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Table 1 Numbers of coastal-breeding Lesser Black-backed Gulls (AON) in Britain and Ireland 1969–2002. Numbers breeding inland and on the coast during Seabird 2000 (1998–2002) are also given.

Administrative area or country	Coastal colonies only ¹						Seabird 2000 inland and coastal
	Operation Seafarer (1969–70)	SCR Census (1985–88) ³	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since Seafarer	Percentage change since SCR	Annual percentage change since SCR	
Shetland	541	488	341	–37%	–30%	–2.4%	341
Orkney	910	1,714	1,045	15%	–39%	–3.6%	1,045
North coast Caithness		5	2		–60%	–6.3%	2
East coast Caithness		11		–100%	–100%		
<i>Caithness total</i>	16	16	2	–88%	–88%	–13.8%	2
Northwest coast Sutherland		73	44		–40%	–3.8%	44
East coast Sutherland		250	1		–100%	–33.6%	1
<i>Sutherland total</i>	373	323	45	–88%	–86%	–13.7%	45
West coast Ross & Cromarty		176	41		–77%	–9.8%	41
East coast Ross & Cromarty			7				7
<i>Ross & Cromarty total</i>	258	176	48	–81%	–73%	–8.8%	48
Inverness			6				18
Nairn	6			–100%			
Badenoch & Strathspey							1
Moray	42	10		–100%	–100%		129
Banff & Buchan	15	23	10	–33%	–57%	–5.5%	10
Gordon	1	45	6	500%	–87%	–12.6%	6
City of Aberdeen			154				154
Kincardine & Deeside	3	27	8	167%	–70%	–8.7%	8
Angus		16	7		–56%	–5.5%	7
Perth & Kinross							1,120
City of Dundee			65				65
North East Fife	300	520	1,203	301%	131%	6.2%	1,203
Kirkcaldy	2,000	1,753	3,282	64%	87%	4.8%	3,282
Dunfermline	10	730	1,262	12520%	73%	4.3%	1,262
Clackmannan							88
Falkirk			113				179
City of Edinburgh	2	70	323	16050%	361%	13.7%	323
East Lothian	335	1,130	1,470	339%	30%	2.0%	1,470
Midlothian							1
Berwickshire	7	5	1	–86%	–80%	–11.4%	1
Nithsdale			2				2
Stewartry	645	1,523	1,025	59%	–33%	–3.5%	1,025
Wigtown	6	4	10	67%	150%	6.8%	11
Kyle & Carrick	434	1,925	1,721	297%	–11%	–0.8%	1,721
Cumnock & Doon Valley							4
Clydesdale							40
Cunninghame	1,045	4,573	4,588	83%	0%	0.0%	4,588
Kilmarnock & Loudoun							134
Eastwood							40
East Kilbride							250
Motherwell							34
City of Glasgow			209				640
Renfrew			340				518
Inverclyde		31	190		513%	15.8%	190
Clydebank			30				31
Bearsden & Milngavie							118
Strathkelvin							329
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth							449
Dumbarton		119	143		20%	1.5%	209
Argyll & Bute	4,191	3,203	3,235	–23%	1%	0.1%	3,235
Lochaber	152	165	88	–42%	–47%	–4.7%	88
Skye & Lochalsh	47	351	41	–13%	–88%	–14.7%	41

