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Front cover photo: Black-tailed Godwit (Michael Thackeray)**Back cover photos: Green Woodpecker (Karen Burns), Black Redstart (Jonathan Bull), Starlings (Linda Yeardley)****Design: Ian M. Spence****Great White Egret (Jonathan Bull)**

REVIEW OF THE BIRDING YEAR 2022

The year started with, arguably, the most unexpected news, when a Cirl Bunting was found overwintering in Eastern Glamorgan, the first in the area since 1934 and the first Welsh record since 2004. It reflects well on sterling conservation work in southwest England and hopefully we will see more records in the coming years. January also saw North Wales record the first of three species to be added to the Welsh List as a result of sightings in 2022, with a Snow Goose in the Dee estuary that is the first considered to be of wild origin.

Volunteers completed a winter of Wetland Bird Surveys for the first time since 2019/20, as lockdowns in the intervening winter had made it impossible to update trends in waterbird populations. Just a single family of Bewick's Swan was seen in Wales in 2022, and WeBS also recorded the lowest numbers ever of Pochard, Coot, Grey Plover and Ringed Plover, and the second-lowest count of Goldeneye in almost 60 years. Grey Plover, Ringed Plover, Goldeneye, Knot and Scaup were among 10 species for which the index was more than 50% lower than two years previously. Others included, more inexplicably, Gadwall and Mediterranean Gull.

Change in indices of species monitored by the Wetland Bird Survey in the long- and short-term

1995/96-2021/22 change (56 species and two forms of Brent Goose)



2019/20-2021/22 change (59 species and two forms of Brent Goose)



Decline >50%	No change	Increase <25%
Decline >25% and ≤50%		Increase >25% and ≤50%
Decline <25%		Increase >50%

Some scarcer wintering waterbirds are becoming increasingly rare. This was the second consecutive year without a Red-necked Grebe sighting (the last was in Pembrokeshire in November 2000), and it was a poor year for records of Glaucous and Iceland Gull. There were no Pochards in Radnorshire or Meirionnydd, two each in Ceredigion and Montgomeryshire, and only four in Caernarfonshire.

On the credit side of the equation, Dark-bellied Brent Goose, Red-throated Diver, Common Scoter and Bar-tailed Godwit recorded increases more than 50% higher than in 2019/20, although that trend for the last species contrasts with a long-term decline. Eider numbers in 2021/22 were the second highest in WeBS monitoring history, but increases away from traditional sites hide a 75% reduction at one of the few breeding areas: Broadwater, Meirionnydd. An increase in Pintails brought numbers back to levels considered typical in the 1980s and '90s, and the largest flock ever in Pembrokeshire was recorded. Surface flooding in the Cefni Valley led to the highest ever count of Shoveler in North Wales, with 683 at RSPB Cors Ddysa in January, and a site record count of Black-tailed Godwits there too. It's quite something that more Ring-necked Ducks were recorded in Wales than Turtle Doves...

Surveys indicate that Purple Sandpiper numbers in Wales are declining, although an index presented here for the first time and based on all regular passage and wintering sites suggests relatively little change since the turn of the century, and an upward trend since 2015/16. Bardsey had its – and Wales' – highest ever count of the species, with 109 in March. Great White Egret numbers hit a record high, but still with no confirmation of breeding, and the trend in Cattle Egret numbers also continued upward.

Early spring saw three British and Irish longevity records broken by individual birds in Wales: in March, a House Sparrow in Bedwas, Gwent, was recorded more than 13 years after being ringed there as a nestling in 2008, breaking a record set by another bird from the same site seen in 2020. In April, a colour-ringed Chough was seen on Anglesey that had been ringed as a chick on the island in 1998, beating a record set by a Ceredigion bird in 2019. A few days later, a colour-ringed Kittiwake returned to Skomer where it was ringed (as an adult) in 1991. This and the Chough are also new European longevity records for their species. Although not yet threatening the British and Irish record of almost 41 years, a Guillemot on Ynys Gwylan, Caernarfonshire, in June was 35 years of age. Full details are in the Ringing and Nest Record report, starting on p.370.

