



2016 Missouri Archery Deer Hunting Survey Results



Compiled by: MDC Resource Science Division

The MDC Deer Program uses surveys such as this one to gauge public opinion regarding deer numbers and management strategies and as indicators of deer population trends in each county. We greatly appreciate the responses we receive which help make our surveys an effective management tool!

The Archery Deer Hunting Survey asks questions about perceived changes in the deer population (number of big bucks and total deer compared to the past 5 years), opinions about deer population size and trends in the county most hunted, and specific days that are hunted and number of deer that were killed each day of the archery season. Data on specific days hunted and number of deer killed are important both for a “trips-per-kill” estimate and to better understand when hunters are spending time afield. “Trips-per-kill” often influences hunter satisfaction and is also an important indicator of deer population trends.

The sampling pool for this survey is any hunter that receives an archery deer hunting permit during a given deer season. Following the 2016 deer season, we sent 35,000 surveys to archery hunters (about 7% of our total deer hunters or 18% of our archery deer hunters).

We have summarized the primary results of the 2016 survey and present these data in the figures that follow. For questions about this survey contact Aaron Hildreth, Cervid Biologist, at 573-815-7901, ext 2892.

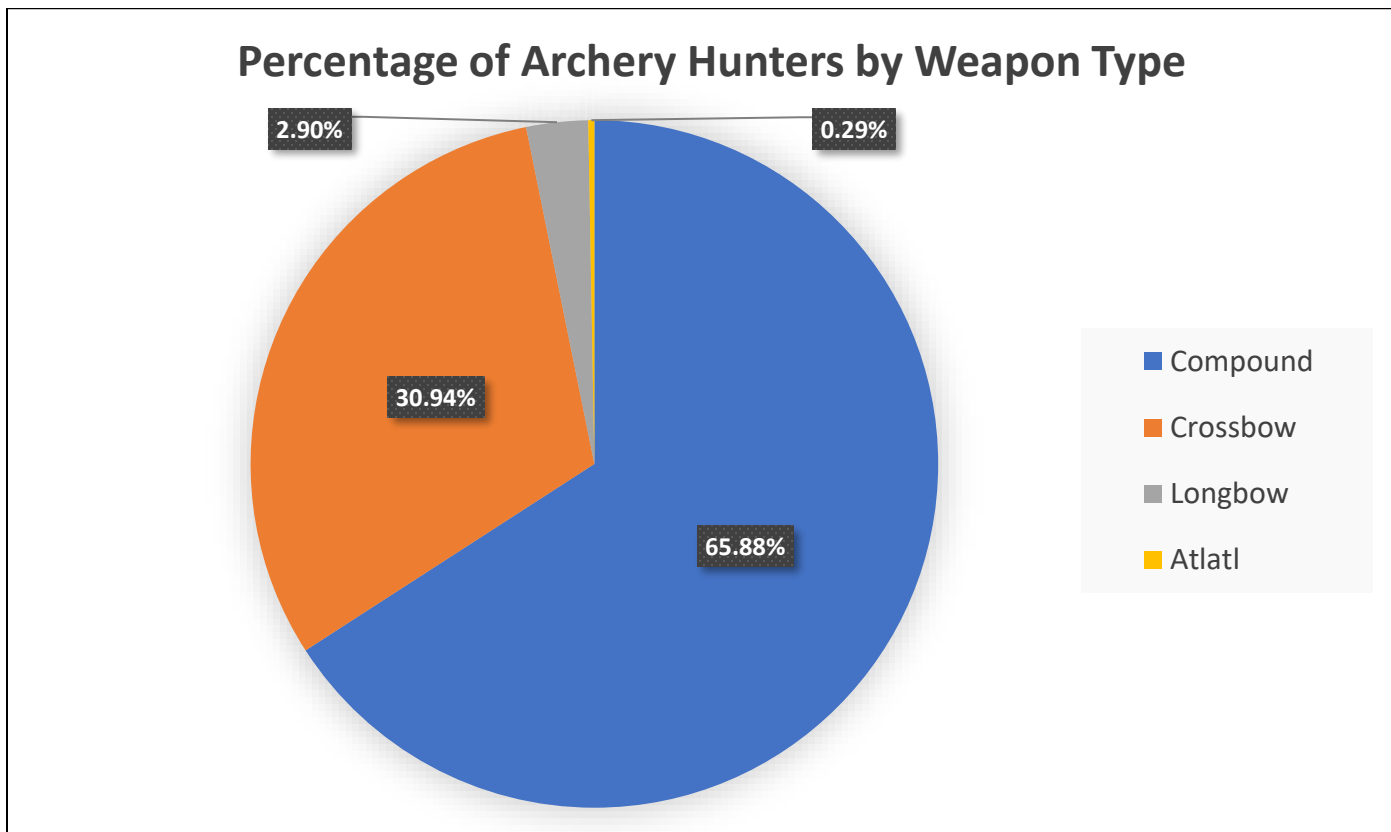


Figure 1. Estimated number of archery deer hunters by method type based on 2016 archery deer survey respondents.

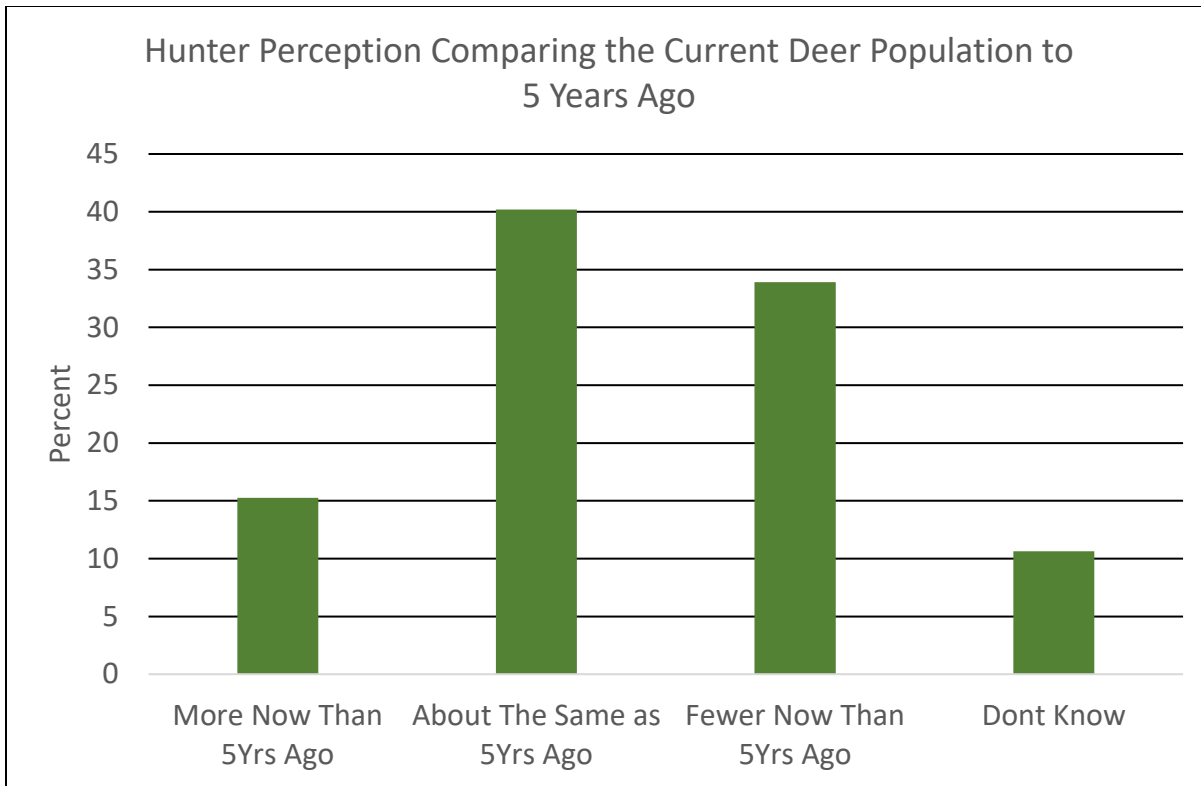


Figure 2. Perceptions of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents on the current deer population in the county they hunt most compared to 5 years ago.

