



*Ministry for the*  
**Environment**  
*Manatū Mō Te Taiao*

## Number of trawl tows (1990–2014)

### Title

Number of trawl tows (1990–2014)

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### Description

Seabed trawling and dredging (where fishing gear is towed near or along the ocean floor) can physically damage seabed (benthic) habitats and species. These fishing methods can also stir up sediment from the seabed, creating sediment plumes that can smother sensitive species. Recovery times for affected habitats and species depend on their sensitivity and the area affected by trawling or dredging. Bottom trawling is carried out on or near the seabed in both shallow and deep waters. Dredging is carried out on the seabed in shallow waters and targets marine creatures such as scallops. This measure focuses on deepwater areas (waters deeper than 200m).

### Source

Ministry for Primary Industries

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### Coverage

1990–2014; Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone

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Dataset

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