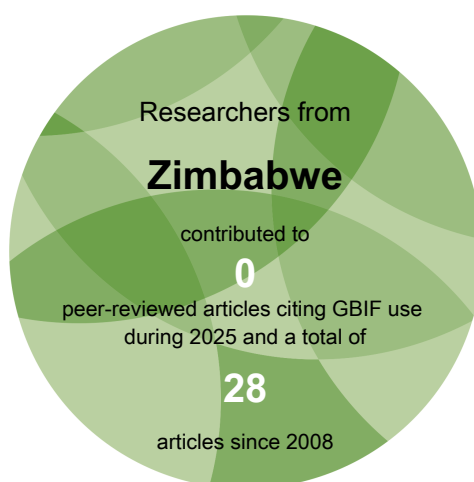


generated January 2026

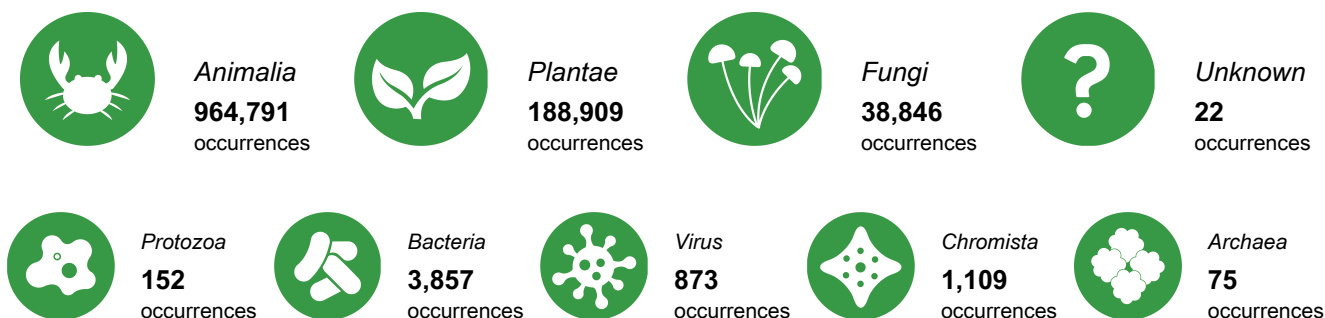
Zimbabwe

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 Zimbabwe. 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.

