



THE IUCN RED LIST
OF THREATENED SPECIES™



Circus aeruginosus (Western Marsh-harrier)

European Red List of Birds

Supplementary Material

The European Union (EU28) Red List assessments were based principally on the official data reported by EU Member States to the European Commission under Article 12 of the Birds Directive in 2019-20. For the European Red List assessments, similar data were sourced from BirdLife Partners and other collaborating experts in other European countries and territories. For more information, see BirdLife International (2021).

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Recommended citation

BirdLife International (2021) European Red List of Birds. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.

Further information

- <http://datazone.birdlife.org/info/euroredlist>
- <http://www.birdlife.org/europe-and-central-asia/european-red-list-birds-0>
- <http://www.iucnredlist.org/regions/europe>
- <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/>

Data requests and feedback

To request access to these data in electronic format, provide new information, correct any errors or provide feedback, please email science@birdlife.org.

Circus aeruginosus (Western Marsh-harrier)

Table 1. Reported national breeding population size and trends in Europe¹.

Country (or territory) ²	Population estimate				Short-term population trend ⁵				Long-term population trend ⁵				Subspecific population (where relevant)
	Size (pairs) ³	Europe (%)	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	
Albania	8–29	<1	2007–2018	partial	+	60 to 93	2007–2018	partial	+	60 to 93	1980–2018	expert	
Armenia	170–250	<1	2013–2018	complete	0		2007–2018		0		2003–2018	partial	
Austria	350–500	<1	2013–2018	partial	0		2007–2018	partial	+	100 to 200	1981–2018	partial	
Azerbaijan	200–1000	<1	1996–2000	expert	0		2013–2019	expert	0		1980–2019	expert	
Belarus	6000–9000	4	2010–2018	partial	0	-10 to 10	2012–2019	expert	?		1980–2019	deficient	
Belgium	110–180	<1	2013–2018	complete	+	2 to 67	2008–2018	complete	+	340 to 620	1973–2018	partial	
Bosnia & HG	350–700	<1	2015–2018	complete	?	-10 to 10	2007–2018	complete	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Bulgaria	220–260	<1	2005–2018	partial	0	0	2000–2018	partial	+	400 to 450	1980–2018	partial	
Croatia	40–60	<1	2013–2018	expert	0		2003–2010	expert	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Czechia	1500–2000	<1	2014–2017	complete	+		2007–2018	complete	+		1982–2018	partial	
Denmark	1000–1100	<1	2011–2011	expert	0		2004–2017	expert	0		1980–2017	expert	
Estonia	1000–1300	<1	2013–2017	partial	+	43 to 69	2007–2018	partial	+	93 to 194	1987–2018	partial	
Finland	650–740	<1	2013–2018	partial	0	-24 to 16	2007–2018	complete	+	81 to 280	1982–2018	complete	
France	1600–2200	1	2000–2002	partial	0		2014–2017	expert	?		1989–2018	expert	
Georgia	70–690	<1	2013–2017	partial	+	-46 to 755	2001–2017	partial	?				
Germany	6500–9000	4	2016–2016	expert	-		2004–2016	expert	0		1980–2016	expert	
Greece	50–100	<1	2013–2018	partial	-		2007–2018	partial	0		1980–2018	partial	
Hungary	9000	5	2014–2018	complete	?		2007–2018	expert	F		1980–2018	expert	
Italy	210–290	<1	2002–2004	expert	?		2007–2018	deficient	+	185 to 330	1993–2018	expert	
Kosovo	6–10	<1	2007–2019	partial	+		2007–2018	partial	+		1990–2018	partial	
Latvia	7700–22100	7	2016–2016	complete	?	-39 to 93	2007–2018	complete	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Lithuania	2000–2500	1	2013–2018	partial	-	-10 to 0	2013–2018	partial	0		1980–2018	partial	
North Macedonia	15–30	<1	2014–2019	expert	0		2007–2018	expert	?		1980–2019		
Moldova	210–300	<1	2014–2017	partial	+		2007–2018	partial	0		1990–2018	expert	
Montenegro	20–40	<1	2013–2018	partial	+		2007–2018	expert	?				
Netherlands	900–1200	<1	2013–2015	complete	-	-18 to -2	2006–2017	complete	-	-26 to -22	1980–2017	complete	
Norway	24–44	<1	2013–2018	complete	?		2013–2018	expert	F		1980–2018	complete	
Poland	6600–7400	4	2013–2018	complete	0	-15 to 34	2007–2018	complete	+		1980–2018	expert	
Portugal	150–300	<1	2013–2018	partial	?		2007–2018	deficient	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Romania	9300–22400	8	2013–2015	complete	?	-10 to 9	2008–2018	partial	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Russia	60000–100000	41	2008–2018	partial	?		2008–2018	deficient	+	0	1980–2018	partial	
Serbia	620–830	<1	2013–2018	partial	+	10 to 29	2007–2018	complete	+	30 to 49	1980–2018	complete	

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Table 1. Reported national breeding population size and trends in Europe¹.

