

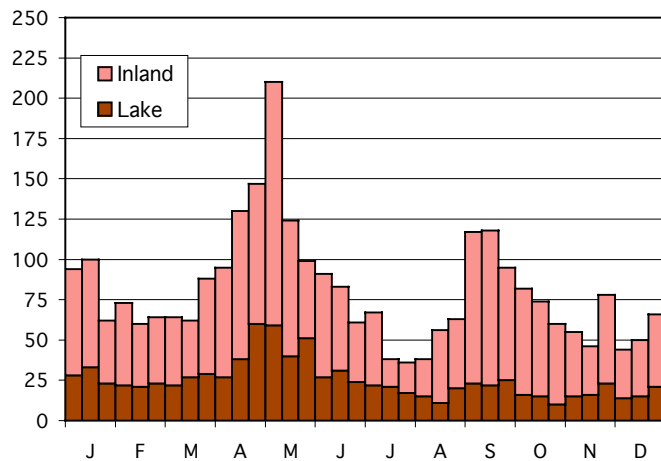
Hairy Woodpecker

Picoides villosus

Historical Information

First Published Record: A specimen, collected in Franklin County 12 April 1886 (Mumford files), provides the state's earliest fully dated record.

Butler (1898) deemed this woodpecker a common resident, which was "more numerous southward in fall, winter and spring." Keller et al. (1979) considered it an uncommon resident that appeared to be decreasing. Mumford and Keller (1984) noted that the Hairy Woodpecker was found throughout the state, but was less common than the Downy Woodpecker.



Current Status

Although a permanent resident, the Hairy Woodpecker is reported most often in spring and fall, when it is Fairly Common (5).

Occurrence

This larger version of the Downy Woodpecker is also rather widespread and has been recorded in at least 82 counties. The Hairy is considerably less common than the Downy; indeed, on average about 4.8 Downys are reported for every Hairy Woodpecker. The true ratio is very likely even higher as many birders undercount (or entirely ignore) Downy Woodpeckers.

Migration

The migration histogram suggests that distinct migrations occur in both spring and fall. However, there is little evidence to support this contention. The feeble evidence available consists of a dozen records in the lakefront traps, where this species does not nest, during the interval late August through early October. It is quite likely that spring and fall peaks in the migration histogram reflect sampling bias. That is, more effort is expended during the spring and fall passerine migration periods, which likely explains the increased Hairy Woodpecker counts.

Status

Physical Evidence: Some 25 skins, plus eggs, are archived in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

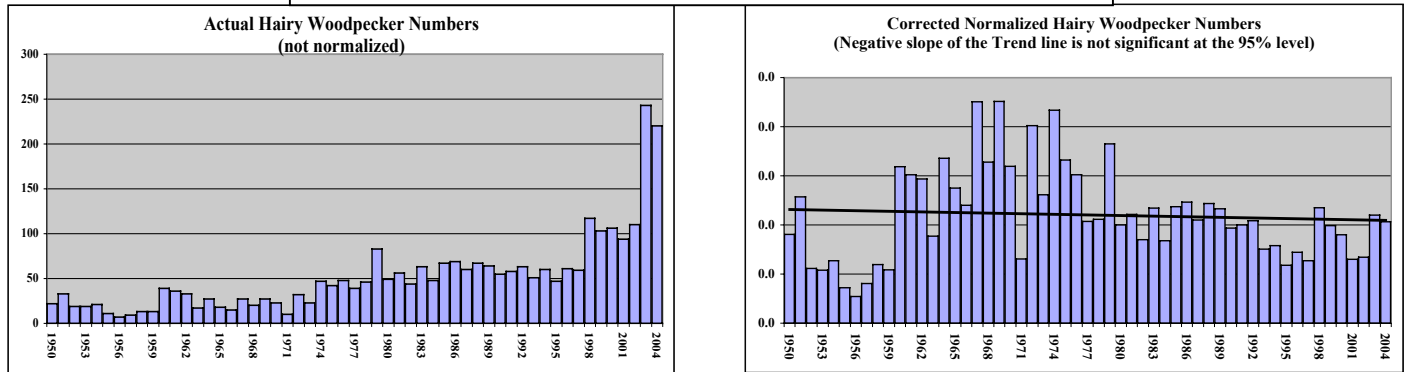
STATUS TABLE				
Specimens				
Museum				No.
Carnegie Museum of Natural History				1
Chicago Field Museum				6
National Museum of Natural History				15*
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory				2
Univ. of Michigan Museum				1
Philadelphia Academy of Science				1
Denver Museum of Natural History				1
*Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	6	5	6	5
Central Tier	7	6	7	6
Southern Tier	7	6	6	6
Entire State	6	5	6	5

Population Trend

The very slight negative slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level.

Hairy Woodpecker Population Trend

Negative slope of the trend line is not significant at the 95% level



Breeding

The Indiana Atlas project recorded breeding evidence in 67 percent of the 647 priority blocks (Castrale et al. 1998). Except for a slight concentration in the heavily forested south-central portion of Indiana, these results were distributed fairly uniformly across the state. Mumford and Keller (1984) noted a dearth of nesting data for this species. The available breeding information suggested that most nesting activities occur in May and June.

Hairy Woodpecker Data

Maximum Single Party Counts

Entire Year				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
7	25-Apr-1917	West Beach	H.L. Stoddard	HLS
7	30-Nov-1998	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	Haw
7	04-Mar-2003	Hendricks Co	Judith Hansen	JHa
6	14-Jan-1961	Fayette Co	H.C. West	HCW
6	02-Jul-1999	Fox Island Park	J.A. Haw	Haw
6	20-Jul-2002	Cowles Bog	R.J. Pals	INB

Migration Envelopes

Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Spring	Win. Res.	18-Mar	30-Apr	30-May	Sum. Res.	828
Fall	Sum. Res.	10-Aug	23-Sep	17-Nov	Win. Res.	699

References Cited

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.