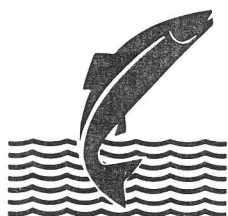


**Icelandic Salmon, Trout and Charr
Catch Statistics 1997**

Guðni Guðbergsson

April 1998

VMST-R/98005



VEIÐIMÁLASTOFNUN
INSTITUTE OF FRESHWATER FISHERIES

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
METHODS	2
RESULTS	3
Sport fishery	3
Net fishery	3
Ocean ranching	3
The salmon catch and harvest	3
DISCUSSION	4
REFERENCES	5
FIGURES AND TABLES	6-19

INTRODUCTION

There are five fish species in freshwater in Iceland. These are the salmonid species, Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) and Arctic charr (*Salvelinus alpinus*). The other two are, European eel (*Anquilla anquilla*) and three-spined sticklebacks (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*). Of these species salmon is of the greatest economic importance.

The fishing season in Icelandic rivers is 3 1/2 months during the period from 20th of May to 30th of September. The daily fishing period is 12 hours, between sunset to dawn, and fishing is always closed between 3 am to 7 am. In most Icelandic rivers rod and line is the only allowed fishing gear. There is a fixed number of rods used in each river as decided by the Directorate of Freshwater Fisheries. As a rule of thumb 1fish/day/rod, on the average, is used for deciding the number of rods allowed.

Net fishery only takes place in the largest glacial rivers. There has been a general ban on ocean salmon fishing in Icelandic waters since 1930. An exception were 5 localities in the western part of Iceland (Vesturland) (Fig 1). At these localities gillnets, set out from land, have been used. In the 1997 season fishing only took place in 1 of these localities. The fishing right have been bought out or are leased by anglers since salmon caught by anglers are more valueable than salmon in net fishery.

The fishing rights go with the ownership of the land adjacent to the rivers. The landowners are usually farmers. All the owners of the fishing rights in a river system form a fishery association, which manages the exploitation of the fish stocks, within the frame set by the law. Usually the association rents or leases the fishing rights to angling clubs.

The catch is recorded in special logbooks in the fishing lodges. At the end of each fishing season the logbooks are gathered by the Institute of Freshwater Fisheries. Statistical information are then processed. These informations are sent

back to the fisheries associations with new logbooks before the next fishing season.

Statistics from Icelandic rivers for the 1997 fishing season have now been processed and the main results are in this report. This work is based on Gudbergsson (1998), *Lax- og silungsveiðin 1997*, Report from the Institute of Freshwater Fisheries (in Icelandic). Statistics have been compiled this way since 1974.

METHODS

Iceland is divided into several statistical regions regarding salmon catches (Figure 1.) Informations on the catch in each region are summarized. The results from all regions are then combined for the whole country. The catch statistic for each river and for the fishing methods used are summarized. The harvesting methods used are rod and line and gillnets. Ocean ranching harvest is also summarised. In Iceland the weight of freshwater fish is usually measured in pounds where 1 pound = 500 g. Length is measured in cm. For each fish, date of catch, locality in the river and name of the fisherman is recorded. Fishing localities are often numbered for ease of processing.

The salmon catch is divided by weight into grilse (1SW, one winter at sea) and salmon (2SW, two winter at sea). Males up to 8 pounds and females up to 7 pounds are grilse and larger individuals are salmon. This deviation usually shows the same results as aging by scales. Salmon older than 2 winters at sea are rare.

Brown trout and Arctic charr are caught in many rivers as by-catch with the salmon. In other rivers these two species are the most dominant species. In this report there is no difference made between stationary trout and sea-trout, and searun Arctic charr and stationary Arctic charr.

Catch-and-release has been increasing in popularity. This catch is included in the statistics but numbers are recorded separately.

RESULTS

Sport fishery

A total of 28.640 salmon and 87 tonnes were caught by rod in Icelandic rivers in 1997 (Table 1). In 1997 there was 2,7% decrease in the salmon catch by rod from the 1996 season (Table 2. Figure 3) and it was 19,3% lower than the 1974-1996 average. The highest number of salmon was caught in River Rangá 2.96 and a list of the top 10 salmon rivers is shown in Table 3.

A total of 22.490 brown trout was recorded, there of 4.005 fish in River Laxá í Þing. (Table 4) and 29.480 Arctic charr, there of 3.625 in River Eyjafjardará (Table 5).

Of the statistical regions in Iceland the highest number of salmon was caught in the rod fishery in Vesturland 11.630 salmon and lowest in Vestfirðir 541 salmon (Tables 6-12).

Net fishery

In the net fishery 5.735 salmon were caught, 5.730 in rivers and 30 in the gillnet fishery, now only at one locality, at the west coast of Iceland. The weight of the net catch was 18,8 tonnes. The salmon catch, in numbers, in gillnets only 1/3 of the 1974 - 1996 average and the lowest recorded (Table 2; Figure 3).

Ocean ranching

A total of 15.248 salmon and 48,3 tonnes, returned to ocean ranching facilities. The total number of salmon returning from ocean ranching has been declining for the last few years (Figure 4).

The salmon catch and harvest

The total number of salmon caught in the sports fishery and gillnets as well as returning to ocean ranching sites was 48.044 salmon with a total weight of 154,2 tonnes. The catch of wild salmon, in numbers, was 35% lower than the average catch in the years 1974-1996. In the rod fishery 21.476 fish (74,9%) were grilse (1SW) and 7.164 (25,1%) were salmon (MSW) (Table 13).

In the rod fishery the grilse/salmon ratio was 3,0, in the gillnets 1,7 and 5,3 in ocean ranching (Table 14).

For long term comparison, the catch in Icelandic salmon rivers is given for the period 1974-1997 with a calculation of average, maximum and minimum catch (Table 15). In similar way the catch of brown trout is given in Table 16 and Arctic charr in Table 17 for the period from 1987-1997.

Gillnet catch of salmon brown trout and Arctic charr is given in table 18.

In two rivers the salmon fishery is based on put and take fishery with salmon from ocean ranching (table 19).

DISCUSSION

The salmon catch in the rod fishery in 1997 was 2,7% lower than in 1996 and 19,3 % lower than the 1974-1996 average. The net catch was the lowest recorded. The number of nets used has been lowering due to lease of nets and buy-out of fishing rights, by anglers and river owners, in coastal and riverine fisheries. The number of salmon in ocean ranching has been declining due to lower number of released smolts and low return rates. Since some strayers from ocean ranching have been caught in the rod catch this can affect the total number of catch in rivers but on the other hand some wild salmon have been caught in ocean ranching facilities.

The size of the salmon run is decided by the number of outgoing smolts and the survival at sea.

