With more artificial objects in our skies than ever in human history, it’s easy to understand how UFO sightings have steadily increased worldwide. And with the arrival of increasingly convincing photo manipulation, some of those close encounters have become more difficult to parse as fake.

The nearly two-thirds of 1,600 Minnesota sighting incidents recorded by the National UFO Reporting Center have primarily been concentrated in this decade, which is consistent with national trends. The organization has operated continuously since 1974 and has noticed the sharp uptick in submitted reports.

The most famous sighting in Minnesota

The Pentagon has long investigated UFO sightings by U.S. military forces, which included the release of Airforce footage a couple years ago.