A Swallow overwintered successfully in Carmarthenshire, being seen into mid-March, while another made it at least to mid-February on Anglesey, but arriving migrants were slow and many were later than usual. There were some exceptions, notably for Wheatear, which occurred in good numbers at many coastal watchpoints; there was a very early Nightjar in Meirionnydd on 9 April; and some early records of Wood Warbler, including one on 23 March that was the earliest ever in Caernarfonshire and quite possibly in Wales. Numbers of Whimbrels passing through Wales in spring continued their apparent gradual decline, reflecting the trend in the Icelandic breeding population.

There were only a handful of records of Hoopoe and Wryneck, but a Moltoni's Warbler on Skokholm for almost two weeks in May was a first for Wales, a Dark-eyed Junco in Pembrokeshire was the fourth for Wales and a Siberian (*tristis*) Chiffchaff held territory on Bardsey for three weeks in early summer. A midsummer surprise was a White-throated Sparrow photographed in a garden in Porthcawl, Eastern Glamorgan, in late June.

Change in indices of species monitored by the Breeding Bird Survey in the long- and short-term

1995-2021 change (58 species)



2021-22 change (60 species)



Decline >50%	Increase <25%
Decline >25% and ≤50%	Increase >25% and ≤50%
Decline <25%	Increase >50%

The Breeding Bird Survey, which monitors the populations of our most widespread and abundant species, saw an increase in the populations of 41 of the 60 species compared to 12 months previously, significantly for Rook (by 60% in one year) but it still remains firmly in the Red list zone with a 26-year decline of 61%. Other species of high conservation concern with slightly improved fortunes since 2021 included Curlew, Yellowhammer, House Martin and Goldcrest, which for the last two species brought the long-term deficit just below 50%, the threshold for Red-listing. Fewer species declined than increased (unlike in the previous couple of years), and only one reduced significantly, which was Siskin. Other species with large one-year declines included Jay, Bullfinch, Swift and Wheatear.

Many of our breeding species are too scarce to be assessed accurately by the BBS, so there is a large suite of species such as Marsh Tit and Pied Flycatcher for which we have no real insight into their national fortunes. However, local surveys and monitoring provide some insights into trends. For example, a count of Red Grouse in the Elenydd, Radnorshire, was the highest this century; numbers of Garganey were at their highest for several years, with breeding confirmed at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, Flintshire, and possible breeding in Radnorshire; the number of territorial Hen Harriers was the highest reported since

the national survey in 2010; at least eight booming male Bitterns was the highest total since they re-established as a breeding species; and there were encouraging reports of a local recovery in Tree Sparrow and Western Yellow Wagtail breeding numbers in Radnorshire. Cetti's Warbler seems to have fully recovered from the effects of cold weather in 2017/18, and Dartford Warblers also seem finally to be recovering their losses. A new species was added to the list of breeding birds in Wales, as a pair of naturalised Egyptian Geese raised a brood in Montgomeryshire.

However, we should have real concerns for Short-eared Owl (two nests recorded), Merlin (19 previously occupied sites surveyed in Berwyn/Meirionnydd found to be empty) and Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, for which there were breeding season records of single birds at just 11 sites and no proven nesting. Numbers of Common Sandpiper recorded by WeBS were at their lowest since 1981/82, and there were only two confirmed breeding records of Red-breasted Merganser, a species whose non-breeding population has more than halved since 1996/97. Some sites reported reductions in numbers of Wood Warbler and Pied Flycatcher, and nest-monitoring of the latter species showed similar productivity to 2021 but great variation between sites. A 16% increase in the numbers of Blue Tits ringed and 9% in Great Tits may suggest a better year's breeding following 2021's disastrous season. Numbers of Bearded Tit at their only regular Welsh breeding site were at their lowest since nesting began in 2005, and there seems a very real risk that Wales could lose this species. Our breeding waders remain in a parlous state: 165-183 pairs of Curlew, min. 136 Lapwing nests, 95-100 pairs of Redshank (but the best year since 2008 at RSPB Ynys-hir, Ceredigion) and 47-57 pairs of Ringed Plover.

The spectre of HPAI hung over the breeding season for seabird wardens and enthusiasts, as the virus hopped from colony to colony down the west and east coasts of Britain from Scotland. Mercifully, auks and terns had fledged and left their Welsh breeding sites before the virus hit Wales. There was very welcome news from Anglesey where Gannets fledged chicks for the first time at Ynys Badrig, only the second colony ever in Wales, and it appeared that Sandwich Terns bred on the Inland Sea. Little Terns had a record number of nests at Gronant and nearby at RSPB Point of Ayr, Flintshire, and a Roseate Tern fledged on The Skerries, Anglesey.

