

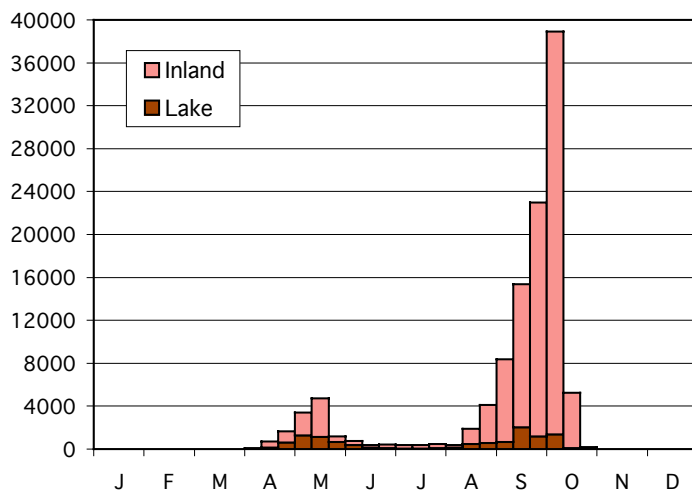
Chimney Swift

Chaetura pelagica

Historical Information

First Published Record: The Mumford files include an 1884 nesting report (in an outhouse!); however, Butler (1898) provided the state's earliest completely dated record in Franklin County 7 October 1886.

Both Butler (1898) and Keller et al. (1979) considered the Swift an abundant summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) characterized the Chimney Swift as a common migrant and summer resident.



Current Status

The Chimney Swift is a summer resident that is Abundant (2) during fall migration.

Occurrence

This widespread species has been reported in every Indiana county. Over the past two decades an average of 4153 individuals was reported annually. The largest annual tally occurred in 1985 when, buoyed by several enormous tallies in Franklin County (see maximum count table), some 13,964 were counted.

Late Records

There are three November records, all from the central tier. The latest involved two birds reported in Anderson on 20 November 1931. Others were seen in West Lafayette by H.O. Davis and W.M. Davis 12 November 1949 and in Richmond 13 November 1906 (All three records are from the Mumford files).

Extreme Records

The large fall counts listed in the maximum count table came from chimneys at the convent in Oldenburg. Georgeanne Wilcox performed her tallies by counting the number observed in one minute and multiplying times the number of minutes required for entry (pers. comm.).

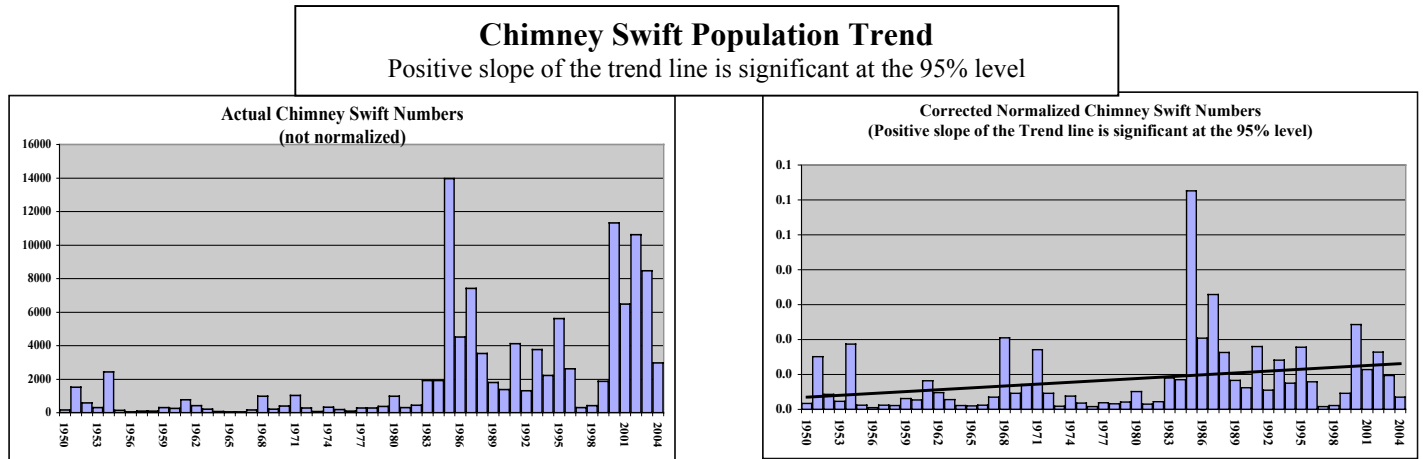
Status

Physical Evidence: At least a dozen specimens plus eggs are housed in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Chicago Field Museum				1
National Museum of Natural History				3
Indiana State Museum				3*
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				5
Los Angeles Public Museum				1
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	3	4	3
Central Tier	n	3	4	2
Southern Tier	n	3	4	2
Entire State	n	3	4	2

Population Trend

Perhaps due to the multi-thousand counts of the last two decades, the 50-year trend is quite positive. Indeed, the positive slope of trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

The Indiana Atlas project recorded breeding evidence in 87 percent of the 647 priority blocks and birds were reported in virtually every atlas block (Castrale et al. 1998). Mumford and Keller (1984) list egg dates from 26 May through 2 June.

Chimney Swift Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
500	17-May-2002	Eagle Creek Park	S.A. Pancol	INB
400	10-May-1994	Wayne Co	W.H. Buskirk	IAQ
400	20-May-2000	West-cent. Ind.	A.W. Bruner	NNB
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
6000	23-Sep-1985	Franklin Co	J.B. Cope	WWV
4050	07-Sep-2003	Franklin Co	Georgianne Wilcox	INB
4041	03-Oct-1995	Franklin Co	J.B. Cope	GWi

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	30-Mar-1968	23-Apr	9-May	3-Jun	Sum. Res.	607
Central	5-Apr-1958	20-Apr	9-May	26-May	Sum. Res.	295
South	23-Mar-1950	10-Apr	26-Apr	26-May	Sum. Res.	169
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	11-Aug	14-Sep	6-Oct	29-Oct-1983	871
Central	Sum. Res.	10-Aug	16-Sep	10-Oct	20-Nov-1931	273
South	Sum. Res.	26-Aug	24-Sep	9-Oct	23-Oct-1983	248

References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1898) The Birds of Indiana, Indiana Department of Geology and Natural Resources Annual Report, 22:575-1187.

Castrale, J.S., E.M. Hopkins, and C.E. Keller (1998) Atlas of breeding Birds of Indiana, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, 388 pp.

Keller, C.E., S.A. Keller, and T.C. Keller (1979) *Indiana Birds and Their Haunts*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 214 pp.

Mumford files: An extensive accumulation of Indiana bird data on 5x7 file cards compiled by Professor R.E. Mumford of Purdue University, West Lafayette.

Mumford, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.

Richards, R.L. (1987) The Vertebrate Collection of the Indiana State Museum: "Old" Specimens and Records, *Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Science* 97:547-570.