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Table 1. Estimated statewide turkey harvest in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Gobbler Harvest	Jake Harvest	Total Harvest	Percent Jakes	Harvest Rates	
							Ac/Turkey	Turkey/Mi. <sup>2</sup>
Abbeville	223,113	349	592	42	634	6.6	351.9	1.8
Aiken	500,546	782	249	56	305	18.4	1641.1	0.4
Allendale	216,455	338	179	49	228	21.5	949.4	0.7
Anderson	219,068	342	436	92	528	17.4	414.9	1.5
Bamberg	196,573	307	226	28	254	11.0	773.9	0.8
Barnwell	281,764	440	93	7	100	7.0	2817.6	0.2
Beaufort	147,441	230	109	12	121	9.9	1218.5	0.5
Berkeley	567,530	887	600	35	635	5.5	893.7	0.7
Calhoun	190,584	298	62	42	104	40.4	1832.5	0.3
Charleston	288,732	451	303	28	331	8.5	872.3	0.7
Cherokee	156,664	245	420	56	476	11.8	329.1	1.9
Chester	300,589	470	584	49	633	7.7	474.9	1.3
Chesterfield	372,478	582	257	42	299	14.0	1245.7	0.5
Clarendon	298,087	466	327	7	334	2.1	892.5	0.7
Colleton	502,666	785	428	56	484	11.6	1038.6	0.6
Darlington	286,228	447	148	21	169	12.4	1693.7	0.4
Dillon	214,069	334	116	21	137	15.3	1562.5	0.4
Dorchester	302,717	473	264	21	285	7.4	1062.2	0.6
Edgefield	246,543	385	537	49	586	8.4	420.7	1.5
Fairfield	384,607	601	740	42	782	5.4	491.8	1.3
Florence	397,888	622	459	14	473	3.0	841.2	0.8
Georgetown	399,638	624	241	21	262	8.0	1525.3	0.4
Greenville	294,257	460	452	77	529	14.6	556.3	1.2
Greenwood	204,400	319	413	7	420	1.7	486.7	1.3
Hampton	324,840	508	241	38	279	13.6	1164.3	0.5
Horry	533,336	833	264	63	327	19.3	1631.0	0.4
Jasper	309,889	484	280	7	287	2.4	1079.8	0.6
Kershaw	360,485	563	358	28	386	7.3	933.9	0.7
Lancaster	266,382	416	405	56	461	12.1	577.8	1.1
Laurens	317,916	497	763	99	862	11.5	368.8	1.7
Lee	220,106	344	210	28	238	11.8	924.8	0.7
Lexington	280,742	439	7	14	21	66.7	13368.7	0.0
McCormick	212,021	331	358	49	407	12.0	520.9	1.2
Marion	216,907	339	233	49	282	17.4	769.2	0.8
Marlboro	281,271	439	140	17	157	10.8	1791.5	0.4
Newberry	317,761	497	904	113	1017	11.1	312.4	2.0
Oconee	284,348	444	366	56	422	13.3	673.8	0.9
Orangeburg	504,516	788	545	92	637	14.4	792.0	0.8
Pickens	219,926	344	366	77	443	17.4	496.4	1.3
Richland	340,121	531	358	28	386	7.3	881.1	0.7
Saluda	192,173	300	452	35	487	7.2	394.6	1.6
Spartanburg	265,939	416	600	106	706	15.0	376.7	1.7
Sumter	338,968	530	241	63	304	20.7	1115.0	0.6
Union	258,111	403	646	134	780	17.2	330.9	1.9
Williamsburg	513,851	803	662	21	683	3.1	752.3	0.9
York	276,650	432	467	63	530	11.9	522.0	1.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>17,101</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>19,211</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>730.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>

95% Conf. Interval for harvest

(+) 2,116      (+) 639      (+) 2,248

\* Acreage shown represents the acreage of forested land and acreage of row crops considered to be significant turkey habitat within each county.

