

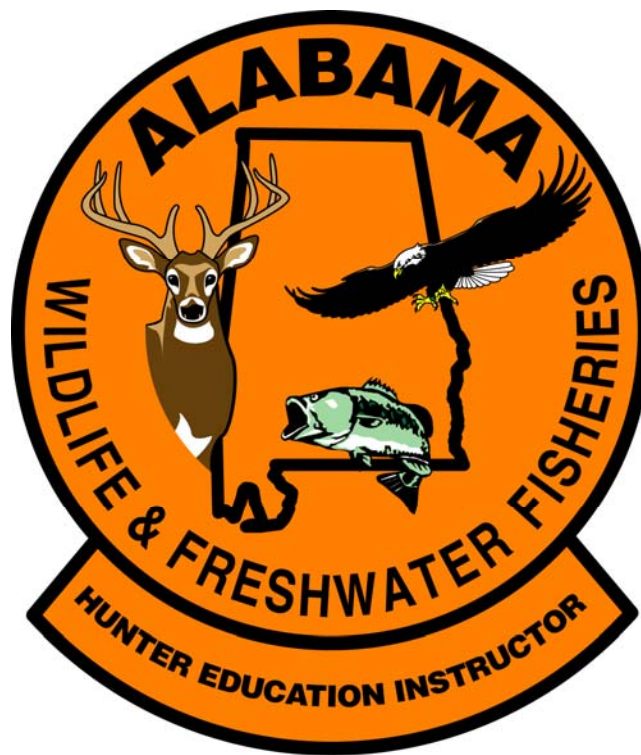
ALABAMA

HUNTER EDUCATION

AND

HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

2007-2008



COMPILED BY THE

ALABAMA DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE OF ALABAMA
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AND NATURAL RESOURCES
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INTRODUCTION

This annual report contains statistics and information from hunting incident reports submitted to the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries from May 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008.

For the purpose of this report, a hunting incident is any event outside of a building that results in injury or death to any person as a result of a person's actions while hunting game which is attributable directly or indirectly to a firearm or bow while in game habitat.

In general, the hunting incident rate has been lower during the past 5 years than any other 5 year period. Increased hunter awareness and education may have led to this decline. With increased hunter awareness and participation in the Alabama Hunter Education Program, hopefully the incident rate will continue to decline.

The purpose of this report is to provide statistical information on the similarities, causes, and frequency of hunting incidents in Alabama. This information is compiled and analyzed to direct activities and education designed to reduce Alabama's hunting accident rate. By publishing this information, the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries hopes the increased awareness will help reduce the hunting accident rate in Alabama.

