Fort Gordon
Natural Resources Management
2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary

Zach Blunk
Wildlife Biologist

2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Harvest Summary

2019-2020 Deer Harvest by Management Zone

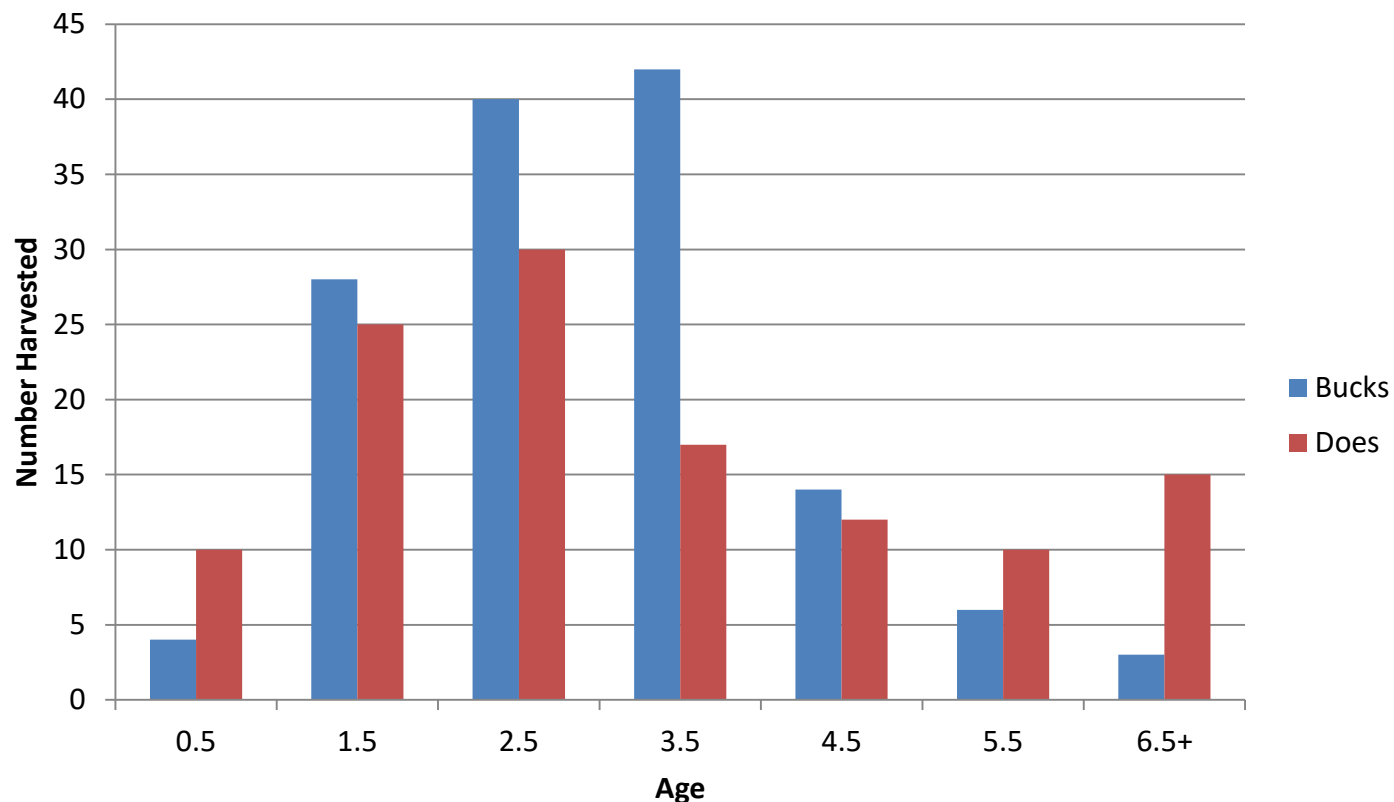| Zone	Bucks	Does	Total
18-49	113	77	190
Archery	22	17	39
SAIA	8	27	35
All Areas	**143**	**121**	**264**

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2019-2020 Deer Harvest By Age Class

Harvest of "Mature" bucks this season is about half of what it was last season. Roughly 80% of bucks harvested and 70% of does harvested were aged to be 3.5 yrs old or younger. The total number of fawn (0.5 yr old) bucks and does harvested this season is half of what it was last season, so that is a positive. Thanks to all those who submitted jawbones as required.
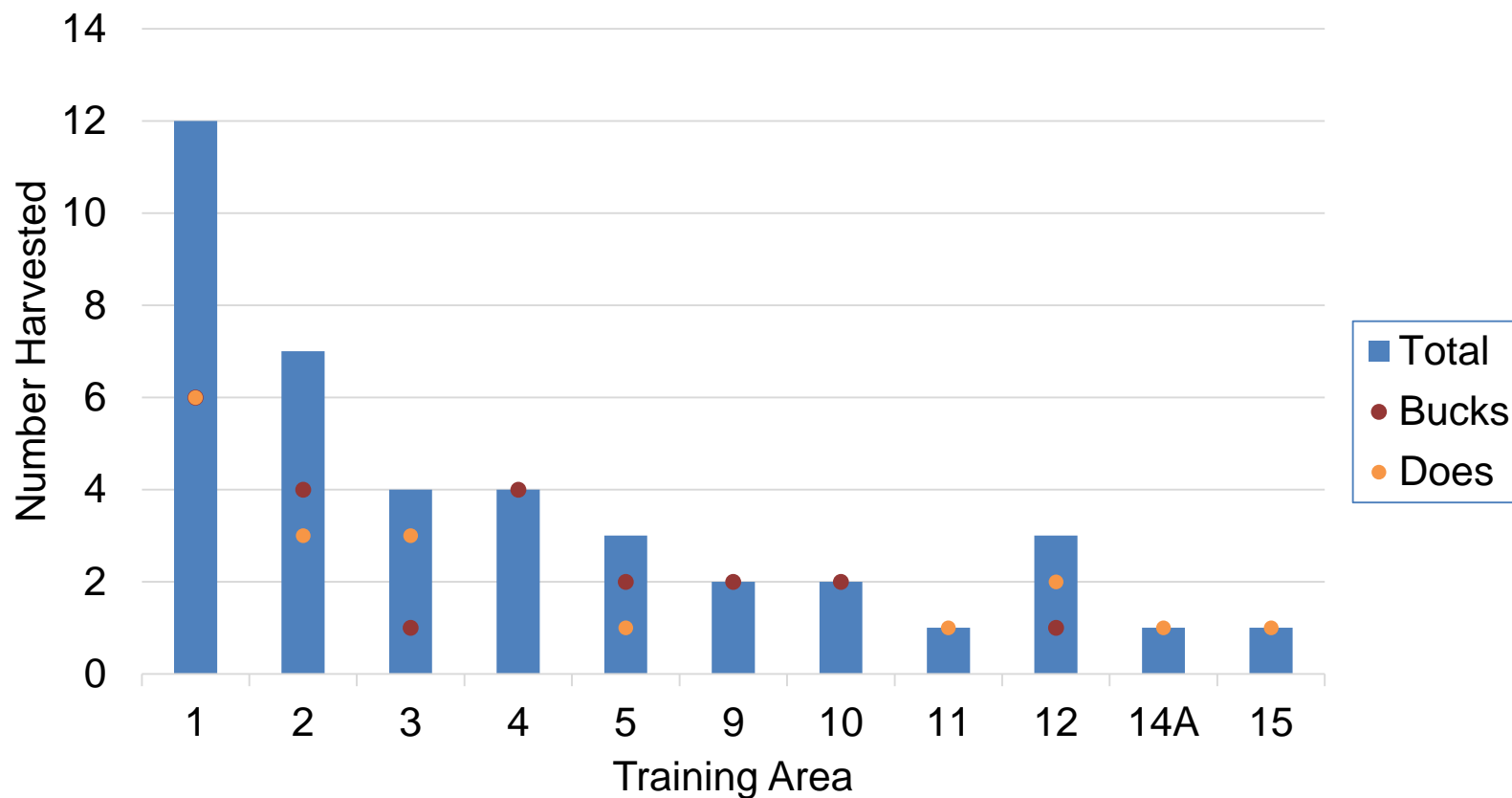
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Deer Harvested by Area in Archery Zone, 2019-2020

