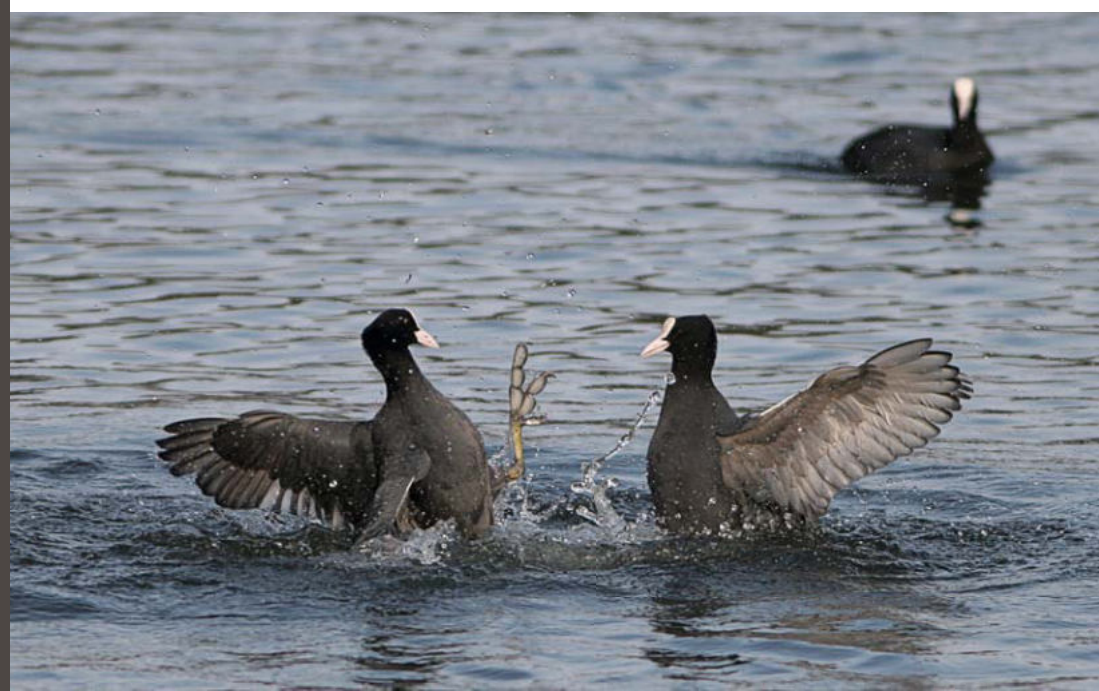


Population Trends of Common European Breeding Birds 2011



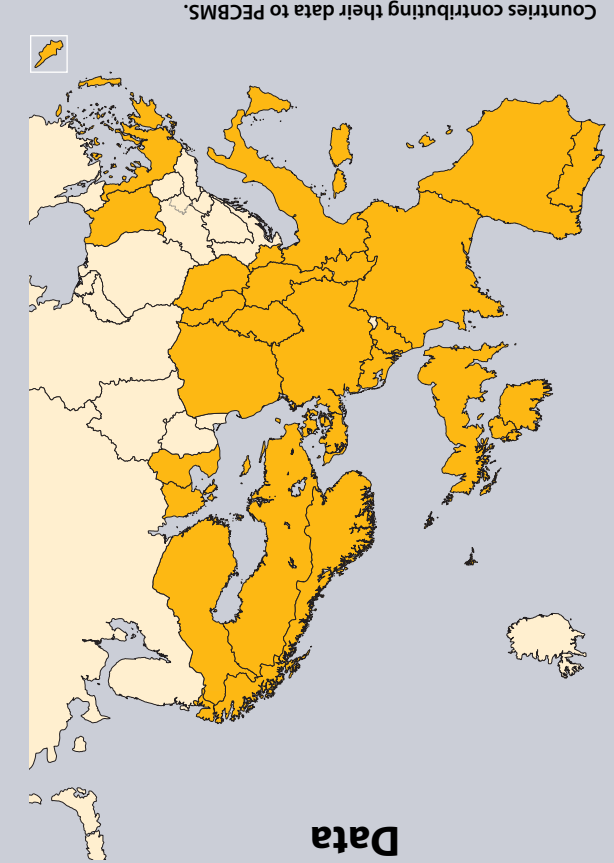
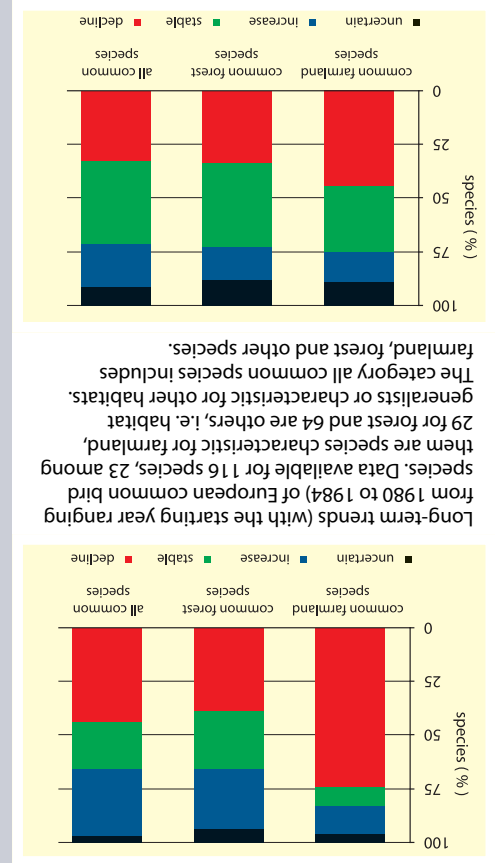
Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS)



