

# 2023 Orca Sightings

## Summary report

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Orca Network Whale Sighting Network

April 2024



# 10,920

reports

# 324

days

# 2,401

people

Numbers in this report only represent orca sightings collected by Orca Network's Whale Sighting Network. Data does not include reports of other dolphins, porpoises, baleen whales, or unidentified species.

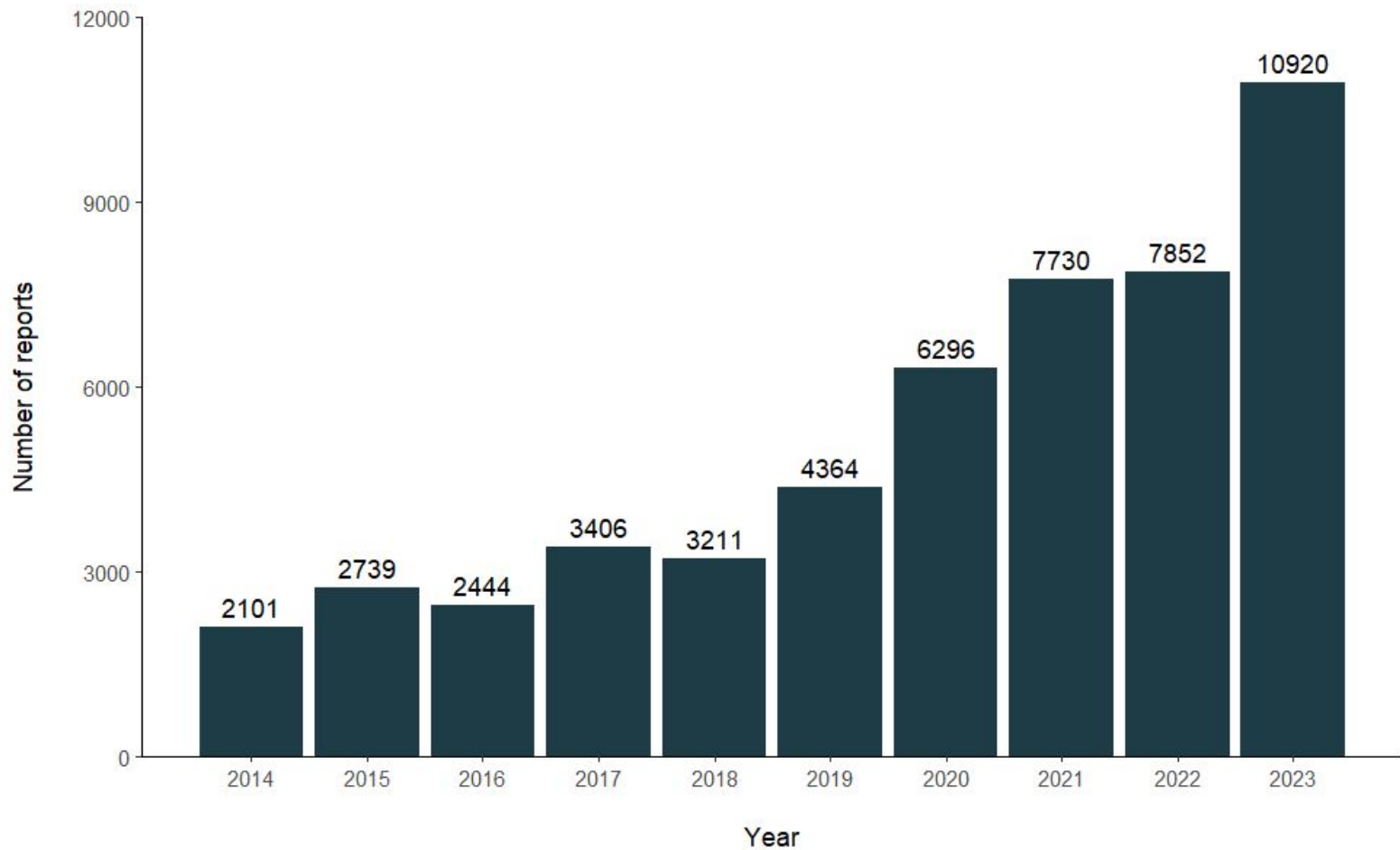


Figure 1. Orca sighting reports per year from 2014 to 2023.

