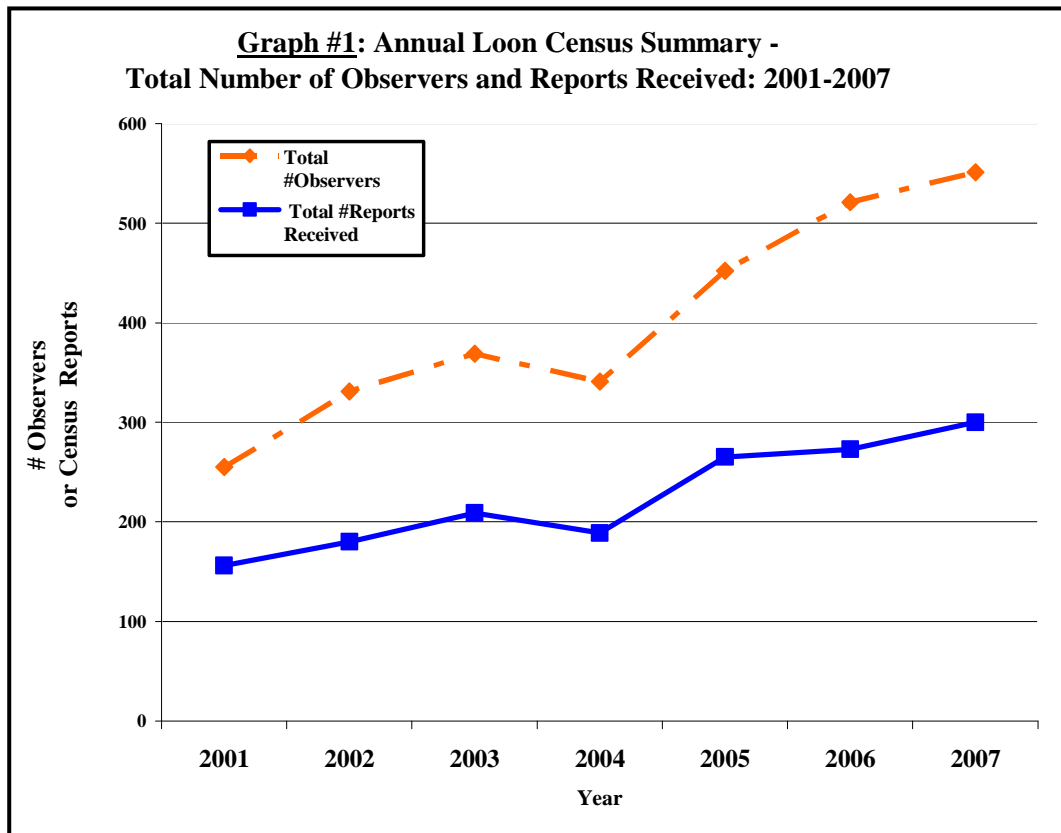


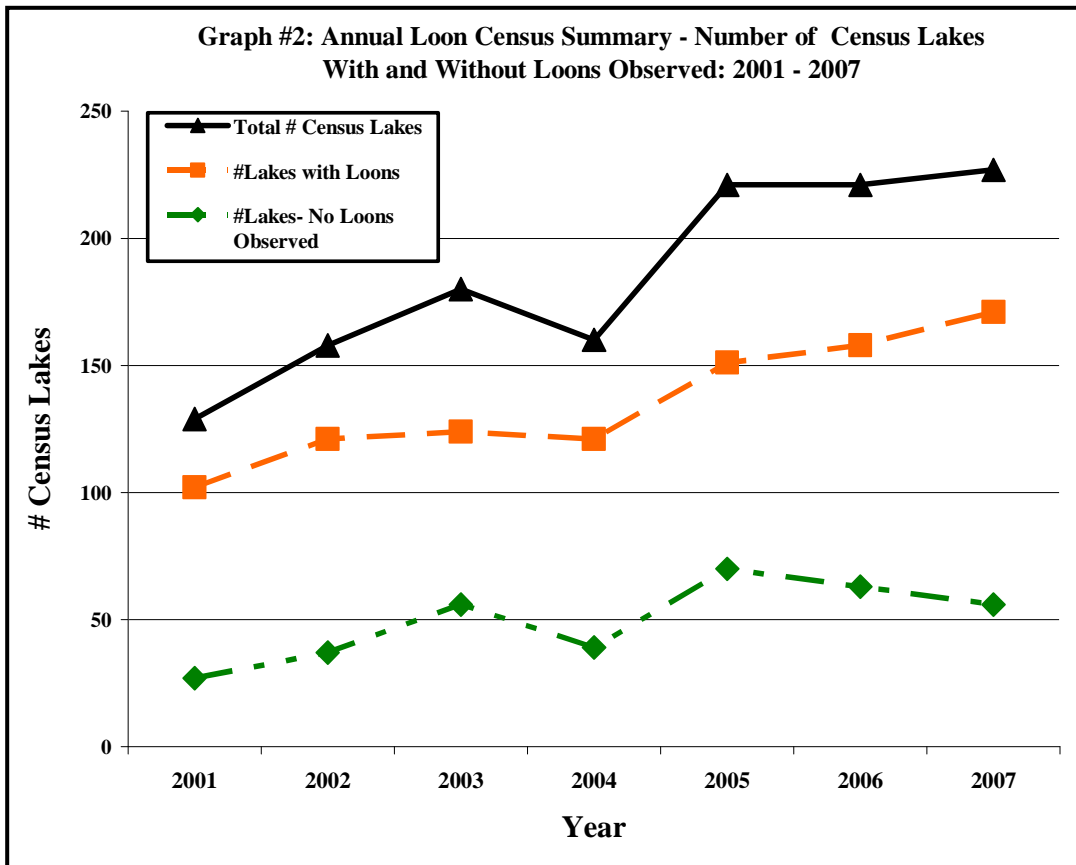
## SUMMARY OF THE WCS LOON PROGRAM'S ANNUAL LOON CENSUS RESULTS 2001-2007

The WCS Adirondack Loon Conservation Program's Annual Loon Census has continued to grow on a yearly basis. The reports received from our observers contribute to and expand our knowledge regarding the locations of summering loons in the Adirondack Park. We are very grateful for all of their efforts.

