

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project No: W-15-R
Title of Job: Fall 2017 Turkey Hunter Survey

Job: E2



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The fall 2017 turkey hunter survey is conducted each year at the end of the fall season. The season closes on 31 January 2018. The objective of the survey is to obtain information on the fall turkey harvest and success, and to assess characteristics of the hunt and hunters (e.g., satisfaction). This year's survey was available to hunters between 6 and 23 April 2018, inclusive. A summary of hunter harvest and success is provided in a separate report, *2017 Fall Wild Turkey Harvest*.

Caveats. The fall Wild Turkey Hunter Survey samples primarily fall turkey hunters who provided valid email addresses at the time they purchased their permit(s). Additionally, the survey is also available on the Game & Parks website to anyone who wishes to complete it. Although the website version is promoted through various media avenues, participation is low. As such, the results might be biased and not strictly generalizable to the population of all fall turkey hunters. For the fall 2017 season, however, 66.9% of unique permit buyers provided an email address.

Interpretations. Colorado was home to the most non-resident hunters, followed by Texas and Wyoming. A full quarter of non-residents reported having resided in Nebraska at some point in the past. Among resident hunters, Lancaster and Douglas Counties were most frequently reported as counties of residence. Overall, permit sales were down 20.1% compared to fall 2016, and 44.9% since 2012. Twenty percent of resident and 17% of non-resident respondents reported not going afield to hunt turkeys in the fall of 2017. Among those that did go afield, they spent an average of 4.8 days afield (5.1 days for residents, 3.9 for non-residents). Most respondents were not pursuing a particular sub-species of turkey, but more non-residents reported pursuing Merriam's than did resident respondents. Likewise, for most respondents, the feather coloration matching the species being pursued was not important; however, there was more ambiguity among those respondents pursuing Merriam's turkeys (i.e., importance scores were more evenly distributed across the scale). Most successful respondents indicated that they had harvested the sub-species they said they were pursuing. The overwhelming majority of resident (99%) and non-resident (96%) respondents indicated that they would hunt turkeys in Nebraska again based on their 2017 fall experiences. Access to public and private land to hunt and low observed turkey abundance on properties they did hunt were the main reasons the remaining 2% of respondents would not hunt in Nebraska again. Among non-residents, having family or friends in Nebraska (60%), availability of permits (61%), and turkey population abundance (70%) were the top reasons they chose to hunt in Nebraska. Respondents didn't feel there were too many hunters afield while they hunted, and this did not seem to be affected by success or whether they hunted on public or private land. Similarly, most hunters were satisfied with their hunting experience during the fall 2017 season regardless of whether they were successful or hunted public or private land.

Take-home Message. The fall turkey season continues to wane in popularity, but hunters who do partake in the pastime report high satisfaction and a willingness to return for future fall turkey seasons.

Methods. This year's survey was composed and administered in-house using Snap survey software and Snap WebHost service. An initial invitation to participate was sent to 4,366 (66.9%) of unique permit buyers on 6 April 2018, of which 4,173 were deliverable. A follow-up reminder was sent on 13 April 2018 to hunters who received the first invitation, but failed to respond. In addition to the email invitations, the survey was also available to hunters via the NGPC website, and promotional posts to agency social media were made on the date the initial invitations were sent and on the date the follow-up reminder was sent. The survey was closed to all participants on 20 April 2018, at which time 783 responses had been received, for a raw response rate of 18.2%. The responding hunters represented 914 individual permits, for a permit response rate of 21.3%. Each survey respondent represented 7.51 fall 2017 fall permit buyers.

Results. Below are figures and tables that summarize hunter responses to survey questions. In most cases, the results are presented for residents, non-residents, and all hunters combined.

Table 1. Minimum, maximum, mean, and median time (in minutes) participants took to complete the fall 2017 survey.

| | Descriptive Statistics | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|---------|------|--------|----------------------------|
| | Total | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Median | Standard Error of the Mean |
| Duration of interview | 783 | 0.53 | 126.32 | 5.74 | 4.75 | 0.25 |

Table 2. Top ten states of residence for non-resident hunters during the 2017 fall season.

| State of residence | |
|--------------------|----|
| Colorado | 50 |
| Texas | 11 |
| Wyoming | 10 |
| Wisconsin | 6 |
| Minnesota | 5 |
| Pennsylvania | 5 |
| Illinois | 4 |
| Iowa | 4 |
| Missouri | 4 |
| Alaska | 3 |

Table 3. Number and percent of non-resident hunters who reported being a Nebraska resident as some point in the past.

| Were you ever a resident of the state of Nebraska? | | |
|--|-----|------------|
| | Yes | 35 25% |
| | No | 104 75% |

Table 4. Among Nebraska residents, the top ten counties of residence and number of respondents.

| In which Nebraska county do you reside? | |
|---|----|
| Lancaster | 85 |
| Douglas | 81 |
| Sarpy | 52 |
| Lincoln | 27 |
| Buffalo | 25 |
| Dawson | 20 |
| Scotts Bluff | 18 |
| Adams | 16 |
| Saunders | 16 |
| Cass | 15 |

Table 5. Number and percent of total permit by type (regular, youth) of permits purchased for the fall 2017 season overall, and by residents and non-residents.

| Number of Permits | Overall | | | Resident | | | Non-resident | | |
|-------------------|---------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|--------------|-----|-----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Total | 763 | 692 | 111 | 618 | 585 | 81 | 145 | 107 | 30 |
| | 49% | 44% | 7% | 48% | 46% | 6% | 51% | 38% | 11% |
| Youth Permits | 645 | 118 | 20 | 527 | 99 | 16 | 118 | 19 | 4 |
| | 82% | 15% | 3% | 82% | 15% | 2% | 84% | 13% | 3% |
| Regular/Landowner | 118 | 574 | 91 | 91 | 486 | 65 | 27 | 88 | 26 |
| | 15% | 73% | 12% | 14% | 76% | 10% | 19% | 62% | 18% |

