



2022 DEER HARVEST SURVEY

Brian Frawley
April 13, 2023

MAJOR CHANGES IN 2022

- Mandatory harvest reporting adopted.



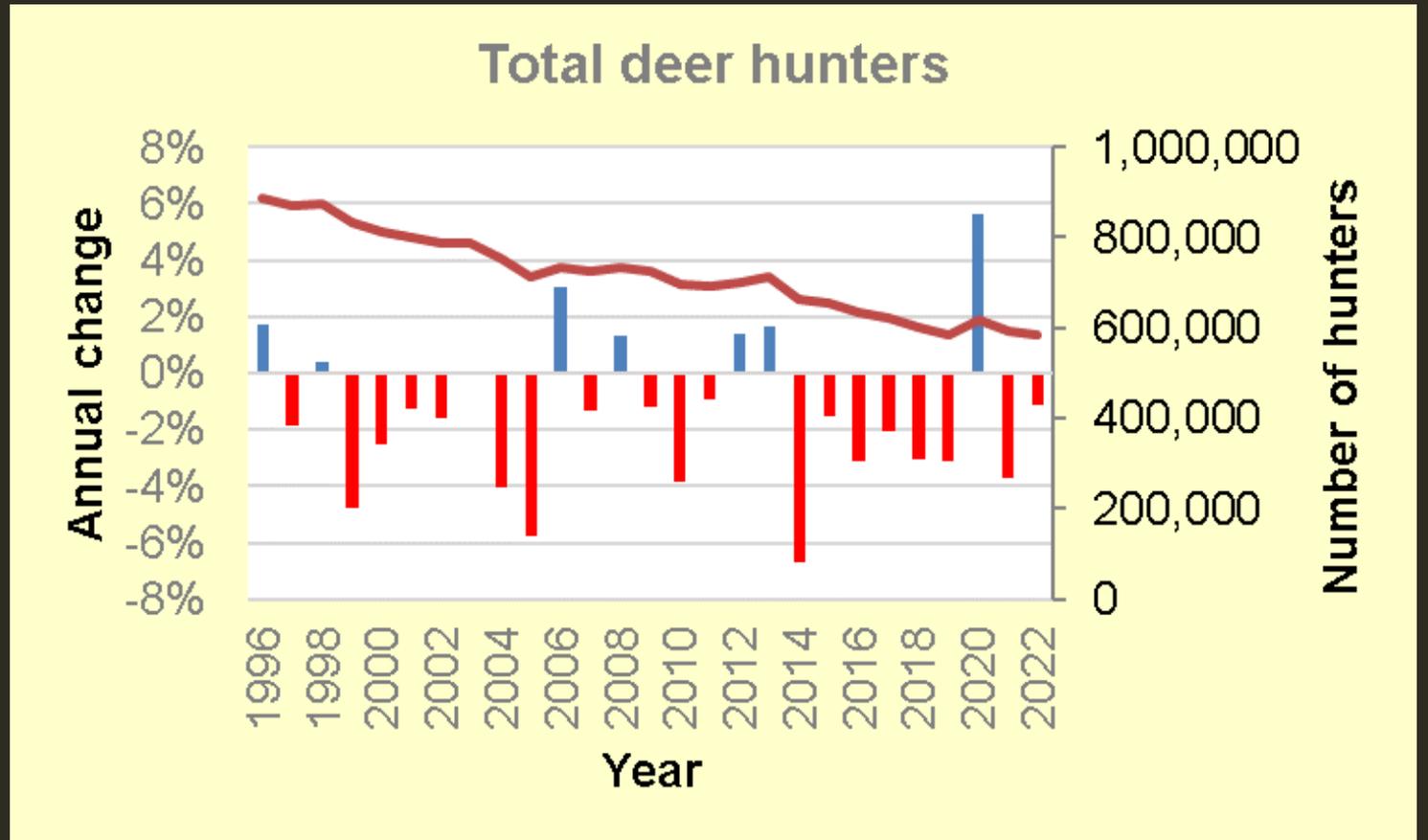
2022 DEER HARVEST SURVEY

- 586,323 people purchased a license (1.1% decrease)
- 19,287 of 61,501 questionnaires returned (31% response)
- Estimates standardized to be comparable with estimates from previous years



