



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada

# POPULATION STATUS OF CANADA'S MIGRATORY BIRDS

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS



Canada 

**Suggested citation for this document:** Environment and Climate Change Canada (2025) Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators: Population status of Canada's migratory birds. Consulted on *Month day, year*.  
Available at: [www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators/population-status-migratory-birds.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators/population-status-migratory-birds.html).

Cat. No.: En4-144/61-2025E-PDF  
ISBN: 978-0-660-75427-7  
Project code: EC25115

Unless otherwise specified, you may not reproduce materials in this publication, in whole or in part, for the purposes of commercial redistribution without prior written permission from Environment and Climate Change Canada's copyright administrator. To obtain permission to reproduce Government of Canada materials for commercial purposes, apply for Crown Copyright Clearance by contacting:

Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Public Inquiries Centre  
Place Vincent Massey Building  
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard  
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3  
Telephone: 1-800-668-6767  
Email: [ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca)

Photos: © Environment and Climate Change Canada

© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, represented by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, 2025

Aussi disponible en français

# CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

# POPULATION STATUS OF CANADA'S MIGRATORY BIRDS

**May 2025**

## **Table of Contents**

<b>Population status of Canada's migratory birds.....</b>	<b>5</b>
Key results .....	5
About the indicator.....	6
What the indicator measures.....	6
Why this indicator is important .....	6
Related Initiatives .....	6
Related indicators.....	7
Data sources and methods.....	7
Data sources .....	7
Methods.....	8
Recent changes.....	8
Caveats and limitations .....	8
Resources.....	8
References .....	8
<b>Annex .....</b>	<b>9</b>
Annex A. Data tables for the figures presented in this document .....	9

## List of Figures

Figure 1. Status of bird species listed in the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> in relation to population goals, Canada, 2022 .....	5
--	---

## List of Tables

Table A.1. Data for Figure 1. Status of bird species listed in the <i>Migratory Birds Convention Act</i> in relation to population goals, Canada, 2022.....	9
---	---

# Population status of Canada's migratory birds

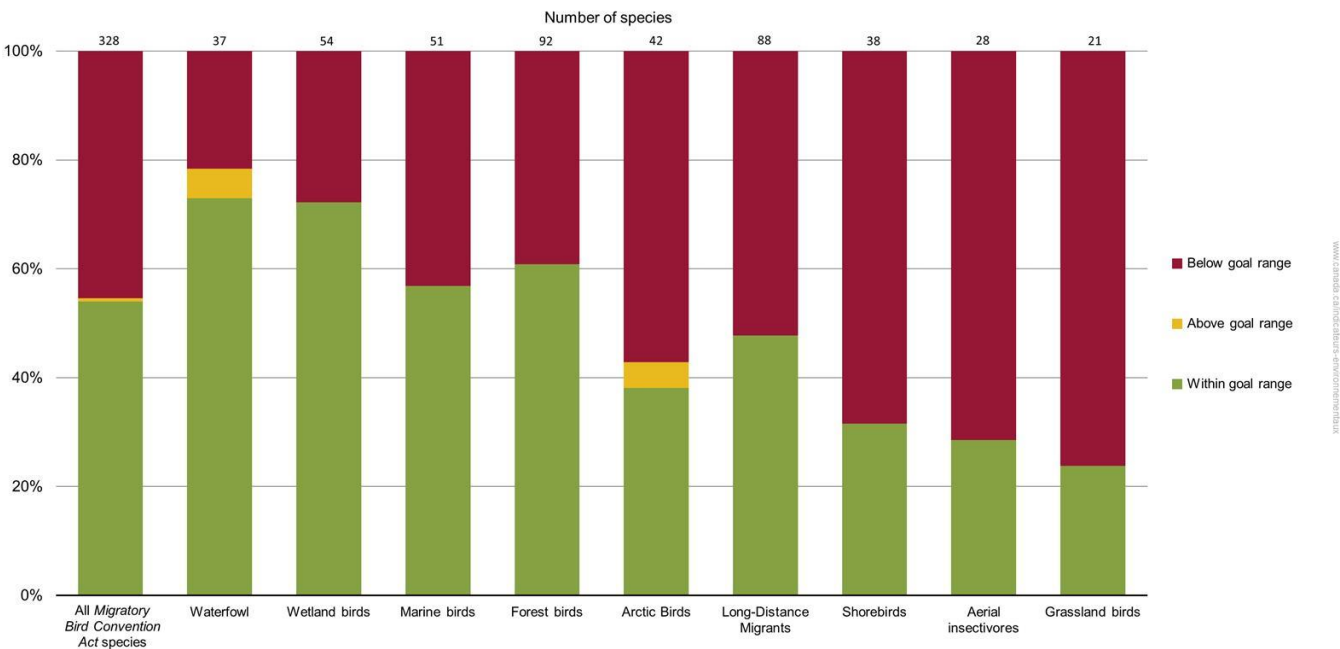
Birds perform important ecological functions such as controlling insect and rodent populations and dispersing seeds. They also provide opportunities for bird watching and hunting. This indicator reports the proportion of bird species listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* whose populations fall within their acceptable goal range and provides a snapshot of the general state of birds in Canada.<sup>1</sup> When species fall below their population goal range, that signals the need for more effective conservation action to help them recover, whereas species that are above their goal range can be destructive to their habitats and may require further management.