Country (or territory) ²	Population estimate				Short-term population trend ⁵				Long-term population trend ⁵				Subspecific population (where relevant)
	Size (pairs) ³	Europe (%)	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	
Slovakia	1000–1500	<1	2013–2018	partial	0		2007–2018	partial	+	100 to 200	1980–2018	partial	
Slovenia	2–5	<1	2013–2018	complete	+	100 to 150	2007–2018	complete	+	100 to 400	1980–2018	expert	
Spain	1300–1600	<1	2006–2018	complete	+		2007–2018	complete	+		1980–2018	complete	
Sweden	1300–1700	<1	2013–2018	partial	0	-20 to 60	2007–2018	partial	+	200 to 300	1980–2018	partial	
Turkey	1000–1500	<1	2002–2012	partial	?		2002–2012	deficient	?		1980–2013	deficient	
Ukraine	30000–40000	18	2010–2018	partial	0	0	1996–2018	partial	0	0	1988–2019	partial	
United Kingdom	580–700	<1	2016	complete	+		2001–2016	complete	+		1978–2016	complete	
EU28	53200–88000	35											
Europe	151000–243000	100											

¹ See 'Sources' at end of factsheet, and for more details on individual EU Member State reports, see the Article 12 reporting portal at <http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/report>.

² The designation of geographical entities and the presentation of the material do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IUCN or BirdLife International concerning the legal status of any country, territory or area, or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

³ In the few cases where population size estimates were reported in units other than those specified, they were converted to the correct units using standard correction factors.

⁴ The 'method used' (replacing the data 'quality' assessment in the 2015 European Red List) is reported as: a) Complete: complete survey or a statistically robust estimate; b) Partial: based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data; c) Expert: based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data; d) Deficient: insufficient or no data available.

⁵ The robustness of regional trends to the effects of any missing or incomplete data was tested using plausible scenarios, based on other sources of information, including any other reported information, recent national Red Lists, scientific literature, other publications and consultation with relevant experts.

⁶ Trend directions are reported as: increasing (+); decreasing (-); stable (0); fluctuating (F); or unknown (?).

⁷ Trend magnitudes are rounded to the nearest integer.

Circus aeruginosus (Western Marsh-harrier)

Table 2. Reported national wintering population sizes and trends in Europe¹. Note that some countries within the species' wintering range did not report any data, and that only minimum totals are presented, to avoid double-counting of birds moving between countries.

Country (or territory) ²	Population estimate				Short-term population trend ⁵				Long-term population trend ⁵				Subspecific population (where relevant)
	Size (individuals) ³	Europe (%)	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	Direction ⁶	Magnitude (%) ⁷	Year(s)	Method ⁴	
Albania	90–150	1	2007–2018	complete	0	0	2007–2018	complete	0	0	1980–2018	complete	
Azerbaijan	500–2500	12	1996–2019	complete	0		2010–2019	complete	?		1980–2019	expert	
Bosnia & HG	100–300	2	2015–2018	complete	0		2007–2018	deficient	?		1980–2018	deficient	
Croatia	14	<1	2013–2018	expert	?		2007–2018	deficient	?		1980–2013	deficient	
Cyprus	13–38	<1	2013–2018	partial	+	30 to 50	2007–2018	partial	+	100 to 250	1980–2018	expert	
Italy	860–970	10	2013–2015	partial	0		2009–2015	partial	+	25 to 45	1991–2015	partial	
Portugal	500–1300	9	2013–2018	partial	+		2007–2018	partial	+		1980–2018	partial	
Serbia	100–350	2	2013–2018	partial	F		2013–2018	complete	+	80 to 100	1980–2018	partial	
Spain	5600–6000	64	2006–2007	complete	+		2006–2018	complete	+		1980–2018	partial	
EU28	6900–8200	82											
Europe	7700–11500	100											

¹ See 'Sources' at end of factsheet, and for more details on individual EU Member State reports, see the Article 12 reporting portal at <http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/report>.

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⁵ The robustness of regional trends to the effects of any missing or incomplete data was tested using plausible scenarios, based on other sources of information, including any other reported information, recent national Red Lists, scientific literature, other publications and consultation with relevant experts.

