



# 88th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count December 26, 2011

The Bronx-Westchester CBC has seen 224 different species of birds seen over its 88 year history.

[Summary](#) (updated up to 2011)  
[Return to the counts home page](#)

## Bronx-Westchester CBC Future Count Dates

Sunday December 26, 2021  
Monday December 26, 2022  
Saturday December 23, 2023  
Sunday December 22, 2024  
Sunday, December 28, 2025

The Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count found 39,320 birds and 115 species on Monday, December 26. The count set a new record with 93 participants. It was an interesting count. It had a split personality. Nine new high counts were offset by twelve common species with low numbers (20 or more year lows). American Tree Sparrow set an all time low for this 88 year count.

### Highlights:

A Greater White-fronted Goose in Van Cortlandt Park, The count's 2nd record (the 1st was in Harrison in 1981)

A Eurasian Wigeon reported from Premium Mill Pond, Larchmont

4 Surf Scoter off Rye

88 White-winged Scoter off Rye

A female Barrow's Goldeneye off City Island, The count's 3rd record

55 Northern Gannets, with 4 off City Island

9 Great Egret with 3 in Pelham Bay Park and a group of 6 together in Larchmont

7 Black Vulture with 6 over Lenoir Nature Preserve, Yonkers and one over New Rochelle, The count's 3rd record

8 Bald Eagles

9 Red-shouldered Hawks, a 41 year high

3 Merlin, 2 in Woodlawn Cemetery and one on City Island

A Clapper Rail in Otter Creek, Rye

17 Greater Yellowlegs with 7 in Five Island Park, New Rochelle & 8 along the LI sound shore in the Bronx

7 Razorbill, 1 off City Island and 6 off Rye, The count's 2nd record

4 Common Raven, pair in Riverdale and a pair Pelham Bay Park

1 House Wren

An Orange-crowned Warbler - Pelham Bay Park

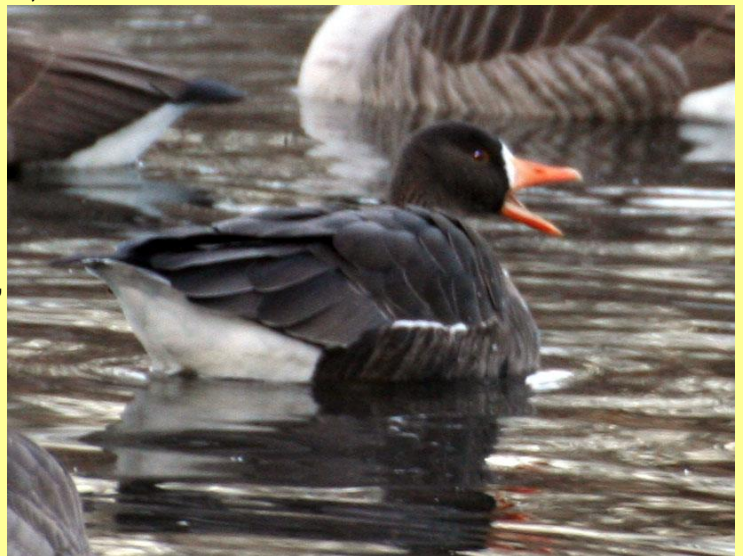
2 Palm Warbler near Split Rock in Pelham Bay Park

A Chipping Sparrow in Riverdale

A Saltmarsh Sparrow in Marshlands Conservancy

A White-crowned Sparrow in Bronx Botanical Gardens

Rusty Blackbirds in Pelham Bay Park and the Bronx Zoo



## New High Counts

- 81 Red-throated Loon (old high was 74 in 2002)
- 40 Common Loon (old high was 16 in 2002)
- 55 Northern Gannet (old high was 3 in 2007)
- 84 Double-crested Cormorant (old high was 80 in 2001)
- 9 Great Egret (old high was 3 in 2001)
- 7 Black Vulture (old high was 3 in 2003)
- 45 Turkey Vulture (old high was 31 in 2008)
- 8 Bald Eagle (old high was 4 in 2009)
- 17 Greater Yellowlegs (old high was 10 in 1988)
- 4 Common Raven (old high was 2 in 2007)

Low numbers were noted for Mute Swan, Ruddy Duck, Purple Sandpiper, Northern Flicker, American Crow (53 year low), Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Cedar Waxwing, American Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco and Northern Cardinal.

Notable misses included Snow Goose, Northern Pintail, Ring-necked Pheasant, Black-crowned Night Heron, Ruddy Turnstone, Dunlin, Field Sparrow, Brown-headed Cowbird & Purple Finch.

	Species	Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	Total	
1	Greater White-fronted Goose			1				1	2nd Count Record
2	Brant				758	797	464	2019	
3	Canada Goose	137	707	706	900	2203	645	5298	
4	Mute Swan		9		36	14	32	91	25 year low
5	Wood Duck		4	3		2		9	
6	Gadwall			4	67	46	79	196	
7	Eurasian Wigeon					1		1	
8	American Widgeon				12	102	129	243	
9	American Black Duck	12	9	14	273	142	348	798	
10	Mallard	47	61	382	108	604	286	1488	
	mallard hybrid						5	5	
11	Northern Shoveler					15		15	
12	Green-winged Teal (Am.)					44		44	
13	Canvasback		5				7	12	
14	Ring-necked Duck		16					16	
15	Greater Scaup				9332	32	221	9585	
16	Lesser Scaup						17	17	
	scaup, sp.						1500	1500	
17	Surf Scoter						4	4	
18	White-winged Scoter						88	88	
19	Long-tailed Duck					20	89	109	

20	Bufflehead		3	2	164	171	243		583	
21	Common Goldeneye				138	15	31		184	
22	<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>				1				1	3rd Count Record , seen in 1991& 92
23	Hooded Merganser	4	25	29	7	83	62		210	
24	Common Merganser		8				5		13	
25	Red-breasted Merganser				86	43	66		195	
26	Ruddy Duck		35	3	3	27			68	31 year low
27	Wild Turkey		19	2	1		37		59	
28	Red-throated Loon				13	16	52		81	New High Count (74 in 2002)
29	Common Loon		1		2	26	11		40	New High Count (16 in 2002)
30	Pied-billed Grebe		1	2		4			7	
31	Horned Grebe				9		3		12	
32	Northern Gannet				4	4	47		55	New High Count (3 in 2007)
33	Double-crested Cormorant	1	1		8	26	48		84	New High Count (80 in 2001)
34	Great Cormorant				20	2	20		42	
35	Great Blue Heron	1	2	3	11	4	14		35	
36	<b>Great Egret</b>				3	6			9	9th record; New High Count (3 in 2001)
37	<b>Black Vulture</b>		6			1			7	3rd record; New High Count (3 in 2003)
38	Turkey Vulture	4	20	5		10	6		45	New High Count (31 in 2008)
39	Bald Eagle								8	New High Count (4 in 2009)
	adult(s)	1	3	1			1			
	immature(s)		1				1			
	eagle, sp.	1							1	
40	Northern Harrier				4				4	
41	Sharp-shinned Hawk		3	2		3	CW		8	
42	Cooper's Hawk		1	6	3	4	2		16	
	accipiter, sp.					1			1	
43	Red-shouldered Hawk		2	2		1	4		9	41 year high
44	Red-tailed Hawk	10	22	22	21	24	23		122	
45	American Kestrel			1					1	
46	Merlin			2	1				3	
47	Peregrine Falcon		1	2	1	1	1		6	
48	Clapper Rail						1		1	
49	Virginia Rail						1		1	
50	American Coot		6				1		7	

51	Killdeer				8	5	CW		13	
52	Greater Yellowlegs				8	9			17	New High Count (10 in 1988)
53	Purple Sandpiper						3		3	36 year low
54	Wilson's Snipe					1	1		2	
55	American Woodcock				1				1	
56	Bonaparte's Gull						21		21	
	Laughing Gull						CW		CW	
57	Ring-billed Gull	125	776	89	507	590	331		2418	
58	Herring Gull	2	101	30	550	285	677		1645	
59	Great Black-backed Gull	4	10	1	30	12	55		112	
60	<b>Razorbill</b>				1	CW	6		7	2nd Count Record
61	Rock Pigeon	30	541	306	171	263	41		1352	
62	Mourning Dove	62	86	170	195	202	95		810	
63	Monk Parakeet				4				4	
64	Eastern Screech-Owl	5	2			2	1		10	
65	Great Horned Owl			1	3		4		8	
66	Belted Kingfisher		3	2	7	3	5		20	
67	Red-bellied Woodpecker	3	13	32	36	30	20		134	
68	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	1	5	1	3	1		12	
69	Downy Woodpecker	6	19	37	54	39	36		191	
70	Hairy Woodpecker		6	6	5	7	9		33	
71	Northern Flicker			2		3	2		7	33 year low
72	Pileated Woodpecker						1		1	
73	Blue Jay	2	34	111	111	50	45		353	
74	American Crow	40	24	32	27	56	52		231	53 year low
75	Fish Crow	1	1	1	15	53	2		73	
76	<b>Common Raven</b>			2	2				4	5th Record, New High Count (2 in 2007)
77	Black-capped Chickadee	2	19	29	11	53	53		167	44 year low
78	Tufted Titmouse	4	13	67	43	46	36		209	34 year low
79	Red-breasted Nuthatch			2	8				10	
80	White-breasted Nuthatch	4	13	37	15	25	18		112	
81	Brown Creeper			2		1			3	
82	Carolina Wren	12	9	6	9	14	33		83	
83	House Wren					1	CW		1	
84	Winter Wren	3		6	6	7	15		37	

85	Marsh Wren						2		2	
86	Golden-crowned Kinglet		1	9		1	3		14	
87	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1	2	1	1	1		6	
88	Hermit Thrush		1	2	3	4	4		14	
89	American Robin	13	34	257	76	108	123		611	
90	Gray Catbird		1	1	2	1	2		7	
91	Northern Mockingbird	7	10	25	14	16	13		85	
92	Brown Thrasher				2		1		3	
93	European Starling	360	479	380	319	186	509		2233	
94	Cedar Waxwing						1		1	34 year low
95	<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>				1				1	7th Count Record
96	Yellow-rumped Warbler						1		1	
97	Palm Warbler				2				2	
98	Eastern Towhee		1	1	7		1		10	
99	American Tree Sparrow	1	2		9	2	46		60	All Time Low !
100	Chipping Sparrow			1					1	
101	Savannah Sparrow				1		1		2	
102	Saltmarsh Sparrow						1		1	
103	Fox Sparrow			1	38		11		50	
104	Song Sparrow	24	23	48	36	64	131		326	
105	Swamp Sparrow				2	3	3		8	
106	White-throated Sparrow	77	48	409	81	187	232		1034	22 year low
107	White-crowned Sparrow			1					1	
108	Dark-eyed (Slate col.) Junco	33	79	158	17	88	96		471	35 year low
109	Northern Cardinal	33	21	39	43	62	60		258	28 year low
110	Red-winged Blackbird			3	82	2	18		105	
111	Rusty Blackbird			7	27				34	
112	Common Grackle			125		1			126	
113	House Finch	45	29	98	26	57	55		310	
114	American Goldfinch	7	34	55	60	45	12		213	
115	House Sparrow	273	296	513	113	371	203		1769	

CW = Seen count week but not on count day

		Hudson Valley	Yonkers	West Bronx	East Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye			
	Number of Saves	0	1	4	5	4	12			
	Number of Species	37	59	65	77	76	86		115	
	Totals	1397	3702	4305	1476	7453	7687		39320	

Next year's count will be Sunday, December 23, 2012.

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Other links

<http://www.thedailyscarsdale.com/neighbors/warmer-winter-leads-lower-christmas-bird-count>

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/01/03/crowd-sourced-science-112-years-and-counting/?scp=1&sq=yarnold%20dot%20earth&st=cse>