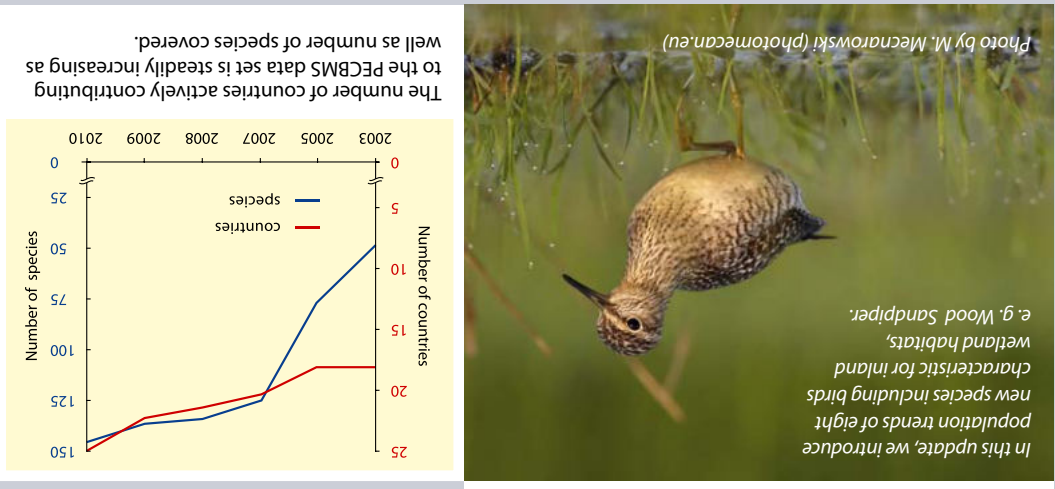
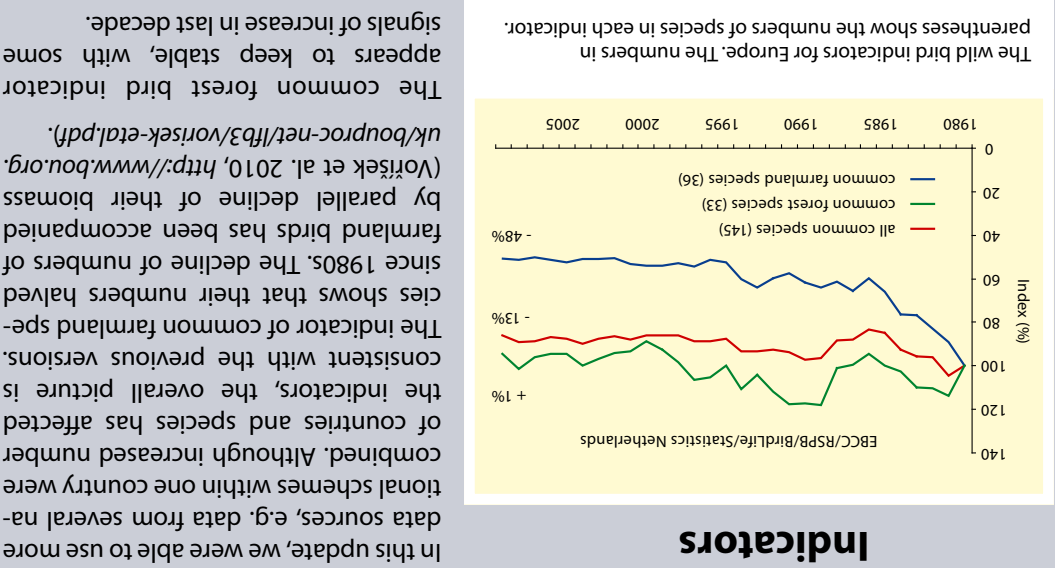
Photo by D. Jirovsky (wildbirdphoto.eu)
Although the indicator of common forest birds appears to be stable, the Goldcrest, the smallest European passerine, is moderately declining in Europe, experiencing large fluctuations in population size most likely caused by severe winters.