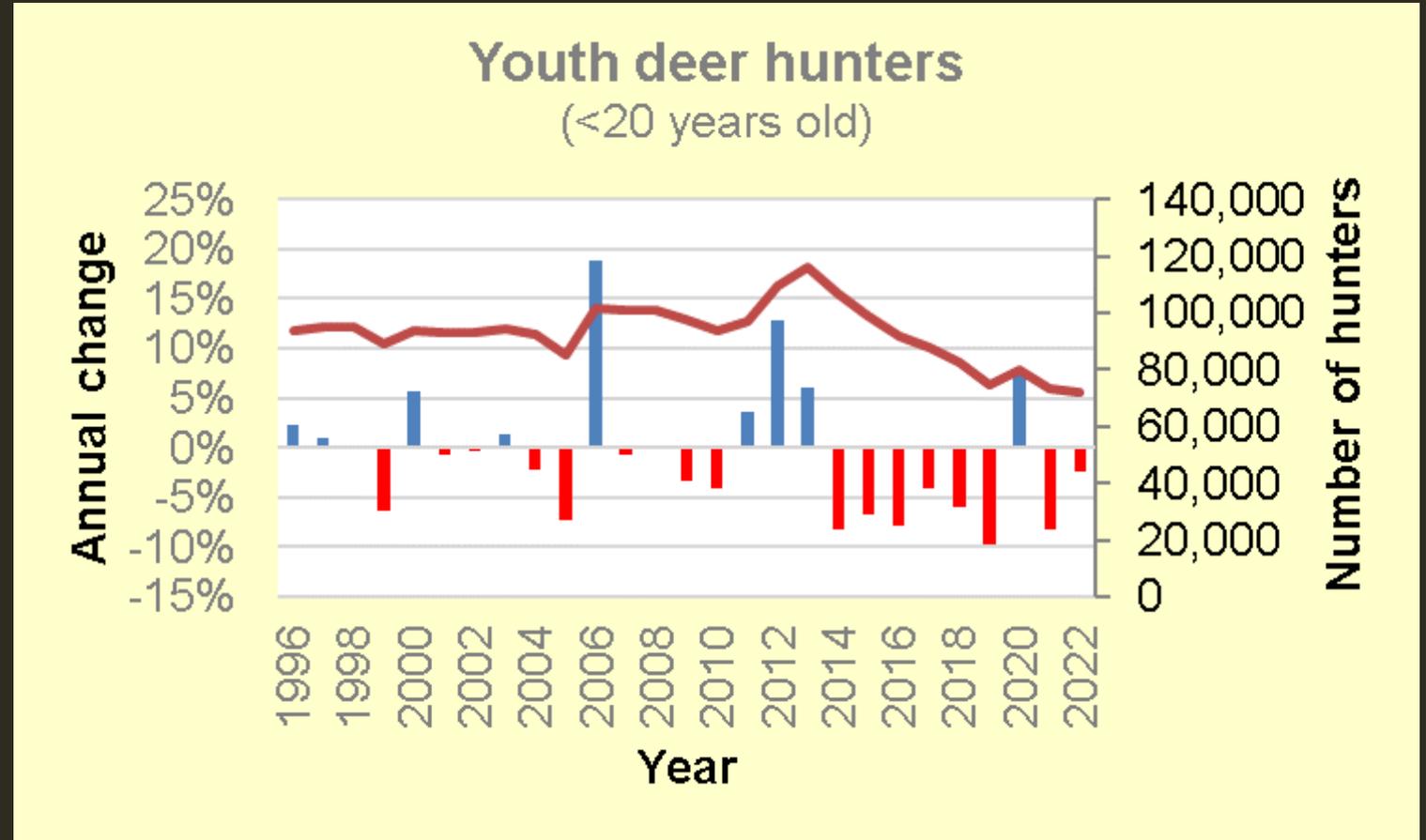
TOTAL DEER HUNTERS

- 586,323 hunters in 2022.
- 33% decline since 1995.
- 1.5% average annual decline



YOUTH HUNTERS

- 71,850 youth hunters in 2022.
- 22% decline since 1995.
- 0.9% average annual decline



HARVEST TAGS SOLD, 2020-2022.

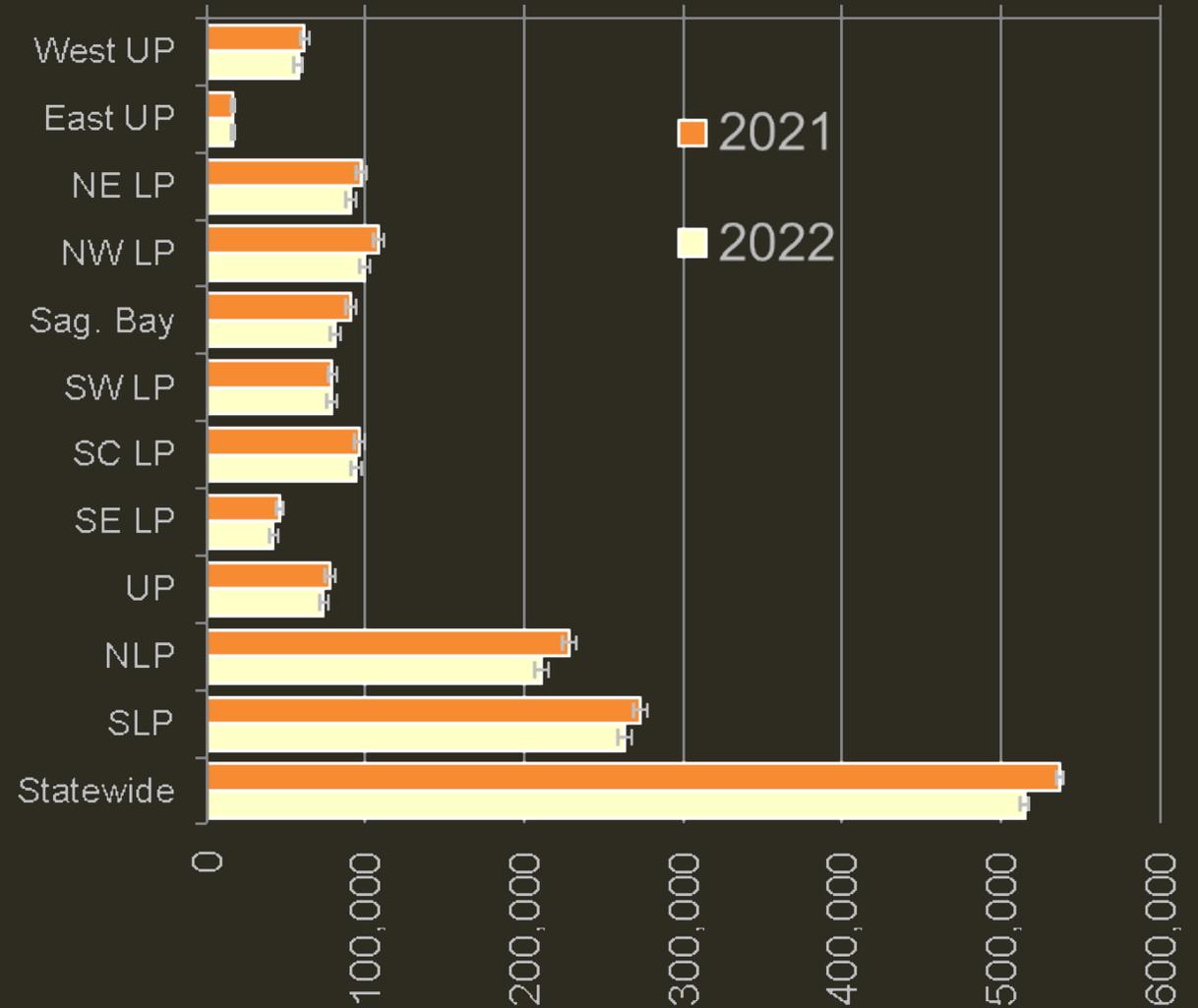
The number of harvest tags sold declined by less than 1%.

