

Status of polar bear subpopulations and level of general knowledge.

POPULATION	ESTIMATE OF POPULATION SIZE	YEAR OF ESTIMATE	STATUS	NOTABLE VULNERABILITIES	QUALITY OF INFORMATION	JURISDICTION
Arctic Basin	unknown		Data deficient	Unknown	Data deficient	Circumpolar
Baffin Bay	2074	1997	Declining	Habitat decline; high harvest	Fair; periodic capture studies; TEK studies; on-going movement study	Canada (Nunavut), Greenland
Barents Sea	2650	2004	Data deficient	Habitat decline	Good; aerial survey; consistent capture studies since 1960s	Norway, Russia
Chukchi Sea	unknown		Data deficient	Unknown levels of harvest; habitat decline	Poor; new ecological and TEK study on-going; periodic and regional studies since 1990s	Russia, USA
Davis Strait	2158	2007	Has increased, now stable; decline expected	Habitat decline	New mark-recapture abundance estimate and vital rates; TEK study; periodic capture studies since 1970s	Canada (Nunavut, Quebec, Newfoundland & Labrador), Greenland
East Greenland	unknown		Data deficient	Contaminants; possible long historic over-harvest	Data deficient; movement studies planned and on-going	Greenland
Foxe Basin	2197	1994	Data deficient	Habitat decline; proposed increased shipping for mineral extraction	Aerial surveys 2009, 2010; new estimate expected; on-going habitat, TEK and movement studies	Canada (Nunavut, Quebec)
Gulf of Boothia	1592	2000	Likely an increase		Fair; periodic capture studies; TEK study	Canada (Nunavut)
Kane Basin	164	1998	Declining due to harvest	Habitat decline; likely a sink population connected with Baffin Bay; small population	Fair; one capture study; TEK study; aerial survey planned	Canada (Nunavut), Greenland
Kara Sea	unknown		Data deficient	Unknown levels of harvest	Data deficient	Russia
Lancaster Sound	2541	1998	Likely a decline due to harvest	Habitat decline; sex-skewed harvest; shipping expected to increase	Fair; periodic capture studies since the 1980s	Canada (Nunavut)
Laptev Sea	unknown		Data deficient	Unknown levels of harvest	Data deficient	Russia
M'Clintock Channel	284	2000	Likely an increase	Shipping expected to increase	Fair	Canada (Nunavut)
Northern Beaufort	1202	2006	Stable	Increasing oil/gas development and shipping; habitat decline	Good; new mark-recapture abundance estimate; periodic capture studies since 1970s; TEK study on-going	Canada (Nunavut, Northwest Territories)
Norwegian Bay	190	1998	Declining	Small population	Fair; one capture study	Canada (Nunavut)
Southern Beaufort	1546	2006	Declining	Severe habitat decline	Good; consistent mark-recapture monitoring	Canada (Yukon, Northwest Territories), USA
Southern Hudson Bay	900-1000	2006	Stable; predicted to decline	Habitat decline; decline of permafrost-based denning habitat	Good; research has been periodic since 1960s	Canada (Nunavut, Quebec, Ontario)
Viscount Melville	161	1992	Data deficient	Shipping expected to increase	Data deficient; one capture study; mark-recapture study planned	Canada (Nunavut)
Western Hudson Bay	935	2004	Declining	Severe habitat decline	Good; annual mark-recapture monitoring	Canada (Manitoba, Nunavut)

Table 1 from: Development of a pan-arctic monitoring plan for polar bears.