

# Wolves in Germany - Status and the DBBW as best practice example

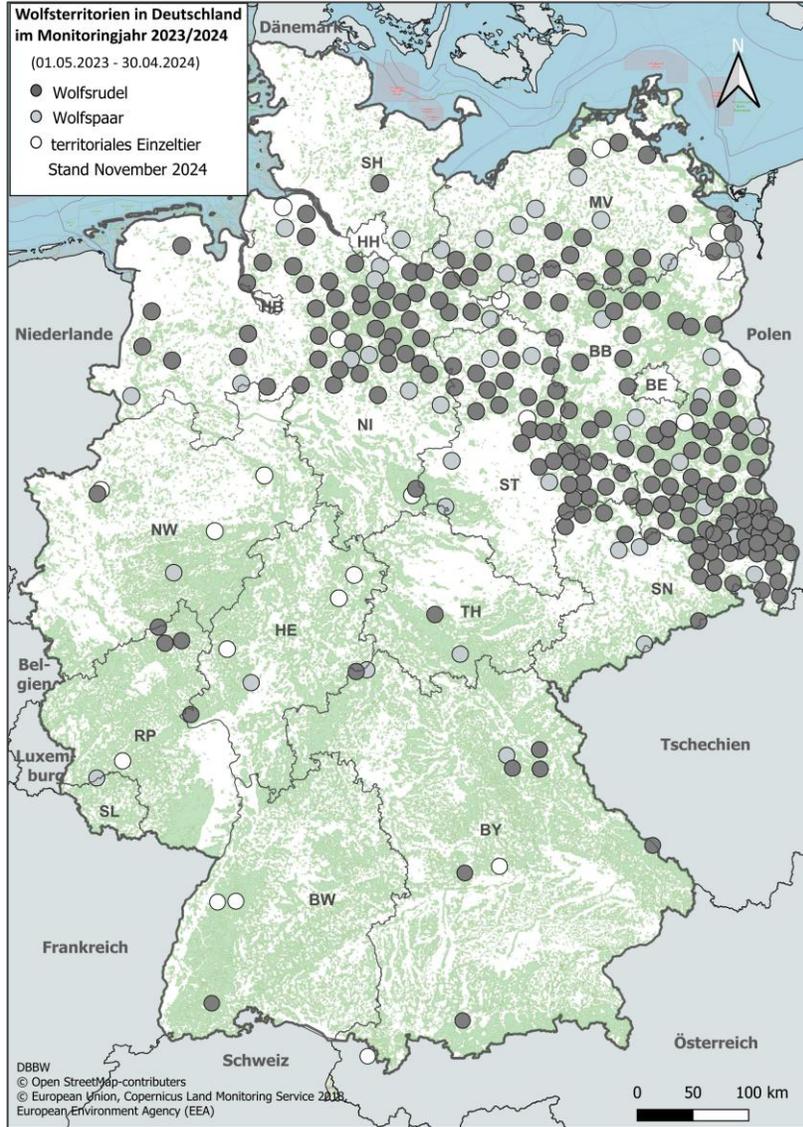
Ilka Reinhardt

Bern Convention

Meeting of the Group of Experts on the Large Carnivores

10-11 June 2025, in Strasbourg





2023 / 2024:

