

## 2021-22 Wolf Density Numbers

### Using the Minimum Number of Wolves from the 2020 Survey

#### 2020

Minimum # of Wolves	695
Est. # of Lone Wolves	*104
Total Minimum # of Wolves	799
Number of Pups Per Pack (7x143 packs)	1,001
<b>2020 Minimum # of Wolves</b>	<b>1,800</b>

*\*Earlier, the DNR told us that 15% to 20% of the population of wolves are lone wolves, which are not counted, so let's use the low number of 15%*

Since there was no count in 2021, let's pretend that we live in a perfect world and all the packs got along with their new offspring and did not need to form new packs, keeping the number of packs at 143.

#### 2021

<b>Minimum # of Wolves from 2020</b>	<b>1,800</b>
Number of Pups Per Pack (7x143 packs)	1001
<b>Minimum # of Wolves in 2021</b>	<b>**2,801</b>

\*\*If pack a had seven pups in 2020, the pack is now 9. Let's say the pack stays intact; if it has seven pups again in 2021, they are a pack of 20, not 22.

Not every animal will survive, so half of these wolves died, most likely due to starvation and infighting. Giving us a possible **minimum of 1,400 wolves in the UP.**

An estimated 10,000 bears are living in the Upper Peninsula. Please tell us why hunters have reported seeing more wolves than bears on their trail cameras. Last month, one hunter reported that he had four bears on his trail camera during the past deer season and 29 different wolves. One sportsmen club held a predator hunt; over seven days, one trapper had 11 incidental catches of wolves; all were released unharmed. This area has not been a part of the 60% of the UP where wolves were the DNR has wolves counted.

Why are trappers having so many incidental catches of wolves while trapping for coyotes? Why have there been more wolves reported in communities? Maybe you who are against wolf management have a good explanation for these questions. Please share them with us.

Here is a table comparing the Western Great Lakes Region.

<b>State</b>	<b>Square Miles Inhabited by Wolves</b>	<b>Number of Wolves</b>	<b>Number of Wolves per sq. mi.</b>
U.P of Michigan	16,500	695	1 per 23.7 per sq mi
Minnesota	27,000	2,696	1 per 10 per sq mi
Wisconsin	23,313	1,034 to 1,057	1 per 22 – 22.5 sq mi

In the top line, the U.P. of Michigan has about the same number of wolves as Wisconsin, with fewer square miles inhabited by wolves.

This would explain why hunters see more wolves on their cameras, trappers have more incidental catches, and more are seen in our communities.