

GUYS LET'S JUST HAVE A CHAT ABOUT MASS EXTINCTIONS.

Craugastor
fabaraseae



THERE'S GONNA BE
A LOT OF GRAPHS
AND TEXT AND SHIT
SO JUST BE
PREPARED TO
FEEL LIKE THIS.

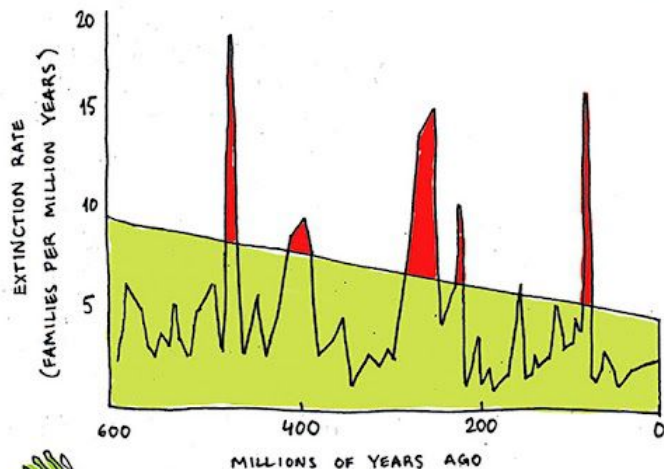


SERIOUSLY IF
YOU DON'T NEED
THIS IN YOUR LIFE
YOU CAN SKIP TO
PAGE 3.

LET'S START WITH A HISTORY
LESSON.

HERE COMES THE FIRST GRAPH.

Source: University of California Museum of Paleontology's Understanding
Evolution (<http://evolution.berkeley.edu>)



IT'S A BIT HARD TO
READ BUT I'M GONNA
TRY AND BREAK IT
DOWN TO YOU. IT'S
ABOUT MASS
EXTINCTIONS IN
THE PAST 600
MILLION YEARS.

THE Y-
AXIS SHOWS
US THE
AMOUNT OF
DEATH
BASICALLY.

WE'RE TALKING
LONG TIME PERIODS.
600 000 000 - 0 YEARS AGO.

THE X-AXIS IS
THE TIMELINE.

THE GREEN AREA IS BACKGROUND
EXTINCTION. IT'S THE RATE AT
WHICH SPECIES DIE OFF
NORMALLY, LIKE IT'S
NO BIG DEAL.



THE BIG DEALS ARE THE SPIKES. I'VE MADE
THEM RED SO YOU CAN FIND THEM MORE EASILY.
THOSE ARE THE
MASS EXTINCTION EVENTS.

THAT'S WHEN MORE
THAN 75% OF ALL
SPECIES ON EARTH
HAVE DIED OFF.

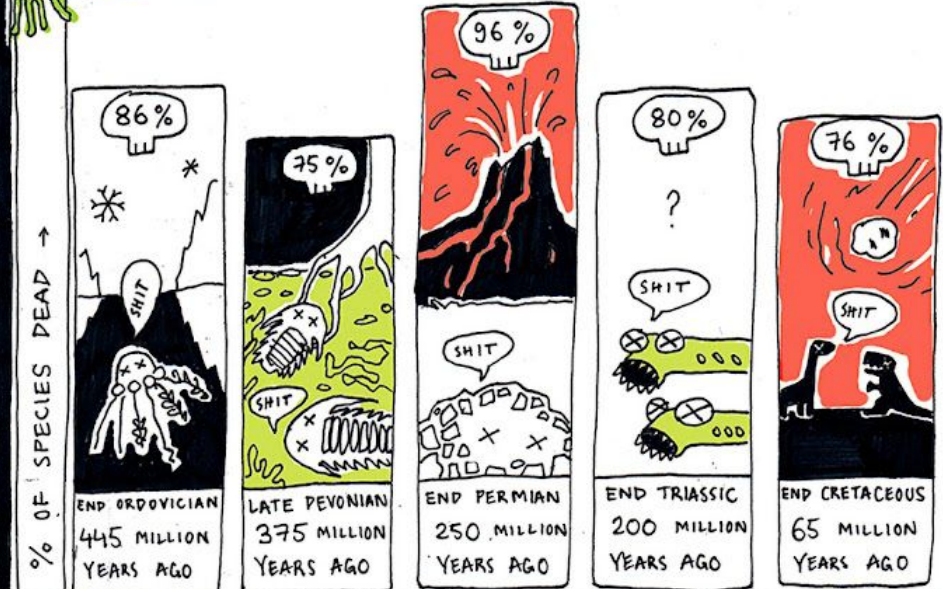
SO THAT'S
HAPPENED
5 TIMES
HERE.



