

Sunday Hunting And Waterfowl Harvest In Virginia

Virginia's Sunday Hunting Law

- Signed into law March 5, 2014.
- Allowed most forms of hunting on Sundays, except that hunting cannot occur within 200 yards of a house of worship and hunting deer or bear with a gun, firearm, or other weapon with the aid or assistance of dogs on Sundays is prohibited.



Duck and Goose Harvest in Virginia Pre and Post-Sunday Hunting

- 2009-2013 Pre-Sunday Hunting.
- 2014-2018 Post-Sunday Hunting.
- Used data from FWS Harvest Surveys – 1,000-1,700 hunting trips/year.
- Duck Season – 60 hunting days, 3 segments in all years
- Goose Seasons – 3 zones (AP, RP, SJBP).

Waterfowl Hunting Record

1. IF YOU DID NOT HUNT DUCKS, GEESE, OR BRANT THIS SEASON, please check the box to the right and mail this form.

2. Please record your personal hunting activity for each day you hunted ducks, geese, or brant in the State specified in the attached letter. Record the number of birds you personally bagged; DO NOT include birds shot by other people. Please include ALL of your hunts for the birds listed; if you did not bag any birds during a hunt, record zero (0) for the birds you hunted that day.

3. IF YOU HUNTED DUCKS, GEESE, OR BRANT BUT DO NOT HAVE DETAILED RECORDS, check the box to the right and go to question number 6 to record your Season Totals.

4. Please include additional comments on a SEPARATE SHEET of paper. 2 2

Please print all characters in **BLACK** ink using CAPITAL LETTERS ONLY as shown below.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN OPQRSTUVWXYZ 0123456789

Date of Hunt		County of Hunt	State of Hunt	Number of Birds Killed and Retrieved		
Month	Day			Sea Ducks	Geese	Brant
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						

5. IF YOU RUN OUT OF SPACE ON THIS FORM, you can request an additional survey form by logging on to <https://migbirdapps.fws.gov/hipweb> or calling 1-800-419-2965 from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm EST. We will ask you for the serial number located at the bottom of this form.

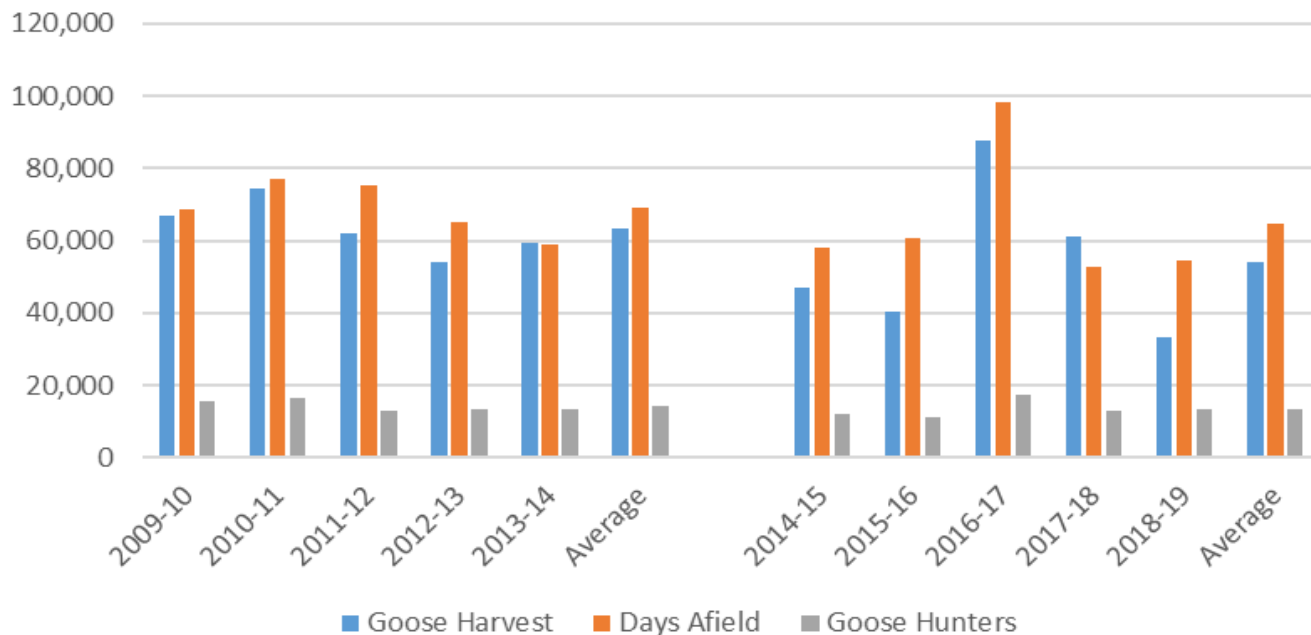
6. SEASON TOTALS:

