Amphibians are vertebrates that live in and out of water. The word in Greek means 'both lives' - referring to this versatility. There are 3 orders of amphibians: frogs and toads, newts and salamanders, and the rarely seen caecilians.

In 2004 most locally threatened amphibians were in South America, with an average of 33 threatened species per territory. Most were in Colombia with 208, then Ecuador with 163, 6 other territories had over 50. The average in the rest of the world was 6 per territory. In Europe and the Middle East no territories had more than 5 amphibian species at risk. 102 territories recorded no amphibians at risk of extinction.

Territory size shows the proportion of amphibian species assessed as locally at risk of extinction, found there.

“...pesticides, heavy metals, acidification and nitrogen based fertilizers, can [cause] ... death, decreased growth rates, developmental and behavioral abnormalities, decreased reproductive success ...”  
Amphibia Web, 2006