




ENVIRONMENT AGENCY OF ICELAND

Hunting in Iceland

**Wildlife management - birds
and mammals**

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Agenda

- Introduction
 - Hunting license and rights
 - Hunting card system
 - Main species and management
- 



Introduction

- Population of Iceland at the end of 2009 was 319.368
- 3,8% had a valid hunting card 2009
- 2,8 % of them were women
- Appr. 80 % are of the age 20-55 years
- Foreign hunters have been around 1 %




Hunting rights and license

- Environmental Agency of Iceland - Wildlife Management Division (EAI-WMD) is the governments organization which takes care of hunting licenses and management of game
- Land owners own the hunting right
- Landowners are obligated to follow Icelandic law in the same manner as hunters



Hunting rights and license

- Hunting takes place on private land and common land
 - To be able to hunt one has to have a valid gun permit and a hunting card
 - One has to pass a gun permit seminar and a hunting card seminar conducted by the EAI to be allowed to hunt
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Hunting rights and license

- Types of gun permits needed:
 - A permit for shotguns and small riffles
 - B permit for larger riffles (needed for reindeer hunting)
- The hunting card is renewed every year and costs 3.500 IKR (\approx 20 EUR) – 5.000 IKR (\approx 30 EUR) after April 1st

Hunting rights and license



- Foreign hunters must:
 - Send in an application to EAI-WMD
 - photocopy of the applicants hunting license in the homeland
 - photocopy of a valid hunting card from the homeland
 - specify an Icelandic resident as a sponsor which has a valid hunting card which is expected to guide and company the foreign hunter on all hunting trips
 - Send a bag report to the EAI-WMI after the hunting trip
- Not allowed to hunt on common land nor outside 115 m from neap tide

Hunting card

- Put into action by law in 1995
- Everyone who wants to hunt must have one
- Renewing the card requires that you return bag numbers of game birds/mammals that you have hunted
- Deadline for returning the bag numbers is 1st of April each year




Hunting card

- Around 20.000 people are on record and have had a card
- 10 -11.000 renew the card every year
- Last year around 12.400 cards were issued 
- Bag reports have been evolving
 - 1995 number of hunted birds / mammals
 - 1998 the country divided into 6 zones 
 - 2002 report pursuit day (optional)
 - 2005 special reporting on Rock ptarmigan



Hunting card

- Bag report returns have been very good from the start or above 90 % 
 - Bag reports are anonymous
- When returning the bag report and applying for a new card one can take a survey
 - Over 85 % of the card holders are satisfied with the system



Main species

- There are 32 species that you are allowed to hunt
 - Birds are the most common game
 - 3 species of goose (Greylag, Pink-footed and Barnacle)
 - 7 species of ducks (Mallard, Eurasian Teal, Eurasian Wigeon, Greater Scaup, Tufted Duck, Long-tailed Duck and Red-breasted Merganser)
 - 5 species of Auks (Razorbill, Common Guillemot, Brünnich's Guillemot, Black Guillemot and Atlantic Puffin)
 - 11 species of other sea birds (Gulls, cormorants, gannet and skua)
 - 1 Passerines species (Common raven)
 - 1 Grouse species (Rock ptarmigan)
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Main species

- Four species of mammals
 - Reindeer
 - Arctic fox (special license needed)
 - Mink (hunting card not needed)




- Seals (hunting card not needed, not under our jurisdiction)

Main species

- In the year 2008 70 % of the hunting came from
 - Auks with 35 %
 - Grouse with 16 %
 - Gees with 19 %
- The mammals make up around 5 % of the hunting
- Seabirds are around 16 %
- Other species with 8%



Main species

- Management of the species that are hunted
 - Bag reports through the hunting card
 - Monitoring of the most hunted species
- Only one species has a quota
 - The reindeer 
- One species has quota recommendations to hunters
 - The grouse 
- Action may have to be taken for the Auks 





