

# Forest Resources Division Land Use Order of the Director

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LUOD No. 3 of 2024

# The Site



Stoddard's Landing is located on the Rifle River in Omer, Arenac County. The site is utilized as a carry down launch site under permits issued by Parks and Recreation Division. The site is also highly utilized for dispersed camping.



# Resource Damage



Rifle River is a designated Natural River. Natural Rivers have a 150' vegetation buffer. Camping use and livery operations have caused significant damage to this Natural River vegetation zone, which is a direct violation of statute.



# Law Enforcement Issues

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- Law Enforcement Issues
  - Routine displacement of boulders set by the Department to deter motorized entry to the river
  - Illegal dumping
  - Violence and disorderly conduct
  - Unattended fires
  - Illegal drug use



# Recommendation

- This LUOD is being recommended by Forest Resources Division, with the support and concurrence of Parks and Recreation Division, Fisheries Division, and Law Enforcement Division.
- It is proposed that dispersed camping be prohibited in the area known as, and surrounding, Stoddard's Landing.



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# Questions

# Thank you!



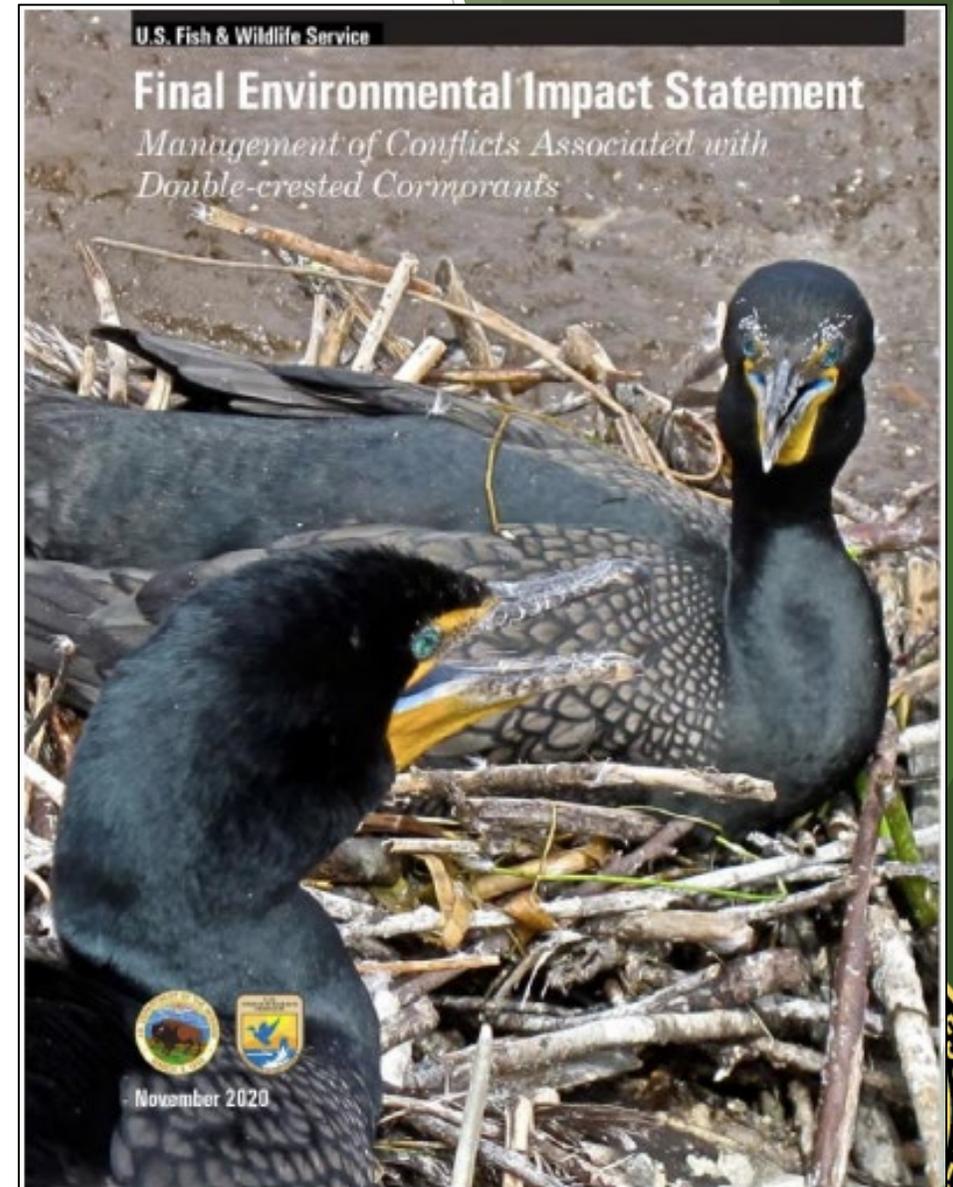
# Managing the Cormorant-Fisheries Conflict in Michigan

Updates on state permit implementation - spring 2024  
Fisheries and Wildlife Divisions

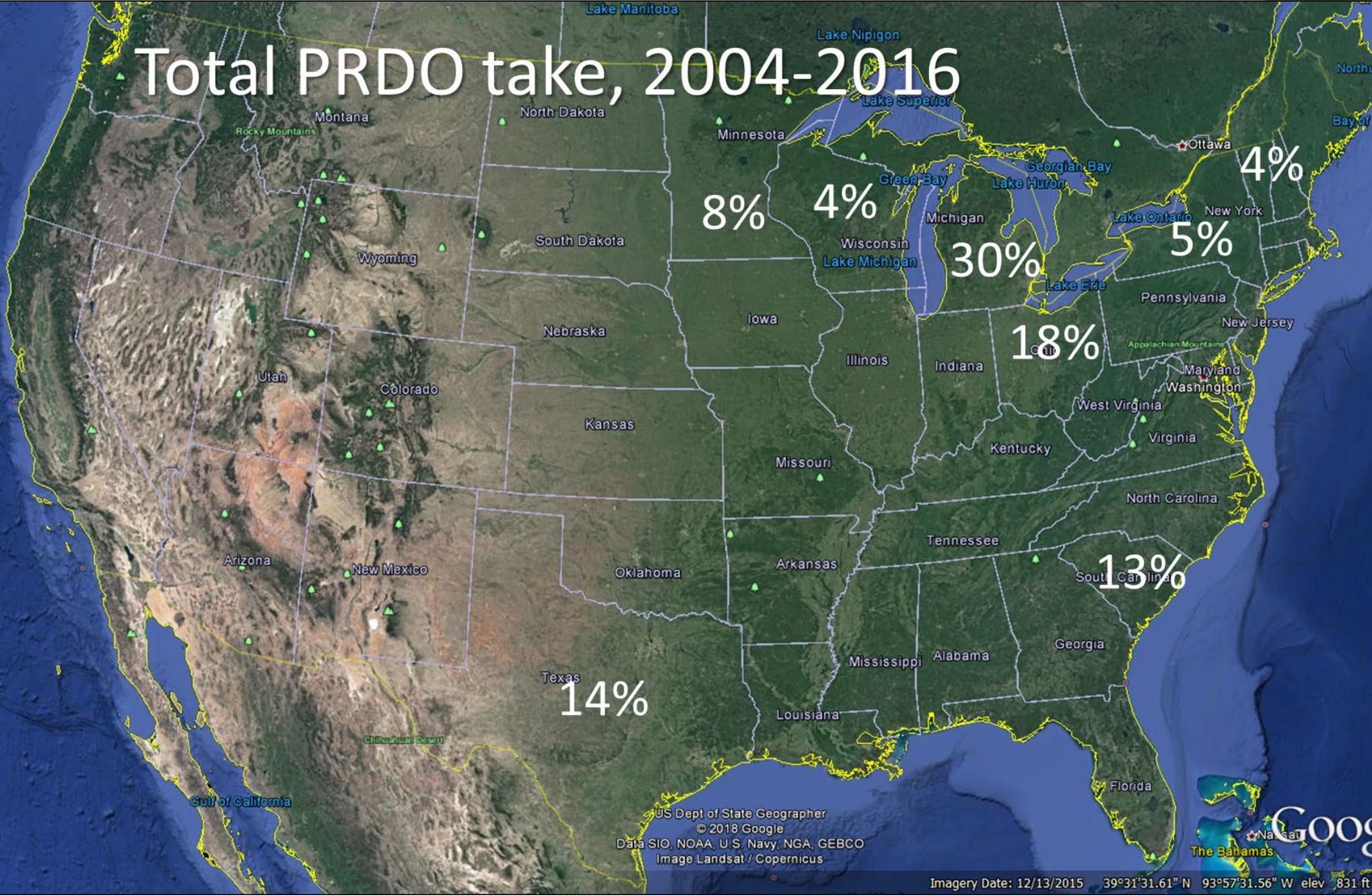


# Timelines

- ▶ Public Resource Depredation Order (PRDO) 2003-2016- “free-swimming fish”
- ▶ The PRDO vacated in 2016
- ▶ **Environmental Impact Statement 2018** - aquaculture, human health/safety, private property; NOT managed fisheries
- ▶ **Environmental Impact Statement 2020** - “wild & publicly stocked” fish populations
- ▶ **Special Double-crested Cormorant permit system** established in **March 2021** for State or Tribal fish and wildlife agencies.



# Total PRDO take, 2004-2016

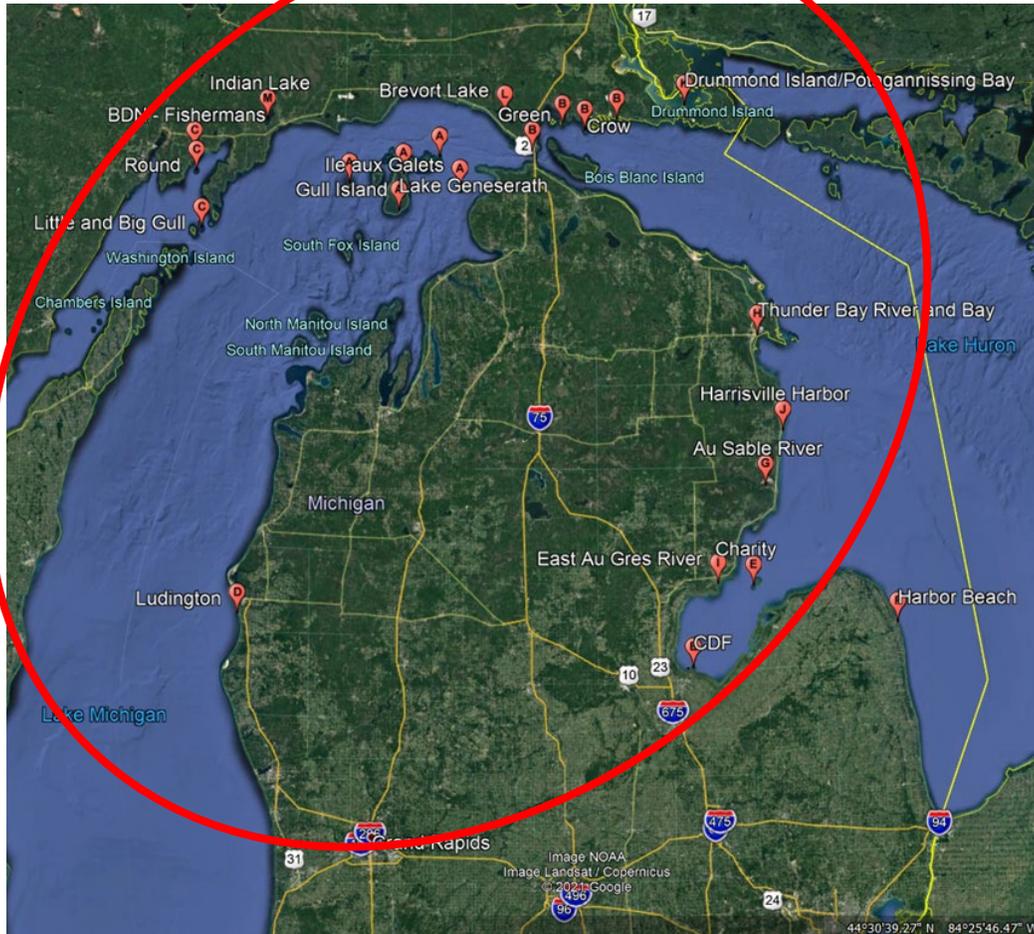


US Dept of State Geographer  
© 2018 Google  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
Image Landsat / Copernicus

