PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION
BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

PROJECT ANNUAL JOB REPORT

PROJECT CODE NO.: 06270

TITLE: 2020 Wild Turkey Hunter Survey

JOB CODE NO.: 26901

TITLE: Wild Turkey Hunter Survey

PERIOD COVERED: 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

WORK LOCATION(S): Statewide

COOPERATING AGENCIES: None

PREPARED BY: Joshua Johnson, Mary Jo Casalena

DATE: November 10, 2021

ABSTRACT Turkey hunter surveys are conducted periodically to monitor hunter and non-turkey hunter activities, attitudes toward and satisfaction with various aspects of the wild turkey management program. During this reporting period, we surveyed Pennsylvania hunters regarding their satisfaction with the fall 2019 and spring 2020 turkey seasons and to monitor changes in hunter opinions and attitudes regarding wild turkey management and regulations since the last survey in 2008 and regarding new and potentially future management and regulations. Results by question are presented in Appendix 1.

METHODS
We developed a survey instrument that was relevant to both turkey hunters and those who did not hunt turkeys to assess a wide range of opinions and attitudes towards turkey hunting and management in Pennsylvania (Appendix 1). Survey questions ranged from reasons that hunters may or may not hunt turkeys, fall and spring season structure preference, and satisfaction with various aspects of turkey hunting in Pennsylvania.

To conduct the turkey hunter survey, we used a mixed-mode approach consisting of Internet and mail response options. On 18 September 2020, we mailed a postcard to 8,467 respondents of previous Game Take Surveys

(2015–2018) and Spring Turkey Hunter Surveys (2016–2019), and a randomly drawn pool of Pennsylvania hunting license buyers. The postcard invited recipients to respond to the survey via Internet. On 25 September 2020, we mailed all recipients a reminder postcard to complete the survey via Internet. On 19 October and 23 November 2020, we mailed paper copies of the survey with postage-paid envelopes to those recipients who had not responded to the survey. Data entry closed 22 December 2020.

RESULTS
See appendix 1.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to conduct periodic turkey hunter surveys to monitor hunter and non-turkey hunter activities, attitudes toward and satisfaction with various aspects of the wild turkey management program.

Appendix 1. 2020 Wild Turkey Hunter Survey, Summary Report, November 2021.

2020 Wild Turkey Hunter Survey
Prepared by Joshua B. Johnson, Ph.D. and Mary Jo Casalena
Bureau of Wildlife Management
Pennsylvania Game Commission

To improve Pennsylvania Game Commission's understanding of the attitudes and opinions of Pennsylvania's turkey hunters and potential reasons limiting hunters from turkey hunting we surveyed 8,467 respondents of previous Game Take Surveys (2015–2018) and Spring Turkey Hunter Surveys (2016–2019), and a randomly drawn pool of Pennsylvania hunting license buyers. We used Dillman's tailored design survey method in conducting the survey, which included a postcard invitation to complete the survey via Internet that was mailed on 9/18/2020, a reminder postcard mailed to all survey recipients on 9/25/2020, a paper copy of the survey was mailed to nonrespondents on 10/19/2020, a final paper copy of the survey was mailed to nonrespondents on 11/23/2020, and data entry closed on 12/22/20.

We received responses from 3,315 survey recipients for a response rate of 39.7% (when adjusted for undeliverable addresses; either incorrect mailing addresses or deceased). Of those, 2,362 (71.6%) have hunted turkeys in Pennsylvania.

Q1. Have you ever hunted turkeys in Pennsylvania? (choose one)

	n	%	% those who turkey hunt
No, I have never hunted turkeys in the fall or spring seasons.	935	28.4%	
Yes, I have hunted turkeys in both spring and fall seasons in Pennsylvania.	1654	50.2%	70.0%
Yes, I have hunted turkeys in Pennsylvania, but only in the spring season.	431	13.1%	18.2%
Yes, I have hunted turkeys in Pennsylvania, but only in the fall season.	277	8.4%	11.7%

Q2. Select the major reasons you would have more interest in beginning to turkey hunt. (choose all that apply)

	n	%
If turkey populations were higher.	140	16.3%
If I had a place to hunt turkeys.	172	20.0%
If I had more time to hunt in the fall.	289	33.6%
If I had more time to hunt in the spring.	246	28.6%
If the fall turkey season was longer in the WMU where I do most of my hunting.	62	7.2%
If I had someone to hunt turkeys with.	156	18.2%
If I knew more about how to turkey hunt.	249	29.0%
If the fall turkey season didn't overlap with small game season.	27	3.1%
Other	181	21.1%

Q3. Did you hunt turkeys in Pennsylvania during the spring 2020 season?

	n	%
Yes	1073	45.4%
No	1029	43.6%
No answer	260	11.0%

Q4. Did you spring turkey hunt in 2017, 2018 **or** 2019?

	n	%
Yes	499	46.5%
No	572	53.3%
No answer	2	0.2%

Q5. For the spring 2020 season, record the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) where you did most of your hunting, number of days hunted, and how many turkeys you harvested.

WMU	n	Avg Days	Days SE	n who harvested a turkey	% respondents who harvested a turkey
1A	55	7.29	0.828	11	20.0%
1B	43	6.49	0.800	3	7.0%
2A	39	5.03	0.624	12	30.8%
2B	25	5.12	0.923	8	32.0%
2C	43	6.40	0.834	9	20.9%
2D	78	5.69	0.494	18	23.1%
2E	32	7.66	1.267	5	15.6%
2F	32	5.50	0.681	6	18.8%
2G	75	6.97	0.627	13	17.3%
2H	11	5.36	0.845	1	9.1%
3A	25	6.12	1.232	1	4.0%
3B	47	5.55	0.725	5	10.6%
3C	49	6.08	0.828	10	20.4%
3D	45	5.22	0.597	5	11.1%
4A	28	5.68	1.103	5	17.9%
4B	38	3.87	0.394	4	10.5%
4C	55	6.07	0.623	9	16.4%
4D	50	6.12	0.698	7	14.0%
4E	41	5.85	0.751	4	9.8%
5A	17	5.00	0.831	2	11.8%
5B	34	4.41	0.622	4	11.8%
5C	27	6.70	1.250	0	0.0%
5D	2	7.50	4.500	1	50.0%
Unknown	30	5.37	1.060	3	10.0%

Q6. How would you rate your 2020 spring turkey hunting experience? (choose one)

	n	%
Excellent	118	11.8%
Good	332	33.2%
Fair	319	31.9%
Poor	230	23.0%

Q7. How did the COVID19 Stay-At-Home restriction change the amount of time you were able to hunt turkeys in spring 2020?

	n	%
A lot more time	70	7.0%
A little more time	109	10.9%
No change	719	71.6%
A little less time	55	5.5%
A lot less time	51	5.1%

Q8. Did you purchase a Special Spring Turkey License in 2020? (choose one)

	n	%
Yes	181	18.2%
No	815	81.8%

Q9. Did you purchase the Special Spring Turkey License in 2020 specifically because you had more time to hunt due to the COVID19 Stay-At-Home restriction?

	n	%
Yes	23	12.6%
No	159	87.4%

Q10. List the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) where you do most of your spring turkey hunting and your opinion of the turkey population size in that WMU.

