



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
HOPPER MOUNTAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX  
CALIFORNIA CONDOR RECOVERY PROGRAM  
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## California Condor Recovery Program

### 2023 Annual Population Status

As of December 31, 2023

**Total World Population** **561** (2022=564; 2021=537; 2020=504; 2019 = 518)

**Wild Free Flying Population** **344** (2022=350; 2021=334; 2020=329; 2019=337)

AZ /UT Wild **90** (2022=117; =111; 2020 = 103)

CA Wild **195** (2022=184; 2021=183; 2020=186)

- SOCA 95 (2022=89; 2020=93)
- CECA 100 (VWS 67/ PNP 33; 2020 VWS 60; PNP 33)

Northern CA **11** (2022=8)

Baja Wild **48** (2022=41; 2021=40; 2020=40)

**Wild Chicks Fledged in 2023** **14**

(2022=12; 2021=15; 2020=10; 2019=14)

AZ/UT **3** (2022=5; 2021=5)

CA **8** (CECA=4; SOCA=4) (2022=5; 2021=9; 2020=6)

Baja **3** (2022=2; 2021=1)

**Captive Released to the Wild in 2023** **27\***

(\*No releases occurred in AZ due to outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza during Spring 2023. 12 held for release in AZ in Spring 2024)

(2022=31; 2021=24; 2020=28; 2019 = 32)

AZ/UT **0** (2022=9; 2021=12; 2020=10)

CA **17** (FWS 7; VWS 10) (2022=14; 2021=12; 2020=18; 2019=20)

Baja **7** (2022=0; 2021=0)

Nor CA **3** (holding 3 additional until spring 2024)



**Total Captive Population: 217** (2022=214; 2021=203; 2020=175)

(Includes pre-release captive chicks in breeding facilities and field sites)

Captive breeding occurs at the Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey, Los Angeles Zoo, San Diego Zoo and Safari Park and Oregon Zoo in the U.S, and Chapultepec Zoo in Mexico City, Mexico.

Captive breeding pairs	43	(41 in the U.S.; 2 in Mexico.)
Viable Eggs	50	(50 in the U.S.; 0 in Mexico) 2022=61 (59 in the U.S.; 2 in Mexico)
Chicks produced	38	(2022=44; 2021 40 - 38 in the U.S.; 2 in Mexico.)

**2022 Deaths in the Free-flying Population 44**

(2022=20; 2021=28 2020=42; 2019 =17)

AZ/UT 30 (2022=5; 2021=9; 2020=7)

CA 13 (2022=14; 2021=16; 2020=34; 2019=12)

SOCA 5 (2022=7; 2021=3; 2020=9)

CECA 8 (2022=7; 2021=13; 2020= 25)

Baja 1 (2022=1; 2021=3; 2020=1)

**2023 Causes of Death in the free flying population**

Lead Poisoning: 8 (2022=7; 2021=13; 2020=12; 2019=11)

AZ/UT 1 (2021=1; 2020 = 1; 2019=3)

SOCA 2 (2022=4; 2021=1; 22022=1; 020 =4; 2019=1)

CECA 5 (2022=2; 20221=11; 2020= 7; 2019=5)

Shot with gun: 1 (2022=2)

Power line: 0 (2022=1; 2021=1; 2020=2)

Disease/Infection: 21 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza

(2022=1; 2021=1)

Trauma: 2 (2022=2)

Poisoning (anti-coagulant rodenticide): 1

Predation: 1 (2022=0; 2021= 1 bobcat attack Baja)

Pending final necropsy: 2

Undetermined: 1 (recovered but unable to determine a cause of death) (2022=5; 2021=2)

Unknown missing in the wild: 7 (2022=1; 2021=8; 2020=10)

