

Curlew
Numenius arquata

International threshold: 8,500
Great Britain threshold: 1,500
All-Ireland threshold: 550

GB max: 79,912 Feb
NI max: 5,792 Jan

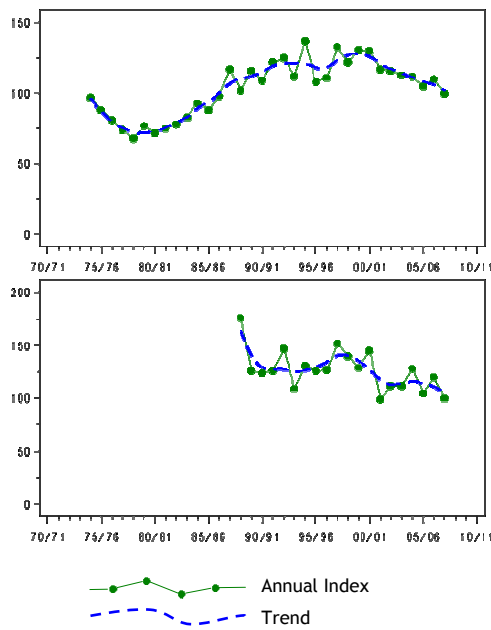


Figure 54.a, Annual indices & trend for Curlew for GB (above) & NI (below).

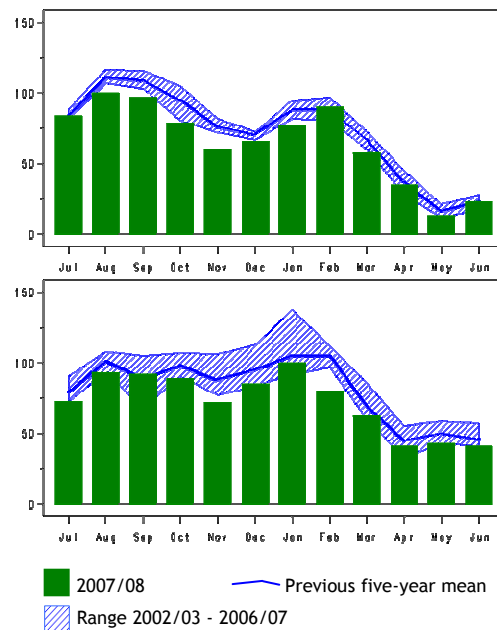


Figure 54.b, Monthly indices for Curlew for GB (above) & NI (below).

The characteristic sight and sound of the Curlew is a distinctive feature of many coastal wetlands in winter throughout the UK, the wintering population being comprised of both British and Scandinavian breeding birds. Numbers of Curlew increased from the mid 1970s until the start of the 2000s, since when the trend has been one of a slow but steady decline - continuing in 2007/08 to a point where the index is now at a level similar to that when standardised monitoring commenced in 1974/75.

This decline may be associated with a climate-induced north-easterly shift in distribution estimated to be 119 km between 1981-2000 (Maclean *et al.* 2008), which has coincided with stable or increasing wintering numbers in the Wadden Sea (e.g. Hustings *et al.* 2008). An increase in the number wintering in the Danish part of the Wadden Sea may also be related to protection from hunting in Denmark since 1994 (Laursen 2005, in Delany *et al.* 2009). Furthermore, it has

been suggested that wintering decreases in Africa are indicative of a distributional shift (Delany *et al.* 2009).

The counted British monthly maximum was similar to that of the last five years. However compared to the previous year, 2007/08 saw notably lower maxima counted at the two UK sites of international importance, Morecambe Bay and The Wash. Peak counts from both were approximately 10% below the respective five-year site averages, but were within the expected variation based on counts in recent years. Of the other main sites, numbers were most notably down at Thames Estuary, Lavan Sands and Mersey Estuary - where for the first WeBS-year since 1982/83 no count of Curlews reached four figures. In contrast, the increasing importance of both Stour Estuary and Montrose Basin for the species was maintained. This species can winter in significant numbers away from coasts, and it has been suggested that habitat changes may have caused an increase in coastal

wintering in some parts of Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009).

The index for Northern Ireland shows a slight decline despite numbers at the four principal sites being similar to the

respective five-year averages for each site. However, Outer Ards Shoreline no longer qualifies as a site of national importance following the lowest ever peak monthly count from there.

