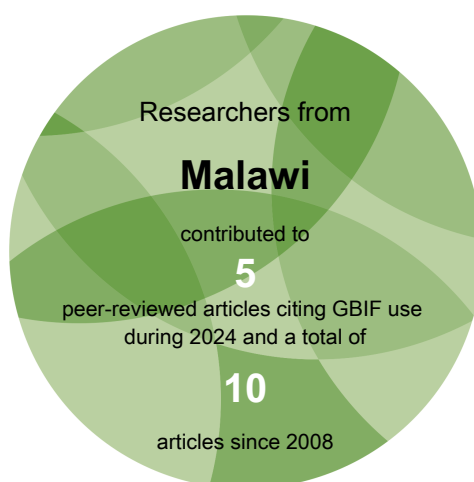


generated January 2025

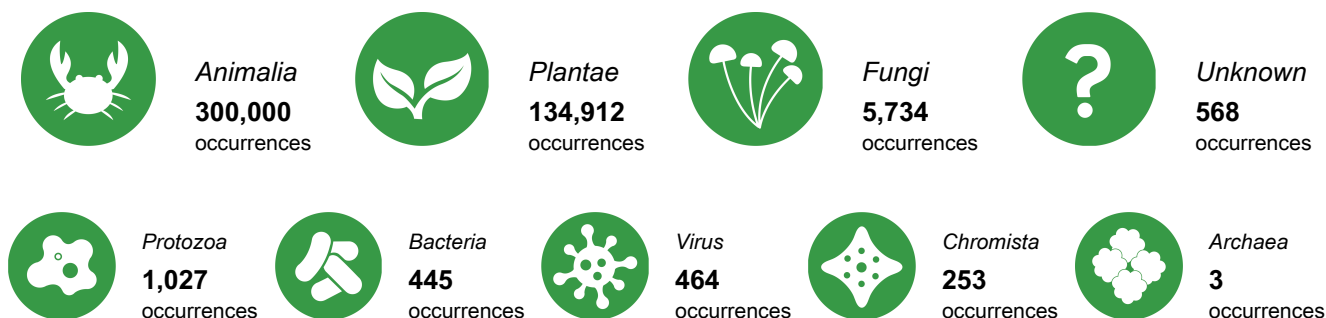
Malawi

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 Malawi. 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.

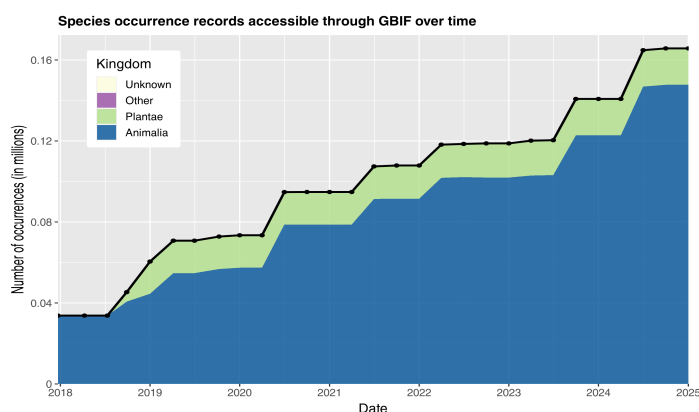
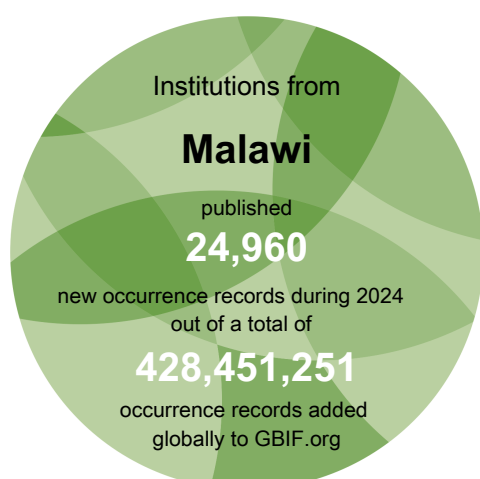
► Access and usage



