

U=Unusual Species '08

All Count Species	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003 (pm snow)	2002	2001	2000 (rain/fog)	1999	highest	yr of highest	notes from our CBC counts on the web (website address below)
U Greater White-fronted Goose	1				1					2 in cw	1	2004, 2008	2 reports 1999 (cw), none earlier
Greylag Goose									1				Origin Unknown
U Snow Goose	32			2	2		1	1	2	1	32	2008	first report 1987, 5 reports 1990s (2 cw) 1 report 1989
Brant													
Canada Goose	5252	2476	4196	1558	5411	2120	2887	5383	4501	7977	7977	1999	Regular since 1971, rare before
U Cackling Goose	1										1	2008	First time on count (New species when Canada Goose was split.) Origin Unknown
Red-breasted Goose				1									
Mute Swan			5	5	11	5	29	13	14	10	29	2002	first began official reporting in 1995
Wood Duck	3	6	2	1	2	2	10				11	1990+96	Seen most years last 2 decades, less earlier, numbers never large
Gadwall											3	1994	5 reports: 1965 (1) 1983 (2), '88 (2), '89 (2), '94 (3)
Am. Wigeon						1	2	7	3	10	10	1999	Reports began in 1980s, then only about half the time
Am. Black Duck	146	97	100	128	180	155	185	142	90	140	286	1992	Most years vary from 100-250
Mallard	997	757	488	986	1072	897	981	620	1044	1089	1338	1994	First recorded 1940, mostly over 1000 1984-2000
Northern Pintail	8	4		1	1	2	2	1	3	1	10	1991	1950s (1), '70s (3), '80s (1), '90s (3+3cw)
U Green-winged Teal	3										3	1990, 2008	8 reports: 1969, '82, '83, '88, '89 (cw), 90, '91, '08
Canvasback										1	3	1977	2 reports, 1977 (3), 1999 (1)
Ring-necked Duck		1		1	5						5	2004	before this decade: 1941 (1), 1968 (2)
Greater Scaup													1 report 1981(1)
Lesser Scaup													1 report 1974 (5)
White-winged Scoter													1 report 1938 (1)
Long-tailed Duck													1 report 1989 (1)
U Bufflehead	3				1						1	2008	no report before 2004
C. Goldeneye	10	17	35	36	20	11	79	56	76	18	109	1992	Uncommon until 1990s when most years have 4-75
Barrow's Goldeneye		1							1				1986 (1), 3 reports in 90s (1 cw)
Hooded Merganser	10	28	13	10	30	5	14	8	1	12	30	2004	Seen once/twice each decade, now every year
C. Merganser	107	99	97	107	119	82	157	35	49	145	180	1991	More common in 1990s-present
Red-breasted Merganser											3	1991	3 reports 1952, '53, '91(3)
Ruddy Duck													1 report 1955 (cw)
Ring-necked Pheasant	2	2		9	6	4	2	6	7	4	196	1960	Most reported 60s-70s, '02 1 female
Ruffed Grouse	8	2	7	9	21	5	6	11	1	12	37	1965+66	Numbers surprisingly similar since 1934 (1st count)
Wild Turkey	114	55	63	162	102	103	40	127	39	13	162	2005	1 in '71, almost every year since '85, # vary widely, prev.high 80
Northern Bobwhite													2 reports 1970 (5), '81 (1),
Common Loon						1	1						2 reports 1990 (1), 1997 (1)
Pied-billed Grebe													2 reports 1971 (1), 1991 (2),
Horned Grebe													1 report 1998 (2)
U Double-crested Cormorant	1										1	2008	1 previous report 1994 (cw)
Great Cormorant													3 reports 1992, 1993 (cw), 1998
American Bittern													2 reports 1958, 1978
Great Blue Heron	2	1	27	3	11	5		1	1	5	27	2006	Few each decade, now some most years. 2006 mild, open water
Green Heron					1						1	2004	2004 first time on count (found dead the next day)
Osprey													1 report 1991
Bald Eagle	7	7	5	7	5	8	8	5	1	5	8	2002, 2003	53(1), '58(1), '70(1), '86(1), every year '88 and beyond