ALABAMA HUNTER EDUCATION AND HUNTING INCIDENT STATISTICS

Hunting Season	Fatal Incidents			Non-fatal Incidents			Total Accidents	# Licenses Sold	Students Trained	Incident Rate (Incidents/100,000 licenses sold)		
	Firearms	Treestand	Total	Firearms	Treestand	Total				Firearms	Treestand	Total
1973-74	19	0	19	25	2	27	46	332,391	1,193	13.2	0.6	13.8
1974-75	5	0	5	20	0	20	25	347,999	2,686	7.2	0.0	7.2
1975-76	5	0	5	25	0	25	30	332,112	2,478	9.0	0.0	9.0
1976-77	11	0	11	25	0	25	36	336,991	3,217	10.7	0.0	10.7
1977-78	9	0	9	22	1	23	32	342,831	2,515	9.0	0.3	9.3
1978-79	6	1	7	17	4	21	28	353,779	1,622	6.5	1.4	7.9
1979-80	7	0	7	27	3	30	37	308,350	3,092	11.0	1.0	12.0
1980-81	7	1	8	35	1	36	44	322,100	3,203	13.0	0.7	13.7
1981-82	9	0	9	34	5	39	48	312,939	6,251	13.7	1.6	15.3
1982-83	6	2	8	33	3	36	44	299,272	6,124	13.0	1.7	14.7
1983-84	8	0	8	39	6	45	53	296,042	4,689	15.9	2.0	17.9
1984-85	15	0	15	37	4	41	56	294,027	4,098	17.7	1.3	19.0
1985-86	11	0	11	31	6	37	48	290,951	4,156	14.4	2.1	16.5
1986-87	6	0	6	34	8	42	48	303,538	6,403	13.2	2.6	15.8
1987-88	3	0	3	34	6	40	43	294,980	5,701	12.5	2.1	14.6
1988-89	6	2	8	37	12	49	57	291,042	5,875	14.8	4.8	19.6
1989-90	3	0	3	36	7	43	46	275,677	5,641	14.2	2.5	16.7
1990-91	3	0	3	29	6	35	38	279,100	5,879	11.5	2.1	13.6
1991-92	5	2	7	24	13	37	44	286,075	6,681	10.1	5.3	15.4
1992-93	7	0	7	31	9	40	47	287,500	11,511	13.2	3.1	16.3
1993-94*	5	1	6	22	8	30	36	282,366	11,814	9.6	3.2	12.8
1994-95	7	1	8	24	24	48	56	279,369	11,114	11.1	8.9	19.0
1995-96	4	1	5	26	10	36	41	285,014	11,810	10.5	3.9	14.4
1996-97	3	2	5	19	18	37	42	272,998	12,241	8.1	7.3	15.4
1997-98	2	1	3	22	14	36	39	273,199	12,232	8.8	5.5	14.3
1998-99	1	2	3	15	7	22	25	270,481	12,452	5.9	3.3	9.2
1999-00	1	3	4	15	19	34	38	272,222	13,815	5.9	8.1	14.0
2000-01	4	0	4	13	14	27	31	271,328	13,294	6.3	5.2	11.5
2001-02	3	0	3	18	17	35	38	272,005	11,275	7.8	6.3	14.1
2002-03	4	0	4	23	7	30	34	257,252	10,949	10.4	2.7	13.1
2003-04	2	1	3	11	9	20	23	267,099	10,654	4.9	3.7	8.8
2004-05	2	3	5	7	9	16	21	259,651	9,683	3.3	4.4	7.7
2005-06	3	0	3	5	9	14	17	256,063		3.1	3.5	6.6
2006-07	0	1	0	10	9	19	19	260,378	12,071	3.8	3.5	7.3
2007-08	2	0	2	4	12	16	18	260,000**	6,610***	2.3	4.6	6.9

* Program became mandatory

** Estimate

*** As of 5/8/2008

ALABAMA HUNTING INCIDENT SUMMARY 2007-08

- 18 TOTAL INCIDENTS
- 16 NON-FATAL INCIDENTS
- 1 SELF-INFLICTED FATAL FIREARM INCIDENT
- 1 TWO-PARTY FATAL FIREARM INCIDENT
- 4 TWO-PARTY NON-FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS
- 12 NON-FATAL TREESTAND INCIDENTS

