COMMON IOWA BIRD ARRIVALS, MIGRATIONS, AND DEPARTURES

Shown are the approximate periods of arrival and departures of birds in Iowa. The table includes primarily those birds that are listed as "Regular" and also as "Common" or "Abundant" in Dinsmore et al Birds of Iowa. Year-round residents are excluded. This list is intended only as a general guide for planning field trips and to answer the general questions like 'When does the nighthawk come back?

The "X"s are times of significant appearance

The "P"s are peak periods

The "numbers" for some birds are the earliest or latest Iowa records as updated in Iowa Bird Life

The three positions in each month's slot refer to early, mid-month and late.

B. C. Edwards

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER					XPX			XX	PX	5		
MAGNOLIA WARBLER				18	XPP			P	PXX		26	
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER				XX	X				X	XXX	X	
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER				6	XPX			X	XPX		10	
PALM WARBLER				X	PX				XX	PX	17	
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER				18	XX			X	XPX	X		
BLACKPOLL WARBLER				27	XPP			X	XPX	12		
BLACK & WHITE WARBLER			31		XP			X	X	30		
AMERICAN REDSTART				29	XPP	XXX	XXX	XXP	PPX	23		
OVENBIRD				14	XP				PX			28
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH				18X	PX			XP	PX		21	
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT				21	XPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPX		3	
WILSON'S WARBLER				29	XXP			X	PXX		25	
SCARLET TANAGER				22	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		15	
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK				7	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX			
INDIGO BUNTING				26	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX?		4	
DISCKCISSEL				10	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX?		26	
RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE				XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX							XXX	XXX
CHIPPING SPARROW				XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		29
FIELD SPARROW				XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X		
VESPER SPARROW				XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		
LARK SPARROW				7	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		22	
SAVANNAH SPARROW			4	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X		
GRASSHOPPER SPARROW				10	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	5	
FOX SPARROW			XP	PPX					X	XPP	XX	
LINCOLN'S SPARROW				XX	PPX				XXP	PXX		
SWAMP SPARROW			X	XXX	X				X	PPP	XX	
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW			X	XXP	PX				XXP	PPX		
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW				X	XX				X	XXX	X	
HARRIS	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X26				17	XXX	XXX	XXX
DARK-EYED JUNCO	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX						XXX	XXX	XXX
BOBOLINK				26	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX			25	
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD			XP	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	
MEADOWLARK sp			XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX?		
YELLOW-HEADED BLCKBIRD				XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX			
RUSTY BLACKBIRD			XXX							X	XX	
COMMON GRACKLE			XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD			XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		
NORTHERN ORIOLE				X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X			
PURPLE FINCH	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X				XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX
PINE SISKIN	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X					XXX	XXX	XXX

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
COMMON LOON			8	XX	X				23	X	XX	
PIED-BILLED GREBE			XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
HORNED GREBE			5XX	PPX		11		18	XX	PPX		
AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN			10	XX	X				XXX	X	24	
DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT			21	PP						XPX		
GREAT BLUE HERON			X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
GREAT EGRET			7	X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX	26	
GREEN-BACKED HERON			26	X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		26	
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON			24	XX					XX			
YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON			31	X	X			X	X			
GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE		15	XX	XXX	30			24		XXX	17	
SNOW GOOSE			XXP	PX						XXX	XPP	
CANADA GOOSE			XXP	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXP	XXX	
WOOD DUCK		25	X	PPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XPX	X	
GREEN-WINGED TEAL			XX	PPX				X	XXX	XPP	XX	
MALLARD		X	XXP	PXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPX	
NORTHERN PINTAIL		X	XXP	PXX				XX	XXX	XXP	PXX	X
BLUE-WINGED TEAL			X	PPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XPX	XX		
NORTHERN SHOVELER		21	X	XPX					XXX	XPX		
GADWALL			XX	PPX					XXX	XPX		
AMERICAN WIGEON			XX	PPX					XXX	XPX		
CANVASBACK			XXP	PX						X	XXP	
REDHEAD			XP	PX					X	XXP	PX	
RING-NECKED DUCK			XP	PXX						XXP	PX	
LESSER SCAUP			XXX	PPX	X					XXX	PX	
COMMON GOLDENEYE			XP	PX	17						XXP	
BUFFLEHEAD			XXP	PX						XP	PX	
COMMON MERGANSER			XXP	P	22					X	XPP	
RUDDY DUCK			11X	XPP						XXX		