WMU	Number of respondents					Percentage within WMU			
	Too high	About right	Too low	Do not know	Total	Too high	About right	Too low	Do not know
1A		35	32	9	76		46.1%	42.1%	11.8%
1B		18	38	6	62		29.0%	61.3%	9.7%
2A	1	44	10	4	59	1.7%	74.6%	16.9%	6.8%
2B	3	33	3	1	40	7.5%	82.5%	7.5%	2.5%
2C		40	26	6	72		55.6%	36.1%	8.3%
2D		82	30	9	121		67.8%	24.8%	7.4%
2E		30	15	5	50		60.0%	30.0%	10.0%
2F		26	26	7	59		44.1%	44.1%	11.9%
2G		38	64	9	111		34.2%	57.7%	8.1%
2H		10	6	2	18		55.6%	33.3%	11.1%
3A		12	19	8	39		30.8%	48.7%	20.5%
3B		43	31	6	80		53.8%	38.8%	7.5%
3C	1	39	24	9	73	1.4%	53.4%	32.9%	12.3%
3D		28	38	5	71		39.4%	53.5%	7.0%
4A	1	21	17	3	42	2.4%	50.0%	40.5%	7.1%
4B	1	25	24	10	60	1.7%	41.7%	40.0%	16.7%
4C		26	53	4	83		31.3%	63.9%	4.8%
4D		40	35	9	84		47.6%	41.7%	10.7%
4E	2	18	39	6	65	3.1%	27.7%	60.0%	9.2%
5A		14	13	2	29		48.3%	44.8%	6.9%
5B		26	14	8	48		54.2%	29.2%	16.7%
5C	2	9	25	3	39	5.1%	23.1%	64.1%	7.7%
5D		2			2		100.0%		
Unknown	1	19	15	12	47	2.1%	40.4%	31.9%	25.5%
Total	12	678	597	143	1430	0.8%	47.4%	41.7%	10.0%

Q11. Which type of sporting arm do you use the most for spring turkey hunting? (choose one)

	n	%
Shotgun	1422	95.6%
Vertical bow	32	2.2%
Crossbow	34	2.3%

Q12. Did you hunt turkeys in Pennsylvania during the fall 2019 season?

	n	%
Yes	902	38.1%
No	1467	61.9%

Q13. Did you fall turkey hunt in 2016, 2017 **or** 2018?

	n	%
Yes	413	28.1%
No	1056	71.9%

Q14. Was turkey hunting your primary focus during the fall 2019 season or were you hunting another species and opportunistically hunted turkey?

	n	%
Primarily other species	471	55.5%
Primarily turkey	378	44.5%

Q15. For each fall 2019 season segment you hunted, record the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) where you did most of your hunting, number of days hunted and whether you harvested a turkey. (Answer all that apply)

	First fall season segment					Thanksgiving season segment				
WMU	n	Avg Days	Days SE	*n* who harvested a turkey	% respondents who harvested a turkey	n	Avg Days	Days SE	*n* who harvested a turkey	% respondents who harvested a turkey
1A	43	3.74	0.336	1	2.3%	26	1.38	0.097	0	0.0%
1B	37	2.97	0.278	0	0.0%	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%
2A	32	3.44	0.273	0	0.0%	18	1.33	0.114	0	0.0%
2B	26	4.62	0.695	3	11.5%	15	1.67	0.126	1	6.7%
2C	53	4.70	0.502	2	3.8%	31	1.39	0.089	1	3.2%
2D	69	3.72	0.307	6	8.7%	44	1.36	0.073	2	4.5%
2E	32	3.53	0.373	3	9.4%	20	1.25	0.099	0	0.0%
2F	42	4.10	0.402	2	4.8%	22	1.55	0.109	0	0.0%
2G	71	4.90	0.389	5	7.0%	36	1.42	0.083	1	2.8%
2H	13	3.31	0.559	3	23.1%	10	1.20	0.133	0	0.0%
3A	24	3.58	0.558	3	12.5%	13	1.31	0.133	0	0.0%
3B	43	3.19	0.360	3	7.0%	34	1.38	0.085	0	0.0%
3C	45	4.36	0.488	4	8.9%	24	1.46	0.104	0	0.0%
3D	36	3.67	0.273	0	0.0%	17	1.18	0.095	0	0.0%
4A	33	3.45	0.320	4	12.1%	20	1.40	0.112	0	0.0%
4B	46	2.74	0.219	1	2.2%	28	1.43	0.095	1	3.6%
4C	38	4.58	0.547	0	0.0%	20	1.55	0.114	0	0.0%
4D	57	4.11	0.363	3	5.3%	36	1.31	0.078	0	0.0%
4E	41	4.54	0.419	2	4.9%	24	1.42	0.103	0	0.0%
5A	11	2.09	0.251	1	9.1%	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%
5B	13	2.08	0.211	1	7.7%	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%
5C	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%
5D	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%	0	0.00	0.000	0	0.0%
Unknown	20	5.30	1.203	1	5.0%	50	1.40	0.0700	0	0.0%

Q16. How would you rate your 2019 fall turkey hunting experience?

	n	%
Excellent	41	4.8%
Good	245	28.8%
Fair	338	39.7%
Poor	228	26.8%

Q17. List the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) where you do most of your fall turkey hunting and your opinion of the turkey population size in that WMU. (If you hunt the same WMU during the spring seasons then leave this question blank.)

	Number of respondents					Percentage within WMU			
WMU	Too high	About right	Too low	Do not know	Total	Too high	About right	Too low	Do not know
1A		23	18	3	44		52.3%	40.9%	6.8%
1B		17	15	1	33		51.5%	45.5%	3.0%
2A	1	27	5	2	35	2.9%	77.1%	14.3%	5.7%
2B	1	26	3	2	32	3.1%	81.3%	9.4%	6.3%
2C		30	20	6	56		53.6%	35.7%	10.7%
2D		51	19	9	79		64.6%	24.1%	11.4%
2E		22	13	2	37		59.5%	35.1%	5.4%
2F		30	18	6	54		55.6%	33.3%	11.1%
2G		30	35	9	74		40.5%	47.3%	12.2%
2H		7	5	2	14		50.0%	35.7%	14.3%
3A		18	13	3	34		52.9%	38.2%	8.8%
3B		28	21	6	55		50.9%	38.2%	10.9%
3C	1	28	16	5	50	2.0%	56.0%	32.0%	10.0%
3D		19	24	3	46		41.3%	52.2%	6.5%
4A		18	15	4	37		48.6%	40.5%	10.8%
4B	1	22	21	7	51	2.0%	43.1%	41.2%	13.7%
4C		16	26	4	46		34.8%	56.5%	8.7%
4D		24	25	8	57		42.1%	43.9%	14.0%
4E	1	12	23	5	41	2.4%	29.3%	56.1%	12.2%
5A		3	7		10		30.0%	70.0%	
5B		6	8	2	16		37.5%	50.0%	12.5%
5C	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
5D	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Unknown	1	15	15	8	39	2.6%	38.5%	38.5%	20.5%
Total	6	472	365	97	940	0.6%	50.2%	38.8%	10.3%

Q18. Which type of sporting arm do you use the most for fall turkey hunting? (choose one)

	n	%
Shotgun	861	68.9%
Rifle	176	14.1%
Crossbow	110	8.8%
Vertical bow	97	7.8%
Muzzleloader	3	0.2%
Handgun	2	0.2%

Q15xQ18. Sporting arm used mostly for fall turkey hunting in the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) each hunter did most of their fall turkey hunting.