SUMMARY OF 2007-2008 FATAL HUNTING INCIDENTS*

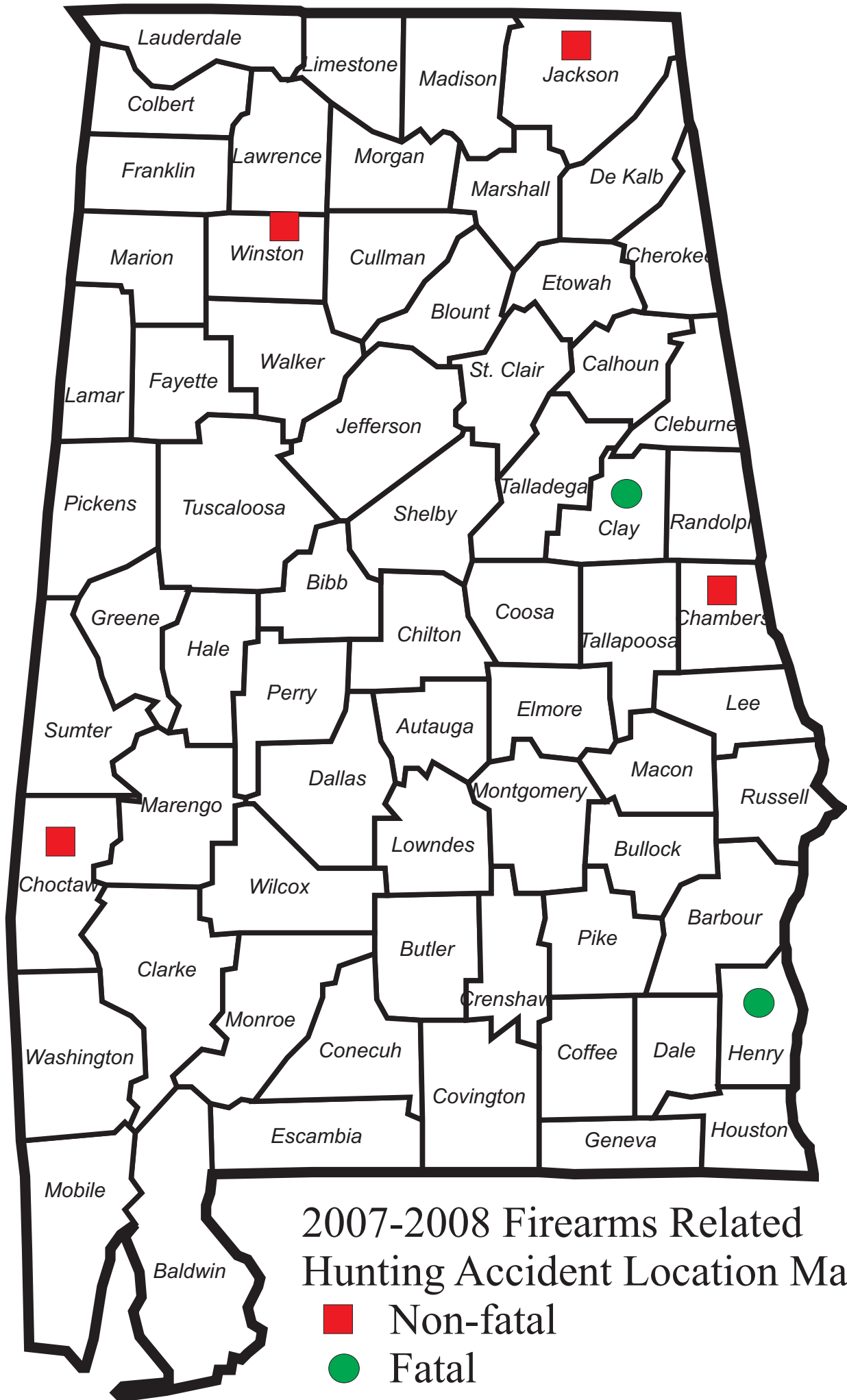
Henry County: On January 3, 2008, an 18 year old shooter apparently shot a 15 year old victim while deer hunting. The 15 year old victim had a blaze orange cap on that was obscured by the hood of his camo jacket. The blaze orange cap was not visible at the time of the accident.

Clay County: On March 22, 2008, a male adult hunter apparently died of injuries suffered while crossing a fence in an inappropriate manner while turkey hunting. The victim suffered a gunshot wound to the chest.