Summary

- This leaflet presents the combined bird species trends of 145 common bird species based on data collected from 25 European countries, covering the period 1980–2009.
- Of the 145 species covered, 41 have increased moderately and 2 strongly, 54 have declined moderately and 1 steeply, while 35 have remained stable. In 12 cases species trends remain uncertain.
- 36 species were classified as farmland birds, of which 20 declined, 6 remained stable and trends of 4 were classified as uncertain.
- The situation of European farmland birds remains alarming. The index of common farmland birds has fallen by 48% over the last 30 years.



The data are derived from annually operated breeding bird surveys in 25 countries, spanning different periods, coordinated through the PECBMS. According to information from coordinators of national monitoring schemes, 11 150 volunteer counters took part in the surveys in 2010. For details and methods see <http://www.ebcc.info/pecbms.html>.



In this update, we were able to use more data sources, e.g. data from several national schemes within one country were combined. Although increased number of countries and species has affected the indicators, the overall picture is consistent with the previous versions. The indicator of common farmland species shows that their numbers halved since 1980s. The decline of numbers of farmland birds has been accompanied by parallel decline of their biomass (Voříšek et al. 2010, <http://www.bou.org.uk/bouproc-net/ffb3/vorisek-etal.pdf>).



Woodchat Shrike is moderately declining at least partially through habitat loss in its Mediterranean strongholds, but also climatic changes and Sahel droughts are discussed as factors affecting this migrant's population trend.

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PECBMS contact: Petr Voříšek, project coordinator, Czech Society for Ornithology, Na Bělidle 252/34, CZ-150 00, Praha 5 - Smíchov, Czech Republic. E-mail: EuroMonitoring@birdlife.cz.

Compiled by: J. Škorpilová, P. Voříšek, A. Klvaňová, R. D. Gregory and I. J. Burfield.

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PECBMS national data providers

Austria BirdLife ÖSTERREICH	Belgium Aves	Bulgaria БЪЛГАРСКО ОРНИТОЛОГИЧЕСКО СЪОБЩЕСТВО	Cyprus Hellenic Ornithological Society	Czech Republic ČSO	Denmark Dansk Ornitologisk Forening
Denmark DANISH MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT	Estonia Eesti Linnulinnade ja Linnulindude Selts	Finland Finnish Museum of Natural History	France Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle	Germany DDA	
Greece Ornithologiki Elliniki Ornithologiki Etaireia	Hungary MME	Ireland The Irish Ornithological Society	Netherlands BirdWatchIreland	Italy LIPU	
Italy MITO	Latvia Latvijas Ornitoloģijas biedrība	Netherlands SOVON	Norway Direktoratet for naturforvaltning	Slovakia HINT	
Norway NINA	Poland Ornithologia Polonica	Portugal spea	Slovakia SOS/BirdLife SLOVENSKO		
Slovenia DOPPS	Spain SEO/BirdLife	Portugal Ministerio do Ambiente e do Ordenamento do Território	Slovakia ICO		
Sweden LUND UNIVERSITY	Switzerland vogelwarte.ch	United Kingdom BTO			
		United Kingdom JNCC			

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Legend for Table

The quality of outputs may differ species by species. In some cases, the coverage of species' populations and thus the representativeness of the data may be lower at the beginning of the time series (for information on the time span and the list of countries contributing with their data for individual species, see <http://www.ebcc.info/pecbm.html>). Furthermore, year to year fluctuations might not always reflect real population change, so we recommend cautious interpretation of year by year changes. Readers should also pay attention to individual species' legends.

