

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

# 2011 Hunting Incident Report



# Table of Contents

◆ Executive Summary	3
◆ History of Hunting Incidents & Fatalities	4
◆ Incident Rate per 100,000 Hunters	5
◆ Month & Day of Incident	6
◆ Time of Incidents	7
◆ Where Incidents Occurred	8
◆ Animals Hunted by Shooter	9
◆ Firearms Involved in Incidents	10
◆ Contributing Factors to Incident	11
◆ Incident Conditions: Weather; Light Conditions; Topography; Ground Cover	12
◆ Injury Information	13
◆ Shooter/Victim Hunting Party, Victim Visibility	13
◆ Shooter Statistics; Hunter Education; Experience; Age & Gender	14
◆ Shooter Activity at Time of Incident	15
◆ Distance from Muzzle to Wound	16
◆ Victim Statistics: Hunter Education; Experience; Age; Gender	17
◆ Victim Statistics: Surroundings	18
◆ Victim Statistics: Color of Cap, Coat and Trousers	19
◆ State Map with Hunting Incidents by County	20
◆ State Map with Hunting Incidents by Deer Management Unit	21
◆ History of Deer Gun Incidents & Fatalities	22
◆ State Map with Gun Deer Season Incidents	23
◆ Deer Gun Incidents: Day of Week; Victim Clothing Color	24
◆ Deer Season Safety Violation: Archery & Firearms	25

# 2011 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 26 total hunting incidents during the 2011 hunting season. Two of the 26 incidents were 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 2011 we were below the 10 year average of about 32 incidents per year.

Gun deer hunting, turkey and waterfowl hunting were the three 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 2010.

Rifles and shotguns remain the hunting implement involved most often in hunting incidents. Shotguns (62%) and rifles (38%). No handgun or muzzleloader incidents occurred in 2011.

There were three major causes for incidents for 2011: Shooters failure to positively identify the target, victim out of sight of the shooter and victim covered by shooter swinging on game. It's not a 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. Having a safe zone of fire and safe backstop is equally important to knowing your target.

Planning your hunt and hunting your plan is important. Know where your hunting partners are at all times.

Self inflicted injuries accounted for 38% of the total number of incidents. This is an increase of 10% from 2010.

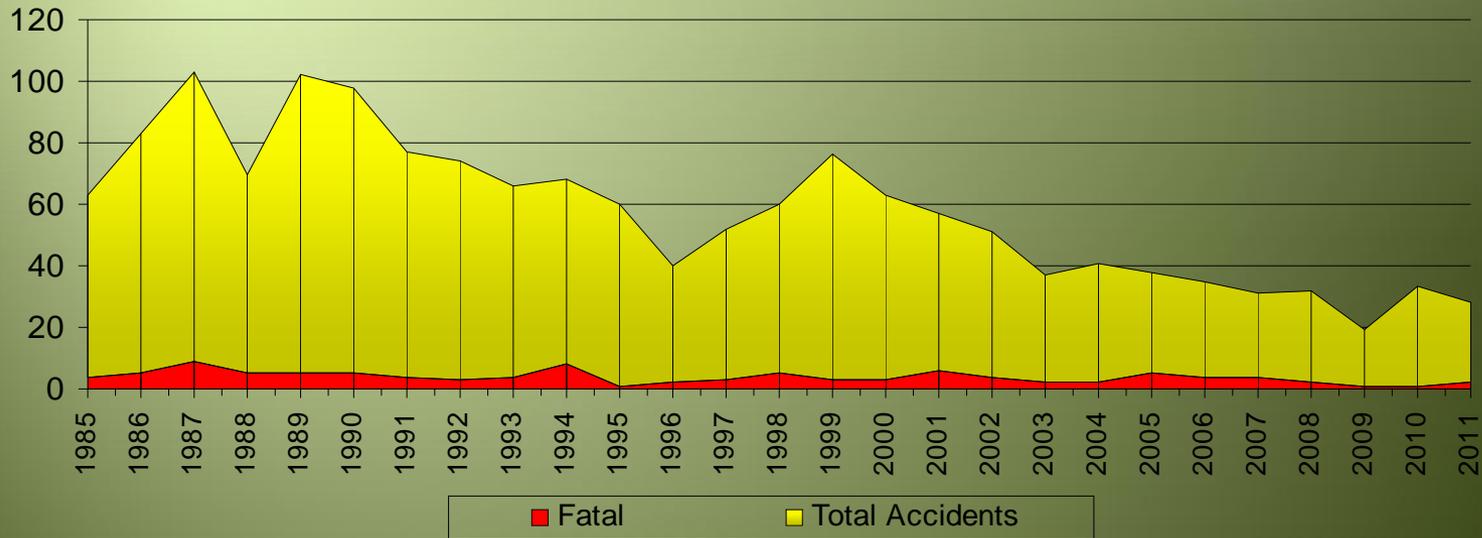
Juveniles (under age 18) make up 23% of the incidents in 2011. That means that 77% of all hunting incidents were caused by adult hunters. Historically juveniles have contributed to nearly 33% of the total numbers of incidents. It is important to note that the numbers of incidents caused by juvenile shooters was a single digit (6) incidents out of 26 incidents for 2011.

**To summarize this report, 2011 was the third time in history that we had a gun deer season without a fatality. 1972 was the first 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." 2012 can be the safest season ever. . . .IF all hunters follow those 4 simple rules.**

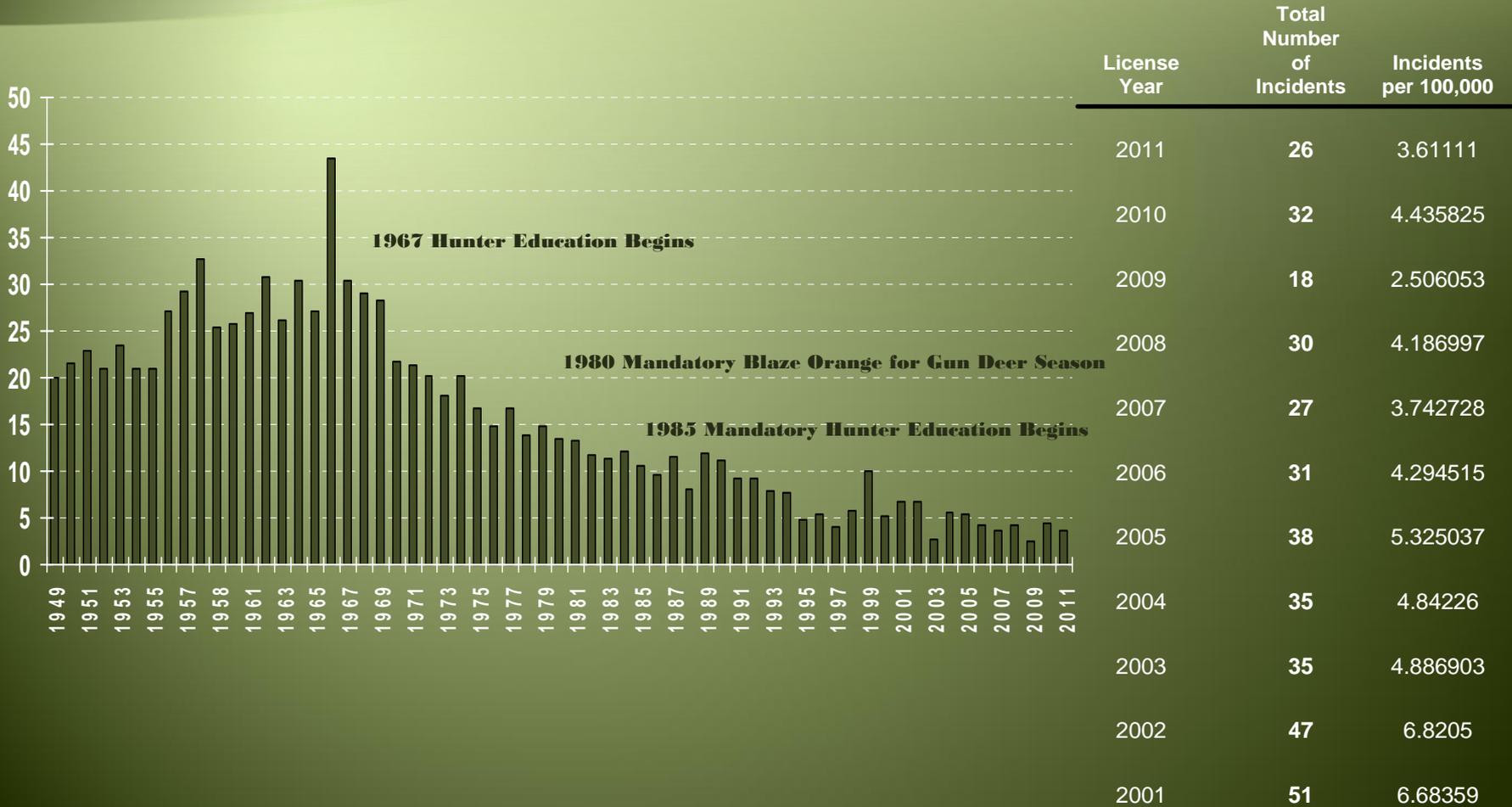
Jon King  
Hunter Education Administrator  
Bureau of Law Enforcement  
PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707

