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

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Table 1 Numbers of coastal-breeding Common 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) ²	Seabird 2000 (1998–2002)	Percentage change since Seafarer	Percentage change since SCR	Annual percentage change since SCR	
Shetland	1,336	2,487	2,424	81%	–3%	–0.2%	2,424
Orkney	4,895	8,132	11,141	128%	37%	2.3%	11,141
North coast Caithness		136	453		233%	9.7%	453
Inland Caithness							91
East coast Caithness		16	15		–6%	–0.4%	15
Caithness total	36	152	468	1200%	208%	8.4%	559
Northwest coast		83	87		5%	0.4%	87
Inland Sutherland							447
East coast Sutherland		113	124		10%	0.7%	164
Sutherland total	380	196	211	–44%	8%	0.6%	698
West coast Ross & Inland Ross & Cromarty		116	51		–56%	–5.8%	51
East coast Ross & Ross & Cromarty total	403	118	348	–14%	14750%	45.3%	297
Inverness	10	37	135	1250%	265%	10.1%	1,007
Nairn	12			–100%			40
Badenoch & Strathspey							167
Moray	67	23		–100%	–100%		18,845
Banff & Buchan	16	13		–100%	–100%		
Gordon							3,625
City of Aberdeen		47	280		496%	14.4%	280
Kincardine & Deeside	43		22	–49%			965
Angus			19				541
Perth & Kinross							1,465
City of Dundee							7
Midlothian							2
Ettrick & Lauderdale							108
Roxburgh							1
Nithsdale	1			–100%			
Stewartry	96	11	14	–85%	27%	1.6%	40
Wigtown		1	5		400%	11.4%	13
Kyle and Carrick	48		2	–96%			26
Cumnock & Doon Valley							13
Clydesdale							72
Cunninghame	495	197	330	–33%	68%	4.1%	330
Eastwood							39
East Kilbride							1
Renfrew							8
Inverclyde		352	25		–93%	–17.5%	27
Clydebank			1				4
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth							3
Dumbarton		4	50		1150%	20.1%	80
Stirling							169
Argyll & Bute	2,661	2,200	2,683	1%	22%	1.5%	2,686
Lochaber	541	407	367	–32%	–10%	–0.8%	367
Syke & Lochalsh	530	271	235	–56%	–13%	–1.1%	267
nan eilean	659	486	1,707	159%	251%	9.6%	1,707
Scotland Total	12,229	15,134	20,467	67%	35%	2.2%	48,113
Northumberland							9
North Yorkshire							1
Norfolk	2	3	6	200%	100%	4.9%	6
Suffolk		20	16		–20%	–1.6%	16
Kent	4	8	11	175%	38%	2.3%	11
East Sussex	1			–100%			

Coastal colonies only¹

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>Operation Seafarer (1969–70)</i>	<i>SCR Census (1985–88)²</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>
Cumbria	1	0	0	–100%			1
Isle of Man		5	6		20%	1.5%	6
England and Isle of Man Total	8	36	39	388%	8%	0.6%	50
Gwynedd	2			–100%			
Wales Total	2	0	0	–100%			0
Great Britain, Isle of Man and Channel Islands Total	12,239	15,170	20,506	68%	35%	2.2%	48,163
Co. Antrim	12	64	107	792%	67%	3.4%	107
Co. Down	44	128	276	527%	116%	5.7%	276
Co. Fermanagh							174
Co. Cork	4	4			–100%		
Co. Kerry	64	30	47	–27%	57%	3.8%	47
Co. Clare			10				10
Co. Galway	57		155	172%			333
Co. Mayo	178	47	210	18%	347%	12.4%	506
Co. Sligo	3	12	11	267%	–8%	–0.6%	11
Co. Donegal	382	16	153	–60%	856%	19.0%	153
All-Ireland Total	744	301	969	30%	222%	9.1%	1,617
Britain and Ireland Total	12,983	15,471	21,475	65%	39%	2.5%	49,780

Notes

¹ Operation Seafarer and the SCR Census did not survey inland.

² 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 Numbers of roof-nesting Common Gulls (AON) in Scotland 1976–2002.

