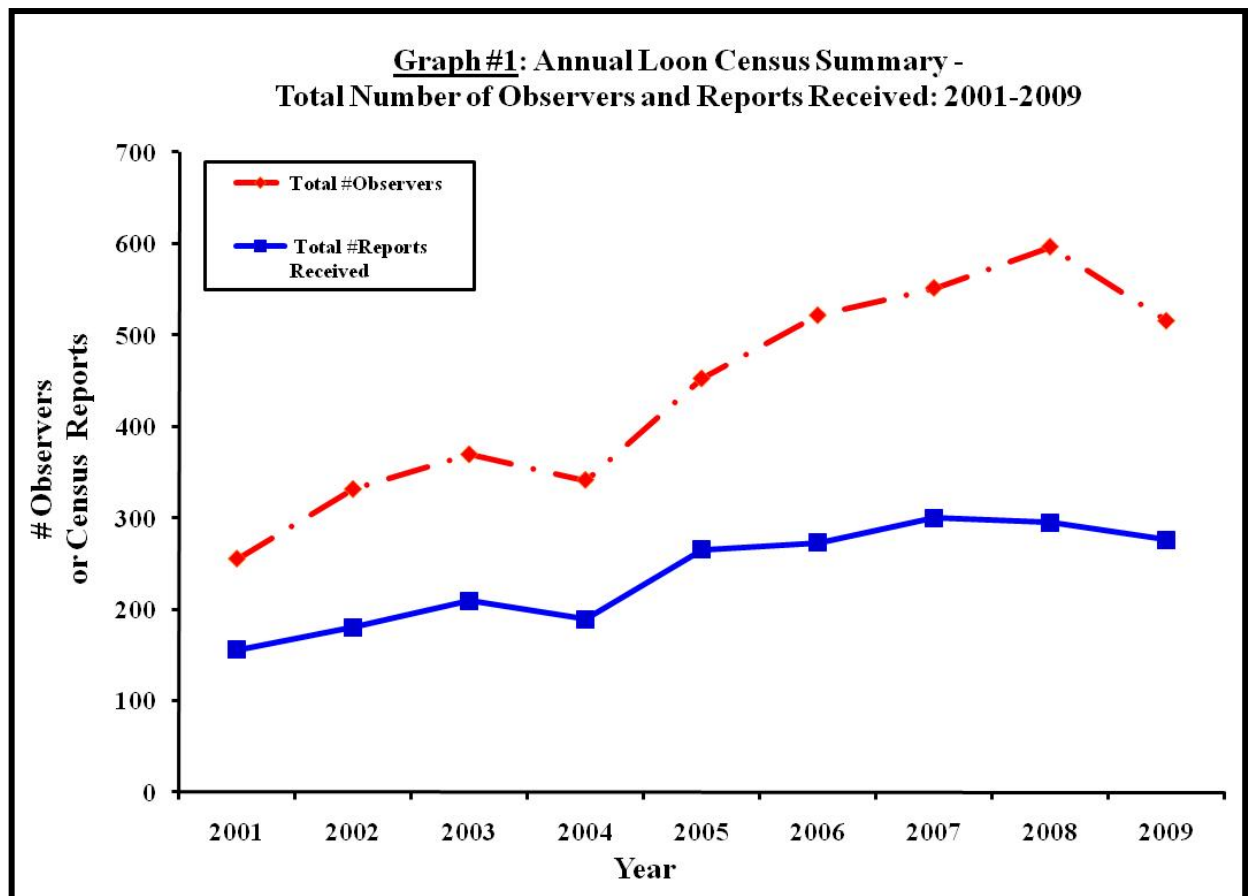


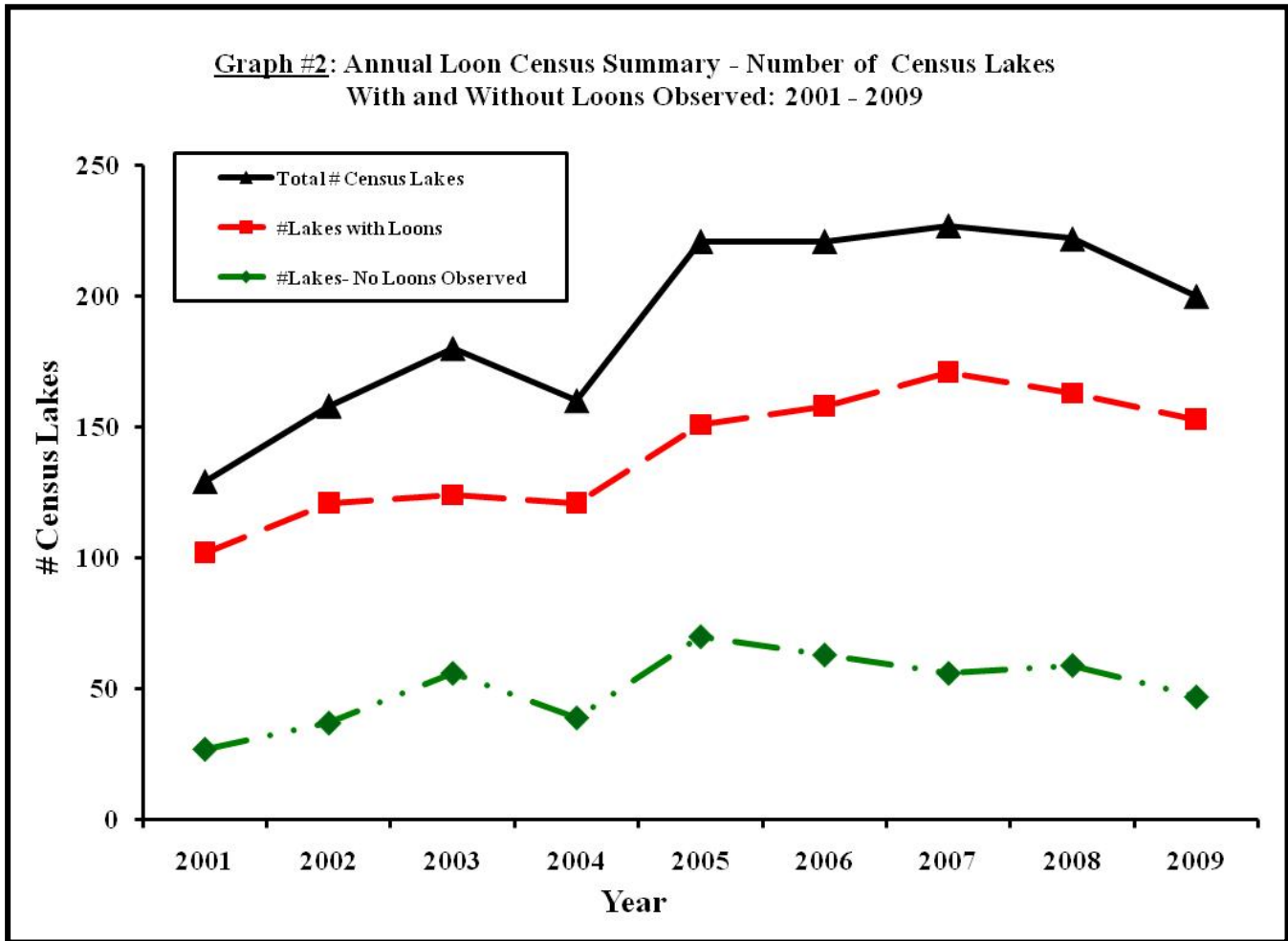
SUMMARY OF THE NEW YORK ANNUAL LOON CENSUS RESULTS: 2001-2009

A special thanks to the many observers who have contributed reports to the New York Annual Loon Census since its inception in 2001! Your observations have greatly increased our understanding of the Common Loon population summering in and around New York's Adirondack Park.

From 2006 to 2009, more than 500 census observers have participated in the New York Annual Loon Census, providing close to 300 reports each year, as shown in Graph #1 – *FANTASTIC!*

