15	10.9	15	12	4	5	36	33	10.2
	Total	372	366	1.6	419	403	95	97	886	866	2.3
Medina	Gun	214	202	5.9	285	284	105	86	604	572	5.6
	Crossbow	401	368	8.9	337	346	93	91	831	805	3.2
	Vertical Bow	131	145	-9.9	164	163	33	32	328	341	-3.7
	Bonus Gun	46			85		16		147		
	Muzzleloader	24	27	-11.1	80	69	22	20	126	116	8.9
	Youth	21	18	14.5	15	16	6	5	42	40	5.0
	Total	849	794	6.9	978	951	282	253	2,109	1,998	5.5
Meigs	Gun	584	560	4.2	682	711	107	124	1,373	1,396	-1.6
	Crossbow	508	417	21.8	285	272	32	39	825	727	13.4
	Vertical Bow	299	294	1.6	177	209	22	22	498	525	-5.1
	Bonus Gun	65			105		18		188		
	Muzzleloader	123	116	6.3	262	240	35	37	420	393	6.9
	Youth	92	93	-1.1	47	49	13	13	152	155	-2.1
	Total	1,681	1,538	9.3	1,566	1,603	229	256	3,476	3,398	2.3
Mercer	Gun	102	94	8.9	127	111	33	30	262	234	11.8
	Crossbow	81	69	16.8	73	70	30	23	184	162	13.8
	Vertical Bow	50	47	7.1	55	64	14	15	119	125	-5.1
	Bonus Gun	10			16		6		32		
	Muzzleloader	13	9	39.3	13	13	3	3	29	25	16.0
	Youth	13	14	-7.1	12	15	7	8	32	37	-13.5
	Total	269	240	12.2	298	292	94	84	661	616	7.4
Miami	Gun	73	90	-18.6	93	107	30	31	196	227	-13.7
	Crossbow	122	118	3.7	150	130	24	29	296	276	7.1
	Vertical Bow	75	92	-18.2	91	96	20	20	186	207	-10.1
	Bonus Gun	11			9		6		26		
	Muzzleloader	16	11	50.0	20	21	5	4	41	36	15.0
	Youth	14	15	-6.7	10	10	1	5	25	30	-15.7
	Total	314	336	-6.5	373	385	87	93	774	814	-4.9

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Monroe	Gun	469	461	1.7	536	580	126	127	1,131	1,168	-3.1
	Crossbow	383	311	23.0	173	174	39	32	595	517	15.0
	Vertical Bow	135	130	3.6	71	82	13	12	219	224	-2.1
	Bonus Gun	52			86		18		156		
	Muzzleloader	95	77	22.8	218	176	31	28	344	281	22.3
	Youth	61	61	-0.5	36	36	15	14	112	112	0.0
	Total	1,201	1,083	10.9	1,126	1,133	244	227	2,571	2,444	5.2
Montgomery	Gun	57	50	14.0	40	54	6	16	103	120	-14.4
	Crossbow	100	116	-14.0	118	135	36	31	254	282	-10.0
	Vertical Bow	65	78	-16.3	94	119	21	23	180	220	-18.2
	Bonus Gun	5			10		1		16		
	Muzzleloader	11	10	10.0	16	18	2	3	29	30	-4.4
	Youth	3	5	-43.8	0	2	1	1	4	8	-52.0
	Total	242	264	-8.2	280	345	69	77	591	685	-13.7
Morgan	Gun	455	459	-0.9	589	665	134	143	1,178	1,268	-7.1
	Crossbow	361	317	13.9	215	219	41	46	617	582	6.0
	Vertical Bow	284	267	6.2	148	181	17	25	449	473	-5.0
	Bonus Gun	52			80		14		146		
	Muzzleloader	118	94	25.5	263	207	48	38	429	339	26.4
	Youth	66	65	2.1	42	44	13	13	121	122	-1.1
	Total	1,353	1,251	8.2	1,365	1,430	274	290	2,992	2,970	0.7
Morrow	Gun	257	239	7.7	290	308	79	80	626	627	-0.2
	Crossbow	193	200	-3.5	160	151	35	38	388	389	-0.3
	Vertical Bow	115	122	-5.7	119	104	23	26	257	252	2.0
	Bonus Gun	25			38		7		70		
	Muzzleloader	29	25	17.6	57	56	10	10	96	91	5.9
	Youth	12	21	-41.9	18	19	8	8	38	48	-21.4
	Total	634	628	1.0	688	685	164	174	1,486	1,487	0.0
Muskingum	Gun	759	785	-3.3	1,095	1,120	258	255	2,112	2,160	-2.2
	Crossbow	654	588	11.2	419	388	78	71	1,151	1,048	9.9
	Vertical Bow	465	450	3.4	285	325	33	36	783	810	-3.3
	Bonus Gun	79			145		32		256		
	Muzzleloader	148	134	10.7	377	288	77	55	602	477	26.2
	Youth	87	98	-11.2	55	65	20	20	162	183	-11.5
	Total	2,216	2,125	4.3	2,400	2,354	502	466	5,118	4,945	3.5

