

generated January 2026

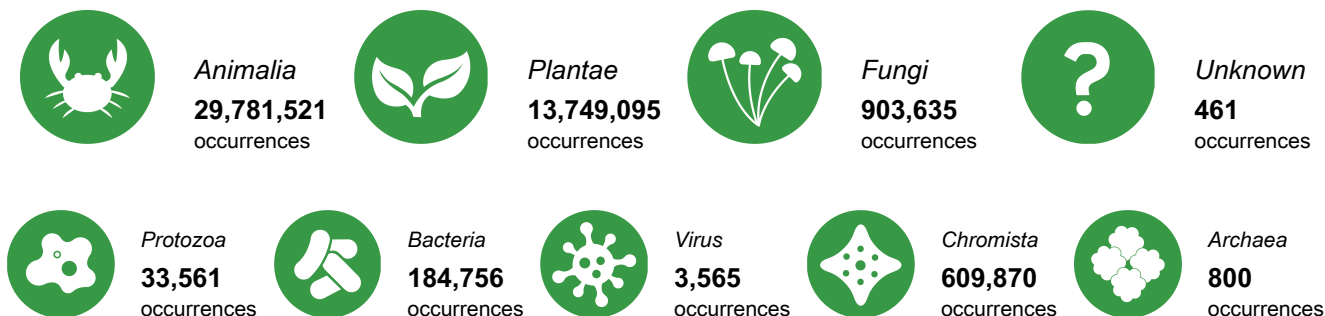
Belgium

This report provides a series of summary charts, statistics and other details about the mobilization and use of open-access species data through the GBIF network, relating to users and participating institutions in Belgium. These metrics show status at the time of report generation, unless otherwise noted. Taken together, the elements of this report can help guide and measure progress toward the information needs for biodiversity research, as well as for national commitments on biodiversity and sustainable development.

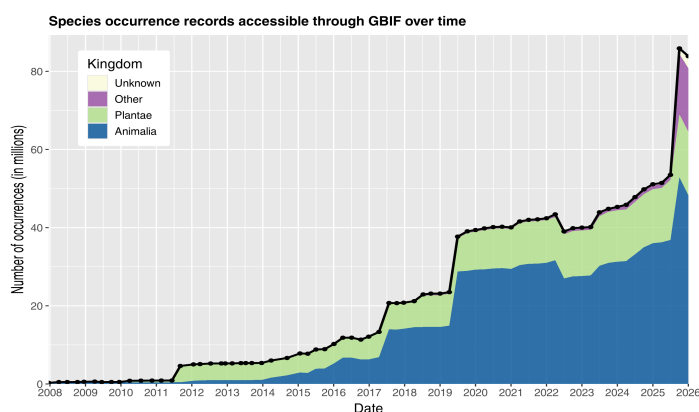
► Access and usage



► Data availability in Belgium



► Data mobilization

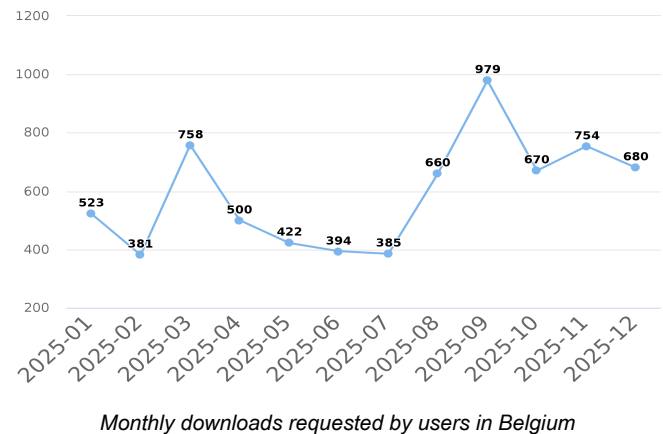
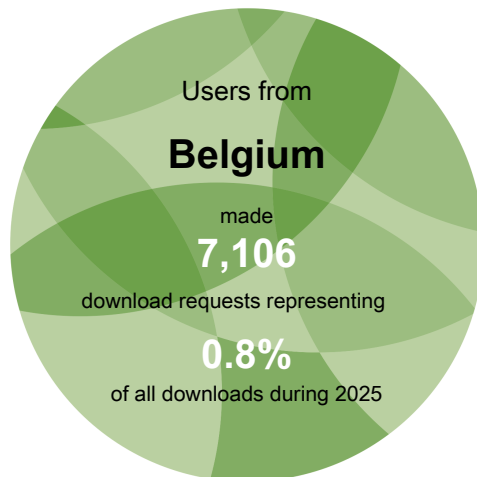