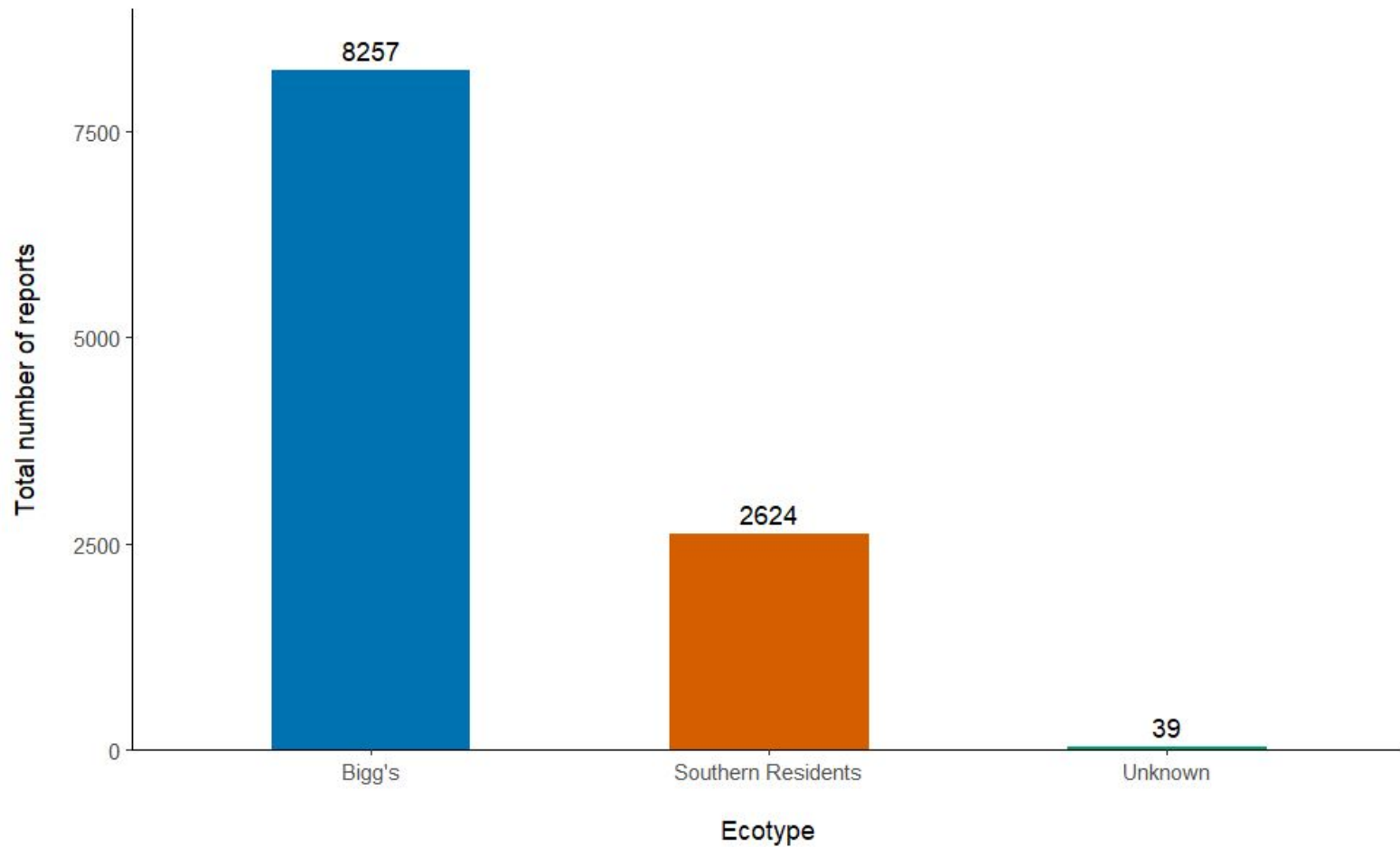


Figure 2. Orca sighting reports per ecotype in 2023.

