

National Summary Article 12 - Explanatory Note

Introduction

National Summaries contain basic statistics and an overview of the main results from Member States' Article 12 reports covering the period 2008-2012. These summaries will be the first documents made publicly available from this reporting round.

Additional information about the content and format of the Article 12 reports can be found in the Article 12 Explanatory notes and guidelines <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/ef7bcc87-e564-4afd-b1b0-b753f001747f>

The statistics in the National Summaries are based on the reported information for bird taxa/populations that

- were considered as having a regular occurrence in the Member State,
- newly arriving species,
- as being extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980).

The following were not taken into account in the National Summaries statistics:

- occasional or vagrant species,
- species that went extinct nationally prior to c. 1980 (i.e. around the time the Birds Directive came into force),
- non-native species (with an exception of three species included in Annex II of the Birds Directive)

The information about the nature of occurrence of bird taxa/populations (whether marginal, etc.) is mainly extracted from the Article 12 checklists submitted by the Member States as a part of their national report, or, if not available, from the Article 12 checklist available on the Article 12 Reference portal:

http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Article_12_Birds_Directive/reference_portal

1. General information

This section provides information extracted from the General Report provided by the Member State.

1.1 Number and area of SPAs

The table provides total number and total area of sites classified under the Birds Directive (SPAs), terrestrial area of sites and number and area of 'marine sites' (i.e. any site with a marine component).

The information is taken from Section 3: SPA classification (Article 4) of the General report, which reflects the status of classification on 31 December 2012 – the end of the Article 12 reporting period.

1.2 Number of SPAs with comprehensive management plans

This section gives the number of sites for which comprehensive management plans have been adopted and the percentage of the network area covered by these management plans.

The information is taken from the Section 4: Comprehensive management plans for SPAs of the General report.

1.3 Research and other work on bird populations

This section provides an indication of whether any of the activities listed in Section 6 of the General report have been carried out during the reporting period. The details and references can be found in the General report - the link to the report is given after the section 7 of the national summary.

The information is taken from Section 6: Research and work required as basis for the protection, management and use of bird populations (Article 10) of the General report.

For Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom which had to provide reports for sub-national units, the sections 2 to 8 are provided separately for each sub-national unit.

2. Number of bird species/subspecific populations

This section provides a summary of the number of bird taxa (species and subspecific populations) for which a species-based report was completed, including a breakdown by season, and by subsets (e.g. Annex I, SPA trigger and non-native species). Only taxa with the following presence status are taken into account: present, newly arriving and extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980). The subsets All taxa, Annex I and SPA trigger do not include non-native species except those three species included in Annex II. The subset of Non-native includes all n-native species.

The number of bird species/populations that went extinct nationally after 1980, the number of newly arriving species and number of taxa on checklist for which no reports received is provided separately. Occasional or vagrant species and species that went extinct nationally prior to 1980 (i.e. around the time the Birds Directive came into force) are excluded.

The information is taken from the Bird reports and from the Article 12 checklists. The number for which no reports were received is cross-checked against the reported checklist.

Note that these statistics are based on the revised Article 12 checklists. The harmonisation of the codes used for 'presence status' was needed and the summary of changes in comparison to the reported information can be consulted through this link http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting_Tool/Documents/Art_12_checklist_changes.

3. Information on trends

This section provides information about trends of national bird populations. The taxa with the following presence status are taken into account: present, newly arriving and extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980). Non-native species are excluded except those three ones listed in the Annex II.

3.1 Population trends

The graphs show the percentages of taxa reported as having decreasing, stable, fluctuating, increasing or unknown population trends. Both short- and long-term population trends are included. The percentages are shown separately for breeding and wintering taxa.

The table shows the numbers of taxa in the trend categories.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 3.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 3.2.2. Long-term trend direction, 3.1.3. Short-term trend magnitude, 3.2.3 Long-term trend magnitude and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

3.2 Comparison of population trends for subsets of taxa

The graphs show the percentages of bird taxa (all, Annex I and non-Annex I) within the different trend categories (see section 3.1). Both short- and long-term population trends are included. The graphs show results separately for breeding and wintering taxa.

The tables show the numbers of taxa (all, Annex 1 and non-Annex II) within the different trend categories.

The statistics are based on information reported in fields 3.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 3.2.2. Long-term trend direction and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

3.3 Comparison of short- and long-term population trend

This section provides a comparison of short- and long-term population trends for taxa, highlighting combinations that represent potential improvements (in green) and deteriorations (in red) in their national status. The tables in this section show the numbers of taxa for each combination of short- and long-term trends.

The statistics are based on information reported in fields 3.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 3.2.2. Long-term trend direction and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

3.4 Breeding range trends

The graphs show the percentages of taxa reported as having decreasing, stable, fluctuating, increasing or unknown breeding range trends. Both short- trend and long-term trends are included.

The table shows the numbers of taxa in the trend categories.. The trend category 'unknown' includes also taxa on the checklist for which no trend information was provided.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 5.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 5.2.2. Long-term trend direction, 5.1.3. Short-term trend magnitude, 5.2.3. Long-term trend magnitude and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

3.5 Comparison of breeding range trends for subsets of taxa

The graphs show the percentages of taxa (all, Annex I and non-Annex I) within the different trend categories (see section 3.4). Both short- and long-term population trends are included.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 5.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 5.2.2. Long-term trend direction and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

3.6 Comparison of short- and long-term range trend

This section provides comparison of short- and long-term range trends for taxa, highlighting combinations that represent potential improvements and deteriorations in national status. The table in this section shows the numbers of taxa for each combination of short- and long-term trends.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 5.1.2. Short-term trend direction, 5.2.2. Long-term trend direction and 1.6. Season of the bird species reports.

4. Implementation of international species plans

This section provides a summary of national implementation of international Species Action Plans (SAPs), Management Plans (MPs) and Brief Management Statements (BMSs) containing proposed actions in the Member State. The table shows the numbers of taxa with international plans and the numbers with national plans adopted.

The statistics are based on information reported in Section 6: Progress in work related to international Species Action Plans (SAPs), Management Plans (MPs) and Brief Management Statements (BMSs) of the bird species reports.

5. Main pressures/threats

This section provides a summary of the main pressures/threats reported for species triggering SPA classification nationally. The taxa with the following presence status are taken into account: present, newly arriving and extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980). In addition SPA trigger species are taken into account. Non-native species are excluded except those three ones listed in the Annex II.

Only pressures/threats reported as having 'high' impact are considered in this section (one or more pressures/threats under each of the level 1 categories). For these high-impact pressures/threats a distinction is made in the bar-chart of those pressures/threats reported by the MS as primarily operating inside the Member State, or in any location.

The pressures/threats reported generally at levels 2 or 3 of the threat classification are aggregated into level 1 categories (e.g. 'M – Climate change'). If at least one of the reported level 2 or level 3 pressures belonging to a level 1 category was ranked as 'high', this taxon was counted in the graphs as being affected by this level 1 pressure/threat. Therefore, a taxon for which several level 2 or level 3 pressures/threats belonging to the same level 1 category were reported as having 'high impact' was counted only once.

'Any location' includes all reported pressures/threats (also unknown or not reported location). 'Within country' includes those pressures/threats reported using the code 4.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 7 a) Pressure/threat and 7 b) Impact on the bird species reports.

6. SPA coverage and conservation measures

6.1 Coverage of SPA trigger species populations by SPA network

This section provides a summary of the proportions of national populations of SPA trigger species occurring within the national SPA network. The taxa with the following presence status are taken into account: present, newly arriving and extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980). The non-native species listed in Annex II are included in the statistics as well.

The graphs (separately for wintering and breeding taxa) show the percentages of reported SPA trigger species in 3 classes based on their coverage by SPA sites. Same limits of these classes are used as for Article 17 national summaries.

The table shows the number of reported SPA trigger taxa in three coverage classes. In addition 'unknown or not relevant' is used in the table for cases where it was not possible to define the class (taxa for which population size or population size within the SPA network were not provided or nationally extinct SPA trigger taxa)

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 2.2. Population size (national population) and 8.1.1 Population size (inside the SPA network) of the bird species reports.

6.2 Conservation measures

This section provides information on the relative importance of level 1 conservation measures implemented during the reporting period for SPA trigger species. The graph shows the percentages of species for which one or more 'high' importance conservation measures were implemented. The taxa with the following presence status are taken into account: present, newly arriving and extinct (or probably extinct) after the Birds Directive came into force (after c. 1980). The non-native species listed in Annex II and passage species are included in the statistics as well.

The conservation measures reported at level 2 of the classification are aggregated into level 1 categories. If at least one of the reported level 2 conservation measures belonging to a level 1 category was ranked as 'high', this taxon was counted under the level 1 category. Therefore, a species for which several level 2 measures belonging to the same level 1 category were reported as being of 'high' importance was counted only once.

The statistics are based on information reported in the fields 8.2.1 Measure (type of measure) and 8.2.3 Ranking (importance of measures) of the bird species reports.

6.3 Impact of conservation measures

This section provides information on the effects of implemented conservation measures for each level 1 measure category.

The graphs show, for each level 1 measure category, the frequency of reported effects of measures. If under level 1 category several level 2 measures were reported, they are all counted. If for a level 2 measure several effects were reported, this measure is counted several times.

The statistics are based on information reported in fields 8.2.1 Measure (type of measure), 8.2.3 Ranking (impact of measures) and 8.2.5 Broad evaluation of measure (effect of a measure) of the bird species reports.

7. Data quality and completeness

7.1 Mandatory species-based information not reported or reported as unknown (%)

The statistics in this section are based only on the reported information for bird taxa/populations that were considered as having a regular occurrence in the Member State.

The aim of this section is to provide an overview of the data gaps in the report; most of these gaps are due to insufficient knowledge. This section does not refer to potential errors or technical problems in Member States' reports and concentrates on what is relevant for the evaluation of data completeness.

The tables in the national summary give the percentages of bird taxa/populations with unknown or missing information for components of bird status. Note: The statistics on missing and unknown information may also include missing and unknown information for recent coloniser, species which are on verge of extinction or species with marginal population in the national territory for which certain fields in the reporting format may not be relevant and therefore corresponding information was not reported. The tables below provide the sources of information.

Mandatory species-based information not reported (source of information):

Population (breeding)			Population (wintering)			Range (breeding)			Press..& threats	SPA network		Maps
Size	Trend (short)	Trend (long)	Size	Trend (short)	Trend (long)	Area	Trend (short)	Trend (long)		Coverage	Measures	
	3.1.2	3.2.2.		3.1.2	3.2.2.		5.1.2	5.2.2				4.3
2.2	&	&	2.2	&	&	4.6	&	&	7a	8.1.1		&
&	3.1.3	3.2.3	&	3.1.3	3.2.3	&	5.1.3	5.2.3		&	8.2.1	4.5
2.4	&	&	2.4	&	&	4.7	&	&		8.1.2		&
	3.1.4	3.2.4		3.1.4	3.2.4		5.1.4	5.2.4				4.7

Mandatory species-based information reported as unknown (source of information):

Population (breeding)			Population (wintering)			Range (breeding)			Press..& threats	SPA network		Maps
Size	Trend (short)	Trend (long)	Size	Trend (short)	Trend (long)	Area	Trend (short)	Trend (long)		Coverage	Measures	
	3.1.2	3.2.2.		3.1.2	3.2.2.		5.1.2	5.2.2				4.3
2.4	&	&	2.4	&	&	4.7	&	&	7a	8.1.2	8.2.1	&
	3.1.4	3.2.4		3.1.4	3.2.4		5.1.4	5.2.4				4.5
												4.7

7.2 Data quality for key population and range parameters (%)

This section presents statistics on the data quality reported by Member States for key parameters of bird status.

The statistics are based on information reported in fields 2.5 (Population size), 3.1.5 (Short-term population trend), 3.2.5 (Long-term population trend), 4.8 (Range surface area), 5.1.5 (Short-term range trend) and 5.2.5 (Long-term range trend) of the bird species reports.

8. Bird species/subspecific populations reported

This section provides the list of taxa reported by the Member State, the population size and the short-term population trend direction for breeding and wintering taxa. The taxa which went extinct prior to 1980, if reported, were excluded. For SPA trigger taxa occurring on passage an indication of presence or the size of the population is also provided. If Member State has reported on non-native taxa (other than three taxa listed in Annex II of the Birds Directive) the summary on these taxa are given in a separate table. Taxa are listed in alphabetical order.

For breeding taxa, population size is reported as number of breeding pairs, with just a few exceptions (which are indicated in the table), whereas population sizes for all wintering and passage taxa are in individuals.

Taxa listed on Annex I of the Directive are identified with a 'Y' in the 'Annex I' column. The abbreviation Y^a is used for taxa (typically subspecies) listed in the Annex I at higher taxonomical level. The code Y^b indicates that the Annex I contains a synonym of the name used in the checklist.