

MC: 341, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (JOS, ES, CH); 298, Marion Co, 28 Dec (RSR, m.ob); 169, Rock Island Co, 15 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 130, Mercer Co, 27 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 125, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 14 Dec (LLH); 120, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob). **Others:** 210, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM); 193, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 111, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 5 Jan (KJM, m.ob); 104, Kankakee Co, 4 Jan (DFS); 103, I&M Canal (La Salle Co), 29 Dec (DJS); 99, Alexander Co, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 89, Mason Co, 21 Dec (KJM, A&DM); 87, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, EA, DW); 76, Kendall Co, 25 Jan (DFS); 70, Carl.L., 17 Dec (DK); 65, Lenzburg (St. Clair Co), 26 Feb (TUM); 58, Will Co, 29 Dec (KJM). More abundant this year, but probably still under-reported.

BLUE GROSBEAK

imm. male (at feeder), Palos Hills (Cook Co), **1 Mar.** This bird was most likely present during the winter season.

INDIGO BUNTING

imm. Horseshoe Lake CA, 19 Dec (*SDB).

PAINTED BUNTING

male (at feeder), west of Hidalgo (**Jasper Co**), **4-15 Jan** (LSs:photos, LH, BS)--**first Illinois winter record.**

DICKCISSEL

Utica (La Salle Co), **8-9 Feb** (*DTW, *DJS).

Red-winged Blackbird

MC: **102,790**, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); **63,630**, Pulaski Co, 16 Dec (RSR, m.ob); **15,000**, SRock, 11 Jan (EW, KW); **10,000**, Marissa (St. Clair Co), 1 Jan (DK); 3600, La Salle Co, 8 Jan (DFS); 84, Mason Co, 21 Dec (KJM, A&DM); 40, Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW). **Others:** 5290, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 2819, OakwdBtms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL); 2700, Barstow (Rock Island Co), 15 Dec (KJM, SBH, BC); 1200, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 779, HLCA, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 404, Rock Island Co, 22 Dec (KJM, SF); 400, Kane Co, 16 Dec (LLH); 32, Will Co, 29 Dec (KJM). Somewhat more abundant, particularly in the southern region.

Eastern Meadowlark

MC: **90**, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); **57**, CrabOr, 14 Dec (RSR, LW, JM); **53**, Marion Co, 28 Dec (RSR, m.ob); **46**, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KAM, DK); 10, Shelby Co, 21 Dec (DFS). **Others:** 25, Pulaski Co, 8 Dec (KAM); 22, Levee Rd (Monroe Co), 12 Jan (JZ); 20, Carl.L., 17 Dec (DK); 18, Alexander Co, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 14, St. Clair Co, 5 Feb (KAM). Considerably more abundant, but almost exclusively restricted to the southern portion of the state.

Western Meadowlark

Shelby Co, 21 Dec (DFS); Marion Co, 28 Dec (*RSR, m.ob); Levee Rd (Monroe Co), 12 Jan (JZ).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

3, Mermet L, 5 Dec (FB)--**Illinois winter high count**; male, LaSalle Co, 16 Feb (PS).

Rusty Blackbird

MC: 75, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); 75, HLCA, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 6, MTwain, 27 Dec (KJM); 2, SRock, 18 Jan (EW, KW). **Others:** 43, UCCA, 20 Dec (RSR, VL); 25, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KAM, DK); 22, Marion Co, 28 Dec (RSR, m.ob); 2, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 16 Feb (KAM); male, McDonough Co, 14 Dec (LLH); Wolf L, LCal, 26 Jan-24 Feb (CM). Substantially less abundant this winter.

Brewer's Blackbird

MC: 40, Grundy Co, 12 Jan (R&KF). **Others:** female, LaSalle Co, 19 Jan (MBC). This species was much less abundant, and was found only in the northern region.

Common Grackle

MC: **900,000**, HL, 18 Dec (FH); **518,500**, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); **34,148**, Pulaski Co, 16 Dec (RSR, m.ob); **10,000**, Marissa (St. Clair Co), 1 Jan (DK); 6000, La Salle Co, 16 Feb (DJS); 2500, La Salle Co, 7-8 Jan (DFS); 10, Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW). **Others:** 1875, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 1821, HLCA, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 1620, Mermet L, 31 Dec (KJM); 710, Barstow (Rock Island Co), 15 Dec (KJM, SBH, BC); 635, OakwdBtms, 1 Jan (KJM, VL); 400, La Salle Co, 19 Jan (MBC); 100, Carl.L., 2 Feb (DK); 36, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (EA, DW). Wintered in much greater numbers, especially in the south.

[GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

HL, 21 Dec.]

Brown-headed Cowbird

MC: 4200, Rend L, 14 Dec (KAM, CL); 4000, Utica (La Salle Co), 16 Feb (DJS); 565, Barstow (Rock Island Co), 15 Dec (KJM, SBH, BC); 330, Massac Co, 31 Dec (RSR, VL); 200, Cuba (Fulton Co), 8 Jan (LLH); 150, Vmln Co, all winter (JOS, ES). **Others:** 440, Seneca (La Salle Co), 18 Jan (EW, KW); 260, LCal, 3 Jan (DFS); 225, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 17 Feb (KAM); 102, Alexander Co, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 102, Rock Island Co, 22 Dec (KJM, SF); 50, Grundy Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 30, Ogle Co, 21 Dec (EW, KW, TB); 25, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 20, Knox Co, 13 Dec (DJM); 15, Will Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 12, Carroll Co, 18 Dec (EA, DW). This species occurred in greater abundance.

Purple Finch

MC: 6, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (CH); 4, New Columbia (Massac Co), 18-19 Jan (FB); 3, Coles Co, all winter (RB); 2, Severson Dells FP (Winnebago Co), 6 & 20 Feb (DTW). **Others:** female, Rend L, 14 Dec (DK); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); MidFkVmln, 4 Jan (KJM, MW); female, Lake Co, 9 Feb (PS). Considerably less common throughout the state.

House Finch

MC: 120, Rkfd, 7 Dec (DFS); 56, Boone Co, 9 Jan (AEB); 45, Vmln Co, all winter (JOS, ES); 34, Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW); 9, Carl.L., 29 Dec (DK). **Others:** 24, Barrington Hills (Cook Co), 16 Dec (AA); 19, Wilmette (Cook Co), 28 Dec (EW, WS, m.ob); 18, Busse Woods FP (Cook Co), 8 Jan (AA). Fairly typical numbers.

American Goldfinch

MC: 91, Mason Co, 21 Dec (KJM, A&DM); 91, Mercer Co, 27 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 82, Rock Island & Whiteside Cos, 23 Dec (KJM, RN, AM); 78, Alexander Co, 19 Dec (VK, KJM); 75, Lenzburg (St. Clair Co), 26 Feb (TUM); 73, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 5 Jan (CK, m.ob). **Others:** 58, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 49, UCCA, 20 Dec (VK, KJM, JF); 48, Vmln Co, all winter (JOS, ES); 45, Marion Co, 28 Dec (RSR, m.ob); 42, Pomona (Jackson Co), 16 Feb (RSR); 30, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (TE, AB); 25, Carl.L., 17 Dec (DK); 23, Massac Co, 31 Dec (KJM).

House Sparrow

MC: 960, Kankakee Co, 4 Jan (DFS); 775, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob); 445, Carl.L., 17 Dec (RSR, m.ob); 365, Mercer Co, 27 Dec (BB, m.ob); 175, Marion Co, 28 Dec (RSR, m.ob). **Others:** 425, Whiteside & Lee Cos, 5 Jan (J&SB, m.ob); 314, Wilmette (Cook Co), 28 Dec (EW, WS); 265, Will Co, 29 Dec (KJM); 253, Whiteside & Carroll Cos, 18 Dec (KJM, EA, DW); 198, Vmln Co, 4 Jan (KJM, MW); 152, Jackson Co, 1 Jan (KJ, NC); 150, Vmln Co, all winter (JOS, ES).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow

MC: 128, Tazewell Co, 5 Feb (JC); 127, Mercer Co, 27 Dec (TM, m.ob); 30, Rock Island Co, 22 Dec (KJM, SF). **Others:** 79, Chau, 21 Dec (KJM, A&DM); 51, McDonough & Fulton Cos, 14 Dec (LLH); HL, 19 & 29 Jan (FH, KAM). This species was somewhat more numerous, particularly in the central region.

EXOTIC / RELEASED SPECIES

Trumpeter Swan