This annual report prepared by: Brenda Von Rueden  
Hunter Education Administrative Assistant  
Telephone (608) 267-7509

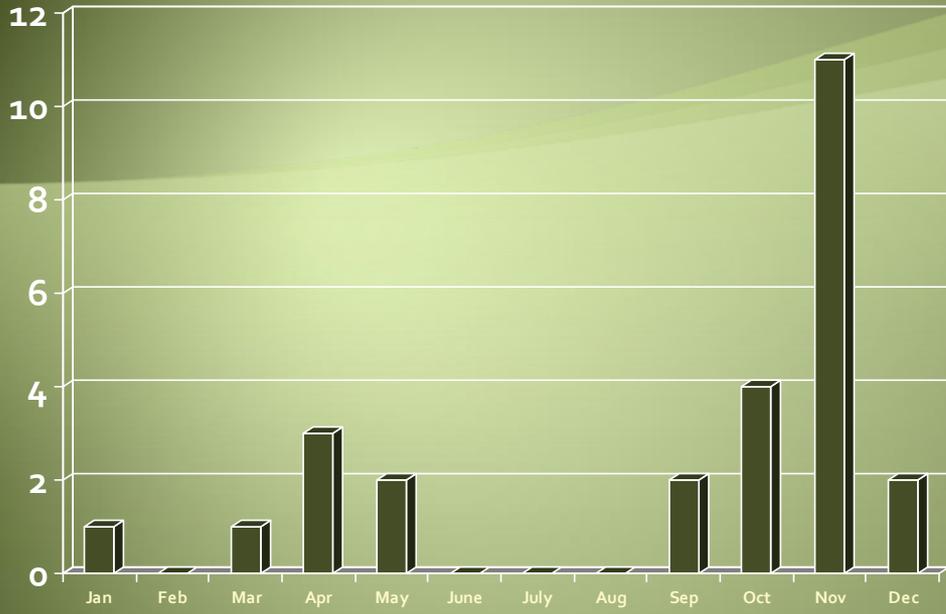
# History of Hunting Incidents & Fatalities



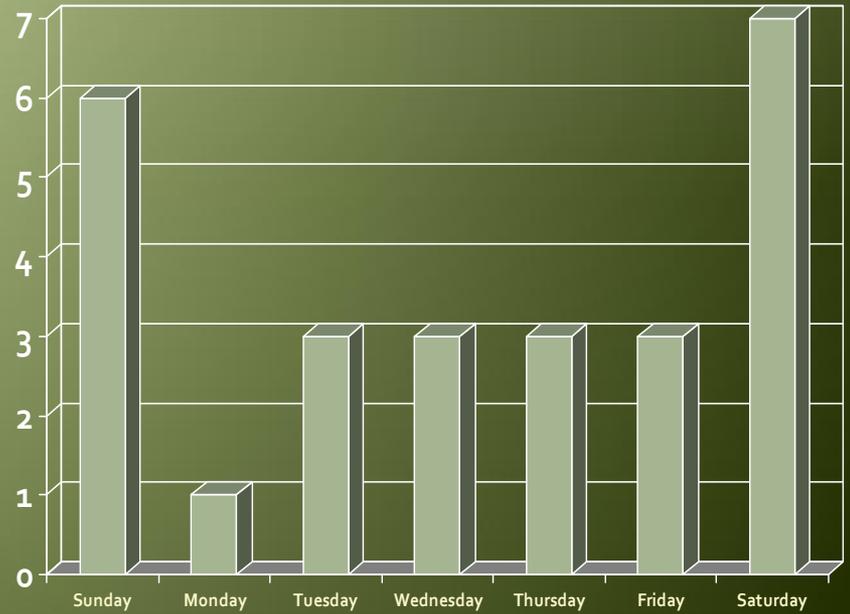
# Wisconsin Hunting Incident Rate Per 100,000 Hunters



