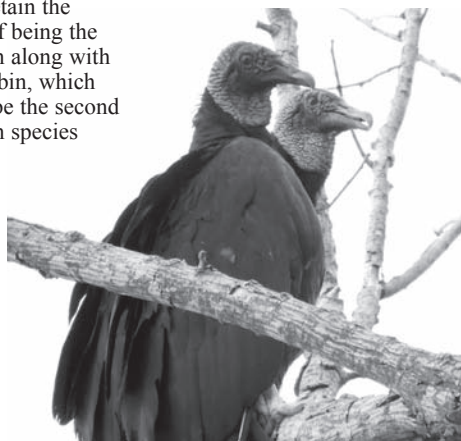


One of the more interesting data sets shows how common species' numbers change through time. Though this can be difficult to interpret due to differential effort through the years, one approach is to simply rank how common a species is in a given year and compare that rank to previous years.

Red-winged Blackbirds continue to retain the designation of being the most common along with American Robin, which continues to be the second most common species detected.



Black Vulture at Michael J. Wolff Wetlands, Cache River State Natural Area, Johnson County. 17 May 2013. Photo by Karen Lund. Black Vultures were detected in a record 16 counties during the Illinois Statewide Spring Bird Count in 2013.

Table 1: The relative rank of species in terms of abundance (top 20 in 2013) in a given year.

Species	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	1	1	1
American Robin	2	2	2	2	2
Tree Swallow	3	12	10	5	6
European Starling	4	3	4	3	4
Common Grackle	5	4	3	6	3
Yellow-rumped Warbler	6	16	15	17	17
Canada Goose	7	5	5	7	5
American Coot	8	14	39	93	46
Brown-headed Cowbird	9	9	7	12	9
American Goldfinch	10	7	6	10	10
House Sparrow	11	6	9	9	7
Northern Cardinal	12	8	11	14	11
Mourning Dove	13	10	14	15	12
Barn Swallow	14	11	12	4	8
Ring-billed Gull	15	18	17	16	14
Palm Warbler	16	34	22	21	29
Blue Jay	17	26	13	26	18
Song Sparrow	18	22	24	29	20
Chipping Sparrow	19	23	16	20	16
American Crow	20	29	19	23	27

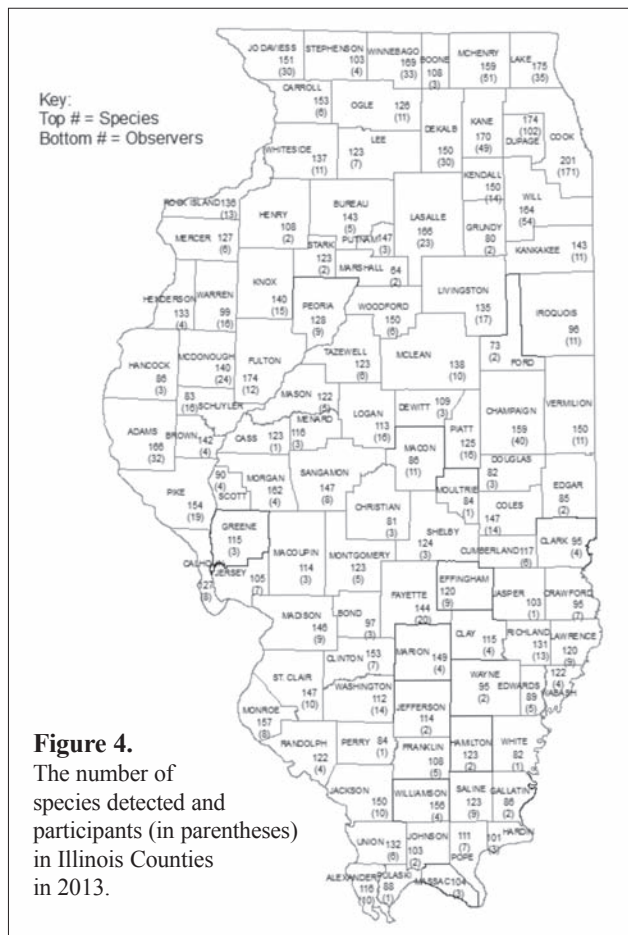


Figure 4. The number of species detected and participants (in parentheses) in Illinois Counties in 2013.



Long-eared Owl. Gillson Park, Cook County. 8 April 2013. Photo by Jim Hully. Two Long-eared Owls were found during the Illinois Statewide Spring Bird Count in 2013.

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