However, the prolonged breeding season of Gannets meant they did not avoid HPAI, and by late summer it was clear that there were large gaps in the colony at Grassholm, Pembrokeshire. RSPB Cymru estimated "upwards of 5000 birds" were missing from almost 35,500 pairs counted in May. The effects of HPAI elsewhere in northwest Europe were evident in counts of Great Skua off the Welsh coast, a species badly affected on their Scottish breeding islands in 2021 and 2022. Passage numbers were almost 85% lower than the 2000-21 average, whereas counts of other skua species were not untypical – although a Pomarine Skua at the National Botanic Garden, Carmarthenshire, more than 20km from the sea was far from usual. There was a welcome increase in Balearic Shearwaters seen off the Welsh coast, although not the numbers of earlier in the century, but it was another poor autumn for sightings of Leach's Petrel.

The now-familiar post-breeding arrival of Mediterranean Gulls from continental Europe occurred in late summer. The Welsh count record was broken yet again, with 1250 at Llanon, Ceredigion, in early August; the county record for Carmarthenshire was also smashed with 508 in July, and 308 off Bardsey in October was the highest island count. Late summer brought an influx of Curlew Sandpipers, making it the best year since 1999, although Little Stint numbers were modest. A count of 2250 Curlews at Traeth Lafan, Caernarfonshire, in August was the highest ever recorded in Wales. In September, nine Ospreys in the air together at Pont Croesor, Caernarfonshire, followed the most successful breeding season yet in Wales.

Autumn provided the majority of the rarer vagrants, starting with Wales' third Pallid Harrier in Pembrokeshire in September, but the headline-stealer was on Skokholm, in the shape of a Tennessee Warbler, the seventh British record. Late October saw two Red-flanked Bluetails in Wales, including one inland in Eastern Glamorgan. There was a significant arrival of thrushes from Scandinavia overnight on 19

October: day-counts of over 6000 Fieldfares were recorded at two sites in southeast Wales and 6970 was the largest ever count on Bardsey. The following week 10,000 Redwings were over Lavernock Point, Eastern Glamorgan.

A Long-billed Dowitcher found in a wader ringing catch at Aber Ogwen, Caernarfonshire, was the first of its species to be ringed in Wales, and was relocated along the coast later in the month. Other notable ringing recoveries in 2022 included a Nightjar ringed as a nestling in Denmark in summer 2021 that was caught by a ringer in breeding habitat in Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire, in June; a Great Spotted Woodpecker that spent its first winter at Marloes, Pembrokeshire, in 2020/21 and was found dead near Goldalming, Surrey, in September 2022; and the discovery of a metal ring in a bag of compost purchased in Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, in May that had been attached to a Curlew nestling in Perth and Kinross in 2010.

Numbers of Yellow-browed Warblers returned to more normal levels following a paucity in 2021, and noticeably more Chiffchaffs remained into the early part of the winter. Once again, a strong autumn passage of Woodpigeons was noted in southeast Wales, including 264,000 over Portskeewett, Gwent, on the morning of 4 November. It was the largest ever day-count in Wales, and may well be the largest ever in Britain.

The year finished with a pulse of cold weather from the east, pushing Lapwings and Golden Plovers into Wales in greater numbers than usual. There were also high counts of Pintail at some sites, including a county-record 1100 at Foryd, Caernarfonshire, and 960 Tufted Ducks at Cardiff Bay was the highest WeBS total from a site in Wales since winter 1986/87. Despite the cold, there were December records of Swallow from three counties and seven Whimbrel at Angle Bay, Pembrokeshire, may be the largest group recorded in the winter in Wales.



Fieldfare (Michael Thackeray)

What do BirdTrack reporting rates tell us?

Top 10 species by reporting rate in 2022.

The BirdTrack reporting rate (the proportion of complete lists submitted that included the species) fell for many of our most abundant species. Many of these are urban and suburban-dwellers that saw elevated rates during lockdown periods in 2020 and 2021. As a result, Blackbird lost top-spot to Carrion Crow and only Herring Gull occurred on a greater proportion of lists than in the previous year.