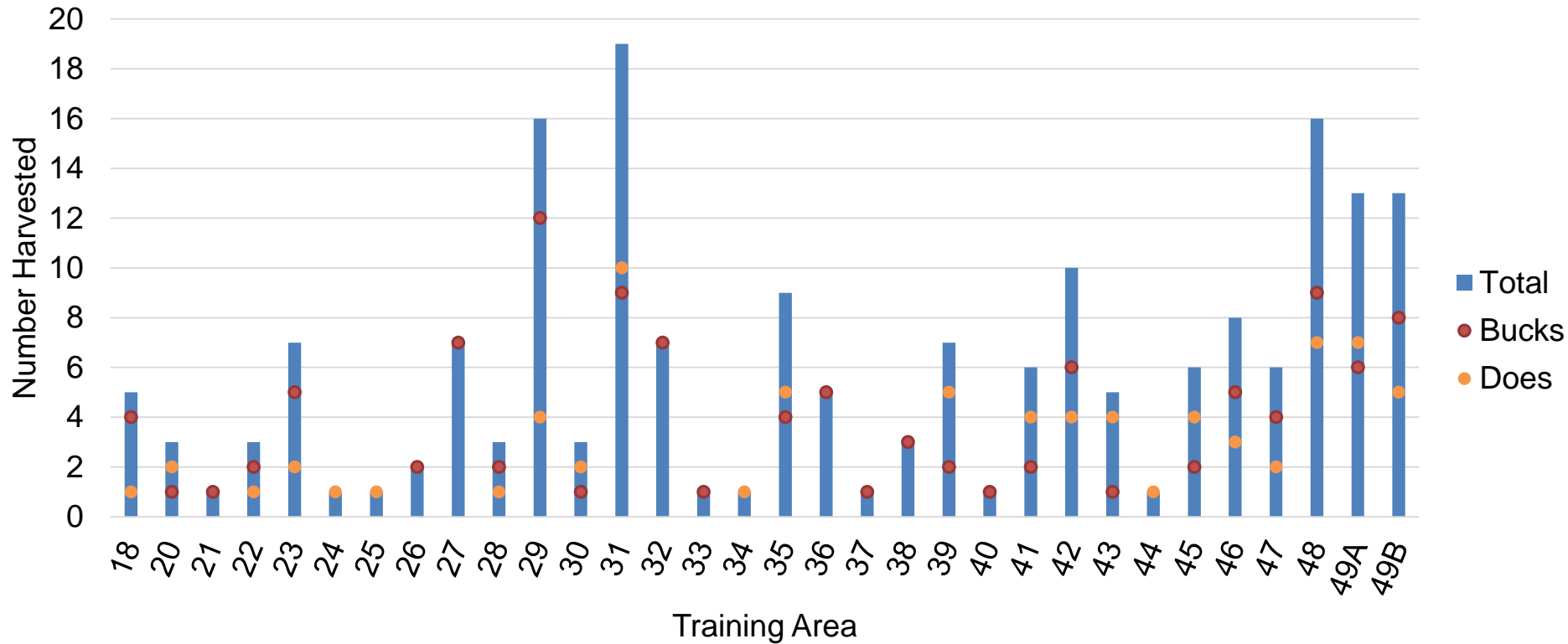Areas not shown did not have deer harvested in them.

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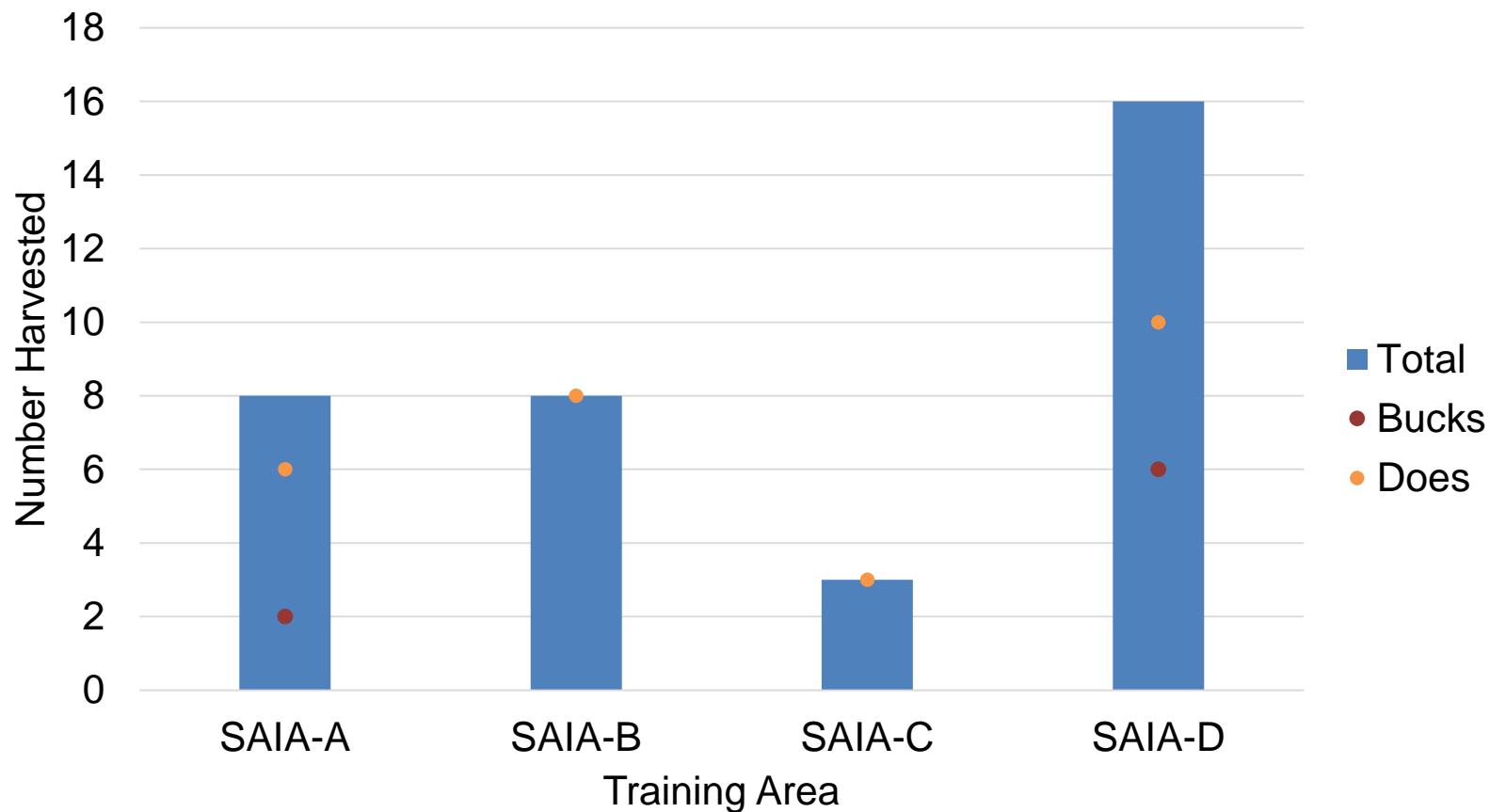Deer Harvested by Area in 18-49 Zone, 2019-2020

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Deer Harvested by Area in SAIA Zone, 2019-2020

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Antlerless Harvest Quota (TAs 18-49)

✓ The Antlerless Harvest Quota for training areas 18-49 was initially set at 50, which was reached on 11 November

✓ Again this season, after receiving favorable results from our Fall Camera Survey, the quota was increased to include an additional 30 antlerless deer. This extended quota was met on 2 January

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2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Antler Data

2019-2020 Average Antler Characteristics

Age	Sample Size	Points	Inside Spread	Gross B and C	Live Weight
1.5	6	2.5	7.1	33.5	99.2
2.5	7	7.9	10.6	79.6	120.7
3.5	25	8.7	14.2	103.7	143.0
4.5	6	9.0	15.7	115.4	146.3
5.5	3	9.0	16.0	129.2	149.7
6.5+	2	8.5	14.6	109.8	145.0

This antler data represents approximately 35% of the total bucks harvested. Thanks to those hunters who allowed NRB biologists to measure their bucks.

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Antler Data

Notable Bucks Harvested, 2019-2020
(Those scoring 120 Gross B&C or greater)

2019-2020 Notable Bucks

| Age	Points	Inside Spread	Rt. Main	B&C Score	Live Wt.	TA
4.5	13	16.5	22.5	156.625	164	28
3.5	10	17.875	22.5	147.375	205	32
5.5	9	15.375	21.25	134.625	164	47
5.5	10	16.125	19.125	134	150	37B
3.5	10	13.375	19.875	131	144	1
3.5	11	12.125	17.625	123.25	155	47
3.5	9	13.5	19	123.25	138	29
3.5	10	13.5	18.375	122.75	120	SAIA-D
3.5	8	14.125	19.75	120.125		42

156 5/8

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Body Weight

Average Live Weights 2019-2020
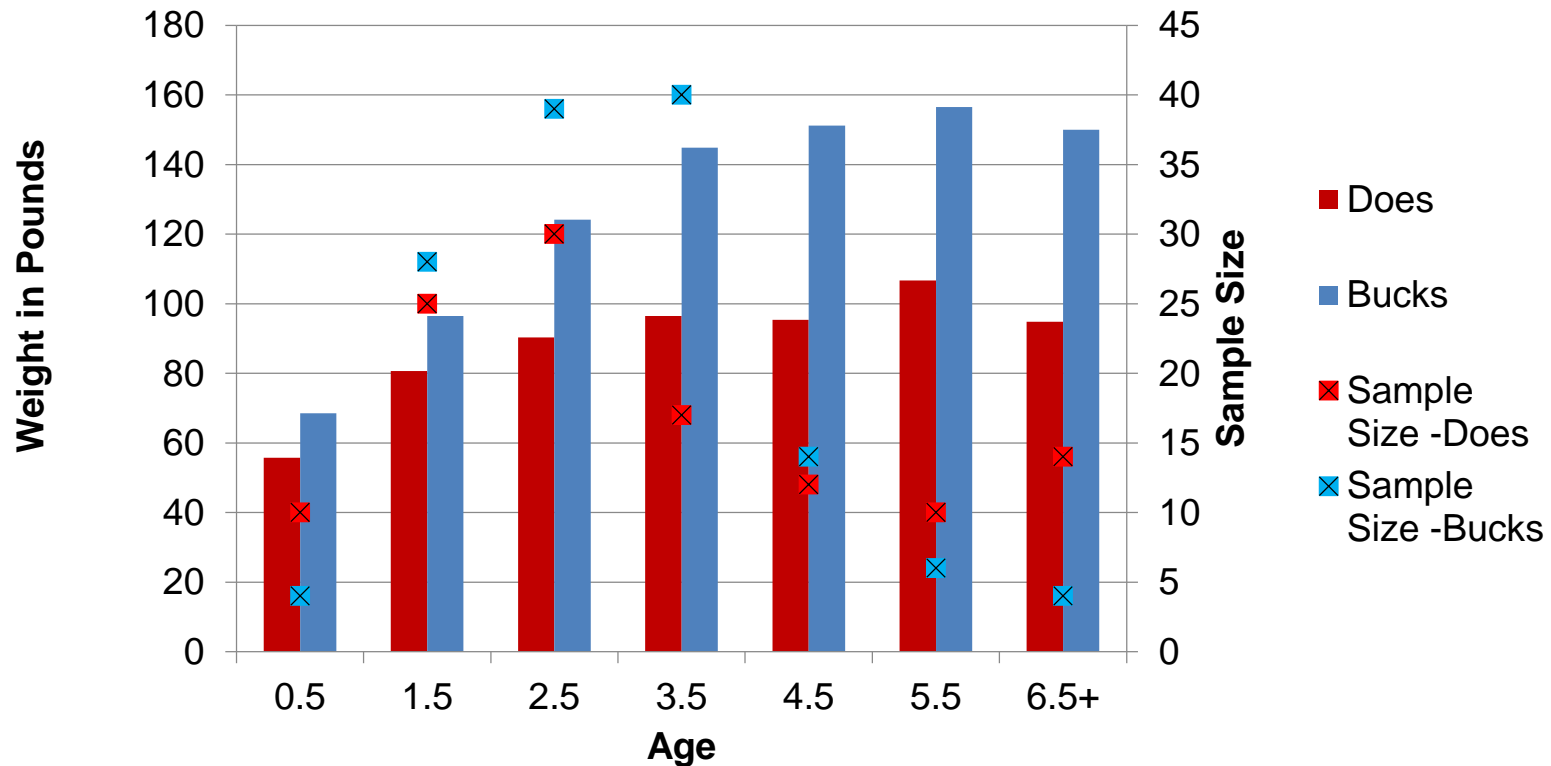
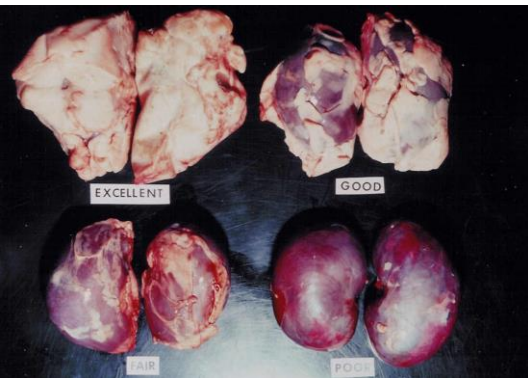**USAG, Fort Gordon, Georgia**

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Kidney Fat Index

Kidney Fat Index (KFI) is a measurement of the amount of fat on the kidneys of harvested deer. Biologists use this index to assess the health of individual deer as well as the health of the entire deer herd. KFI is measured on a scale of 1-4 with 1 being poor and 4 being excellent. Kidney fat for both bucks and does harvested in 2019-2020 season averaged in the fair range. Kidney fat can be highly variable between individual deer depending on rutting activity, lactation, and local habitat quality.

2019-2020 Average KFI of Harvested Deer

	Avg KFI	Sample Size
Bucks	2.2	21
Does	2.2	19

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Deer Hunter Stats

2019-2020 Deer Harvest by Hunter Type

- Dependent 4%
- Govt. Civ 5%
- Military 29%
- Public Access 38%
- Honorary 5%
- Retiree 16%
- Guest/Youth 3%
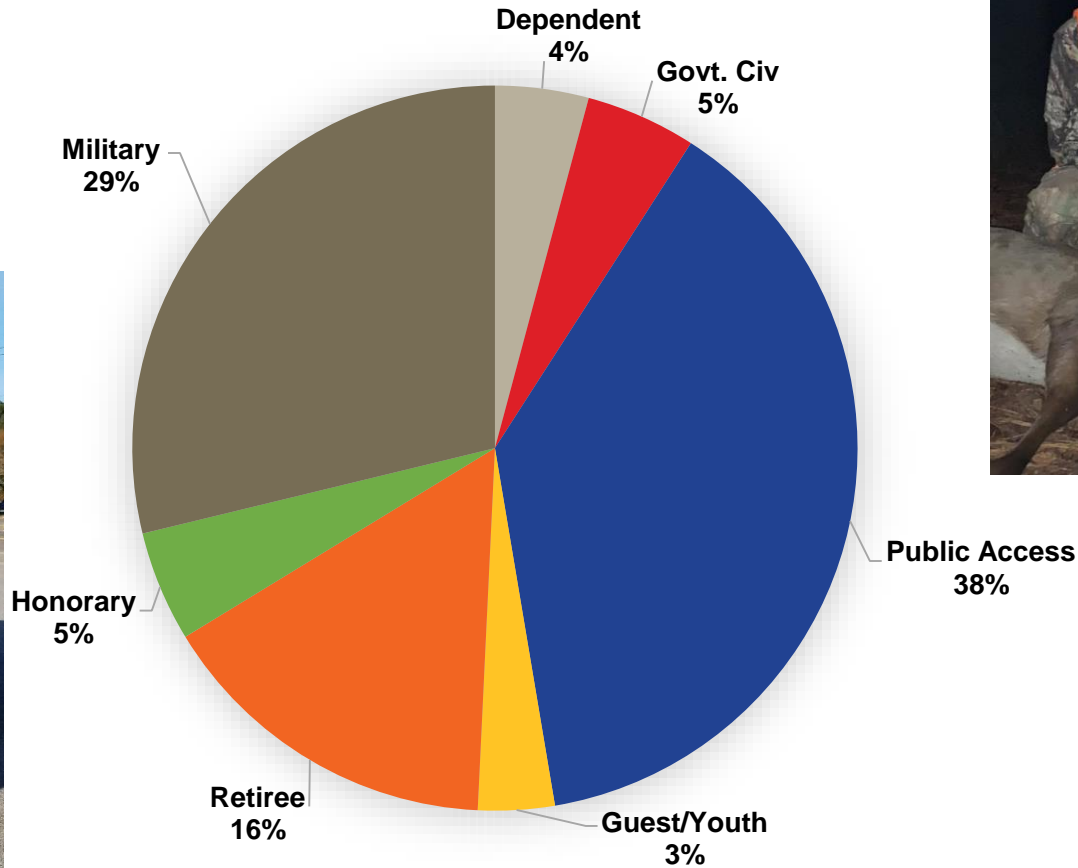
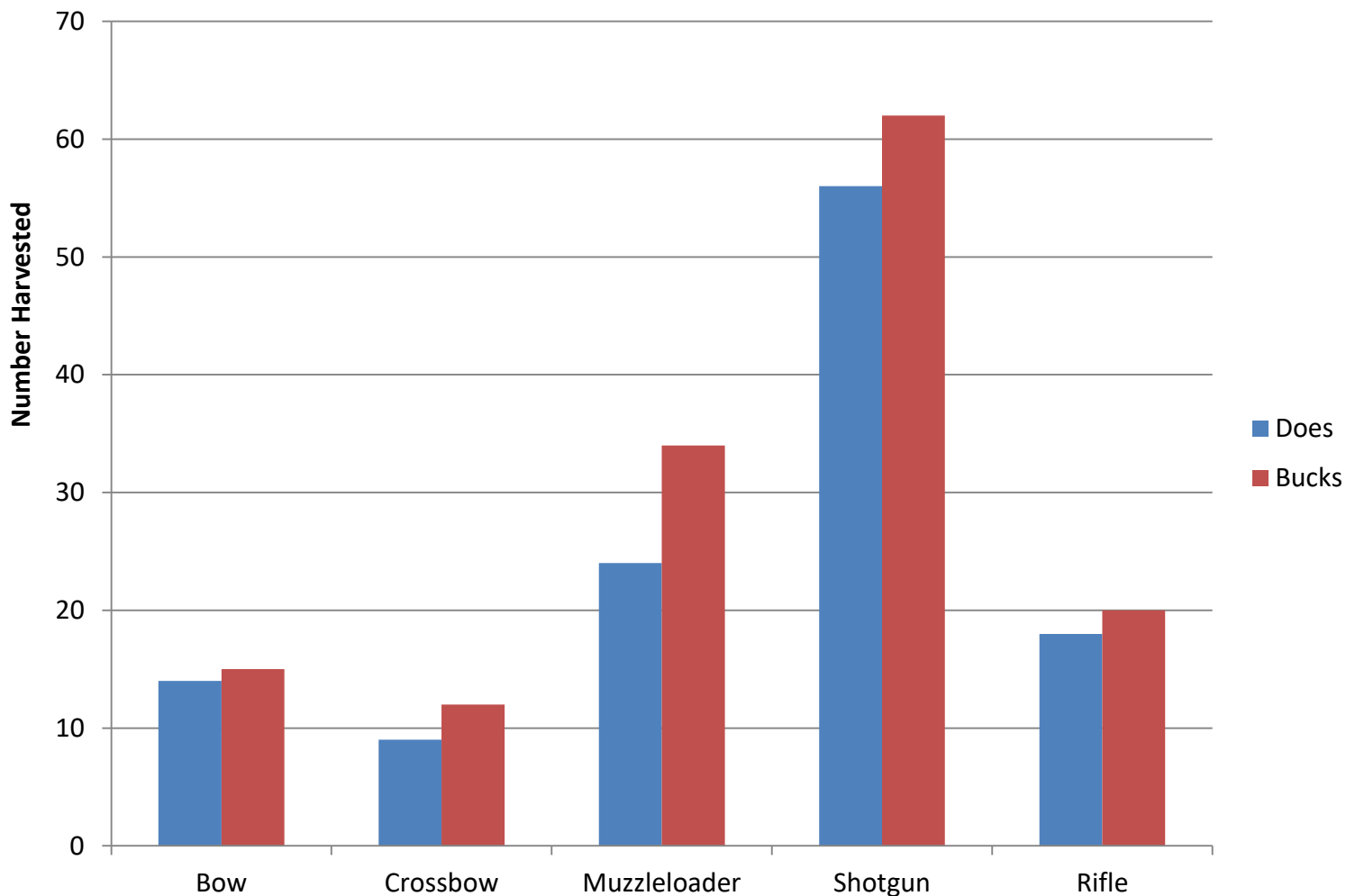## *USAG, Fort Gordon, Georgia*

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2019-2020 Harvest by Weapon Type

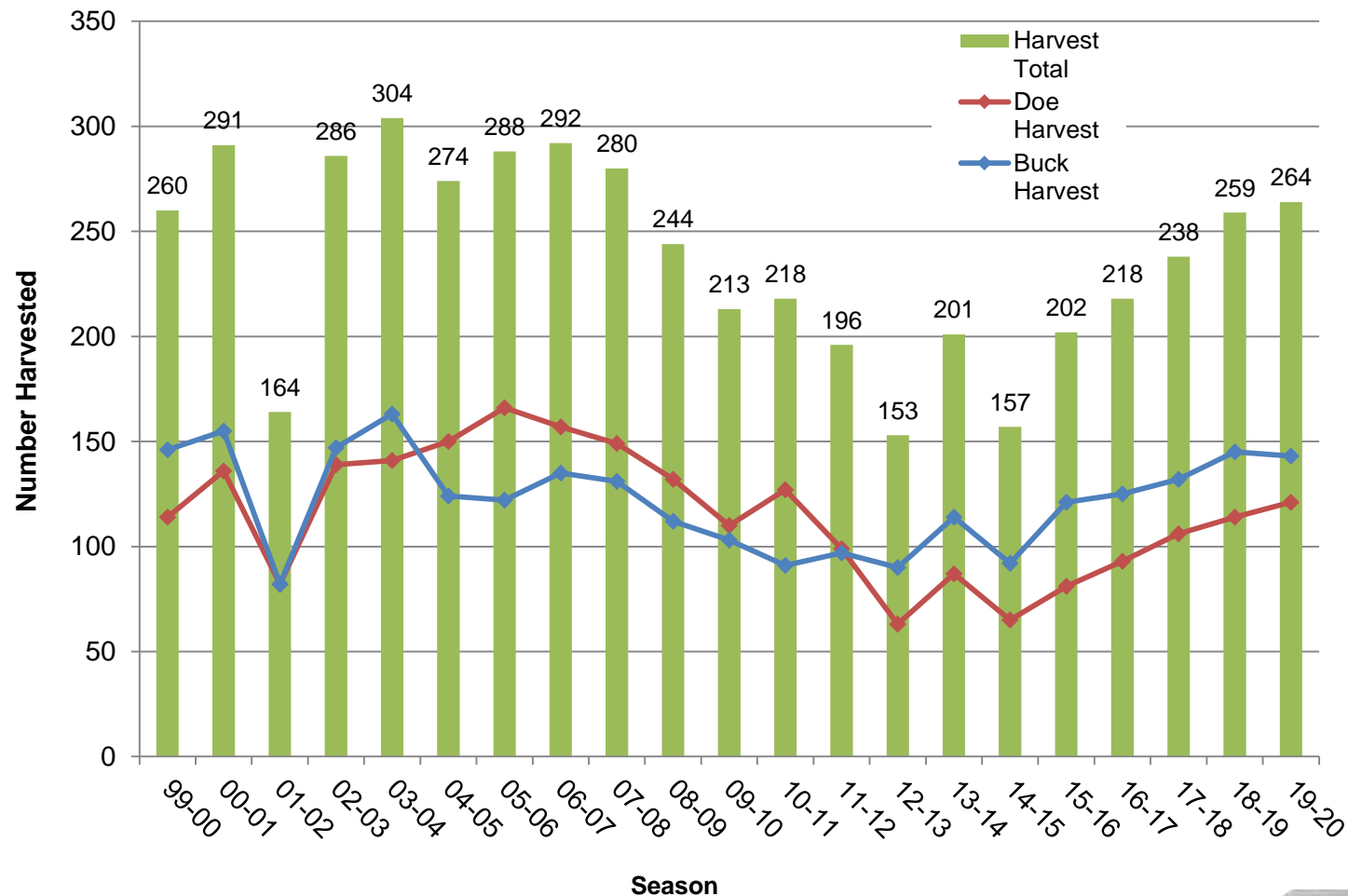*USAG, Fort Gordon, Georgia*

Annual Trends

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Annual Deer Harvest Trend
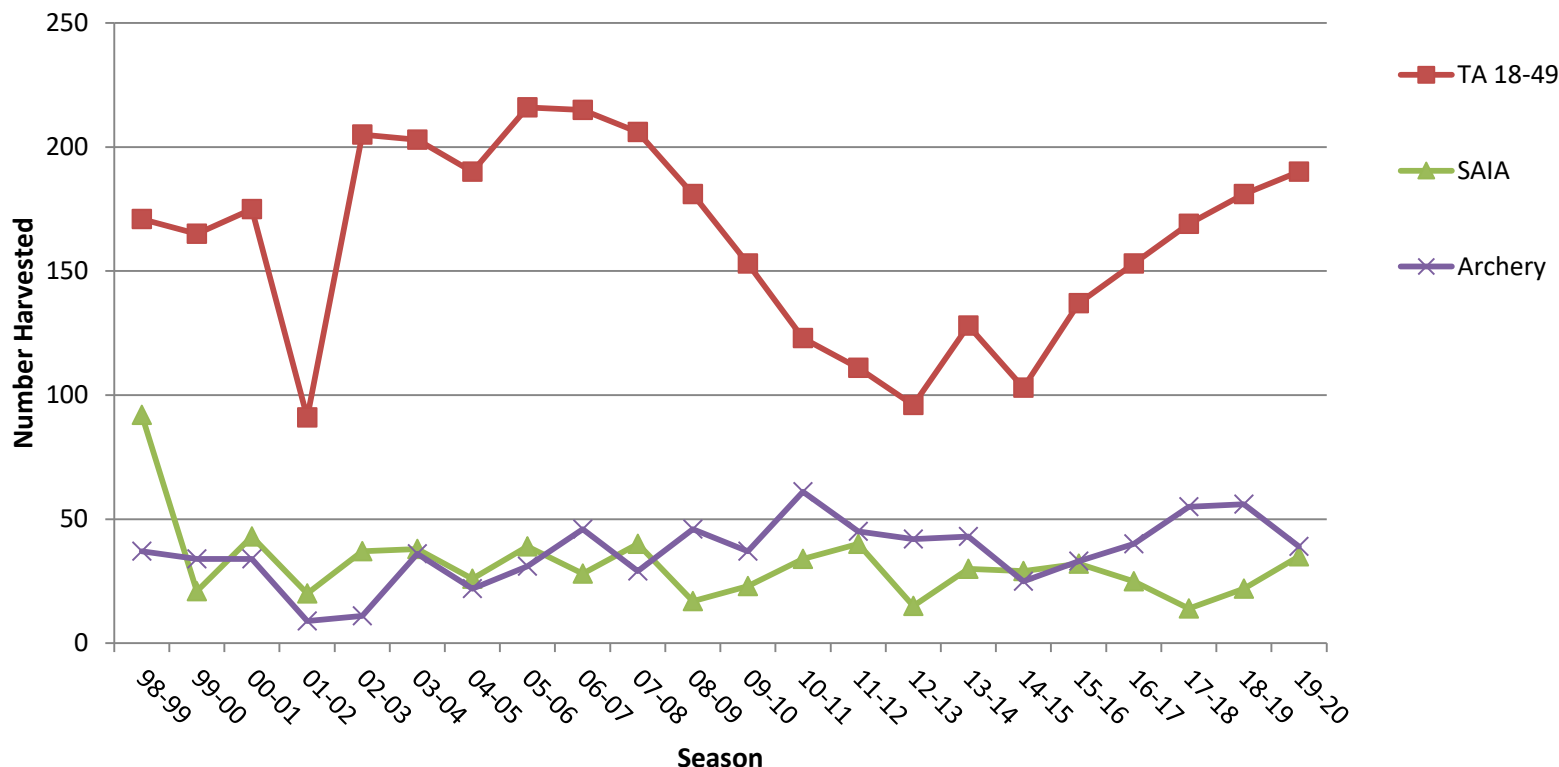

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Annual Trends

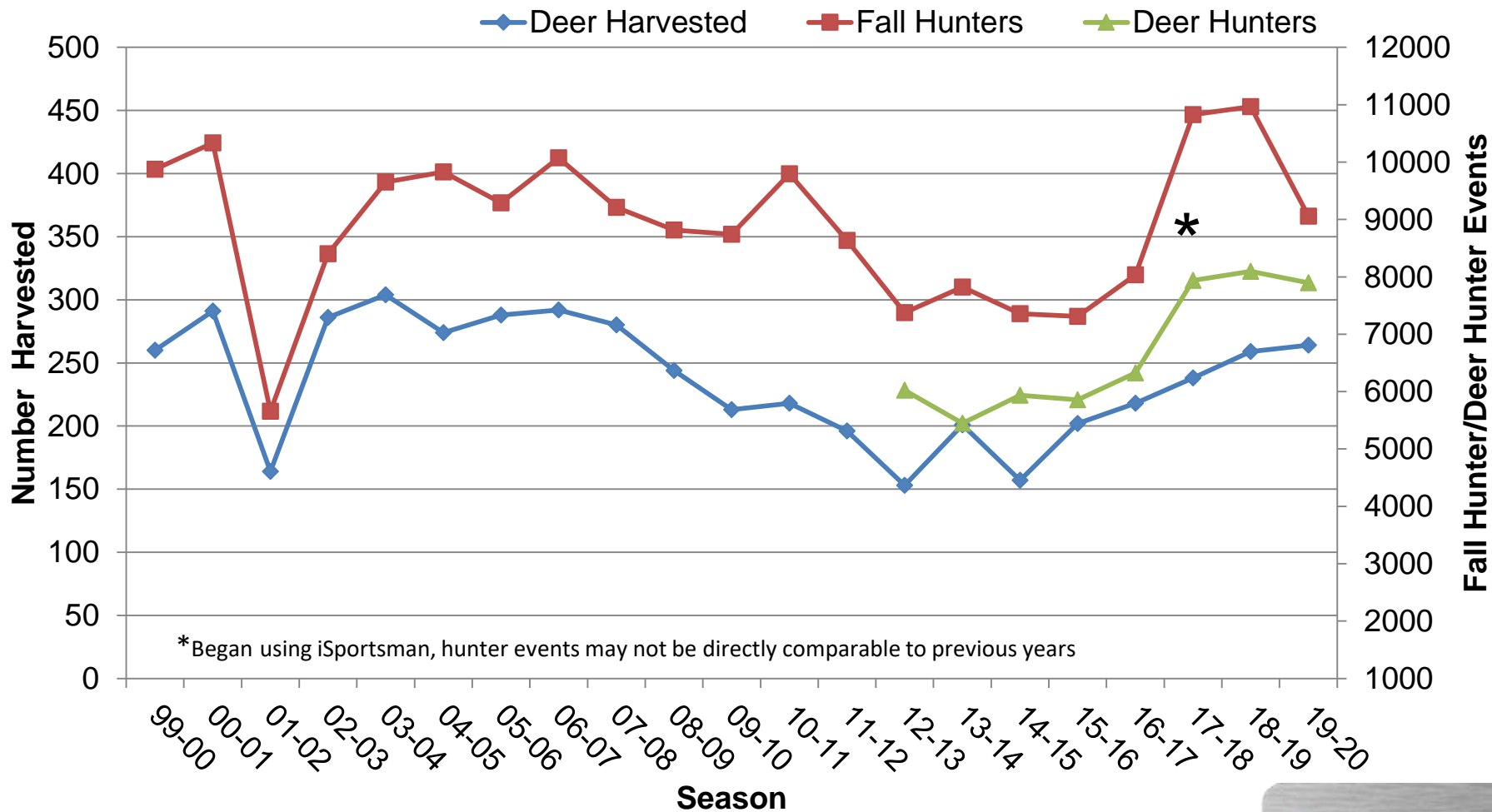**Deer Harvest Trend By Deer Management Zone**

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Annual Trends

Annual Deer Harvest and Hunter Events

*Began using iSportsman, hunter events may not be directly comparable to previous years

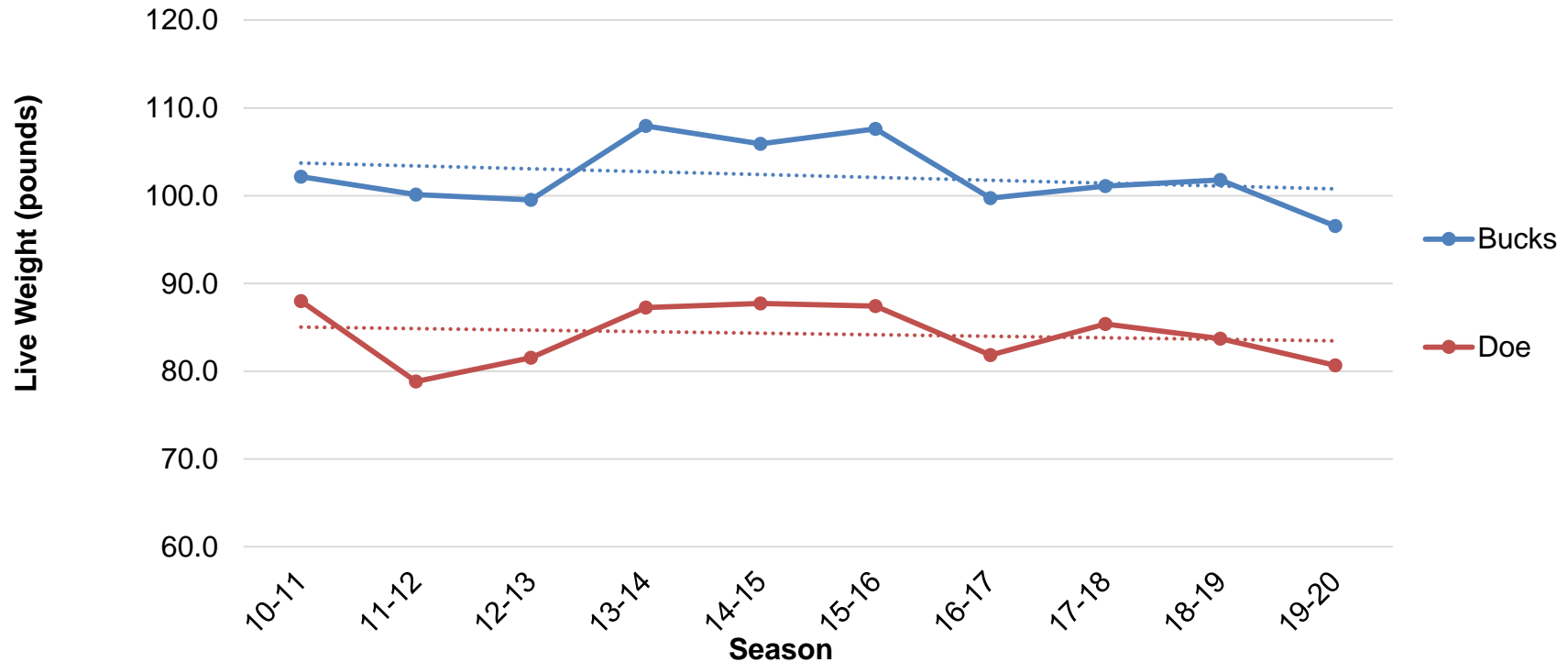*USAG, Fort Gordon, Georgia*

2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Annual Trends

Average Weights of Yearling Deer

Tracking yearling deer weights from year to year is one way NRB biologists evaluate herd health and habitat quality. This is one reason for requiring submission of jawbones from all harvested deer. Thanks to everyone who submitted jawbones.
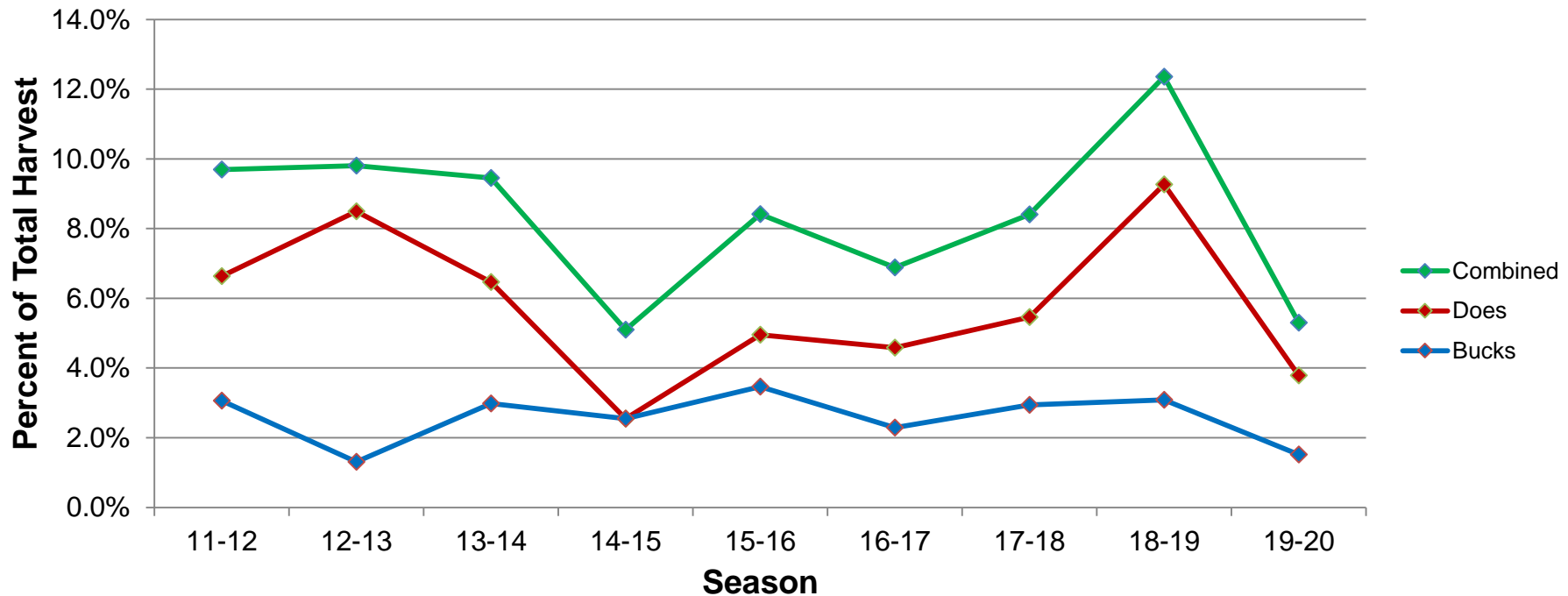
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2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Annual Trends