Long/short-term trend: change (in %) in an index value between first and last year of a time period.

Long/short-term annual change: average percentage change per year.

Long-term: 1980–2009, **Short-term:** 1990–2009.

Trend classification: ↑↑ strong increase, ↑ moderate increase, — stable, ↓ moderate decline, ↓↓ steep decline, ? uncertain.

Habitat: **for** – forest, **farm** – farmland, **oth** – other.

- 1 Long-term trend not available.
- 2 Long-term trend: 1981–2009.
- 3 Long-term trend: 1982–2009.
- 4 Long-term trend: 1984–2009.
- 5 Short-term trend: 1991–2009.
- 6 Short-term trend: 1998–2009.
- 7 Short-term trend: 1999–2009.
- 8 Short-term trend: 2000–2009.
- 9 Index for early period may be unrepresentative due to limited geographical coverage and needs to be treated with caution.
- 10 Index might be influenced by releases by hunters.

For more details on species trends, including standard errors, see <http://www.ebcc.info/trends2011.html>.

Trend classification

The multiplicative overall slope estimate (trend value) in TRIM is converted into one of the following categories. The category depends on the overall slope, as well as its 95% confidence interval (= slope +/- 1.96 times the standard error of the slope).

↗ **Strong increase** – increase significantly more than 5% per year (5% would mean a doubling in abundance within 15 years). Criterion: lower limit of confidence interval > 1.05.

↘ **Moderate increase** – significant increase, but not significantly more than 5% per year. Criterion: 1.00 < lower limit of confidence interval < 1.05.

↔ **Stable** – no significant increase or decline, and it is certain that trends are less than 5% per year. Criterion: confidence interval encloses 1.00 but lower limit > 0.95 and upper limit < 1.05.

↔ **Uncertain** – no significant increase or decline, but not certain if trends are less than 5% per year. Criterion: confidence interval encloses 1.00 but lower limit < 0.95 or upper limit > 1.05.

↘ **Moderate decline** – significant decline, but not significantly more than 5% per year. Criterion: 0.95 < upper limit of confidence interval < 1.00.

↘ **Steep decline** – decline significantly more than 5% per year (5% would mean a halving in abundance within 15 years). Criterion: upper limit of confidence interval < 0.95.

Population Trends of Common European Breeding Birds.									
Species		Long-term			Class.	Short-term			Habitat
		Trend (%)	Annual Change (%)	Class.		Trend (%)	Annual Change (%)	Class.	
<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	White Stork ^{3,9}	204	3.90	↑	28	2.01	↑	farm	
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Western Marsh-harrier	310	4.36	↑	-11	-0.14	—	oth	
<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Zitting Cisticola ^{1,6}				-38	-1.00	↓	oth	
<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	Hawfinch ⁹	609	1.63	↑	-31	-1.46	↓	for	
<i>Columba oenas</i>	Stock Dove	42	0.85	—	42	1.11	—	for	
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Common Wood-pigeon	84	1.85	↑	32	1.79	↑	oth	
<i>Corvus corax</i>	Common Raven	118	2.21	↑	74	1.72	↑	oth	
<i>Corvus corone & cornix</i>	Carriion & Hooded Crow	20	0.61	↑	4	0.46	—	oth	
<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Rook	35	1.16	↑	18	0.57	—	farm	
<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Eurasian Jackdaw ⁹	-5	-1.22	↓	-39	-2.70	↓	oth	
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Common Cuckoo	-21	-1.13	↓	-15	-0.49	—	oth	
<i>Cyanopica cyanus</i>	Azure-winged Magpie ^{1,6}				82	4.50	↑	for	
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute Swan	31	1.81	↑	38	1.50	↑	oth	
<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Northern House-martin	-18	-1.51	↓	-22	-1.44	—	oth	
<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker	57	1.63	↑	19	2.11	↑	oth	
<i>Dendrocopos medius</i>	Middle Spotted Woodpecker ¹				-10	1.81	—	for	
<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker ⁹	-75	-3.47	?	-58	-4.33	?	for	
<i>Dendrocopos syriacus</i>	Syrian Woodpecker ^{1,7}				-22	-2.89	?	oth	
<i>Dryocopus martius</i>	Black Woodpecker	148	1.64	↑	64	2.04	—	for	
<i>Emberiza cia</i>	Rock Bunting ^{1,6}				25	-0.18	—	oth	
<i>Emberiza cirius</i>	Cirl Bunting ¹				30	3.36	↑	farm	
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	-40	-1.56	↓	-20	-1.01	↓	farm	
<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	Ortolan Bunting ⁹	-84	-6.21	↓↓	-43	-0.80	—	farm	
<i>Emberiza melanocephala</i>	Black-headed Bunting ^{1,8}				49	4.87	?	farm	
<i>Emberiza rustica</i>	Rustic Bunting	-72	-5.39	↓	-64	-7.75	↓↓	for	
<i>Emberiza schoeniulus</i>	Reed Bunting	-24	-0.69	↓	-13	-0.96	↓	oth	
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	European Robin	24	1.29	↑	11	0.96	↑	oth	

