

# Legal Trade in Selected Wildlife Products and CITES Status

Sources: United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC),  
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) Secretariat

EarthTrends Data Tables:  
Biodiversity  
and Protected  
Areas



	Year CITES Ratified	Net International Legal Trade Reported by CITES, 2000 (a)							
		Number of:				Number of:			
		Live Lizards	Live Snakes	Live Primates	Live Parrots	Lizard Skins	Snake Skins	Crocodilian Skins	Cat Skins
<b>WORLD (b)</b>	..	978,006	249,271	35,421	518,577	1,556,321	1,297,685	786,952	57,769
<b>ASIA (EXCL. MIDDLE EAST) (c)</b>	..	40,679	(42,773)	..	(136,381)	(435,164)	(1,074,698)	147,615	(44,221)
Armenia	..	..	..	..	(2)	..	..	..	..
Azerbaijan	1998	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	1981	..	..	..	89	..	..	..	..
Bhutan	2002	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cambodia	1997	..	..	(200)	..	..	..	..	..
China (b)	1981	(3,802)	25,692	(10,519)	(192,459)	46,488	2,696	64,249	(46,146)
Georgia	1996	..	..	..	(1)	..	..	..	..
India	1976	..	..	..	4	..	0	..	..
Indonesia	1978	(7,474)	(22,399)	(3,324)	25,025	(457,600)	(366,118)	(10,385)	..
Japan	1980	24,284	3,465	4,863	27,417	217,399	177,882	32,104	593
Kazakhstan	2000	..	2	7	3	..	..	..	..
Korea, Dem People's Rep	..	..	..	25	4	500	..	1,328	..
Korea, Rep	1993	21,139	94	51	370	8,032	9,338	39,596	160
Kyrgyzstan	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lao People's Dem Rep	..	..	(6,000)	..	..	(2)	(2)	..	..
Malaysia	1977	(949)	(15,713)	76	11,297	(252,253)	(520,776)	312	..
Mongolia	1996	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Myanmar	1997	..	..	(4)	67	..	..	..	..
Nepal	1975	..	..	2	135	..	..	..	..
Pakistan	1976	..	..	20	(17,274)	..	..	..	..
Philippines	1981	510	60	(2,085)	788	825	(1)	185	..
Singapore	1986	52	1,474	83	5,484	(60,843)	(202,857)	(38,208)	3
Sri Lanka	1979	..	..	(3)	476	..	..	..	..
Tajikistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thailand	1983	3	21	63	2,587	..	(42,533)	5,595	..
Turkmenistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uzbekistan	1997	..	(58)	(1)	98	..	..	..	..
Viet Nam	1994	18	(35,484)	(3,149)	(2,751)	..	(109,426)	..	(32)
<b>EUROPE (c)</b>	..	236,807	47,846	13,583	305,812	722,511	806,905	285,806	53,008
Albania	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Austria	1982	512	179	4	(3)	(1,711)	..	2,098	14
Belarus	1995	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Belgium	1983	26,499	9,291	792	6,841	3	17	203	7
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2002	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bulgaria	1991	454	6	(3)	41	..	..	..	(2)
Croatia	2000	..	9	18	15	..	..	..	..
Czech Rep	1993	4,391	(4,411)	101	(14,058)	..	1	4	(2)
Denmark	1977	4,575	509	(9)	(365)	..	..	7	1,625
Estonia	1992	..	10	(3)	0	..	..	..	122
Finland	1976	2	(10)	..	6	..	..	..	..
France	1978	15,907	8,408	3,437	12,422	94,521	47,619	168,772	29
Germany	1976	50,118	15,367	1,129	4,927	163,744	229,776	9,883	516
Greece	1992	3,605	76	58	19,717	..	..	13	268
Hungary	1985	685	271	(33)	(275)	18,085	..	1,773	0
Iceland	2000	..	..	(40)	197	..	..	..	1
Ireland	2002	..	..	1	13	..	..	..	..
Italy	1979	34,418	4,197	270	27,557	327,659	350,281	58,904	39,304
Latvia	1997	1	(11)	(15)	(4)	..	..	..	..
Lithuania	2001	1	5	..	155	..	..	..	..
Macedonia, FYR	2000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Moldova, Rep	2001	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands	1984	8,326	2,746	1,364	1,094	(2)	..	75	..
Norway	1976	2	(1)	(2)	7,386	..	11	4	27
Poland	1989	1,605	393	54	683	..	..	10	(745)
Portugal	1980	2,341	10	14	79,785	231	369	6	12
Romania	1994	500	21	..	11	..	18	..	..
Russian Federation	1992	888	(29)	2,112	3,001	..	..	50	(507)
Serbia and Montenegro	2002	..	..	2,047	(1)	..	..	..	..
Slovakia	1993	..	2	1	(2,519)	..	..	1	3
Slovenia	2000	704	23	..	1,187	404	(271)	4	3
Spain	1986	67,666	5,733	452	152,460	120,477	104,222	24,483	2,229
Sweden	1974	2,178	47	(10)	(6,145)	..	(1)	6	7
Switzerland	1974	596	294	(40)	129	(901)	(308)	19,413	689
Ukraine	1999	(1,177)	(25)	3	89	..	3	..	..
United Kingdom	1976	12,010	4,736	1,881	7,828	1	75,168	94	9,404
<b>MIDDLE EAST &amp; N. AFRICA (c)</b>	..	1,547	846	..	50,330	1,499	843	80	6
Afghanistan	1985	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Algeria	1983	..	..	..	4	..	(3)	..	..
Egypt	1978	5	197	(13)	(17)	..	..	(1)	..
Iran, Islamic Rep	1976	..	..	55	2	..	..	..	..
Iraq	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Israel	1979	2,569	482	(273)	6,852	..	..	..	1
Jordan	1978	..	11	(4)	373	..	..	..	..
Kuwait	2002	1,000	..	..	16,278	..	..	..	0
Lebanon	..	15	25	2	1,926	..	528	..	..
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..
Morocco	1975	(120)	..	(5)	48	10	28	..	..
Oman	..	..	10	14	22	..	..	..	..
Saudi Arabia	1996	3	50	86	9,699	153	255	29	1
Syrian Arab Rep	..	..	..	..	(1)	..	..	..	..
Tunisia	1974	2	2	5	432	..	..	..	..
Turkey	1996	..	2	6	2,147	1,336	32	51	3
United Arab Emirates	1990	(727)	50	29	9,241	..	3	1	1
Yemen	1997	(1,200)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



