

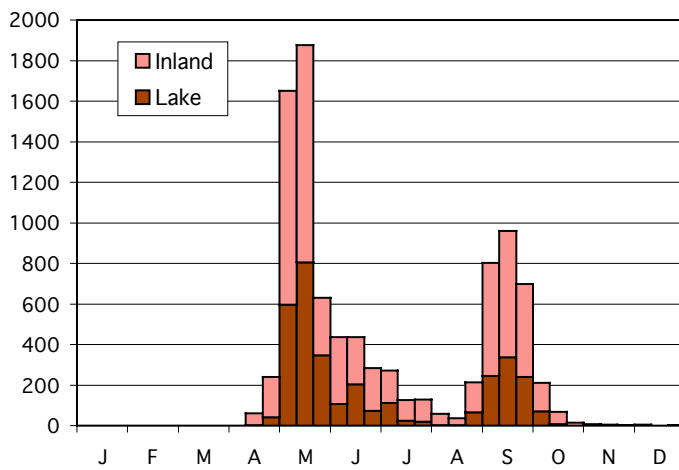
Ovenbird

Seiurus aurocapilla

Historical Information

First Published Record: Butler (1898) listed an Ovenbird report from Knox County on 20 April 1881, which appears to provide Indiana's earliest published record.

Butler (1898) considered the "Golden-crowned Thrush" a common summer resident. Both Keller et al. (1979) and Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed it a common migrant and fairly common summer resident.



Status

Physical Evidence: At least 19 specimens, plus eggs, are preserved in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

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

Current Status

The Ovenbird is a Common (4) migrant and summer resident. It is Very Rare (8) in winter.

Occurrence

This widespread warbler has been recorded in at least 88 counties, and has almost certainly occurred in all 92. During migration periods the Ovenbird is the state's 8th most common spring warbler and the 11th most common in fall. Over the past 20 years an average of some 294 Ovenbirds per year has been recorded in the state.

Winter Records

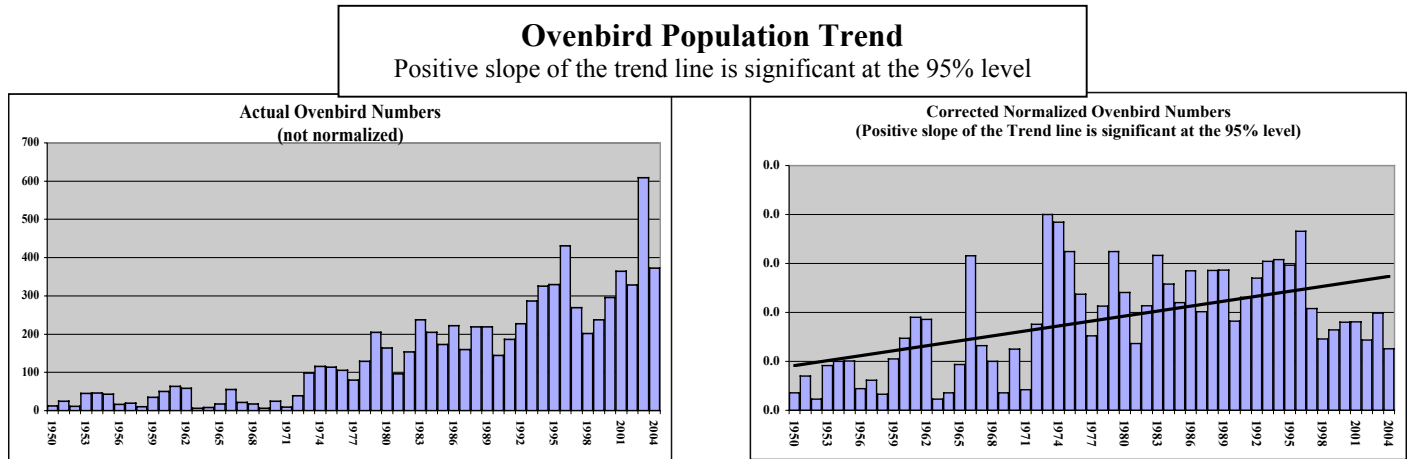
Some eight winter records exist: six were in December, two in January, and one in February (the Asherwood bird was present in both January and February). Seven of these occurred over the past 20 winters. Perhaps the most persistent of the winter Ovenbirds was an individual that appeared at the Asherwood Nature Center (Wabash County) 10 January 1993 and reappeared sporadically until 18 February 1993, when it was found dead (Brown 1993).

Extreme Record

The state's highest count, 68 observed in Dunes State Park by L.S. Hinchman et al., was recorded in concert with an exceptionally strong weather related fallout (Brock 1997).

Population Trend

The 50-year population data suggest that Ovenbirds prospered in Indiana. Positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 21 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks; the most dense concentration of breeding activity occurred in south central Indiana. Mumford and Keller (1984) list egg dates from 13 May through 24 June.

Ovenbird Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/early Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
68	11-May-1996	Dunes St Park	L.S. Hinchman	BBC
59	19-Jun-2001	Big Oaks NWR	J.P. Lewis	BON
50	15-May-1943	Tippecanoe Co	I.W. Burr	IAQ
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
25	11-Sep-1999	Lakefront traps	K.J. Brock	KJB
24	08-Sep-1994	George Lake	Joy Bower	KJB
22	15-Sep-2003	Lakefront traps	J.J. McCoy	INB

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Win. Vis.	3-May	13-May	29-May	Sum. Res.	960
Central	Win. Vis.	30-Apr	11-May	25-May	Sum. Res.	287
South	Win. Vis.	19-Apr	1-May	26-May	Sum. Res.	141
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	30-Aug	14-Sep	1-Oct	Win. Vis.	805
Central	Sum. Res.	5-Sep	20-Sep	10-Oct	Win. Vis.	471
South	Sum. Res.	6-Sep	20-Sep	6-Oct	Win. Vis.	112

References Cited

- Brock, K.J. (1997) The Great Fallout of '96, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 75:68-71.
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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.
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