

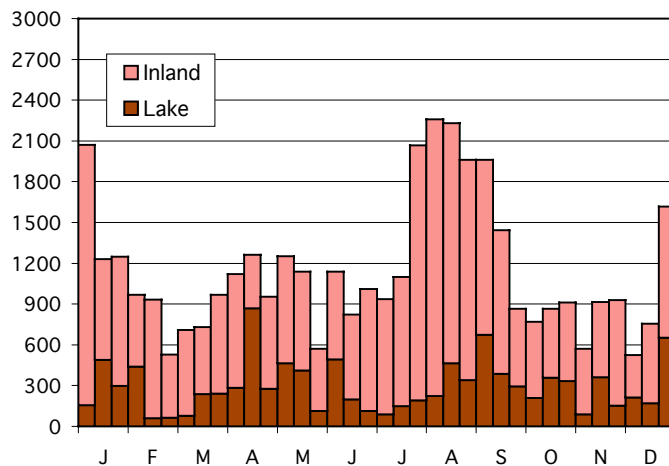
## Mourning Dove

## *Zenaida macroura*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: A report in the Mumford files mentioned that a nest containing eggs was seen at Bloomington on 17 April 1886. This appears to constitute the state's earliest published report.

Butler (1890) referred to the "Carolina Dove" as a common summer resident that winters in the south. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it an abundant resident, except perhaps in the north in winter. Mumford and Keller (1984) considered the Mourning Dove a common to abundant resident.



### Status

Physical Evidence: At least ten specimens plus a number of eggs are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

#### STATUS TABLE

Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				2*
Chicago Academy of Sciences				1
Chicago Field Museum				3
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				6
Univ. of Michigan Museum				8*
* Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	3	3	4	3
Central Tier	4	4	4	3
Southern Tier	4	6	4	4
Entire State	3	3	4	3

### Current Status

The Mourning Dove is a permanent resident throughout the state. It is Very Common (3) in spring, winter, and fall. It is Common (4) in summer.

### Occurrence

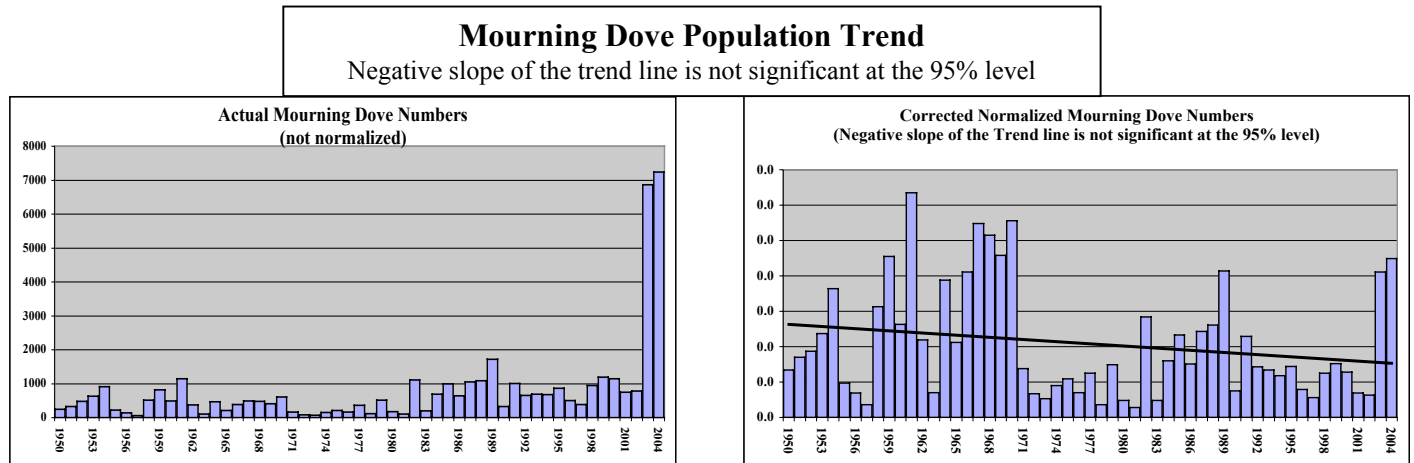
This dove, which is one of Indiana's most widespread birds, has been recorded in all 92 counties. It occurs throughout the countryside and even visits yards, where it frequently dines on grain beneath feeders. Except for a possible fall movement in August and September, the migration histogram provides little evidence of migration. Further, this apparent migration may well result from autumn flocking, which facilitates counting, rather than actual increased numbers. Note that all records in the maximum count table occurred during this period.

### Extreme Record

Indiana's largest daily tally, 1000 recorded at Atterbury FWA on 28 July 1982, involved birds observed by W.S. Rowe as they were perched on utility lines (Mumford files).

## Population Trend

Although the trend line shows a modest negative slope, it is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



## Breeding

The Indiana Atlas program recorded this species in all 92 Indiana counties and established breeding evidence in more than 99 percent of the 647 priority blocks (Castrale et al. 1998). Nests have been observed from 9 February through 10 November and eggs from 19 February through 27 September (Mumford and Keller 1984, give egg dates from 6 February to 23 November).

Mourning Dove Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
All Records				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
1000	28-Jul-1982	Atterbury FWA	W.S. Rowe	REM
626	03-Aug-2003	East Central Ind.	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
500	16-Aug-1998	Parke Co	A.W. Bruner	NNB
430	23-Jul-2004	Greene Co	L.W. Sterrenburg	INB
385	29-Aug-2003	Kankakee Sands	Jed Hertz	INB
367	01-Jan-2003	Newton Co	K.J. Brock	KJB

## References Cited

Butler, A. W. (1890) The Birds of Indiana, Appendix to *Transactions of the Indiana Horticultural Society for 1890* (available on the web).

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.