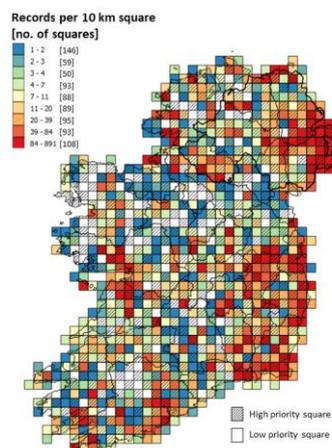


We are very excited to be able to update you on Butterfly Atlas 2021, a major new partnership project, led by the National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) and involving a wide range of Butterfly-minded partners from across the island of Ireland. Butterfly Conservation are promoting involvement in the atlas and compiling, verifying and submitting the Northern Ireland butterfly data.

During 2017 over 10,000 Northern Ireland butterfly records were verified and submitted to the atlas thanks to all of you recording, surveying and submitting data through various means. **THANK YOU!** This is a truly amazing achievement and a really encouraging start to the project.

We are about to enter our 2nd year of the atlas and have been able to use all of your records from 2017 to show priorities for recording in the year ahead. You will find the [county maps](#) for NI on the next three pages, kindly created by Dr Tomás Murray of NBDC. These maps are colour coded to show which 10km squares across the country are most in need of visiting, recording and surveying.



In our 1st year:

- 40,378 records from 1,302 recorders representing 129,637 butterflies and 36 species.
- A 255% increase in recording prior to the atlas!
- 20,008 records from monitoring schemes; 20,370 from casual records.
- 79 high priority squares covered, but mostly by existing monitoring schemes.

BCNI recording priorities for 2018;

1. Please keep submitting your records as normal; all casual sightings will be added to the atlas.
2. If you are already surveying a UKBMS transect, **PLEASE KEEP DOING SO!** Transect data is absolutely essential for us to be able to calibrate species population trends and integral to the success of the Atlas. Transect squares contain a star. ★
3. If you have already got a **WCBS** square, be it a BC or a BTO BBS one, **PLEASE ATTEMPT THE NEW FIVE-VISIT MODEL** (see below). The five-visit model allows us to capture information on the emergence of both our Spring and Summer butterfly species, contributing to species trends.
4. Can you adopt a 'Highest Priority' square? Highest Priority squares contain an oval. ● These are un-adopted BC WCBS squares that we would love to see taken on during the life of the atlas. Even if it is only possible to sort out the access and route for these squares in 2018, this means the square will be all ready for surveying in 2019.
5. Not near any of these but want to help with surveying? Contact Stuart to find out if there is a BTO BBS Square in your area that you could explore taking on the butterfly recording for.
6. Have a go at 'Low Priority' square recording (orange and yellow squares on the attached maps) which means visiting once in Spring and once in Summer (for dates see below). Please submit any records through CEDaR online recording <https://www2.habitas.org.uk/records>

FIVE-VISIT SURVEYING (for anyone with a WCBS square)

Please visit your square **five times** throughout the year. Visits should be at least fourteen days apart.

Spring: Two visits between the 22nd April – 16th June.

Summer: Three visits from the 1st July -15th September with two of these in July/August to fit the core UK WCBS recording season.

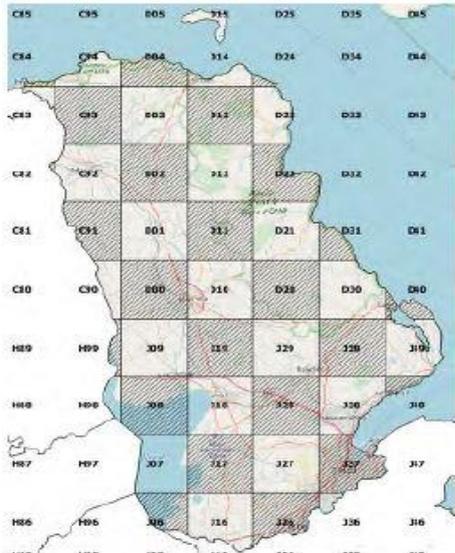
For more information contact:

