

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WATERFOWL SURVEY

October 24, 2025

The statewide duck count increased by 9.3% and the Canada goose count increased by 19.3% from last week. Northern pintail were the most abundant duck followed by mallards and green-winged teal. At a statewide scale, observers counted 22.6% fewer ducks and 5.3% 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.

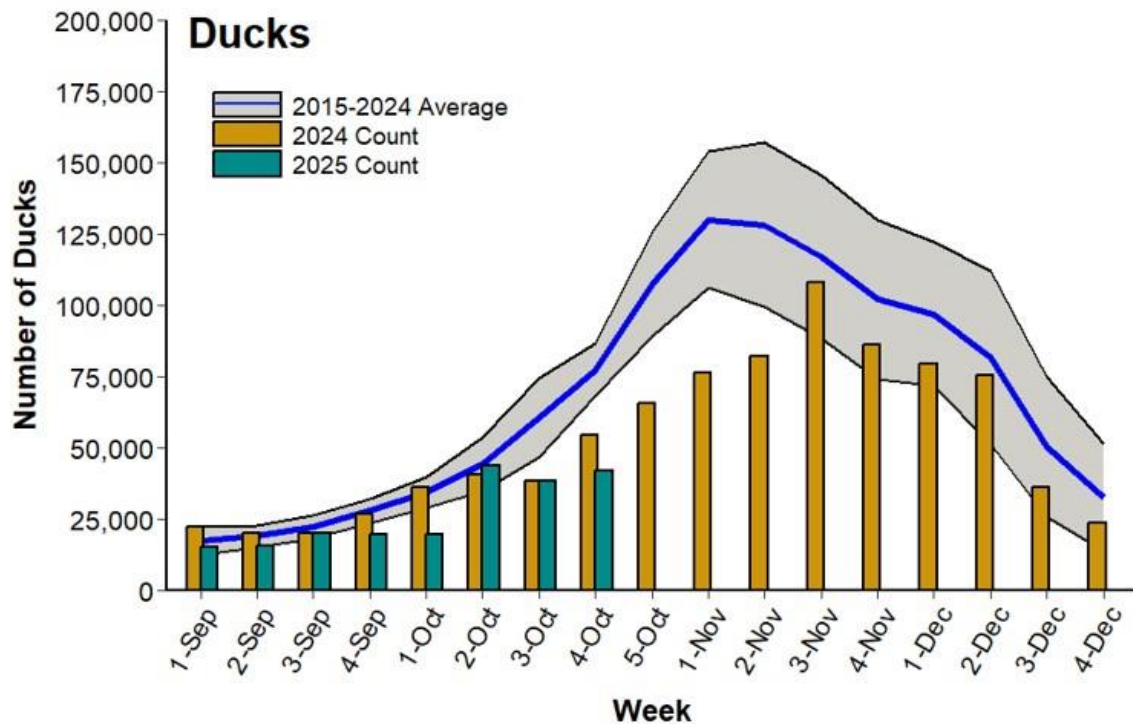


Figure 1. The number of ducks surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).