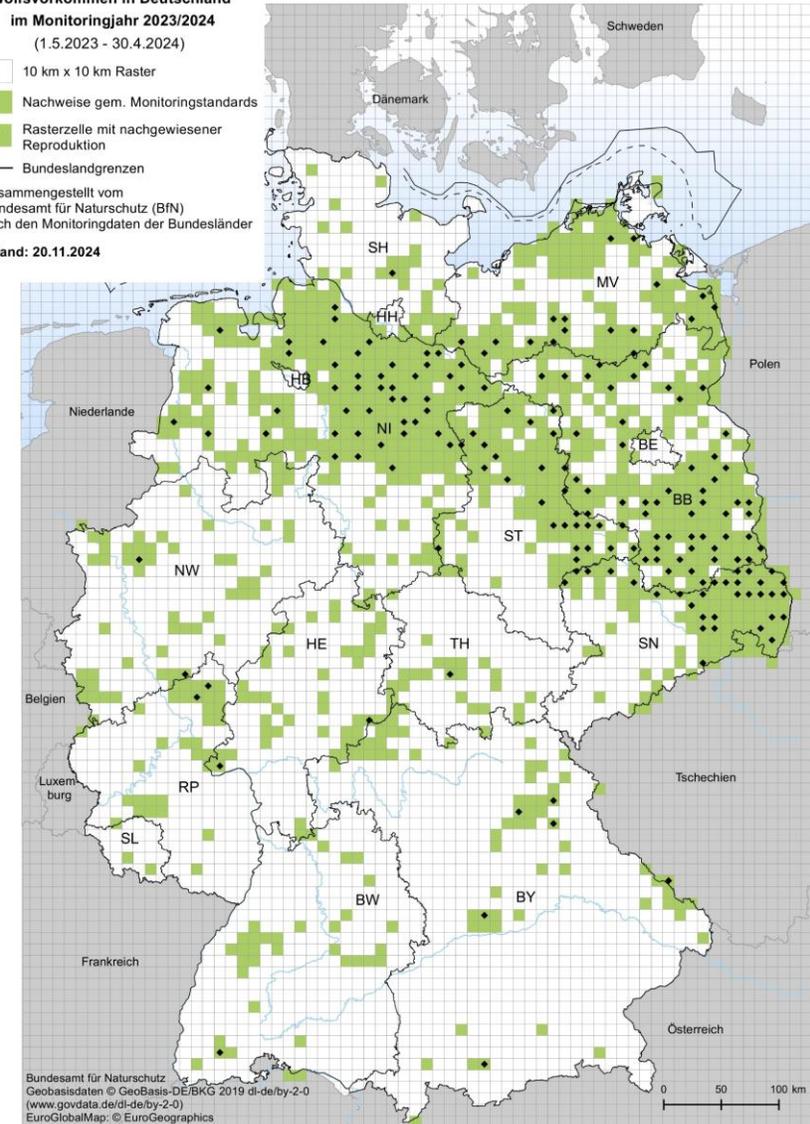
209 packs  
46 pairs

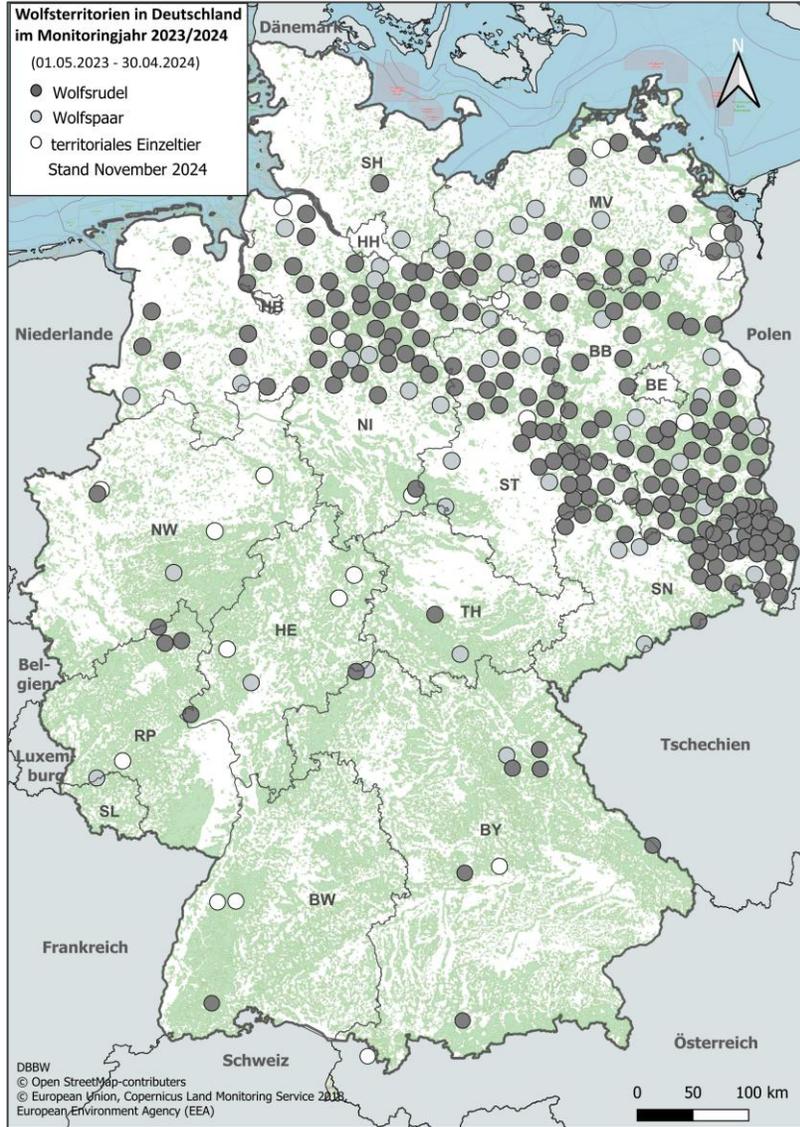
535 – 600 adults  
within territories  
confirmed

**Wolfsvorkommen in Deutschland im Monitoringjahr 2023/2024**  
(1.5.2023 - 30.4.2024)

- 10 km x 10 km Raster
- Nachweise gem. Monitoringstandards
- Rasterzelle mit nachgewiesener Reproduktion
- Bundeslandsgrenzen

Zusammengestellt vom Bundesamt für Naturschutz (BfN) nach den Monitoringdaten der Bundesländer  
Stand: 20.11.2024