⁶ Trend directions are reported as: increasing (+); decreasing (-); stable (0); fluctuating (F); or unknown (?).

⁷ Trend magnitudes are rounded to the nearest integer.

Trend maps

A symbol appears in each country where the species occurs: the shape and colour of the symbol represent the population trend in that country, and the size of the symbol corresponds to the proportion of the European population occurring in that country.

KEY

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| ▲ Large increase ($\geq 50\%$) | ▼ Large decrease ($\geq 50\%$) |
| ▲ Moderate increase (20–49%) | ▼ Moderate decrease (20–49%) |
| ▲ Small increase (<20%) | ▼ Small decrease (<20%) |
| ↑ Increase of unknown magnitude | ↓ Decrease of unknown magnitude |
| ■ Stable or fluctuating | |
| □ Unknown | |
| ○ Present (no population or trend data) | |
| ✗ Extinct since 1980 | |

Each symbol, with the exception of Present and Extinct, may occur in up to three different size classes, corresponding to the proportion of the European population occurring in that country.

- ↑ Large: $\geq 10\%$ of the European population
- ↑ Medium: 1–9% of the European population
- ↑ Small: <1% of the European population

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Figure 1. Breeding population sizes and short-term trends across Europe.

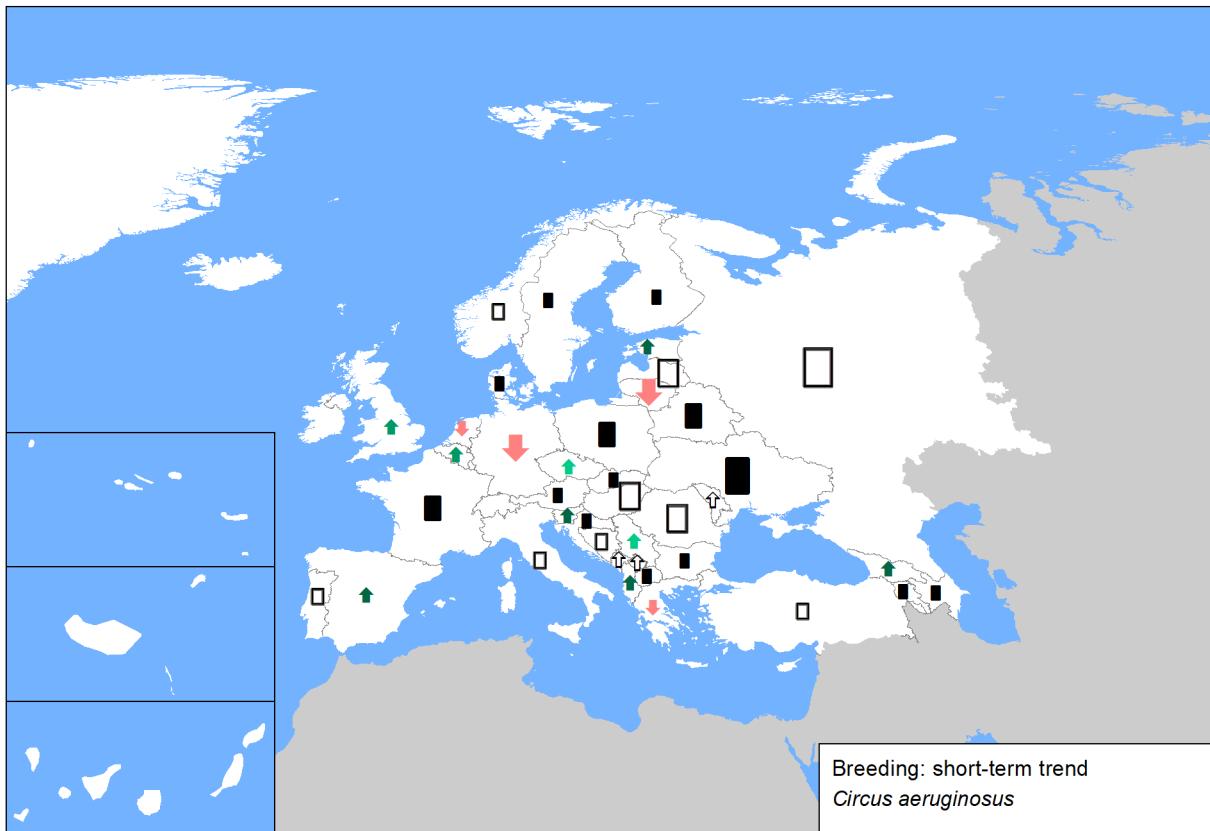


Figure 2. Breeding population sizes and long-term trends across Europe.