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<b>SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (c)</b>	..	(150,281)	(148,644)	..	(201,235)	(270,275)	(24,245)	(104,282)	(754)
Angola	..	..	..	..	(8)	..	..	..	..
Benin	1984	(9,766)	(45,110)	1	2	..	..	..	..
Botswana	1977	..	1	..	349	..	..	1	(86)
Burkina Faso	1989	..	..	(1)	(3)	..	(1)	..	..
Burundi	1988	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cameroon	1981	(3,904)	(25)	(36)	(18,057)	(1)	(7)	..	(4)
Central African Rep	1980	..	..	..	(19)	..	..	..	..
Chad	1989	..	..	..	1	(69,559)	(6,580)	..	..
Congo	1983	..	..	(2)	(2,102)	..	..	..	..
Congo, Dem Rep	1976	(530)	(30)	(22)	(15,780)	..	..	..	..
Côte d'Ivoire	1994	..	..	(5)	(2,727)	..	(6)	..	1
Equatorial Guinea	1992	(1,165)	..	(1)	(5)	..	..	..	..
Eritrea	1994	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ethiopia	1989	(54)	(2)	..	..	..	..	(930)	(1)
Gabon	1989	..	..	42	(42)	..	..	..	..
Gambia	1977	..	..	1	15	..	..	..	..
Ghana	1975	(18,851)	(36,374)	(44)	(2)	..	(14)	..	(1)
Guinea	1981	(535)	(720)	(27)	(17,584)	(8,000)	(8,010)	..	(2)
Guinea-Bissau	1990	..	..	..	(7)	..	..	..	..
Kenya	1978	1,000	..	(218)	(32)	..	(1)	(2,460)	(4)
Lesotho	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Liberia	1981	..	..	..	(3,000)	..	..	..	(1)
Madagascar	1975	(7,810)	40	0	(3,899)	2,104	..	(7,705)	..
Malawi	1982	..	..	..	2	..	..	(200)	1
Mali	1994	(15,303)	(350)	..	(6,829)	(66,748)	(2,575)	..	..
Mauritania	1998	(13)	2	..	10	..	..	(1)	..
Mozambique	1981	(10,265)	..	(1)	(57)	..	..	(730)	(28)
Namibia	1990	50	1	2	1,007	..	0	(76)	(185)
Niger	1975	..	..	17	2	..	..	..	..
Nigeria	1974	..	(70)	..	0	..	(1)	..	(2)
Rwanda	1980	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Senegal	1977	..	(2)	(154)	(30,283)	6,783	2,117	50	..
Sierra Leone	1994	..	..	..	(1,108)	..	..	(75)	..
Somalia	1985	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Africa	1975	905	523	(342)	(99,390)	(1,671)	(1,330)	(23,763)	3
Sudan	1982	(2,075)	..	..	51	(148,500)	(3,770)	..	..
Tanzania, United Rep	1979	(31,829)	(66)	(4,424)	(82)	..	..	(1,533)	(49)
Togo	1978	(30,313)	(66,462)	..	(436)	..	(4,079)	..	..
Uganda	1991	(432)	..	..	..	..	..	(508)	..
Zambia	1980	..	..	2	54	..	..	(12,411)	(17)
Zimbabwe	1981	..	..	(1)	(1,226)	(1)	..	(53,023)	(379)
<b>NORTH AMERICA (c)</b>	..	<b>671,072</b>	<b>156,680</b>	<b>15,476</b>	<b>26,860</b>	<b>179,438</b>	<b>89,322</b>	<b>(46,993)</b>	<b>(8,034)</b>