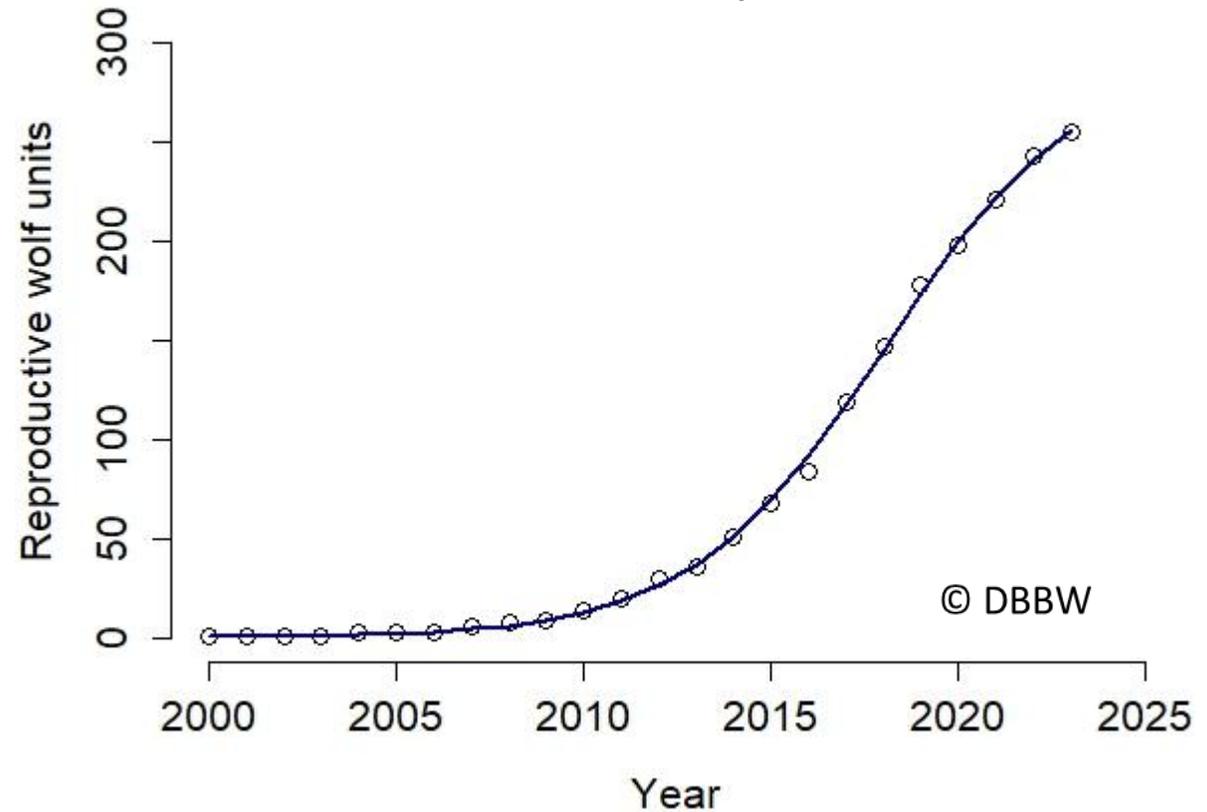


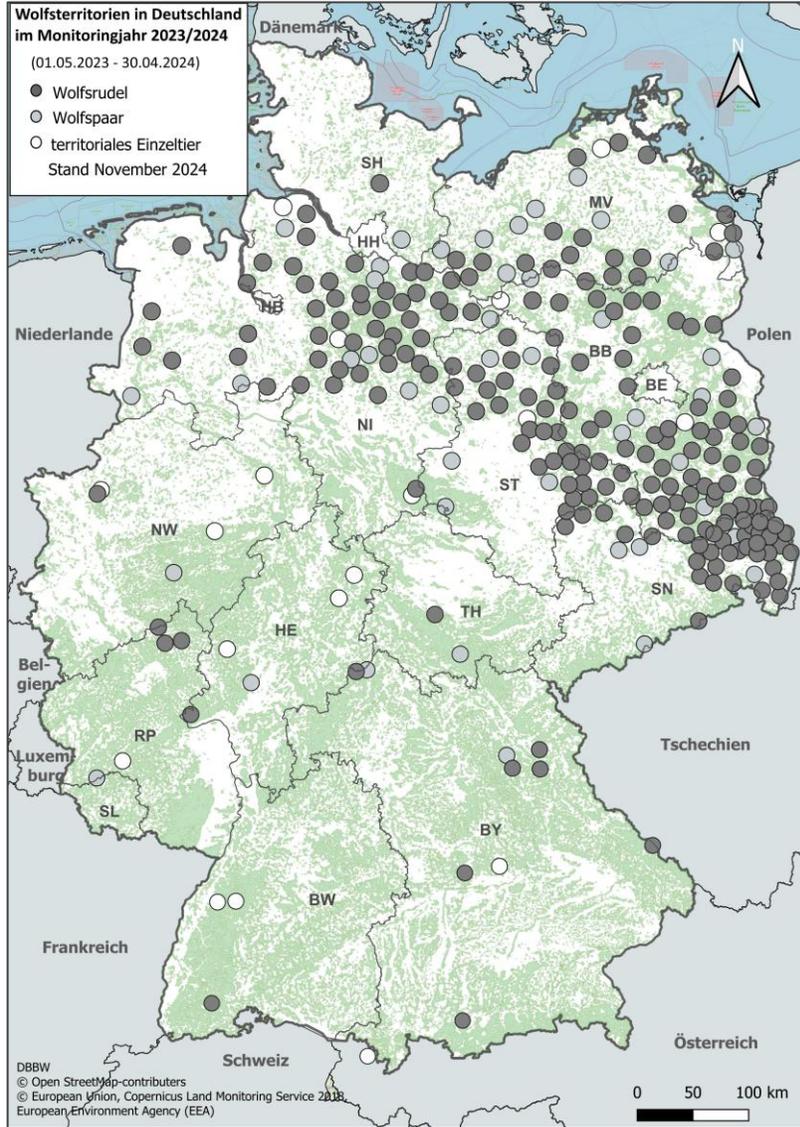
## Population growth

2000 – 2015:  $\emptyset$  36 % / year

2000 – 2021:  $\emptyset$  23 % / year

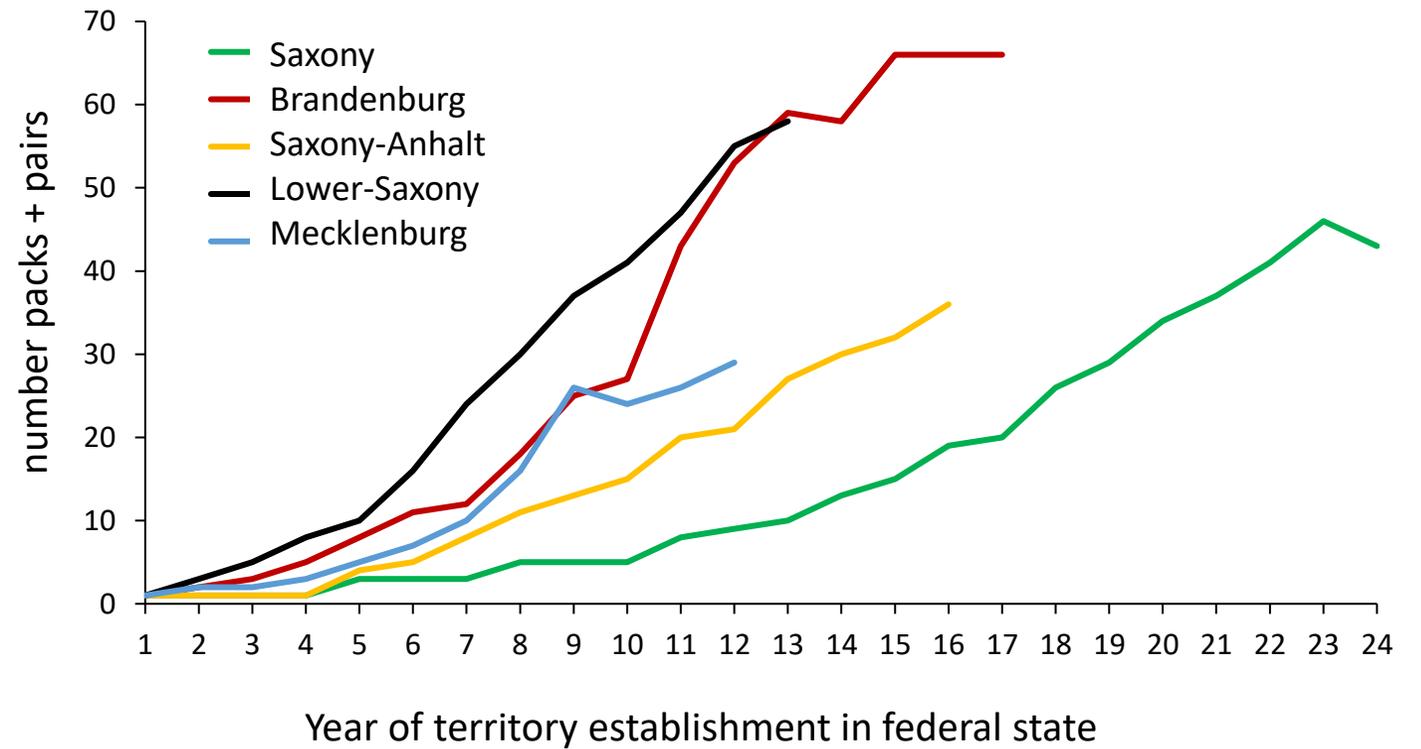
2000 – 2023:  $\emptyset$  19 % / year





## Distribution and population growth varies from region to region

Population growth in the five federal states with most wolf territories:

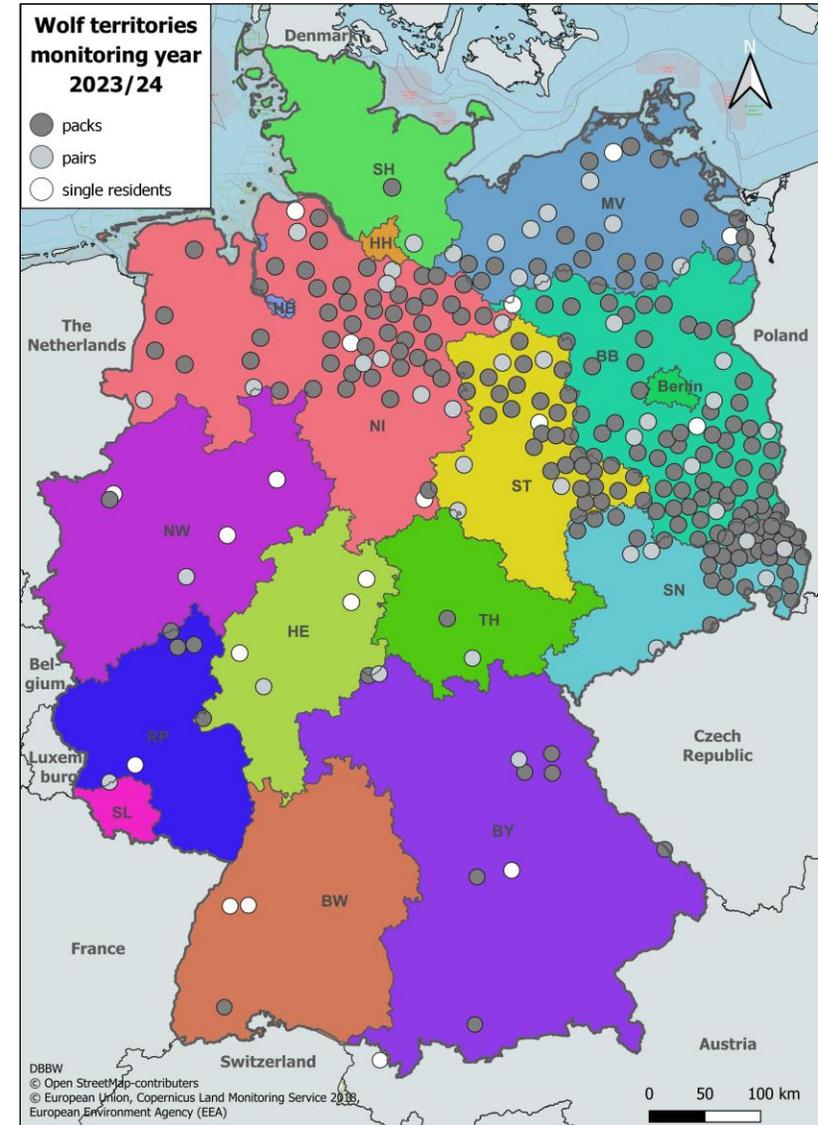


# Monitoring responsibility

Germany is a federalist country.