Number of records published by institutions in Belgium, categorized by kingdom



Access and usage

Data downloads on GBIF.org from users in Belgium



Recent peer-reviewed articles using GBIF-mediated data by co-authors based in Belgium

The GBIF Secretariat maintains and reports on an ongoing literature tracking programme, giving priority to substantive uses of GBIF-mediated data in peer-reviewed literature while identifying the countries or areas of the authors' institutional affiliations. The citations below represent the five most recent journal articles with at least one co-author from Belgium.

Those interested in assisting the Secretariat in identifying additional peer-reviewed uses of GBIF-mediated data may forward relevant citations to comms@gbif.org.

Muasya, Bello, du Preez *et al.* (2025) Refined generic and infrageneric classification of the Cape Psoraleeae clade (Fabaceae) – taxonomic studies in the phylogenomic era. *South African Journal of Botany*.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sajb.2025.08.006>

Wang, Merckx, Jacquemyn *et al.* (2025) Mycorrhizal communities in Orchidaceae are likely shaped by plant trophic mode and biogeography but not phylogeny. *Plant Diversity*.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pld.2025.08.002>

Simões, Shimpale, Rattanakrajang *et al.* (2024) Reinstating Palaeotropical genera of Convolvulaceae: *Argyreia*, *Stictocardia*, *Turbina* and *Astripomoea* (tribe Ipomoeae, subtribe *Argyreieae*). *Rhedeia*.

<https://doi.org/10.22244/rhedeia.2024.34.05.15>

Tomlinson, Yu, Wang *et al.* (2025) The macroecology of spines on woody plants. *Biological Reviews*.

<https://doi.org/10.1111/brv.70051>

Lathouwers, Beenaerts, Evens *et al.* (2025) Impact of future climate change and land-use change on habitat suitability for a long-distance avian migrant under diverse socioeconomic-emission scenarios. *Global Ecology and Conservation*.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gecco.2025.e03777>

See all research from this country or area
gbif.org/country/BE/publications/from



Data availability

Total data available for selected taxonomic groups in Belgium



Mammals
1,670,046
occurrences



Birds
20,332,435
occurrences



Bony fish
1,712,787
occurrences



Amphibians
77,134
occurrences



Insects
4,669,699
occurrences



Reptiles
18,014
occurrences



Molluscs
252,809
occurrences



Arachnids
365,120
occurrences



Flowering plants
12,642,024
occurrences



Ferns
287,129
occurrences



Gymnosperms
69,938
occurrences



Mosses
525,269
occurrences



Sac fungi
184,878
occurrences



Basidiomycota
714,898
occurrences

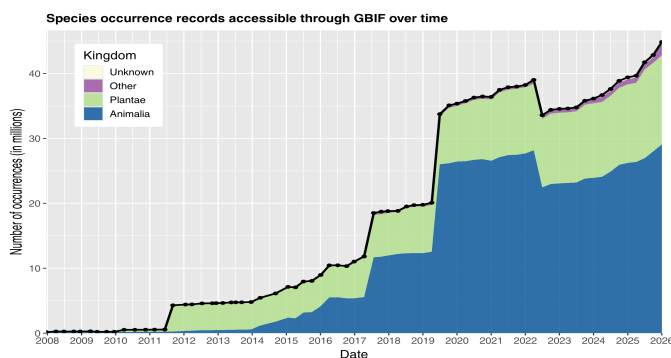
Mammals = Class *Mammalia*
Birds = Class *Aves*
Bony fish = Superclass
Osteichthyes p.p.
Amphibians = Class *Amphibia*

Insects = Class *Insecta*
Reptiles = Class *Testudines*,
Sphenodontia, *Squamata* &
Crocodylia
Molluscs = Phylum *Mollusca*

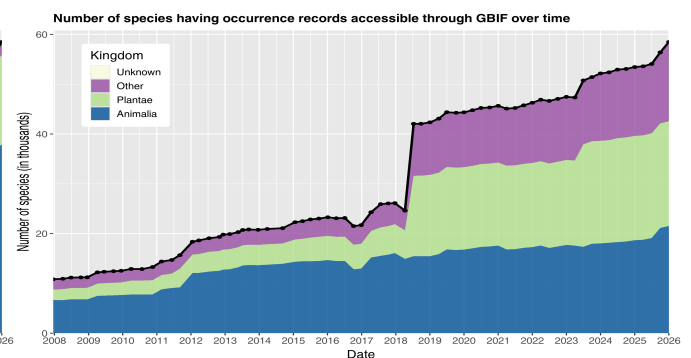
Arachnids = Class *Arachnida*
Flowering plants = Phylum
Magnoliophyta
Gymnosperms = Superclass
Gymnospermae

