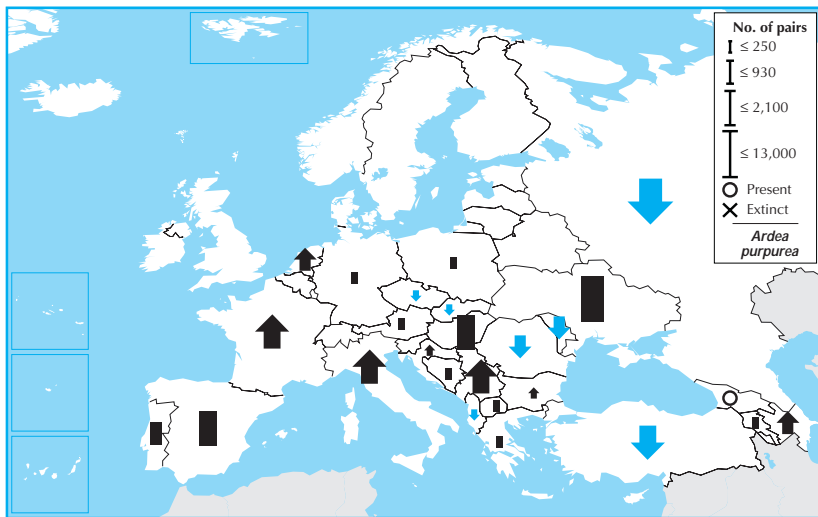


Ardea purpurea PURPLE HERON

SPEC 3 (1994: 3) **Status** (Declining)
Criteria Moderate continuing decline
European IUCN Red List Category —
Criteria —
Global IUCN Red List Category —
Criteria —



Ardea purpurea is a widespread summer visitor to much of the southern half of Europe, which accounts for less than a quarter of its global breeding range. Its European breeding population is relatively small (<42,000 pairs), and underwent a large decline between 1970–1990. Although many populations—notably those in western and central Europe—were stable or increased during 1990–2000, the species continued to decline in several eastern European countries, and underwent a moderate decline (>10%) overall. Consequently, it is provisionally evaluated as Declining.



Country	Breeding pop. size (pairs)	Year(s)	Trend	Mag. %	References
Albania	0 – 10	96–02	–	>80	4
Armenia	80 – 330	98–02	0	0–19	
Austria	200 – 300	98–02	0	0–19	
Azerbaijan	250 – 500	96–00	+	0–19	
Bosnia & HG	(4 – 5)	90–00	(0)	(0–19)	
Bulgaria	100 – 190	95–02	+	>80	
Croatia	140 – 150	02	+	30–49	70,25
Czech Rep.	1 – 5	00	–	50–79	
France	2,000 – 2,200	97–00	+	10–19	4
Georgia	Present	03	?	–	
Germany	21 – 34	95–99	0	0–19	
Greece	(105 – 150)	95–00	(0)	(0–19)	
Hungary	900 – 1,500	98–01	0	0–19	
Italy	1,800 – 2,000	03	+	10–19	6
Macedonia	5 – 10	90–00	(F)	(30–49)	
Moldova	250 – 350	90–00	–	20–29	
Netherlands	370 – 445	98–00	+	55	1
Poland	0 – 3	90–00	0	0–19	3
Portugal	350 – 500	02	0	0–19	
Romania	(850 – 1,000)	00–02	(–)	(0–19)	
Russia	(10,000 – 15,000)	90–00	(–)	(20–29)	8,60,112,114,120
Serbia & MN	1,100 – 1,300	00–02	+	10–19	163,65,67,115,145,230,138
Slovakia	20 – 60	80–99	–	30–49	
Spain	2,000 – 2,000	98–02	(F)	(–)	10
Turkey	1,500 – 2,000	01	–	20–29	
Ukraine	6,700 – 11,900	90–00	0	0–19	
Total (approx.)	29,000 – 42,000				
Breeding range	>1,000,000 km²				
		Overall trend	Moderate decline		
		Gen. length.	5	% Global pop.	5–24

2000 population	38	49	13	
1990 population	95			5
	Data quality (%) – <i>Ardea purpurea</i>			
	□ unknown	□ poor	■ medium	■ good
1990–2000 trend	44	46	10	
1970–1990 trend	6	92		
2000 population	7	52	41	
1990 population	17	81		
	Data quality (%) – <i>Ardea cinerea</i> (see p. 46, top)			
	□ unknown	□ poor	■ medium	■ good
1990–2000 trend	10	49	41	
1970–1990 trend	3	37	58	