

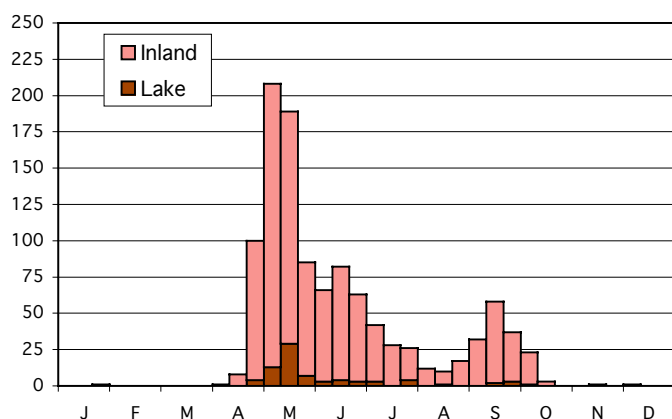
## Summer Tanager

## *Piranga rubra*

### Historical Information

First Published Record: A bird reported in Franklin County on 11 May 1880 (Butler 1898) appears to constitute Indiana's first published record.

Butler (1898) considered the "Summer Redbird" a common summer resident over much of southern Indiana. Keller et al. (1979) listed it, both as a migrant and summer resident, as very rare in the north, uncommon in central Indiana, and fairly common in the south. Mumford and Keller (1984) deemed the Summer Tanager a fairly common migrant and summer resident across the southern third of the state and very rare in the north.

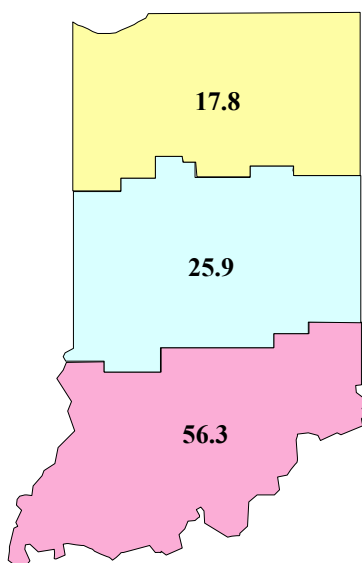


### Status

Physical Evidence: At least 17 specimens, and eggs, are housed in museums (S.F. Jackson unpublished list and J.B. Dunning unpublished computer list).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	1			
Chicago Academy of Sciences	1			
Chicago Field Museum	1			
National Museum of Natural History	9			
Milwaukee Public Museum	2			
Purdue Univ. Wildlife Laboratory	2			
Univ. of Michigan Museum	4*			
* Includes eggs				
20-Year Abundance Table				
	Win	Spr	Sum	Fall
Northern Tier	10	6	7	8
Central Tier	n	6	7	7
Southern Tier	10	5	6	6
Entire State	10	5	6	6

### Percentage of Indiana's Summer Tanagers Observed in each of the Three Tiers



### Current Status

The Summer Tanager is a Fairly Common (5) to Uncommon (6) migrant and an Uncommon (6) summer resident.

### Occurrence

This tanager remains most numerous in the southern half of Indiana (see map); however, it has been reported in at least 71 Indiana counties.