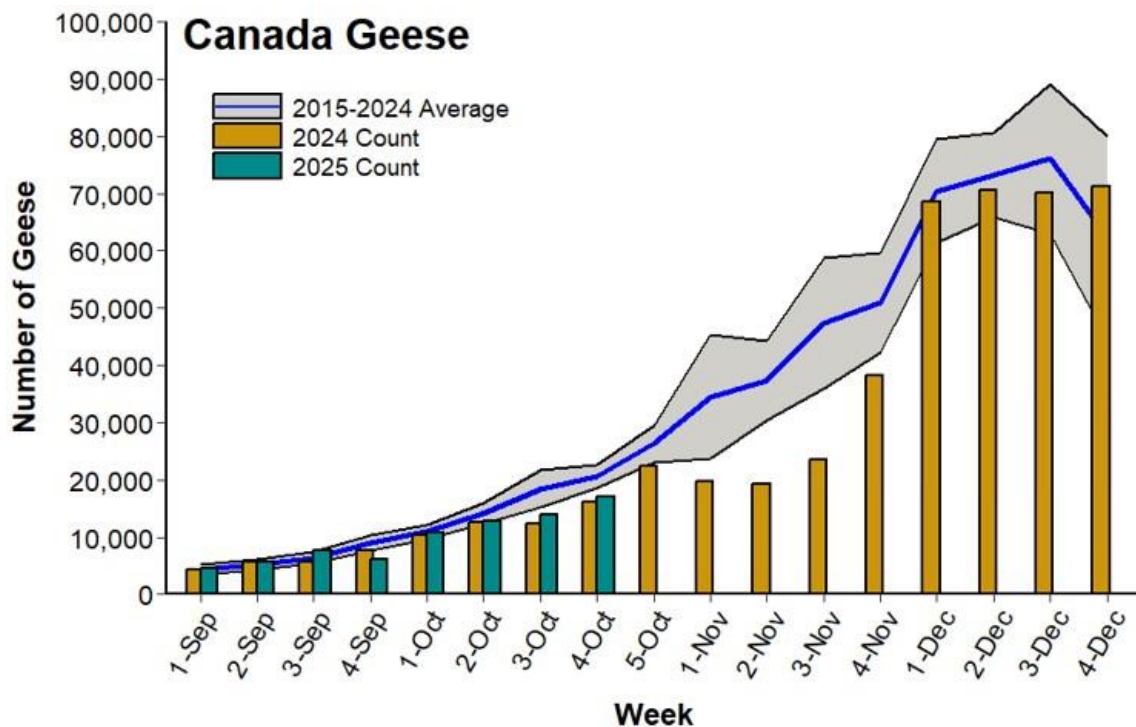
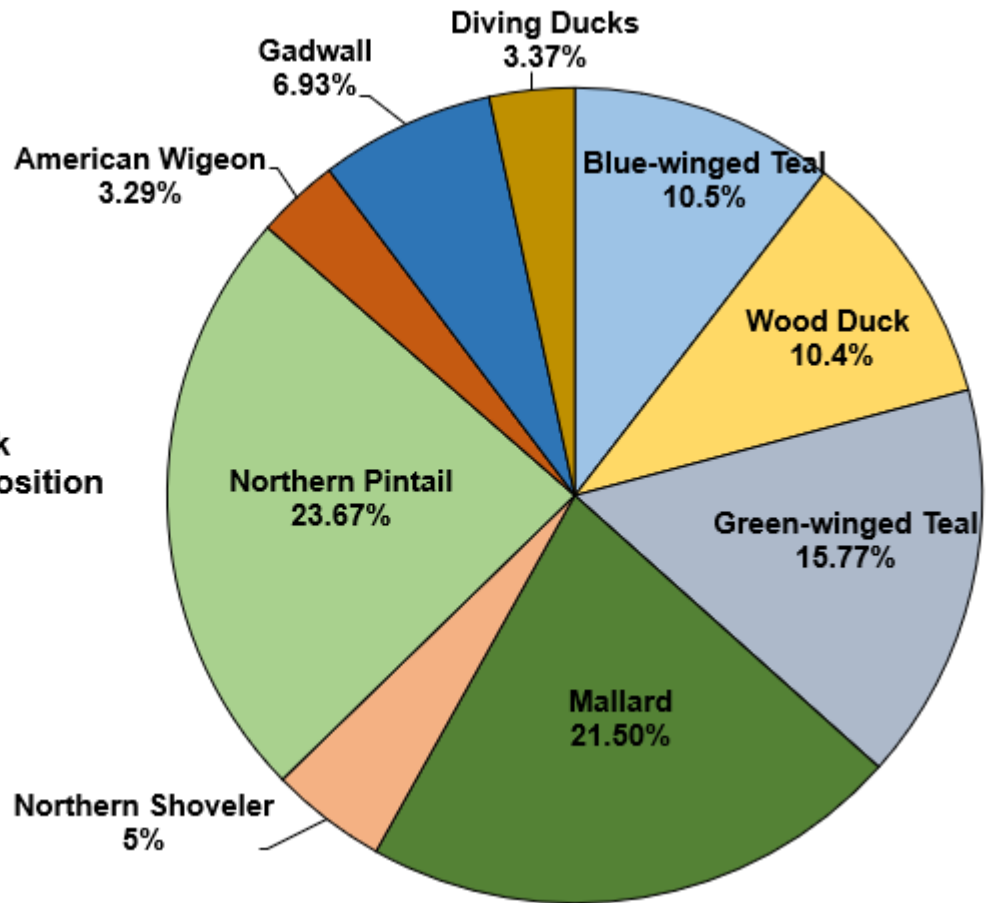
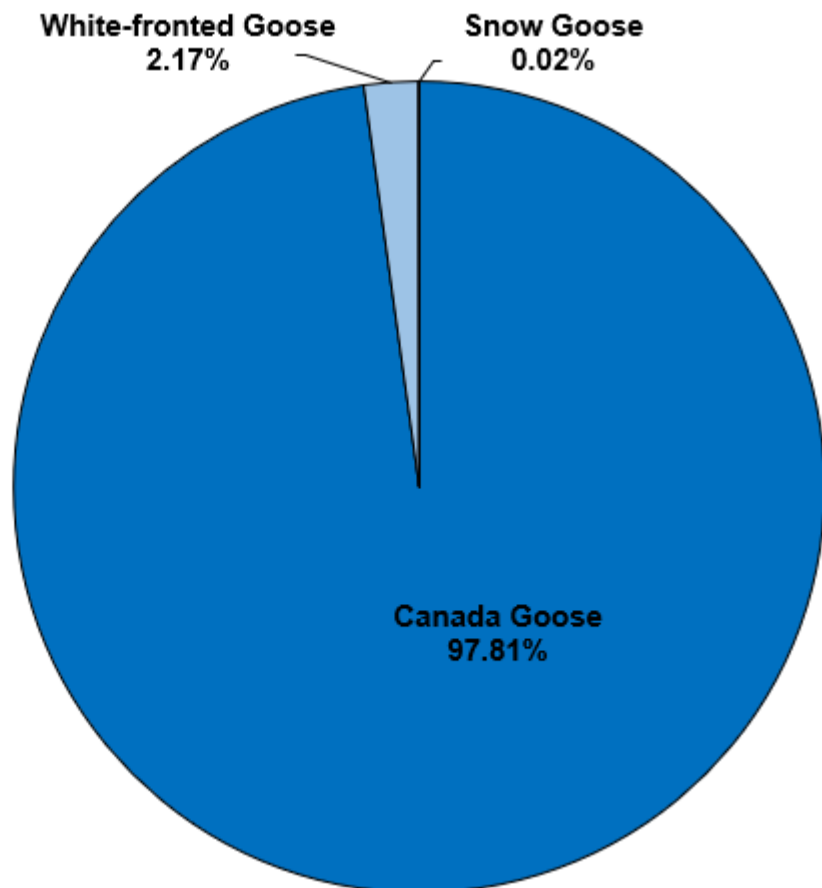


