

July 2011



THE DATA AND MAPS PRESENTED IN THESE PAGES WAS INITIALLY PUBLISHED IN SEABIRD POPULATIONS OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND: RESULTS OF THE SEABIRD 2000 CENSUS (1998-2002).

The full citation for the above publication is:-

P. Ian Mitchell, Stephen F. Newton, Norman Ratcliffe and Timothy E. Dunn (Eds.). 2004.
Seabird Populations of Britain and Ireland: results of the Seabird 2000 census (1998-2002).
Published by T and A.D. Poyser, London.

More information on the seabirds of Britain and Ireland can be accessed via
<http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1530>.

To find out more about JNCC visit <http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1729>.

Table 1a Numbers of coastal-breeding Black-headed Gulls (AON) in Britain and Ireland 1969–2002.

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>Operation Seafarer (1969–70)</i>	<i>SCR Census (1985–88)¹</i>	<i>Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)</i>	<i>Percentage change since Seafarer</i>	<i>Percentage change since SCR</i>	<i>Annual percentage change since SCR</i>
Shetland	502	318	586	17%	84%	4.0%
Orkney	4656	2710	2854	–39%	5%	0.4%
North coast						
Caithness		99	184		86%	4.7%
East coast		250	27		–89%	–14.7%
Caithness						
<i>Caithness total</i>	86	349	211	145%	–40%	–3.6%
Northwest coast						
Sutherland		169		–100%	–100%	
East coast						
Sutherland		155	0		–100%	
<i>Sutherland total</i>	27	324		–100%	–100%	
West coast Ross & Cromarty		7			–100%	
East coast Ross & Cromarty			4			
<i>Ross & Cromarty total</i>	55	7	4	–93%	–43%	
Inverness		150			–100%	
Nairn		10	300		2900%	33.0%
Moray		40			–100%	
Banff & Buchan	33	1654	430	1203%	–74%	–9.1%
Gordon	2220	305	194	–91%	–36%	–3.2%
City of Aberdeen			68			
Angus		400	19		–95%	–19.6%
Northeast Fife	8000			–100%		
Berwickshire		238	90		–62%	–8.0%
Nithsdale		20	40		100%	5.3%
Stewartry	92	60	26	–72%	–57%	–5.5%
Wigtown	260	509	52	–80%	–90%	–16.9%
Kyle & Carrick	882	30	13	–99%	–57%	–5.4%
Cunninghame	73	300	50	–32%	–83%	–12.0%
Renfrew		520	250		–52%	–5.9%
Inverclyde		5			–100%	
Clydebank		5			–100%	
Dumbarton			5			
Argyll & Bute	428	1121	679	59%	–39%	–3.8%
Lochaber	1	70	5	400%	–93%	–19.6%
Skye & Lochalsh	96	4		–100%	–100%	
Western Isles– Comhairle nan eilean	815	405	1012	24%	150%	6.9%
Scotland Total	18226	9554	6888	–62%	–28%	–2.4%
Northumberland	3313	4988	2794	–16%	–44%	–4.3%
Humberside		1	2		100%	4.7%
Lincolnshire	4050	1765	38	–99%	–98%	–22.3%
Norfolk	1313	4296	4906	274%	14%	0.9%

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>Operation Seafarer (1969–70)</i>	<i>SCR Census (1985–88)</i>	<i>Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)</i>	<i>Percentage change since Seafarer</i>	<i>Percentage change since SCR</i>	<i>Annual percentage change since SCR</i>
Suffolk	2153	2596	2767	29%	7%	0.4%
Essex	3824	6194	14561	281%	135%	5.9%
Kent	3778	7168	11091	194%	55%	3.2%
East Sussex	260	1175	33	−87%	−97%	−23.4%
West Sussex	1	891	31	3000%	−97%	−20.0%
Hampshire	22058	7303	9304	−58%	27%	1.8%
Isle of Wight	283	105	786	178%	649%	14.4%
Dorset	21	2820	1801	8476%	−36%	−3.2%
Merseyside			37			
Lancashire	1708	21093	16881	888%	−20%	−1.8%
Cumbria	10380	1573	517	−95%	−67%	−8.4%
Isle of Man		78	2		−97%	−25.5%
England and Isle of Man Total	53142	62046	65551	23%	6%	0.4%
Dyfed			10			
Gwynedd	700	950	840	20%	−12%	−0.9%
Clwyd	100	52		−100%	−100%	
Wales Total	800	1002	850	6%	−15%	−1.2%
Great Britain and Isle of Man Total	72168	72602	73289	2%	1%	0.1%
Co. Antrim	33	109	1834	5458%	1583%	25.3%
Co. Down	1361	4486	2203	62%	−51%	−5.2%
Co. Fermanagh	45			−100%		
Co. Wexford	500	200	949	90%	375%	11.0%
Co. Cork		7			−100%	
Co. Kerry	4		39	875%		
Co. Clare		168			−100%	
Co. Galway	286		208	−27%		
Co. Sligo	4			−100%		
Co. Donegal	526	1	870	65%	86900%	68.4%
All-Ireland Total	2759	4971	6103	121%	23%	1.5%
Britain and Ireland Total	74927	77573	79392	6%	2%	0.2%