Harvest Tags Issued	Number sold in 2020	Number sold in 2021	Number sold in 2022	Change Between 2021 and 2022 (%)
Deer	153,802	140,124	133,124	-5.0%
Combination	872,806	861,580	863,890	0.3%
Antlerless	332,717	309,835	305,480	-1.4%
Mentored Youth	12,020	11,014	10,824	-1.7%
Total	1,371,345	1,322,553	1,313,318	-0.7%



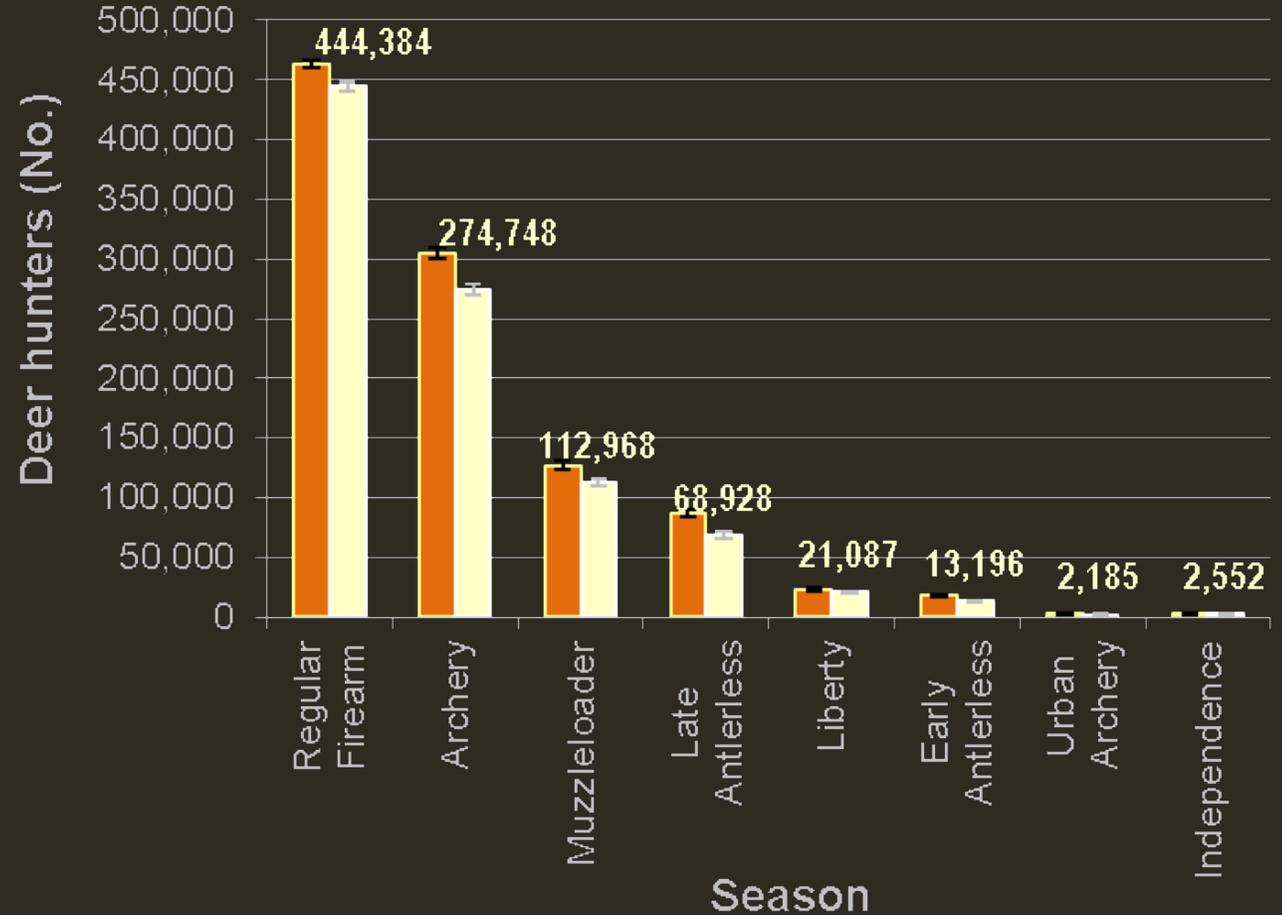