Imagery Date: 12/13/2015 39°31'31.61" N 93°57'31.56" W elev 831 ft



# 2021-2023 State Permitted Take

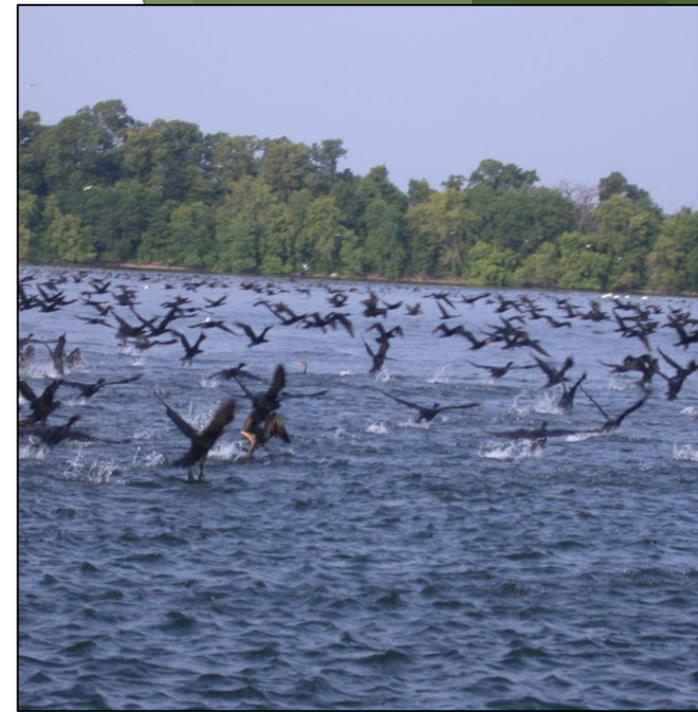


- ▶ Local input on site selection
- ▶ Three categories:
  - ▶ GLs Colonies
  - ▶ Fish stocking sites
  - ▶ Inland waterbodies
- ▶ Justification(s) provided in permit
- ▶ 9,667 birds taken from 5 Great Lakes colonies
  - ▶ Plus nest destruction, Saginaw Bay
- ▶ 2023: a reduction from peak



# 2024 Conflict Management Plans

- ▶ Colony depredation at 7 Great Lakes sites
  - ▶ USDA-Wildlife Services, GLRI-funded
  - ▶ Beaver Is, Les Cheneaux Is, Bays de Noc, Ludington, Thunder Bay to Au Sable, Saginaw Bay
  - ▶ **NEW:** included Big Manistique (new inland nesting colony)
- ▶ **NEW:** added capacity for lethal reinforcement of hazing at 22 stocking sites and 4 inland lakes
  - ▶ Internally funded
  - ▶ Coordinating with Wildlife Division
  - ▶ Firearm use limited by proximity to buildings (<500 ft), city limits
- ▶ 2024 Permit total: 7,946 birds, 2,000 nests & eggs



# Successes and Challenges, 2021 & beyond

## ► Successes

- Wildlife-Fisheries coordination
- Permit system meets needs requested
- Ability to amend permit
- USDA-Wildlife Services able to control largest colonies as our sub-permittee
- Relatively straightforward reporting
- Good communication with stakeholders

## ► Challenges

- No funding to implement management at all conflict locations or types
- Actual take has been below the permitted allowance
- Hazing is volunteer-dependent, many are ageing out
- Many stocking sites limited by firearm discharge rules
- DCCO patterns vary annually
- Inland lake use varies seasonally and annually





# Conflict Management Considerations

- ▶ GL depredation & non-lethal efforts are critical
- ▶ DCCO uses of inland waters
  - ▶ New nesting colonies
  - ▶ Seasonal movement, use & behavior
  - ▶ Adaptable & flexible
  - ▶ Requires dedicated effort & funding
- ▶ Co-nesting species & status where present
- ▶ Science-based & data-driven
- ▶ Continue to explore new methods & techniques for management applications



# Questions?



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# 2023 DEER HARVEST SURVEY

Brian Frawley  
May 9, 2024

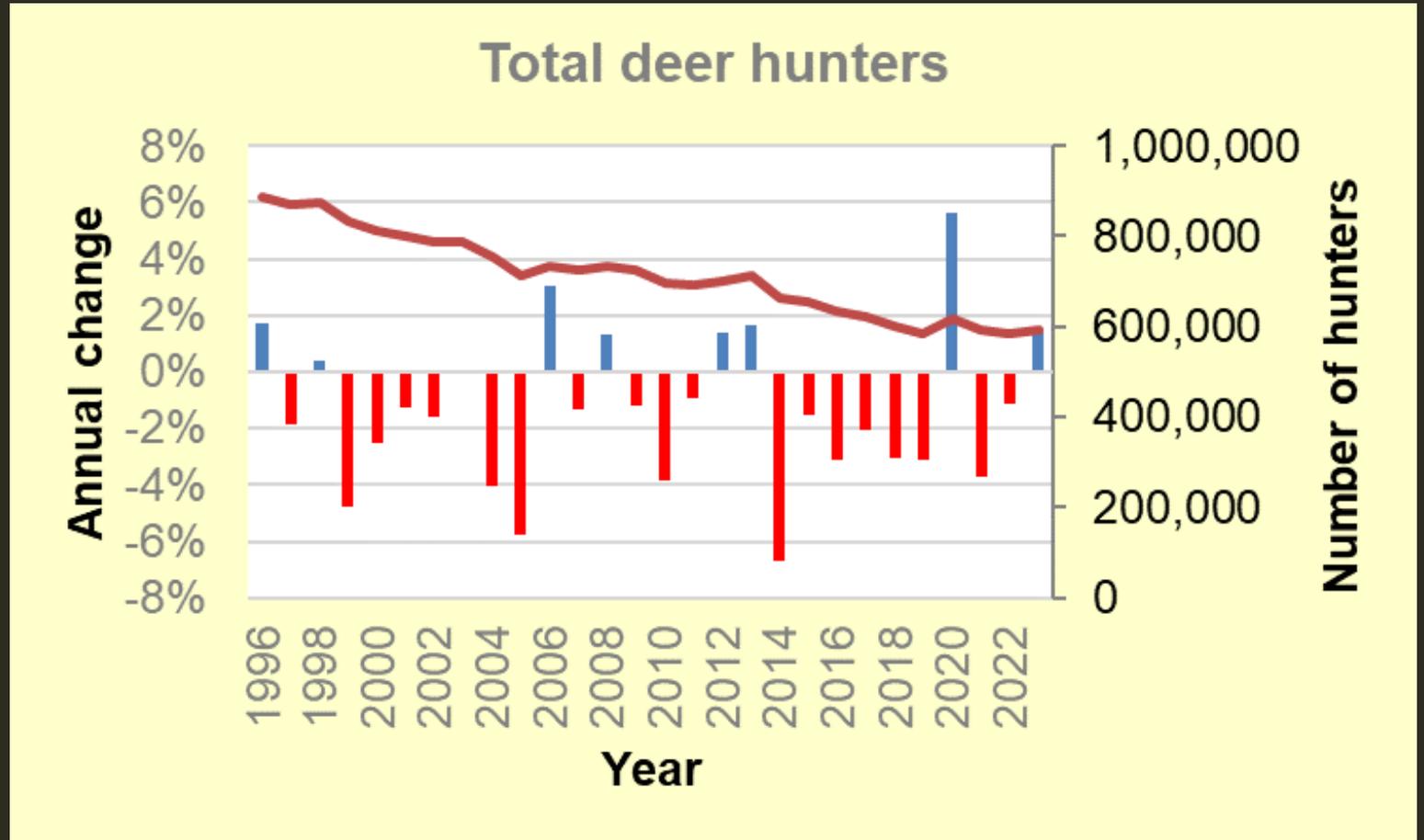
# 2023 DEER HARVEST SURVEY

- 594,348 people purchased a license (1.4% increase)
- 18,562 of 58,400 questionnaires returned (32% response)
- Estimates standardized to be comparable with estimates from previous years



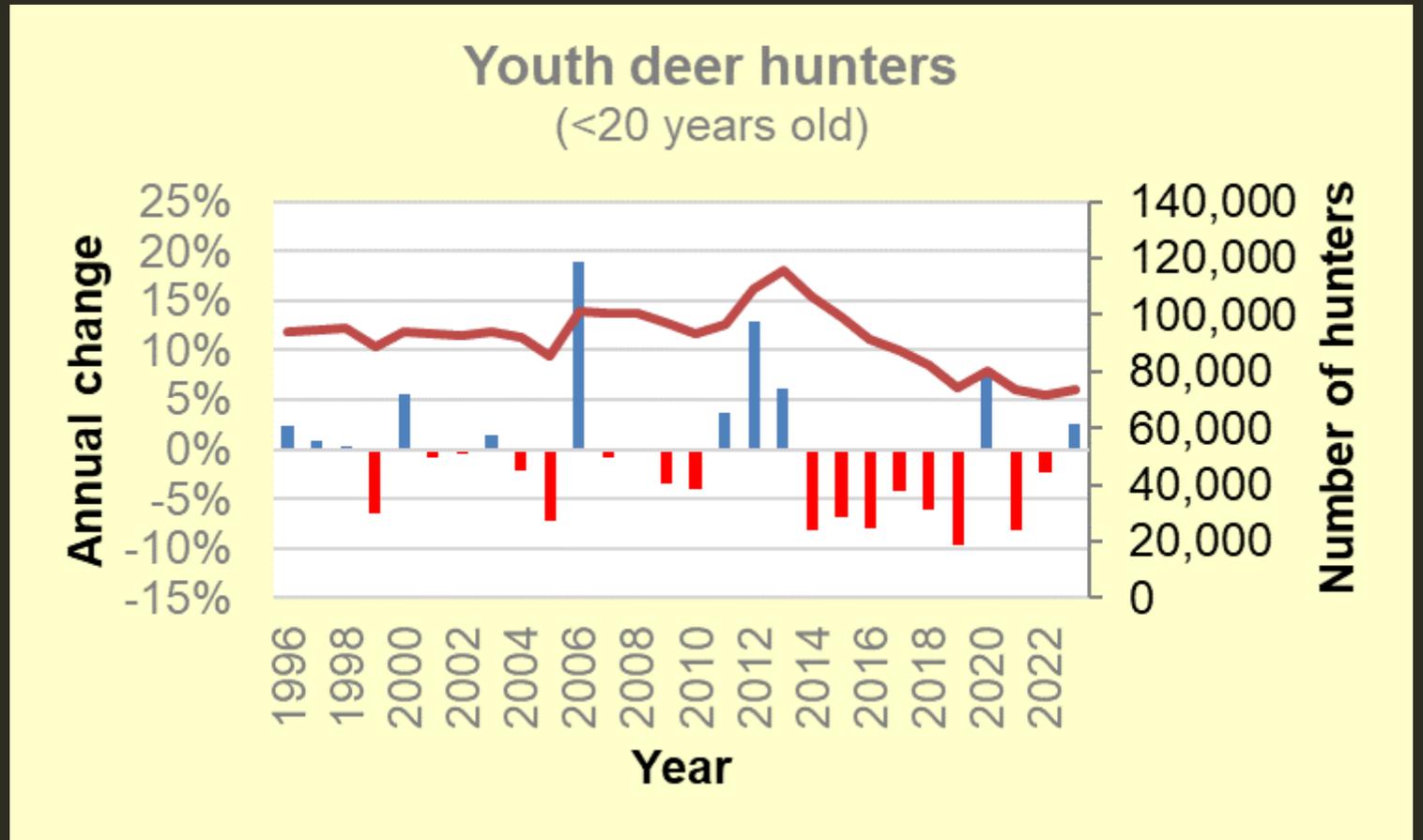
# TOTAL DEER HUNTERS

- 594,348 hunters in 2023.
- 32% decline since 1995.
- 1.4% average annual decline