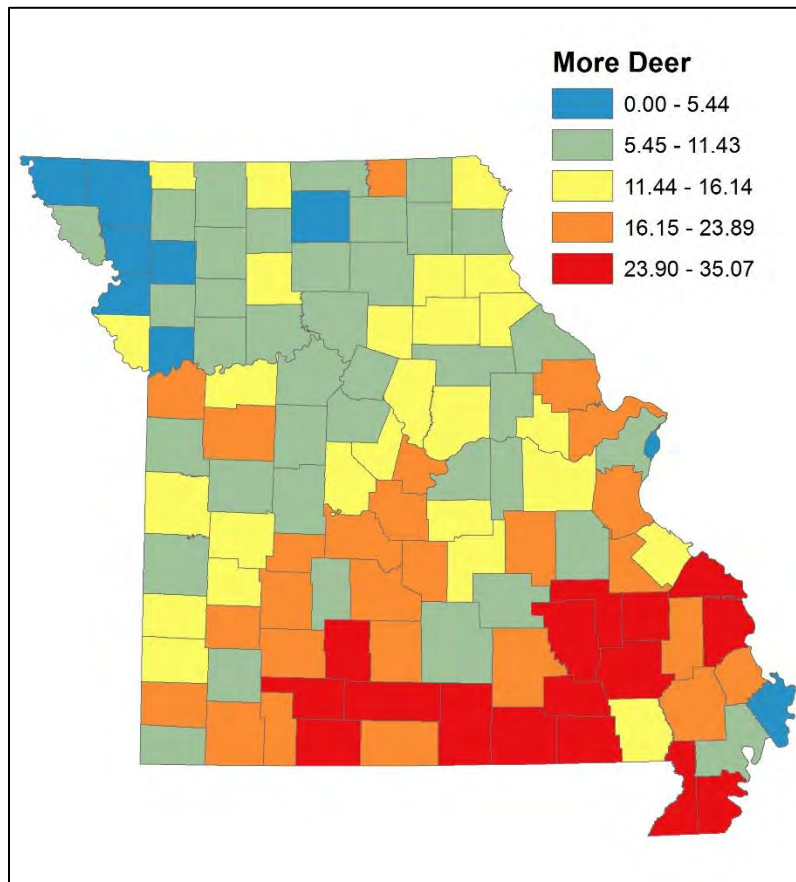


Figure 3. Percentage of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents by county that responded there are more deer now compared to 5 years ago in the county they hunt most.

