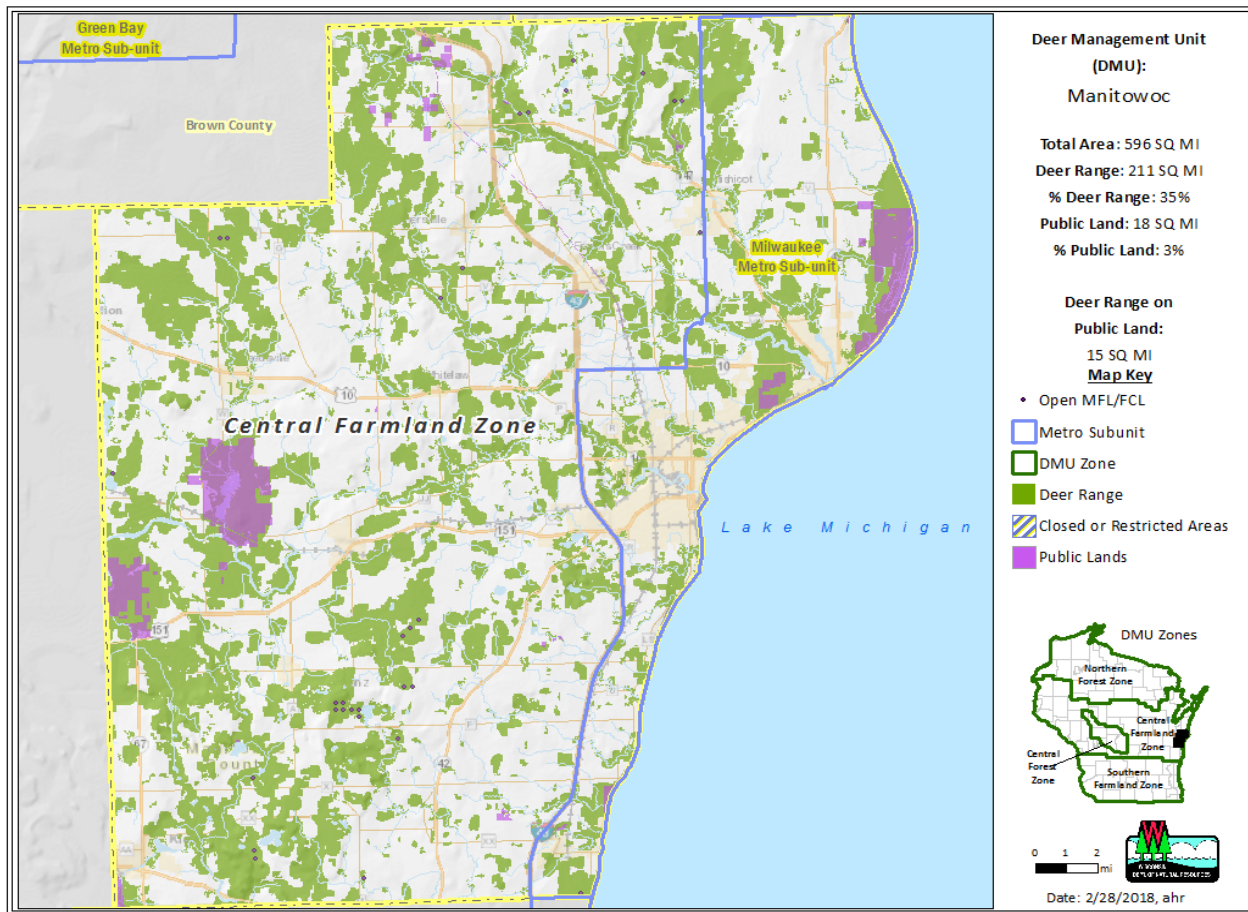


Manitowoc County Deer Metrics Report

Spring of 2024

Management Unit:



Manager's Note:

