

CLE257 COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:

Hello all

Do you remember CLE257! To my shame, it finished over a week ago and these follow-up comments are very late. We were listening for the NDBs in the 190-240 kHz range, plus those on 'half frequencies' (nnn.5) over the whole NDB range.

This listening event was quite a challenge because this is about the lowest of the 'low season' for most of us in the Northern Hemisphere. The summertime QRN, especially in North America, was worse than ever. However, from Europe, 4 Canadian beacons were heard up to almost 5,000 km away. Five non-Europe listeners logged ALJ, Johnstone Point Island in ALS, including from over 4,400 km away in Hawaii.

Now vs. Then The bottom statistics table in the Excel results compared the results for listeners who also took part in CLE241 in February 2019, when we were using the same listening 'rules'.

Those results clearly show that nearly all the performance figures had fallen, but with a much greater decrease for listeners away from Europe:

CLE257 compared with CLE241	AVERAGE KM % increase	TOTAL KM % increase	NDBs HEARD % increase	MAX KM % increase
EUROPE LISTENERS (9):	-5	-21	-19	8
REST of the WORLD LISTENERS (14):	-36	-89	-82	-53

The AVERAGE KM is the average of all the distances from listener to the NDBs logged for each listener.

The TOTAL KM is the sum of the distances from listener to NDB for all their loggings.

The NDBs HEARD is the number of different NDBs logged by each listener.

The MAX KM is the distance for the one most DX logging of each listener.

(e.g. the number of NDBs heard was about 20% less for Europe, about 80% less for the Rest)

Good News from CLE257 is that we can welcome two first-time CLE listeners:

From Italy, thanks to **Daniele Cristaldini** for his log from Mediglia and, from Slovakia, thanks to **Radovan Vlacilik** in Stupava - our first CLE log from SVK since 2004, if our records are right!

The delay in sending these comments is partly because I thought I could take my own advice from the C's Comments back in April:

“Now we have records from our monthly CLEs for nearly 20 years covering the whole frequency range - and more importantly also today's magnificent Rxx Database, so I think we can now produce something showing quite accurately how the number of active NDBs has declined over the whole period. Something to keep me (and others?) busy for a little while maybe, now that we are rather housebound?”

It's not an easy thing to do, but I started a few days ago and was making good progress until it became clear that my very limited Excel skills were being over-stretched! Maybe next time?

The main reason for the delay has been tackling the problems with my new W10 computer, which has needed a lot of follow-up work at the computer shop - including two weeks during which they found it needed a complete re-installation of Windows. It's been back here for a few days and is still a bit poorly, but most of the essential things are OK again. Fortunately, my No 2 laptop (still running Windows 7!) has continued to cope OK.

Coming CLEs:

(The dates are provisional at present)

CLE258 Fri. July 24th - Mon. July 27th

CLE259 Fri. Aug 28th - Mon. Aug 31st

Good listening, take care.

73

Brian

(CLE Coordinator)