## Key results

In 2022, of the 328 bird species with adequate monitoring data:

- 54% had populations within their goal range
- waterfowl and wetland birds were the 2 groups with the highest proportion of populations within their goal ranges (73% and 72%, respectively)
- only 24% of grassland birds and 29% of aerial insectivores had populations within their goal ranges
- Only 2 species, Ross' goose and snow goose have populations above their goal ranges. These 2 species are found in both the waterfowl and Arctic birds groups.

**Figure 1. Status of bird species listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* in relation to population goals, Canada, 2022**



[Data for Figure 1](#)

**Note:** The grouping of bird species is the same as in the [State of Canada's Birds](#) but includes only birds listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*. Fifty-one (51) species have insufficient data to be assessed and are not included in the figure. Of the 328 species with adequate monitoring data, 164 species are included in more than one category based on their feeding and habitat requirements but are only included once in the total number of birds assessed. For example, species grouped in the feeding behaviour category "aerial insectivores" may also be included in the habitat grouping "forest birds". Some shorebird species data are only available up to 2019.

**Source:** Birds Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2024) [The State of Canada's Birds](#).

<sup>1</sup> All species that are listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and that regularly occur in Canada are considered.

Populations of waterfowl have greatly benefited from targeted conservation actions, such as the [North American Waterfowl Management Plan](#). Populations of some Arctic geese species (Ross's goose and snow goose) have increased to the point that they are now above their goal ranges and pose a potential risk to their habitats.<sup>2</sup> These species are found in both the waterfowl and Arctic birds groups. Of the Arctic bird species, 56% are below their population goal ranges. Marine birds and Arctic birds have the highest proportion of data deficient species that could not be assessed: 29 species and 18 species respectively. Reducing these data gaps is important to gaining a better understanding of the status of these groups, as well as determining the best way to help conserve them.<sup>3</sup>

## About the indicator

### What the indicator measures

The indicator reports the proportion of bird species listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* whose populations fall within or are above or below national population goals. It provides a snapshot assessment of the state of bird populations in Canada.

Some bird species are managed towards specific population levels (for example, some hunted species or species of conservation concern). While the indicator reports whether species' populations are within their goal ranges, it does not indicate if management goals are being met.

### Why this indicator is important

Birds are important to Canadians. Bird watching is a popular activity and millions of Canadians feed birds in their backyards.<sup>4</sup> Waterfowl hunting contributes to tourism, provides food and maintains traditions. Birds also provide ecological benefits by controlling insect and rodent populations, dispersing seeds, pollinating plants and playing other key roles in the functioning of ecosystems. These ecosystem services contribute to our economy and our well-being.