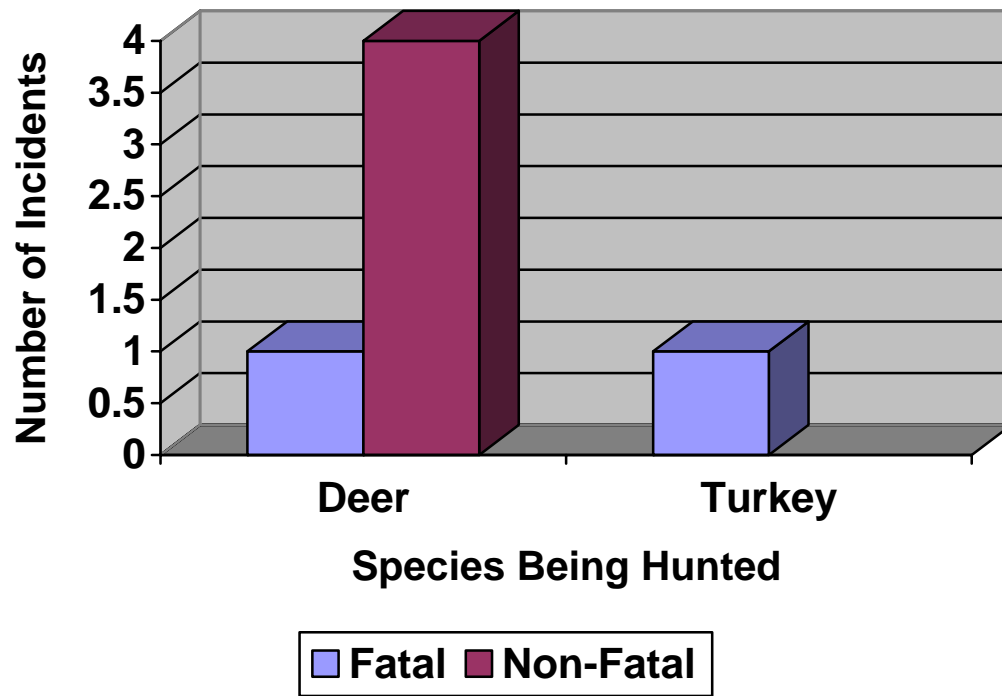
* A two party incident occurred in Pickens County on 1-16-2008 that is still under investigation. This incident has not been declared a hunting accident as of May 8, 2008.

FIREARMS HUNTING INCIDENT SUMMARY

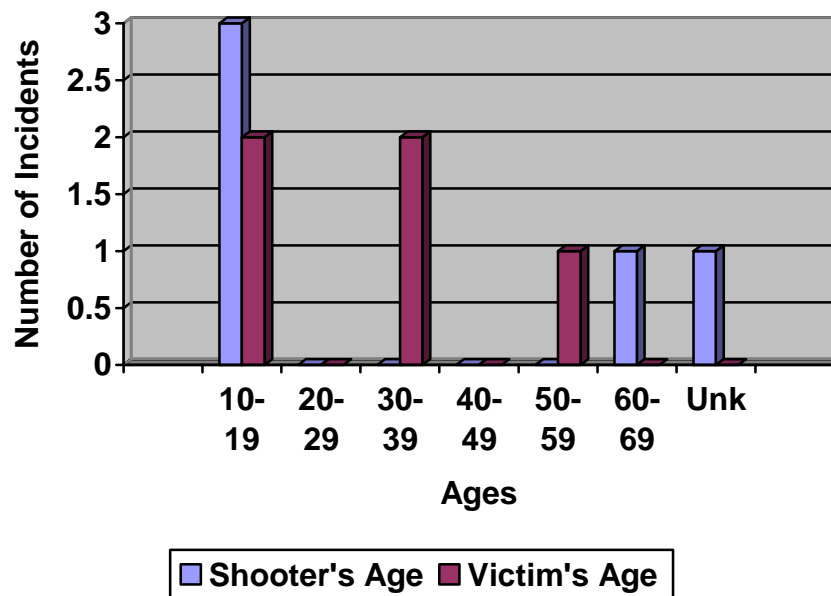
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Shooter Swinging on Game	4	8	5	3	4	2	2	2	2	4	1	0	1	0	3	0
Mistaken For Game	7	4	7	4	8	6	5	3	5	7	8	3	2	1	1	4
Victim Out of Sight of Shooter	6	1	5	4	2	5	1	1	4	0	7	2	2	1	3	0
Victim in Line of Fire	2	1	1	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Removing/Placing Firearm In/Out Vehicle	1	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	1	1	1	0	1
Unloading Firearm	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Clubbing Game	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown Self-Inflicted	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0
Unknown Two-Party	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gun Fell From Insecure Rest	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	3	0	1	0	1	0
Improper Crossing of Fence/Obstacle	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Mechanical Failure	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Improper Handling	5	0	1	6	1	3	1	2	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Riding With Loaded Firearm	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Shooter Stumbled and Fell	0	1	1	3	0	1	2	2	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	0
Gun/Trigger Caught on an Object	0	0	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	3	0	0
Unknown Cause	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Ricochet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Climbing/Descending Tree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Other	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
Two Party Incidents (Land Type)																
Private/Leased		20	17	14	16	16	8	9	7	14	16	5	5	4	11	3
Public		1	2	3	2	1	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	0	1
Open Permit		0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public Road		0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unknown		0	3	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Was Shooter a Hunter Education Graduate?																
Yes		5	4	6	6	5	7	2	0	3	11	3	1	4	0	2
No		16	15	18	7	13	6	6	9	4	10	5	6	0	9	2
Unknown		6	12	6	9	6	3	2	8	15	4	5	4	4	2	2
Alcohol Related?																
Yes		2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
No		23	25	23	16	22	14	8	11	12	19	11	8	6	8	6
Unknown		2	5	6	5	2	2	2	5	10	6	2	2	1	2	0
Did Victim Know Shooter (2-Party Incidents)?																
Yes		20	20	14	13	14	8	7	8	10	16	5	5	3	5	3
No		1	5	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	2
Unknown		0	1	1	2	2	0	1	4	3	0	0	0	2	2	1