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Noble	Gun	520	467	11.3	625	620	126	125	1,271	1,212	4.9
	Crossbow	393	338	16.4	241	242	35	48	669	627	6.7
	Vertical Bow	188	201	-6.3	109	132	17	19	314	352	-10.7
	Bonus Gun	37			78		23		138		
	Muzzleloader	77	87	-11.2	187	162	46	35	310	284	9.2
	Youth	77	63	21.6	35	32	6	8	118	103	14.2
	Total	1,306	1,204	8.4	1,293	1,285	256	258	2,855	2,748	3.9
Ottawa	Gun	44	41	8.2	48	52	13	15	105	108	-2.5
	Crossbow	79	85	-7.1	87	94	20	23	186	202	-7.9
	Vertical Bow	33	33	1.0	30	31	11	11	74	75	-0.9
	Bonus Gun	13			15		3		31		
	Muzzleloader	5	8	-40.0	17	15	3	3	25	26	-2.6
	Youth	7	9	-25.0	11	6	2	2	20	17	15.4
	Total	184	183	0.5	214	214	52	57	450	454	-0.9
Paulding	Gun	150	169	-11.1	211	252	64	65	425	486	-12.5
	Crossbow	102	102	0.3	92	98	30	26	224	226	-0.7
	Vertical Bow	73	68	7.4	52	80	22	18	147	166	-11.6
	Bonus Gun	22			30		12		64		
	Muzzleloader	11	15	-28.3	26	27	5	8	42	50	-16.6
	Youth	20	20	1.7	17	17	7	8	44	45	-2.2
	Total	380	387	-1.7	432	509	142	134	954	1,030	-7.4
Perry	Gun	453	467	-3.0	577	621	126	131	1,156	1,219	-5.1
	Crossbow	365	337	8.2	216	201	50	46	631	585	7.9
	Vertical Bow	241	221	9.2	146	153	17	22	404	395	2.3
	Bonus Gun	52			97		24		173		
	Muzzleloader	88	69	28.2	178	145	35	30	301	244	23.5
	Youth	64	64	0.5	28	29	9	12	101	104	-2.9
	Total	1,270	1,203	5.6	1,254	1,251	263	262	2,787	2,716	2.6
Pickaway	Gun	114	138	-17.4	131	146	25	31	270	315	-14.3
	Crossbow	94	92	1.8	67	71	17	16	178	179	-0.6
	Vertical Bow	74	73	1.4	50	68	12	10	136	151	-9.9
	Bonus Gun	15			24		3		42		
	Muzzleloader	18	19	-5.3	37	35	5	6	60	60	-0.6
	Youth	18	16	12.5	7	10	2	4	27	30	-11.0
	Total	339	350	-3.2	320	357	65	70	724	778	-6.9