Figure 2. The number of Canada geese surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).

**Statewide Duck
Species Composition**



**Statewide Goose
Species Composition**



Fall Migration Waterfowl Survey

Week Ending: October 24, 2025

Survey Area	Ducks					Geese			
	Abundance		Composition (%)			Abundance		Composition (%)	
	Total	Previous Week	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Previous Week	Dark	Light
Bays Branch Areas	1889	1980	27	72	1	2200	2100	100	0
Big Marsh	1330	1635	38	62	1	200	50	100	0
Black Hawk Areas	1475	1285	29	69	2	810	740	100	0
Coralville Areas	2900	1285	19	78	3	350	150	100	0
Green Island	4130	2655	18	80	2	1005	754	100	0
Ingham Areas	200	305	32	68	0	2000	1515	100	0
Lake Odessa Areas	1010	420	52	45	3	685	450	100	0
Lake Sugema	160	212	3	91	6	200	275	100	0
Missouri River Oxbows	286	496	58	34	7	780	812	100	0
Otter Creek	915	1085	14	85	2	350	150	100	0
Princeton	580	600	17	80	3	0	4	--	--
Rathbun Areas	4285	3945	15	80	6	1375	1050	100	0
Red Rock	4575	3300	26	64	9	500	500	100	0
Rice Lake Areas	2611	1670	46	40	14	2274	2035	100	0
Riverton/Forney	10695	11460	7	93	0	120	75	100	0
Ruthven Areas	2290	2920	24	76	0	720	70	100	0
Saylorville Areas	--	170	--	--	--	--	250	--	--
Spirit Lake Areas	1529	1594	47	50	3	840	640	100	0
Sweet Marsh	1350	1550	22	76	2	1100	1100	100	0
Union County Areas	50	100	0	100	0	1525	1350	100	0
Total	42260	38667	22	75	3	17034	14070	100	0

Species	% Change in count from Previous Week
Canada Goose	+19.3
Greater White-fronted Goose	+254.8
Snow Goose	NA
Mallard	+21.1
Gadwall	+91.2
American Wigeon	+98.6
Northern Pintail	+30.0
Green-winged Teal	+61.8
Blue-winged Teal	-47.1
Northern Shoveler	+39.1
Wood Duck	-35.7
Diving Ducks	+163.9