# YOUTH HUNTERS

- 73,758 youth hunters in 2023.
- 20% decline since 1995.
- 0.8% average annual decline



# HARVEST TAGS SOLD, 2021-2023.

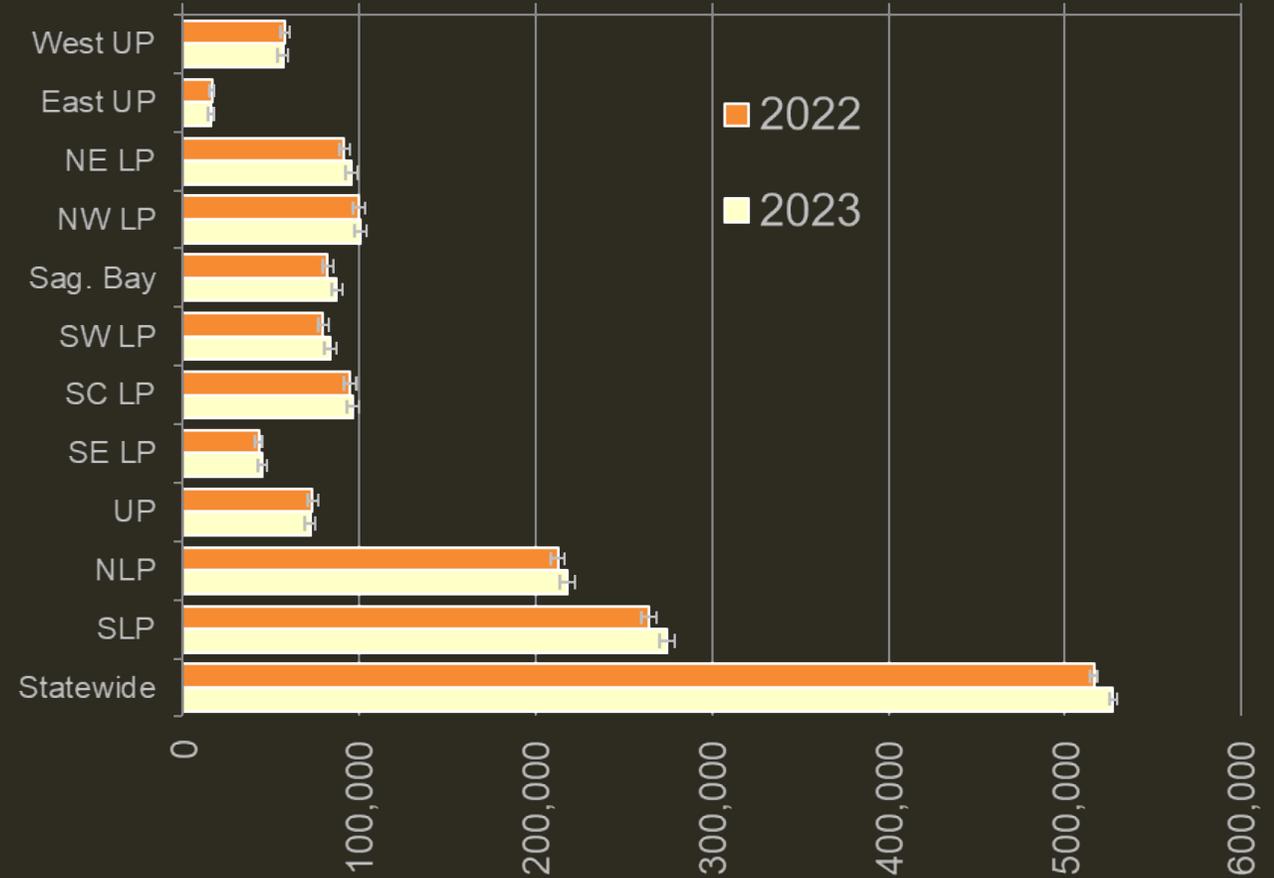
The number of harvest tags sold increased by 2.3%.

Harvest Tags Issued	Number sold in 2021	Number sold in 2022	Number sold in 2023	Change Between 2022 and 2023 (%)
Deer	140,124	133,124	129,646	-2.6%
Combination	861,580	863,890	884,784	2.4%
Antlerless	309,835	305,480	317,853	4.1%
Mentored Youth	11,014	10,824	11,650	7.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,322,553</b>	<b>1,313,318</b>	<b>1,343,933</b>	<b>2.3%</b>



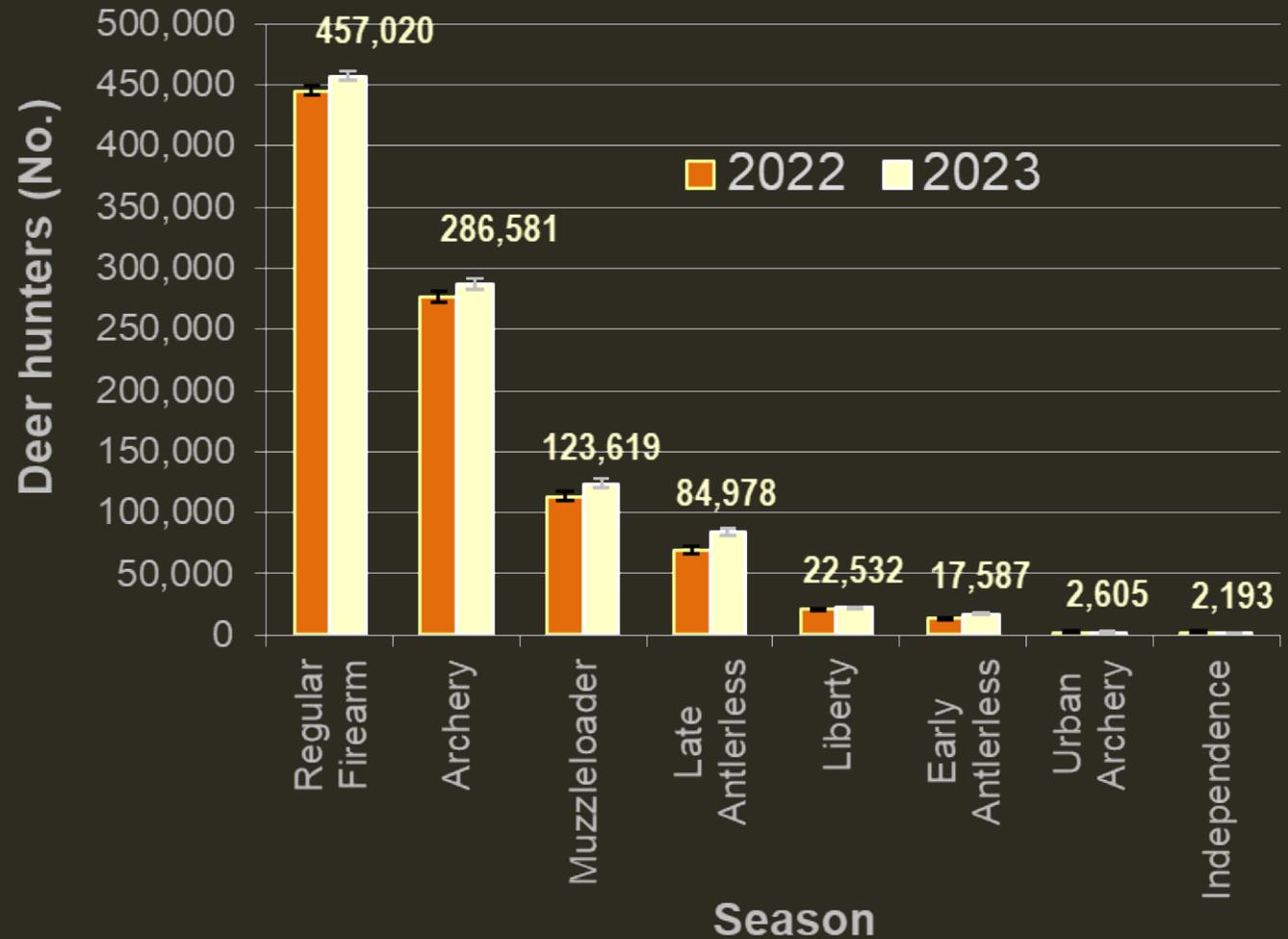
# 2023 DEER HUNTERS

- For all seasons combined, 527,292 people hunted deer, which was 2% greater than last year.
- Hunter numbers increased significantly in SLP (2%).

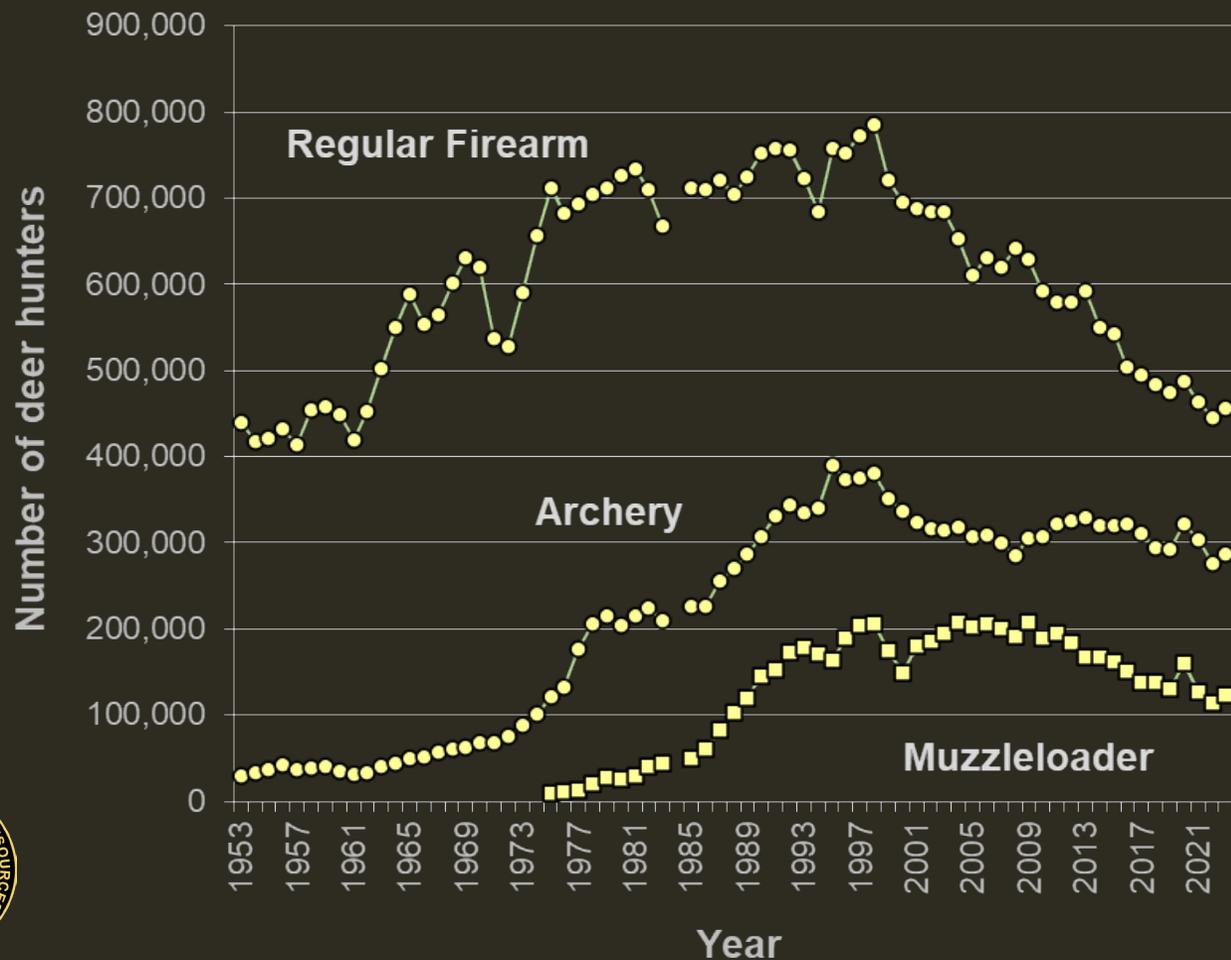


# 2023 DEER HUNTERS

Hunter numbers increased significantly in all seasons except the Liberty, Independence, and late urban archery seasons.