Transects Stephen Craig: stephenAcraig@hotmail.co.uk

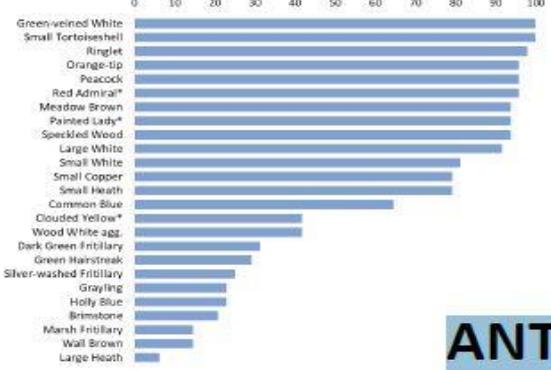
WCBS Stuart Watson: wcbns.ni@gmail.com

For more general information about the Butterfly Atlas 2021 project go to

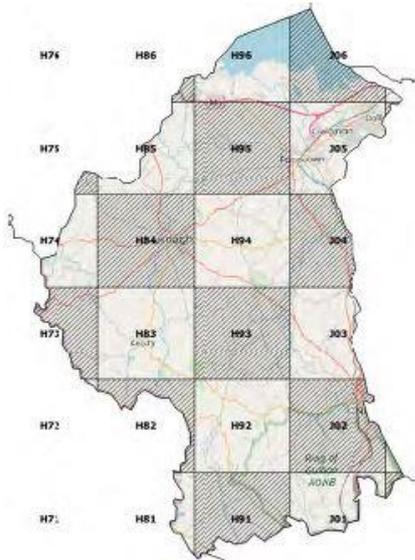
<http://www.biodiversityireland.ie/record-biodiversity/surveys/butterflyatlas/>



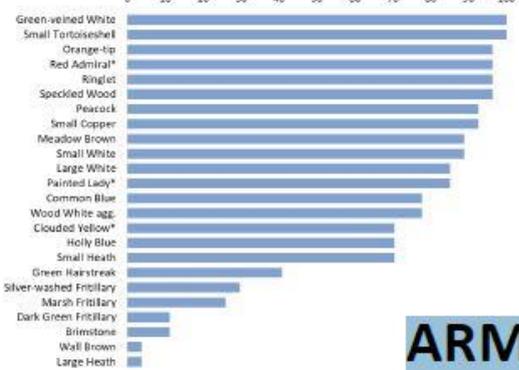
% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



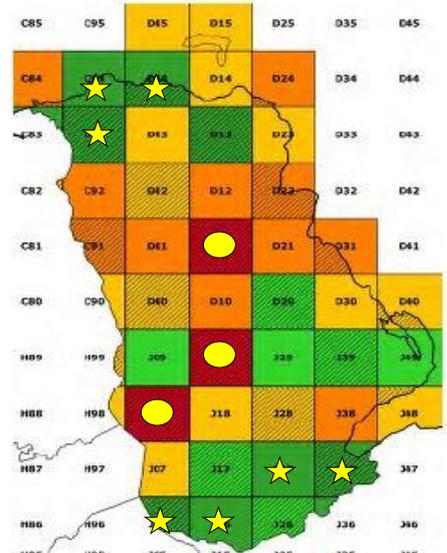
ANTRIM



% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



ARMAGH



Completed/ongoing monitoring

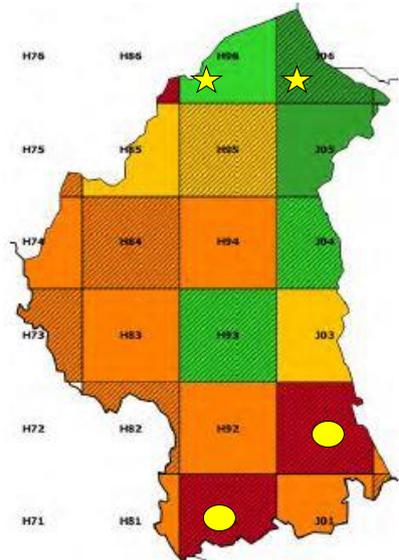
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species