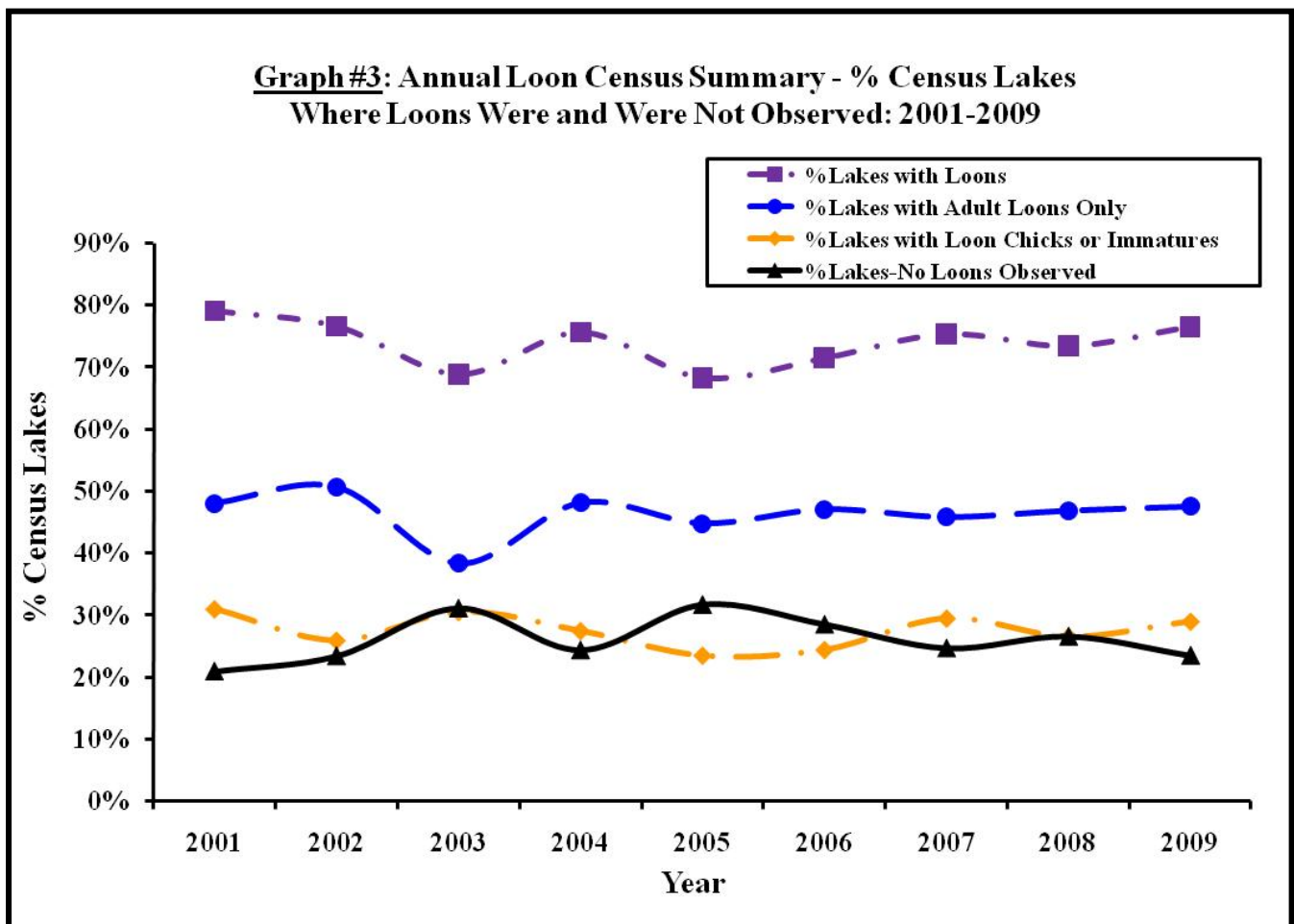


The number of lakes included in the New York Annual Loon Census has ranged from 129 lakes in 2001, the first year of the Census, to a high of 227 lakes in 2007, as illustrated in Graph #2. Over the past nine years, loons have been observed on a range of 102 Census lakes (in 2001) to 171 lakes (in 2007). The number of Census lakes where no loons have been observed has varied from 27 in 2001 to a high of 70 in 2005.