Canada	1975	13,407	3,063	629	2,716	75	218	36	1,510
United States	1974	657,664	153,617	14,845	24,034	179,363	89,104	(47,029)	(9,544)
<b>C. AMERICA &amp; CARIBBEAN (c)</b>	..	<b>(595,333)</b>	<b>(4,319)</b>	<b>(530)</b>	<b>(3,400)</b>	<b>268,881</b>	<b>180,969</b>	<b>260,655</b>	<b>(13)</b>
Belize	1986	..	..	..	(68)	..	..	..	..
Costa Rica	1975	(1)	(54)	2	118	..	..	..	..
Cuba	1990	..	..	1	(15,944)	..	..	..	..
Dominican Rep	1986	1	..	6	662	..	..	..	..
El Salvador	1987	(583,372)	(690)	6	0	(50)	..	..	..
Guatemala	1979	(16,232)	(24)	(5)	3,757	..	..	..	..
Haiti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Honduras	1985	..	(48)	4	1,412	..	..	..	..
Jamaica	1997	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Mexico	1991	8,766	656	500	10,190	238,011	180,969	275,647	(14)
Nicaragua	1977	(4,870)	(4,183)	(6)	(6,327)	..	..	(3,164)	..
Panama	1978	75	24	38	1,084	30,920	..	(11,830)	..
Trinidad and Tobago	1984	300	(4)	0	147	..	..	..	..
<b>SOUTH AMERICA (c)</b>	..	<b>(200,575)</b>	<b>(9,442)</b>	<b>(1,812)</b>	<b>(50,450)</b>	<b>(483,686)</b>	<b>18,253</b>	<b>(558,495)</b>	<b>1</b>
Argentina	1981	1,013	77	2	(18,474)	(323,551)	(2,586)	10	4
Bolivia	1979	..	(1)	..	(2)	..	..	..	..
Brazil	1975	(20)	1,172	14	31	4,703	24,320	(10,565)	2
Chile	1975	50	17	(2)	547	..	..	..	..
Colombia	1981	(190,625)	(6,020)	(4)	97	..	(750)	(543,815)	..
Ecuador	1975	..	..	(1)	(1)	..	..	..	(2)
Guyana	1977	(454)	(1,968)	(1,220)	(12,562)	..	..	..	..
Paraguay	1976	(543)	(53)	..	(1,477)	(164,850)	(2,773)	(3,750)	..
Peru	1975	(673)	(135)	(321)	(2,171)	..	(1)	..	(2)
Suriname	1980	(9,323)	(2,537)	(283)	(9,410)	..	..	..	..
Uruguay	1975	..	6	..	(8,929)	..	..	..	..
Venezuela	1977	..	..	3	1,901	12	43	(375)	(1)
<b>OCEANIA (c)</b>	..	<b>(3,302)</b>	<b>(196)</b>	..	<b>(4,496)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(13,485)</b>	<b>20</b>
Australia	1976	(7)	4	102	(75)	74	(3)	(10,521)	10
Fiji	1997	(16)	..	..	(1)	(70)	..	..	..
New Zealand	1989	5	..	0	(4,004)	4	24	12	10
Papua New Guinea	1975	..	..	..	(1)	(4)	..	(2,976)	..
Solomon Islands	..	(2,109)	(200)	..	(406)	..	..	..	..
<b>DEVELOPED (c)</b>	..	<b>935,634</b>	<b>208,946</b>	<b>33,413</b>	<b>263,460</b>	<b>1,117,755</b>	<b>1,072,800</b>	<b>236,645</b>	<b>45,591</b>
<b>DEVELOPING (c)</b>	..	<b>(935,020)</b>	<b>(208,948)</b>	..	<b>(276,420)</b>	<b>(1,134,550)</b>	<b>(1,075,430)</b>	<b>(265,744)</b>	<b>(45,578)</b>

