

Turkey Harvest Report

Fall 2007-2008

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODS

By the early 1900's the wild turkey was almost extirpated from Kansas due to unregulated harvest by subsistence hunters. Turkeys were virtually non-existent on the Kansas landscape until the early 1960's when a formal re-introduction program was initiated by the former Kansas Fish and Game Commission. The overwhelming success of those re-introduction and trap-transplant efforts increased the Kansas turkey population to levels adequate enough to justify the first spring turkey season in 1974. As the population continued to increase, the first modern fall turkey season was added in 1979. The first fall turkey season was open only to archery hunters and lasted just 16 days. During that first fall season, an estimated 37 birds were harvested. Since that first season, the turkey population has increased dramatically and the season structure and bag limit have followed suit. In 1981, the first fall firearms season was added and ran for 9 days immediately following the archery season. Over the last 25 years both of these seasons increased in length and in 2001 they were combined allowing either weapon to be used throughout the entire season. Over the last 5 year period, the season has averaged >90 days in length (Table 1) and 3 of 4 turkey hunt units have a fall season. Only unit 4 (southwest Kansas) was closed to fall hunting in 2007-2008 but unit boundaries were re-aligned prior to the season opening portions of 5 counties (Barton, Rush, Pawnee, Stafford, and Edwards) to fall hunting for the first time (Figure 1). Hunters were permitted to harvest 1 bird of either sex in Units 1, 2, & 3 and they could also purchase 3 either-sex game tags valid only in Unit 2. The number of permits and game tags issued for the fall 2007-2008 turkey season was 15,060 (includes 3,763 game tags) and for the first time in 12 years did not eclipse the record total from the previous year (Table 2).

In Kansas, the fall wild turkey harvest survey has been conducted annually since 1979. Following the 2007-2008 fall turkey season a random sample of 20% of the initial permit buyers was selected to receive the fall turkey harvest postcard. Hunters receiving the postcard were asked to complete an online questionnaire and provided with an ID allowing them to access the survey. After approximately 3 weeks those hunters that had not completed the survey were sent a follow-up postcard. The survey consisted of questions pertaining to hunting activity and success in Kansas during the fall 2007-2008 season (Figure 2). Results from the survey were used to develop statewide estimates of the number of hunters pursuing turkeys, harvest (by weapon and for land ownership type), weekly harvest distribution, cumulative weekly harvest, hunter success, and hunter satisfaction with turkey management and hunting in Kansas. Hunters were also asked to indicate their fall turkey hunting style (e.g. primary or secondary species of pursuit). Individuals that hunted on public property were also asked to provide their perception of the fall turkey hunting pressure on the specific property they hunted (i.e. light, moderate, or heavy). Hunter perceptions of pressure were summarized for each of the 6 Kansas turkey management regions (Figure 3) because few responses were received for individual properties. Many of the previously listed parameters were also summarized regionally and for resident and non-resident hunters. Estimates cannot be derived for all of the parameters dating back to the first

modern fall turkey season (1979). Several survey questions have been added and removed over the years so for some parameters the estimates are sporadic.

RESULTS

Statewide Estimates

A total of 1,985 postcards were deliverable and responses were received from 827 hunters for an adjusted response rate of 41.7%. An estimated 85.0% (95% CI = 82.4%-87.3%) of fall turkey permit buyers actively pursued turkeys during the 2007-2008 Kansas season. This percentage equates to 9,605 active turkey hunters during the past fall turkey season, which is similar to the previous 4 years (Table 3). Of the active hunters that responded to the survey, a high percentage (31.9%, 95% CI = 28.7%-35.3%) indicated that they only hunted turkeys “opportunistically” while pursuing other game.

The percentage of hunters that harvested at least 1 turkey during the fall 2007-2008 season was 42% (Table 4). That level of success was the lowest reported in several years and was most likely due to few juvenile birds in the eastern part of the state as a result of poor production in 2007. During the 2007-2008 season an estimated 4,716 turkeys (671 archery and 4,045 firearm) were harvested which was the lowest harvest since 2003. Only 36% of the 2007-2008 fall harvest was composed of females (Table 4). The distribution of the fall 2007-2008 turkey harvest indicated that weekly harvest was fairly consistent throughout the season with a slight spike just prior to the firearms deer season (Figure 4). The number of Kansas fall turkey hunters and their harvest has slightly declined over the last 4-5 year period (Figure 5).

The percent of active fall turkey hunters that purchased the first game tag remained near the 50th percentile for the 2007-2008 season (Table 5). The percentages of active hunters that purchased the 2nd and 3rd game tags were substantially lower at 18.3% and 7.1%, respectively. The percent of active fall turkey hunters that filled even 1 game tag was 13.1% and it has been consistently <20% over the last 4 years (Table 6). Only 2.4% of active fall turkey hunters filled their initial permit and all 3 game tags during the fall 2007-2008 season. Correspondingly, the initial permit accounted for 85.1% of the statewide harvest and 80.8% of the harvest in an area that approximates hunt unit 2 (Table 7). In hunt unit 2, where all 3 game tags are valid, the combined harvest taken with game tags 2 and 3 accounted for only 6.4% of the total harvest during the fall 2007-2008 season.

Many of the respondents indicated that they hunted on multiple land types but the vast majority (95.5%) utilized private land at some point during the fall 2007-2008 season (Table 8). Likewise, the bulk of the fall harvest (87.4%) was taken from private land (Table 9). However, there were a substantial number of hunters that pursued turkeys on walk-in-hunting areas (WIHA; 1,323) and publicly owned lands (1,815) during the fall 2007-2008 season (Table 8). Harvest from WIHA (108) and publicly owned land (594) accounted for 2.3% and 12.6% of the total fall harvest, respectively. The majority of respondents perceived fall turkey hunting pressure to be light (59.6%) or moderate

(36.0%) on the publicly owned properties where they hunted (Figure 6). Only 4.4% of responding hunters that utilized public land during the fall 2007-2008 season felt hunting pressure was heavy on those properties.