Note

¹ The figures for the SCR are actual counts and do not include adjustments to totals made in order to account for unsurveyed colonies (see Lloyd *et al.*, 1991)

Table 1b Numbers of inland and coastal-breeding Black-headed Gulls (AON) in Britain and Ireland 1985–2002. Coverage of inland colonies during the SCR Census (1985–88) was incomplete.

Administrative area or country	Inland colonies only			Inland and coastal		
	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR
Shetland				318	586	84%
Orkney				2710	2854	5%
North coast Caithness				99	184	86%
Inland Caithness	712	324	–54%	712	324	–55%
East coast Caithness				250	27	–89%
<i>Caithness total</i>	<i>712</i>	<i>324</i>	<i>–54%</i>	<i>1061</i>	<i>535</i>	<i>–50%</i>
Northwest coast Sutherland				169		–100%
Inland Sutherland		1			1	
East coast Sutherland				155		–100%
<i>Sutherland total</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>324</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>–100%</i>
West coast Ross & Cromarty				7		–100%
Inland Ross & Cromarty	73		–100%	73		–100%
East coast Ross & Cromarty					4	
<i>Ross & Cromarty total</i>	<i>73</i>		<i>–100%</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>–95%</i>
Inverness		414		150	414	176%
Nairn	140	91	–35%	150	391	161%
Badenoch & Strathspey		1902			1902	
Moray	723	174	–76%	763	174	–77%
Banff & Buchan				1654	430	–74%
Gordon		2		305	196	–36%
City of Aberdeen					68	
Kincardine & Deeside		246			246	
Angus	5250	2484	–53%	5650	2503	–56%
Perth & Kinross	1	9554	955300%	1	9554	955300%
City of Dundee		495			495	
Northeast Fife		152			152	
Falkirk		11			11	
West Lothian	120		–100%	120		–100%
City of Edinburgh	1154		–100%	1154		–100%
East Lothian	15		–100%	15		–100%
Midlothian	862	725	–16%	862	725	–16%
Tweeddale	955	85	–91%	955	85	–91%
Ettrick & Lauderdale	10562	14724	39%	10562	14724	39%
Berwickshire		23		238	113	–53%
Roxburgh	26	247	850%	26	247	850%
Nithsdale	1000		–100%	1020	40	–96%
Stewartry	157	1145	629%	217	1171	440%
Wigtown	247	551	123%	756	603	–20%
Kyle & Carrick		55		30	68	127%
Cumnock & Doon Valley	152	178	17%	152	178	17%
Clydesdale	2044	1385	–32%	2044	1385	–32%
Cunninghame		0		300	50	–83%
Kilmarnock & Loudoun	1		–100%	1		–100%
Eastwood	350	448	28%	350	448	28%
Motherwell	3		–100%	3		–100%
Monklands	21		–100%	21		–100%
City of Glasgow		1			1	
Renfrew	205	25	–88%	725	275	–62%
Inverclyde				5		–100%
Clydebank				5		–100%
Bearsden & Milngavie	40	42	5%	40	42	5%
Strathkelvin	8	2	–75%	8	2	–75%
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth	2	1	–50%	2	1	–50%
Dumbarton					5	
Stirling	282	816	189%	282	816	189%