	Days Hunted	Birds Killed and Retrieved	Birds Downed but Lost
Ducks			
Sea Ducks			
Geese			
Brant			

Please report banded birds by calling 1-800-327-BAND or www.reportband.gov

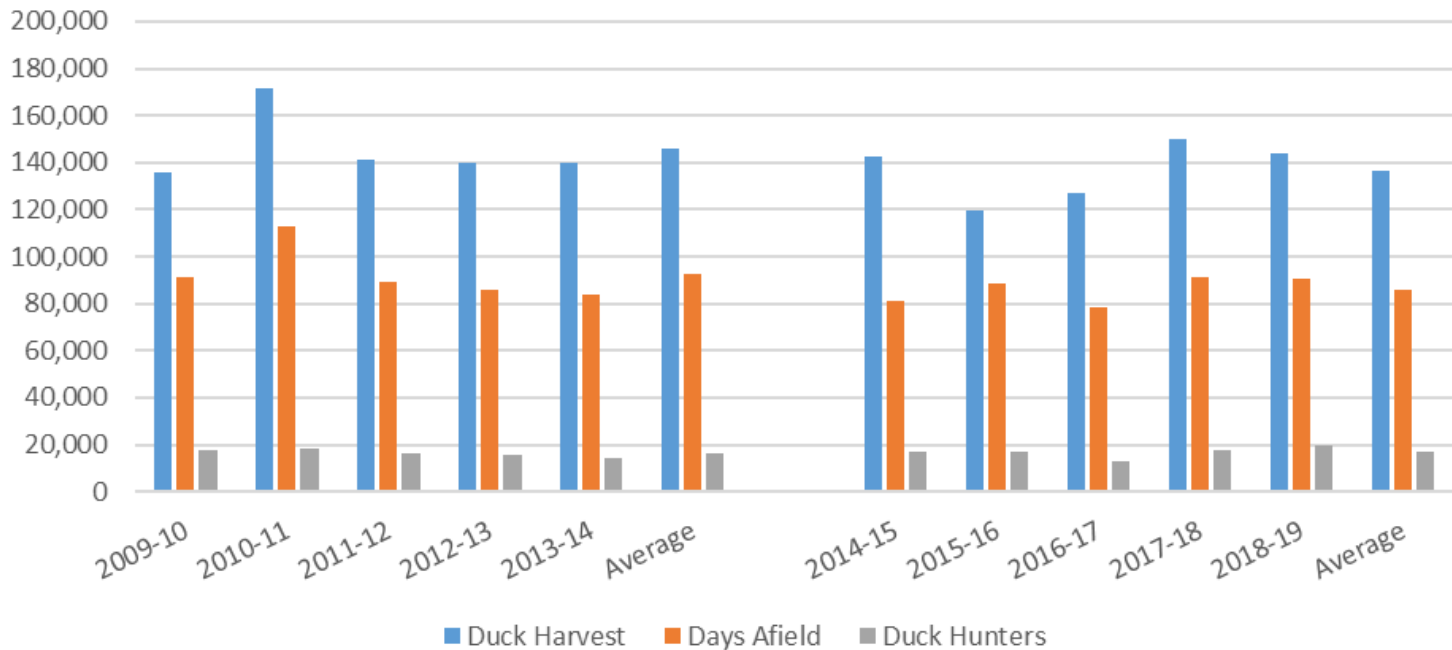
Virginia Goose Harvest

Goose Harvest, Number of Days Hunted For Geese and Number of Active Goose Hunters for Virginia, 2009-2013 (No Sundays) and 2014-2018 (Sundays Open)