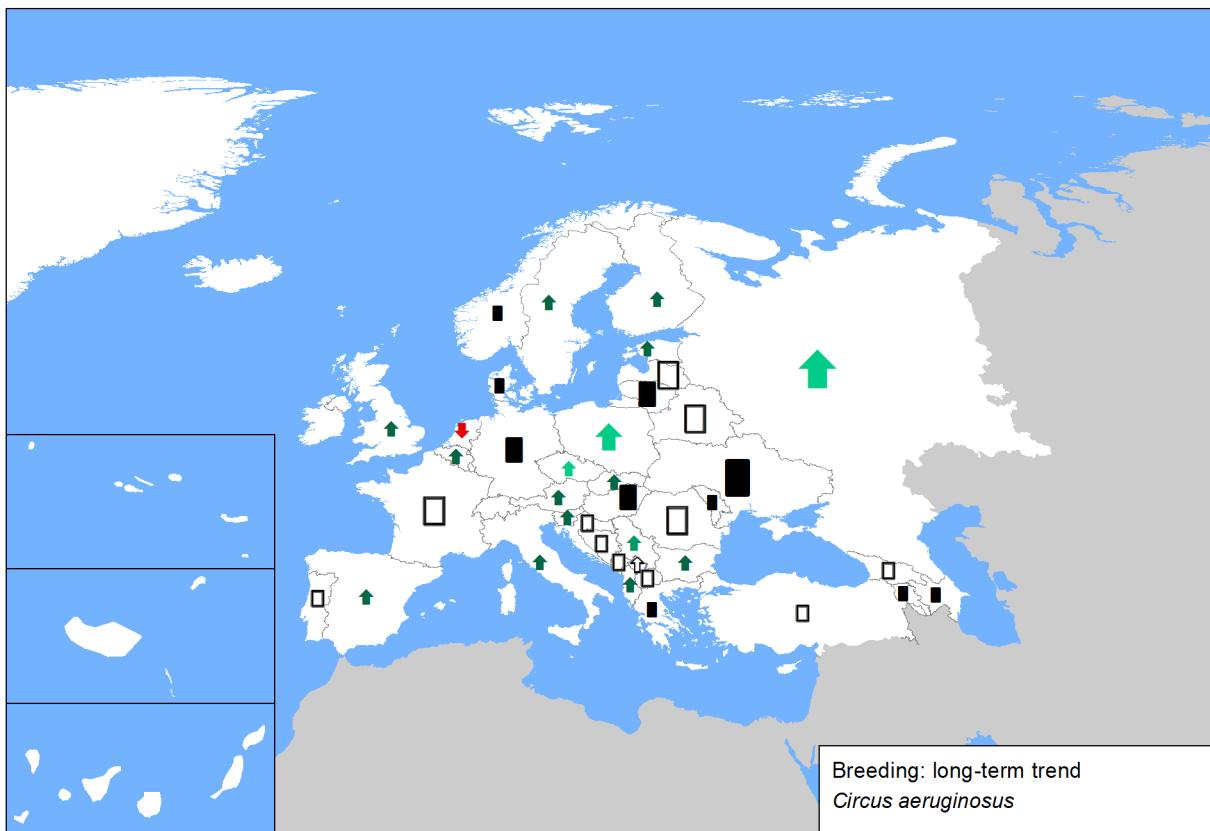


Figure 3. Reported wintering population sizes and short-term trends across Europe. Note that some countries within the species' wintering range did not report any data.

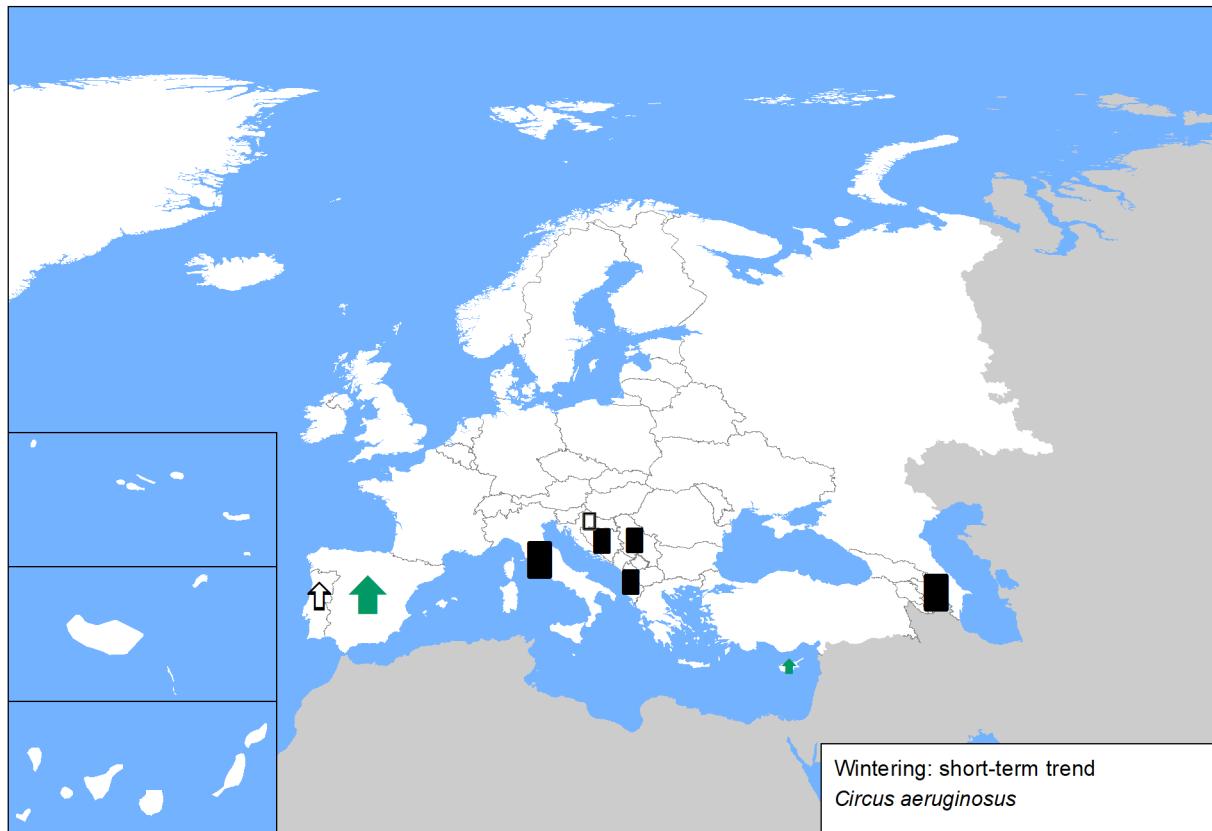
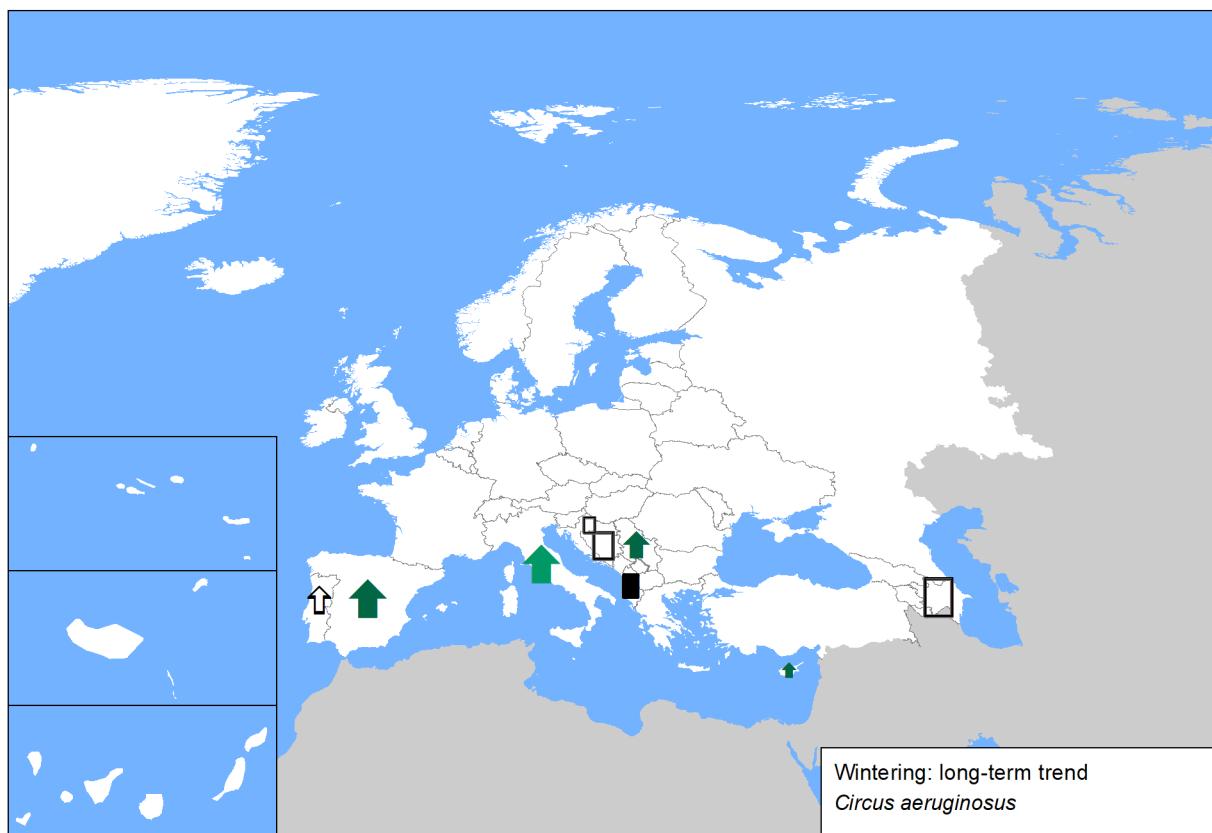


Figure 4. Reported wintering population sizes and long-term trends across Europe. Note that some countries within the species' wintering range did not report any data.



Sources

Albania

Breeding population size:	Bino & Xeka pers. obs.
Breeding short-term trend:	Bino & Xeka pers. obs.
Breeding long-term trend:	Bino pers. obs.
Winter population size:	Bino pers. obs.
Winter short-term trend:	Bino et al. 2018
Winter long-term trend:	Bino et al. 2018

Armenia

Breeding population size:	TSE NGO
Breeding short-term trend:	TSE (2020) The Atlas of the Breeding Birds in Armenia. In preparation.
Breeding long-term trend:	TSE (2020) The Atlas of the Breeding Birds in Armenia. In preparation.

Austria

Breeding population size:	BirdLife Austria, unpublished data from www.ornitho.at
Breeding short-term trend:	BirdLife Austria, unpublished data from www.ornitho.at; BirdLife Austria, unpublished archive data
Breeding long-term trend:	Dvorak, Ranner & Berg 1993 (Atlas of Austrian Breeding Birds)

Azerbaijan

Breeding population size:	BirdLife International 2004
Breeding short-term trend:	AOS data base
Breeding long-term trend:	AOS Data Base
Winter population size:	AOS data base
Winter short-term trend:	AOS Data Base
Winter long-term trend:	AOS Data Base

Belarus

Breeding population size:	Research work of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus "Dynamics and predictive assessment of changes in the state of populations of the main resource and biocenotically most important bird species in Belarus"
Breeding long-term trend:	Dombrovski V.Ch. – personal communication Nikiforov M.E., Kozulin A.V., eds. Belarussian birds at the beginning of XXI century: status, numbers, distribution. - 1997. - Minsk. - 187 p.

Belgium

Breeding population size:	Vermeersch G. et al. (2018, in press). Broedvogels in Vlaanderen in de periode 2013-2018. Rapporten van het Instituut voor Natuur- en Bosonderzoek (INBO), Brussel. / Paquet, J-Y., Anselin, A., Vermeersch, G., Derouaux, A., Devos, K. (2019, in prep.). Contribution of Belgium to EBCC European Breeding Bird Atlas 2. Internal Report.
Breeding short-term trend:	Vermeersch G. et al. (2018, in press). Broedvogels in Vlaanderen in de periode 2013-2018. Rapporten van het Instituut voor Natuur- en Bosonderzoek (INBO), Brussel. / Paquet, J-Y., Anselin, A., Vermeersch, G., Derouaux, A., Devos, K. (2019, in prep.). Contribution of Belgium to EBCC European Breeding Bird Atlas 2. Internal Report.
Breeding long-term trend:	Vermeersch G. et al. (2018, in press). Broedvogels in Vlaanderen in de periode 2013-2018. Rapporten van het Instituut voor Natuur- en Bosonderzoek (INBO), Brussel. / Paquet, J-Y., Anselin, A., Vermeersch, G., Derouaux, A., Devos, K. (2019, in prep.). Contribution of Belgium to EBCC European Breeding Bird Atlas 2. Internal Report.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Breeding population size:	Based on data for EBBA2
Breeding short-term trend:	more individual articles e.g published in magazine Bilten mreže posmatrača ptica u Bosni i Hercegovini-see https://ptice.ba/bs/category/bilteni_/ , individual reports (e.g. for EBBA2, projects etc)
Winter population size:	based on IWC reports-all reports published in magazine Bilten mreže posmatrača ptica (www.ptice.ba)
Winter short-term trend:	based on IWC reports-all reports published in magazine Bilten mreže posmatrača ptica (www.ptice.ba)
Winter long-term trend:	There are no qualitative data before 2005 to make estimates