Table 6. Number and percent of residents and non-residents (and overall) who indicated they hunted turkeys in states other than Nebraska during the 2017 fall season.

| Did you hunt turkeys during the fall 2017 season in any other state? | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|--|------------|------------|--------------|
| Yes | 47 6% | 16 2% | 31 22% |
| No | 736 94% | 626 98% | 110 78% |

Table 7. Top ten states where hunters who hunted in other states reported hunting. Due to low response rates to this question (*n* = 34) responses are not displayed by residency.

| State | |
|--------------|----|
| Kansas | 11 |
| Colorado | 3 |
| Pennsylvania | 3 |
| Wisconsin | 3 |
| Illinois | 2 |
| Missouri | 2 |
| Florida | 1 |
| Indiana | 1 |
| Louisiana | 1 |
| Minnesota | 1 |

Table 8. Number and percent of resident and non-resident hunters who reported going afield to hunt during the fall 2017 turkey season.

| Did you hunt turkeys in Nebraska during the fall 2017 season? | Overall | Resident | Non-residents |
|---|------------|------------|---------------|
| Yes | 632 81% | 515 80% | 117 83% |
| No | 151 19% | 127 20% | 24 17% |

Table 9. Number of respondents, total days hunted, and days hunted per respondent for all hunters indicating they hunted during the 2017 fall turkey season.

| How many days did you hunt turkeys in Nebraska in the fall of 2017? | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|---|---------|----------|--------------|
| Total Responses | 630 | 513 | 117 |
| Total Days | 3053 | 2597 | 456 |
| Days per Hunter | 4.8 | 5.1 | 3.9 |

Table 10. Top ten counties and number of respondents where resident and non-resident hunters indicated that they harvested most of their turkeys during the 2017 fall turkey season.

| Overall | | Resident | | Non-resident | |
|-----------|----|------------|----|--------------|---|
| Dawes | 17 | Dawes | 14 | Unknown | 5 |
| Knox | 15 | Knox | 13 | Keya Paha | 4 |
| Custer | 10 | Custer | 9 | Cherry | 3 |
| Dawson | 8 | Lincoln | 8 | Dawes | 3 |
| Keya Paha | 8 | Dawson | 6 | Brown | 2 |
| Lincoln | 8 | Cass | 5 | Buffalo | 2 |
| Cherry | 7 | Douglas | 5 | Chase | 2 |
| Sheridan | 7 | Holt | 5 | Dawson | 2 |
| Unknown | 7 | Sheridan | 5 | Dundy | 2 |
| Cass | 6 | Washington | 5 | Frontier | 2 |

Table 11. Number and percent of resident and non-resident hunters who reported pursuing a particular sub-species of wild turkey during the 2017 fall season. Hunters were allowed to select more than one sub-species, so responses will not equal Total Respondents. Percentages are based on total responses, not respondents. All options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Subspecies | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Respondents | 631 | 514 | 117 |
| Eastern | 41 6% | 33 6% | 8 7% |
| Merriam's | 115 18% | 78 15% | 37 32% |
| Rio Grande | 19 3% | 15 3% | 4 3% |
| No particular subspecies | 475 75% | 402 78% | 73 62% |

Table 12. Hunter-reported importance that the turkey they have harvested has the correct plumage coloration for the sub-species they were pursuing, by sub-species pursued. All options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of feather coloration | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | Total | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Total | 631 | 41 | 115 | 19 | 475 |
| Very Important | 42 7% | 4 10% | 22 19% | 5 26% | 13 3% |
| | 41 6% | 4 10% | 18 16% | 2 11% | 21 4% |
| Neutral | 96 15% | 9 22% | 28 24% | 3 16% | 60 13% |
| | 82 13% | 4 10% | 18 16% | 1 5% | 64 13% |
| Not Important at all | 370 59% | 20 49% | 29 25% | 8 42% | 317 67% |

Table 13. Resident hunter-reported importance that a turkey they have harvested has the correct plumage coloration for the sub-species pursued by sub-species pursued. All options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of feather coloration | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? (Resident) | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Total | 514 | 33 | 78 | 15 | 402 |
| Very Important | 26 | 4 | 12 | 3 | 9 |
| | 5% | 12% | 15% | 20% | 2% |
| Neutral | 30 | 3 | 15 | 2 | 13 |
| | 6% | 9% | 19% | 13% | 3% |
| | 82 | 9 | 20 | 2 | 54 |
| | 16% | 27% | 26% | 13% | 13% |
| Not Important at all | 68 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 56 |
| | 13% | 6% | 14% | 7% | 14% |
| | 308 | 15 | 20 | 7 | 270 |
| | 60% | 45% | 26% | 47% | 67% |

Table 14. Non-resident hunter-reported importance that a turkey they have harvested has the correct plumage coloration for the sub-species pursued by sub-species pursued. Options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of feather coloration | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? (Non-resident) | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Base | 117 | 8 | 37 | 4 | 73 |
| Very Important | 16 | - | 10 | 2 | 4 |
| | 14% | - | 27% | 50% | 5% |
| Neutral | 11 | 1 | 3 | - | 8 |
| | 9% | 13% | 8% | - | 11% |
| | 14 | - | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| | 12% | - | 22% | 25% | 8% |
| Not Important at all | 14 | 2 | 7 | - | 8 |
| | 12% | 25% | 19% | - | 11% |
| | 62 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 47 |
| | 53% | 63% | 24% | 25% | 64% |