<i>Administrative area or country</i>	<i>1976</i> ¹		<i>1993–95</i> ²		<i>1999–2002</i>		<i>Percentage change since 1976</i>	<i>Percentage change since 1993–95</i>
	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies</i> ³	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies</i> ³	<i>AON</i>	<i>Colonies</i>		
Shetland					1	1		
North coast Caithness			12	1	86	1		617%
<i>Caithness total</i>			<i>12</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>617%</i>
East coast Sutherland					13	1		
<i>Sutherland total</i>					<i>13</i>	<i>1</i>		
East coast Ross & Cromarty			34	4				
<i>Ross & Cromarty total</i>			<i>34</i>	<i>4</i>				–100%
Inverness	1 ⁴	1	20	1	96	2	9500%	380%
City of Aberdeen			142	1	280	1		97%
Angus					19	1		
Cunninghame					4	1		
Inverclyde			2	1	19	2		850%
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth					3	1		
Dumbarton					40	1		
Argyll & Bute			1	1	40	1		3900%
Lochaber			25	1	20	1		–20%
Scotland total	1	1	236	10	621	14	62000%	163%

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

⁴ One pair nested on a shed at Dalcross Airport, Inverness, in 1971.

Table 3 International context.

Country or region	Subspecies	Number of pairs			Source		
		Min	Max	Year			
Great Britain, Isle of Man	<i>canus</i>	48,000	48,000	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
All Ireland	<i>canus</i>	1,600	1,600	1999–2002	Seabird 2000		
Austria	<i>canus</i>	2	6	early 1990s	Géroutet (1995)		
Belarus	<i>canus</i>	500	1,200	1988–98	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Belgium	<i>canus</i>	6	7	mid 1990s	Seys <i>et al.</i> (1998)		
Czech Republic	<i>canus</i>	3	7	1985–1995	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Denmark	<i>canus</i>	25,000	25,000	mid-1990s	Bukaciski & Bukaciski (2003)		
Estonia	<i>canus</i>	10,000	15,000		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Faroes	<i>canus</i>	1,000	1,000	1995	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Finland	<i>canus</i>	50,000	70,000	1990–95	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
France	<i>canus</i>	30	30	1997–2001	Cadiou <i>et al.</i> (in press)		
Germany	<i>canus</i>	18,000	21,000	1990–94	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Hungary	<i>canus</i>	2	4	1998	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Iceland	<i>canus</i>	350	450	1990	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Latvia	<i>canus</i>	500	600	1986	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Lithuania	<i>canus</i>	100	150	1996–98	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Moldova	<i>canus</i>	0	10	1988	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Netherlands	<i>canus</i>	6,000	6,000	1996	Keijl & Arts (1998)		
Norway	<i>canus</i>	100,000	200,000	1990	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Poland	<i>canus</i>	1,800	1,900	late 1990s	Bukaciski & Bukaciski (2003)		
	<i>canus, heinei,</i>						
Russian Federation*	<i>kamtschatschensis</i>	40,000	60,000	1984–88	BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Slovakia	<i>canus</i>	5	10		BirdLife International/EBCC (2000)		
Sweden	<i>canus</i>	100,000	200,000	1990	Birdlife International/EBCC (2000)		
Switzerland	<i>canus</i>	2	5	early 1990s	Géroutet (1995)		
Ukraine	<i>canus</i>	50	50	1990s	Bukaciski & Bukaciski (2003)		
USA (Alaska)	<i>brachyrhynchus</i>	10,000	10,000	1990s	Burger & Gochfeld (1996)		
Canada (northwest)	<i>brachyrhynchus</i>	?					
Country	Subspecies	Min	Max	Min % GB	Max % GB	Min % Ireland	Max % Ireland
NW & C							
Europe/ Atlantic/ Mediterranean**	<i>canus, heinei,</i> <i>kamtschatschensis</i>	400,000	650,000	7.4%	12.0%	0.2%	0.4%
World	all	410,000	660,000	7.3%	11.7%	0.2%	0.4%

* mostly *canus*, total numbers of other subspecies unknown** Stroud *et al.* (2001)