Administrative area or country	Inland colonies only			Inland and coastal		
	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR
Argyll & Bute				1121	679	–39%
Lochaber				70	5	–93%
Skye & Lochalsh				4		–100%
Western Isles–Comhairle nan eilean				405	1012	150%
Scotland Total	25105	36303	45%	34659	43191	25%
Northumberland	2510	1464	–42%	7498	4258	–43%
Durham	1085		–100%	1085		–100%
North Yorkshire	1180	4252	260%	1180	4252	260%
Humberside	250		–100%	251	2	–99%
West Yorkshire	270	372	38%	270	372	38%
South Yorkshire	315	565	79%	315	565	79%
Lincolnshire				1765	38	–98%
Cambridgeshire	816	604	–26%	816	604	–26%
Northamptonshire		31			31	
Bedfordshire	100	21	–79%	100	21	–79%
Berkshire		22			22	
Norfolk				4296	4906	14%
Suffolk		31		2596	2798	8%
Essex	30	6	–80%	6224	14567	134%
Kent				7168	11091	55%
East Sussex				1175	33	–97%
West Sussex				891	31	–97%
Hampshire	2		–100%	7305	9304	27%
Isle of Wight				105	786	649%
Dorset				2820	1801	–36%
Cornwall	110	256	133%	110	256	133%
Gloucestershire		18			18	
Wiltshire		50			50	
Warwickshire	2	445	22150%	2	445	22150%
Hereford & Worcester		0			0	
Shropshire	90	200	122%	90	200	122%
Staffordshire	194	132	–32%	194	132	–32%
Derbyshire	259	370	43%	259	370	43%
Cheshire	1000	30	–97%	1000	30	–97%
Merseyside					37	
Greater Manchester	2		–100%	2		–100%
Lancashire		1770		21093	18651	–12%
Cumbria	12948	6540	–49%	14521	7057	–51%
Isle of Man				78	2	–97%
England, Isle of Man and Channel Isles Total	21163	17179	–14%	83209	82730	–1%
West Glamorgan		75			75	
Dyfed		203			213	
Powys		410			410	
Gwynedd	1993	46	–98%	2943	886	–70%
Clwyd	15	402	2580%	67	402	500%
Wales total	2008	1136	–43%	3010	1986	–34%
Great Britain, Isle of Man & Channel Islands Total	48276	54618	15%	120878	127907	6%
Co. Londonderry		100			100	
Co. Antrim	6851	2050	–70%	6960	3884	–44%
Co. Down				4486	2203	–51%
Co. Armagh	4200	50	–99%	4200	50	–99%
Co. Fermanagh	800	2800	250%	800	2800	250%
Co. Tyrone	22000	1070	–95%	22000	1070	–95%

Table 1b continued.

Administrative area or country	Inland colonies only			Inland and coastal		
	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR
Co. Monaghan		800			800	
Co. Offaly		113			113	
Co. Wicklow	14		– 100%	14		– 100%
Co. Wexford				200	949	375%
<i>Table 1b continued.</i>						
Co. Cork	15		– 100%	22		– 100%
Co. Kerry					39	
Co. Tipperary	832		– 100%	832		– 100%
Co. Clare	770		– 100%	938		– 100%
Co. Galway	4381	431	– 90%	4381	639	– 85%
Co. Mayo	2381	466	– 80%	2381	466	– 80%
Co. Donegal				1	870	86900%
All–Ireland Total	42244	7880	– 81%	47215	13983	– 70%
Britain and Ireland Total	90520	62498	– 30%	168093	141890	– 16%

Table 2 Changes in the number of breeding Black-headed Gulls (AON) at major coastal and inland colonies in Britain and Ireland between the SCR Census (1985–88) and Seabird 2000 (1998–2002). Major coastal colonies are those which contained the top 70% of the British coastal population or the top 80% of the Irish coastal population during the SCR Census and during Seabird 2000. Major inland colonies are those that contained the top 70% of the British inland population or the top 80% of the Irish inland population.