Bulgaria

Breeding population size:	Dereliev, S., D. Georgiev, E. Stoynov, I. Mitev, N. Petkov 2007. Western Marsh-harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>). - In: Iankov, P. (ed.) 2007. Atlas of the breeding birds in Bulgaria. BSPB, Conservation series, Book 10.; National Art. 12 reporting database 2013-2018; Golemansky V. (ed.) 2011. Red Data Book of Bulgaria. Vol. 2, Animals. Http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol2/ BSPB Bird Database
Breeding short-term trend:	Dereliev, S., D. Georgiev, E. Stoynov, I. Mitev, N. Petkov 2007. Western Marsh-harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>). - In: Iankov, P. (ed.) 2007. Atlas of the breeding birds in Bulgaria. BSPB, Conservation series, Book 10.; National Art. 12 reporting database 2013-2018; Golemansky V. (ed.) 2011. Red Data Book of Bulgaria. Vol. 2, Animals. Http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol2/ BSPB Bird Database

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Bulgaria

Breeding long-term trend: Dereilev, S., D. Georgiev, E. Stoynov, I. Mitev, N. Petkov 2007. Western Marsh-harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*). - In: Iankov, P. (ed.) 2007. Atlas of the breeding birds in Bulgaria. BSPB, Conservation series, Book 10. Golemansky V. (ed.) 2011. Red Data Book of Bulgaria. Vol. 2, Animals. [Http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol2/](http://e-ecodb.bas.bg/rdb/en/vol2/) Botev, B. (ed.) 1985. Red Data Book of Bulgaria, Vol. 2, Animals, Sofia, BAS, 183 p. BSPB Bird Database Petrov, T., T. Michev, 1985. Breeding distribution, numbers and protection of the Marsh Harrier, *Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus* (Linnaeus, 1758) in Bulgaria. In: International Symposium "Protection of natural areas and the genetic fund they contain". Project No 8 on the program 'Man and Biosphere', UNESCO, 23-28. 09. 1985. Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, Collection of reports, Sofia: BAS, pp. 313-323 (in Bulg., Engl. Summ.)

Croatia

Breeding population size: Zavod za ornitologiju (Sanja Barišić, Davor Ćiković, Jelena Kralj, Goran Sušić, Vesna Tuttiš), Dragan Radović, Ivan Budinski, Robert Crnković, Antun Delić, Dubravko Dender, Vlatka Dumbović, Ivan Darko Grlica, Bariša Ilić, Luka Jurinović, Davor Krnjeta, Krešimir Leskovar, Duje Lisičić, Ivica Lolić, Gordan Lukač. Kristijan Mandić, Krešimir Mikulić, Tibor Mikuska, Gvido Piasevoli, Andrej Radalj, Zlatko Ružanović, Vlatka Šćetarić, Mirko Šetina, Adrian Tomik (2015): Procjene brojnosti za SPA područja. Državni zavod za zaštitu prirode, Zagreb

Breeding short-term trend: Dumbović Mazal V., Pintar V., Zadravec M. (2019): Prvo izvješće o brojnosti i rasprostranjenosti ptica u Hrvatskoj sukladno odredbama Direktive o pticama.

Breeding long-term trend: Tuttiš, V., Kralj, J., Radović, D., Ćiković, D., Barišić, S. (ur.) (2013): Crvena knjiga ptica Hrvatske. Ministarstvo zaštite okoliša i prirode, Državni zavod za zaštitu prirode, Zagreb, 258 str.

Winter population size: Tuttiš, V., Kralj, J., Radović, D., Ćiković, D., Barišić, S. (ur.) (2013): Crvena knjiga ptica Hrvatske. Ministarstvo zaštite okoliša i prirode, Državni zavod za zaštitu prirode, Zagreb, 258 str.

Winter short-term trend: no data available

Winter long-term trend: no data available

Cyprus

Winter population size: Monthly waterbird counts by BirdLife Cyprus and Game & Fauna Service, as published in BirdLife Cyprus monthly checklists and also by the Game & Fauna Service; Analysis of recent BirdLife Cyprus bird sightings records reported in the society's annual reports. Game & Fauna Service, SPAs Management Plans, 2016 (Ministry of the Interior). Very poor data

Winter short-term trend: Monthly waterbird counts by BirdLife Cyprus and Game & Fauna Service, as published in BirdLife Cyprus monthly checklists and also by the Game & Fauna Service; Analysis of recent BirdLife Cyprus bird sightings records reported in the society's annual reports.