Table 15. Hunter-reported importance that a turkey they harvested is a genetically pure specimen of the sub-species they were pursuing, by sub-species pursued. Options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of genetic purity | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Base | 631 | 41 | 115 | 19 | 475 |
| Very Important | 35 6% | 1 2% | 19 17% | 3 16% | 13 3% |
| | 54 9% | 7 17% | 22 19% | 4 21% | 26 5% |
| Neutral | 90 14% | 10 24% | 27 23% | 3 16% | 55 12% |
| | 73 12% | 4 10% | 13 11% | 1 5% | 59 12% |
| Not Important at all | 379 60% | 19 46% | 34 30% | 8 42% | 322 68% |

Table 16. Resident hunter-reported importance that a turkey they have harvested is a genetically pure specimen of the pursued sub-species by sub-species pursued. Options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of genetic purity | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? (Resident) | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Base | 514 | 33 | 78 | 15 | 402 |
| Very Important | 22 4% | 1 3% | 13 17% | 1 7% | 8 2% |
| | 41 8% | 5 15% | 16 21% | 4 27% | 19 5% |
| Neutral | 75 15% | 10 30% | 19 24% | 2 13% | 48 12% |
| | 60 12% | 3 9% | 6 8% | 1 7% | 52 13% |
| Not Important at all | 316 61% | 14 42% | 24 31% | 7 47% | 275 68% |

Table 17. Non-resident hunter-reported importance that a turkey they have harvested is a genetically pure specimen of the pursued sub-species by sub-species being pursued by the hunter. Options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Importance of genetic purity | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? (Non-resident) | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Base | 117 | 8 | 37 | 4 | 73 |
| Very Important | 13 | - | 6 | 2 | 5 |
| | 11% | - | 16% | 50% | 7% |
| Neutral | 13 | 2 | 6 | - | 7 |
| | 11% | 25% | 16% | - | 10% |
| Not Important at all | 15 | - | 8 | 1 | 7 |
| | 13% | - | 22% | 25% | 10% |
| Not Important at all | 13 | 1 | 7 | - | 7 |
| | 11% | 13% | 19% | - | 10% |
| Not Important at all | 63 | 5 | 10 | 1 | 47 |
| | 54% | 63% | 27% | 25% | 64% |

Table 18. Age and sex distribution of the fall 2017 turkey harvest by residency.

| Age & Sex | Overall | | | | | Resident | | | | | Non-resident | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|------------|-----|----|----|----------|------------|-----|----|---|--------------|------------|-----|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Total | 480 | 261 | 81 | 5 | 1 | 379 | 194 | 62 | 5 | - | 101 | 67 | 19 | - | 1 |
| | 58% | 32% | 10% | 1% | 0% | 59% | 30% | 10% | 1% | - | 54% | 36% | 10% | - | 1% |
| Adult males (toms) | 65 | 103 | 31 | 2 | - | 53 | 76 | 20 | 2 | - | 12 | 27 | 11 | - | - |
| | 32% | 51% | 15% | 1% | - | 35% | 50% | 13% | 1% | - | 24% | 54% | 22% | - | - |
| Juvenile males (jakes) | 95 | 63 | 11 | - | - | 73 | 49 | 10 | - | - | 22 | 14 | 1 | - | - |
| | 56% | 37% | 7% | - | - | 55% | 37% | 8% | - | - | 59% | 38% | 3% | - | - |
| Adult hens | 84 | 73 | 26 | 2 | 1 | 67 | 53 | 19 | 2 | - | 17 | 20 | 7 | - | 1 |
| | 45% | 39% | 14% | 1% | 1% | 48% | 38% | 13% | 1% | - | 38% | 44% | 16% | - | 2% |
| Juvenile hens | 116 | 20 | 9 | - | - | 91 | 15 | 9 | - | - | 25 | 5 | - | - | - |
| | 80% | 14% | 6% | - | - | 79% | 13% | 8% | - | - | 83% | 17% | - | - | - |
| Unknown age and sex | 120 | 2 | 4 | 1 | - | 95 | 1 | 4 | 1 | - | 25 | 1 | - | - | - |
| | 94% | 2% | 3% | 1% | - | 94% | 1% | 4% | 1% | - | 96% | 4% | - | - | - |

Table 19. Hunter identified sub-species by residency.

| | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|--|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Total | 272 | 204 | 68 |
| Eastern Wild Turkey | 54 20% | 47 23% | 7 10% |
| Rio Grande Wild Turkey | 35 13% | 22 11% | 13 19% |
| Merriam's Wild Turkey | 80 29% | 50 25% | 30 44% |
| A mixture of one or more of these (hybrid) | 50 18% | 39 19% | 11 16% |
| None of these | - - | - - | - - |
| Do not remember | 53 19% | 46 23% | 7 10% |

Table 20. Hunter-identified subspecies of harvested turkey by subspecies hunters reported pursuing. Sample size was too low for residency-based reporting.

| Species believed harvested | Total | Which subspecies of wild turkey were you pursuing? | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Eastern | Merriam's | Rio Grande | No particular subspecies |
| Total | 271 | 17 | 64 | 9 | 193 |
| Eastern Wild Turkey | 54 20% | 10 59% | 5 8% | - - | 42 22% |
| Rio Grande Wild Turkey | 34 13% | - - | 1 2% | 6 67% | 28 15% |
| Merriam's Wild Turkey | 80 30% | 1 6% | 47 73% | - - | 35 18% |
| A mixture of one or more of these (hybrid) | 50 18% | 6 35% | 10 16% | 2 22% | 37 19% |
| None of these | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| Do not remember | 53 20% | - - | 1 2% | 1 11% | 51 26% |

Table 21. Resident and non-resident harvest and days spent afield by segment of the season for the fall 2017 season.

| Period of season | Overall | | Resident | | Non-resident | |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| | Days | Harvested | Days | Harvested | Days | Harvested |
| 15-30 September | 141 | 55 | 114 | 44 | 27 | 11 |
| 1-31 October | 284 | 119 | 264 | 107 | 20 | 12 |
| 1-10 November | 128 | 61 | 89 | 33 | 39 | 28 |
| 11-19 November | 115 | 65 | 84 | 42 | 31 | 23 |
| 20-30 November | 96 | 44 | 75 | 33 | 21 | 11 |
| 1-31 December | 160 | 63 | 131 | 48 | 29 | 15 |
| 1-31 January | 95 | 53 | 81 | 44 | 14 | 9 |

