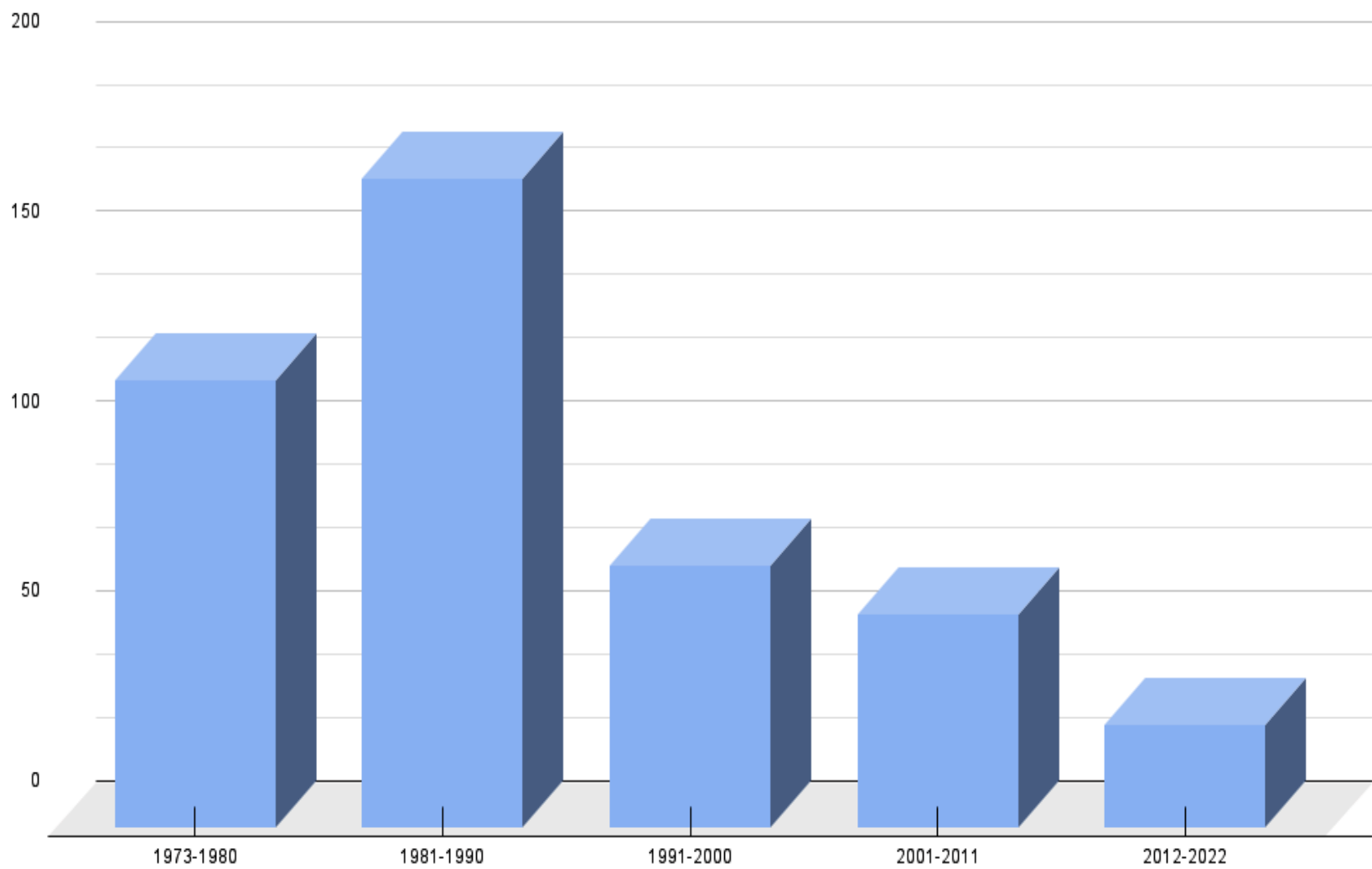


# THE ANALYSIS OF RECORDED CAUSES OF DEATH OF ADULT EAGLES IN GEORGIA IN 1973 – 2022



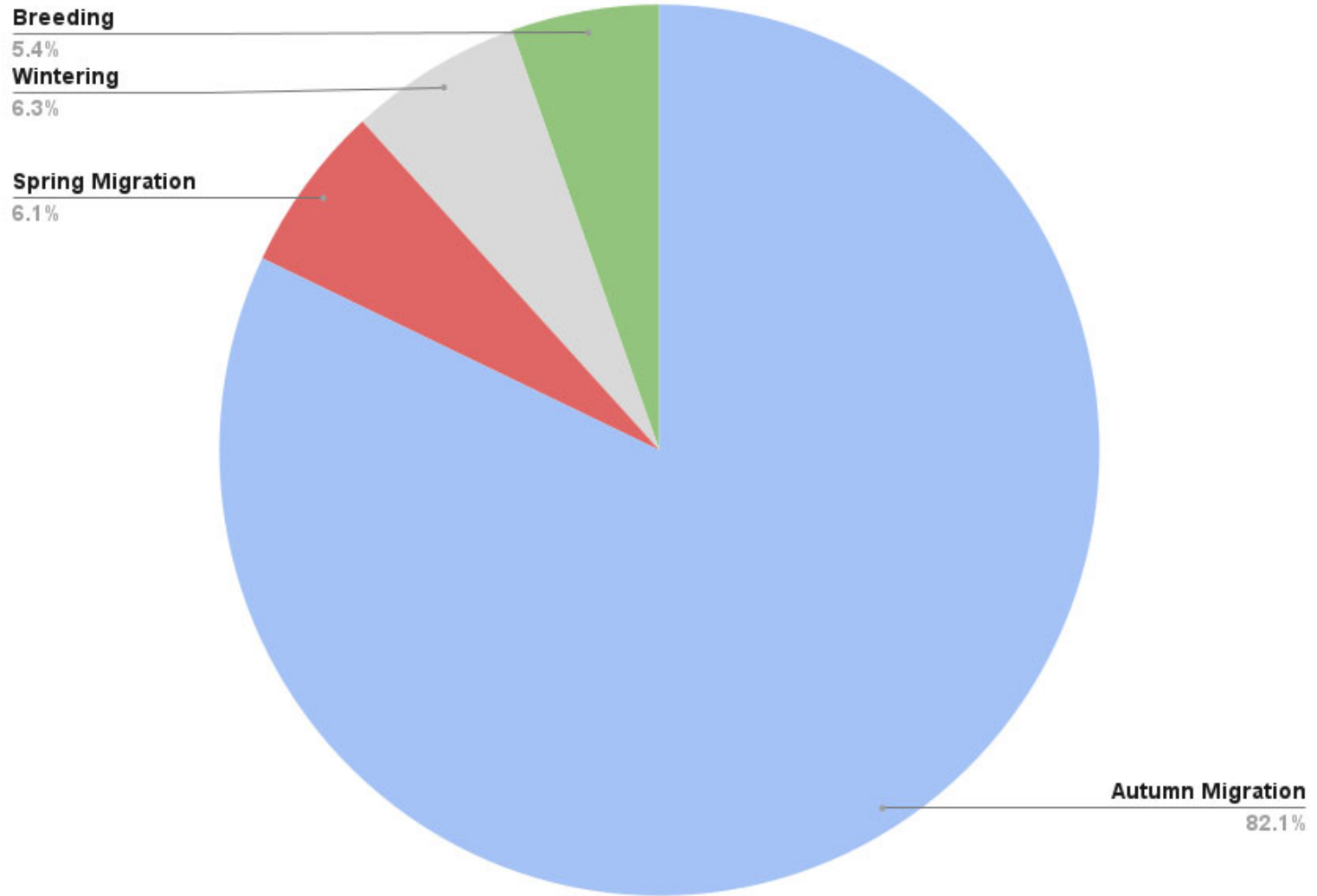


The total number of cases of mortality of adult individuals of nine eagle species recorded in Georgia from 1973 to 2022 was 441. 118 cases were registered from 1973 to 1980, 171 cases were noted in 1981-1990, 69 in 1991-2000, 56 in 2001-2011 and 27 in 2012- 2022. Such data are explained by the fact that until 1991 the collection of materials was carried out throughout the country, in all regions, and representatives of several organizations and a group of correspondents took part in the project. Since 1992, information about the death of eagles has been produced only by the author with the occasional help of colleagues from the Institute of Zoology, and only in those regions where we were able to conduct field work. In the last decade, material collection has been carried out at three sample plots in different regions of Georgia - one in the highlands of the Javakheti Plateau along the borders with Turkey and Armenia (altitude 1600 - 2300 meters above sea level, area about 420 sq. km), the second on the arid slopes of the Kvernaki Ridge in the central part of the country (700-1150 m above sea level; 115 sq. km) and the third on the Black Sea coastlands in the northern part of Adjara and in the west of the Colchis lowland (160 sq. km).