Species	% of BirdTrack lists	Change on 2021
Carrion Crow	68	-0.5
Blackbird	65.5	-3.4
Robin	63.8	-2.6
Woodpigeon	59.5	-1.3
Herring Gull	54.3	+2.0
Magpie	52.4	-2.2
Wren	49.5	-0.5
Blue Tit	49.1	-4.5
Jackdaw	47.6	-4.5
Dunnock	43.8	-2.2

Species with the greatest increase in BirdTrack reporting rate (2013-15/2020-22).

The species with the greatest increase in reporting rate was Egyptian Goose, with 77% more BirdTrack records than in 2021, and a greater increase than any species since 2013-15 (when there were no records in two of those three years). Other species to have been reported more frequently over the last decade are wetland colonists Great White Egret and Cattle Egret, Marsh Harrier and Spoonbill. The increases in populations of Pale-bellied Brent and Pink-footed Geese are also reflected in the table, and that for White-fronted Goose may reflect the appearance of a wintering population on Anglesey.

Species	% of BirdTrack lists
Egyptian Goose	+1200
Great White Egret	+950
Cattle Egret	+650
Marsh Harrier	+369
Ring-necked Duck	+300
Pale-bellied Brent Goose	+257
Mandarin Duck	+233
Pink-footed Goose	+200
White-fronted Goose	+150
Spoonbill	+150

Excludes species with a zero value in more than two years during 2013-22.

Species with the greatest reduction in BirdTrack reporting rate (2013-15/2020-22).

The species recorded on fewer BirdTrack lists include seven seabirds, some of which breed here and some of which are seen only on passage. Reporting rates of others, such as Gannet and Arctic Skua have also fallen, suggesting that far fewer seawatching counts are being submitted, so it is hard to disaggregate the trends from genuine reductions in either numbers or weather conditions that push birds inshore. Of the others, the paucity of Little Owl and Short-eared Owl records reflects their increasing rarity in many counties, while the reporting rate for Yellow-browed Warbler was reduced by very low numbers in 2021 compared to any year in the previous decade.

Species	% of BirdTrack lists
Storm Petrel	-94
Yellow-browed Warbler	-86
Short-eared Owl	-83
Puffin	-78
Little Owl	-78
Manx Shearwater	-77
Balearic Shearwater	-75
Great Skua	-71
Kittiwake	-68
Grey Phalarope	-66

Excludes species with a zero value in more than two years during 2013-22.

Bird flu hits Wales’ birds

During summer 2022, it became apparent that outbreaks of the H5N1 strain of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) were occurring across the UK, and that seabirds, as colonial breeders, were particularly vulnerable. Gannets and terns were particularly affected on North Sea coasts and Great Skua in Scotland, and seabird wardens looked on anxiously as the virus swept south and west, in the knowledge that there was little action they could take. Grassholm, the third largest Gannet colony in the world, was the Welsh site that saw the biggest outbreak, with RSPB Cymru reporting that “upwards of 5000” birds had died or abandoned the Pembrokeshire island. However, the impact proved to be far worse, with numbers 52% lower in 2023 than in the spring 2022 survey.

Mercifully, burrow-nesting Manx Shearwaters and Puffins seemed to have a lower risk of contagion, and before the disease could reach North Wales, the bulk of the breeding terns and auks had left their colonies. Less well reported is the range of species that have tested positive, including terrestrial species of high conservation concern including Curlew and Hen Harrier, although these were only discovered as a result of the intensive monitoring associated with conservation projects.

The full impact of HPAI will not be known for some years, especially among seabirds that are long-lived with relatively low reproduction rates. Testing of wild birds for HPAI by the Animal and Health Protection Agency varied according to the species and location, so tells us little about the numbers affected. Once an individual of a species has tested positive at a location, no further tests are carried out in that season, so the table below in no way reflects the scale of the outbreak. There were 93 individuals of 19 known species (plus a pigeon, swan, raptor and four geese that were not identified) that tested positive during the year.

