

Spring Bird Count, took a major hit this year (2500 fewer birds); that dropped it to the eighth position. A first-time presence in the top ten was achieved by the Brown-headed Cowbird as a result of the record number reported for this species; it jumped all the way up to the sixth position. Even the American Gold-

finch moved ahead of the House Sparrow this year. The Ring-billed Gull, in ninth position, is down about 800 birds and the Northern Cardinal, in tenth position showed a gain of about 500 birds. The lower 10 of the top 20 continues to show considerable variation. The two species on last year's list that did not

make it this year are the Mallard and Song Sparrow (and both would have made the list if it was the top 22 species). The 2007 additions are the Blue Jay (missing only last year) and White-crowned Sparrow – on the list for only the second time. For those who keep track, the American Crow ranked 25th this year (and missed the list for the fourth consecutive year). The cormorant, which ranked high for several years, achieved the 23rd position. During the Count's 36-year history, 43 species have appeared in the top 20 list. Eight species have made the list only one time.

Table 7 provides the maximum species details for the number of counties reporting the species; the total number of birds of each species reported; and the highest number of each species recorded in a single county (including the county in which that number was recorded.) Some of the notable single-county records were the two new count species: Townsend's Warbler and Golden Eagle as well as Western Grebe, Purple Gallinule, Least Tern, Bewick's Wren, Black-throated Gray Warbler, and Lapland Longspur. Some of the better records for the 10 species reported from only two counties were Gray Partridge and Smith's Longspurs. Also included in the Table (at the end) are those species that are not officially countable in Illinois and treated as exotics; this year this list is limited to just the Ringed Turtle-Dove. As for the European Goldfinches of the past three years, if they were present this year, they did not get reported.

New Records. Table 7 also identifies all new and tied count records for each species. As expected, new records are more difficult to achieve each year and when achieved, they most often surpass the previous record by only a small margin. The 78 new records (the largest number in several years) have been identified by an asterisk (*) in the Table; the 28 tied records, by a pound (#) sign. Had there been participants in all 102 counties the number of new

TABLE 5: Species Reported from 90 (90%) or more Counties in 2007

Canada Goose	100	Blue Jay	100	Yellow-rumped Warbler	97
Wood Duck	94	American Crow	100	Palm Warbler	91
Mallard	97	Horned Lark	91	Common Yellowthroat	100
Great Blue Heron	100	Purple Martin	90	Eastern Towhee	95
Turkey Vulture	99	Tree Swallow	96	Chipping Sparrow	99
Red-tailed Hawk	99	No. Rough-w Swallow	91	Field Sparrow	96
American Kestrel	92	Barn Swallow	100	Song Sparrow	98
Killdeer	100	Tufted Titmouse	97	White-throated Sparrow	95
Rock Pigeon	94	White-breasted Nuthatch	97	White-crowned Sparrow	99
Mourning Dove	100	Carolina Wren	94	Northern Cardinal	100
Chimney Swift	94	House Wren	94	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	98
Red-headed Woodpecker	96	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	93	Indigo Bunting	97
Red-bellied Woodpecker	100	Eastern Bluebird	98	Red-winged Blackbird	100
Downy Woodpecker	100	Swainson's Thrush	93	Eastern Meadowlark	99
Northern Flicker	97	Wood Thrush	91	Common Grackle	100
Eastern Phoebe	98	American Robin	100	Brown-headed Cowbird	100
Great Crested Flycatcher	93	Gray Catbird	100	Baltimore Oriole	99
Eastern Kingbird	100	Brown Thrasher	99	House Finch	95
Warbling Vireo	91	European Starling	100	American Goldfinch	99
Red-eyed Vireo	92	Yellow Warbler	91	House Sparrow	99

TABLE 6: Twenty Most Common Species

Species	2007	2006	2005	Highest	# Years In Top 20
Red-winged Blackbird	63,961	56,778	65,410	69,971 (1996)	36
Common Grackle	44,408	33,258	38,907	59,264 (1974)	36
European Starling	29,997	30,992	37,585	37,736 (1992)	36
American Robin	28,606	33,785	34,261	35,720 (1995)	36
Canada Goose	18,831	19,988	19,990	19,990 (2005)	22
Brown-headed Cowbird	15,727	10,487	11,132	15,727 (2007)	36
American Goldfinch	15,628	15,539	14,294	18,240 (2002)	35
House Sparrow	14,081	16,580	18,363	32,120 (2002)	36
Ring-billed Gull	13,618	16,401	17,964	29,243 (1994)	23
Northern Cardinal	12,373	11,865	11,864	13,895 (2002)	36
Mourning Dove	11,949	12,299	12,589	12,589 (2005)	36
White-throated Sparrow	10,649	6,959	6,952	12,767 (1996)	16
Barn Swallow	10,177	9,976	8,633	27,532 (1999)	35
Tree Swallow	9,698	11,854	7,449	24,573 (1989)	22
Indigo Bunting	9,327	6,431	4,400*	9,327 (2007)	17
White-crowned Sparrow	9,309	2,888*	8,897	9,309 (2007)	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	7,576	7,245	8,102	17,978 (1997)	24
American Coot	7,549	8,041	2,621*	11,153 (1996)	8
Blue Jay	7,068	5,733*	7,437	13,446 (1984)	35
Chipping Sparrow	6,762	6,160	7,407	7,407 (2005)	5

New Records in **Bold Face**. * = Not in "Top 20" this year.