

The Great Bird Count

Wild Birds in the Yard



January 15 -31

Details: [Link](#)



What's in the presentation?

- Who are the birds in the yard
- Bird Counting- why?
- How to count birds?
- Bird identifying
- Results
- Time for Questions
- eBird - the reporting app



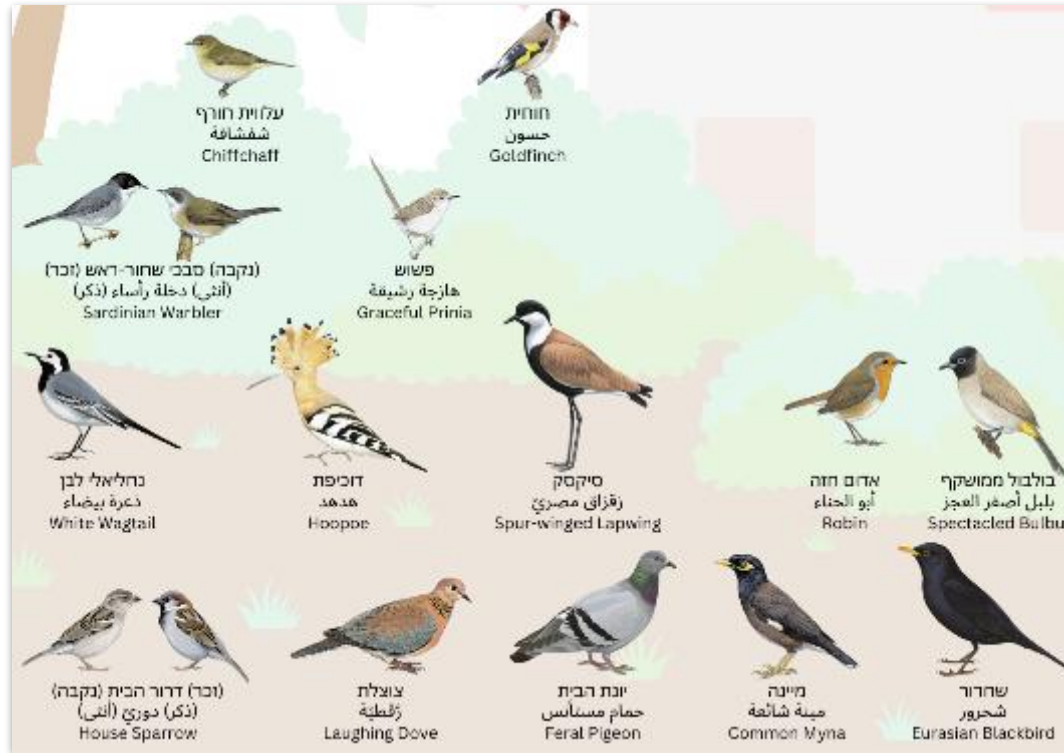
How to identify the birds in the yard?

The guide on
the site:



How to identify the birds in the yard?

The guide on
the site:



Tips for differentiating between look alike species

Collard Dove

Light gray with a thin black stripe around the nape of the neck



Laughing Dove

Brown body and the wings are gray and brown



Feral Pigeon

It has a variety of models and colors – gray, black, brown and white, stripes, shiny green colures and more



Tips for differentiating between similar species

Myna

The body is brown & black with white spots on the wings. The eye is almost surrounded by a yellow mask and the legs are orange



Blackbird

The body color is uniform - black or dark brown, around the eyes there is an orange circle and the legs are black



Tips for differentiating between look alike species

Rose-ringed Parakeet

The beak is red and the tail is very long



Monk Parakeet

The forehead, cheeks and throat are gray-white and the wing and tail have blue feathers



Tips for differentiating between look alike species

Graceful Prinia

The tail is body-length
and is held high



House Sparrow

The cheeks are
pale and the beak
is thick



Chiffchaff

Upper body parts
are yellowish



Sardinian Warbler

The head is gray and the eye is
surrounded by a reddish circle



Palestine Sunbird

The beak is long and
curved downwards



Chaffinch

On the wing are two prominent
white stripes



Why count birds?

To monitor and conserve birds and nature

scientific Aspect

Creating a multi-year database that includes the the numbers of birds and bird species near tour homes, identifying trends and changes in the frequency and distribution of birds over the years

Public Aspect

Increasing public involvement in nature conservation through citizen science

Educational Aspect

Increasing awareness and interest in the birds around us, deepening our knowledge and education for active citizenship



What is the Bird Count?