Table 22. Number of resident and non-resident hunters who reported harvesting 0-4 turkeys on public land or on private land where permission was required during the 2017 fall turkey season.

| How many turkeys did you harvest on... | Overall | | | | | Resident | | | | | Non-resident | | | | |
|--|---------|-----|-----|----|----|----------|-----|-----|----|----|--------------|-----|-----|---|----|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Total | 268 | 149 | 110 | 4 | 13 | 203 | 113 | 77 | 4 | 11 | 65 | 36 | 33 | - | 2 |
| ...private land where permission was required? | 32 | 129 | 97 | 4 | 10 | 22 | 101 | 68 | 4 | 9 | 10 | 28 | 29 | - | 1 |
| | 12% | 47% | 36% | 1% | 4% | 11% | 50% | 33% | 2% | 4% | 15% | 41% | 43% | - | 1% |
| ...land open to public hunting? | 236 | 20 | 13 | - | 3 | 181 | 12 | 9 | - | 2 | 55 | 8 | 4 | - | 1 |
| | 87% | 7% | 5% | - | 1% | 89% | 6% | 4% | - | 1% | 81% | 12% | 6% | - | 1% |

Table 23. Number and percent of resident and non-resident hunters who would or would not hunt in Nebraska again given their experiences during the fall 2017 season.

| Will you hunt turkey in Nebraska again given your experiences in the fall 2016 season? | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|--|------------|------------|--------------|
| Total | 629 | 512 | 117 |
| Yes | 617 98% | 505 99% | 112 96% |
| No | 12 2% | 7 1% | 5 4% |

Figure 1. Word cloud summarizing free responses from hunters who indicated that they would not hunt in Nebraska again given their experiences during the 2017 fall season.



Figure 2. Percentage of overall, resident, and non-resident turkey hunting experience in years.

"How many years of experience do you have hunting turkeys?"

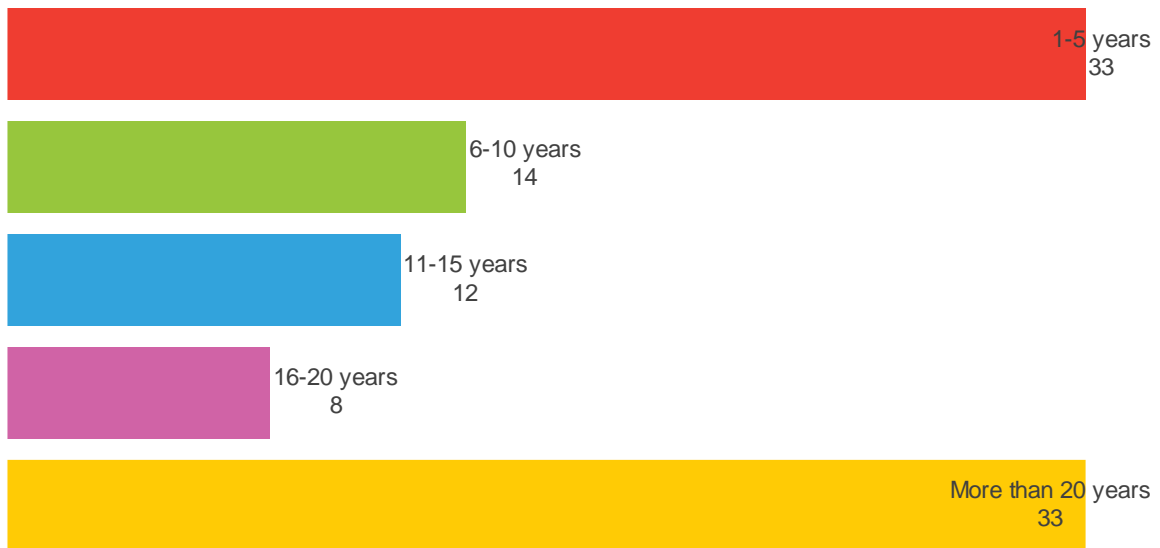
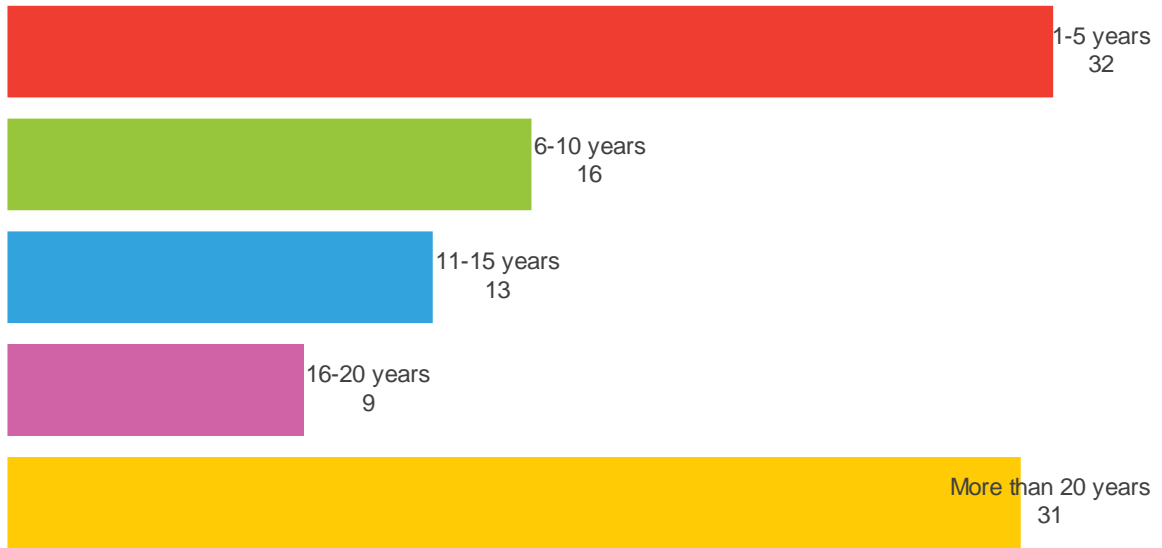


Figure 2. Continued, resident and non-resident hunters.

