

***Trends in Resident and Non-resident Hunter Effort and
Harvest for Turkey in Mississippi:
1980-81 to 2010-11 Seasons***

**Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest and Wildlife Research Center**

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Harvest for Turkey in Mississippi:
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Prepared for the

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INTRODUCTION & METHODS

Self-administered mail surveys of resident hunters have been conducted intermittently since the 1947-48 Mississippi hunting season to estimate hunter effort and game harvest in Mississippi, with annual surveys (unless noted) starting in 1980-1981 season. Non-resident hunter surveys began on an annual basis in 1994 (unless noted).

Annual surveys were completed by the Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory in the Forest & Wildlife Research Center at Mississippi State University from 2001 thru 2011 using mail survey methodology prescribed by Dillman (2000). This entailed an introductory letter being sent to hunters followed one-week later by another letter, questionnaire, and business reply envelope (i.e., a complete packet). Ten days after that, hunters were sent a reminder/thank you postcard. Non-respondents were sent a complete packet as necessary three and seven weeks after the postcard.

These surveys provide information to biologists and researcher to determine trends in total harvest, average seasonal harvest per hunter, average daily harvest per hunter, average person-days spent afield, total person-days spent afield, percent successful hunters, and the proportion of hunters seeking 13 different game species, and feral hog. This report includes mail survey data for turkey (*Meleagris gallop*a) spanning from the 1980-81 hunting season to the 2010-11 hunting season for resident hunters, and data spanning from the 1994-95 hunting season to the 2010-11 hunting season for non-resident hunters.

This document will be updated annually with most recent data and will evolve to include other measures and information as that information is extracted from archived files. This report does not attempt to determine and describe trends in hunter effort and harvest. It is meant to provide the reader with the data for these estimates in an organized manner.

LITERATURE CITED

Dillman, D.A. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method*. 2nd Edition. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc.

RESULTS

TABLE 1. Mississippi total turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed resident hunters
(1980-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENCEES (A)
1981	37,875	1959	0.116	0.85	48.3	300,939	6.98	44,573	21.1
1982	43,400	3831	0.134	0.98	50	308,413	7.12	44,825	21.8
1983	45,422	3580	0.123	0.99	52.3	355,853	7.89	46,131	20.6
1984	48,500	4315	0.111	1.00	53.1	415,373	8.71	51,241	19.0
1985	50,129	3565	0.119	0.95	52.4	408,227	7.92	52,824	23.0
1986	52,989	2594	0.117	1.00	54.2	433,284	8.45	52,876	22.7
1987	49,355	3728	0.122	0.88	48.5	381,077	6.96	58,882	21.9
1988	60,206	4398	0.068	0.93	52.9	554,738	13.64	65,722	24.1
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	50,154	3967	0.096	0.97	52.9	505,221	9.95	84,261	27.9
1991	44,503	3286	0.036	0.97	52.4	409,324	26.99	55,235	21.7
1992	42,167	3108	0.045	0.98	51.2	368,682	21.39	43,805	18.3
1993	37,385	2763	0.066	0.84	50.1	353,141	12.81	44,538	17.2
1994	37,967	1845	0.049	0.93	53.5	341,239	18.51	41,472	17.8
1995	37,068	2659	0.117	2.89	49.6	336,215		40,865	18.0
1996	33,065	2646	0.026	0.81	46.2	356,210		42,627	18.8
1997	29,035	2267	0.026	0.81	47.7	305,794		35,769	16.4
1998	32,127	2278	0.035	0.83	53.1	296,234		40,316	18.6
1999	32,809	1756	0.156	2.97	46.1	341,482		45,626	19.4
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	36,883	3013	0.08	0.83	41.3	425,745	9.70	44,298	22.6
2002	32,815	2423	0.08	0.85	51.6	342,654	9.79	38,396	19.7
2003	38,486	2877	0.08	0.95	54.6	353,936	9.81	40,506	22.0
2004	32,334	3032	0.1	0.95	55	273,054	8.86	33,901	18.6
2005	32,042	3509	0.07	0.89	51.4	323,974	9.93	36,073	20.0
2006	27,044	2230	0.08	0.85	53.4	278,393	9.59	31,739	18.5
2007	33,579	2,754	0.13	1.17	63.7	254,672	9.87	28,691	16.4
2008	24,501	2,229	0.08	0.84	52.1	259,649	9.59	29,205	16.5
2009	22,111	2447	0.07	0.78	48.4	239,972	9.45	27,638	15.8
2010	25,807	2,450	0.09	1	58.2	237,724	10.16	25,690	15.9
2011	21,887	2,427	0.08	0.77	45.4	228,365	8.82	28,316	17.4

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only

Figure 1. Trends in total harvest of turkey for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

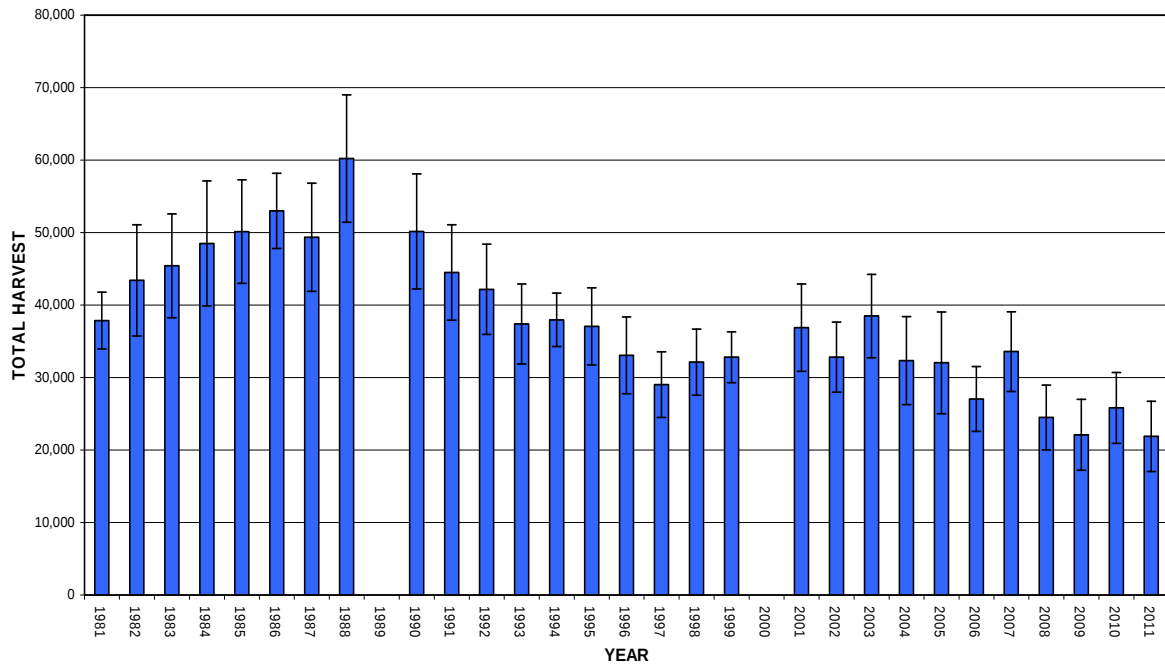


Figure 2. Trends in average daily kill of turkey for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

