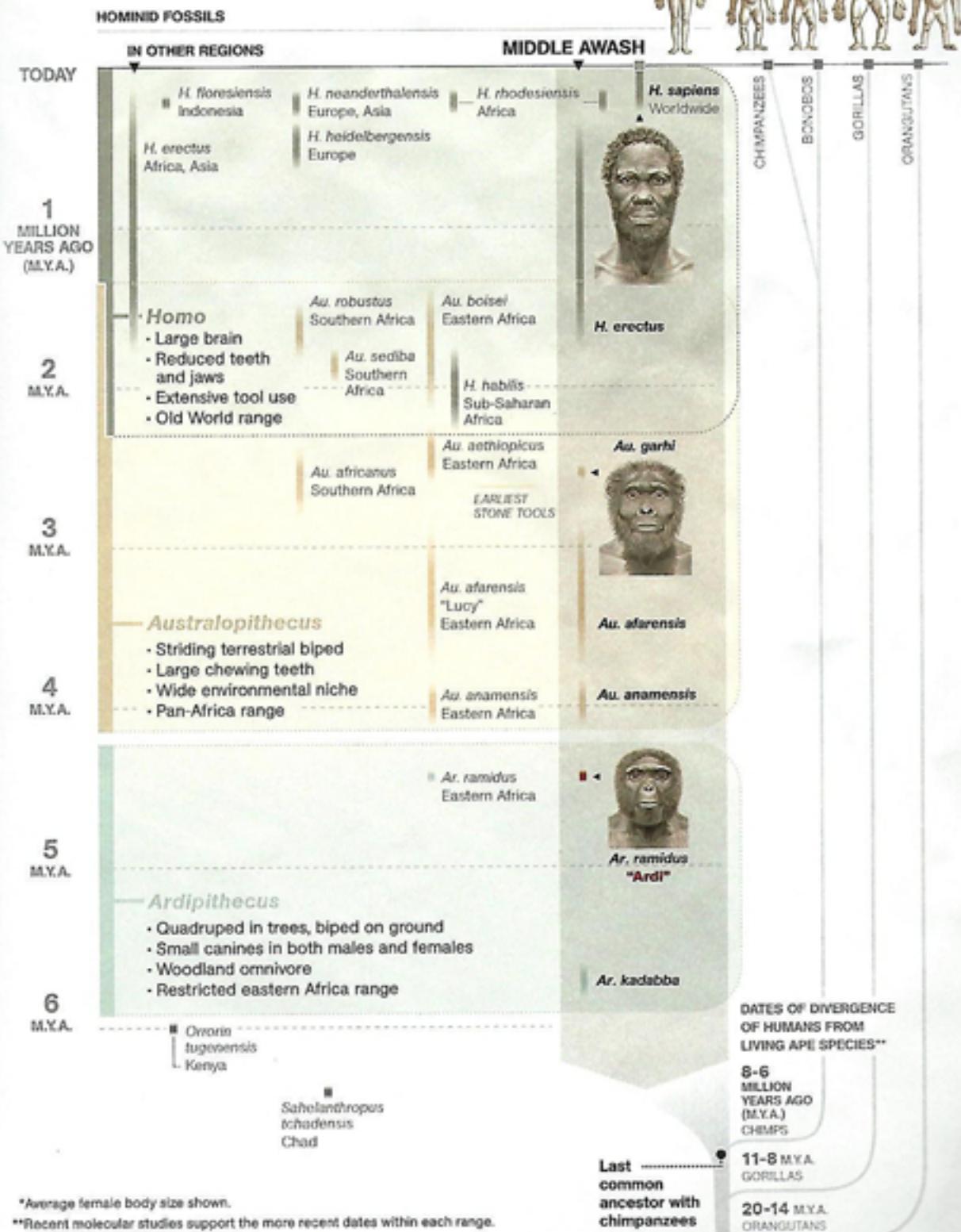


THE HUMAN FAMILY

The record of our lineage in Africa now extends back over six million years. The Middle Awash of Ethiopia has yielded fossils of all three major phases in hominid evolution—*Ardipithecus*, *Australopithecus*, and *Homo*.



*Average female body size shown.

**Recent molecular studies support the more recent dates within each range.