

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

# 2010 Hunting Incident Report



*Theiler's Resort, Tomahawk, Wis.*

*Nov. 30 1934*

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# 2010 Hunting Incident Executive Report

**Hunting Incident -- is when a person is injured by the discharge of a hunting firearm or bow and arrow arising from the activity of hunting, including travel to and from the hunting field.**

There were 32 total hunting incidents during the 2010 hunting season. One of the 32 incidents was fatal. Thanks to the efforts of our hunter education program hunting is a safe activity in Wisconsin and getting safer all the time. Hunting incidents are continuing a downward trend and for 2010 we were below the 10 year average of about 54 incidents per year.

Gun deer hunting and pheasant hunting were the two hunting activities with the highest number of incidents with gun deer hunting having the most. Hunting on game farms continue to be a location where several pheasant hunting incidents occur annually. Other game hunting remained basically the same compared to 2009.

Rifles and shotguns remain the hunting implement involved most often in hunting incidents. Shotguns (41%) fell behind rifles (47%) in 2010 as the most significant firearm involved in incidents. Handguns (9%) showed a slight increase. There was one muzzleloader (3%) incident in 2010.

THE Major cause for incidents for 2010: Shooters failure to positively identify the target. It's not good enough reason to take a shot when a hunter only thinks they are seeing a legal target; they must know and be certain the target is legal. Running a close second however were hunters shooting while they were on the move or shooting at running or moving game. Having a safe zone of fire and safe backstop is equally important to knowing your target.

Self inflicted injuries accounted for 28% of the total number of incidents. This is a reduction of 64% from 2009. The average over time is about 33% of all incidents being self inflicted injuries.

Juveniles (under age 18) dropped from 28% in 2009 to only 3% this year. That means that 97% of all hunting incidents were caused by adult hunters. Historically juveniles have contributed to nearly 33% of the total numbers of incidents. It is important to note that the numbers of incidents caused by juvenile shooters is a single digit (1) for 2010. As with all statistics, when a change in a single number can result in dramatic percentage changes the significance of the data is really more accurately reflected in terms of relevance. Of course if it's you or someone you know then it is always relevant or significant.

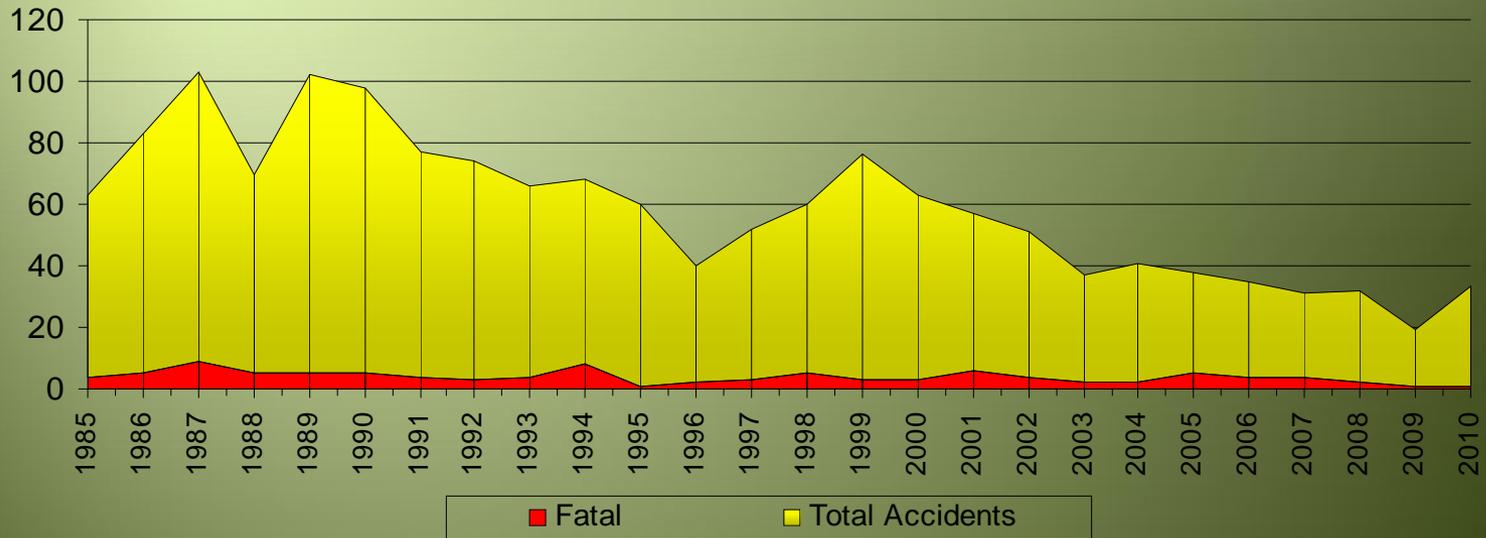
To summarize this report, 2010 was the second time in history that we had a gun deer season without a fatality. 1972 was the previous year without a fatal incident for gun deer hunting. We were well below the 10 year average for hunting incidents and expect to continue that trend into the future. Incidents that were caused while hunters were either moving or shooting at moving game increase the propensity for something to go wrong. We cannot rest on past success and must stress the importance of knowing and practicing the 4 basic rules of firearms safety every time we handle a firearm. Remember the slogan "Safe Hunting is No Accident." 2011 can be the safest season ever. . . .IF all hunters follow those 4 simple rules.

Timothy J. Lawhern  
Division Administrator, Enforcement and Science

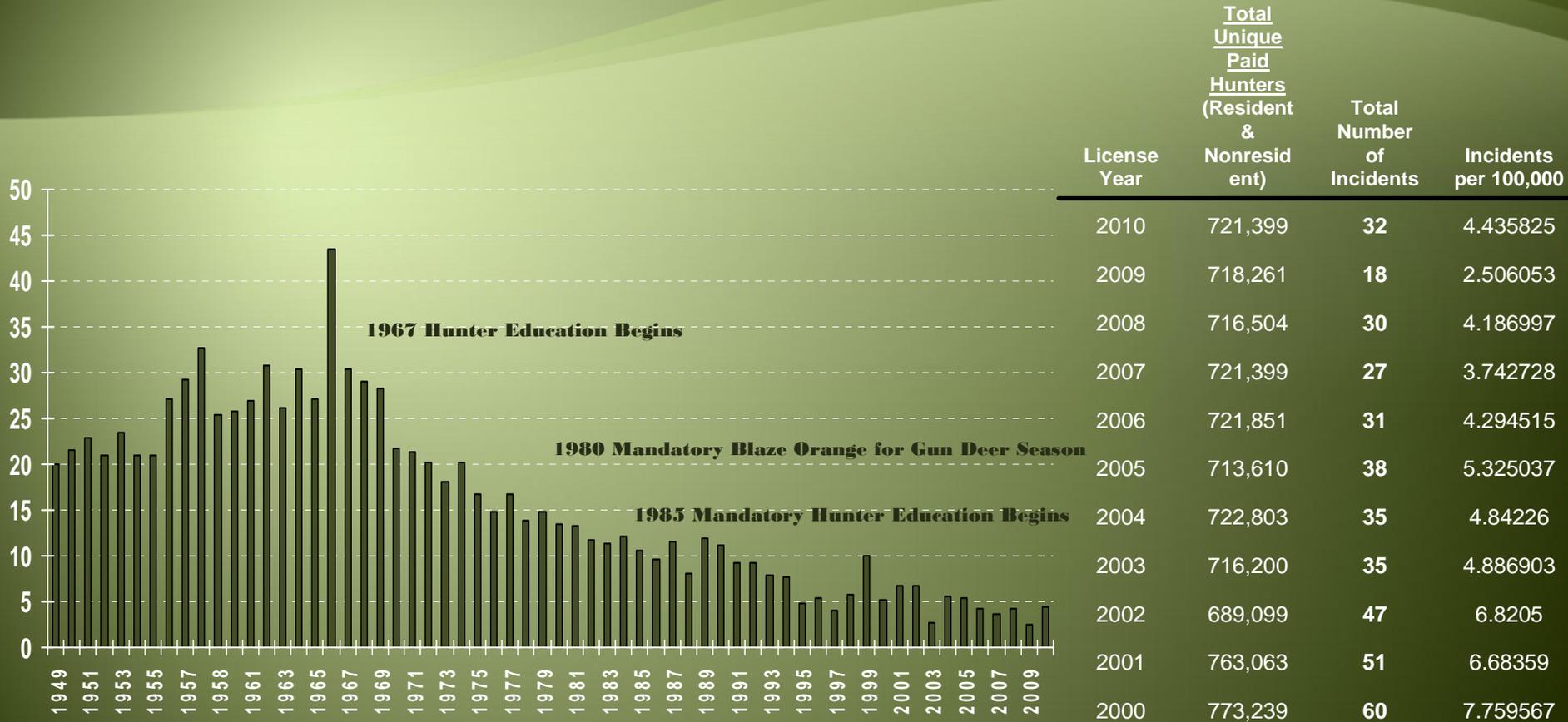
This annual report prepared by: Brenda Von Rueden  
Hunter Education Program Assistant

