

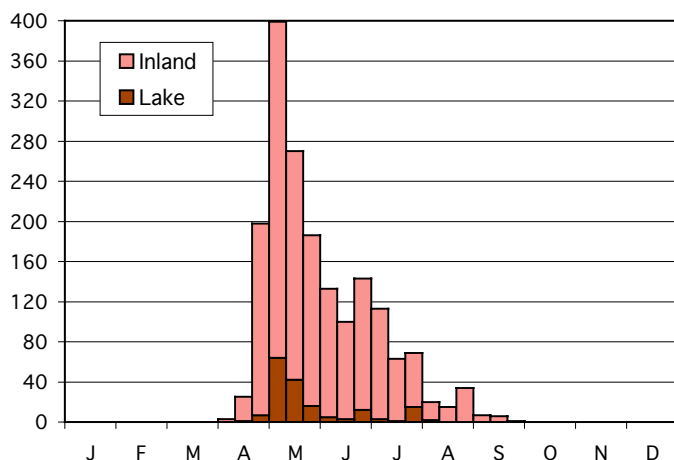
Orchard Oriole

Icterus spurius

Historical Information

First Published Record: A.W. Butler observed a mating pair (likely in Franklin County) 27 April 1881 (Butler 1898), which appears to represent the state's earliest formal record.

Butler (1898) considered this oriole a common summer resident, which was expanding northward. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it an uncommon summer resident (north and central) and fairly common in summer southward. Mumford and Keller (1984) described the Orchard Oriole as "most common in the southern third (of the state) and uncommon elsewhere."

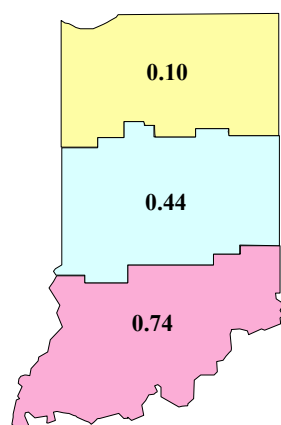


Status

Physical Evidence: Some seven specimens, plus eggs, are preserved in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).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				1
Chicago Field Museum				1
National Museum of Natural History				1
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				2
Univ. of Michigan Museum				4*
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	n	6	6	7
Central Tier	n	6	6	7
Southern Tier	n	5	5	7
Entire State	n	5	5	7

Ratio of Orchard Orioles to Baltimore Orioles Across Three Tiers



Current Status

The Orchard Oriole is Fairly Common (5) in spring and summer, and Rare (7) in fall.

Occurrence

Though overshadowed by its brightly colored and more widespread cousin, this relatively drab oriole has been recorded in every Indiana county. It is considerably more frequently encountered southward (see oriole ratio map).

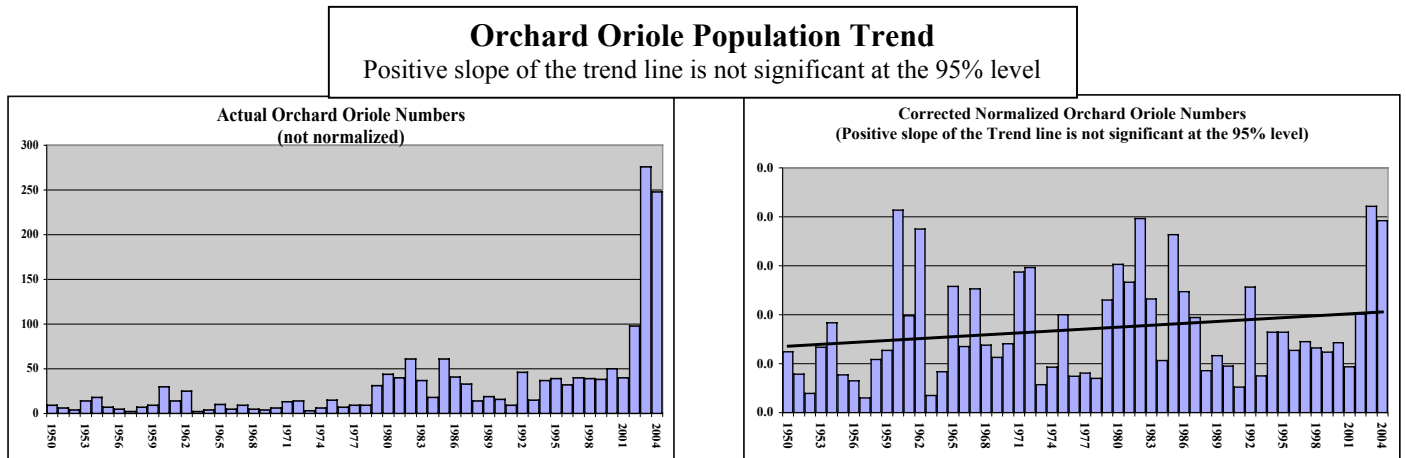
Fall Migration

As its fall migration occurs in late summer and early fall, autumn birds are rarely reported; instead, they exit the state quite inconspicuously (see migration histogram). Some evidence suggests

that fall migrants might congregate into loose groups. Examples come from the maximum count table. J.J. McCoy observed a group of 15 migrant females and immatures at Michigan City Harbor on 22 July 1995 (Brock records) and R.F. Buskirk saw a dozen, including at least two family groups, in Eagle Creek Park on 22 July 1997 (Jackson 1998).

Population Trend

The 50-year data suggest that Indiana's Orchard Oriole population is relatively stable. The mildly positive slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 64 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks, with the fewest reports in the northern tier. Mumford and Keller (1984) listed egg dates from 24 April through 10 June.

Orchard Oriole Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/early Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
31	9-Jun-2004	S.E. Indiana*	B.K. Jackson	BKJ
24	10-May-1992	Gibson Co	G & L Bowman	IAQ
20	10-May-2003	Dunes St Park	J.J. McCoy	IAQ
*Ripley Co (18), Ohio Co (7), & Switzerland Co (6)				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
15	22-Jul-1995	Mich. City Harbor	J.J. McCoy	KJB
12	22-Jul-1997	Eagle Creek Park	R.F. Buskirk	IAQ
10	28-Aug-1982	Gibson Co	C.E. Mills	IAQ

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	19-Apr-1896	3-May	14-May	4-Jun	Sum. Res.	290
Central	19-Apr-2002	28-Apr	10-May	30-May	Sum. Res.	208
South	2-Apr-1953	22-Apr	3-May	26-May	Sum. Res.	185

Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
North	Sum. Res.	18-Jul	30-Jul	30-Aug	19-Sep-1984	31
Central	Sum. Res.	19-Jul	6-Aug	8-Sep	15-Sep-2002	44
South	Sum. Res.	---	24-Aug	---	30-Sep-1969	25

References Cited

Brock records, Unpublished field notes and seasonal summaries compiled by K.J. Brock.

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.

Jackson, S.F. (1998) Field Notes Summer 1997, *Indiana Audubon Quarterly*, 76:145-168.

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.