

AFRICA'S GIRAFFE

Conservation Status & Distribution

We are grateful for the support Ann and Steve Toon, who have generously allowed us to reproduce their images free of charge, as well as Africa Geographic for producing the map.

Conservation Status

IUCN — Least Concern (LC): as a species
• Endangered (2008): *G. c. peralta* (West African or Nigerian giraffe)
• Endangered (2010): *G. c. rothschildi* (Rothschild's, Ugandan or Baringo giraffe)

CITES — Not Listed

In 1998 the total number of giraffe in Africa was estimated by IUCN at greater than 140,000 individuals. In 2013, best estimates by the GCF have the Africa-wide population at less than 80,000 individuals — encompassing all (sub)species. Efforts are underway to build up a more accurate census of the Africa-wide population in collaboration with the IUCN SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group (GOSG) and other conservation partners.

Taxonomy & Populations

Class: Mammalia (Mammals)

Order: Artiodactyla

Family: Giraffidae

Genus: Giraffa

Species: *Giraffa camelopardalis*

Stakeholders

In the 21 African countries in which they occur, giraffe are found in a range of different land-management regimes, from state-owned national parks to private and communal lands. For many of the individuals and organisations that lease or invest in these lands, often as participants in the wildlife industry, the presence or absence of giraffe is important and they thus become involved, either directly or indirectly, in the conservation of the species. Given the breadth of giraffe distribution, the task of establishing and coordinating a continent-wide strategy that encompasses all these stakeholders, each with differing priorities, brings with it a special set of challenges.

Although giraffe conservation involves the continent as a whole, it should first be tackled country by country and subspecies by subspecies.

CITES

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species

There is negligible recognised international trade in giraffe, so the species is not listed. GCF is committed to clarifying and monitoring this information and reviewing the CITES listing as appropriate.

IUCN

International Union for Conservation of Nature

Red List Assessment

EX Extinct
EW Extinct in the Wild
CR Critically Endangered
EN Endangered
VU Vulnerable
NT Near Threatened
LC Least Concern

1.	African elephant	500 000	VU
2.	Hippo	125 000	VU
3.	Giraffe	80 000	LC*
4.	Masai giraffe	37 000	LC*
5.	Lion	32 000	VU
6.	Angolan giraffe	20 000	LC*
7.	South African giraffe	12 000	LC*
8.	Cheetah	7 500	VU
9.	Black rhino	4 880	CR
10.	Reticulated giraffe	4 700	LC*
11.	Kordofan giraffe	3 000	LC*
12.	Rothschild's giraffe	1 100	EN*
13.	Thornicroft's giraffe	1 000	LC*
14.	Mountain gorilla	880	CR
15.	Nubian giraffe	650	LC*
16.	West African giraffe	300	EN*