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Sites of international importance in the UK							
Morecambe Bay	(11,196)	8,328	9,515	14,027	9,402	Feb	10,494
The Wash	15,336	6,978	5,140	9,710	7,664	Aug	8,966
Sites of national importance in Great Britain							
Dee Estuary (England and Wales)	5,727	6,933	4,666	5,565	5,346	Sep	5,647
Thames Estuary	(2,651)	3,352	(3,611)	6,993	3,722	Feb	4,689
Solway Estuary	(4,561)	(3,328)	(3,456)	4,007	(3,185)	Jan	4,284
Humber Estuary	3,530 ¹¹	3,768	(4,818)	5,067	3,993	Jan	4,235
Forth Estuary	3,941	(2,827)	3,599	4,567	3,568	Sep	3,919
Severn Estuary	2,898	2,613	2,514	3,230	(2,560)	Sep	2,814
North Norfolk Coast	2,350	1,835	2,284	2,190	2,884	Aug	2,309
Lavan Sands	2,118	2,413	1,955	3,243	1,091	Sep	2,164
Duddon Estuary	2,756	1,883	1,816	2,113	2,145	Sep	2,143
Poole Harbour	1,427	(2,472)	(1,013)	(1,135)	(908)	Feb	1,950
Burry Inlet	(2,283)	1,831	2,587	1,413	1,370	Sep	1,897
Inner Moray and Inverness Firth	1,809	2,137	1,838	(1,939)	1,687	Feb	1,882
Chichester Harbour	1,680	1,628	1,889	2,052	1,760	Aug	1,802
Blackwater Estuary	1,366	1,848	1,914	(790)	(1,267)	Oct	1,709
Mersey Estuary	2,480	1,830	1,792	1,379	982	Feb	1,693
Inner Firth of Clyde	1,739	1,301	1,417	2,017	1,673	Feb	1,629
Cleddau Estuary	1,437	(789)	1,246	(1,869)	1,832	Jul	1,596 ▲
Sites of all-Ireland importance in Northern Ireland							
Lough Foyle	2,127	3,115	2,038	2,681	2,510	Jan	2,494
Strangford Lough	1,788	1,594	1,523	1,918 ¹¹	1,552	Oct	1,675
Belfast Lough	743	730 ¹³	494 ¹¹	779 ¹¹	821	Sep	713
Carlingford Lough	684	732	576	754	(759)	Jan	701
Sites no longer meeting table qualifying levels in WeBS-Year 2007/2008							
Ribble Estuary	(1,857)	1,460	1,189	1,497	1,419	Feb	1,484
Langstone Harbour	1,255	1,525	1,811	1,343	1,279	Aug	1,443
Outer Ards Shoreline	475	838	632	519	238	Mar	540
Sites below table qualifying levels but exceeding threshold in WeBS-Year 2007/08 in Great Britain							
Montrose Basin	860	604	1,536	1,115	1,734	Jan	1,170
Stour Estuary	914	1,511	1,171	1,424	1,669	Mar	1,338

Common Sandpiper

Actitis hypoleucos

International threshold: 17,500
Great Britain threshold: ?[†]
All-Ireland threshold: ?[†]

GB max: 888 Jul
NI max: 6 Aug

Some 12,000 pairs of Common Sandpiper are estimated to breed in Britain (Baillie *et al.* 2009), predominantly in the north and west along upland streams and reservoirs. The species generally winters in western Africa and is seen in a variety of wetland habitats throughout Britain during the passage periods. A small, but increasing, number of birds over-winter in the UK.

In 2007/08, for only the second time in WeBS history a single Core count of passage Common Sandpipers topped three figures. This came from Pegwell Bay, the most prolific site for the species in Great Britain,

and involved 106 birds in July. It is preceded by the record Core count of 126 birds from the same site in August 1971 (plus a very large non-Core count of 163 birds there in 2006).

During the winter period of November through to March, approximately 50 birds were recorded at WeBS sites. Typically the majority related to singles on the south coast, but notable exceptions were January and February records of two at Cotswold Water Park and Ormesby Broad respectively. Mid-winter maxima on the coast were four at Avon Estuary in January

and five at Severn Estuary in February. Northern Ireland. None were recorded during the winter in

Sites with 30 or more birds in 2007/08[†]

Pegwell Bay	106	Jul	Ribble Estuary	37	Jul
Humber Estuary	46	Sep	Cleddau Estuary	33	Jul
Thames Estuary	41	Aug	Abberton Reservoir	31	Aug
Morecambe Bay	38	Jul	Dungeness and Rye Bay	30	Aug

[†] as no British or All-Ireland thresholds have been set a qualifying level of 30 has been chosen to select sites for presentation in this report

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularius

Vagrant
Native Range: America

GB max: 1 Sep
NI max: 0

Two wintering Spotted Sandpipers were recorded in 2007/08. In Wales, one frequented Llanishen and Lisvane Reservoirs from November through to March, and in Scotland one present on the Forth Estuary was seen between Grangepans and

Grangemouth in January. These represent the third and first WeBS records for the two nations respectively. The previous Welsh records date back to December 2001 (Cleddau Estuary) and October 1975 (Dyfi Estuary).