<i>Colony</i>	<i>SCR Census (1985–88)</i>	<i>Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)</i>	<i>Percentage change since SCR</i>	<i>Annual percentage change since SCR</i>	<i>Percentage of British or Irish population 1998–2002</i>
Coastal					
Ribble Estuary (NNR)	20000	14851	–26%	–2.8%	20%
North Solent Nature Reserve (Needs Ore Point)	7250	6125	–16%	–1.3%	8%
Coquet Island	4047	2210	–45%	–4.6%	3%
Flanders Mere	3990	3725	–7%	–0.5%	5%
Hamford Water	3000	11000	267%	10.5%	15%
Garnhams Island	2000		–100%		0%
Round & Long Islands	2000		–100%		0%
Loch of Strathbeg	1610	430	–73%	–8.9%	1%
Burntwick	1400	4375	213%	9.1%	6%
Rye Harbour	1150	33	–97%	–24.0%	0%
Blakeney Point	1100	200	–82%	–10.7%	0%
Outer Trial Bank	910		–100%		0%
Chichester Harbour	891	1	–100%	–36.3%	0%
Dungeness RSPB Reserve	850	100	–88%	–13.4%	0%
Kirton Marsh	800	0	–100%		0%
Rat Island (River Colne)	500	2300	360%	10.7%	3%
Greenborough	60	2500	4067%	33.1%	3%
Langstone Harbour	53	3179	5898%	34.1%	4%
Blythburgh		2000			3%
Strangford Lough: Jackdaw Island	2500		–100%		0%
Strangford Lough: Ogilby Island	750	1182	58%	3.6%	19%
Strangford Lough: Lythe Rock	544		–100%		0%
Strangford Lough: Craigaveach Rock	254	4	–98%	–27.3%	0%
Lady's Island Lake	200	949	375%	11.0%	16%
Larne Lough: Blue Circle Island		1398			23%
Inch Island		800			13%
Big Copeland Island		372			6%
Rathlin Island: Brookley		300			5%
Inland					
Sunbiggin Tarn	12500	1200	–90%	–19.4%	2%
Bemersyde	10375	14575	40%	2.5%	26%
Loch of Kinnordy	5250	2299	–56%	–5.7%	4%
Llyn Trwsfynydd Rese	1330	0	–100%		0%
Holburn Moss	1300	0	–100%		0%
Caistron	1200	0	–100%		0%
Bavelaw	1150	0	–100%		0%
Woolston	1000	0	–100%		0%
Upper Barden Reservoir	500	4000	700%	14.9%	7%
Loch Ken	115	1145	896%	18.0%	2%
Loch Leven: St. Serfs Island		6832			12%
Killington Reservoir		3100			6%
Stocks Reservoir		1680			3%
Insh Marshes		1644			3%
Plenmeller Common		1185			2%
Fisher Tarn and Fisher Tarn Reservoir		1150			2%
Lough Neagh: Scaddy Island	20000	800	–96%	–21.9%	10%
Lough Neagh: Padgin Island	5000	1212	–76%	–10.3%	15%
Lough Corrib (Total)	4342	431	–90%	–17.6%	5%
Lough Neagh: Shallow Flat Islands	3000		–100%		0%
Lough Neagh: Brockish Bay Islands	1400	400	–71%	–9.2%	5%
Lough Neagh: Blackers					
Rock Island/River Rock	2000	270	–87%	–14.2%	3%
Lough Erne (Total)	800	2800	250%	8.4%	36%
Lough Egish		800			10%

Table 3 International context.

Country or region	Number of pairs		Year	Source		
	Min	Max				
Great Britain, Isle of Man and Channel Isles	130,000	130,000	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
All Ireland	14,000	14,000	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
Austria	7,000	9,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Belarus	180,000	220,000	1988–98	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Belgium	20,000	25,000	1981–90	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Bulgaria	500	700	1990–97	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Croatia	3,000	4,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Czech Republic	80,000	150,000	1985–95	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Denmark	150,000	150,000	1993–96	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Faeroe Islands	250	250	1995	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Greenland	5	50	1983	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Estonia	50,000	100,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Finland	80,000	130,000	1990–95	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
France	38,945	38,945	1997–2001	Cadiou <i>et al.</i> (in press)		
Germany	280,000	350,000	1990–94	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Greece	0	5		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Hungary	10,000	12,000	1998	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Iceland	25,000	30,000	1990	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Italy	500	1,000	1988–97	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Latvia	100,000	110,000	1986	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Lithuania	30,000	60,000	1996–98	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Moldova	700	900	1989	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Netherlands	132,000	170,000	1992–97	Bijlsma <i>et al.</i> (2001)		
Norway	20,000	30,000	1990	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Poland	200,000	300,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Romania	2,000	10,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Russia (European)	400,000	500,000	1984–88	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Slovakia	9,000	16,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Slovenia	200	200		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Spain	1,100	1,400	1988	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Sweden	100,000	150,000	1990	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Switzerland	1,300	1,800	1993–96	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Turkey	2,000	10,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Ukraine	80,000	110,000	1988	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Canada (East)	14	14	1985	Montevecchi <i>et al.</i> (1987)		
Russia (Asiatic) ¹	?	?		Kondratiev & Litvinenko (1991)		
China ²	?	?		Melville (1984)		
Biogeographic region	min	max	min % GB	max % GB	min % Ireland	max % Ireland
World*	2,100,000	2,800,000	4.6%	6.2%	0.5%	0.7%