Decentralized management system.

Monitoring data collection is funded, organized and conducted on federal state level.



# National Monitoring standards

→ To ensure comparability of data in a federal country

The Monitoring standards define:

- How to evaluate wolf signs (what qualifies for C1, C2, C3).
- What data are needed to prove the presence of wolves?
- Definition of wolf pack / pair / single resident wolf.
- What data are needed to confirm a wolf pack / pair / single resident wolf?
- Criteria to differentiate between adjacent territories.

Ilka Reinhardt, Petra Kaczensky, Felix Knauer,  
Georg Rauer, Gesa Kluth, Sybille Wölfel, Dittmar Huckschlag und Ulrich Wotschikowsky

## Monitoring von Wolf, Luchs und Bär in Deutschland

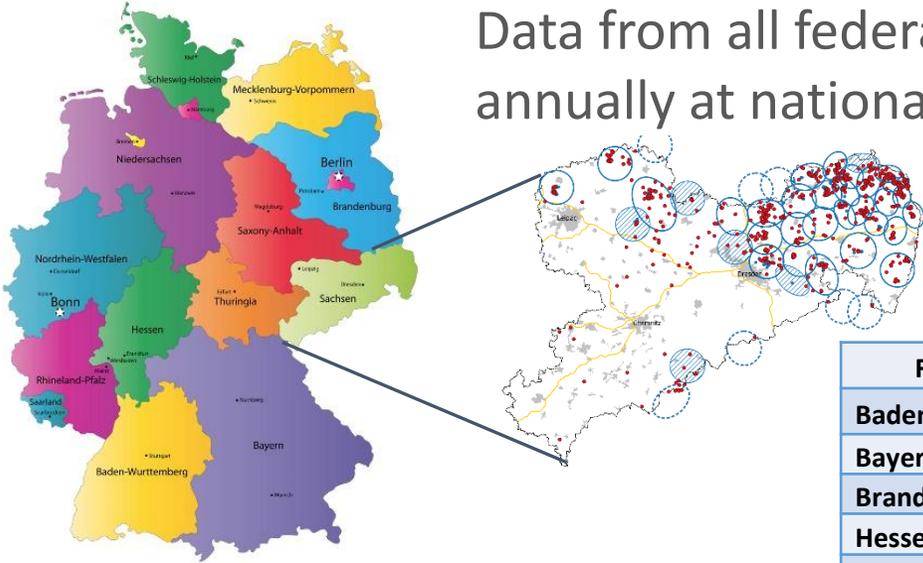


BfN-Skripten 413

2015

# Annual survey

Data from all federal states are compiled annually at national level.



\*state of knowledge: November 2024

Federal State	packs*	pairs*	single*
Baden-Württemberg	1		2
Bayern	7	2	2
Brandenburg	58	8	2
Hessen	1	1	3
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	19	10	2
Niedersachsen	48	10	3
Nordrhein-Westfalen	2	1	3
Rheinland-Pfalz	2	1	1
Sachsen	37	6	
Sachsen-Anhalt	32	4	1
Schleswig-Holstein	1	1	
Thüringen	1	2	2
<b>Summe</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>19</b>



# The federal documentation and advisory centre on wolves



# The federal documentation and advisory centre on wolves

**DBBW**

Federal  
documentation and  
advisory centre on wolves

- developed a **wolf data base** to be available to all federal states (nature conservation authorities ) in order to
  - archive and process their regional wolf data,
  - to provide data relevant for the national data compilation.
- permanently updates the national **wolf web page** ([www.dbb-wolf.de](http://www.dbb-wolf.de)) with
  - wolf information provided by the nature conservation authorities of the federal states (dead wolves, confirmation of packs / pairs),
  - annual status reports, damage reports,
  - list of addresses of responsible persons / institutions for wolf management in the federal states,
  - regional wolf management plans.