2022 DEER HUNTERS

- For all seasons combined, 515,135 people hunted deer, which was 4% fewer than last year.
- Hunter numbers declined significantly in the NLP (-8%) and SLP (-4%).

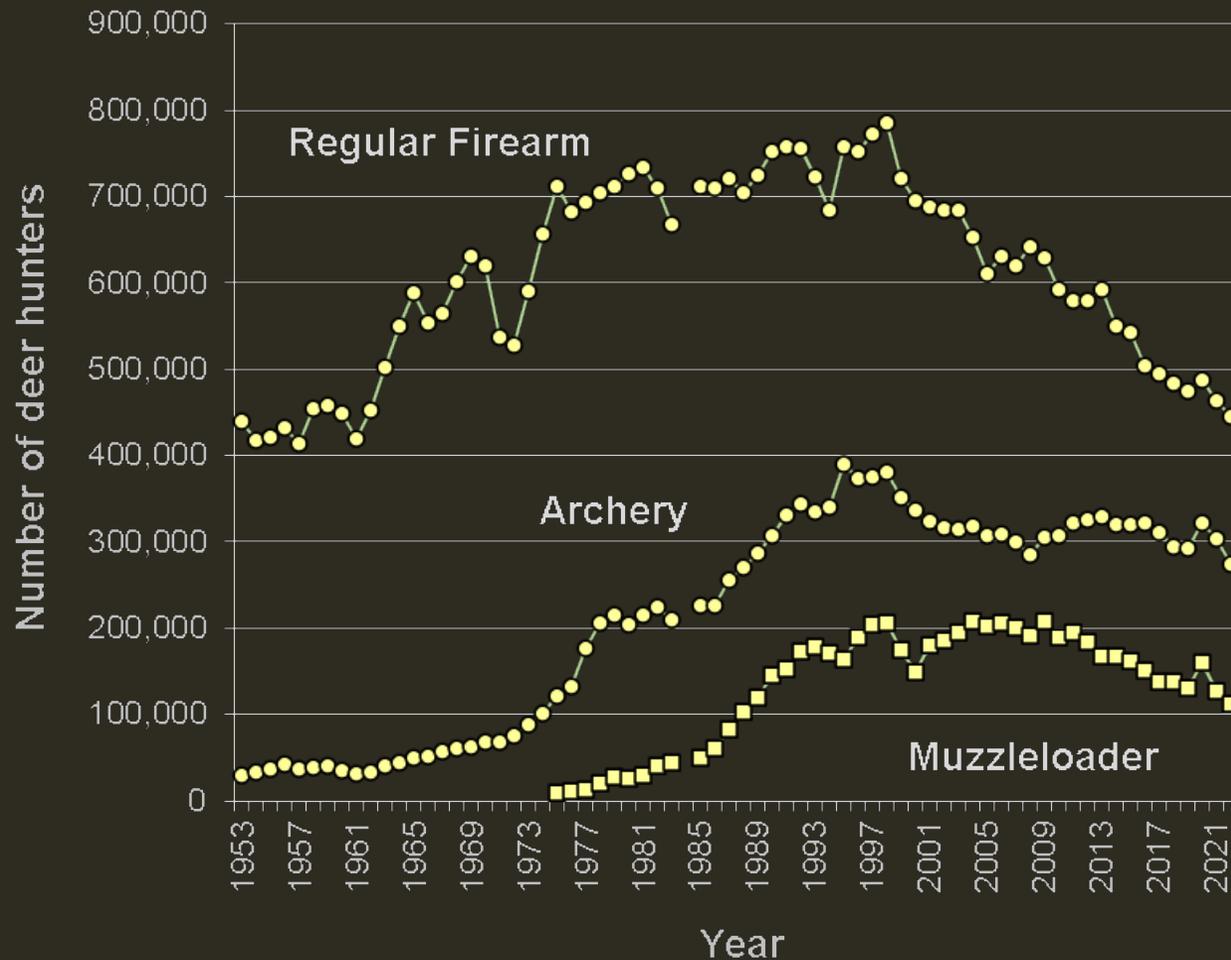


2022 DEER HUNTERS

Hunter numbers decreased significantly in all seasons except the Independence and late urban archery seasons.