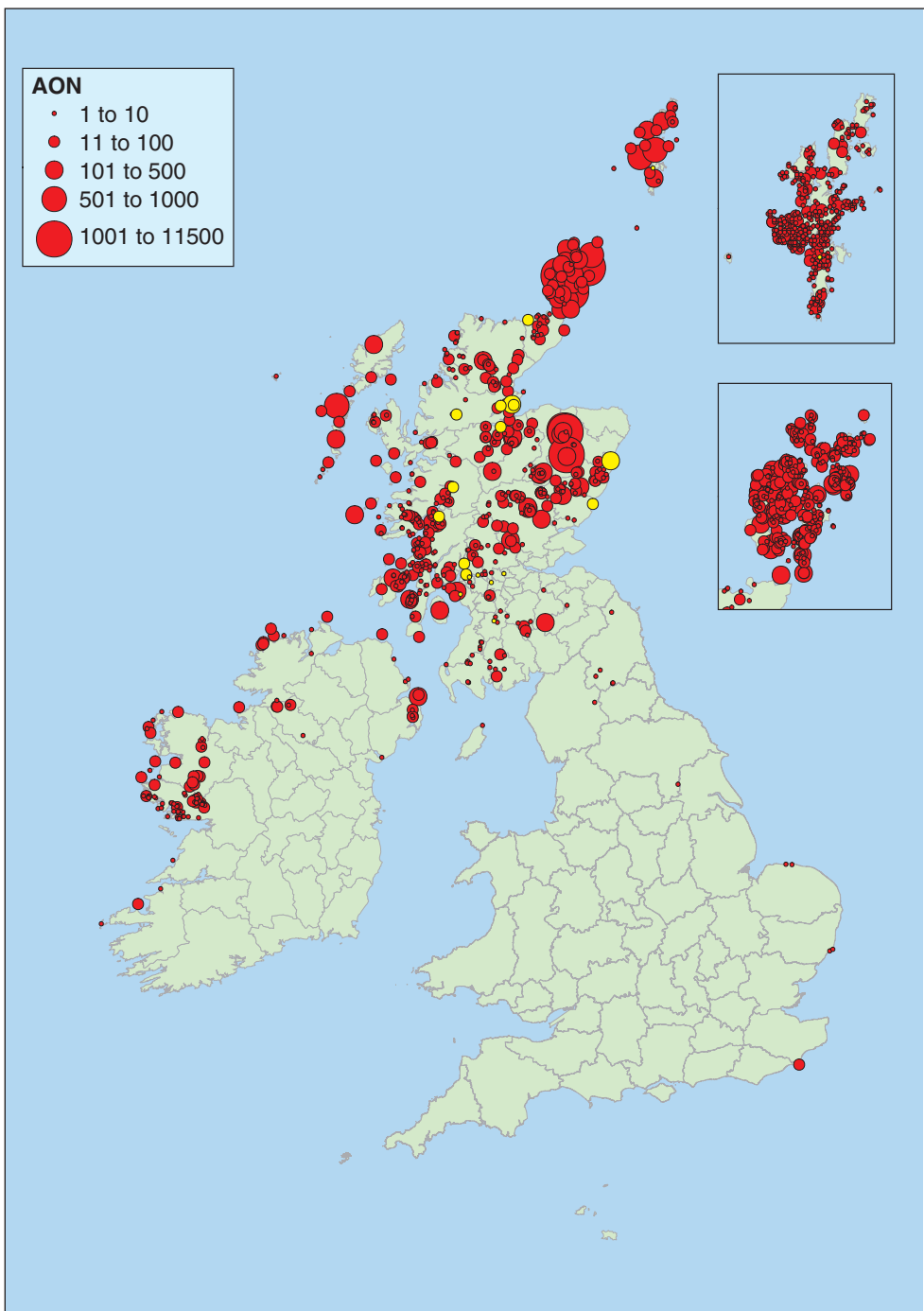


Figure 1 Abundance and distribution of breeding Common Gulls in Britain and Ireland 1998–2002. Natural sites are shown in red and man-made sites (e.g. rooftops) are in yellow (the scale is the same for both types of site).