The Manitowoc County Deer Management Unit is located in the Central Farmland Zone. Approximately 36.6 percent of the unit is considered suitable deer range (172 square miles). The unit is predominately private land with a mix of farmland, marsh and woodland. Hunting access on private land has become increasingly challenging and habitat quality varies greatly across the unit, creating a tremendous disparity in deer distribution. Much of the forest habitat is bottomland hardwoods. The eastern portion of Killsnake and Collins Marsh Wildlife Areas along with Point Beach State Forest provide public hunting access on a combined 8,900 acres (14 square miles). Hunter densities on opening day of the 9-day gun deer season average about 35 hunters per square mile of deer range. Buck harvest has been consistently high with approximately 11.5 bucks killed per square mile of deer range. In addition to the public land there are approximately 440 acres of private land under the Voluntary Public Access (VPA) program for hunters to utilize. Please go to the DNR's home page and search VPA Manitowoc County for a list of the properties that are open, and any associated restrictions and access for each property. There has been a recent change to the boundary of the DMU. The Milwaukee metro unit has been expanded to the north and now extends north to the Kewaunee County line. The deer range metrics within the expanded boundary for Manitowoc County include 126 sq. miles, 39.2 sq. miles of which are considered deer range, or 31.1% of the unit. Within the expanded metro unit there are 5.7 sq. miles of public land and 5.2 sq. miles of deer range. The current deer herd management objective is to decrease the population due to agricultural damage, increasing numbers of deer-vehicle collisions, and lack of forest regeneration.

Deer Management Unit Harvest History

Fawn to doe ratios collected in late summer give information on fawn recruitment and survival and are used as an input into the formula for annual deer herd abundance estimation. Fawn to doe ratios were summarized using groups of county deer management units. County deer management units were grouped based on location, habitat characteristics, and deer demography.

Central Farmland Management Zone

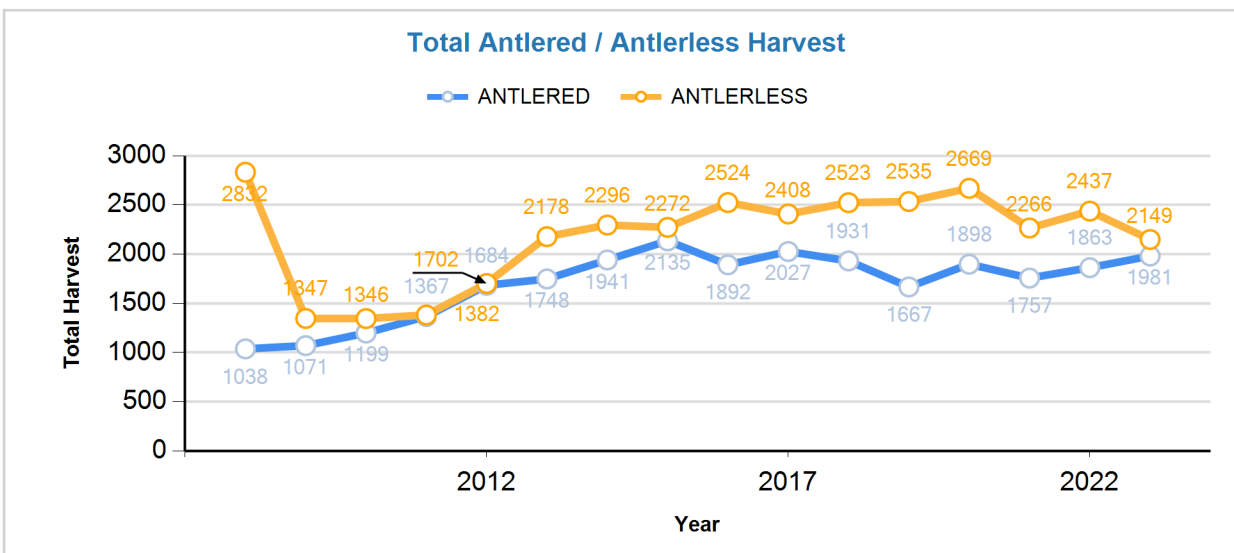
Total Area of Unit (Sq. Miles): 595.80

Deer Range of Unit (Sq. Miles): 211.10

Total Harvest for Manitowoc County - Central Farmland Management Zone

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1941	2135	1892	2027	1931	1667	1898	1757	1863	1981
Antlerless	2321	2272	2524	2408	2523	2535	2669	2266	2437	2149
Total	4262	4407	4416	4435	4454	4202	4567	4023	4300	4130
Gun										
Antlered	1274	1313	1161	1294	1297	962	1087	976	1158	1187
Antlerless	1811	1705	1870	1731	1907	1862	1872	1725	1882	1584
Total	3085	3018	3031	3025	3204	2824	2959	2701	3040	2771
Bow										
Antlered	430	464	392	347	254	279	304	285	234	272
Antlerless	302	327	313	298	248	234	276	197	188	193
Total	732	791	705	645	502	513	580	482	422	465
Crossbow										
Antlered	237	358	339	386	380	426	507	494	471	522
Antlerless	208	240	341	379	368	439	521	344	367	372
Total	445	598	680	765	748	865	1028	838	838	894
Tribal*										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	127	142	118	121	110	91	106	79