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Pike	Gun	300	317	-5.5	369	401	84	84	753	803	-6.2
	Crossbow	314	302	4.0	206	208	35	36	555	547	1.5
	Vertical Bow	246	231	6.6	131	146	15	21	392	398	-1.4
	Bonus Gun	37			59		8		104		
	Muzzleloader	65	65	0.5	94	98	13	12	172	175	-1.7
	Youth	45	43	4.7	34	28	6	5	85	76	11.8
	Total	1,020	991	2.9	901	955	162	169	2,083	2,115	-1.5
Portage	Gun	206	196	4.9	265	247	88	77	559	521	7.3
	Crossbow	377	366	2.9	394	374	105	94	876	834	5.1
	Vertical Bow	147	137	7.3	190	188	41	43	378	368	2.6
	Bonus Gun	41			76		19		136		
	Muzzleloader	30	22	36.4	80	64	19	15	129	101	27.3
	Youth	18	27	-32.5	12	26	2	6	32	59	-45.5
	Total	857	813	5.4	1,069	1,042	285	265	2,211	2,120	4.3
Preble	Gun	106	101	4.6	102	130	27	32	235	264	-10.9
	Crossbow	143	148	-3.2	105	123	26	29	274	300	-8.6
	Vertical Bow	91	105	-13.1	91	111	16	21	198	236	-16.2
	Bonus Gun	13			32		5		50		
	Muzzleloader	16	16	2.1	39	37	8	8	63	60	5.0
	Youth	14	18	-20.8	5	12	3	5	22	35	-36.5
	Total	385	397	-3.1	377	447	85	100	847	944	-10.3
Putnam	Gun	104	113	-8.0	127	144	43	41	274	298	-8.0
	Crossbow	93	81	14.3	88	85	25	30	206	197	4.6
	Vertical Bow	55	62	-11.3	57	55	12	13	124	130	-4.4
	Bonus Gun	16			21		8		45		
	Muzzleloader	8	8	4.3	11	10	1	3	20	21	-4.8
	Youth	17	19	-12.1	10	15	7	6	34	41	-17.1
	Total	295	292	0.9	318	331	96	100	709	724	-2.1
Richland	Gun	432	430	0.5	604	602	192	172	1,228	1,203	2.1
	Crossbow	411	416	-1.2	416	400	94	94	921	910	1.2
	Vertical Bow	261	251	3.8	274	276	37	53	572	580	-1.4
	Bonus Gun	55			89		20		164		
	Muzzleloader	57	63	-10.0	149	131	24	31	230	225	2.2
	Youth	45	54	-16.7	39	40	15	15	99	109	-9.2
	Total	1,278	1,261	1.3	1,583	1,542	385	389	3,246	3,193	1.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Ross	Gun	458	467	-1.9	540	575	104	116	1,102	1,157	-4.8
	Crossbow	421	419	0.4	291	306	56	51	768	776	-1.1
	Vertical Bow	323	316	2.2	217	243	34	36	574	595	-3.5
	Bonus Gun	53			80		13		146		
	Muzzleloader	106	101	5.3	156	164	25	26	287	291	-1.3
	Youth	89	83	6.8	31	40	8	13	128	137	-6.3
	Total	1,459	1,431	1.9	1,326	1,432	244	262	3,029	3,125	-3.1
Sandusky	Gun	81	102	-20.6	101	112	37	32	219	246	-11.0
	Crossbow	152	151	0.7	167	160	32	41	351	353	-0.5
	Vertical Bow	56	64	-13.0	64	75	13	18	133	157	-15.1
	Bonus Gun	21			38		7		66		
	Muzzleloader	12	13	-7.7	28	31	12	9	52	53	-1.9
	Youth	14	11	31.3	11	9	4	5	29	25	17.6
	Total	343	356	-3.7	414	421	105	113	862	890	-3.2
Scioto	Gun	357	357	-0.1	453	495	80	86	890	938	-5.2
	Crossbow	379	356	6.4	233	260	34	36	646	652	-1.0
	Vertical Bow	320	293	9.3	157	207	15	27	492	527	-6.6
	Bonus Gun	48			73		16		137		
	Muzzleloader	80	76	5.7	134	114	15	18	229	208	10.3
	Youth	40	44	-9.1	25	36	7	10	72	90	-20.0
	Total	1,232	1,166	5.6	1,079	1,194	168	193	2,479	2,554	-2.9
Seneca	Gun	331	307	7.9	389	361	115	107	835	775	7.8
	Crossbow	246	224	9.8	160	180	45	48	451	452	-0.2
	Vertical Bow	120	110	9.4	128	122	17	25	265	257	3.0
	Bonus Gun	34			51		15		100		
	Muzzleloader	29	30	-3.3	57	56	14	14	100	100	0.3
	Youth	36	38	-5.3	30	33	9	11	75	83	-9.3
	Total	803	733	9.5	823	814	216	221	1,842	1,768	4.2
Shelby	Gun	111	132	-16.1	178	191	45	49	334	373	-10.4
	Crossbow	116	121	-4.4	121	132	35	36	272	289	-6.0
	Vertical Bow	86	78	10.7	89	99	14	26	189	203	-6.7
	Bonus Gun	12			23		9		44		
	Muzzleloader	17	15	13.3	40	37	10	11	67	63	5.8
	Youth	29	27	8.7	11	23	7	10	47	60	-21.2
	Total	375	385	-2.6	464	516	122	142	961	1,043	-7.9