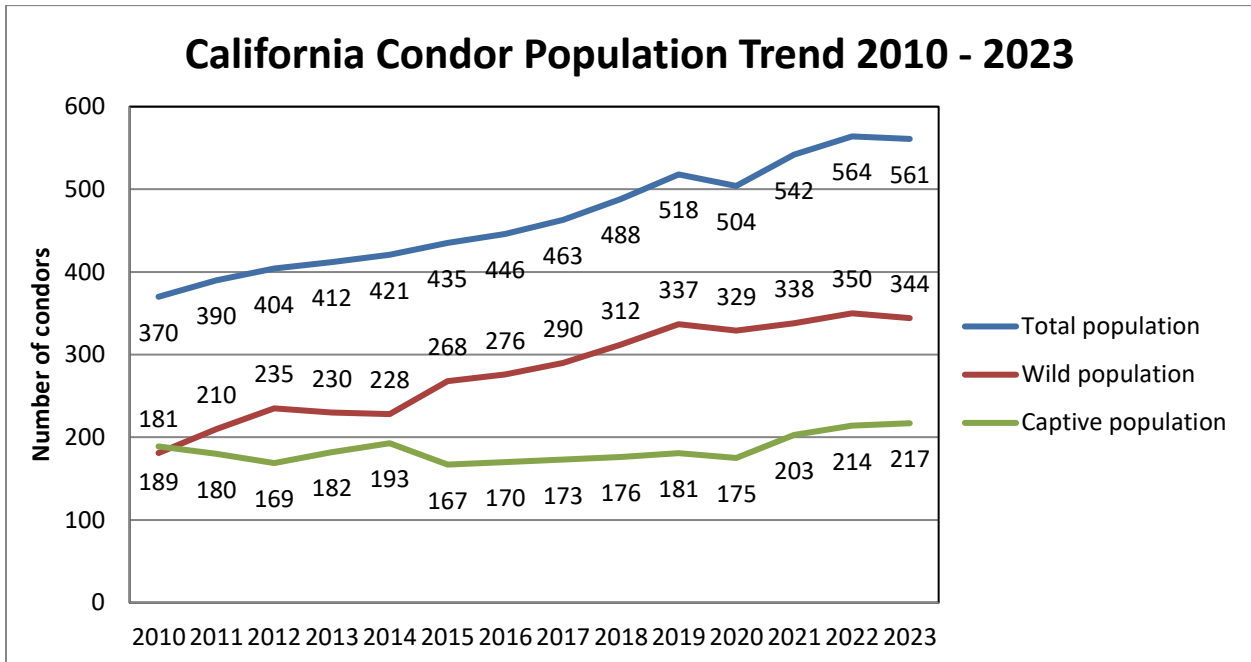
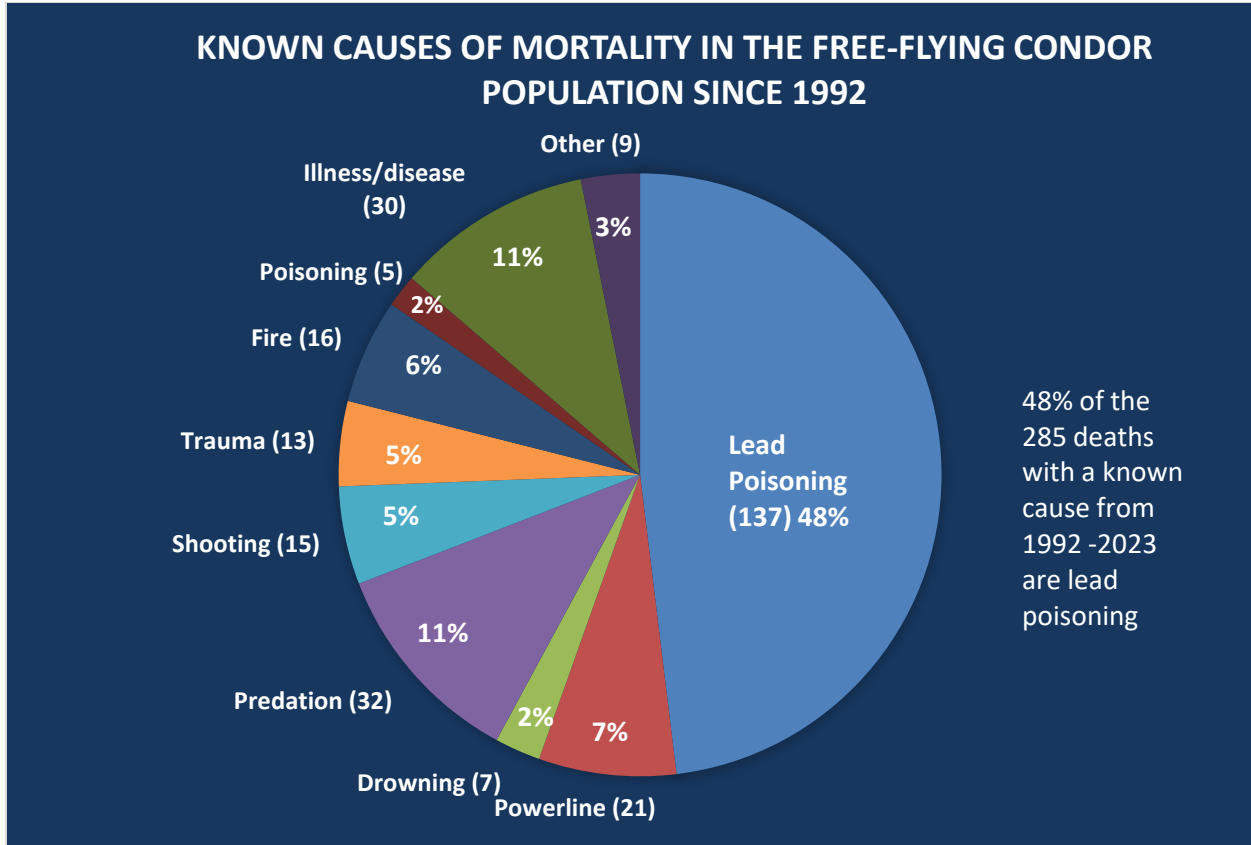
**TOTAL Lead Deaths since reintroductions started**