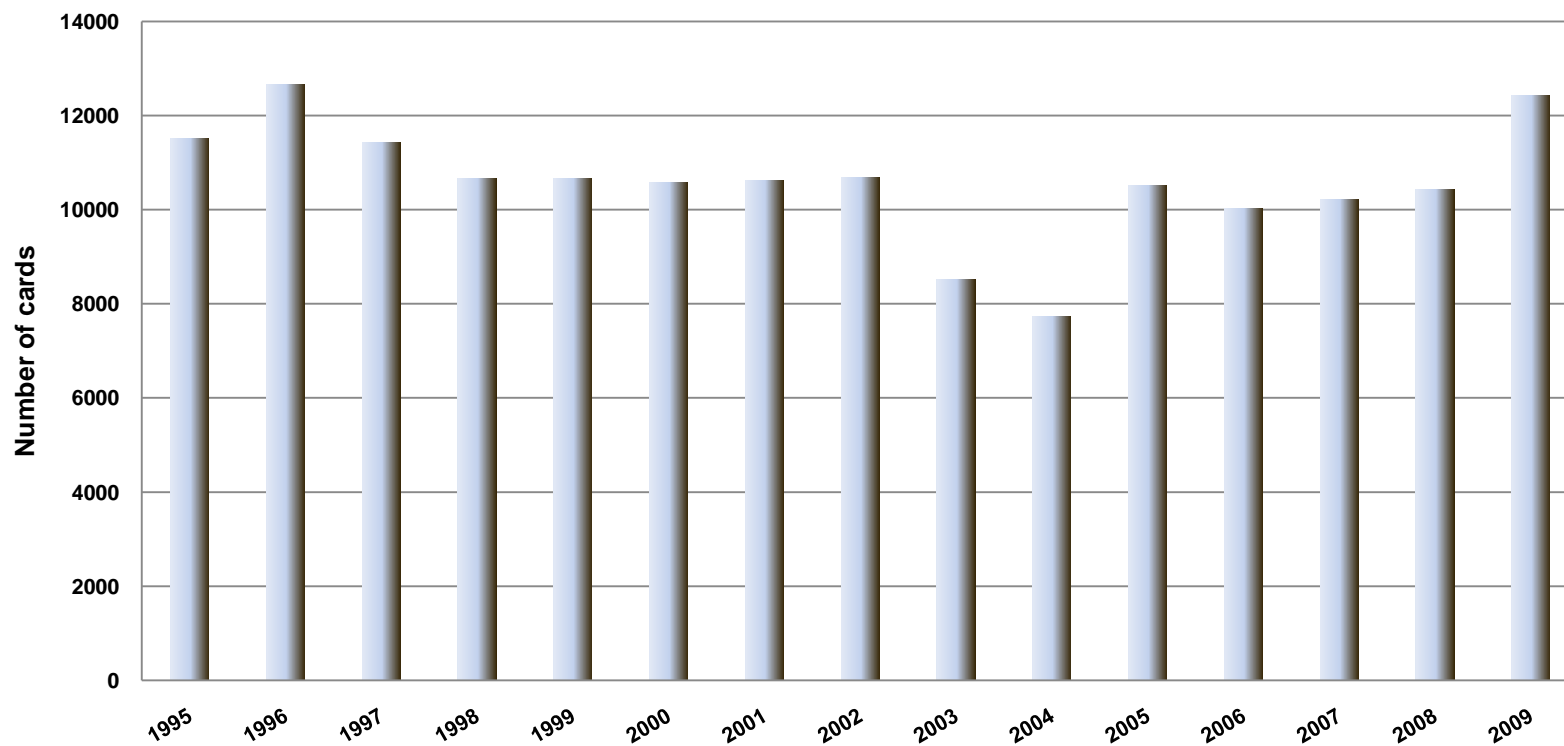
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