There are considerable fluctuations in the salmon catch in Iceland. Usually salmon catch in rivers in the same region fluctuate together. There are common factors effecting the production of smolts in the rivers and the return rates from the ocean. Climatic factors are of greatest importance and significant correlation has been found between the catch of grilse and ocean temperature at the time the smolts are migrating (Scarnecchia 1984; Antonsson et. al. 1996). There are also significant correlations between the catch of grilse and salmon the year after in many rivers (Scarnecchia 1984, Scarnecchia et.al. 1989). The grilse/salmon ratio has been lower in the past years than in the sixties and seventies. Reasons for this are not clear but this seems to be connected to environmental factors (Gudjonsson

et.al. 1995.) This changes affect the catch in rivers with high proportion of MSW fish in the catch.

The exploitation rate in rod fisheries in Icelandic rivers are believed to be between 30-80% (Gudjónsson 1986). Recsent informations on exploitation in rod fisheries indicates that it can, in many rivers be high (Gudjonsson et. al. 1996).

REFERENCES

- Antonsson, Th., Gudbergsson, G. and Gudjónsson, S. 1996. Environmental continuity in fluctuation of fish stocks in the North Atlantic Ocean, with particular reference to Atlantic salmon. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 16:540-547.
- Gudbergsson, G. 1998. Lax- og silungsveiðin 1997. Report from The Institute of Freshwater Fisheries, VMST-R/98004.
- Gudjónsson, Th. 1986. Exploitation of Atlantic Salmon in Iceland. In: *Atlantic Salmon: Planning for the future.* (ed.) Derik Mills and David Piggins.
- Gudjónsson, S. Einarsson, S.M., Antonsson, Th. and Gudbergsson, G. 1995. Relation of grilse/salmon ratio to environmental changes in several wild stocks of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) in Iceland. *Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.* 52:1385-1398.
- Scarnecchia, D.L. 1984. Climatic and oceanic variations affecting yield of Icelandic stocks of Atlantic salmon. *Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.*, Vol 41, pp 917-935.
- Scarnecchia, D.L. 1984. Forecasting yields of two-sea-winter Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) from Icelandic Rivers. *Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.*, 8:1234-1240.
- Scarnecchia, D.L., Isaksson, A., White, S.E. 1989. New and revised catch forecasts for two-sea-winter Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) in Icelandic rivers. *J. Appl. Ichthyol.* 5:101-110.

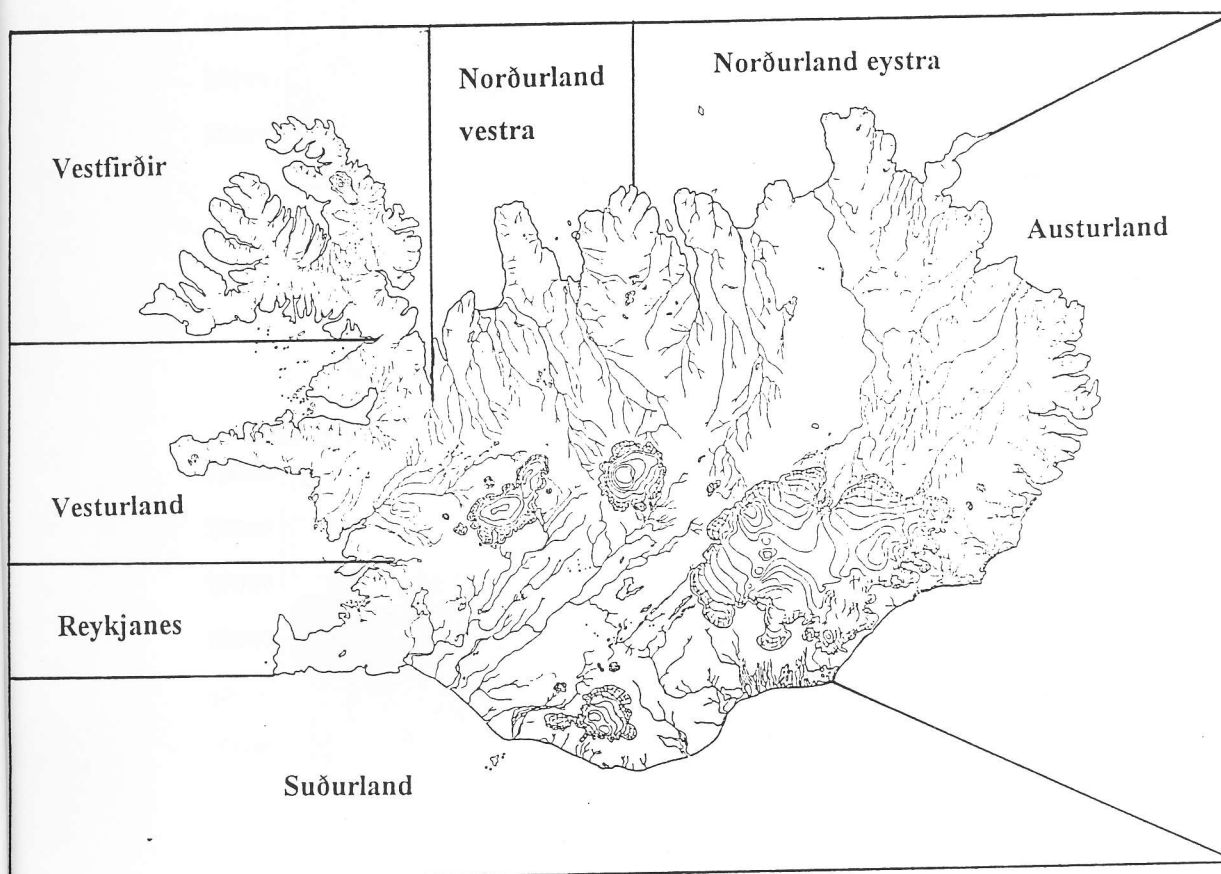


Figure 1. Areas used to divide the salmon catch in Iceland into statistical regions.

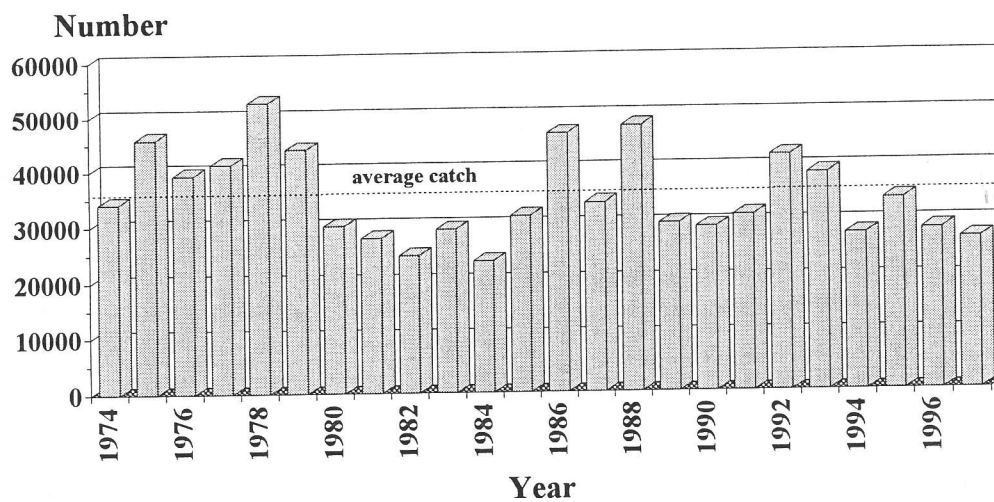


Figure 2. Total number of salmon in rod fishery in Iceland 1974 - 1997.