# LONG-TERM DEER HUNTER TRENDS

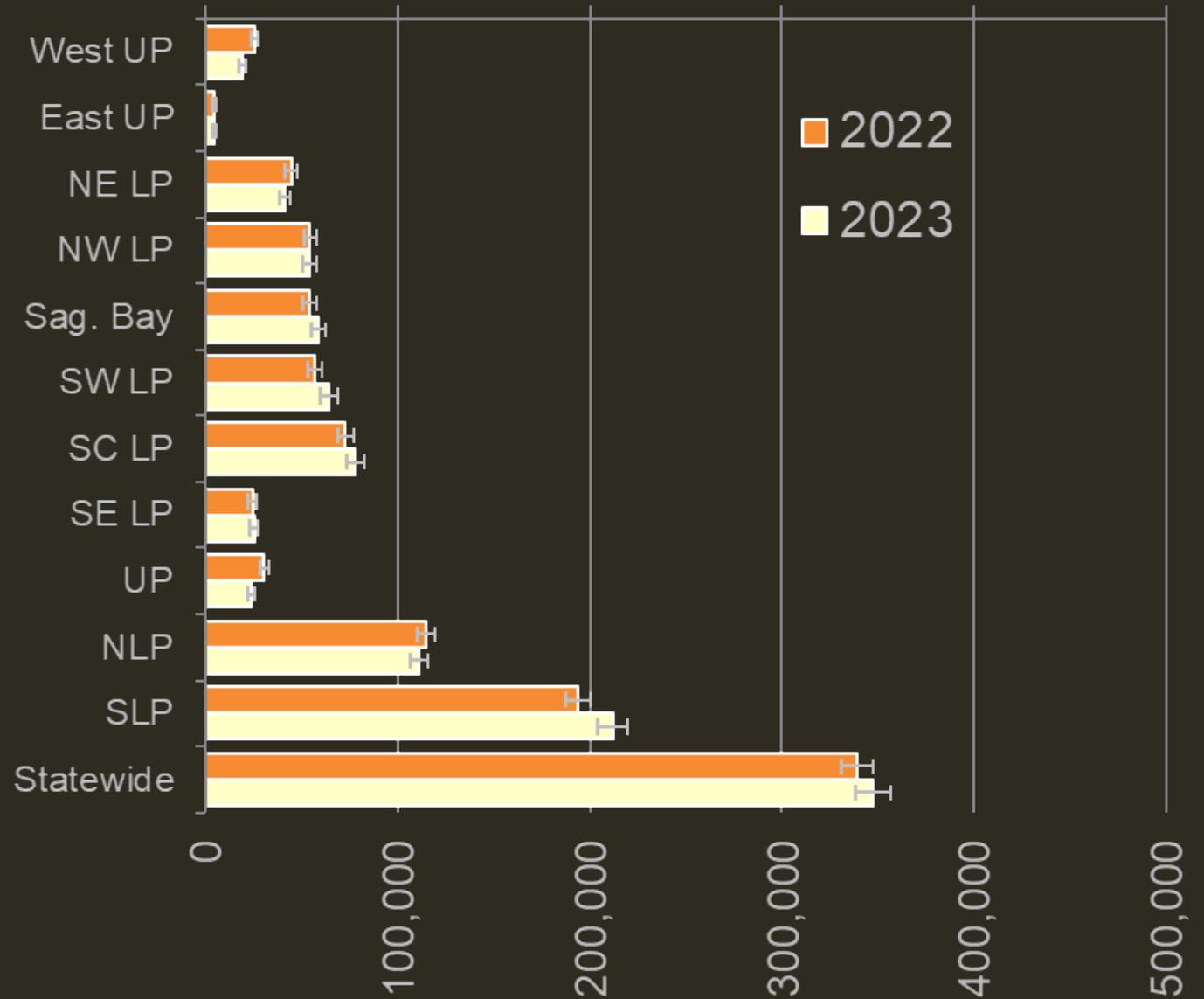


Fewer people hunting during our primary seasons.



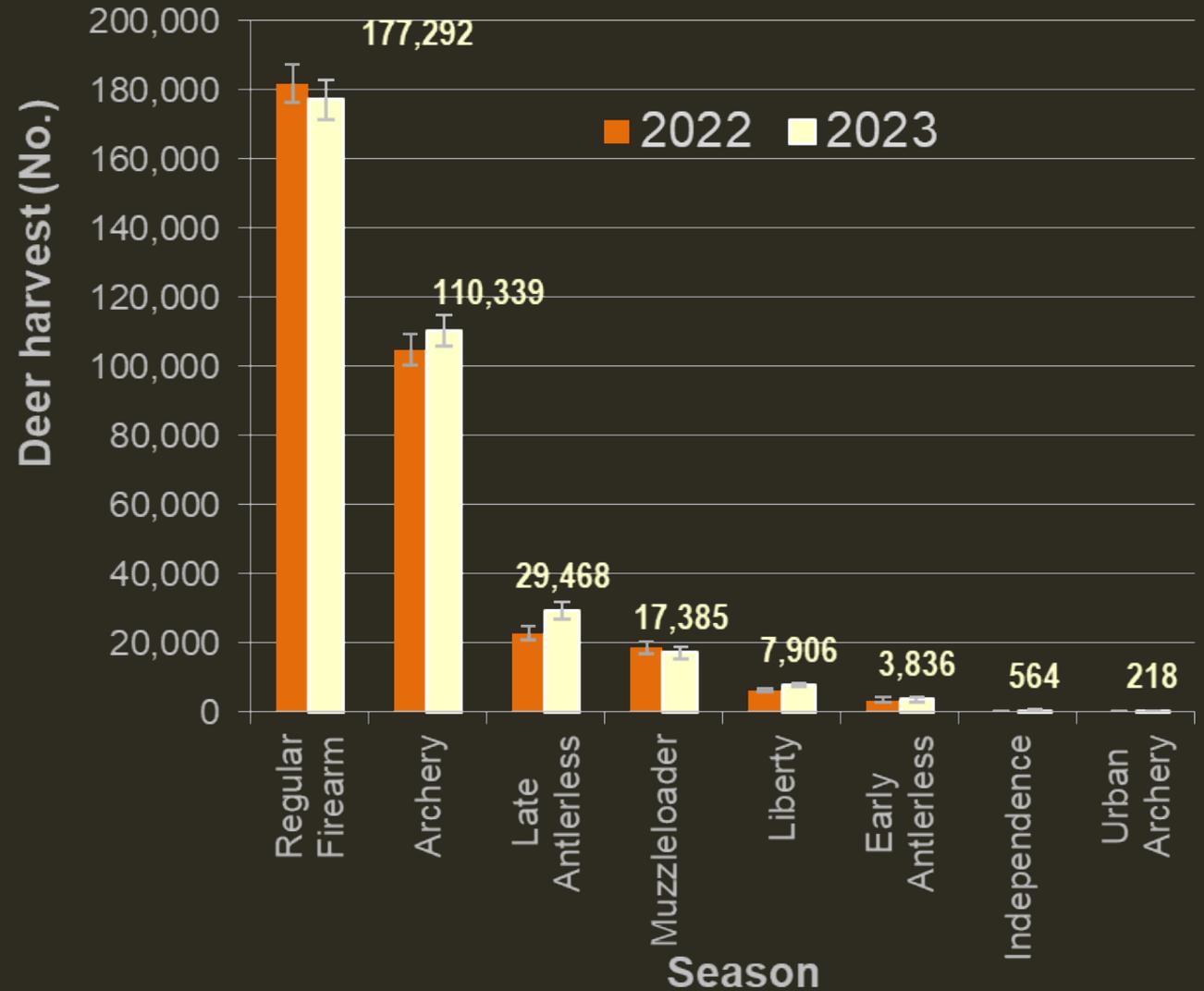
# 2023 DEER HARVEST

- In all seasons combined, 347,008 deer were harvested, which was 2% greater than last year (339,189).
- Buck harvest increased by 2% and antlerless harvest increased by 3%.
- Harvest increased in the SLP (10%) but declined in the UP (-22%).

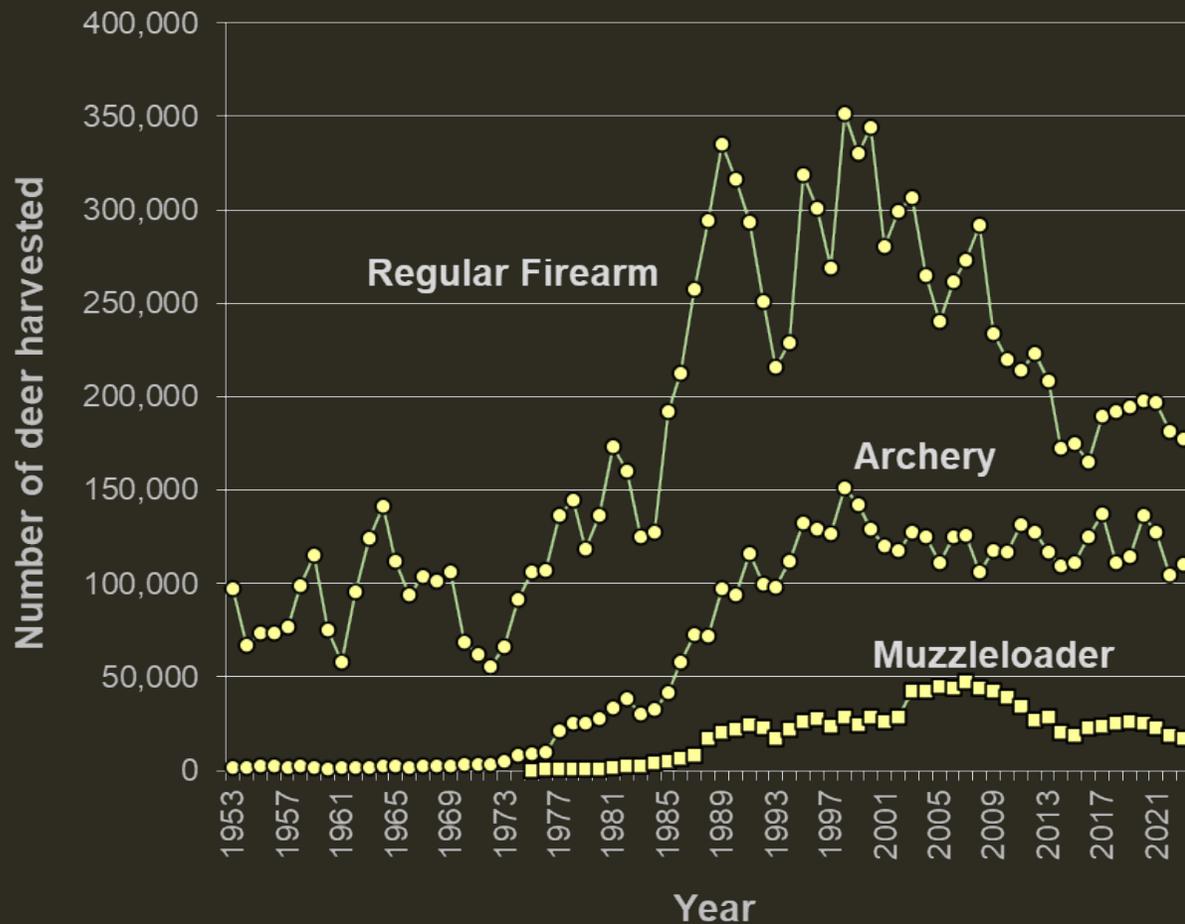


# 2023 DEER HARVEST

Harvest similar in most seasons except in the late antlerless (28%) and Liberty (19%) seasons.