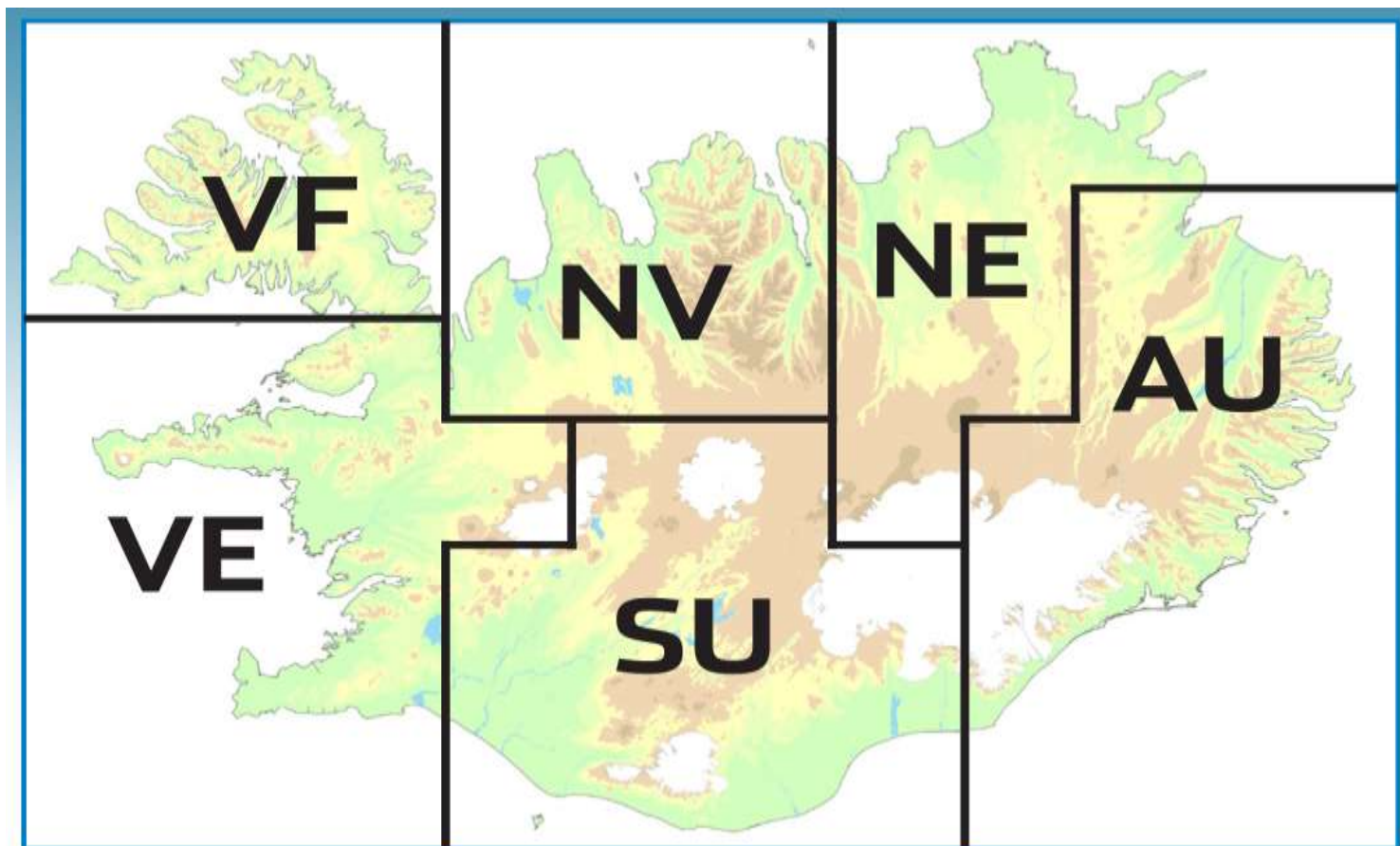
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