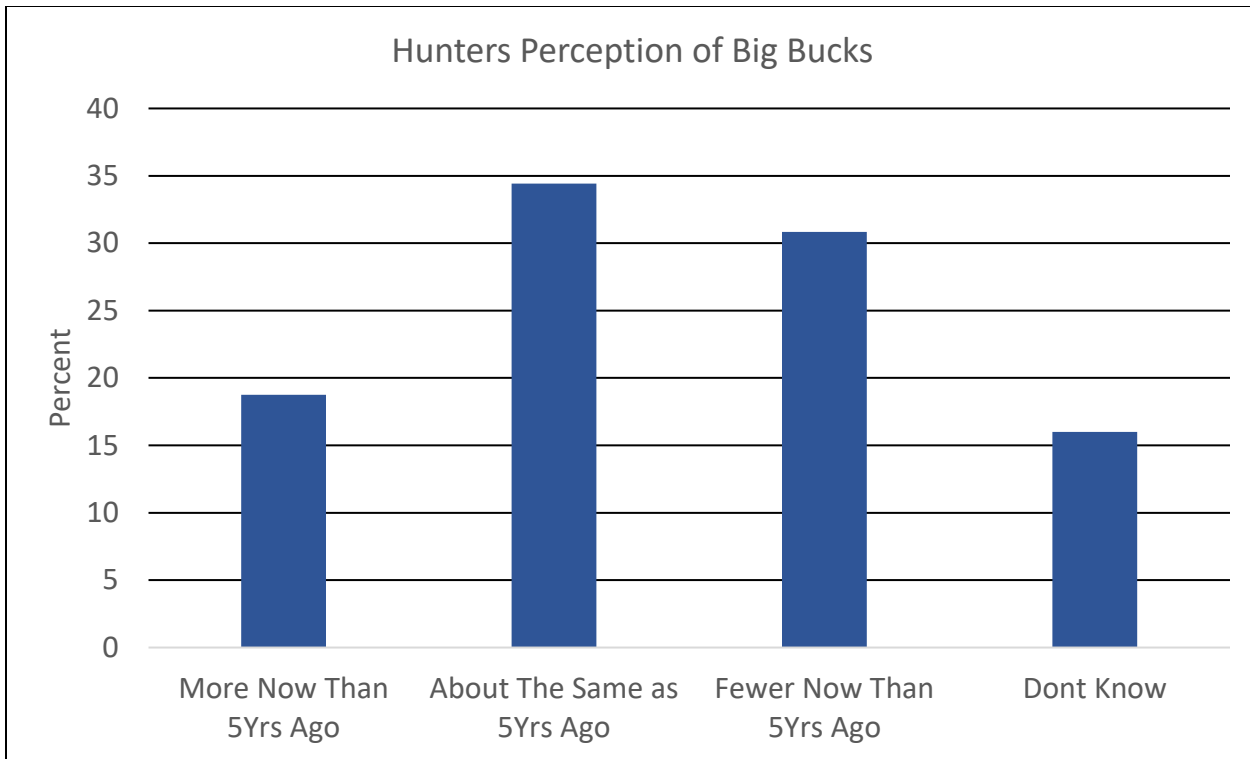


Figure 4. Perceptions of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents on the number of big bucks in the county they hunt most compared to 5 years ago.

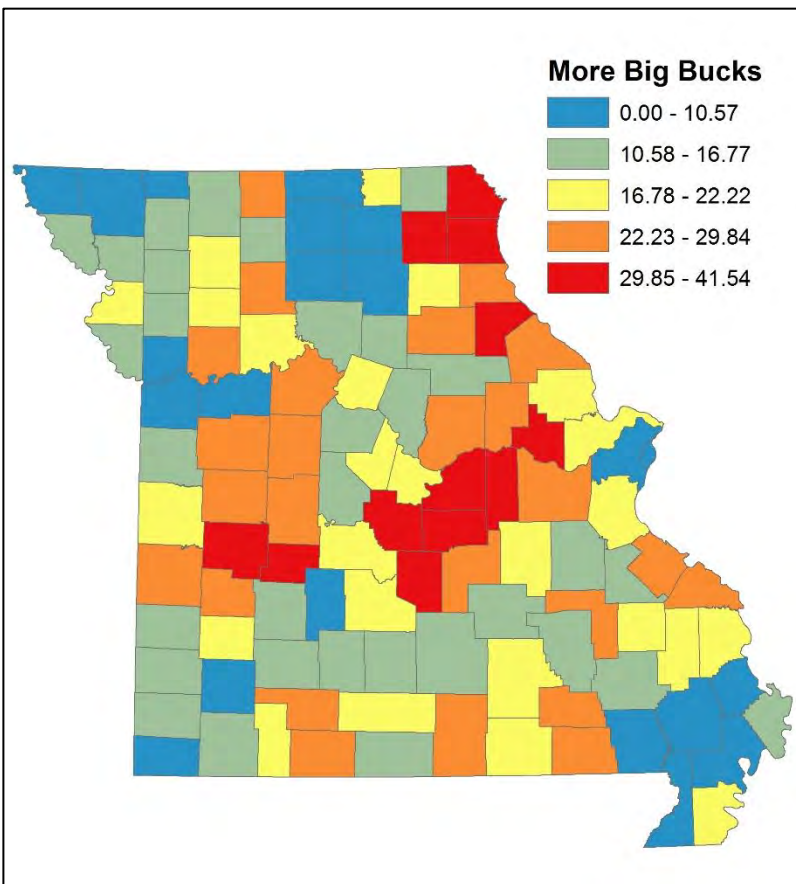


Figure 5. Percentage of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents by county that responded there are more big bucks now compared to 5 years ago in the county they hunt most.

