

Ottawa-Gatineau Christmas Bird Count 2022

The 104th Ottawa-Gatineau CBC was held December 18, 2022. Temperatures ranged from minus 7.5 to minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, with variable skies throughout the day.

146 field observers plus 28 feeder watchers found 77 species and a record high 50,851 individual birds. Highlights included 3 Northern Shovelers (only the fifth record), a Harlequin Duck, 2 Horned Grebes and a Red-necked Grebe, the sixth record for American Coot, 3 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, a Red-bellied Woodpecker and 2 American Three-toed Woodpeckers.

A record high was set for Cooper's Hawk (19). Record highs were tied for Merlin (7), Green-winged Teal (2), as well as for Northern Shoveler (3) Horned Grebe (2), American Coot (1), and Lesser Black-backed Gulls (3), Red-tailed Hawk (20) fell one short of a record high; on the other hand, Rough-legged Hawk was completely absent; many of the Red-tails were in urban settings.

A record high was also established for American Crow (the most abundant species on the count) with a roost estimated at 30,000. Thanks to Aaron Hywarren, Jamie Spence, and Marcel Gahbauer for their efforts counting crows.

Numbers for lingering diving ducks (both scaup, Hooded Merganser) and gulls were above average due to the weather conditions leading up to the count; however, the numbers were down for our resident winter diving ducks, Common Goldeneye and Common Merganser.

Numbers for woodpeckers and White-breasted Nuthatch appeared to be on a down cycle from the record highs that corresponded to the invasion of the Emerald ash borer a few years ago. Brown Creeper and Golden-crowned Kinglet numbers were also very low. Most of the winter finches were present but in very low numbers, with the exception of a total of 103 Evening Grosbeaks that was well above the 10-year average of 18.

Peregrine Falcon, Snowy Owl, and Winter Wren were observed during the count week but not on the count day itself.

The Ottawa-Gatineau Christmas Bird Count is a joint effort of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club (OFNC) and the Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais (COO). My thanks to the participants, the sector leaders, and especially my co-compiler, Daniel Toussaint of the COO.

Bernie Ladouceur

RON / CBC Ottawa-Gatineau 2022 Espèces / Species	Hull	Aylmer	Gatineau	Britannia	Ottawa	Gloucester	Total
Canada Goose/ Bernache du Canada	4	15	70	9	87	1,412	1,597
Wood Duck/ Canard branchu	0	0	0	0	3	1	4
Northern Shoveler/ Canard souchet	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Mallard/ Canard colvert	40	341	19	309	1,069	344	2,122
American Black Duck/ Canard noir	11	22	4	14	40	11	102
American Black Duck X Mallard/ Canard noir X Canard colvert	0	[1]	0	0	0	0	[1]
Green-winged Teal/ Sarcelle d'hiver	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Greater Scaup/ Fuligule milouinan	0	4	0	1	0	1	5*
Lesser Scaup/ Petit Fuligule	0	3	0	1	1	1	5*
Harlequin Duck/ Arlequin plongeur	1	0	0	0	1	0	1*
Bufflehead/ Petit Garrot	1	3	0	5	0	0	6*
Common Goldeneye/ Garrot à œil d'or	112	144	0	47	71	154	414*
Barrow's Goldeneye/ Garrot d'Islande	0	0	0	0	0	2	2

Hooded Merganser/ Harle couronné	1	10	0	2	5	9	24*
Common Merganser/ Grand Harle	6	13	0	14	5	6	31*
Red-breasted Merganser/ Harle huppé	0	1	0	1	0	0	1*
Ruffed Grouse/ Gélinotte huppée	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Wild Turkey/ Dindon sauvage	52	2	41	1	30	27	153
Horned Grebe/ Grèbe esclavon	1	0	0	0	1	1	2*
Red-necked Grebe/ Grèbe jougris	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Rock Pigeon/ Pigeon biset	379	90	433	171	1,077	704	2,854
Mourning Dove/ Tourterelle triste	11	25	49	27	47	46	205
American Coot/ Foulque d'Amérique	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ring-billed Gull/ Goéland à bec cerclé	19	5	2	7	11	42	81*
Herring Gull/ Goéland argenté	40	51	4	855	45	60	989*
Iceland Gull/ Goéland arctique	0	1	1	14	0	2	17*
Lesser Black-backed Gull/ Goéland brun	0	0	0	3	0	0	3