Hunter satisfaction with turkey management in Kansas and fall turkey hunting remained high following the 2007-2008 season. For the first time in 4 years the percentage of respondents indicating that they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with turkey hunting in Kansas dropped below 85% (84.2%; Figure 7). The percentage of respondents that were satisfied with turkey management in Kansas was lower but >75% still indicated that they were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'. Fall turkey hunter satisfaction with both hunting and management has declined slightly over the last 4 years. This is most likely due to recent declines in turkey numbers in the eastern half of the state where most Kansas turkey hunting occurs.

Regional Estimates

The greatest number of active hunters pursued turkeys in the northeast (2,360) region during the fall 2007-2008 turkey season (Table 10). The number of hunters in the southeast region was down >20% most likely due to fewer birds than previous years. The fewest number of hunters pursued turkeys in the southwest (532) management region, which is no surprise given that a substantial portion of that region was closed to fall turkey hunting. Harvest was greatest in the northeast and northcentral management regions where an estimated 1,154 and 1,237 birds were harvested, respectively. Fall harvest was down substantially from the previous year in the northeast (27%), southeast (51%), and southcentral (31%) regions as a result of recent population declines due to poor productivity the last few years. Harvest in the northwest (586) and southwest (150) management regions was substantially less than the other regions but has remained fairly constant in recent years. The percentage of active hunters harvesting at least 1 bird was 42% on a statewide scale but varied greatly across all 6 management regions. The estimated hunt success was highest in the northwest region (59.7%) during the 2007-2008 season. Hunt success declined by >25% from the previous year in the southcentral (38.2%), southeast (30.2%), and northeast management region (41.0%). These declines are due to poor poult production that occurred across most of those regions as a result of the heavy rain and flooding that occurred in June 2007.

A relatively small number of hunters (<350 in each region) pursued turkeys on WIHA tracts during the fall 2007-2008 season (Table 8). However, in the northwest management region >20% of all fall hunters indicated that they pursued turkeys on WIHA at some point during the season. Use of publicly owned lands was only slightly greater than use of WIHA during the fall 2007-2008 season. Use of publicly owned lands was highest in the northeast and southcentral regions where those properties were utilized by 532 and 491 hunters, respectively. In those regions >20% of all fall hunters pursued turkeys on publicly owned land at some point during the season. Publicly owned lands in the northcentral and southeast regions also received substantial use and >350 hunters utilized these properties in each region. Within each of the 6

management regions, most public land hunters indicated that hunting pressure during the fall season was either light or moderate on the properties they hunted (Figure 6). The overwhelming majority (>90%) of fall turkey hunters in every region reported hunting on private land at some point during the fall 2007-2008 season.

Hunter satisfaction with turkey management and fall hunting remained high ($\geq 70\%$) in each of the 6 management regions following the 2007-2008 fall season (Figure 8). Hunter satisfaction with management and hunting has remained fairly consistent over the last 4 years in the northcentral and northeast management regions. Hunter satisfaction has been on the decline in all the other regions but still remains near or above 70% for both management and hunting. Some of the declines in satisfaction are likely due to the recent declines in turkey abundance in several management regions.

Table 1. Fall wild turkey hunting seasons in Kansas, 1979-2007(8).

Season	Fall Archery	Fall Firearms	Universal Fall
1979	Oct. 6-21 (16) ^a	No Season	
1980	Oct. 1-31, Oct. 1-19 (31, 19) ^b	No Season	
1981	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Oct. 31-Nov. 8 (9)	
1982	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Oct. 30-Nov. 7 (9)	
1983	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Oct. 29-Nov. 6 (9)	
1984	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Oct. 27-Nov. 4 (9)	
1985	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Nov. 2-10 (9)	
1986	Oct. 1-31 (31)	Oct. 11-19 (9)	
1987	Oct. 1-Nov. 15 (46)	Oct. 17-25 (9)	
1988	Oct. 1-Nov. 15 (46)	Oct. 15-23 (9)	
1989	Oct. 1-Nov. 28 (59)	Oct. 11-22 (12)	
1990	Oct. 1-Nov. 27, Dec. 10-31 (80)	Oct. 10-21 (12)	
1991	Oct. 1-Dec. 3, Dec. 16-31 (80)	Oct. 9-20 (12)	
1992	Oct. 1-Dec. 1, Dec. 14-31 (80)	Oct. 14-25 (12)	
1993	Oct. 1-Nov. 30, Dec. 13-31 (80)	Oct. 13-24 (12)	
1994	Oct. 1-Nov. 29, Dec. 12-31 (80)	Oct. 12-23 (12)	
1995	Oct. 1-Nov. 28, Dec. 11-31 (80)	Oct. 11-22 (12)	
1996	Oct. 1-Dec. 3, Dec. 16-31 (80)	Oct. 9-20 (12)	
1997	Oct. 1-Dec. 2, Dec. 15-31 (80)	Oct. 8-19 (12)	
1998	Oct. 1-Dec. 1, Dec. 14-31 (80)	Oct. 7-18 (12)	
1999	Oct. 1-Nov. 30, Dec. 13-31 (79)	Oct. 6-17 (12)	
2000	Oct. 2-Nov. 28, Dec. 11-31 (78)	Oct. 11-22 (12)	
2001		Oct. 1-Nov.27, Dec. 10-31 (80)	
2002		Oct. 1-Dec. 3, Dec. 16-31 (80)	
2003		Oct. 1-Dec. 2, Dec. 15-31 (80)	
2004	Combined into one season	Oct. 1-Nov. 30, Dec. 13-31 (80)	
2005-06		Oct. 1-Nov. 29, Dec. 12-31, Jan. 9-31 (103)	
2006-07		Oct. 1-Nov. 28, Dec. 11-31, Jan. 8-31 (104)	
2007-08		Oct. 1-Nov. 27, Dec. 10-31, Jan. 7-31 (105)	

Separate Archery and Firearm Seasons

^a Value in parentheses was the number of days open to hunting during the season.

^b In 1980 there were separate fall archery seasons in eastern and western Kansas. The eastern Kansas season was open 12 days longer than the western season.