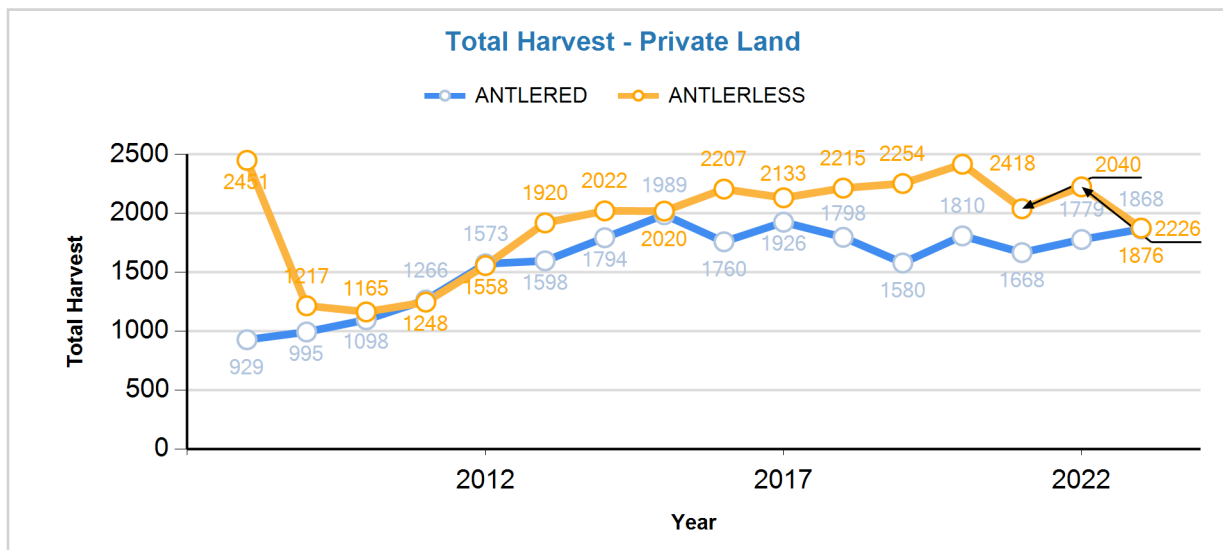
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply



Total Harvest for Manitowoc County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Private Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	1794	1989	1760	1926	1798	1580	1810	1668	1779	1868
Antlerless	2045	2020	2207	2133	2215	2254	2418	2040	2226	1876
Total	3839	4009	3967	4059	4013	3834	4228	3708	4005	3744
Gun										
Antlered	1188	1238	1097	1239	1223	916	1041	933	1115	1127
Antlerless	1611	1530	1657	1562	1690	1675	1722	1565	1733	1382
Total	2799	2768	2754	2801	2913	2591	2763	2498	2848	2509
Bow										
Antlered	390	421	352	324	228	261	287	263	220	251
Antlerless	259	286	266	261	214	199	241	177	173	174
Total	649	707	618	585	442	460	528	440	393	425
Crossbow										
Antlered	216	330	311	363	347	403	482	472	444	490
Antlerless	175	204	284	310	311	380	455	298	320	320
Total	391	534	595	673	658	783	937	770	764	810
Tribal*										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	115	133	109	114	104	86	102	74