* Under review

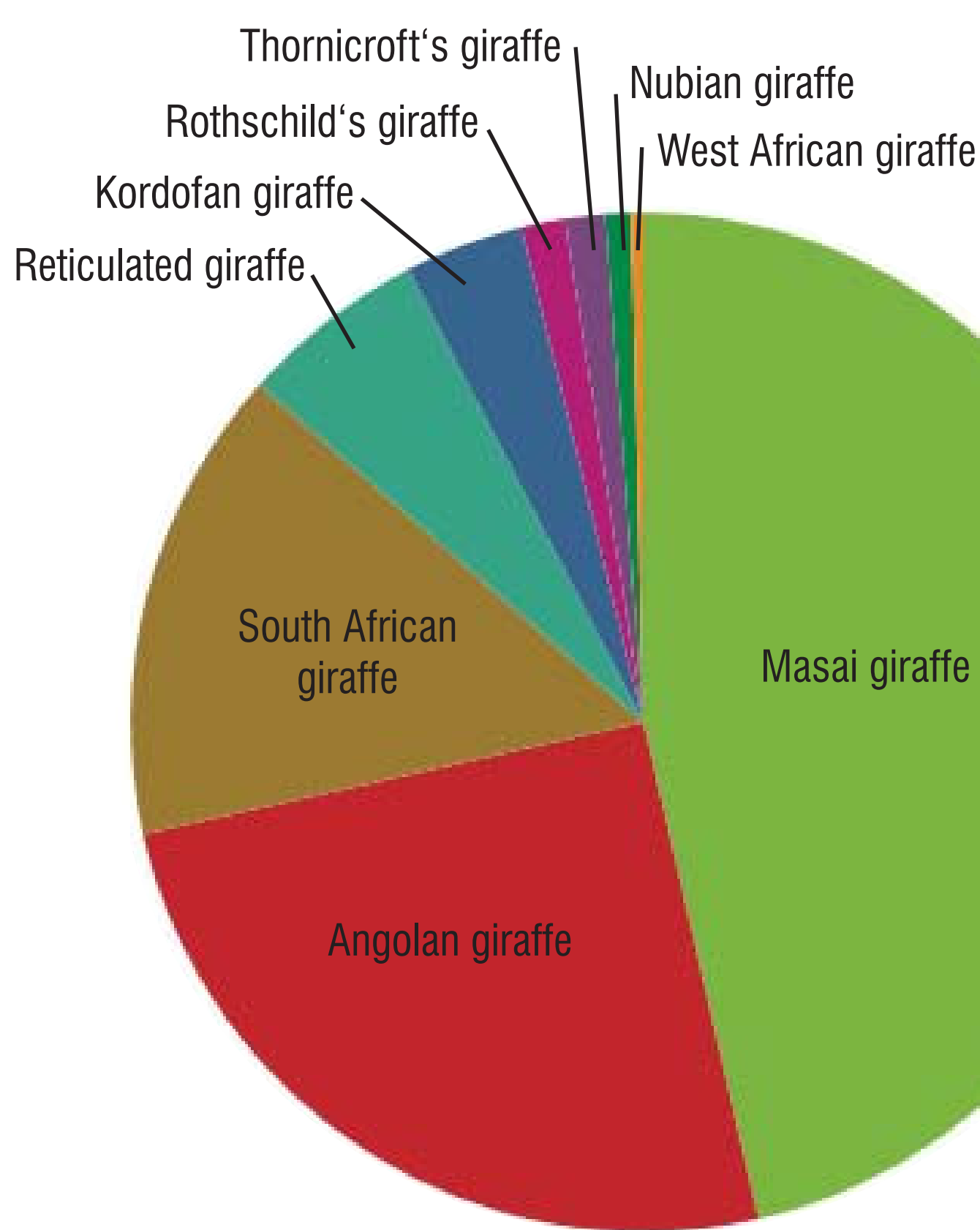
Status and Statistics

In 1998 the IUCN estimated the total number of giraffe in Africa to exceed 140 000. By 2012, according to assessments coordinated by GCF, this had dropped to fewer than 80 000 individuals; indeed, in some areas traditionally regarded as prime giraffe real estate, numbers had dropped by some 65 per cent.

Limited research has been undertaken on giraffe across Africa. As a species, the giraffe is listed as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List. However, since two of the subspecies have recently been listed as Endangered and of high conservation priority, the need for an accurate evaluation, driven by solid baseline data, throughout the continent has never been more important.

GCF researchers have begun the long-overdue process of establishing the first continent-wide, giraffe-range-state country profiles. These profiles collate all historical and currently available census and anecdotal data on giraffe numbers and distribution, as well as threats to the specific region's or nation's giraffe and can be downloaded from the GCF website. The most up-to-date population figures are shown below:

	<i>G. c. angolensis</i>	Angolan giraffe	<20,000	LC
	<i>G. c. antiquorum</i>	Kordofan giraffe	<3,000	LC
	<i>G. c. camelopardalis</i>	Nubian giraffe	<650	LC
	<i>G. c. giraffa</i>	South African giraffe	<12,000	LC
	<i>G. c. peralta</i>	West African giraffe	<300	EN
	<i>G. c. reticulata</i>	Reticulated giraffe	<4,700	LC
	<i>G. c. rothschildi</i>	Rothschild's giraffe	<1,100	EN
	<i>G. c. thornicrofti</i>	Thornicroft's giraffe	<1,000	LC
	<i>G. c. tippelskirchi</i>	Masai giraffe	<37,000	LC



DID YOU KNOW?
Giraffe have already become extinct in 7 African countries!



Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF) is dedicated to securing a future for all giraffe populations in the wild. GCF is the only charity in the world that concentrates solely on the conservation of this most quintessential of Africa's mega-herbivores and its habitat.

www.giraffeconservation.org