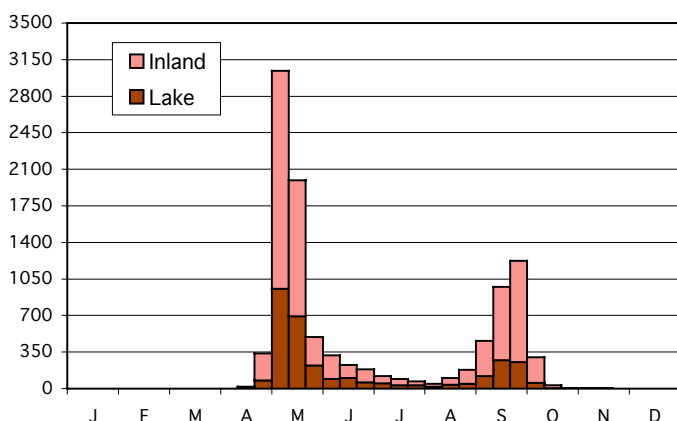


Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*

Historical Information

First Published Record: A specimen collected in Franklin County on 3 May 1882 (Mumford files) appears to constitute the state's first formal record.

Butler (1898) characterized this striking grosbeak as an irregular migrant, more common in summer northward. Keller et al. (1979) considered it a common migrant and an uncommon (north) and very rare (central) summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) described the Rose-breasted Grosbeak as a common migrant throughout Indiana.



Current Status

The Rose-breasted Grosbeak is a Common (4) migrant and Fairly Common (5) summer resident in the northern tier.

Occurrence

This attractive species has been recorded in at least 83 Indiana counties. It is most conspicuous in spring when singing migrants arrive before the trees are fully leaved.

Winter Records

An immature male visited an Evansville feeding station on 12 February 1978 and remained for the winter (Mumford files); another was found dead at Notre Dame during winter 1980-81 (Mumford and Keller 1984). The state's only other winter record involved a female at Midge Lechner's Warrick County feeder 7 December 1991 (Brown 1993). A photo of this bird appears in the *Indiana Audubon Quarterly* Vol. 71, p. 41.

Extreme Record

The state's largest count (see maximum count table) consists of 90 birds observed by J.A. Haw on 22 September 1987. This record incorporated 88 at Fox Island Park, including one enormous flock of 70 birds, plus two individuals found outside the park (Haw records).

Status

Physical Evidence: Almost two-dozen specimens, plus eggs, exist in museums. (S.F. Jackson unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

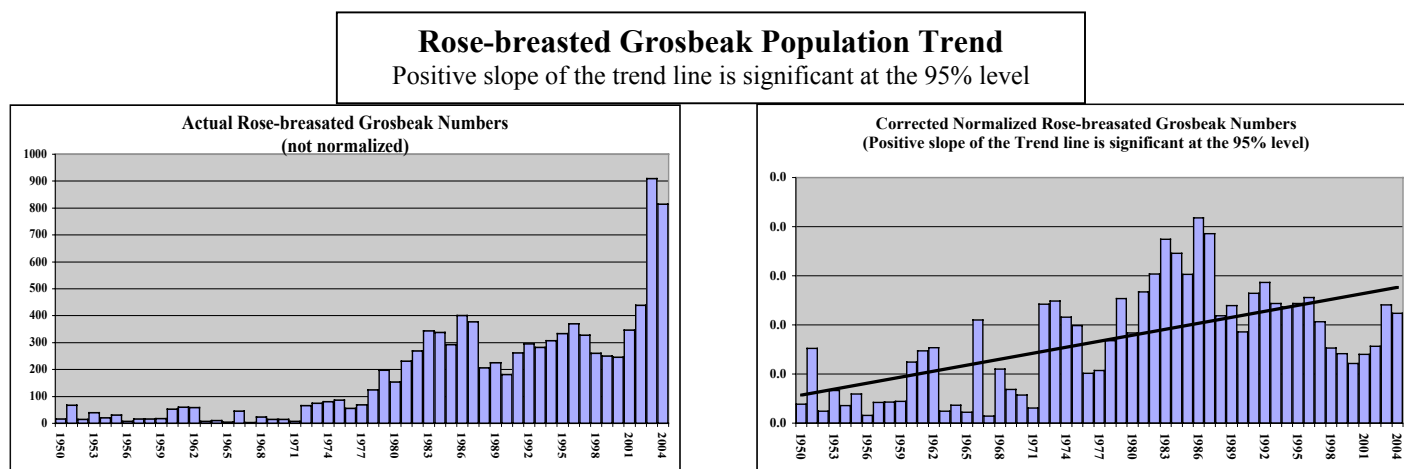
STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				2*
Chicago Field Museum				3
National Museum of Natural History				8
Indiana State Museum				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				9
Univ. of Michigan Museum				4*
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	4	5	4
Central Tier	n	4	6	4
Southern Tier	10	5	7	4
Entire State	10	4	5	4

Banding Recovery

An adult male banded in Indianapolis 20 September 1970 was found dead in El Salvador on 27 October 1971 (West 1974).

Population Trend

The 50-year population data suggest that this species is prospering in the state. Positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

In the Indiana Atlas project Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 37 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks, primarily in the northern two-thirds of the state. Mumford and Keller (1984) reported a full clutch of eggs on 21 May.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
77	06-May-1997	Gibson Woods	Joy Bower	JBo
72	10-May-1996	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IAQ
70	7-May-1966	Mary Gray Sanc.	H.C. West	REM
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
90	22-Sep-1987	Allen Co	J.A. Haw	Haw
69	28-Sep-2004	Monroe Co	Mike Clark	INB
30	21-Sep-2005	Eagle Creek Park	Larry Peavler	INB

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	30-Mar-1981	2-May	11-May	30-May	Sum. Res.	1127
Central	30-Mar-2004	30-Apr	10-May	28-May	Sum. Res.	296
South	7-Apr-1957	25-Apr	4-May	13-May	Sum. Vis.	120

Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	12-Aug	14-Sep	30-Sep	9-Nov-1989	867
Central	Sum. Res.	4-Sep	21-Sep	6-Oct	23-Nov-2004	265
South	Sum. Vis.	13-Sep	25-Sep	7-Oct	3-Nov-2001	220

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Haw records: personal field notes recorded by J.A. Haw, beginning in 1972.

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