

Summary of Highest Counts of Individuals for Canada

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A record 303 species were reported from Canadian Christmas Bird Counts this year; another five were seen only in count week. A Lazuli Bunting seen at Cape Sable Island, NS, was new to the all-time count list for Canada. All-time high counts were set or tied for a further 40 species, shown in boldface numbers below. Seventy species, italicized in the following report, were high counts for all of North America this year. As usual, most high counts (157) were from British Columbia; Ontario tallied 83 and Nova Scotia 32. Victoria, BC, was tops among circles with 37 high counts while Ladner, BC, had 20.

Greater White-fronted Goose 123 (BC, Sooke), Snow Goose **61,699** (QC, St-Jean-sur-le-Richelieu), Snow Goose (blue form) 4 (ON, St. Clair N.W.A.), Ross's Goose 2 (ON, Blenheim), Brant 2441 (BC, Ladner), Cackling Goose **4971** (BC, Chilliwack), Canada Goose 27,315 (ON, Kingston), Mute Swan 624 (ON, Presqu'île P.P.), Trumpeter Swan 2057 (BC, Chilliwack), Tundra Swan 5821 (ON, Blenheim), Wood Duck 402 (BC, Chilliwack), Gadwall 1509 (ON, Long Point), Eurasian Wigeon 37 (BC, Ladner), *American Wigeon* **58,860** (BC, Ladner), American Black Duck 6280 (QC, Tadoussac), Mallard 19,148 (BC, Ladner), Blue-winged Teal 3 (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth), Cinnamon Teal 1 (BC, White Rock), Northern Shoveler 714 (BC, Abbotsford-Mission), Northern Pintail 21,496 (BC, Ladner), Green-winged Teal 3589 (BC, Ladner), Eurasian Green-winged Teal 5 (NL, St. Johns), Canvasback 16,903 (ON, St. Clair N.W.A.), Redhead 6004 (ON, Long Point), Ring-necked Duck 465 (BC, Chilliwack), *Tufted Duck* 22 (NL, St. Johns), *Greater Scaup* 29,932 (ON, Prince Edward Point), Lesser Scaup 2358 (ON, Long Point), King Eider 2

(NL, Cape Race), Common Eider 4500 (PE, East Point), Harlequin Duck 273 (BC, Deep Bay), *Surf Scoter* **12,216** (BC, Lower Howe Sound), White-winged Scoter 927 (BC, Comox), Black Scoter 1450 (PE, East Point), Long-tailed Duck 21,954 (ON, Hamilton), Bufflehead 1602 (BC, Victoria), Common Goldeneye 3062 (AB, Calgary), Barrow's Goldeneye 1781 (BC, Sunshine Coast), Hooded Merganser 432 (BC, Victoria), Common Merganser 5956 (ON, St. Thomas), *Red-breasted Merganser* **35,803** (ON, Oshawa), Ruddy Duck 902 (BC, Duncan).

Chukar 32 (BC, Kamloops), *Gray Partridge* 125 (AB, Calgary), *Ring-necked Pheasant* 525 (QC, St-Anne-du-Lac), Ruffed Grouse 35 (ON, Algonquin P.P.), Spruce Grouse 9 (NT, Hay River), *Willow Ptarmigan* 252 (NT, Yellowknife), Rock Ptarmigan 5 (NU, Arctic Bay), White-tailed Ptarmigan 4 (BC, Mackenzie), Dusky Grouse 1 (BC, Bridesville, Hat Creek, Nelson, Oliver-Osoyoos), Sooty Grouse 1 (BC, Pender Islands, Sidney-South Saltspring), Sharp-tailed Grouse 114 (MB, Gimli), Wild Turkey 375 (ON, Carleton Place), California Quail 2180 (BC, Penticton), Red-throated Loon 198 (BC, Rose Spit), Pacific Loon 1224 (BC, Parksville-Qualicum Beach), Common Loon 102 (BC, White Rock), *Yellow-billed Loon* 17 (BC, Hecate Strait), Pied-billed Grebe 33 (BC, Chilliwack), Horned Grebe 253 (BC, Victoria), Red-necked Grebe 108 (BC, Victoria), Eared Grebe 8 (BC, White Rock), Western Grebe 546 (BC, Skidegate Inlet), Northern Fulmar 35 (BC, Juan de Fuca), *Cory's Shearwater* **1** (NS, Louisbourg), *Great Shearwater* **3** (NS, White Point), *Short-tailed Shearwater* **9** (BC, Rose Spit), *Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel* **1** (BC, Juan de Fuca), Northern Gannet 98 (NS, Brier Island),