Table 2. County rankings based on turkeys harvested per unit area in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Gobbler Harvest	Jake Harvest	Total Harvest	Percent Jakes	Harvest Rates	
							Ac/Turkey	Turkey/Mi. <sup>2</sup>
Newberry	317,761	497	904	113	1017	11.1	312.4	2.0
Cherokee	156,664	245	420	56	476	11.8	329.1	1.9
Union	258,111	403	646	134	780	17.2	330.9	1.9
Abbeville	223,113	349	592	42	634	6.6	351.9	1.8
Laurens	317,916	497	763	99	862	11.5	368.8	1.7
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Saluda	192,173	300	452	35	487	7.2	394.6	1.6
Anderson	219,068	342	436	92	528	17.4	414.9	1.5
Edgefield	246,543	385	537	49	586	8.4	420.7	1.5
Chester	300,589	470	584	49	633	7.7	474.9	1.3
Greenwood	204,400	319	413	7	420	1.7	486.7	1.3
Fairfield	384,607	601	740	42	782	5.4	491.8	1.3
Pickens	219,926	344	366	77	443	17.4	496.4	1.3
McCormick	212,021	331	358	49	407	12.0	520.9	1.2
York	276,650	432	467	63	530	11.9	522.0	1.2
Greenville	294,257	460	452	77	529	14.6	556.3	1.2
Lancaster	266,382	416	405	56	461	12.1	577.8	1.1
Oconee	284,348	444	366	56	422	13.3	673.8	0.9
Williamsburg	513,851	803	662	21	683	3.1	752.3	0.9
Marion	216,907	339	233	49	282	17.4	769.2	0.8
Bamberg	196,573	307	226	28	254	11.0	773.9	0.8
Orangeburg	504,516	788	545	92	637	14.4	792.0	0.8
Florence	397,888	622	459	14	473	3.0	841.2	0.8
Charleston	288,732	451	303	28	331	8.5	872.3	0.7
Richland	340,121	531	358	28	386	7.3	881.1	0.7
Clarendon	298,087	466	327	7	334	2.1	892.5	0.7
Berkeley	567,530	887	600	35	635	5.5	893.7	0.7
Lee	220,106	344	210	28	238	11.8	924.8	0.7
Kershaw	360,485	563	358	28	386	7.3	933.9	0.7
Allendale	216,455	338	179	49	228	21.5	949.4	0.7
Colleton	502,666	785	428	56	484	11.6	1038.6	0.6
Dorchester	302,717	473	264	21	285	7.4	1062.2	0.6
Jasper	309,889	484	280	7	287	2.4	1079.8	0.6
Sumter	338,968	530	241	63	304	20.7	1115.0	0.6
Hampton	324,840	508	241	38	279	13.6	1164.3	0.5
Beaufort	147,441	230	109	12	121	9.9	1218.5	0.5
Chesterfield	372,478	582	257	42	299	14.0	1245.7	0.5
Georgetown	399,638	624	241	21	262	8.0	1525.3	0.4
Dillon	214,069	334	116	21	137	15.3	1562.5	0.4
Horry	533,336	833	264	63	327	19.3	1631.0	0.4
Aiken	500,546	782	249	56	305	18.4	1641.1	0.4
Darlington	286,228	447	148	21	169	12.4	1693.7	0.4
Marlboro	281,271	439	140	17	157	10.8	1791.5	0.4
Calhoun	190,584	298	62	42	104	40.4	1832.5	0.3
Barnwell	281,764	440	93	7	100	7.0	2817.6	0.2
Lexington	280,742	439	7	14	21	66.7	13368.7	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>17,101</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>19,211</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>730.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Table 3. County rankings based on total turkeys harvested in South Carolina in 2013.

