

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WATERFOWL SURVEY
November 21, 2025

The statewide duck count increased by 9.0% and the Canada goose count increased by 1.0% from last week. Mallards were the most abundant duck followed by green-winged teal and northern pintail. At a statewide scale, observers counted 24.4% fewer ducks and 18.2% 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.

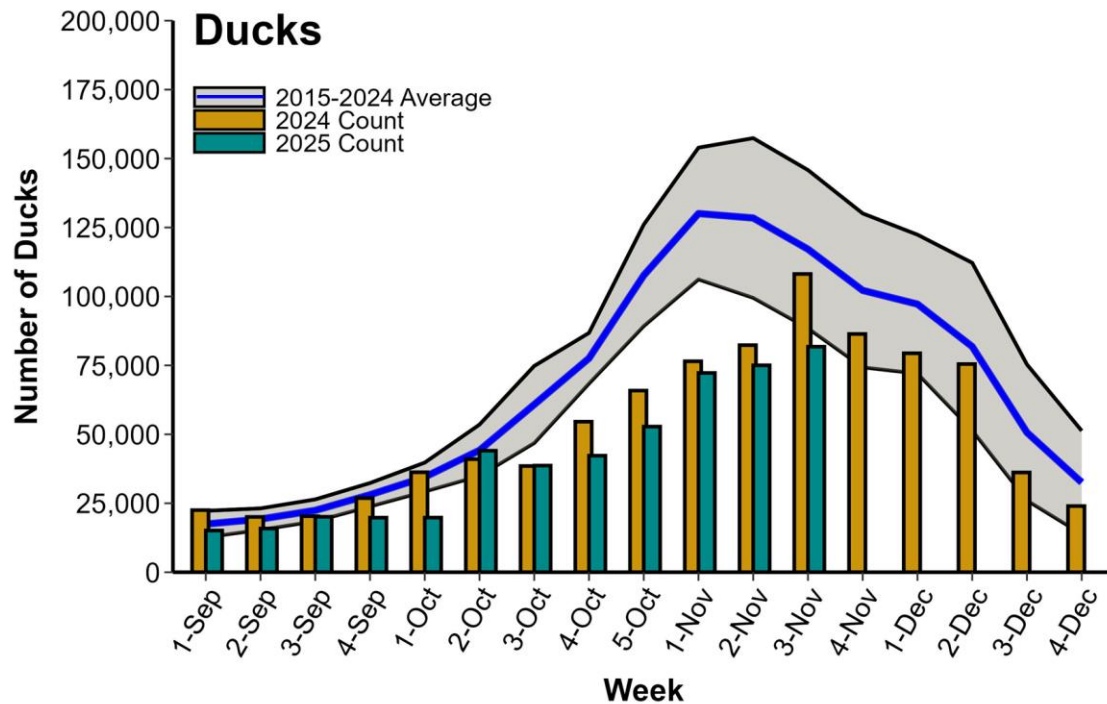


Figure 1. The number of ducks surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).