- *A Volunteer Initiative for the Conservation of Birds and Nature.
- *Carried out in Israel every year since 2006
- *Managed by the Backyard Birds Center in Israel, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, and the Steinhardt Museum of Natural History
- * Taking place in the second half of January
- *Counting according to fixed instructions and identity (protocol) of date, duration, method, counting area, and more.
- *To be detailed below



Why Citizen Science?

- *Participation of scientists and volunteer citizens in conducting scientific research.
- *The benefit to scientists: Helping to grow the database – a larger number of reports from a wider area.
- *The benefit to the volunteers: interest, knowledge, company, meaningful action, involvement in nature conservation, ability to make an impact.
- *Benefit to society: Better understanding of science and science-based decision-making.



How to count birds?

*Who can count?

Anyone, at any age! Even amateur or unskilled birdwatchers

*When?

Desired hours: 07:00-10:00 in the morning, when the birds are active in search of food and can be more easily observed. You can also count at other times of the day

* Counting time 10 minutes In one place, i.e. stationary observation



How do we avoid a double count?



At the beginning of the count there were 3 sparrows and 4 starlings, and after a few minutes the sparrows flew away and another starling arrived.

We will report 3 sparrows, 5 starlings.

In the case of observation of a flock of birds, the maximum number of birds observed at the same time must be reported.



Where to count birds?



- *We will count everywhere in the town or village:
- *In the yard and garden, In a public park, In the kindergarten/school yard
- *On the playground, and more.
- *Vision:
A place with a wide range of vision - within a radius of 100 meters and up to the height of the tall treetops.
- *Repeated observations: It is advisable to perform more than one count, each observation from a different place.
- *In each area we count, a separate report must be filled out in eBird



The internet site – emphasis on identification and reporting. [Link](#)

Learn to identify birds:

<https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/>



Down load eBird app. and learn how to use it:

ebird.org/home

eBird



Your reports are made public

To see the reports in real time, anywhere in the world, click here:

ebird.org/israel/livesubs

On the eBird website > the 'Review' tab > 'Submit a map' at the bottom.

About 10 seconds after you report you will see a flicker where you reported!



Your reports are made public



- *On the Israeli birding website (birds.org.il), your report will appear in 'Recent Lookouts' at the top of the title page.
- *Clicking on 'More Views' will also show a map.
- *You will be able to see your report about half an hour after you made a report.
- *The report will be displayed among the last 25 observations until it is suppressed by the following reports



סבירות הציפורים הגדולה
ציפורי בר בחצר הבית

Results from previous years



2025 Count Summary - The Most Common Species

*The five species most frequently observed nationwide were the **Hooded Crow**, **Common Myna**, **Feral pigeon**, **Palm Dove**, and the **Rose-ringed Parakeet**.

*The same quintet as last year and in fact in the last 4 years starting in 2022.

*All of them are species that thrive as a result of human activity and are therefore very common in human dwellings throughout the country.

1400

Reports

The most
common bird
**Hooded
Crow**

438

Reporters

Appears in
63%
of the reports

The five most common birds in a national view:



Reports were
sent from

204

Localities

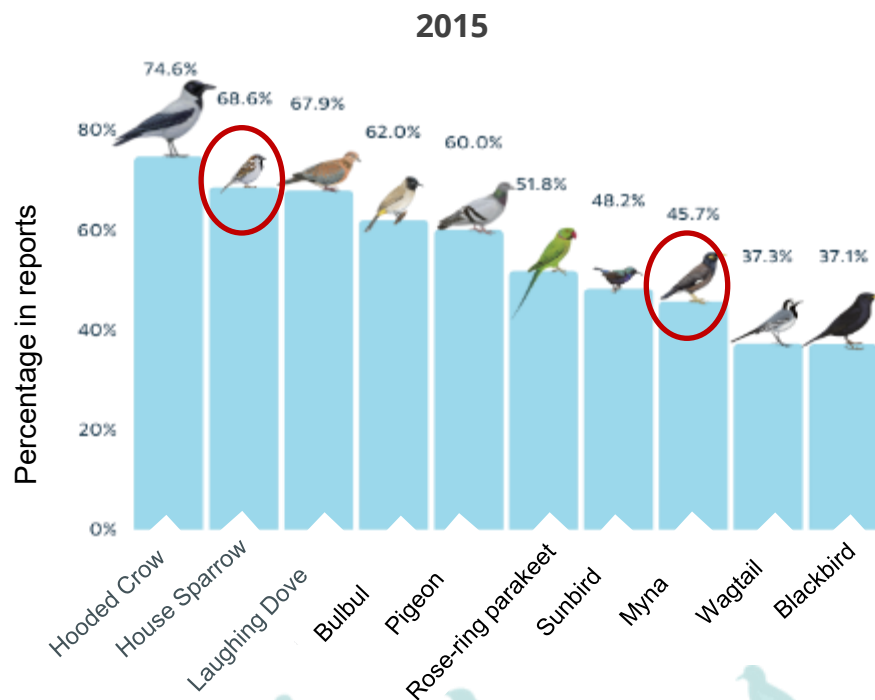
51,863

Birds were
reported

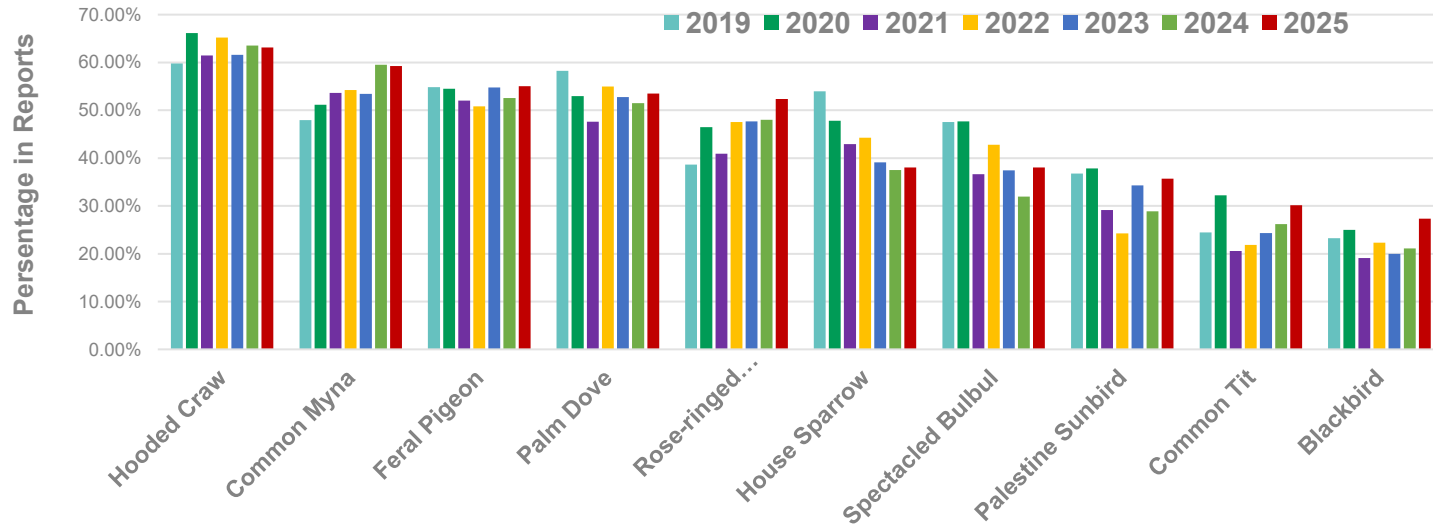
From **144**
Species

Changes over the years: national perspective

The 10 most common species in 2015 and 2025



Changes over the years: Top 10 in 7 years 2019 - 2025



Trends that can be seen in the graph In myna and Rose-ringed Parakeet, an increase, House Sparrow and the Spectacled Bulbul decreasing.

It is important to mention that 7 years of data is not enough to determine a significant change, so long-term monitoring over many years is essential.