adult	7	5	5	7	5	5	6	4		4			One each in 1986, 92, 97, two in 1998
immature		2				3	2	1(4th yr)	1	1			1-3 almost every year (until 2004) since first reported in 1988
N. Harrier	6	6	7	3		2	1	3	3	4	10	1989	Few times each decade since '47, 1990s+ almost every year
Sharp-shinned Hawk	16	22	11	22	11	8	18	14	6	12	22	2005, 2007	Regular reporting began 1940s, more common recently
Cooper's Hawk	23	18	16	10	14	7	19	8	4	16	23	2008	Earlier about 1/3 as many as sharpies, no longer true
N. Goshawk						1		2	1	1	4	1985	Most (1-3) in 70s, 7x 80s, 90s usually 1-2 /year, few recently
Red-shouldered Hawk			1				1	1			4	1957	1950s(6+cw), 80s(1), rest 2-4/decade (usually only 1/year)
Red-tailed Hawk	139	115	120	123	124	106	105	113	51	105	139	2008	Increased reporting over years
U Rough-legged Hawk	1					3	1				12	1989	1940s(3), '50s(4), '60s(5), '70s(8), '80s(5+2 cw), '90s(2)
Amer. Kestrel	1	3	3	2	1	1	7	4	1	3	31	1974	Until last few years, remarkably similar numbers 6-20s every year
Merlin	4	3	1	1	3		1	3	1	2	4	2008	1950 (1), '70(1), 4x '80s, 6x '90s, now almost every year
Gyrfalcon													2 reports 1968, 1981
Peregrine Falcon	2	4	4	3	4	2	3	2	2	3	4	2004, 2006	1946(2), '57(1), '60s(2), '70s(1), '80s(2), '90s (4), now every year
Virginia Rail									1				2 reports 1980(1), '89 (1)

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Sora													1 report 1989 (1)
American Coot													1 report 1997 (cw)
Killdeer									1	7	7	'52+'71+99	Usually 1-4 times each decade
Wilson's Snipe		2						2			12	1990	1949, '50, '53, almost every year '66-95, rarely since
American Woodcock													2 reports: 1949, 1965
Black-headed Gull													1 in 1994
Ring-billed Gull	491	238	<b>1088</b>	279	408	266	405	996	790	524	1088	2006	6x 50s, 2 x 60s, almost every year 73 on, numbers were increasing
Herring Gull	25	<b>19</b>	88	401	199	244	334	427	1076	868	2196	1986	Dramatic drop after 1986 (dump closings?) 2007 new low count
Iceland Gull			cw	1			2		cw		4	1986	1968(1), 6x in 80s, 5x in 90s
Lesser Black-backed Gull									1	cw			Most years in 90s, about half cw
Glaucous Gull									1				4 reports in last 2 decades (2 cw's), also '57 (cw)
Great Black-backed Gull	6	17	5	66	46	171	155	131	150	85	367	1994	1973(1), '75(1), '78(10), most years in 80s, every year in 90+
Rock Pigeon	1184	834	1254	1762	1810	1551	1389	1322	779	2036	2778	1988	Began reporting 1973 - presumably just didn't count earlier
Mourning Dove	1619	1414	2876	2170	3395	1457	1766	2374	856	2798	3904	1998	Increase each decade until 80s, now 1500s-3900s
Barn Owl													1 report 1958 (cw)
E. Screech-Owl	53	56	<b>82</b>	69	79	53	58	58	12	50	82	2006	Variation (0-82) mix of weather (2000), owlers, and the owls
Great Horned Owl	32	20	30	37	41	<b>48</b>	20	32	16	30	48	2003	(same variation factors)
Snowy Owl													1941, '49 (2), '67, '71, '78(2), '80
Barred Owl	1	7	6	3	3	5	3	4		6	10	1965	1930s(1), '40s-50s(5 with cw's), '60s-70s(6), 80s-90s(9)
Long-eared Owl		1	1		3	cw	1				3	2004	reported 1-3 x /decade since 1957, 70s-90s(4-5)
Short-eared Owl										1	3	1990	1949, 50s (2 cw), '60s (2 + 1 cw), 70s (1), 80s (0), '90s (5)
N. Saw-whet Owl	2	2	<b>5</b>	3		<b>5</b>	3	1	cw	1	5	2003, 2006	1957 (cw), '60s (2), '70s (2), 80s (1), every year '90