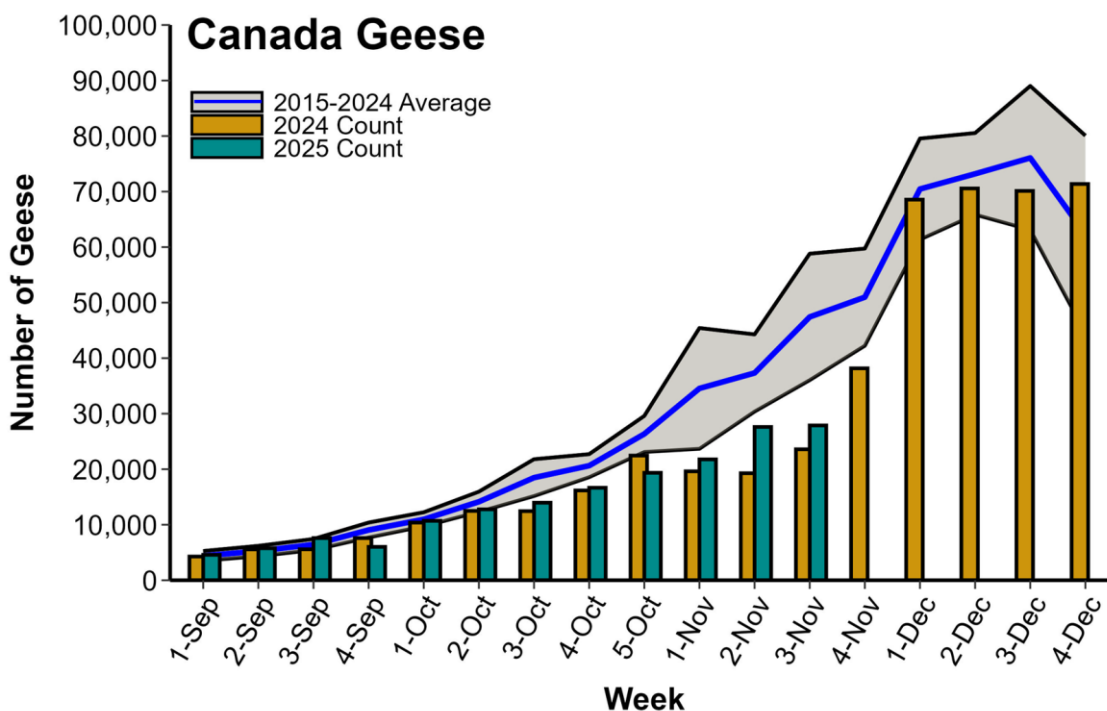
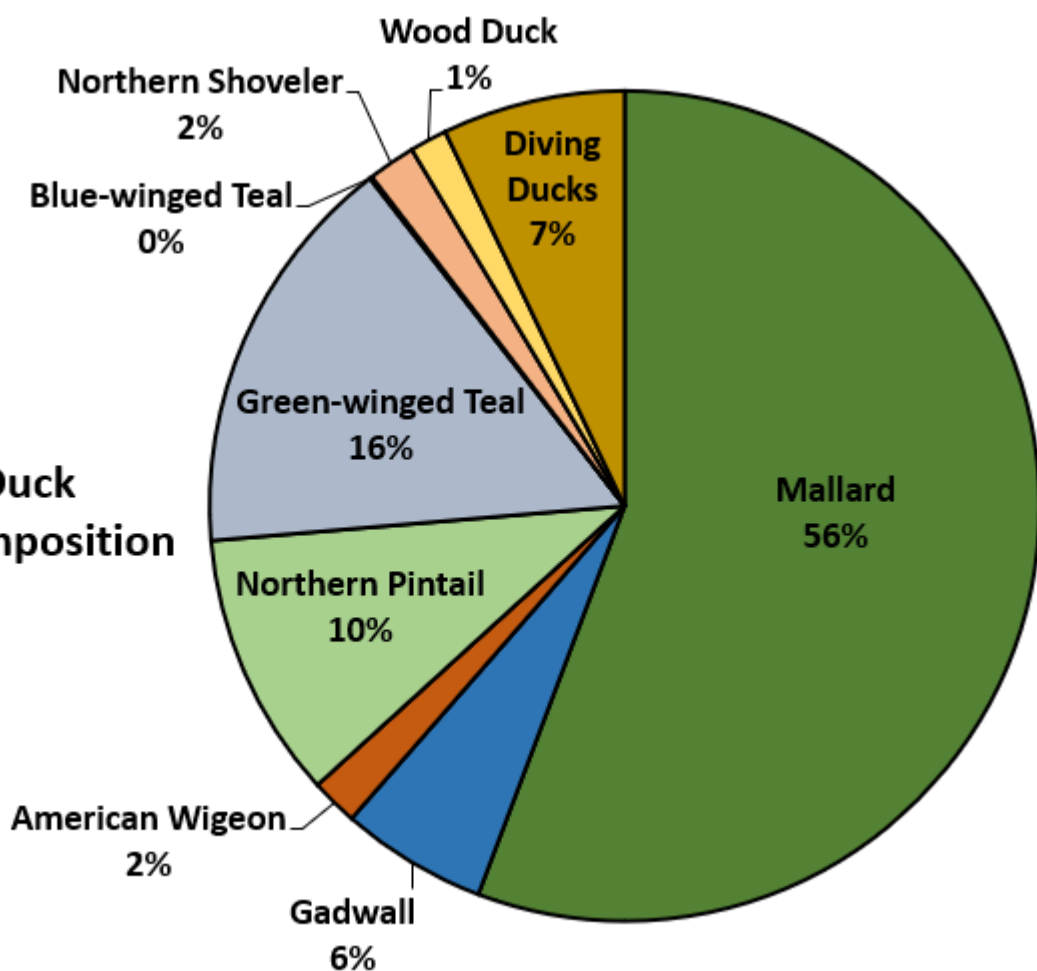
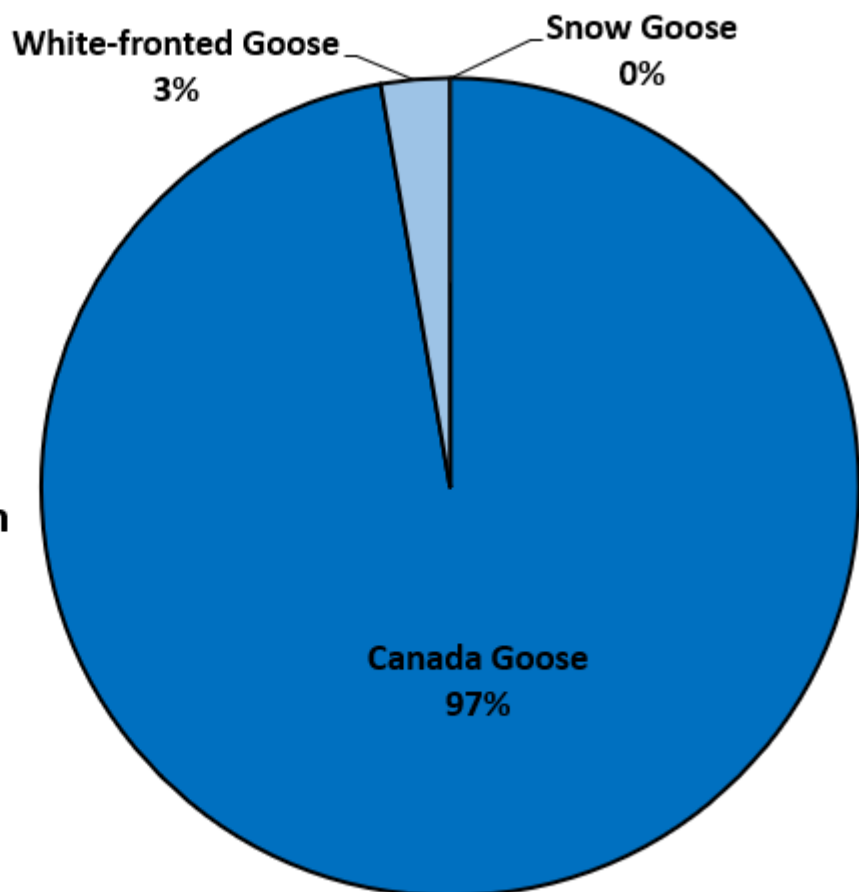