WMU	n	Rifle	Shot-gun	Vert Bow	Cross-bow	Hand-gun	Muzzle-loader	Rifle	Shotgun	Vert Bow	Cross-bow	Hand-gun	Muzzle-loader	VertBow + Crossbow
				n						% Respondents within WMU				
1A	38	0	24	5	8	1	0	0.0%	63.2%	13.2%	21.1%	2.6%	0.0%	34.2%
1B	37	0	25	8	4	0	0	0.0%	67.6%	21.6%	10.8%	0.0%	0.0%	32.4%
2A	37	7	22	7	1	0	0	18.9%	59.5%	18.9%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	21.6%
2B	27	0	13	5	9	0	0	0.0%	48.1%	18.5%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	51.9%
2C	52	8	39	1	4	0	0	15.4%	75.0%	1.9%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	9.6%
2D	69	9	50	7	3	0	0	13.0%	72.5%	10.1%	4.3%	0.0%	0.0%	14.5%
2E	32	2	25	3	2	0	0	6.3%	78.1%	9.4%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	15.6%
2F	48	5	39	3	1	0	0	10.4%	81.3%	6.3%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%
2G	74	21	44	3	6	0	0	28.4%	59.5%	4.1%	8.1%	0.0%	0.0%	12.2%
2H	12	4	6	1	0	0	1	33.3%	50.0%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	8.3%
3A	26	10	14	0	2	0	0	38.5%	53.8%	0.0%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%
3B	46	10	29	3	4	0	0	21.7%	63.0%	6.5%	8.7%	0.0%	0.0%	15.2%
3C	46	6	34	3	2	0	1	13.0%	73.9%	6.5%	4.3%	0.0%	2.2%	10.9%
3D	35	6	20	0	8	0	1	17.1%	57.1%	0.0%	22.9%	0.0%	2.9%	22.9%
4A	34	9	23	2	0	0	0	26.5%	67.6%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%
4B	46	4	32	4	6	0	0	8.7%	69.6%	8.7%	13.0%	0.0%	0.0%	21.7%
4C	37	4	22	8	3	0	0	10.8%	59.5%	21.6%	8.1%	0.0%	0.0%	29.7%
4D	59	11	40	2	6	0	0	18.6%	67.8%	3.4%	10.2%	0.0%	0.0%	13.6%
4E	39	3	28	3	5	0	0	7.7%	71.8%	7.7%	12.8%	0.0%	0.0%	20.5%
5A	11	0	8	1	2	0	0	0.0%	72.7%	9.1%	18.2%	0.0%	0.0%	27.3%
5B	13	3	6	3	1	0	0	23.1%	46.2%	23.1%	7.7%	0.0%	0.0%	30.8%
5C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Unknown	55	2	43	7	3	0	0	3.6%	78.2%	12.7%	5.5%	0.0%	0.0%	18.2%

Q19. Did you mentor (take hunting) anyone during the fall 2019 and/or spring 2020 seasons? (answer for the seasons that apply)

	Fall 2019		Spring 2020	
	n	%	*n*	%
Youth	108	5.5%	161	8.3%
Adult	53	2.7%	84	4.3%
Neither	1778	90.9%	1677	86.3%
Both	17	0.9%	22	1.1%

Q20. How many hunters, other than those in your party, did you see or hear while <u>fall</u> turkey hunting in the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) you hunted the most? (answer for the seasons that apply to you) Not included are the 210 fall turkey hunter respondents who indicated the number of other hunters but did not record their opinion of these numbers.

FALL 2019 WMU	Number of other hunters (n)										Number of other hunters (%)								
	0-2 other hunters			3-5 other hunters			6+ other hunters				0-2 other hunters			3-5 other hunters			6+ other hunters		
	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right		Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right
1A		10	41	1		3	2		1			19.6%	80.4%	25.0%		75.0%	66.7%		33.3%
1B	1	9	21	1		3	1	1	1		3.2%	29.0%	67.7%	25.0%		75.0%	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
2A		3	19		2	4	1					13.6%	86.4%		33.3%	66.7%	100.0%		
2B		6	23		1	1	1					20.7%	79.3%		50.0%	50.0%	100.0%		
2C	2	11	30	5	1	7	2	1			4.7%	25.6%	69.8%	38.5%	7.7%	53.8%	66.7%	33.3%	
2D	1	12	47	2		10			3		1.7%	20.0%	78.3%	16.7%		83.3%			100.0%
2E		6	27		3	8	3	1				18.2%	81.8%		27.3%	72.7%	75.0%	25.0%	
2F		11	23	2	2	7	2		1			32.4%	67.6%	18.2%	18.2%	63.6%	66.7%		33.3%
2G	1	11	37	2	2	15	4		4		2.0%	22.4%	75.5%	10.5%	10.5%	78.9%	50.0%		50.0%
2H		1	7			3			1			12.5%	87.5%			100.0%			100.0%
3A		3	20	1		4		1				13.0%	87.0%	20.0%		80.0%		100.0%	
3B	1	7	35	1	1	8	1		1		2.3%	16.3%	81.4%	10.0%	10.0%	80.0%	50.0%		50.0%
3C		6	33		1	3	3		1			15.4%	84.6%		25.0%	75.0%	75.0%		25.0%
3D		8	28	1	1	6	2					22.2%	77.8%	12.5%	12.5%	75.0%	100.0%		
4A	1	8	21	2	2	3					3.3%	26.7%	70.0%	28.6%	28.6%	42.9%			
4B	1	7	27	2	1	4			1		2.9%	20.0%	77.1%	28.6%	14.3%	57.1%			100.0%
4C		8	24	2		4		1	3			25.0%	75.0%	33.3%		66.7%		25.0%	75.0%
4D	1	11	44	3	1	5			1		1.8%	19.6%	78.6%	33.3%	11.1%	55.6%			100.0%
4E	3	11	22		2	3	1	1			8.3%	30.6%	61.1%		40.0%	60.0%	50.0%	50.0%	
5A	1	2	7	1		1	1				10.0%	20.0%	70.0%	50.0%		50.0%	100.0%		
5B		2	8			2	1		1			20.0%	80.0%			100.0%	50.0%		50.0%
5C																			
5D																			
Unknown	3	5	24	1	1	3	1	1	3		9.4%	15.6%	75.0%	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
TOTAL	16	158	568	27	21	107	26	7	22		2.2%	21.3%	76.5%	17.4%	13.5%	69.0%	47.3%	12.7%	40.0%

Q20 (Continued). How many hunters, other than those in your party, did you see or hear while <u>spring</u> turkey hunting in the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) you hunted the most? (answer for the seasons that apply to you) Not included are the 201 spring turkey hunter respondents who indicated the number of other hunters but did not record their opinion of these numbers.