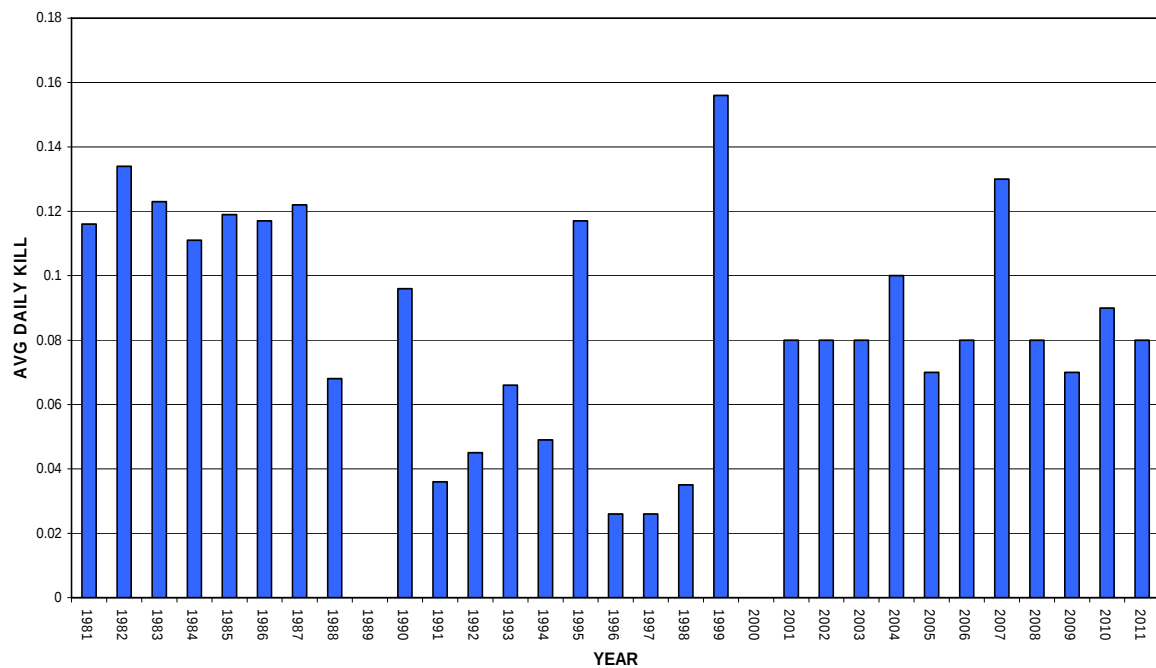


Figure 3. Trends in average seasonal harvest of turkey for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

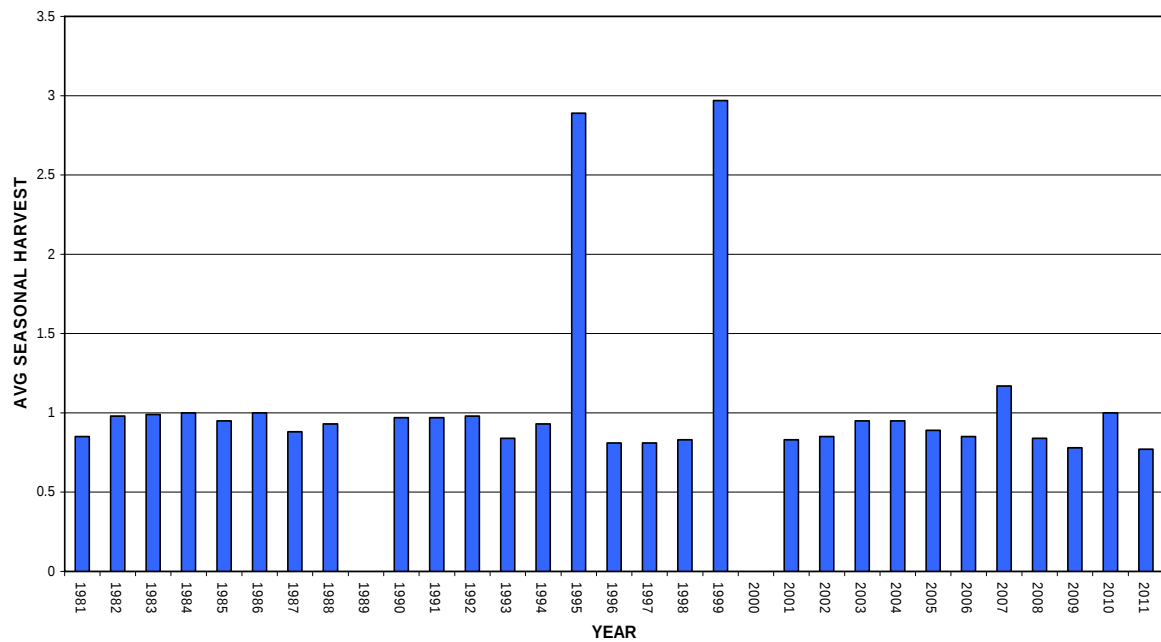


Figure 4. Trends in percent successful turkey hunters for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

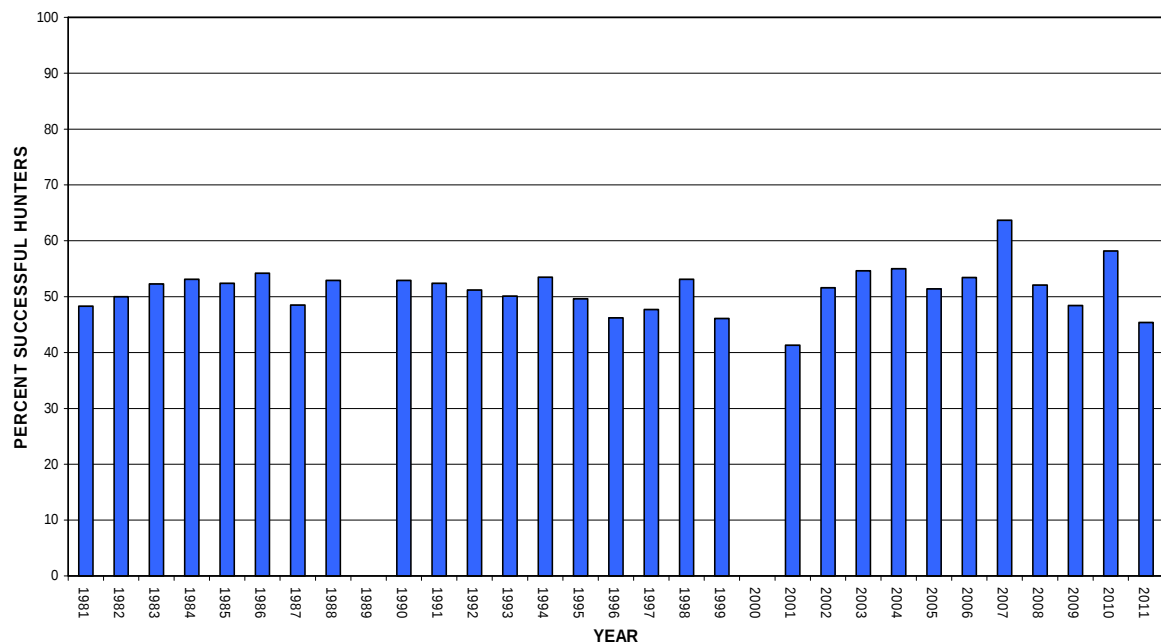


Figure 5. Trends in total man days in turkey hunting for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