County	Acres*	Square Miles	Gobbler Harvest	Jake Harvest	Total Harvest	Percent Jakes	Harvest Rates	
							Ac/Turkey	Turkey/Mi. <sup>2</sup>
Newberry	317,761	497	904	113	1017	11.1	312.4	2.0
Laurens	317,916	497	763	99	862	11.5	368.8	1.7
Fairfield	384,607	601	740	42	782	5.4	491.8	1.3
Union	258,111	403	646	134	780	17.2	330.9	1.9
Spartanburg	265,939	416	600	106	706	15.0	376.7	1.7
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Orangeburg	504,516	788	545	92	637	14.4	792.0	0.8
Berkeley	567,530	887	600	35	635	5.5	893.7	0.7
Abbeville	223,113	349	592	42	634	6.6	351.9	1.8
Chester	300,589	470	584	49	633	7.7	474.9	1.3
Edgefield	246,543	385	537	49	586	8.4	420.7	1.5
York	276,650	432	467	63	530	11.9	522.0	1.2
Greenville	294,257	460	452	77	529	14.6	556.3	1.2
Anderson	219,068	342	436	92	528	17.4	414.9	1.5
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Barnwell	281,764	440	93	7	100	7.0	2817.6	0.2
Lexington	280,742	439	7	14	21	66.7	13368.7	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,028,896</b>	<b>21,920</b>	<b>17,101</b>	<b>2,110</b>	<b>19,211</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>730.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Table 4. Estimated number of turkey hunters, average days hunted, and total hunting effort in South Carolina in 2013

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Harvest</b>	<b>Number Hunters</b>	<b>Avg. Days Hunted</b>	<b>Total Man/Days</b>
Abbeville	634	1,345	4.0	5,441
Aiken	305	831	4.0	3,308
Allendale	228	648	5.7	3,720
Anderson	528	1,553	4.1	6,348
Bamberg	254	844	4.6	3,854
Barnwell	100	489	5.8	2,855
Beaufort	121	306	4.4	1,350
Berkeley	635	1,687	5.7	9,584
Calhoun	104	575	4.8	2,782
Charleston	331	1,272	4.9	6,173
Cherokee	476	770	4.8	3,700
Chester	633	1,687	4.7	7,904
Chesterfield	299	1,162	4.6	5,400
Clarendon	334	782	4.4	3,463
Colleton	484	1,345	5.5	7,358
Darlington	169	587	5.2	3,061
Dillon	137	293	4.0	1,175
Dorchester	285	831	5.6	4,627
Edgefield	586	1,247	5.1	6,379
Fairfield	782	2,127	4.7	9,996
Florence	473	1,198	4.0	4,771
Georgetown	262	782	3.6	2,813
Greenville	529	1,296	4.5	5,792
Greenwood	420	1,113	4.3	4,792
Hampton	279	954	5.0	4,771
Horry	327	978	3.9	3,803
Jasper	287	648	4.8	3,102
Kershaw	386	1,333	4.5	6,039
Lancaster	461	1,039	5.0	5,225
Laurens	862	2,030	4.9	9,924
Lee	238	660	3.9	2,587
Lexington	21	293	3.5	1,020
McCormick	407	990	4.1	4,029
Marion	282	709	5.3	3,792
Marlboro	157	428	3.6	1,525
Newberry	1017	2,176	5.3	11,635
Oconee	422	893	5.3	4,751
Orangeburg	637	1,871	4.6	8,574
Pickens	443	1,320	5.0	6,585
Richland	386	1,198	4.3	5,184
Saluda	487	978	5.2	5,091
Spartanburg	706	1,589	5.0	7,925
Sumter	304	990	4.8	4,792
Union	780	2,005	4.8	9,677
Williamsburg	683	1,504	4.7	7,008
York	530	1,394	4.7	6,575
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,211</b>	<b>50,752</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>240,256</b>

Figure 1. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources 2013 Turkey Hunter Survey.

May, 2013

Dear Sportsman:

Eastern wild turkeys are one of the most important game species in South Carolina. Therefore, it is important that this species be monitored for population status and harvesting activities. Wildlife resource managers require current and accurate information about wild turkey harvests to aid in successfully managing this important natural resource and to optimize future hunting potential. To obtain this needed data, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) is conducting a survey of hunters who received a set of turkey tags during spring 2013.

You are one of a group of randomly selected hunters asked to participate in this survey. To draw accurate conclusions it is very important that you complete the survey and return it. Please take time to read each question. Even if you did not hunt wild turkeys this spring please indicate this by answering the appropriate questions and moving on to the next set of questions.