Green Sandpiper

Tringa ochropus

International threshold: 17,000
Great Britain threshold: ?[†]
All-Ireland threshold: ?[†]

GB max: 407 Aug
NI max: 1 Sep

Green Sandpipers were recorded during WeBS Core counts at over 230 sites in 2007/08. Typically numbers were greatest during the autumn passage period. Following 26 at Pegwell Bay in July, August typically proved to be the peak month featuring counts of 27 on the North Norfolk Coast and 26 at Thames Estuary. One at Loughs Neagh & Beg in September was the only one of the year in Northern Ireland.

undoubtedly benefit from improved coverage of smaller water bodies throughout the wider countryside. Together, lower profile wetland sites such as grazing marshes and farmstead reservoirs, may support relatively important numbers at the national level, particularly during the winter.

The highest counts during November to March were from River Avon (Salisbury to Fordingbridge) and Beddington Sewage Farm, which held up to 15 and 12 respectively during the course of the winter. Away from England, counts of two or more wintering birds were noted at five sites in Scotland and three in Wales.



Green Sandpiper (Mike Weston)

Owing to their relatively generalist nature, monitoring of this species would

Sites with 15 or more birds in 2007/08[†]

North Norfolk Coast	27	Aug	Dungeness and Rye Bay	19	Aug
Pegwell Bay	26	Jul	Ouse Fen and Pits	19	Aug
Thames Estuary	26	Aug	Tophill Low Reservoirs	16	Aug

[†] as no British or All-Ireland thresholds have been set a qualifying level of 15 has been chosen to select sites for presentation in this report

Spotted Redshank

Tringa erythropus

International threshold: 900
Great Britain threshold: +[†]
All-Ireland threshold: +[†]

GB max: 130 Oct
NI max: 1 Dec

Spotted Redshank breed from Scandinavia through sub-arctic Russia, most wintering in equatorial Africa and a small proportion remaining in western Europe.

In the UK in 2007/08 they were recorded in all months of the year, typically the majority in autumn and winter with a small number in spring. A relatively small autumn passage featured a maximum site count of 40 at The Wash in August and culminated in

a late British peak monthly count of 130 in October. This peak count was some 34% lower than the monthly maximum for the previous year. During subsequent winter months the largest single site count was 32 at Old Hall Marshes in November. In Northern Ireland, a single wintered at Dundrum Inner Bay, the only record from the province during the year.

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Sites with mean peak counts of 10 or more birds in Great Britain[†]							
The Wash	36	39	39	86	40	Aug	48
North Norfolk Coast	35	34	35	42	29	Oct	35
Blackwater Estuary	4	42	24	(1)	32	Nov	26
Humber Estuary	(27)	21	10	25	13	Aug	19
Minsmere	58	3	14	3	6	Nov	17
Abberton Reservoir	20	0	26	(0)	14	Oct	15
Breydon Water and Berney Marshes	31	8	8	8 ¹³	11	Apr	13
Medway Estuary			0	25	(1)	Oct	13

[†] as no British or All-Ireland thresholds have been set a qualifying level of 10 has been chosen to select sites for presentation in this report



Spotted Redshank (Mike Weston)

Greater Yellowlegs

Tringa melanoleuca

Vagrant
Native Range: America

GB max: 1 Dec
NI max: 0

A Greater Yellowlegs was seen on the Lincolnshire side of The Wash in December; presumably the same bird that had been reported from other sites in the area during

the preceding May and September (per www.birdguides.com). It would constitute the second record for WeBS, following one at Medway Estuary in November 1972.