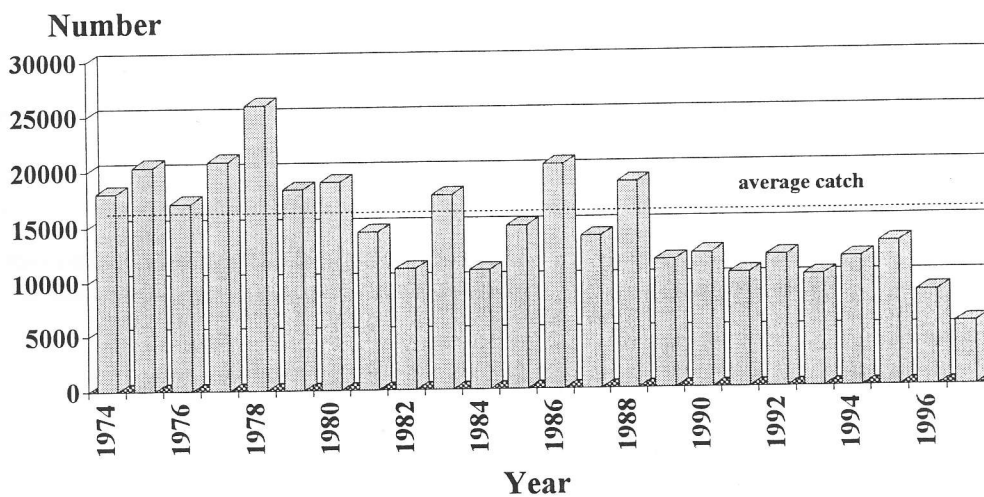


Figure 3. Total number of salmon in net fishery in Iceland 1974 - 1997.

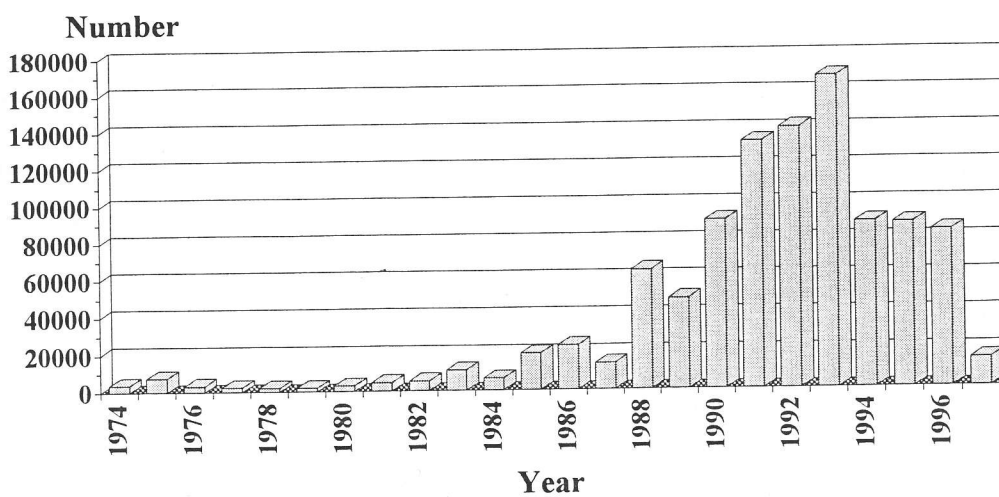


Figure 4. Total number of salmon in ocean ranching in Iceland 1974 - 1997.

Table 1. Total number and weight of captured salmon in Iceland in 1997, method of catch and regions (Weight is in pounds where 1 pound=500g).

Region	Rod fishery				Net fishery		Ocean ranching		Total		Percentage	
	Number	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight
Reykjanes	2439	44	2395	13275			103	927	2542	14202	5,1	4,6
Vesturland	11630	660	10970	67860	370	2189	15145	95700	27145	165749	54,7	53,7
Vestfirðir	541	1	540	3453					541	3453	1,1	1,1
Norðurland vestra	5029	511	4518	31232	106	721			5135	31953	10,3	10,4
Norðurland eystra	2836	228	2608	18028	91	609			2927	18637	5,9	6,0
Austurland	1706	100	1606	10180	71	597			1777	10777	3,6	3,5
Suðurland	4459	14	4445	30137	5097	33568			9556	63705	19,3	20,7
Total	28640	1558	27082	174165	5735	37684	15248	96627	49623	308476	100,0	100,0
Total weight (kg)				87083		18842		48314		154238		

Table 2. Total catch (in numbers) of salmon in Iceland 1974 - 1997 divided by catch method
Percentage of wild salmon in the total catch are shown.

Year	Rod catch booked	Released	Rod catch landed	Net catch landed	Catch rod and net	Ocean ranching	Total number	Wild salmon (%)
1974	34107		34107	18044	52151	3765	55916	93,3
1975	45882		45882	20402	66284	7720	74004	89,6
1976	39249		39249	17130	56379	3247	59626	94,6
1977	41302		41302	20864	62166	2405	64571	96,3
1978	52679		52679	25946	78625	1953	80578	97,6
1979	43955		43955	18306	62261	1967	64228	96,9
1980	30007		30007	18992	48999	3138	52137	94,0
1981	27777		27777	14478	42255	4626	46881	90,1
1982	24671		24671	11107	35778	5340	41118	87,0
1983	29267		29267	17761	47028	11194	58222	80,8
1984	23582		23582	10912	34494	6595	41089	83,9
1985	31621		31621	14942	46563	19750	66313	70,2
1986	46671		46671	20437	67108	24100	91208	73,6
1987	33907		33907	13960	47867	14140	62007	77,2
1988	47979		47979	18781	66760	64017	130777	51,0
1989	30082		30082	11738	41820	48617	90437	46,2
1990	29443		29443	12339	41782	90726	132508	31,5
1991	31492		31492	10454	41946	133203	175149	23,9
1992	42309		42309	12062	54371	140763	195134	27,9
1993	39025		39025	10197	49222	168427	217649	22,6
1994	28042		28042	11846	39888	89225	129113	30,9
1995	34241		34241	13185	47426	88527	135953	34,9
1996	29436	669	28767	8668	47426	84365	131791	36,0
1997	28640	1558	27082	5735	32817	15248	48065	68,3
average 1974-1997	35224		35131	14929	50476	43044	93520	54,0

Tabl Top 10 salmon rivers in Iceland 1997.