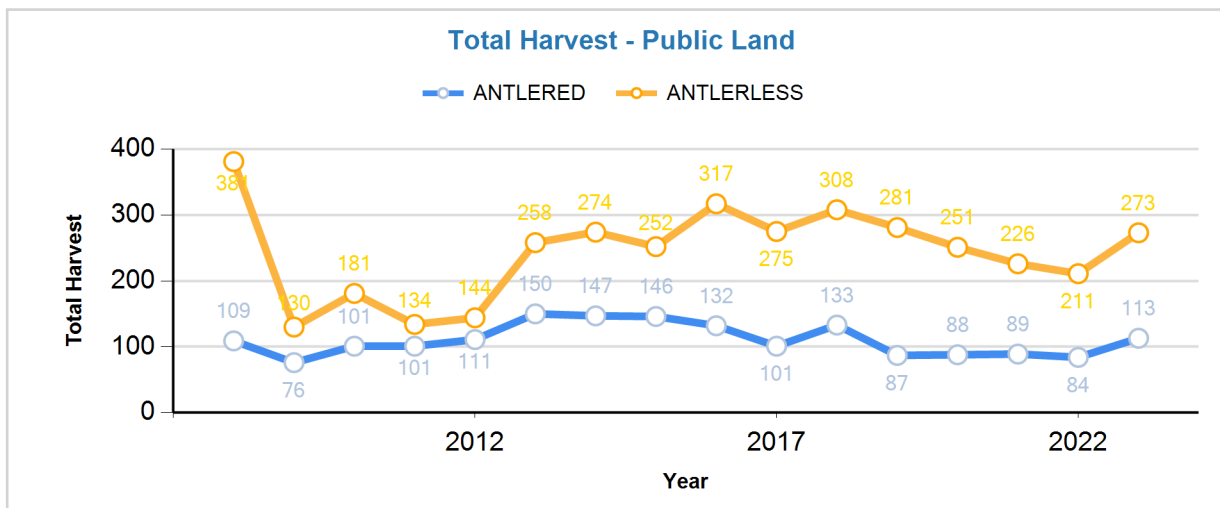
* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

