

FEEDING

- They are omnivores.
- They mainly eat leaves, shoots and stems, and they spend about a quarter of their day eating.

DID YOU KNOW

As mountain gorillas eat lots of different leaves, shoots and stems over a wide area, the natural balance in the food chain would be disrupted without them.

CLASSIFICATION

Classified as **Endangered** on the IUCN Red List, but conservation efforts are taking place to protect the population and secure their number and to make sure the environment remains healthy for the people and wildlife that depend on it. In fact, mountain gorillas are the only great ape whose numbers are believed to be increasing.



STATUS

Mountain gorillas live in places where there are lots of people who are often living in extreme poverty and struggling to survive. This pressure means that habitat loss threatens the species. Humans also use the natural resources found in their habitat such as wood for fuel, or water for drinking. Mountain gorillas are at risk from catching human diseases from the people that enter their habitat.

The area where they live has been affected by years of conflict between people and this can make efforts to conserve the species even more difficult.

Traps that are set in the wild to catch other wildlife may accidentally injure and even kill mountain gorillas too.

It is estimated there are around 1,004 mountain gorillas left in the wild.

www.org.uk/wildlife/mountain_gorilla/