"How many years of experience do you have hunting turkeys?"



"How many years of experience do you have hunting turkeys?"



Table 24. Resident and non-resident hunters’ reasons for hunting wild turkey in Nebraska during the 2017 fall season. Options with >50% support are highlighted.

| Select all the factors that influence your decision to hunt wild turkeys in Nebraska in the fall 2017 | Overall | Resident | Non-resident |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total | 630 | 513 | 117 |
| Availability of Public Land to hunt | 211 33% | 176 34% | 35 30% |
| Family and/or friends who live in state | 274 43% | 204 40% | 70 60% |
| Ability to hunt a different sub-species of turkey | 74 12% | 53 10% | 21 18% |
| Availability of permits | 365 58% | 294 57% | 71 61% |
| Permit costs | 260 41% | 225 44% | 35 30% |
| Number of permits allowed per hunter | 225 36% | 176 34% | 49 42% |
| Hunter success rate | 190 30% | 152 30% | 38 32% |
| Turkey population abundance | 413 66% | 331 65% | 82 70% |
| Other | 71 11% | 64 12% | 7 6% |

Figure 3. Word cloud of significant terms from the free responses received for “Other,” about why hunters chose to hunt turkey in Nebraska during the 2017 fall season.



Table 25. Resident and non-resident agreement with statements related to their hunting experiences in Nebraska during the 2016 fall season. The agreement score for each item with the highest frequency of selection by respondents is highlighted.

| | Overall | | | | | Resident | | | | | Non-resident | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Total | 567 | 358 | 654 | 467 | 465 | 463 | 295 | 558 | 387 | 343 | 104 | 63 | 96 | 80 | 122 |
| "I saw too many hunters" | 387 62% | 124 20% | 90 14% | 17 3% | 11 2% | 302 59% | 108 21% | 77 15% | 15 3% | 10 2% | 85 73% | 16 14% | 13 11% | 2 2% | 1 1% |
| "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys seen" | 82 13% | 82 13% | 130 21% | 140 22% | 196 31% | 73 14% | 68 13% | 106 21% | 121 24% | 145 28% | 9 8% | 14 12% | 24 21% | 19 16% | 51 44% |
| "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting" | 70 11% | 88 14% | 289 46% | 107 17% | 68 11% | 64 13% | 71 14% | 240 47% | 80 16% | 53 10% | 6 5% | 17 15% | 49 43% | 27 24% | 15 13% |
| "Overall I was satisfied with the quality of my hunting experience" | 28 4% | 64 10% | 145 23% | 203 32% | 190 30% | 24 5% | 48 9% | 135 26% | 171 33% | 135 26% | 4 3% | 16 14% | 10 9% | 32 27% | 55 47% |

Figure 4. Number of respondents agreeing with the statement “I saw too many hunters” during the 2017 fall turkey season.

"I saw too many hunters"

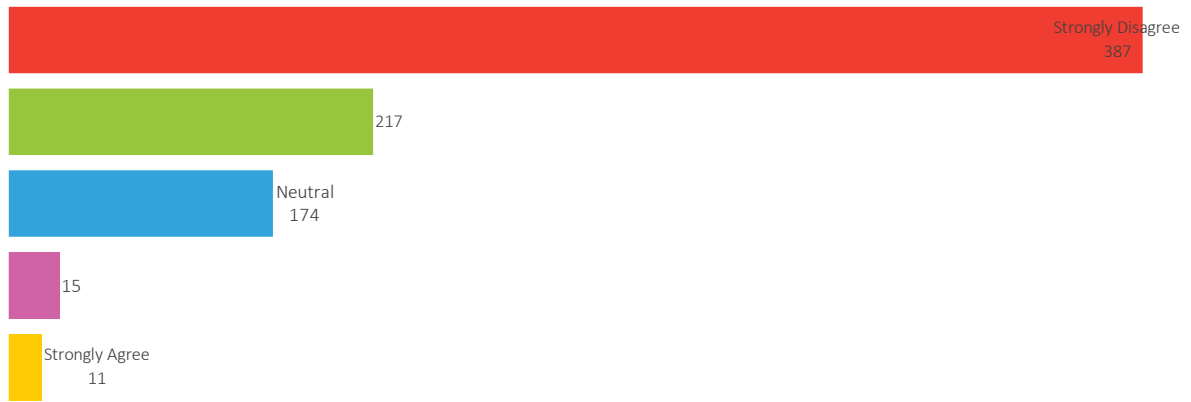


Figure 5. Number of respondents agreeing with the statement, “I was satisfied with the number of turkeys seen” while hunting turkeys during the 2017 fall season.

"I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw."