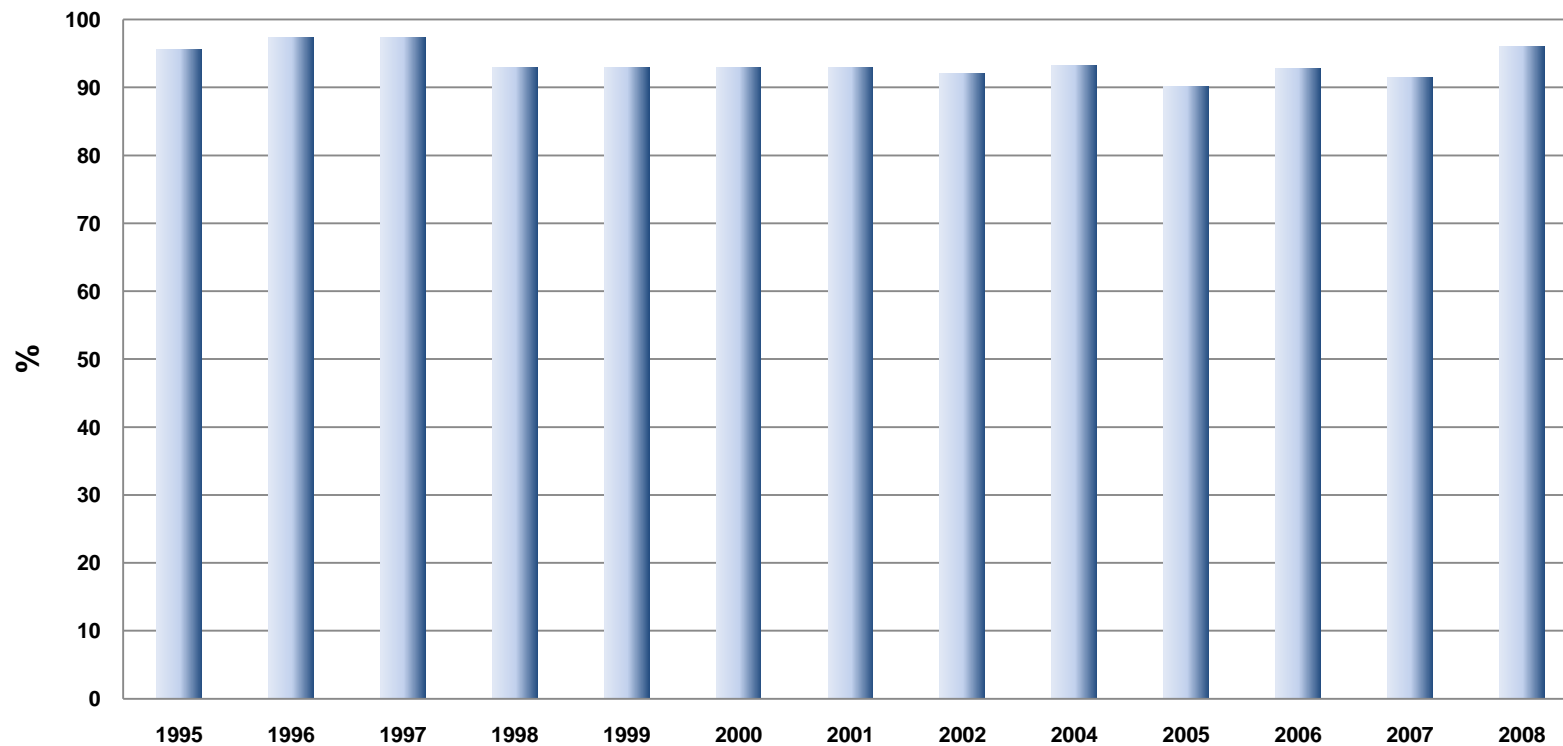
Issued hunting cards