Bird populations fluctuate naturally in response to ecological conditions, but negative changes in bird populations reflect the overall effect of many different factors, including habitat loss, pollution, agricultural impacts, climate change, invasive species and hunting as well as other sources of direct mortality, such as collisions with windows and cat predation.

Because birds are sensitive to environmental changes, they can be used as an indicator of ecosystem health and the state of biodiversity. Tracking the status of Canada's birds can help identify the impact of these changes. Population goals are established to guide efforts to maintain and restore healthy populations of birds in Canada. When species' populations fall below their goal ranges, this flags the need for conservation action.

### Related Initiatives

This indicator supports the measurement of progress towards Goal 15 of the [2022 to 2026 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy](#): Protect and recover species, conserve Canadian biodiversity, supporting the target: "By 2030, increase the percentage of migratory bird species whose population sizes fall within an acceptable range—neither too low nor too high—to 70% from 57% in 2016."

This indicator contributes to the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#). It is linked to Target 4: "Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for

---

<sup>2</sup> Birds Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2024) [The State of Canada's Birds Report](#). Retrieved on December 20, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Birds Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2024) [The State of Canada's Birds Report](#). Retrieved on December 20, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada (2023) [Flocking to their houses in the suburbs](#). Retrieved January 23, 2025.

coexistence.” This is also linked to Target 21: “Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge, are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent, in accordance with national legislation.”

Conserving Canada's birds requires a range of actions. At the end of the 19th century, many species of North American birds had been hunted almost to extinction. Increasing awareness of their plight led to national and international protections, including the Migratory Birds Convention, signed by Canada and the United States in 1916. This convention has provided the foundation for nearly a century of international cooperation on bird conservation. Commercial harvesting of birds was banned, and regulations were enacted to promote sustainable recreational hunting in both countries. Many species, including herons, egrets and some waterfowl species, have recovered thanks to these protective measures. Creating and protecting habitat is essential for the survival of birds; not just in Canada, but also along migratory routes, in non-breeding ranges, and throughout the year. In addition, actions taken at the individual level can also help protect bird populations, such as keeping cats indoors and making windows safer, for example by putting up stickers to make them more visible to birds.

## Related indicators

The [Trends in Canada's bird populations](#) indicator reports average population trends of various groups of native Canadian bird species.

The [Status of wild species](#) indicator reports extinction risks across a broad set of species and can reveal early signs of trouble before species reach a critical condition.

The [Changes in the status of wildlife species at risk](#) indicator tracks changes in the status of species at risk assessed by the [Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada](#).

The [Canadian species index](#) indicator tracks average population trends for vertebrate species in Canada.

## Data sources and methods

### Data sources

Data on Canada's migratory bird species' populations draw from various monitoring programs that use a range of methods designed to survey different bird species or types of habitat.

#### More information

Many monitoring programs are designed by biologists but enlist the help of volunteers to collect data. Some volunteer programs, like the [North American Breeding Bird Survey](#), [Nocturnal Owl Surveys](#) and [Marsh Monitoring Surveys](#) take place during the breeding season. Other programs monitor birds during migration (for example, the [Canadian Migration Monitoring Network](#) and [Migration Program for Regional and International Shorebird Monitoring](#)) or in winter ([Christmas Bird Count](#) and [Project FeederWatch](#)). Checklist programs like [eBird](#) and [Étude des populations d'oiseaux du Québec](#) (in French only) encourage birders to record their observations every time they go birding. Other programs, such as surveys of breeding waterfowl, Arctic shorebirds and colonial seabirds, are conducted entirely by biologists.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service collates the data from many of these monitoring programs, often in collaboration with [Birds Canada](#) and [Ducks Unlimited Canada](#). Results are reported in the [State of Canada's Birds](#) reports.

Species are classified into taxonomic or ecological groups with similar habitat or feeding requirements; the groups used here are drawn from the [State of Canada's Birds 2024](#), though only those listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* are included here. All bird species are included in the "All *Migratory Bird Convention Act* species" category.

