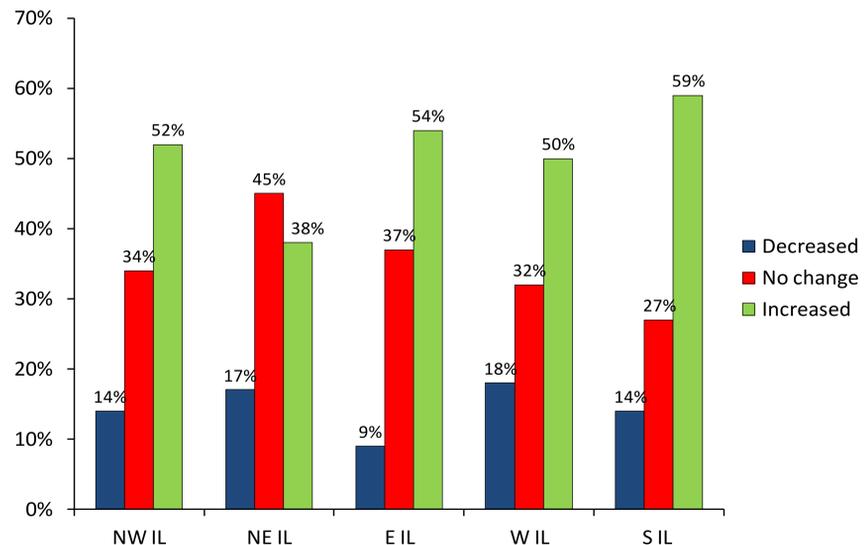


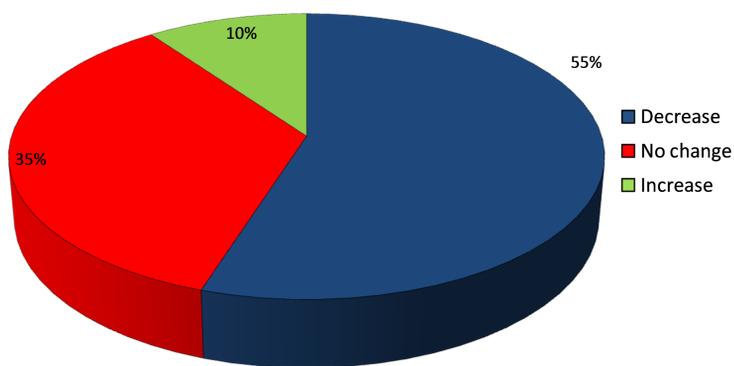
# Farmers' Perceptions About the Illinois Deer Herd and Damage

A total of 5,000 farmers throughout the State were surveyed in 2011 about deer in Illinois. One specific question addressed how farmers believed the deer herd had changed in the past 5 years. Most farmers indicated that the deer herd had increased or remained the same.

Illinois farmers' perception of the deer population from 2006-2011



Illinois farmers' preference on the change in deer density in next 5 years



More than half of the farmers surveyed indicated they would like for the deer herd to decline in the next 5 years. Most hunters would indicate the opposite, as past research has shown that hunter satisfaction is highest when they see deer while hunting.

A goal of IDNR is to maintain a healthy deer population for recreation, while simultaneously minimizing property damage in the State. The graph on the right shows the percentage of farmers that reported deer damage to crops, along with the severity of the damage.

Severity of Deer Damage Farmers Perceived