Numbers of birds testing positive for HPAI in Wales in each three-month period of 2022.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Greylag Goose	1		1	5
Canada Goose	2			3
Goose sp.		4		
Mute Swan	9	3		8
Swan sp.	1			
Mallard				4
Pheasant				9
Pigeon sp.	1			
Moorhen				1
Curlew			1	
Kittiwake			1	
Black-headed Gull		1	1	
Herring Gull		2	8	
Guillemot				1
Lesser Black-backed Gull			1	1
Gannet			7	2
Hen Harrier		2	1	1
Buzzard	3		1	1
Bird of prey sp.				1
Sparrowhawk	1			
Goshawk	1			
Peregrine	1			
Carrion Crow		2		
Individuals +ve	20	14	22	37

In the early part of the year, Mute Swans and geese in urban and suburban settings tested positive, along with a number of raptors that may have scavenged dead birds. As the breeding season progressed, several Hen Harrier chicks and a Curlew chick sent for post-mortem by RSPB Cymru projects were screened for HPAI and found positive. These were before the outbreak in seabirds became apparent. During the autumn, Pheasant was the most frequently positive species, but it is unknown whether transmission was from wild birds or other released gamebirds.

CLIMATE AND WEATHER SUMMARY FOR WALES IN 2022

This summary is based on State of the Climate 2022 (Kendon *et al.* 2023) and, for river flows, the National Hydrological Monitoring Programme at nrfa.ceh.ac.uk/monthly-hydrological-summary-uk.

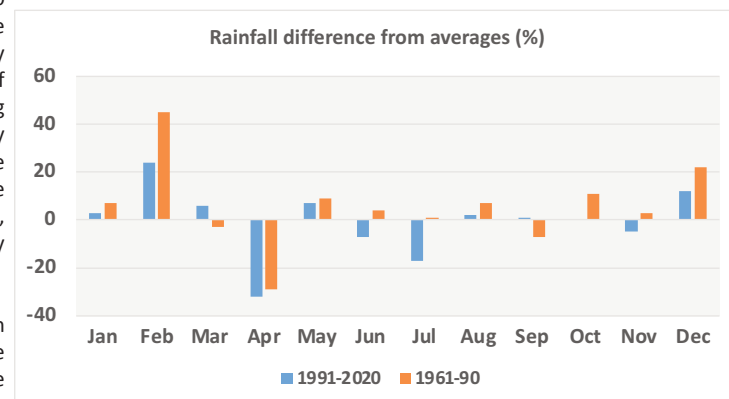
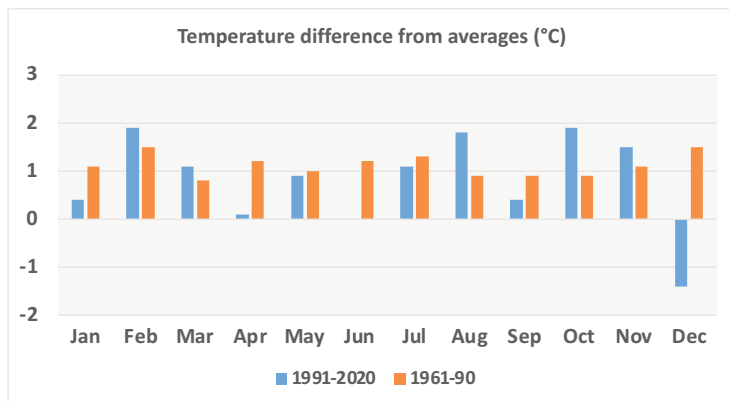
2022 was the warmest year on record in the UK, surpassing 2014 for both its maximum and mean temperatures, and it was the second warmest ever for minimum temperature (measured since 1884). In an even more historic context, it was the warmest year in Central England since records began in 1659, and that may well also be true of the Welsh borderlands.

The UK mean temperature for the year was 10°C, which is 0.9°C above the 1991-2020 average, and all four seasons were in the top 10 warmest for the UK. Rainfall was below normal through the first two-thirds of the year, the driest January-August period in the UK since 1976, and it was among the least snowy on record. Over the past 30 years (1993–2022) the sea level has risen by 11.4 cm. The warming of the UK is increasing slightly more quickly than the global average and both this, and the extremes experienced, were made more likely by climate change.

Across Wales, the mean temperature for the year was 1.6°C above the 1961-90 average. Temperatures were

above the long-term average in every month, and against the 1990-2020 average only December was lower. Rainfall levels were typical of the last 30 years, but 7% higher than 1961-90, with wet winter months and a drier than average spring.