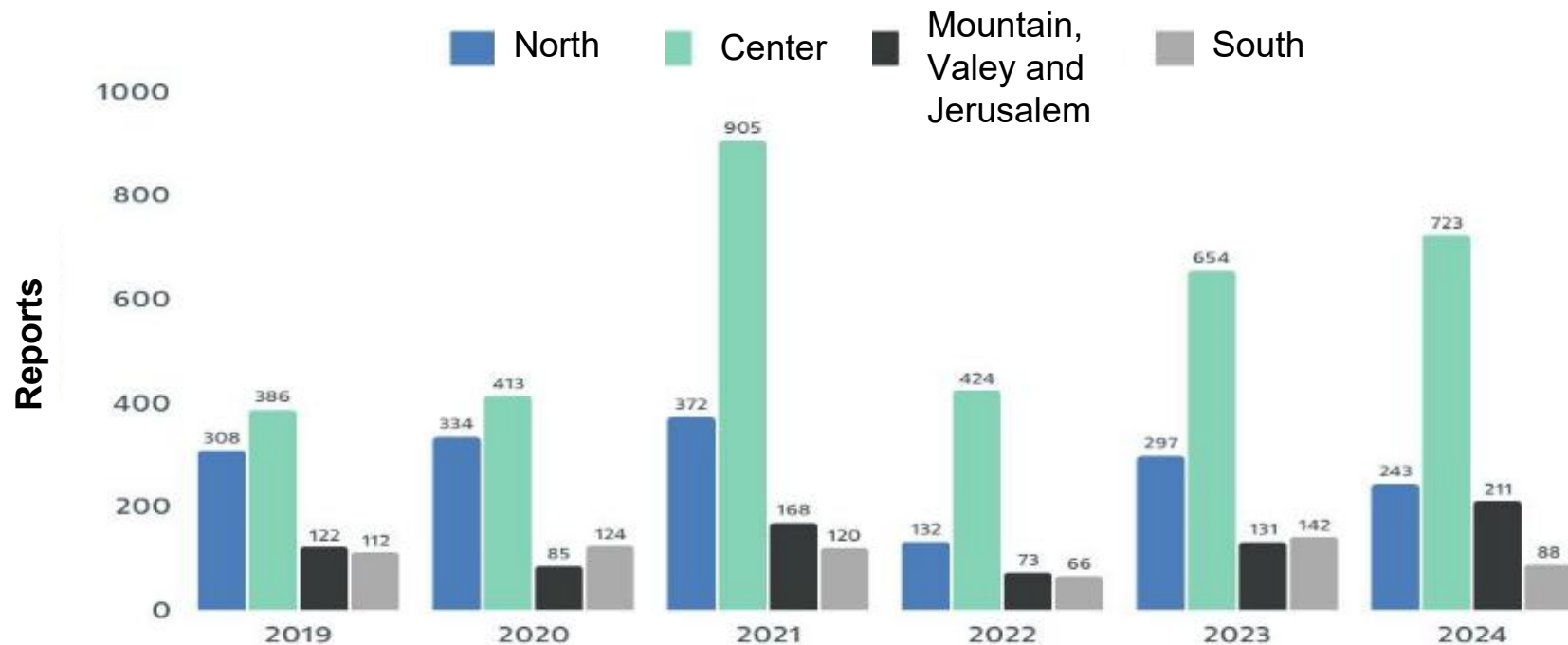
The first ten Species in Different Regions - 2025

There is variation between regions. For example, in the southern region, the **sparrow** has the highest incidence compared to the rest of the regions.



North 429 Reports		Center 643 Reports		Mountain and Valley 160 Reports		South 168 Reports	
Hooded Crow	59.2%	Common Myna	67.3%	Hooded Crow	58.1%	House Sparrow	56.5%
Feral- Pigeon	54.1%	Hooded Crow	66.9%	Laughing Dove	51.9%	Feral- Pigeon	54.8%
Common Myna	52.2%	Rose-ringed Parakeet	61.7%	Palestine Sunbird	51.3%	Laughing Dove	54.8%
Laughing Dove	45.5%	Laughing Dove	56.3%	Spectacled Bulbul	47.5%	Hooded Crow	51.8%
Rose-ringed Parakeet	43.8%	Feral- Pigeon	55.4%	House Sparrow	46.9%	Common Myna	48.2%
Great Tit	40.3%	Monk Parakeet	42.9%	Common Myna	45.6%	Rose-ringed Parakeet	46.4%
Palestine Sunbird	39.2%	House Sparrow	37.0%	Feral- Pigeon	45.6%	Palestine Sunbird	39.9%
Spectacled Bulbul	37.8%	Spectacled Bulbul	33.9%	Eurasian Blackbird	39.4%	Spectacled Bulbul	38.7%
Eurasian Jay	28.2%	Great Tit	27.1%	Rose-ringed Parakeet	33.8%	White Wagtail	28.6%
Eurasian Blackbird	28.0%	Palestine Sunbird	26.7%	Eurasian Jay	27.5%	Collared Dove	26.2%

Number of reports from different regions over 4 years



We need to raise awareness of the count in other areas as well, especially in the south

Tell everyone about the bird count!

The more people participate, the larger the database will be.
And the more you learn to identify birds, the better the quality of the data will be



For more explanations and assistance

[The Bird-Cont internet site](#)

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eBird