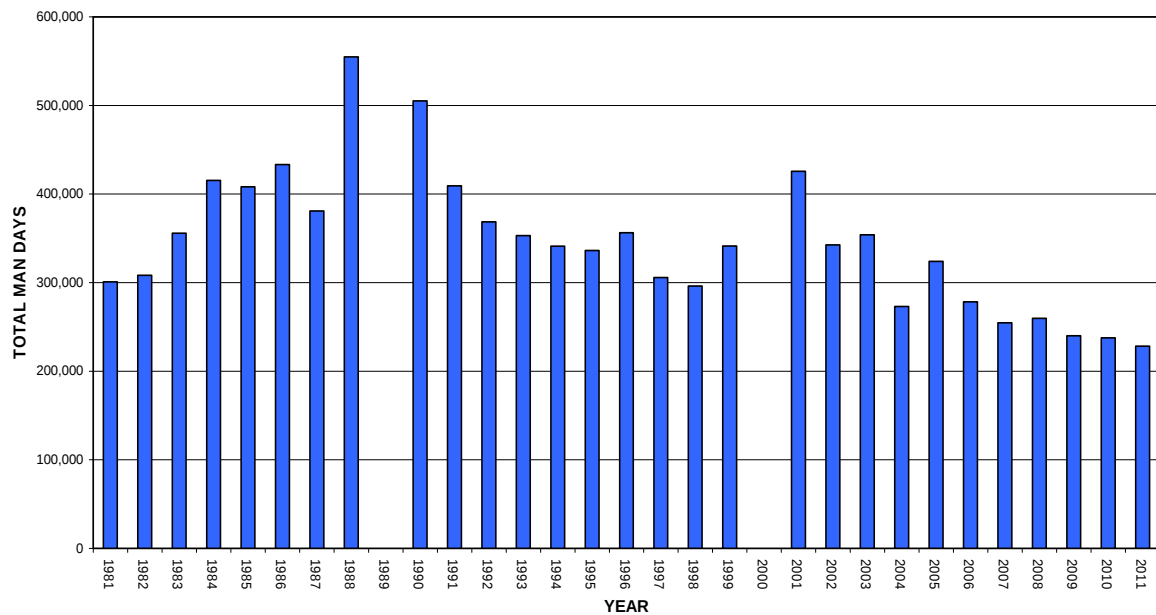


Figure 6. Trends in average seasonal days turkey hunting for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

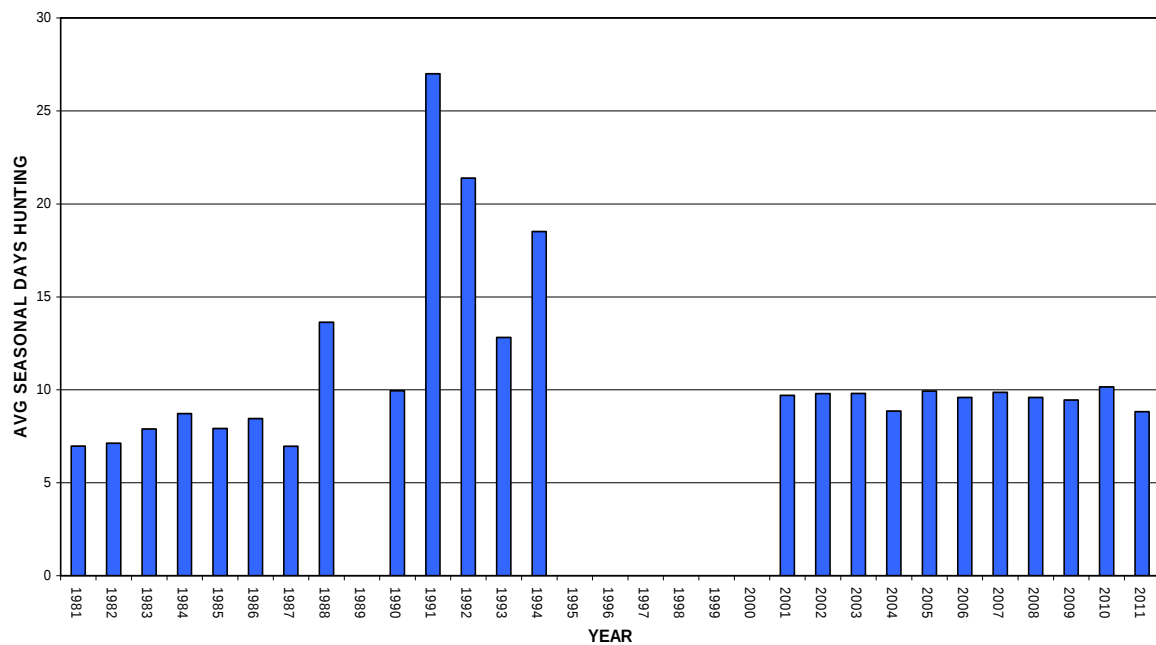


Figure 7. Trends in total turkey hunters for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

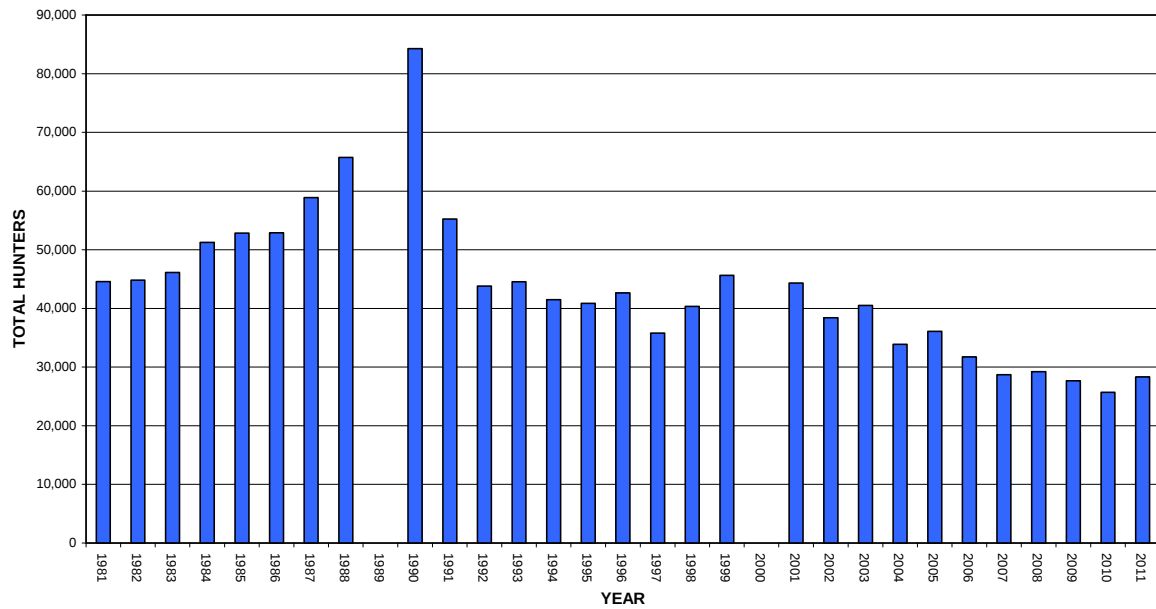


Figure 8. Trends in proportion of licensed resident hunters who hunted for turkey (1980-2011)