Table 2. Kansas fall turkey permit sales and generated revenue, 1979-2007(8).

Season	Resident ^a	Non-Resident ^b	LO/T ^c	Game Tags ^d	Total Permits	Total Revenue ^e
1979	207	0	40	NT ^f	247	\$4,540
1980	265	0	NT	NT	265	\$4,940
1981	516	0	NT	NT	516	\$10,320
1982	668	0	NT	NT	668	\$13,360
1983	1,280	0	NT	NT	1,280	\$25,600
1984	1,221	0	NT	NT	1,221	\$24,420
1985	1,396	0	NT	NT	1,396	\$27,920
1986	1,642	0	NT	NT	1,642	\$33,661
1987	1,306	7	603	NT	1,916	\$33,318
1988	1,382	11	655	NT	2,048	\$35,295
1989	1,576	11	814	NT	2,401	\$41,185
1990	1,820	11	378	NT	2,209	\$41,614
1991	1,719	29	638	NT	2,386	\$42,823
1992	2,087	25	1,019	NT	3,131	\$54,245
1993	2,057	30	1,150	NT	3,237	\$55,238
1994	2,734	52	1,783	NT	4,569	\$76,474
1995	2,339	81	1,538	NT	3,958	\$58,519
1996	2,505	133	1,543	NT	4,181	\$71,930
1997	2,516	162	1,566	NT	4,244	\$73,675
1998	2,924	200	1,710	NT	4,834	\$84,570
1999	3,383	246	1,864	NT	5,493	\$96,895
2000	4,001	386	2,056	NT	6,443	\$115,875
2001	5,821	591	2,236	1,916	10,564	\$176,510
2002	6,797	817	2,601	4,127	14,342	\$228,490
2003	6,723	1,094	2,672	3,977	14,466	\$234,612
2004	7,122	1,350	2,839	3,865 (569) ^g	15,176	\$256,418
2005-2006	7,204	1,778	2,435	4,607 (741)	16,024	\$275,250
2006-2007	7,215	1,959	2,523	4,530 (819)	16,227	\$281,790
2007-2008	6,842	2,105	2,350	3,769 (694)	15,066	\$268,120

^a Includes resident archery, firearm, and the universal fall permit that is currently issued.

^b Includes non-resident archery, firearm, and the universal non-resident permit that is currently issued.

^c Includes landowner/tenant (LO/T) archery, LO/T firearms, hunt-own-land permits, non-resident landowner, and the universal LO/T permit currently being issued.

^d A universal game tag was issued from 2001-2003 regardless of the hunter's state of residency. The total includes both resident and non-resident game tags.

^e Does not include the cost of a small game license which is required to hunt turkeys in Kansas.

^f NT = No tag issued.

^g The value in parentheses was the number of game tags issued to non-residents.

Table 3. Statewide estimates of active hunters, weapon-specific harvest, and total harvest during Kansas' fall wild turkey seasons, 1979-2007(08). When available a 95% confidence interval is presented for each point estimate.

Season	Active Hunters ^a	95% C.I.	Archery Harvest	95% C.I.	Firearm Harvest	95% C.I.	Total Harvest	95% C.I.
1979	287	NE ^b	37	NE	NS ^c	NE	37	NE
1980	265	NE	35	NE	NS	NE	35	NE
1981	516	NE	48	NE	141	NE	189	NE
1982	668	NE	66	NE	228	NE	294	NE
1983	1,280	NE	42	NE	482	NE	524	NE
1984	1,221	NE	30	NE	391	NE	421	NE
1985	1,396	NE	64	NE	390	NE	454	NE
1986	1,642	NE	83	NE	527	NE	610	NE
1987	1,916	NE	119	NE	603	NE	722	NE
1988	2,048	NE	106	NE	708	NE	814	NE
1989	2,401	NE	125	NE	609	NE	734	NE
1990	2,209	NE	160	NE	581	NE	741	NE
1991	2,386	NE	193	NE	677	NE	870	NE
1992	3,131	NE	219	NE	919	NE	1,138	NE
1993	3,237	NE	216	NE	840	NE	1,056	NE
1994	4,569	NE	241	NE	1,550	NE	1,791	NE
1995	3,958	NE	199	NE	934	NE	1,133	NE
1996	4,181	NE	61	NE	958	NE	1,019	NE
1997	4,244	NE	162	NE	1,593	NE	1,755	NE
1998	4,834	NE	215	NE	2,019	NE	2,234	NE
1999	5,493	NE	301	NE	2,236	NE	2,537	NE
2000	6,443	NE	340	NE	2,695	NE	3,035	NE
2001	8,648	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	4,441	NE
2002	10,215	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	5,468	NE
2003	10,489	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE	4,199	NE
2004	10,031	(9,695 - 10,293)	427	(288 - 625)	4,881	(4,683 - 5,020)	5,308	(4,612 - 6,004)
2005-06	10,182	(9,880 - 10,431)	613	(457 - 815)	5,623	(5,421 - 5,779)	6,236	(5,583 - 6,889)
2006-07	9,683	(9,384 - 9,950)	770	(624 - 946)	5,342	(5,167 - 5,489)	6,112	(5,586 - 6,639)
2007-08	9,605	(9,312 - 9,861)	671	(531 - 840)	4,045	(3,876 - 4,185)	4,716	(4,213 - 5,219)

^a Prior to 2004 the number presented was the initial permit buyers whether or not they hunted.

^b NE = no estimate.

^c NS = no season.

Table 4. Percentage of the Kansas fall turkey harvest composed of females and estimates of hunt success, 1979-2007(08).