## Evidence in Germany

Map of occupied raster cells

## Confirmed territories

### Wolf territories in Germany

List by federal states

Details on the territories

Development since 2000

Development - Diagram

Summary

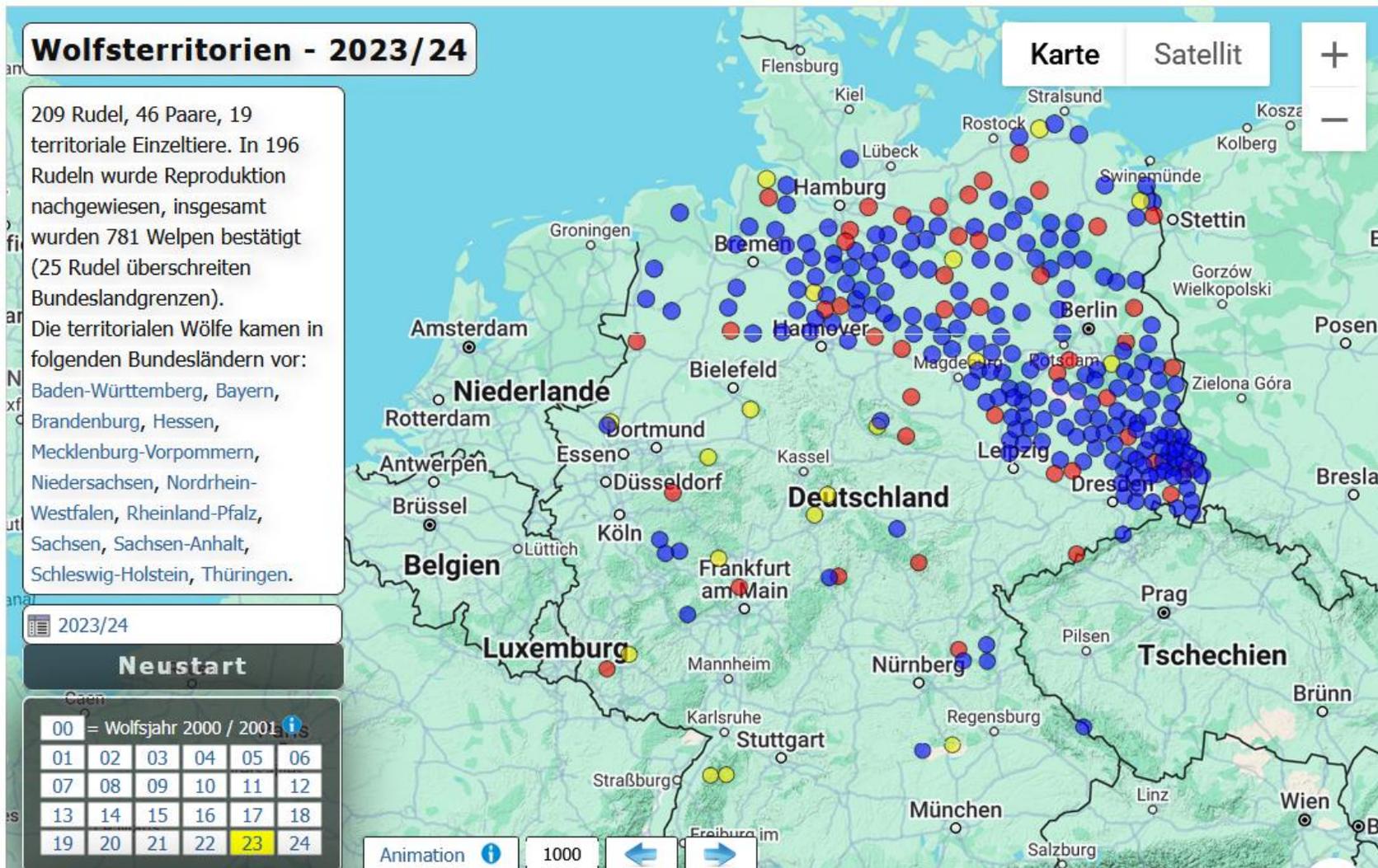
Updates regarding confirmed territories

## Wolves found dead

Current events

Map of dead wolves

Dead wolves by years



# The federal documentation and advisory centre on wolves





# Leibniz Institute for Zoo- and Wildlife Research, Berlin

Leibniz Institute for Zoo  
and Wildlife Research  
IN THE FORSCHUNGSVERBUND BERLIN E.V.

Wolf carcasses undergo an examination scheme oriented towards human medicine, which includes computer tomography, dissection, as well as histology, parasitology, virology and bacteriology.

Until 2022 all wolves found dead were analyzed in the IZW.



# Federal documentation and advisory centre on wolves



# LUPUS Institute for Wolf monitoring and research

- Advises state and federal Nature Conservation authorities on demand on wolf related issues, e.g. monitoring, wolf behavior.
- Compilation of state monitoring and –management data on national level.
- Conception of monitoring database.





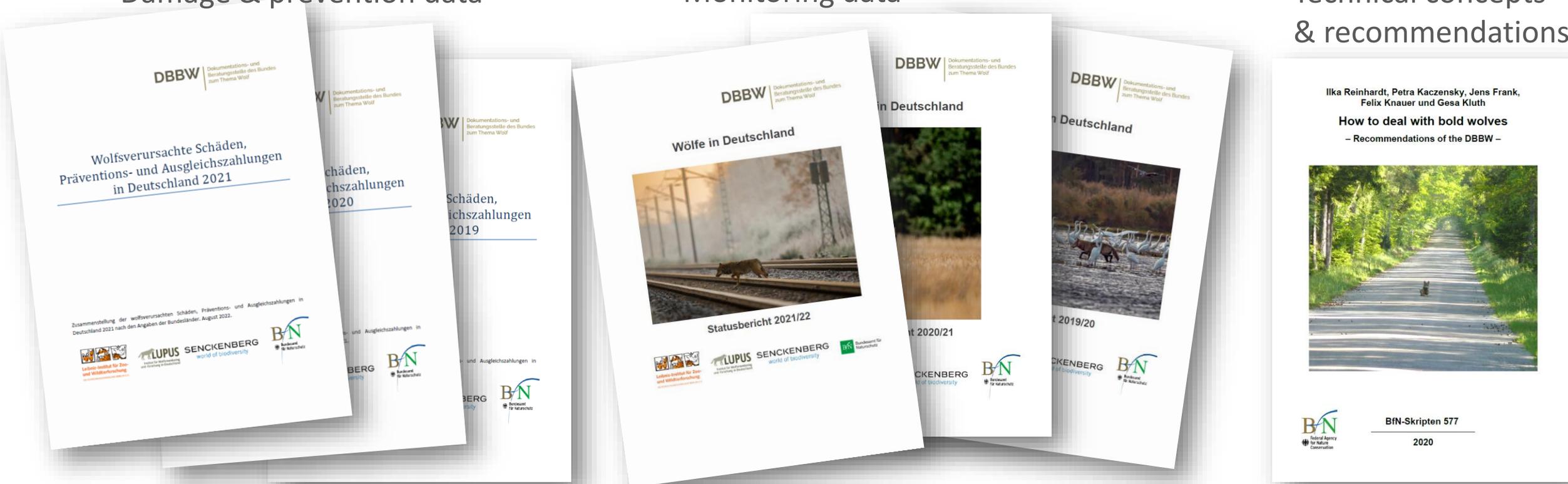
# LUPUS Institute for Wolf monitoring and research

Results under <https://dbb-wolf.de/mehr/literatur-download:>

## Damage & prevention data

## Monitoring data

## Technical concepts & recommendations



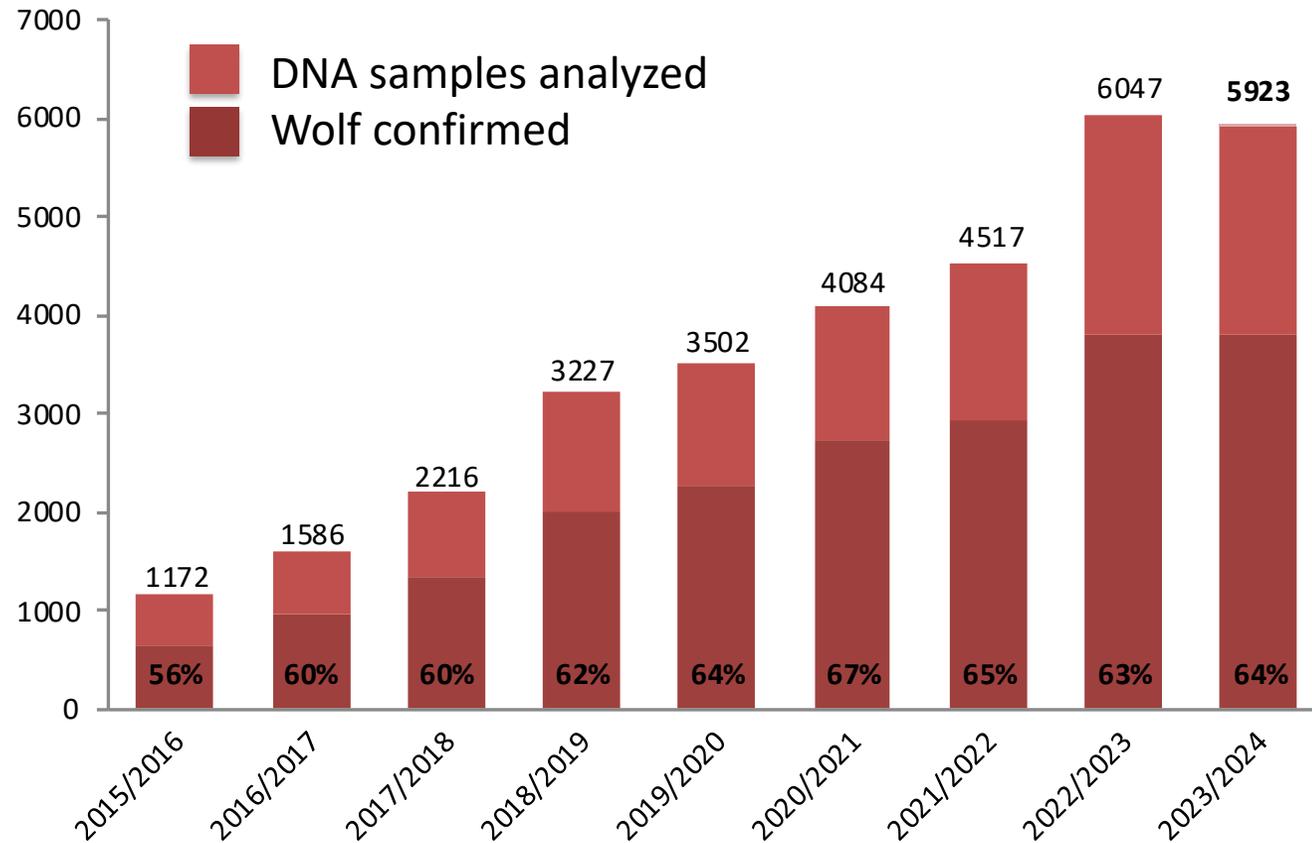
# Federal documentation and advisory centre on wolves