# Month and Day of Week - All Incidents 2011

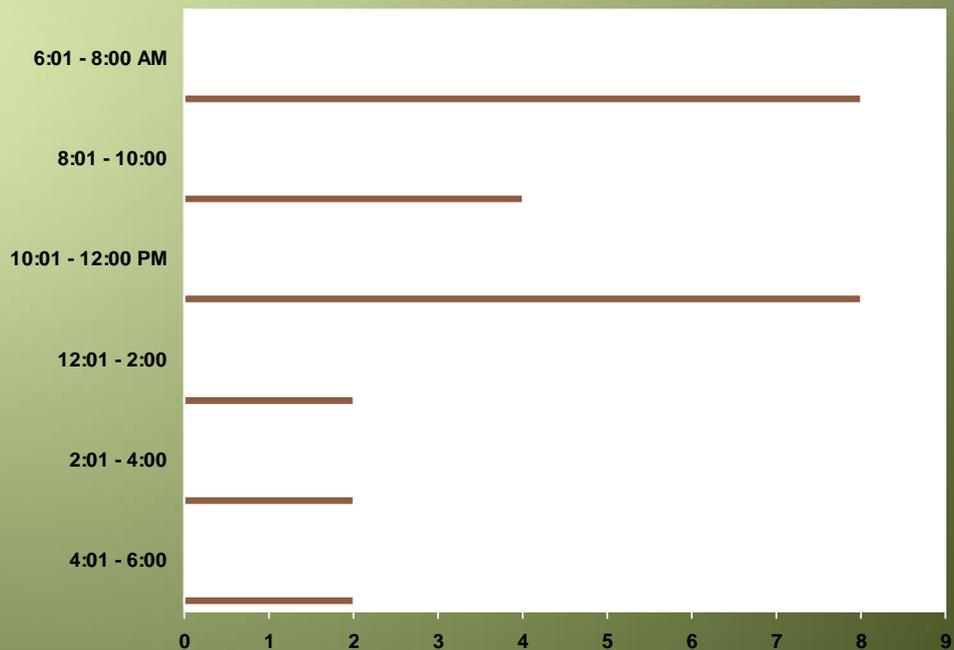


Month Incident Occurred - All Incidents 2011



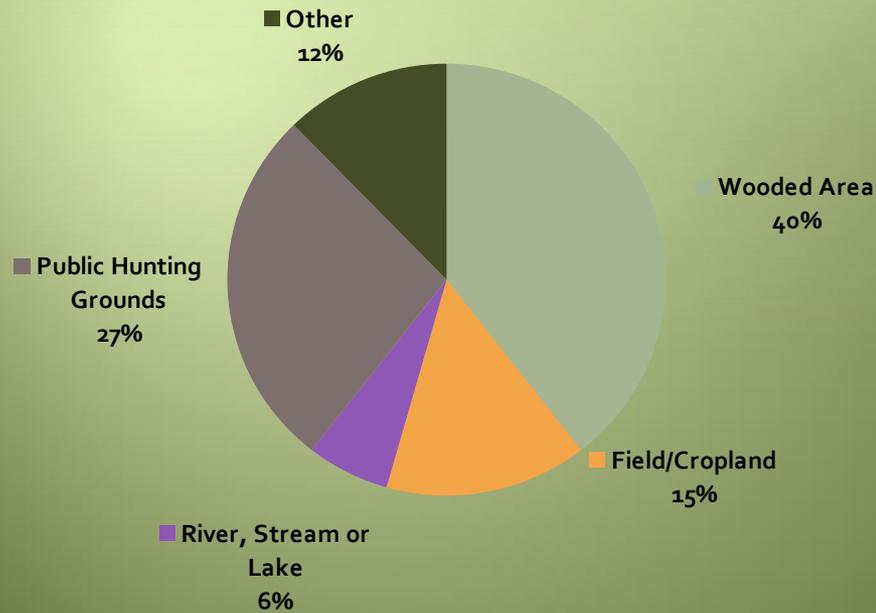
Day of Week - All Incidents 2011

# Time of Day - All Incidents 2011



# Where Incident Occurred – All Incidents 2011

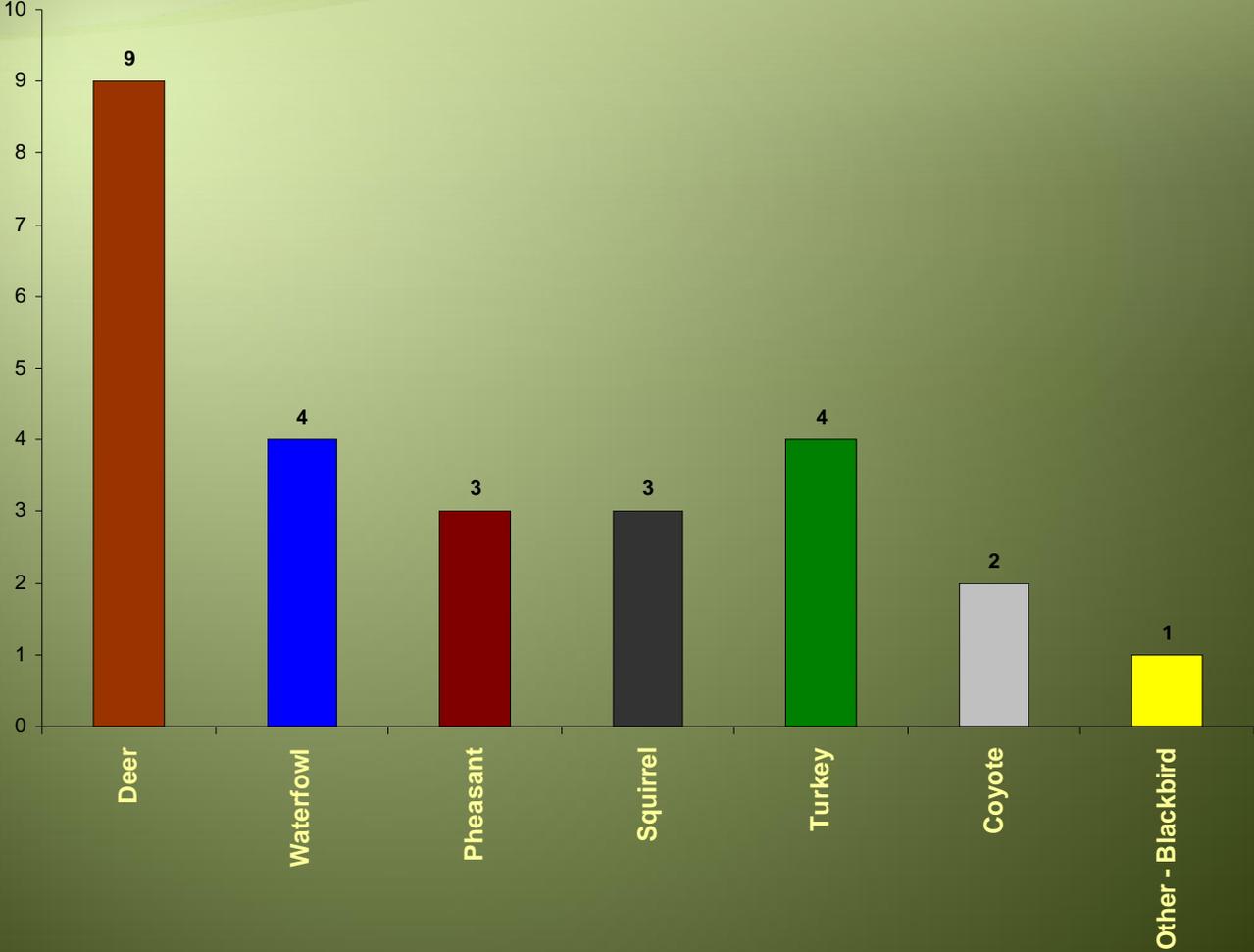
Type of Land



**Other Includes:**

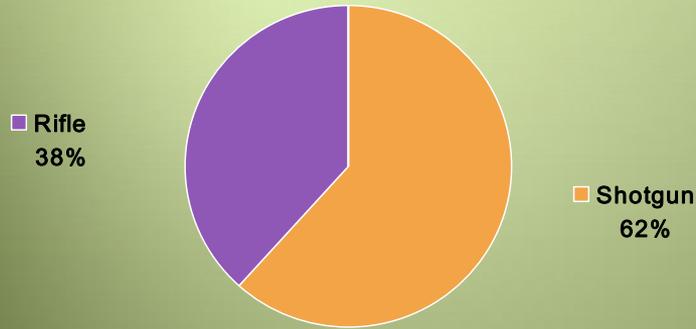
- Private Pond 1
- Private Property 1
- Wooded Swamp 2