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Stark	Gun	267	259	3.1	426	435	105	113	798	807	-1.1
	Crossbow	417	395	5.6	455	465	111	109	983	969	1.5
	Vertical Bow	214	200	6.8	264	274	53	50	531	524	1.3
	Bonus Gun	45			85		23		153		
	Muzzleloader	49	50	-1.3	142	114	24	22	215	185	16.0
	Youth	31	28	9.4	19	28	12	9	62	66	-6.1
	Total	1,038	973	6.6	1,406	1,417	334	330	2,778	2,721	2.1
Summit	Gun	72	64	12.5	82	74	20	16	174	154	12.7
	Crossbow	397	364	9.2	415	445	119	112	931	920	1.2
	Vertical Bow	159	137	16.1	183	173	33	38	375	348	7.9
	Bonus Gun	19			16		6		41		
	Muzzleloader	5	8	-40.0	30	21	1	2	36	31	14.9
	Youth	4	4	0.0	2	3	0	2	6	8	-28.0
	Total	661	591	11.8	732	735	179	173	1,572	1,499	4.9
Trumbull	Gun	395	349	13.1	569	572	180	169	1,144	1,090	5.0
	Crossbow	560	477	17.3	573	536	179	162	1,312	1,175	11.7
	Vertical Bow	190	183	3.6	274	275	53	62	517	520	-0.6
	Bonus Gun	61			157		48		266		
	Muzzleloader	47	43	8.5	175	132	34	37	256	212	20.6
	Youth	37	31	20.7	29	33	13	17	79	80	-1.7
	Total	1,334	1,164	14.6	1,834	1,728	531	502	3,699	3,394	9.0
Tuscarawas	Gun	751	732	2.6	1,044	1,062	250	245	2,045	2,039	0.3
	Crossbow	667	593	12.5	491	508	96	96	1,254	1,197	4.8
	Vertical Bow	400	394	1.4	295	338	35	44	730	777	-6.0
	Bonus Gun	88			123		49		260		
	Muzzleloader	156	129	21.2	301	257	57	43	514	429	19.8
	Youth	97	103	-5.8	55	74	26	31	178	208	-14.4
	Total	2,180	2,027	7.5	2,340	2,417	519	504	5,039	4,949	1.8
Union	Gun	117	132	-11.6	133	141	21	34	271	307	-11.6
	Crossbow	135	125	7.7	99	90	25	28	259	244	6.3
	Vertical Bow	90	102	-11.5	92	95	18	21	200	217	-7.8
	Bonus Gun	10			14		4		28		
	Muzzleloader	13	15	-11.4	26	22	3	5	42	42	0.0
	Youth	16	17	-5.9	12	14	3	4	31	35	-11.4
	Total	387	401	-3.4	381	393	74	99	842	893	-5.7

