

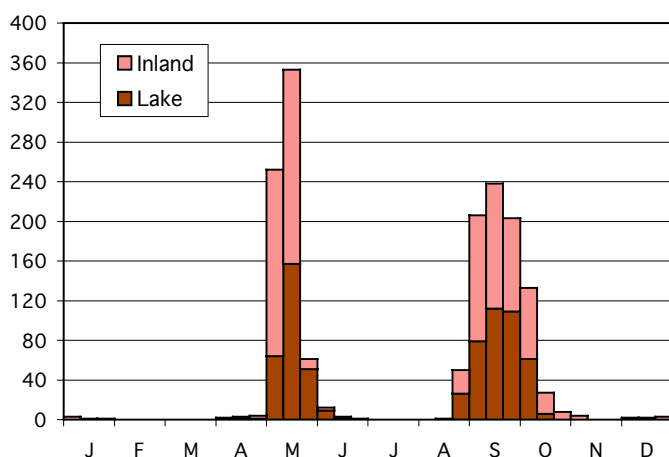
Black-throated Blue Warbler

Dendroica caerulescens

Historical Information

First Published Record: Butler (1898) reported a Black-throated Blue in Lake County 3 October 1875, which appears to constitute Indiana's earliest published record.

Butler (1898) considered this species a common migrant in southwestern Indiana. Here Butler almost certainly intended to write southeastern Indiana, as he further discusses numerous records in the vicinity of Brookville, and cites no southwestern Indiana records. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it rare in spring and uncommon in fall. Mumford and Keller (1984) described this striking warbler as an uncommon migrant.

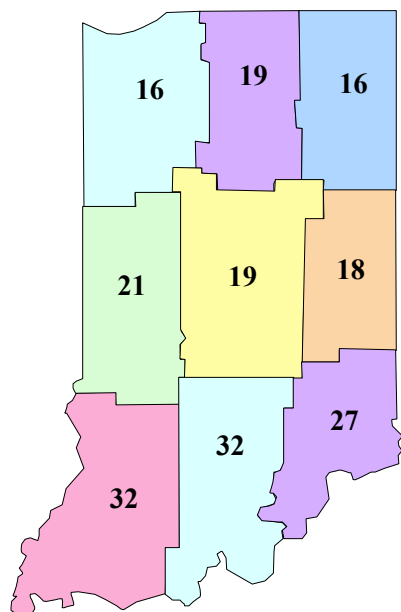


Status

Physical Evidence: Some 18 Indiana specimens are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list, J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list, and Richards 1987).

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

Fall Abundance Rankings of Black-throated Warbler in Nine Indiana Regions



Current Status

The Black-throated Blue Warbler remains an Uncommon (6) migrant.

Occurrence

This handsome warbler has been recorded in 66 Indiana counties. By a ratio of 13 to 10 it is more common in fall than spring. Several tardy Black-throated Blue Warbler migrants have lingered well into June; the latest record involved a singing male found by R.L. Hedge and Tom Hulvershorn in Boone County 24 June 1989 (Jackson 1990).

Fall Flight Path

The fall abundance-ranking map, which reveals that the lowest rankings occur in the southwestern portion of the

state, suggests that the primary southbound migration corridor lies northeast of a line from Lake County to Wayne County.

Winter Records

A number of individuals have lingered well into winter. Records include four in December and three in January (one of these was also present in December). The most tenacious record involved a male that visited the Zionsville feeding station of Don Rollins from 16 December 1979 to 30 January 1980 (Buck 1981).

Black-throated Blue Warbler Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
8	25-May-2003	Lakefront	B.J. Grube	INB
8	09-May-2002	Allen Co	J.A. Haw	INB
7*	11-May-1991	N. Lake Co	Joy Bower	KJB
*Seven were reported on four additional occasions				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
10	21-Sep-1993	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	IAQ
7	10-Sep-1994	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	IAQ
6	28-Aug-1975	Steuben Co	J.A. Haw	REM

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	13-Apr-1988	7-May	13-May	23-May	7-Jun-1997	354
Central	6-Apr-1980	4-May	12-May	18-May	24-Jun-1989	101
South	10-Apr-1969	26-Apr	9-May	15-May	5-Jun-2004	38
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	19-Aug-1998	3-Sep	17-Sep	6-Oct	2-Nov-1976	514
Central	28-Aug-1968	6-Sep	20-Sep	12-Oct	4-Nov-1979	142
South	29-Aug-1992	---	16-Sep	---	22-Oct-1983	29

References Cited

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

Last update: 12 Oct 2005