Figure 2. The number of Canada geese surveyed in 2025 (turquoise bars) and 2024 (gold bars) compared to the 2015-2024 average (blue line).

**Statewide Duck
Species Composition**



**Statewide Goose
Species Composition**



Fall Migration Waterfowl Survey

Week Ending: November 21, 2025

Survey Area	Ducks					Geese			
	Abundance		Composition (%)			Abundance		Composition (%)	
	Total	Previous Week	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Previous Week	Dark	Light
Bays Branch Areas	2071	1902	43	46	10	3331	2200	100	0
Big Marsh	4735	4486	53	47	0	50	210	100	0
Black Hawk Areas	2270	2130	53	23	24	1950	1110	100	0
Coralville Areas	7925	4950	69	18	13	0	0	--	--
Green Island	7760	3617	52	44	4	1300	1000	100	0
Ingham Areas	570	1335	64	11	25	1502	1150	100	0
Lake Odessa Areas	12510	7621	69	26	4	1980	2110	100	0
Lake Sugema	70	245	71	29	0	160	45	100	0
Missouri River Oxbows	2152	3083	70	29	1	4164	5255	100	0
Otter Creek	5090	5060	45	51	4	1200	1100	100	0
Princeton	645	570	47	53	0	0	0	--	--
Rathbun Areas	6215	5480	53	40	7	1950	2050	100	0
Red Rock	1450	2500	34	21	45	200	300	100	0
Rice Lake Areas	3065	4254	82	10	9	3340	2736	100	0
Riverton/Forney	18440	15390	44	53	3	210	595	95	5
Ruthven Areas	1520	1750	70	18	12	1000	860	100	0
Saylorville Areas	2250	5600	53	36	11	750	750	100	0
Spirit Lake Areas	850	2450	62	11	27	610	1915	100	0
Sweet Marsh	2076	2297	48	37	14	2900	3200	100	0
Union County Areas	107	310	98	2	0	2250	1750	100	0
Total	81771	75030	56	37	7	28847	28336	100	0

Species	% Change in count from Previous Week
Canada Goose	+1.0
Greater White-fronted Goose	+32.8
Snow Goose	+266.7
Mallard	+33.1
Gadwall	-21.2
American Wigeon	-33.3
Northern Pintail	-10.3
Green-winged Teal	+4.2
Blue-winged Teal	-45.2
Northern Shoveler	-45.9
Wood Duck	-29.2
Diving Ducks	-4.9