Fawn Harvest Trend

While most hunters would agree that limiting fawn harvest would help grow the population, having some fawns in the harvest is not bad. The percent of fawns in the harvest can be used as an index of population status and growth rate. More fawns in the harvest may indicate more fawns in the population.
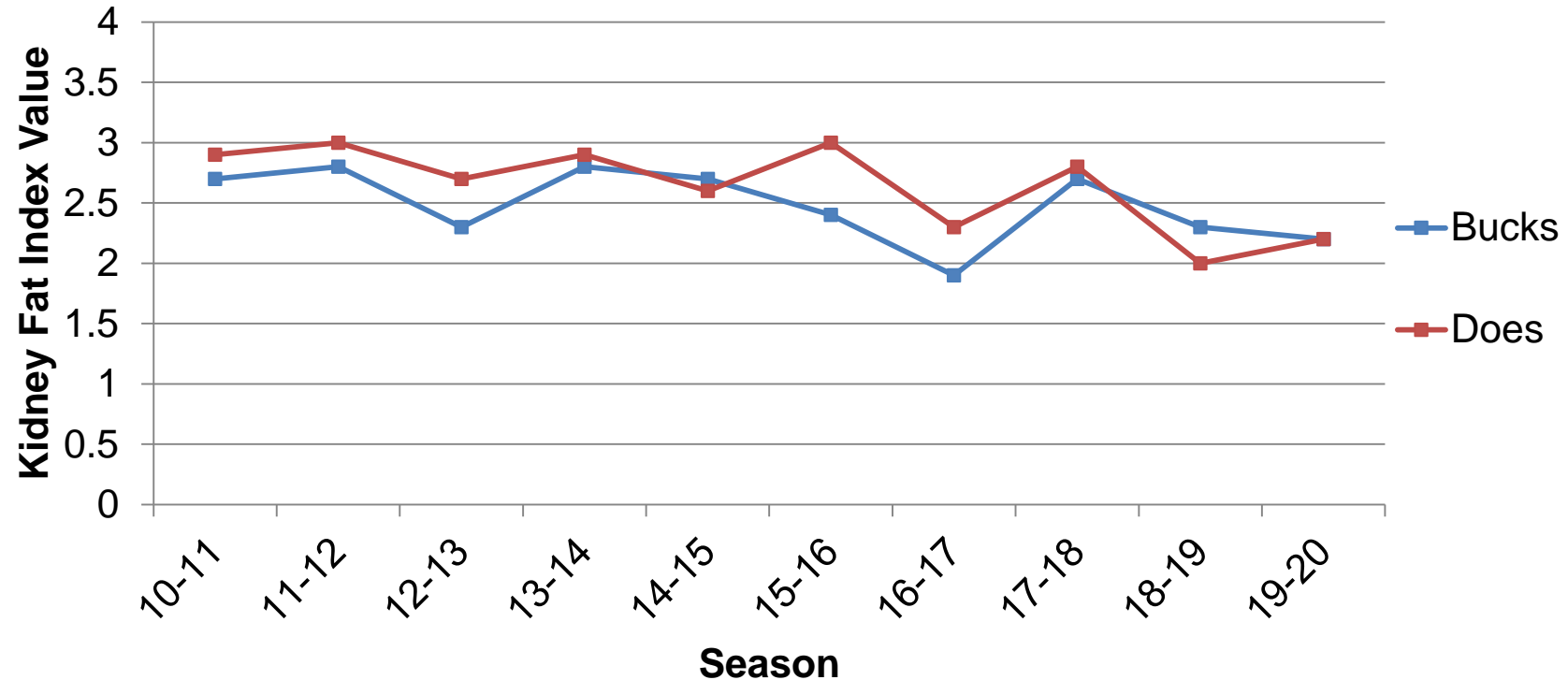
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2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Annual Trends

Average Kidney Fat Index

While many factors such as pregnancy, lactation, rut, habitat, etc. can effect a deer's kidney fat, having a stable KFI trend between 2.5 – 3 shows that overall herd health is good.
(See slide 11 for an explanation of Kidney Fat Index)
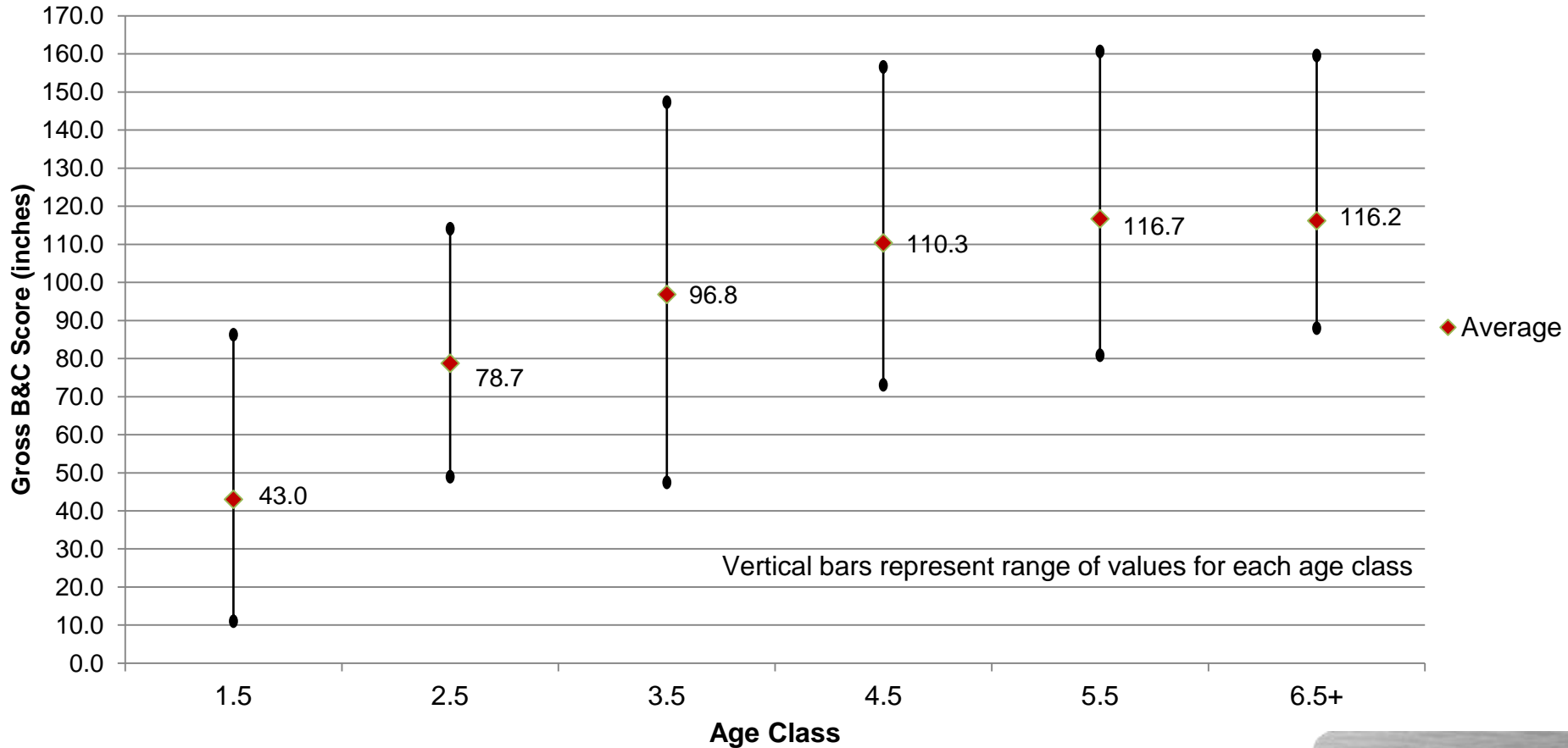
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Antler Data Summary

(2009-Current)