# LONG-TERM DEER HARVEST TRENDS



Fewer deer taken in our primary seasons.



# HARVEST REPORTS VERSUS ESTIMATES

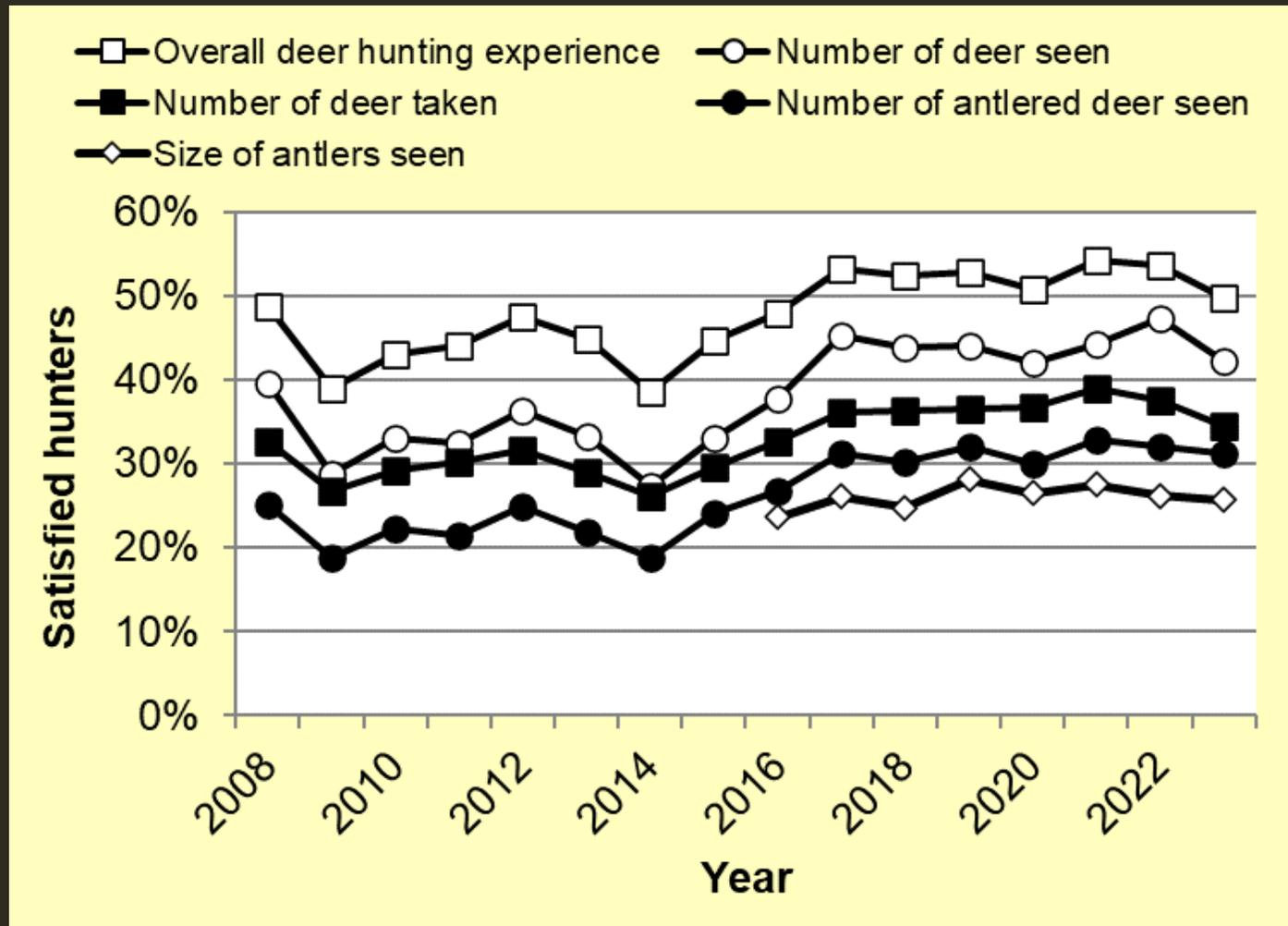
Declines greatest in the northern areas.

Region	Change in reports submitted between 2022-2023	Change in harvest estimates between 2022-2023
UP	-26%	-22%
NLP	-15%	-3%
SLP	-5%	10%
Total	-10%	2%



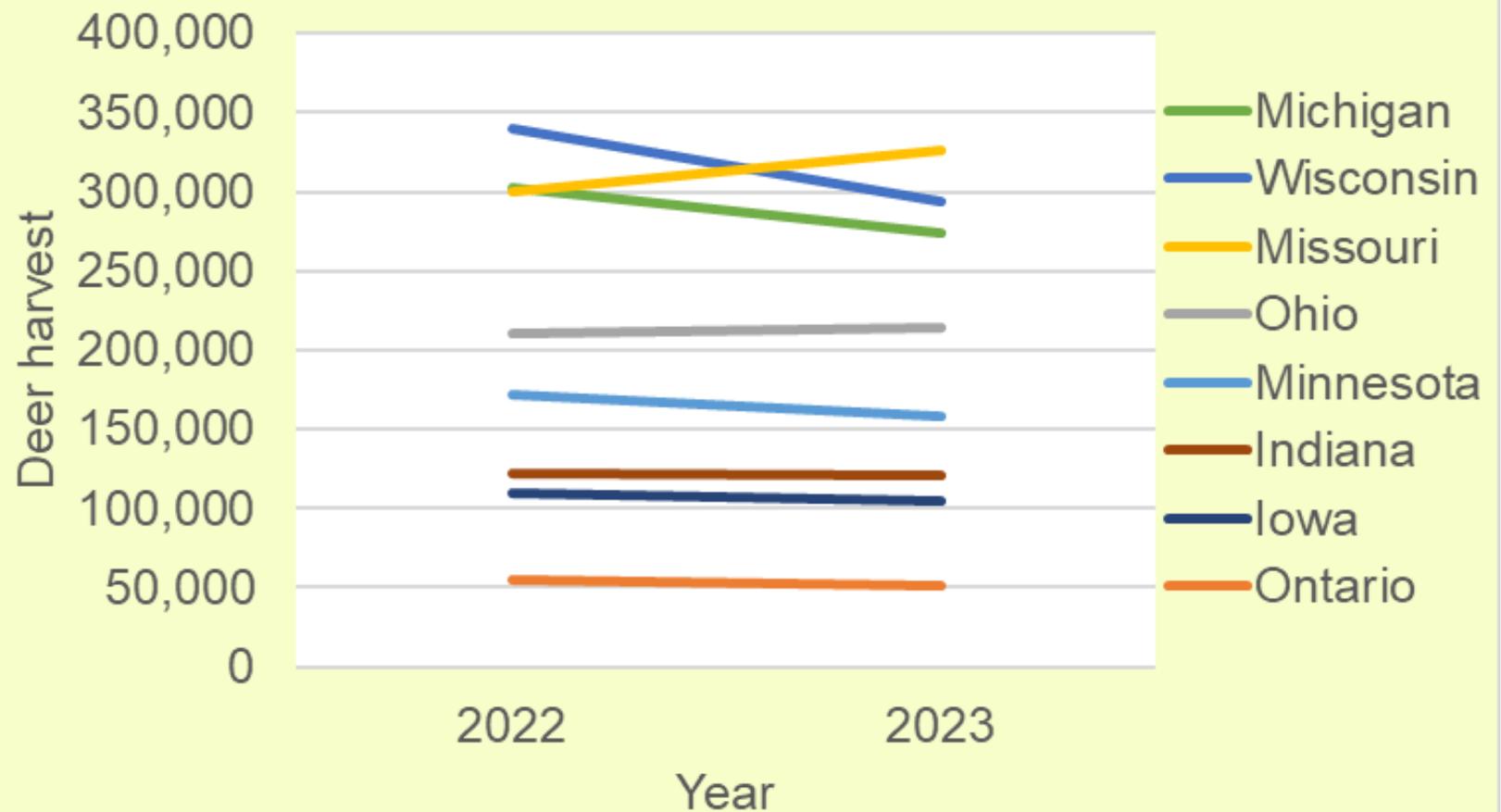
# CHANGES IN HUNTER SATISFACTION

- Changes generally follow changes in harvest.



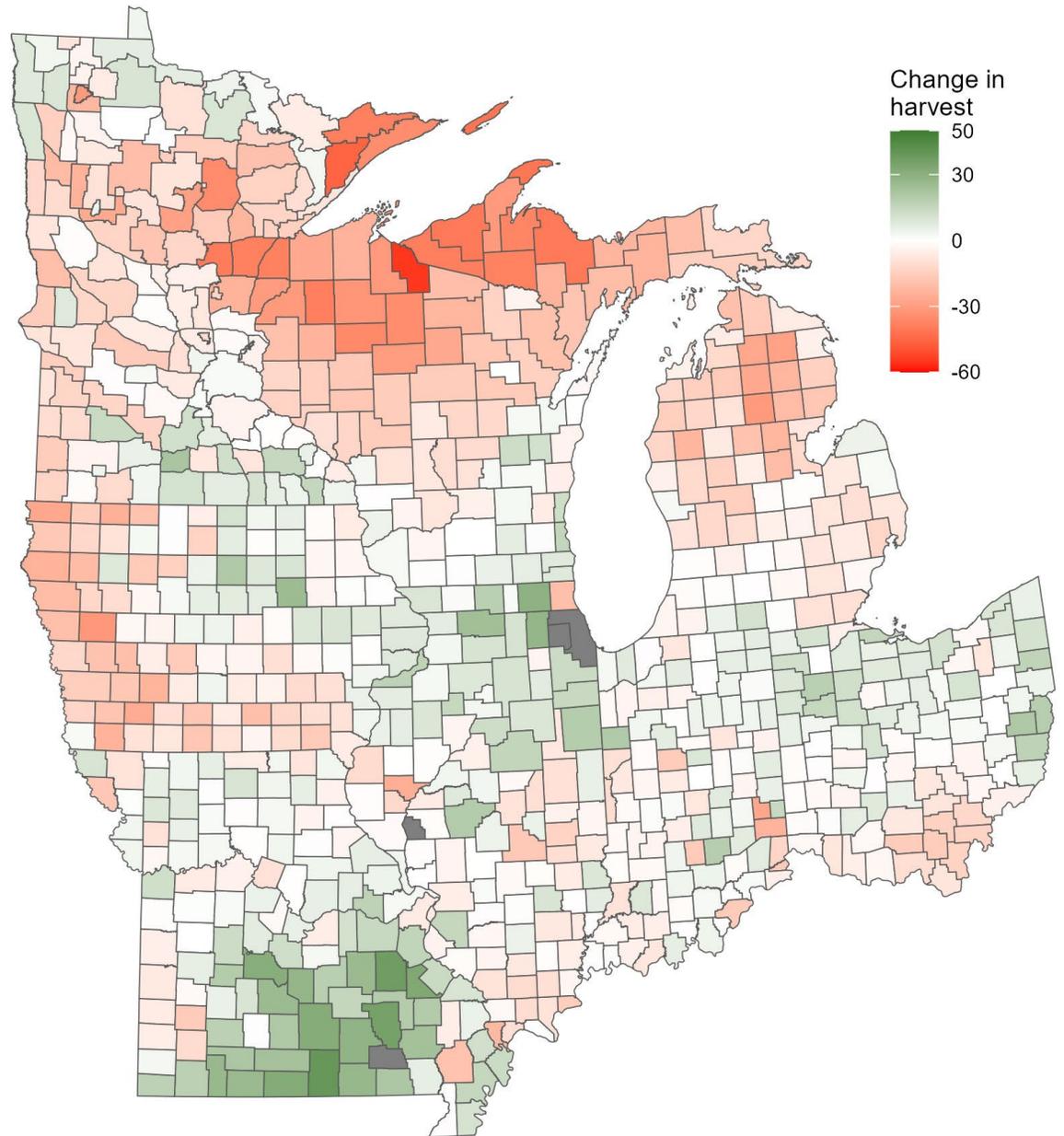
# REGIONAL DEER HARVEST CHANGES

Declines were greatest in the northern states (Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota).