January began with the warmest New Year's Day on record and remained mild, damp and windy, but rainfall and river flows were 50-60% below average. There were few frosts except in the uplands, where St Harmon, Radnorshire, recorded an overnight low of -6.9°C on 21st. The unsettled theme continued into February, when three named storms in five days moved in from the Atlantic mid-month: Storms Dudley and Franklin clipped North Wales, between which Storm Eunice caused widespread disruption across the country, and gusts of up to 87mph at Mumbles, Gower. The rain recharged the country's reservoirs and



produced flows 70-90% above the norm. As the equal third warmest **February** since Welsh records began in 1884, there was hardly any frost except in the high mountains, and even here any light snow lay for only a few days.

The start and end of **March** were cool, but unsettled mild conditions mid-month resulted in above-average temperatures and below-average rainfall. Colder conditions in the last few days extended into **April**, with several frosty nights in the uplands, the mercury falling to -7.6°C overnight at St Harmon on 2nd. It was otherwise a mild and dry month, conditions that continued through much of **May**.

June started wet and windy in North Wales over the Platinum Jubilee bank holiday weekend, with 94.2mm of rain at Crickieth, Caernarfonshire, on 4th. It remained unsettled for the following week: the maximum temperature at Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire, was 9.5°C on 5th, winds gusted to 59mph at Capel Curig, Caernarfonshire, on 10th, and the thermometers at St Harmon fell to -1.0°C overnight on 13th. However, South Wales experienced warmer weather as the month progressed, with Bute Park, East Glamorgan, reaching 28.4°C on 17th.

July saw an extreme heatwave, with temperatures in excess of 40°C recorded for the first time in Britain. In Wales, it was 1.1°C above the 30-year average, but up to 2°C above average in the south. The extreme was lower than the 40.3°C recorded at Coningsby, Lincolnshire, and lasted for a shorter period than in eastern England. It was above 30°C across much of Wales on 18th, when a new Welsh record of 37.1°C was set at Hawarden, Flintshire, and continued overnight with temperatures at Aberporth, Ceredigion, not falling below 24.5°C. Rainfall in July was below average, with less than one-third of normal in southeast Wales, but it was wet and windy in the uplands at the end of the month. There was 50.6mm at Dinas Reservoir, Ceredigion, on 30th, but this barely dented the low flow rates in many rivers, and the R.Yscir, Breconshire, registered its lowest July flow since records began in 1972, at just 15% of normal. The Rivers Wye, Cynon and Conwy also ran low, and ground water levels in the Vale of Glamorgan hit a record low.

Atlantic weather fronts brought high rainfall totals to parts of North Wales in early **August**, including 85.4mm at Ysbyty Ifan, Caernarfonshire, on 1st, which caused the R.Conwy to rise quickly and flood parts of Llanrwst. Otherwise, rainfall was below average, less than one-third of normal in some places away from the north, resulting in the eighth driest August since records began in 1836. Another heatwave in southern England extended to Wales briefly, with daytime temperatures of 33.8°C at Usk, Gwent, on 13th and an overnight minimum of 21°C at Aberdaron, Caernarfonshire, on 14th.

September was benign, with very average temperatures and rainfall, but the long period of low rainfall resulted in the whole of Wales being declared in drought: most Welsh reservoirs were below half their capacity, and those in the Elan Valley were almost 70% below. Soil moisture levels had remained normal through most of the summer, but groundwater levels in South Wales at record low levels. Autumn was mild, frequently verging on warm. A prolonged airflow from North Africa resulted in, among other things, a boom for moth-recorders, including multiple records of North African migrants such as Clifden Nonpareil and Crimson Speckled in Wales.

October was wet and windy, and heavy rain early in the month brought brief surface flooding to parts of mid-Wales (Crai Reservoir, Breconshire, recorded 87.8 mm on 4th). Cardiff's Bute Park hit 19.9°C on 27th, heralding the UK's third warmest (and Wales' fifth warmest) **November** since records began in 1884. Porthmadog, Caernarfonshire, was the warmest place in the UK that month, hitting 21.2°C on 13th and Hawarden did not fall below 14.6°C on 10th. Few places had frost, although Sennybridge, Breconshire, recorded a low of -2.5°C on 19th. It was a wet month, with high river flows in the southern half of Wales and a record flow for November on the R.Tawe. This recharged groundwater levels and improved reservoir levels, although many of the latter remained 20% below the norm until the end of the year.

