



Inland Regional News

Inland Bird Banding Association

Founded 1922

Annual Report of Birds Banded in the IBBA region, 2020

IBBA is providing banding totals for the region on an annual basis. This is intended to stimulate regional coordination of banding operations and to provide rudimentary information for researchers considering studies on species and where a target species may be located in the region. This report has been compiled by requesting data directly from the Bird Banding Laboratory (USGS Bird Banding Laboratory, unpublished data retrieved September 2021). Future reports will be compiled following BBL file updates that occur annually in August of the following calendar year.

Highlights for 2020 include a total of 270,490 (-14% from 2019) individuals of 347 (-5 from 2019) species or subspecies. Texas recorded the most species (203) followed by Illinois (178) and Ohio (167). Banders in Ohio banded the largest number of individuals (33,846) followed by Illinois (32,785), Michigan (23,966), and Minnesota (19,078). The lowest state banding total was Mississippi with 2,726. There were 335 (-8% from 2019) active permits in the IBBA region in 2020. Wisconsin and Texas had 41 permits each, followed by Minnesota 33 and Ohio 31 to lead the state/provincial jurisdictions. As might be expected the ten highest volume permits included five governmental agencies that have regulatory responsibility for hunted species of migratory birds. The largest volume of birds banded on a single permit reported 14,576 birds for 2020 (Table 1). The top ten species banded were heavy towards hunted species. Once again, the top non-hunted species was the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, indicating a major effort across the region on this bird group. Top ten species were: Wood Duck 24,765 (3 in 2019); Canada Goose 24,474 (1 in 2019); Mourning Dove 23,704 (2 in 2019); Mallard 18,891 (4 in 2019); Blue-winged Teal 14,716 (7 in 2019); Ruby-throated Hummingbird 14,336 (5 in 2019); Purple Martin 11,446 (6 in 2019); Northern Saw-whet Owl 7,403 (NA in 2019); Tree Swallow 5,995 (10 in 2019); and Eastern Bluebird 5,143 (NA in 2019). Twenty-four species were represented by one individual in 2019.

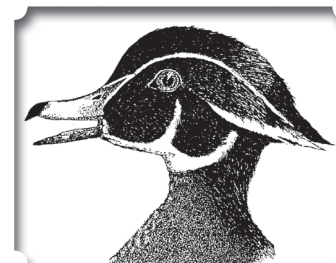
2020 was the first year under the continent-wide Covid-19 pandemic. Local to national shut downs and activity curtailments, greatly affected normal banding operations.

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From national agency scale banding programs to individual bander studies, human safety concerns and the expanding pandemic were reflected in the IBBA banding totals. The total new birds banded in 2020 were significantly lower than the past five year average of 346,261 (-22%). The total species banded also saw a 9% reduction from the five year average of 383. Many researchers will be dealing with data effects in long-term analysis for years to come.

A complete listing of numbers banded by species and state is included in Table 2.

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Wood Duck by Fred Hartman

Table 1.

Federal Permit Number	Total Bandings	State
20929	14,576	OH
7224	8,504	IL
6669	8,149	LA
6790	8,072	IA
8355	7,083	IL
23587	6,897	MI
23792	6,782	LA
23927	6,029	MN
5322	5,771	WI
3110	5,730	MI

Species	AL	AR	IL	IN	IA	KS	KY	LA	MI	MN	MS	MO	NE	ND	OH	OK	SD	TN	TX	WI	MB	SK	Grand Total	Top permits
Veery	8		51	2	1			1	48	111					47			19	3	8	3		302	23937-51;24165-25;23587-22
Gray-cheeked Thrush	10		86	6	4		2	1	92	9	1				191			59	1	5	1	16	484	20929-79;21624-60;23587-52
Swainson's Thrush	98	1	556	33	49	7	3	1	489	173	3	4			898	3	27	301	15	23	1	79	2764	20929-282;21776-264;23587-229;24057-229
Hermit Thrush	24	6	364		7	1		5	438	42	6	1			456			19	71	11		34	1485	23587-235;21624-217;23156-179
American Robin		1	654	206	21	27	2		295	35	6	2			340	4	11	83	11	78	4	144	1924	21422-247;08355-242;20261-192
Clay-colored Thrush																			71				71	22758-70;24234-1
Eastern Bluebird	273	1084	124	4	79		1	1	652	380	34	40	5		1786	20		249	142	254	15		5143	20929-831;23811-702;23587-473
Mountain Bluebird																			1		74	2	77	10767-74;10242-1;10816-1;20942-1
Scaly-breasted Munia	50																		7				57	24217-50;09415-7
Hybrid Passerine																			20				20	21999-18;24108-2
Active Permits	11	18	23	14	16	7	6	14	27	33	12	11	7	9	31	10	8	22	41	41	8	16	335	
Grand Total	5882	8562	32785	6844	10422	6879	4883	16693	23966	19078	2726	6668	4928	8874	33846	2314	14855	13507	15412	14297	8108	8981	270490	
Species in State	113	88	178	96	107	68	77	79	147	149	102	81	93	25	167	61	79	138	203	137	92	131	347	

Species Snapshot: Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

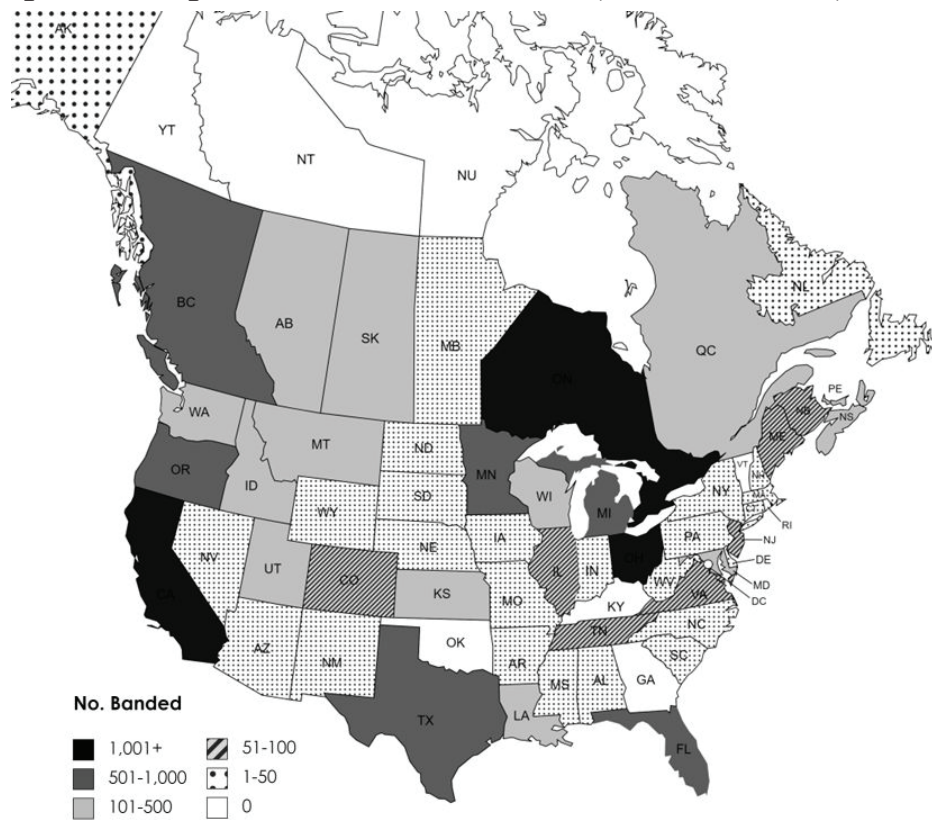


Figure 1. Geographic distribution of banding locations of Great Blue Herons in the United States and Canada between 1960 and Apr 2021. Not shown: Mexico, n = 71; Bahamas, n = 2; and Lesser Antilles, n = 1

This is the 12th installment in our regular feature presenting a brief synopsis of the banding and encounter records submitted to the Bird Banding Laboratory for a particular species. Each installment will feature a new species; suggestions for species to be covered or data to be presented

are welcome (swgabrey@gmail.com). Space limitations of **NABB** prohibit any in-depth analysis of the data and these notes are not meant to show any trends in population parameters such as population density or growth rate, geographic distribution, etc., and should not be viewed as a definitive analysis of the status of the species.