

Cheshire Barn Owl Report 2021



Introduction

This report collates data from the Wirral , Wirral South and the Mid, South, West, North, East and North East Cheshire Barn Owl groups.

Summary

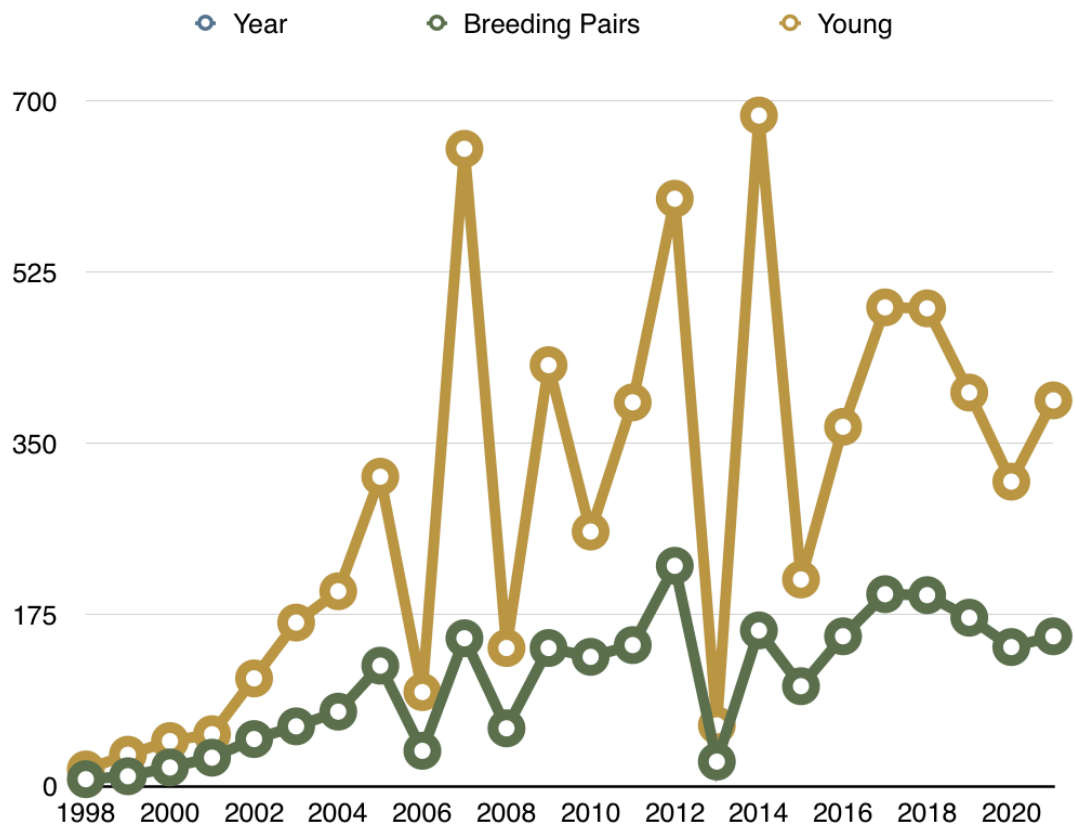
Numbers approaching normal

Total successful pairs	153
Total counted young	394
Young per breeding pair	2.6
Boxes checked	950

Note that in the vast majority of breeding sites the young were ringed OR were close to fledging.