By contrast, there was a prolonged cold spell during the first half of **December**, the most significant since December 2010. Wales saw widespread and severe frosts, even on some coasts. There was limited snowfall, the most at any weather station being 3cm at Corgam, Ceredigion, on 11-14th, and temperatures fell to -12.1°C at Sennybridge on 14th. However, the weather rapidly turned mild, damp and windy heading into and beyond Christmas. The highest temperature recorded in the UK that month was 15.9°C at Prestatyn and Hawarden, both in Flintshire, and the highest wind speed recorded was 82 mph at Capel Curig on the 19th.

BIRD RECORDING IN WALES

The vast majority of records used to compile the Welsh Bird Report, and the data presented from national recording schemes, are collected by enthusiastic and knowledgeable volunteers. We sometimes lament our lack of knowledge about birds in Wales, but it is far more complete thanks to this army of unpaid expertise than it would otherwise be. The backbone of this huge collation of records is the bird clubs and the network of county bird recorders that they support, plus the bird observatories on Bardsey and Skokholm, with their long run of monitoring effort. A list of bird reports appears on p.386.

The Welsh Ornithological Society uses the Watsonian vice-county system (hereafter referred to as counties for simplicity) as the basis of bird recording in Wales, illustrated on the map on p.140 (see the Ray Society, publication no. 146). This system largely matches the pre-1974 political administrative counties, but there are small differences shown on the map.

Bird data collected in Wales

This Report uses statistics collected by several monitoring schemes and two that collect birdwatchers' records from across the world. All these contribute to assessments of conservation status in Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 4 (Johnstone *et al.* 2023), except for the BTO Garden BirdWatch.

Indices of 60 breeding species are presented from the UK Breeding Bird Survey, where the species occurs in a minimum of 30 randomly-selected 1-km squares in Wales. These squares are visited twice each spring to record all the birds present, with habitat information also collected. The Breeding Bird Survey is run by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and is jointly funded by the BTO, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)*. The blue dots show the annual index and the red line shows the smoothed trend; the blue shading, where shown, denotes the 85% confidence intervals.

Headline figures for Wales from BirdTrack show the number of records received in Wales and, importantly, the proportion of 'complete lists' on which the species occurred during the year. BirdTrack lists convert unstructured sightings into data that can be analysed, as well as providing a platform for birdwatchers to maintain their records and submit them automatically to local bird recorders. For selected species, the reporting rates since 2012 are shown for interest. These are neither as robust nor as representative as the BBS trends, not least because of a strong geographic bias towards sites that appeal to birdwatchers and, in 2020, to gardens and urban areas. BirdTrack is organised by the British Trust for Ornithology for the BTO, RSPB, BirdWatch Ireland, Scottish Ornithologists' Club and the Welsh Ornithological Society.

Indices of waterbirds in Wales are presented using data collected from the Wetland Bird Survey, the current incarnation of surveys to monitor ducks, geese, swans and waders since the 1960s, and which now extends to divers, grebes, cormorants, crakes/rails, gulls, terns and Kingfisher. Volunteers count all waterbirds present on estuaries, inland waterbodies and some stretches of open coast at high tide each month. Where

* JNCC involvement in the partnerships listed is on behalf of the statutory nature conservation bodies: Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland, Natural England, Natural Resources Wales and NatureScot.

a trend is shown, blue dots show the annual index and the red line shows the smoothed trend; the blue shading, where shown, denotes the 95% confidence intervals. Data were provided by WeBS, a Partnership jointly funded by the British Trust for Ornithology, RSPB and JNCC*, with fieldwork conducted by volunteers. Although WeBS data are presented within this report, in some cases the figures may not have been fully checked and validated. Therefore, for any detailed analyses of WeBS data, enquiries should be directed to the WeBS team at the British Trust for Ornithology, The Nunnery, Thetford, IP24 2PU (webs@bto.org).

Data from the Seabird Monitoring Programme (SMP), funded jointly by BTO and JNCC* in association with the RSPB, was used to supplement information in bird reports.



