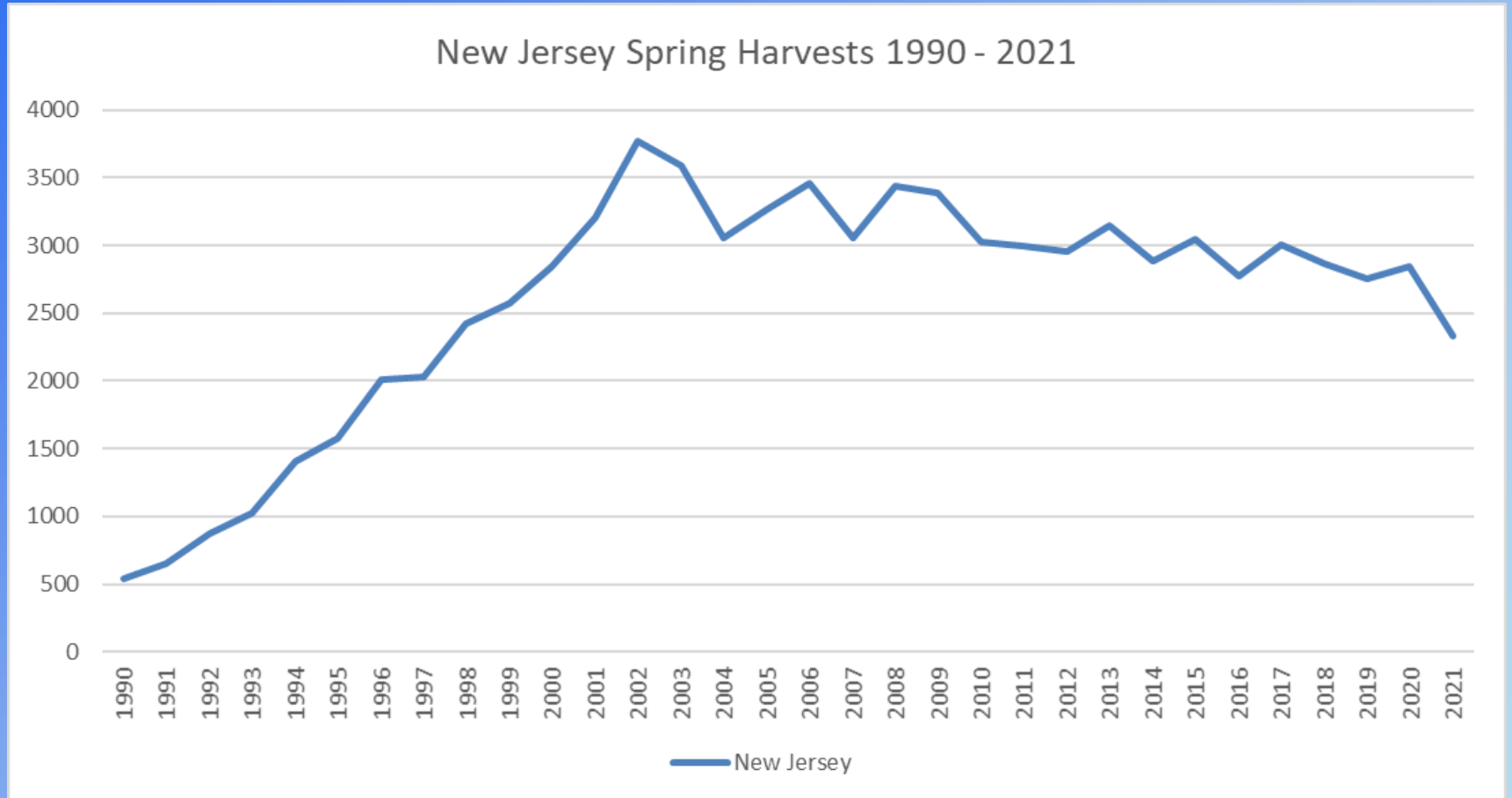


# Wild Turkey Spring Harvest Updates

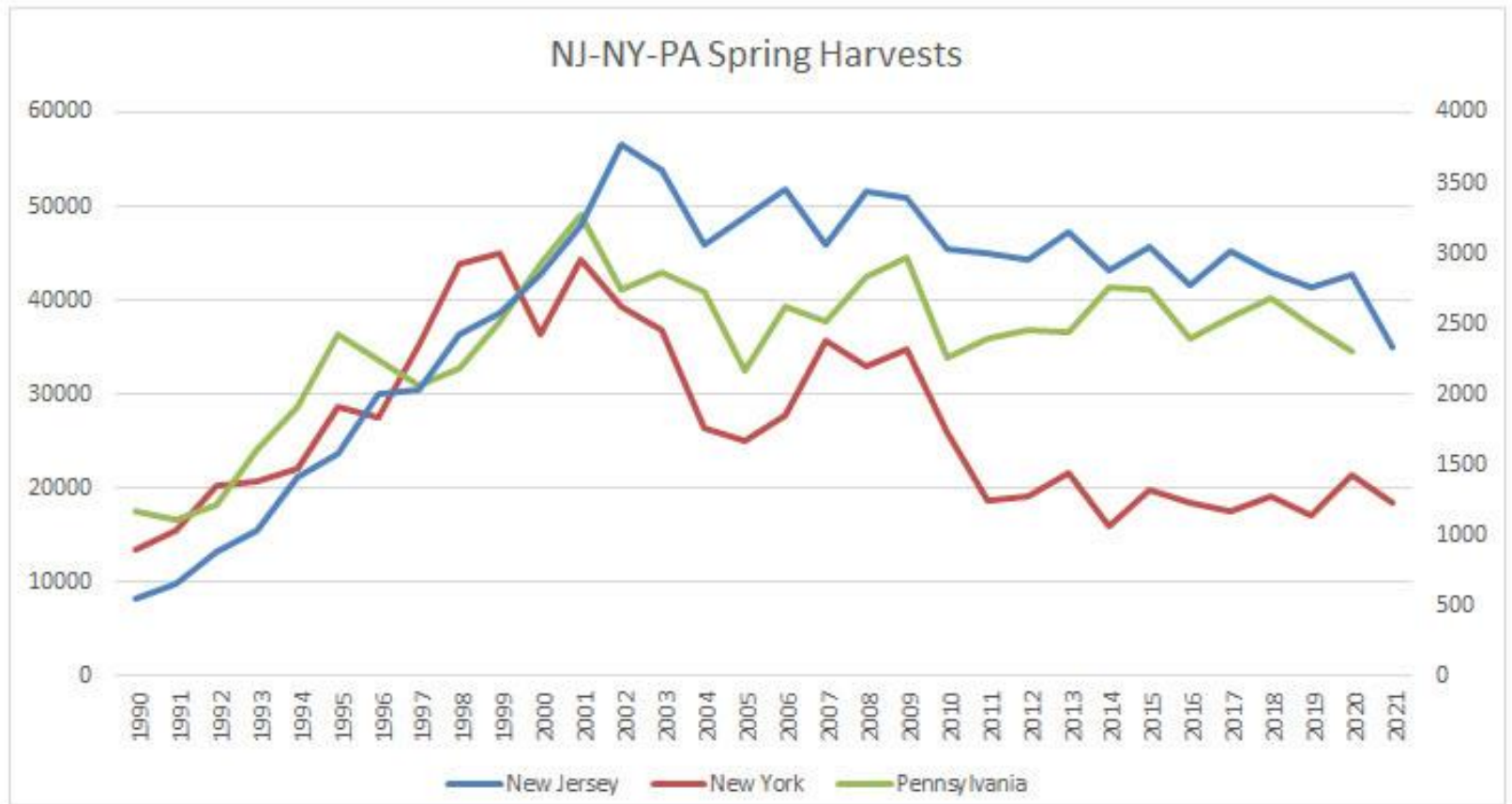