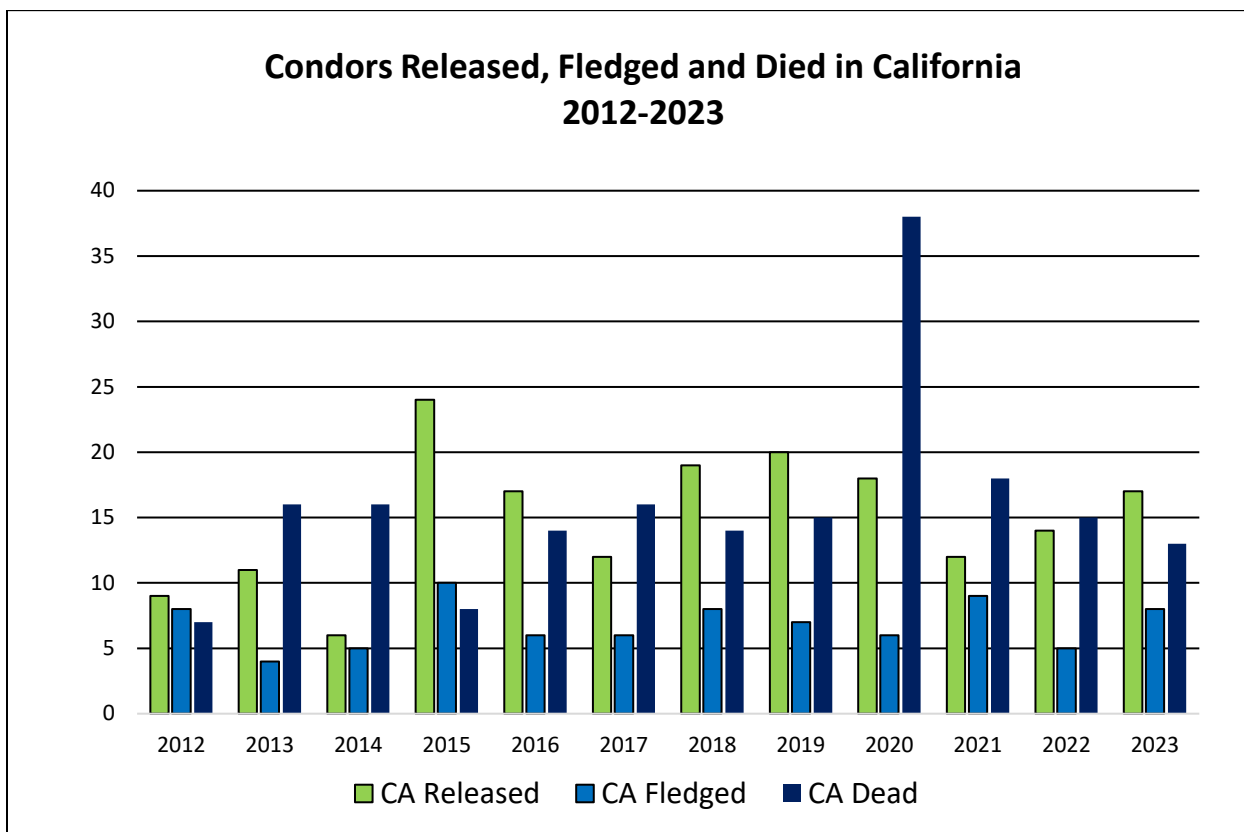
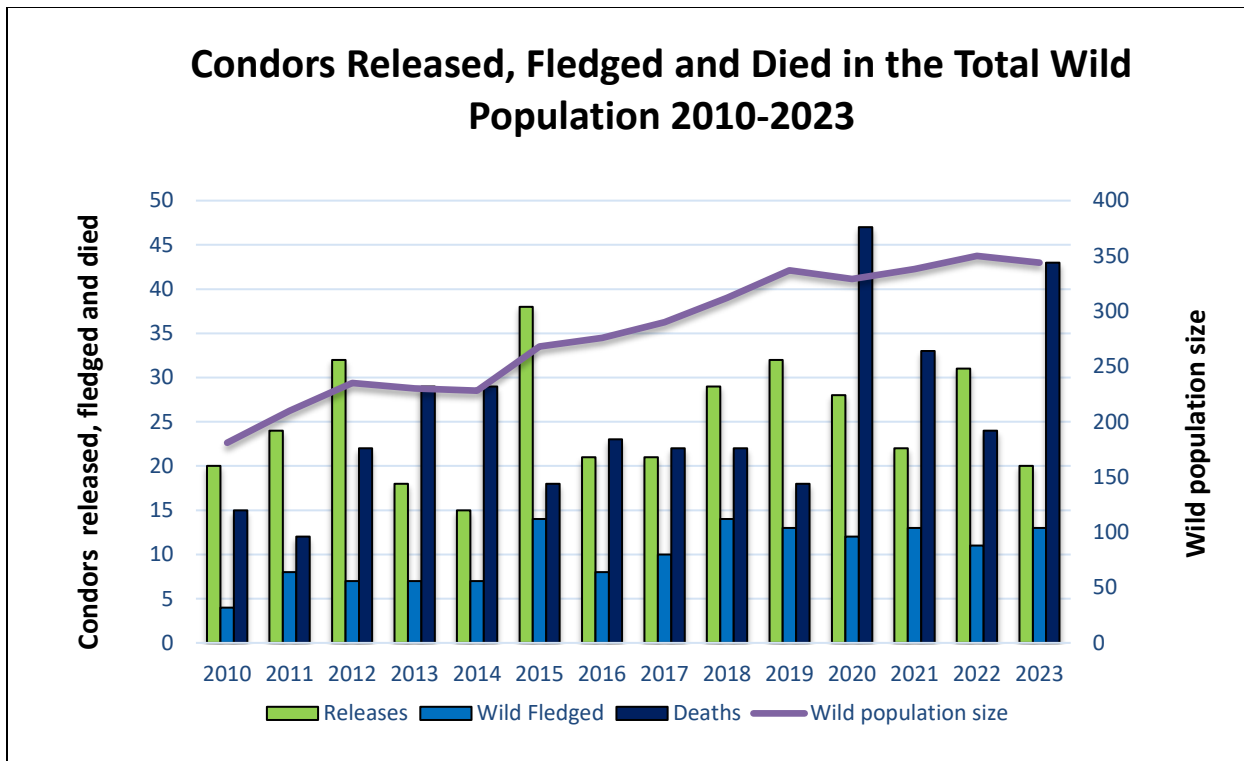
From 1992 through 2023 there have been **137** deaths from lead poisoning in the free flying population.