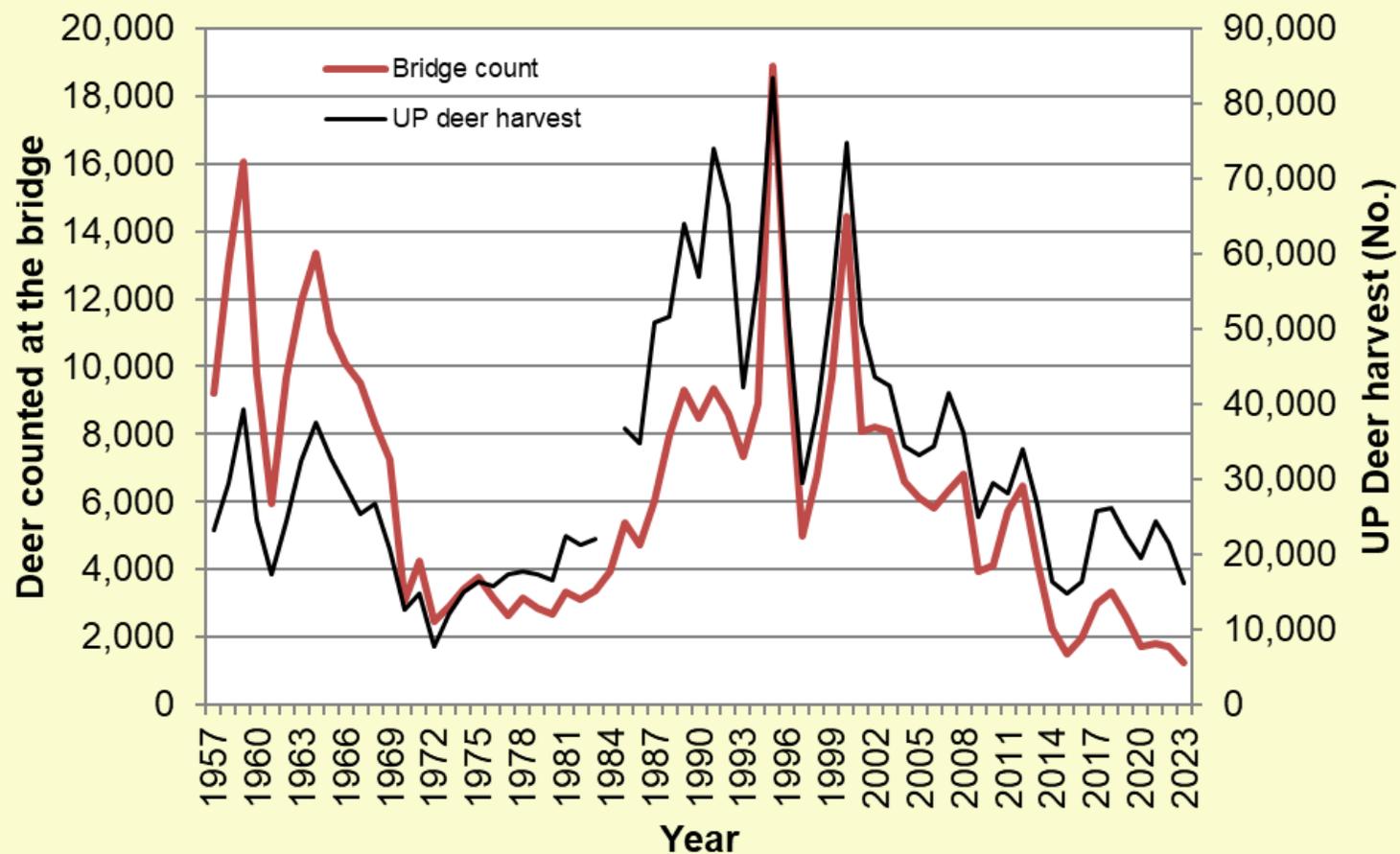
# REGIONAL DEER HARVEST CHANGES

Declines were greatest in the northern areas.



# CHANGES IN 2023 DEER HARVEST IN THE UP

Mackinac Bridge deer count declined by 27% in 2023. In contrast, we estimated total UP harvest in the regular firearm season declined by 25%.



# HARVEST REPORTS VERSUS ESTIMATES

The number of harvest reports submitted was 23% less than our harvest estimate.

Season	2023 Reports Submitted	2023 Harvest Estimate	Difference Between Reports and Estimate
Archery	82,881	110,339	-25%
Early Antlerless Firearm	3,597	3,836	-6%
Independence Hunt	416	564	-26%
Late Antlerless Firearm	23,579	29,468	-20%
Late Urban Archery	261	218	20%
Liberty/Youth Hunt	6,145	7,906	-22%
Muzzleloader	16,126	17,385	-7%
Regular Firearm	134,388	177,292	-24%
Total	267,393	347,008	-23%



# HARVEST REPORTS VERSUS ESTIMATES

In Michigan, our estimate was 30% greater than the number of harvest reports submitted (two-year average = 22%). Our difference was smaller than observed in most states.

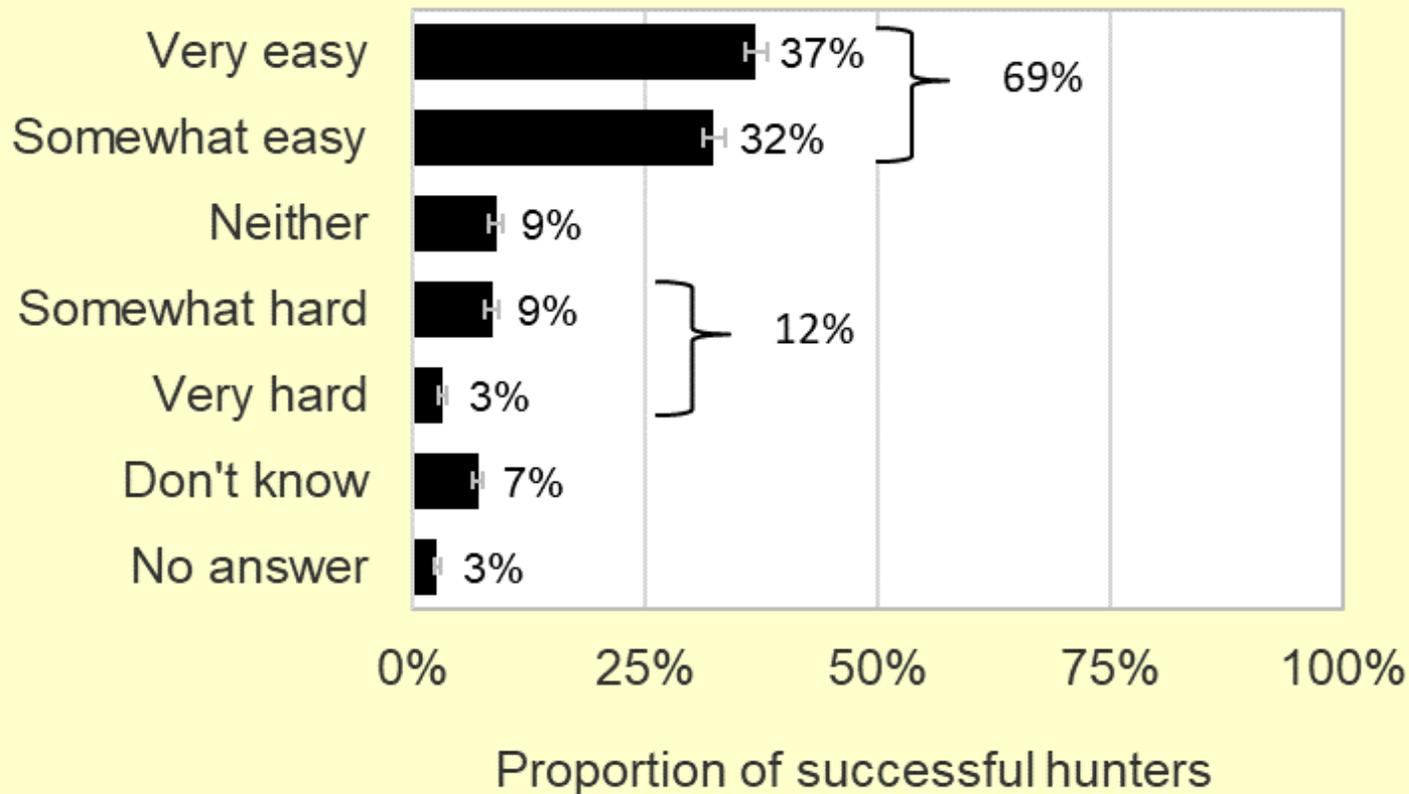


State	Period	Years	Average Difference
Alabama	2020-2021	3	52%
Florida	2019-2020	2	72%
Illinois	2001-2011	11	22%
Indiana	2010	1	16%
Louisiana	2008-2011	4	48%
Louisiana	2012-2021	10	132%
North Carolina	2010-2021	13	27%
Oklahoma	2001-2014	14	46%
Average			51%

# HARVEST REPORTING

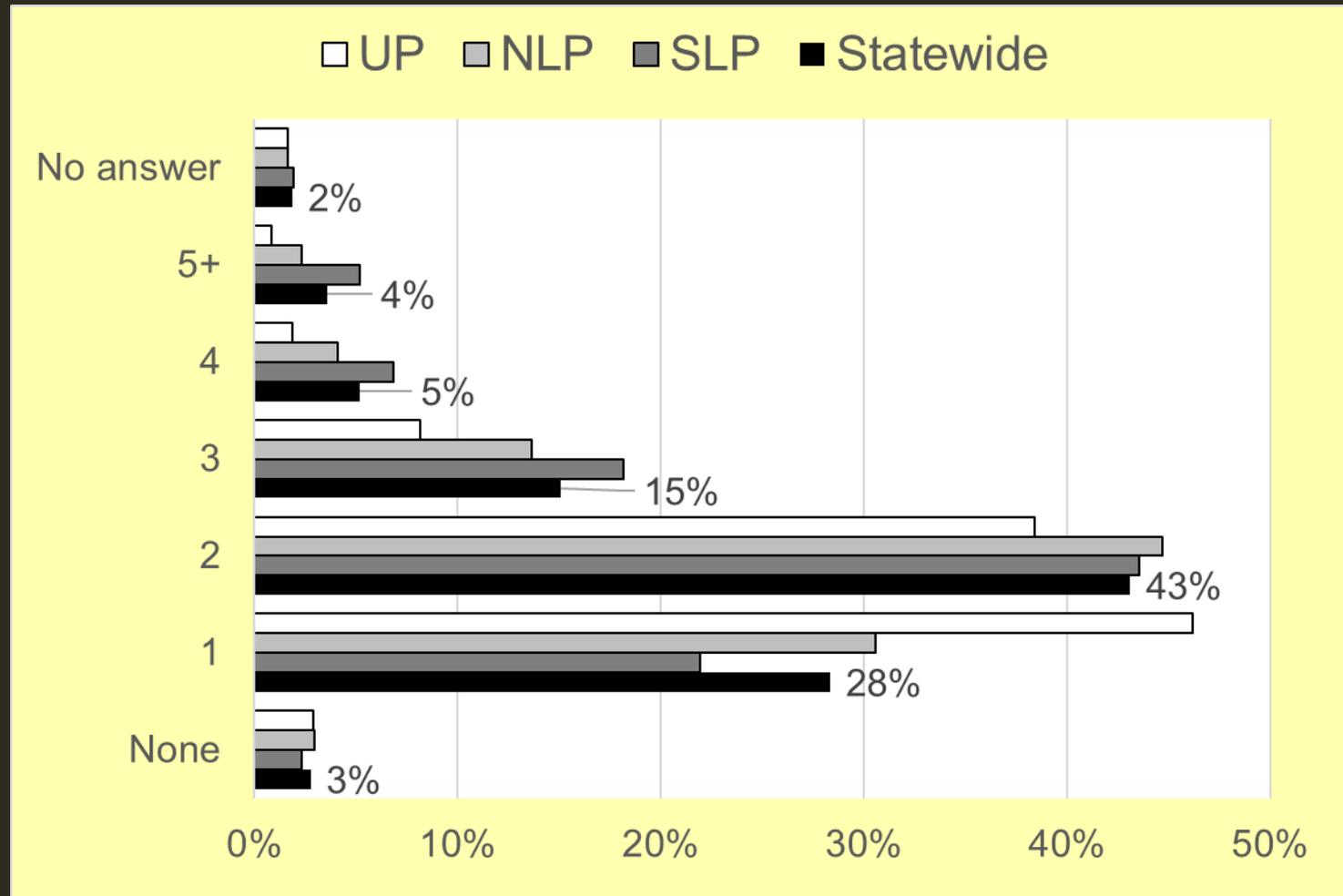
69% of successful hunters reported that the harvest reporting app was easy to use (65% last year).