## Methods

The indicator summarizes the proportion of birds that regularly occur in Canada and are listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* whose populations fall within or outside their goal ranges. Goals indicate a level at which a given species' population is considered secure and are determined using the best available data and information.

### More information

Recognizing that bird populations vary naturally over time, some fluctuation around the goal is to be expected. The population goal framework defines lower limits for all species, but upper limits are only defined for a few species that could pose ecological concerns if they increase beyond a defined level.

The goal-setting framework has been applied to every species or management unit (for example, some regionally defined waterfowl or species-at-risk populations; hereafter all referred to as "species" for simplicity) that occurs in Canada, but only species-level assessments are reported here. For harvested species with defined management objectives and for species listed under the [Species At Risk Act](#) (SARA) based on small population size or restricted distribution, goals are adopted from the relevant documents (for example, from the North American Waterfowl Management Plan or from Species At Risk Recovery Strategies or Management Plans). For all other species, including those listed under SARA due to population declines, the population goal is set according to the goal-setting framework.

Prior to 2012, population goals did not exist for most bird species. Goals were established for these species, taking into account current, historical, and long-term average abundances; recent population trends; the amount of information available; reasons for SARA listing; whether full recovery to historical abundance is possible or not by 2050, given the severity of historical population declines; and the presence of ecological or societal concerns. Goals may be revised over time as new information becomes available.

## Recent changes

The specific groupings included have been updated to match the [State of Canada's Birds 2024 report](#). Individual species' assessments have also been updated and are available on the [Species accounts](#) website.

## Caveats and limitations

Species whose populations fall within their goal ranges may still be of conservation concern. Examples might include cases where trends are negative or where a species remains at the lower end of the goal range for several years. Similarly, if populations for a group of related species remains near the boundaries of their goal ranges, it may signal the need for management or conservation intervention at a larger scale. However, it is important to note that natural fluctuations do occur.

The indicator is restricted to species regularly occurring in Canada and listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*. While the act covers most groups of migratory birds, groups of species such as birds of prey and corvids (crows and jays) are not included. In addition, not all species in the act are migratory (such as, the downy woodpecker, American dipper, and Bewick's wren).

## Resources

### References

Birds Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2024) [The State of Canada's Birds](#). Retrieved on December 20, 2024.



## Annex

### Annex A. Data tables for the figures presented in this document

**Table A.1. Data for Figure 1. Status of bird species listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* in relation to population goals, Canada, 22**