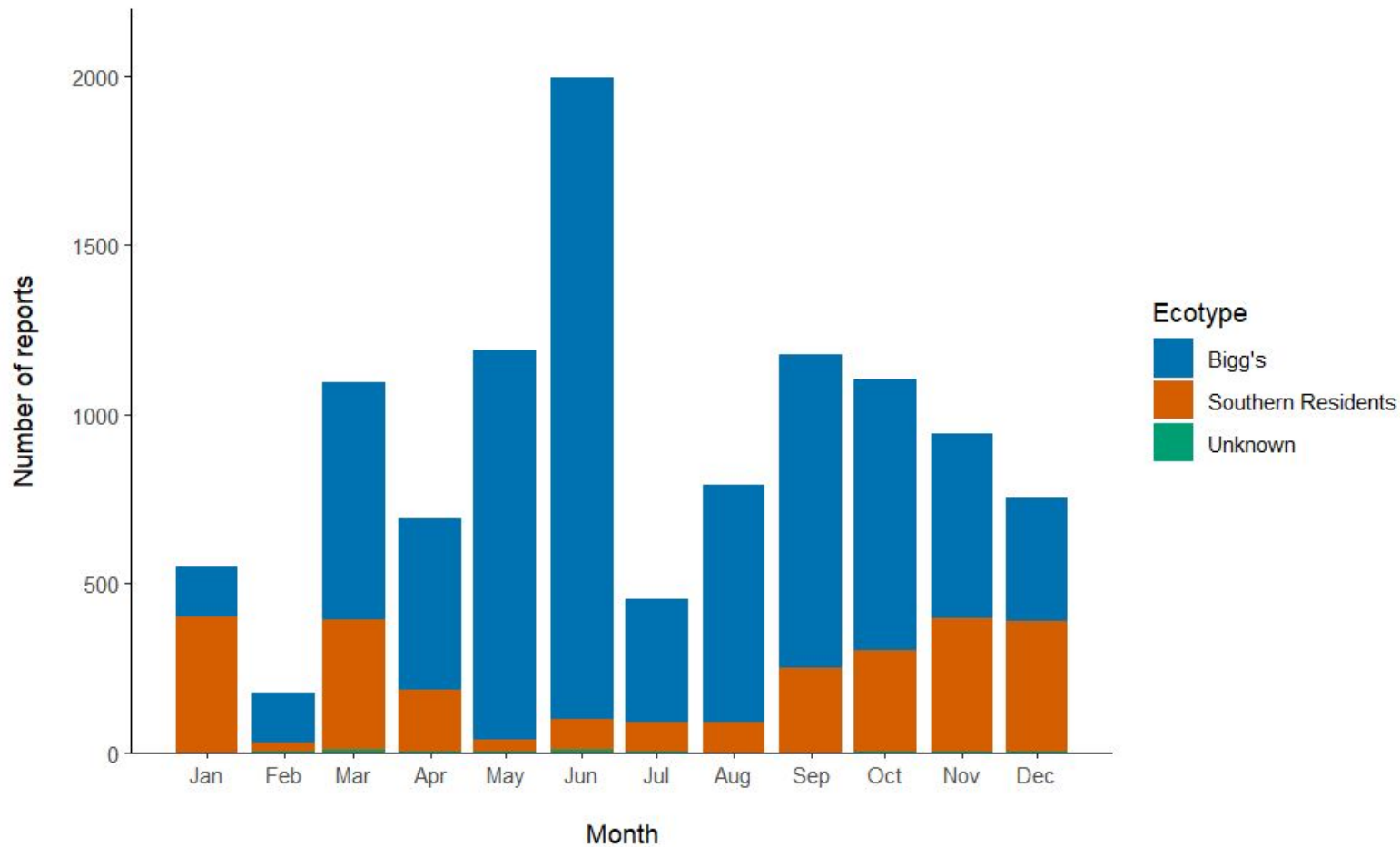


Figure 3. Orca sighting reports per month in 2023.

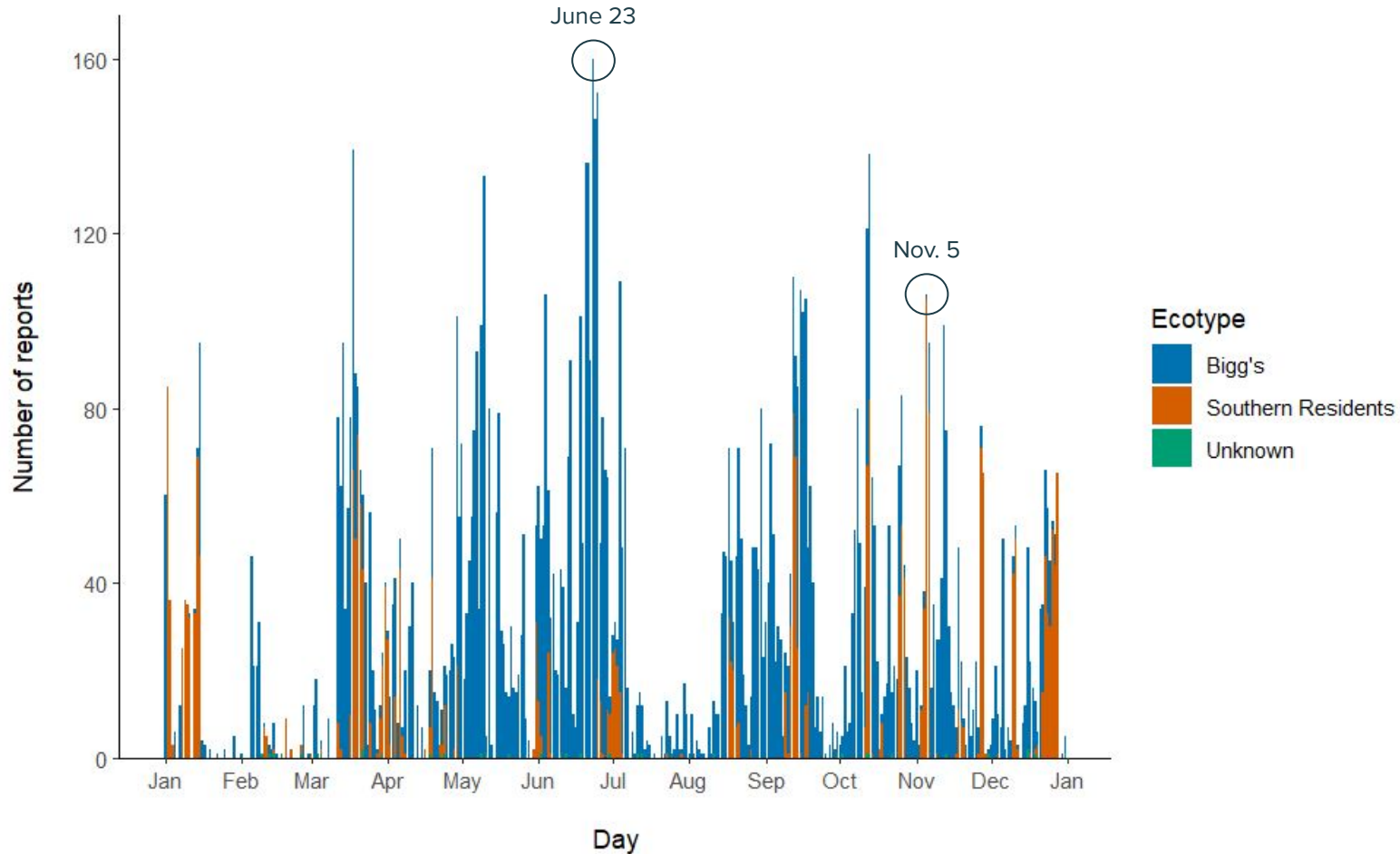


Figure 4. Orca sighting reports per day in 2023. Notable days include June 23 (greatest number of Bigg's and total reports) and November 5 (greatest number of SRKW reports).

# June 23, 2023

**160 reports** (all Bigg's) from **97 reporting parties**

- Most reports (Bigg's and total) in a single day in 2023
- T46B1s and T46C2 in Haro Strait
- T36/36Bs, T65As, T75Bs, and T77s in North Puget Sound
  - T75Bs split off and went north through Admiralty Inlet
  - Main group continued south into Central Puget Sound
- T99s in Dyes Inlet
- T137s in Central/South Puget Sound

# November 5, 2023

**106 reports** (105 SRKW, 1 Bigg's) from **48 reporting parties**

- Most Southern Resident reports in a single day in 2023
- J pod arrived in Puget Sound on November 3, their 4th visit of the season
- Js entered Quartermaster Harbor (between Vashon and Maury Islands) on November 5, for the first time since 2015
- Js stayed in Quartermaster Harbor for approximately 19 hours before leaving the following morning