Negative values are represented in parenthesis. **a.** Legal trade is net exports subtracted from net imports. Net exporting countries and regions are shown as negative values (in parenthesis). Net importing countries and regions are represented by positive values. **b.** World totals include countries not listed here. World values for CITES trade data represent exports. **c.** Regional totals reflect both intra-regional and inter-regional trade. Regional values thus represent the sum of all trade of countries in that region with other countries both in that same region and the rest of the world.

# Technical Notes

## VARIABLE DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY

**Year CITES Ratified** represents the year in which a country ratified the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which is an agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Ratification is an act by which the State expresses its definitive consent to be bound by the treaty, and to respect and implement its provisions.

CITES was drafted as a result of a resolution adopted in 1963 at a meeting of members of IUCN (The World Conservation Union). The text of the Convention was agreed to at a meeting of representatives of 80 countries on 3 March 1973. On 1 July 1975 CITES entered in force.

Parties to CITES agree to ban the commercial international trade in an agreed list of endangered species and to monitor trade in species that might become endangered. Species are listed in Appendixes to CITES on the basis of their degree of rarity and of the threat posed by trade. International trade in species listed in the Appendixes or the derived products requires export, import, and re-export permits and/or certificates. A brief description of the Appendixes and permit regulation follows:

- 1) The most endangered species are listed under **Appendix I**. This Appendix includes "all species threatened with extinction which are or may be affected by trade." International trade in these species is subject to particularly strict regulations and must only be authorized by the corresponding National CITES Management and Scientific Authorities. Trade permits for these species are only granted under exceptional circumstances.
- 2) Other species at serious risk are included in **Appendix II**. This appendix includes "all species which although not necessarily currently threatened with extinction may become so unless trade is subject to strict regulation." Any international trade in Appendix II species requires export and import permits as well as re-export certificates, granted in accordance with conditions set forth in the Convention. Permits are granted by the National CITES Management and Scientific Authorities.
- 3) **Appendix III** includes "all species which any Party identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the purpose of preventing or restricting exploitation. The cooperation of other Parties, is therefore, needed." Any international trade in Appendix III species requires an export permit, a certificate of origin, and sometimes a re-export certificate. Permits and certificates are granted by the National CITES Management and Scientific Authorities in accordance with conditions set forth in the Convention. Additional information on conditions and trade regulations can be found at the CITES Web site, available at: <http://www.cites.org/>

Commerce is permitted for species that are not listed under CITES, even if they may become endangered as a result of unrestricted international trade and monitoring.

