

### Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

2003 1,165 pairs.

2004 1,122 pairs.

Although the composition of records across the country was not entirely comparable, the total number of pairs in both 2003 and 2004 was similar, with the 2003 total the highest submitted to the Panel. The regional breakdown is shown below. Details of county totals are posted on the Panel's website. Taking the higher total for each recording area in the two years gives a larger figure of 1,441, which is still much below the estimated UK population of 4,800-8,000 pairs (Baker *et al.* 2006) suggesting that this species is under-recorded in many areas.

#### Regional breakdown

##### England, SW

2003 82 pairs 2004 104 pairs

##### England, SE

2003 270 pairs 2004 284 pairs

##### England, E

2003 137 pairs 2004 173 pairs

##### England, Central

2003 145 pairs 2004 145 pairs

##### England, N

2003 333 pairs 2004 261 pairs

##### Wales

2003 90 pairs 2004 94 pairs

##### Scotland, S

2003 85 pairs 2004 41 pairs

##### Scotland, Mid

2003 18 pairs 2004 17 pairs

##### Scotland, N & W

2003 5 pairs 2004 1 pair

##### N. Ireland

2003 0 pairs 2004 2 pairs

#### County totals

Approximate county totals are listed in the table below; these should be treated as minima. Estimates are based on returns from county recorders where possible, based on sites holding kingfishers in the breeding season. In some cases, only limited returns were available and consequently these are likely to gross underestimate; these are flagged with an asterisk. Zeroes mean no birds thought to be present, dashes mean no data for that year.

	2003	2004
England, SW	82	104
Avon	7	17
Cornwall	-	-
Devon	6	27
Dorset	-	-
Gloucestershire	15	4
Hampshire	14 *	5*

Isle of Wight	-	-
Isles of Scilly	0	0
Somerset	40	40
Wiltshire	-	11
<b>England, SE</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>284</b>
Bedfordshire	23	6
Berkshire	24	23
Buckinghamshire	100	100
Essex	23	34
Hertfordshire	35	28
Kent	33	31
London	1*	-
Oxfordshire	-	-
Surrey	14	19
Sussex	17	43
<b>England, E</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>173</b>
Cambridgeshire	57	57
Lincolnshire	21	29
Norfolk	29	44
Northamptonshire	1*	-
Suffolk	29	43
<b>England, Central</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>145</b>
Derbyshire	16	3*
Herefordshire	-	-
Leicestershire & Rutland	31	34
Nottinghamshire	1*	3*
Shropshire	13	20
Staffordshire	3	2
Warwickshire	80	80
West Midlands	1*	3*
Worcestershire	-	-
<b>England, N</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>261</b>
Cheshire & Wirral	47	119
Cleveland	3	2
Cumbria	-	-
Durham	30	-
Greater Manchester	22	17
Isle of Man	-	-
Lancashire & North Merseyside	100	6*
Northumberland	40	27
Yorkshire	91	90
<b>Wales</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>94</b>
Anglesey	1	8
Brecon	15	20
Caernarfon	0	9
Carmarthen	19	-
Ceredigion	-	4
Denbigh & Flint	-	-
Glamorgan	10	37
Gower	28	2

Gwent	17	7
Meirionnydd	-	1
Montgomery	-	6
Pembroke	-	-
Radnor	-	-
<b>Scotland, S</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>41</b>
Ayrshire	40	-
Borders	28	28
Clyde	9	7
Clyde Islands	-	-
Dumfries & Galloway	1*	4*
Lothian	7	2
<b>Scotland, Mid</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>
Angus & Dundee	2	-
Fife	3	3
Forth	-	-
Perth & Kinross	6	11
Moray & Nairn	-	-
Northeast Scotland	7	3
<b>Scotland, N&amp;W</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
Argyll	-	-
Caithness	0	0
Highland	5	1
Orkney	0	0
Shetland	0	0
Western Isles	0	0
<b>N. Ireland</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Fermanagh, Londonderry, Tyrone	-	2

### Comments

Where information is available, the following section offers some explanation behind some of the differences between years by county/region. Please contact the Panel Secretary [secretary@rbbp.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rbbp.org.uk) if you would like to contribute to this.

### Cheshire & Wirral

The apparent leap from 47 to 119 pairs is almost certainly because of the start of the county tetrad atlas in 2004. This increase in numbers, by a factor of 2.5 is probably due to better coverage - albeit only with less than half of the county's tetrads visited in the first year. This supports the contention that Common Kingfishers are widely under-recorded. If the same order of difference were to be replicated across the country, the total population would lie in the range of 4,800-8,000 pairs which is the current UK population estimate.