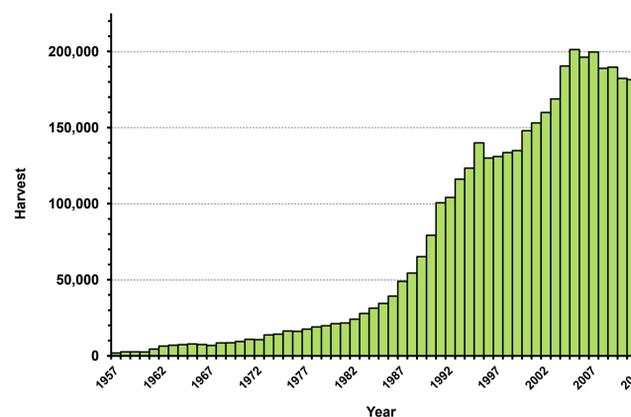


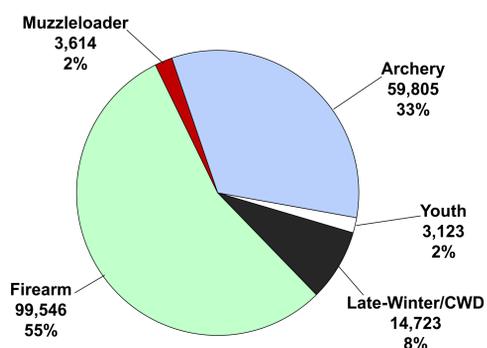
# Illinois Harvest by the Numbers

Illinois' deer harvest increased by leaps and bounds after the opening of modern hunting seasons in 1957, reaching a peak in 2005. Harvest levels have declined somewhat as population goals throughout much of the state have been achieved.

Historic Illinois Deer Harvest Totals



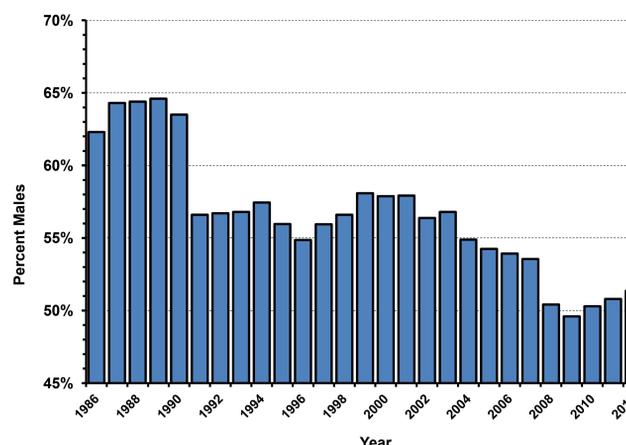
2012-2013 Illinois Deer Harvest by Season



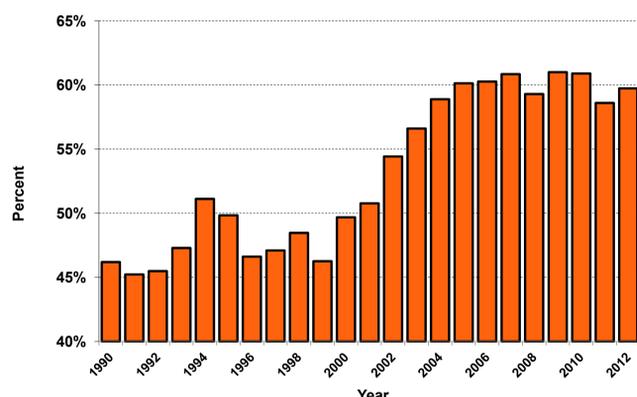
Illinois hunters harvested 180,811 deer during the 2012-2013 seasons. Most importantly, the harvest consisted of a balanced mix of males (bucks) and females (does), as well as old and young. During the past two decades, IDNR biologists have emphasized harvesting female deer in order to control herd size while maintaining the age structure of bucks for which Illinois is famous.

Female deer currently make up a much larger part of the harvest than they did before the 1990s. The number of hunters "holding out" for a buck had become progressively higher throughout the years of the modern firearm season, until the trend was reversed by using antlerless-only permits as a management tool beginning in 1991.

Sex Ratios: Percent Males in Illinois' Deer Harvest (All Seasons)

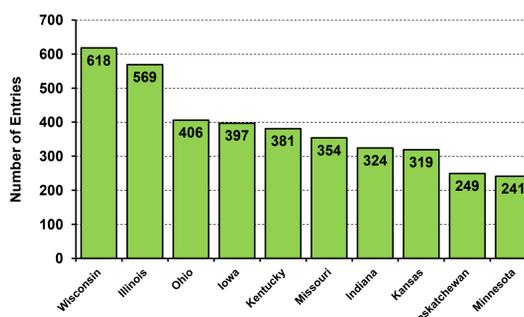


Age Structure in the Illinois Deer Harvest: Percent of Antlered Bucks That Are at Least 2.5 Years Old



As a result of our emphasis on doe harvest and careful control of county quotas, yearling bucks are not as large a part of the antlered buck harvest as they were in the past. What does this mean, exactly? It means that more bucks in our herd have been getting older, and that the odds of harvesting a mature buck have actually increased.

Top 10 States/Provinces for Boone & Crockett White-tailed Deer, 2002-2011



Top 10 States/Provinces for Pope and Young White-tailed Deer, 2003-2012