Ferns = Phylum *Pteridophyta*
Mosses = Phylum *Bryophyta*
Sac fungi = Phylum *Ascomycota*
Basidiomycota = Phylum
Basidiomycota

Change over time in records about biodiversity in Belgium



Occurrence records available about species occurring in Belgium



Species for which at least one occurrence record is available in Belgium

WHY MIGHT THE AMOUNT OF MOBILIZED DATA DECREASE?

Datasets are sometimes removed by publishers, but more often decreases in the number of records are due to the removal of duplicate records and datasets.

SPECIES COUNTS represent the number of binomial scientific names for which GBIF has received data records, organized as far as possible using synonyms recorded in key databases like the Catalogue of Life



Most recent datasets from publishers in Belgium

Funbel - the chorological database 'Fungi of Belgium' of the Royal Flemish Mycological Society.

Published by Belgian Biodiversity Platform

<https://doi.org/10.15468/a8xdvh>

Meetnet Agrarische Soorten - Monitoring of birds and mammals in agricultural areas in Flanders, Belgium. *Published by Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO)*

<https://doi.org/10.15468/vzs4wf>

Gelatinous Zooplankton in Gotland, Sweden, 2022. *Published by OBIS Secretariat*

<https://doi.org/10.25607/skulof>

ARMS-MBON data on long-term monitoring of hard-bottom communities: ITS results from 2020-2021.

Published by Flanders Marine Institute

<https://doi.org/10.15468/4ppy93>

ARMS-MBON data on long-term monitoring of hard-bottom communities: 18S results from 2020-2021.

Published by Flanders Marine Institute

<https://doi.org/10.15468/qu3t65>

ARMS-MBON data on long-term monitoring of hard-bottom communities: COI results from 2020-2021.

Published by Flanders Marine Institute

<https://doi.org/10.15468/tyrua7>

See all datasets from this country or area: gbif.org/dataset/search?publishing_country=BE

Newest publishers from Belgium

KU Leuven

Province West Flanders

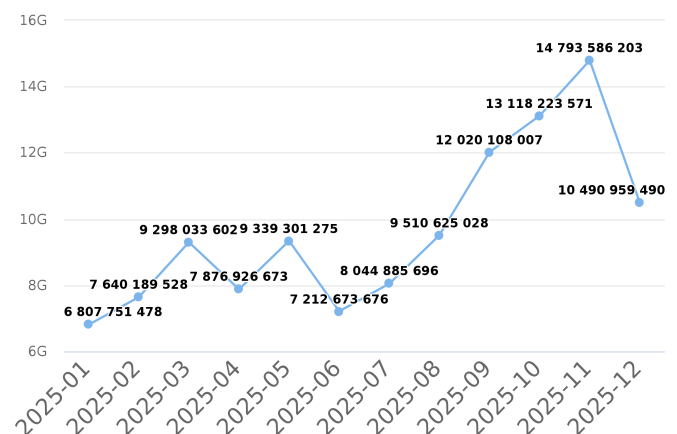
OBIS Secretariat

Agency for Nature and Forests (Flemish Government)

Contrat de rivière Senne

See all publishers from this country or area
gbif.org/publisher/search?country=BE

Occurrence records downloaded from GBIF.org, published by institutions in Belgium

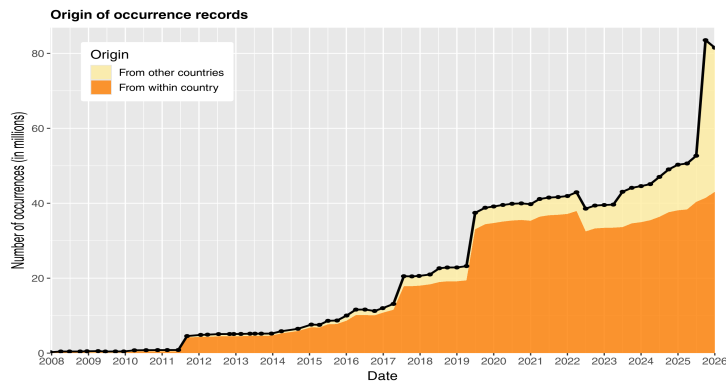


Number of occurrence records downloaded via
GBIF.org published by institutions in Belgium