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Telephone (608) 266-1317

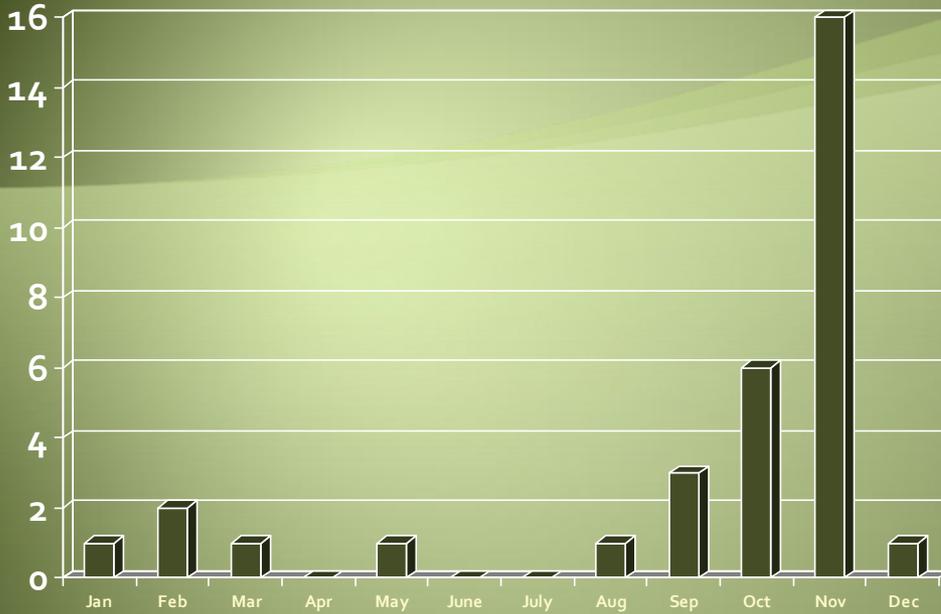
# History of Hunting Incidents & Fatalities



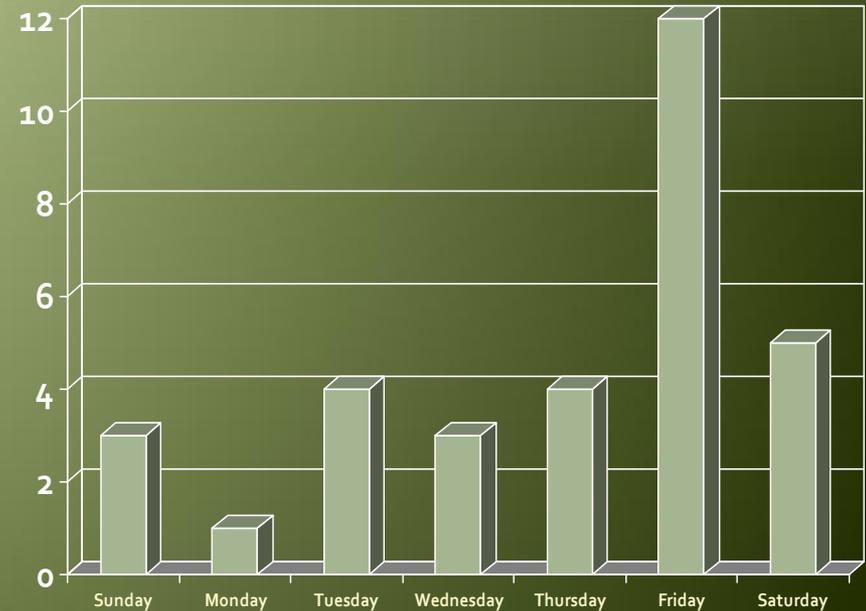
# Wisconsin Hunting Incident Rate Per 100,000 Hunters