# Animals Hunted by Shooter – All Incidents 2011

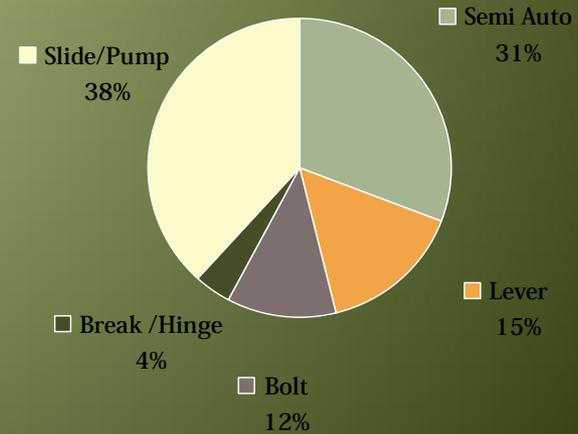


# Firearms Involved in Incidents - All Incidents 2011

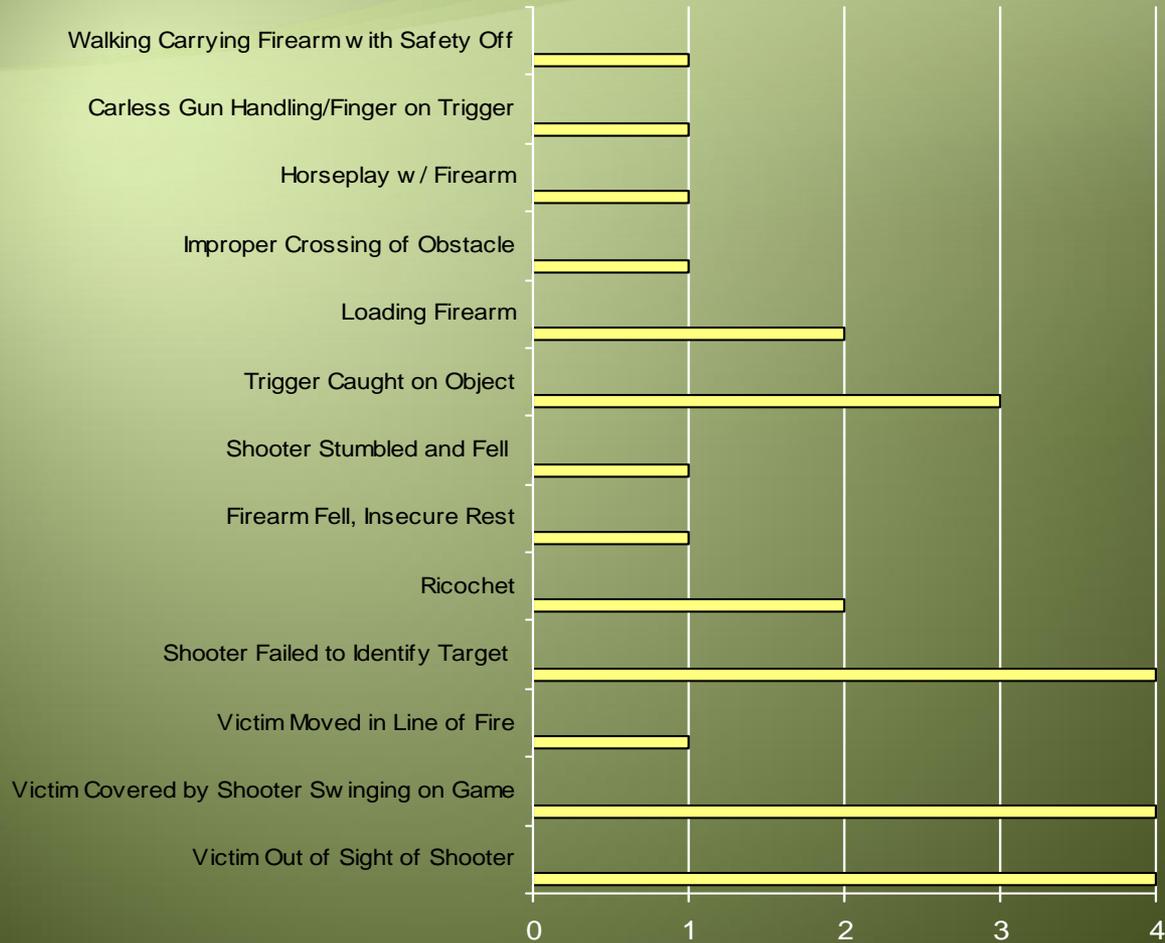
Type



Action

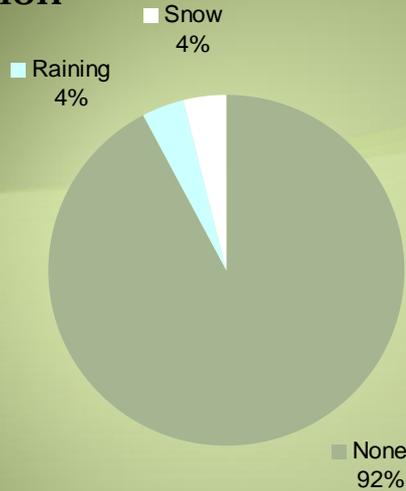


# Contributing Factors to Incidents - All Incidents 2011

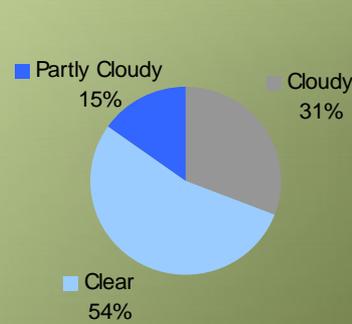


# Incident Conditions - All Incidents 2011

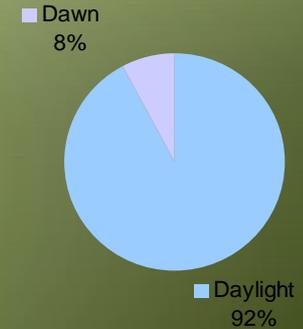
## Precipitation



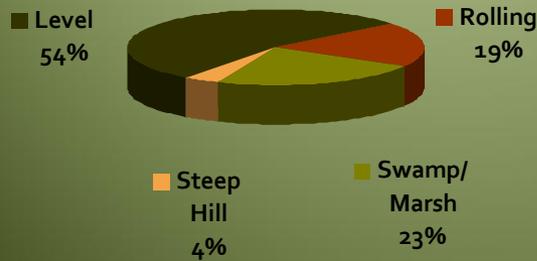
## Weather



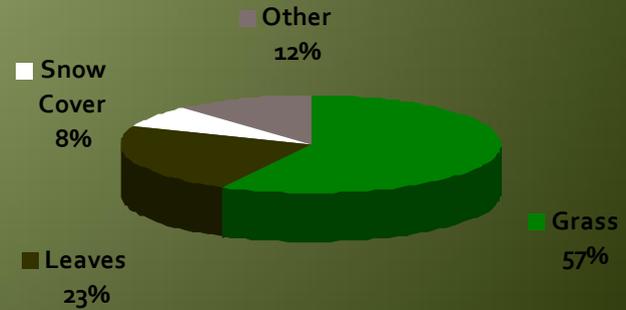
## Light Conditions



## Topography

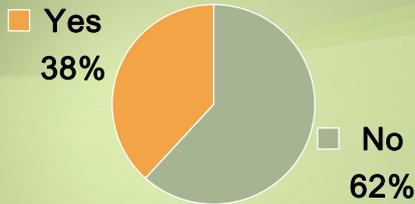


## Ground Cover



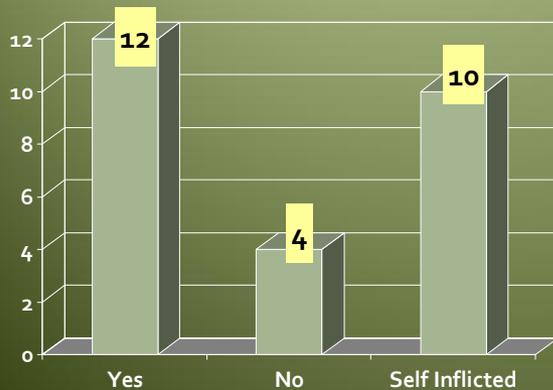
# Incident Statistics - All Incidents 2011

