

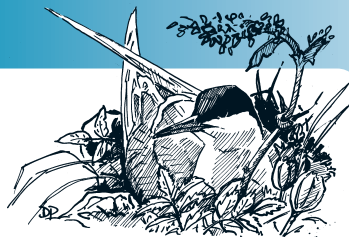
# *Sterna hirundo*

## COMMON TERN

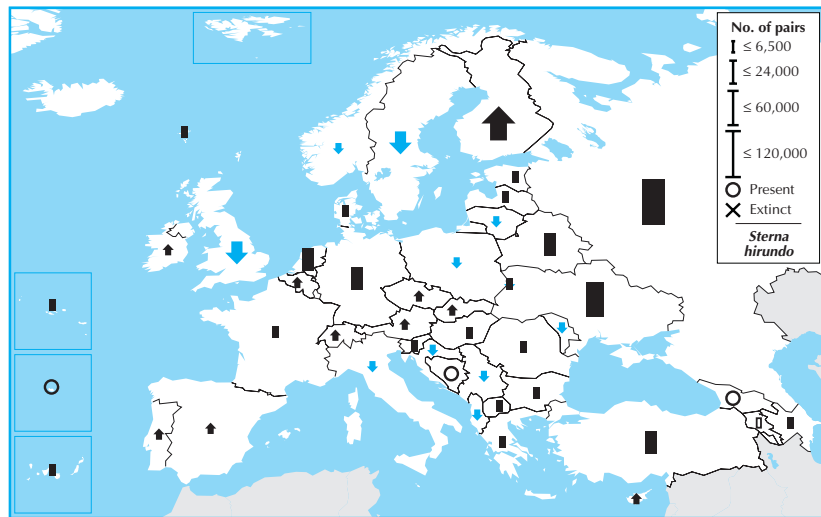
Non-SPEC (1994: —) Status Secure  
Criteria —

European IUCN Red List Category —  
Criteria —

Global IUCN Red List Category —  
Criteria —



*Sterna hirundo* is a widespread but patchily distributed breeder across much of Europe, which accounts for less than half of its global breeding range. Its European breeding population is large (>270,000 pairs), and was stable between 1970–1990. Although there were declines in a number of countries during 1990–2000, populations across much of its European range—including sizeable ones in Ukraine, Finland and Russia—were fluctuating, stable or increased, and the species remained stable overall. Consequently, it is evaluated as Secure.



Country	Breeding pop. size (pairs)	Year(s)	Trend	Mag.%	References
Albania	100 – 200	96–02	–	0–19	4
Armenia	20 – 80	98–02	?	–	
Austria	200 – 300	98–02	+	50–79	
Azerbaijan	3,000 – 5,000	96–00	(0)	(0–19)	
Belarus	14,000 – 40,000	97–02	0	0–19	
Belgium	2,500 – 2,600	00–02	+	30–49	1
Bosnia & HG	Present	85–89	?	–	
Bulgaria	180 – 540	96–02	0	0–9	
Croatia	(500 – 1,000)	02	(–)	(50–79)	70,16
Cyprus	1 – 1	02	+	N	
Czech Rep.	400 – 600	00	+	>80	
Denmark	1000 – 1,000	93–96	(0)	(0–19)	3
Faroe Is.	(0 – 1)	81	(0)	(0–19)	
Estonia	4,500 – 6,000	98	0	0–19	1
Finland	50,000 – 70,000	98–02	+	10	
France	4,500 – 5,000	97–00	0	0–19	4
Georgia	Present	03	?	–	
Germany	8,900 – 9,600	95–99	0	0–19	
Greece	1,000 – 1,500	95–00	(0)	(0–19)	
Hungary	700 – 1,200	98–02	0	0–19	
Rep. Ireland	2,500 – 2,500	99–02	+	50–79	
Italy	4,000 – 6,000	03	–	0–19	
Latvia	1,500 – 2,500	90–00	0	0–19	25
Lithuania	2,000 – 3,000	99–01	–	20–29	20
Macedonia	30 – 100	90–00	(0)	(0–19)	
Moldova	40 – 80	90–00	–	30–49	
Netherlands	18,000 – 19,500	98–00	0	10	1
Norway	(4,000 – 10,000)	89–02	–	30–49	27
Poland	4,000 – 4,500	97–00	–	20–29	2
Portugal	0 – 5	02	+	N	
Azores	1,500 – 2,500	94–00	0	0–19	34,39
Madeira	Present	02	?	–	
Romania	5,500 – 7,500	90–02	(0)	(0–19)	
Russia	(50,000 – 250,000)	90–02	(F)	(20–29)	8,23,24,42,104, 112,120
Serbia & MN	330 – 420	00–02	–	20–39	1,148,138,179, 155,156,78,214
Slovakia	150 – 250	80–99	+	20–29	
Slovenia	100 – 200	95–00	F	>80	
Spain	2,500 – 10,000	98–02	+	50–79	10,16
Canary Is.	50 – 93	97–03	0	0–19	28,25
Sweden	20,000 – 25,000	99–00	–	0–9	
Switzerland	350 – 450	98–02	+	10–19	
Turkey	8,000 – 12,000	01	(0)	(0–19)	
Ukraine	40,000 – 55,000	90–00	F	20–29	
UK	12,000 – 12,000	98–02	–	10	20

Total (approx.) Breeding range 270,000 – 570,000 >5,000,000 km<sup>2</sup>

Overall trend Stable  
Gen. length. 9 % Global pop. 25–49  
(See p. 146, bottom, for data quality graph)