

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WATERFOWL SURVEY

October 10, 2025

The statewide duck count increased by 122.5% and the Canada goose count increased by 19.3% from last week. Blue-winged teal were the most abundant duck followed by wood ducks and northern pintail. At a statewide scale, observers counted 7.5% more ducks and 2.3% more Canada geese than during this week last year. The graphs below compare the 2025 migration (turquoise bars) so far to both 2024 (gold bars) and the 2015-2024 average (blue line). Counts below the shaded region are considered below average, and counts above are considered above average.

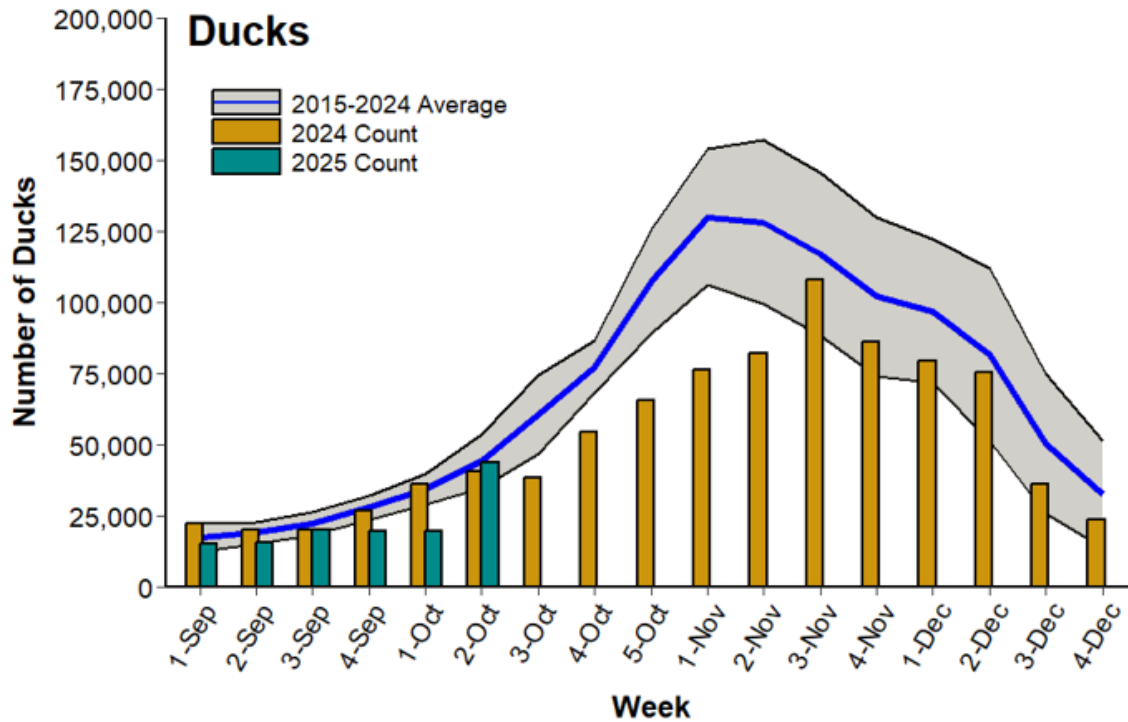


Figure 1. The number of ducks surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).