New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

# NJ Spring Turkey Seasons



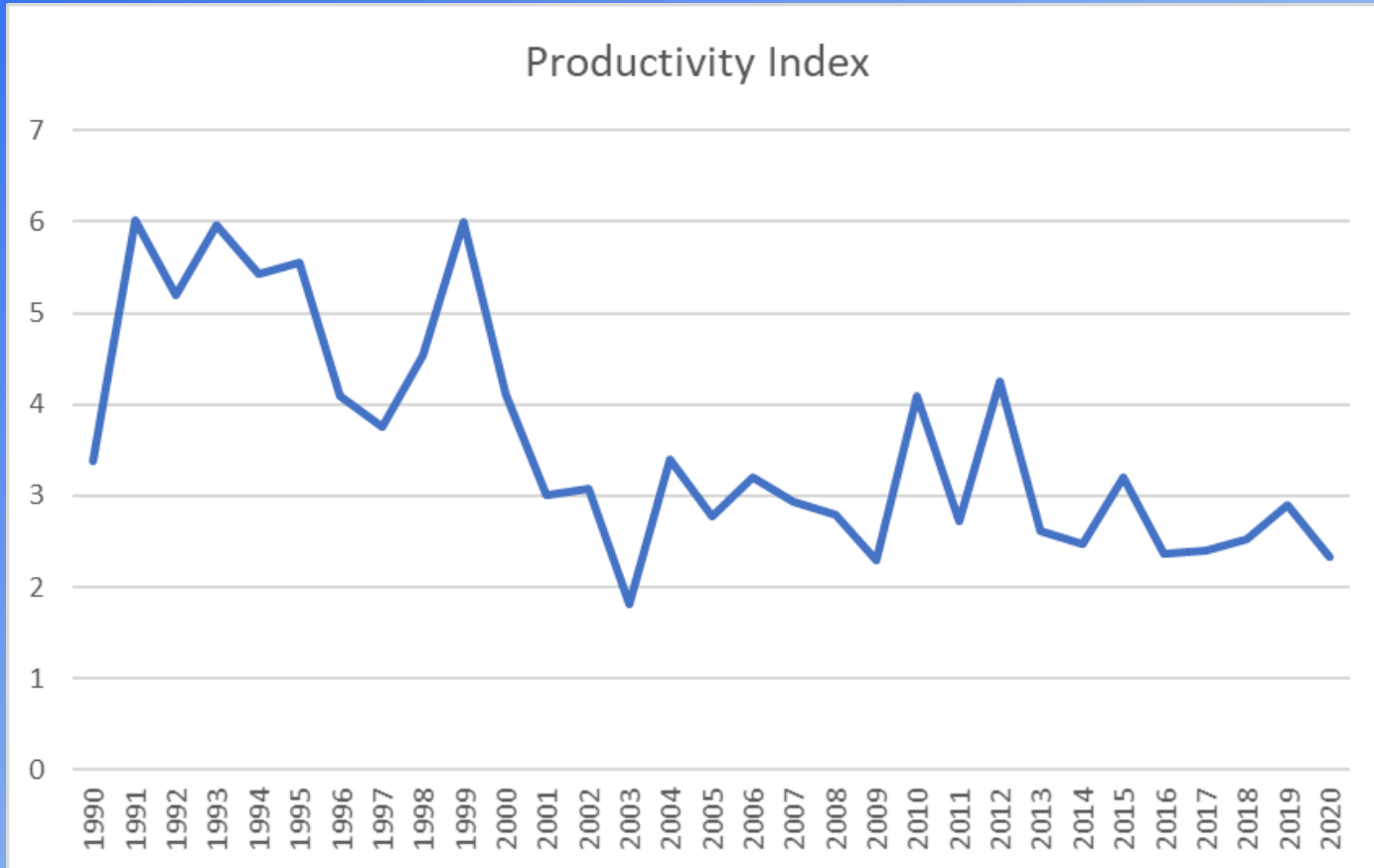