Coastal colonies only¹

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>Operation Seafarer (1969–70)</i>	<i>SCR Census (1985–88)³</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>	<i>Seabird 2000 inland and coastal</i>
Western Isles– Comhairle nan eilean	692	584	552	–20%	–5%	–0.4%	552
Scotland Total	12,031	19,524	21,565	57%	10%		25,057
Northumberland	1,583	1,035	850	–46%	–18%	–1.4%	858
Tyne and Wear		3	4		33%	2.0%	11
Cleveland		9	90		900%	20.4%	90
North Yorkshire			1				1
Humberside			1				1
Cambridgeshire							5
Norfolk		22	1,605		7195%	34.5%	1,605
Suffolk	150	5,000	6,956	4537%	39%	2.4%	6,956
Essex		3	155		5067%	28.5%	157
Greater London		1	195		19400%	47.5%	257
Kent			75				75
East Sussex	2	1	38	1800%	3700%	32.1%	38
West Sussex		1	36		3500%	30.5%	36
Hampshire			2				2
Isle of Wight	1	2	1	0%	–50%	–4.5%	1
Dorset	1	2	10	900%	400%	12.8%	10
Channel Islands	304	778	1,734	470%	123%	6.7%	1,734
Cornwall	13	11	39	200%	255%	10.0%	39
Isles of Scilly	2,500	3,762	3,603	44%	–4%	–0.4%	3,603
Devon	101	180	426	322%	137%	6.4%	426
Somerset	171	1	64	–63%	6300%	43.3%	74
Avon	1,730	350	768	–56%	119%	6.7%	1,823
Gloucestershire		115	2,224		1834%	23.7%	2,350
Hereford & Worcester							79
West Midlands							40
Derbyshire							30
Merseyside			51				51
Lancashire	7	2 ²	4,167	59429%	208250%	69.9%	22,685
Cumbria	18,175	11,806	22,772	25%	93%	5.2%	22,905
Isle of Man	54	99	114	111%	15%	1.1%	114
England, Isle of Man and Channel Islands Total	24,792	23,183	45,981	85%	98%	5.2%	66,056
Gwent	10	50	36	260%	–28%	–2.2%	65
South Glamorgan		2,096	3,381		61%	3.1%	3,381
Mid Glamorgan			0				0
West Glamorgan	1		94	9300%			94
Dyfed	7,782	16,007	15,588	100%	–3%	–0.2%	15,588
Powys							1
Gwynedd	3,727	1,883	1,556	–58%	–17%	–1.3%	1566
Clwyd	9	7	27	200%	286%	8.8%	27
Wales Total	11,529	20,043	20,682	79%	3%	0.2%	20,722
Great Britain, Isle of Man and Channel Islands total	48,352	62,750	88,228	77%	41%		111,835
Co. Londonderry							42
Co. Antrim	64	160	485	658%	203%	7.7%	647
Co. Down	159	288	548	245%	90%	4.9%	548
Co. Armagh							164
Co. Fermanagh							447
Co. Tyrone							125
Co. Monaghan							6
Co. Dublin	45	158	334	642%	111%	5.9%	334

Table 1 continued

Administrative area or country	Coastal colonies only ¹						Seabird 2000 inland and coastal
	Operation Seafarer (1969–70)	SCR Census (1985–88) ³	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since Seafarer	Percentage change since SCR	Annual percentage change since SCR	
Co. Wexford	468	126	165	–65%	31%	2.1%	165
Co. Waterford	25			–100%			
Co. Cork	132	339	227	72%	–33%	–2.8%	227
Co. Kerry	587	519	792	35%	53%	3.4%	792
Co. Clare	24		66	175%			66
Co. Galway	68	5	37	–46%	640%	18.9%	43
Co. Mayo	60	39	237	295%	508%	15.0%	539
Co. Sligo	16	23	36	125%	57%	3.3%	36
Co. Donegal	35	10	168	380%	1580%	24.0%	668
All-Ireland Total	1,683	1,667	3,095	84%	86%	4.8%	4,849
Britain and Ireland Total	50,035	64,417	91,323	83%	42%		116,684

Notes

¹ Operation Seafarer and the SCR Census did not survey inland.² The Ribble Estuary (Lancashire) colony was not counted during the SCR.³ 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 2 Changes in the number of breeding Lesser Black-backed Gulls (AON) at major colonies in Britain and Ireland between the SCR Census (1985–88) and Seabird 2000 (1998–2002). Major colonies are those that contained the top 75% of the British population during the SCR and/or Seabird 2000 or the top 50% of the Irish population during the SCR and/or Seabird 2000.

ID corresponds to colony symbols in Fig. 2.