River		Salmon catch
1.	Rangárnar	2960
2.	Norðurá	1899
3.	Þverá og Kjarrá	1633
4.	Grímsá og Tunguá	1613
5.	Langá	1366
6.	Laxá í Aðaldal	1227
7.	Laxá í Kjós og Bugða	1147
8.	Blanda	877
9.	Vatnsdalsá	769
10.	Laxá í Dölum	764

Tabl Top 5 brown trout rivers in Iceland 1997.

River		Brown trout catch
1.	Laxá í Þing. ofan Brúa	2813
2.	Grenlækur	2730
3.	Fremri Laxá á Ásum	1301
4.	Skaftá	813
5.	Laxá í Aðaldal	722

Tabl Top 5 Arctic charr rivers in Iceland 1997.

River		Arctic charr catch
1.	Eyjafrarðará	3625
2.	Vatnsdalsá	1861
3.	Fljótaá	1648
4.	Viðidalsá	1551
5.	Staðarhólsá og Hvolsá	1316

Table 6. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Reykjanes 1997. Figures for number, mean weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound=500g).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	Mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	Mean weight	number	Mean weight	number	number
Elliðaár	568		568	2954	5,2	16,8	536	5,0	32	8,6	28	1
Úlfarsá (Korpa)	217	1	216	1058	4,9	26,1	209	4,7	8	8,4	9	2
Leirvogsá	411		411	2096	5,1	9,3	371	4,6	40	10,1	4	3
Kiðafellsá *												
Laxá í Kjós	985	37	948	5688	6,0	4,0	789	5,2	196	9,4	27	0
Bugða	162	6	156	936	6,0	4,8	134	5,4	28	8,8	2	0
Brynjudalsá	76		76	441	5,8	4,1	61	5,1	15	8,5	0	0
Botnsá	20		20	102	5,1	5,7	17	4,4	3	9,3	1	1
Djúpavatn *												
Reykjanes total:	2439	44	2395	13275		6,6	2117		322		71	7

* no records

Table 7. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Vesturland in 1997. Figures for number, mean weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound=500 g).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	mean weight	number	mean weight	Catch number	Catch number
Vötn í Svínadal	7		7	37	5,3	6,0	6	4,7	1	9,0	17	0
Selós og Þverá	77		77	454	5,9		65	5,3	12	8,8	8	1
Laxá í Leirársveit	697	65	632	3286	5,2	9,9	633	4,8	64	9,2	116	35
Leirá í Leirársveit *			0									
Hvítá í Borgarfirði	213	2	211	1245	5,9	4,2	172	5,0	41	9,7	264	4
Andakilsá	184		184	1214	6,6	3,6	144	5,7	40	9,7	7	238
Grímsá og Tunguá	1613	253	1360	7888	5,8	4,6	1325	5,1	288	9,3	136	0
Flókadalsá	319	2	317	1648	5,2	9,0	287	4,8	32	8,7	7	0
Reykjadalsá	94		94	639	6,8	2,0	63	5,3	31	9,8	41	7
Þverá og Kjarrá	1633	22	1611	10794	6,7	2,3	1132	5,4	501	9,8	101	63
Norðurá	1899	45	1854	10753	5,8	3,8	1507	4,9	392	9,2	45	19
Norðlingaflljót &												2
Gljúfurá	240		240	1200	5,0	23,0	230	4,8	10	8,7	7	0
Langá	1366	195	1171	6675	5,7	5,4	1151	5,2	215	8,9	0	3
Urriðaa	29		29	162	5,6	8,7	26	5,1	3	10,3	52	2
Álftá	266	1	265	1696	6,4	2,6	192	5,4	74	9,0	298	6
Hítará og Grjótá	217		217	1367	6,3	3,3	167	5,1	50	10,4	33	426
Haffjarðará	560		560	3528	6,3	3,3	429	5,3	131	9,5	39	111
Núpa í Eyjahreppi #	83		83	515	6,2	4,2	67	5,4	16	9,4	22	90
Laxá í Miklaholtshreppi *												
Straumfjarðará	226		226	1514	6,7	2,1	154	5,5	72	9,3	0	0
Lýsa	68		68	469	6,9	1,6	42	5,2	26	9,8	7	7
Fróða	13		13	88	6,8	2,3	9	5,4	4	10,0	0	353
Setbergssá	44		44	264	6,0	0,0	37	5,1	7	10,6	8	62
Laxá á Skógarströnd	46		46	299	6,5	4,1	37	5,5	9	10,2	2	5
SvínafoSSá í Heydal	17		17	88	5,2	7,5	15	4,9	2	7,8	71	201
Dunká	62		62	527	8,5	1,2	34	5,5	28	12,0	0	2
Hörðudalsá	17		17	78	4,6	7,5	15	3,7	2	11,0	0	1021
Skrauma á Skógarströnd *			0									
Miða og Tunguá	31		31	229	7,4	1,2	17	5,1	14	10,2	0	396
Haukadalsá neðri	331		331	2284	6,9	1,8	213	5,0	118	10,3	0	36
Haukadalsá efri	13		13	112	8,6	0,0	4	4,4	9	10,4	0	593
Laxá í Dölum	764	63	701	5538	7,9	1,5	454	5,3	310	11,7	1	9
Fáskrúð	144	1	143	1058	7,4	1,4	83	5,1	61	10,5	0	0
Glerá	65		65	442	6,8	2,0	43	5,4	22	9,6	1	19
Laxá í Hvammssveit	32		32	250	7,8	1,9	21	5,3	11	12,2	1	6
Flekkudalsá (Kjarlaksstaðaá)	148	6	142	838	5,9	3,4	114	4,7	34	10,0	10	10
Krossá	28		28	157	5,6	3,7	22	4,8	6	8,7	5	29
Búðardalsá	59	5	54	329	6,1	3,5	46	5,0	13	10,0	3	14
Staðarhólsá og Hvolsá	25		25	193	7,7	0,8	11	5,6	14	9,3	4	1316
Vesturland total:	11630	660	10970	67860		3,4	8967		2663		1306	5086

* no records

& Put and take fishery with salmon from ocean ranching. See table 19.

