

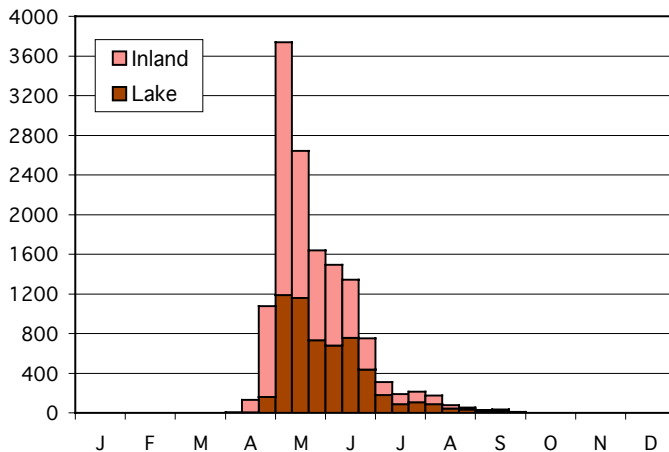
Yellow Warbler

Dendroica petechia

Historical Information

First Published Record: A nest containing eggs, found 23 May 1882 (Butler 1898), constitutes the earliest fully dated and published record.

Butler (1898) considered the “Summer Warbler” an abundant summer resident. Keller et al. (1979) deemed it a fairly common summer resident. Mumford and Keller (1984) described the Yellow Warbler as a common migrant and summer resident.

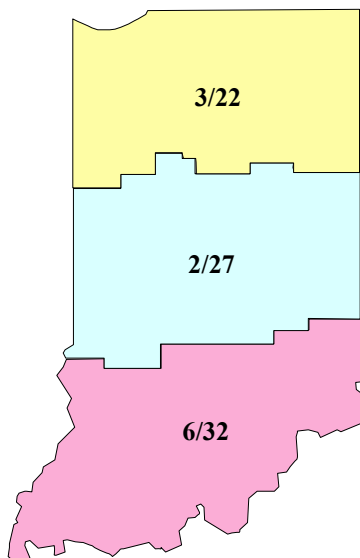


Status

Physical Evidence: Some eleven specimens, plus eggs, are housed in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).

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

Spring and Fall (Spr/Fall) Abundance Rankings of the Yellow Warbler Across Three Tiers



Current Status

The Yellow Warbler is a Very Common (3) summer resident and spring migrant. It is Uncommon (6) in fall.

Occurrence

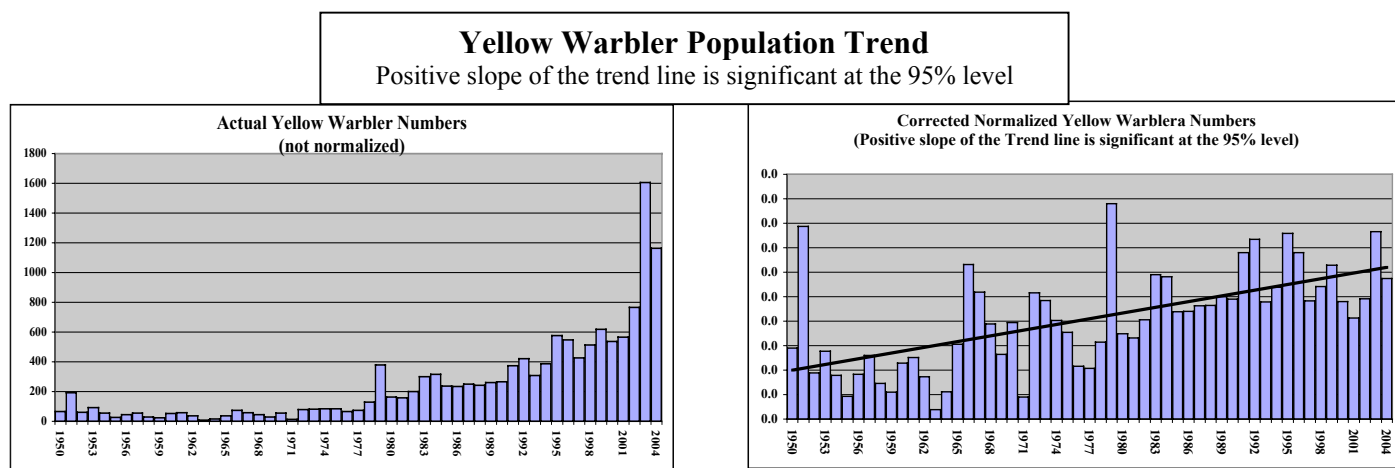
Having been reported in every Indiana county, the Yellow Warbler is among the state's most abundant spring and summer warblers. Although the spring migration is quite evident on the migration histogram, the fall flight is not striking. Indeed, overall it ranks second in abundance among spring migrants, but falls to twenty-fifth (behind Orange-crowned and Golden-winged) during the autumn flight. This disparity between spring and fall numbers is evident in the abundance-ranking map. Summer singing decreases significantly by the end of July as the birds inconspicuously slip away from nesting territories.

Winter Records

Surprisingly, in view of this species' early fall departure, Indiana has two winter records, both in late December. The first appeared at A.W. Bruner's Montgomery County feeding station on 23 and 25 December 1975 (Mumford files). Mike and Linda Bishop saw the second on a 20 December 2003 Christmas Bird Count in Marion County (CBC records). Both individuals were very well described.

Population Trend

The 50-year population data suggest that the Yellow Warbler population is prospering. Positive slope of the trend line is statistically significant at the 95 percent level.



Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 73 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks; these data came from every county except Vanderburgh. Mumford and Keller (1984) list egg dates from 1 May through 24 June.

Yellow Warbler Data

Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
134	05-Jun-2004	Multiple Sites*	S.R. Bagby	INB
124	13-Jun-1997	LaPorte Co	R.S. Plank	DPI
122	02-Jun-1995	Kankakee FWA	R.S. Plank	IAQ
*122 at Kankakee FWA plus 12 at Kingsbury FWA				
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
15	03-Aug-2002	Beverly Shores	J.K. Cassady	KJB
8	03-Aug-1984	Beverly Shores	K.J. Brock	KJB
6*	10-Aug-2002	Dunes St Park	R.J. Pals	INB
*6 birds were recorded on three additional occasions				

Migration Envelopes						
Entire State						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
Spring	8-Apr-1995	27-Apr	11-May	2-Jun	Sum. Res.	2458
Fall	Sum. Res.	19-Jul	4-Aug	9-Sep	24-Oct-1979	457

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.

Last update: 12 Oct 2005