The City Nature Challenge is an international celebration of biodiversity in and around urban areas. Started in 2016 as a competition between San Francisco and Los Angeles, the City Nature Challenge (CNC) has grown into an international event, motivating people around the world to find and document wildlife in their cities. Run by the Community Science teams at the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, the CNC is an annual four-day global bioblitz where cities are in a collaboration-meets-friendly-competition to see not only what can be accomplished when we all work together but also which city can gather the most observations of nature, find the most species, and engage the most people in the event. In 2020 & 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Nature Challenge was not a competition, and instead focused on the collaborative aspect of people around the globe coming together and documenting nature in whatever way they were able. For more information visit citynaturechallenge.org.

### City Nature Challenge Through the Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cities</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Observations</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19,800</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>125,000</td>
<td>8,600</td>
<td>4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>441,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>17,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>963,000</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>815,000</td>
<td>45,300</td>
<td>52,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1,270,767</td>
<td>45,300+</td>
<td>52,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Collaborative Results

- **419 Cities**
- **44 Countries**
- **1,270,767 Observations Made**
- **45,300+ Species Documented**
- **52,777 People Participated**

### Interesting Finds

- **Euglossa macrorhyncha bee**: not only the first record of this shiny green insect in Columbia, but also the first on all of iNaturalist. Seen by Catalina Gutiérrez Chacón.

- **Sargassum fish (Histrio histrio)**: this small but swift fish with a yellow and black striped body is known for its ability to camouflage with surrounding seaweed. Seen by iNaturalist user megshasfun, this is only the 3rd observation from Hong Kong of this fish that can be found on the研究平台.[2]

- **Common Giant Flying Squirrel (Petaurista philippensis)**: this species is capable of gliding flight using a skin membrane stretched between front and hind legs. Seen in Taiwan by iNaturalist user bobohog.

- **Gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus)**: this is the first documented sighting of this species in Argentina & the southernmost record in all of S. America! Found by Matias Cabezas.

- **Short-haired Mega-Quill** (Hymenochirus bruneus): this beautiful bird was spotted in Victoria, Australia by Helen Schofield.

- **Adelpha zea butterfly**: the first documented sighting of this species in Argentina & the southernmost record in all of S. America! Found by Matias Cabezas.

- **Turkish Snail (Helix lucorum)**: a non-native species from Southern Europe & the first record in the Czech Republic. Observed by Vít Lukáš at a railway shipment yard, it likely arrived with imported goods like vegetables.

- **Southern Lion (Panthera leo ssp. melanochaita)**: these cubs were seen by Riana Fourie in Northern Botswana, where this vulnerable species is protected & increasing.

- **Blainville's Horned Lizard (Phrynosoma blainvillii)**: a vulnerable species, this individual was photographed by iNaturalist user suspiciouslynormal in Orange County, California.

- **Purplish-backed Jay (Cyanocorax beecheii)**: this stunning bird is only found in Mexico & was spotted near San Ignacio by iNaturalist user anniezarate.

- **Lixus placidus weevil**: spotted by Amber King in Baton Rouge, this is the first observation in Louisiana & the 4th total on iNaturalist!}

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The City Nature Challenge is organized by the California Academy of Sciences and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.