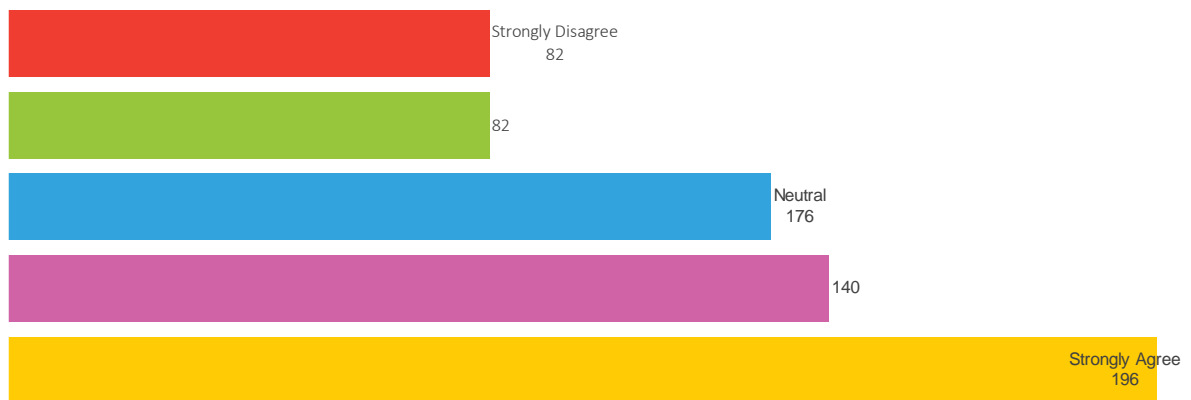


Figure 6. Number of respondents agreeing with the statement, “I was satisfied with the amount land open to public hunting” during the 2017 fall season.

"I was satisfied with the amount of land open for public hunting."

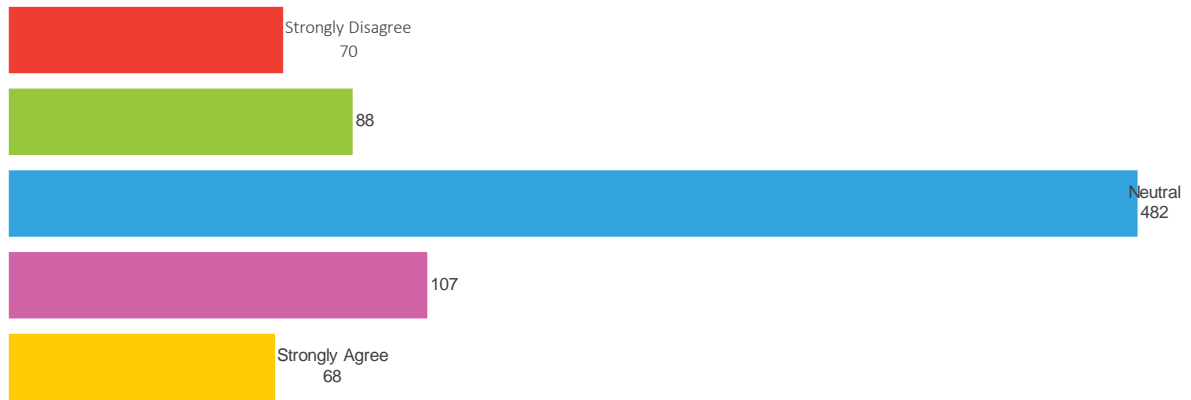


Figure 7. Number of respondents agreeing with the statement, “Overall I was satisfied with the quality of my hunting experience” during the 2017 fall season.

"Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience."

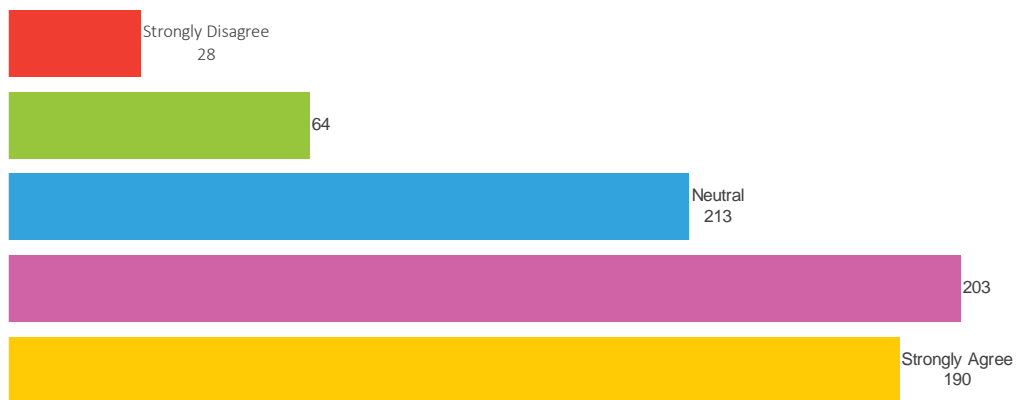


Table 26. Respondent agreement with the statement, “I saw too many hunters,” by the number of turkeys harvested on public land and on private land.

| | | "I saw too many hunters." | | | | |
|---|-------|---------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------|----------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Total | | 176 65% | 47 17% | 40 15% | 5 2% | 3 1% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on private land | 0 | 19 59% | 7 22% | 6 19% | - - | - - |
| | 1 | 80 63% | 27 21% | 17 13% | 2 2% | 2 2% |
| | 2 | 67 69% | 12 12% | 14 14% | 3 3% | 1 1% |
| | 3 | 2 50% | - - | 2 50% | - - | - - |
| | 4 | 8 80% | 1 10% | 1 10% | - - | - - |
| | Total | 176 65% | 47 17% | 40 15% | 5 2% | 3 1% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land | 0 | 154 66% | 41 17% | 33 14% | 5 2% | 2 1% |
| | 1 | 12 60% | 2 10% | 5 25% | - - | 1 5% |
| | 2 | 7 54% | 4 31% | 2 15% | - - | - - |
| | 3 | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | 4 | 3 100% | - - | - - | - - | - - |

Table 27. Respondent agreement with the statement, “I was satisfied with the number of turkeys seen,” by the number of turkeys harvested on public and private land.