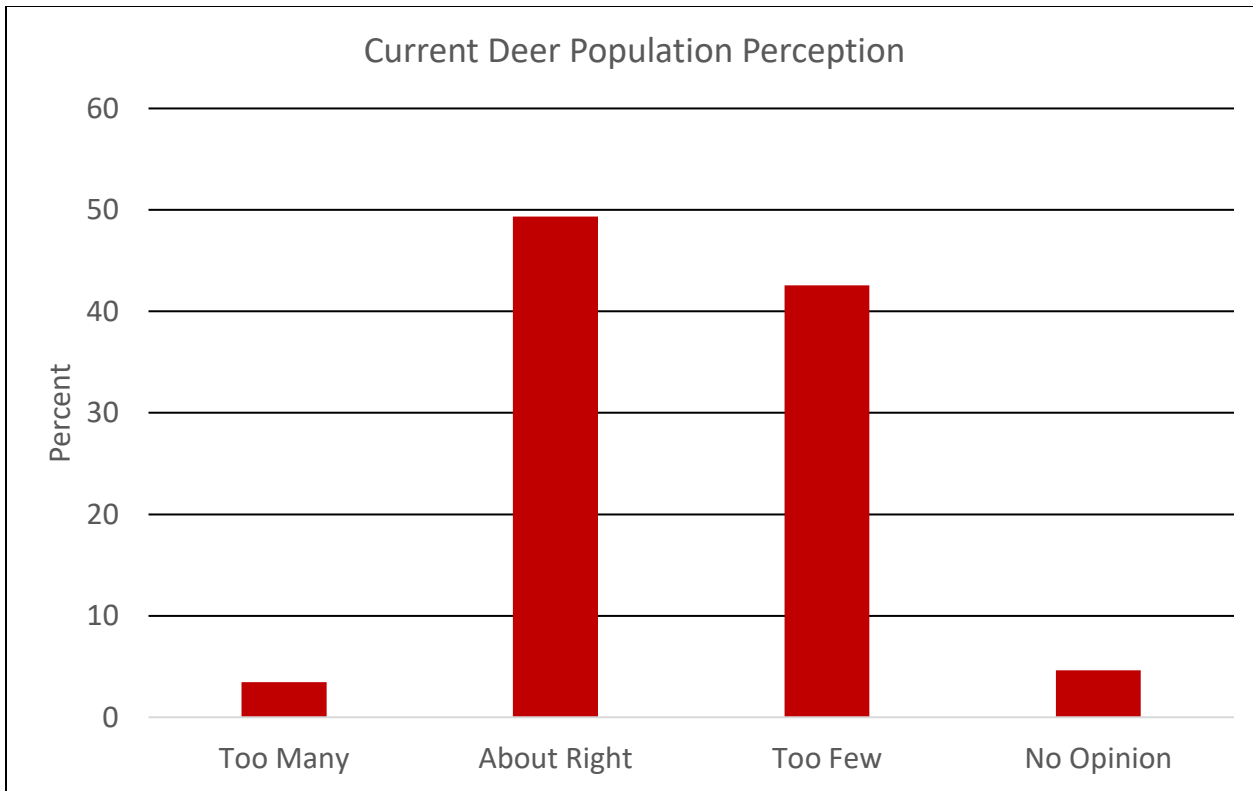


Figure 6. Percentage of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents that responded there are “too many”, “about right”, “too few”, or “no opinion” when asked about the number of deer in the county they hunt the most.