# Tri-State Spring Turkey Seasons



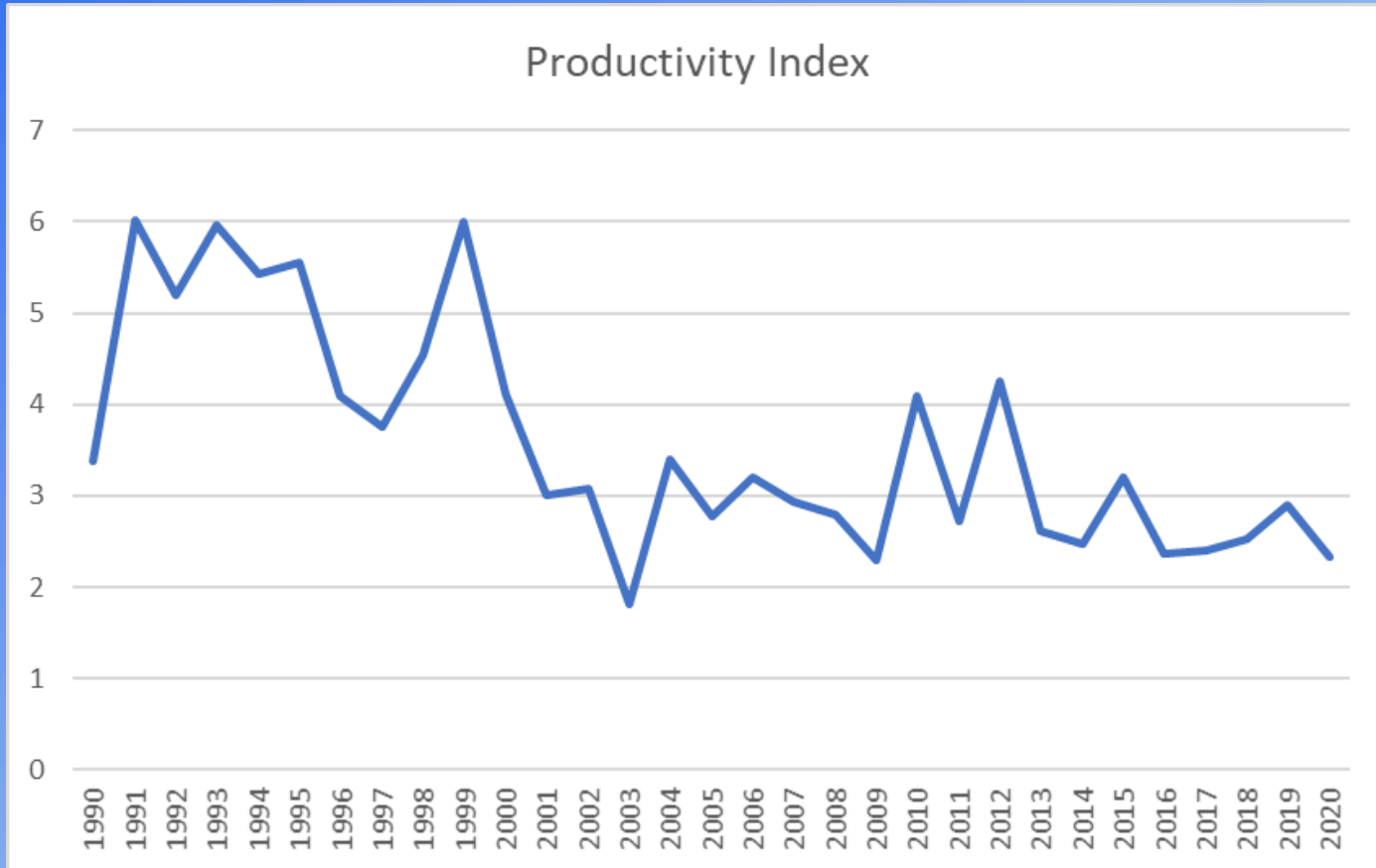
# Population Change Considerations

- Spring recruitment weather.
- Predation on nests, nesting hens, poults, adult birds
- Amount of brood/ nesting habitat.
- Forest maturation.
- Harvest?
- Disease?