Belted Kingfisher	7	2	17	11	16	15	21	<b>23</b>	6	12	23	2001	Slow increase in reported numbers, previous high 19 in 1990
Red-headed Woodpecker													1938 (cw), '54 (cw), '72, '79, '87
Red-bellied Woodpecker	116	103	<b>152</b>	102	91	84	67	63	17	48	152	2006	1982 (1), then every year since 86, increasing almost every year
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	8	<b>22</b>	1	2	1	1	1	3		2	22	2007	One each reported in 1975, '80, '84, '88, '89; previous high 3
Downy Woodpecker	292	293	409	380	<b>452</b>	326	242	264	85	231	452	2004	Used to vary 100-350, previous high 362 in 1998
Hairy Woodpecker	100	72	111	106	110	81	60	74	24	77	192	1974	Used to vary 20-80, increasing recently
Black-backed Woodpecker													1 report 1956 (1)
N.Flicker	47	24	65	28	33	35	40	40	25	58	77	1998	Numbers increasing last two decades, 77 unusually high
Pileated Woodpecker	19	10	<b>26</b>	11	<b>26</b>	17	9	15	5	17	26	2004, 2006	Had been 1-9 throughout years, now higher
Eastern Phoebe			1								2	1990	1954, '61 (cw), 3 times in '90s
Western Kingbird					cw								2004 (cw), first time on count
Loggerhead Shrike													1942(1), '50s(4), '60s(3), 70s(4), 80s(1), none since
Northern Shrike	5	6	2		3	3	1			9	15	1995	Not seen every year, but at least half the time, except '80s (1)
White-eyed Vireo													1 report 1984 (1)
Gray Jay													1 report 1973 (cw)
Blue Jay	870	1370	1625	1349	891	1288	965	1001	681	946	1686	1977	Around 900 most of last 10 years, increasing recently
Amer. Crow	1795	2412	3091	1235	2000	3606	4372	5504	1583	3714	5836	1997	1974=4634, but usually much lower until 1997 (Springfield roost?)
<b>U</b> Fish Crow	<b>6</b>			3	2		5	cw		2	6	<b>2008</b>	Reports began 1994, now almost every year
C. Raven	12	12	<b>13</b>	6	6	11	10	10	2	6	13	2006	First report (3) in 1988, every year beginning in 90s
Horned Lark	1520	953	531	775	984	391	861	726	498	1368	2504	1993	Varies widely over years
Black-capped Chickadee	1478	1462	1900	<b>2096</b>	1742	1308	1215	1691	614	1783	2096	2005	Always present, increase over time, spikes in irruptive years
Boreal Chickadee											12	1961	1954 (1), '59 (9), '61 (12), '65 (5), '67 (1), '69 (6), '75 (1)
Tufted Titmouse	559	612	<b>894</b>	681	633	397	381	583	252	476	894	2006	1 each in 1942, '57, '58, every year since 1960, increasing
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11	12	21	120	13	67	11	21	2	25	295	1993	Occasional major spikes: 1937, 59, 76, 81, 93, 05
White-breasted Nuthatch	324	289	477	<b>489</b>	478	304	283	391	94	362	489	2005	Almost always more than red-b, wide variation
Brown Creeper	9	13	36	39	25	22	16	25	2	24	53	1973	recent variation 8-45 (53 unusual)
Carolina Wren	62	37	<b>96</b>	36	83	17	36	25	8	9	96	2006	1950s (7), 1960s (2), 70s (1), 80s (4), '90 and on, every year
House Wren			1								1	1982, 2006	few reports, each time one bird
Winter Wren	1	1	4	4	4		2	4	1	3	7	1998	Half to every year each decade, usually 1-3/yr, spikes: 5-7
Sedge Wren													1 report 1996 (1)
Marsh Wren													4 reports: 1937, '50, '57, '98
Golden-crowned Kinglet	66	54	139	52	196	127	94	<b>332</b>	52	39	332	2001	Spikes each decade, varies widely, previous high 314 '96
<b>U</b> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	1					2	4		2	6	1967+73	1-6 seen about half of the years, 1950s on