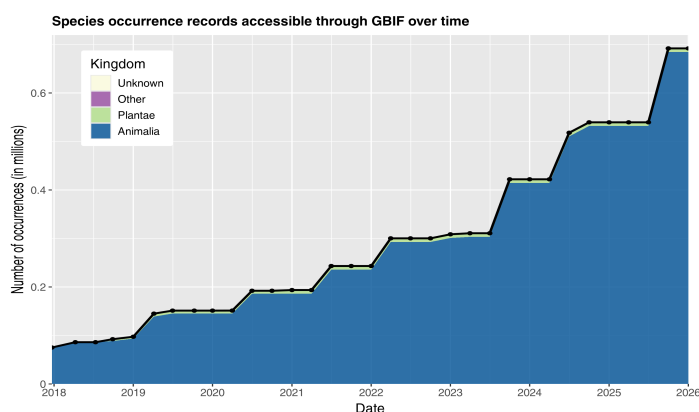
► Access and usage



► Data availability in Zimbabwe



► Data mobilization

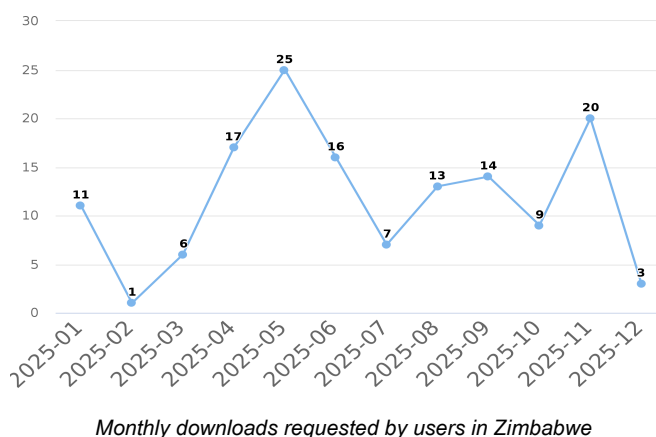
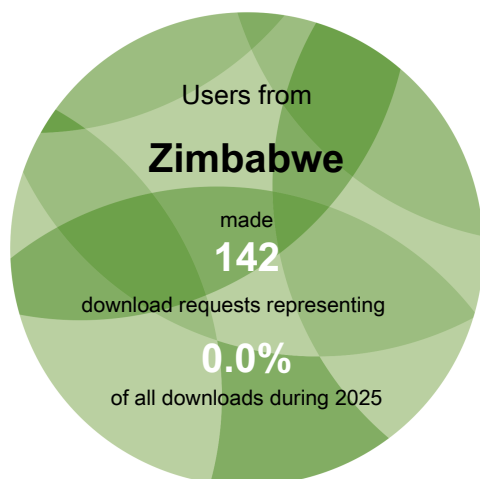


Number of records published by institutions in
Zimbabwe, categorized by kingdom



Access and usage

Data downloads on GBIF.org from users in Zimbabwe



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

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 Zimbabwe.

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

Jinga, Manyangadze. (2024) Variable intraspecific response to climate change in a medicinally important African tree species, *Vachellia sieberiana* (DC.) (paperbark thorn). *Ecology and Evolution*.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.11314>

Meltus, Mudereri, Mutamiswa *et al.* (2024) Host tree-based scenario modelling for predicting a key edible insect, mopane worm *Gonimbrasia belina* (Westwood, 1894) distribution in Southern Africa. *Journal of Insects as Food and Feed*.
<https://doi.org/10.1163/23524588-00001055>

Mutizwa, Kadye, Bragança *et al.* (2024) Hidden in the riffles: A new suckermouth catfish (Mochokidae, Chiloglanis) from the middle Zambezi River system, Zimbabwe. *ZooKeys*.
<https://doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.1197.114679>

Ngarega, Chaibva, Masocha *et al.* (2023) Application of MaxEnt modeling to evaluate the climate change effects on the geographic distribution of *Lippia javanica* (Burm.f.) Spreng in Africa. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10661-023-12232-3>

Mutematemi, Ndaimani, Muvengwi. (2023) Modelling the potential distribution of the common impala (*Aepyceros melampus melampus*) across Africa's changing climate. *African Journal of Ecology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/aje.13220>

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



Data availability

Total data available for selected taxonomic groups in Zimbabwe



Mammals
25,570
occurrences



Birds
778,409
occurrences



Bony fish
4,978
occurrences



Amphibians
11,836
occurrences



Insects
97,084
occurrences



Reptiles
25,239
occurrences



Molluscs
2,405
occurrences



Arachnids
14,947
occurrences



Flowering plants
179,561
occurrences



Ferns
5,910
occurrences



Gymnosperms
242
occurrences



Mosses
1,383
occurrences



Sac fungi
11,585
occurrences



Basidiomycota
25,901
occurrences

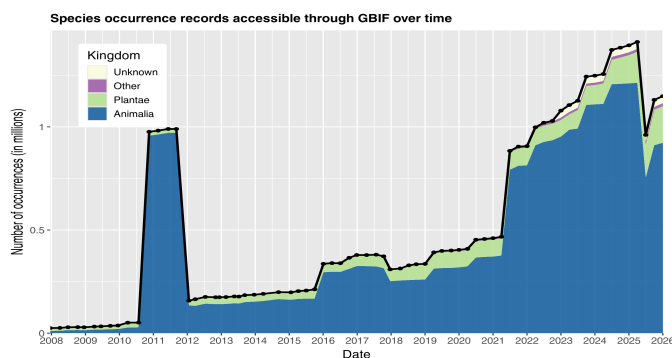
Mammals = Class *Mammalia*
Birds = Class *Aves*
Bony fish = Superclass
Osteichthyes p.p.
Amphibians = Class *Amphibia*

