

WATERFOWL SURVEY: November 1, 2024

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The statewide duck count increased by 20.4% and the Canada goose count increased by 31.7% from last week. Green-winged teal were the most abundant duck followed by northern pintail, mallard, and gadwall. At a statewide scale, observers counted 35% fewer ducks and 4.1% fewer Canada geese than during this week last year. The graphs below compare the 2024 migration (turquoise bars) so far to both 2023 (gold bars) and the 2013-2022 average (blue line). Counts below the shaded region are considered below average, and counts above are considered above average.

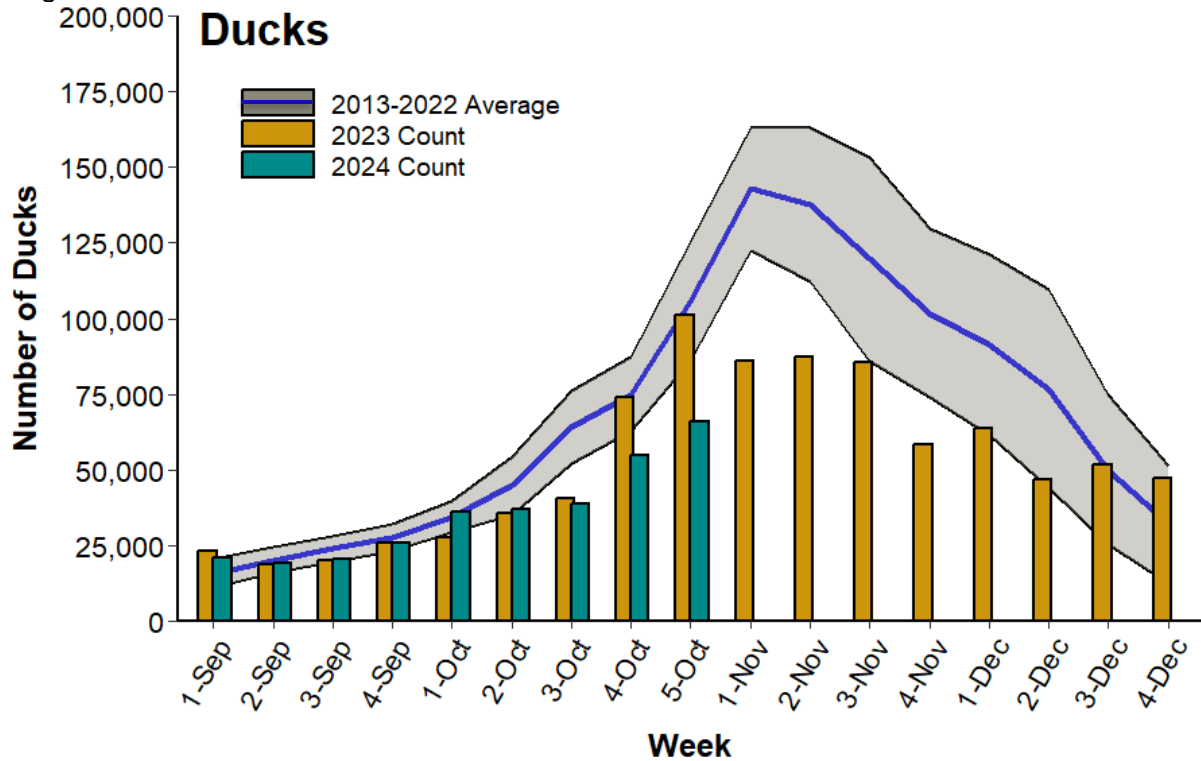


Figure 1. The number of ducks surveyed in 2024 (turquoise bars) and 2023 (gold bars) compared to the 2013-2022 average (blue line).

