

Northwest Atlantic



Fisheries Organization

Serial No. N104

NAFO SCS Doc. 80/VI/4

Sealing Statistics for the Northwest Atlantic, 1979

by

Assistant Executive Secretary

Reports on sealing catch and effort in the Northwest Atlantic in 1979 have been received from Canada and Norway for the "Front" and "Gulf" areas. No reports have been received on Danish seal catches in Subarea 1 and Canadian seal catches in Subarea 0.

All available information on the catches of harp and hooded seals and other species (unspecified) for the calendar year 1979 are listed in Table 1, and the corresponding statistics on hunting effort are listed in Table 2. Norwegian statistics for harp seals (Table 1) do not distinguish between "bedlamer" and "old harp".

Abbreviations and Definitions

Abbreviations for Countries

Can (M)	- Canada (Maritimes)
Can (N)	- Canada (Newfoundland)
Can (Q)	- Canada (Quebec)
Den (G)	- Denmark (Greenland)

Common and Scientific Names

Harp seal	- <i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>
Hooded seal	- <i>Cystophora cristata</i>

Definition of Seal Age Categories

Whitecoat	- Less than 2 weeks old with unmoulted white fur (lanugo)
Beater	- more than 2 weeks old
Bedlamer	- 1 year or older with spotted pelt, roughly equivalent to immature animals
Old harp	- animals with conspicuous saddle mark on back and sides, roughly equivalent to mature animals

Explanation of Effort Terms

Engine HP	- brake horsepower
Landsmen	- shore fishermen, including those using small vessels or aircraft
No. of men	- total number in crew if "vessel" and number of hunters if "landsmen"
Days absent	- number of days absent from port including the day the vessel sails but not the day of landing

Table 1. Harp and hooded seal catches in the Northwest Atlantic, 1979.

Area	Catching category	Country	HARP SEALS				Total harps	HOODED SEALS			OTHER SPECIES	GRAND TOTAL
			White-coat	Beater	Bed-lamer	Old harp		Young	1 and older	Total hoods		
SA 1		Den(G)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Front ¹	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	19630	-	1	78	19709	822	103	925	-	20634
		Can(N)	36811	290	20	199	37320	4215	1247	5462	-	42782
		Norway	19935	202	(151)		20288	6780	1526	8306	-	28594
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	1483	3972	7665	1487	14607	43	60	103	32	14742
	Landsmen	Can(N)	2750	6138	10173	3523	22584	88	241	329	3320	26233
	TOTAL		80609	10602	(23297)	114508	11948	3177	15125	3352	132985	
Gulf ²	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	10097	-	-	-	10097	-	-	-	-	10097
		Can(N)	9961	-	-	-	9961	-	-	-	-	9961
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	2663	681	350	336	4030	-	-	-	1	4031
	Landsmen	Can(M)	2	19	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	21
		Can(N)	1172	650	196	57	2075	-	-	-	5	2080
		Can(Q)	15630	372	1608	2239	19849	-	-	-	4	19853
	TOTAL		39525	1722	2154	2632	46033	-	-	-	10	46043
ALL AREAS		Den(G)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Canada	100199	12122	20013	7919	140253	5168	1651	6819	3362	150434
		Norway	19935	202	(151)		20288	6780	1526	8306	-	28594
	TOTAL		120134	12324	(28083)	160541	11948	3177	15125	3362	179028	

¹ Subareas 2 and 3, excluding Div. 3P.

² Subarea 4, including Div. 3P.

Table 2. Statistics of seal hunting effort in the Northwest Atlantic, 1979.

Area	Catching category	Country	No. of vessels	Tonnage		Engine HP	No. of men	Days absent	Seals caught
				Gross	Net				
SA 1		Den(G)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Front ¹	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	2	2144	996	3300	63	49	20634
		Can(N)	5	3050	1706	6125	136	130	42782
		Norway	4	2279	886	9100	80	155	28594
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	107	2454	1757	12280	400	1216	14742
	Landsmen	Can(N)	2605	-	-	-	5272	-	26233
Gulf ²	Ships ≥150 GRT	Can(M)	1	457	191	1250	20	22	10097
		Can(N)	1	470	193	2000	20	12	9961
	Ships <150 GRT	Can(N)	19	433	322	2983	87	74	4031
	Landsmen	Can(M)	-	-	-	-	15	-	21
		Can(N)	350	-	-	-	715	-	2080
Can(Q)		...	-	-	-	...	-	19853	

¹ Subareas 2 and 3, excluding Div. 3P.

² Subarea 4, including Div. 3P.