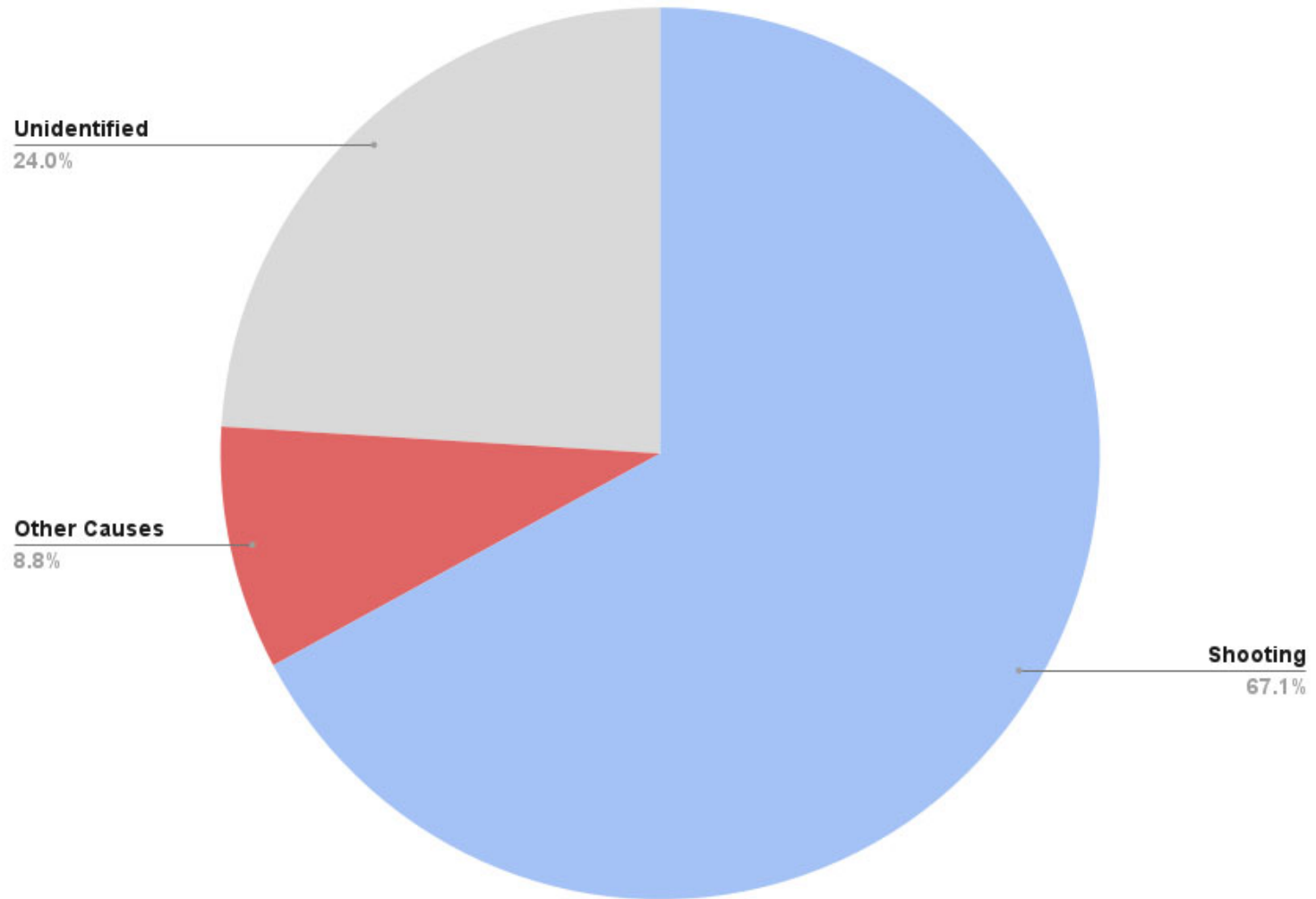


Eagle species	Seasons				Total
	Winter	Spring passage	Nesting	Autumn passage	
White-tailed Sea Eagle, <i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	5	1	-	8	14
Short-toed Eagle <i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	-	1	3	15	19
Lesser Spotted Eagle <i>Aquila pomarina</i>	-	2	2	32	36
Greater Spotted Eagle, <i>Aquila clanga</i>	-	1	-	4	5
Unidentified spotted eagles, <i>Aquila clanga / A.pomarina</i>	-	6	1	110	117
Steppe Eagle <i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	3	4	-	55	62
Spotted eagles/steppe eagle?	-	1	-	6	7
Imperial Eagle <i>Aquila heliaca</i>	3	1	2	15	21
Golden Eagle, <i>Aquila chrysaetos homeyeri</i>	12	-	8	2	22
Unidentified large eagles, <i>Aquila spp.?</i>	4	5	5	63	77
Booted Eagle, <i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	-	3	3	43	49
Osprey, <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1	2	-	9	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>441</b>

# Distribution of cases of death of adult eagles in Georgia by seasons



# Causes of death of adult eagles



**The main cause of death of adult eagles recorded at the territory of Georgia during study has been shooting** - 296 cases for 9 eagle species, which is more than 67% of the total number of registered cases.

Other recorded causes of mortality were the following:

- death on electricity cables due to electric shock
- trapping and killing
- death in traps with meat baits
- death due of poisoning at poisoned meat baits
- collisions with technical constructions
- death on garbage dumps due of poisoning
- victims of prey
- collisions with vehicles
- unidentified reasons .There is no doubt that the shooting was the cause of the death of eagles in those cases when it was not possible to accurately determine the cause of death.

# Most dangerous areas for eagles