Season	Female Harvest (% of total)	Success (%) ^a		
		Archery	Firearms	Overall
1979	NE ^b	18%	NS ^c	18%
1980	NE	16%	NS	16%
1981	NE	23%	56%	NE
1982	NE	30%	66%	NE
1983	NE	23%	59%	NE
1984	NE	18%	48%	NE
1985	NE	19%	53%	NE
1986	NE	21%	56%	NE
1987	NE	23%	58%	NE
1988	NE	23%	58%	NE
1989	NE	17%	55%	NE
1990	NE	24%	45%	NE
1991	NE	24%	57%	NE
1992	NE	25%	49%	NE
1993	NE	22%	49%	NE
1994	NE	22%	56%	NE
1995	NE	20%	43%	NE
1996	NE	26%	54%	NE
1997	43%	16%	49%	NE
1998	40%	20%	55%	NE
1999	43%	20%	56%	NE
2000	35%	20%	56%	NE
2001	NE	NE	NE	NE
2002	18%	NE	NE	56%
2003	17%	NE	NE	44%
2004	37%	NE	NE	45%
2005-06	33%	NE	NE	52%
2006-07	33%	NE	NE	53%
2007-08	36%	NE	NE	42%

^a The percentage of active hunters harvesting at least 1 bird.

^b NE = no estimate.

^c NS = no season.

Table 5. Percent of active statewide resident and non-resident fall turkey hunters purchasing 1 game tag, 2 game tags, and 3 game tags, 2004-2007(8). Only those hunters that pursued turkeys with the initial permit were considered active.

Season	Resident			Non-resident			All Active Hunters		
	GT1	GT2	GT3	GT1	GT2	GT3	GT1	GT2	GT3
2004	58.1%	15.2%	6.9%	56.8%	16.9%	11.9%	57.7%	15.7%	8.3%
2005-2006	52.0%	19.0%	6.4%	51.0%	24.0%	9.0%	51.8%	19.9%	6.9%
2006-2007	46.4%	22.9%	8.0%	55.1%	24.7%	9.5%	48.2%	24.3%	8.3%
2007-2008	53.2%	17.4%	7.1%	60.0%	21.2%	7.3%	54.8%	18.3%	7.1%

Table 6. Statewide percentage of active Kansas wild turkey hunters that filled their initial permit and 1 game tag (GT), 2 game tags, and 3 game tags, 2004-2007(8). Only those hunters that pursued turkeys with the initial permit were considered active.

Season	Initial permit & 1GT	Initial permit & 2GT	Initial permit & 3GT
2004	13.8%	6.2%	3.1%
2005-2006	14.9%	4.2%	2.6%
2006-2007	17.1%	5.6%	2.8%
2007-2008	13.1%	5.5%	2.4%

Table 7. Statewide tag-specific harvest estimates for the fall wild turkey season in Kansas, 2004-2007(8). Estimates are also presented for the 3 management regions that approximate hunt unit 2, which is the only unit where all 4 tags were valid.

Season	Statewide				Approximate Hunt Unit 2 (SE, NE, & SC Mgt. Regions)			
	Initial Permit	Game Tag 1	Game Tag 2	Game Tag 3	Initial Permit	Game Tag 1	Game Tag 2	Game Tag 3
2004	4,527 (85.3%) ^a	467 (8.8%)	209 (3.9%)	104 (2.0%)	3,286 (83.3%)	401 (10.2%)	176 (4.5%)	83 (2.1%)
2005-2006	5,296 (85.0%)	635 (10.2%)	180 (2.9%)	123 (2.0%)	3,363 (82.3%)	478 (11.7%)	157 (3.8%)	86 (2.1%)
2006-2007	5,166 (84.5%)	659 (10.8%)	155 (2.5%)	131 (2.1%)	3,564 (81.7%)	563 (12.9%)	126 (2.9%)	109 (2.5%)
2007-2008	4,011 (85.1%)	463 (9.8%)	125 (2.7%)	115 (2.4%)	2,277 (80.8%)	351 (12.5%)	99 (3.5%)	87 (3.1%)

^a Values in parentheses are the percentages of the total annual harvest taken with each type of tag.

Table 8. Statewide and regional estimates of active hunters that used walk-in-hunting areas (WIHA), public land, and private land during Kansas' fall wild turkey seasons, 2004-2007(8). Active hunters were estimated from the proportion of respondents that indicated they hunted on each land type. Many individuals reported hunting on multiple land types.

Region-Year	WIHA		Public Land		Private Land	
	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.
Northcentral						
2004	191	(99-346)	143	(67-289)	1,406	(1,281-1,452)
2005-2006	358	(238-521)	233	(138-378)	1,825	(1,690-1,905)
2006-2007	388	(280-524)	438	(324-578)	1,727	(1,610-1,807)
2007-2008	327	(225-464)	355	(248-494)	1,883	(1,784-1,936)
Northeast						
2004	500	(335-725)	524	(355-751)	2,764	(2,582-2,871)
2005-2006	394	(265-569)	501	(355-689)	2,326	(2,155-2,448)
2006-2007	350	(247-488)	726	(579-893)	2,302	(2,170-2,397)
2007-2008	205	(126-326)	532	(400-693)	2,252	(2,135-2,324)
Northwest						
2004	191	(103-307)	48	(13-149)	501	(389-558)
2005-2006	90	(39-191)	36	(10-120)	877	(801-892)
2006-2007	175	(109-262)	75	(35-150)	625	(561-650)
2007-2008	286	(196-398)	109	(56-201)	900	(815-944)
Southcentral						
2004	191	(99-347)	167	(82-318)	1,430	(1,305-1,476)
2005-2006	250	(152-400)	438	(323-582)	1,986	(1,854-2,061)
2006-2007	250	(165-372)	438	(323-582)	2,039	(1,921-2,119)
2007-2008	232	(147-357)	491	(365-645)	1,978	(1,866-2,047)
Southeast						
2004	286	(166-478)	715	(516-961)	2,835	(2,647-2,949)
2005-2006	250	(152-400)	322	(209-482)	1,951	(1,825-2,015)
2006-2007	200	(125-314)	400	(290-541)	2,052	(1,933-2,132)
2007-2008	218	(137-338)	314	(214-446)	1,705	(1,611-1,754)
Southwest						
2004	24	(4-113)	NE	NA	465	(405-465)
2005-2006	NE ^a	NA ^b	18	(3-88)	465	(405-465)
2006-2007	NE	NA	13	(2-60)	263	(215-273)
2007-2008	68	(30-142)	41	(14-108)	532	(484-532)
Statewide						
2004	1,382	(1,083-1,749)	1,596	(1,275-1,982)	9,650	(9,276-9,956)
2005-2006	1,396	(1,131-1,712)	1,378	(1,115-1,693)	9,735	(9,397-10,025)
2006-2007	1,326	(1,107-1,583)	1,989	(1,723-2,286)	9,095	(8,770-9,393)
2007-2008	1,323	(1,096-1,591)	1,815	(1,550-2,115)	9,169	(8,852-9,453)

^a NE = no estimate; no respondents reported hunting on that specific land type within the listed region.