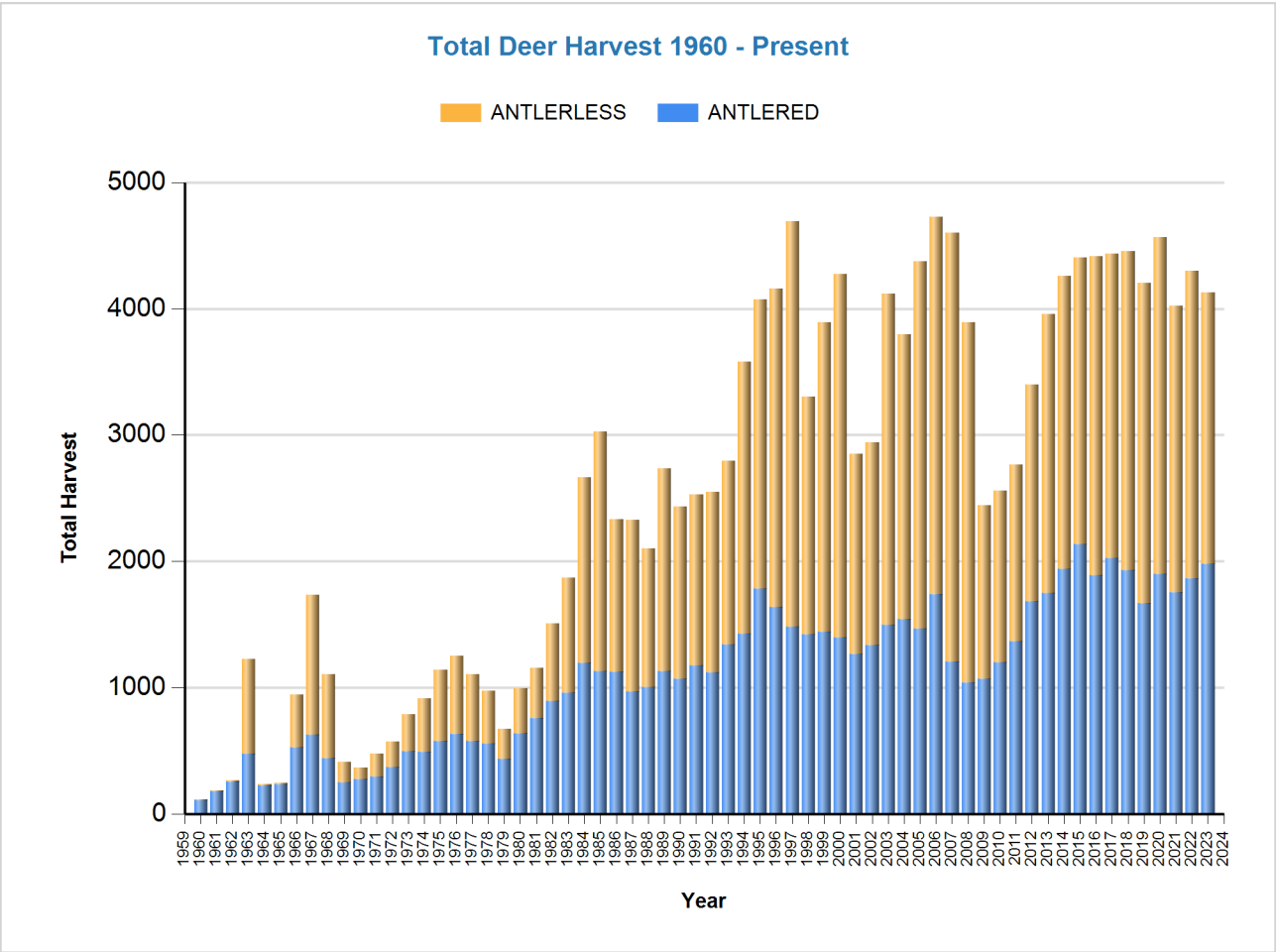


Total Harvest for Manitowoc County - Central Farmland Management Zone - Public Land

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Harvest										
Antlered	147	146	132	101	133	87	88	89	84	113
Antlerless	276	252	317	275	308	281	251	226	211	273
Total	423	398	449	376	441	368	339	315	295	386
Gun										
Antlered	86	75	64	55	74	46	46	43	43	60
Antlerless	200	175	213	169	217	187	150	160	149	202
Total	286	250	277	224	291	233	196	203	192	262
Bow										
Antlered	40	43	40	23	26	18	17	22	14	21
Antlerless	43	41	47	37	34	35	35	20	15	19
Total	83	84	87	60	60	53	52	42	29	40
Crossbow										
Antlered	21	28	28	23	33	23	25	22	27	32
Antlerless	33	36	57	69	57	59	66	46	47	52
Total	54	64	85	92	90	82	91	68	74	84
Tribal*										
Antlered	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Antlerless	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
Youth Antlerless*										
Antlerless	0	0	12	9	9	7	6	5	4	5