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

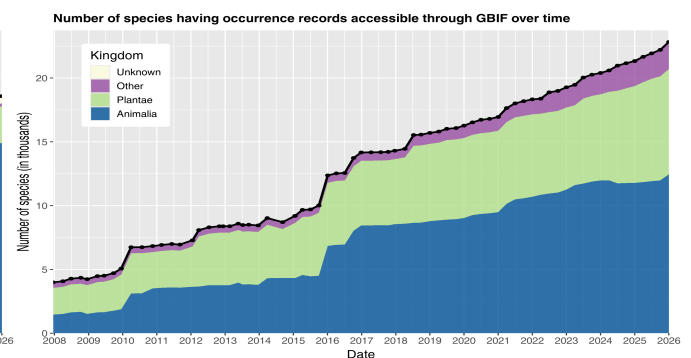
Arachnids = Class *Arachnida*
Flowering plants = Phylum
Magnoliophyta
Gymnosperms = Superclass
Gymnospermae

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

Change over time in records about biodiversity in Zimbabwe



Occurrence records available about species occurring in Zimbabwe



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

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 Zimbabwe

Amphibians and Reptiles of Zimbabwe in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe.

Published by Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

<https://doi.org/10.15468/72zu8j>

Amphibians and Reptiles of Zimbabwe in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe.

Published by Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

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

Insect biodiversity data in Support of Sustainable food and feed, Natural History Museum Zimbabwe.

Published by Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

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

Checklist of Freshwater Macroinvertebrates of Umfurudzi River, Chimanimani, Umvumvumu, Mutare and Nyanyadzi Rivers Zimbabwe post Cyclone Idai sampling. *Published by Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe*

<https://doi.org/10.15468/6xbzjz>

Reptile of the protected areas of Zimbabwe in the collection of the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe. *Published by Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe*

<https://doi.org/10.15468/t6dw97>

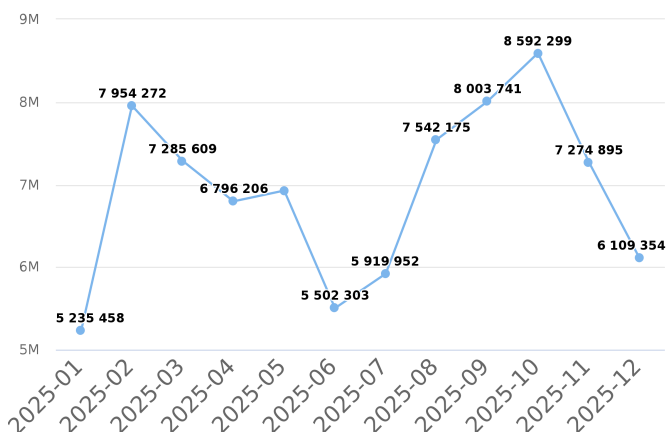
See all datasets from this country or area: gbif.org/dataset/search?publishing_country=ZW

Newest publishers from Zimbabwe

Bindura University Of Science Education

Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

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



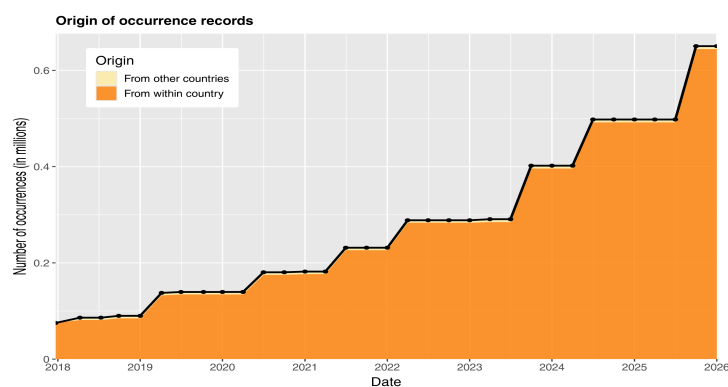
See all publishers from this country or area
gbif.org/publisher/search?country=ZW

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

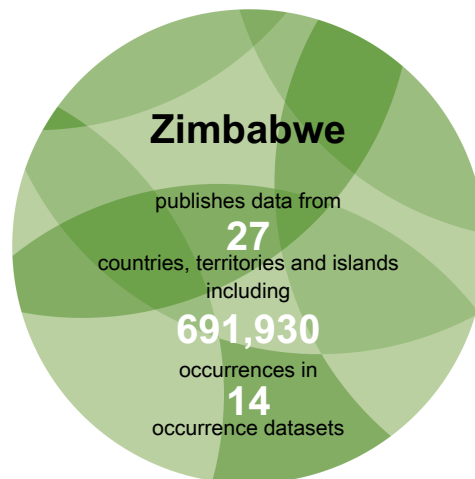


Data mobilization

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



Data sharing with country or area of origin



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

Top data contributors about biodiversity in Zimbabwe

Rank	Country or area	No. of occurrences
1	Zimbabwe	684,360
2	South Africa	161,904
3	United States of America	115,599
4	United Kingdom	84,123
5	Estonia	49,390
6	Belgium	20,215
7	Netherlands	16,574
8	Sweden	16,046
9	International organization or unknown country	13,716
10	Colombia	11,472

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

Top datasets contributing data about Zimbabwe

EOD – eBird Observation Dataset. 627,702 occurrences in Zimbabwe. (Last updated 29 Oct 2025)

SAFRING: Historical Bird Ringing Records (2005-2009). 85,328 occurrences in Zimbabwe. (Last updated 22 Nov 2017)

iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. 69,756 occurrences in Zimbabwe. (Last updated 31 Dec 2025)

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - Herbarium Specimens. 59,004 occurrences in Zimbabwe. (Last updated 2 Jan 2026)

Global soil organisms. 31,558 occurrences in Zimbabwe. (Last updated 27 Feb 2023)

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



Zimbabwe participates in the following projects coordinated by GBIF

Engaging the private sector for biodiversity data mobilization across Southern Africa

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2025–2027

<https://www.gbif.org/project/CESP2025-008>

Biodiversity data in support of climate action, life on earth and sustainable food and feed: Reptiles and arachnids found in Protected Areas and edible insect fauna in Zimbabwe

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2021–2023

<https://www.gbif.org/project/BID-AF2020-026-INS>

Mobilizing specimen data on bats and rodents from Zimbabwe

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

<https://www.gbif.org/project/6Hh3Lq05zOcQuwUM42c60U>

Strengthening Zimbabwe's GBIF node through mentoring by GBIF Spain

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2019–2020

<https://www.gbif.org/project/3Vkr6xaI59hVPi68fCkpO>

Mobilization of data on non-timber forest species in biodiversity hotspots of Zimbabwe

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

Zimbabwean forests and woodlands are rich in biodiversity, supplying both timber and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) for subsistence and commercial gains. However data about biodiversity are either scattered in many databases or reside on paper or other media not amenable to interactive searching. Therefore, policy makers and other development agents working on NTFPs in biodiversity hotspots are confounded by the lack of accessible, relevant and reliable biodiversity data to help in decision making. In this project, we aim to work with the Forestry Commission, the custodians of forest resources and the NHBC, the holder of biodiversity data, to create databases of NTFPs species used for food and medicinal purposes in Zimbabwe.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/d5AD8O2jAcecQIGawemcl>

Providing access to the zoology collection of the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2016–2017

This project collates and digitizes biodiversity data from the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe and targets the publishing of 11000 mammal specimen records.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/82771>

Digitizing the Matobo Hills Arachnid collections at the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

The Arachnid collection at the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe contains information that can be useful to policy makers and medical practitioners, and it needs to be digitalized and organized in a multimedia database for easy access to every interested person. The database will be shared via GBIF for reliable access.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/1YbRi07NuQ8skM4E46slY6>

Freshwater biodiversity of the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe:

Assessing conservation priorities using primary species occurrence data

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

This project seeks to mobilise data on freshwater biodiversity in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe and will make use of Biodiversity Informatics tools to identify the important sites for Conservation of Freshwater biodiversity, with a focus on fish, invertebrates, amphibians and bird species in the region.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/3XfbOgESMgkEEcC8lsewwG>

See all GBIF projects

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