American White Pelican **5** (SK, Gardiner Dam), Brown Pelican 1 (BC, Juan de Fuca), Brandt's Cormorant 887 (BC, Vancouver), Double-crested Cormorant 470 (BC, Victoria), Great Cormorant 161 (NS, Glace Bay), *Pelagic Cormorant* 460 (BC, Bamfield), American Bittern 5 (BC, Ladner), Great Blue Heron (Blue form) 212 (BC, Ladner), Cattle Egret 1 (NS, Yarmouth), Green Heron 4 (BC, Chilliwack), Black-crowned Night-Heron 7 (ON, Toronto).

Black Vulture **6** (ON, Niagara Falls), Turkey Vulture **45** (NS, Yarmouth), Osprey 1 (ON, West Elgin), *Bald Eagle* **1835** (BC, Harrison River), Northern Harrier 101 (BC, Ladner), Sharp-shinned Hawk 16 (BC, Chilliwack), Cooper's Hawk 38 (BC, Victoria), Northern Goshawk 6 (AB, Calgary), Red-shouldered Hawk 2 (ON, Woodhouse Township), Broad-winged Hawk 1 (ON, Caledon; NB, Grand Manan Island; PE, Hillsborough), Red-tailed Hawk 141 (BC, White Rock), Red-tailed (Harlan's) Hawk **3** (BC, Pitt Meadows; BC, Kelowna), Rough-legged Hawk 75 (ON, Linwood), Golden Eagle 9 (AB, Nanton), American Kestrel 24 (ON, Fisherville), *Merlin* **30** (BC, Victoria), *Gyr Falcon* **2** (AB, Calgary, NT, Yellowknife), *Peregrine Falcon* **24** (BC, Ladner), Prairie Falcon **7** (AB, Medicine Hat).

Virginia Rail 34 (BC, Nanaimo), Sora 1 (BC, Pitt Meadows, Victoria), Common Gallinule **1** (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth), American Coot 3580 (ON, Long Point), Sandhill Crane **443** (ON, Long Point), Black-bellied Plover 2134 (BC, Ladner), Semipalmated Plover 4 (BC, Cortes Island), Killdeer 44 (BC, Victoria), Black Oystercatcher 157 (BC, Skidegate Inlet), Spotted Sandpiper 4 (BC, Pender Islands), Greater Yellowlegs 39 (BC, White Rock), Willet 1 (BC, Ladner), Lesser Yellowlegs 1 (NS, Cape Sable Island),

Long-billed Curlew **1** (BC, White Rock), Marbled Godwit 6 (BC, White Rock), Ruddy Turnstone 6 (BC, Lasqueti Island), Black Turnstone 271 (BC, Campbell River), *Surfbird* 272 (BC, Bamfield), Sanderling 607 (BC, Rose Spit), Western Sandpiper 20 (BC, Ladner), Least Sandpiper 1 (BC, Greater Masset), White-rumped Sandpiper 1 (NL, Cape Race), Purple Sandpiper 111 (NL, Cape Race), Rock Sandpiper 1 (BC, Bamfield, Pender Harbour, Skidegate Inlet, Sunshine Coast), *Dunlin* 50,556 (BC, Ladner), Long-billed Dowitcher 54 (BC, Vancouver), Wilson's Snipe 17 (BC, Victoria), American Woodcock 1 (ON, Long Point, Kingston).