SPRING 2020	Number of other hunters (n)									Number of other hunters (%)								
	0-2 other hunters			3-5 other hunters			6+ other hunters			0-2 other hunters			3-5 other hunters			6+ other hunters		
WMU	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right	Too high	Too low	Just right
1A	2	8	31	2		9	3		2	4.9%	19.5%	75.6%	18.2%		81.8%	60.0%		40.0%
1B		6	22	4		7	3		2		21.4%	78.6%	36.4%		63.6%	60.0%		40.0%
2A	1	4	20	1	1	10	3			4.0%	16.0%	80.0%	8.3%	8.3%	83.3%	100.0%		
2B	1	5	21	1		2	1			3.7%	18.5%	77.8%	33.3%		66.7%	100.0%		
2C	3	9	24	5	2	5	6	1		8.3%	25.0%	66.7%	41.7%	16.7%	41.7%	85.7%	14.3%	
2D	4	13	46	3	1	9	2		8	6.3%	20.6%	73.0%	23.1%	7.7%	69.2%	20.0%		80.0%
2E		2	17	2	2	6	5		1		10.5%	89.5%	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	83.3%		16.7%
2F		6	15	2	1	7	1		1		28.6%	71.4%	20.0%	10.0%	70.0%	50.0%		50.0%
2G	1	6	31	5	1	9	11		5	2.6%	15.8%	81.6%	33.3%	6.7%	60.0%	68.8%		31.3%
2H		1	4	2		3	1				20.0%	80.0%	40.0%		60.0%	100.0%		
3A		2	23			4			2		8.0%	92.0%			100.0%			100.0%
3B	1	6	38	2	1	5	1		4	2.2%	13.3%	84.4%	25.0%	12.5%	62.5%	20.0%		80.0%
3C		5	31	2	2	5	3		1		13.9%	86.1%	22.2%	22.2%	55.6%	75.0%		25.0%
3D	1	5	30	3	1	7	4		2	2.8%	13.9%	83.3%	27.3%	9.1%	63.6%	66.7%		33.3%
4A	1	3	9	1	1	10	2		1	7.7%	23.1%	69.2%	8.3%	8.3%	83.3%	66.7%		33.3%
4B	2	4	18	3	1	6	2	1	2	8.3%	16.7%	75.0%	30.0%	10.0%	60.0%	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
4C		2	25	6	1	6	5		2		7.4%	92.6%	46.2%	7.7%	46.2%	71.4%		28.6%
4D	1	7	40	4	2	8		1	3	2.1%	14.6%	83.3%	28.6%	14.3%	57.1%		25.0%	75.0%
4E	4	4	19		3	9	3	1	1	14.8%	14.8%	70.4%		25.0%	75.0%	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%
5A		1	15	2		1	1				6.3%	93.8%	66.7%		33.3%	100.0%		
5B	1	4	15	5		5	4		1	5.0%	20.0%	75.0%	50.0%		50.0%	80.0%		20.0%
5C	1	2	11			6	1		2	7.1%	14.3%	78.6%			100.0%	33.3%		66.7%
5D	1						1			100.0%						100.0%		
Unknown	3		18		1	3			1	14.3%		85.7%		25.0%	75.0%			100.0%
TOTAL	28	105	523	55	21	142	63	5	40	4.3%	16.0%	79.7%	25.2%	9.6%	65.1%	58.3%	4.6%	37.0%

Q21, Q22, Q25, Q26 could not be accurately summarized. The data entry program shifted columns during entry and/or questions were worded such that there were more than one Yes/No answers such that summarization was not possible.
Q21. I would feel safer if I encountered fewer hunters while hunting turkeys during...fall turkey season, spring turkey season. (answer for the seasons that apply to you).

Q22. Did you hunt turkeys in other states during the past year? (answer for the seasons that apply to you)

Q25/26. On what type(s) of area do you turkey hunt most often in the spring/fall season? (choose all that apply). These questions also were worded slightly differently between the online version and written version in that the online version stated 'choose only one'.

Q23. How many years have you hunted turkeys in Pennsylvania? (choose one for each season that applies to you)

Fall	Overall n	Overall%	Junior n	Junior%	Adult 17-25 n	Adult 17-25%	Adult 26-45 n	Adult 26-45%	Adult 46-64 n	Adult 46-64%	Senior n	Senior%
1-4 Years	403	24.7%	39	84.8%	50	61.0%	103	34.2%	133	19.7%	78	14.8%
5-10 Years	288	17.7%	4	8.7%	25	30.5%	72	23.9%	110	16.3%	77	14.6%
>10 Years	940	57.6%	3	6.5%	7	8.5%	126	41.9%	433	64.1%	371	70.5%
TOTAL	1631		46		82		301		676		526	

Spring	Overall n	Overall%	Junior n	Junior%	Adult 17-25 n	Adult 17-25%	Adult 26-45 n	Adult 26-45%	Adult 46-64 n	Adult 46-64%	Senior n	Senior%
1-4 Years	375	23.0%	33	71.7%	41	50.0%	84	27.9%	136	20.1%	81	15.4%
5-10 Years	311	19.1%	10	21.7%	32	39.0%	71	23.6%	110	16.3%	88	16.7%
>10 Years	945	57.9%	3	6.5%	9	11.0%	146	48.5%	430	63.6%	357	67.9%
TOTAL	1631		46		82		301		676		526	

Q24. Approximately how many turkeys have you harvested in Pennsylvania? (choose one for each season that applies to you). Does not include 609 respondents who answered only 1 part of question.

Turkeys harvested in Pennsylvania	Fall		Spring	
	n	%	n	%
0	723	42.9%	729	43.2%
1-3	499	29.6%	489	29.0%
4-6	213	12.6%	176	10.4%
7+	251	14.9%	292	17.3%
TOTAL	1686		1686	

Q27. I have trouble finding a place to hunt turkeys. (choose one)

	n	%
Always	78	3.6%
Often	191	8.9%
Sometimes	638	29.7%
Never	1244	57.8%

Q28. Please indicate your level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the following. (Answer for the seasons that apply.) Note, 499 respondents answered some but not all 4 parts of Q28 and are not included in the analysis.