Glaucous Gull/ Goéland bourgmestre	0	1	0	5	0	0	5*
Great Black-backed Gull/ Goéland marin	1	11	0	37	21	9	68*
Common Loon/ Plongeon huard	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
Great Blue Heron/ Grand Héron	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk/ Épervier brun	0	0	0	2	1	3	6
Cooper's Hawk/ Épervier de Cooper	4	1	4	2	6	2	19
Northern Goshawk/ Autour des palombes	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Bald Eagle/ Pygargue à tête blanche	0	1	0	0	0	3	4
Red-tailed Hawk/ Buse à queue rousse	2	2	1	2	3	10	20
Eastern Screech Owl/ Petit-duc maculé	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
Great Horned Owl/ Grand-duc d'Amérique	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Barred Owl/ Chouette rayée	0	1	0	1	0	1	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker/ Pic à ventre roux	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
American Three-toed Woodpecker/ Pic à dos rayé	0	0	0	0	2	0	2

Downy Woodpecker/ Pic mineur	22	37	28	28	60	32	207
Hairy Woodpecker/ Pic chevelu	19	26	20	16	35	22	138
Pileated Woodpecker/ Grand Pic	8	10	7	4	3	5	37
Northern Flicker/ Pic flamboyant	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Merlin/ Faucon émerillon	1	1	2	1	1	1	7
Northern Shrike/ Pie-grièche boréale	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Blue Jay/ Geai bleu	33	42	42	17	56	43	233
American Crow/ Corneille d'Amérique	195	339	300	8,350	982	30,000	30,000**
Common Raven/ Grand Corbeau	19	33	45	9	25	13	144
Black-capped Chickadee/ Mésange à tête noire	343	469	393	242	560	391	2,398
Golden-crowned Kinglet/ Roitelet à couronne dorée	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Red-breasted Nuthatch/ Sittelle à poitrine rousse	6	4	3	3	22	7	45
White-breasted Nuthatch/ Sittelle à poitrine blanche	50	84	56	47	106	74	417
Brown Creeper/ Grimpereau brun	1	1	1	2	0	2	7

Carolina Wren/ Troglodyte de Caroline	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
European Starling/ Étourneau sansonnet	209	241	329	337	1,077	557	2,750
Hermit Thrush/ Grive solitaire	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
American Robin/ Merle d'Amérique	79	109	13	87	130	64	482
Bohemian Waxwing/ Jaseur boréal	189	426	384	33	27	336	1,395
Cedar Waxwing/ Jaseur d'Amérique	0	4	0	31	33	1	69
House Sparrow/ Moineau domestique	111	26	135	107	455	130	964
Evening Grosbeak/ Gros-bec errant	10	20	13	6	4	50	103
Pine Grosbeak/ Durbec des sapins	1	0	0	0	0	9	10
House Finch/ Roselin familier	60	90	87	46	132	87	502
Purple Finch/ Roselin pourpré	0	4	1	0	0	1	6
Common Redpoll/ Sizerin flammé	0	0	5	0	0	3	8
Red Crossbill/ Bec-croisé des sapins	0	0	0	2	2	0	4
Pine Siskin/ Tarin des pins	0	0	0	10	1	0	11

American Goldfinch/ Chardonneret jaune	136	159	136	89	166	146	832
Snow Bunting/ Plectrophane des neiges	1	5	0	51	3	53	113
American Tree Sparrow/ Bruant hudsonien	6	0	23	2	8	29	68
Dark-eyed Junco/ Junco ardoisé	41	71	52	42	95	67	368
White crowned Sparrow/ Bruant à couronne blanche/	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
White-throated Sparrow/ Bruant à gorge blanche	8	1	2	1	3	11	26
Song Sparrow/ Bruant chanteur	1	1	0	3	0	0	5
Common Grackle/ Quiscale bronze	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Northern Cardinal/ Cardinal rouge	124	105	82	117	167	128	723
Individuals/ Individus	2,363	3,064	2,788	11,217	6,683	35,124	50,851*
Species/ Espèces	46	53	36	54	49	58	77

Field observers/ Observateurs	24	20	18	29	33	24	146*
Parties	13	11	11	14	24	13	86
Feeder watchers/ Observateurs aux mangeoires	2	1	9	8	4	4	28

*Adjusted for overlap

**Number based exclusively on roost count

[#] not included in the total species count

Red indicates a record high

Orange indicates ties a record high