Greenshank
Tringa nebularia

GB max: 1,338 Aug
NI max: 173 Oct

International threshold: 2,300
Great Britain threshold: 6*
All-Ireland threshold: 20*

*50 is normally used as a minimum threshold

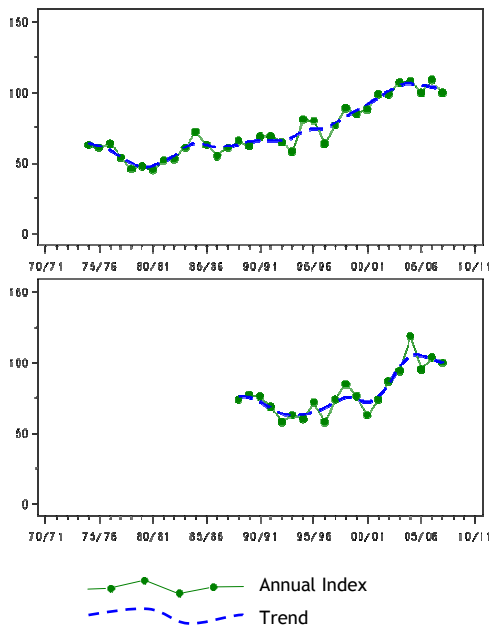


Figure 55.a, Annual indices & trend for Greenshank for GB (above) & NI (below).

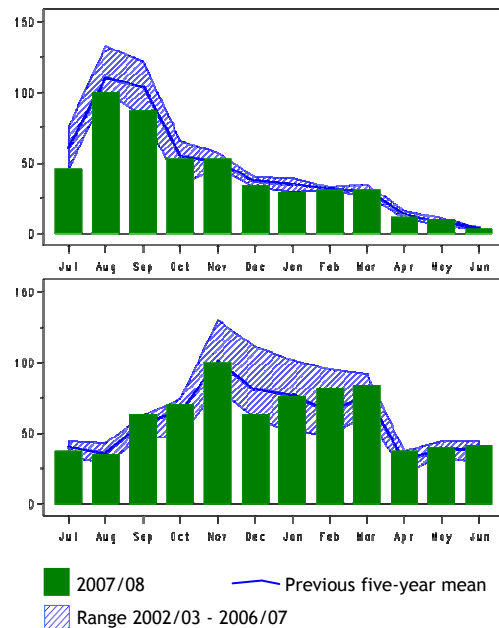


Figure 55.b, Monthly indices for Greenshank for GB (above) & NI (below).

Outside the breeding season, Greenshanks can occur in a variety of wetland habitats, but largest numbers are traditionally found on estuaries and coastal lagoons. The number over-wintering in Britain has steadily increased over the last decade; in the past these winterers have been considered to mainly comprise British breeders (restricted to northwest Scotland and the northern Isles), but now may include an increasing number of birds of Scandinavian or Siberian origin.

The number of Greenshanks using sites in Britain is small compared to that which utilise four staging areas in the Wadden Sea during autumn passage; all of which have

supported impressive maxima of between 5,200 and 11,200 birds (Delany *et al.* 2009).

The principal sites throughout the year are in the south and east of England, where peak counts in 2007/08 were largely comparable with recent years. Typically the numbers of returning passage birds peaked in August and September, including a maximum count for the year of 252 at The Wash.

In Northern Ireland, where a similar trend based on the annual indices is evident, the bulk of birds were distributed evenly between Strangford Lough, Carlingford Lough and Lough Foyle.

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Sites with mean peak counts of 20 or more birds in Great Britain†							
The Wash	336	204	258	201	252	Aug	250
Thames Estuary	(88)	259	144	196	132	Aug	183
Blackwater Estuary	169	147	(84)	(73)	(119)	Sep	158
North Norfolk Coast	131	118	147	118	87	Aug	120
Chichester Harbour	179	80	91	132	77	Sep	112
Stour Estuary	68	88	78	106	103	Sep	89
Hamford Water	49	69	104	79	86	Sep	77