^b NA = not applicable.

Table 9. Statewide and regional estimates of harvest on walk-in-hunting areas (WIHA), public land, and private land during Kansas' fall wild turkey seasons, 2004-2007(8).

Region-Year	WIHA		Public Land		Private Land	
	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.
Northcentral						
2004	18	(3-93)	54	(19-144)	668	(573-712)
2005-2006	87	(40-181)	87	(40-181)	1,222	(1,109-1,295)
2006-2007	74	(36-146)	168	(106-259)	978	(879-1,055)
2007-2008	11	(2-60)	165	(102-257)	979	(885-1,044)
Northeast						
2004	115	(54-234)	134	(66-258)	1,055	(913-1,154)
2005-2006	30	(8-105)	315	(212-452)	1,276	(1,136-1,384)
2006-2007	65	(32-130)	222	(152-317)	1,412	(1,309-1,493)
2007-2008	20	(5-69)	187	(122-277)	1,031	(939-1,099)
Northwest						
2004	95	(39-189)	NE ^a	NA ^b	286	(193-342)
2005-2006	18	(3-90)	NE	NA	537	(465-552)
2006-2007	13	(2-62)	NE	NA	325	(276-336)
2007-2008	27	(8-91)	14	(2-71)	546	(478-573)
Southcentral						
2004	17	(3-91)	52	(18-141)	847	(752-889)
2005-2006	43	(15-120)	100	(49-195)	1,048	(944-1,112)
2006-2007	40	(16-99)	100	(55-177)	1,256	(1,171-1,311)
2007-2008	21	(6-72)	62	(29-129)	880	(808-921)
Southeast						
2004	17	(3-95)	175	(96-304)	1,536	(1,403-1,619)
2005-2006	42	(14-118)	84	(39-174)	1,124	(1,024-1,183)
2006-2007	50	(22-113)	170	(109-260)	1,053	(957-1,124)
2007-2008	31	(11-86)	42	(17-100)	545	(479-582)
Southwest						
2004	NE	NA	NE	NA	238	(172-238)
2005-2006	NE	NA	NE	NA	215	(163-215)
2006-2007	NE	NA	13	(2-56)	175	(132-186)
2007-2008	NE	NA	NE	NA	150	(111-150)
Statewide						
2004	240	(142-403)	425	(287-623)	4,642	(4,413-4,820)
2005-2006	223	(136-363)	595	(442-794)	5,418	(5,195-5,599)
2006-2007	241	(163-354)	683	(544-851)	5,189	(5,002-5,350)
2007-2008	108	(59-196)	486	(367-637)	4,122	(3,960-4,254)

^a NE = no estimate; no respondents reported hunting on that specific land type within the listed region.

^b NA = not applicable.

Table 10. Regional estimates and 95% confidence intervals of active hunters, total harvest, and success during Kansas' fall wild turkey season, 2004-2007(8).

Region-Year	Active hunters ^a		Total harvest		Success (%) ^b	
	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.	Estimate	95% C.I.
Northcentral						
2004	1,430	(1,125-1,801)	740	(503-977)	43.3%	(31.6%-55.9%)
2005-2006	1,968	(1,656-2,325)	1,396	(1,130-1,657)	59.1%	(49.7%-67.8%)
2006-2007	1,902	(1,641-2,194)	1,220	(1,031-1,410)	56.6%	(48.6%-64.2%)
2007-2008	1,924	(1,652-2,230)	1,154	(932-1,377)	51.8%	(43.6%-59.9%)
Northeast						
2004	2,978	(2,554-3,445)	1,304	(960-1,652)	38.4%	(30.3%-47.2%)
2005-2006	2,666	(2,310-3,059)	1,620	(1,316-1,915)	51.7%	(43.7%-59.6%)
2006-2007	2,452	(2,161-2,771)	1,698	(1,446-1,952)	54.1%	(47.1%-60.9%)
2007-2008	2,360	(2,063-2,688)	1,237	(984-1,492)	41.0%	(34.0%-48.5%)
Northwest						
2004	596	(406-866)	381	(269-493)	64.0%	(44.5%-79.8%)
2005-2006	895	(684-1,163)	554	(437-673)	62.0%	(48.2%-74.1%)
2006-2007	663	(510-859)	337	(251-424)	50.9%	(37.9%-63.9%)
2007-2008	982	(787-1,221)	586	(479-695)	59.7%	(48.2%-70.3%)
Southcentral						
2004	1,477	(1,168-1,853)	915	(645-1,179)	50.0%	(37.9%-62.1%)
2005-2006	2,112	(1,790-2,477)	1,191	(909-1,477)	46.6%	(37.9%-55.6%)
2006-2007	2,164	(1,888-2,470)	1,395	(1,159-1,631)	53.8%	(46.3%-61.0%)
2007-2008	2,074	(1,793-2,388)	963	(741-1,188)	38.2%	(30.8%-46.1%)
Southeast						
2004	3,026	(2,599-3,494)	1,727	(1,348-2,107)	46.5%	(38.0%-55.1%)
2005-2006	2,076	(1,756-2,439)	1,250	(963-1,534)	48.3%	(39.4%-57.3%)
2006-2007	2,227	(1,948-2,536)	1,273	(1,047-1,503)	48.3%	(41.1%-55.6%)
2007-2008	1,719	(1,461-2,014)	618	(430-810)	30.2%	(22.8%-38.7%)
Southwest						
2004	500	(329-754)	238	(131-345)	47.6%	(28.3%-67.6%)
2005-2006	465	(319-674)	214	(126-303)	46.2%	(28.8%-64.5%)
2006-2007	275	(182-414)	187	(135-240)	68.2%	(47.3%-83.6%)
2007-2008	532	(391-720)	150	(77-223)	28.2%	(16.5%-43.8%)

^a Hunters were assigned to a region based on the county they most often hunted.

^b Success was the percentage of active hunters that harvested at least 1 bird.

Figure 1. The 4 fall turkey hunting units in Kansas, 2007-2008.

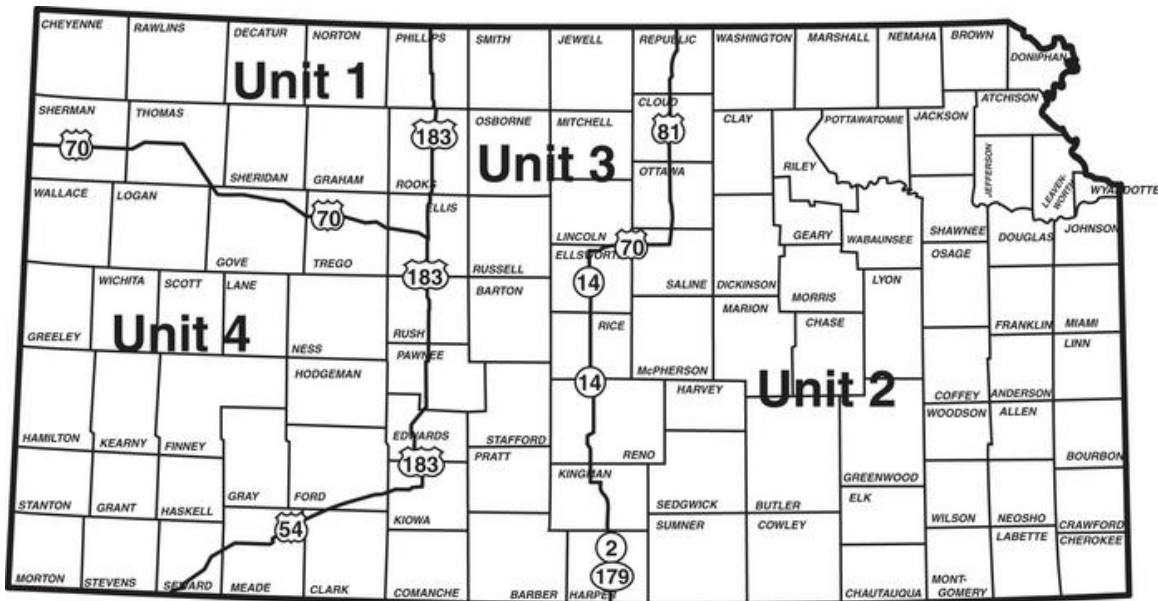


Figure 2. Fall 2007-2008 Kansas wild turkey harvest questionnaire.

1. What is your state of residence?
2. What is your county of residence?
3. Did you hunt turkeys during the fall 2007-2008 season.
 1. Yes
 2. No
4. Which of the below options best describes your fall turkey hunting style?
 1. I go afield in the fall specifically to hunt turkey
 2. I opportunistically hunt turkeys in the fall while going afield primarily to hunt for another species
5. Did you use archery equipment to hunt turkeys at any time during the fall 2007-2008 season?
 1. Yes
 2. No
6. In which county did you most often hunt while using your initial fall turkey permit?
7. Did you hunt on a public wildlife area while using your initial fall turkey permit?
 - 1 Yes
 - 2 No
8. On which area did you most often hunt while using your initial fall turkey permit?

Figure 2. continued...

9. How did you perceive fall turkey hunting pressure on the wildlife area you selected in the previous question?

- 1 Light
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Heavy

10. Did you fall turkey hunt on Walk-In-Hunting-Areas (WIHA) land while using your initial permit?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

11. Please indicate the below option that best describes your harvest using ONLY your initial fall turkey permit (excluding game tags)?

- 1 Adult Male
- 2 Juvenile Male
- 3 Adult Female
- 4 Juvenile Female
- 5 Hunted but did not harvest a bird
- 6. Did not hunt

12. In which county did you harvest your first turkey?

13. On what date did you harvest your first turkey?

14. Did you take your first turkey using a firearm or archery equipment?

- 1. Firearm
- 2. Archery

15. Was your first turkey harvested on a Wildlife Area, WIHA, or Private Land?

- 1. Wildlife Area
- 2. WIHA
- 3. Private Land

16. On which wildlife area did you harvest your first turkey?

17. How many fall 2007-2008 Turkey Game tags did you purchase?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3

Figure 2. continued...

18. The following questions pertain to your hunting activities while using ONLY your second turkey permit (referred to as the first game tag). Please select the below option that best describes the type of bird you harvested using your first game tag. Please indicate if you did not hunt or did not harvest a turkey using this game tag.

- 1 Adult Male
- 2 Juvenile Male
- 3 Adult Female
- 4 Juvenile Female
- 5 Hunted but did not harvest a bird
- 6. Did not hunt

19. In which county did you most often hunt?

20. In which county did you harvest your turkey?

21. Did you hunt on a public wildlife area?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

22. On which Wildlife Area did you most often hunt?

23. How did you perceive hunting pressure on the wildlife area you selected in the previous question?

- 1 Light
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Heavy

24. Did you hunt Walk In Hunting Access (WIHA) land?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

25. Was your second turkey harvested on a Wildlife Area, WIHA, or Private Land?

- 1 Wildlife Area
- 2 WIHA
- 3 Private Land

26. On which Wildlife Area did you harvest your second turkey?

27. On what date did you harvest your second turkey?

28. Did you take your second turkey using a firearm or archery equipment?

- 1 Firearm
- 2 Archery

Figure 2. continued...

29. The following questions pertain to your hunting activities while using ONLY your third turkey permit (referred to as the second game tag). Please select the below option that best describes the type of bird you harvested using your second game tag. Please indicate if you did not hunt or did not harvest a turkey using this game tag.

- 1 Adult Male
- 2 Juvenile Male
- 3 Adult Female
- 4 Juvenile Female
- 5 Hunted but did not harvest a bird
- 6. Did not hunt

30. In which county did you most often hunt?

31. In which county did you harvest your third turkey?

32. Did you hunt on a public wildlife Area?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

33. On which Wildlife Area did you most often hunt?

34. How did you perceive hunting pressure on the wildlife area you selected in the previous question?

- 1 Light
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Heavy

35. Did you hunt Walk In Hunting Access (WIHA) land?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

36. Was your third turkey harvested on a Wildlife Area, WIHA, or Private Land?

- 1 Wildlife Area
- 2 WIHA
- 3 Private Land

37. On which Wildlife Area did you harvest your third turkey?

38. On what date did you harvest your third turkey?

39. Did you take your third bird use a firearm or archery equipment?

- 1 Firearm
- 2 Archery

Figure 2. continued...

40. The following questions pertain to your hunting activities while using ONLY your fourth turkey permit (referred to as the third game tag). Please select the below option that best describes the type of bird you harvested using your third game tag. Please indicate if you did not hunt or did not harvest a turkey using this game tag.

- 1 Adult Male
- 2 Juvenile Male
- 3 Adult Female
- 4 Juvenile Female
- 5 Hunted but did not harvest a bird
- 6. Did not hunt

41. In which county did you most often hunt?

42. In which county did you harvest your fourth turkey?

43. Did you hunt on a public wildlife area?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

44. On which Wildlife Area did you most often hunt?

45. How did you perceive hunting pressure on the wildlife areas you selected in the previous question?

- 1 Light
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Heavy

46. Did you hunt Walk In Hunting Access (WIHA) land?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

47. Was your fourth turkey harvested on a Wildlife Area, WIHA, or Private Land?

- 1 Wildlife Area
- 2 WIHA
- 3 Private Land

48. On which Wildlife Area did you harvest your fourth turkey?

49. On what date did you harvest your fourth turkey?

50. Did you take your fourth turkey using a firearm or archery equipment?

- 1 Firearm
- 2 Archery

Figure 2. continued...

51. How would you best describe your satisfaction with the Kansas turkey Management Program?

- 1 Very Dissatisfied
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 3 Uncertain
- 4 Satisfied
- 5 Very Satisfied

52. Which of the following best describes your satisfaction with Kansas turkey hunting?

- 1 Very Dissatisfied
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 3 Uncertain
- 4 Satisfied
- 5 Very Satisfied

53. Please include any additional comments you may have. Thank you for your time! Be sure to click the Submit button to complete the survey.

Figure 3. The 6 wild turkey management regions in Kansas.

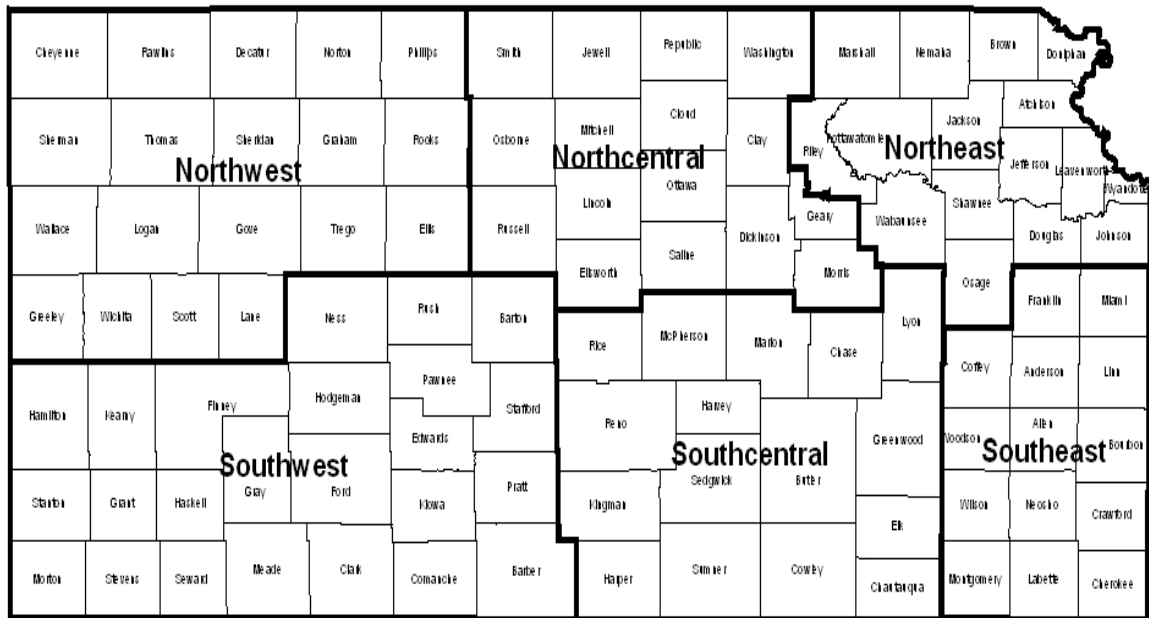


Figure 4. Weekly and cumulative harvest distribution for wild turkeys during the fall 2007-2008 Kansas season. The dashed line is a reference line at the 50th percentile. Fall turkey season was closed during the regular deer firearms season (28 Nov. – 9 Dec., 2007) and the late antlerless-only deer firearms season (1-6 Jan., 2008).