Ecological group	Status in relation to population goal	Species	Species count
Waterfowl	Above goal range	Ross's goose, <sup>[A]</sup> snow goose <sup>[A]</sup>	2
Waterfowl	Within goal range	Barrow's goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> blue-winged teal, <sup>[A]</sup> brant, <sup>[A]</sup> bufflehead, <sup>[A]</sup> cackling goose, <sup>[A]</sup> Canada goose, <sup>[A]</sup> canvasback, <sup>[A]</sup> cinnamon teal, <sup>[A]</sup> common eider, <sup>[A]</sup> common goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> common merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> gadwall, <sup>[A]</sup> greater scaup, <sup>[A]</sup> greater white-fronted goose, <sup>[A]</sup> green-winged teal, <sup>[A]</sup> harlequin duck, <sup>[A]</sup> hooded merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> mallard, <sup>[A]</sup> northern shoveler, <sup>[A]</sup> red-breasted merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> redhead, <sup>[A]</sup> ring-necked duck, <sup>[A]</sup> ruddy duck, <sup>[A]</sup> surf scoter, <sup>[A]</sup> trumpeter swan, <sup>[A]</sup> tundra swan, <sup>[A]</sup> wood duck <sup>[A]</sup>	27
Waterfowl	Below goal range	American black duck, <sup>[A]</sup> American wigeon, <sup>[A]</sup> black scoter, <sup>[A]</sup> king eider, <sup>[A]</sup> lesser scaup, long-tailed duck, <sup>[A]</sup> northern pintail, <sup>[A]</sup> white-winged scoter <sup>[A]</sup>	8
Wetland birds	Within goal range	Alder flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> American avocet, <sup>[A]</sup> Barrow's goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> blue-winged teal, <sup>[A]</sup> Canada goose, <sup>[A]</sup> canvasback, <sup>[A]</sup> Caspian tern, <sup>[A]</sup> cinnamon teal, <sup>[A]</sup> common goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> common loon, <sup>[A]</sup> common merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> common yellowthroat, eared grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> gadwall, <sup>[A]</sup> great blue heron, green-winged teal, <sup>[A]</sup> hooded merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> horned grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> least bittern, mallard, <sup>[A]</sup> marsh wren, Nelson's sparrow, northern shoveler, <sup>[A]</sup> pied-billed grebe, redhead, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> ring-billed gull, ring-necked duck, <sup>[A]</sup> ruddy duck, <sup>[A]</sup> sandhill crane, sedge wren, sora, swamp sparrow, trumpeter swan, <sup>[A]</sup> Virginia rail, western grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> willet, <sup>[A]</sup> Wilson's phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> wood duck <sup>[A]</sup>	39
Wetland birds	Below goal range	American bittern, American black duck, <sup>[A]</sup> American coot, American wigeon, <sup>[A]</sup> black tern, <sup>[A]</sup> black-crowned night heron, California gull, <sup>[A]</sup> common gallinule, common tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Forster's tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Franklin's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> green heron, northern pintail, <sup>[A]</sup> spotted sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> willow flycatcher <sup>[A]</sup>	15
Wetland birds	Data deficient	Clark's grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> king rail, snowy egret, western cattle egret	4
Marine birds	Within goal range	Ancient murrelet, Atlantic puffin, Barrow's goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> black guillemot, brant, <sup>[A]</sup> bufflehead, <sup>[A]</sup> Caspian tern, <sup>[A]</sup> common eider, <sup>[A]</sup> common goldeneye, <sup>[A]</sup> common loon, <sup>[A]</sup> common murre, eared grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> greater scaup, <sup>[A]</sup> harlequin duck, <sup>[A]</sup> Heermann's gull, horned grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> Iceland gull, <sup>[A]</sup> lesser black-backed gull, Northern gannet, Pacific loon, <sup>[A]</sup> razorbill, red-breasted merganser, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> red-throated loon, <sup>[A]</sup> rhinoceros auklet, surf scoter, <sup>[A]</sup> thick-billed murre, <sup>[A]</sup> tufted puffin, western grebe <sup>[A]</sup>	29
Marine birds	Below goal range	Black scoter, <sup>[A]</sup> black tern, <sup>[A]</sup> black-legged kittiwake, California gull, <sup>[A]</sup> Cassin's auklet, common tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Forster's tern, <sup>[A]</sup> glaucous gull, <sup>[A]</sup> glaucous-winged gull, great black-backed gull, herring gull, ivory gull, <sup>[A]</sup> king eider, <sup>[A]</sup> Leach's storm-petrel, long-tailed duck, <sup>[A]</sup> marbled murrelet, <sup>[A]</sup> northern fulmar, pigeon guillemot, roseate tern, <sup>[A]</sup> western gull, white-winged scoter, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-billed loon <sup>[A]</sup>	22