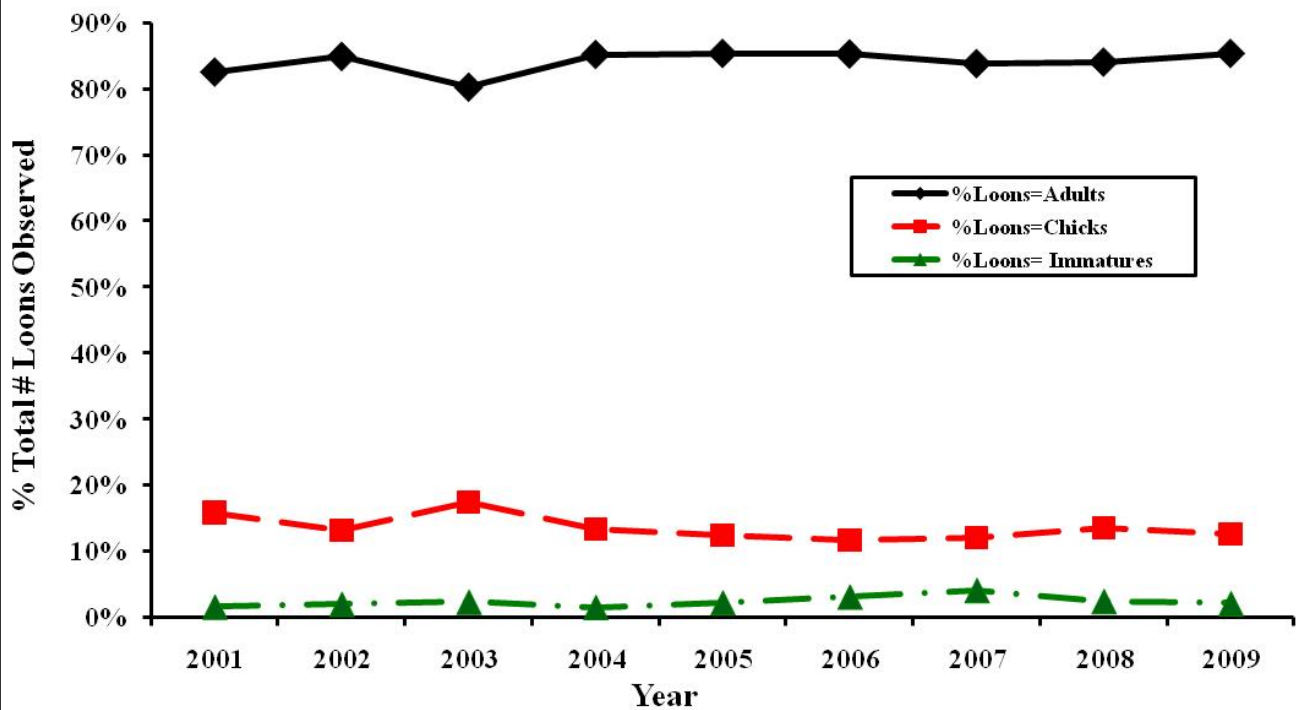
Graph #3 shows the percentage of lakes where loons were observed each year of the Loon Census. These results indicate that the summer loon population in and around the Adirondacks appears to have remained relatively stable from 2001-2009. Although the number of lakes included in the New York Loon Census has varied from year to year, the percentage of lakes with loons, especially lakes with adult loons, has been quite consistent, averaging 74% and 46%, respectively, over the 9 years of the Census. The percentage of lakes with loon chicks or immatures has been a bit more variable, ranging from a low of 23% in 2005 to a high of 31% in 2003. This variation in loon chick sightings from year to year is probably due to a number of factors, including weather and predation affecting nesting success and survival of the chicks.

Even if you have not yet seen loons or loon chicks on your Census lake, your observations are very important for documenting changes in loon habitat use and population trends over time. Please continue to submit your reports, whether you see loons or not!



Over the course of the NY Loon Census, the proportion of adult and young loons on the Census lakes has remained relatively constant, as shown in Graph #4. The summering population of loons on the New York Census lakes has averaged 84% adults, 14% loon chicks, and 2% immatures. The low percentage of immature loons observed reflects the fact that the Census is conducted in July, when most of the chicks are still less than 8 weeks old, and have not yet acquired their feathered plumage.

**Graph #4: Annual Loon Census Summary:
% Adult, Chick and Immature Loons Observed: 2001 - 2009**



~~ CENSUS OBSERVERS ~~

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 2010 ANNUAL LOON CENSUS!
SATURDAY, JULY 17, FROM 8-9A.M.**

**THIS WILL BE THE TENTH ANNUAL NEW YORK LOON CENSUS –
HELP US CELEBRATE THIS EXCITING MILESTONE!**

- ❖ See the Census Sign Up page to find out how to participate in the Census.
- ❖ Invite your friends to observe a new Census lake!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE!