

Template for quality and metadata reporting

 Name of the statistical product as in the inventory Concept Name		Description Bird species population status
A	Data description (metadata)	
Data description	<p>Describe the main characteristics of the data set in an easily understandable manner, referring to the main data and indicators disseminated. This short description should be understood immediately and easily by the users.</p> <p>The data set informs about the state of nature in the EU, using assessments of the population status and trends of bird species listed in the EU Birds Directive. It is based on data collected by Member States under the reporting obligations of Article 12 of the EU Birds Directive. In addition, Member States report on population size and trends, on main pressures and threats to birds, on conservation measures and numbers of individuals hunted and provide information on the role of Natura 2000 network. They also provide breeding distribution maps at 10X10 km grids. Data from Member States are used to develop assessments of population status and trends at EU level. Population status is not assessed at Member State level but only at EU level and is shown as good, poor, bad or unknown.</p> <p>More information about the Birds Directive can be found at : The Birds Directive - Environment - European Commission (europa.eu) More information on Art. 12 reporting be found at: Birds Directive reporting</p>	
Statistical population	<p>Describe the target statistical population (one or more) which the data set refers to, i.e. the population about which information is to be sought.</p> <p>Assessments of population status target all wild bird species that are naturally present in the European territory of the EU Member States. Assessment of the EU population size and trend calculations and EU population status was done for 511 bird taxa (species, subspecies and biogeographic populations, and their counterparts). These include 463 species regularly occurring in the EU, breeding and/or wintering. Article 12 reporting also considers the seasonality in bird biology and distribution by distinguishing between breeding, wintering and passage (migratory) seasons.</p> <p>Wild Birds: Bird species of the European Union - Environment - European Commission (europa.eu) Workbook: SON FactsAndFigures (europa.eu)</p>	
Reference period	<p>Statistical variables refer to specific time periods, which can be a specific day or a specific period (e.g. a month, a fiscal year, a calendar year or several calendar years). When there is a mismatch between the target and the actual reference period, for instance when data are not available for the target reference period, the difference should also be highlighted.</p> <p>Article 12 requires Member States to report every six years about the implementation of the measures taken under Birds Directive and the main impacts of these measures. The reference period of the last reporting is 2013-2018.</p> <p>Birds Directive Reporting - Environment - European Commission (europa.eu)</p>	
Frequency of dissemination	<p>The frequency with which the data is disseminated should be mentioned (e.g. monthly, quarterly, yearly). The frequency can also be expressed by using the codes released in the harmonised code list available for the European Statistical System.</p> <p>New data sets are released every 6 years.</p> <p>Birds Directive Reporting - Environment - European Commission (europa.eu)</p>	
Geographical reference area	<p>At European level: The geographical area covered by the data set disseminated (e.g. EU Members states, EU regions, USA, Japan, etc. as well as aggregates such as EU-27, EEA). At national level: the country, the regions and aggregates covered by the data set disseminated</p> <p>The data is reported by all 27 Member States. The 2013-2018 dataset includes data from EU27 + UK.</p>	
Unit of measure	<p>The units of measures used for the data set disseminated should be listed (units of measures are e.g. Euro, %, number of persons). Also the exact use of magnitude (e.g. thousand, million) should be added.</p>	

	<p>The provided by the Member States concern a range of parameters and each one of them may entail different units (e.g. population units for most breeding birds were (but not restricted to) breeding pairs; for wintering birds, units were individuals). The final measure at EU level is the assessment of population status of each bird taxon that is split into the categories good, poor, bad and unknown and the trends that can be increasing, stable, fluctuating, decreasing and uncertain/unknown. For the overall EU aggregate the percentage (%) of assessments with good, poor, bad or unknown population status and the percentage (%) of increasing, stable, fluctuating, decreasing and uncertain/unknown trends is calculated.</p>
Basic statistical concepts and definitions	<p>Describe in short the main statistical variables provided. The definitions and types of variables provided should be listed.</p> <p>The population status of birds (secure, not secure, threatened, unknown) generally reflects the IUCN Red List criteria at EU level. The assessment is based on IUCN Red List methodology but adapted as regards the IUCN 'least concerned' category that is sub-divided into 'declining', 'depleted' and 'secure'. The categories of 'declining' and 'depleted', together with the IUCN Red List category 'near threatened' are allocated to the 'not secured' category of the Art 12 reporting. The categories of EU population status of birds (secure, not secure, threatened and unknown) were harmonised in the last reporting period with Article 17 and renamed to good, poor, bad and unknown.</p> <p>Definitions and explanation on the main concepts and data collected via the reporting are available from the relevant reporting guidelines : https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/c288df56-1237-4da6-a2d2-8029a8623ce6/Reporting%20guidelines%20Article%2012%20final%20May%202017.pdf Full details of the methodology are available from: State of nature in the EU — Methodological paper: Methodologies under the nature directives reporting 2013-2018 and analysis for the state of nature 2000 (ETC/BD, 2020).</p>
Classifications used	<p>List all classifications which are used for the data set produced (with their detailed names).</p> <p>Birds Directive Annex I, II and III list of bird taxa</p>
Statistical Confidentiality	<p>Legislative measures or other formal procedures which prevent unauthorised disclosure of data that identify a person or economic entity either directly or indirectly.</p> <p>Not applicable (There is no information disclosed that would enable identification of individuals).</p>
B Data quality	
Relevance	<p>Describe the degree to which statistical information meets current and potential needs of the users.</p> <p>The assessments of population status indicate the implementation and success of the Birds Directive in Member States and the EU.</p> <p>It is directly relevant to the new EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, in particular its EU Nature Restoration Plan, with several aims, including strengthening the EU legal framework for nature restoration and requesting Member States to ensure no deterioration in the conservation trends and status of all protected habitats and species and ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats not currently in favourable status are in that category or show a strong positive trend by 2030.</p> <p>EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030</p>
Timeliness	<p>Indicate the length of time between data availability and the event or phenomenon they describe.</p> <p>Aggregated data at EU level become fully available approximately 2 years after the end of the reporting period. The most recent data set for the third reporting period, 2013-2018, was published in 2020.</p>
Accuracy and reliability	<p>Source data: Indicate if the data set is based on a survey or on administrative data sources. If sample surveys are used, some sample characteristics should also be given (e.g. gross and net sample size, type of sampling design, reporting domain etc.). If administrative registers are used, the description of registers should be given (source, year, primary purpose, potential deficiencies and solutions to address them, etc.)</p> <p>Data collection and methods used: Describe the method used to gather data from respondents (e.g. postal survey, CAPI, on-line survey, etc.). Some additional information on questionnaire design and testing, interviewer training, methods used to monitor non-response etc. should be provided here.</p> <p>Reporting consists of three main steps: (1) collecting the data in reports for each Member State. The data reported from Member States is a mix of data coming from biodiversity monitoring and modelling. The detailed methods used from member States to collect data are not described in the reporting formats. The objective is to collect data from robust and comprehensive surveys and using methods comparable across all Member States. In many cases, however, the reported information comes from partial surveys that were performed for different purposes. In other cases, suitable data do not exist and expert opinion has been sought. For bird assessments more than 30 % of the information comes from partial surveys and more than 15 % is based on expert judgement.</p>

(2) processing Member States reports. This is done through the application of specific quality assurance checks from EEA, ETC/BD and a Commission contract.

(3) assessing the reported data in order to conclude on the population status and trends at EU level. This is done following a specific methodology that is described in a dedicated publication.

The European Environment Agency and its European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD) provide technical and scientific support to the European Commission and the EU Member States throughout all stages of the reporting process. Assessments at EU level have been done through Commission contracts with Bird Life. Working groups like the Commission Expert Group on Reporting under the Nature Directives also provide assistance. In total, more than 120 000 people across Europe (more than 70 % of whom are volunteers) have contributed to this process.

Full details of the methodology are available from: [State of nature in the EU — Methodological paper: Methodologies under the nature directives reporting 2013-2018 and analysis for the state of nature](#)

Publications: Regular or ad-hoc publications in which the data are made easily available to users.

Publications on State of nature

- [The State of Nature in the EU \(leaflet\)](#)
- [The State of Nature in the EU \(brochure\)](#)
- [Press release](#)
- [The state of nature in the European Union – Report on the status and trends in 2013-2018 of species and habitat types protected by the Birds and Habitats Directives \(European Commission report, 20 pages\)](#)
- [State of nature in the EU - Results from reporting under the nature directives 2013-2018 \(EEA report, 140 pages\)](#)

EEA webpage on State of Nature 2020

Dashboards

- [National summary dashboards \(online\)](#)
- [National summaries \(pdf\)](#)
- [Data-quality scoreboard \(Member States\)](#)
- [Timeliness of submission scoreboard \(Member States\)](#)
- [Dashboards with results at EU level](#)

Other material

- Reference portal for reporting under Article 12 of the Habitats Directive for the period 2013-2018
- [Web viewer for birds](#)
- [Birds dataset](#)

Accessibility and clarity

Geographical: Describe any problems of comparability between countries or regions. The reasons for the problems should be described and as well the order of magnitude of the effects of the main sources of errors.

Over time: Provide information on the length of comparable time series, reference periods at which series breaks occur, the reasons for the breaks and treatments of them. The objective is to collect data from robust and comprehensive surveys and using methods comparable across all Member States. In many cases, however, the reported information comes from partial surveys that were performed for different purposes.

Coherence and comparability

The objective is to collect data from robust and comprehensive surveys and using methods comparable across all Member States. In many cases, however, the reported information comes from partial surveys that were performed for different purposes. In other cases, suitable data do not exist and expert opinion has been sought. Assessment methodology of different parameters or the estimation of pressures and threats may vary considerably between Member States despite the effort for harmonisation. This can result in loss of comparability of results at geographical scale.

C Contact and update

Contact organisation	The name of the contact organisation for the data or metadata. European Environment Agency
Contact name	The name of the contact points for the data or metadata. Eleni Tryfon
Contact email address	E-mail address of the contact points for the data or metadata. Eleni.Tryfon@eea.europa.eu
Metadata update	29/03/2022