

The following are statistics of the sealing fleet of Canada for the seasons of 1898 to 1903 :—

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Total catch.....	28,552	35,346	35,523	24,422	16,143	14,701
Distributed thus :						
British Columbia Coast..	9,746	10,471	16,438	7,265	4,936.....	..
Japanese coast	360	.....	.....	2,130	3,331	1,910
Copper Island coast.....	50	699	208	3,397	1,340.....	.....
Behring Sea.....	16,943	23,284	17,513	10,362	5,193	8,161
North American coast, including Indians' coast catch.....	.....	.....	.....	8,533	1,343	4,630
Not specified.....	1,453	892	1,364	1,268.....	.....	.....
Fleet, No. of vessels	35	26	37	39	34	24
Boats	90	68	114	139	129	92
Canoes.....	326	285	316	226	206	164
Crew, white	324	213	386	443	421	299
" Indians.....	653	587	646	465	437	338
Value of seal skins.....	\$285,520	\$441,825	\$562,845	\$366,330	\$337,660 ..	.....

Prior to 1878 very few seals were killed by Canadian sealers. Hunting was not carried on further than 20 miles from shore.

The following statement shows the number of seals killed in 1883-1903 :

	Number.		Number.
1883	9,195	1896	55,677
1889	35,310	1897	30,410
1890	43,325	1898	28,552
1891	52,365	1899	35,346
1892	49,743	1900	35,523
1893	70,592	1901	24,422
1894	95,048	1902	16,143
1895	73,614	1903	14,701

From 1871 to 1902 the total products of the Canadian pelagic sealing industry amounted to 777,613 seal skins.

In addition to the take of Canadian vessels in 1902, 582 skins were landed at B. C. which were sent to the London market.

During 1903 eight Canadian vessels have captured 21,126 seals in the South Atlantic Ocean.