<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Common Kestrel	-35	-0.72	↓	-42	-2.76	↓	farm
<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	Collared Flycatcher ^{3,9}	142	2.52	↑	50	0.14	—	for
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	European Pied Flycatcher	-21	-0.92	↓	-23	-1.08	↓	for
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Eurasian Chaffinch	4	0.16	↑	-6	-0.15	—	oth
<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>	Brambling	-76	-3.53	↓	-43	-3.08	↓	oth
<i>Fulica atra</i>	Common Coot ⁹	51	0.79	↑	-7	0.03	—	oth
<i>Galerida cristata</i>	Crested Lark ^{3,9}	-95	-11.80	↓	0	2.94	?	farm
<i>Galerida theklae</i>	Thekla Lark ^{1,6}				43	2.58	↑	farm
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Common Snipe	-41	-2.04	↓	-16	-0.13	—	oth
<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Common Moorhen	-6	0.62	↑	0	0.78	—	oth
<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Eurasian Jay	25	0.83	↑	32	1.75	↑	for
<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	Icterine Warbler	-50	-1.64	↓	-25	-1.32	↓	oth
<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	Melodious Warbler ¹				-23	-1.14	—	oth
<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	Eurasian Crag-martin ^{1,6}				0	1.25	—	oth
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn Swallow	-18	-0.59	—	-33	-1.84	↓	farm
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Eurasian Wryneck ⁹	-49	-3.38	↓	-30	-2.10	↓	oth
<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Red-backed Shrike	-36	0.52	—	31	0.95	—	farm
<i>Lanius minor</i>	Lesser Grey Shrike ^{1,7}				-50	-4.71	?	farm
<i>Lanius senator</i>	Woodchat Shrike ^{1,6}				0	-1.29	↓	farm
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit ⁴	-45	-3.10	↓	-55	-3.64	↓	farm
<i>Locustella fluviatilis</i>	Eurasian River Warbler ^{3,9}	-62	-1.47	↓	-45	-1.79	—	oth
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	Common Grasshopper-warbler	-39	0.14	—	3	0.13	—	oth
<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Wood Lark ⁹	-3	3.28	↑	43	0.38	—	oth
<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	Thrush Nightingale	9	1.12	↑	18	1.39	↑	oth
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Common Nightingale	-63	-1.84	↓	-5	0.34	—	oth
<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>	Calandra Lark ^{1,6}				-35	-4.66	↓	farm
<i>Merops apiaster</i>	European Bee-eater ¹				98	0.44	?	oth
<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	Corn Bunting	-66	-3.53	↓	-24	-1.70	↓	farm
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White Wagtail	-19	-0.45	↓	-35	-1.04	↓	oth
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail ^{3,9}	-34	-0.64	—	-19	-0.28	—	oth
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Yellow Wagtail	-53	-3.04	↓	-2	-1.06	—	farm
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted Flycatcher	-43	-1.67	↓	-19	-0.90	—	oth
<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	Spotted Nutcracker	41	-0.01	—	-59	-2.82	?	for
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel ⁴	-28	-0.43	—	-8	0.30	—	oth

Population Trends of Common European Breeding Birds.									
Species		Long-term			Class.	Short-term			Habitat
		Trend (%)	Annual Change (%)	Class.		Trend (%)	Annual Change (%)	Class.	
<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	Black-eared Wheatear ^{1,6}				-8	-1.86	↓	farm	
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Northern Wheatear ⁹	-66	-3.82	↓	-69	-4.36	↓	oth	
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Eurasian Golden Oriole ³	18	0.41	—	28	1.32	—	oth	
<i>Parus ater</i>	Coal Tit	-12	-0.54	—	-23	-1.40	—	for	
<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Blue Tit	36	1.30	↑	30	1.76	↑	oth	
<i>Parus cristatus</i>	Crested Tit	-35	-1.01	↓	-23	-0.91	↓	for	
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit	13	0.33	↑	14	0.89	↑	oth	
<i>Parus montanus</i>	Willow Tit	-64	-3.23	↓	-45	-1.84	↓	for	
<i>Parus palustris</i>	Marsh Tit	-32	-1.61	↓	-9	0.18	—	for	
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	-62	-2.37	↓	-7	-0.38	—	oth	
<i>Passer montanus</i>	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	-53	-1.93	↓	9	-1.23	—	farm	
<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Grey Partridge	-82	-6.38	↓	-66	-6.43	↓	farm	
<i>Petronia petronia</i>	Rock Sparrow ^{1,6}				2	1.28	—	farm	
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Black Redstart ^{3,9}	36	0.89	—	-6	0.24	—	oth	
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Common Redstart	7	0.70	↑	45	1.45	↑	for	
<i>Phylloscopus bonelli</i>	Bonelli's Warbler ¹				-37	-1.77	?	for	
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Common Chiffchaff	76	2.01	↑	-15	-0.44	↓	for	
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	Wood Warbler	-33	-2.11	↓	-32	-2.78	↓	for	
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	-33	-1.54	↓	-34	-1.73	↓	oth	
<i>Pica pica</i>	Black-billed Magpie	-1	-1.12	↓	-41	-3.75	↓	oth	
<i>Picus canus</i>	Grey-faced Woodpecker ^{3,9}	179	1.81	?	-21	-1.45	—	for	
<i>Picus viridis</i>	Eurasian Green Woodpecker	43	2.54	↑	42	2.71	↑	oth	
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Eurasian Golden-plover ^{2,9}	-14	-0.88	↓	62	0.68	—	oth	
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Hedge Accentor	-39	-1.45	↓	-24	-1.00	↓	oth	
<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	Red-billed Chough ^{1,6}				28	0.40	?	oth	
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Eurasian Bullfinch	-58	-1.69	↓	-42	-2.86	↓	for	
<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	Firecrest ^{3,9}	-30	-0.05	—	-41	-0.21	—	for	
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Goldcrest	-48	-1.52	↓	-61	-2.56	↓	for	
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Whinchat	-67	-1.87	↓	-13	0.04	—	farm	

<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Common Stonechat ¹				29	0.41	—	farm
<i>Serinus serinus</i>	European Serin ^{3,9}	-44	-3.07	↓	-37	-2.72	↓	farm
<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Wood Nuthatch	72	1.42	↑	-8	0.19	—	for
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Eurasian Collared-dove	94	1.67	↑	152	5.32	↑	oth
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	European Turtle-dove	-69	-3.89	↓	-22	-0.93	↓	farm
<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	Spotless Starling ^{1,6}				13	1.52	↑	farm
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common Starling	-53	-2.01	↓	-8	-0.77	↓	farm
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Blackcap	114	2.94	↑	41	2.29	↑	oth
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Garden Warbler	-25	-0.59	↓	-23	-0.55	↓	oth
<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	Subalpine Warbler ¹				39	2.93	?	oth
<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Common Whitethroat	27	1.19	↑	11	0.75	↑	farm
<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	Lesser Whitethroat	-15	0.23	—	10	0.45	↑	oth
<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	Orphean Warbler ¹				80	9.61	↑↑	oth
<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	Sardinian Warbler ¹				89	1.24	—	oth
<i>Sylvia nisia</i>	Barred Warbler ^{3,9}	-48	-1.75	?	-46	-2.97	↓	oth
<i>Sylvia undata</i>	Dartford Warbler ^{1,6}				-34	-5.12	↓	oth
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Wood Sandpiper	-33	-0.68	—	-3	-0.84	—	oth
<i>Tringa chropus</i>	Green Sandpiper ⁹	-11	0.79	—	-3	0.46	—	for
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Common Redshank	-51	-2.27	↓	-46	-2.97	↓	oth
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Winter Wren	56	1.95	↑	4	1.26	↑	oth
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Redwing	10	-0.13	—	15	0.55	↑	oth
<i>Turdus merula</i>	Eurasian Blackbird	16	1.10	↑	17	1.06	↑	oth
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush	2	0.35	↑	32	1.49	↑	oth
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Fieldfare	5	0.32	—	-36	-1.28	↓	oth
<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Mistle Thrush	-23						