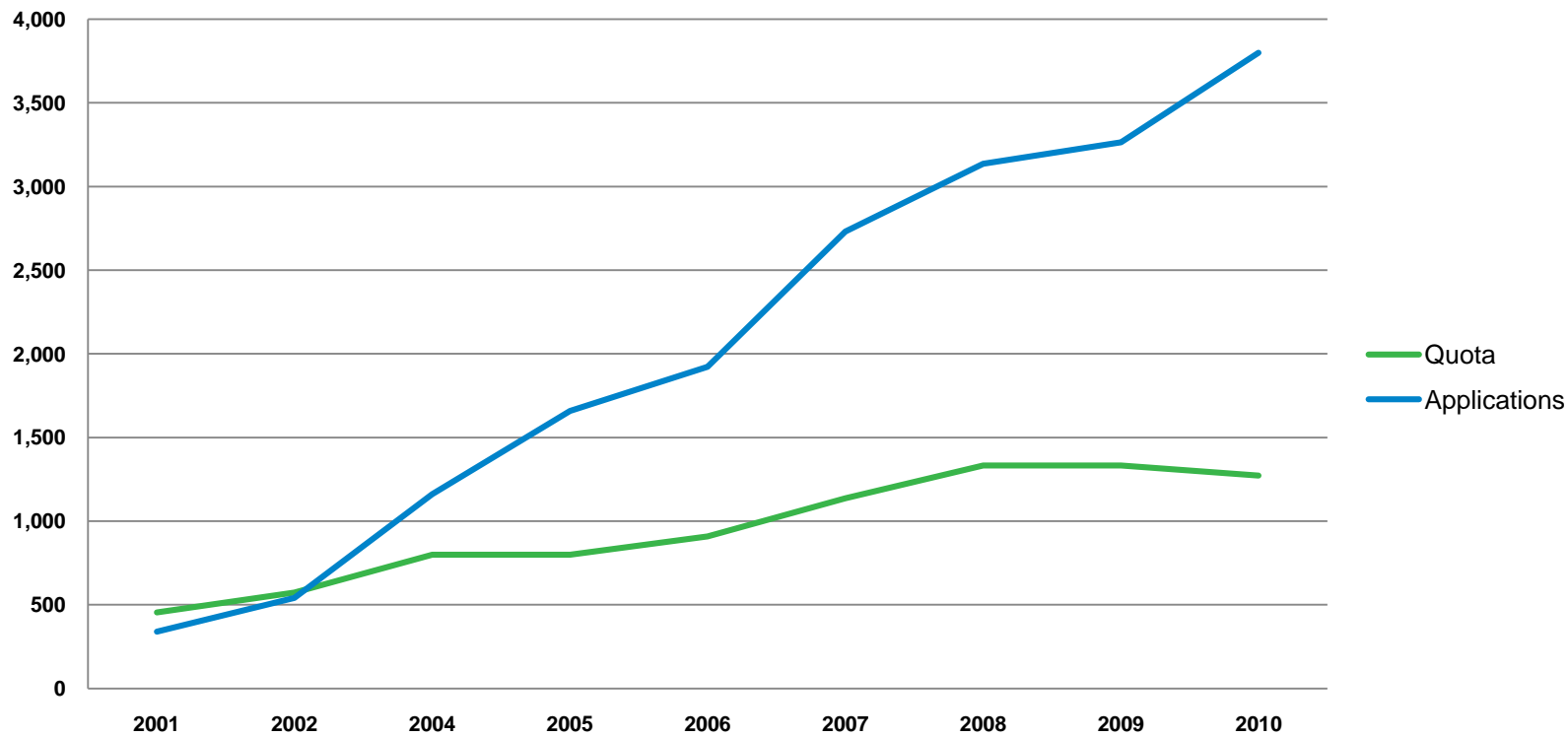


Bag reports returned



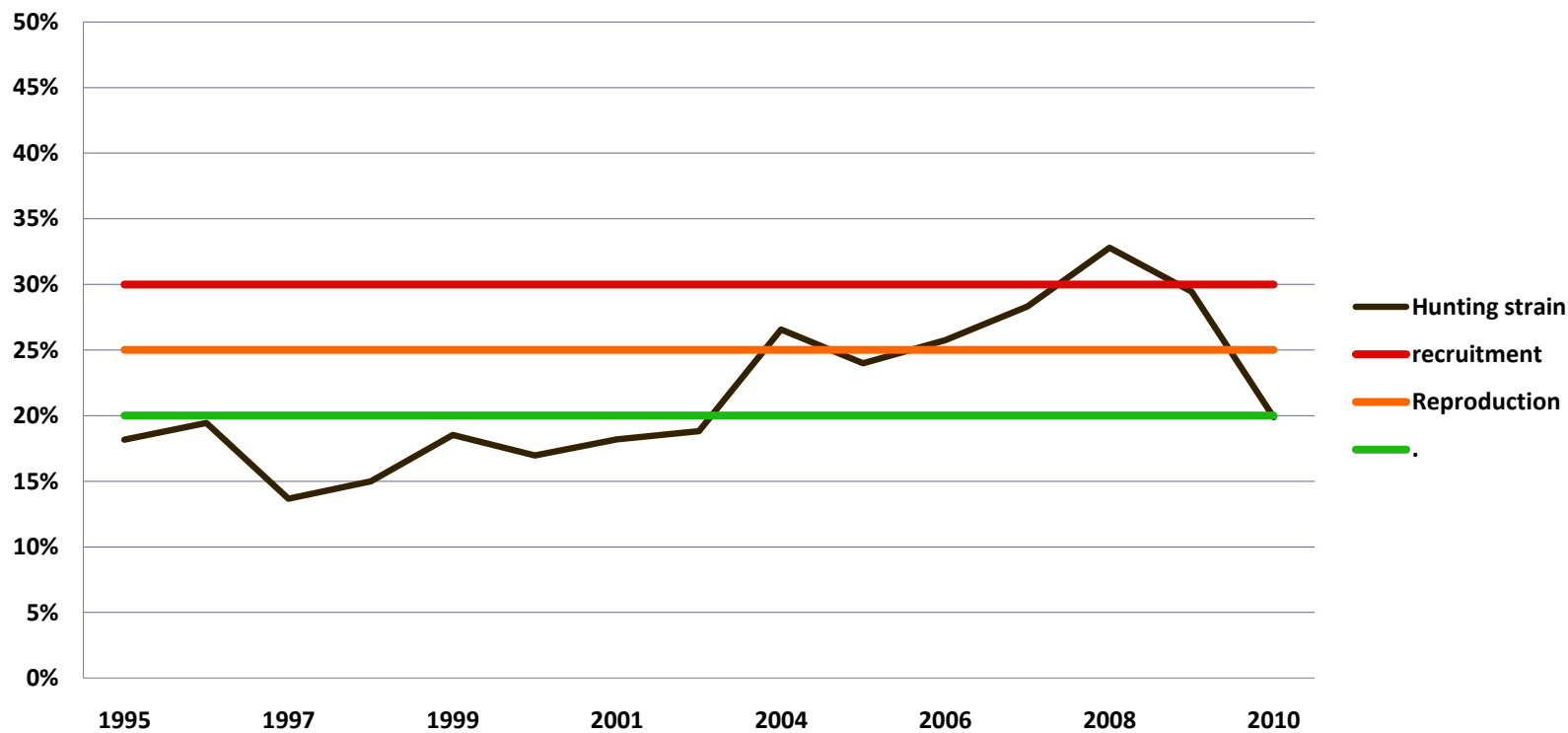