► Data availability in Malawi



► Data mobilization

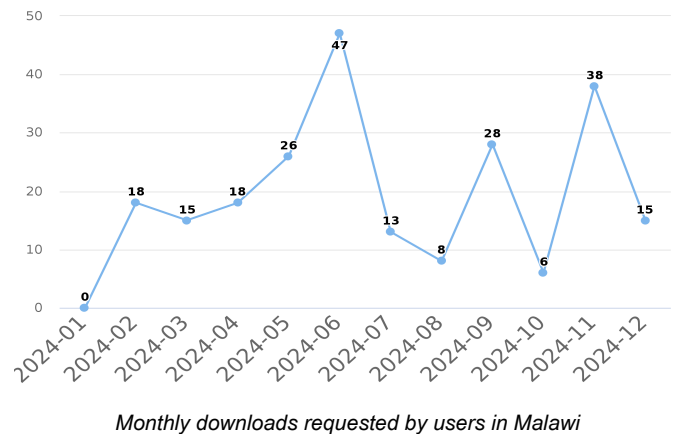
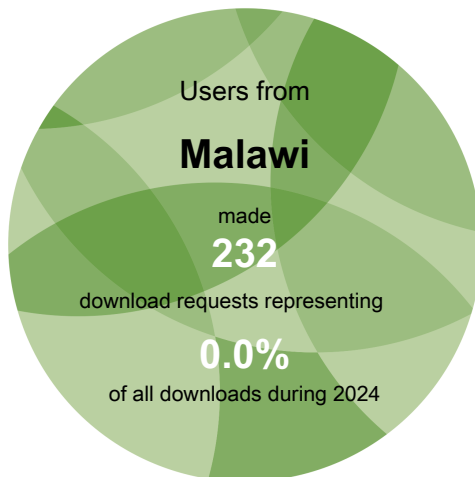


Number of records published by institutions in Malawi,
categorized by kingdom



Access and usage

Data downloads on GBIF.org from users in Malawi



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

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 Malawi.

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

Kokou, Salumu, Balde *et al.* (2024) Modelling the Current and Future Spatial Distribution Area of *Adansonia digitata* L. in the Context of Climate Change in Malawi (Southern Africa). *Journal of Agricultural Science*.
<https://doi.org/10.5539/jas.v16n9p41>

Wogan, Voelker, Jain *et al.* (2024) Niche dynamics modulate population connectivity between disjunct ranges of the Cape Robin-chat (*Cossypha caffra*) supporting an aridlands species pump. *Frontiers of Biogeography*.
<https://doi.org/10.21425/fob.17.132679>

VOELKER, WOGAN, HUNTLEY *et al.* (2024) Climate cycling did not affect haplotype distribution in an abundant Southern African avian habitat generalist species, the familiar chat (*Oenanthe familiaris*). *Integrative Zoology*.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1749-4877.12879>

Cahen, Magombo, Gillespie. (2024) *Tragia grandistipularis* (Euphorbiaceae), a new species from Malawi. *Kew Bulletin*.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s12225-024-10197-1>

Banda, Dejene, Mzumara *et al.* (2024) An ensemble model predicts an upward range shift of the endemic and endangered Yellow-throated Apalis (*Apalis flavigularis*) under future climate change in Malawi.



