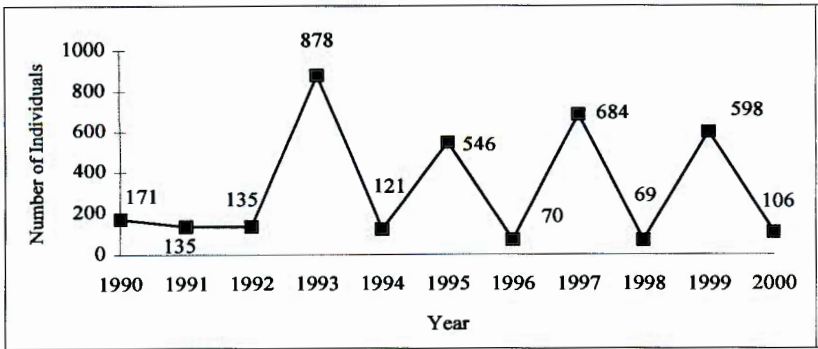
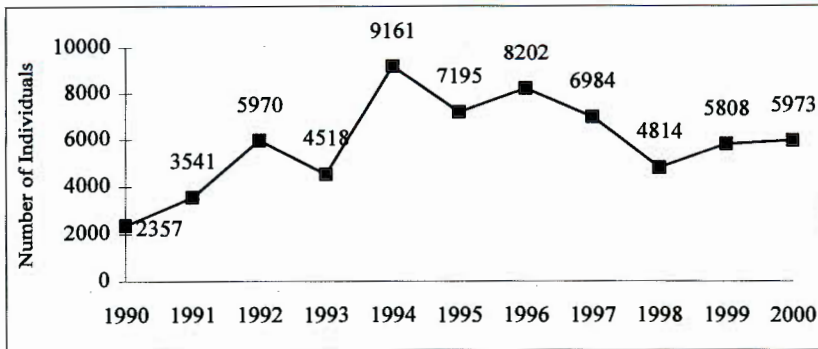


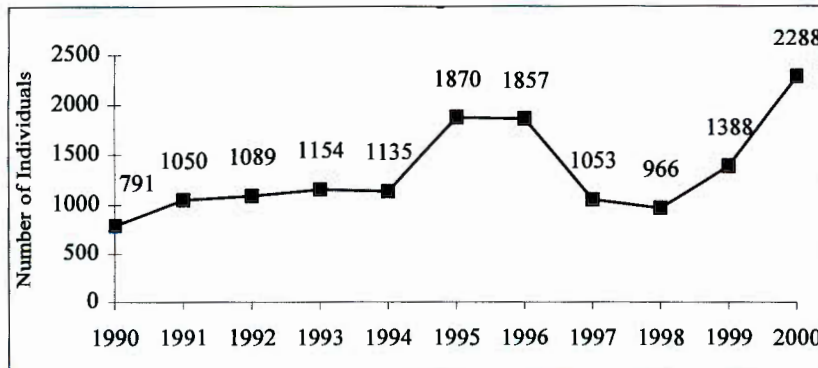
## Red-Breasted Nuthatch



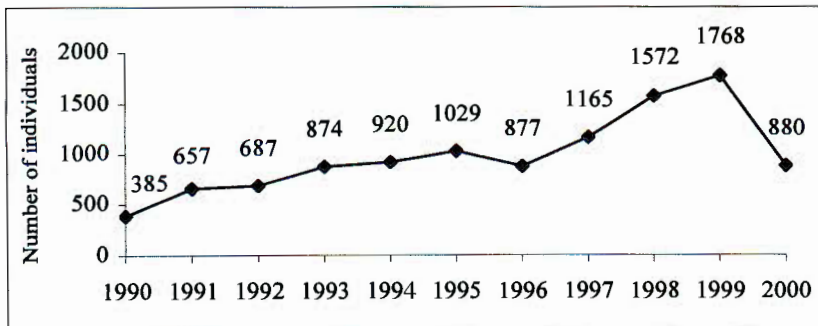
## House Finch



## Bald Eagle



## Great Blue Heron



“far cry” from the 1999/2000 invasion in Illinois (Bailey 2000). Four Gray Catbirds were noted at Chilli-cothe (1), Jackson County(1), McHenry (1) and Mermet Lake(1). Springfield (1) and Humiston (with no details, 1) had the only American Pipit reports. Cypress Creek, Union, and Rend Lake tallied solitary Pine Warblers. Springfield tallied the only Spotted Towhee. Horseshoe Lake tallied a lone Vesper Sparrow. Always hard to find but seemingly more regular in southern Illinois were the 67 Le Conte’s Sparrows in nine circles – most amazing was Cypress Creek’s tally of 34! Four Lincoln’s Sparrows were reported, one at Clinton, IA; Mermet Lake had two and one was at Cypress Creek. Fourteen Harris’s Sparrows in eight circles certainly was a noteworthy count for a species that often goes unrecorded on the CBC. Clinton Lake had the only Western Meadowlark. A Yellow-headed Blackbird was at Mermet Lake. Always unusual, Brewer’s Blackbirds were noted at Clinton Lake (2), Cypress Creek (1), Decatur (2), Illini (1), Rockford (1) and Union County (1). Finally the ones that “didn’t count” were Springfield’s unusual count week birds, a Spotted Sandpiper and California Gull, and Champaign County’s Chipping Sparrow.

### WINTER FINCHES

This was not a winter finch year. Red Crossbills were recorded in four circles with Chautauqua having the highest count (97); Meredosia (4); Waukegan (2) and White Pines (30). Three uncommon Common Redpolls were recorded at Thorn Creek. 81 Pine Siskins were recorded in 16 circles indicating their widespread status but relatively low numbers.

### LOW COUNTS

It is difficult to assess trends for low numbers of birds during a very cold, snowy early winter in