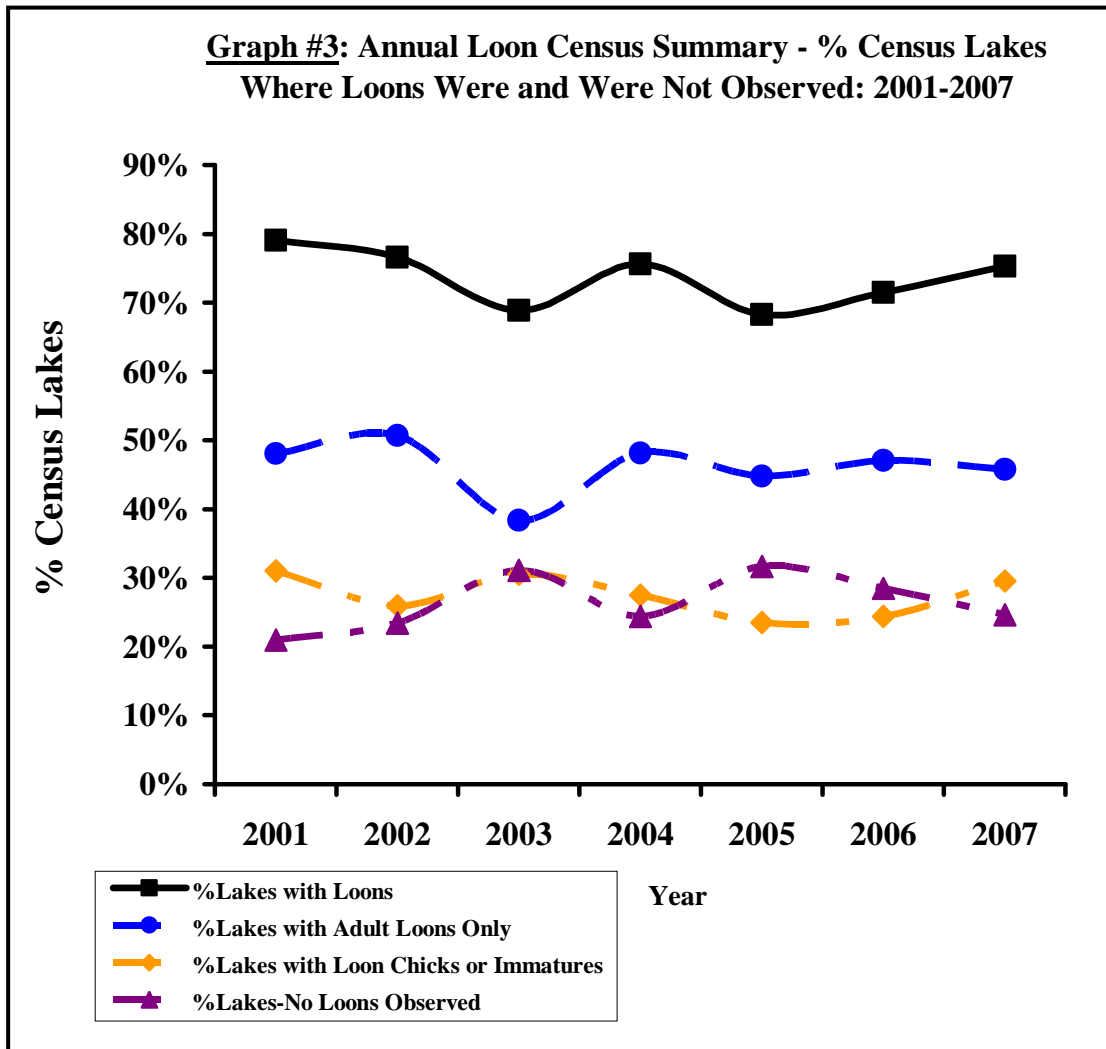
Graph #1 illustrates the total number of census observers and reports received each year from 2001-2007, with over 550 observers participating in the 2007 Census.



The number of lakes observed included in the Census from 2001-2007 has ranged from 129 to 227 (Graph #2). The number of Census lakes where loons have been observed has ranged from 102 to 171, and the number of lakes where no loons have been observed has varied from 27 to 70.



Graph #3 shows the percentage of lakes where loons were observed from 2001-2007. Based on this graph, it appears that the New York loon population has been relatively stable over the seven years of the Loon Census. Loons have been consistently observed on an average of 74% of the Census lakes each year, and loons with chicks have been observed on an average of 27% of the Census lakes. There has been some variation from year to year, probably depending on factors such as weather and predation. The reports from the lakes where loons were not observed are also extremely valuable, as they are very important for determining changes in loon habitat use and population trends over time.



The proportion of adult and young loons on the lakes has remained relatively constant during the seven years of the Census (Graph # 4). The majority (an average of 84%) of the birds surveyed have been adult loons, while 14% have been chicks, and 2% were immature loons. The Census is conducted in mid-summer, when the chicks are generally young. Thus, it is expected that there would be fewer immature loons observed on the lakes than there would be if the survey was conducted later in the summer or in the fall.

