

Humans have killed more than 80% of wild mammals

[S]ince the dawn of civilisation, humanity has caused the loss of 83% of all wild mammals and half of plants, while livestock kept by humans abounds.

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The new work reveals that farmed poultry today makes up 70% of all birds on the planet, with just 30% being wild. The picture is even more stark for mammals – 60% of all mammals on Earth are livestock, mostly cattle and pigs, 36% are human and just 4% are wild animals.

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The destruction of wild habitat for farming, logging and development has resulted in the start of what many scientists consider the [sixth mass extinction of life](#) to occur in the Earth's four billion year history. About [half the Earth's animals are thought to have been lost](#) in the last 50 years.

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[O]ur impact on the natural world remains immense, said [Ron] Milo, particularly in what we choose to eat: "Our dietary choices have a vast effect on the habitats of animals, plants and other organisms."

"I would hope people would take this [work] as part of their world view of how they consume," he said. "I have not become vegetarian, but I do take the environmental impact into my decision making, so it helps me think, do I want to choose beef or poultry or use tofu instead?"

Read full, original post: [Humans just 0.01% of all life but have destroyed 83% of wild mammals – study](#)