Please note that complete confidentiality will be given to you. Each survey form is numbered, but only so we can avoid costly repeat mailings to those survey participants who have not returned their survey.

Keep in mind that the purpose of the survey is to determine the wild turkey harvest in South Carolina and not to determine whether game laws are observed. By accurately answering the survey questions you will enable SCDNR biologists to better manage the Eastern wild turkey resource for you and other citizens of the state. Therefore, it is very important that you take a few minutes to complete this survey and mail it. Return postage is prepaid.

Results of this survey will be posted on the SCDNR web site once completed. The results from the 2012 survey can be found at: [www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/turkey/2012TurkeyHarvest.html](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/turkey/2012TurkeyHarvest.html)

Thank you for your assistance.

Charles Ruth  
Wildlife Biologist  
Deer/Turkey Project Supervisor

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR SURVEY AFTER SEPARATING THIS HALF FROM THE SIDE ON WHICH YOUR ANSWERS HAVE BEEN ENTERED. NO POSTAGE IS NECESSARY.**

If you have questions regarding this survey, please call 803-734-3886 or write 2013 Turkey Hunter Survey, SCDNR, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202.

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, disability, religion or age. Direct all inquiries to the Office of Human Resources, P.O. Box 167, Columbia, SC 29202

13-8828



**TURKEY HUNTER SURVEY  
SC DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PO BOX 167  
COLUMBIA SC 29202-9976**

**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**  
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 1371 COLUMBIA SC  
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

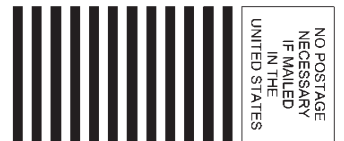


Figure 1. continued

2013 South Carolina Turkey Hunter Survey

- Did you turkey hunt in SC this past season (2013)? **1. Yes 2. No**  
If you answered **No** to this question please **go to question # 8.**
- Did you harvest any turkeys in SC this past season? **1. Yes 2. No**
- Even if you did not harvest a turkey, please record the SC counties you turkey hunted and the number of days hunted in each county this past season (2013). If you harvested turkeys please record the number of adult gobblers and jakes taken in each county. A day of hunting is defined as any portion of the day spent afield. Please do not give ranges (i.e. 5-10), rather provide absolute numbers (i.e. 5). Provide information only for yourself - not friends, relatives, or other people you may have called or guided for. See the diagram below if you are unsure how to determine an adult gobbler or "longbeard" from a juvenile gobbler or "jake".



SC Counties You Turkey Hunted	# Days Hunted	Number Turkeys Harvested
1		Adult gobblers _____ Jakes _____
2		Adult gobblers _____ Jakes _____
3		Adult gobblers _____ Jakes _____
4		Adult gobblers _____ Jakes _____
5		Adult gobblers _____ Jakes _____

If you did not harvest any turkeys in SC this past season please go to question 6.

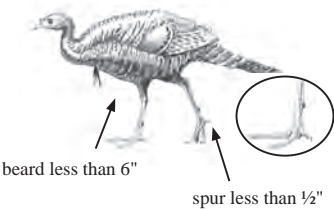
- If you harvested turkeys in SC this past season, please indicate as best you can the number of turkeys killed by week of season.

Week of Season	# Turkeys Harvested	Week of Season	# Turkeys Harvested
1 March 15-22		4 April 8-14	
2 March 23-31		5 April 15-21	
3 April 1-7		6 April 22-May 1	

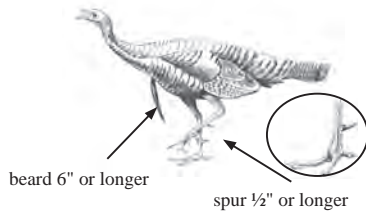
- How many turkeys did you kill in the morning \_\_\_\_\_ after 12:00 noon \_\_\_\_\_?
- How many turkeys did you shoot but not kill or recover in SC this past season? \_\_\_\_\_
- Compared to past years, how would you describe the number of turkeys in the area that you hunted most often this spring? **Circle one**  
**1. Increasing 2. About the same 3. Decreasing**
- Are you a resident of SC? **1. Yes 2. No**
- If yes, which county \_\_\_\_\_

Separate and return this portion of the survey. Postage is prepaid. Please do not staple this form.