LONG-TERM DEER HUNTER TRENDS

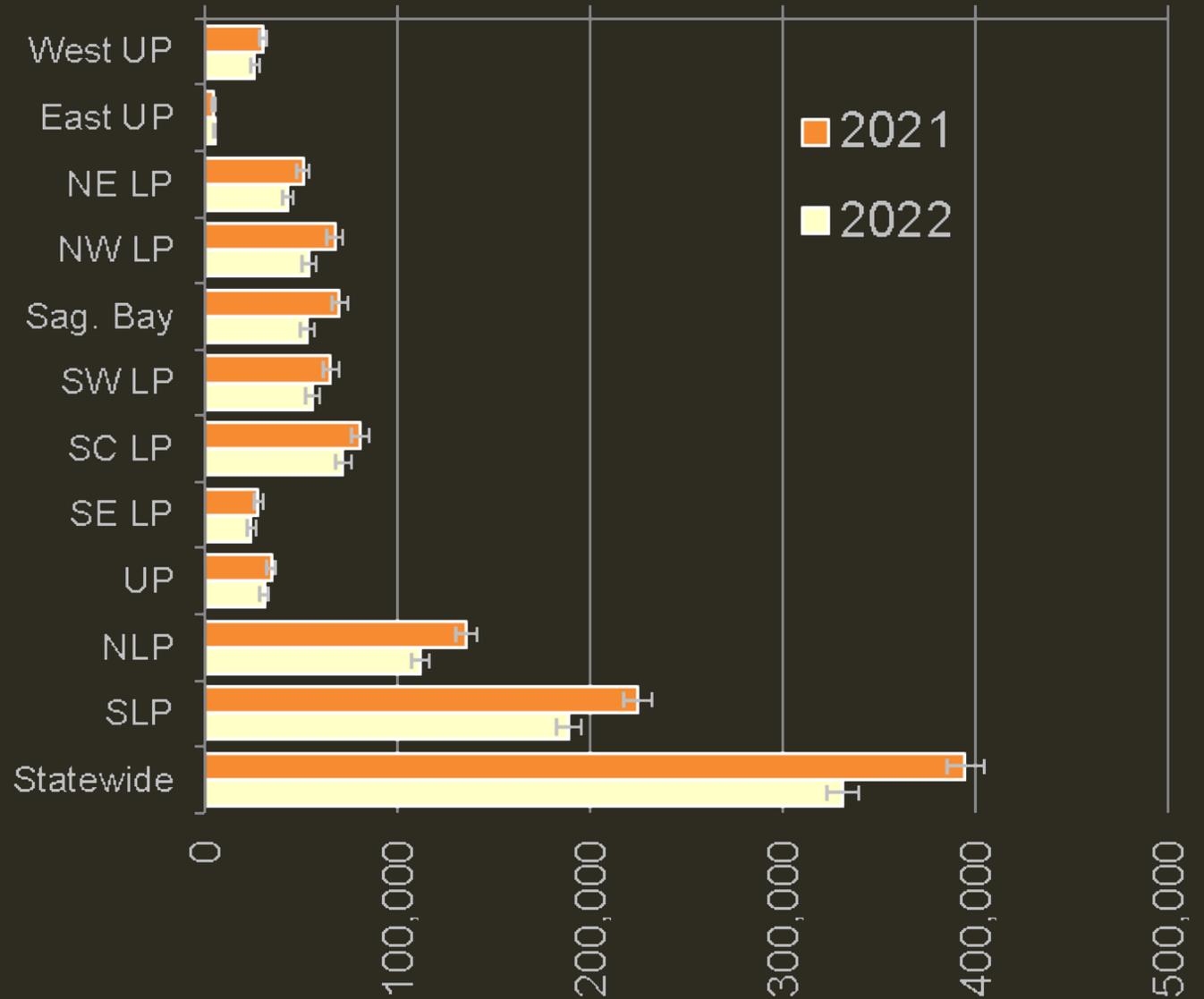


Fewer people hunting during our primary seasons.