Completed/ongoing monitoring

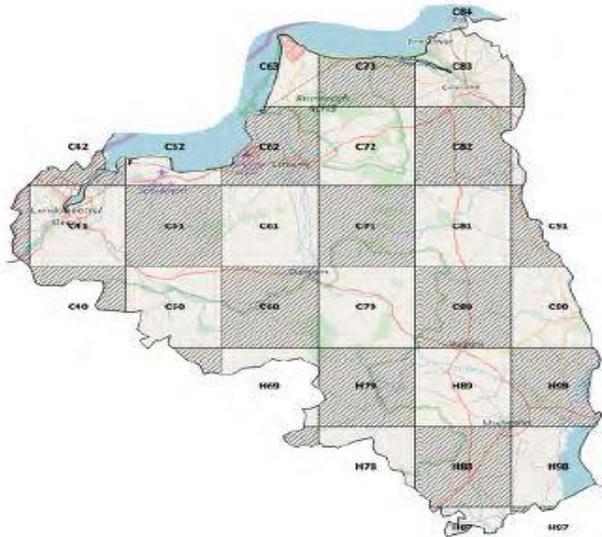
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

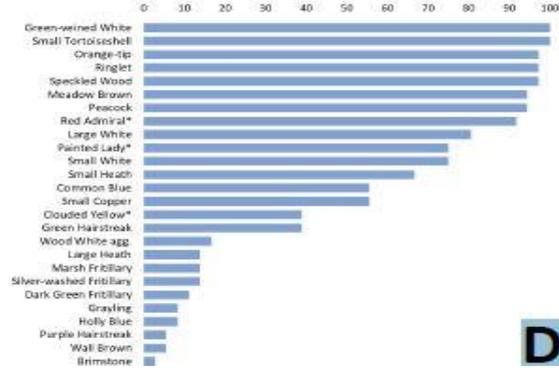
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

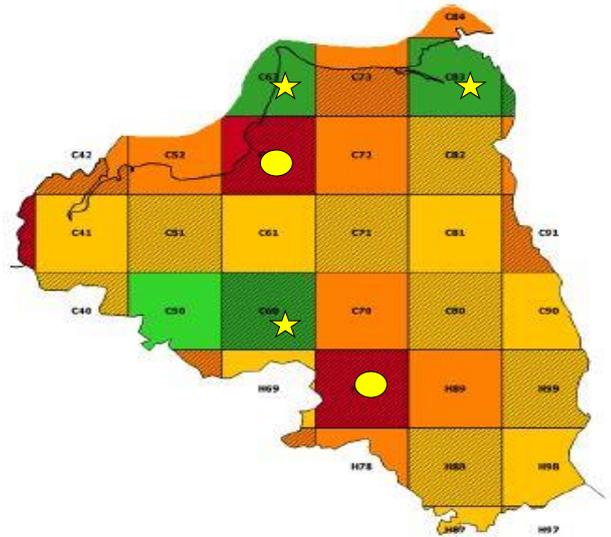
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species



% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



DERRY



Completed/ongoing monitoring

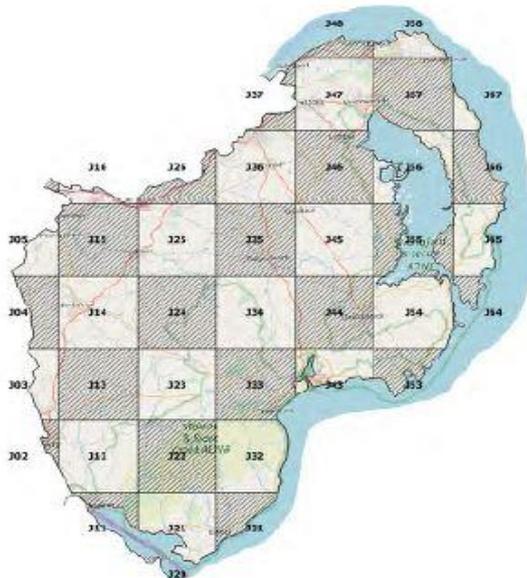
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

