

99th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count

Monday, December 26, 2022

The count counted its 4 millionth bird in its history when the Scarsdale group reported their Canada Goose numbers. Congratulations!

The 99th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count found 114 species on Monday December 26, 2022. Our average is 116 species. General numbers were low with only a little over 36 thousand birds reported.

Highlights included Greater White-fronted Goose, 2 Lesser-black-backed Gulls, an Osprey, Yellow-breasted Chat, a Boat-tailed Grackle, and an Indigo Bunting.



The Greater White-fronted Goose was the count's 6th record, last seen in 2021. Two Lesser Black-backed Gulls were the 21st record for the count. The Osprey was only the second count record, found at EGR Preserve. The other record is from 2008. Yellow-breasted Chat was a 20th count record. The Boat-tailed Grackle found at 5-Island Park was the second count record after being found the first-time last year. And the Lenoir Nature Preserve Indigo Bunting was the count's 5 record, last seen in 2014.

Thirteen species of waterfowl were below average. Brant, American Wigeon and Common Golden-eye had 20+ year lows. Brant had a 23-year low, American Wigeon a 70-year low and Common Goldeneye another all-time low (99-year low).

Other lows were for Gray Catbird, with a 44-year low and Red-winged Blackbird, a 56-year low. Only two species of shorebird were found, Killdeer and Purple Sandpiper.

There were only two new high counts. After setting a 62-year low last year (104), Tufted Titmouse set a new all-time high count of 1365, (1317 in 1995). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker had the other new high count with 52, (46 in 2013).

Count week birds included Cackling Goose and Iceland Gull.

Misses include Snow Goose, Virginia Rail, Eastern Bluebird, and Purple Finch. No warblers were found.

A full breakdown of the numbers are below. Thanks all who helped on the count.

Michael Bochnik

Bronx-Westchester CBC Compiler

2022 TALLY (99th)

Ebird order 2021 party

Species	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	Total	
1 Greater White-fronted Goose						1		1	6th Count record
2 Brant				312	46	30		388	23-Year Low
Cackling Goose			CW					CW	
3 Canada Goose	538	786	1128	2415	2332	1280	69	8548	

4	Mute Swan	2	1		9		9			21
5	Wood Duck		7	19						26
6	Northern Shoveler			4	4	2	1			11
7	Gadwall		2	2	76	25	66			171
8	American Wigeon				8		12			20
9	Mallard	65	260	186	209	198	166	25		1109
	<i>mallard hybrid</i>				1		1			2
10	American Black Duck	11	23	6	204	121	91			456
11	Northern Pintail						1			1
12	Green-winged Teal (Am.)		13			1	5			19
13	Canvasback	CW			2	1	CW			3
14	Redhead	1		CW			CW			1
15	Ring-necked Duck	1		1		28	CW			30
16	Greater Scaup	1			861	272	189	280		1603
17	Lesser Scaup				57	8	9			74
	<i>scaup, sp.</i>				44	5				49
18	Surf Scoter				15					15
19	White-winged Scoter				3		CW	1		4
20	Long-tailed Duck				28	33	145			206
21	Bufflehead	1			615	92	217	73		998
22	Common Goldeneye				10		1	6		17
23	Hooded Merganser		41	6	8	34	65			154
24	Common Merganser	5	165			1	6			177
25	Red-breasted Merganser			2	156	30	58	7		253
26	Ruddy Duck	16	5	31	5	2	1	26		86
27	Wild Turkey	8	14		8	1	26			57
28	Ring-necked Pheasant					1				1
29	Pied-billed Grebe		1							1
30	Horned Grebe				3	1	1	11		16
31	Rock Pigeon	54	339	288	762	102	28	5		1578
32	Mourning Dove	87	82	154	120	166	92	88		789
33	American Coot	1	4							5
34	Killdeer		2		4	6	3			15
35	Purple Sandpiper					4	3			7
36	Bonaparte's Gull	1								1
37	Laughing Gull					1				1
38	Ring-billed Gull	90	410	78	754	411	146	25		1914
39	Herring Gull	9	27	28	549	432	330	30		1405
	Iceland Gull				CW					CW
40	Lesser Black-backed Gull				1	1				2
41	Great Black-backed Gull	6	13	2	65	16	57			159
	<i>gull, sp</i>		8							8
42	Red-throated Loon	CW				3	4			7
43	Common Loon				18	8	18			44
	Northern Gannet						CW			CW
44	Great Cormorant				9	9	17	1		36