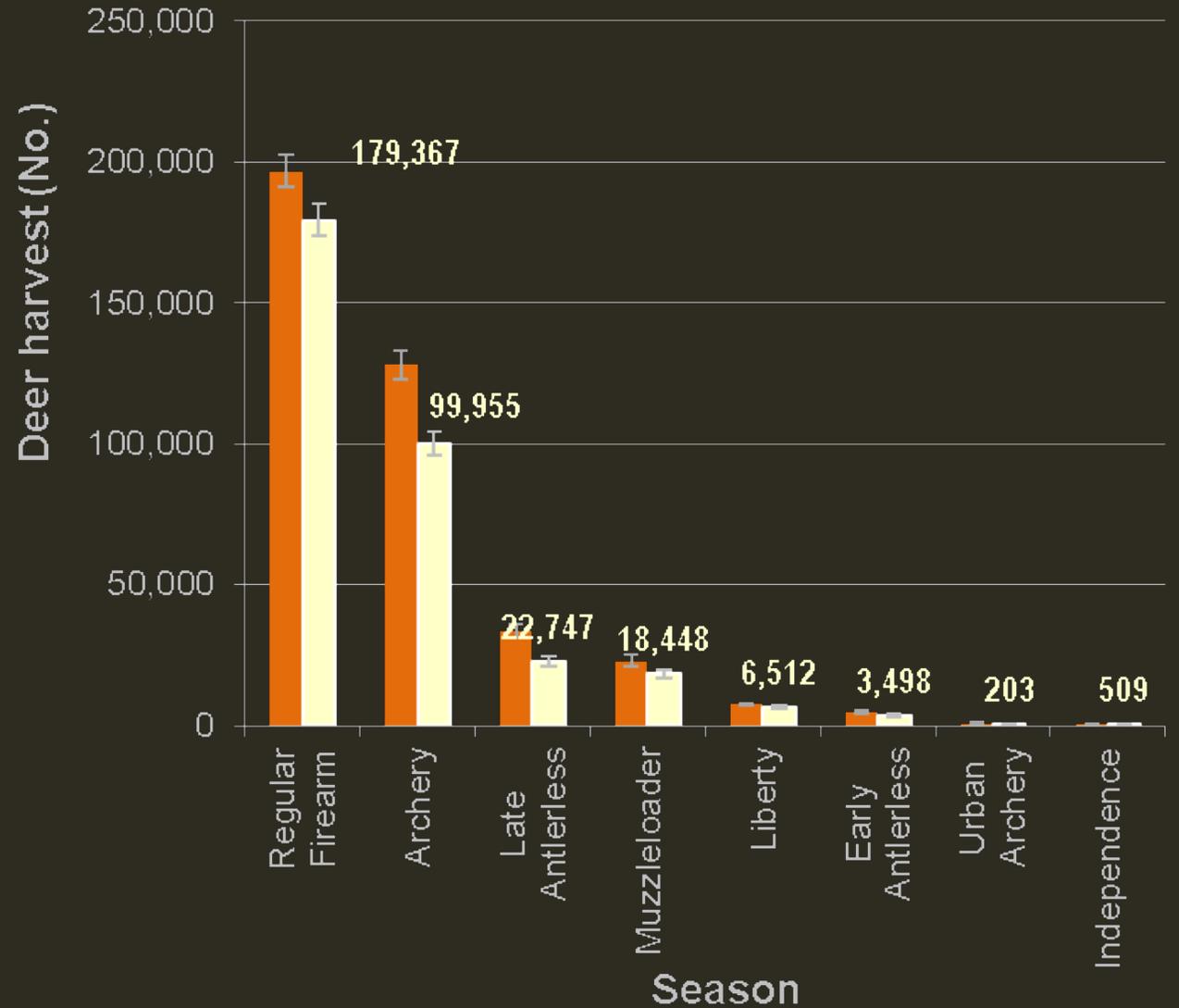
2022 DEER HARVEST

- In all seasons combined, 331,240 deer were harvested, which was 16% fewer than last year (395,059).
- Buck harvest declined by 11% and antlerless harvest declined by 23%.
- Harvest decreased significantly in the NLP (-18%) and SLP (-16%).