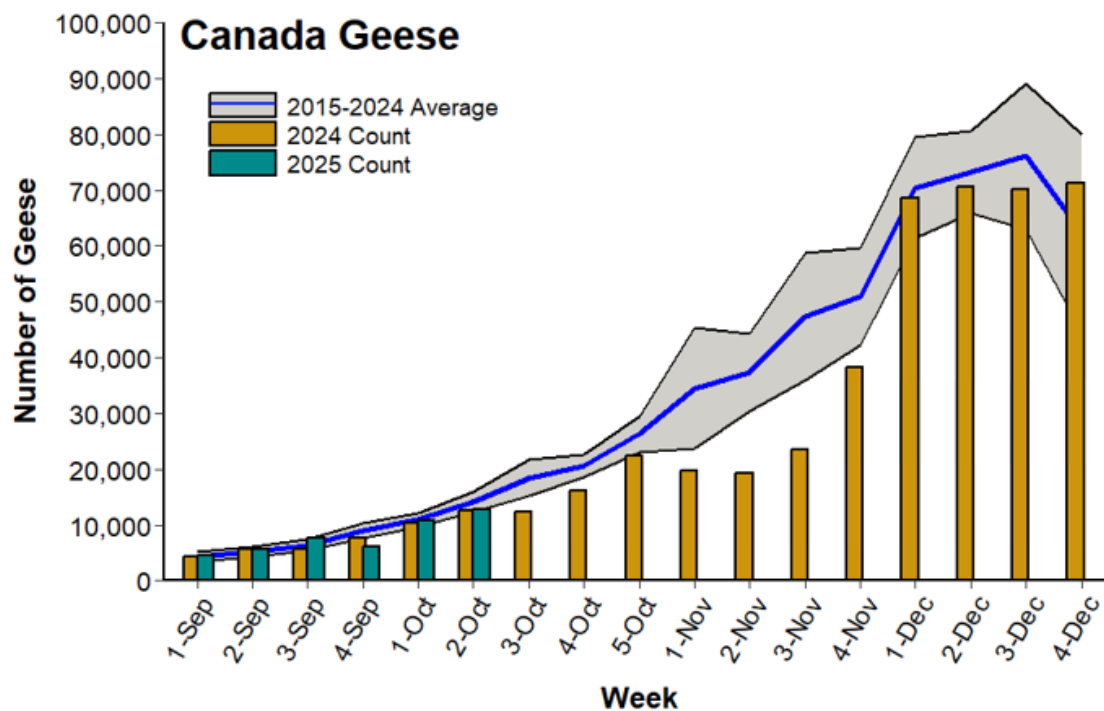
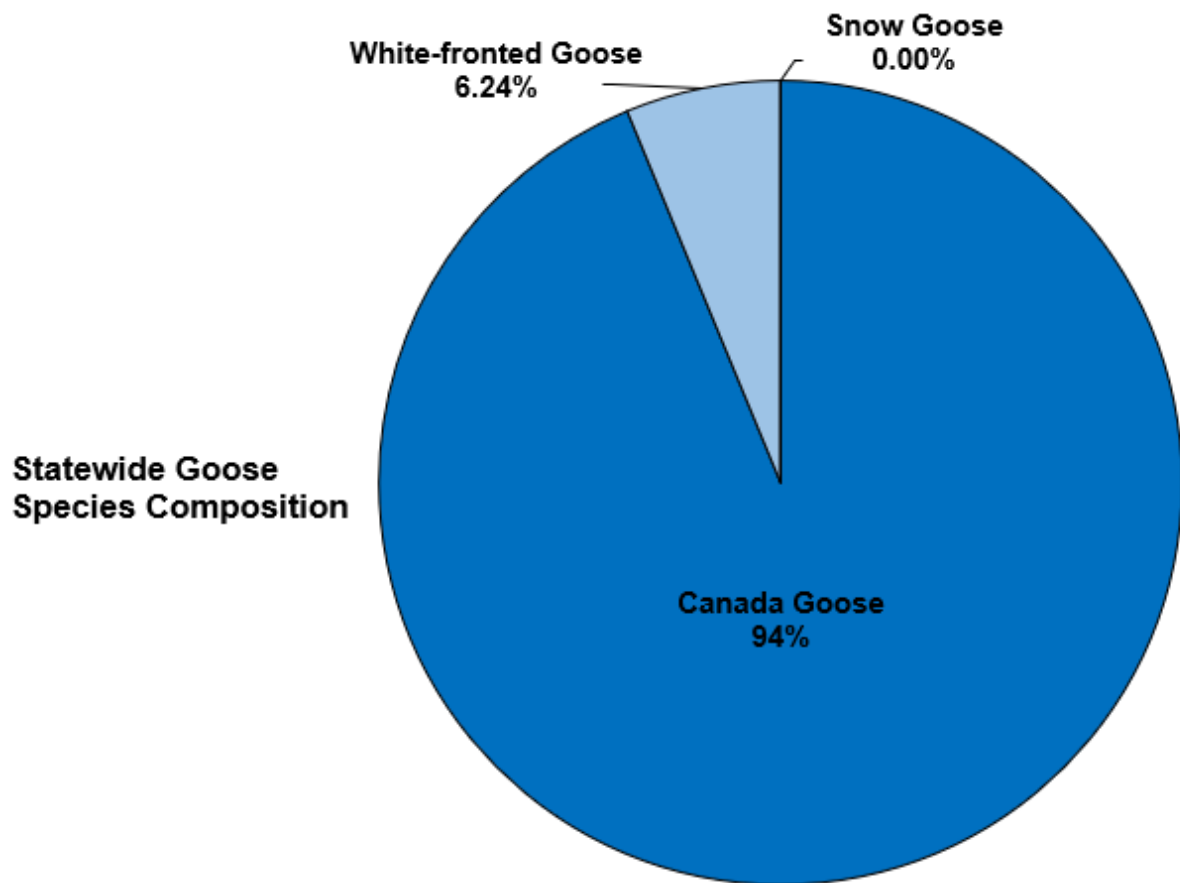
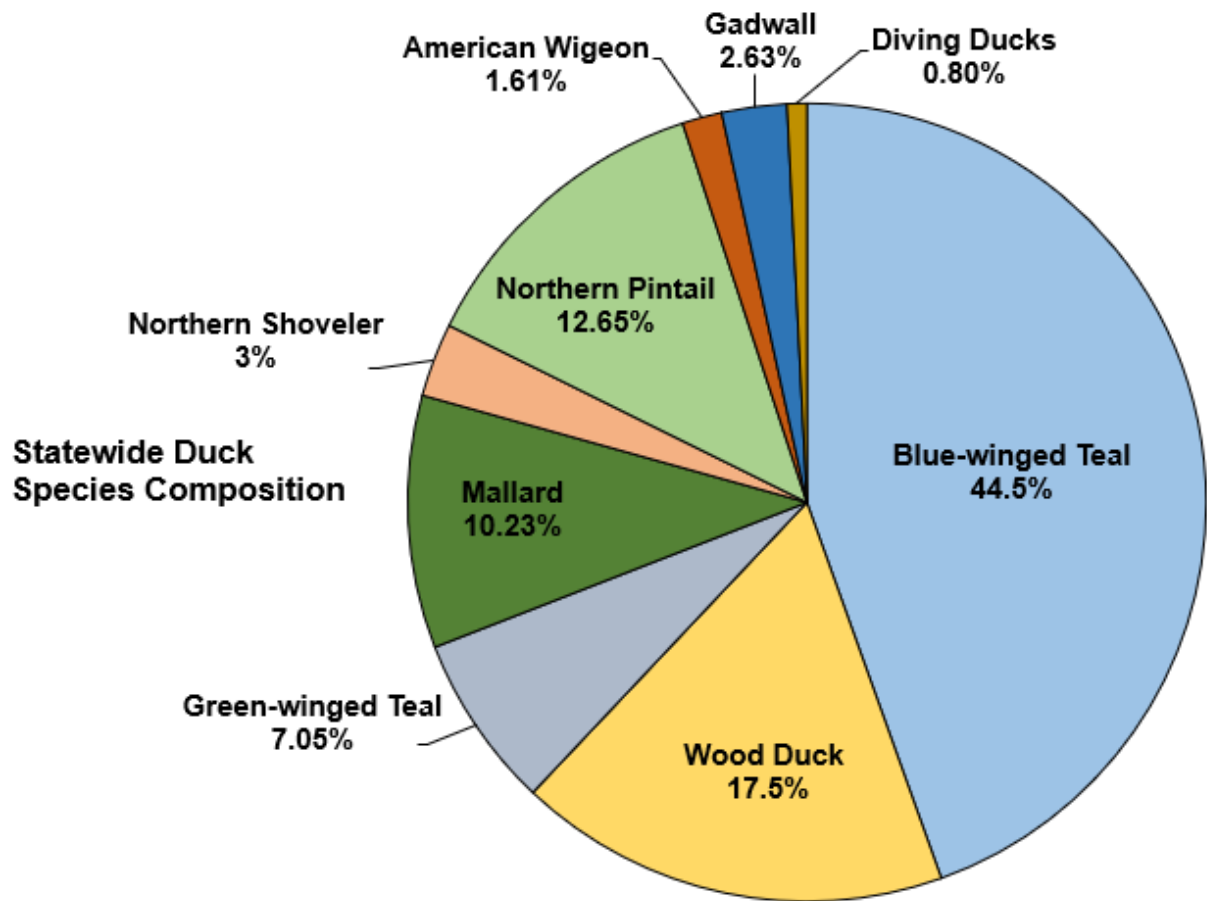