Winter long-term trend: More recent records (2000 onwards) as above, pre-2000 records based on birdwatching records as reported in BirdLife Cyprus annual reports

Czechia

Breeding population size: Šťastný et Bejček in prep. - Atlas hnězdího rozšíření ptáků ČR 2014-2017

Breeding short-term trend: ČSO (unpubl.): Common Bird Monitoring Programme

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Denmark

Breeding population size: Nielsen, R.D., Holm, T.E., Clausen, P., Bregnalle, T., Clausen, K.K., Petersen, I.K., Sterup, J., Balsby, T.J.S., Pedersen, C.L., Mikkelsen, P. & Bladt, J. (2019). Fugle 2012-2017. NOVANA. Aarhus Universitet, DCE – Nationalt Center for Miljø og Energi. - Videnskabelig rapport nr. 314. <http://dce2.au.dk/pub/SR314.pdf> and <http://novana.au.dk/fugle/>

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Estonia

Breeding population size: Estonian Working Group on Bird Status and Numbers

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Finland

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France

Breeding population size: Le Rest K. et al. 2015. Volunteer-based surveys offer enhanced opportunities for biodiversity monitoring across broad spatial extent.. Ecological informatics, 313-317 ; Thiollay, J.-M. & Bretagnolle, V. 2004. Rapaces nicheurs de France, Distribution, effectifs et conservation, Delachaux et Niestlé, Paris. 175 p.

Breeding long-term trend: Roché, J., Muller, Y. & Siblet, J.P. 2013. Une méthode simple pour estimer les populations d'oiseaux communs nicheurs en France. Alauda, 81, p: 241 - 268 ; Issa, N. & Muller, Y. 2015. Atlas des oiseaux nicheurs de France métropolitaine. Volume 1: des Anatidés aux Alcidés. Delachaud et niestlé,

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Georgia

Breeding population size: EBBA Georgia, prepared by Sabuko-Society for nature conservation, Ilia state university, NGO "psovi".

Breeding short-term trend: Abuladze, A. 2013. Birds of Prey of Georgia (Materials towards a Fauna of Georgia Issue VI). Tbilisi, Printing House "Lasha Khvichia". Tbilisi: 218 pp. (in English) Galvez, R.A., Gavashelishvili, L., Javakhishvili, Z. 2005. Raptors and Owls of Georgia (Field guide). Tbilisi, GCCW & Buneba Print Publishing. Tbilisi: 128 pp. (in English & in Georgian); EBBA Georgia

Germany

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Italy

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North Macedonia

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Breeding short-term trend: unpublished data from the European Breeding Bird Atlas 2

Moldova

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Breeding short-term trend: SPPN expert opinion (sppn.moldova@gmail.com)

Breeding long-term trend: SPPN expert opinion (sppn.moldova@gmail.com)

Montenegro

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Norway

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Poland

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Breeding short-term trend: State Environmental Monitoring / Chief Inspectorate of Environmental Protection (survey: MFGP)

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Portugal

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Romania

Breeding population size: Romanian Common Bird Monitoring Programme, Breeding Waterbird Monitoring Programme, Ornitodata (Romanian Ornithological Society) Database, OpenBirdMaps (Milvus Group) Database

Breeding short-term trend: Romanian Common Bird Monitoring Programme, Ornitodata (Romanian Ornithological Society) Database, OpenBirdMaps (Milvus Group) Database

Breeding long-term trend: Ornitodata (Romanian Ornithological Society) Database, OpenBirdMaps (Milvus Group) Database, Rombird (Romanian Rarity Commission) Database

Russia

Breeding population size: Voltzit & Kalyakin 2013-2019; Database of the project on Atlas of breeding birds of European Russia

Breeding short-term trend: Melnikov 2017

Breeding long-term trend: Melnikov 2008; Ilykh 2010

Serbia

Breeding population size: EBBA2 project; Puzović, S., Radišić, D., Ružić, M., Rajković, D., Radaković, M., Pantović, U., Janković, M., Stojnić, N., Šćiban, M., Tucakov, M., Gergelj, J., Sekulić, G., Agošton, A. & Raković, M. 2015. Birds of Serbia: Breeding Population Estimates and Trends for the Period 2008-2013. Bird protection and study society of Serbia, and Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Novi Sad.

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