

Merops persicus

BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER



Non-SPEC (1994: —) **Status** (Secure)

Criteria —

European IUCN Red List Category —▼

Criteria —

Global IUCN Red List Category —

Criteria —

Merops persicus has an extensive global breeding distribution, which just extends into south-east Europe. Its European breeding population is small (as few as 3,100 pairs), but was stable between 1970–1990. Despite some declines during 1990–2000, key populations in Russia and Azerbaijan increased, and the species increased overall. Although the size of the European population could render it susceptible to the risks affecting small populations, it is marginal to a much larger non-European population. Consequently, the species is provisionally evaluated as Secure.



Country	Breeding pop. size (pairs)	Year(s)	Trend	Mag. %	References
Armenia	3 – 5	99–02	–	20–29	
Azerbaijan	(1,000 – 5,000)	96–00	(+)	(0–19)	
Russia	(2,000 – 5,000)	90–00	(+)	(20–29)	172
Turkey	60 – 150	01	–	50–79	
Total (approx.)	3,100 – 10,000				
Breeding range	>20,000 km²		Overall trend	Moderate increase	
			Gen. length.	<3.3 %	Global pop. <5