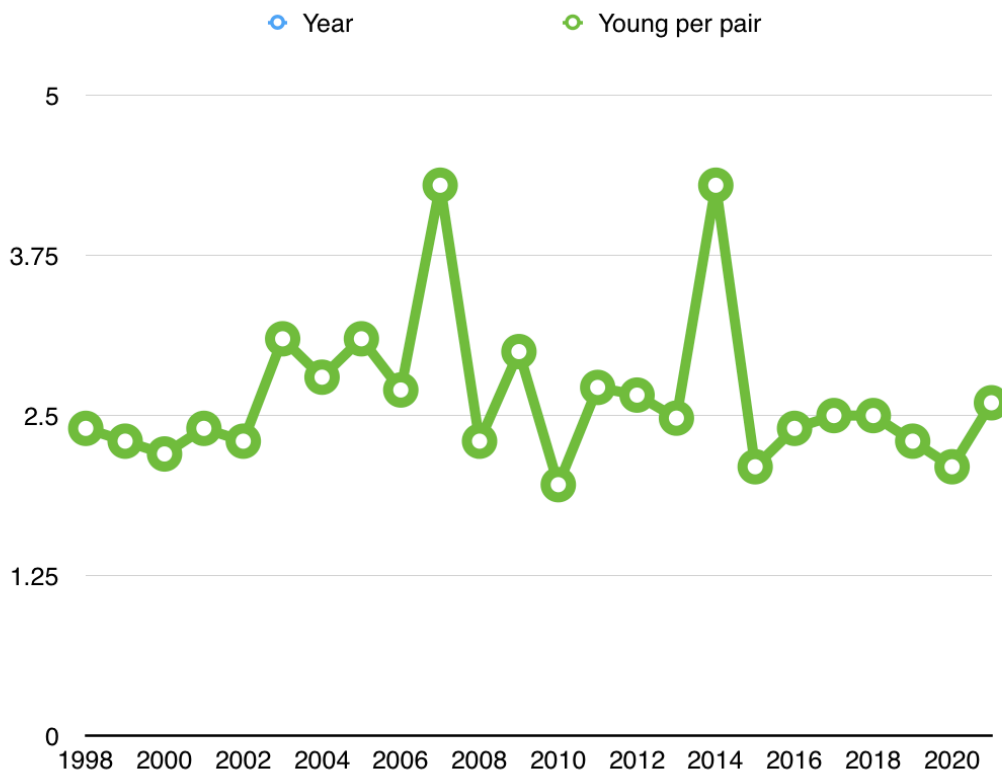
Group totals

Group	Pairs	Young	Boxes (checked)	% boxes checked
West	27	82	258	50
Mid	38	90	245	50
North	3	6	10	20
South	42	118	270	90
East	20	48	91	50
N/E	8	18	38	30
Wirral	6	16	?	?
Wirral s	9	26	34	61
<u>Total</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>394</u>	<u>946</u>	



Year	Breeding	Young	Young per
1998	7	17	2.4
1999	10	32	2.3
2000	19	46	2.2
2001	29	53	2.4
2002	48	110	2.3
2003	61	167	3.1
2004	76	199	2.8
2005	123	316	3.1
2006	36	96	2.7
2007	151	651	4.3
2008	59	141	2.3
2009	141	430	3.0
2010	132	260	1.96
2011	144	392	2.72
2012	225	600	2.66
2013	25	62	2.48
2014	159	685	4.3
2015	102	211	2.1
2016	153	367	2.4
2017	196	489	2.5
2018	195	488	2.5
2019	172	402	2.3
2020	142	311	2.1
2021	153	394	2.6

	Total boxes	Boxes used successfully	% Utilisation
Mid	489	38	7.8
East	182	20	11.0
North	54	3	5.5
North East	124	8	6.4
South	310	42	13.5
West	500	27	5.4
WBOT	150	6	4.0
Wirral s	55	9	16.3



Type of breeding site

Group	Tree box	Barn box	Pole box	Building	Natural Tree site	Total
Mid	38	0	0	0	0	38
North	2	0	0	1	0	3
East	18	0	0	2	0	20
N/E	7	0	0	1	0	8
South	34	0	4	3	1	42
WBOT	2	1	3	0	0	6
Wirral s	6	0	3	0	0	9
West	2	0	25	0	0	27
Total	109	1	35	8	0	153

Discussion

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Some improvement in numbers. The numbers are probably better than shown in this report after allowing for covid restrictions on surveying. Most groups are now only checking around half their boxes and there are likely to be owls breeding in some of the unchecked boxes..

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J D Wild January 2022.