Smallest dolphin and porpoise populations: latest counts

Smallest first. Checked 16 November 2026. The vaquita figure is the number of different animals seen in the survey area (67% probability), so it is a minimum, not a population estimate. The Ganges figure covers India only.

Population	Latest count or estimate	Survey year	Who counted	Source
Vaquita, upper Gulf of California, Mexico	7 to 10 different animals seen (67% probability); 6 to 8 in 2024	September 2025	CONANP (Mexico's protected areas agency) and Sea Shepherd, with IUCN and NOAA scientists	https://iucn-csg.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Report-vaquita-acoustic-and-visual-survey-2025-EN-Nov-11-clean-FINAL.pdf
Chinese white dolphins (Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin), Hong Kong waters	34	2023	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong	https://www.afcd.gov.hk/english/conservation/con_mar/con_mar_chi/con_mar_chi_chi/files/FinalReport2023-24(MM).pdf
Māui dolphin, North Island, New Zealand	54 aged one year or older (95% confidence interval 48 to 66)	2020 to 2021	University of Auckland and Oregon State University, for the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for Primary Industries	https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/protecting-species/protecting-marine-species/our-work-with-maui-dolphin/maui-dolphin-abundance-estimate/
Irrawaddy dolphins, Mahakam River, Indonesia	66 (range 65 to 67)	2025	Yayasan Konservasi RASI	https://www.ykrasi.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Pesut-Mahakam-Monitoring-Surveys-2025.pdf
Southern Resident orcas, Pacific Northwest	76	1 July 2026	Center for Whale Research	https://www.whaleresearch.com/orca-population
Irrawaddy dolphins, Mekong River, Cambodia	118 (official tally); one death confirmed in July 2026	April 2026	Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, with the Fisheries Administration and WWF	https://akp.gov.kh/post/detail/368832 https://www.thestar.com.my/aseanplus/aseanplus-news/2026/07/26/mekong-irrawaddy-dolphin-drowns-after-becoming-entangled-in-fishing-gear
Irrawaddy dolphins, Chilika Lake, India	159 (same as 2025)	January 2026	Odisha Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department (wildlife wing)	https://www.orissapost.com/dolphin-population-in-odisha-rises-to-765-irrawaddy-count-steady-at-159/
Yangtze finless porpoise, China	1,426 (1,249 in 2022)	2025	China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs	http://english.ihb.cas.cn/sy/202602/t20260205_1149800.html
Indus river dolphin, Pakistan and India	1,987 in Pakistan; 3 in India's Beas River	2017 (Pakistan); 2021 to 2023 (India)	WWF-Pakistan; Wildlife Institute of India	https://wwfasia.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/impact_sheet_design__2_.pdf https://www.deccanherald.com/india/india-has-6327-riverine-dolphins-says-first-ever-survey-3429570
Atlantic humpback dolphin, West Africa	Probably fewer than 3,000 in total	No range-wide survey	NOAA Fisheries summary	https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/atlantic-humpback-dolphin
Ganges river dolphin, India	About 6,324 (all but 3 of the 6,327 river dolphins counted in India)	2021 to 2023	Wildlife Institute of India, for Project Dolphin	https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107778

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