ID	Colony	SCR Census (1985–88)	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since SCR	Annual percentage change since SCR	Percentage of population in Britain or Ireland (1998–2002)
1	Skomer	11,760	10,007	–15%	–1.2%	9.2%
2	South Walney	10,000	19,487	95%	5.3%	17.9%
3	Tarnbrook Fell ¹	7,984	18,518	132%	5.4%	17.0%
4	Orfordness	5,000	5,500	10%	0.7%	5.0%
5	Isles of Scilly	3,762	3,603	–4%	–0.4%	3.3%
6	Skokholm	3,531	2,419	–31%	–2.9%	2.2%
7	Little Cumbrae Island	3,000	1,200	–60%	–6.8%	1.1%
8	Flat Holm	1,800	3,309	84%	4.5%	3.0%
9	Ailsa Craig	1,800	400	–78%	–10.2%	0.4%
10	Rockcliffe Marsh ³	1,791	2,400	34%	2.7%	2.2%
11	Inchkeith	1,753	3,276	87%	4.3%	3.0%
12	Almorness	1,500	1,023	–32%	–3.8%	0.9%
13	Meall A'choire Odhair	1,200	0	–100%		0.0%
14	Craigleith	930	782	–16%	–1.3%	0.7%
15	Inchmarnock Island	825	200	–76%	–8.5%	0.2%
16	Inchcolm	730	1,221	67%	3.5%	1.1%
17	Horse Island	641	2,677	318%	10.7%	2.5%
18	Isle of May	520	1,203	131%	6.2%	1.1%
19	Bristol ²	518	850	64%	3.5%	0.8%
20	The Skerries	453	574	27%	1.7%	0.5%
21	Gloucester (incl. RAF Quedgeley) ^{1,2}	450	2,250	400%	10.4%	2.1%
22	Cardigan Island	375	1,648	339%	11.1%	1.5%

<i>ID</i>	<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 population in Britain or Ireland (1998–2002)</i>
23	Bardsey Island	225	634	182%	7.7%	0.6%
24	Sark	154	555	260%	10.8%	0.5%
25	Fidra	140	599	328%	12.8%	0.5%
26	Lady Isle	125	1,000	700%	12.3%	0.9%
27	Hesketh and Banks Marshes, Ribble Estuary	nc	4,100			3.8%
28	Outer Trial Bank		1,378			1.3%
29	St Serfs Island, Loch Leven ¹		1,103			1.0%
30	Lowestoft ²		750			0.7%
31	Haverigg Prison ^{1,2}		430			0.4%
32	Lough Neagh (SPA) ¹	449	494	10%	0.7%	10.2%
33	Lough Mask ¹	447	286	−36%	−4.0%	5.9%
34	Old Lighthouse Island and Mew Island	200	240	20%	1.1%	4.9%
35	Rathlin Island	155	127	−18%	−1.4%	2.6%
36	Lambay Island	150	309	106%	6.2%	6.4%
37	Blasket Sound Islands (Beginish Island, Young's Island)	148	162	9%	0.8%	3.3%
38	Lough Corrib ¹	123	6	−95%	−22.3%	0.1%
39	Cape Clear Island	103	204	98%	5.4%	4.2%
40	Great Saltee	80	144	80%	4.7%	3.0%
41	Puffin Island	55	139	153%	6.4%	2.9%
42	Inishvickillane	30	156	420%	14.6%	3.2%
43	Inishgoosk	nc	500			10.3%
44	Lower Lough Erne ¹	nc	444			9.2%
45	Scariiff Island		97			2.0%

Notes

¹ Inland

² Roof-nesting

³ SCR 1988 count estimated from a mixed count of 2,500 AON of Herring Gulls and Lesser Black-backed Gulls using a ratio of 2.53LBBG:1HG measured in 1990.

nc not counted

Table 3 Numbers of roof-nesting Lesser Black-backed Gulls (AON) in Britain and Ireland 1976–2002.

