

Wolf Pack: Destruction in the Battle of the Atlantic

Directions

After watching the Battle of the Atlantic interactive videos on the American Battle Monuments Commission website, it is time to calculate the destruction of the German Wolf Pack.

Look at each table of data collected after World War II.

Follow the directions under the tables.

Answer the question to ponder on the last page using the tables and percent graphs.

Website

Battle of Atlantic Statistics <http://www.usmm.org/battleatlantic.html>:

Activity #1

Losses of Merchant Ships from All Causes

<http://www.usmm.org/wsa/shiploss.html>

	British		Allied		Neutral		Total	
	Number	Thousand Gross Tons	Number	Thousand Gross Tons	Number	Thousand Gross Tons	Number	Thousand Gross Tons
1939 (Sept.-Dec.)	158	498	17	90	148	347	323	935
1940	728	2,725	201	822	416	1,002	1,345	4,549
1941	892	3,047	344	1,299	183	347	1,419	4,693
1942	782	3,695	987	4,394	90	249	1,859	8,338
1943	361	1,678	388	1,886	63	82	812	3,646
Total	2,921	11,643	1,937	8,491	900	2,027	5,758	22,161

- Create a percent graph for the number of ships the British, Allied and Neutral lost based upon the total amount of ships sunk.
- Create a percent graph for the thousand gross tons the British, Allied and Neutral lost based upon the total amount of ships sunk.
- Identify the impact of the war on shipping based upon the percent circle graphs and the table over time.

Activity #2

Casualties to Personnel of British merchant Ships 1939-1945

<http://www.usmm.org/battleatlantic.html>

Year	Ships lost by U-boat	Ships lost all enemy causes	No. of Crew Lost by U-boat	No. of Crew Lost all causes
1939	50	95	260	495
1940	225	511	3,375	5,622
1941	288	568	5,632	7,838
1942	452	590	8,413	9,736
1943	203	266	3,826	4,606
1944	67	102	1,163	1,512
1945	30	45	229	323
Total	1,315	2,177	22,898	30,132

1. Based upon the information in the *Battle of the Atlantic* videos and the data in the table above, how did the German Wolf Pack impact the Battle of the Atlantic over time?

Question to Ponder:

If you were from an Allied country what would you do to lessen the impact of the Wolf Pack on the Allied ships?