

Declarations of Contents, Bag of game statistics.

0 Administrative Information about the Statistical Product

0.1 Name

Bag of game statistics.

0.2 Heading

Environment and energy

0.3 Responsible Authority, Office, Person, etc.

Ministry of Environment and Energy
National Environmental Research Institute (NERI)
Department of Landscape Ecology
Grenåvej 4, Kalø
DK-8410 Rønde

If necessary:

Information service in Statistics Danmarks

Library and Information

fone.: 39 17 30 30

e-mail: bib@dst.dk

This statistics is not published after publishing of bag og game 2000/2001.
Future enquiries to National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), Tommy
Asferg: ta@dmu.dk

0.4 Purpose and History

The chief aim of these statistics for Statistics Denmark is to register and communicate the development in the bag of game in Denmark.

The overall purpose of the bag of game statistics is to monitor developments in the bag of game for different species of animals and to monitor the size and well-being of stocks.

The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, uses the fundamental registers in its administration of game licences.

The bag of game statistics have been compiled since the hunting season 1941-1942.

For the hunting seasons between 1941-1942 and 1979-1980, only average data are available for five-year periods.

For the hunting seasons between 1980-1981 and today, data are available for every hunting season as well as averages for five-year periods.

0.5 Users and Application

Users:

Ministries, hunters and sportsmen, organisations and trade unions and the media.

Applications:

The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, Kalø, produces the statistics and publishes them in a Technical Report for all users. The first edition is from December 2000. Among other things, the Ministry of Environment and Energy uses the statistics in connection with they laying-down of the provisions of game legislation.

According to the Danish Act on Hunting and Game Management (Lov om jagt og vildtforvaltning), hunting seasons must be specified for the different types of game as well as requirements concerning the management of stocks of game. Both regulations are contained in the same act. Only those types of game for which hunting seasons have been specified must be hunted, and only in the determined hunting season for the individual types of game.

The Ministry of Environment and Energy uses the statistics to inform all hunters and sportsmen about the size of the bag of game in the hunting season. Statistics Denmark contributes to extending peoples knowledge of the statistics.

0.6 Sources

The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, Kalø, receives the basic data for the statistics which are used for the administration of issued game licences.

When the hunter receives a game licence for a hunting season, the hunter also receives a questionnaire concerning the bag of game. The questionnaire must be returned to the department duly filled in at the end of the hunting season. At the same time, the hunter asks for a new game licence for the following hunting season, which starts on 1 March and ends on 28 February the following year. The deadline for the reporting of the bag of game is at the end of October.

The department receives the questionnaire from about 172,000 hunters and sportsmen in Denmark. The sex, age and permanent address are registered together with the bag of game for every species of animal that the hunters and sportsmen have shot in the hunting season.

0.7 Legal Authority to Collect Data

According to the Danish Act on Hunting and Game Management, Section 43, Subsection 1, hunters and sportsmen with valid game licences have to report their bag of game to the Minister of Environment and Energy.

0.8 Response burden

None in Statistics Denmark

0.9 EU Regulation

None in Statistics Denmark

1 Contents

1.1 Description of Contents

The statistics show the development in the bag of game since the hunting season 1941-1942 for every different species of animal.

The bag of game is calculated in thousands of head of game.

1.2 Statistical Concepts

The Danish hunting ground is the area of Denmark, where the landscape is open land and not urban areas, roads or airports, among other things.

Birds and mammals allowed for hunting are defined as species of animals which have a hunting season and they must only be hunted in the open season. This implies that birds and mammals, without a hunting season, do not appear in the statistics. It can happen though, that a single species of animal without a hunting season, for example the squirrel, appears in the statistics anyway, because there is a legal right to adjust the stock of game of all species of animals according to an Order on Injuries to Game (Bekendtgørelse om vildtskader).

A totally protected species of animal is an animal without a hunting season.

2 Time

2.1 Reference Period

The hunting season starts on 1 March and ends on 28 February the following year. The deadline for the reporting of the bag of game is at the end of October.

The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, Kalø, receives the basic data, compiles the statistics and writes a report and releases it at the end of the year. This report is a new initiative from the DMU and has resulted in a new policy on the part of Statistics Denmark, which means that the statistics will only be available in *Statistikbanken*, a database from Statistics Denmark.

2.2 Date of Publication

The statistics are published annually at the end of the year. When Statistics Denmark receives the publication from DMU, the data are made available in *Statistikbanken* soon after.

This statistics is not published after publishing Bag og game 2000/2001. Future enquiries to Danish Protection Agency, Strandgade 29, DK-1401 København K, phone: +45 32 66 01 00.