Origin of the catch partly from released salmon from ocean ranching

Table 9. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Norðurland vestra in 1997. Figures for number, average weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound = 500g.).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	mean weight	number	mean weight	Catch number	Catch number
Hrútafjarðará og Síká	201	1	200	1360	6,8	2,7	147	5,4	54	10,8	2	363
Tjarnará	37		37	207	5,6	0,0	31	4,8	6	9,8	0	131
Hamarsá *												
Miðfjarðará	602		602	3913	6,5	2,8	442	5,2	160	9,9	2	267
Viðisdalsá og Fitjá	691	15	676	5408	8,0	1,4	405	5,4	286	11,7	52	1551
Vatnsdalsá	769	495	274	2110	7,7	1,8	498	5,4	271	11,8	300	1861
Giljá	29		29	148	5,1	0,0	28	5,0	1	8,0	13	1
Gljúfurá	30		30	249	8,3	1,5	18	6,2	12	11,4	6	52
Laxá á Ásum	715		715	4576	6,4	3,4	552	5,3	163	10,2	3	4
Fremri Laxá á Ásum	63		63	340	5,4	9,5	57	5,1	6	8,7	2379	52
Blanda	877		877	6227	7,1	1,8	566	5,3	311	10,4	207	301
Svartá	532		532	3086	5,8	6,7	463	5,1	69	10,5	90	211
Langavatn á Refs.											88	0
Seyðisá											0	93
Blöndulón											0	50
Laxá á Refasveit	139		139	959	6,9	2,4	98	5,2	41	11,1	7	4
Hallá	38		38	266	7,0	1,5	23	5,1	15	10,0	8	1
Laxá í Nesjum	6		6	53	8,8	0,5	2	4,5	4	11,0	0	0
Fossá í Skefist.hr. *												
Laxá í Skefistaðahreppi	41		41	283	6,9	1,7	26	5,4	15	9,4	3	68
Húseyjarkvísl	70		70	476	6,8	2,5	50	5,4	20	10,0	407	30
Sæmundará	54		54	475	8,8	0,9	26	5,8	28	11,5	168	274
Norðurá í Skagafirði	0		0	0	0,0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	62
Hrollleifsdalsá	1		1	5	5,0		1	5,0			32	198
Flókadalsá	15		15	116	7,7	1,5	9	5,7	6	10,7	29	1135
Fljótaá	119		119	976	8,2	1,3	68	5,3	51	12,0	1	1648
Norðurland vestra tota	5029	511	4518	31232	6,2	2,3	3510		1519		3797	8357

* no records.

Table 10. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Norðurland eystra in 1997. Figures for number, average weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound=500 g).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	mean weight	number	mean weight	Catch number	Catch number
Ólafsfjarðará *												
Svarfaðardalsá	1		1	6	5,5		1	5,5	0	0,0	26	475
Þorvaldsdalsá *				0								
Hörgá	2		2	9	4,5		2	4,5	0	0,0	43	1293
Eyjafljardará	15		15	75	5,0	1,4	10	5,0	7	10,0	138	3625
Fnjóská	156		156	1014	6,5	2,7	114	5,3	42	10,8	53	409
Djúpá	43		43	284	6,6	3,8	34	5,8	9	9,8	1	0
Skjálfandafjót	277		277	1884	6,8	3,1	210	5,3	67	11,4	25	506
Laxá í Aðaldal	1227	194	1033	7954	7,7	1,7	770	5,8	457	10,9	929	64
Laxá í Laxárdal	0		0	0	0,0		0	0,0	0	0,0	1020	18
Laxá í Mývatnssveit	0		0	0	0,0		0	0,0	0	0,0	2680	24
Laxá í Mývatnssv. Haganes	0		0	0	0,0		0	0,0	0	0,0	305	41
Reykjadalsá	109		109	654	6,0	2,8	80	4,7	29	9,4	0	0
Mýrarkvísl	270		270	1566	5,8	5,9	231	5,0	39	10,4	3	0
Litluárvötn	2		2	11	5,5		2	5,5	0	0,0	269	104
Skjálfavatn *												
Brunná *												
Deildará	141		141	860	6,1	4,9	117	5,4	24	9,4	62	29
Ormarsá	141		141	959	6,8	2,9	105	5,4	36	10,9	17	68
Svalbarðsá	98		98	647	6,6	2,6	71	5,1	27	10,5	10	37
Sandá	91		91	637	7,0	2,8	67	5,3	24	11,5	0	2
Hafralónsá	221	31	190	1216	6,4	4,0	177	5,3	44	10,9	12	57
Kverká	6		6	42	7,0	2,0	4	5,3	2	10,5	0	0
Hölná	36	3	33	211	6,4	3,5	28	5,5	8	9,5	4	6
Norðurland eystra total:	2836	228	2608	18028	6,4	2,5	2023		815		5597	6758

* no records

Table 11. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Austurland 1997. Figures for number, average weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound=500 g).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Release	Catch landed	Weight landed	mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	mean weight	number	mean weight	Catch number	Catch number
Miðfjarða og Kverká	101		101	586	5,8	4,9	84	4,3	17	11,6	2	0
Selá í Vopnafirði	685	76	609	3837	6,3	3,4	529	5,0	156	10,7	6	115
Vesturdalsá	216		216	1404	6,5	2,2	148	4,4	68	11,0	0	1080
Hofsá og Sunnudalsá	607	24	583	3848	6,6	2,7	443	4,7	164	11,9	49	250
Gilsá og Selfjót	18		18	112	6,2	2,6	13	4,3	5	10,4	77	421
Kelduá	3		3	14	4,5		3	4,5			43	258
Fjarðará, Seyðisfirði.	3		3	15	5,0	2,0	2	3,0	1	9,0	0	14
Fjarðará, Loðmundarfirði	2		2	8	4,0		2	4,0			4	81
Breiðdalsá	63		63	309	4,9	14,8	59	4,6	4	9,7	375	197
Geithellnaá *												
Laxá í Nesjum	8		8	49	6,1	1,0	4	4	4	9	37	5
Austurland total:	1706	100	1606	10180	6,0	3,1	1287		419		593	2421

* no records

Table 12. Number and weight of salmon in catches in Suðurland in 1997. Figures for number, average weight, grilse/salmon ratio and catch of trout and charr.
(Weight is in pounds, 1 pound=500 g).