## Self Inflicted

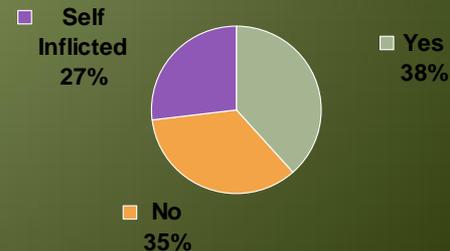


## Shooter/Victim Information Two-Party Incidents 2011

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

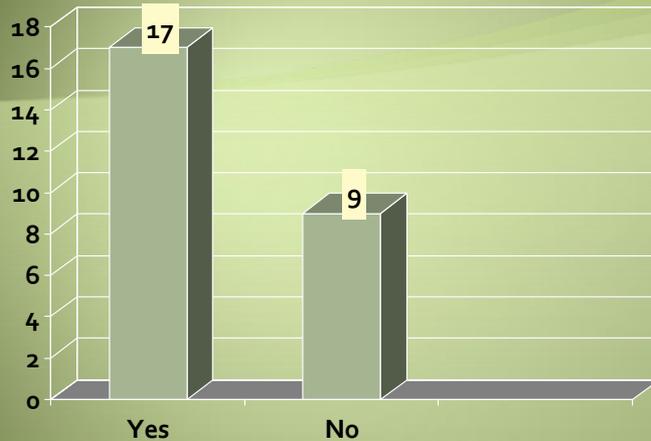


### Could Shooter See Victim? (includes self-inflicted injuries)

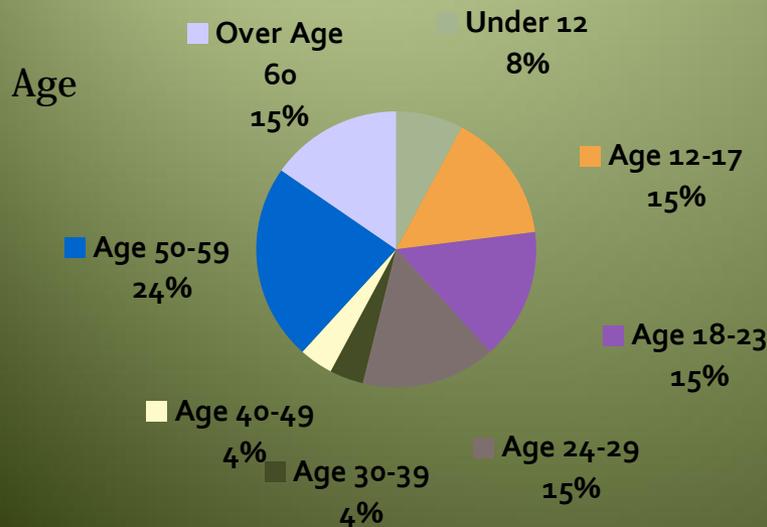
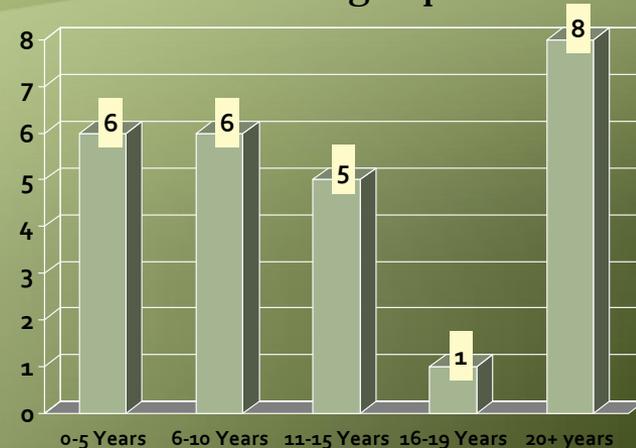


# Incident "Shooter" Statistics - All Incidents 2011

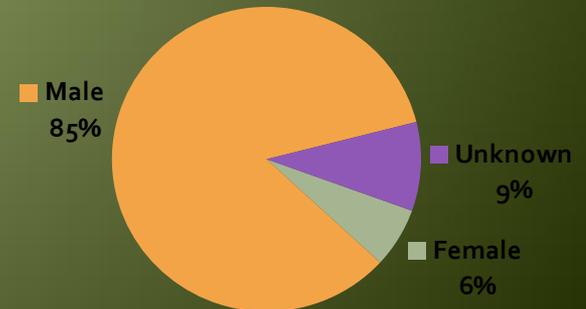
### Hunter Education Graduate?