Juvenile "Jake"



Adult "Gobbler"



**HELP MANAGE  
TURKEYS IN S.C.  
COMPLETE YOUR  
HUNTER SURVEY**

DNR



**TURKEY HUNTER SURVEY**  
**SC DNR**  
**PO BOX 167**  
**COLUMBIA SC 29202-0167**  
**www.dnr.sc.gov**

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 COLUMBIA SC  
 PERMIT 535

Figure 2. Summer wild turkey recruitment ratio in South Carolina 1982-2012. Note improved harvest (Fig. 3 below) related to improved recruitment in 2010 and 2011. Recruitment ratio is a measure of young entering the population based on the number of hens in the population.

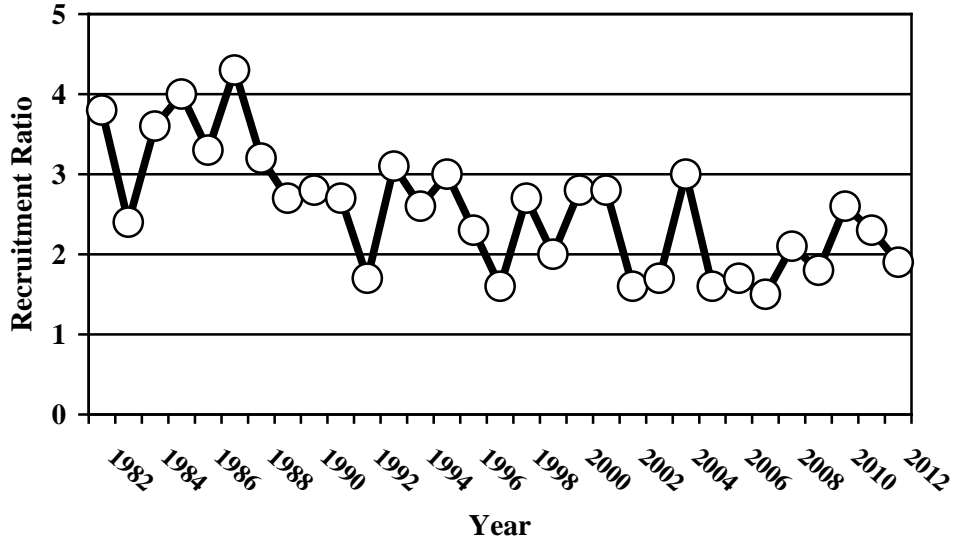


Figure 3. Spring wild turkey harvest in South Carolina 1982-2013. Note declines in harvest associated with years of poor recruitment 2003-2009 and improved harvests in recent years resulting from improved recruitment in 2010 and 2011.