70-Year Low

New All Time Low

21st Count record

45	Double-crested Cormorant			2	24	3	2			31
46	Great Blue Heron	4	5	4	18	18	50			99
47	Black-crowned Night-Heron						1			1
48	Black Vulture	3	2	3						8
49	Turkey Vulture	10	4	5	4	9	7			39
50	Osprey						1			1
51	Northern Harrier				1					1
52	Sharp-shinned Hawk		2	1	5	2	4	1		15
53	Cooper's Hawk	3	4	7	5	3	4	1		27
	<i>accipiter, sp.</i>				1					1
54	Bald Eagle	5	3	2	2	2	4			18
55	Red-shouldered Hawk	2	1	4		1	1			9
56	Red-tailed Hawk	11	16	17	20	11	14	3		92
57	Eastern Screech-Owl		2		1	1	1	3		8
58	Great Horned Owl		1		2	1	3	2		9
59	Barred Owl			1	2		1			4
60	Belted Kingfisher	1	1		5	1	3			11
61	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	4	6	21	10	3	7	1		52
62	Red-bellied Woodpecker	17	57	58	66	42	49	10		299
63	Downy Woodpecker	13	25	26	64	30	70	5		233
64	Hairy Woodpecker	8	10	11	16	12	12	6		75
65	Pileated Woodpecker		1	1			3			5
66	Northern Flicker		5	2	7	2	7	1		24
67	American Kestrel		2	4	4					10
68	Merlin	1		2	2		1			6
69	Peregrine Falcon			1	4	1	CW			6
70	Monk Parakeet				2	47				49
71	Blue Jay	54	165	201	275	123	179	12		1009
72	American Crow	8	29	29	32	19	26	7		150
73	Fish Crow	14	170	4	166	20	7			381
	<i>crow, sp</i>					70				70
74	Common Raven	3	11	3	10	3	2	2		34
75	Black-capped Chickadee	43	112	166	129	92	123	24		689
76	Tufted Titmouse	32	159	376	281	148	353	16		1365
77	Horned Lark					45				45
78	Ruby-crowned Kinglet			4	1	1	2	1		9
79	Golden-crowned Kinglet			3			4	1		8
80	Red-breasted Nuthatch			23	1	2	5	3		34
81	White-breasted Nuthatch	25	54	65	42	38	50	10		284
82	Brown Creeper	1	2	2	3	2		2		12
83	Winter Wren	5		2	5	1	4	5		22
84	Marsh Wren						1			1
85	Carolina Wren	18	30	18	36	32	52	20		206
86	European Starling	207	452	226	728	323	418	47		2401
87	Gray Catbird		1	1	1		1			4
88	Brown Thrasher		1		1					2

2nd Count record

High Count (46 in 2013)

High Count (1317 in 1995)

44-Year Low

89	Northern Mockingbird	8	22	26	48	18	20	6	148
90	Hermit Thrush		1	7	3	2	5		18
91	American Robin	23	172	286	116	38	178	22	835
92	Cedar Waxwing	1		2				1	4
93	House Sparrow	113	400	346	549	210	140	35	1793
94	House Finch	27	24	50	18	26	86	5	236
95	Pine Siskin					1			1
96	American Goldfinch	31	28	18	52	47	56	19	251
	Snow Bunting						CW		CW
97	Chipping Sparrow		CW		1				1
98	Field Sparrow		1		2		4		7
99	American Tree Sparrow		1		16	1	23		41
100	Fox Sparrow	2	3	14	44	41	9	13	126
101	Dark-eyed (Slate col.) Junco	125	322	272	94	446	335	105	1699
102	White-throated Sparrow	71	252	316	580	434	300	113	2066
103	Savannah Sparrow					1	1		2
104	Song Sparrow	91	84	28	146	118	177	7	651
105	Swamp Sparrow			2	13	1	21		37
106	Eastern Towhee			2	7		4	1	14
107	Yellow-breasted Chat						1		1
108	Red-winged Blackbird		1	4	28	5	10	1	49
109	Brown-headed Cowbird			4		1	5		10
110	Rusty Blackbird			14	6		1		21
111	Common Grackle	2	11	642	194	4	38		889
112	Boat-tailed Grackle					1			1
113	Northern Cardinal	36	68	65	90	51	55	20	385
114	Indigo Bunting		1						1

20th Count record

56-Year Low

2nd Count Record

5th Count record

	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Kings Point	
Number of Saves	2	2	0	3	5	6	0	
Number of Species	54	65	67	85	84	89	50	
Totals	1919	4927	5328	11318	6947	6020	1178	37635

CW = Seen count week but not on count day