Ecological group	Status in relation to population goal	Species	Species count
Marine birds	Data deficient	Arctic tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Bermuda petrel, black-footed albatross, black-headed gull, Buller's shearwater, Clark's grebe, <sup>[A]</sup> Cory's shearwater, dovekie, <sup>[A]</sup> flesh-footed shearwater, fork-tailed storm-petrel, great shearwater, great skua, horned puffin, laughing gull, Laysan albatross, long-tailed jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> Manx shearwater, parasitic jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> pink-footed shearwater, pomarine jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> red phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> Ross's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> Sabine's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> short-tailed albatross, short-tailed shearwater, sooty shearwater, south polar skua, Wilson's storm-petrel	29
Forest birds	Within goal range	Acadian flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> American redstart, <sup>[A]</sup> bay-breasted warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-and-white warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-backed woodpecker, blackburnian warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-capped chickadee, black-headed grosbeak, black-throated blue warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-throated green warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> blue-headed vireo, brown creeper, Cape May warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Cassin's vireo, chestnut-sided warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> dark-eyed junco, downy woodpecker, hairy woodpecker, Hammond's flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> hooded warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Hutton's vireo, Lewis's woodpecker, Louisiana waterthrush, <sup>[A]</sup> magnolia warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> mountain chickadee, northern parula, <sup>[A]</sup> northern waterthrush, <sup>[A]</sup> orange-crowned warbler, ovenbird, <sup>[A]</sup> Philadelphia vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> pileated woodpecker, pine grosbeak, pine warbler, pygmy nuthatch, red-breasted nuthatch, red-breasted sapsucker, red-eyed vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> red-headed woodpecker, red-naped sapsucker, ruby-crowned kinglet, ruby-throated hummingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> Swainson's thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> Tennessee warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Townsend's solitaire, Townsend's warbler, varied thrush, veery, <sup>[A]</sup> warbling vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> western tanager, white-breasted nuthatch, white-winged crossbill, winter wren, yellow-bellied flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-bellied sapsucker, yellow-rumped warbler, yellow-throated vireo <sup>[A]</sup>	56
Forest birds	Below goal range	American three-toed woodpecker, band-tailed pigeon, blackpoll warbler, black-throated gray warbler, Bohemian waxwing, boreal chickadee, Canada warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Cassin's finch, cerulean warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> chestnut-backed chickadee, Connecticut warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> dusky flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern whip-poor-will, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> evening grosbeak, golden-crowned kinglet, gray-cheeked thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> great crested flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> hermit thrush, least flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> MacGillivray's warbler, marbled murrelet, <sup>[A]</sup> mourning warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Nashville warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> olive-sided flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> Pacific wren, pine siskin, prothonotary warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> purple finch, red crossbill, rose-breasted grosbeak, <sup>[A]</sup> scarlet tanager, <sup>[A]</sup> Vaux's swift, <sup>[A]</sup> western wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> white-throated sparrow, wood thrush <sup>[A]</sup>	36
Forest birds	Data deficient	Bicknell's thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> chuck-will's-widow, <sup>[A]</sup> Kirtland's warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Williamson's sapsucker	4
Arctic Birds	Above goal range	Ross's goose, <sup>[A]</sup> snow goose <sup>[A]</sup>	2
Arctic Birds	Within goal range	Baird's sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> brant, <sup>[A]</sup> cackling goose, <sup>[A]</sup> common eider, <sup>[A]</sup> common redpoll, <sup>[A]</sup> greater white-fronted goose, <sup>[A]</sup> Hoary redpoll, Iceland gull, <sup>[A]</sup> Lapland longspur, least sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> Pacific loon, <sup>[A]</sup> red-throated loon, <sup>[A]</sup> Smith's longspur, thick-billed murre, <sup>[A]</sup> tundra swan, <sup>[A]</sup> western sandpiper <sup>[A]</sup>	16