# Month and Day of Week - All Incidents 2010

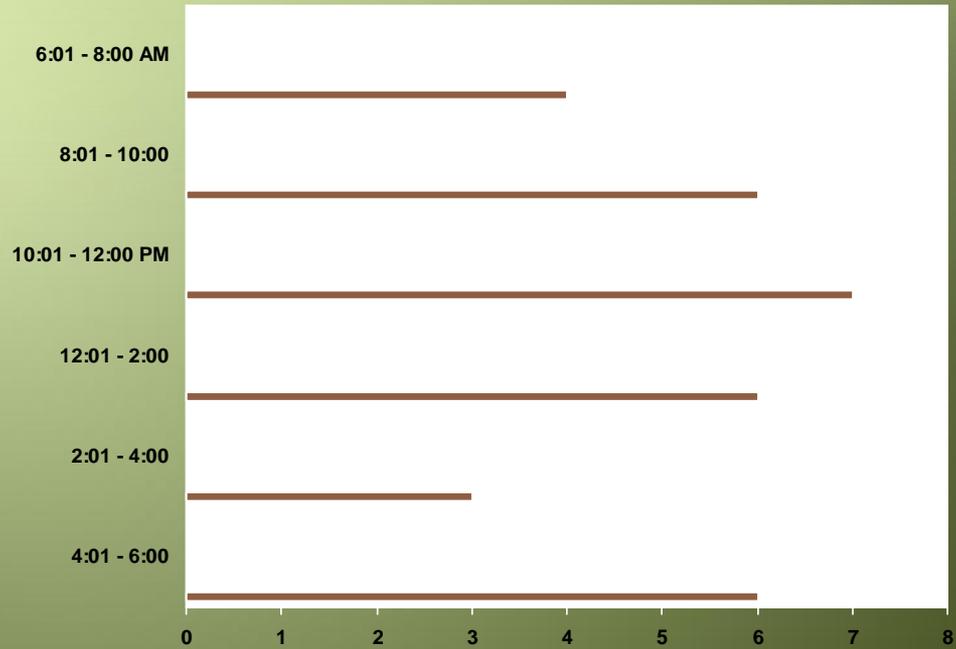


Month Incident Occurred - All Incidents 2010



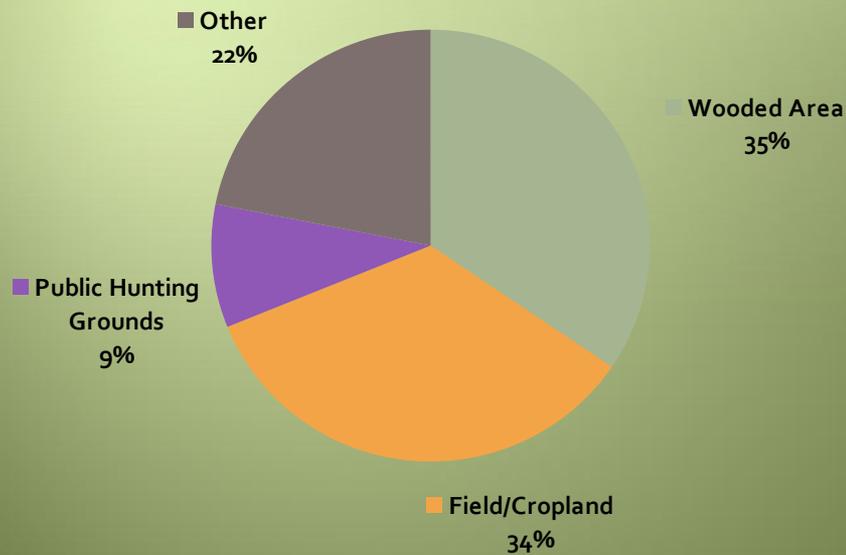
Day of Week - All Incidents 2010

# Time of Day - All Incidents 2010



# Where Incident Occurred – All Incidents 2010

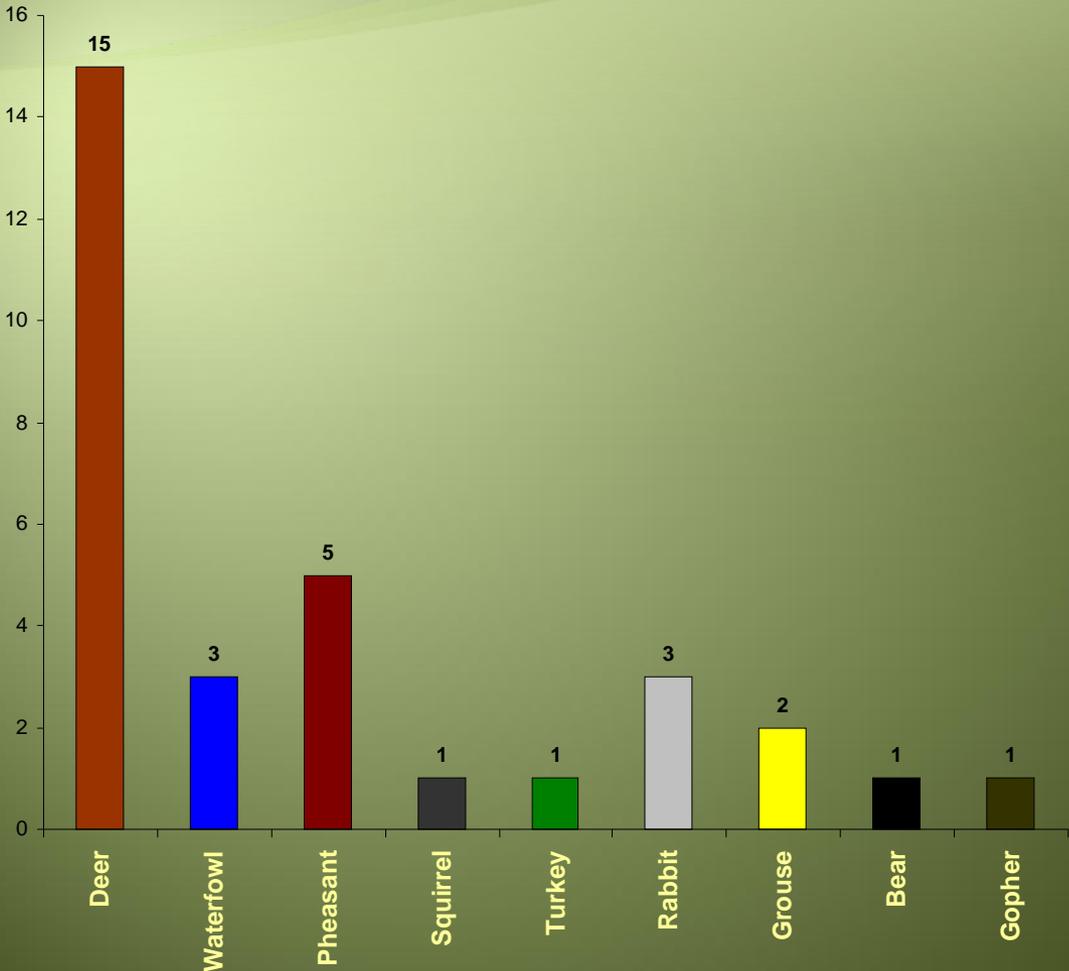
Type of Land



**Other Includes:**

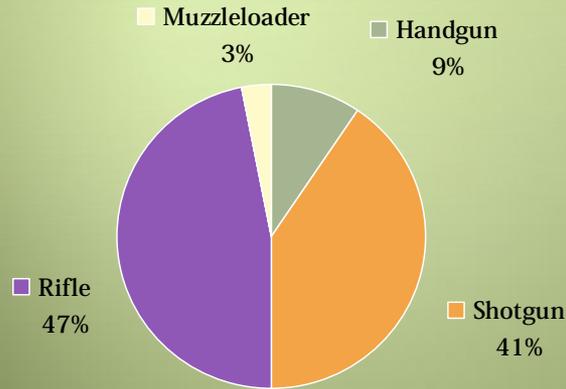
Creek-Flooded	
Willows	1
Game Farm	0
Garden/Yard	2
Open Area	1
Marsh	0
Roadway -	1
Right of Way	
On Road in	0
Vehicle	
Private Area	2

# Animals Hunted by Shooter – All Incidents 2010



# Firearms Involved in Incidents - All Incidents 2010

Type



Action

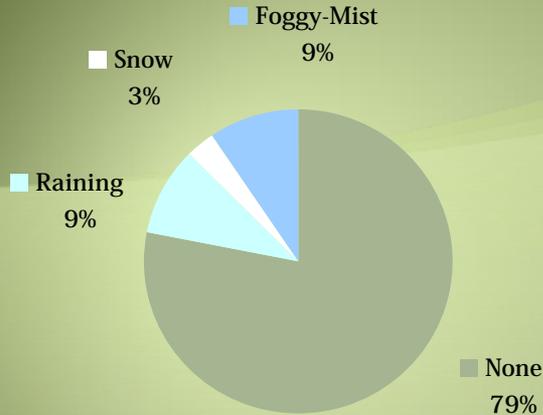


# Contributing Factors to Incidents - All Incidents 2010

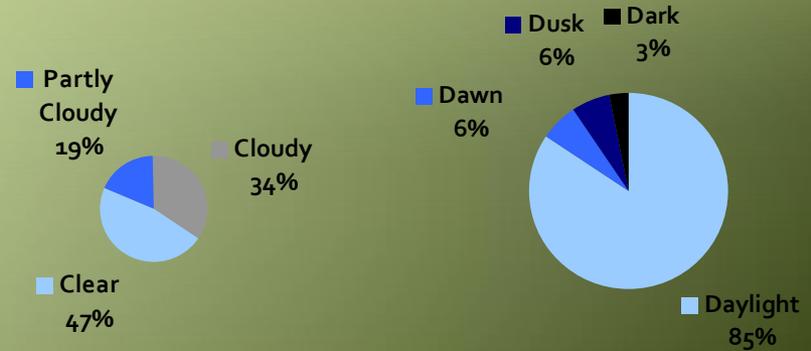


# Incident Conditions - All Incidents 2010

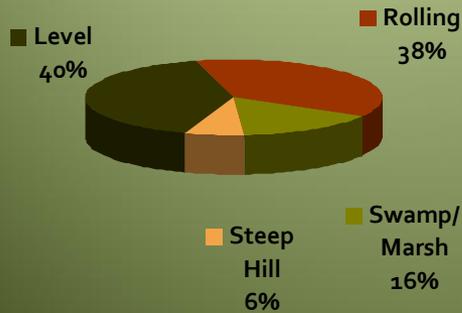
## Precipitation



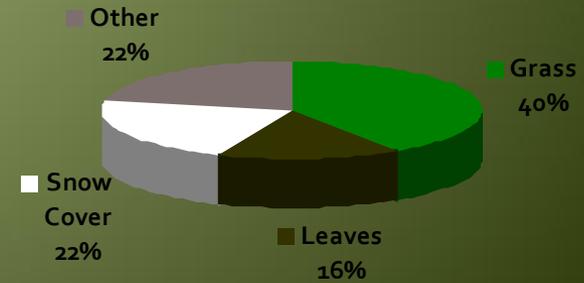
## Weather



## Topography

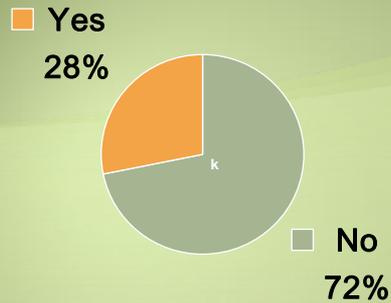


## Ground Cover



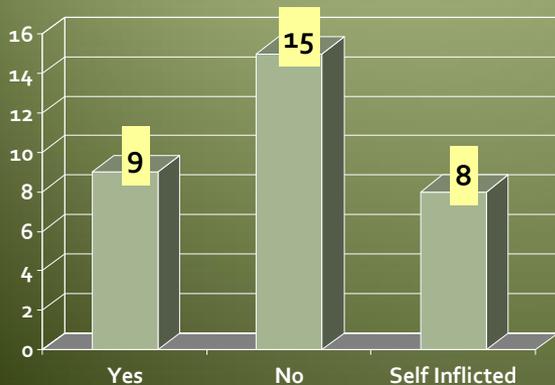
# Incident Statistics - All Incidents 2010