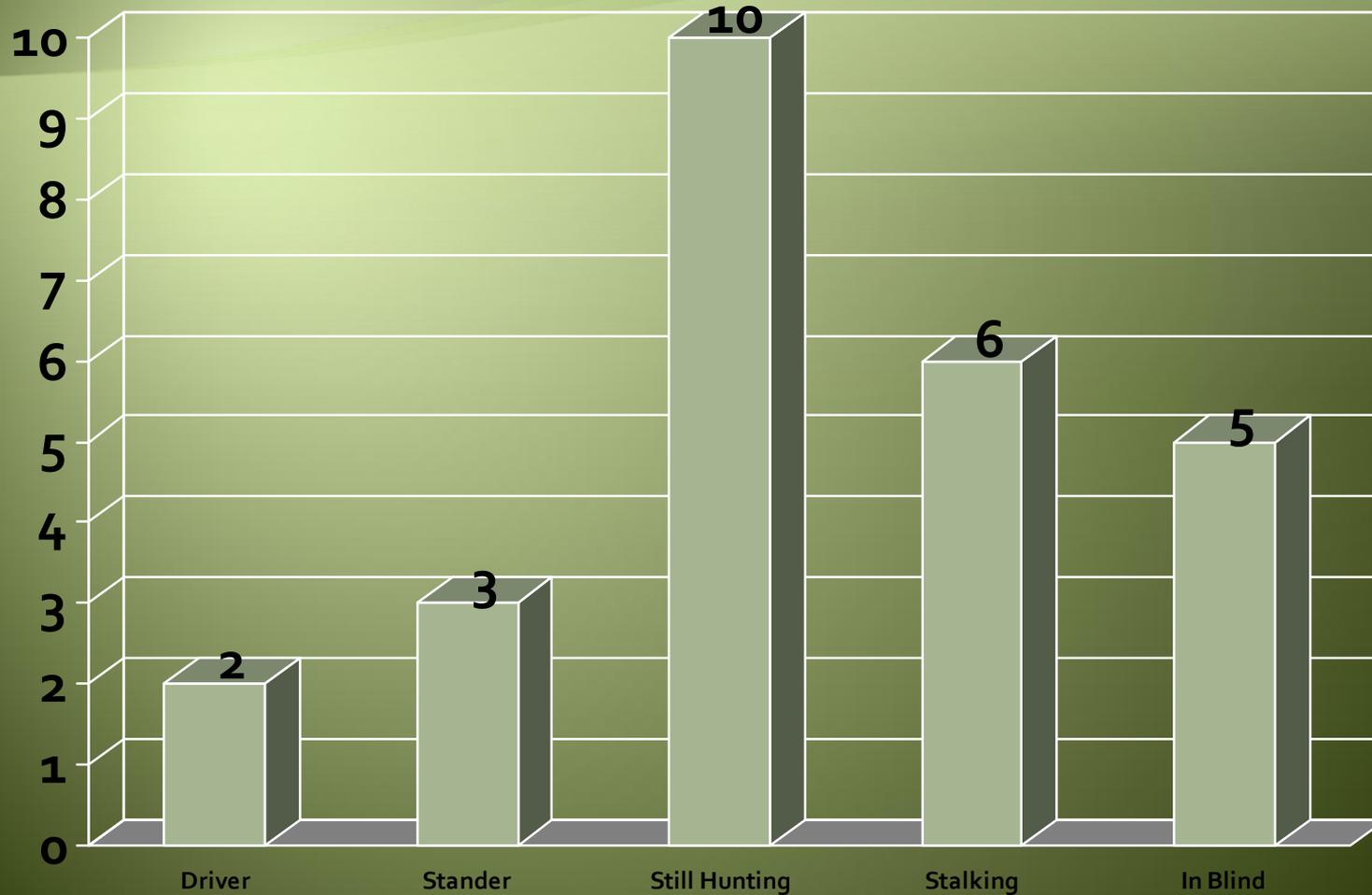
### Years Hunting Experience



### Gender

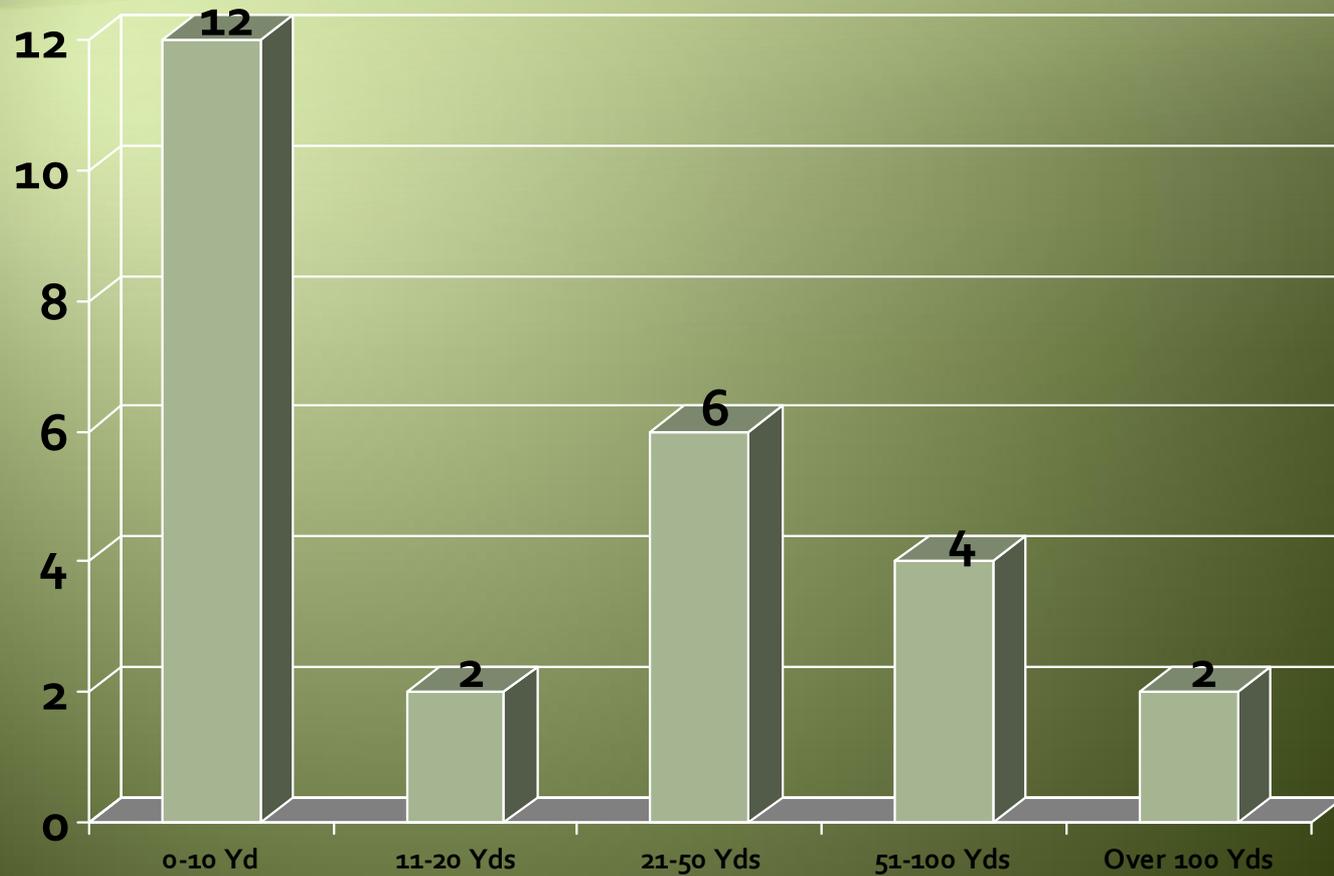


# Activity "Shooter" Was Involved In - All Incidents 2011



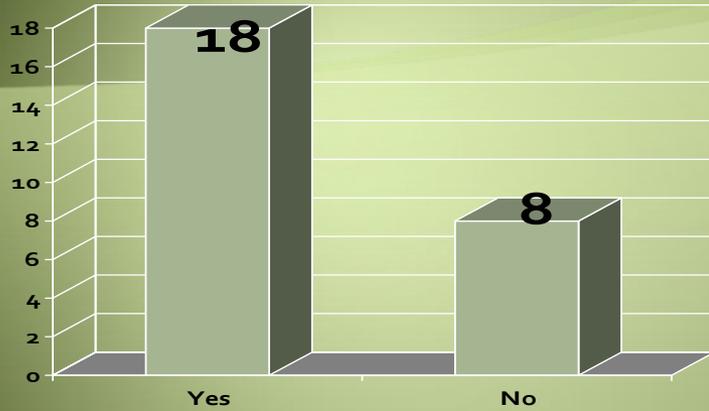
# Distance From Muzzle to Wound - All Incidents 2011

(Includes Self Inflicted)

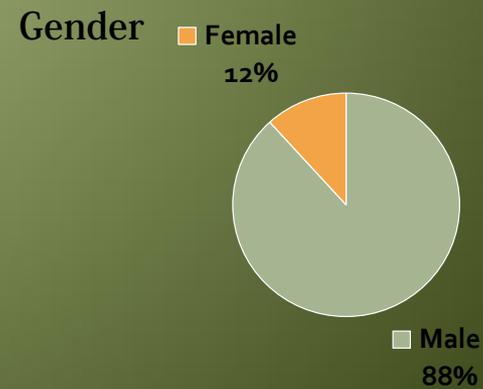
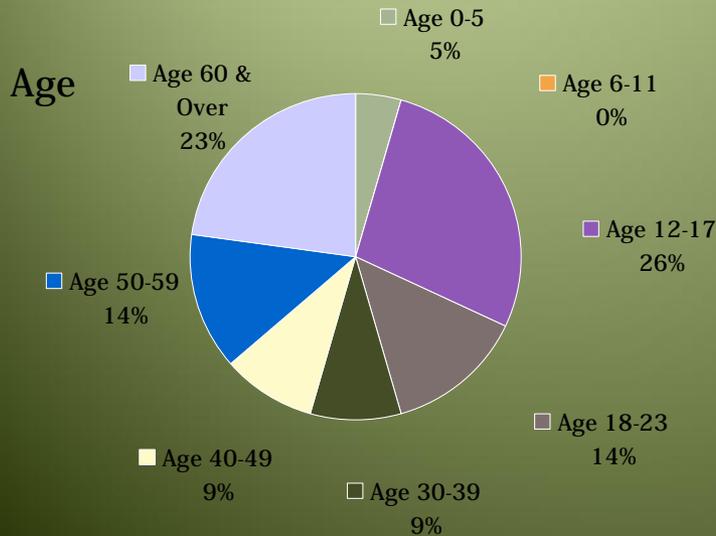
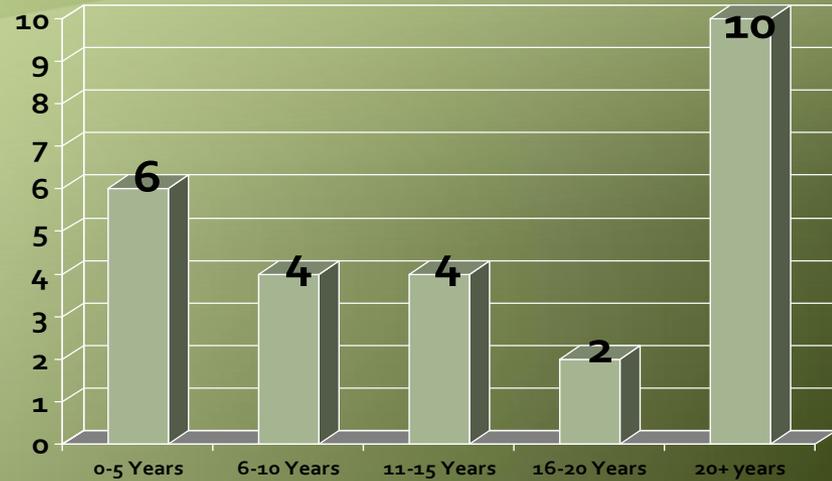