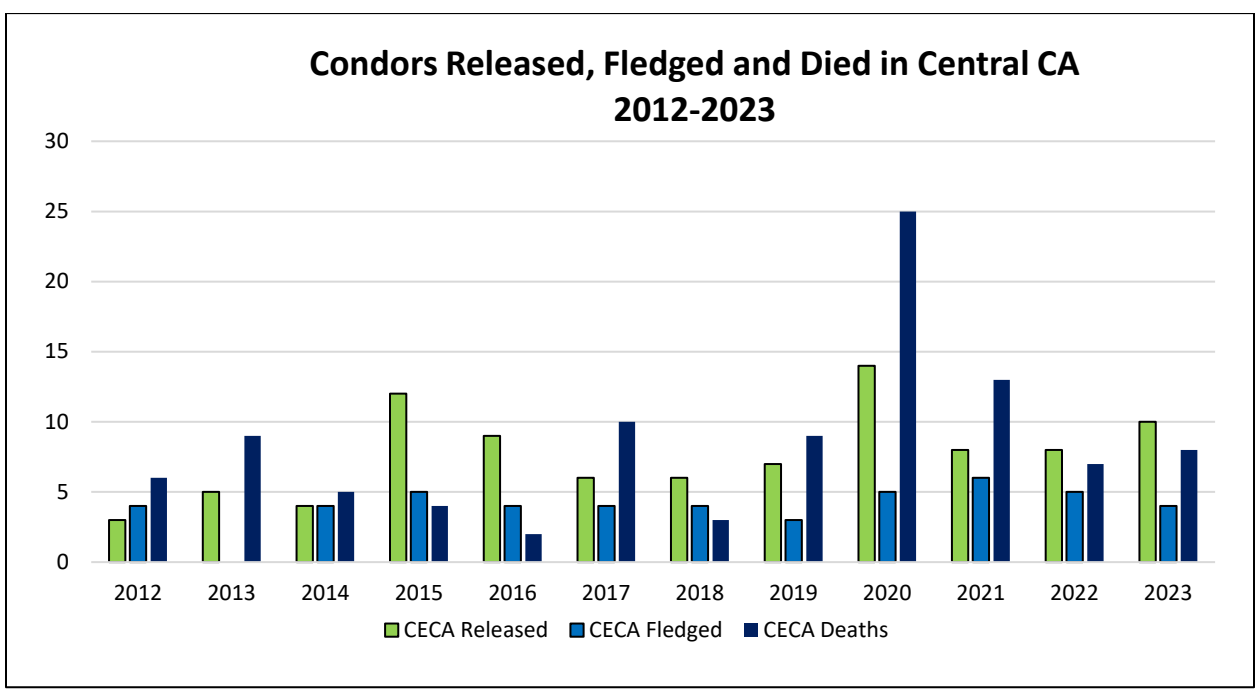
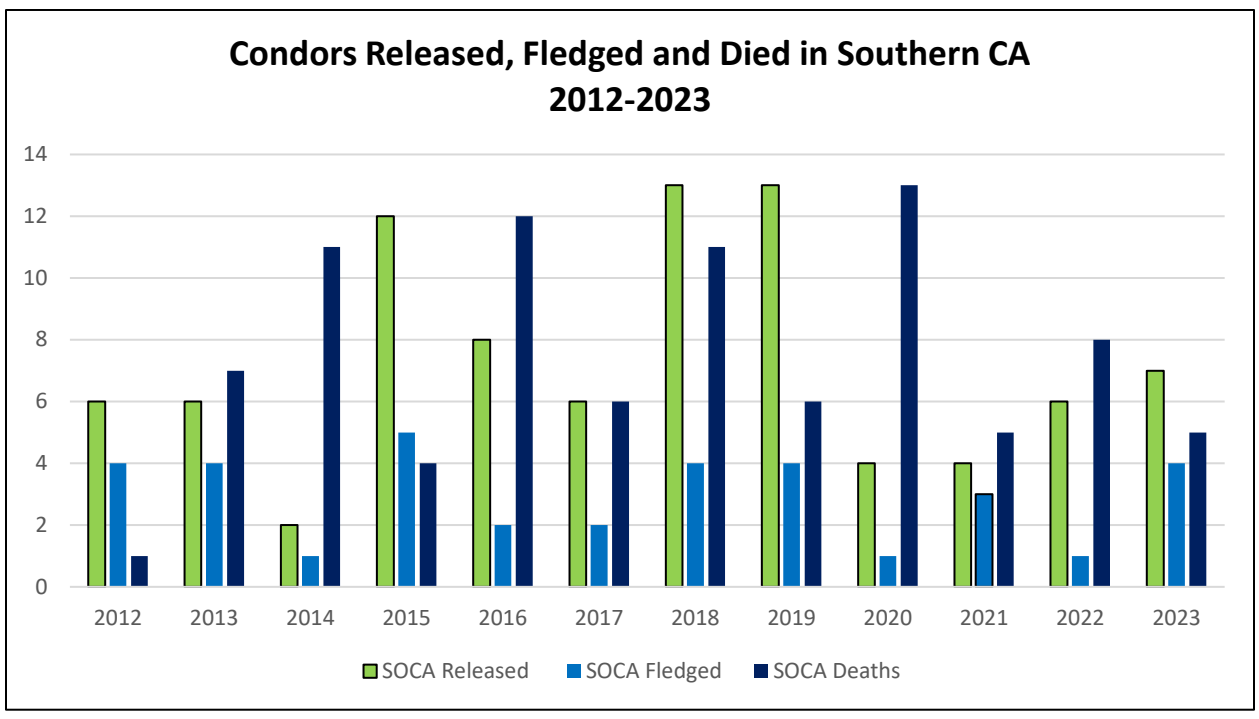
Lead poisoning is responsible for **48%** percent of **285** deaths with a known cause.