## Self Inflicted

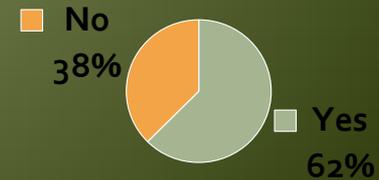


## Shooter/Victim Information Two-Party Incidents 2010

### Members of the Same Hunting Party (includes self-inflicted injuries)

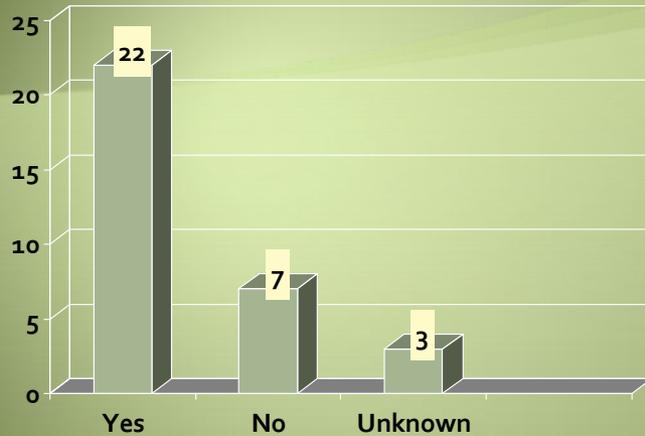


### Could Shooter See Victim?

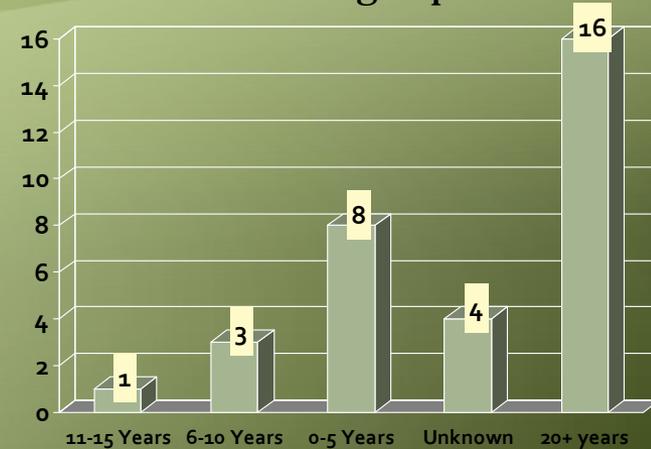


# Incident "Shooter" Statistics - All Incidents 2010

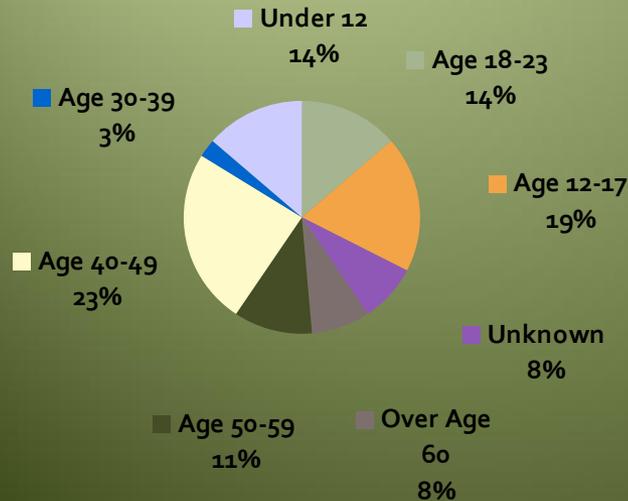
## Hunter Education Graduate?