Administrative area or country	1976 ¹		1993–95 ²		1999–2002		Percentage change since 1976	Percentage change since 1993–95
	AON	Colonies ³	AON	Colonies ³	AON	Colonies		
<i>East coast Sutherland</i>					1	1		
Sutherland total					1	1		
Inverness					6	1		
Moray					28	1		
Banff & Buchan			5	2	4	1		–20%
City of Aberdeen			50	1	154	1		208%
Angus					7	2		
City of Dundee			7	1	65	1		829%
Kirkcaldy					6	1		
Dunfermline					38	1		
Clackmannan					88	2		
Falkirk			4	1	179	5		4375%
West Lothian			15	2	nc			
City of Edinburgh			107	3	nc			
East Lothian			1	1	nc			
Kyle & Carrick			120	2	311	4		159%
Cunninghame			20	1	97	1		385%
Kilmarnock & Loudoun					134	1		
East Kilbride					250	1		
Motherwell					28	2		
Monklands					6	1		
City of Glasgow			349	1	1,553	1		345%
Inverclyde			141	1	189	2		34%
Strathkelvin			2	1	119	1		5850%
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth			350	1	449	2		28%
Dumbarton			175	1	134	2		–23%
Scotland Total			1,346	19	3,846	35		186%
Northumberland			4	1	6	1		50%
Tyne & Wear	8	2	46	2	11	1	38%	–76%
Cleveland			9	2	90	3		900%
North Yorkshire			4	2	1	1		–75%
Humberside					1	1		
Suffolk			1	1	1,149	3		114800%
Essex					5	2		
Greater London			11	1	204	1		1755%
Kent			25	2	50	3		100%
East Sussex	1	1	2	1	18	6	1700%	800%
West Sussex					29	4		
Hampshire					1	1		
Dorset			1	1	5	2		400%
Channel Islands			2	1				
Cornwall					14	6		
Devon			6	3	17	3		183%
Somerset			6	1	47	7		683%
Avon	38	2	420	2	1,421	3	3639%	238%
Gloucestershire	80	1	255	1	2,350	4	2838%	822%
Wiltshire			5	1				
Hereford & Worcester			28	2	77	4		175%
West Midlands					40	1		
Derbyshire					30	1		
Merseyside			18	1	51	2		183%
Lancashire			7	2	56	4		700%
Cumbria			104	4	877	5		743%
England, Isle of Man and Channel Islands Total	127	6	954	31	6,550	69	5057%	587%

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>1976¹</i>		<i>1993–95²</i>		<i>1999–2002</i>		<i>Percentage change since 1976</i>	<i>Percentage change since 1993–95</i>
	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies³</i>	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies³</i>	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies</i>		
Gwent	9	1	14	4	65	2	622%	364%
South Glamorgan	170	2	101	3	72	3	–58%	–29%
Mid Glamorgan	19	2						
West Glamorgan			71	2	94	2		32%
Dyfed					112	5		
Gwynedd			9	3	25	6		178%
Clwyd			6	1	26	3		333%
Wales Total	198	5	201	13	394	21	99%	96%
Great Britain, Isle of Man and Channel Islands total	325	11	2,501	63	10,790	125	3220%	331%
Co. Antrim			8	1	63	1		688%
Co. Dublin					21	1		
All-Ireland Total			8	1	84	2		950%
Britain and Ireland Total	325	11	2,509	64	10,874	127	3246%	333%

Notes

¹ Source data: Monaghan & Coulson (1977)

² Source data: Raven & Coulson (1997)

³ The numbers of colonies do not include those in 1976 and 1993–95 that were not counted.

nc not counted

Table 4 International context.

Country or region	Subspecies	Number of pairs		Year	Source		
		Min	Max				
Great Britain, Isle of Man and Channel Isles	<i>graellsii</i>	117,000	117,000	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
All Ireland	<i>graellsii</i>	4,800	4,800	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
Belgium	<i>intermedius</i>	180	180	1996	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Denmark	<i>intermedius</i>	4,400	4,400	1993–96	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Estonia	<i>fuscus</i>	250	300		BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Faeroes	<i>graellsii</i>	9,000	9,000	1995	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Finland	<i>fuscus</i>	6,000	8,000	1990–95	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
France	<i>graellsii</i>	22,655	22,655	1997–2001	Cadiou <i>et al.</i> (in press)		
Germany	<i>intermedius</i>	3,700	9,300	1993	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Greenland	<i>graellsii</i>	10	20	1996	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Iceland	<i>graellsii</i>	25,000	25,000	1990	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Netherlands	<i>intermedius</i>	32,000	57,000	1992–97	Bijlsma <i>et al.</i> (2001)		
Norway	<i>fuscus</i> & <i>intermedius</i>	25,000	36,000	1990	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Poland	<i>fuscus</i>	0	10		BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Portugal	<i>graellsii</i>	5	10	1989	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Russia	<i>fuscus</i>	2,120	2,300	1998	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Spain	<i>graellsii</i>	240	300	1990	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Sweden	<i>fuscus</i> & <i>intermedius</i>	15,000	20,000	1990	BirdLife International /EBCC (2000)		
Biogeographic region		Min	Max	Min % GB	Max % GB	Min % Ireland	Max % Ireland
Greenland, Iceland, Faeroes, Britain, Ireland, France, Spain and Portugal*	<i>graellsii</i>	179,000	179,000	65.4%	65.4%	2.7%	2.7%
World	all	267,000	316,000	37.0%	43.8%	1.5%	1.8%

