



Cheetah

Acinonyx jubatus



For more information visit [Panthera.org](https://panthera.org)

Photo by: Craig Taylor



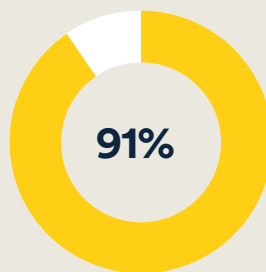
WIDELY KNOWN AS THE PLANET'S FASTEST LAND ANIMAL, THE CHEETAH IS ALSO THE LEAST DANGEROUS BIG CAT. TODAY, THERE ARE ESTIMATED TO BE ONLY 7,100 CHEETAHS LEFT IN THE WILD – AND THEIR FUTURE REMAINS UNCERTAIN.

CHEETAH CONSERVATION STATUS

Least Concern Near Threatened **Vulnerable** Endangered Critically Endangered



● **CURRENT** Cheetah Range ● **HISTORIC** Cheetah Range



79%

Cheetahs have vanished from approximately 90 percent of their historic range in Africa, and are extinct in Asia except for a single, isolated population of perhaps 50 individuals in central Iran.

79% OF ALL CHEETAH POPULATIONS CONTAIN 100 OR FEWER INDIVIDUALS

POPULATION

There are estimated to be only 7,100 cheetahs left in the wild, and their future remains uncertain across their range.

Cheetahs are listed as “Vulnerable” by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species, but after a recent study revealed significant population declines, scientists are calling for cheetahs to be uplisted to “Endangered.” In North Africa and Asia, they are considered “Critically Endangered.”

SAVING THE CHEETAH

Panthera’s Cheetah Program aims to protect cheetahs by addressing direct threats to them, their prey base, and their habitats. To do this, Panthera gathers critical ecological data by surveying and monitoring populations and their prey, collaborating with local law enforcement officials and partners, and working with local communities to mitigate conflict and create cheetah-positive landscapes within communities.

As one of only two Western conservation NGOs with permission to operate in Iran, Panthera has been researching the last remaining 50 Asiatic cheetahs in the world since 2006. In 2015, the first national survey effort of Iranian cheetahs commenced with the cooperation of Iran’s Department of Environment.

In 2014, Panthera launched a range-wide cheetah conservation program based in Zambia’s 60,000 km² Greater Kafue Ecosystem. The program’s activities will soon expand into the vast Kavanago Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area, Africa’s largest conservation landscape that is home to the largest population of wild cheetahs in southern Africa.

Threats to the Cheetah

- 1 Cheetahs are frequently killed by farmers, either preemptively or in retaliation for livestock predation, even though the actual damage they cause to livestock is relatively minor.
- 2 Cheetahs are profoundly affected by loss of prey from human hunting and the development of land for agricultural and other purposes.
- 3 Direct hunting in some parts of Africa for skins contributes to cheetah population declines, as does the illegal trade in live cubs and adults, many of which die during transport.