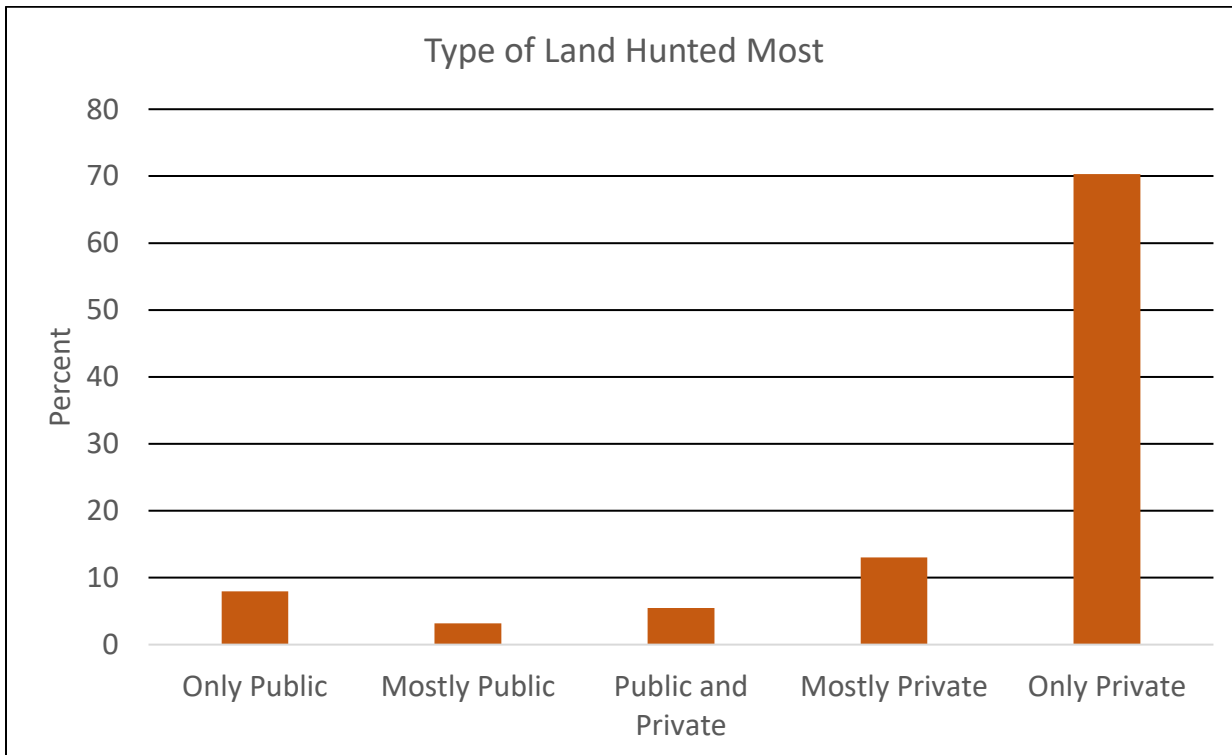


Figure 7. Type of land hunted most by 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents.

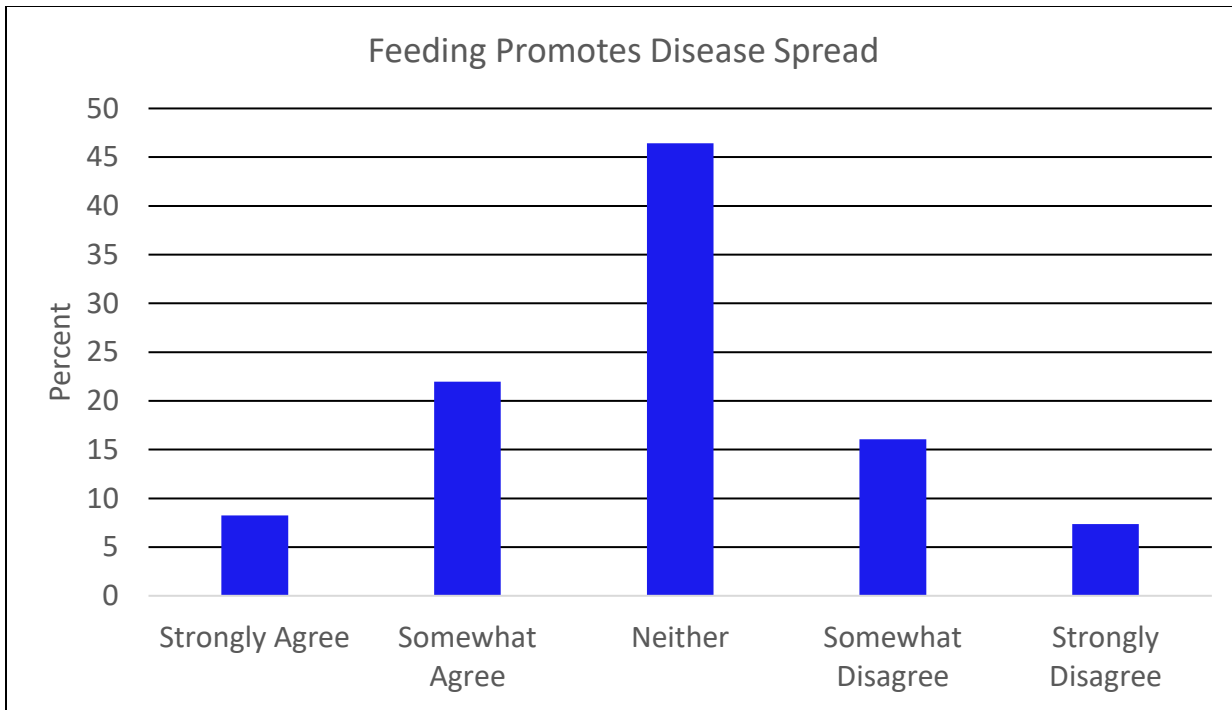


Figure 8. Opinions of 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents about supplemental feeding and disease spread.