# Senckenberg centre for Wildlife genetic, Gelnhausen

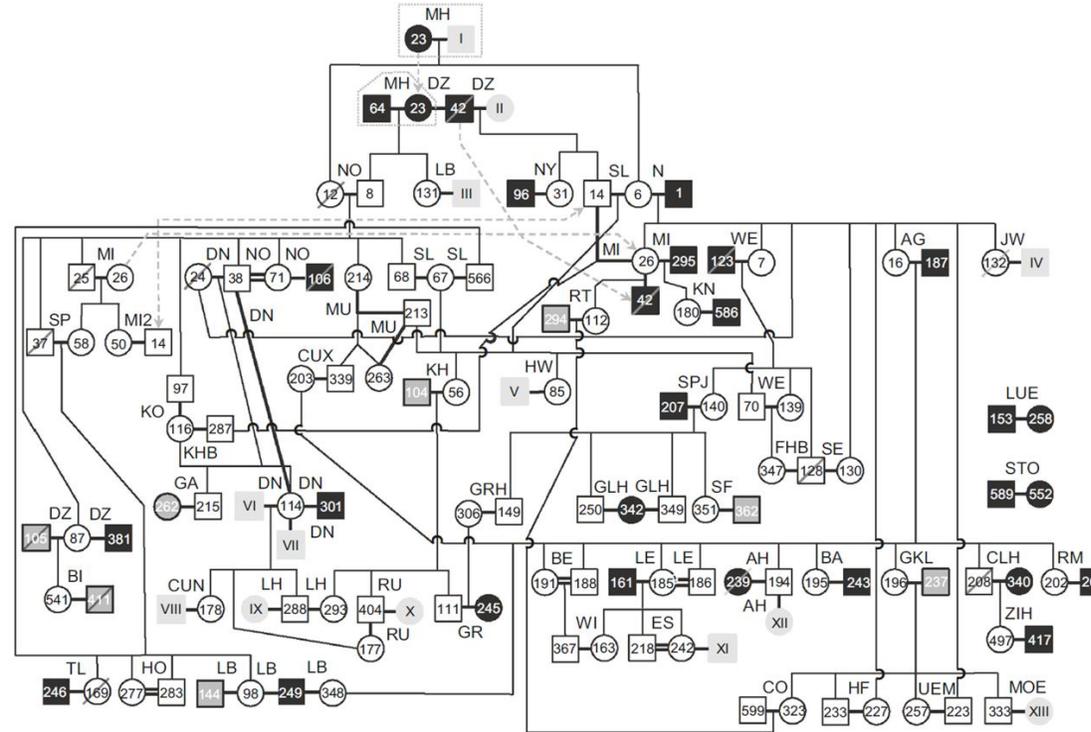
Analyses genetic samples send in by federal state authorities.





# Senckenberg centre for Wildlife genetic, Gelnhausen

The backbone of the current monitoring system is the genetic identification of wolf family groups.