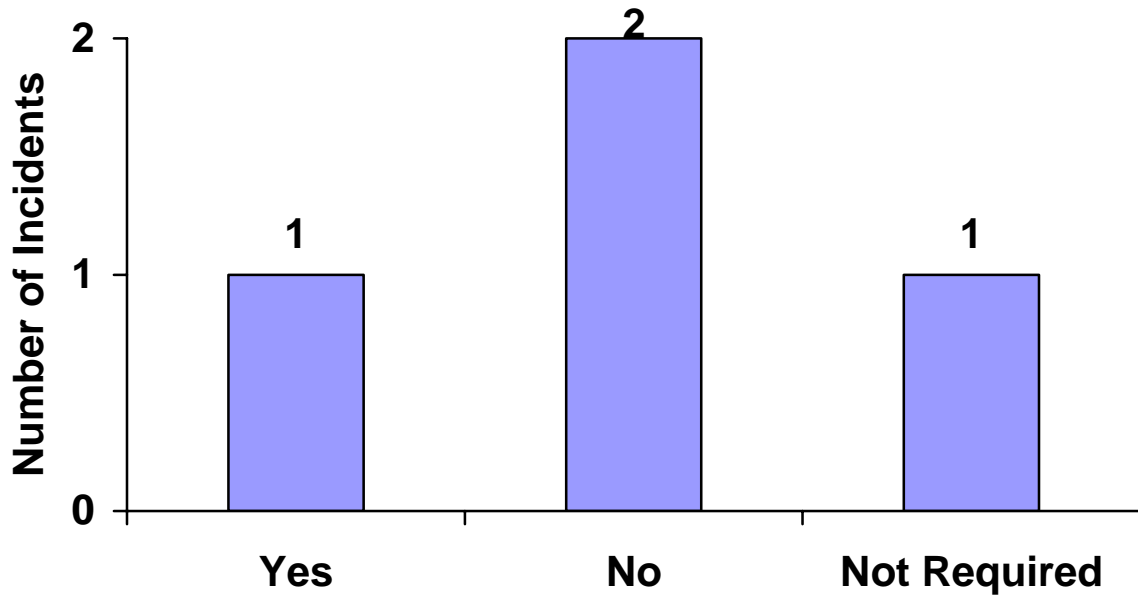
SPECIES BEING HUNTED IN 2007-08 FIREARMS INCIDENTS



