

2015 Christmas Bird Count

The Ottawa-Gatineau CBC was held on December 20, 2015. The mild conditions that preceded it led to a near record count.

The skies were variable and the wind speed ranged between 3 and 13 km/h; the temperature ranged from minus 8.5 to minus 2.5 C; waterways were open and there was less than 1 cm of snow on the ground. 133 observers in the field and 28 feeder watchers found 86 species, which is the second highest total ever (1984 recorded 89 species).

There were four first records: Greater White-fronted Goose, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, and Cape May Warbler; two second records: Horned Grebe and Golden Eagle; and one third record: American Wigeon. Six record highs were set in addition to the four new species found, and three other record highs were tied. Woodpecker numbers dropped from the record highs established last year; especially, Hairy Woodpecker. On the other hand, White-breasted Nuthatch and Dark-eyed Junco exceeded the record high counts that were set last year.

The total number of birds seen was 44,707, the second highest total ever. Over 60% of this total comprised two species: American Crow (13,985) and Canada Goose (13,970).

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Greater White-fronted Goose/ Oie rieuse	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Snow Goose/ Oie des neiges	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Cackling Goose/ Bernache de Hutchins	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Canada Goose/ Bernache du Canada	68	510	3,811	7,735	1,473	973	13,970*
Wood Duck/ Canard branchu	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
American Wigeon/ Canard d'Amérique	0	0	0	7	0	0	7
American Black Duck/ Canard noir	17	6	3	18	220	6	270
Mallard/ Canard colvert	119	112	91	357	1,203	270	2,066*
American Black Duck x Mallard/ Canard noir x colvert	0	0	0	0	(16)	0	(16)
Northern Shoveler/ Canard souchet	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Green-winged Teal/ Sarcelle d'hiver	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Greater Scaup/ Fuligule milouinan	0	2	0	1	0	0	2*
Lesser Scaup/ Petit Fuligule	0	4	0	3	0	0	4*
White-winged Scoter/ Macreuse brune	0	1	0	1	0	0	1*
Bufflehead Petit Garrot	1	4	0	1	4	0	5*

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Common Goldeneye/ Garrot à œil d'or	100	36	13	105	141	111	339*
Barrow's Goldeneye/ Garrot d'Islande	0	0	0	0	1	3	3*
Hooded Merganser/ Harle couronné	2	6	1	8	4	23	40*
Common Merganser/ Grand Harle	0	2	16	30	47	8	90*
Red-breasted Merganser/ Harle huppé	0	0	0	6	0	0	6
Ruffed Grouse/ Gélinotte huppée	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Wild Turkey/ Dindon sauvage	13	1	10	1	0	72	97
Common Loon/ Plongeon huard	0	1	0	4	0	2	6
Horned Grebe/ Grèbe esclavon	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Red-necked Grebe/ Grèbe jougris	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Bald Eagle/ Pygargue à tête blanche	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
Northern Harrier/ Busard Saint-Martin	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk/ Épervier brun	1	1	0	2	0	0	4
Cooper's Hawk/ Épervier de Cooper	4	2	1	2	2	4	15
Red-tailed Hawk/ Buse à queue rousse	0	0	2	2	3	3	10

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Rough-legged Hawk/ Buse pattue	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Golden Eagle/ Aigle royal	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Ring-billed Gull/ Goéland à bec cerclé	0	4	4	68	52	51	179
Herring Gull/ Goéland argenté	30	400	2	812	169	31	997*
Iceland Gull/ Goéland arctique	0	1	0	5	0	1	7
Glaucous Gull/ Goéland bourgmestre	0	1	0	3	3	0	7
Great Black-backed Gull/ Goéland marin	23	120	0	321	158	11	500*
Rock Pigeon/ Pigeon biset	171	18	420	193	569	464	1,835
Mourning Dove/ Tourterelle triste	23	4	11	11	17	6	72
Eastern Screech Owl/ Petit-duc maculé	1	0	0	1	2	1	5
Great Horned Owl/ Grand-duc d'Amérique	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Snowy Owl/ Harfang des neiges	0	1	0	1	1	2	5
Barred Owl/ Chouette rayée	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Northern Saw-whet Owl/ Petite Nyctale	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Belted Kingfisher/ Martin-pêcheur d'Amérique	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Downy Woodpecker/ Pic mineur	50	49	37	39	55	48	278
Hairy Woodpecker/ Pic chevelu	47	45	28	12	24	23	179
Northern Flicker/ Pic flamboyant	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pileated Woodpecker/ Grand Pic	11	10	11	3	13	10	58
Merlin/ Faucon émerillon	2	0	0	1	1	0	4
Peregrine Falcon/ Faucon pèlerin	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
Northern Shrike/ Pie-grièche grise	1	0	1	0	1	0	3
Blue Jay/ Geai bleu	79	87	50	5	28	23	272
American Crow/ Corneille d'Amérique	400	148	467	1,993	13,236	3,812	13,985*
Common Raven/ Grand Corbeau	28	18	24	9	31	14	124
Horned Lark/ Alouette hausse-col	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Black-capped Chickadee/ Mésange à tête noire	596	513	401	362	686	477	3,035
Red-breasted Nuthatch/ Sittelle à poitrine rousse	17	9	6	6	3	7	48
White-breasted Nuthatch/ Sittelle à poitrine blanche	105	93	66	57	92	102	515
Brown Creeper/ Grimpereau brun	6	3	5	7	2	3	26

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Winter Wren/ Troglodyte des forêts	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Carolina Wren/ Troglodyte de Caroline	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet/ Roitelet à couronne dorée	0	2	0	0	3	0	5
Swainson's Thrush/ Grive à dos olive	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hermit Thrush/ Grive solitaire	0	0	0	2	0	1	3
Wood Thrush/ Grive des bois	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
American Robin/ Merle d'Amérique	58	6	25	69	65	37	260
Northern Mockingbird/ Moqueur polyglotte	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
European Starling/ Étourneau sansonnet	160	149	391	232	596	111	1,639
Bohemian Waxwing/ Jaseur boréal	34	60	39	0	0	120	253
Cedar Waxwing/ Jaseur d'Amérique	1	0	0	42	0	7	50
Snow Bunting/ Plectropane des neiges	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Cape May Warbler/ Paruline tigrée	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler/ Paruline à croupion jaune	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
American Tree Sparrow/ Bruant hudsonien	16	14	16	2	0	7	55

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Song Sparrow/ Bruant chanteur	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Swamp Sparrow/ Bruant des marais	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
White-throated Sparrow/ Bruant à gorge blanche	17	4	4	4	5	5	39
Dark-eyed Junco/ Junco ardoisé	164	117	102	52	94	105	634
Northern Cardinal/ Cardinal rouge	100	92	65	43	74	117	491
Purple Finch/ Roselin pourpré	8	4	9	1	5	4	31
House Finch/ Roselin familier	108	70	46	26	46	65	361
Red Crossbill/ Bec-croisé des sapins	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Common Redpoll/ Sizerin flammé	0	0	0	5	5	19	29
Pine Siskin/ Tarin des pins	0	5	0	2	0	0	7
American Goldfinch/ Chardonneret jaune	256	219	156	131	165	206	1,133
House Sparrow/ Moineau domestique	56	12	104	36	192	185	585
Individuals/ Individus	2,898	2,971	6,443	12,858	19,513	7,557	44,707*
Species/ Espèces	43	48	39	67	46	49	86

	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Field observers/ Observateurs	24	20	20	26	26	18	133*
Parties/ Groups	10	9	8	10	11	7	55
Feeder watchers/ Observateurs aux mangeoires	4	4	6	7	3	4	28

* total adjusted to account for overlap

(#) = additional subspecies, race or variant; or a bird not identified to the species level or a hybrid that does not add to the total species count, etc.

Species in **Red** = first record

Species in **Pale Blue** = second record

Species in **Green** = third record

Total in **Red** = record high

Total in **Dark Blue** = ties record high