River	Salmon						Grilse		Salmon		Trout	Charr
	Catch	Released	Catch landed	Weight landed	mean weight	grilse/salmon	number	mean weight	number	mean weight	Catch number	Catch number
Brunná											10	
Núpsvötn												3
Laxá	1		1	8	8,0				1	8,0	100	15
Eldvatn á Brunasandi	4		4	22	5,5		4	5,5			74	300
Geirlandsá	47		47	315	6,7	2,6	34	5,1	13	11,0	389	28
Skaftá Vatnamót	2		2	6	2,8		2	2,8			565	16
Skaftá Mávaótarálar	1		1	3	3,0		1	3,0			363	0
Skaftá											41	0
Hörgsá á Siðu	20		20	144	7,2	0,8	9	5,6	11	8,6	112	13
Holtsá *												
Grenlækur	3		3	11	3,7		3	3,7			2493	294
Eldvatn í Meðallandi	11		11	67	6,1	2,3	7	5,4	3	7,7	161	61
Hellisá &											31	
Tunguflljót	10	2	8	45	5,6	4,0	8	5,1	2	8,0	384	53
Kerlingadalsá og Vatnsá	80		80	448	5,6	4,0	64	5,0	16	8,4	212	88
Heiðarvatn	2		2	11	5,5		1	3,0	1	8,0	123	498
Rangár, Fiská og Hólsá	2960	5	2955	18912	6,4	3,3	2266	5,5	694	9,1	635	150
Minnivallarlækur											131	2
Kálfá	39	6	33	228	6,9	1,3	22	5,3	17	8,9	59	40
Fossá og Rauðá											20	150
Kaldakvísl											8	47
Kvísarveita											55	0
Veiðivötn											301	0
Þórisvatn											3999	90
Ölfusá	185		185	1295	7,0	2,2	128	5,5	58	10,4	161	30
Hvítá	405		405	3159	7,8	1,2	220	5,6	185	10,5	162	21
Hagaós og Brúará	41		41	295	7,2	1,7	26	5,5	15	10,2	12	556
Brúará, Spóastaðir	1		1	7	7,0				1	7,0	8	580
Stóra Laxá	359	1	358	3150	8,8	1,0	180	5,8	179	11,8	23	34
Sogið	252		252	1814	7,2	2,0	161	5,3	79	10,9	23	657
Ásgarðslækur	10		10	45	4,5		10	4,5			0	3
Baugstaðaós	17		17	87	5,1	4,7	14	5,1	3	8,0	214	28
Volalækur	9		9	65	7,2	0,3	2	5,5	7	7,7	278	52
Hlíðarvatn											0	2018
Suðurland total:	4459	14	4445	30137	6,8	2,5	3162		1285		11147	5827

* no records

& Put and take fishery with salmon from ocean ranching. See table 19.

Table 13. Number and grilse/salmon ratio in the rod catch of salmon in Iceland 1997 in different regions.

Region	Grilse number	Salmon number	grilse/salmon ratio
Reykjanes	2117	322	6,6
Vesturland	8967	2663	3,4
Vestfirðir	404	137	2,9
Norðurland vestra	3510	1519	2,3
Norðurland eystra	2021	815	2,5
Austurland	1287	419	3,1
Suðurland	3170	1289	2,5
Total:	21476	7164	3,0

Table 14. Number of grilse, salmon and grilse/salmon ratio in the catch by different method.

Catch method	Grilse number	Salmon number	Ratio grilse/salmon
Rod	21476	7164	3,0
Net	3621	2114	1,7
Ranching	12725	2420	5,3
Total:	37822	11698	3,2

Table 15. (continued)

River	Y										R										Average		Minimum			
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Catch	Catch
Hritafjarðará og Siká	194	291	228	262	346	312	253	288	220	287	195	345	536	259	532	252	200	359	459	411	176	288	205	201	296	536
Mtöfjarðará	837	1414	1601	2581	2337	2132	1714	1213	926	882	583	1059	1719	1073	2081	1175	774	1112	1401	1023	668	1032	714	602	1277	2581
Tjarnará á Vatnsnesi			34		112	82	53	56	36	53	23	55	25	0		40	18	51	23	40	9	30	0	37	39	112
Víðidalssá og Fljóa	1051	1140	1238	1792	1851	1948	1423	1392	1132	1082	625	713	1541	1563	2023	924	604	667	1473	1342	580	981	783	691	1190	2023
Vatnsdalssá	706	832	571	1203	1466	1413	1033	985	721	879	699	856	1382	1496	1243	660	604	683	998	853	516	601	723	769	921	1582
Laxá á Ásum	1439	1881	1270	1439	1854	1650	956	1413	1036	1050	625	1440	1857	1157	1617	749	651	833	861	1458	805	1549	627	715	1206	1881
Blánda	1173	2363	1485	1367	2147	906	778	1412	861	511	495	766	1814	1243	1217	375	607	568	432	404	357	519	600	877	970	2363
Svartá	420	232	96	46	295	469	444	125	73	147	132	330	391	462	275	118	105	108	363	495	400	547	244	532	285	547
Laxá á Refasveit	79	58	41	71	94	146	153	71	39	57	70	111	144	132	140	96	156	117	297	227	144	143	104	139	118	297
Hallá				171	185	197	138	96	57	111	86	109	55	62	62	50	30	45	56	53	28	48	57	38	83	197
Fossá í Skeiflist hr	5	6		34	62	98	94	26	14	25	8	22	32	20	22	24	12	22	20	25	10	16	14	17	27	98
Laxá í Skeiflist hr	120	134	73	140	200	220	245	161	113	93	74	134	138	176	137	70	103	70	144	106	26	30	38	41	116	245
Sæmundará	115	116	160	212	303	112	70	52	29	75		139	94									62	25	54	108	303
Húseyjarkvísl	112	118	141	158	194	84	107	52	54	90	77	105	104	101	73	113	89	103	245	160	80	73	71	70	107	245
Hofsá í Vesturdal	23	2		15		12	16	10	23																14	23
Kolka						12	12	11	7			24													13	24
Hrolleifsdalsá		24	28	41	41	65	17	4	4	7	4	25	15	24	10	18	16	18	16	55	7		4	1	20	65
Flokdalsá í Fljótum				71	71	40	22	54	2	10	68	83	150	112	93	323	388	135	282	203	78	102	73	119	166	388
Fljótaá	204	189	173	269	316	199	165	125	71	60	68	11	13	13	10	6	40	22	54	33	15	17	10	15	22	71
Eyjafjarðará						27	71	21	14	7	11	11	13	13	10	6	40	22	54	33	15	17	10	15	22	71
Frjóska	386	268	250	273	554	446	527	257	323	98	107	120	144	93	124	112	121	135	554	411	128	60	95	156	239	554
SKjálafandafjót	67	412	288	336	317	426	108	169	100	165	679	721	503	379	431	493	318	862	907	379	273	353	277	277	390	907
Laxá í Aðaldal	1817	2326	1777	2699	3063	2372	2324	1455	1304	1109	1256	1911	2730	2422	2255	1619	1543	1439	2295	1983	1226	1116	1047	112	1800	3063
Reykjadalssá og Eyvindar	337	264	133	593	657	492	321	271	114	210	155	344	373	241	435	241	272	191	280	249	110	119	132	109	277	657
Mýrarkvísl	210	201	121	181	221	197	169	242	179	248	215	388	490	252	287	239	188	243	390	266	139	234	160	270	239	490
Ormarsá	123	117	147	275	286	119	124	54	45	87	73	203	353	275	278	264	187	156	335	366	169	163	181	141	188	366
Deildará	158	189	168	224	357	164	111	93	27	55	69	234	253	178	173	145	142	88	281	391	173	206	82	141	171	391
Svalbarðsá	234	172	155	240	257	158	167	51	36	41	29	161	171	176	198	238	135	136	289	384	145	215	177	98	169	384
Sandá	288	238	315	474	418	411	380	138	53	47	35	257	340	403	290	182	81	100	354	434	204	209	152	91	246	474
Hölná	135	118	92	219	130	66	73	26	26	25	11	109	121	131	144	105	91	55	150	130	45	78	44	36	90	219
Hafralónsá	343	302	227	312	276	264	180	36	60	52	25	132	223	296	361	313	223	123	266	402	147	234	222	221	218	402
Mtöfjarðará við Bakkafj.	147	144	183	248	242	135	80	39	15	39	32	116	168	206	186	235	136	101	192	172	60	170	96	101	135	248
Sela í Vopnafirði	589	711	845	1463	1394	767	637	192	168	229	123	627	1258	1523	1102	895	634	772	1318	1092	631	1160	737	685	815	1523
Vesturdalsá	391	329	326	513	498	268	141	42	34	61	47	280	197	380	231	226	163	116	264	321	218	329	201	216	241	513
Hofsá	1277	1117	1253	1273	1336	599	615	145	141	258	185	1219	1631	1710	1210	809	552	642	2238	2028	1012	1028	826	607	988	2238
Selgjót og Gilsá				77	32	19	7		6	15	16	65	70	32	12	5	26	42	90	98	16	32	8	18	34	98
Fjarðará í Borgarf. eystri				44	27	13	5	1									6								16	44
Breiðdalsá	126	123	76	248	412	248	153	41	20	21	4	78	158	257	185	104	91	116	226	130	72	180	92	63	134	412
Geirlandssá í V-Skaft.	56	162	59	99	91	88	65	59	42	51	46	49	26	32	62	47	74	93	66	27	20	38	52	47	60	162
Eldvatn	24	51	13	43	33	45	12	17	11	17	3	9	11	11	37	14	15	13	24	18	5	17	8	11	19	51
Tungufjót			14	34	43	74	46	16	20	36	28	23	36	20	25	9	11	21	49	63	35	22	28	10	30	74
Kerlingadalssá og Varnsá					28	33	16	57	48	90	49	47			144	78	107	107	169	130	95	73	75	80	79	169
Rangárfar	29	57	95	46	82	98	65	80	65	22	10	17	78	32	53	80	1622	453	521	1041	1576	1523	1298	2690	485	2690
Stóralaxá í Hreppum	157	340	293	266	571	272	76	242	218	481	707	183	166	113	115	188	200	286	420	384	278	440	456	359	300	707
Brúará	88	84	57	49	64	49	19	57	32	63	92	48	58	76	37	34	44	72	43	80	49	54	44	42	56	92
Sogið		593		589	537	620	439	223	343	248	361	424	497	490	714	325	397	396	341	429	283	300	254	252	408	714
Hvítá í Árnessýslu			1159		1169	1028	299	762	634	846	941	550	990	965	788	680	486	456	687	938	723	580	596	405	747	1169
Ölfusá			549		825	503	6	102	368	237	381	254	405	393	535	616	315	249	293	515	375	366	192	185	365	825
Kálfa í Gnúpverjahr.			69	42	4	4	8	10		59	20	20	9	14	11	21	16	36	37	2	14	40	30	54	39	104
Varns. Baugstaðsá																	8	16	20	23	16	16	21	26	21	59