| | | "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys seen" | | | | |
|---|-------|---|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Total | | 9 3% | 21 8% | 41 15% | 71 26% | 129 48% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on private land | 0 | - - | 1 3% | 11 34% | 10 31% | 10 31% |
| | 1 | 5 4% | 13 10% | 16 13% | 36 28% | 58 45% |
| | 2 | 3 3% | 6 6% | 12 12% | 23 24% | 53 55% |
| | 3 | - - | - - | 1 25% | 2 50% | 1 25% |
| | 4 | 1 10% | 1 10% | 1 10% | - - | 7 70% |
| | Total | 9 3% | 21 8% | 41 15% | 71 26% | 129 48% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land | 0 | 9 4% | 20 9% | 29 12% | 62 26% | 115 49% |
| | 1 | - - | 1 5% | 9 45% | 3 15% | 7 35% |
| | 2 | - - | - - | 2 15% | 6 46% | 5 38% |
| | 3 | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | 4 | - - | - - | 1 33% | - - | 2 67% |

Table 28. Respondent agreement with the statement, “I was satisfied with the amount of public land open to public hunting,” by the number of turkeys harvested on public and on private land.

| | | "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting." | | | | |
|--|-------|---|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Total | | 28 11% | 34 13% | 132 50% | 41 15% | 31 12% |
| Number of turkey harvested on private land | 0 | 2 6% | 6 19% | 9 28% | 8 25% | 7 22% |
| | 1 | 14 11% | 17 13% | 66 52% | 18 14% | 11 9% |
| | 2 | 11 12% | 10 11% | 50 53% | 13 14% | 10 11% |
| | 3 | 1 25% | - - | 1 25% | 2 50% | - - |
| | 4 | - - | 1 10% | 6 60% | - - | 3 30% |
| | Total | 28 11% | 34 13% | 132 50% | 41 15% | 31 12% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land | 0 | 27 12% | 29 13% | 122 53% | 30 13% | 22 10% |
| | 1 | - - | 4 20% | 5 25% | 8 40% | 3 15% |
| | 2 | - - | 1 8% | 5 38% | 3 23% | 4 31% |
| | 3 | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | 4 | 1 33% | - - | - - | - - | 2 67% |

Table 29. Respondent agreement with the statement, “Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience,” by the number of turkeys harvested on public land and private land.

| | | "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience." | | | | |
|---|-------|--|----------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| | Total | 2 1% | 11 4% | 40 15% | 92 34% | 126 46% |
| | | | | | | |
| Number of turkeys harvested on private land | 0 | - - | 2 6% | 3 9% | 18 56% | 9 28% |
| | 1 | 1 1% | 5 4% | 28 22% | 39 30% | 55 43% |
| | 2 | 1 1% | 4 4% | 7 7% | 31 32% | 54 56% |
| | 3 | - - | - - | - - | 3 75% | 1 25% |
| | 4 | - - | - - | 2 20% | 1 10% | 7 70% |
| | Total | 2 1% | 11 4% | 40 15% | 92 34% | 126 46% |
| Number of turkeys harvested on public land | 0 | 2 1% | 10 4% | 35 15% | 77 33% | 111 47% |
| | 1 | - - | 1 5% | 4 20% | 8 40% | 7 35% |
| | 2 | - - | - - | 1 8% | 6 46% | 6 46% |
| | 3 | - - | - - | - - | - - | - - |
| | 4 | - - | - - | - - | 1 33% | 2 67% |
| | | | | | | |

Table 30. Respondents agreement with the statement, “I saw too many hunters,” by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission Wildlife Administration Districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree) and based on 225 total respondents. The most frequent selections are highlighted for each district.

| "I saw too many hunters." | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| District | Number of respondents | Average Score | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Northeast | 73 | 1.45 | 51 69.9% | 12 16.4% | 9 12.3% | 1 1.4% | 0 0% |
| Northwest | 43 | 1.67 | 26 60.5% | 8 18.6% | 7 16.3% | 1 2.3% | 1 2.3% |
| Southeast | 32 | 1.69 | 19 59.4% | 7 21.9% | 4 12.5% | 1 3.1% | 1 3.1% |
| Southwest | 77 | 1.65 | 48 62.3% | 11 14.3% | 16 20.8% | 1 1.3% | 1 1.3% |

Table 31. Respondents agreement with the statement, “I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw,” by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission Wildlife Administrative Districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree) and based on 225 total respondents. The most frequent selections are highlighted for each district.

| "I was satisfied with the number of turkeys I saw." | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| District | Number of respondents | Average Score | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Northeast | 73 | 4.14 | 3 4.1% | 5 6.8% | 8 10.9% | 20 27.4% | 37 50.7% |
| Northwest | 43 | 4.28 | 1 2.3% | 1 2.3% | 6 13.9% | 12 27.9% | 23 53.5% |
| Southeast | 32 | 3.84 | 1 3.1% | 3 9.4% | 6 18.8% | 12 37.5% | 10 31.3% |
| Southwest | 77 | 4.04 | 3 3.9% | 5 6.5% | 14 18.2% | 19 24.7% | 36 46.8% |

Table 32. Respondents agreement with the statement, “I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting,” by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission Wildlife Administrative Districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree) and based on 225 total respondents. The most frequent selections are highlighted for each district.

| "I was satisfied with the amount of land open to public hunting." | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| District | Number of respondents | Average Score | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Northeast | 73 | 3.01 | 8 11.0% | 7 9.6% | 39 53.4% | 9 12.3% | 9 12.3% |
| Northwest | 43 | 3.16 | 3 7.0% | 4 9.3% | 23 53.5% | 9 20.9% | 4 9.3% |
| Southeast | 32 | 2.90 | 4 12.5% | 6 18.8% | 12 37.5% | 4 12.5% | 5 15.6% |
| Southwest | 77 | 2.87 | 9 11.7% | 13 16.9% | 34 44.2% | 11 14.3% | 8 10.4% |