*Stroud *et al.* (2001)

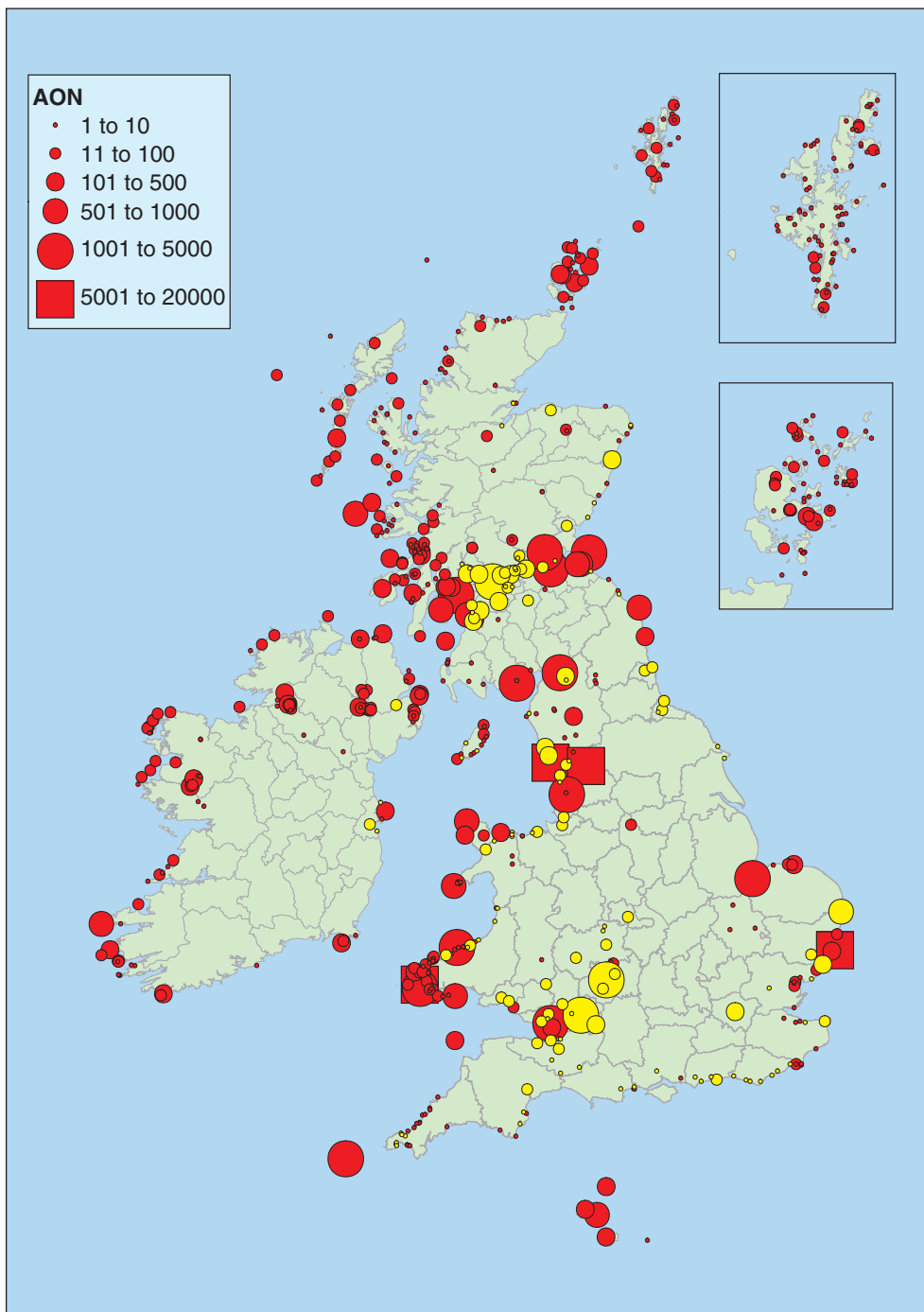


Figure 1 Abundance and distribution of breeding Lesser Black-backed Gulls in Britain and Ireland 1998–2002. Natural sites are shown in red and man-made site (e.g. rooftops) are in yellow (the scale is the same for both types of site).