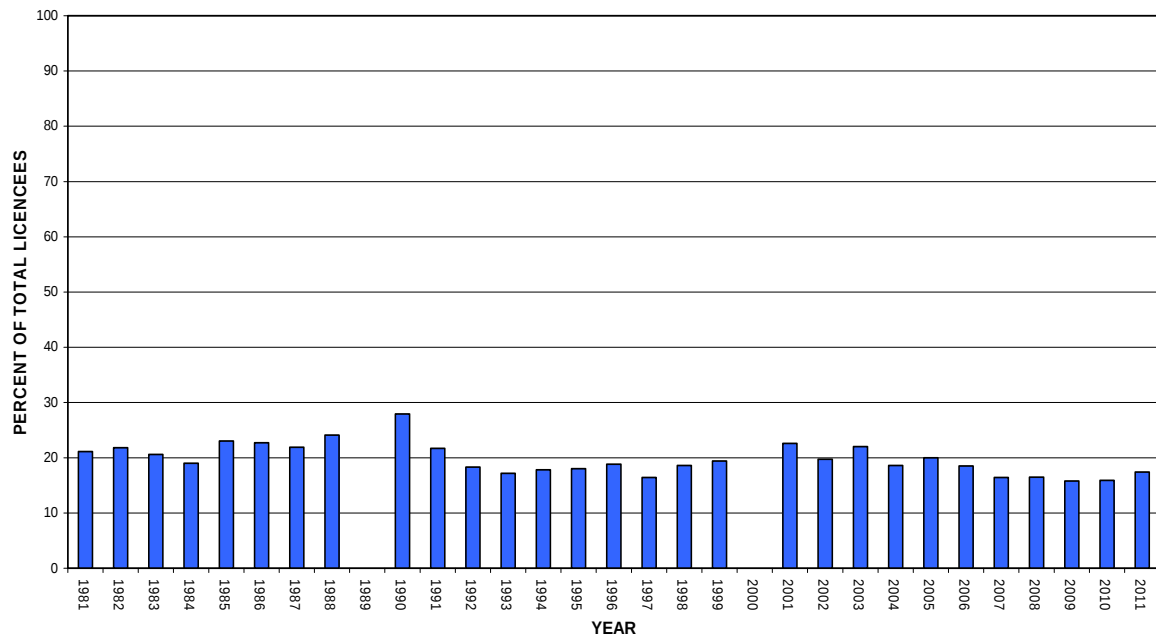


TABLE 2. Mississippi total turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENCEES (A)
1995	1,850	-	0.134	0.523	0.37	19,521	4.54	2,956	0.06
1996	2,069	-	0.17	0.465	37.25	21,693	4.263	3,710	8.95
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1998	1,732	-	0.12	0.58	36.025	17,797	5.05	2,785	8.575
1999	1,565	-	0.178	0.675	44.25	14,688	4.128	2,530	5.875
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	2,506	483	0.07	0.56	27.8	28,484	6.32	4,512	18.8
2002	3,186	297	0.09	0.61	38.4	29,947	5.99	5,222	20.3
2003	3,015.74	380	0.11	0.7	42.1	24,901	6.08	4,294	19.2
2004	2,367	247	0.11	0.78	52.5	17,554	6.42	3,032	14
2005	2,573	283	0.09	0.63	40.9	23,752	6.17	4,116	18.1
2006	2,243	242	0.07	0.58	41.1	25,742	6.98	3,860	17.1
2007	2,361	392	0.08	0.78	46.67	23,641	8.36	3,036	12.6
2008	2,188	361	0.07	0.58	35.9	25,628	7.02	3,879	15.2
2009	2,613	404	0.08	0.61	41.2	29,550	7.21	4,255	15.8
2010	3,382	486	0.11	0.86	56.8	26,043	7.22	3,871	15.1
2011	2,697	437	0.08	0.71	46.8	24,333	7.09	3,783	15

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only

Figure 9. Trends in total harvest of turkey for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2009)

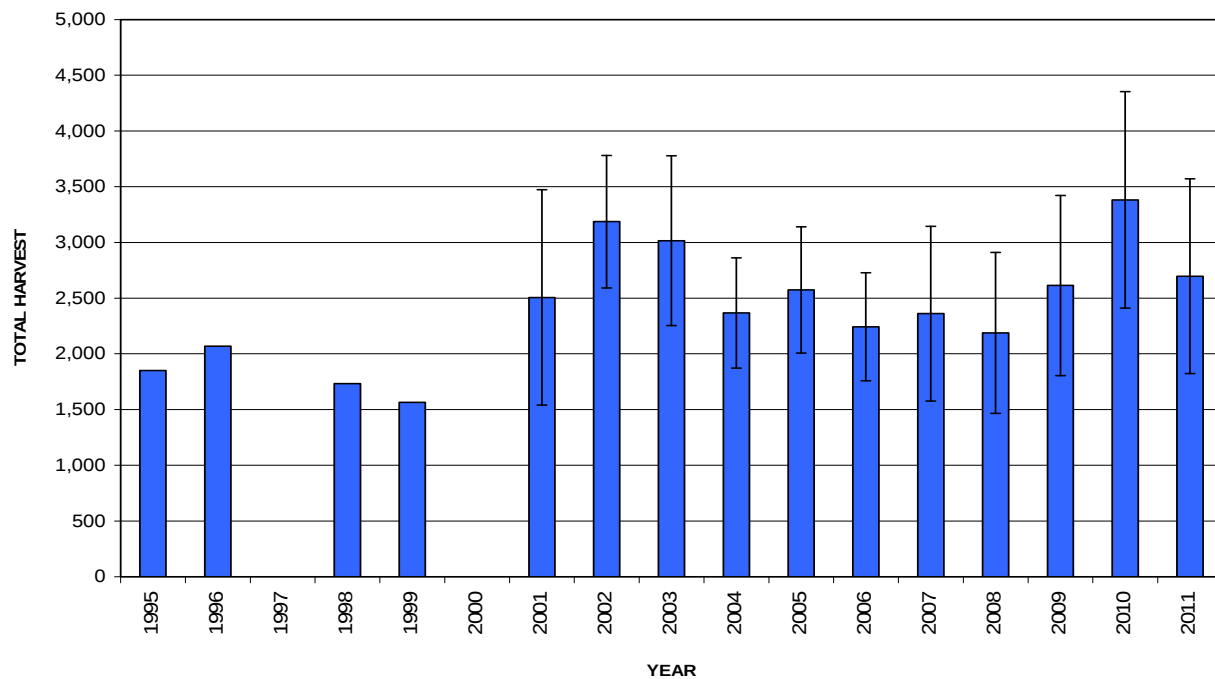


Figure 10. Trends in average daily kill of turkey for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