*Stroud *et al.* (2001)**Notes**¹ Unknown numbers breed at the mouth of the Amur River and in northeast of Sakhalin Island. Also breeds in small numbers on Apuka River delta.² Unknown numbers breed in west Xinjiang, Jilin and Heilongjiang provinces

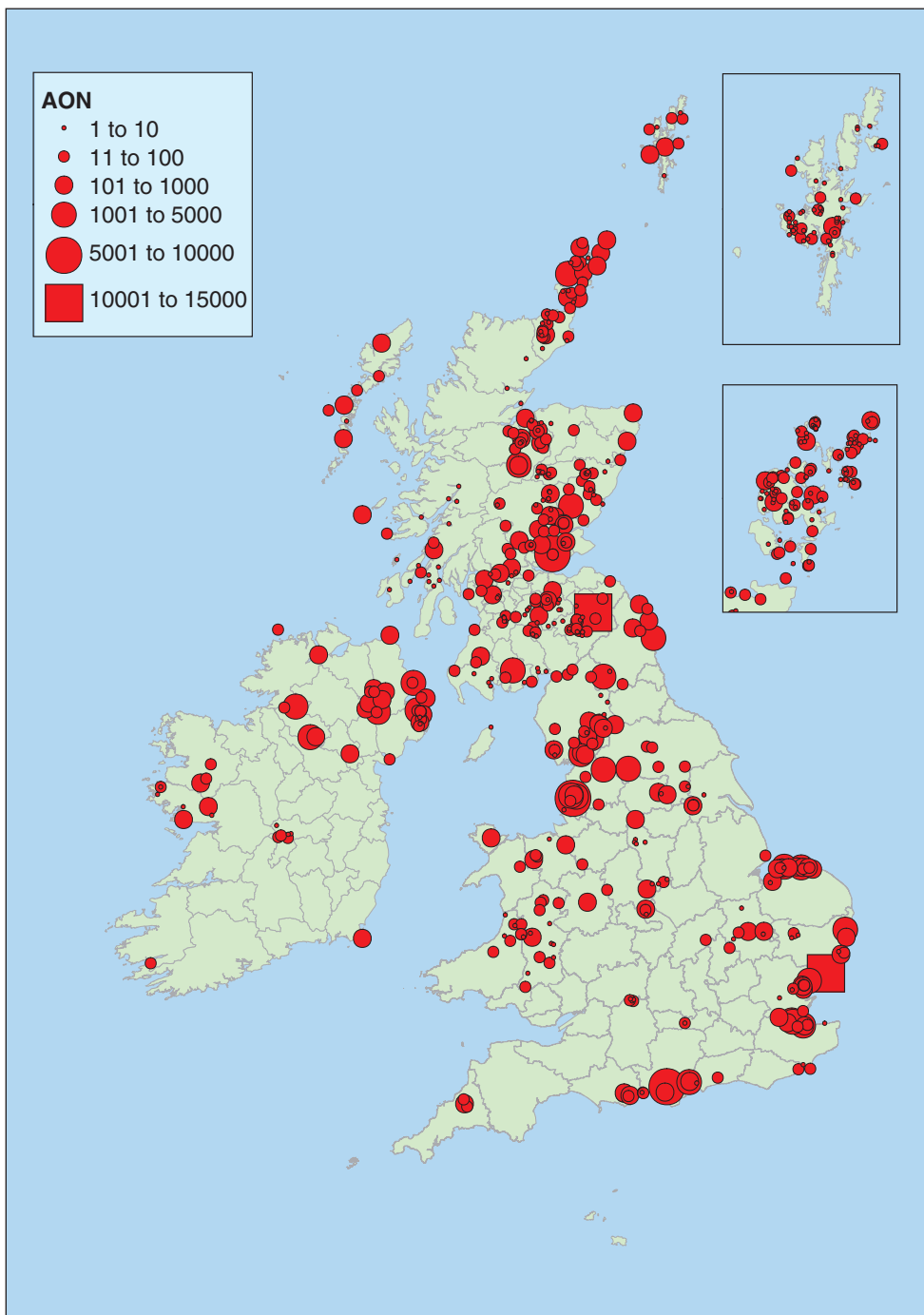


Figure 1 Abundance and distribution of breeding Black-headed Gulls in Britain and Ireland 1998–2002.