

Atlantic salmon - How Many Salmon Return?

Can you work out how many salmon return to the river to spawn?

How many left?

A hen salmon lays **5000** eggs in a redd

5000

500 eggs were not fertilised

500 eggs were washed away

Mud washed into the stream and suffocated **1000** eggs

After the eggs hatched **850** of the alevins died because they were not strong enough

The alevins developed into fry. **1100** were eaten by bigger fish

The fry became parr, **700** were eaten by birds and other predators

The parr matured into smolts and headed for salt water. **250** smolts died on their way to the oceanic feeding grounds

45 smolts were mistakenly caught by fishermen targeting mackerel

While maturing at sea **17** salmon were eaten by bigger fish

The mature salmon return to the river of their birth to spawn. **12** were caught in high seas fisheries

5 salmon were eaten by seals

10 salmon were caught in coastal drift nets

The salmon enter the river of their birth and stop feeding. **5** were caught by anglers

1 salmon were not strong enough to make it back to their ancestral spawning ground.

How many salmon returned to spawn?