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Fal Complex	(37)	52	58	59	66	Sep	59
Exe Estuary	72	56	38	71	41	Jul	56
Swale Estuary	56	(24)	(55)	(15)	(7)	Oct	56
Morecambe Bay	34	94	33	59	(28)	Aug	55
Dee Estuary (England & Wales)	(76)	36	(16)	32	50	Sep	49
Langstone Harbour	45	44	38	51	37	Aug	43
Tamar Complex	57	42	36	29	32	Sep	39
Kingsbridge Estuary	(36)	50	35	27	45	Mar	39
Humber Estuary	(48)	(34)	33	21	(47)	Aug	37
Medway Estuary	(36)	(35)	(4)	(10)	(9)	Aug	(36)
Pegwell Bay	26	(6)	36	42 ¹²	40	Jul	36
Southampton Water	(26)	(33)	(21)	(18)	(12)	Feb	(33)
Burry Inlet	78	24	34	4	0		28
Jersey Shore				26	28	Nov	27
North West Solent	21	(16)	(17)	29	31	Sep	27
Cleddau Estuary	27	26	42 ¹⁰	25	25	Nov	27
Taw-Torridge Estuary	31	11	29	22	34	Sep	25
Crouch-Roach Estuary	28	4	2	15	32	Oct	25
Camel Estuary	22	32	(21)	(20)	16	Oct	23
Montrose Basin	45	(6)	5	19	(19)	Sep	23
Poole Harbour	(9)	17	(9)	(19)	(24)	Sep	20
Sites of all-Ireland importance in Northern Ireland							
Strangford Lough	82	117	84	85	65	Oct	87
Lough Foyle	35	37	74	34	65	Sep	49
Carlingford Lough	34	26	39	40	66	Oct	41
Dundrum Inner Bay	58	18	22	24	20	Sep	28
Sites below table qualifying levels but exceeding threshold in WeBS-Year 2007/08 in Great Britain[†]							
Abberton Reservoir	7	19	18	(13)	24	Aug	17
Orwell Estuary	31	1	4	23	20	Oct	16
Tophill Low Reservoirs	3	10	(2)	4	27	Aug	11
Dyfi Estuary	16	14	2	1	24	Sep	11

[†] as the British threshold is low a qualifying level of 20 has been used to select sites for presentation in this report

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes

Vagrant

Native Range: N & S America

GB max: 2 Nov
NI max: 0

Lesser Yellowlegs were seen at three sites, two of them in Scotland. Following birds at Milldam & Balfour Mains Pools and Hen Reedbeds (Suffolk) in October and November respectively, one was noted

throughout the winter at Montrose Basin. The latter recalls records of recent wintering individuals in Norfolk in 2004/05 and Cornwall in 2003/04.

Wood Sandpiper

Tringa glareola

International threshold: 10,500

Great Britain threshold: +

All-Ireland threshold: +

GB max: 16 Aug
NI max: 0

WeBS counts of Wood Sandpipers are strongly dependent on priority count dates coinciding with fluxes of autumn passage, the historic peaks of which have all been in August; such as 19 at Breydon Water and Berney Marshes in 2004, 12 at Dungeness and Rye Bay in 1999, and 12 at The Wash in 1970. 2007/08 however was unremarkable; the species was recorded by counters at 20

sites in England, as well as at Aberlady and Gullane Bays in Scotland and Dyfi Estuary in Wales. Autumn passage spanned July to September with a monthly peak of 16 in August, while during the following spring seven sites hosted the species in May. All records referred to singles apart from two at Lodmoor and Pett Level in August, and two at Nosterfield GPs in May.

Redshank

Tringa totanus

International threshold: 2,800

Great Britain threshold: 1,200

All-Ireland threshold: 310

GB max: 78,595 Oct

NI max: 8,251 Nov

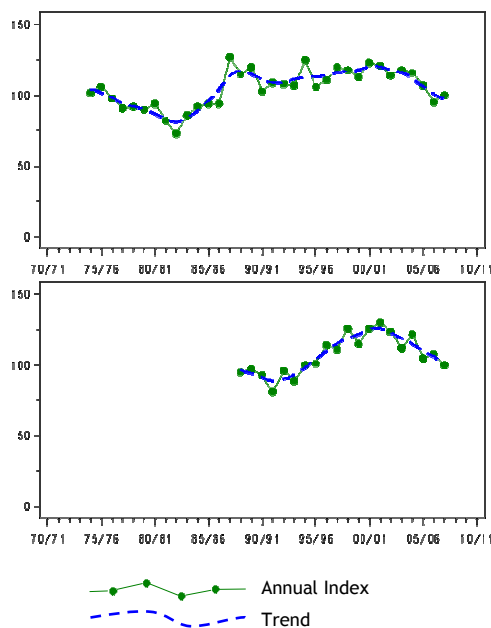


Figure 56.a, Annual indices & trend for Redshank for GB (above) & NI (below).