Ecological group	Status in relation to population goal	Species	Species count
Arctic Birds	Below goal range	American golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> black-bellied plover, <sup>[A]</sup> buff-breasted sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> dunlin, <sup>[A]</sup> glaucous gull, <sup>[A]</sup> Harris's sparrow, <sup>[A]</sup> Hudsonian godwit, <sup>[A]</sup> ivory gull, <sup>[A]</sup> king eider, <sup>[A]</sup> long-billed dowitcher, <sup>[A]</sup> long-tailed duck, <sup>[A]</sup> pectoral sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> purple sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> rock sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> ruddy turnstone, <sup>[A]</sup> sanderling, <sup>[A]</sup> semipalmated plover, <sup>[A]</sup> semipalmated sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> snow bunting, stilt sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> surfbird, <sup>[A]</sup> whimbrel, <sup>[A]</sup> white-rumped sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-billed loon <sup>[A]</sup>	24
Arctic birds	Data deficient	Arctic tern, <sup>[A]</sup> bluethroat, <sup>[A]</sup> common ringed plover, <sup>[A]</sup> dovekie, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern yellow wagtail, <sup>[A]</sup> Eskimo curlew, <sup>[A]</sup> gray-headed chickadee, long-tailed jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> northern wheatear, <sup>[A]</sup> Pacific golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> parasitic jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> pomarine jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> red knot, <sup>[A]</sup> red phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> Ross's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> Sabine's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> sharp-tailed sandpiper <sup>[A]</sup>	18
Long-Distance Migrants	Within goal range	Acadian flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> alder flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> American redstart, <sup>[A]</sup> Baird's sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> bay-breasted warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-and-white warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> blackburnian warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-chinned hummingbird, black-throated blue warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> black-throated green warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> blue-winged teal, <sup>[A]</sup> Bullock's oriole, calliope hummingbird, Cape May warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> chestnut-sided warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> golden-winged warbler, hooded warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> indigo bunting, least sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> Louisiana waterthrush, <sup>[A]</sup> magnolia warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> northern parula, <sup>[A]</sup> northern waterthrush, <sup>[A]</sup> orchard oriole, ovenbird, <sup>[A]</sup> Philadelphia vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> purple martin, <sup>[A]</sup> red-eyed vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> ruby-throated hummingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> solitary sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> Swainson's thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> Tennessee warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> upland sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> veery, <sup>[A]</sup> violet-green swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> warbling vireo, <sup>[A]</sup> western kingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> Wilson's phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-bellied flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-billed cuckoo, yellow-breasted chat, yellow-throated vireo <sup>[A]</sup>	42
Long-Distance Migrants	Below goal range	American golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> Baltimore oriole, bank swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> barn swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> black swift, <sup>[A]</sup> black tern, <sup>[A]</sup> black-billed cuckoo, blackpoll warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> bobolink, <sup>[A]</sup> buff-breasted sandpiper, Canada warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> cerulean warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> chimney swift, <sup>[A]</sup> cliff swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> common nighthawk, <sup>[A]</sup> common tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Connecticut warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern kingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> Franklin's gull, <sup>[A]</sup> gray-cheeked thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> great crested flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> Hudsonian godwit, <sup>[A]</sup> least flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> lesser yellowlegs, <sup>[A]</sup> mourning warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> Nashville warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> olive-sided flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> pectoral sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> prothonotary warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> roseate tern, <sup>[A]</sup> rose-breasted grosbeak, <sup>[A]</sup> rufous hummingbird, sanderling, <sup>[A]</sup> scarlet tanager, <sup>[A]</sup> semipalmated sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> spotted sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> stilt sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> Vaux's swift, <sup>[A]</sup> wandering tattler, <sup>[A]</sup> western wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> whimbrel, <sup>[A]</sup> white-rumped sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> willow flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> wood thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow warbler	46
Long-Distance Migrants	Data deficient	Arctic tern, <sup>[A]</sup> Bicknell's thrush, <sup>[A]</sup> bluethroat, <sup>[A]</sup> chuck-will's-widow, <sup>[A]</sup> common ringed plover, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern yellow wagtail, <sup>[A]</sup> Eskimo curlew, <sup>[A]</sup> Kirtland's warbler, <sup>[A]</sup> long-tailed jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> northern wheatear, <sup>[A]</sup> Pacific golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> parasitic jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> pomarine jaeger, <sup>[A]</sup> red phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> Sabine's gull <sup>[A]</sup>	16
Shorebirds	Within goal range	American avocet, <sup>[A]</sup> Baird's sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> black oystercatcher, black turnstone, greater yellowlegs, least sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> solitary sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> upland sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> western sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> willet, <sup>[A]</sup> Wilson's phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> Wilson's snipe	12