LOOK HERE'S MY ATTEMPT TO VISUALISE THE BIG EXTINCTION
EVENTS. YES I MADE IT MYSELF.
AND I'M A FROG.



THERE ARE NUMBERS HERE THAT AREN'T
FROM THE PREVIOUS GRAPH.
DON'T FREAK OUT. I USED A DIFFERENT
SOURCE: Viviane Richter: "The Big Five Mass Extinctions"
<https://cosmosmagazine.com/paleontology/big-five-extinctions>
ESSENTIALLY IT'S THE SAME THING THOUGH.



IT'S A DATA
COMIC INSIDE
A DATA COMIC!
HAHAHA

I'M VERY
EXCITED
ABOUT
DATA COMICS

ANYWAY

IMAGINE IF
THIS PORTION



OF LIFE ON
EARTH JUST
DIED OFF.
THAT'S BAD,
RIGHT ???

WELL, A LOT OF SCIENTISTS SAY THAT
**WE'RE NOW ENTERING
THE 6TH MASS EXTINCTION.**

SEE THAT OMINOUS PANEL THERE?
THAT'S WHERE WE ARE.



AND GUESS
WHAT'S
CAUSING IT
THIS TIME?
(TURN THE PAGE
TO FIND OUT)

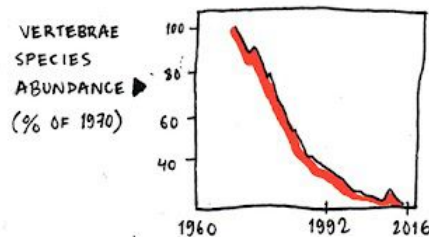
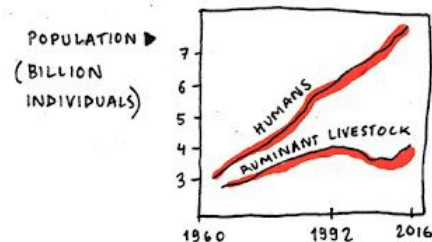
THAT'S RIGHT. THE HUMANS.

LET'S THROW IN SOME MORE GRAPHS. IF YOU WANT TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY, YOU HAVE TO HAVE GRAPHS.

THESE ARE FROM

World Scientists' Warning to Humanity,
A Second Notice,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/bix125>

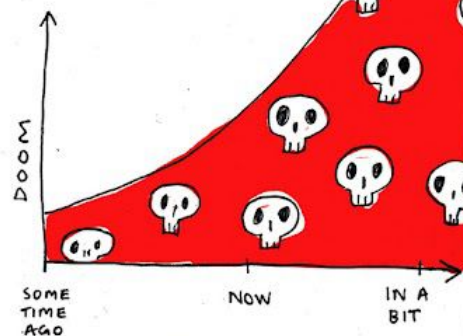
IT WAS PUBLISHED IN 2017.
SO IT'S PRETTY RECENT DATA.



YOU SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING?

THE CURRENT EXTINCTION RATE IS ESTIMATED TO BE FROM **10 TO 1000 TIMES HIGHER** THAN IT SHOULD BE (THAT REFERS TO THE BACKGROUND EXTINCTION RATE). MAKING ACCURATE ESTIMATES IS TRICKY...

... BUT THIS IS THE GENERAL CONSENSUS.

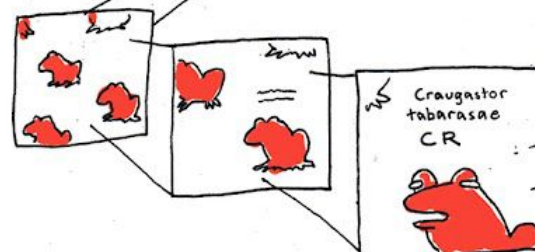


IUCN (INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE) HAS DATA ON SPECIES THAT ARE **THREATENED** WITH EXTINCTION RIGHT NOW.

THAT IS,

NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX
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SPECIES CLASSIFIED AS VULNERABLE, ENDANGERED OR CRITICALLY ENDANGERED.



SOURCES

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>
University of California Museum of Paleontology's Understanding Evolution, <http://evolution.berkeley.edu>
Viviane Richter: The Big Five Mass Extinctions, <https://cosmosmagazine.com/paleontology/big-five-extinctions>
William J. Ripple, Christopher Wolf, Thomas M. Newsome, Mauro Galetti, Mohammed Alamgir, Eileen Crist, Mahmoud I. Mahmoud, William F. Laurance, 15,364 scientist signatories from 184 countries; World Scientists' Warning to Humanity: A Second Notice, BioScience, Volume 67, Issue 12, 1 December 2017, Pages 1026-1028, <https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/bix125>

HEIDI TAMMINEN 2018