# Incident "Victim" Statistics - All Incidents 2011

## Hunter Education Graduate?

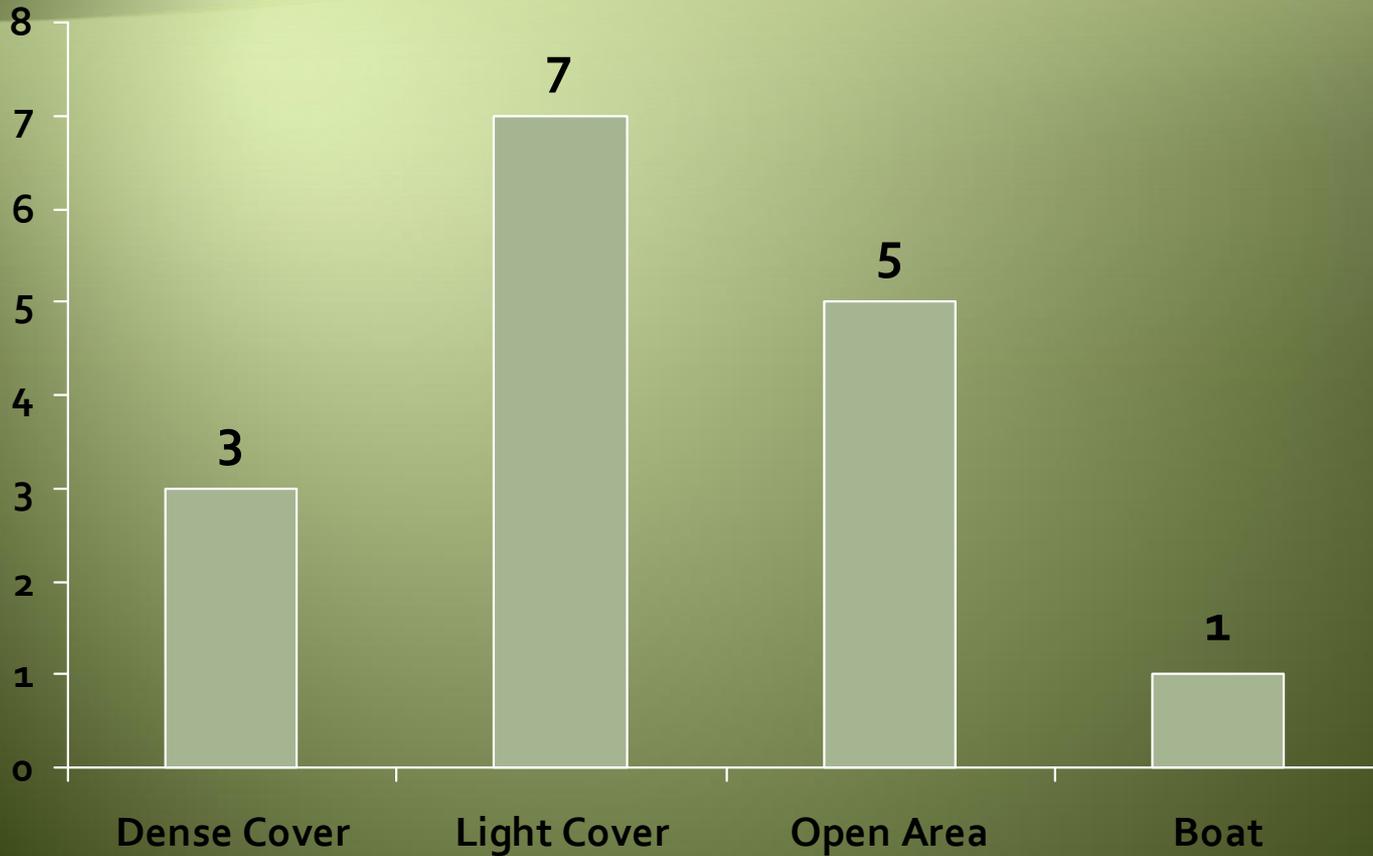


## Years Hunting Experience



# Incident “Victim” Surroundings

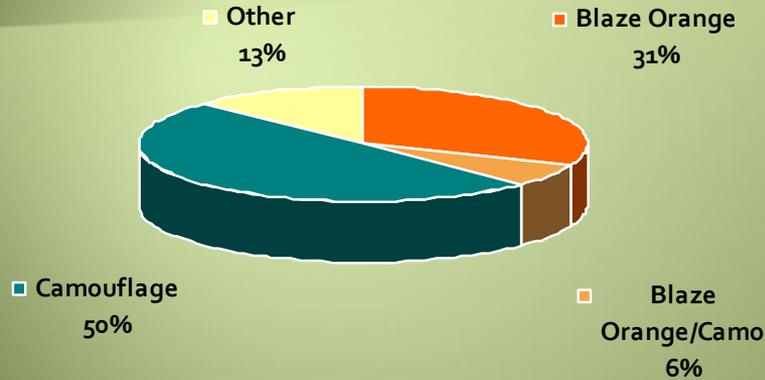
**Two-Party Incidents 2011** (Does not include Self Inflicted Incidents)



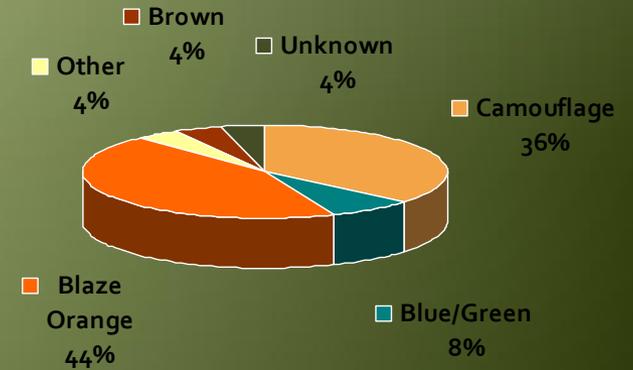
# Incident "Victim" Clothing Color

Two-Party Incidents Only 2011 (Does not include Self Inflicted Incidents)

