

## Black-legged kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* breeding data recorded on the River Tyne during 2022

Brief summary report for presentation on Natural History Society of Northumbria website

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**Note.** This version of the report (version 1) is an **interim**. A more detailed report will come later  
These breeding data relate to surveys performed by the author only.

**Key: AON** Apparently Occupied Nests (well-built nests capable of containing eggs, with at least one adult present).

**Breeding Productivity** Minimum number of young fledged per Apparently Occupied Nest.

Table 1. **2022** River Tyne and Tynemouth cliffs kittiwake AON (maximum) and minimum breeding productivity summary.

Location	AON (max) (May 19 to June 14)	Chicks (July 9 to 16)	Min. prod.	No. of failed nests	% of failed nests
1. Tynemouth cliffs (natural site)	387 (30 June)	428 (1 Aug)	1.11	94 max.	24.3 %
2. North Shields Ferry Landing	24	30	1.25	4	16.7 %
3. Smiths Dock, North Shields	Unk.	Unk	Unk	Unk	Unk
4. Akzo Nobel (Int. Paints, Felling)	[262]	281	1.07	67	25.6 %
5. Saltmeadows Tower (Gateshead)	132	134	1.02	45	34.1 %
6. 200 metres E from Baltic, quayside	6	5	[0.83]	1	[16.7 %]
7. Baltic Flour Mill (Art Centre, G/head)	201	249	1.25	37	18.4 %
8. Under HMS Calliope (Gateshead)	0	0	----	----	----
9. NCL quayside: R/way Bridge, Dean St.	130	153	1.18	22	16.9 %
10. Newcastle quayside: Phoenix House (Queen St and Sandhill)	55	59	1.07	14	25.5 %
11. Newcastle quayside: Guildhall	45	47	1.04	13	28.9 %
12. Newcastle quayside, miscellaneous	72	52	0.72	29	40.3 %
13. Tyne Bridge – North abutment	[452]	475	1.05	120	26.5 %
14. Tyne Bridge – North abutment girders	[186]	186	1.00	53	28.5 %
15. Tyne Bridge – South abutment	[305]	356	1.17	61	20.0 %
16. Tyne Bridge – South abutment girders	[146]	159	1.09	29	19.9 %
17. St Mary's Heritage Centre, Gateshead	4	4	[1.00]	2	[50.0 %]
18. High Level Bridge	10	6	[0.60]	6	[60.0 %]
<b>Totals: River Tyne (excl. Tynemouth)</b>	<b>[2,030]</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>(1.08)</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>24.8 %</b>
<b>Totals (including Tynemouth)</b>	<b>[2,417]</b>	<b>2,624</b>	<b>(1.09)</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>24.7 %</b>

General Notes to Table 1.

- **What is a 'failed nest'?** This is an occupied nest on which the adults failed to rear (fledge) any chicks. So, the table records a short-hand term ' % of failed nests ' which represents 'percentage of pairs which fail'. 'No. of failed nests' is number of nests which failed to rear any chicks.
- Where there were less than 20 AON at any site, the figures for: a) minimum breeding productivity and b) % of failed nests, have been placed in square brackets [ ] due to small sample sizes.
- The dates of the surveys at Tynemouth cliffs, depicted in Table 1, show later dates than in the column headings since the kittiwake season on the cliffs at Tynemouth runs a little behind that on the river.
- There are additional square brackets [ ] on rows 4 and 13-16 (AON column) since the finer detail needs checking. Breeding productivity and chick numbers relate to those dates indicated.
- Many more data were collected and will be incorporated in a future more detailed report.

Table 2. **2022** River Tyne and Tynemouth cliffs kittiwake AON (maximum), chick totals and brood sizes.

<b>Location</b>	<b>AON (max) (May 19 to June 14)</b>	<b>Chicks (July 9 to 16)</b>	<b>Brood sizes (broods of 1, 2 or 3 chicks )</b>
1. Tynemouth cliffs (natural site)	387 (30 June)	428 (1 Aug)	159x1, 133x2, 1x3
2. North Shields Ferry Landing	24	30	10x1, 10x2
3. Smiths Dock, North Shields	Unk.	Unk	Unk
4. Akzo Nobel (Int. Paints, Felling)	[262]	281	112x1, 80x2, 3x3
5. Saltmeadows Tower (Gateshead)	132	134	42x1, 43x2, 2x3
6. 200 metres E from Baltic, quayside	6	5	5x1
7. Baltic Flour Mill (Art Centre, G/head)	201	249	81x1, 81x2, 2x3
8. Under HMS Calliope (Gateshead)	0	0	----
9. NCL quayside: R/way Bridge, Dean St.	130	153	63x1, 45x2
10. Newcastle quayside: Phoenix House (Queen St and Sandhill)	55	59	23x1, 18x2
11. Newcastle quayside: Guildhall	45	47	17x1, 15x2
12. Newcastle quayside, miscellaneous	72	52	34x1, 9x2
13. Tyne Bridge – North abutment	[452]	475	195x1, 131x2, 6x3
14. Tyne Bridge – North abutment girders	[186]	186	80x1, 53x2
15. Tyne Bridge – South abutment	[305]	356	132 x 1, 112 x 2
16. Tyne Bridge – South abutment girders	[146]	159	75x1, 42x2
17. St Mary’s Heritage Centre, Gateshead	4	4	2x2
18. High Level Bridge	10	6	2x1, 2x2
<b>Totals: River Tyne (excl. Tynemouth)</b>	<b>[2,030]</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>871x1, 643x2, 13x3</b>
<b>Totals (including Tynemouth)</b>	<b>[2,417]</b>	<b>2,624</b>	<b>1,030x1, 776x2, 14x3</b>

General Notes to Table 2.

- There are square brackets [ ] on rows 4 and 13-16 since the finer detail needs checking.

Table 3. **2022** River Tyne and Tynemouth cliffs overall nest numbers, brood sizes and percentages.

<b>Location</b>	<b>AON</b>	<b>Successful nests</b>	<b>No. Broods of 1; % of AON; % of succ. nests</b>	<b>No. Broods of 2; % of AON; % of succ. nests</b>	<b>No. Broods of 3; % of AON; % of succ. nests</b>
Tynemouth cliffs	387	293	159; 41.1; 54.3	133; 34.4; 45.4	1; 0.26; 0.34
River Tyne	2,030	1,527	871; 42.9; 57.0	643; 31.7; 42.1	13; 0.64; 0.85
<b>Tynemouth cliffs plus River Tyne</b>	<b>2,417</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>1,030; 42.6; 56.6</b>	<b>776; 32.1; 42.6</b>	<b>14; 0.58; 0.77</b>

General Notes to Table 3.

- ‘Successful nests’ are defined as those nests which raised young to fledging (brood size 1, 2 or 3).
- Number of nests to successfully raise a brood of three was 13 (River Tyne) i.e. 0.64% of AON and 1 (Tynemouth Cliffs) i.e. 0.26% of AON at that location. There were roughly half as many broods of 3 chicks along the River Tyne compared to 2021, though less at Tynemouth Cliffs (see 2021 summary report, version 4, dated 19 Aug 2021, by D M Turner).

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**Brief Summary Report (version 1)**, 01 August 2022, Daniel M Turner

**Note. This report is still in work**