Table 16. Catches of brown trout in some Icelandic rivers in 1987 - 1997.

River	Y E A R											Average catch	Maximum catch	Minimum catch
	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997			
Laxá í Leirársveit	157	1448	194	219	221	223	180	183	153	157	116	296	1448	116
Andakilsá	4	6	1	5	0	2	1	0	3	1	7	3	7	0
Hvítá í Borgarfirði	152	190	99	192	0	149	155	364	305	722	264	236	722	0
Grímsá og Tunguá	71	49	49	74	4	216	108	357	188	30	136	117	357	4
Þverá og Kjarrá	35	80	36	99	0	121	98	109	152	247	101	98	247	0
Álftá	29	46	57	108	184	191	156	220	251	261	298	164	298	29
Hítará	5	17	14	30	23	23	39	0	34	61	33	25	61	0
Hörðudalsá	7	0	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	8	0
Miðá og Tunguá		0	0	1	0	4	0	1	0	0		1	4	0
Haukadalsá	0	0	78	3	1	2	1		0	14	4	10	78	0
Staðarhólsá og Hvolsá	3	2	3	2	6	3	1	2	1	2		3	6	1
Fjarðarhornsá	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	2	0
Selá í Steingrímsfirði	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Staðará í Steingrímsfirði	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		0	1	0
Hrútafjarðará og Síká	1	1	0	2	7	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	7	0
Miðfjarðará	20	16	7	58	41	6	10	7	9	3	2	16	58	2
Víðidalsá og Fitjá	0	3	26	13	41	34	23	14	16	42	52	24	52	0
Vatnsdalsá	366	685	245	667	571	506	335	388	450	318	300	439	685	245
Fremri Laxá á Ásum	1069	2352	338	2965	4121	3911	2709	2744	2011	1301	2379	2355	4121	338
Húseyjarkvísl	60	7	12	426	476	483	369	540	373	349	407	318	540	7
Hrollleifsdalsá		0	13	7	34	102	59	53		113	32	46	113	0
Flókadalsá		87	27	93	111	109	54	82	0	81	29	67	111	0
Fljótaá		0	3	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	10	0
Svarfaðardalsá				24		44	23	40	18	44	26	31	44	18
Hörgá				23	79	25	24	38	11	46	43	36	79	11
Eyjafljóðará	34	49	26	67	165	86	100	153	130	146	138	99	165	26
Fnjóská	20	8	14	14	31	25	12	45	27	31	53	25	53	8
Skjálfandafljót	591	99	150	119	79	88	44	53	6	18	25	116	591	6
Laxá í Aðaldal	835	894	1079	1275	1465	1286	1307	705	900	594	929	1024	1465	594
Laxá í Laxárdal		807	1075	1012	606	708	508	679	723	713	1020	785	1075	508
Laxá í Mývatnssveit		2351	3786	3235	2186	1905	1808	1263	1558	1765	2680	2254	3786	1263
Litluárvötn		710	610	422	784	684	730	583	464	416	269	567	784	269
Ormarsá	35	50	21	20	31	28	15	42	9	33	17	27	50	9
Selá í Vopnaf.	3	8	10	14	9	2	4	2	8	9	6	7	14	2
Vesturdalsá	3	1	9	5	4	4	0	6	1	1	0	3	9	0
Hofsá og Sunnudalsá	11	8	53	31	50	43	54	22	24	30	49	34	54	8
Gilsá og Selfljót	33	12	15	72	70	53	39	20	27	45	77	42	77	12
Breiðdalsá	197	31	15	148	169	245	117	307	242	306	375	196	375	15
Geirlandsá	362	303	356	193	88	109	108	118	251	235	389	228	389	88
Skafthá	442	1286	483	192	424	354	464	405	388	813	969	565	1286	192
Eldvatn í Meðallandi	84	170	92	35	27	38	112	129	171	192	161	110	192	27
Grenlækur		700	894	1425	1648	2640	2338	3311	3638	2730	2493	2182	3638	700
Tunguflljót	62	67	148	84	134	134	249	156	174	239	384	166	384	62
Heiðarvatn			215	399	301	373	284	255	116	102	212	251	399	102
Rangár og Fiská				179	163	527	359	337	230	393	635	353	635	163
Ölfusá		60	29	44	70	52	58	366	53	103	161	100	366	29
Sogið	2	6	8	6	10	7	6	11	15	29	23	11	29	2
Hróarholtslækur	403	550	465	322	391	449	301	580	374	326	492	423	580	301

Table 17.