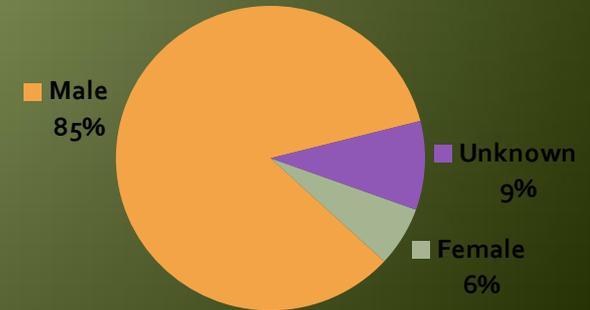
## Years Hunting Experience



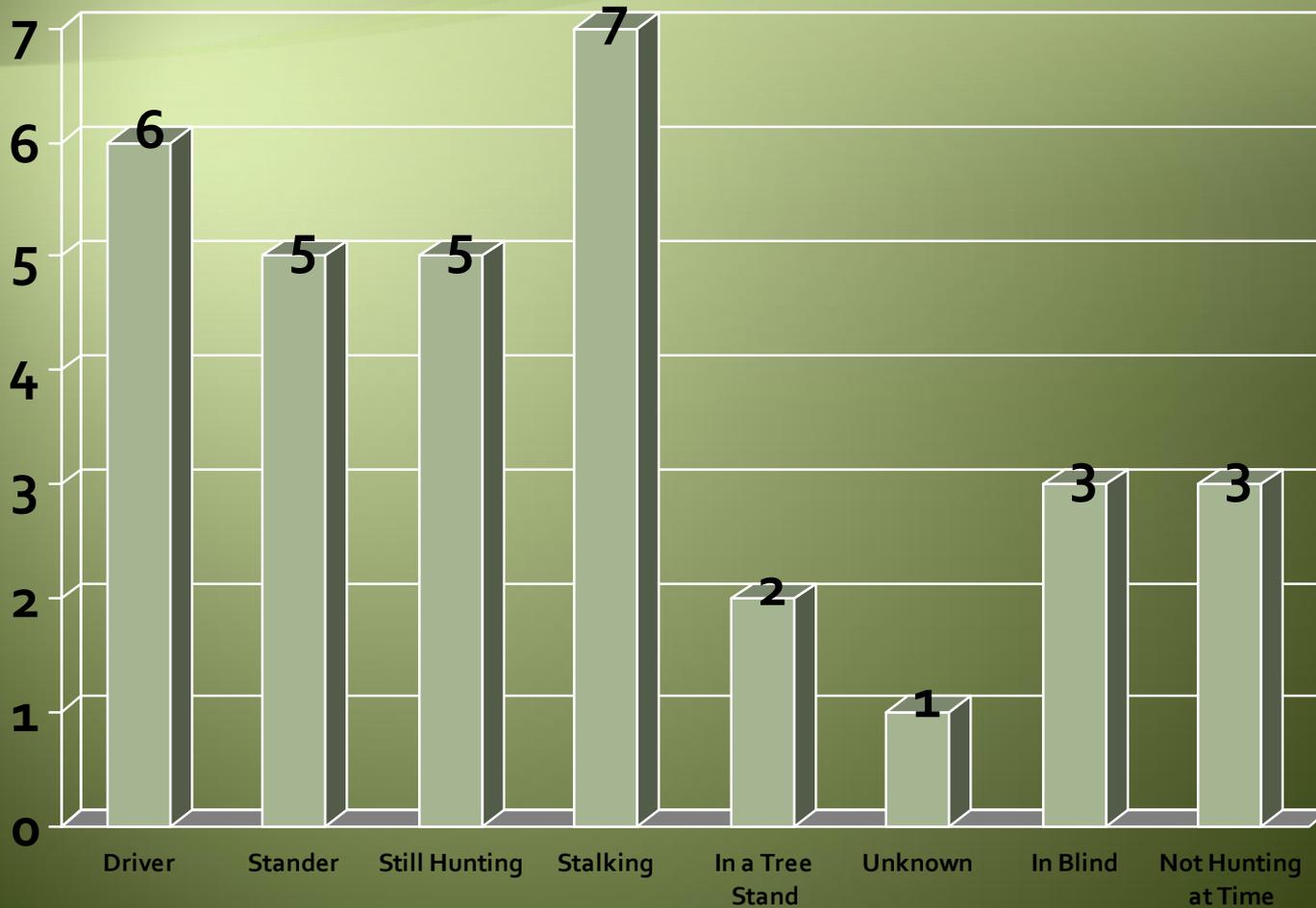
## Age



## Gender

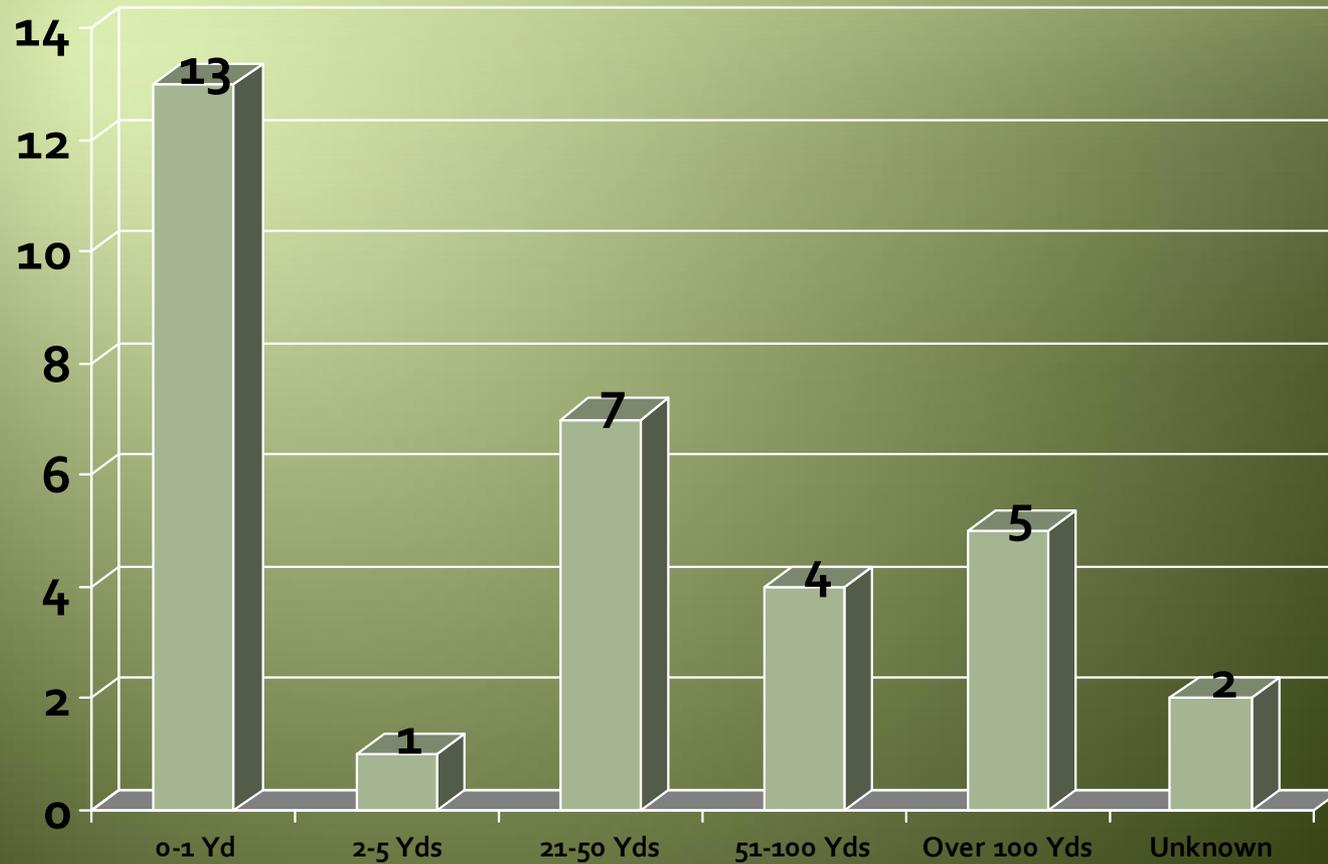


# Activity "Shooter" Was Involved In - All Incidents 2010



# Distance From Muzzle to Wound - All Incidents 2010

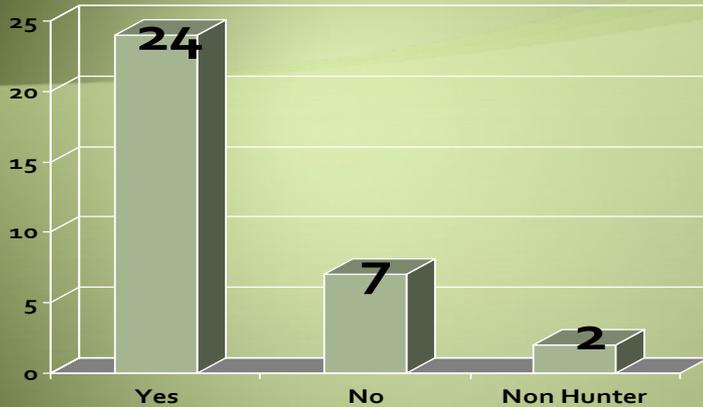
(Includes Self Inflicted)



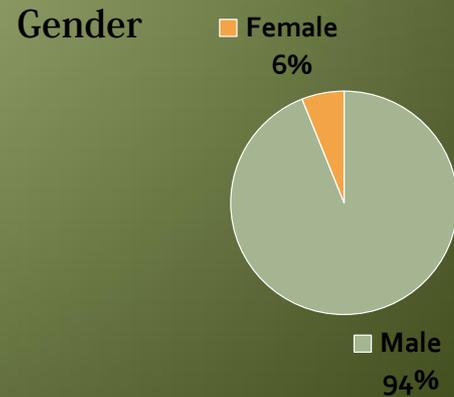
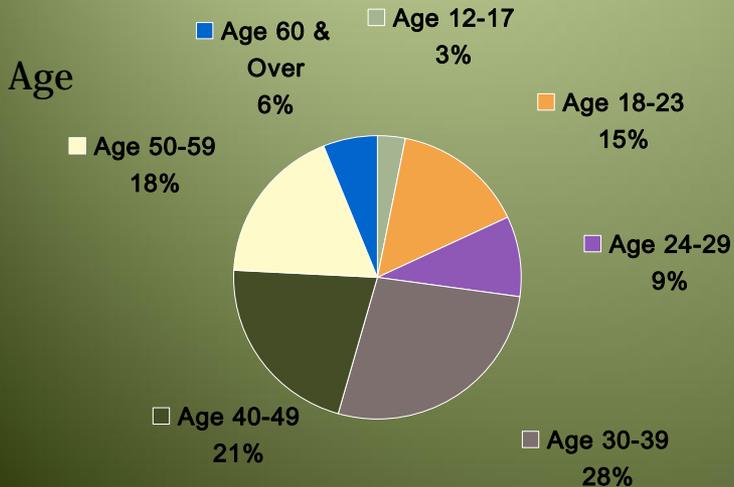
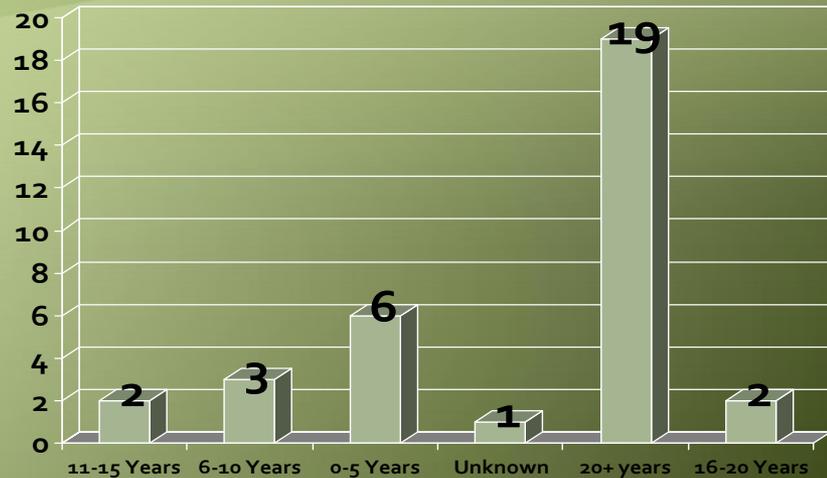
# Incident "Victim" Statistics - All Incidents

**2010** (In 2010 one incident involved two Victims)

Hunter Education Graduate?