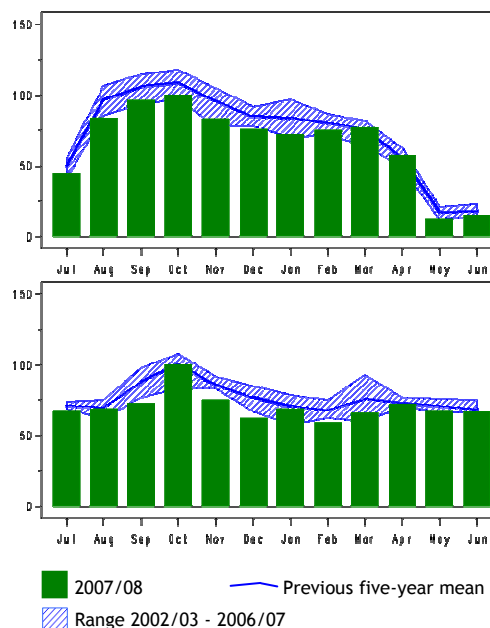


Figure 56.b, Monthly indices for Redshank for GB (above) & NI (below).

The UK is of significant international importance for Redshank. Predominantly found on the coast, the wintering population comprises both local breeders (*britannica*) and birds from Iceland (*robusta*) and other nearby European populations (*totanus*).

In 2007/08, the WeBS five-year averages for eleven sites surpassed the international threshold, and 21 sites have been identified as being important within a wider network of key sites in Europe (Delany *et al.* 2009). The recent fall in the national indices is therefore of potential concern. Although in Britain a steep decline experienced since 2004/05 appears to have slowed this year, numbers at several important sites including The Wash, Thames Estuary and Forth Estuary showed further evidence of a consistent fall in numbers. In contrast, numbers at the Dee Estuary recovered following the decline in 2006/07; the

September count of 12,994 is the highest ever peak count recorded by WeBS.

This year's maxima at all of the UK's sites of international importance were recorded between August and October. Numbers in this autumn period have remained reasonably consistent from year to year, and it is specifically wintering totals that appear to have declined. Reasons for this are unclear, but the pattern is suggestive of either a climate-induced shift in wintering distribution (although Maclean *et al.* (2008) found no significant evidence of this), perhaps combined with low first-winter survival.

In Northern Ireland, the downward trend continues as a result of further gradual declines at Belfast Lough, Carlingford Lough and Lough Foyle. These were partly balanced by a 69% increase compared to the previous year at Dundrum Inner Bay, which recorded a monthly peak of over 1,000 birds for the first time since 2000.