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Van Wert	Gun	92	102	-9.8	99	119	20	23	211	244	-13.4
	Crossbow	60	59	1.7	44	47	8	12	112	118	-5.1
	Vertical Bow	31	29	5.7	28	39	5	5	64	73	-11.9
	Bonus Gun	7			12		5		24		
	Muzzleloader	7	7	-4.5	13	11	4	4	24	22	9.1
	Youth	10	14	-28.6	8	13	1	2	19	29	-34.5
	Total	210	217	-3.1	205	241	43	51	458	509	-10.0
Vinton	Gun	447	456	-1.9	564	610	100	128	1,111	1,194	-7.0
	Crossbow	335	306	9.4	216	225	37	41	588	572	2.9
	Vertical Bow	267	246	8.7	146	173	23	30	436	448	-2.7
	Bonus Gun	37			72		16		125		
	Muzzleloader	90	87	3.4	179	154	36	31	305	272	12.1
	Youth	53	52	1.9	25	26	9	10	87	88	-1.1
	Total	1,238	1,190	4.0	1,208	1,291	222	262	2,668	2,743	-2.7
Warren	Gun	90	111	-19.2	118	143	28	37	236	292	-19.2
	Crossbow	237	238	-0.3	155	184	36	37	428	459	-6.7
	Vertical Bow	151	143	5.3	119	133	23	23	293	300	-2.2
	Bonus Gun	15			24		3		42		
	Muzzleloader	18	21	-14.3	39	38	6	8	63	67	-6.4
	Youth	18	16	14.9	5	11	3	3	26	29	-10.3
	Total	532	541	-1.7	462	546	101	114	1,095	1,202	-8.9
Washington	Gun	620	618	0.3	756	793	126	138	1,502	1,550	-3.1
	Crossbow	451	399	13.0	212	210	30	33	693	642	7.9
	Vertical Bow	296	274	7.9	131	141	15	19	442	434	1.8
	Bonus Gun	59			68		13		140		
	Muzzleloader	131	103	27.2	301	229	40	36	472	367	28.5
	Youth	77	86	-10.1	39	41	10	10	126	137	-8.3
	Total	1,641	1,533	7.0	1,522	1,512	239	249	3,402	3,294	3.3
Wayne	Gun	259	226	14.4	370	362	101	96	730	684	6.7
	Crossbow	286	275	3.9	258	264	59	52	603	592	1.9
	Vertical Bow	146	139	5.0	179	189	25	28	350	356	-1.7
	Bonus Gun	22			55		15		92		
	Muzzleloader	30	26	13.9	100	90	20	19	150	135	10.8
	Youth	35	36	-3.7	24	29	13	11	72	76	-5.3
	Total	785	734	6.9	1,000	1,014	235	223	2,020	1,971	2.5

APPENDIX 1

COUNTY HARVEST SUMMARIES

County	Season	Bucks			Does		Button bucks		Total Harvest		
		2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	2016	3-year average	Diff. (%)
Williams	Gun	274	302	-9.4	299	376	82	92	655	770	-14.9
	Crossbow	190	189	0.5	203	193	43	45	436	427	2.2
	Vertical Bow	149	146	2.1	161	172	28	28	338	346	-2.2
	Bonus Gun	44			68		15		127		
	Muzzleloader	29	28	2.4	45	49	11	11	85	89	-4.1
	Youth	14	20	-31.1	12	16	6	6	32	42	-24.4
	Total	705	710	-0.8	794	866	188	195	1,687	1,771	-4.7
Wood	Gun	143	135	5.7	115	151	28	36	286	323	-11.4
	Crossbow	156	155	0.9	105	124	30	30	291	309	-5.8
	Vertical Bow	87	88	-1.5	66	74	16	15	169	177	-4.3
	Bonus Gun	20			13		4		37		
	Muzzleloader	10	14	-26.8	21	20	1	3	32	37	-12.7
	Youth	14	14	-2.3	9	11	7	6	30	32	-6.3
	Total	435	422	3.2	336	408	86	96	857	925	-7.4
Wyandot	Gun	268	276	-3.0	361	353	87	91	716	720	-0.6
	Crossbow	135	126	7.1	123	123	23	29	281	278	1.2
	Vertical Bow	115	105	9.2	107	121	13	19	235	245	-4.0
	Bonus Gun	20			31		9		60		
	Muzzleloader	31	31	0.0	53	55	12	15	96	101	-4.6
	Youth	22	31	-28.3	21	25	9	9	52	65	-20.4
	Total	611	600	1.8	715	742	158	180	1,484	1,522	-2.5

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2016-2017 SUMMARY

Harvest Summary	3
Non-resident Hunters	5
Landowners	5
Public Land	6
Deer Age Structure.....	6
Hunter Success, Participation Rate, & Effort.....	7
Disease Update	10
Holmes County Disease Surveillance Area.....	10
Looking Back	11

2017-2018 PREVIEW

Season Forecast	12
Hunter Feedback	12
Youth Season Timing	13
Use of Urine-based Attractants	13
Population Goal Setting Surveys	14
Understanding Deer Population Trends	15
Appendix 1: County Harvest Summaries	18

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