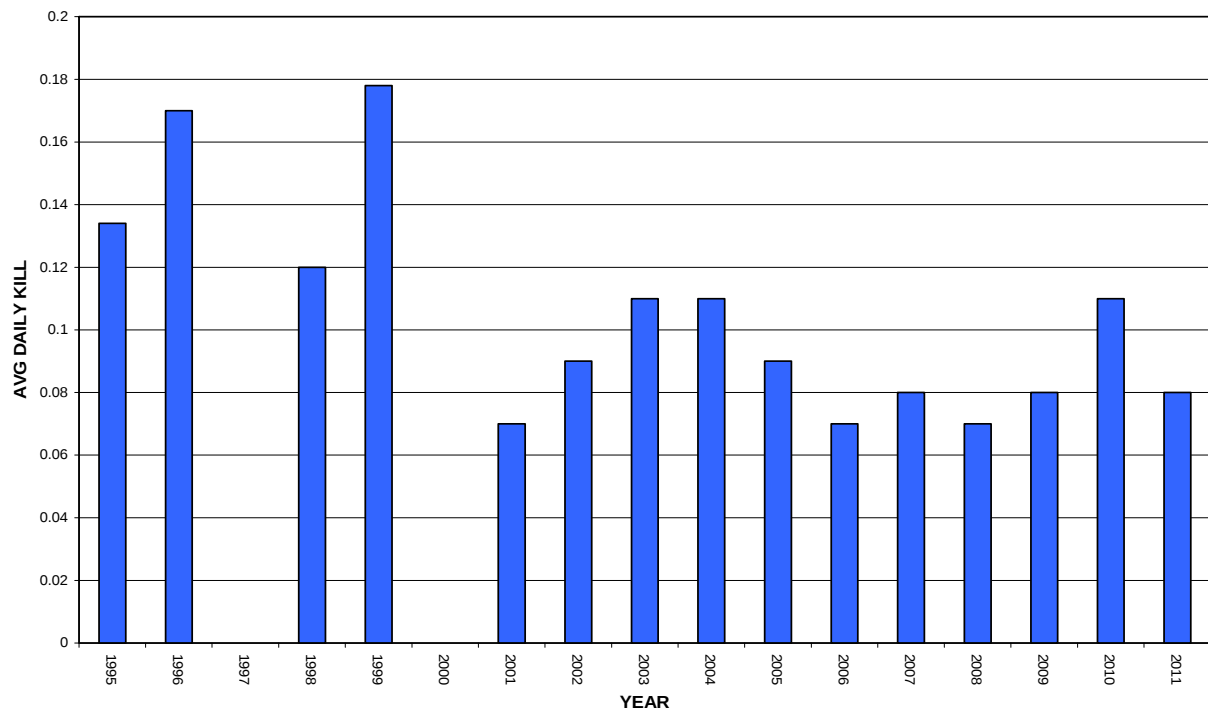


Figure 11. Trends in average seasonal harvest of turkey for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

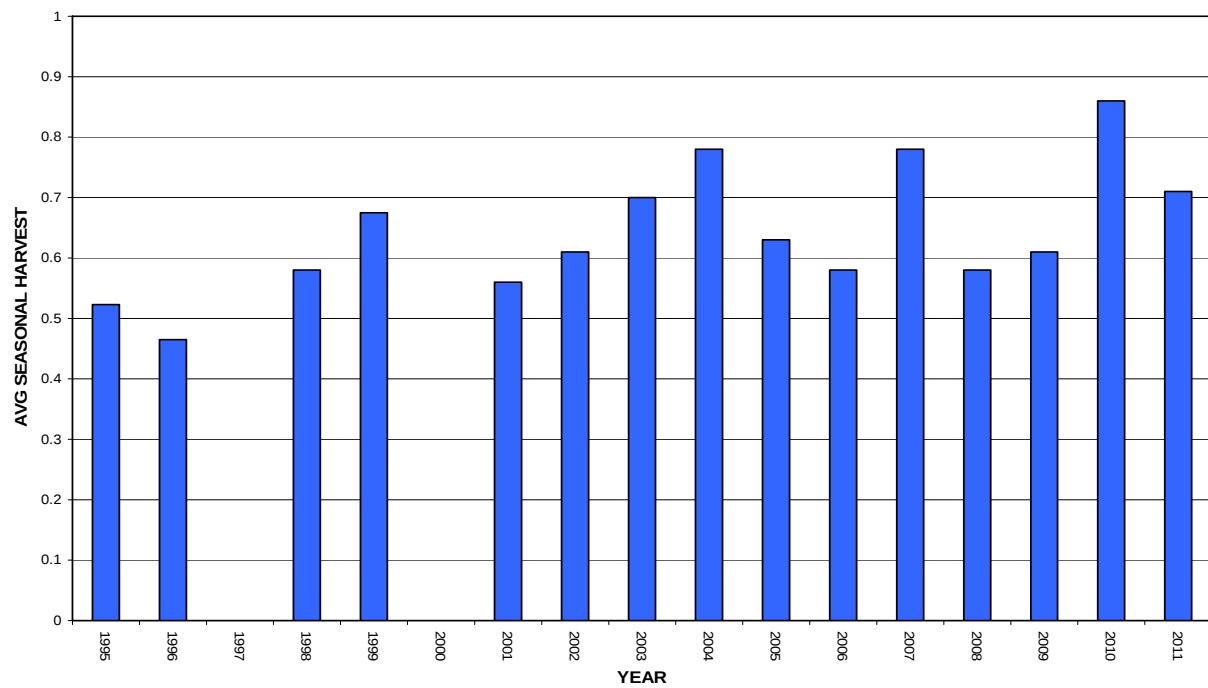


Figure 12. Trends in percent successful turkey hunters for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

