



The Black-and-White Sojourners



As of December 2020, over 60 giant pandas are housed in zoos outside of China

How to read

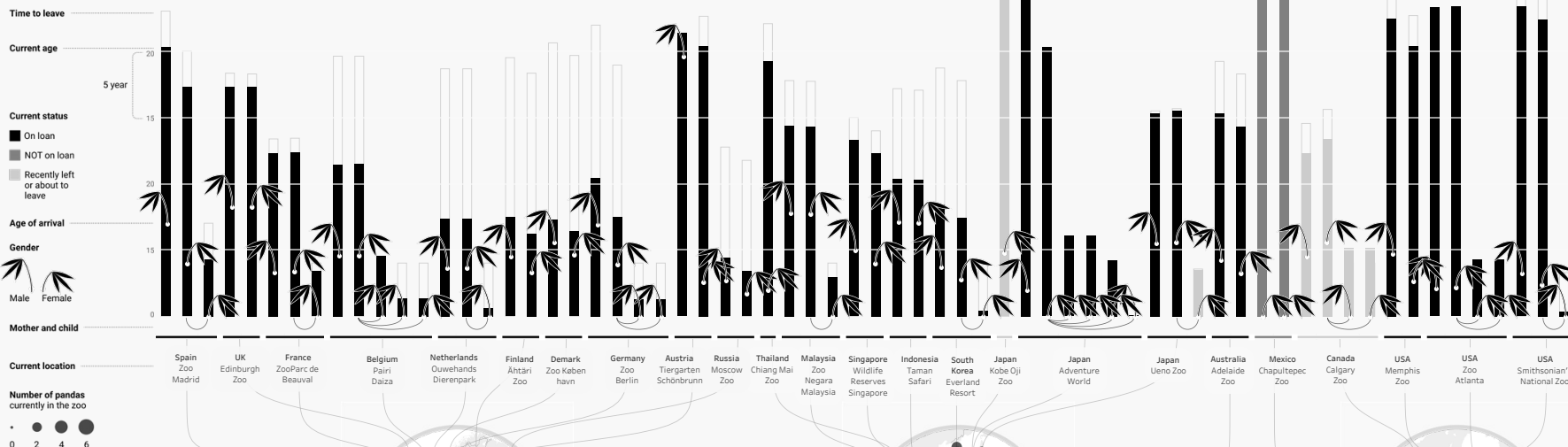
Each bar represents one panda. This chart visualizes 66 pandas, including six that have left or about to leave the zoo in 2020.

The giant panda is a bear native to south-central China, mainly in Sichuan. Bamboo shoots and leaves make up 99% of its diet. They are fully mature and able to breed at four (female) to six years old (male). They can live up to 30 years in captivity.

Before 1983, pandas were gifted to other countries as diplomatic symbols of friendship. In 1983 and 1991, the Chinese government modified the policy twice. Nowadays, zoos outside China could loan pandas in pairs over a 10-year loan.

Therefore, all pandas on loan need to return when the loan expires. Any cubs born during the loan period belong to China too. Cubs need to return before they turn four, for a breeding program to expand the gene pool.

However, Shuan Shuan (33 yrs) and Xin Xin (30 yrs) belong to Mexico, as they are the offsprings of two pandas that came to Mexico in 1975 - before the policy was modified. By the way, they are the oldest pandas outside China in the world.



EUROPE
28 in 10
pandas zoos

ASIA-PACIFIC
21 in 8
pandas zoos

AMERICAS
11 in 4
pandas zoos

Data source:
pandapia.com
giantpandaglobal.com
Official sites of the zoos
Wikipedia

#IronQuest -
Black and White
challenge

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Many zoos are temporarily closed at the moment,
but their **Panda Cams are still ON!** Let's find the panda now →

Yang Guang
from Edinburgh Zoo

Le Le & Ya Ya
from Memphis Zoo

Lun Lun, Ya Lun & Xi Lun
from Zoo Atlanta

Tian Tian, Mei Xiang & Xiao Qi Ji
from Smithsonian's National Zoo

And many more!
from Sichuan, China