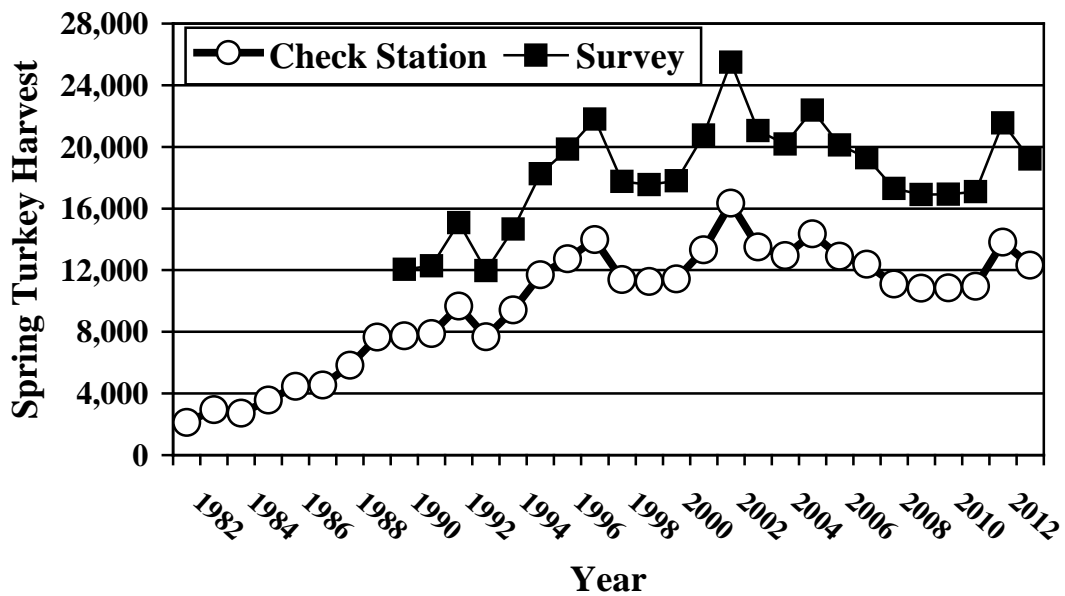




Figure 4. Percentage of gobblers harvested by week of season in South Carolina in 2013.

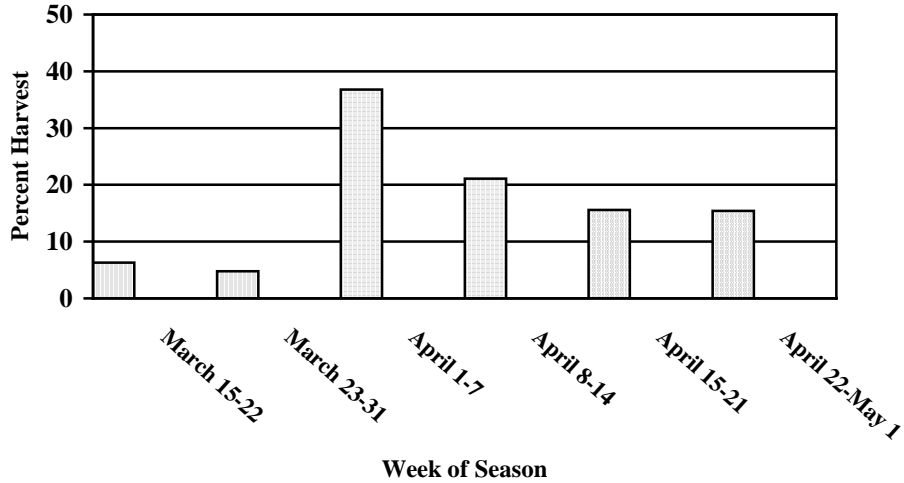


Figure 5. Percentage of gobblers harvested by week in areas with March 15-May 1 season.

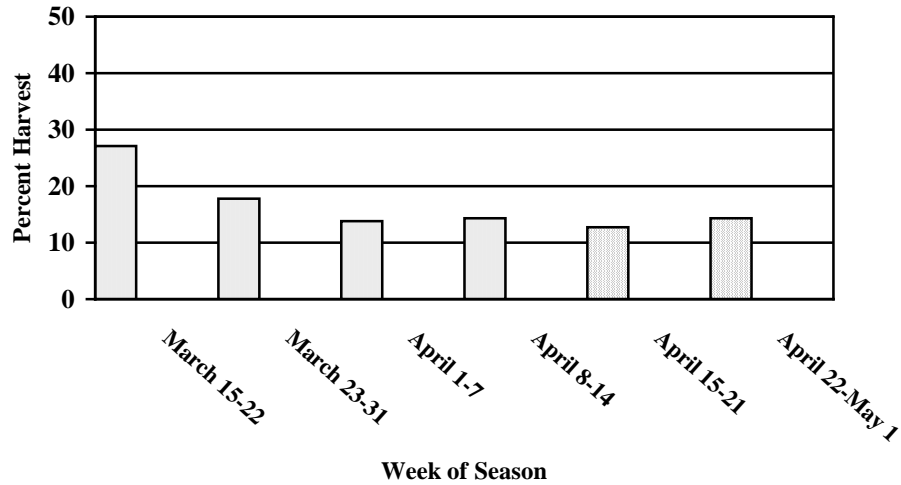


Figure 6. Percentage of gobblers harvested by week in areas with April 1-May 1 season.