Average Gross B&C Score by Age Class
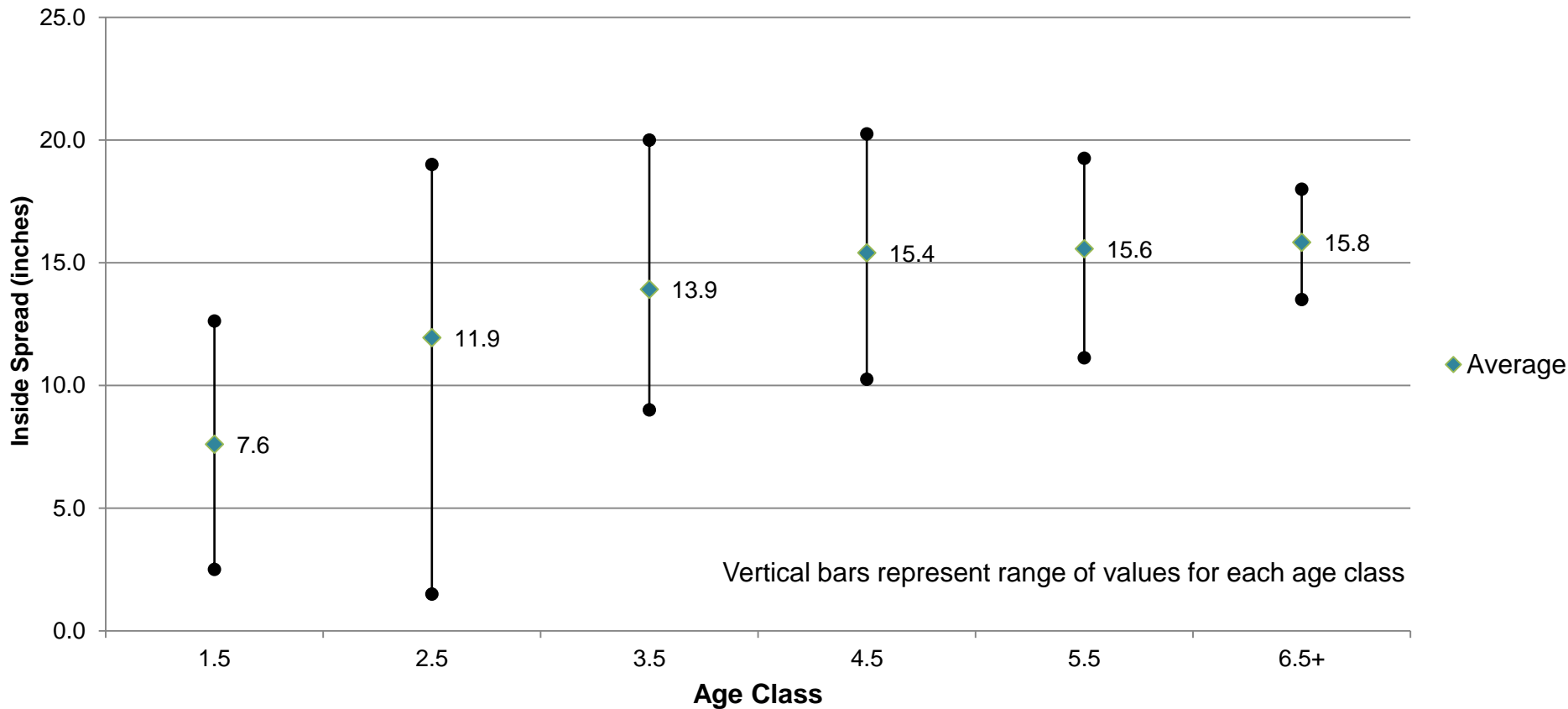
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2019-2020 Deer Harvest Summary Report

Antler Data Summary

(2009-Current)

Inside Spread by Age Class

Vertical bars represent range of values for each age class

Average: 7.6, 11.9, 13.9, 15.4, 15.6, 15.8

Y-axis: Inside Spread (inches) — 0.0 to 25.0
X-axis: Age Class — 1.5, 2.5, 3.5, 4.5, 5.5, 6.5+

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Antler Data Summary
(2009-Current)

Average Main Beam Lengths by Age Class

Vertical bars represent range of values for each age class
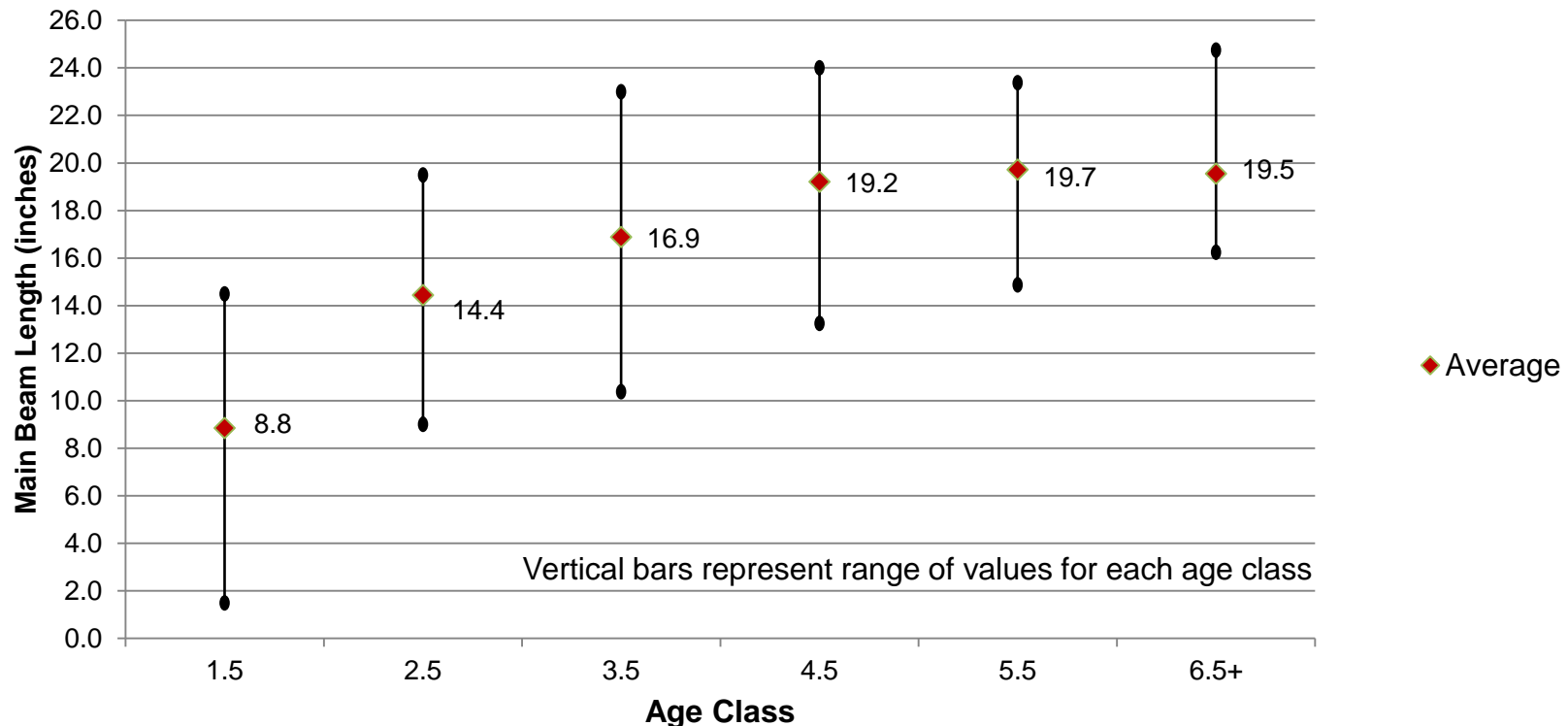
◆ Average

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Peak Conception Dates

(Since 2010)

- ✓ Based on fetus data collected since 2010 the average date of conception is **29 October**
- ✓ The range is 10 October to 1 December, with approximately 2/3 of conceptions fall in the first half of this range based on samples we have collected (Sample Size: 28)

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Questions?

**If you have questions or comments regarding data represented in these slides please email:
zachary.a.blunk.civ@mail.mil**

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