* Tribal and Youth Antlerless data are included in above totals where they apply

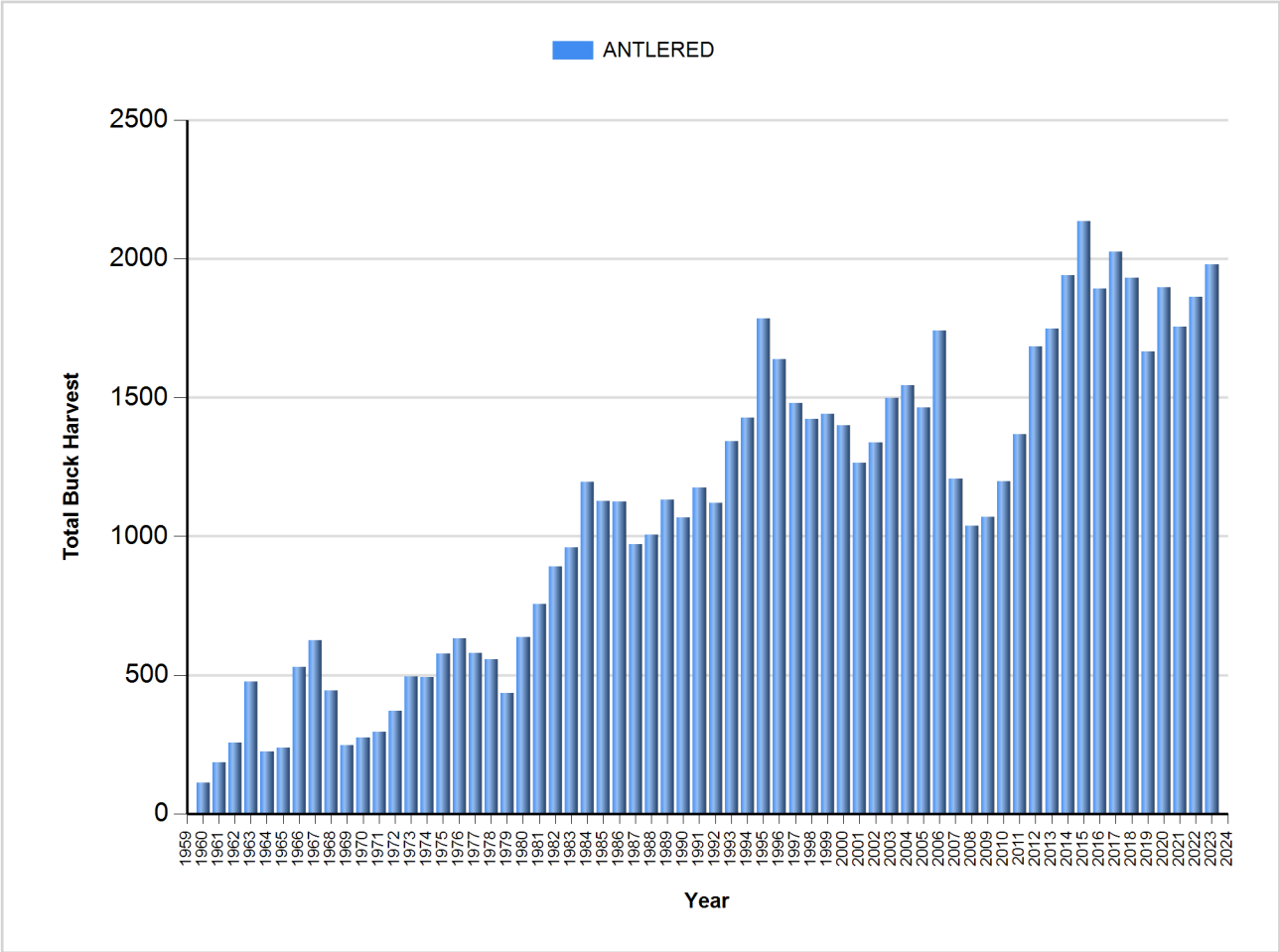




Total Buck Harvest 1960 - Present

Historic High: 2015 - 2,135

Historic Low: 1960 - 111

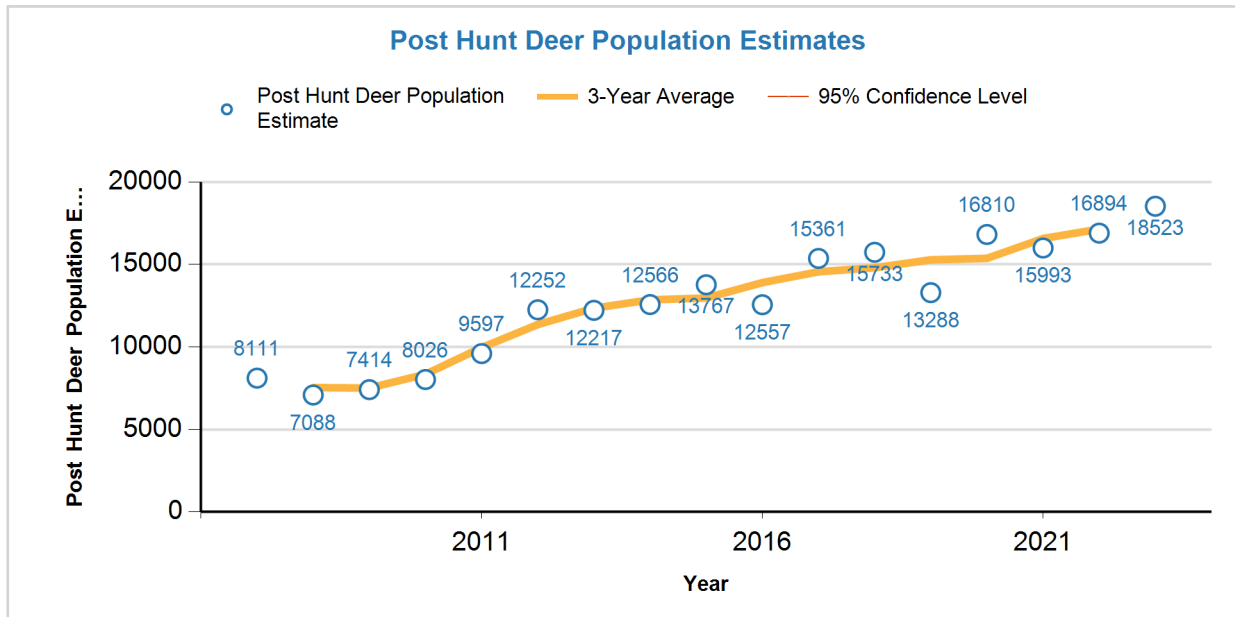


Antlerless Tag Issuance & Success for Manitowoc County - Central Farmland

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Farmland - Public				
Issued	4,472	4,183	4,271	4,146
Killed	177	154	176	157
Success Rate (%)	4.0	3.7	4.1	3.8
Farmland - Private				
Issued	20,280	19,555	19,233	19,572
Killed	1,914	1,625	1,816	1,574
Success Rate (%)	9.4	8.3	9.4	8.0
Farmland - Total				
