

## Understanding the Skunk Market

You've may have heard of the stock market, but what do you know about the skunk market? You know the market for buying and selling skunks. There's not a lot of cash in selling skunk fur today, but a century ago, you could have gotten stinking rich if you'd had enough pelts to meet demand.

TABLE 2.—*Pelts of skunks sold in American markets, 1918 to 1922.*

Market.	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922 <sup>1</sup>
New York.....	183,022	472,596	427,716	443,441	231,385
St. Louis.....	413,432	804,317	778,184	465,234	.....

What was the average yearly number of skunks sold in New York between 1918 and 1922?  
(Feel free to [use a calculator to help you solve.](#))

What was the average number of skunks sold in St. Louis between 1918 and 1921?  
(Feel free to [use a calculator to help you solve.](#))



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TABLE 1.—*Sale of skunk furs in London, 1858 to 1915.*

Year.	Number of skins.	Year.	Number of skins.	Year.	Number of skins.
1858.....	18,255	1878.....	285,103	1897.....	872,328
1859.....	84,886	1879.....	444,224	1898.....	482,130
1860.....	148,346	1880.....	517,191	1899.....	426,610
1861.....	116,609	1881.....	350,594	1900.....	695,686
1862.....	30,969	1882.....	443,911	1901.....	696,961
1863.....	94,187	1883.....	424,645	1902.....	973,695
1864.....	136,361	1884.....	596,243	1903.....	987,550
1865.....	103,755	1885.....	560,388	1904.....	911,923
1866.....	76,602	1886.....	489,473	1905.....	952,549
1867.....	137,407	1887.....	625,802	1906.....	1,225,582
1868.....	94,480	1888.....	526,263	1907.....	1,368,475
1869.....	111,001	1889.....	536,864	1908.....	1,037,641
1870.....	114,665	1890.....	688,946	1909.....	1,115,910
1871.....	45,670	1891.....	567,398	1910.....	1,282,001
1872.....	206,320	1892.....	635,800	1911.....	2,009,465
1873.....	263,704	1893.....	575,472	1912.....	1,821,485
1874.....	191,980	1894.....	739,228	1913.....	1,659,773
1875.....	243,493	1895.....	542,885	1914.....	1,921,800
1876.....	331,914	1896.....	796,750	1915.....	615,000
1877.....	283,141				

The lowest number of sales recorded was in 1858. How many skunk pelts were sold that year?

In which year were the most skunk pelts sold?

*On average, more skunk pelts were sold per year between 1911-1915 than between 1858-1862.*  
Is this above statement, true or false?

TRUE

FALSE