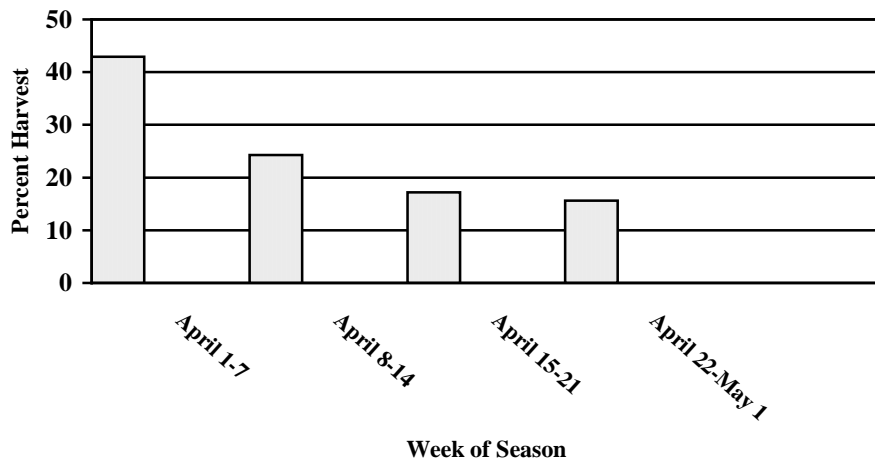


Figure 7. Hunter success during the spring turkey season in South Carolina in 2013. Overall success was 18 percent at harvesting at least one gobbler.

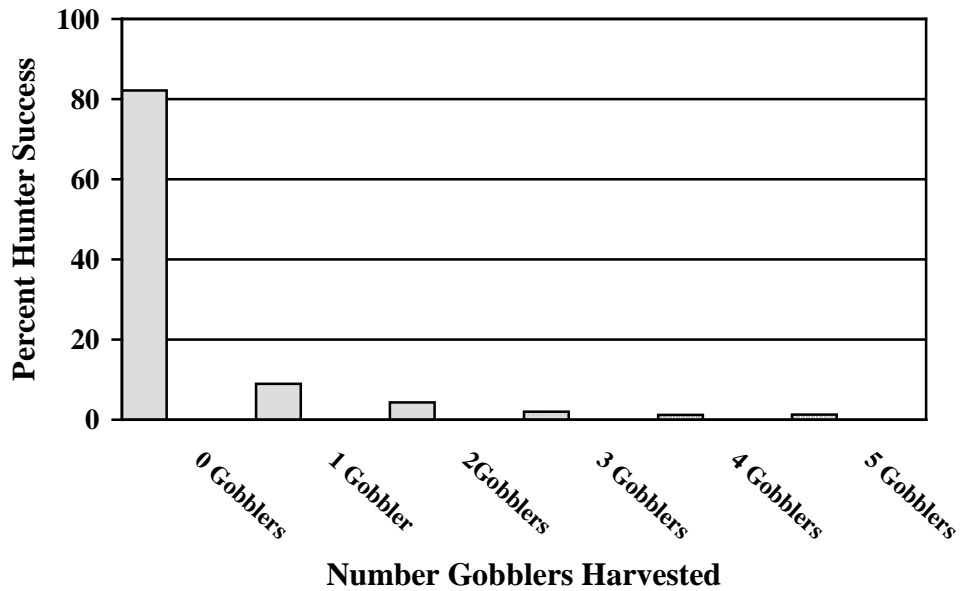


Figure 8. Relative contribution to the total turkey harvest by hunters taking between 1 and 5 gobbler in South Carolina in 2013. Hunters taking more than 3 birds accounted for 32% of total statewide harvest.