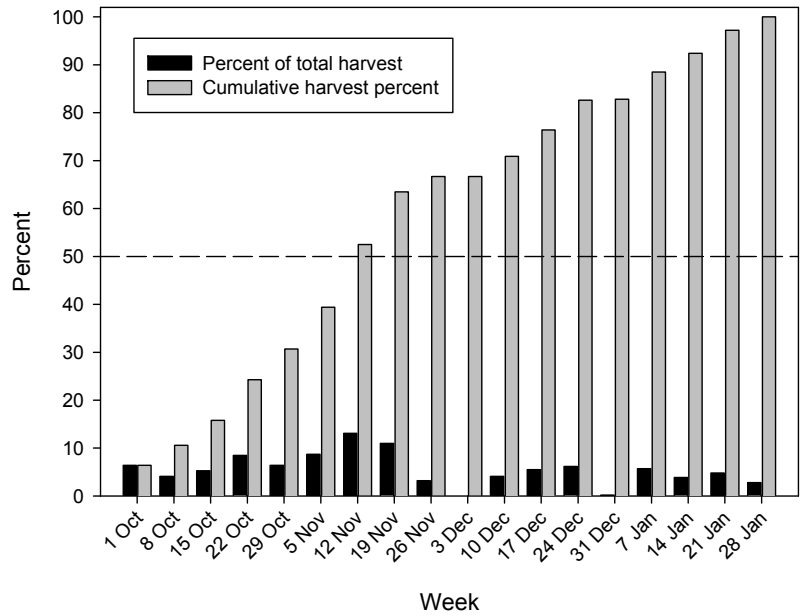


Figure 5. Number of active hunters and their harvest during the Kansas fall wild turkey season, 1979-2007(8).

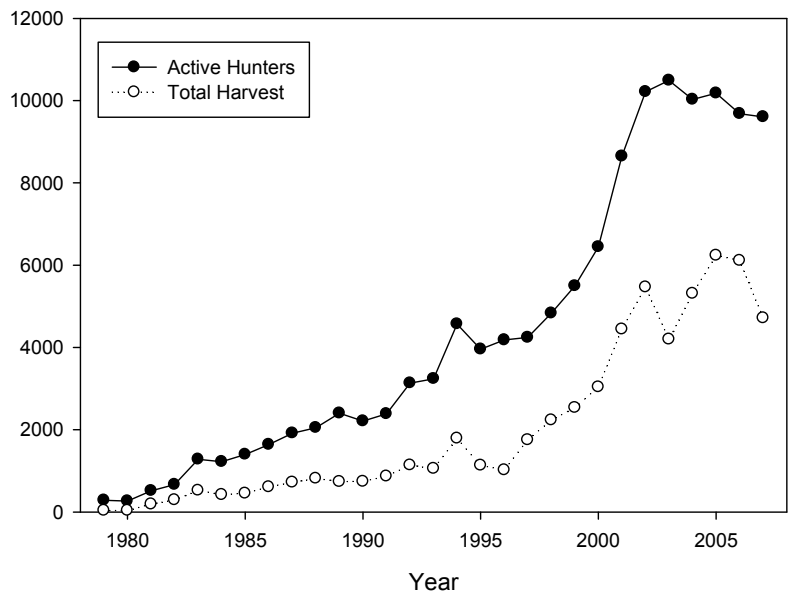


Figure 6. Hunter perceptions of fall turkey hunting pressure in Kansas on publicly owned land contained within each of the 6 turkey management regions and statewide, 2007-2008. Sample sizes were low for the southwest and northwest regions.

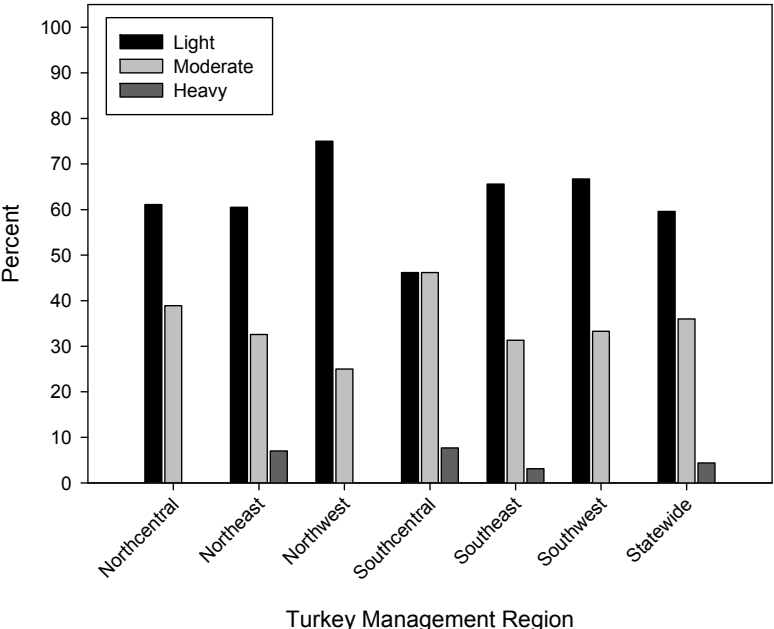


Figure 7. Statewide percent of Kansas fall turkey hunters that indicated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with management and hunting, 2004-2007(8).

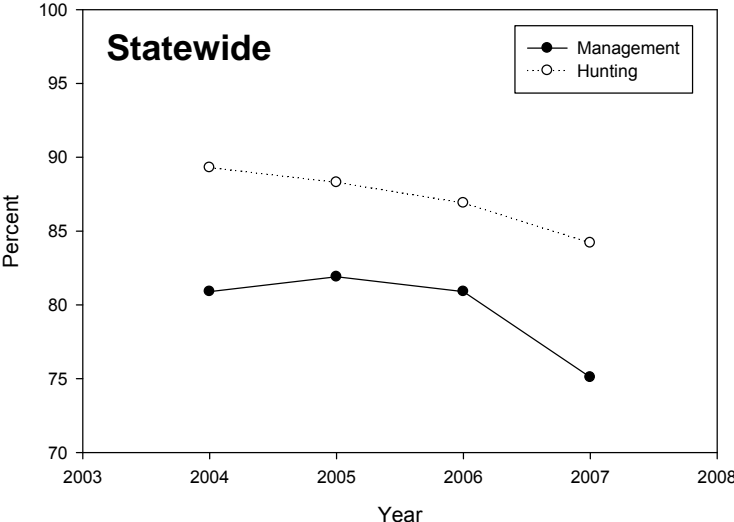


Figure 8. Percent of fall turkey hunters that indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied with management and hunting in each of Kansas' 6 management regions, 2004-2007(8).