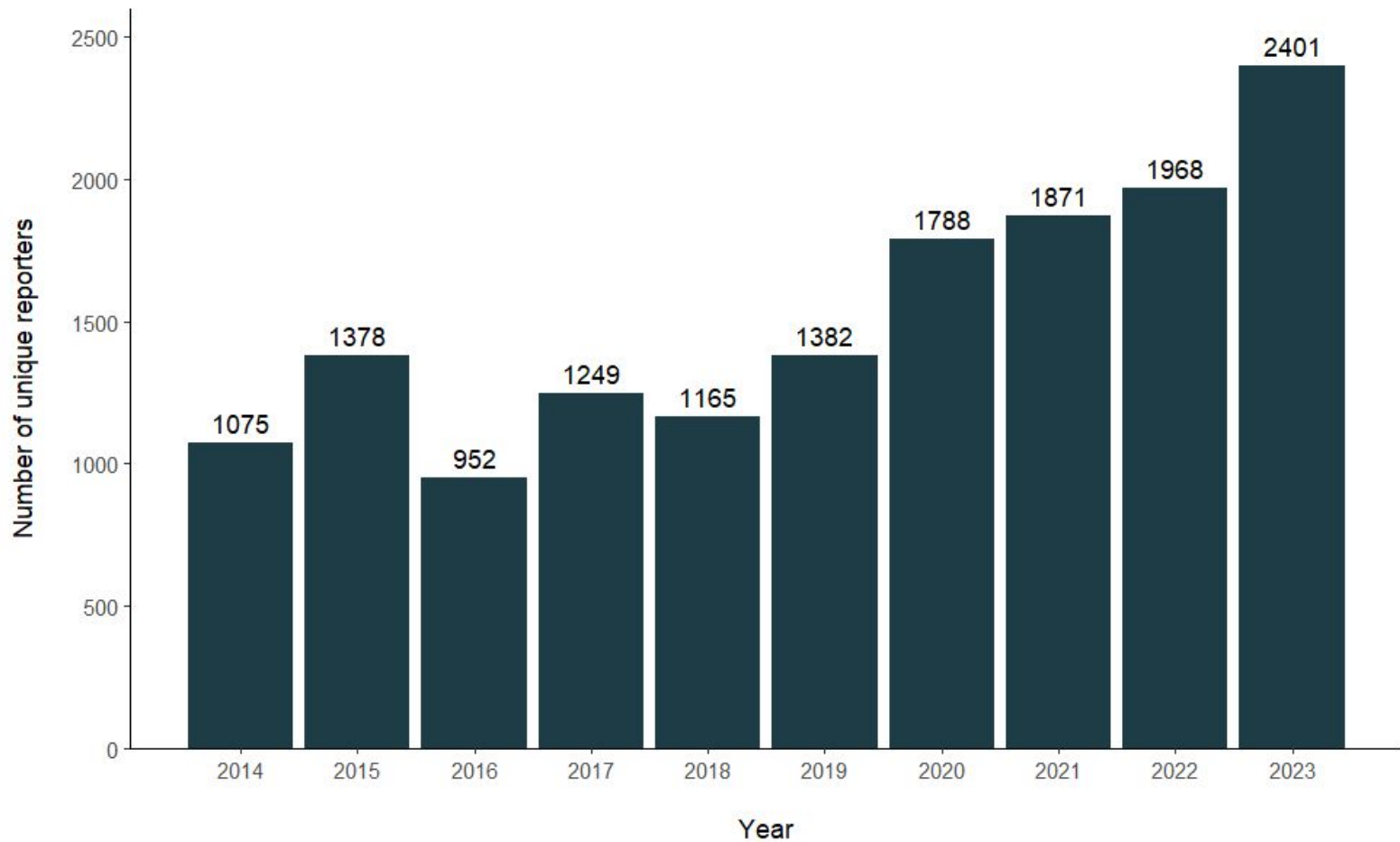


Figure 5. Number of unique reporting parties per year from 2014 to 2023.

In 2023, of the **2,401** unique reporting parties:

**2,268** people (94% of total reporters) submitted **10 or fewer** reports each

**15** people (0.62% of total reporters) submitted **100 or more** reports each



Data compiled by Orca Network staff & volunteers.  
Credit Orca Network when utilizing this information.  
Contact [sightings@orcanetwork.org](mailto:sightings@orcanetwork.org) for access to raw data.