Table 33. Respondents agreement with the statement, “Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience,” by Nebraska Game & Parks Commission Wildlife Administrative Districts. Agreement was measured on a 5-point scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree) and based on 225 total respondents. The most frequent selections are highlighted for each district.

| "Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of my turkey hunting experience." | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| District | Number of respondents | Average Score | Strongly Disagree | | Neutral | | Strongly Agree |
| Northeast | 73 | 4.27 | 0 0.0% | 3 4.1% | 10 13.7% | 24 32.9% | 36 49.3% |
| Northwest | 43 | 4.30 | 0 0.0% | 2 4.7% | 4 9.3% | 16 37.2% | 21 48.8% |
| Southeast | 32 | 4.28 | 0 0.0% | 0 0.0% | 6 18.8% | 11 34.4% | 15 46.9% |
| Southwest | 77 | 4.14 | 1 1.3% | 4 5.2% | 12 15.6% | 26 33.8% | 34 44.2% |

Table 34. Non-resident hunter accommodation types when hunting in Nebraska during the 2017 fall turkey season.

| Where did you stay while hunting turkeys in Nebraska? | Non-resident responses and percent |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Total | 117 |
| Hotel/Motel | 31 26% |
| Commercial campground (e.g., KOA) or hunting lodge | 3 3% |
| Public camping sites/lodge (e.g., State Parks) | 12 10% |
| Private residence of family or friends | 58 50% |
| Personal home | 7 6% |
| Other | 6 5% |

Figure 8. Word cloud for “Other” responses to where hunters stayed while hunting turkey in Nebraska during the 2017 fall season.

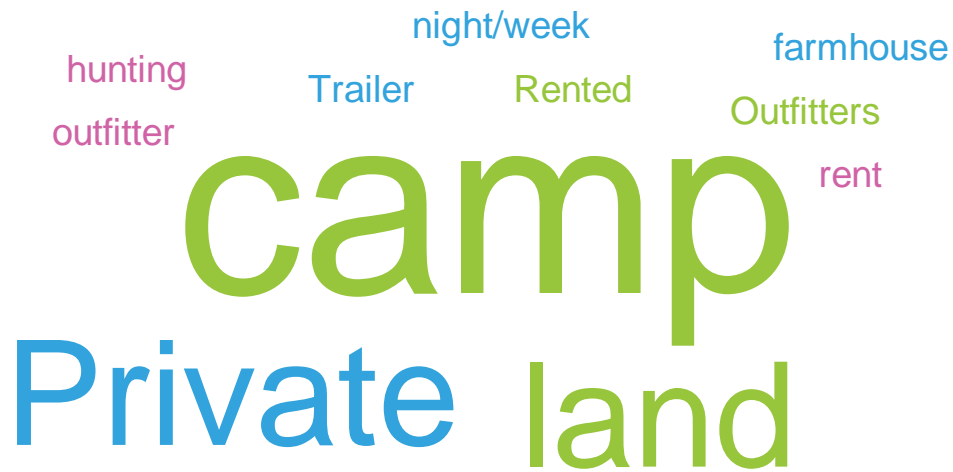


Figure 9. Percentage of responding hunters who indicated they accompanied various groups of hunters in the field during the 2017 fall turkey season.

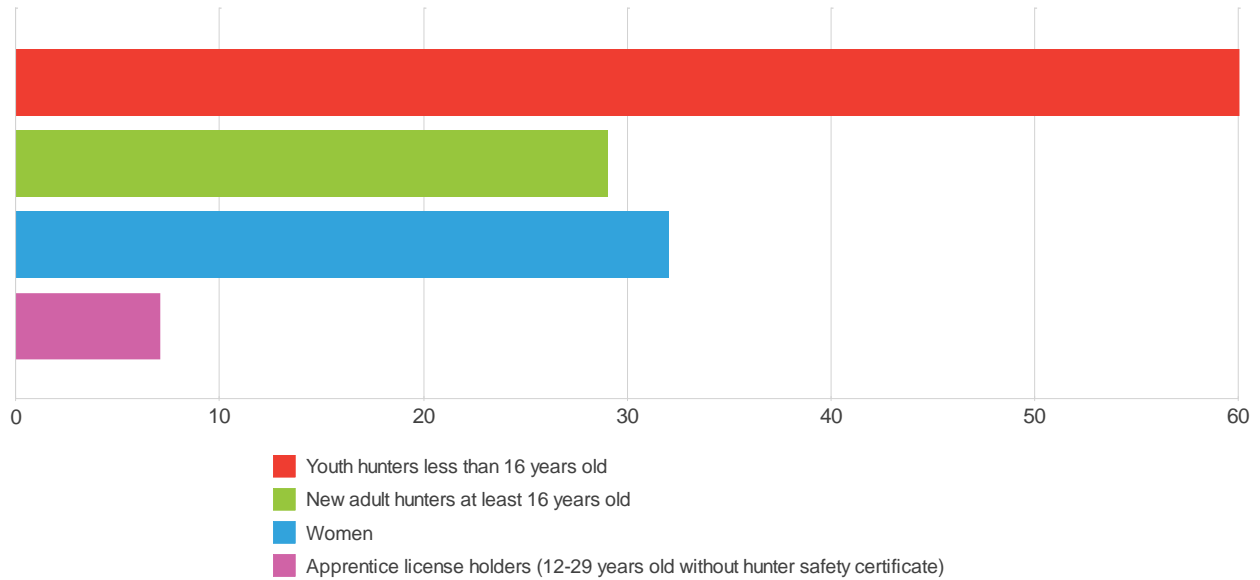


Table 35. Numbers of youth, novice, women, and apprentice hunters that hunters reported taking into the field during the 2017 fall turkey season.

| Type of hunter | Total |
|---|-------|
| Total | 269 |
| Youth hunters less than 16 years old | 126 |
| New adult hunters at least 16 years old | 62 |
| Women | 68 |
| Apprentice license holders | 13 |