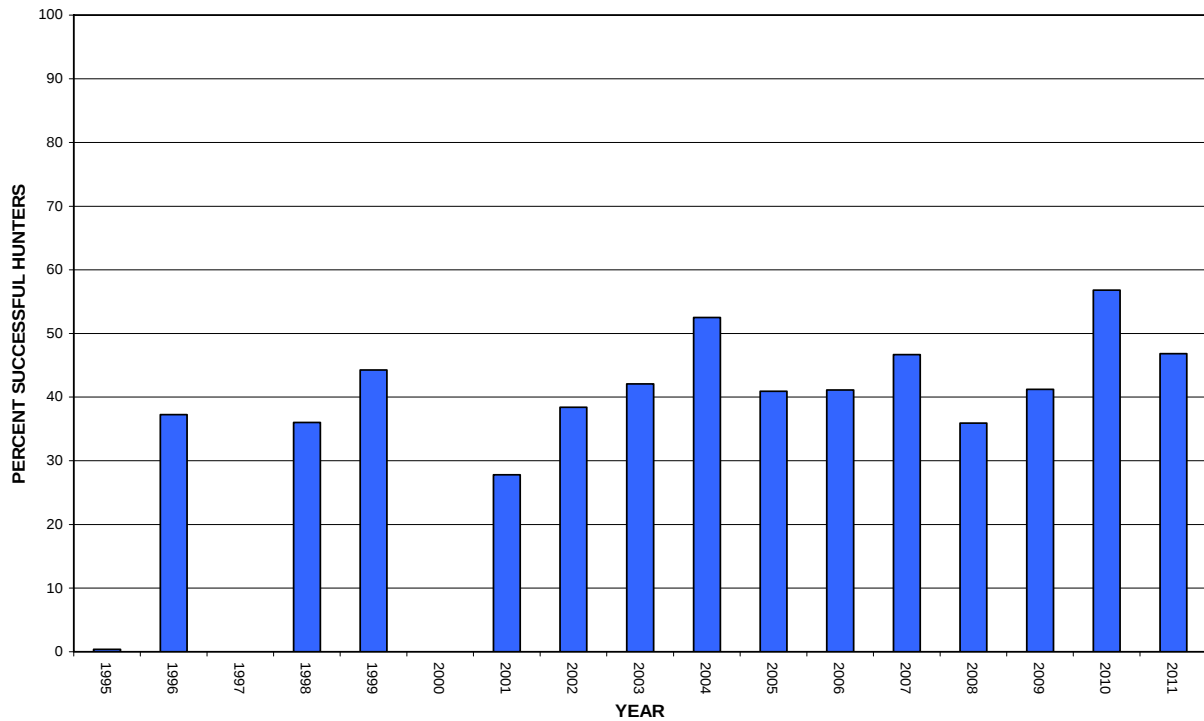


Figure 13. Trends in total man days turkey hunting for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

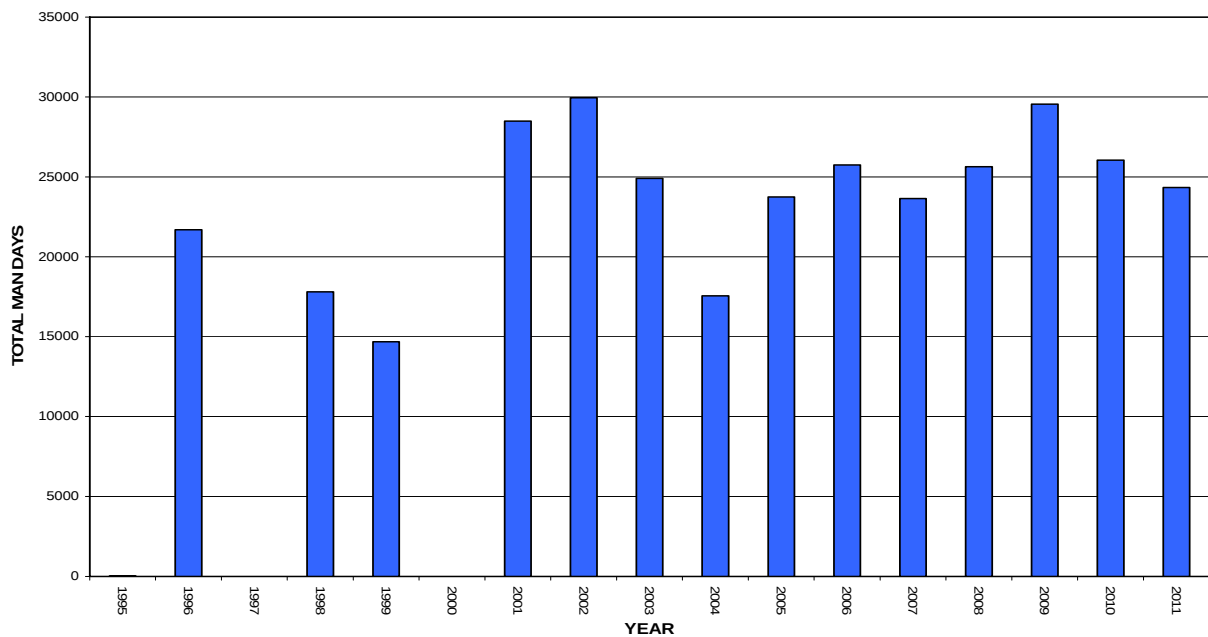


Figure 14. Trends in average seasonal days turkey hunting for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

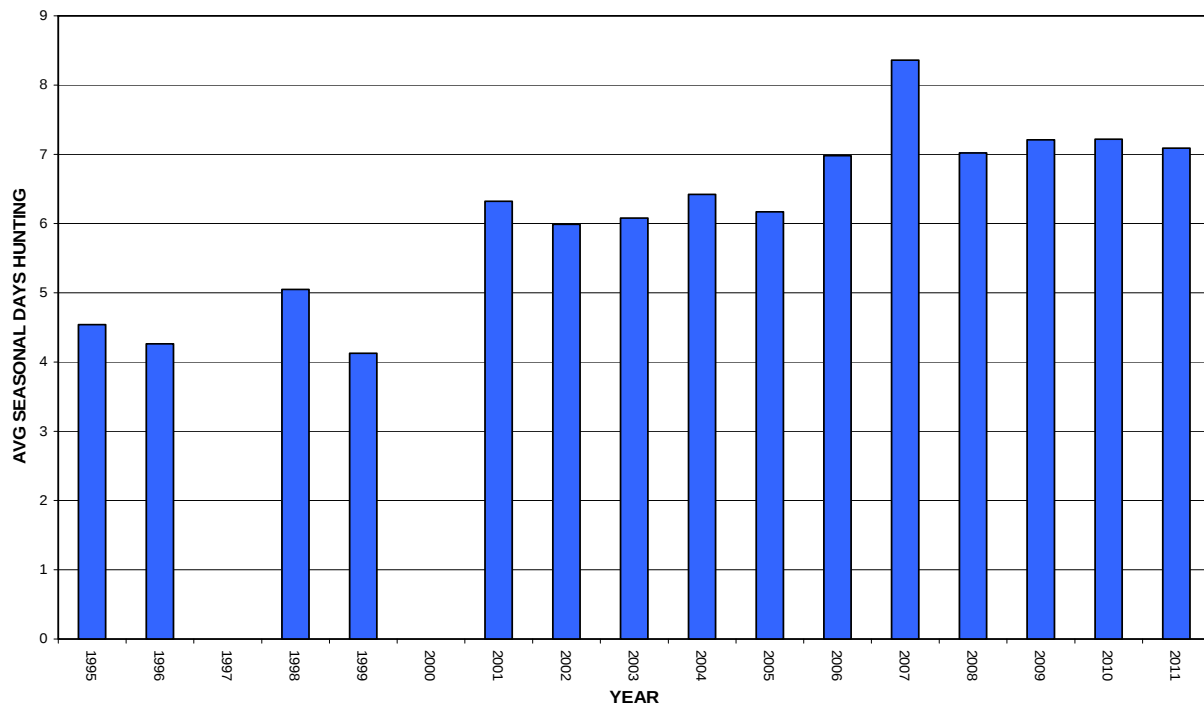


Figure 15. Trends in total turkey hunters for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

