

# Summary of polar bear population status per 2017

The present table was initially discussed at the PBSG meeting in Anchorage in June 2016. Discussions continued during late fall and early winter 2016, and the new table was finally agreed upon by the group early March 2017. This status table will be updated whenever there are new information available that is considered credible and valid by the group.

Explanations for sea ice metric method [here](#).

Press the subpopulation hyperlink and more information will appear.

Subpopulation	Size			Sea ice metrics		Human-caused removals 2010-2014			
	Estimate / 95% CI	Year	Method	Change in spring ice retreat / Change in fall ice advance (days per decade)	Change in summer sea ice area (percent change per decade)	5-yr mean		Last year	
						Potential	Actual	Potential	Actual
<a href="#">Arctic Basin</a>	Unknown			-3.2/8.0	-6.7				
<a href="#">Baffin Bay</a>	2826 2059-3593	2012-2013	Genetic capture- recapture	-7.3/5.2	-18.9	140	143	132	133
<a href="#">Barents Sea</a>	2644 1899-3592	2004	Distance sampling	-16.6/24.2	-16.0	NA	1	NA	1
<a href="#">Chukchi Sea</a>	Unknown			-3.4/4.2	-18.8	58	29 (U.S.) + approx. 32 (Russia)	58	9 (U.S.) + approx. 32 (Russia)
<a href="#">Davis Strait</a>	2158 1833-2542	2007	Physical capture- recapture	-7.7/9.7	-19.9	102	109	108	96
<a href="#">East Greenland</a>	Unknown			-6.2/5.5	-6.5	62	63	64	65
<a href="#">Foxe Basin</a>	2585 2096-3189	2009-10	Physical capture- recapture AND Distance sampling	-5.3/5.8	-14.2	101.4	106.2	130	114
<a href="#">Gulf of Boothia</a>	1592 870-2314	2000	Physical capture- recapture	-6.9/8.3	-12.2	63.4	60	74	67
<a href="#">Kane Basin</a>	357 221-493	2013-2014	Genetic capture- recapture	-7.2/5.6	-12.2	11	5	11	5
<a href="#">Kara Sea</a>	Unknown			-9.2/7.6	-18.6		NA		NA
<a href="#">Lancaster Sound</a>	2541 1759-3323	1995-1997	Physical capture- recapture	-5.6/5.1	-7.7	92.8	86.6	89	80
<a href="#">Laptev Sea</a>	Unknown			-8.2/6.5	-14.7		NA		NA
<a href="#">M'Clintock Channel</a>	284 166-402	2000	Physical capture- recapture	-3.9/5.8	-9.0	3.4	3.4	5	5
<a href="#">Northern Beaufort Sea</a>	980 825-1135	2006	Physical capture- recapture	-5.8/3.3	-5.9	142.2 (SB+NB)	83 (SB+NB)	133 (SB+NB)	57 (SB+NB)
<a href="#">Norwegian Bay</a>	203 115-291	1997	Physical capture- recapture	-1.3/4.3	-2.3	4	2.2	4	1
<a href="#">Southern Beaufort Sea</a>	907 548-1270	2010	Physical capture- recapture	-8.7/8.7	-20.5	142.2 (SB+NB)	83 (SB+NB)	133 (SB+NB)	57 (SB+NB)
<a href="#">Southern Hudson Bay</a>	943 658-1350	2012	Physical capture- recapture AND Distance sampling	-3.1/4.1	-11.4	60.2	58.8	45	43
<a href="#">Viscount Melville Sound</a>	161 93-229	1992	Physical capture- recapture	-4.7/7.4	-6.1	7.0	5.2	7	2
<a href="#">Western Hudson Bay</a>	1030 754-1406	2011	Distance sampling	-5.2/3.6	-16.3	25	24.8	28	28