Data availability

Total data available for selected taxonomic groups in Malawi



Mammals
11,922
occurrences



Birds
204,594
occurrences



Bony fish
15,994
occurrences



Amphibians
4,817
occurrences



Insects
51,940
occurrences



Reptiles
5,360
occurrences



Molluscs
2,423
occurrences



Arachnids
757
occurrences



Flowering plants
129,914
occurrences



Ferns
2,642
occurrences



Gymnosperms
486
occurrences



Mosses
914
occurrences



Sac fungi
3,303
occurrences



Basidiomycota
2,042
occurrences

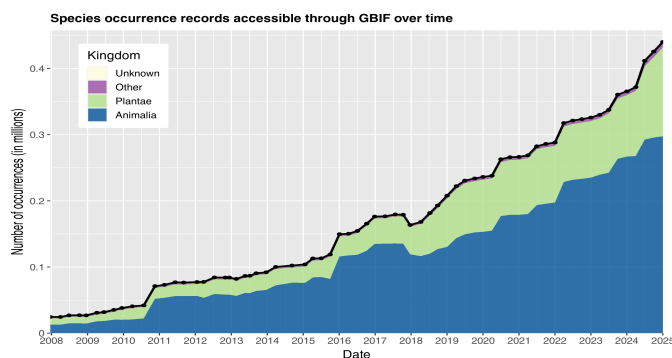
Mammals = Class *Mammalia*
Birds = Class *Aves*
Bony fish = Superclass
Osteichthyes p.p.
Amphibians = Class *Amphibia*

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

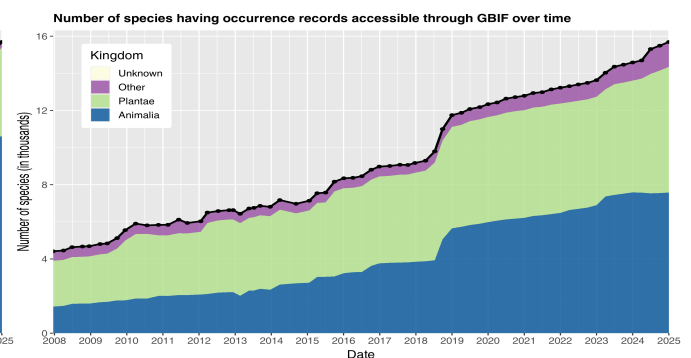
Arachnids = Class *Arachnida*
Flowering plants = Phylum
Magnoliophyta
Gymnosperms = Superclass
Gymnospermae

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

Change over time in records about biodiversity in Malawi



Occurrence records available about species occurring in Malawi



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

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 Malawi

- msc_biodiversityinformatics_studentprojectdata. *Published by Malawi University of Science and Technology*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/8w2uje>
- mw_threatened_birds. *Published by Malawi University of Science and Technology*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/xsk9vh>
- Mchinji Forest Reserve Sampling Event Data. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/2qh2na>
- Some Malawi Lycaenidae Butterflies Data Records. *Published by The Department of Museums and Monuments*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/f22fhy>
- Economic Plants of Malawi. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/dk46ed>
- Endemic and Economically Useful Plant Species of Malawi. *Published by National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi*
<https://doi.org/10.15468/bemw7c>

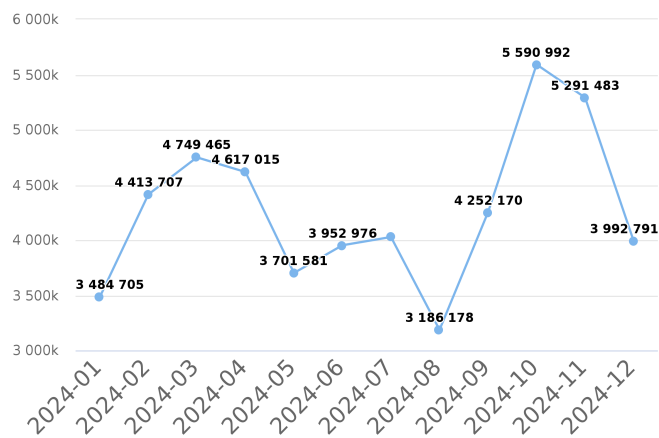
See all datasets from this country or area: gbif.org/dataset/search?publishing_country=MW

Newest publishers from Malawi

- Malawi University of Science and Technology
- The Department of Museums and Monuments
- National Herbarium & Botanic Gardens of Malawi
- Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi
- Malawi Plant Genetic Resources Centre (MPGRC)