Franklin's Gull **1** (ON, Hamilton, Sault Ste. Marie), *Little Gull* 6 (ON, Long Point), *Black-headed Gull* 70 (NL, St. Johns), Bonaparte's Gull 4342 (ON, Point Pelee), Mew Gull 2354 (BC, Powell River), Ring-billed Gull **33,522** (ON, West Elgin), California Gull 239 (BC, Vancouver), Herring Gull 8210 (ON, Ingersoll), *Thayer's Gull* 1689 (BC, Parksville-Qualicum Beach), *Iceland Gull* 1874 (NL, Corner Brook), *Kumlien's Gull* 3242 (NL, St. Johns), Lesser Black-backed Gull 13 (NL, St. Johns), Western Gull 67 (BC, Nanaimo), *Glaucous-winged Gull* 40,563 (BC, Ladner), Glaucous Gull 228 (NL, St. Johns), *Great Black-backed Gull* 4403 (NL, St. Johns), *Black-legged Kittiwake* 4681 (NS, Brier Island), skua sp. 1 (NS, Louisbourg), Pomarine Jaeger **1** (ON, Oshawa; NS, Brier Island), *Dovekie* 355 (NL, Cape Race), Common Murre 2017 (BC, Hecate Strait), *Thick-billed Murre* 9 (BC, Hecate Strait), *Razorbill* 3556 (NS, Brier Island), *Black Guillemot* 335 (NU, Chesterfield Inlet), Pigeon Guillemot 323 (BC, Victoria), Marbled Murrelet 201 (BC, Sunshine Coast), *Ancient Murrelet* **21,420** (BC, Sunshine Coast), Cassin's Auklet 1 (BC, Juan de Fuca), Rhinoceros Auklet 52 (BC, Juan de Fuca), *Atlantic Puffin* 10 (NS, Brier Island), Tufted Puffin 1 (BC, Sunshine Coast).

Rock Pigeon 6618 (BC, Vancouver), Band-tailed Pigeon 9 (BC, Ladner), Eurasian Collared-Dove 165 (BC, Chilliwack), Mourning Dove 1209 (ON, Fisherville), Barn Owl 7 (BC, Ladner), Western Screech-Owl 3 (BC, Victoria), Eastern Screech-Owl 40 (ON, Woodhouse Township), Great Horned Owl 20 (BC, Penticton), *Snowy Owl* 45 (SK, Regina), *Northern Hawk Owl* 6 (AB, Opal), *Northern Pygmy-Owl* 6 (BC, Lillooet), Barred Owl **17** (NS, Lunenburg), *Great Gray Owl* 3 (AB, Cochrane Wildlife Reserve), Long-eared Owl 11 (ON, Peel-Halton Counties), Short-eared Owl 10 (BC, Ladner), Boreal Owl 1 (AB, Edmonton; ON, Nipigon-Red Rock), Northern Saw-whet Owl 4 (BC, Nanaimo; NS, Lunenburg), Anna's Hummingbird **1063** (BC, Victoria), Costa's Hummingbird **1** (BC, Vancouver), Rufous Hummingbird 1 (ON, Eganville), Belted Kingfisher 35 (BC, Galiano-North Saltspring), Lewis's Woodpecker 1 (BC, Grand Forks), Red-headed Woodpecker 5 (ON, Kettle Point), Red-bellied Woodpecker **104** (ON, London), Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1 (AB, Edmonton; NB, Blacks Harbour; ON, Cedar Creek, Kingston, Oshawa, Presqu'ile P.P., St. Catharines, St. Thomas), Red-naped Sapsucker 1 (BC, Victoria), Red-breasted Sapsucker 12 (BC, Duncan), Downy Woodpecker 303 (ON, Toronto), Hairy Woodpecker 134 (ON, Ottawa-Gatineau), *American Three-toed Woodpecker* 15 (BC, Apex-Hedley), *Black-backed Woodpecker* 9 (ON, Algonquin P.P.), Northern Flicker **607** (BC, Victoria), Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker 475 (BC, Penticton), Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker 87 (NL, St. Johns), Pileated Woodpecker 56 (BC, Victoria).

