2023 Weekly Alaska Salmon Harvest Update #12

(Estimated ex-vessel metric tons)

		Sockeye			Pink			Keta			Coho			Chinook	*
	YTD 2022	YTD 2023	YoY	YTD 2021	YTD 2023	YoY	YTD 2022	YTD 2023	YoY	YTD 2022	YTD 2023	YoY	YTD 2022	YTD 2023	YoY
AYK	-	-	-	368	4	-99%	1,381	460	-67%	28	10	-64%	-	-	-
Kodiak	4,282	4,221	-1%	28,687	32,039	+12%	1,360	2,066	+52%	200	561	+181%	28	17	-39%
Chignik	758	2,427	+220%	1,920	3,029	+58%	191	223	+17%	104	102	-2%	10	2	-80%
Alaska Peninsula	18,396	6,579	-64%	21,566	20,997	-3%	2,191	2,736	+25%	138	498	+261%	52	29	-44%
Bristol Bay	140,025	100,050	-29%	4	3	-25%	758	631	-17%	42	29	-31%	31	20	-35%
Cook Inlet	3,285	4,291	+31%	3,119	3,898	+25%	469	478	+2%	257	224	-13%	11	-	-100%
Prince William Sound	4,226	4,609	+9%	82,329	76,854	-7%	6,295	14,388	+129%	123	210	+71%	80	49	-39%
Southeast	3,053	2,196	-28%	58,482	59,551	+2%	28,402	34,624	+22%	2,216	2,495	+13%	1,107	691	-38%
Statewide	174,025	124,373	-29%	196,475	196,375	0%	41,047	55,606	+35%	3,108	4,129	+33%	1,319	808	-39%

Note: YTD comparisons are based on statistical weeks. Statistical weeks between years do not align with calendar dates. Metric ton estimates are based on fish counts and average weight estimates. Data are subject to revision.

Source: Alaska Department of Fish & Game . *Chinook figures exclude harvest before week 20.

The pace of fishing dropped in Statistical Week 35 (through Sept. 2), the last week some seafood harvesters plan to buy Alaska salmon this season. With a harvest of about 7 million salmon, mostly pinks, last week was the lowest weekly harvest since June.

Coho and Chinook salmon remain the species for which harvests have not reached the preseason forecast. Coho harvest is at 52% of the pre-season forecast, 75% for Chinook. Significant coho harvests often continue into mid-September. It's also not unusual for harvest volumes for both low-volume species to be adjusted upward after the season as fish ticket data are processed.

The number of Alaska pink salmon harvested is up only slightly from 2021, following a drop-off in harvest over the past two weeks. The harvest is flat compared to 2021 in estimated ex-vessel weight. This year's 200,000 metric ton (mt) Alaska pink salmon harvest is less than half the estimated Russian pink salmon harvest of 472,000 mt. This 2023 pink salmon harvest is Russia's largest since the record 2018 harvest.

The University of Washington's Fisheries Research Institute released a preliminary Bristol Bay salmon forecast for 2024 last week. It predicted a 2024 harvest of 26.4 million sockeye, which is about a third smaller than the 2023 harvest.

2023 Harvest vs. Projection

(Thousands of Fish)

	Harvest	Projection	% Realized
Sockeye	49,938	48,188	104%
Pink	145,914	122,213	119%
Keta	18,150	16,004	113%
Coho	1,525	2,960	52%
Chinook	181	242	75%
Total	215,708	189,607	114%





Formerly McDowell Group

Salmon Harvest by Statistical Week, 2023

(Thousands of fish per week)