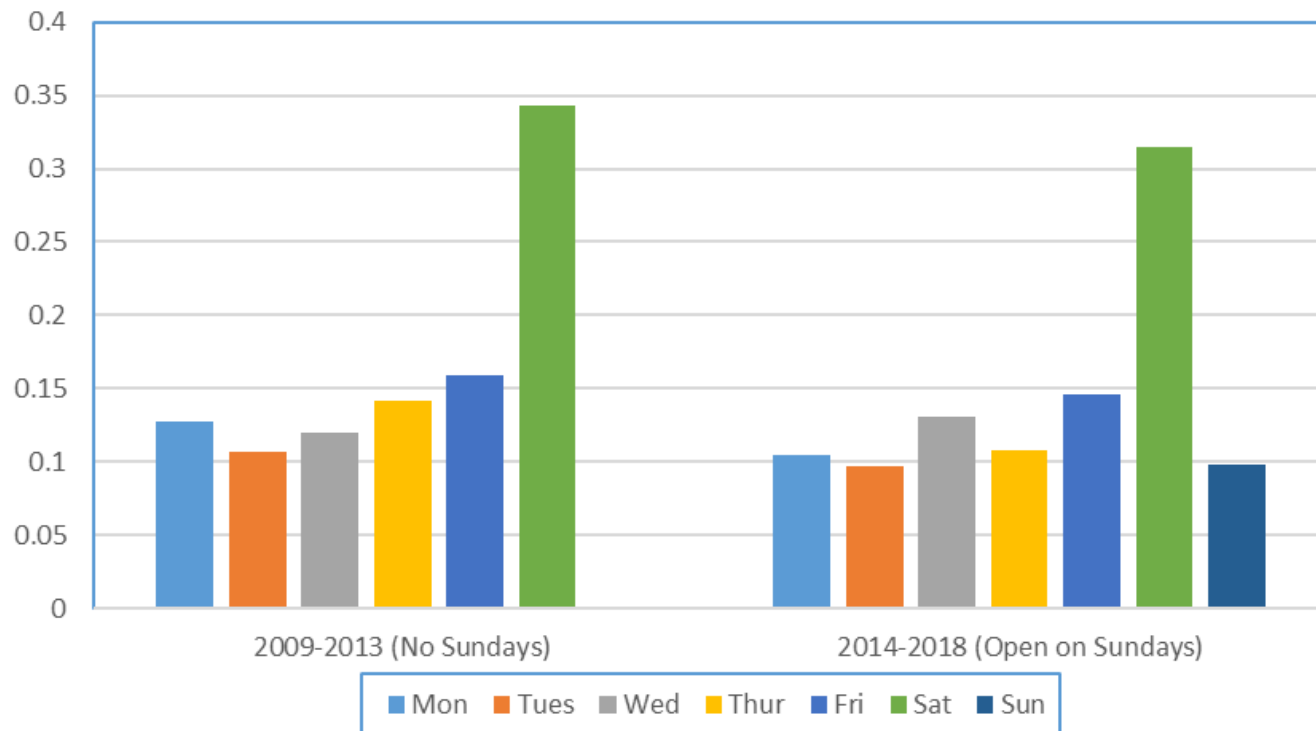
Virginia Duck Harvest

Duck Harvest, Number of Days Hunted for Ducks
and Number of Active Duck Hunters for Virginia, 2009-2013
(No Sundays) and 2014-2018 (Sundays Open)

