

The annual totals landed at Auckland over the last five years are given below :—

—	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944.	1945.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Total quantity landed	119,583	105,106	103,882	111,078	122,789
Snapper	87,028	73,604	75,153	79,844	81,706
Tarakihi	12,882	16,470	12,128	18,289	23,965
Flounder	8,151	3,904	5,489	1,857	2,047
Gurnard	1,375	1,447	1,361	3,206	5,570

The substantial increase in the total quantity of fish landed for the last year is mainly due to the operation of the steam-trawlers after some years absence on naval service.

Tauranga :—

—	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944.	1945.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Total quantity landed	4,368	7,926	9,546	10,485	7,459
Snapper	3,400	4,154	4,032	4,152	2,513
Tarakihi	102	290	29	1,057	1,289
Trevally	110	1,113	1,826	2,509	1,219
Kahawai	1	294	649	732	1,070

Set-net catches amounted to 3,861 cwt. (51·76 per cent. of the total), compared with 5,987 cwt. (57·1 per cent.) for 1944, of which 1,565 cwt. was snapper and 1,155 cwt. trevally. One vessel which had previously been engaged in purse-seining changed to trawling and landed 1,783 cwt. of fish, of which 54·68 per cent. was tarakihi and 29·44 per cent. snapper. The Danish-seine catch dropped considerably from 2,907 cwt. in 1944 to 418 cwt. in 1945—this was due to the fact that the one vessel engaged in this form of fishing was wrecked early in the year.

Napier :—

—	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944.	1945.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Total quantity landed	21,207	21,694	16,615	17,865	19,194
Tarakihi	6,809	6,005	4,931	8,966	9,744
Sole	1,385	2,165	914	1,710	1,036
Hapuka	2,011	660	861	986	1,443
Gurnard	3,437	5,825	4,263	4,621	5,362

The increase in the percentage of tarakihi compared with the total quantities landed for the past two years is more apparent than real, as previously a large percentage of tarakihi caught at this port was included under the heading "Mixed Round Fish." This is a common fault with the Napier returns.

Out of the total of 19,194 cwt. landed during 1945, 15,708 cwt. was brought in by motor-trawlers, of which 57·16 per cent. was tarakihi. The one Danish-seine boat accounted for 1,325 cwt., of which 57·66 per cent. was gurnard. The one steam-trawler brought in 621 cwt., compared with 1,706 cwt. for 1944.

Wellington.—The return of the two steam-trawlers accounted for a large increase in the amount of fish landed at Wellington throughout the year. The catch for these vessels was 20,241 cwt., compared with 851 cwt. for 1944, when one boat commenced fishing in December. Of this 20,241 cwt., 16,634 cwt. was tarakihi and 469 cwt. snapper. One motor-trawler fished for seven months and brought in 687 cwt. of fish, of which 212 cwt. was tarakihi. The Island Bay fishing fleet landed 9,762 cwt., in comparison