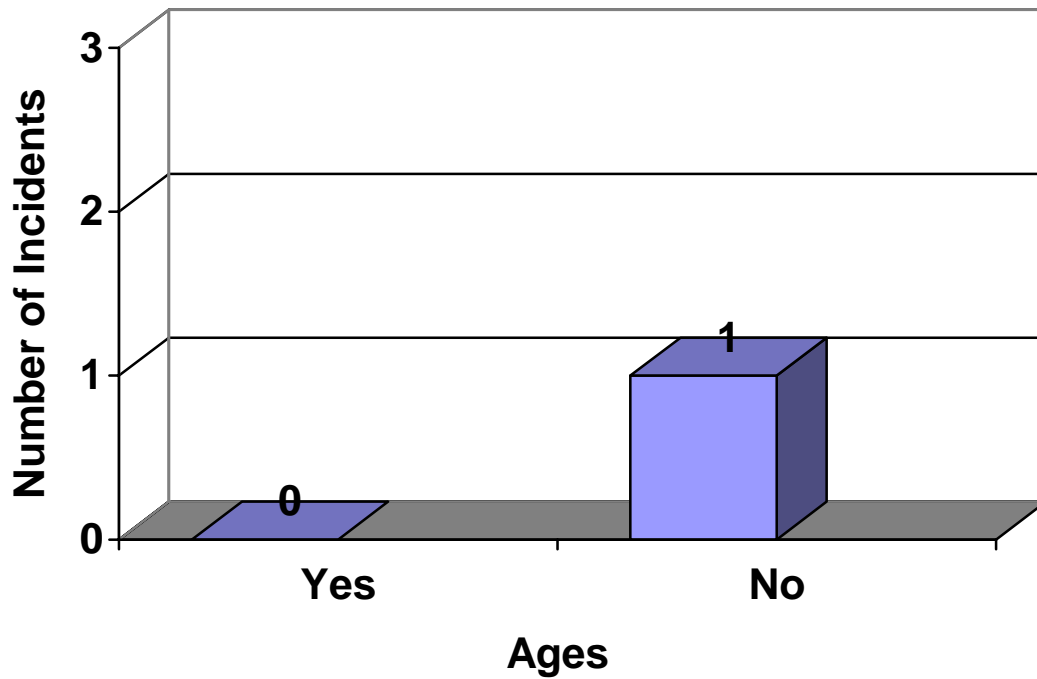
AGE OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN 2007-08 TWO-PARTY INCIDENTS (FATAL AND NON-FATAL)