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
TURKEY VULTURE		21		XPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXP	X		
OSPREY			4	P	P	16		17	XXX	X21		
BALD EAGLE	XXX	XXX	XXX						X	XXX	XXX	XXX
NORTHERN HARRIER			X	XPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	P		
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK			X	XPP	X			X	XXP	PXX	XXX	
BROAD-WINGED HAWK				6PP	15			27	PP	P		
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	XXX	XXX	XXX		11				1	X	XXX	XXX
VIRGINIA RAIL				17X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		26	
SORA				4	PXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		22	
COMMON MOORHEN				5 X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	23		
AMERICAN COOT			X	PXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPX		
LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER			12	X	XP	28			XX	XX		
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER				3 X	PPX		XX	XXX	XXX	X	6	
KILDEER		X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
GREATER YELLOWLEGS			8	XX	X		XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	25	
LESSER YELLOWLEGS			5	XXX	XX		XX	XXX	XXX	XX	13	
SOLITARY SANDPIPER				4 X	XX	X	XXX	XXX	XX	16		
SPOTTED SANDPIPER				2	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		16	
SEMIPLAMATED SANDPIPER				11	XXP		X	XXX	XXX		21	
LEAST SANDPIPER			14	X	XX		X	XXX	XXX		23	
PECTORAL SANDPIPER		19		XP	P		X	XXX	XXX	XXX	29	
DUNLIN				2	XXX					XXX	XXX	2
DOWITCHER sp			23	X	PX		X	XXX	XXX		19	
COMMON SNIPE			XX	XXX	X			X	XXX	XXX	XXX	
AMERICAN WOODCOCK		15	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX	8
WILSON'S PHALAROPE			13	X	XXX		X	XXX	XX			
FRANKLIN'S GULL		27		XXP						XX	XPX	
RING-BILLED GULL		X	XPP	X					X	PPP	PX	
HERRING GULL			XP	PXX						XXX	XXX	
FORSTER'S TERN				P	P			X	XXX			
BLACK TERN				12	XPX	XXX	XXX	XX				
MOURNING DOVE			X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX			
BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO					4XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	25		
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO					7XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X28		
LONG-EARED OWL	XXX	XXX	XXX	X						XX	XXX	XXX
SHORT-EARED OWL	XXX	XXX	XXX	X						X	XXX	XXX
NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL	XXX	XXX	XXX		4				5XX	XXX	XXX	XXX
COMMON NIGHTHAWK				24	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	29		
WHIP-POOR-WILL				11X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX			3	
CHIMNEY SWIFT				XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	26	
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD				X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		27	

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
BELTED KINGFISHER			X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	
EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE					4XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	23		
WILLOW FLYCATCHER					5 P	XXX	XXX	XXX	25			
LEAST FLYCATCHER				25	PX	XXX	XXX	XXX	X	16		
EASTERN PHOEBE			15	PX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	P	5	
GREAT-CRESTED FLYCATCHER				22	PX	XXX	XXX	XXX	P	9		
EASTERN KINGBIRD				6	PXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	P	8		
PURPLE MARTIN			3	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXP	X		2	
TREE SWALLOW			15P	PP					PP	PX	14	
NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW				4XX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	25		
BANK SWALLOW				12X	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPP	PXX	11		
CLIFF SWALLOW				18	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPP	PXX	29		
BARN SWALLOW			16	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXP	PPP	X	21	
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX					X	XXX	XXX	XXX
HOUSE WREN				7	PPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XPP	P	7	
WINTER WREN				PPP	13				8	PPP		
SEDGE WREN				25	PX	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPP	P	15	
MARSH WREN				17	PPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	PPP		23	
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET				PPP						PPP	P	
RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET				PP	P				P	PP		
BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER				X	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		13	
EASTERN BLUEBIRD			XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX	
GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH				22	PP				XXX	X		
SWAINSON'S THRUSH				20	PP				XXX	X	14	
HERMIT THRUSH				XPX						XXX		
WOOD THRUSH				19	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX		
AMERICAN ROBIN			XXP	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
GRAY CATBIRD				20	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
BROWN THRASHER				XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX		
NORTHERN SHRIKE	XXX	XXX	XXX	6						2	XXX	XXX
SOLITARY VIREO				21	XPX				X	X	11	
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO				22	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX	19		
WARBLING VIREO				23X	XPX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX	11		
RED-EYED VIREO				25	XXP	XXX	XXX	XXX	XX			
TENNESSEE WARBLER				20	XPX			X	PPX	X	3	
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER				15X	P				X	PPX		31
NASHVILLE WARBLER				13	XPX			X	PPX	X	6	
YELLOW WARBLER				24	XPX	XXX	XXX	XXP	XXX	5		