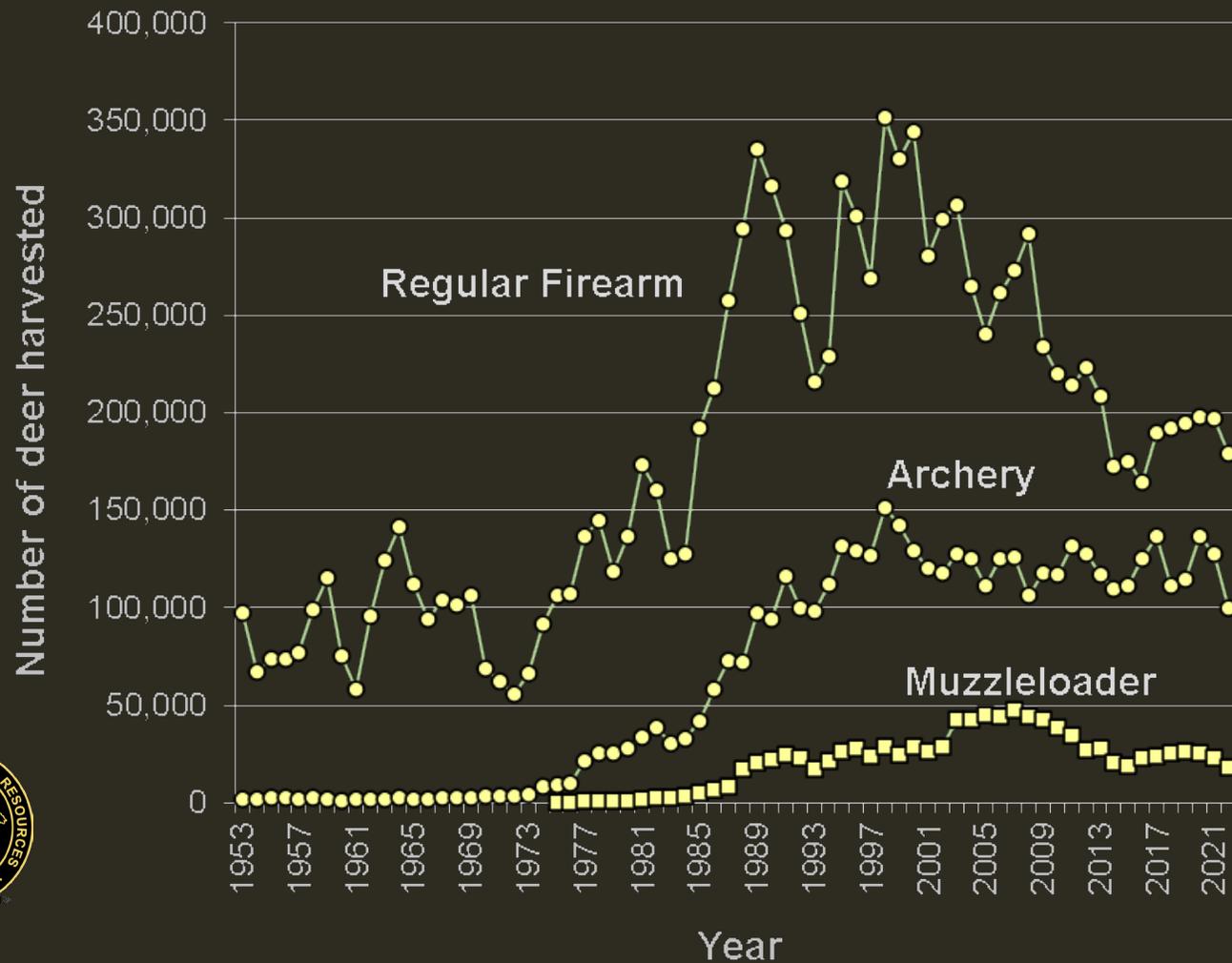


2022 DEER HARVEST

Harvest decreased significantly in each of the primary seasons: firearm (-9%), archery (-22%), and muzzleloader (-20%) seasons.



LONG-TERM DEER HARVEST TRENDS

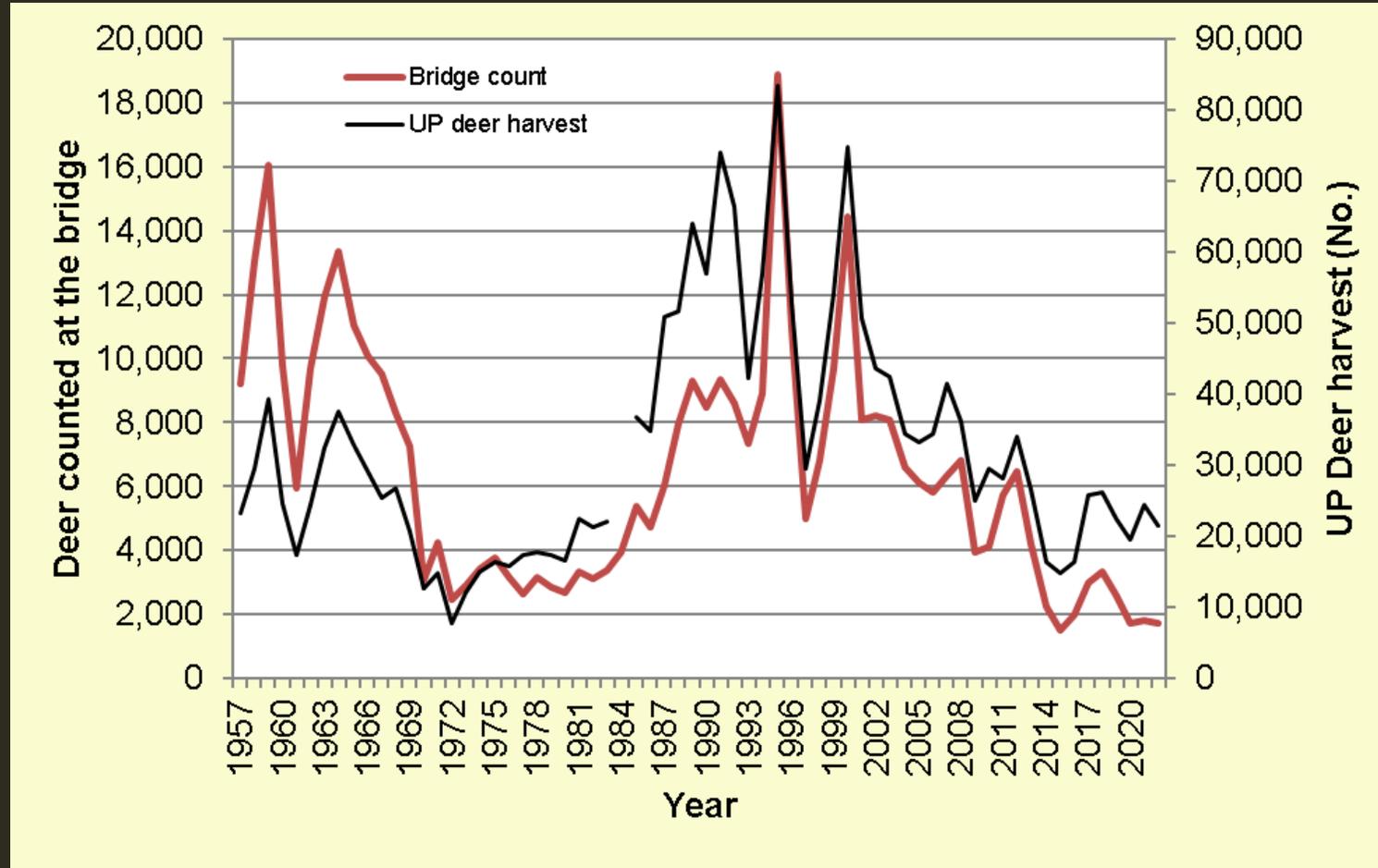


Fewer deer taken in our primary seasons.