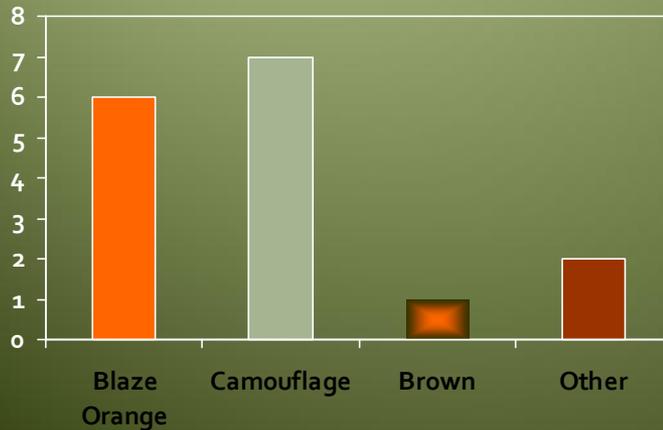
## Cap



## Trouser or Pants

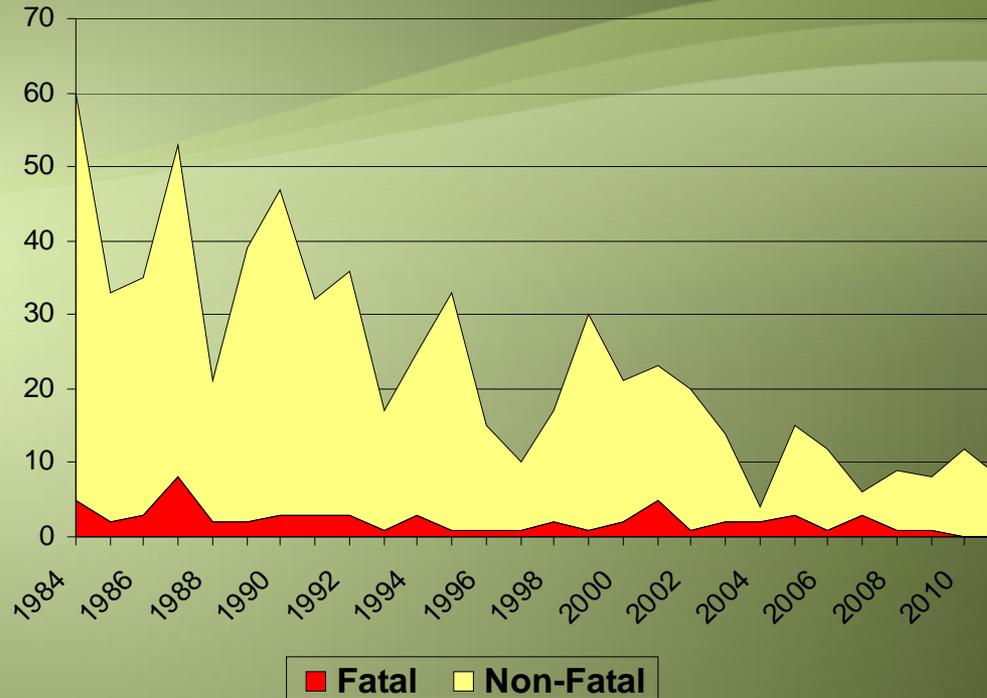


## Coat or Vest

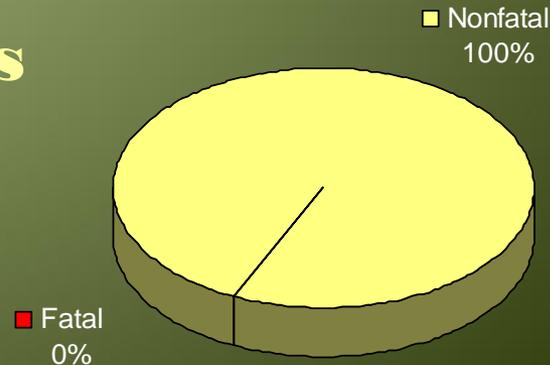




# History of Gun Deer Incidents



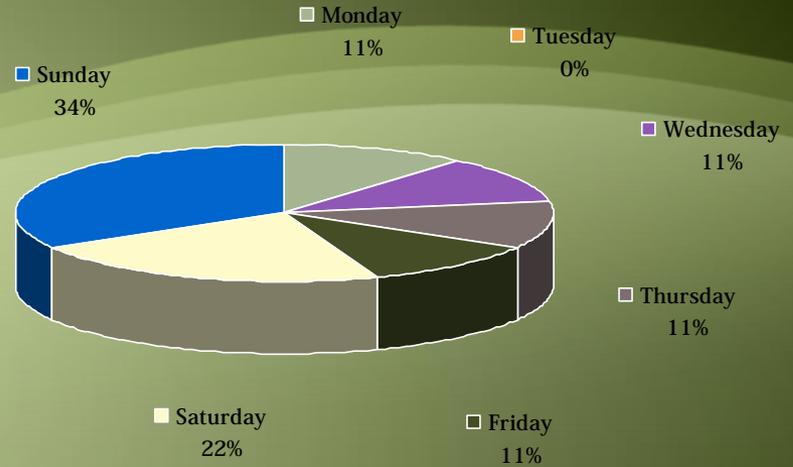
## 2011 Gun Deer Incidents





# Incidents by Day of Week

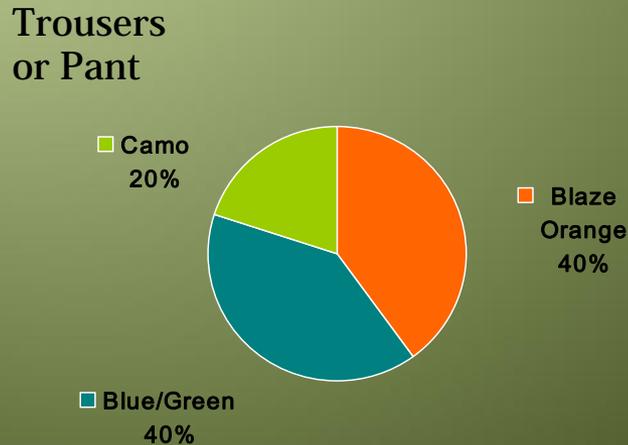
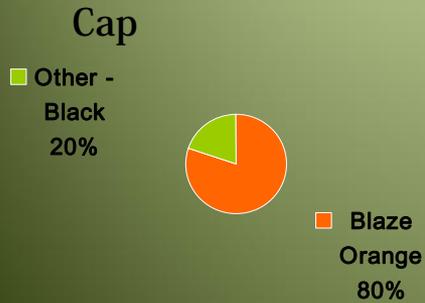
## Gun Deer Season - 2011



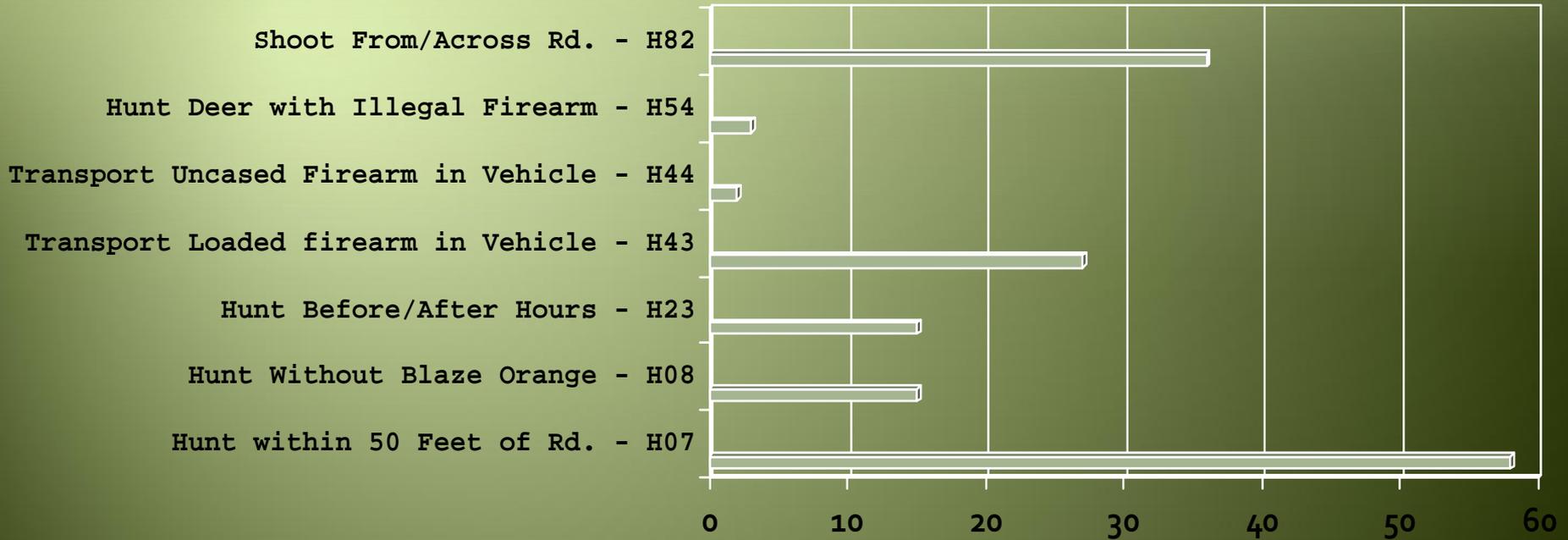
# Incident Victim Clothing Color

## Gun Deer Season - 2011 Two Party Incidents Only

(Does not include Self Inflicted Incidents)



# 2011 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**

