

New Report Finds at Least One in Five Terrestrial Vertebrate Species Are Traded Globally

The research team also predicts increased trade going forward



Photo shows seized pangolin scales and elephant ivory in Singapore this July (Xinhua/Then Chih Wey via Getty Images)

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Roughly one in four mammals and birds, one in eight reptiles and one in ten amphibians aren't free to walk, fly or slither, according to findings in [a study](#) published last week in *Science*. Per the report, 5,579 of the 31,500 known terrestrial vertebrate species are caught in the global

wildlife trade. This figure is 40 to 60 percent higher than previous estimates.

“We are revealing the sheer magnitude of what this multibillion-dollar industry represents,” study co-lead author Brian Scheffers of