12% indicated that it was hard to use (17% last year).



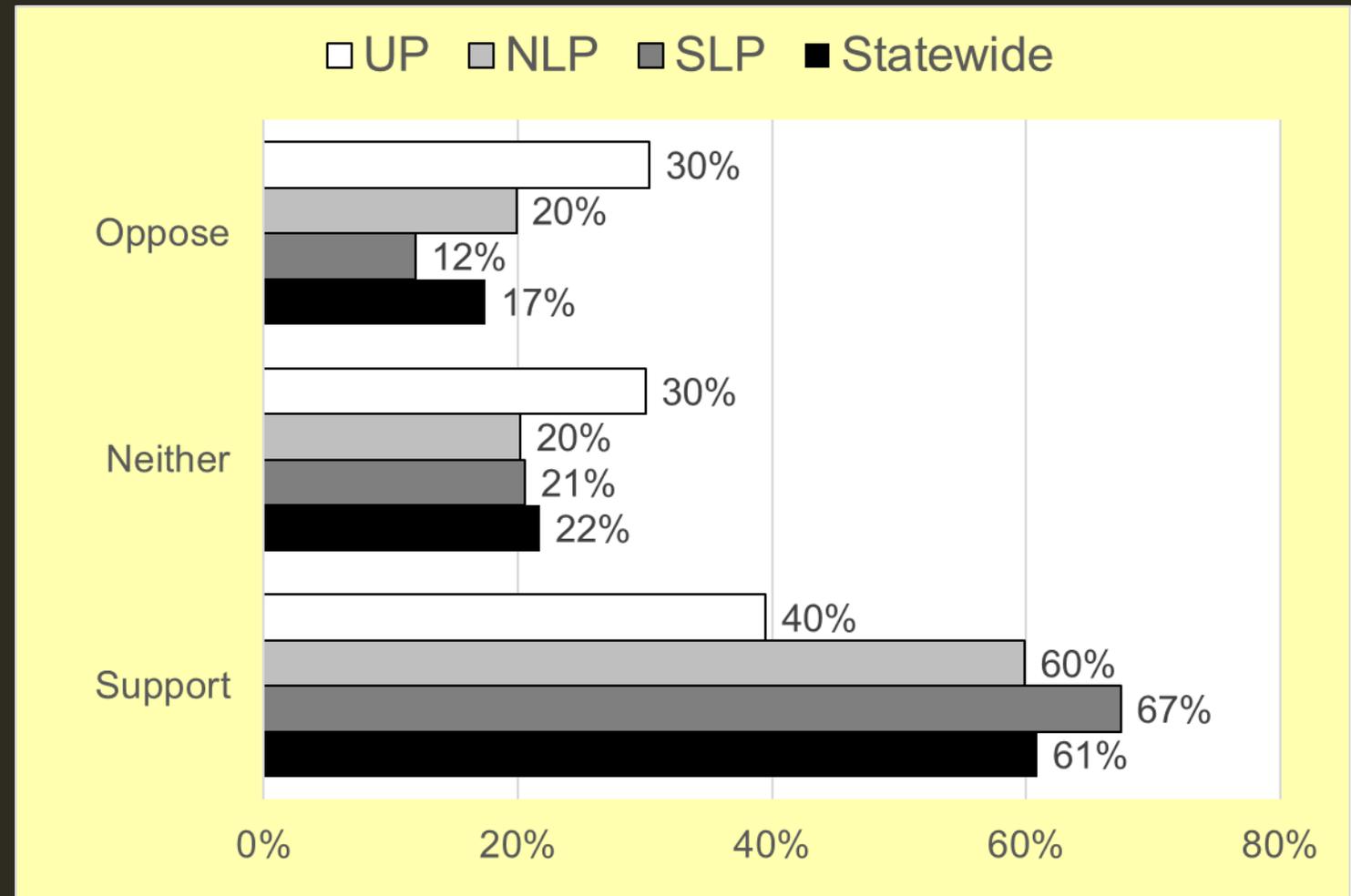
# MAXIMUM HARVEST

- 28% of hunters statewide wanted to take one deer.
- 24% of hunters statewide would take 3 or more deer.
- 46% of UP hunters wanted one deer.



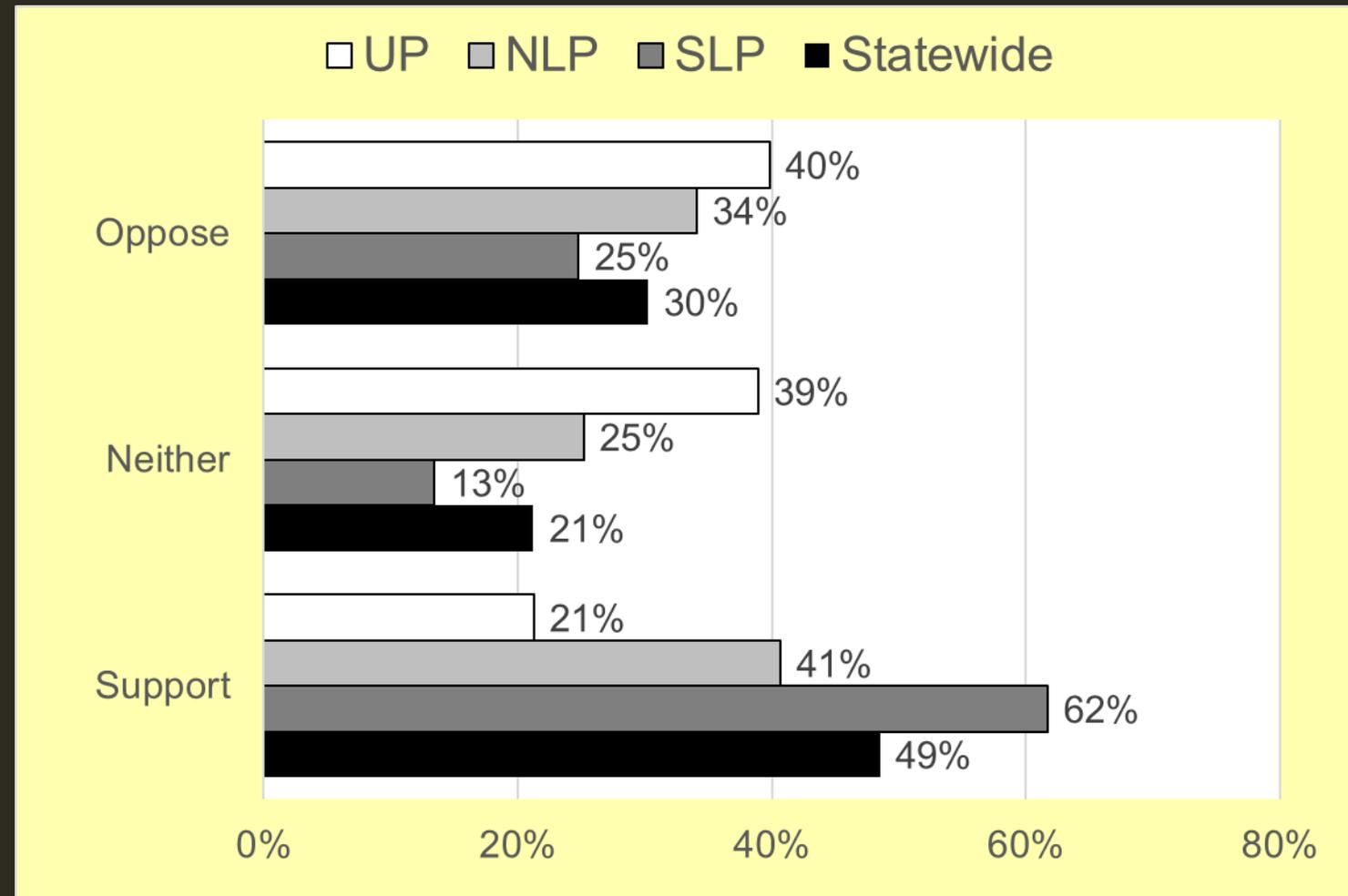
# UNIVERSAL ANTLERLESS LICENSES THE LP

- 61% of hunters statewide support the universal license.
- 17% oppose.
- Support lowest in the UP (40%).



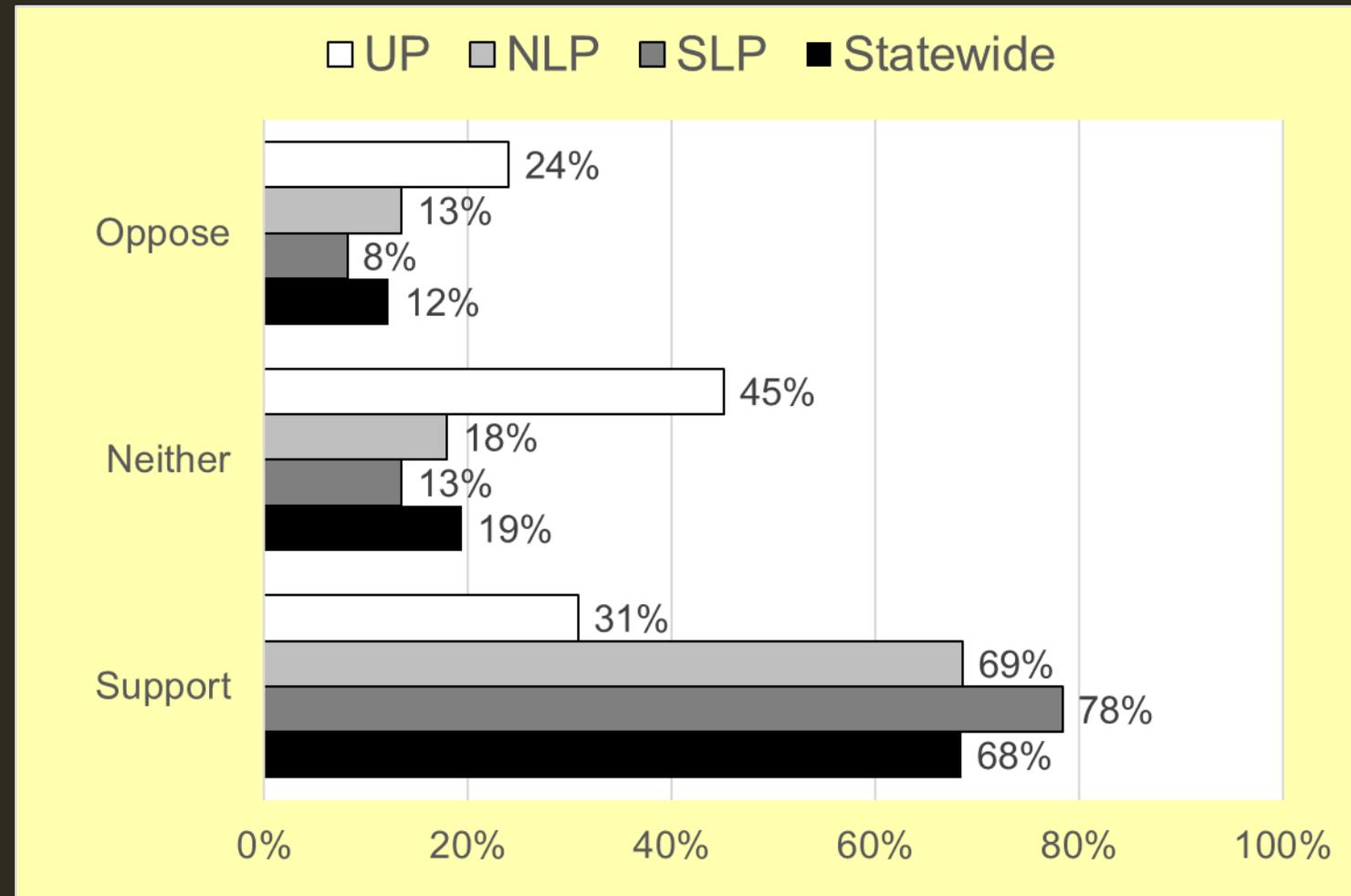
# HUNTING DEVICES IN THE SLP MUZZLELOADER

