



# Common Pipistrelle

*Pipistrelle pipistrellus*

## Quick facts

Order Chiroptera

### Conservation status

GB *Least concern*

RE CE E V NT **LC** DD

England *Least concern*

Scotland *Least concern*

Wales *Least concern*

Global *Least concern*

GB trend *Unknown*

### Size

Head & body 35 - 45 mm

Forearm 30 - 35 mm

Wingspan 200 - 235 mm

Weight 3 - 8 g

The common pipistrelle is a small bat with medium brown fur, a distinctive rounded nose shape, and short, blunt ears. It is present across the UK and gaps in known distribution usually indicate a lack of survey effort rather than absence of this species.

### Habitat

Very broad variety of habitats, from grasslands to highly urban areas and at high altitudes.

### Behaviour

Emerges early from roosts to feed. Summer roosts are mainly in buildings including barns, churches, and houses, and roost switching is common. Known to use bat boxes (mostly non-breeding individuals) but rarely roosts in trees. Few winter roosts are known, but these tend to be underground or in buildings. Makes more foraging flights of shorter duration than soprano pipistrelle.

### Diet & Feeding

Mainly on flies. Frequently forages over pasture.

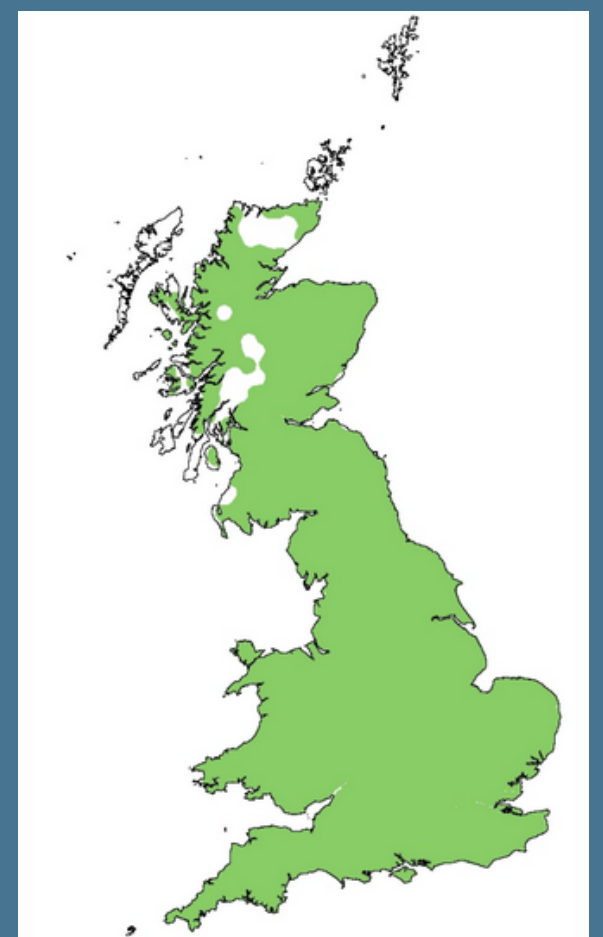
### Reproduction

Maternity colonies are large and noisy, with sometimes several hundred individuals.

### Conservation & Threats

Misidentification with recently separated soprano pipistrelle likely because of similarities in habitat and morphology. Population change difficult to assess as older records may include soprano pipistrelle. Possible threats include collisions with wind turbines and vehicles, predation by cats, and changes to the structure and insulation of buildings.

### Range



**Mammal**  
SOCIETY