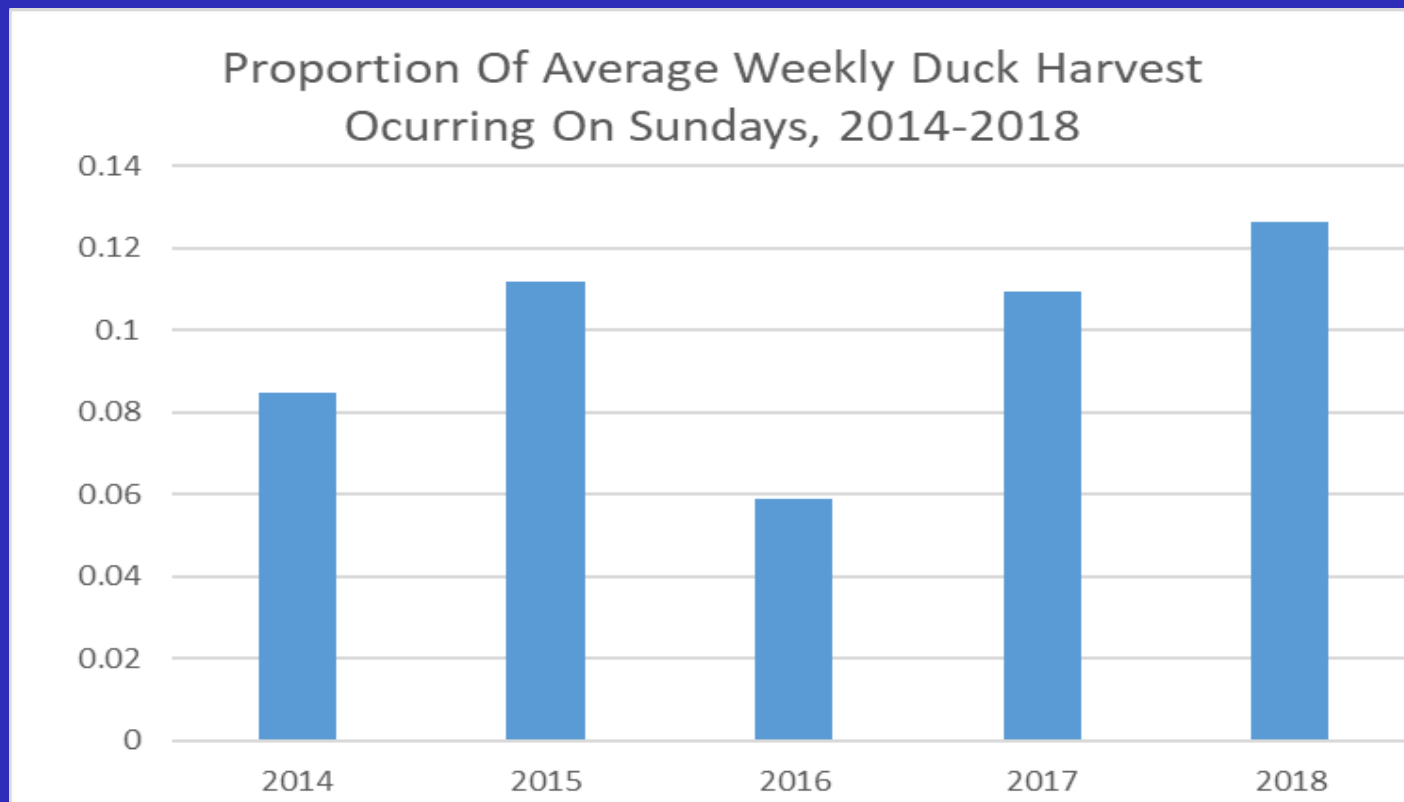


How Did Sundays Compare To Other Days of the Week?

Proportion Of Average Weekly Duck Harvest By Day Of The Week (2009-2013 No Sunday Hunting, 2014-2018 Sundays Allowed)



Did Duck Harvest On Sundays Increase Over Time?



Conclusions

- **The addition of Sundays for migratory bird hunting did not change the overall duck and goose harvest appreciably.**
- **Duck harvest on Sundays was comparable to duck harvest occurring on Mondays-Thursdays and about 1/3 that of Saturdays.**
- **The popularity of duck hunting on Sundays is increasing over time, but remains far less than Saturdays.**