Figure 2. The number of Canada geese surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).



Fall Migration Waterfowl Survey

Week Ending: October 10, 2025

Survey Area	Ducks					Geese			
	Abundance		Composition (%)			Abundance		Composition (%)	
	Total	Previous Week	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Previous Week	Dark	Light
Bays Branch Areas	2496	1000	19	80	0	3000	1190	100	0
Big Marsh	1600	805	28	72	0	100	100	100	0
Black Hawk Areas	1590	1430	17	82	2	760	605	100	0
Coralville Areas	510	825	29	71	0	0	500	--	--
Green Island	2245	2435	7	91	2	500	500	100	0
Ingham Areas	470	395	24	71	4	1150	1160	100	0
Lake Odessa Areas	1180	1020	4	96	0	550	250	100	0
Lake Sugema	465	185	5	95	0	300	150	100	0
Missouri River Oxbows	244	235	9	85	7	704	615	100	0
Otter Creek	1090	1130	14	85	1	150	25	100	0
Princeton	515	540	10	90	0	0	0	--	--
Rathbun Areas	2890	1400	6	92	2	750	950	100	0
Red Rock	2650	2095	19	81	0	300	600	100	0
Rice Lake Areas	1325	1156	36	53	11	1710	1185	100	0
Riverton/Forney	20515	905	2	98	0	865	4	100	0
Ruthven Areas	1690	2050	42	57	1	420	390	100	0
Saylorville Areas	575	575	4	96	0	250	225	100	0
Spirit Lake Areas	375	865	16	84	0	65	605	100	0
Sweet Marsh	1266	675	12	88	0	800	450	100	0
Union County Areas	385	85	0	100	0	1250	1200	100	0
Total	44076	19806	10	89	1	13624	10704	100	0

Species	% Change in count from Previous Week
Canada Goose	+19.3
Greater White-fronted Goose	NA
Snow Goose	NA
Mallard	+49.2
Gadwall	+866.7
American Wigeon	NA
Northern Pintail	+467.0
Green-winged Teal	+43.5
Blue-winged Teal	+353.4
Northern Shoveler	+186.1
Wood Duck	-10.2
Diving Ducks	+334.6