2.3 Punctuality

The bag of game statistics have been published annually at the end of March in paper publications from Statistics Denmark, but in the future the statistics will be published annually at the end of the year in *Statistikbanken*.

2.4 Frequency

The statistics will be published annually at the end of the year in *Statistikbanken*.

3 Accuracy

3.1 Overall accuracy

The estimate of the bag of game is high.

The bag of game statistics are published with an enumeration of the bag of game because of failure to complete questionnaires. It is assumed that the hunters who do not report through the questionnaire bag the same quantity of game as the hunters who do report through the questionnaire, on average. An investigation in 1993-1994 showed that this enumeration gave a higher estimate of the total bag of game. The investigation showed that the hunters who do not report through the questionnaire had a bag of game of 5.7 head of game on average, whereas the hunters who do report through the questionnaire had a bag of game of 17.3 head of game on average. With the applied enumeration the bag of game for the hunters who do not report through the questionnaire will be overestimated and this overestimation is calculated as 14 per cent in 1993-1994. Nothing in the statistics for 1993-1994 seems to show that this hunting season was different from other hunting seasons. The extent of overestimation will presumably be the same for all hunting seasons as long as the same number of hunters report the questionnaire and therefore it has no effect on the developments in the statistics.

The overall purpose of the bag of game statistics is to monitor developments in the bag of game of different species of animals and to monitor the size and well-being of stocks. The enumerated overestimation of the bag of game will not prevent us from achieving the objectives with the statistics because there are no changes in the weighting, the proportion between different species of animal is unchanged. The developments and trends in the bag of game are still revealed through the statistics. A decision has been made to continue to apply the method which has been applied so far in order to allow comparisons over the years.

3.2 Sources of inaccuracy

The average number of hunters and sportsmen holding a valid game licence is 172,000. When the hunter receives a game licence for a hunting season, the hunter also receives a questionnaire concerning the bag of game. The questionnaire must be returned to the department duly filled in at the end of the hunting season. The spread in the bag of game per hunter is unequal. Most hunters and sportsmen bag very few head of game in a hunting season. Thirty-seven per cent of all hunters and sportsmen reported that they did not bag any game in the 1993-1994 hunting season. At the same time, 25 per cent of all hunters and sportsmen reported that they had bagged 25 head of game. Similarly, 25 per cent of all hunters and sportsmen reported that they had bagged 70 per cent of all game in a hunting season.

3.3 Measures on accuracy

In spite of the obligation on the part of hunters and sportsmen to report their bag of game, data from 22 per cent of all hunters and sportsmen were missing for the 1993-1994 hunting season. That is every fifth hunter. The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, Kalø, carried out research to analyse both why the hunters and sportsmen did not fill in the questionnaire and what consequences the missing questionnaire give rise to and partly the distribution of the bag of game on different species of animals.

The research was carried out by sending 1,200 questionnaires to a representative section of the population of those hunters and sportsmen who did not fill in the questionnaire. The research shows that four out of five hunters and

sportsmen explained that it was an omission or that they did not have any bag of game to report. Especially new and young hunters and sportsmen failed to return the reports. Elderly hunters who did not intend to renew their game licence were also among those failing to report.

4 Comparability

4.1 Comparability over Time

By keeping and continuing to use the method of enumeration used so far, Statistics Denmark has ensured that it is possible to make comparisons over time.

4.2 Comparability with other Statistics

None.

4.3 Coherence between provisional and final statistics

No provisional statistics are published.

5 Accessibility

5.1 Forms of dissemination

The bag of game statistics can be seen in *Statistikbanken*. Furthermore, you can find data in *Statistical Yearbook*.

5.2 Basic material: Storage and usability

The bag of game is calculated for every species of animal for each hunting season.

Species of animal with a defined hunting season:

Red deer
Fallow deer
Sica
Roe deer
Hare
Rabbit
Squirrel
Fox
Badger
Polecat
Mink
Stone marten
Grey partridge
Pheasant
Heron
Woodcock
Snipe
Mallard
Other surface-feeding ducks
Eider duck
Other diving ducks
Goose
Common coot
Gull

Wood pigeon
Eurasian collared dove
Rook
Crow
Black-billed magpie
Cormorant
Starling

5.3 Documentation

Documentation can be found *here* and in *Statistical News* until the year 2000. The National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), the Department of Landscape Ecology, Kalø, is also in possession of documentation.

5.4 Other Information

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Vibeke Ravn Sørensen
6 March 2001