SENCKENBERG  
world of biodiversity



# Senckenberg centre for Wildlife genetic, Gelnhausen



### Markerset

#### autosomale Mikrosatelliten

FH2001/FH2010/FH2017/FH2054/FH2087/FH2088/  
FH2097/FH2137/FH2140/FH2161/CPH5/vWF/PEZ17

#### Geschlechtsbestimmung

DBX6/DBY7

#### Haplotypbestimmung (mitochondrial)

L15995/H16498  
WdloopL/WdloopH

# Damage & prevention data

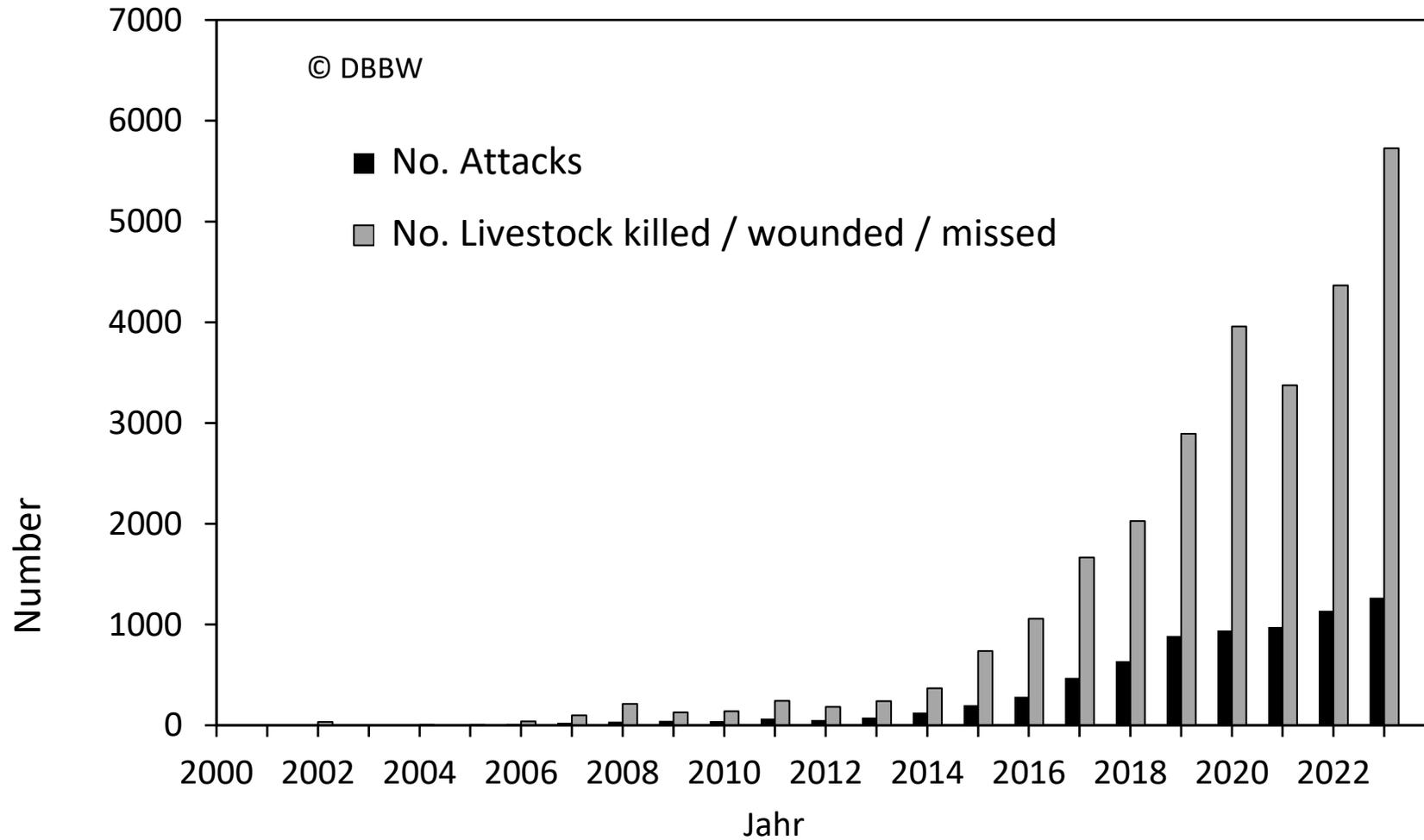


© LUPUS



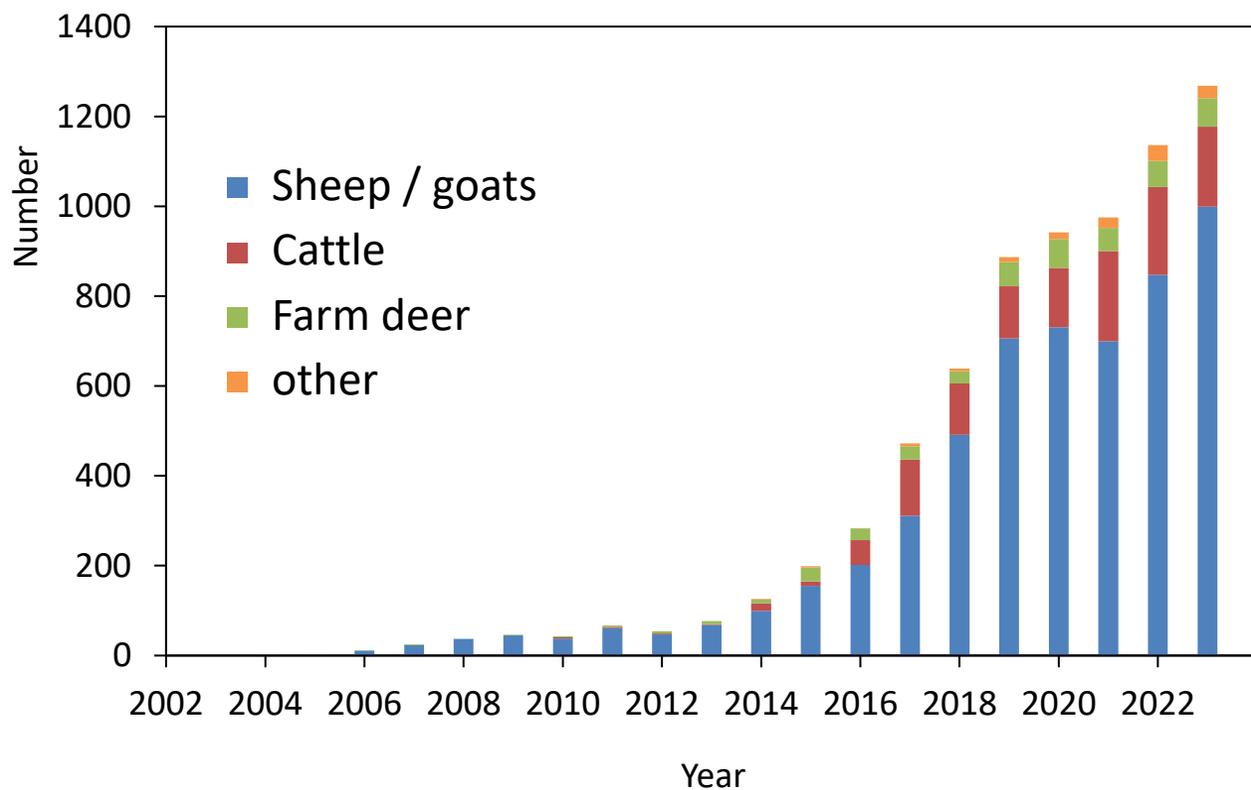
© LUPUS



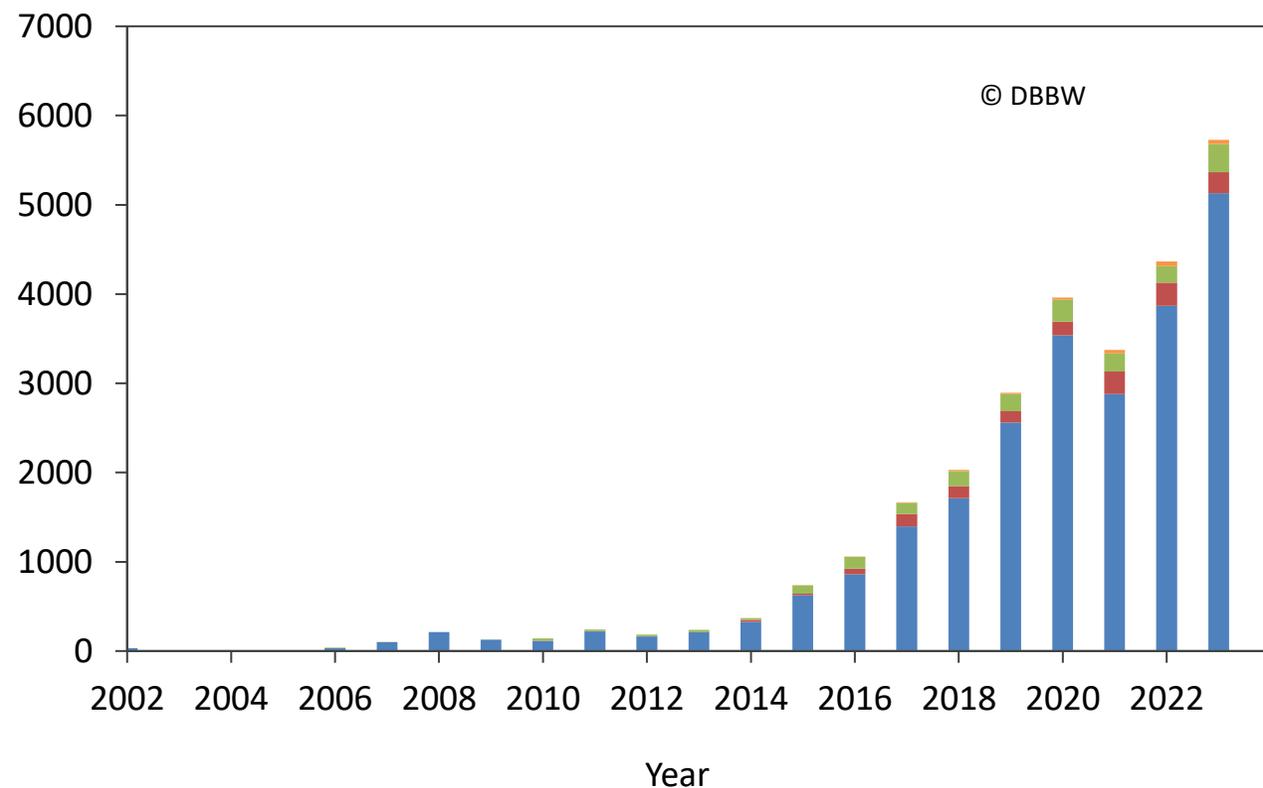


For details see: <https://www.dbb-wolf.de/mehr/literatur-download/berichte-zu-praevention-und-nutztierschaeden>

## Wolf attacks on livestock

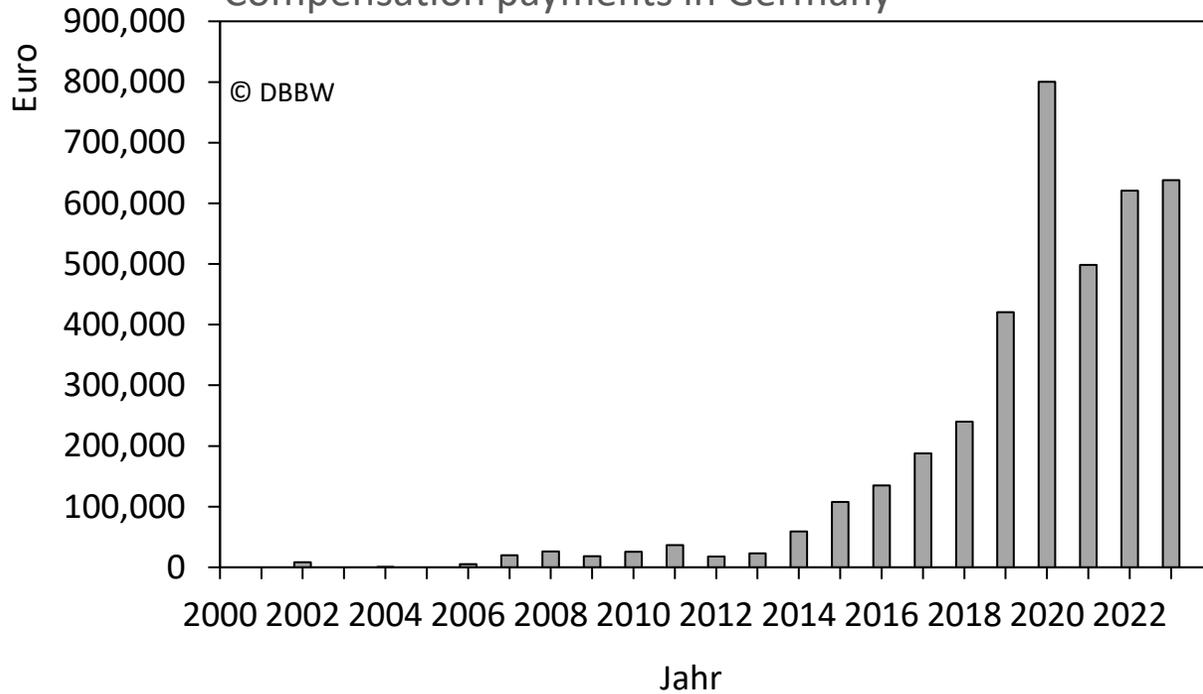