Issued	24,752	23,738	23,504	23,718
Killed	2,091	1,779	1,992	1,731
Success Rate (%)	8.4	7.5	8.5	7.3
Bonus- Public				
Available	300	300	300	300
Issued	207	160	178	187
Killed	10	12	9	9
Success Rate (%)	4.8	7.5	5.1	4.8
Bonus- Private				
Available	2,000	2,000	1,800	1,500
Issued	530	568	528	614
Killed	75	64	73	83
Success Rate (%)	14.2	11.3	13.8	13.5
Bonus- Total				
Available	2,300	2,300	2,100	1,800
Issued	737	728	706	801
Killed	85	76	82	92
Success Rate (%)	11.5	10.4	11.6	11.5

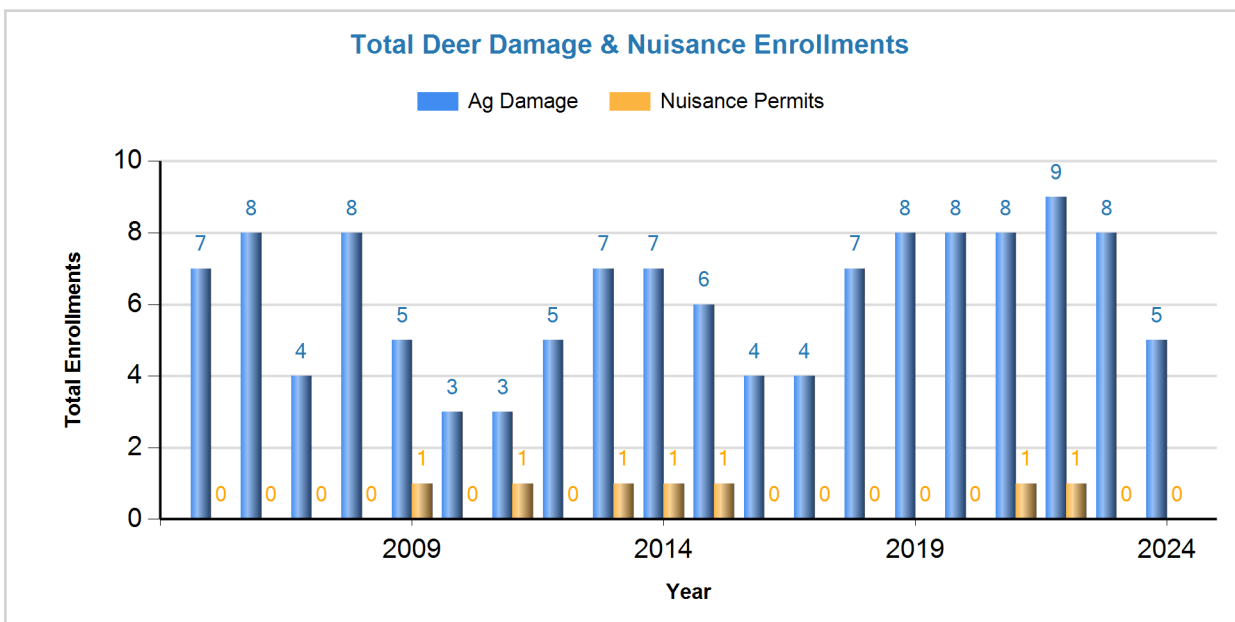
Herd Abundance

Deer herd abundance is estimated annually with hunter-collected data and a mathematical model to get post hunt deer population estimates.