Eastern Bluebird	304	217	<b>474</b>	235	228	129	224	298	99	264	474	2006	Until 1989 2-3x in each decade, then more

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						(pm snow)			(rain/fog)				
Hermit Thrush	7	2	8	9	3	4	6	7	1	4	9	2005	Most years this decade, about 3x/decade before
American Robin	3957	1123	7555	2795	3226	711	712	414	2232	2727	7555	2006	Until 1994 few to 80/year, now winter roosts (Whately,Amherst)
Varied Thrush													1948 (cw), '81(1)
Gray Catbird	1	4	1	5	1	1	1	1		2	5	2005	Had averaged 2/decade, 5 x 90s, now most years
N. Mockingbird	141	100	174	120	165	100	142	186	111	238	238	1999	A few early, seen every year since 1965
Brown Thrasher					1						2	1975	Once 40s-50s, 4x 60s, 5 x 70s, 3 times in 80s, none 90s
European Starling	7127	4449	5300	4028	4538	4549	4715	6392	3908	9398	94630	1985	Most dramatic change 1990=35,642; 1991=5,507
U\$ American Pipit	26		61	4							61	2006	6 reports: 1981, '82 (3), '90 (8), 05 (4), 06 (61), 08 (26)
Bohemian Waxwing													2 reports 1968(1), '93(1)
Cedar Waxwing	811	2194	1647	1540	626	918	607	1375	1425	730	2194	2007	Varies widely (90s from 119-1567)
Orange-crowned Warbler													1 report 1997 (1)
Nashville Warbler								1					1 report 2001 (1)
Black-throated Blue Warbler													1 report 1979 (1)
Yellow-rumped Warbler				1		1	1		5	3	9	1982	1976 (1), '79 (1), 1982 (9), 1989 (4), 6 reports in 90s
Pine Warbler											1	1998	1 report 1998 (1)
U\$ Palm Warbler	1										1	2008	1 each in 1961, '78, '90, '93, '08
Ovenbird											1	1961	1 report 1961 (1)
Common Yellowthroat													1941, '57, '67, '70s-'80s(4), '90s(5)
Wilson's Warbler											2	1994	1 report: 1994 (2)
Green-tailed Towhee													1946 (cw)
Spotted Towhee										1			First report 1999 (but see Rufous-sided below)
Eastern Towhee						1			1		6	1970	More common 60-70s (Rufous-sided) than 80s-present
Amer. Tree Sparrow	582	1483	1414	845	899	1776	1176	1213	618	2230	2637	1992	Reported numbers higher 90s-00s, but always 300+
U\$ Chipping Sparrow	1		2			1	1				11	1974	About half of the years each decade
Clay-colored Sparrow					1						1	88,'96,'04	1988, '92 (cw), '96, '04
Field Sparrow	4	3	9	7	1	2	4	5		2	58	1982	Varies widely, perhaps more in 70s-80s
Vesper Sparrow		1			1						2	1939, 1969	Once or twice each decade (except 40s)
Savannah Sparrow	19	5	22	27	37	13	33	28	46	5	46	1990+00	1930s-'50s(1-3), 60s(5), 70s(7), '80s-90s every year
LeConte's Sparrow													1991 (cw)
Fox Sparrow			1	1	2	1	1	4	4	3	20	1943	Numbers higher in 60s-70s, but never many
Song Sparrow	290	201	458	354	365	330	267	325	274	228	559	1992	Almost always reported, numbers higher this decade
Lincoln's Sparrow													1 report in 1992
Swamp Sparrow	3	5	6	10	6	4	16	5		11	23	1992	Reported most years, always small numbers
White-throated Sparrow	616	580	687	363	309	506	222	301	396	218	770	1976	Occasional spikes (1992=753)
Harris's Sparrow													1 report 1964 (1)
White-crowned Sparrow	3	3	8	2	2	6			2	9	9	1999	1950s(1), then 4-6 times/decade
Dark-eyed Junco	2825	1915	3585	1627	2156	1948	1527	1255	2123	1394	3585	2006	1930s(6), then every year, at least one spike/decade
Oregon Junco						1	1		1	1	3	1969	1950s(1+cw), '60s(7), '70s(2), '90s(3 cw)
Pink-sided Junco													Not reported before 2000, was it combined with Oregon?