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

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

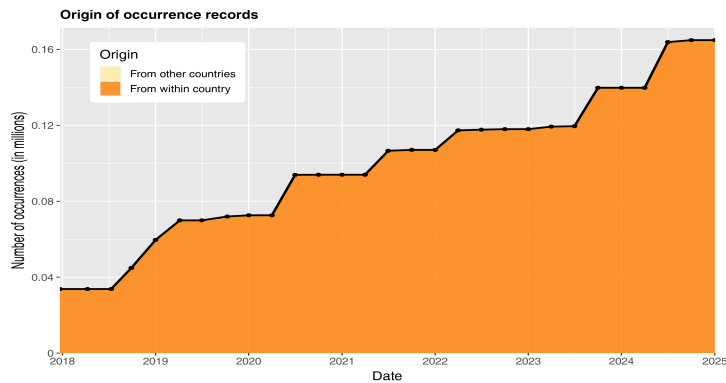


Number of occurrence records downloaded via GBIF.org published by institutions in Malawi

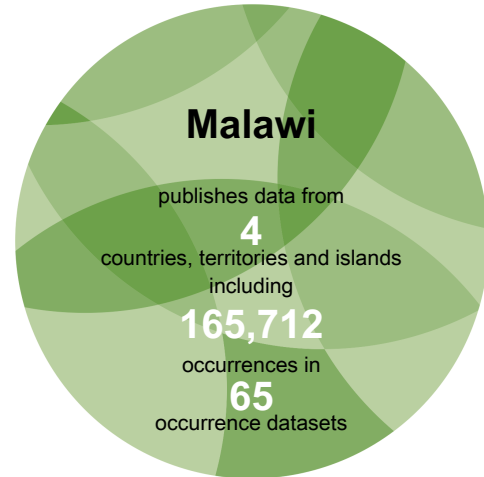


Data mobilization

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



Data sharing with country or area of origin



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

Top data contributors about biodiversity in Malawi

Rank	Country or area	No. of occurrences
1	Malawi	163,740
2	United States of America	78,823
3	South Africa	61,839
4	United Kingdom	54,067
5	Netherlands	16,796
6	International organization or unknown country	15,134
7	Belgium	15,072
8	Germany	8,982
9	Colombia	6,491
10	Sweden	3,977

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

Top datasets contributing data about Malawi

EOD – eBird Observation Dataset. *131,496 occurrences in Malawi.* (Last updated 27 Sep 2024)

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - Herbarium Specimens. *31,936 occurrences in Malawi.* (Last updated 2 Jan 2025)

SAFRING: Historical Bird Ringing Records (2005-2009). *27,322 occurrences in Malawi.* (Last updated 22 Nov 2017)

iNaturalist Research-grade Observations. *26,509 occurrences in Malawi.* (Last updated 30 Dec 2024)

Southern African Bird Atlas Project 2. *15,586 occurrences in Malawi.* (Last updated 2 Jan 2025)

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



Malawi participates in the following projects coordinated by GBIF

Mobilizing endemic and economically useful species data for policy and protection

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2020–2021

Technical training for data managers at key institutions to ensure the availability of data for target species

<https://www.gbif.org/project/2du1KSeBHxlcZF9krfPZvp>

GBIF Malawi advocacy action

Capacity Enhancement Support Programme, 2015–2016

Through this project, Malawi will conduct a desk and online survey to identify training and infrastructure needs at organizational and individual level on data management for biodiversity management.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/82210>

Status and spatial diversity of Sorghum wild species in Malawi

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

This project aims at halting genetic erosion and safeguard the species for present and future use and specifically, to (i) establish the distribution of *S. versicolor* Anderson, *S. halepense* (L.) Pers, *S. sudanense* (Piper) Stapf and *S. arundinaceum* (Desv.) Stapf. in Malawi; (ii) establish the spatial diversity of these crop wild relatives (iii) assess the state of vulnerability of the species; and (iv) propose conservation plan to safeguard the threatened species.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/3lbgi31EzKqKqcO8MqMUmS>

Strengthening Malawi's Biodiversity Information Facility

BID: Biodiversity Information for Development, 2017–2019

The objective is to develop and manage a comprehensive national biodiversity database using BRAHMS, through training of NHBG technical staff and its local partners; including Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) which is a central user of biodiversity information, particularly at policy level.

This project will strengthen the biodiversity information infrastructure of Malawi.

<https://www.gbif.org/project/6vsEqjdu6lUGaqKK8Wyyme>

See all GBIF projects

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