

PRESENT

JAGUAR

Panthera onca

The jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is the largest feline in America. Several Mesoamerican cultures have adopted the jaguar as a symbol of strength and ferociousness, which is why leaders and warriors included its fur in their costumes. This top predator controls the populations of both, small and large mammals throughout its distribution. Unfortunately, subpopulations are threatened by human activity.

IN COLLABORATION WITH

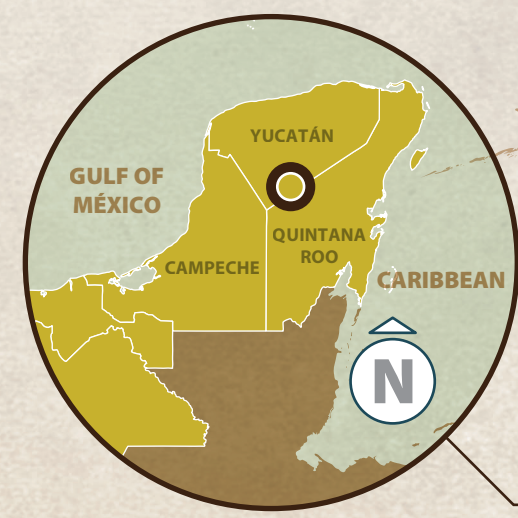


JAGUARES SIN PROTECCIÓN

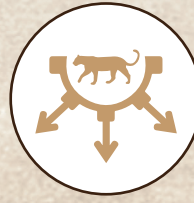
DISTRIBUTION IN MEXICO

The jaguar's distribution included the warm deserts in Southern United States, Mexico and South America, all the way to Argentina.

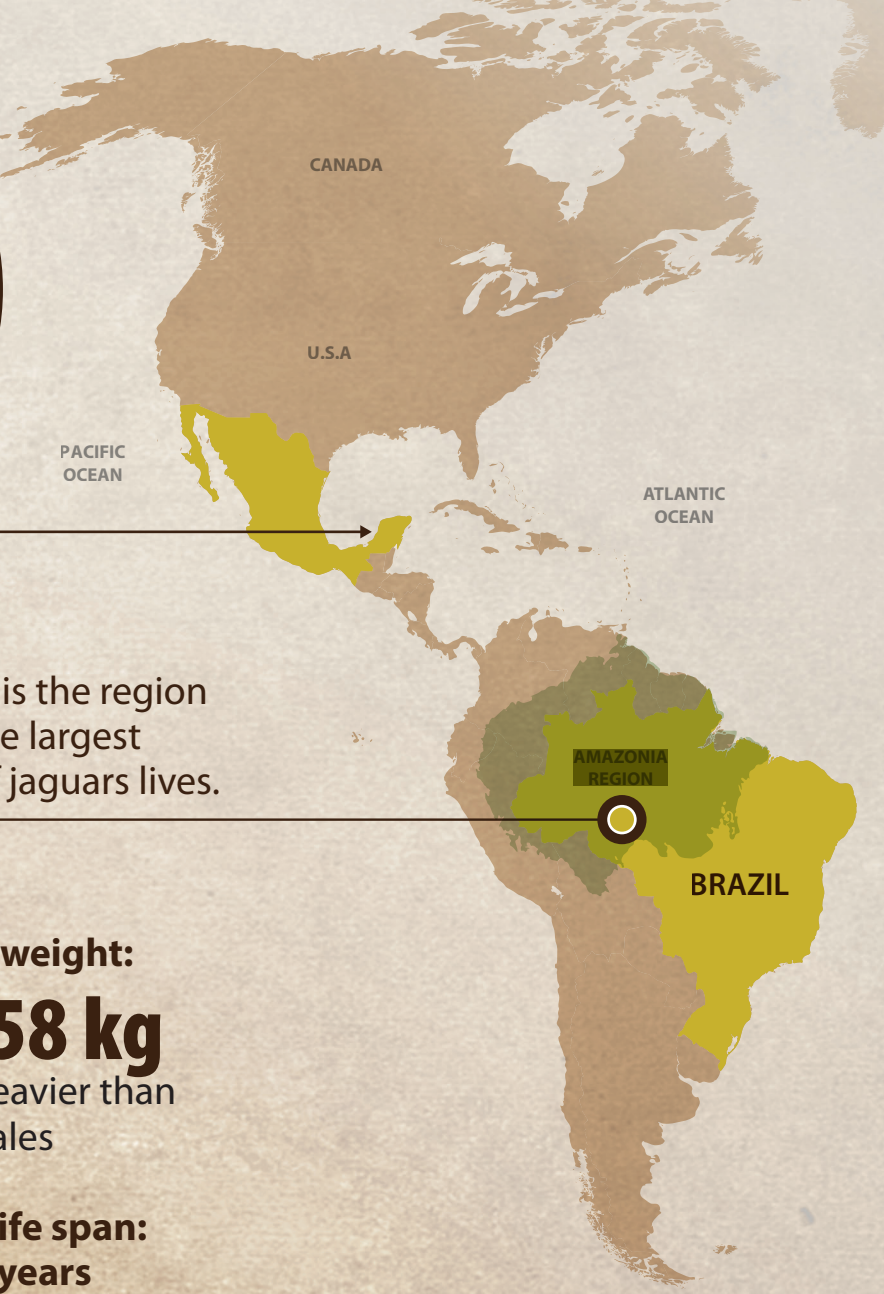
There are healthy populations like the one from the Yucatan Peninsula and those living in mangrove forests in western Mexico.



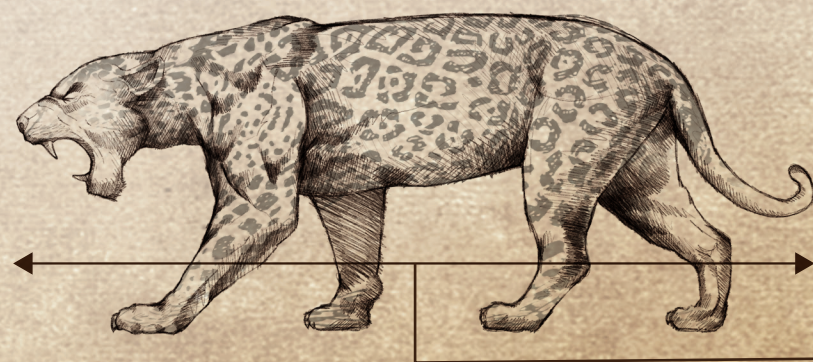
Its current distribution has decreased **50%** although geographically, it is similar to the historic distribution.



The Amazon is the region where the largest population of jaguars lives.



ANATOMY



Average size:
(length from head to tail)
males:
1.72 – 2.41 m
females:
1.57 – 2.19 m

Average weight:
36 - 158 kg
Males are heavier than females
Average life span:
10-12 years

TAXONOMY



Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Carnivora
Family: Felidae
Genus: *Panthera*
Species: *P. onca*



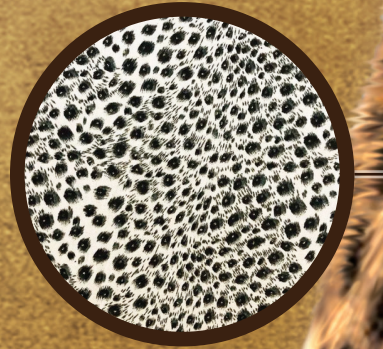
Conservation status:
• Nom 059 – P (Threatened)
• IUCN – NT (Near Threatened)

COLOR PATTERN

A jaguar's fur is yellow to golden color, with black circles on the dorsal and lateral sides.



On their underside, the circles become solid spots and fur color changes to white.



Round head

Its vision is **7 times** better than the human's because of specialized cells.

Vision: Large round eyes located towards the front of the cranium.



The jaguar's bite is among the strongest in the animal kingdom. They kill their prey by biting on the skull's base, disconnecting it from the spine.

The mandible has zygomatic arches with **30** teeth and canines.

This is a muscular cat with relatively short but strong legs.

Distribution: From northern Mexico to the along both the Gulf of Mexico and Pacific coastlines, the Yucatan Peninsula, Central and South America, all the way to the dry forests of southern Brazil and northern Argentina.

Diet: It preys on more than 115 species, including reptiles like turtles, snakes and crocodiles, birds and mammals of various sizes.

Reproduction: Depending on the availability of natural resources and the presence of males, female jaguars can reproduce any time of year. Gestation lasts 100 days and they can have a litter of 1 to 4 cubs.

1970: Thousands of furs were exported to the US, mainly from Brazil.



Compared to other large felines, its tail is shorter.

Significant hunting of jaguars throughout its distribution, including Mexico.



1973: The species was included in appendix I of the Convention on International Trade of Threatened Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES).



1987: Permanent hunting ban is implemented in Mexico.



2009: Mexico's Conservation Action Plan for the Species (PACE): Jaguar (*Panthera onca*) is published.



2010: Jaguars are included in Mexico's list of protected species under the "Threatened" category.



2021: Mexico's estimated jaguar population increases from 4,000 (2010) to 4,800.



It has been documented mainly in males targeting another male's offspring.

CANIBALISM



CULTURAL IMPORTANCE AND RELEVANCE STILL PERSISTS IN SEVERAL PLACES.



ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

TOP PREDATOR



CONTROLS PREY POPULATION IN DIFFERENT ECOSYSTEMS.



THREATS



Loss and destruction of habitat due to agriculture and development for human activity.



Competition for space and food; hunting targeting its preys.



Hunting and/or poisoning to avoid cattle loss.



Deaths resulting from car strikes as they try to cross roads.

BEHAVIOR

Mainly a nocturnal species, it prefers to hunt and move at night.

Jaguars can be active during the day in areas where human activity is limited.

It is a terrestrial hunter with great agility to climb trees and likes water.

Usually solitary; cubs stay with their mothers 1.5-2 years.



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