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Sites of international importance in the UK							
Dee Estuary (England and Wales)	11,014	10,208	12,367	9,384	12,994	Sep	11,193
Morecambe Bay	6,715	7,106	7,283	(8,254)	4,805	Feb	6,833
The Wash	9,339	6,760	6,052	5,605	4,407	Aug	6,433
Humber Estuary	(8,362)	(8,494)	4,682	3,830	(4,059)	Sep	6,342
Forth Estuary	5,462	5,501	6,039	4,689	4,374	Oct	5,213
Thames Estuary	4,383	5,081	4,811	4,134	3,512	Oct	4,384
Strangford Lough	5,244	4,505	4,099	3,632	4,028	Oct	4,302
Mersey Estuary	6,050	3,618	3,622	1,535	(2,069)	Oct	3,706
Solway Estuary	(3,421)	3,617	(1,595)	(1,822)	(3,213)	Oct	3,617
Blackwater Estuary	(1,931)	3,034	(2,472)	(1,965)	(3,586)	Oct	3,310
Ribble Estuary	2,752	2,211	4,078	1,491	3,469	Oct	2,800
Sites of national importance in Great Britain							
Duddon Estuary	2,508	1,956	3,698	3,122	2,562	Feb	2,769
Crouch-Roach Estuary	(496)	3,299 ¹¹	(556)	(1,202)	1,361	Feb	2,330 ▼
Inner Moray and Inverness Firth	2,317	2,846	1,910	(1,658)	2,040	Oct	2,278
Severn Estuary	(1,913)	(2,516)	1,930	2,362	(1,960)	Nov	2,269
Ythan Estuary	1,030	(1,797)	(5,274)	1,481	1,497	Aug	2,216
Chichester Harbour	2,450	1,695	1,754	(2,535)	2,403	Oct	2,167
Deben Estuary	1,869	1,707	2,037	2,710	2,080	Feb	2,081
Montrose Basin	2,649	1,641	2,237	1,794	(1,860)	Sep	2,080
North Norfolk Coast	1,983	1,845	1,608	1,786	2,899 ¹¹	Aug	2,025
Cromarty Firth	2,569	2,094	2,266	1,491	1,514	Feb	1,987
Inner Firth of Clyde	1,974	1,977	1,984	1,915	1,901	Dec	1,950
Stour Estuary	1,984	1,431	1,814	1,988	1,948	Mar	1,833
Tees Estuary	2,455	1,723	1,731	1,865	1,383	Oct	1,831
Orwell Estuary	1,939 ¹¹	1,799	1,813 ¹¹	2,075 ¹¹	1,375 ¹¹	Nov	1,801
Hamford Water	1,892	1,699	1,695	1,266	1,538	Jan	1,618
Alde Complex	(1,430)	1,957	1,608	1,204	1,673	Feb	1,611
Lindisfarne	(1,789)	1,737	1,104	(1,267)	(1,746)	Sep	1,594
Lavan Sands	1,248	(1,947)	1,644	1,016	1,794	Nov	1,530
Swale Estuary	(1,352)	1,715	(1,727)	1,139	(1,384)	Oct	1,527
Breydon Water & Berney Marshes	1,630 ¹¹	1,406	1,663 ¹¹	1,310	1,405	Dec	1,483
Tay Estuary	1,979	(1,347)	(1,950) ¹³	849	979	Oct	1,421
Blyth Estuary	(132)	(483)	1,134	1,031	2,002	Oct	1,389 ▲
Medway Estuary	(1,221)	1,068 ¹¹	(1,405)	(307)	(639)	Jan	1,231
Sites of all-Ireland importance in Northern Ireland							
Belfast Lough	1,493	1,667	1,754	(1,698)	1,303	Nov	1,583
Carlingford Lough	1,027	1,471	1,554	1,128	1,174	Oct	1,271
Lough Foyle	1,198	1,404	1,314	1,177	905	Oct	1,200
Outer Ards Shoreline	1,228	1,121	1,307	1,160	1,124	Mar	1,188
Dundrum Inner Bay	942	(594)	723	759	1,284	Jan	927
Larne Lough	356	462	737	379	383	Nov	463
Bann Estuary	240	290	400	261	392	Apr	317
Sites below table qualifying levels but exceeding threshold in WeBS-Year 2007/08 in Great Britain							
Eden Estuary	986	1,238	600	415	1,500	Mar	948
Colne Estuary	868	797	1013	742	1,442 ¹¹	Feb	973



Redshanks (John Harding)

Turnstone

Arenaria interpres

International threshold: 1,500
 Great Britain threshold: 500
 All-Ireland threshold: 120

GB max: 12,738 Nov
 NI max: 2,061 Jan

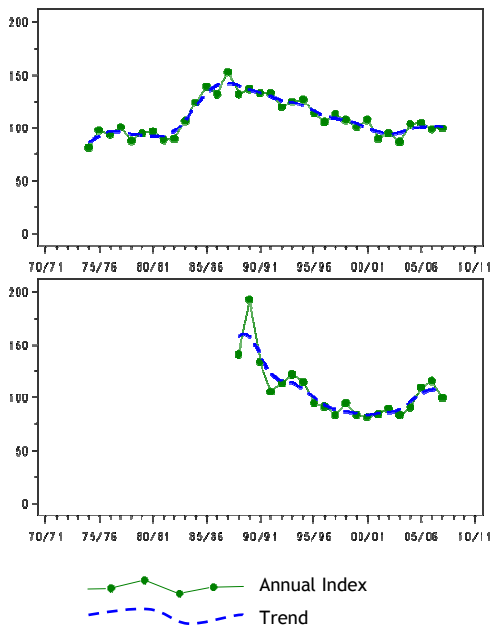


Figure 57.a, Annual indices & trend for Turnstone for GB (above) & NI (below).

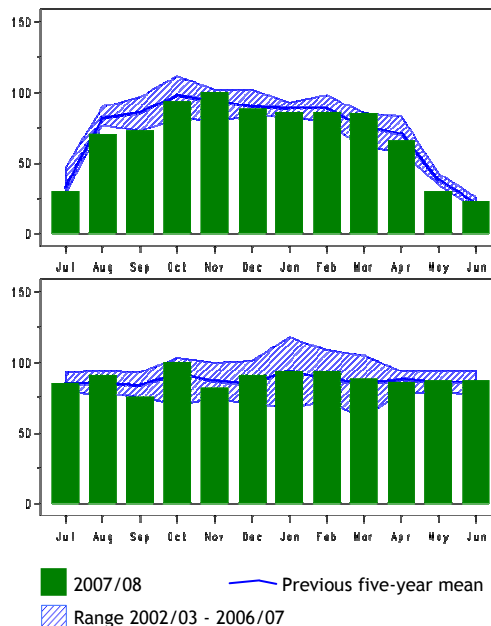


Figure 57.b, Monthly indices for Turnstone for GB (above) & NI (below).