## Livestock killed / wounded / missed

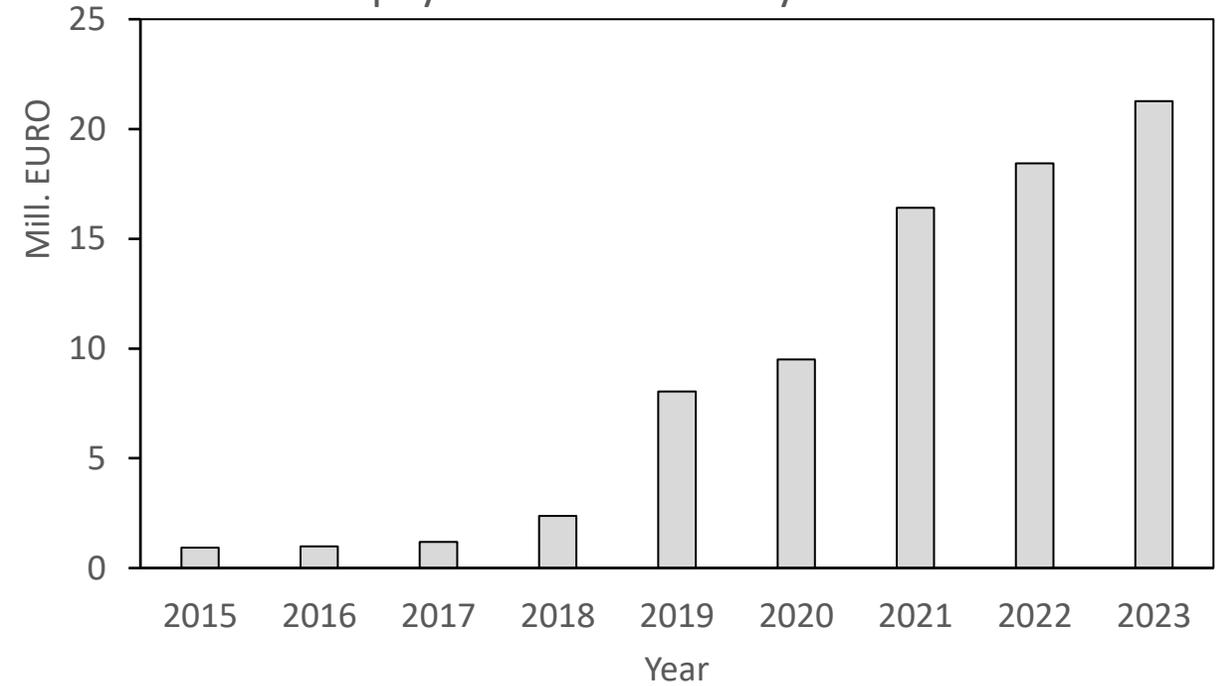


For details see: <https://www.dbb-wolf.de/mehr/literatur-download/berichte-zu-praevention-und-nutztierschaeden>

## Compensation payments in Germany



## Prevention payments in Germany



For details see: <https://www.dbb-wolf.de/mehr/literatur-download/berichte-zu-praevention-und-nutztierschaeden>



<https://www.dbb-wolf.de/home>

**DBBW**

Dokumentations- und  
Beratungsstelle des Bundes  
zum Thema Wolf



The DBBW

Wolf occurrence

Wolf management

About Wolves

more ...



© Sebastian Koerner

## *Territories*

Wolf territories in Germany since the year 2000.