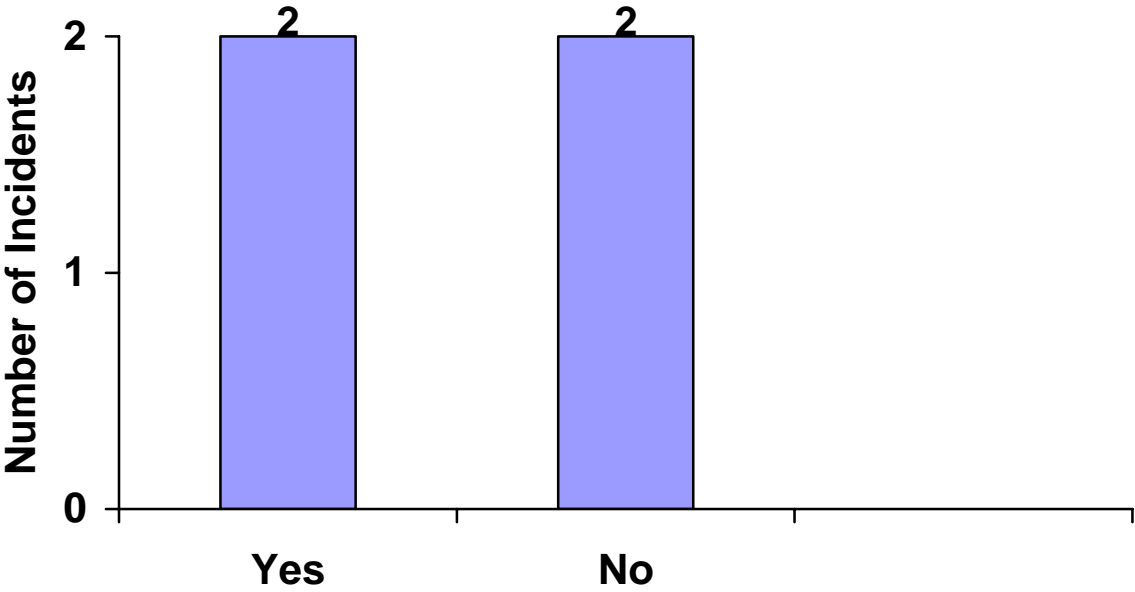
VICTIMS WEARING HUNTER ORANGE IN 2007-08 TWO-PARTY NON-FATAL HUNTING INCIDENTS



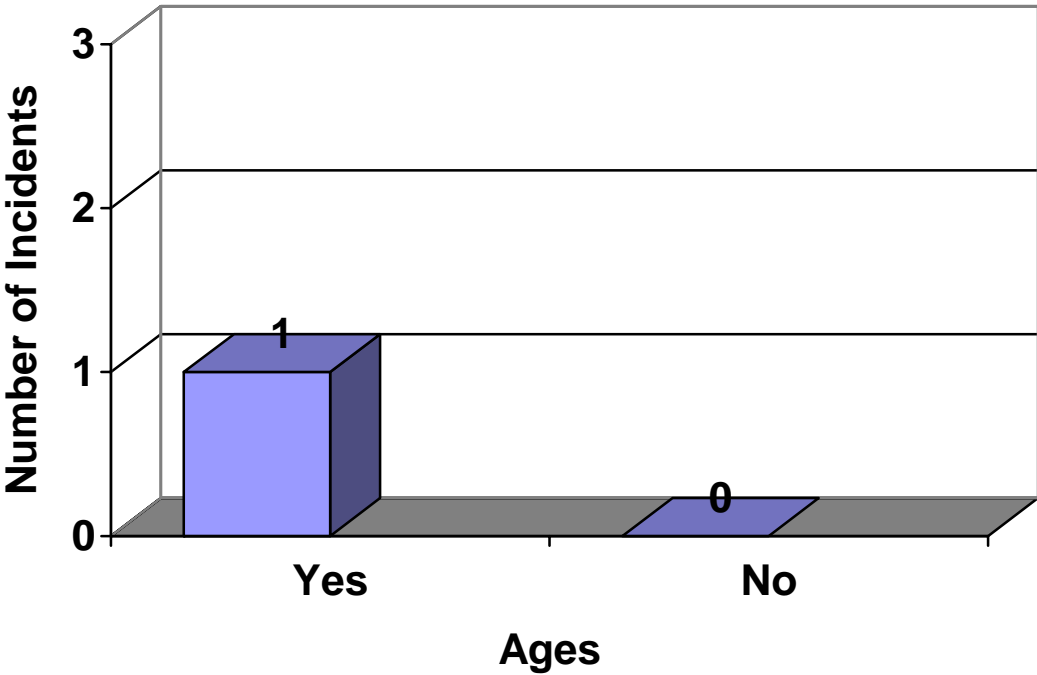
VICTIMS WEARING HUNTER ORANGE IN 2007-08 TWO-PARTY FATAL HUNTING INCIDENTS



OCCURRENCE OF LAW VIOLATION AT THE TIME OF 2007-08 NON-FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS



OCCURRENCE OF LAW VIOLATION AT THE TIME OF 2007-08 FATAL FIREARMS INCIDENTS



Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
2007-08 Treestand Incidents