2022 DEER HARVEST

Mackinac Bridge deer count declined by 6% in 2022. In contrast we estimated total UP harvest in the regular firearm season declined by 13%.



HARVEST REPORTS VERSUS ESTIMATES

The number of harvest reports submitted was 10% less than our harvest estimate.

Season	2022 Reports Submitted	2022 Harvest Estimate	Difference Between Reports and Estimate
Archery	94,163	99,955	-6%
Early Antlerless Firearm	3,375	3,498	-4%
Independence Hunt	427	509	-16%
Late Antlerless Firearm	21,009	22,747	-8%
Late Urban Archery	212	203	5%
Liberty/Youth Hunt	6,310	6,512	-3%
Muzzleloader	19,301	18,448	5%
Regular Firearm	152,335	179,367	-15%
Total	297,132	331,240	-10%



HARVEST REPORTS VERSUS ESTIMATES

In Michigan, our estimate was 11% greater than the number of harvest reports submitted. Our difference was smaller than observed in most states.

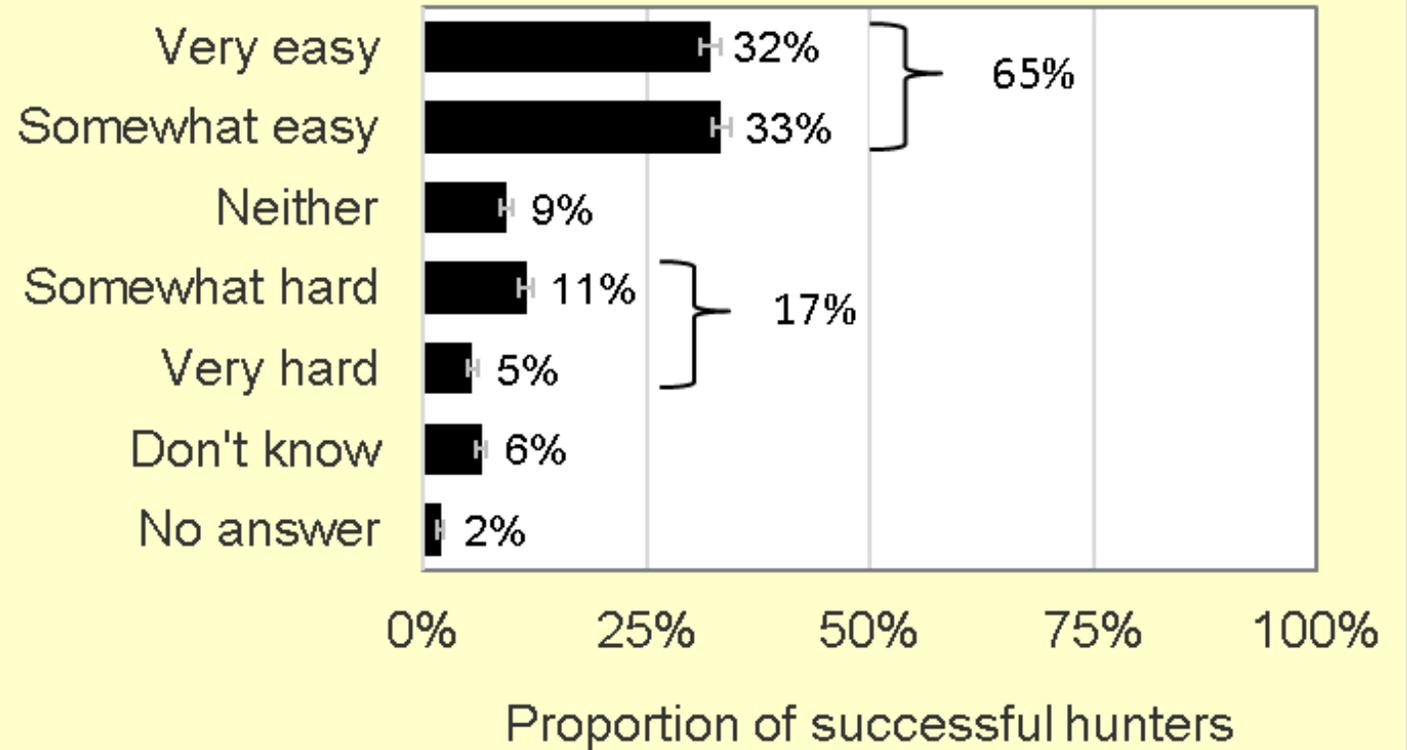
State	Period	Years	Average Difference
Alabama	2020-2021	2	51%
Florida	2019-2020	2	72%
Illinois	2001-2011	11	22%
Indiana	2010	1	16%
Louisiana	2008-2011	4	48%
Louisiana	2012-2021	10	132%
North Carolina	2010-2021	12	27%
Oklahoma	2001-2014	14	46%
Average			52%



HARVEST REPORTING

65% of successful hunters reported that the harvest reporting app was easy to use.

17% indicated that it was hard to use.



SUMMARY

- 1% decrease in the number of license buyers.
- 4% decrease in the number of people that went afield.
- 16% decrease in the number of deer harvested (buck harvest declined 11% and antlerless harvest declined by 23%).
- 65% of successful hunters reported that the harvest reporting app was easy to use.



THANK YOU