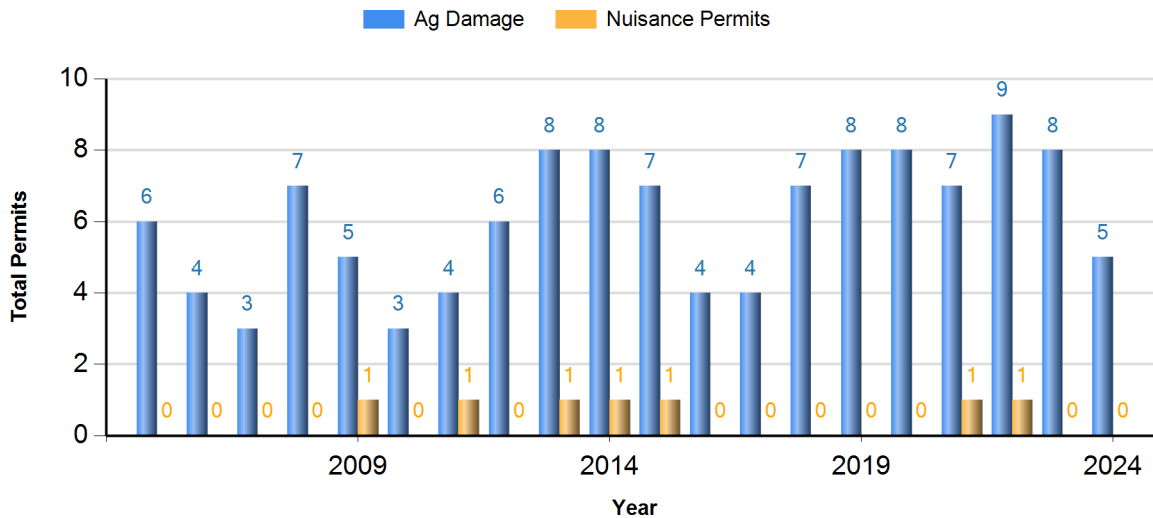


Deer Impacts – Agriculture & Nuisance Impacts

View trends in county and statewide enrollment, shooting permit, Ag Damage, and Nuisance harvest numbers over the years.



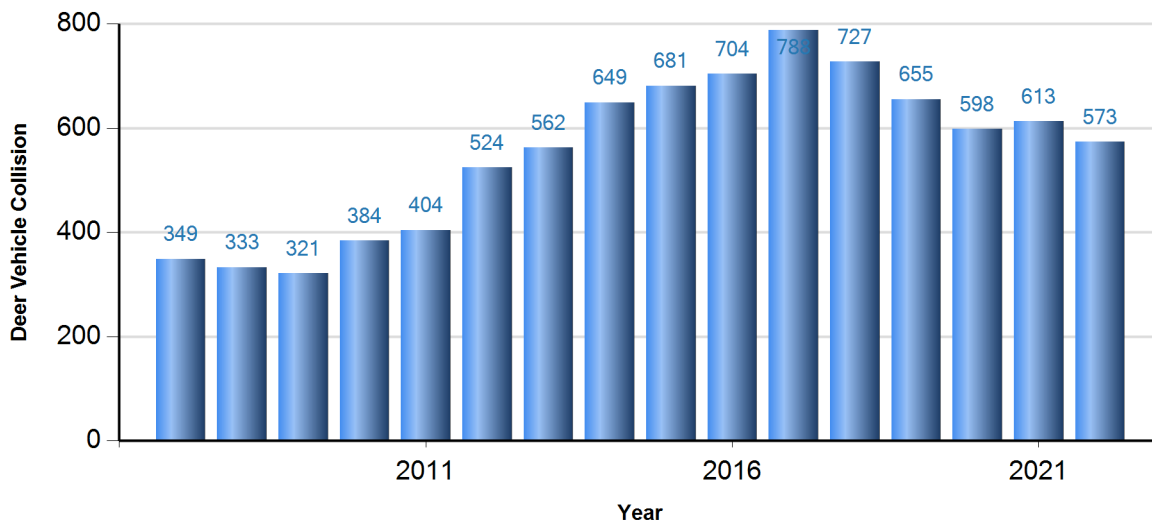
Total Deer Damage & Nuisance Shooting Permits Issued



Deer Impacts - Deer Vehicle Collision

Deer-vehicle collisions (DVCs) are one of the most visible negative impacts that deer populations have on society. As managing deer involves balancing the positive benefits of deer with their negative impacts, it makes sense to consider DVCs when making deer management decisions.

Deer Vehicle Collisions



Hunter Dynamics - Hunter Field Observations

This metric provides voluntary hunter observation data that is collected either during the process of registering a deer, or from submitted field observations through an on-line reporting form.