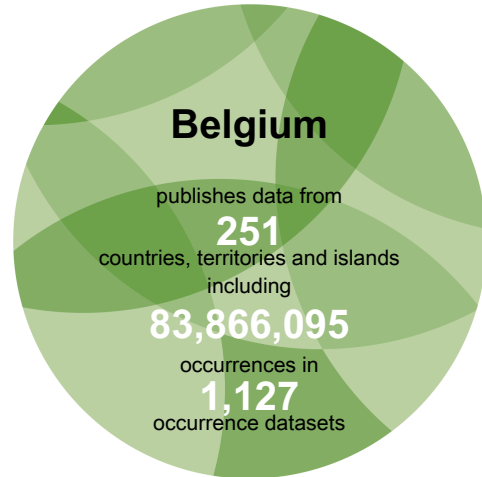


Data mobilization

Data sharing with country or area of origin by national institutions in Belgium



Data sharing with country or area of origin



The chart above shows the number of records shared over time by publishers within Belgium, with separate colours for records about species occurring within undefined and those occurring elsewhere.

Top data contributors about biodiversity in Belgium

Rank	Country or area	No. of occurrences
1	Belgium	43,792,303
2	Germany	457,370
3	United States of America	399,326
4	France	378,722
5	Denmark	213,613
6	Netherlands	121,949
7	United Kingdom	118,721
8	Luxembourg	20,456
9	Sweden	11,395
10	Spain	8,163

Table 1. Ranking of countries or areas contributing data about Belgium

Top datasets contributing data about Belgium

Waarnemingen.be - Bird occurrences in Flanders and the Brussels Capital Region, Belgium. *12,811,851 occurrences in Belgium.* (Last updated 19 Nov 2025)

Florabank1 - A grid-based database on vascular plant distribution in the northern part of Belgium (Flanders and the Brussels Capital region). *5,649,144 occurrences in Belgium.* (Last updated 31 Dec 2025)

Waarnemingen.be - Plant occurrences in Flanders and the Brussels Capital Region, Belgium. *2,300,868 occurrences in Belgium.* (Last updated 18 Nov 2025)

Waarnemingen.be - Non-native animal occurrences in Flanders and the Brussels Capital Region, Belgium. *1,748,261 occurrences in Belgium.* (Last updated 31 Dec 2025)

Waarnemingen.be - Non-native plant occurrences in Flanders and the Brussels Capital Region, Belgium. *1,470,754 occurrences in Belgium.* (Last updated 31 Dec 2025)

See all contributing countries and areas or datasets: gbif.org/country/BE/about



Belgium participates in the following projects coordinated by GBIF

Internationalization of the ALA node portal

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2015–2016

Translation of ALA portal's user interface and technical documentation, such as installation and operation guides, into French, Portuguese and Spanish for use by the GBIF network.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/82202>

European Bireme: EU Nodes in biodiversity reporting mechanisms

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2017–2018

By detailing national reporting processes and data flows in several European Union member states, this project explored how changes to GBIF tools and procedures could streamline and improve biodiversity reporting across the region.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/83336>

CroMent

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2023–2024

<https://www.gbif.org/project/CESP2023-006>

Using the CBD Clearing-House Mechanism to strengthen biodiversity data acquisition and data sharing

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2019–2020

A new content management system, Bioland Tool, could use the Convention on Biological Diversity's CHM network and infrastructure to improve biodiversity data sharing

<https://www.gbif.org/project/79ZRBGx5dNXYP2ijHKebK>

Strengthening GBIF Philippines

BIFA: Biodiversity Information Fund for Asia, 2016–2017

This project aims at strengthening PhilBIF by enhancing the capacities of partners in the publishing of biodiversity information according to GBIF standards.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/82652>

International workshop on invasive species in the sub-Saharan area

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2014–2015

This bilingual regional training event will promote knowledge exchange between biodiversity experts and establish a coordinated early warning and response network for invasive alien species across the entire sub-Saharan region (Maghreb and Sahel).

<https://www.gbif.org/project/82223>

See all GBIF projects
[gbif.org/resource/search?contentType=project](https://www.gbif.org/resource/search?contentType=project)