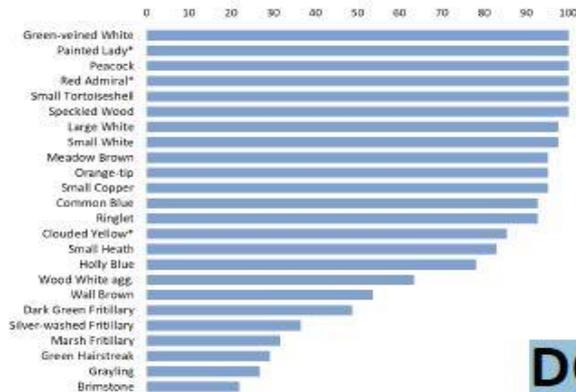
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

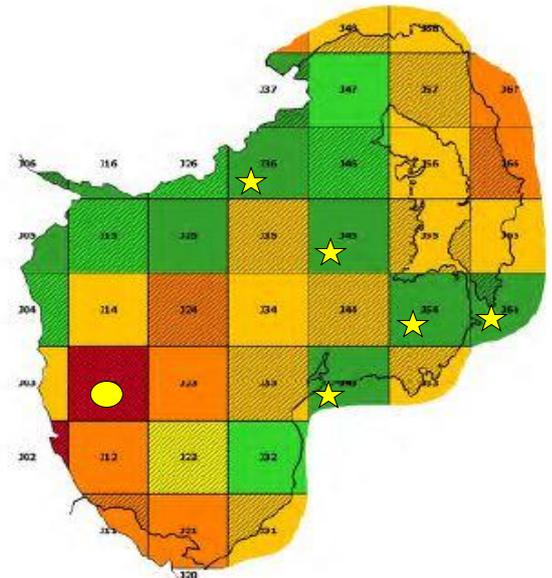
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- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species



% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



DOWN



Completed/ongoing monitoring

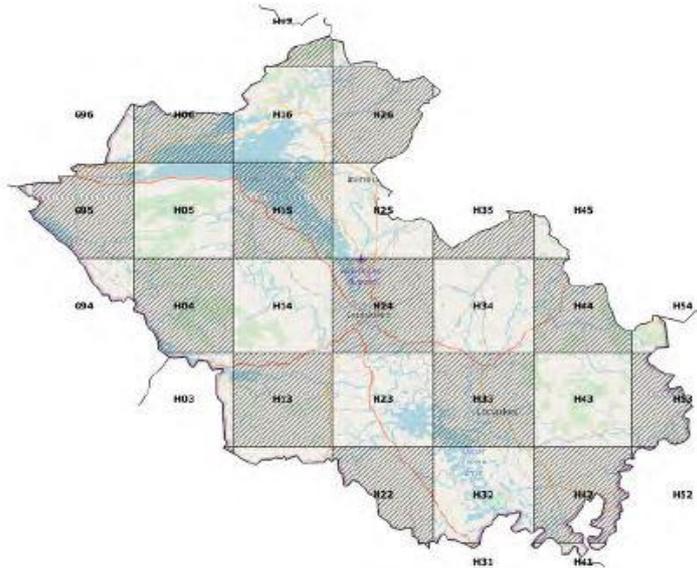
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

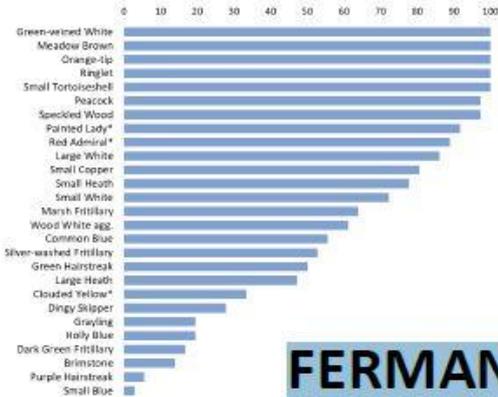
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