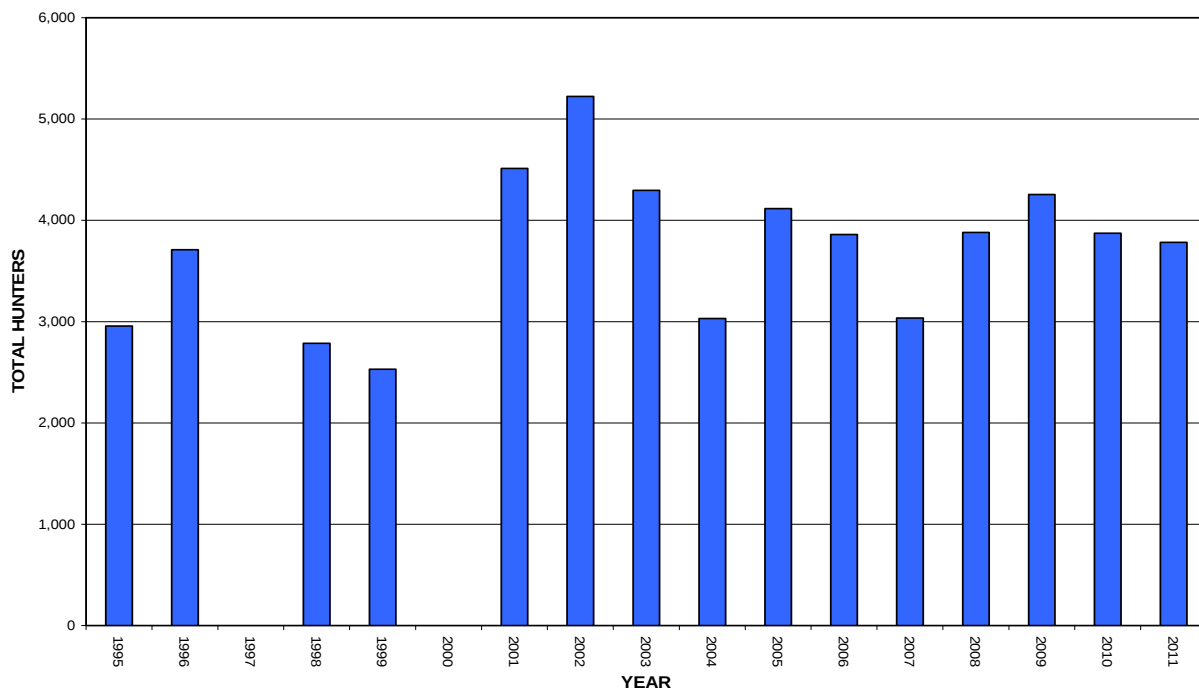
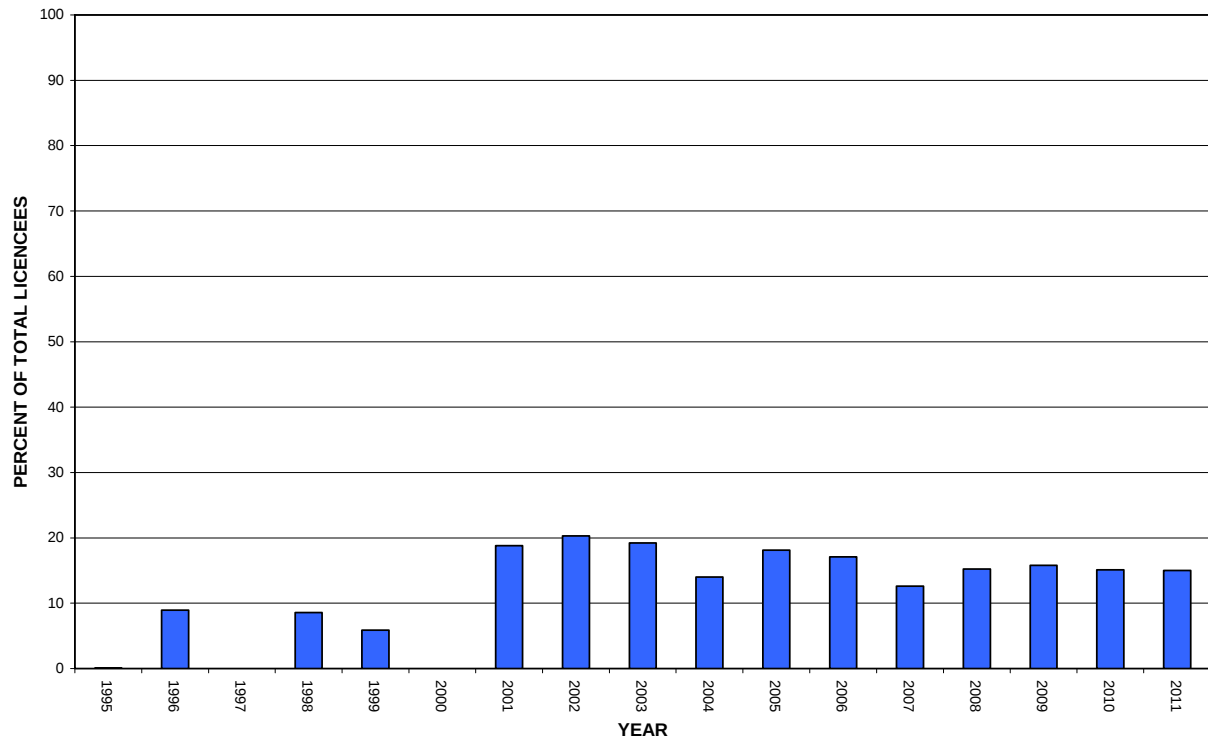


Figure 16. Trends in proportion of licensed non-resident hunters who hunted for turkey (1994-2011)



Mississippi Spring Turkey Hunting Effort and Harvest Trends for Licensed Resident and Non-resident Hunters: 1980 to the Present

TABLE 3. Mississippi spring turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENSEES (A)
1981	34,759	1849	0.113	0.81	47.3	283,932	6.88	42,757	20.3
1982	37,338	3307	0.122	0.89	49.7	288,703	7.07	42,350	20.6
1983	42,123	3371	0.121	0.95	51.7	332,911	7.62	44,737	19.9
1984	46,664	4266	0.109	0.99	52.5	405,277	8.76	47,876	20.8
1985	50,129	3565	0.119	0.95	52.4	408,227	7.92	52,824	23.0
1986	52,989	2594	0.117	1.00	54.2	433,284	8.45	52,876	22.7
1987	45,609	3593	0.118	0.85	47.8	360,474	6.91	53,763	23.1
1988	59,241	4383	0.106	0.94	53.3	545,910	8.77	63,516	27.0
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	49,100	3940	0.097	0.97	54.0	496,000	9.86	63,339	27.2
1991	42,443	3222	0.103	0.94	52.5	402,903	9.14	47,750	22.1
1992	39,535	2930	0.101	0.93	51.7	359,975	8.96	41,252	18.9
1993	35,548	2692	0.100	0.82	50.0	346,232	8.24	42,701	19.5
1994	36,983	1832	0.105	0.93	54.1	334,856	8.58	39,775	18.3
1995	35,749	2623	0.102	0.92	49.5	327,711	8.87	38,814	18.4
1996	31,946	2613	0.088	0.80	46.4	345,476	8.90	40,016	19.4
1997	28,406	2250	0.088	0.83	48.8	298,553	8.90	34,431	17.2
1998	30,475	2233	0.096	0.81	52.6	285,777	8.03	37,621	18.9
1999	32,017	1744	0.090	0.74	46.1	332,601	8.02	43,384	21.7
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	35,732	2968	0.08	0.82	41.0	416,572	9.59	43,787	22.3
2002	30,409	2315	0.07	0.83	50.7	328,942	9.78	36,664	18.8
2003	36,915	2819	0.09	0.95	54.5	333,873	9.61	38,935	21.2
2004	31,195	2926	0.1	0.95	55	263,474	8.77	32,904	18.1
2005	28,818	3290	0.07	0.85	50.9	313,572	9.93	34,058	18.8
2006	25,616	2150	0.08	0.85	53.9	272,488	9.79	30,310	17.7
2007	32,729	2,715	0.19	1.18	64.8	247,953	9.99	27,734	15.9
2008	23,517	2,178	0.08	0.83	52.1	253,941	9.66	28,330	16
2009	20,802	2391	0.07	0.78	48	229,736	9.61	26,038	14.9
2010	24,639	2,374	0.09	0.99	58	230,736	10.19	24,756	15.3
2011	21,340	2,361	0.08	0.78	46.5	224,135	8.95	27,358	16.8