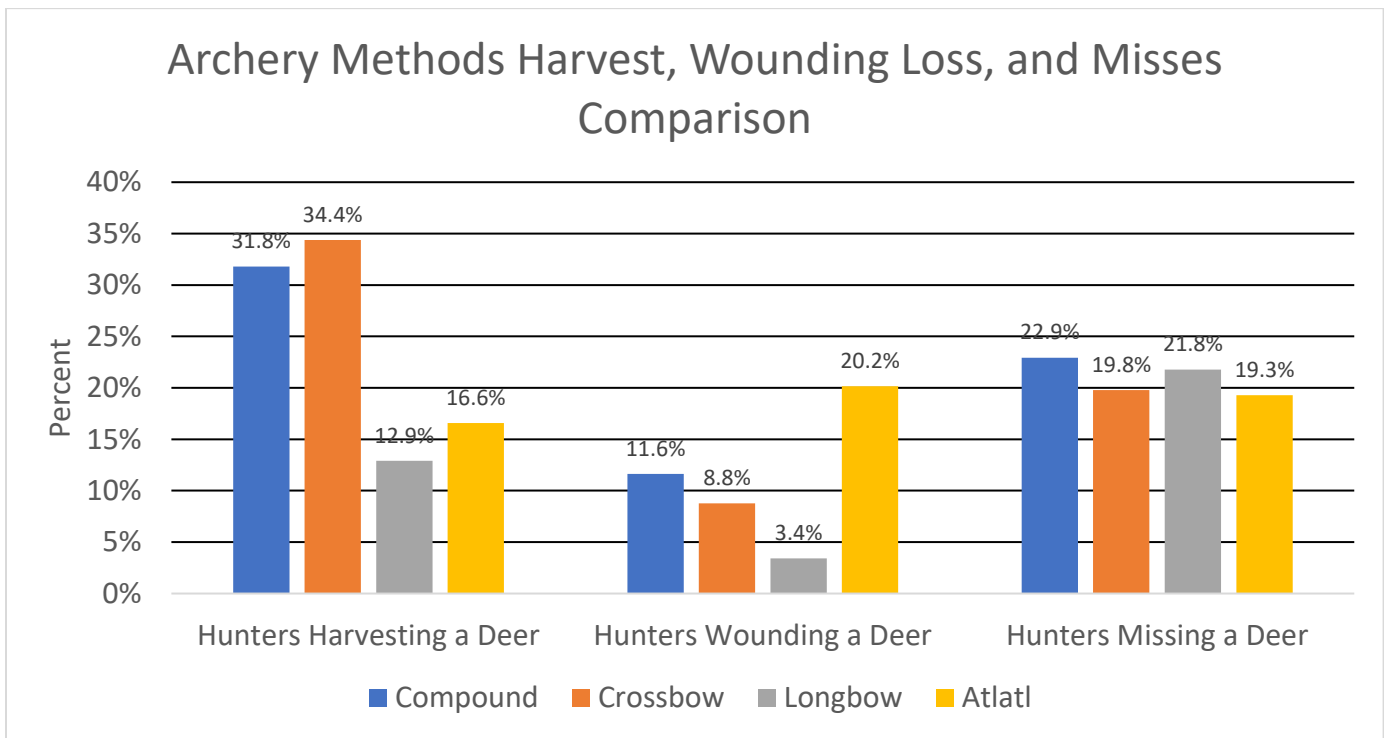


Figure 9. Comparison of the percentage of archery hunters harvesting deer, not recovering wounded deer, and missing deer by archery method type as reported by survey respondents in the 2016 archery deer hunter survey.