Catches of Arctic charr in some Icelandic rivers in 1987 - 1997.

River	Y E A R											Average	Maximum	Minimum
	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	catch	catch	catch
Laxá í Leirársvæit	0	7	7	1	4	6	18	14	21	4	35	11	35	0
Andakilsá	10	231	284	479	3	341	0	3	218	189	238	181	479	0
Hvítá í Borgarfirði	27	9	15	19	613	88	106	14	12	4	4	83	613	4
Grímsá og Tunguá	1	2	2	24	250	12	3	6	1	1	0	27	250	0
Þverá og Kjarrá	3	9	111	76	113	14	35	25	9	7	63	42	113	3
Álftá	0	1	2	1	4	6	10	9	2	3	6	4	10	0
Hítará	193	134	132	234	518	396	184	0	259	131	426	237	518	0
Hörðudalsá	18	291	231	614	451	340		271	423	361	1021	402	1021	18
Miðá og Tunguá		73	70	470	478	650	530	411	674	350	396	410	674	70
Haukadalsá	679	22	11	237	919	149	267		661	747	629	432	919	11
Staðarhólsá og Hvolsá	401	224	338	941	882	397	616	733	934	1490	1316	752	1490	224
Fjarðarhornsá	20	107	306	562	536	233	73	80	135	165	165	217	562	20
Selá í Steingrímsfirði	261	12		229	334	259	77	404	145	356		231	404	12
Staðará í Steingrímsfirði	584	35	13	183	385	265	254	163	201	92		218	584	13
Hrútafjarðará og Síká	269	59	68	221	532	192	135	129	221	499	363	244	532	59
Miðfjarðará	236	167	89	221	273	152	97	123	144	47	267	165	273	47
Víðidalsá og Fitjá	1325	366	26	377	547	467	676	1214	3485	2782	1551	1165	3485	26
Vatnsdalsá	727	1182	270	1642	1851	1112	1427	1058	812	2498	1861	1313	2498	270
Fremri Laxá á Ásum	137	236	15	34	52	35	6	26	41	61	52	63	236	6
Húseyjarkvísl	7	2	8	64	28	17	32	44	48	45	30	30	64	2
Hrollleifsdalsá		47	45	221	401	410	381	628		218	198	283	628	45
Flókadalsá	110	1028	280	2134	2198	1144	1040	1673	489	265	1135	1045	2198	110
Fljótaá		1	44	627	643	881	1242	7071	6928	6931	1648	2602	7071	1
Svarfaðardalsá				873		1049	668	1691	358	417	475	790	1691	358
Hörgá				1692	1394	1238	1783	1590	1063	1245	1293	1412	1783	1063
Eyjafjarðará	1557	1467	127	2123	2836	3095	3080	3319	2151	2098	3625	2316	3625	127
Fnjóská	496	217	238	390	469	239	251	550	391	339	409	363	550	217
Skjálfandafljót	275	338	561	391	331	160	173	198	151	214	506	300	561	151
Laxá í Aðaldal	35	187	114	137	86	48	114	57	52	29	64	84	187	29
Laxá í Laxárdal		18	0	13	8	1	4	1	2	6	18	7	18	0
Laxá í Mývatnssvæit		1	63	3	2	2	1	0	1	1	24	10	63	0
Litluárvötn		297	307	310	368	551	259	220	193	131	104	274	551	104
Ormarsá	245	114	141	181	175	127	131	126	103	101	68	137	245	68
Selá í Vopnaf.	249	56	52	211	105	103	51	106	84	164	115	118	249	51
Vesturdalsá	506	51	78	513	1402	726	321	383	474	872	1080	582	1402	51
Hofsá og Sunnudalsá	357	32	143	67	357	471	268	261	183	344	250	248	471	32
Gilsá og Selfjót	230	61	71	455	382	368	242	381	261	532	421	309	532	61
Breiðdalsá	453	74	70	600	22	23	410	369	977	396	197	326	977	22
Geirlandsá	60	69	48	29	50	43	40	39	48	43	28	45	69	28
Skaftá	14	28	12	23	5	7	19	28	14	21	16	17	28	5
Eldvatn í Meðallandi	21	22	3	21	3	27	19	6	60	114	61	32	114	3
Grenlækur		78	12	151	247	177	288	273	403	290	294	221	403	12
Tungufljót	63	37	28	107	65	46	43	85	67	60	53	59	107	28
Heiðarvatn			106	203	213	319	159	296	131	89	498	224	498	89
Rangár og Fiská				75	65	106	90	83	94	165	150	104	165	65
Ölfusá		8	7	12	17	12	10	72	40	20	30	23	72	7
Sogið	255	312	227	426	558	173	130	209	316	914	754	389	914	130
Hróarholtslækur	13	134	110	144	84	172	92	136	169	360	80	136	360	13

Table 18. Net catch in Iceland in 1997, in numbers and weight where recorded.
(weight in kg)

Location	Salmon		Brown Trout		Arctic charr	
	number	weight	number	weight	number	weight
Sjávarveiði við Vesturland	30	86			54	
Gufuá	207		2			
Hvítá í Borgarfirði	120		94		2130	
Flekkudalsá	13	46				
Sölvabakki, sjávarveiði			1		90	
Miklavatn í Skagafirði			93	34	175	61
Héraðsvötn	46	115	57		2023	
Miklavatn í Fljótum	60		1		2871	
Skjálfafljót	82	279			483	
Vestmannsvatn	9	26			4000	
Lagarfljót	56	216				
Miðfjarðará og Kverká	14	39				
Gilsá og Selfljót	1	3	3		212	
Brunná			5			
Skaftá	9		308		12	
Kúðafljót	3	9	100	265		
Veiðivötn			2420	3165	548	273
Þjórsá	1804	5699	172	225	30	27
Hvítá í Árnessýslu	1456	5052	79	84	114	93
Ölfusá	1825	6024	134	134	45	36
Total	5735		3469		12787	

Table 19. Salmon catch in put and take fishery. The salmon is from ocean ranching.
(weight in pounds, 1 pound = 500g).

River	Salmon		
	number	weight	mean weight
Norðlingafljót	837	7022	8,4
Hellisá	291	2168	7,4
Total	1128	9190	