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only

TABLE 4. Mississippi spring turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENCEES (A)
1995	1,692	-	0.136	0.58	0.37	17,668	4.915	2,589	0.099
1996	1,991	-	0.115	0.545	40.5	20,638	4.92	3,421	13.95
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1998	1,619	-	0.125	0.645	40.25	16,283	5.48	2,496	12.25
1999	1,286	-	0.175	0.73	47	13,563	4.79	2,220	9.65
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	2,433	481.62	0.07	0.56	27.8	27,460	6.32	4,355	18.2
2002	3,015	285.5	0.09	0.6	38.2	28,545	5.89	5,051	19.6
2003	2,895.11	361.68	0.11	0.69	42.5	23,340	5.84	4,198	18.7
2004	2,289	242	0.11	0.77	52.1	17,118	6.37	2,970	13.7
2005	2,466	278	0.09	0.62	40.4	22,511	6.02	3,992	17.6
2006	2,131	229	0.08	0.58	42	24,479	9.9	3,701	16.3
2007	2,193	374	0.08	0.76	47.06	16,996	8.53	2,867	11.9
2008	2,122	355	0.03	0.2	37.27	17,223	6.89	3,647	14.3
2009	2575	403	0.08	0.62	41.1	20,799	7.1	4,181	15.5
2010	3,260	479	0.11	0.89	58.4	18,121	7.4	3,627	14.1
2011	2,576	429	0.08	0.73	47.7	17,237	7.27	3,542	14

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only

Mississippi Fall Turkey Hunting Effort and Harvest Trends for Licensed Resident and Non-resident Hunters: 1980 to the Present

TABLE 5. Mississippi fall turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed resident hunters (1980-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENCEES (A)
1981	3032	461	0.180	0.62	46.8	16,162	3.49	4,763	2.3
1982	5920	1215	0.307	0.93	60.9	19,289	3.11	6,333	3.1
1983	3295	875	0.144	0.63	43.9	22,825	4.50	5,196	2.3
1984	1836	647	0.182	0.55	40.9	10,096	3.00	3,365	1.5
1985	0					0		0	0.0
1986	0					0		0	0.0
1987	3746	995	0.182	0.73	43.9	20,604	4.02	5,120	2.2
1988	965	364	0.109	0.44	43.8	8,828	4.27	2,206	1.0
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1990	1054	456	0.114	0.40	30.0	9,221	3.50	20,922	9.9
1991	2059	646	0.286	0.82	54.5	6,421	3.11	7,485	3.5
1992	2632	1036	0.147	1.03	43.8	8,708	3.89	2,553	1.2
1993	1836	624	0.253	0.95	52.4	6,909	3.76	1,836	0.8
1994	984	211	0.138	0.58	48.0	6,384	4.09	1,696	1.0
1995	1319	439	0.160	0.63	42.9	8,504	4.46	2,051	1.0
1996	1119	416	0.096	0.43	32.1	10,734	4.42	2,611	1.3
1997	630	272	0.096	0.47	35.3	7,242	4.42	1,338	0.7
1998	1652	451	0.133	0.61	48.4	10,457	4.62	2,695	1.3
1999	791	206	0.086	0.36	32.0	8,881	4.04	2,242	1.1
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	1151	461	0.06	0.42	27.3	9,336	4.56	2,109	1.1
2002	2406	685	0.11	0.78	50	12,740	5.08	3,079	1.6
2003	1571	593	0.07	0.48	34.5	18,885	6.46	3,254	1.8
2004	1140	532	0.08	0.53	40	8,994	5.25	2,137	1.2
2005	3255	1062	0.08	0.89	61.1	8,134	4.00	3,628	2.0
2006	1429	519	0.13	0.7	50	5,323	3.47	2,041	5.6
2007	850	425	1.5	0.73	45.5	6,588	5.64	1,169	0.7
2008	984	394	0.12	0.56	43.8	5,476	3.57	1,750	1
2009	1309	523	0.12	0.64	50	9,900	5.23	2,037	1.2
2010	1,168	466	0.11	0.91	63.6	6,554	7	1,285	0.8
2011	547	335	0.1	0.44	33.3	3,970	3.63	1,231	0.8

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only

TABLE 6. Mississippi fall turkey hunting effort and harvest trends for licensed non-resident hunters (1994-2011)

	TOTAL HARVEST	SE of TOTAL HARVEST	AVERAGE DAILY KILL	AVERAGE SEASONAL HARVEST	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	TOTAL MAN-DAYS	AVERAGE SEASONAL DAYS HUNTING	TOTAL HUNTERS	PERCENT OF TOTAL LICENCEES (A)
1995	158	-	0.085	0.43	0.41	1,853	5.5	367	0.026
1996	78	-	0.31	0.27	24	1,055	3.65	289	2
1997	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1998	113	-	0.07	0.39	24.2	1,514	5.24	289	2
1999	279	-	0.09	0.34	23	1,125	3.63	310	1.9
2000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2001	73	40	0.07	0.29	16.7	1,023	4.08	250	1.1
2002	171	71	0.1	0.46	29.2	1,354	3.95	373	1.4
2003	121	80	0.08	0.5	30	1,544	6.4	241	1.1
2004	77	41	0.15	0.56	44.4	418	3.38	140	0.6
2005	107	57	0.06	0.46	30.8	1,208	5.67	231	1
2006	112	62	0.04	0.44	25	1,235	5.5	256	1.1
2007	169	122	0.15	1	40	676	5	169	0.7
2008	66	66	0.32	5.1	10	2,055	6.2	332	1.3
2009	37	37	0.03	0.17	16.7	1,159	6.2	224	0.8
2010	122	91	0.09	0.43	28.6	1,304	4.57	285	1.1
2011	121	90	0.03	0.43	28.6	1,330	5.5	282	1.1

(A) Calculated as a percent of big game license holders only