Turnstones from two distinct breeding populations occur in the UK. The majority of winterers originate from Greenland and east of Siberia, while Scandinavian birds pass through in spring and autumn en route to and from sites in western Africa.

The dispersed nature of the species around our coastline, with highest densities along rocky shores and shorelines with washed-up kelp, means that WeBS counts account for approximately only 20% of the current population estimate for the UK (Austin *et al.* 2008b).

The peak monthly total of 12,738 in November was fairly typical for recent years - which have seen an apparent

levelling-off of the downward trend exhibited from the mid 1980s through to the early 2000s. A notable feature of the year was the contrasting fortunes of The Wash and the Thames Estuary. The recent decline continued at The Wash where the peak count has decreased by 60% in just two years. In contrast, the Thames Estuary experienced an increase of 60% compared to 2006/07, representing the highest monthly count for the site since 1992.

In Northern Ireland the peak monthly count at Outer Ards Shoreline, the most important site in the province, showed a decline of 28% compared to 2006/07. This is the first time the figure has dipped below 1,000 birds there since 2001/02.

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Sites of national importance in Great Britain							
Tiree			1,191 ⁴³				1,191
Thanet Coast	1,192	1,130	949	1,477	(783)	Jan	1,187
Morecambe Bay	766	(1,054)	1,269	1,163	(683)	Apr	1,066
The Wash	1,044	1,244	1,169	657	478	Oct	918
North Norfolk Coast	727	1,028	928	678	913	Aug	855
Thames Estuary	(569)	711	680	680	1,088	Nov	790
Forth Estuary	716	778	847	(778)	694	Nov	763
Humber Estuary	723 ¹¹	(570)	(183)	(542)	(344)	Feb	723
Stour Estuary	537	705	655	569	617	Nov	617

	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	Mon	Mean
Swale Estuary	(244)	(515)	(480)	(456)	(432)	Oct	(515) ▲
Sites of all-Ireland importance in Northern Ireland							
Outer Ards Shoreline	1,081	1,035	1,203	1,292	930	Mar	1,108
Belfast Lough	485	508	418	436	419	Nov	453
Carlingford Lough	230	624	356	480	315	Oct	401
Strangford Lough	225	235	435	382	344	Dec	324
Sites no longer meeting table qualifying levels in WeBS-Year 2007/2008							
Farne Islands	282	438	606	(445)	556	Aug	471
Langstone Harbour	342	459	742	450	488	Oct	496
Jersey Shore				526	383	Jan	455
Sites below table qualifying levels but exceeding threshold in WeBS-Year 2007/08 in Great Britain							
Blackwater Estuary	351	380	498	(173)	676	Oct	476
Farne Islands	282	438	606	(445)	556	Aug	471
Sites below table qualifying levels but exceeding threshold in WeBS-Year 2007/08 in Northern Ireland							
Dundrum Inner Bay	45	19	27	30	126	Jan	49

Wilson's Phalarope

Phalaropus tricolor

Vagrant

Native Range: America

GB max: 1 Aug
NI max: 1 Sep

Two Wilson's Phalaropes were recorded in 2007/08; the 19th and 20th WeBS records. Following an adult at Castle Lake

in County Durham in August, the fourth for Northern Ireland, a juvenile, was at Belfast Lough the following month.

Red-necked Phalarope

Phalaropus lobatus

Scarce

GB max: 1 Aug
NI max: 0

Three passage Red-necked Phalaropes were recorded in the autumn; at Medway

Estuary in August, Pennington Flash in September and Salthouse in October.

Grey Phalarope

Phalaropus fulicarius

Scarce

GB max: 2 Oct
NI max: 0

Grey Phalaropes were seen at five sites at the end of 2007. Singles were at Portworthy Mica Dam and Earlswood Lakes in October, Hamford Water and South Uist

in November, and Abberton Reservoir in December. These were all site firsts with the exception of the former, which had previously hosted an October bird in 2001.

Sabine's Gull

Larus sabini

Scarce

GB max: 1 Sep
NI max: 0

One was recorded in Morecambe Bay in September, the 17th WeBS record and first for this site.