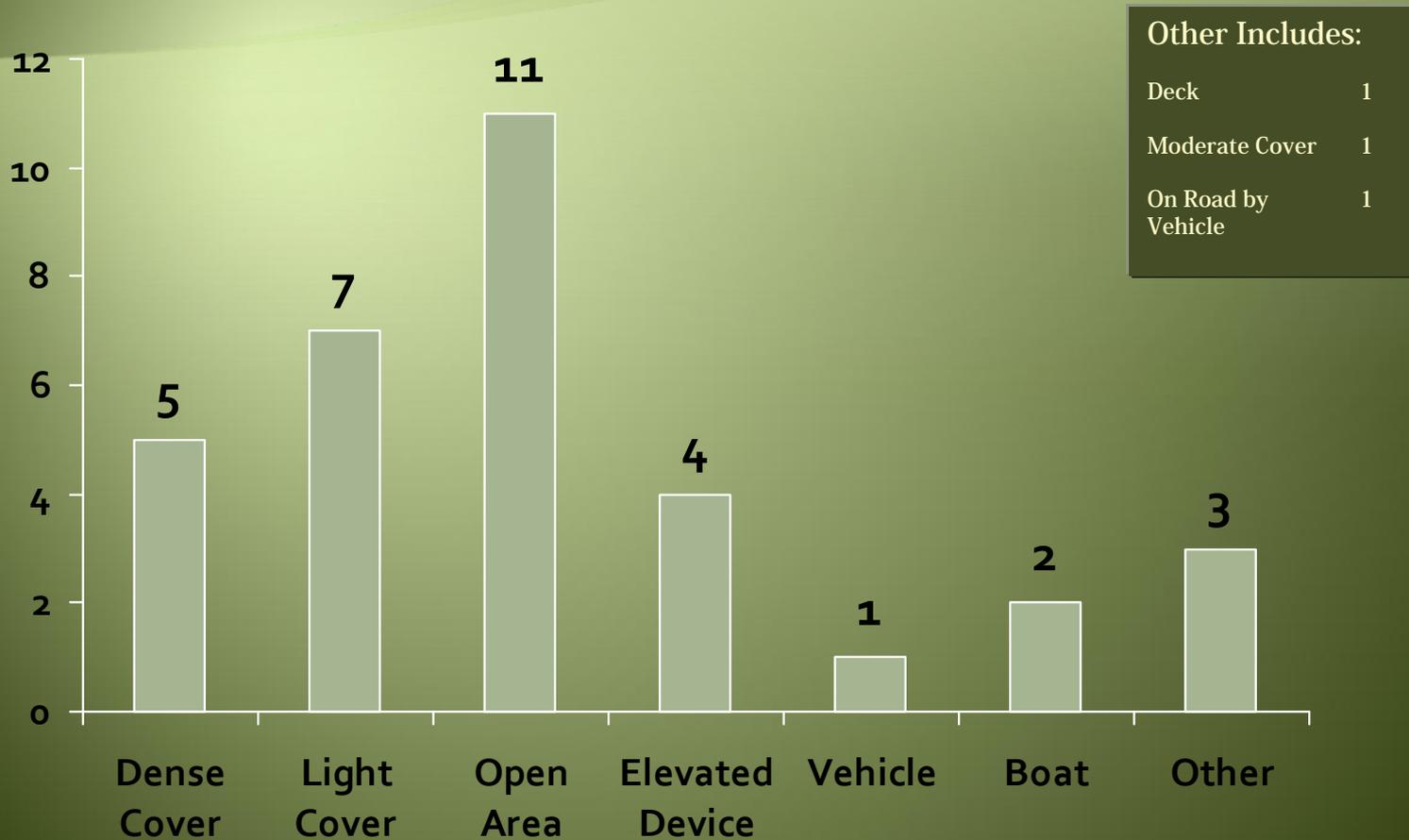


Years Hunting Experience



# Incident "Victim" Surroundings

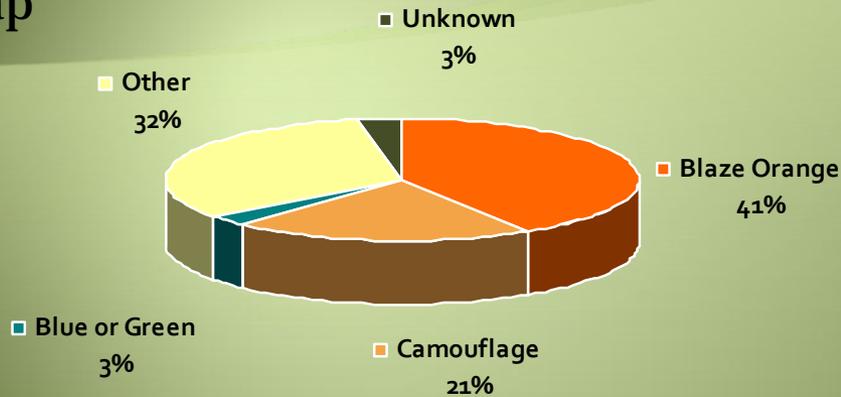
**Two-Party Incidents 2010** (In 2010 one incident involved two Victims)



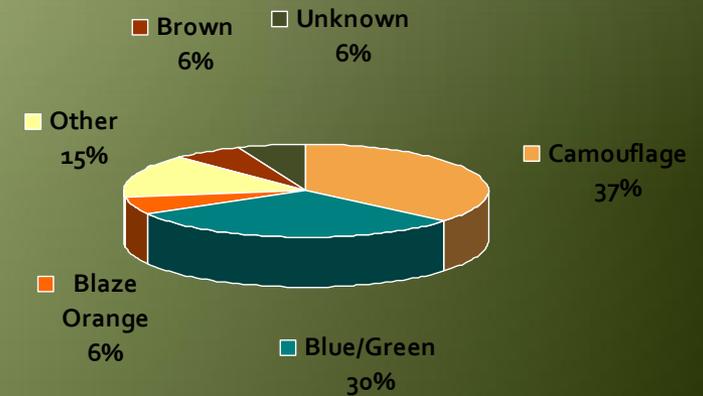
# Incident "Victim" Clothing Color

Two-Party Incidents 2010 (In 2010 one incident involved two Victims)