# Poult Per Hen Ratio

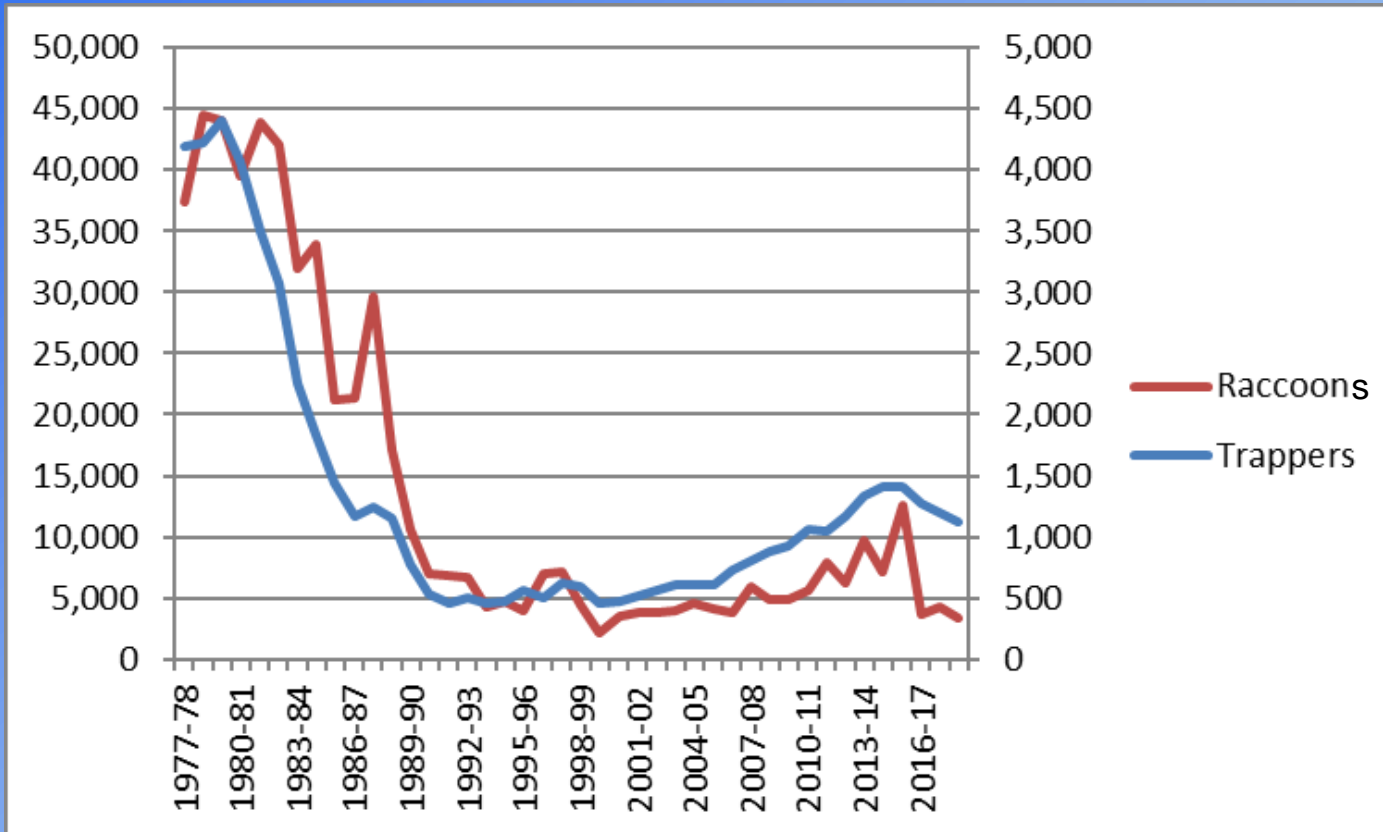


# Poult Per Hen Ratio



Weather? Predation? Brood Habitat?

# Trapping



# Changes from 2019-2021

- Switch from physical check station to automated reporting in 2020.
- Increase in participation in 2020 due to COVID.
- Increase in permit sales 13% from 2019 to 2020; additional 2% in 2021...
- Participation in 2021?



# What NJ Is Already Doing...

- Properly-timed spring season.
- Limited permit quotas.
- Restricted number of hunting days per permit.
- Conservative fall season (statewide harvest ~100).
- Relatively low hunter base/ substantial un-hunted land.
- Bureau of Land Management habitat work

# 2021 NJ Spring Turkey Harvest

- Number of birds taken:

	# Hunters
1 Bird	1,425
2 Birds	283
More than 2	93
More than 3	37
More than 5	3
More than 10	0

- In 2021, 93 individual hunters out of 10,500 harvested more than 2 birds, accounting for 14% of the total.
- For individuals who purchased more than 3 permits, there is a 17% chance that hunter will take 2 or more turkeys, and a 6% chance they will take 3 or more.

# Next Steps

- New poult productivity reporting system.
- Investigate new methodologies for population estimation.
- Data from studies in other states?
- NJ studies in cooperation with other states?