- 49% of hunters support the use of any legal firearm in the muzzleloader season.
- 30% oppose.
- Support lowest in the UP (21%).



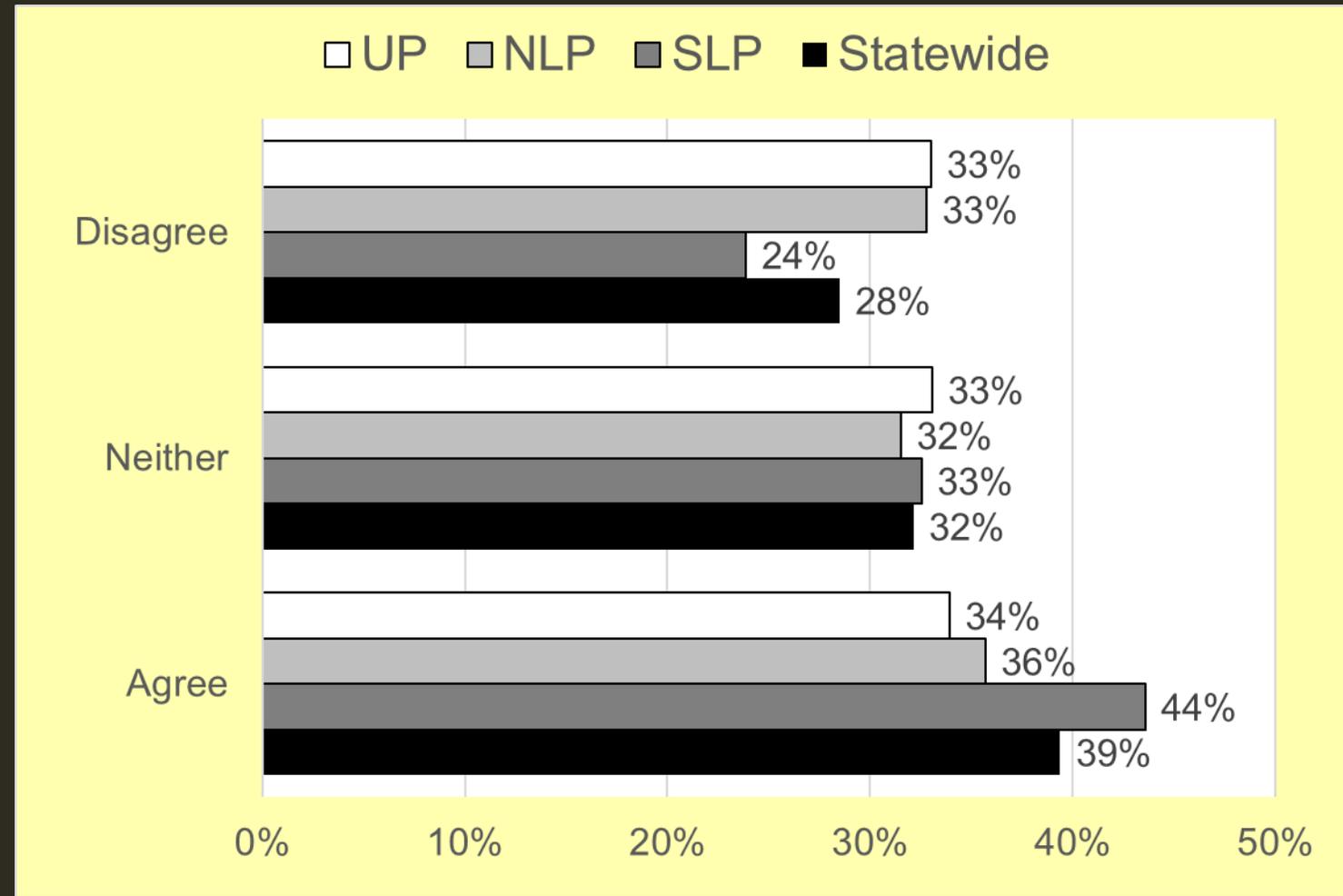
# TAKING ANY DEER WITH COMBO AND DEER LICENSES IN THE LP FIREARM SEASONS

- 68% of hunters support.
- 12% oppose.
- Support lowest in the UP (31%).



# 2023 YOUTH HUNTING SEASON REGULATIONS

- Youth could harvest multiple antlerless deer (one per kill tag) and only ONE antlered deer.
- 39% of hunters agreed.
- 25% disagreed.



# 2023 YOUTH HUNTING SEASON REGULATIONS

- Extend youth season length:
  - 26% agreed.
  - 50% disagreed.
- Restrict take to antlerless deer:
  - 43% agreed
  - 33% disagreed



# SUMMARY

- 1.4% increase in the number of license buyers.
- 2% increase in the number of people that went afield.
- 2% increase in the total number of deer harvested (buck harvest increased by 2% and antlerless harvest increased by 3%).
- 69% of successful hunters reported that the harvest reporting app was easy to use.



# SUMMARY

- 28% of hunters wanted to take one deer, while 24% of hunters would take 3 or more deer.
- 61% of hunters supported the universal antlerless license.
- 49% of hunters supported the use of any legal firearm in the SLP muzzleloader season.
- 68% of hunters supported taking any deer with combo and deer licenses in the LP in the firearm seasons.
- 39% of hunters agreed with the 2023 youth hunting season regulations.



THANK YOU



# DMI Update and Evaluation



Chad Stewart  
Deer and Elk Management Specialist  
Wildlife Division  
May 9, 2024



# Timeline

- Individual reports due May 24
- Actionable recommendations to NRC at June NRC meeting
- June 26 work group meeting
  - location TBD
- Decisions for deer season finalized at July meeting



# Presentations Online

- [www.Michigan.gov/deer](http://www.Michigan.gov/deer)
  - Deer Management Initiative link



# Lower Peninsula Views

Lower Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
The purpose of the DMI was clear to me.	0	1	3	9	11	24	4.25
I felt listened to by other DMI participants.	0	0	0	11	13	24	4.54
<b>I felt listened to by the DNR staff involved.</b>	0	0	0	4	20	24	<b>4.83</b>
<b>I heard perspectives different from my own.</b>	0	0	0	4	20	24	<b>4.83</b>
I found value in the in-person sessions.	1	0	0	5	18	24	4.63
The overall process used was fair.	1	2	5	8	8	24	3.83
I support the DMI recommendations.	1	1	4	11	7	24	3.92



# Upper Peninsula Views

Upper Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
The purpose of the DMI was clear to me.	1	0	0	8	12	21	4.43
I felt listened to by other DMI participants.	1	0	1	10	8	20	4.20
I felt listened to by the DNR staff involved.	1	0	0	5	14	20	<b>4.55</b>
I heard perspectives different from my own.	1	0	1	7	12	21	4.38
I found value in the in-person sessions.	1	0	0	7	13	21	4.48
The overall process used was fair.	1	0	2	13	5	21	4.00
I support the DMI recommendations.	1	0	5	7	8	21	4.00



# Evaluation: Knowledge Gained

Lower Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Not at all	Somewhat	Moderately	Very	Extremely	Sum	Average
<b><u>BEFORE</u></b> the DMI, how <b>knowledgeable</b> would you say you were about deer management in Michigan?	2	3	7	7	5	24	3.42
<b><u>AFTER</u></b> the DMI, how <b>knowledgeable</b> would you say you are about deer management in Michigan?	0	0	2	10	12	24	4.42

Upper Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Not at all	Somewhat	Moderately	Very	Extremely	Sum	Average
<b><u>BEFORE</u></b> the DMI, how <b>knowledgeable</b> would you say you were about deer management in Michigan?	0	0	9	7	5	21	3.81
<b><u>AFTER</u></b> the DMI, how <b>knowledgeable</b> would you say you are about deer management in Michigan?	0	0	0	14	7	21	4.33



# Evaluation: Views of DNR

Lower Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
<b>My involvement in the DMI ...</b>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
...helped me gain a better appreciation for the work the MDNR does for deer management.	0	1	0	6	17	24	4.63
...improved my confidence in the deer management expertise of Michigan DNR staff.	0	0	3	9	12	24	4.38
...improved my trust in the Michigan DNR to do a good job managing Michigan's deer.	0	1	4	8	11	24	4.21

Upper Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
<b>My involvement in the DMI ...</b>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
...helped me gain a better appreciation for the work the MDNR does for deer management.	0	1	0	12	8	21	4.29
...improved my confidence in the deer management expertise of Michigan DNR staff.	0	1	5	8	7	21	4.00
...improved my trust in the Michigan DNR to do a good job managing Michigan's deer.	0	1	3	11	6	21	4.05



# Virtual Sessions

Lower Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
<b>Considering <u>all the virtual speaker sessions</u></b>							
The pace of content delivery was appropriate.	5	2	3	9	4	23	3.22
The content provided met my expectations.	0	2	5	5	12	24	4.13
Attending was a good use of my time.	0	2	2	8	12	24	4.25
I had adequate opportunity to ask questions.	1	2	1	5	15	24	4.29

Upper Peninsula	1	2	3	4	5		
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	Sum	Average
<b>Considering <u>all the virtual speaker sessions</u></b>							
The pace of content delivery was appropriate.	0	2	5	11	3	21	3.71
The content provided met my expectations.	0	0	4	11	6	21	4.10
Attending was a good use of my time.	0	1	1	8	11	21	4.38
I had adequate opportunity to ask questions.	0	1	0	6	14	21	4.57



# Virtual Sessions

	Avg
Deer Population Dynamics	4.33
Harvest Estimation & Reporting	4.42
Northern Hardwoods	4.30
Wisconsin Deer Management	4.48
Recruitment, Retention, Reactivation	3.98
Privately Owned Cervidae	3.30
Self-organized meetings	3.48
Climate and Weather	3.98
Sportsmen Against Hunger	3.98

	Avg
Impacts on Natural Communities	4.02
Impacts on Agriculture	4.10
Deer Winter Complex	3.98
UP Predator/Prey & Deer Migration	4.18
Wolf Management	3.73
CWD & TB	4.00
Bear, Coyote, & Bobcat Management	4.02
Deer Regulations	4.62



# Thank You

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[www.michigan.gov/deer](http://www.michigan.gov/deer)