Fatal or Non-fatal	County	Date of Accident	Victim's Age	Game	Type of Weapon	Type of Treestand	Was victim wearing a safety belt and secured to tree?	Stand Height (ft)	Climbing, Sitting, Coming Down	Cause of Accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1 Non-fatal	Coosa	10/20/2007	18	Deer	Bow	ladder	No	12	Sitting	Strap securing ladder stand to tree broke	10/26/2007
2 Non-fatal	Bullock	11/12/2007	43	Deer	None	Hang on	No	16	Standing	Taking down a hang on stand. Step broke	11/12/2007
3 Non-fatal	Limestone	11/17/2007	58	Deer	Rifle	Shooting House	No		Climbing	Wooden step on ladder shifted	11/19/2007
4 Non-fatal	Randolph	11/24/2007	52	Deer	Rifle	Climbing	No	10	Climbing	Fell while climbing with stand and trimming limbs	11/27/2007
5 Non-fatal	Calhoun	11/27/2007	43	Deer	Bow	Climbing	No	10	Descending	Failure to wear a safety harness	11/28/2007
6 Non-fatal	Marion	11/12/2007	39	Deer	Muzzleloader	Hang on	No	30	Climbing	Failure to wear a safety harness	12/4/2007
7 Non-fatal	Cherokee	12/29/2007	39	Deer	Rifle	Climbing	No	20	Sitting	Failure to wear a safety harness - stand/disrepair	12/31/2007
8 Non-fatal	Lowndes	12/20/2007	55	Deer	Rifle	Ladder	No	10		Bottom section of ladder stand broke	12/29/2007
9 Non-fatal	Wilcox	1/11/2008	58	Deer		Hang-on	Yes	20	Sitting		
10 Non-fatal	Barbour	1/15/2008	29	Deer		Ladder	No	6		Fell while attaching ladder stand to tree	1/16/2008
11 Non-fatal	Randolph	1/23/2008	65	Deer	Rifle	Ladder	No	16	Descending	Fell from ladder stand while descending	1/24/2008
12 Non-fatal	Madison	1/22/2008	28	Deer	Bow	Hang-on	No	30	Climbing	Struck by falling limb - no safety harness	1/23/2008

Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
2007-08 Non-fatal Firearms Incidents

	Date of Accident	County	Age of Victim	Age of Shooter	Was shooter intoxicated?	Game	Type Gear	Muzzle to wound distance (yds.)	Self-inflicted or two-party	Victim wearing hunter orange in two party accidents	Was shooter a hunter education graduate?	Cause of accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer
1	10/20/2007	Jackson	50			Deer	Shotgun	11-50 y	Other	NR		Victim mistaken for game	11/5/2007
2	11/17/2007	Chambers	17	18	No	Deer	Rifle	0-10	Other	No	yes	Removing firearm from vehicle	11/26/2007
3	12/26/2007	Choctaw	35	14	No	Deer	Shotgun	51-100	Other	Yes	No	Victim mistaken for game	12/27/2007
4	1/5/2008	Winston	36	60	Unk	Deer	Rifle	101 or	Other	No	Unk	Victim mistaken for game	1/5/2008

Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

2007-08 Fatal Firearms Accidents

Date of Accident	County	Age of Victim	Age of Shooter	Was shooter intoxicated?	Game	Type Gear	Muzzle to wound distance (yds.)	Self-inflicted or two-party	Victim wearing hunter orange in two party accidents	Was shooter a hunter education graduate?	Cause of accident	Date official report signed by investigating officer	
1	1/3/2008	Henry	15	18	No	Deer	Rifle	11-50	Other	No	Yes	Victim mistaken for game	1/10/2008
2	3/22/2008	Clay				Turkey	Shotgun		Self				