### Extreme Records

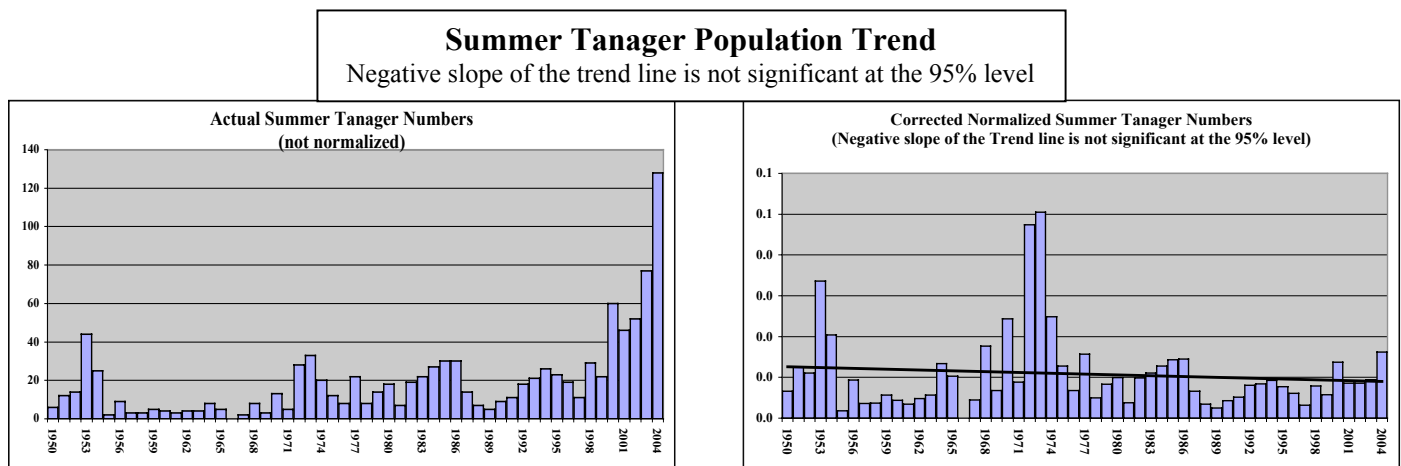
Mumford and Keller (1984) included a 1 April record, but provided no year or citation. Indiana has but one November record: S.R. Evans discovered a female in Monroe County on 18 November 2003 (Brock 2004).

## Winter Records

Two Summer Tanagers have been reported in winter. D.R. Whitehead observed one on the Indiana University Bloomington campus 6 December 1996 (pers. comm.) and another visited a Shipshewana feeder 27-30 January 2002 where the identification was confirmed by several observers and photographs (Brock 2002).

## Population Trend

Summer Tanager numbers appear to be relatively stable in Indiana. The slightly negative slope of the trend line is not statistically significant at the 95 percent level. This agrees with Breeding Bird Survey data, which shows a statistically non-significant increase of 0.3 percent annually between 1966 and 2004 (North American Breeding Bird Survey web page).



## Breeding

Castrale et al. (1998) reported breeding evidence in 34 percent of the state's 647 priority blocks; virtually all of the evidence came from the southern half of Indiana. Mumford and Keller (1984) listed egg dates from 19 May through 13 July.

Summer Tanager Data				
Maximum Single Party Counts				
Spring/early Summer				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
11	22-Jun-2000	Big Oaks NWR	Refuge Personnel	BON
11	11-Jun-2002	Big Oaks NWR	Refuge Personnel	BON
10	13-May-1995	Warrick Co	J.H. Campbell	IAQ
Fall				
Number	Date	Location	Observer	Ref.
9	05-Sep-2000	Lake Monroe	C.L. Wood	INB
5	15-Sep-1985	Atterbury FWA	Boyd Gill	IAQ
3*	02-Oct-1977	Clark Co	Lene Rauth	LRa
*3 were observed on two additional occasions				

Migration Envelopes						
Spring						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	21-Apr-2004	2-May	13-May	31- May	Sum. Vis.	142
<b>Central</b>	6-Apr-1921	30-Apr	10-May	27-May	Sum. Res.	140
<b>South</b>	15-Apr-1896	25-Apr	9-May	3-Jun	Sum. Res.	184
Fall						
	Earliest	Arrive	Peak	Depart	Latest	Records
<b>North</b>	Sum. Vis.	---	10-Sep	---	8-Oct-1993	20
<b>Central</b>	Sum. Res.	3-Aug	13-Sep	30-Sep	4-Oct-1992	49
<b>South</b>	Sum. Res.	23-Jul	13-Sep	7-Oct	18-Nov-2003	117

### References Cited

- Brock, K.J. (2002) Middlewestern Prairie Region, Winter Season 2001-02, *N. Am. Birds* 56:179-182.
- Brock, K.J. (2004) Illinois and Indiana Region, Fall Migration 2003, *N. Am. Birds* 58:74-77.
- 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, R.E. and C.E. Keller (1984) *The Birds of Indiana*, Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Ind. 376 pp.