Reindeer qouta vs. applications



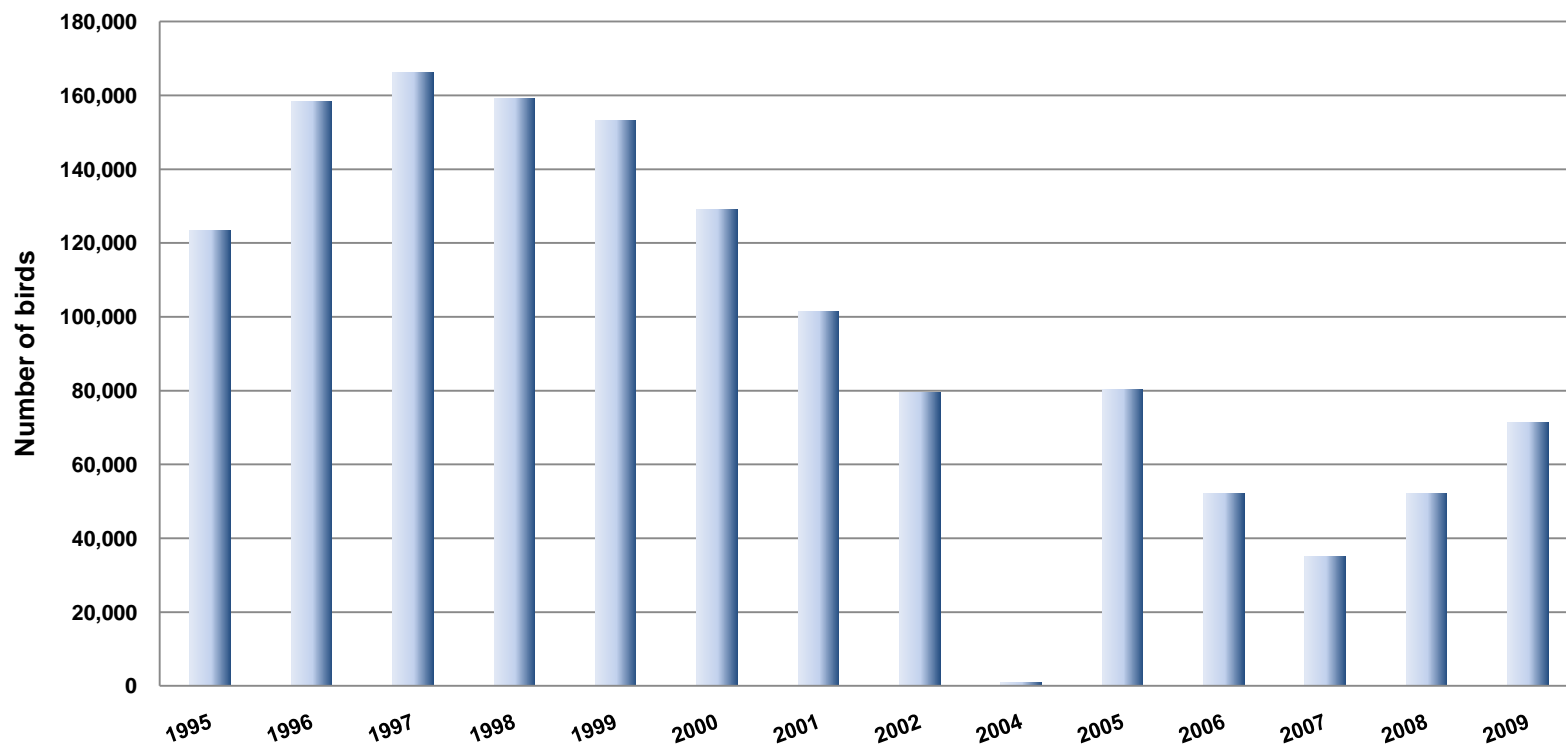


Reindeer





Rock ptarmigan





Auks