Empidonax sp. 1 (NS, Antigonish), Eastern Phoebe 1 (ON, Long Point), Loggerhead Shrike 1 (ON, Port Burwell-Vienna), *Northern Shrike* 15 (ON, Ottawa-Gatineau), White-eyed Vireo **1** (ON, Cedar Creek, Long Point), Hutton's Vireo 16 (BC, Galiano-North Saltspring), Gray Jay 84 (AB, Sheep

River), Steller's Jay 270 (BC, Chilliwack), Blue Jay 848 (NS, Wolfville), Clark's Nutcracker 219 (BC, Princeton), *Black-billed Magpie* 2384 (AB, Calgary), American Crow 110,158 (ON, St. Clair N.W.A.), *Northwestern Crow* 23,433 (BC, Vancouver), *Common Raven* **2221** (NT, Yellowknife), *Sky Lark* 25 (BC, Victoria), Horned Lark 485 (ON, Cedar Creek), Barn Swallow 1 (BC, Vancouver), *Black-capped Chickadee* 3744 (AB, Edmonton), Mountain Chickadee 446 (BC, Bridesville), *Chestnut-backed Chickadee* **2294** (BC, Victoria), Boreal Chickadee 94 (AB, Cochrane Wildlife Reserve), Tufted Titmouse 22 (QC, Otterburn Park), Bushtit 1703 (BC, Victoria), Red-breasted Nuthatch 521 (ON, Algonquin P.P.), White-breasted Nuthatch 489 (MB, Winnipeg), Pygmy Nuthatch 321 (BC, Princeton), *Brown Creeper* 137 (BC, Victoria).

Rock Wren 2 (BC, Lake Country), Canyon Wren 18 (BC, Oliver-Osoyoos), Carolina Wren 44 (ON, Hamilton), *Bewick's Wren* **365** (BC, Victoria), House Wren 1 (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth, ON, St. Catharines), Winter Wren 8 (ON, Toronto), *Pacific Wren* 445 (BC, Victoria), Marsh Wren 47 (BC, Victoria), *American Dipper* 71 (BC, Lillooet), *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 2004 (BC, Victoria), Ruby-crowned Kinglet 349 (BC, Victoria), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher **1** (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth; ON, Hamilton), Eastern Bluebird 88 (ON, St. Catharines), Western Bluebird 54 (BC, Penticton), Mountain Bluebird 1 (BC, Oliver-Osoyoos; NS, Glace Bay), Townsend's Solitaire 39 (BC, Hat Creek), Hermit Thrush 30 (BC, Victoria), American Robin 13,068 (BC, Victoria), *Varied Thrush* 1018 (BC, Victoria), Gray Catbird 2 (ON, Niagara Falls), Northern Mockingbird 40 (ON, St. Catharines, Toronto), Brown Thrasher 1 (ON, Cambridge, Niagara Falls, Renfrew, Toronto; QC, Longueuil), European Starling 29,153 (ON, Niagara Falls), American Pipit 40 (ON, Long Point), *Bohemian Waxwing*