	Number, Percent of respondents										
	Very satisfied		Somewhat satisfied		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied		Somewhat dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Total
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	
If you saw or heard but did not harvest a SPRING turkey.	449	26.8%	611	36.5%	410	24.5%	142	8.5%	63	3.8%	1675
If you worked a SPRING turkey but did not harvest one.	471	28.1%	570	34.0%	414	24.7%	148	8.8%	72	4.3%	1675
If you saw or heard but did not harvest a FALL turkey.	390	23.3%	555	33.1%	532	31.8%	131	7.8%	67	4.0%	1675
If you worked a FALL turkey but did not harvest one.	417	24.9%	487	29.1%	542	32.4%	145	8.7%	84	5.0%	1675

Q29/Q30. Select the major reasons you turkey hunt during the fall/spring season. (choose all that apply) If you do not fall/spring turkey hunt, skip this question. Percentages do not sum to 100% because respondents could choose more than one option.
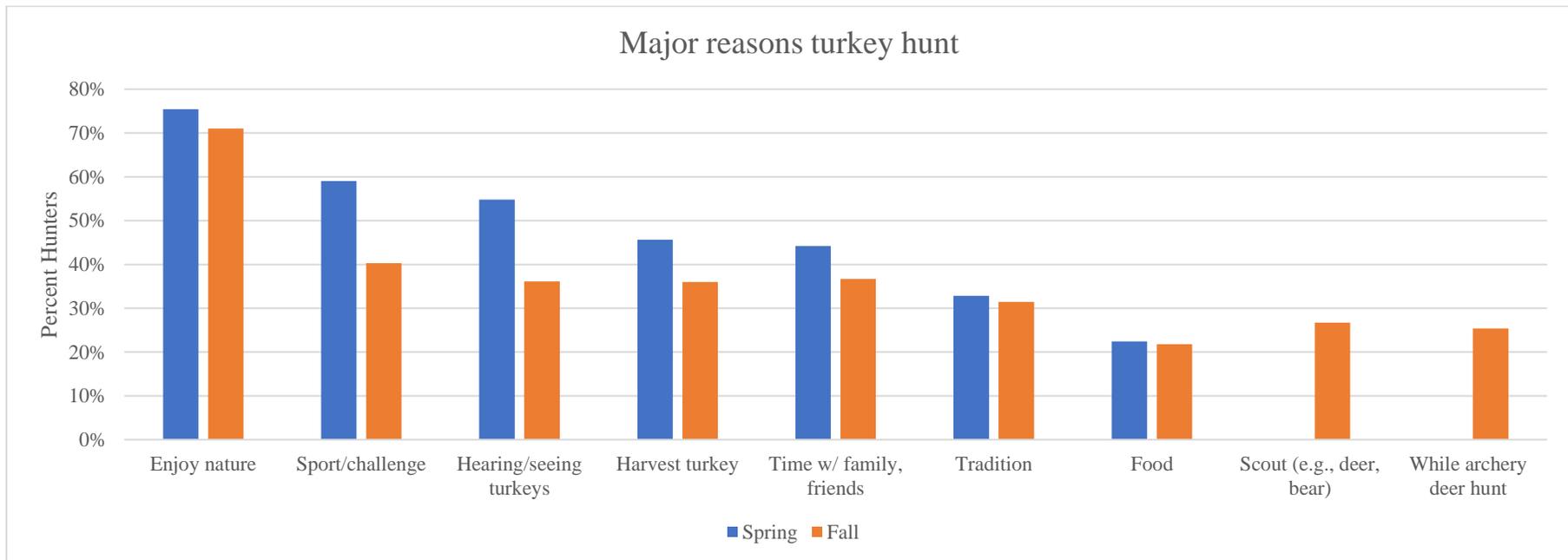
Q31. How do you report your turkey harvest? (choose one)

	n	%
Internet	662	32.6%
Report card provided in the Digest	1172	57.8%
Telephone	51	2.5%
I do not report my harvest	144	7.1%

Q32. Many successful turkey hunters do not report their harvest. Which factors do you think keep hunters from reporting their turkey harvest?
Percentages do not sum to 100% because respondents could choose more than one option.

	n	%
Forget to report	1205	56.5%
Do not think reporting is important	1022	48.0%
Do not want the Game Commission to know about their turkey harvest	322	15.1%
Do not have internet access	133	6.2%
Lose report card	144	6.8%

Q33. Do you hunt turkeys in the fall in Pennsylvania?

	n	%
Yes	1547	66.9%
No	767	33.1%

Q34. Please indicate your preference for when you would like to have the opportunity to hunt fall turkey? Respondents who selected less than 5 choices were ordered as sequential choices, i.e., if a respondent selected 3 choices, 1st, 3rd and 4th, they were re-ordered as 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

OVERALL	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	626	44.7%	195	15.7%	123	10.7%	136	12.4%	247	23.7%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	345	24.6%	506	40.7%	162	14.1%	198	18.1%	59	5.7%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	117	8.4%	227	18.3%	573	49.8%	150	13.7%	67	6.4%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	104	7.4%	154	12.4%	170	14.8%	459	41.9%	165	15.8%
Thanksgiving Season	209	14.9%	161	13.0%	122	10.6%	152	13.9%	506	48.5%
	1401		1243		1150		1095		1044	

JUNIOR	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	17	42.5%	7	18.4%	2	5.3%	7	18.9%	7	19.4%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	11	27.5%	15	39.5%	6	15.8%	4	10.8%	3	8.3%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	4	10.0%	9	23.7%	22	57.9%	2	5.4%	3	8.3%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	1	2.5%	5	13.2%	7	18.4%	19	51.4%	1	2.8%
Thanksgiving Season	7	17.5%	2	5.3%	1	2.6%	5	13.5%	22	61.1%
	40		38		38		37		36	

ADULTS 17-25	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	27	34.6%	13	18.1%	7	10.0%	6	8.6%	23	32.9%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	11	14.1%	27	37.5%	14	20.0%	25	35.7%	8	11.4%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	7	9.0%	6	8.3%	32	45.7%	13	18.6%	5	7.1%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	5	6.4%	15	20.8%	11	15.7%	18	25.7%	10	14.3%
Thanksgiving Season	28	35.9%	11	15.3%	6	8.6%	8	11.4%	24	34.3%
	78		72		70		70		70	

ADULTS 26-45	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	103	43.1%	31	13.8%	13	6.1%	21	10.1%	47	23.2%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	50	20.9%	87	38.7%	38	17.8%	40	19.2%	13	6.4%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	17	7.1%	30	13.3%	107	50.0%	40	19.2%	12	5.9%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	12	5.0%	39	17.3%	27	12.6%	77	37.0%	41	20.2%
Thanksgiving Season	57	23.8%	38	16.9%	29	13.6%	30	14.4%	90	44.3%
	239		225		214		208		203	

ADULTS 46-64	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	292	49.0%	80	15.0%	62	12.3%	63	13.2%	110	24.1%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	130	21.8%	230	43.2%	63	12.5%	83	17.3%	18	3.9%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	50	8.4%	99	18.6%	253	50.2%	67	14.0%	32	7.0%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	51	8.6%	60	11.3%	73	14.5%	202	42.2%	73	16.0%
Thanksgiving Season	73	12.2%	63	11.8%	53	10.5%	64	13.4%	223	48.9%
	596		532		504		479		456	