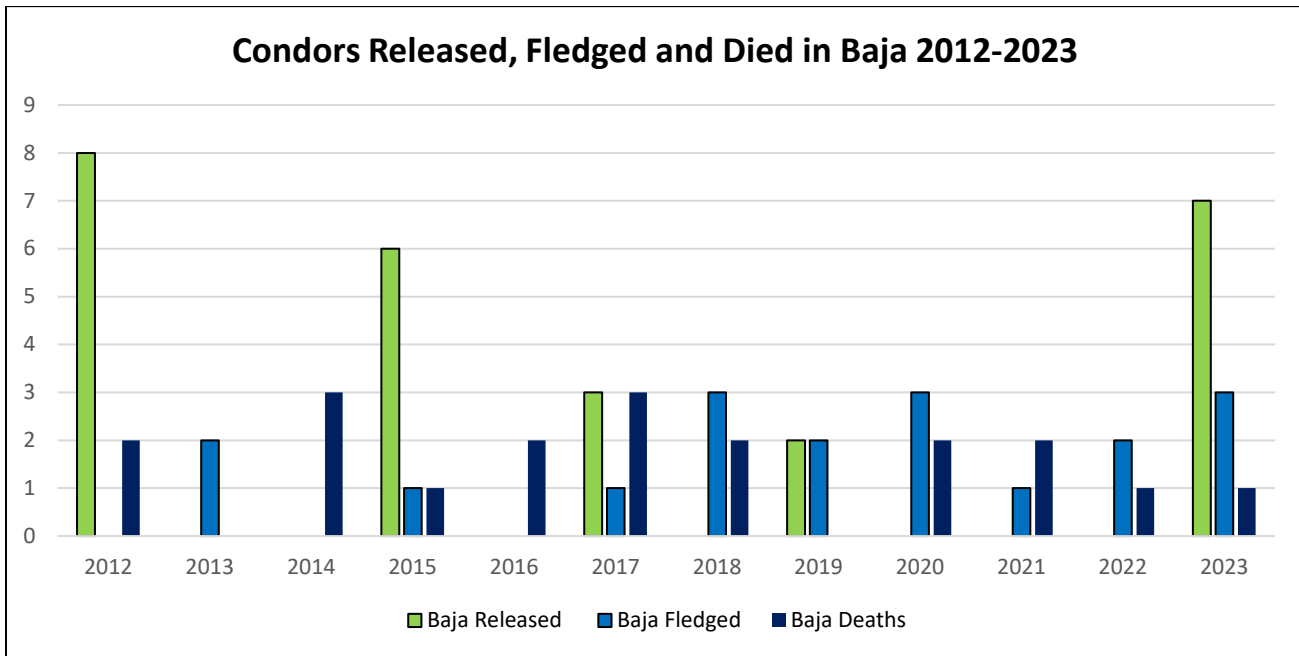
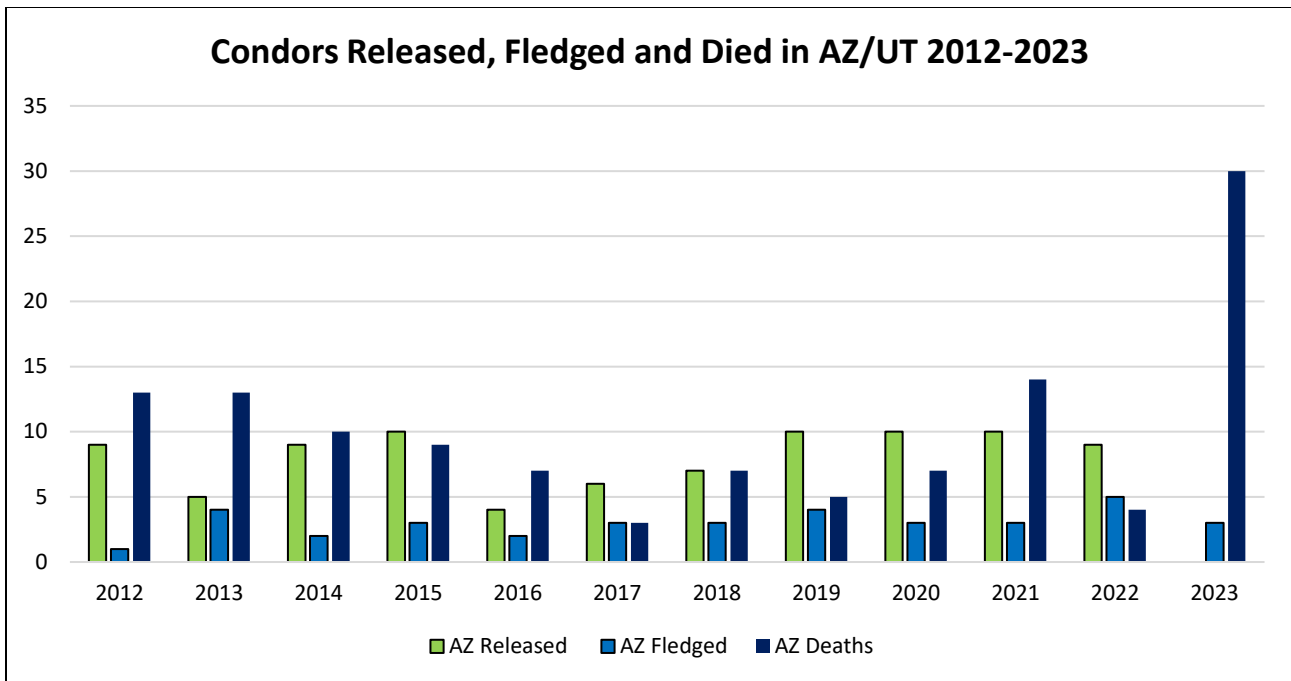
**Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza**

During Spring 2023 an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza occurred in the Arizona/Utah population of condors resulting in 21 deaths. Following a safety and efficacy trial that tested a killed avian influenza vaccine on captive California condors and black vultures, we vaccinated and released 17 captive-bred condors. We intend to vaccinate the remaining condors in captivity and will begin vaccinating wild condors in 2024.









\*In 2021, 3 released in Baja and returned to captivity for habituation to human activity

All data used in the preparation of this report was provided by the following California Condor Recovery Program partners: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex, National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Lab, Ventana Wildlife Society, Pinnacles National Park, Peregrine Fund, Los Angeles Zoo, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance, Oregon Zoo, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, Zoológico de Chapultepec, Parque Nacional Sierra de San Pedro Mártir, Santa Barbara Zoo and the Yurok Tribe.