



© Cheetah Conservation Fund

NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	<b>&lt; VULNERABLE &gt;</b>	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: Cheetah

The **Cheetah**, *Acinonyx jubatus*, is listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. The world's fastest land mammal, the Cheetah once occurred throughout much of Africa and Asia, but has now disappeared from large parts of its former range. Two subspecies, the Northwest African Cheetah and the Asiatic Cheetah, are listed as 'Critically Endangered'.

The main threats to the Cheetah are habitat loss, a reduction in its wild prey, and direct persecution by humans, with Cheetahs often being wrongly perceived as threats to livestock. Competition with other large predators such as Lions can also reduce Cheetah numbers.

This charismatic big cat is legally protected throughout its range and occurs in several reserves, although many are too small to ensure its long-term survival. In some areas, limited trophy hunting is permitted as an economic incentive to conserve the species. A number of action plans are also in place, and measures such as using guard dogs to protect livestock are helping to reduce the number of Cheetahs being trapped and killed.

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