**Net International Legal Trade Reported by CITES** is the balance of imports minus exports of selected wildlife and wildlife products from the spectrum of wildlife and wildlife products for which export, re-export, and import permits are issued. Net exports are shown as a negative balance in parentheses, and all figures are for trade reported for the year 2000. Data on net exports and net imports as reported by CITES correspond to legal international trade and are based on permits issued, not actual items traded. Figures may be overestimates if not all permits are used that year. In addition, some permits issued in one year are used at a later date. For these reasons, numbers of exports and imports may not match exactly for any given year. Regional values represent the sum of intra-regional and inter-regional trade for all countries in a given region, and is not limited to the sum of exports into and out of a region. World totals show the total number of exports, since calculating the balance of trade for the world would have canceled all figures.

It is important to note that about 25,000 species of plants and 5,000 species of animals are listed under CITES, and that many species groups are not represented in this data table. Amongst the species groups represented in this table are lizards, primates, parrots, wild cats, snakes, and crocodilians. Definitions of these species groups are as follows: **Live lizards** include the net number of import, export, and re-export permits issued in the year 2000 for individuals from all *Sauria* and *Rhynchocephalia* species listed under the

CITES treaty, while **lizard skins** represent the net number of permits issued for whole skins for these groups of species. **Live snakes** include the net number of permits issued in the year 2000 for individuals from all *Serpentes* species listed under the CITES treaty, while **snake skins** represent the net number of permits issued for whole skins for these groups of species. **Live primates** include the net number of permits issued in the year 2000 for individuals of all monkeys, apes, and prosimians listed under the CITES treaty. **Live parrots** include the net number of permits issued in the year 2000 for individuals of all *Psittaciformes* species listed under the CITES treaty. **Crocodilian skins** represent the number of permits issued in the year 2000 for whole skins belonging to individuals of *Crocodylia* species that are listed under the CITES treaty. **Cat skins** represent the number of permits issued in the year 2000 for whole skins belonging to individuals of *Felidae* species that are listed under the CITES treaty.

#### **FREQUENCY OF UPDATE BY DATA PROVIDERS**

Data on **Year CITES Ratified** is current as of May 2002 and was reported by the CITES Secretariat and accessible on their web page at <http://www.cites.org/eng/parties/alphabet.shtml>. Data on **Net International Legal Trade Reported by CITES** was derived by WRI from figures on net export permits and net import permits for selected wildlife and wildlife species provided by CITES, and is the balance of imports minus exports. This data was collected by the CITES Secretariat from Parties to the Convention that submitted annual reports, including trade records, to the CITES Secretariat. These trade records are compiled in the CITES Trade Database and were given to WRI by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). This data represents net legal trade under CITES for the year 2000.

#### **DATA RELIABILITY AND CAUTIONARY NOTES:**

Data on **Year CITES Ratified** shows parties to CITES, but does not include information on signatories to the convention that have not yet ratified. These data also do not show the success of Parties to CITES at fulfilling their obligations under the Convention. **Net International Legal Trade Reported by CITES** is limited to permits issued for export, re-export, and import of wildlife or wildlife products. The degree of trade amongst countries that are both importers and exporters of a group of live wildlife or skins is under-estimated. Species traded within national borders and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products are not reflected in these figures. Illegal trade in wildlife products is estimated to be in the billions of dollars annually and to involve hundreds of millions of plant and animal specimens. In addition, trade that occurs within the borders of a single country are also not included in this data set. CITES trade data also do not reflect legal trade between non-CITES members. Data on mortality of individuals during capture or collection, transit, or quarantine are not reflected in these numbers.

#### **SOURCES**

**Year CITES Ratified:** Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) Secretariat. *List of Contracting Parties*. Available on-line at: <http://www.cites.org/eng/parties/alphabet.shtml> (United Nations Environment Program, Nairobi, Kenya, May 2002). **Net International Legal Trade Reported by CITES:** United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) annual report data, WCMC CITES Trade Database (UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge, U.K., July 2002).