SENIORS	1stChoice		2ndChoice		3rdChoice		4thChoice		5thChoice	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Last week in October (Saturday-Friday)	187	41.7%	64	17.0%	39	12.0%	39	13.0%	60	21.5%
First week in November (Saturday-Friday)	143	31.9%	147	39.1%	41	12.7%	46	15.3%	17	6.1%
Second week in November (Saturday-Friday)	39	8.7%	83	22.1%	159	49.1%	28	9.3%	15	5.4%
Third week in November (Saturday-Friday)	35	7.8%	35	9.3%	52	16.0%	143	47.5%	40	14.3%
Thanksgiving Season	44	9.8%	47	12.5%	33	10.2%	45	15.0%	147	52.7%
	448		376		324		301		279	

Q35: Thanksgiving season in 2020 will be 3 days, Wednesday Nov. 25 - Friday Nov. 27 (bear season ends Tuesday Nov. 24). How important to you is a 3-day Thanksgiving season? (choose one)

	Overall		Junior		Adult 17-25		Adult 26-45		Adult 46-64		Senior	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Very Important	190	12.9%	4	9.3%	13	16.3%	39	15.6%	92	14.7%	42	8.8%
Somewhat Important	382	25.9%	13	30.2%	30	37.5%	68	27.2%	145	23.2%	126	26.4%
No Opinion	578	39.2%	20	46.5%	31	38.8%	102	40.8%	249	39.9%	176	36.9%
Somewhat Unimportant	174	11.8%	5	11.6%	6	7.5%	22	8.8%	68	10.9%	73	15.3%
Very Unimportant	150	10.2%	1	2.3%	0	0.0%	19	7.6%	70	11.2%	60	12.6%
Total	1474		43		80		250		624		477	

Q36: Which fall season scenarios would you prefer in the area where you hunt? Choose one from each question.

| Preference	Overall		Junior		Adult 17-25		Adult 26-45		Adult 46-64		Senior	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
3-week regular November Season + 3-day Thanksgiving season	929	70.8%	24	61.5%	62	86.1%	169	74.4%	389	68.2%	285	70.4%
4-week regular November season with Closed Thanksgiving season	384	29.2%	15	38.5%	10	13.9%	58	25.6%	181	31.8%	120	29.6%
Total	1313		39		72		227		570		405	

Preference	Overall		Junior		Adult 17-25		Adult 26-45		Adult 46-64		Senior	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
2-week regular November season + 3-day Thanksgiving season	671	59.2%	21	55.3%	46	70.8%	136	67.0%	282	56.7%	186	56.4%
3-week regular November season with Closed Thanksgiving season	462	40.8%	17	44.7%	19	29.2%	67	33.0%	215	43.3%	144	43.6%
Total	1133		38		65		203		497		330	

Preference	Overall		Junior		Adult 17-25		Adult 26-45		Adult 46-64		Senior	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
1-week regular November season + 3-day Thanksgiving season	562	50.9%	21	56.8%	39	61.9%	118	59.9%	238	49.1%	146	45.2%
2-week regular November season with Closed Thanksgiving season	543	49.1%	16	43.2%	24	38.1%	79	40.1%	247	50.9%	177	54.8%
Total	1105		37		63		197		485		323	

Preference	Overall		Junior		Adult 17-25		Adult 26-45		Adult 46-64		Senior	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
1-week regular November season with Closed Thanksgiving season	768	72.7%	22	59.5%	41	64.1%	127	68.6%	348	73.9%	230	76.9%
3-day Thanksgiving season with Closed early November season	288	27.3%	15	40.5%	23	35.9%	58	31.4%	123	26.1%	69	23.1%
Total	1056		37		64		185		471		299	

Q37: Please indicate your level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with fall season regulations.

Fall turkey regulations
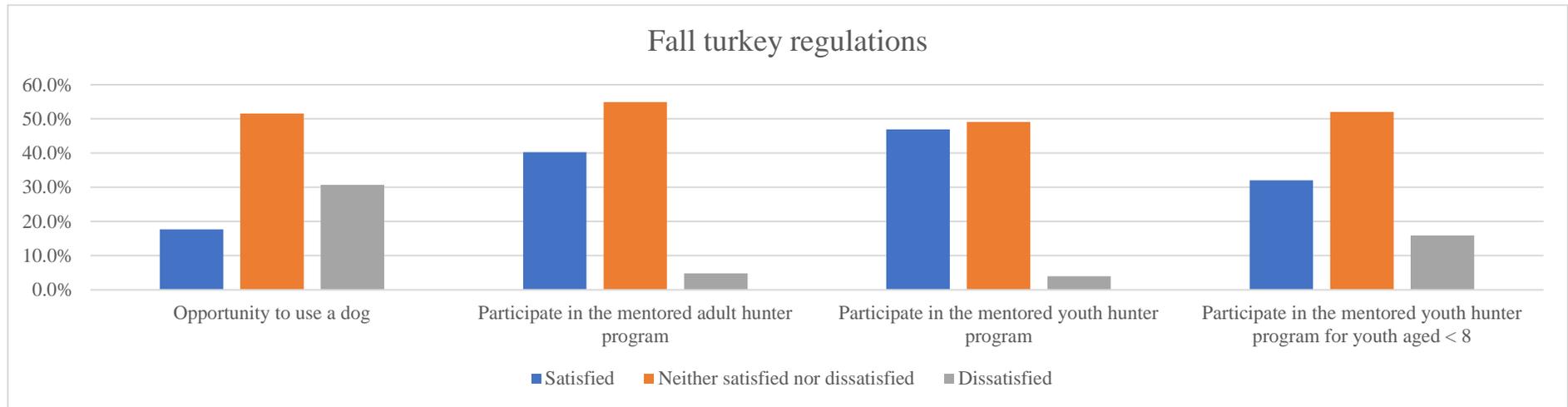
Q38: What is your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements regarding current or potential fall turkey hunting season structure. NOTE: Due to column shift in raw data, Q38 is difficult to summarize. There are seven parts to the question, all of which use the same answer options. Any blanks in the raw data could either represent an option that was intentionally left blank by the respondent or is blank due to column shift. The analysis below uses only responses from those who answered all seven parts of the question, i.e., no ambiguous blanks. There were 133 respondents who answered fewer than the seven parts of the question and were removed from analysis of this question.