Ecological group	Status in relation to population goal	Species	Species count
Shorebirds	Below goal range	American golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> American woodcock, black-bellied plover, <sup>[A]</sup> buff-breasted sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> dunlin, <sup>[A]</sup> Hudsonian godwit, <sup>[A]</sup> killdeer, lesser yellowlegs, <sup>[A]</sup> long-billed curlew, <sup>[A]</sup> long-billed dowitcher, <sup>[A]</sup> marbled godwit, <sup>[A]</sup> pectoral sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> piping plover, purple sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> rock sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> ruddy turnstone, <sup>[A]</sup> sanderling, <sup>[A]</sup> semipalmated plover, <sup>[A]</sup> semipalmated sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> short-billed dowitcher, spotted sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> stilt sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> surfbird, <sup>[A]</sup> wandering tattler, <sup>[A]</sup> whimbrel, <sup>[A]</sup> white-rumped sandpiper <sup>[A]</sup>	26
Shorebirds	Data deficient	American oystercatcher, common ringed plover, <sup>[A]</sup> Eskimo curlew, <sup>[A]</sup> mountain plover, <sup>[A]</sup> Pacific golden-plover, <sup>[A]</sup> red knot, <sup>[A]</sup> red phalarope, <sup>[A]</sup> red-necked phalarope <sup>[A]</sup>	8
Aerial Insectivores	Within goal range	Acadian flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> alder flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> Hammond's flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> purple martin, <sup>[A]</sup> Say's phoebe, violet-green swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> western kingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> yellow-bellied flycatcher <sup>[A]</sup>	8
Aerial Insectivores	Below goal range	Bank swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> barn swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> black swift, <sup>[A]</sup> chimney swift, <sup>[A]</sup> cliff swallow, <sup>[A]</sup> common nighthawk, <sup>[A]</sup> dusky flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern kingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern phoebe, eastern whip-poor-will, <sup>[A]</sup> eastern wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> great crested flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> least flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> northern rough-winged swallow, olive-sided flycatcher, <sup>[A]</sup> tree swallow, Vaux's swift, <sup>[A]</sup> western wood-pewee, <sup>[A]</sup> white-throated swift, willow flycatcher <sup>[A]</sup>	20
Aerial Insectivores	Data deficient	Chuck-will's-widow, <sup>[A]</sup> common poorwill	2
Grassland Birds	Within goal range	Brewer's sparrow, lark sparrow, upland sandpiper, <sup>[A]</sup> western kingbird, <sup>[A]</sup> willet <sup>[A]</sup>	5
Grassland Birds	Below goal range	Baird's sparrow, bobolink, <sup>[A]</sup> chestnut-collared longspur, eastern meadowlark, grasshopper sparrow, Henslow's sparrow, horned lark, lark bunting, LeConte's sparrow, long-billed curlew, <sup>[A]</sup> marbled godwit, <sup>[A]</sup> Savannah sparrow, Sprague's pipit, thick-billed longspur, vesper sparrow, western meadowlark	16
Grassland Birds	Data deficient	Mountain plover <sup>[A]</sup>	1
All <i>Migratory Bird Convention Act</i> species	Above goal range	See above groups	2
All <i>Migratory Bird Convention Act</i> species	Within goal range	See above groups	177
All <i>Migratory Bird Convention Act</i> species	Below goal range	See above groups	149
All <i>Migratory Bird Convention Act</i> species	Data deficient	See above groups	51

**Note:** [A] Indicates a species that is listed in more than 1 species group. The grouping of bird species is the same as in the [State of Canada's Birds](#) but includes only birds listed in the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*. Fifty-one (51) species have insufficient data to be assessed. Of the

328 species with adequate monitoring data, 164 species are included in more than one category based on their feeding and habitat requirements but are only included once in the total number of birds assessed. For example, species grouped in the feeding behaviour category “aerial insectivores” may also be included in the habitat grouping “forest birds”. Some shorebird species data are only up to 2019.  
**Source:** Birds Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada (2024) [The State of Canada's Birds](#).

Additional information can be obtained at:

Environment and Climate Change Canada  
Public Inquiries Centre  
Place Vincent Massey Building  
351 Saint-Joseph Boulevard  
Gatineau QC K1A 0H3  
Telephone: 1-800-668-6767  
Email: [ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca)