

## **2022 Pennsylvania Wild Turkey Sighting Survey Results**

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This annual summer survey allows us to estimate the number of turkey poults (young of the year) seen per hen throughout the state during July and August; an index of reproductive success. We use this in our turkey population model and to establish fall turkey seasons. This national standardized survey allows direct comparison of reproductive success across states and regions.

Thanks to all volunteers and PGC staff for contributing to this survey!

### **2022 RESULTS:**

We received 3,241 useable reports (2,210 in 2021, 2,742 in 2020) totaling 23,501 turkey sightings (16,251 in 2021, 17,573 in 2020), ranging from 140 sighted in Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 5D to 2,488 in WMU 2G (compared to 2021 with a range of 63 sighted in WMU 5D to 1,509 in WMU 2C).

**Reproductive Index: 3.1 poults per all hens observed**, same as 2021 and **2.7** in 2020.

Reproductive index varied considerably among the 23 WMUs (Table 1).

Spring and summer rainfall & cold temperatures affect turkey reproductive success as well as habitat conditions, predation, insect abundance and hen condition.

Reproductive index also varied among the northeastern States that had submitted their data by report preparation (Table 2).

Thanks to the popularity of this survey in Pennsylvania we have high confidence in our estimates. Let's maintain the great public participation in 2023!

Table 1. The ratio of turkey poults seen per all hens seen (poult recruitment) during July and August by Pennsylvania Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) and year.

<b>WMU</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>1A</b>	2.6	2.3	2.7	2.4
<b>1B</b>	2.3	2.8	3.1	2.7
<b>2A</b>	3.1	1.9	3.0	3.1
<b>2B</b>	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.6
<b>2C</b>	2.8	2.7	4.0	3.4
<b>2D</b>	4.0	2.7	2.7	2.8
<b>2E</b>	3.1	3.0	2.9	4.0
<b>2F</b>	2.8	2.3	2.8	3.5
<b>2G</b>	2.8	3.2	3.5	4.1
<b>2H</b>	2.8	2.9	4.4	4.2
<b>3A</b>	2.2	3.6	2.7	3.7
<b>3B</b>	2.4	3.2	2.5	3.4
<b>3C</b>	2.8	3.0	1.9	3.2
<b>3D</b>	2.8	2.3	2.9	2.6
<b>4A</b>	2.7	3.1	4.7	3.0
<b>4B</b>	2.8	3.0	3.7	2.8
<b>4C</b>	2.9	3.4	2.5	2.6
<b>4D</b>	3.0	3.1	3.3	4.3
<b>4E</b>	3.0	2.9	2.6	3.4
<b>5A</b>	2.5	3.1	4.2	2.1
<b>5B</b>	2.9	2.6	3.6	2.7
<b>5C</b>	1.4	1.4	3.2	1.7
<b>5D</b>	1.9	2.0	1.3	2.8
<b>State</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>

Table 2. Turkey poult recruitment, 2021, in Pennsylvania and surrounding states that had submitted data by report preparation.

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State	Observations	Poults per Hen
Maryland	1,202	2.94
New Jersey	55	3.83
New York	1,223	3.04
Pennsylvania	2,210	3.10
Virginia	531	2.68
West Virginia	258	2.70

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