Fall turkey season structure
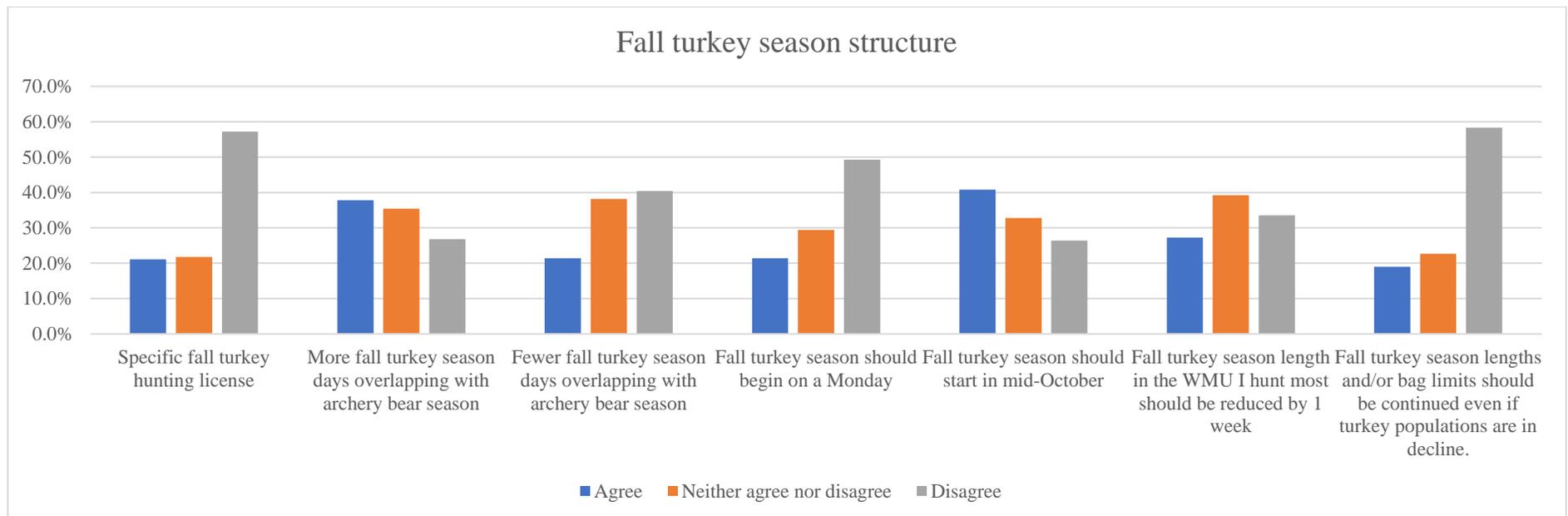
Q39: What is your opinion of the length of the early November turkey season in the WMU you hunt most?

	n	%
Too short	295	20.9%
Just right	675	47.7%
Too long	74	5.2%
No opinion	370	26.2%

Q40: Do you agree or disagree with the opportunity to harvest a second spring turkey (with the purchase of the Special Spring Turkey License)?

	Overall		Junior		Adult ages 17–25		Adult ages 26–45		Adult ages 46–64		Senior	
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%
Agree	1,252	55.4%	44	61.1%	96	78.0%	276	66.4%	511	55.7%	325	44.4%
Disagree	1,008	44.6%	28	38.9%	27	22.0%	140	33.6%	406	44.3%	407	55.6%

Q41: Why do you disagree with the opportunity to harvest a second spring turkey?

This open-ended question received responses from 928 respondents. Most responded the decline in populations does not justify a 2nd spring harvest, 1 spring harvest is enough for a hunter, and leave the 2nd bird for other hunters to hunt. Concerns with predators, general negative attitude towards the Game Commission, etc., were common. Some comments were too vague to be categorized, or unique and were classified as 'other'.

Reply Category	n	%
Hurts turkey pop, numbers and demographics (too many jakes shot), not enough turkeys	488	45.8%
Harvesting one is enough	229	21.5%
2nd harvest takes opportunity from other hunters	88	8.3%
2nd tag costs ($) too much and/or it should be free	47	4.4%
Predators	30	2.8%
No/poor 1st bird success	22	2.1%
Other hunter ethics/cheating/poaching/not reporting harvests	20	1.9%
I do not hunt turkeys (spring and/or fall)	18	1.7%
Allocate tag by WMU or property type	17	1.6%
Disturbs mating/nesting/rearing	12	1.1%
Too many hunters	9	0.8%
Prefer to "hunt" over harvest	4	0.4%
Issues with season timing	4	0.4%
Would not use a 2nd tag	3	0.3%
Regs change too much	3	0.3%
Work/Free time	3	0.3%
Allow 2nd tag purchase in-season	2	0.2%
Safety concerns	1	0.1%
Misc./unknown	66	6.2%
Total	1066	

Q42: Do you typically purchase a Special Spring Turkey License? (choose one)

	n	%
Yes	284	12.7%
No	1,958	87.3%

Q43: Why do you typically **not purchase** a Special Spring Turkey License? (choose one). Note: 226 respondents answered "Other" to this question and were given the opportunity via open-ended question to expand. The list of "Other" answers will be condensed and categorized in a future report.

	n	%
The Special Spring Turkey License is too expensive.	94	5.8%
I forget to purchase before the season opens.	56	3.5%
I do not have enough time to hunt a second turkey.	400	24.7%
I have had limited or no success harvesting a first turkey in the past.	499	30.8%
I have had limited or no success harvesting a second turkey in the past.	49	3.0%
I do not believe hunters should be permitted to take a second turkey in Pennsylvania.	524	32.3%

Q44. Please indicate your level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction with spring turkey hunting season.

NOTE: Due to column shift in raw data, Q44 is difficult to summarize. There are four parts to the question, all of which use the same answer options. Any blanks could either represent an option that was intentionally left blank or is blank due to column shift. The analysis below uses only responses from those who answered all four parts of the question, i.e., no ambiguous blanks. There were 104 respondents who answered some but not all 4 parts of Q44 and are not included in the analysis.

|	Very satisfied		Somewhat satisfied		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied		Somewhat dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Total
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Opportunity to participate in the mentored adult hunter program for spring turkey.	489	25.1%	346	17.7%	1011	51.8%	49	2.5%	57	2.9%	1952
Opportunity to participate in the mentored youth hunter program for spring turkey.	629	32.2%	366	18.8%	864	44.3%	41	2.1%	52	2.7%	1952
Opportunity to participate in the mentored youth hunter program for youth aged 7 and under for spring turkey.	431	22.1%	298	15.3%	897	46.0%	101	5.2%	225	11.5%	1952

Q45. Please indicate your preference for spring turkey season opening timing.

Note, the 338 respondents who selected more than one option as their first choice are not included in the analysis. However, those respondents who selected less than 3 options are included, i.e., selected a 2nd choice but not a 1st or 3rd.

	The current spring season structure of opening each year on the Saturday closest to May 1.		Spring season opening on May 1 each year (or May 2 if May 1 falls on a Sunday).		Spring season opening on Monday closest to May 1 each year, to reduce opening day hunting pressure.		Total
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	
1st choice	1223	75.4%	147	9.1%	253	15.6%	1623
2nd choice	167	12.0%	917	66.1%	304	21.9%	1388
3rd choice	185	13.6%	335	24.7%	839	61.7%	1359

Q46/47. Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following potential spring regulations and statements.

NOTE: Due to column shift in raw data, Q46 & Q47 are difficult to summarize. There are nine parts to the questions (five parts in Q46 and four parts in Q47), all of which use the same answer options. Any blanks could either represent an option that was intentionally left blank or is blank due to column shift. The analysis below uses only responses from those who answered all nine parts of the questions, i.e., no ambiguous blanks. The 187 respondents who answered some but not all 9 parts of Q46 and Q47 and are not included in the analysis.
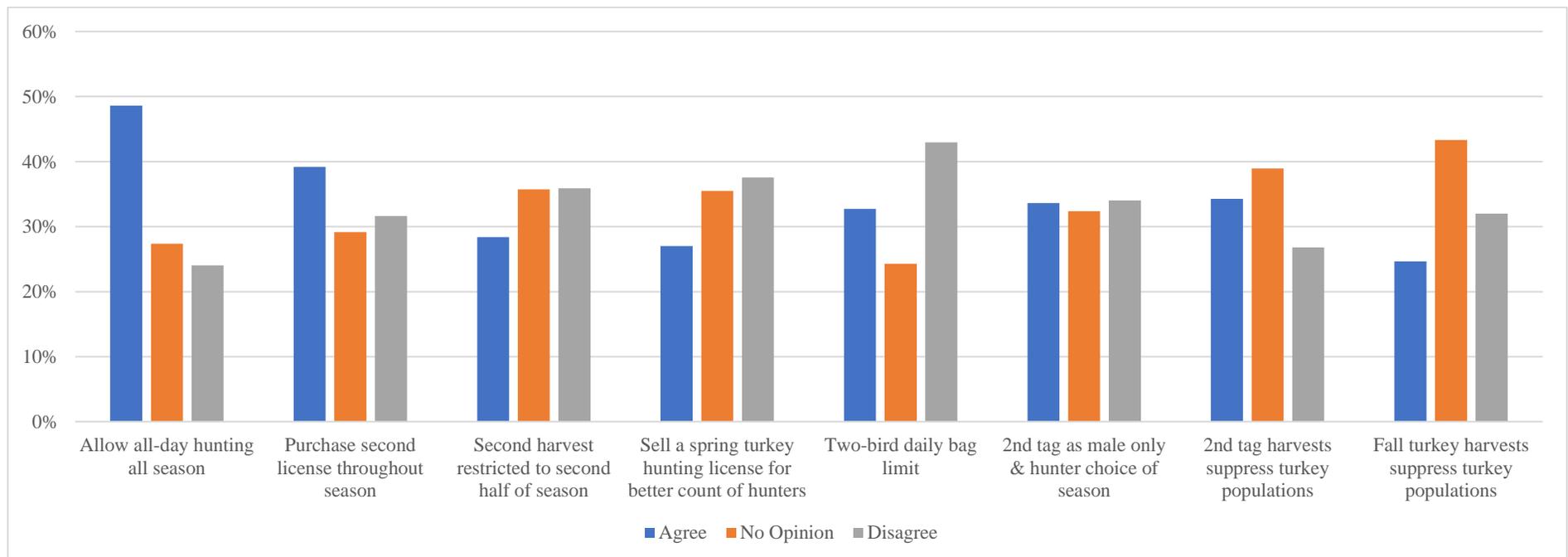
Q48. What is your level of support or opposition to the following?

Note, Due to column shift in raw data, Q48 is difficult to summarize. There are four parts to the question, all of which use the same answer options. Any blanks could either represent an option that was intentionally left blank, or is blank due to column shift. The analysis below uses only responses from those who answered all four parts of the question, i.e., no ambiguous blanks. The 44 respondents who answered some but not all 4 parts of the question are not included in the analysis.

	Strongly support		Somewhat support		Neither support nor oppose		Somewhat oppose		Strongly oppose		Total
	n	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	*n*	%	
Use of crossbows for turkey hunting.	896	42.7%	453	21.6%	482	23.0%	91	4.3%	176	8.4%	2098
Use of decoys for turkey hunting.	1274	60.7%	403	19.2%	321	15.3%	47	2.2%	53	2.5%	2098
Legalizing electronic calls for turkey hunting.	396	18.9%	304	14.5%	425	20.3%	292	13.9%	681	32.5%	2098
Use of rifles for the fall turkey hunting season.	622	29.6%	365	17.4%	415	19.8%	229	10.9%	467	22.3%	2098

Q49. What is your satisfaction or dissatisfaction with the following statements regarding the Pennsylvania Game Commission?

Note, Due to column shift in raw data, Q49 is difficult to summarize. There are nine parts to the question, all of which use the same answer options. Any blanks could either represent an option that was intentionally left blank, or is blank due to column shift. The analysis below uses only responses from those who answered all nine parts of the question, i.e., no ambiguous blanks. The 159 respondents who answered some but not all 9 parts of the question are not included in the analysis because the blanks created unusable data for analysis.

	Very satisfied		Somewhat satisfied		Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied		Somewhat dissatisfied		Very dissatisfied		Total
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Overall wild turkey management.	432	21.6%	705	35.3%	578	29.0%	224	11.2%	57	2.9%	1996
Information on the Game Commission website regarding turkey behavior and hunting.	360	18.0%	569	28.5%	993	49.7%	54	2.7%	20	1.0%	1996
Information provided by the Game Commission social media outlets regarding turkey behavior and hunting.	311	15.6%	506	25.4%	1094	54.8%	55	2.8%	30	1.5%	1996
Amount of information emailed to hunters by the Game Commission regarding turkey hunting seasons.	231	11.6%	408	20.4%	1183	59.3%	121	6.1%	53	2.7%	1996
Game Commission's Turkey Management Plan.	309	15.5%	548	27.5%	870	43.6%	203	10.2%	66	3.3%	1996
Turkey hunter safety information on the Game Commission website.	540	27.1%	601	30.1%	804	40.3%	34	1.7%	17	0.9%	1996
Turkey hunting and safety covered in Hunting & Trapping Education class.	665	33.3%	597	29.9%	685	34.3%	33	1.7%	16	0.8%	1996
Turkey habitat management on State Game Lands.	343	17.2%	549	27.5%	823	41.2%	195	9.8%	86	4.3%	1996
Wildlife Protection Program (law enforcement).	509	25.5%	564	28.3%	783	39.2%	85	4.3%	55	2.8%	1996

Q50, Q51, Q52, & Q53 are impossible to analyze accurately due to column shift in raw data and branching in these questions. If there are blanks, we can't tell if they were left blank on purpose, or due to column shift, or because the respondent skipped the question as instructed based on answers to the questions.

Q50. Did you know the Game Commission has a Wild Turkey Management Plan?

Q51. Have you read the Game Commission's Wild Turkey Management Plan, 2018-2027?

Q52. Did you know the Game Commission has an annual Public Summer Turkey Sighting Survey that the public is encouraged to participate in during July and August?

Q53. Have you participated in the Game Commission's annual Public Summer Turkey Sighting Survey that the public is encouraged to participate in during July and August?

Q54. Please select the response that best describes the area where you live. (choose only one)

Location of residence	n	%
Rural area	1746	55.2%
Suburb	532	16.8%
Small town (less than 5,000 people)	503	15.9%
Small city (5,000 to 50,000 people)	300	9.5%
Large city (50,001 to 500,000 people)	60	1.9%
Very large city (more than 500,000 people)	24	0.8%

Q55. Feel free to add anything additional here.

Note, Q55 contained 812 individual replies which will be categorized and summarized in a future report.