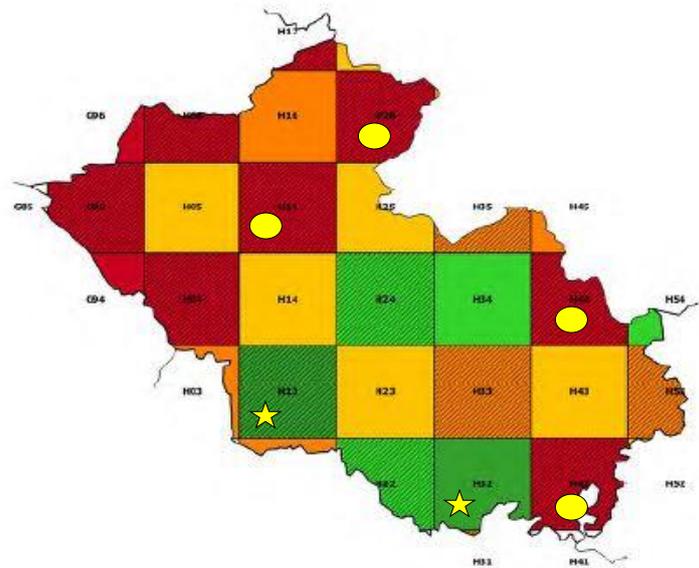
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species



% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



FERMANAGH



Completed/ongoing monitoring

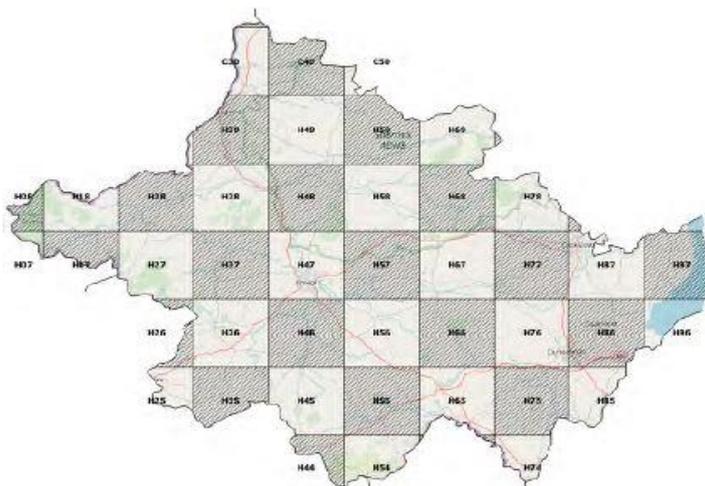
- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

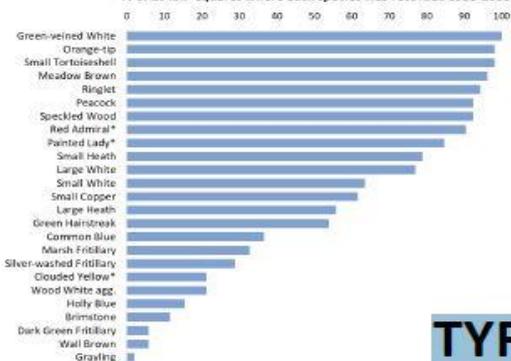
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

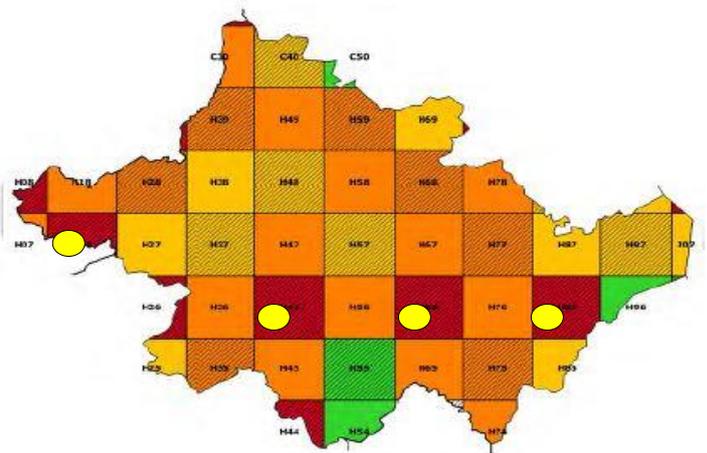
- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species



% of 10 km² squares where each species was recorded 1995-2016



TYRONE



Completed/ongoing monitoring

- UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme
- Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey

Five Visit Monitoring squares

- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species

Casual recording squares

- Missing 17-24 species
- Missing 9-16 species
- Missing 1-8 species