

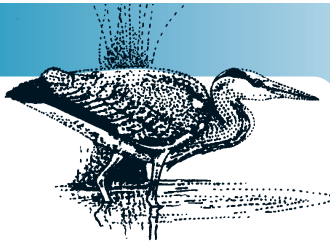
# Ardea cinerea

## GREY HERON

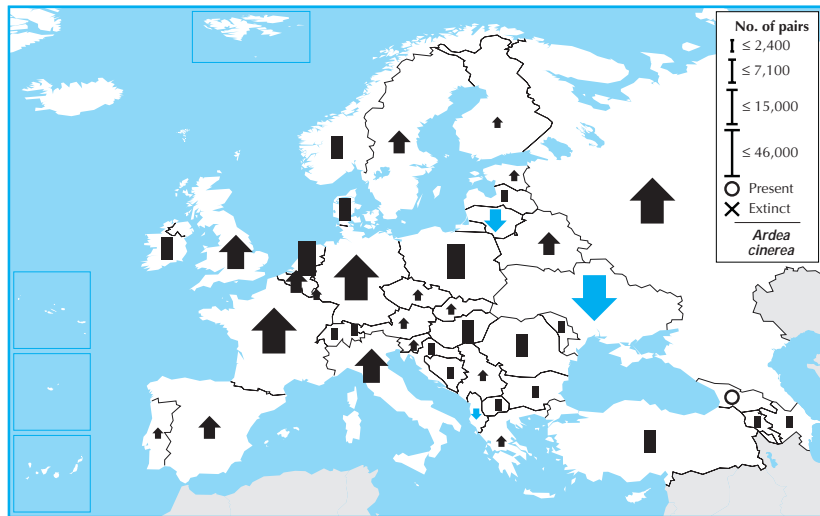
Non-SPEC (1994: —) Status Secure  
Criteria —

European IUCN Red List Category —  
Criteria —

Global IUCN Red List Category —  
Criteria —



*Ardea cinerea* is a widespread breeder across much of Europe, which accounts for less than a quarter of its global breeding range. Its European breeding population is large (>210,000 pairs), and underwent a large increase between 1970–1990. Although there were declines in the Ukrainian population during 1990–2000, most other European populations—including sizeable ones in France, Germany and Russia—increased or were stable, and the species underwent a moderate increase overall. Consequently, it is evaluated as Secure.



| Country                               | Breeding pop. size (pairs) | Year(s) | Trend | Mag.%  | References  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------|--|---|
| Albania                               | 1–3                        | 92–02   | –     | >80  | 4   |
| Armenia                               | 50–250                     | 98–02   | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Austria                               | <b>1,300–1,500</b>         | 98–02   | +     | <b>20–29</b>                                   |   |
| Azerbaijan                            | 250–1,000                  | 96–00   | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Belarus                               | <b>4,500–5,500</b>         | 97–00   | +     | 0–9  |   |
| Belgium                               | <b>3,200–3,600</b>         | 00–02   | +     | <b>50–79</b>                                   | 1   |
| Bosnia & HG                           | (7–10)                     | 90–00   | (0)   | (0–19)   |   |
| Bulgaria                              | <b>1,000–1,400</b>         | 95–02   | 0     | <b>0–9</b>                                     |   |
| Croatia                               | <b>1,500–3,000</b>         | 02      | 0     | <b>0–19</b>                                    | 16,26   |
| Czech Rep.                            | <b>1,900–2,300</b>         | 00      | +     | >80  |   |
| Denmark                               | (6,000–7,000)              | 00      | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Estonia                               | 1,200–1,500                | 98      | +     | 0–19   | 1   |
| Finland                               | 200–400                    | 99–01   | +     | 500  |   |
| France                                | 28,000–32,000              | 98–02   | +     | <b>10–19</b>                                   | 4   |
| Georgia                               | Present                    | 03      | ?     | –  |   |
| Germany                               | <b>24,000–27,500</b>       | 95–99   | +     | <b>20–29</b>                                   |   |
| Greece                                | (600–800)                  | 95–00   | (+)   | (0–19)   |   |
| Hungary                               | <b>2,500–3,500</b>         | 97–02   | 0     | <b>0–19</b>                                    |   |
| Rep. Ireland                          | 2,500–10,000               | 88–91   | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Italy                                 | <b>10,000–11,000</b>       | 03      | +     | 30–49  | 6   |
| Latvia                                | 1,100–1,500                | 90–00   | 0     | 0–19   | 23,17   |
| Liechtenstein                         | <b>10–20</b>               | 98–00   | +     | 0–9  |   |
| Lithuania                             | 3,000–6,000                | 99–01   | –     | 0–19   | 20  |
| Luxembourg                            | <b>50–70</b>               | 00–02   | +     | <b>50–79</b>                                   |   |
| Macedonia                             | 400–500                    | 99–00   | (0)   | (0–19)   |   |
| Moldova                               | 1,200–1,400                | 90–00   | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Netherlands                           | <b>10,000–12,750</b>       | 98–00   | 0     | <b>10</b>                                      | 1   |
| Norway                                | (5,000–10,000)             | 90–02   | (0)   | (0–19)   |   |
| Poland                                | <b>9,000–10,000</b>        | 90–00   | (0)   | (0–19)   | 2   |
| Portugal                              | 600–700                    | 02      | (+)   | (–)  |   |
| Romania                               | (3,500–4,500)              | 98–02   | (0)   | (0–19)   | 47  |
| Russia                                | 35,000–60,000              | 90–00   | +     | 20–29  | 4,8,24,25,30,52,60,61,90,93,104,112,113,114,120,126 |
| Serbia & MN                           | <b>2,200–2,500</b>         | 00–02   | +     | 20–29  | 163,138,65,67,186,230                               |
| Slovakia                              | 300–700                    | 80–99   | +     | 20–29  |   |
| Slovenia                              | <b>500–600</b>             | 90–00   | +     | 10–19  |   |
| Spain                                 | 5,000–6,000                | 98–02   | +     | >80  | 10  |
| Sweden                                | <b>5,000–6,500</b>         | 99–00   | +     | <b>160–180</b>                                 |   |
| Switzerland                           | <b>1,300–1,400</b>         | 93–96   | 0     | 0–19   |   |
| Turkey                                | 2500–5,000                 | 01      | (0)   | (0–19)   |   |
| Ukraine                               | 23,800–32,900              | 90–00   | –     | 0–19   |   |
| UK                                    | <b>14,800–14,800</b>       | 00      | +     | <b>14</b>                                      | 5   |
| <b>Total (approx.)</b>                | 210,000–290,000            |         |       | <b>Overall trend</b> Moderate increase         |   |
| <b>Breeding range</b>                 | >5,000,000 km <sup>2</sup> |         |       | <b>Gen. length 5</b> % <b>Global pop. 5–24</b> | (See p. 46, bottom, for data quality graph)         |
| <b>Winter pop. size (individuals)</b> |                            |         |       |  |   |
| <b>Total (approx.)</b>                | >86,000                    |         |       | <b>Overall trend</b> Moderate increase         |   |
| <b>% in European IBAs</b>             | 7–9                        |         |       | <b>Gen. length 5</b> % <b>Global pop. 5–24</b> |   |