U\$ Lapland Longspur	2	3		1				3	1		31	1989	Half of years in '50s, '80s, '90s, almost every year '60s-'70s
Snow Bunting	273	76	7	49		34		3	161	7	706	1989	Great variation, 2nd highest 273 ('08), 3rd 215 ('76)
N. Cardinal	511	485	557	531	649	528	350	463	248	509	649	2004	First reported 1951, every year since 1957, slowly increasing
Rose-breasted Grosbeak													2 reports: 1936, 1990
Dickcissel										1			1-3 reports each decade (one bird each)
Red-winged Blackbird	304	1	128	3	99	94	76	52	26	28	304	2008	Each decade varies widely (111 in 1994)
Eastern Meadowlark							2	1		5	98	1976	Highest 60s-70s, only reported half of years in 90s-00s
Yellow-headed Blackbird													1 report 1979 (3)
Rusty Blackbird	100	39	1	1	1	2	3	14	3	74	100	2008	Usually 0-30, 58 in 1984, now every year
Brewer's Blackbird													1 report 1980 (1)
C. Grackle	1	3	501	1	3				5	4	501	2006	Numbers vary widely, few before 1960 (next highest 155 '98)
Brown-headed Cowbird	92	6	876	1	22		2	6	20	5	876	2006	Numbers down most of the recent years
Bullock's Oriole													1 each 1948, '51, '52, 54 (cw),
Baltimore Oriole						1	1	1			3	1969	About twice each decade
Brambling													1 report 1961 (1)
Pine Grosbeak		160									217	1954	Half (or less) of courts each decade, wide variation in #
Purple Finch	10	40		13	3	7	7	1	15	3	221	1976	Numbers down 90s-00s, but has always varied widely



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feeder hours	39	62	22	73	31	44	52	72	66	48			
owling hours	48	36	52	48	48	46	50	55	22	42			
owling miles	240	159	258	269	285	249	223	276	144	200			
foot party hours (not owl)	225	165	229	193	202	183	240	216	101	187			
car party hours	117	110	102	150	119	121	92	108	106	91			
total party hours	342	275	331	343	321	319	332	324	207	277			
foot party miles	174	128	184	155	184	146	197	180	98	173			
by car party miles	784	715	752	849	749	722	735	745	720	731			
total party miles	958	843	933	1004	933	868	933	925	818	904			
<p><b>Year 1999:</b> (12/19/99) Cold, clear weather. Record high species count. High counts for Canada Goose, American Wigeon, Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks, Peregrine Falcon, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin (roost in Whately), Northern Mockingbird, Northern Cardinal, and Rusty Blackbird.</p>													
<p><b>Year 2000:</b> (12/17/00) very difficult birding conditions: temp: 34-60, wind AM north, PM south, gusting to 50 mph. Sometimes rain, sometimes thunder and lightning, sometimes dense fog. Some roads closed due to flooding, branches down, some areas lost power. It was a memorable Christmas Count!</p>													
<p><b>Year 2001:</b> (12/16/01) The early part of the winter was very mild. Open water, open ground both here and to the north. An irruptive year for winter finches (both at count time and in the late fall.)</p>													
<p><b>Year 2002:</b> (12/15/02) A pleasant winter day around 40, cloudy with a light wind and a few inches of snow. Species count lower than in years when there are winter finches in the area. High counts were from species expanding their ranges northward (Red-bellied Woodpecker and Carolina Wren), introduced species (Mute Swan) and raptors (Bald Eagle - reflecting our increasing resident population- and Cooper's Hawk). Participant numbers have increased steadily in the past decade and this year matches the highest participation, a one-year "spike" in December 1961.</p>													
<p><b>Year 2003:</b> (12/15/03) Cold, almost windless night, morning 100% cloud cover, afternoon blizzard conditions by 2:30. Rivers open, ponds mostly frozen, 0-4" snow before storm, about 8" by evening. High counts set for number of owlers, number of day+night field observers, Great Horned and Northern Saw-whet Owls, Red-bellied Woodpecker. Count high matched for Bald Eagle and Common Raven.</p>													
<p><b>Year 2004:</b> (12/19/04) After a mild fall and a brief cold snap, ponds were frozen but rivers remained open on a comfortable (24-36), almost windless day. No snow cover. The 31 owlers found record numbers of Eastern Screech-Owl (79) and Long-eared Owl (3). The 100 daytime field observers tallied 3 new species (Green Heron and Bufflehead on count day, and a count week Western Kingbird), 15 High Counts and 13 Unusual Species (Ringed-neck Duck, Merlin and Peregrine were in both categories). The most dramatic increase was in Carolina Wren (83, previous high 36).</p>													
<p><b>Year 2005:</b> (12/18/05) Cold (15-40), cloudy in the morning and clear in the afternoon, almost windless, and a just-past-full moon for owling. Crusty (noisy) snow 2-10" with icy trails and paths. Walking conditions probably explain the higher than usual car-hours and car-miles. High counts for 8 species and almost-high counts for 2 more (Red-tailed Hawk and Cedar Waxwing). New participant high count of 125 (109 in the field, the rest feeder watchers who were not also in the field. The 29 owlers all served in the field as well.)</p>													
<p><b>Year 2006:</b> (12/17/06) Mild, cloudy day. December very mild, almost all open water, no snow. On the count dedicated to the memory of David Stemple, we appropriately broke the Eastern Screech-Owl record. Many of the 16 new (plus 4 matched) records were lingering birds or increasing species. This year there were two active robin roosts (Whately, Amherst). New participant record.</p>													
<p><b>Year 2007:</b> (12/15/07) Because of impending snow/ice storm, the count was moved from Sunday, December 16 to Saturday the 15th. It was cold (14-26 degrees), windy (0-15 mph from the northwest), and walking/driving were difficult (8-12 inches of snow). Three teams clocked 7 hours (8 miles) on skis and snowshoes. Even with all the rescheduling and weather-related problems, counters located all the expected species, plus the northern species that had recently arrived in the area, and a surprising number of lingering sapsuckers (22, previous high 3).</p>													
<p><b>Year 2008</b> (12/14/08): 75th Northampton CBC. Cold (15-40), more wind and clouds in afternoon, river open, ponds frozen. The devastating ice storm in surrounding hills 2 days earlier was only rain in the Northampton Count Circle, although areas near the river were flooded and frozen. Species count (91) matched previous high, possibly due to the early date of count. Participant count (129) also matched previous high. Numbers per species generally down except for Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Merlin, Red-winged Blackbird, Rusty Blackbird, and 8 of the 14 Unusual Species. Cackling Goose (split from Canada Goose in 2004) reported for the first time.</p>													