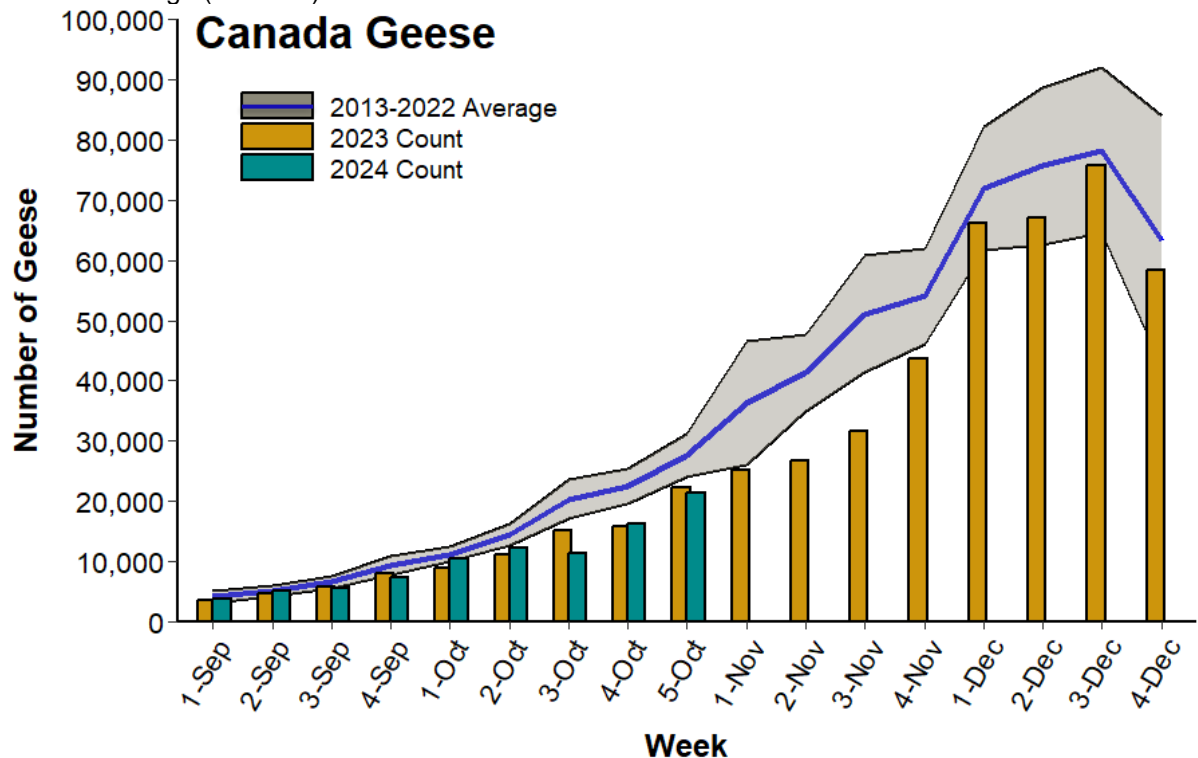
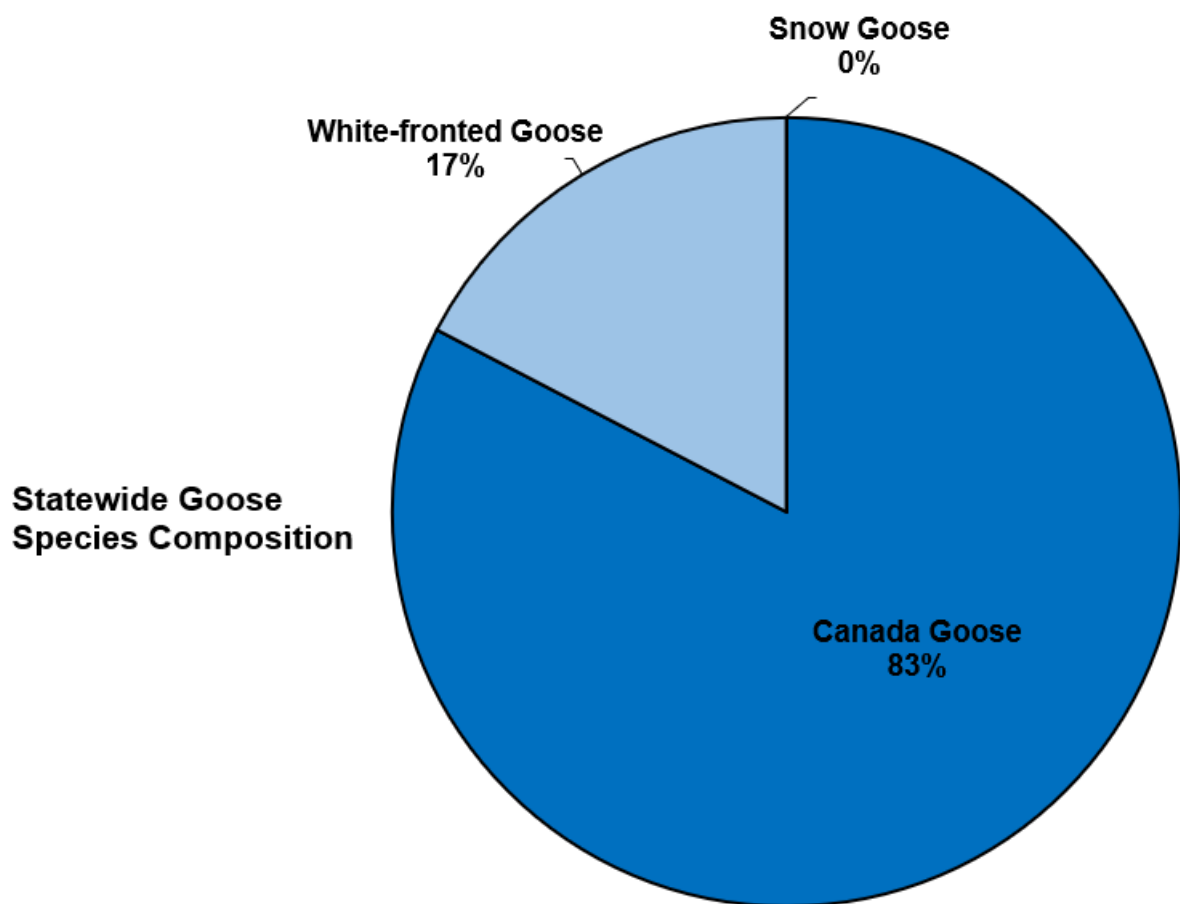