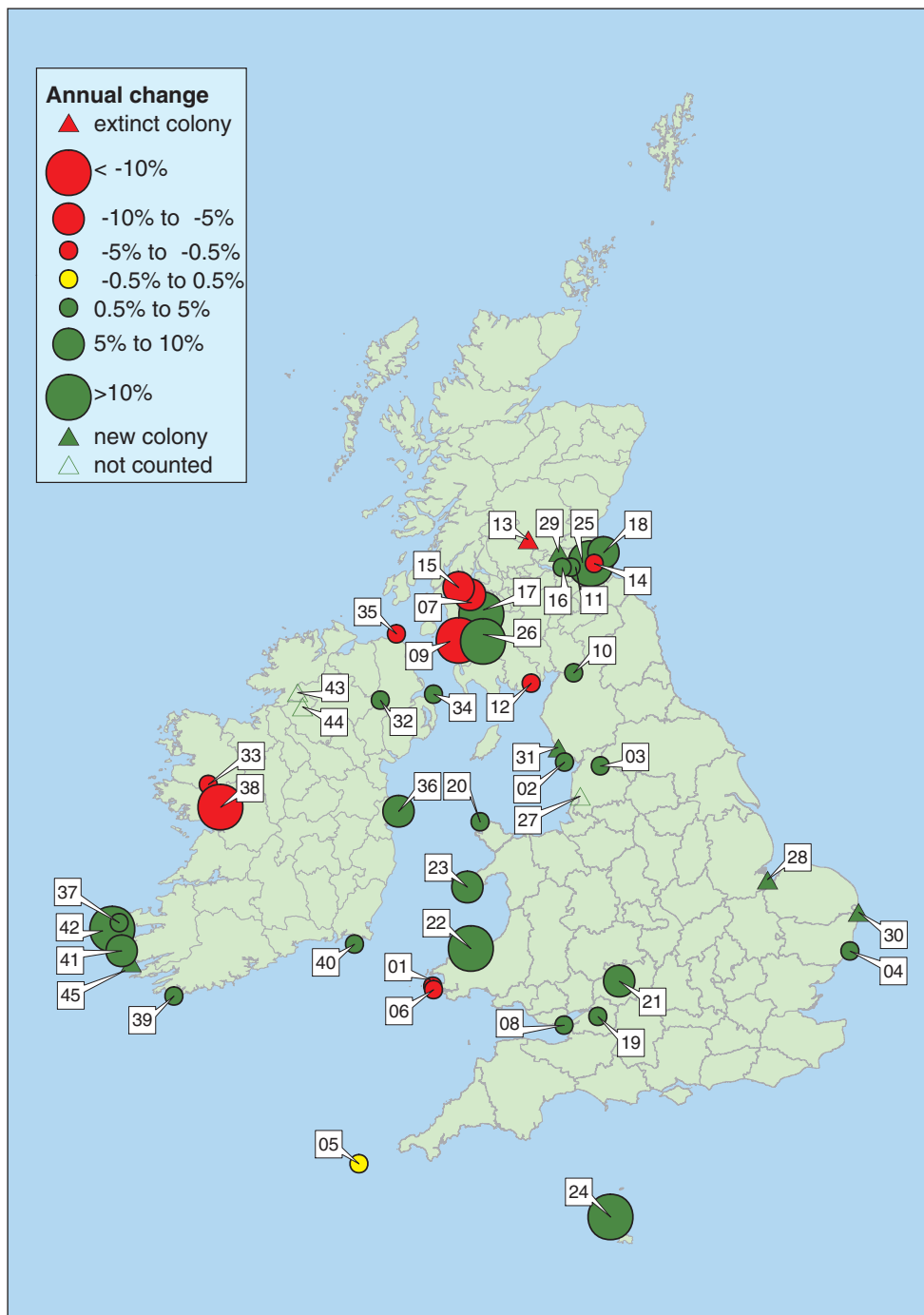


Figure 2 Changes in the number of breeding Lesser Black-backed Gulls (AON) at major colonies in Britain and Ireland between the SCR Census (1985–88) and Seabird 2000 (1998–2002). Major colonies are those that contained the top 75% of the British population during the SCR and/or Seabird 2000 or the top 50% of the Irish population during the SCR and/or Seabird 2000. Numbers correspond to colonies listed in Table 2.