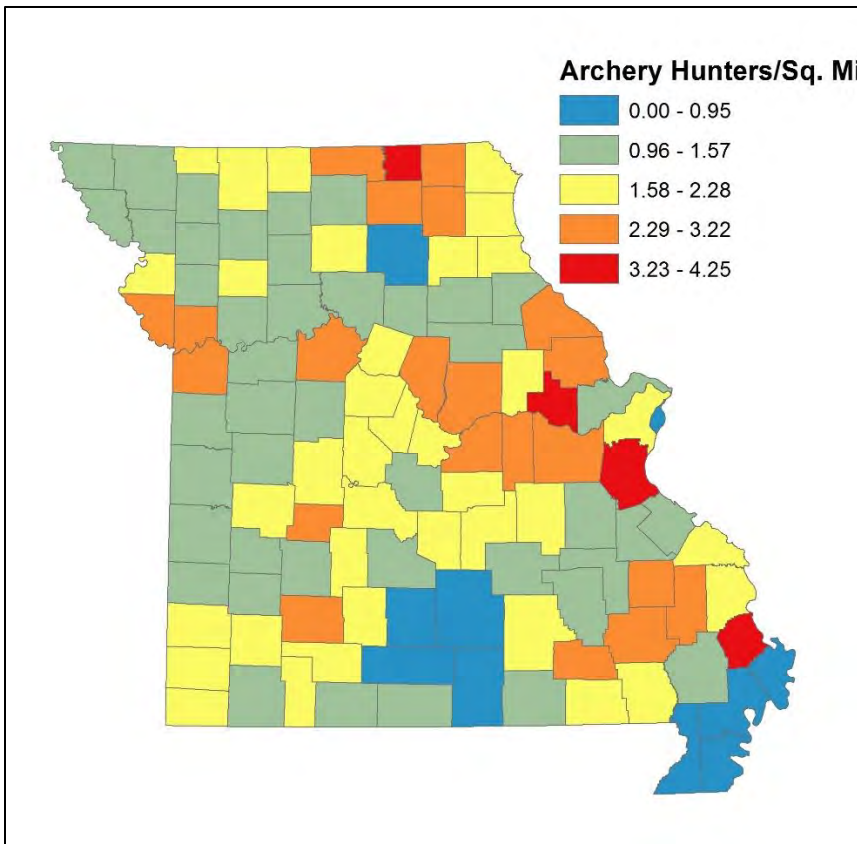


Figure 10. Archery hunter density (Hunters/square mile) by county based on 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents.

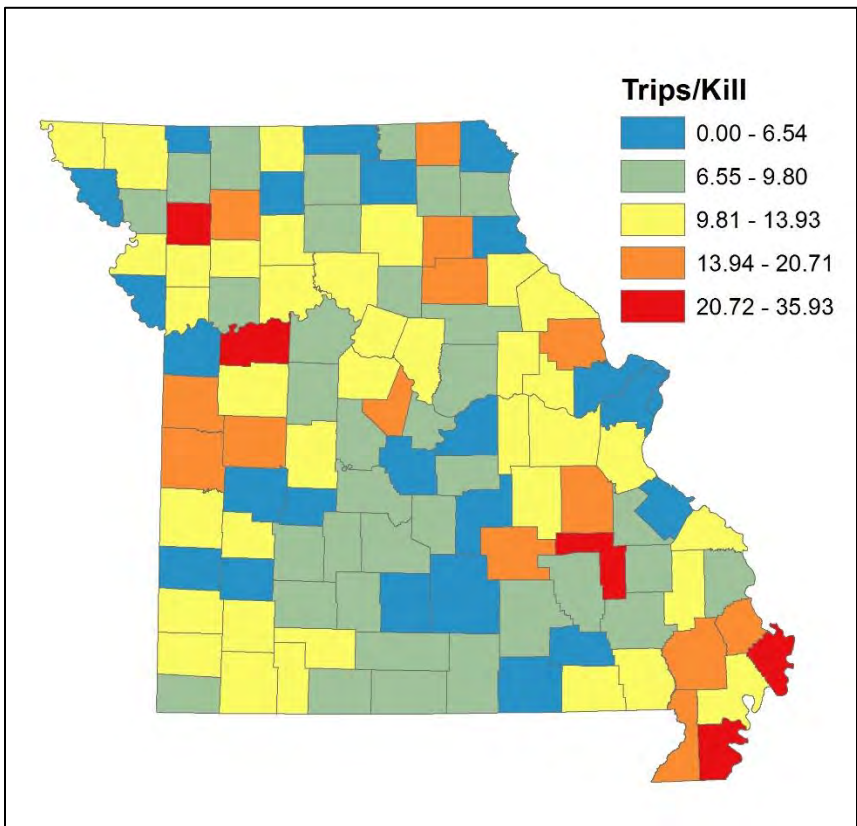


Figure 11. Average number of trips by archery hunters per deer harvested by county based on 2016 archery deer hunter survey respondents.