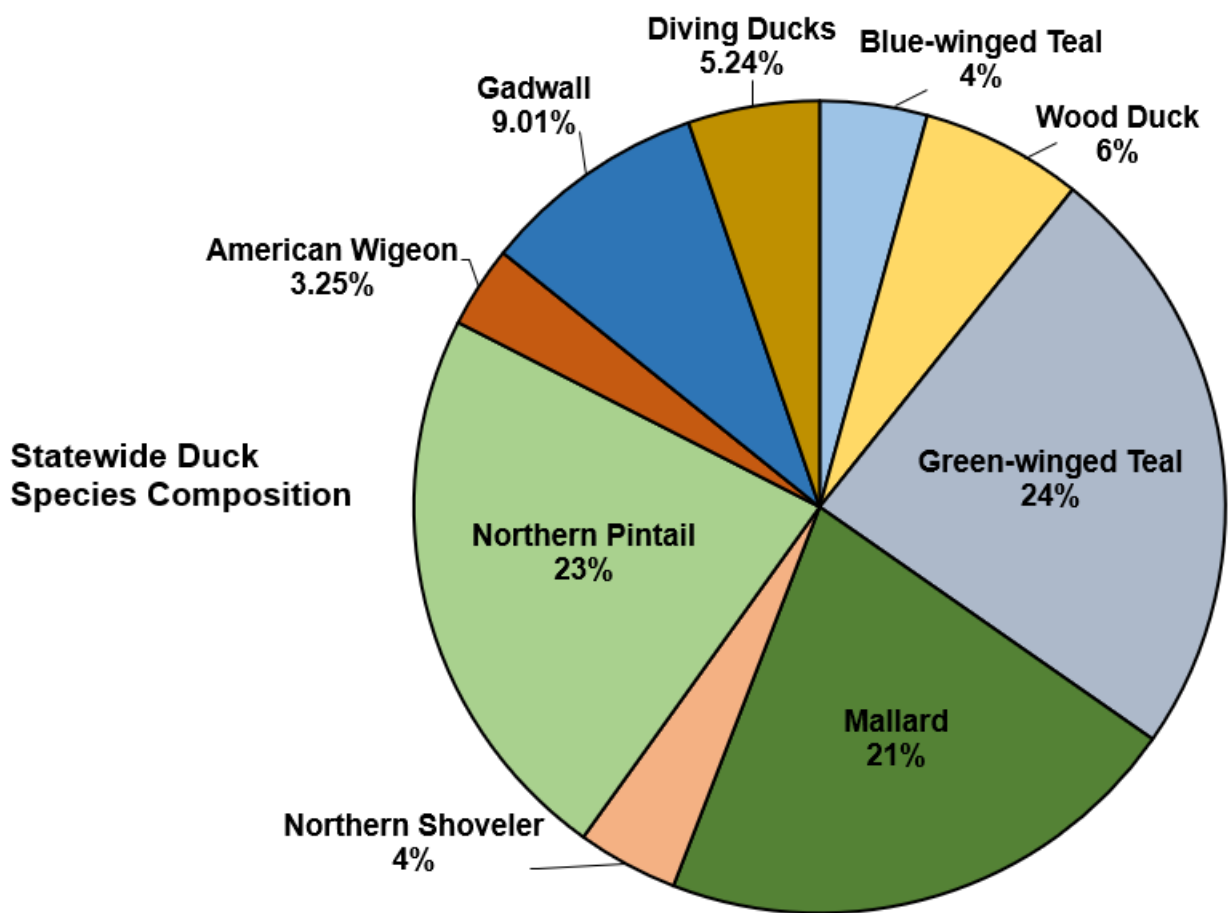