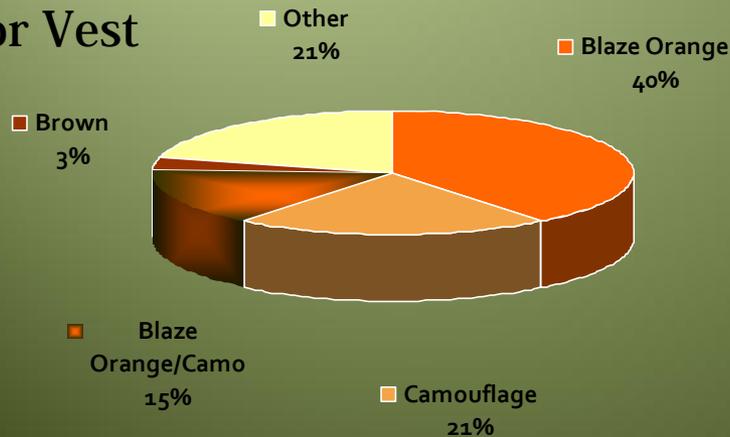
## Cap



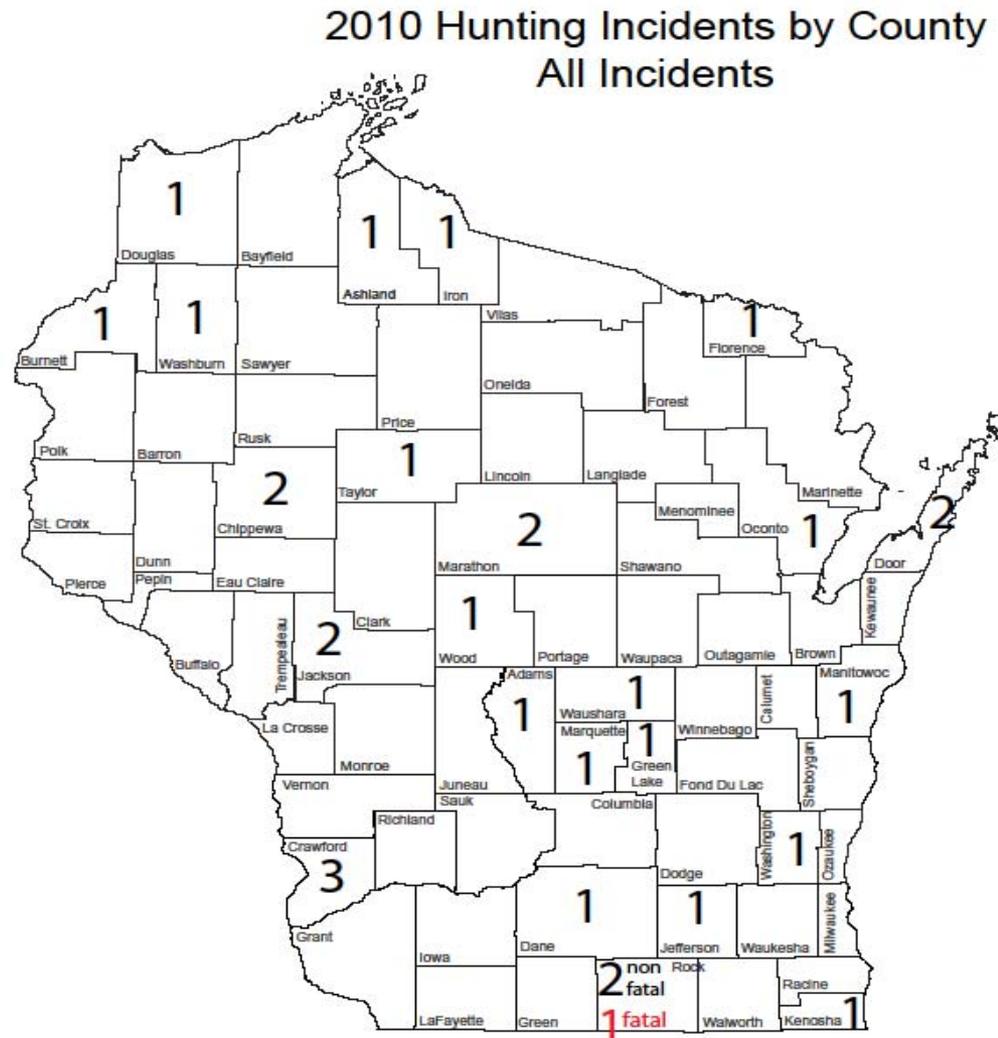
## Trouser or Pants



## Coat or Vest



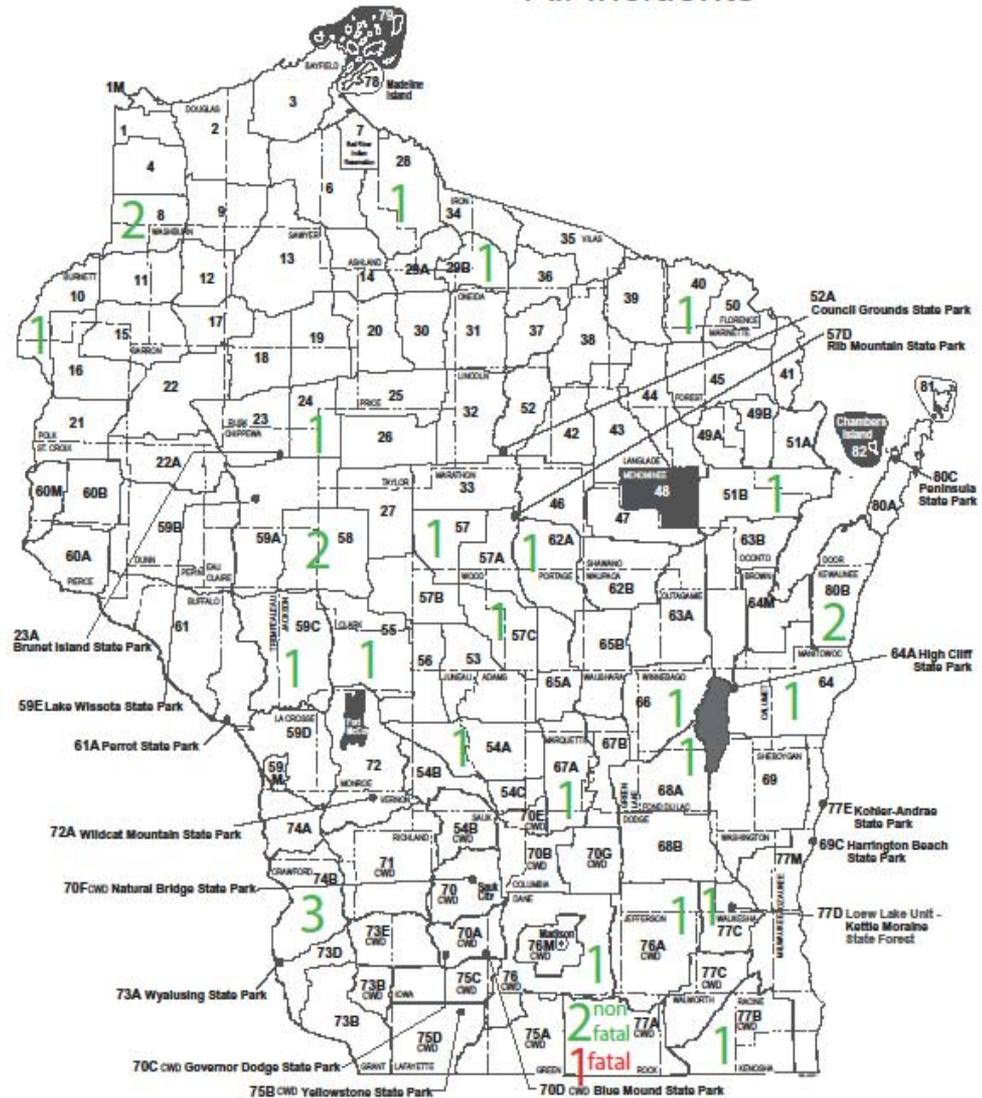
# 2010 Hunting Incidents by County – All Incidents



Note: All incidents non fatal unless otherwise stated.

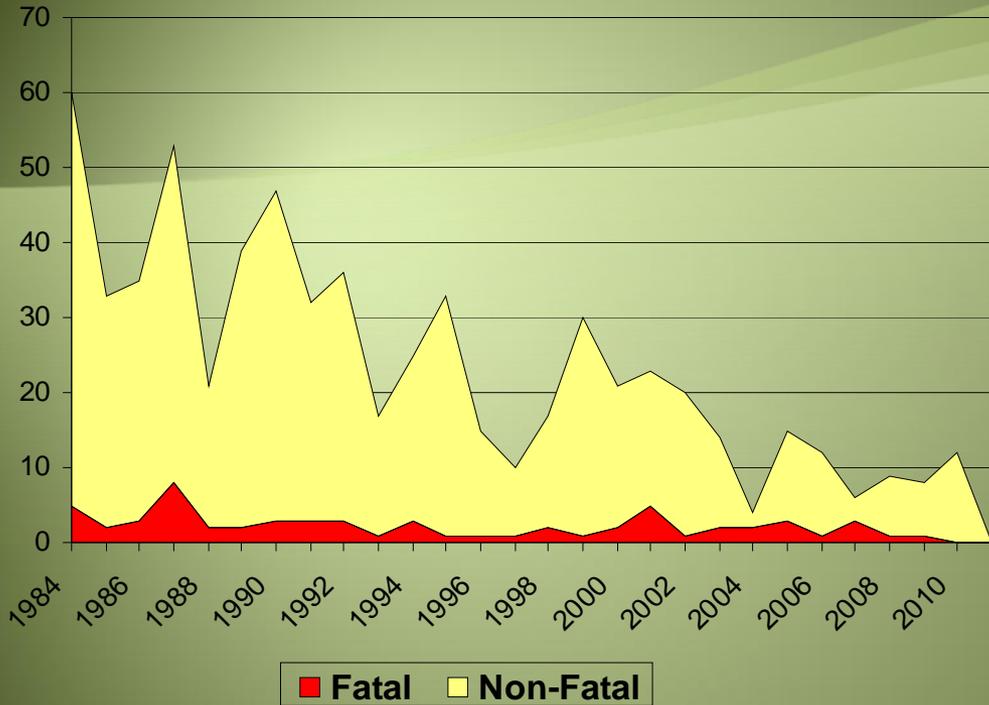
# 2010 Hunting Incidents by Deer Management Unit - All Incidents

## 2010 Hunting Incidents by DMU All Incidents

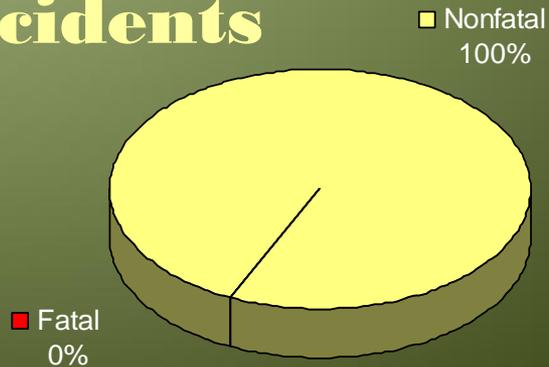


Note: All incidents non fatal unless otherwise stated.

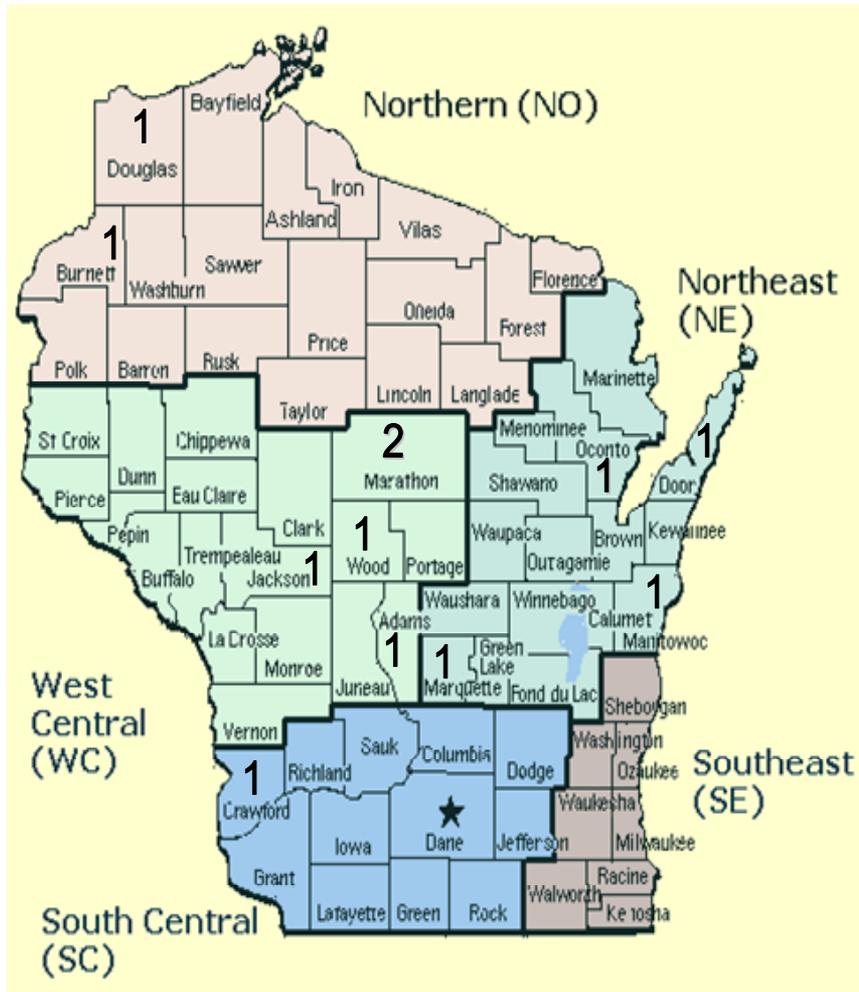
# History of Gun Deer Incidents



## 2010 Gun Deer Incidents



# Gun Deer Season Incidents 2010



Non Fatal = 12

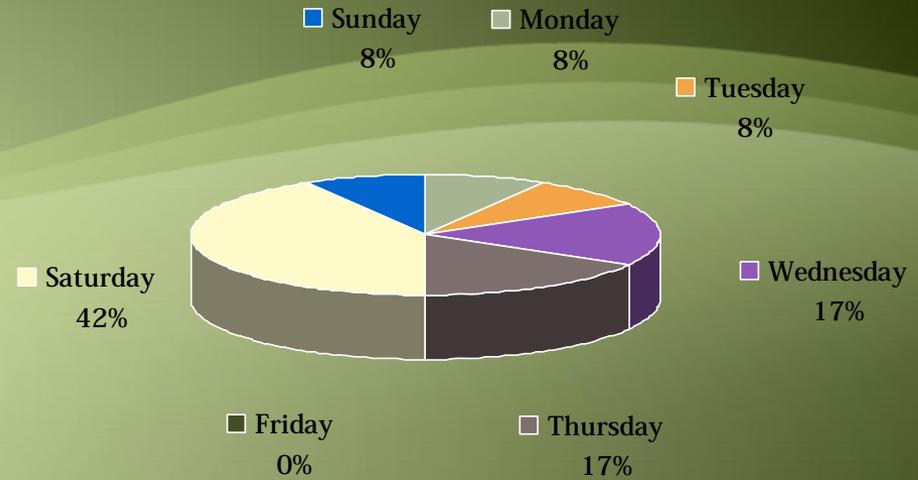
Fatal = 0

Total = 12

1.93 per 100,000  
participants

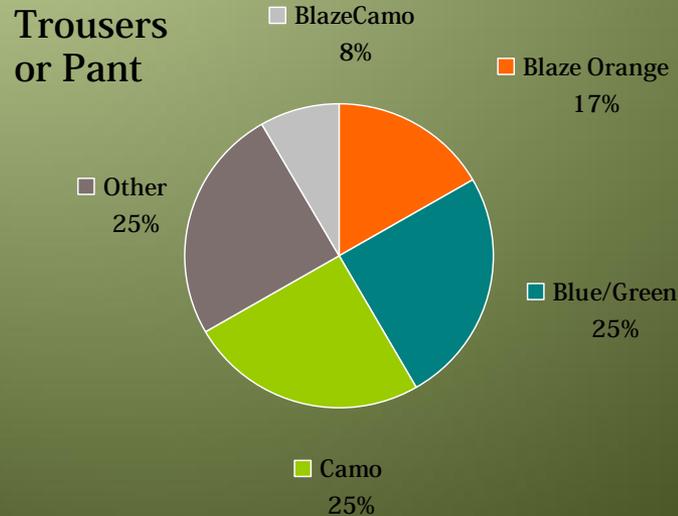
# Incidents by Day of Week

## Gun Deer Season - 2010

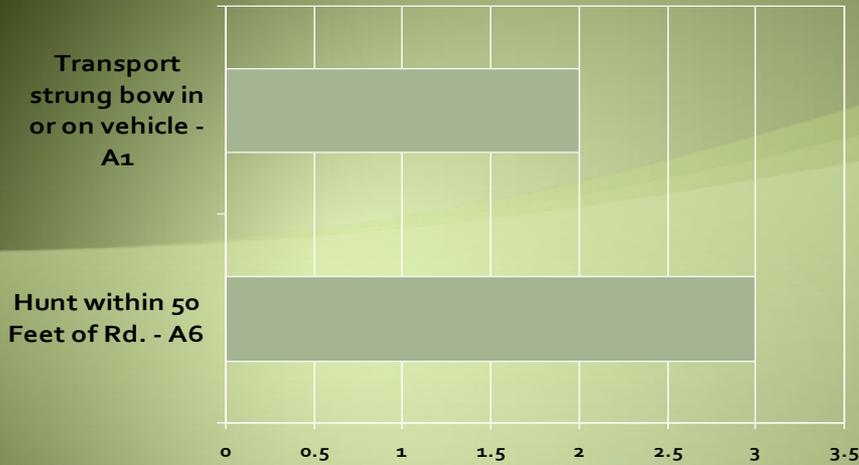


# Incident Victim Clothing Color

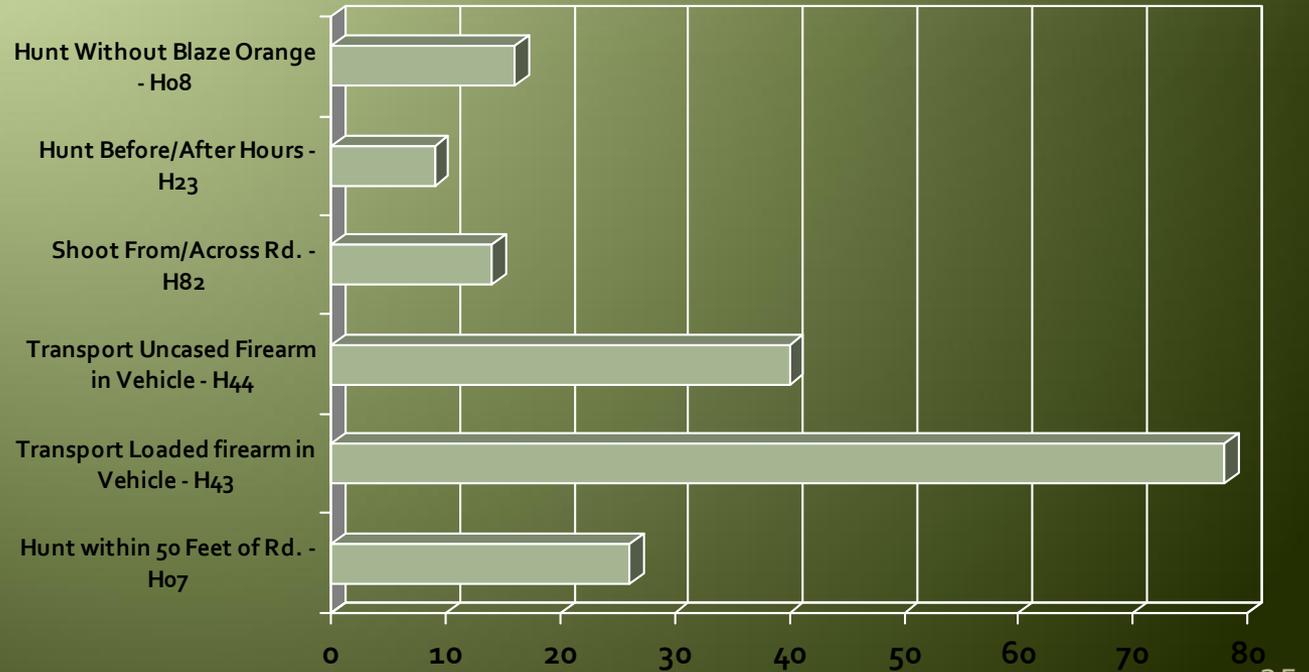
## Gun Deer Season - 2010 Two Party Incidents



# 2010 Deer Season Safety Violations - Archery



# 2010 Deer Season Safety Violations - Firearms



# Remember Safe Hunting is no Accident!

**T**

**Treat Every Firearm As If It Is Loaded**



**B**

**Be Certain Of Your Target & What's Beyond**



**A**

**Always Point the Muzzle In A Safe Direction**



**K**

**Keep Your Finger Outside The Trigger Guard Until Ready To Shoot**