19,593 (AB, Calgary), Cedar Waxwing 1068 (ON, Belleville), Orange-crowned Warbler 6 (BC, Ladner; NS, Halifax-Dartmouth), Northern Parula **1** (NB, Fredericton; NS, Halifax-Dartmouth, Yarmouth), Yellow Warbler 1 (ON, Long Point), Cape May Warbler 1 (NL, St. Johns), Black-throated Blue Warbler 1 (BC, Penticton), Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler 3 (BC, Oliver-Osoyoos, Pender Islands), Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler 74 (NS, Cape Sable Island), Townsend's Warbler 4 (BC, Victoria), Pine Warbler 5 (NS, Yarmouth), Palm Warbler 1 (ON, Toronto), Black-and-white Warbler 1 (NS, The Sydneys), Ovenbird **1** (NS, Broad Cove), Common Yellowthroat 1 (BC, Harrison River; ON, Blenheim, Oshawa, St. Clair N.W.A., Toronto), Wilson's Warbler 1 (BC, Kelowna, Nakusp; ON, Hamilton), *Yellow-breasted Chat* **17** (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth), Western Tanager **1** (BC, Lillooet).

Spotted Towhee **1247** (BC, Victoria), Eastern Towhee 3 (ON, St. Thomas), American Tree Sparrow 1301 (ON, Long Point), Chipping Sparrow 7 (ON, Sutton), Clay-colored Sparrow **4** (AB, Lac La Biche), Field Sparrow 26 (ON, Port Burwell-Vienna), Savannah Sparrow 26 (BC, Victoria), Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow 1 (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth), Grasshopper Sparrow **1** (NB, Grand Manan Island), *Fox Sparrow* 899 (BC, Victoria), (Red) Fox Sparrow 1 (BC, McBride), *Song Sparrow* 1660 (BC, Vancouver), Lincoln's Sparrow **137** (BC, Victoria), Swamp Sparrow 61 (ON, Long Point), White-throated Sparrow 124 (ON, Niagara Falls), Harris's Sparrow 2 (AB, Calgary; ON, Marathon), White-crowned Sparrow 596 (BC, Abbotsford-Mission), Golden-crowned Sparrow **1492** (BC, Victoria), *Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco* 4756 (BC, Victoria), Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco 1572 (NL, St. Johns), Lapland Longspur 259 (ON, Alfred-Montebello), *Snow Bunting* 13,932 (ON, Linwood), Northern Cardinal **882** (ON, London), Rose-breasted Grosbeak

1 (ON, Hamilton), **Lazuli Bunting** 1 (NS, Cape Sable Island), Indigo Bunting 1 (NS, Lunenburg).

Red-winged Blackbird 8395 (ON, Long Point), Eastern Meadowlark 17 (ON, Blenheim), Western Meadowlark 74 (BC, White Rock), Yellow-headed Blackbird 1 (BC, Chilliwack, Ladner), Rusty Blackbird 182 (ON, Port Burwell-Vienna), Brewer's Blackbird 996 (BC, Victoria), Common Grackle 1000 (ON, West Elgin), Brown-headed Cowbird 3579 (ON, St. Clair N.W.A.), Baltimore Oriole 11 (NS, Halifax-Dartmouth),

Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch 84 (BC, Oliver-Osoyoos), *Pine Grosbeak* 862 (AB, Calgary), *Purple Finch* 505 (BC, Victoria), Cassin's Finch 16 (BC, Golden), House Finch 1856 (BC, Oliver-Osoyoos), *Red Crossbill* 800 (BC, Whistler), *White-winged Crossbill* 1129 (AB, Calgary), *Common Redpoll* 2134 (AB, Beaverlodge), *Hoary Redpoll* 116 (NT, Yellowknife), *Pine Siskin* 4655 (BC, Whistler), *American Goldfinch* 1739 (ON, Uxbridge), *Evening Grosbeak* 436 (ON, Nipigon-Red Rock), *House Sparrow* 6772 (MB, Winnipeg).



This Black-throated Blue Warbler at Penticton, British Columbia, was the only one reported in Canada this year and represented the fifth winter record for British Columbia. Photo/Laure Neish



Warm winter temperatures kept much of the Great Lakes open, and record numbers of waterfowl were reported in central Canada. The Oshawa, Ontario, count tallied an all-time Canadian high of 35,803 Red-breasted Mergansers. Photo/Ralph Hocken