Figure 2. The number of Canada geese surveyed in 2024 (turquoise bars) and 2023 (gold bars) compared to the 2013-2022 average (blue line).



Fall Migration Waterfowl Survey									
Week Ending: November 1, 2024									
Survey Area	Ducks					Geese			
	Abundance		Composition			Abundance		Composition	
	Total	Previous Week	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Previous Week	Dark	Light
Bays Branch Areas	3230	1850	14%	85%	1%	1350	1050	100%	0%
Big Marsh	4612	5000	20%	80%	0%	250	200	100%	0%
Black Hawk Areas	3065	1590	16%	83%	1%	820	710	100%	0%
Coralville Areas	6250	5825	32%	66%	2%	400	50	100%	0%
Green Island	2458	2695	20%	79%	1%	1200	1250	100%	0%
Ingham Areas	2735	3460	37%	58%	6%	825	690	100%	0%
Lake Odessa Areas	5835	1900	34%	62%	4%	1450	1000	100%	0%
Lake Sugema	295	242	8%	92%	0%	25	175	100%	0%
Missouri River Oxbows	779	1122	32%	68%	0%	2150	2952	100%	0%
Otter Creek	1355	900	33%	67%	0%	300	250	100%	0%
Princeton	655	740	19%	81%	0%	45	50	100%	0%
Rathbun Areas	4395	3080	14%	79%	6%	1812	1055	100%	0%
Red Rock	4850	4450	10%	71%	19%	4500	300	100%	0%
Rice Lake Areas	5303	4855	36%	54%	10%	3657	2950	100%	0%
Riverton/Forney	9520	8705	9%	90%	1%	375	325	100%	0%
Ruthven Areas	4145	5015	20%	68%	12%	4695	1795	100%	0%
Saylorville Areas	355	—	0%	100%	0%	0	—	—	—
Spirit Lake Areas	2785	1343	29%	52%	19%	625	685	100%	0%
Sweet Marsh	3100	1700	6%	94%	0%	1300	1275	100%	0%
Union County Areas	—	100	—	—	—	—	1050	—	—
Total	65722	54572	21%	74%	5%	25779	17812	100%	0%

Species	% Change in count from Previous Week
Mallard	+39.3%
Gadwall	+59.1%
American Wigeon	+48.7%
Northern Pintail	+11.1%
Green-winged Teal	+17.6%
Blue-winged Teal	-7.5%
Northern Shoveler	-8.4%
Wood Duck	-17.1%
Diving Ducks	+111.1%

Species	% Change in count from Previous Week
Canada Goose	+31.7%
Greater White-fronted Goose	+173.4
Snow Goose	NA