This section refers to the maximum number of passengers tourism vessels are certified to carry. For the purposes of this report, this figure provides an idea of how many passengers could conceivably be onboard a vessel, within a certain area at a given time assuming full occupancy. AIS data limitations make it impossible to accurately determine numbers of passengers onboard, without access to certain coastal state or industry reporting datasets it is. This results in the highest end estimate calculating the total number of passengers (and crew) vessels are allowed to carry.

The graph below indicates that the number of passengers carried by vessels throughout the Arctic Region has increased over time, not only due to an increase in overall numbers of individual passenger vessels operating in the area, but also due to an increase in size and overall passenger occupancy onboard these vessels.