Counties in Wales used for bird-recording. Note the zones that differ from the 'old' counties: in (a) records are maintained by Denbighshire (VC50), although it is administratively in Powys; those from (b) and (c), while historically in Breconshire, are maintained by recorders in Eastern Glamorgan and Gwent respectively; area (d), while historically in Gwent, is part of the Eastern Glamorgan recording area and follows the modern boundary of the Cardiff and Newport unitary authorities.

For non-breeding species for which casual records in Wales are considered to be representative of occurrence, these data have been used to produce charts in the accounts for almost 50 species since 2000. We encourage WOS members and *Welsh Bird Report* readers to register on **BirdTrack.net** and use it whenever you are birding, and for those who are able to commit to regular surveys, to contact their BTO regional representative.

Finally, the Welsh Ornithological Society and all the county recorders in Wales support the work of the Rare Breeding Birds Panel. Welsh data contribute to the UK RBBP annual report published in *British Birds*. To encourage greater coverage of the rare and scarce breeding species, their current Welsh status is shown

in the relevant species headers here. All breeding evidence, including the presence of birds in suitable breeding habitat at the right time of year - including non-native species - is important to the assessment of the county, Welsh and UK populations of these rarer species. A list of the RBBP species that occur in Wales is on the WOS website: <https://birds.wales/recording-rare-birds>.

For selected species, where an interesting change is evident, the reporting rate for gardens participating in the BTO Garden BirdWatch is cited in the text.

Rare and scarce birds in Wales

The Welsh Birds Rarities Committee (WBRC) is part of the Welsh Ornithological Society and considers records of all scarce species in Wales, defined as those occurring five times or fewer per year in Wales on average, but which are not on the list of species considered by the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC). Records considered in 2022 are published in Issue 2 of this volume, on the WOS website (Green 2023).

Descriptions can be submitted via county recorders or direct to the WBRC Secretary. Forms are available from county recorders or the Secretary. Any observer submitting a description to the WBRC can see its deliberations on the record on request. The Committee has five voting members and a non-voting Secretary. Membership in 2022 comprised: Steve Stansfield - Bardsey (Chair), Richard Brown - Skokholm and Pembrokeshire, Chris Jones - Denbighshire, Simon Murray - Eastern Glamorgan and Gower, Paul Roberts - Eastern Glamorgan, Robin Sandham - Caernarfonshire, and a non-voting Secretary, Jon Green - Ceredigion.

Category A species assessed by the Welsh Birds Rarities Committee (from January 2023).

Taiga Bean Goose	Red-necked Phalarope	Red-footed Falcon	Barred Warbler
Tundra Bean Goose	Lesser Yellowlegs	Red-backed Shrike	Bluethroat
American Wigeon	Ring-billed Gull	Woodchat Shrike	Nightingale
Green-winged Teal	Caspian Gull	Golden Oriole	Red-flanked Bluetail
Surf Scoter	White-winged Black Tern	Penduline Tit	Red-breasted Flycatcher
Smew	White-billed Diver	Shore Lark	Citrine Wagtail
Alpine Swift	Wilson's Petrel	Short-toed Lark	Olive-backed Pipit
Corncrake	Cory's Shearwater	Red-rumped Swallow	Common Rosefinch
Spotted Crake	Great Shearwater	Pallas's Warbler	Common Redpoll
Red-necked Grebe	Night-heron	Radde's Warbler	Arctic Redpoll
Stone-curlew	Purple Heron	Dusky Warbler	Serin
Black-winged Stilt	Golden Eagle	Greenish Warbler	Corn Bunting
American Golden Plover	Montagu's Harrier	Arctic Warbler	Ortolan Bunting
Temminck's Stint	Black Kite	Blyth's Reed Warbler	Cirl Bunting
White-rumped Sandpiper	White-tailed Eagle	Marsh Warbler	Little Bunting
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	Rough-legged Buzzard	Melodious Warbler	Rustic Bunting
Pectoral Sandpiper	Bee-eater	Icterine Warbler	

Scarce subspecies are considered on the same basis, i.e. those occurring on average five times or fewer annually. Examples include:

Black Brant Goose – <i>nigricans</i>	Little Auk – <i>polaris</i>	Coal Tit – <i>ater</i>
Iceland Gull – <i>kumlieni</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker – <i>major</i>	Jay – <i>glandarius</i>
Common Guillemot – <i>hyperborean</i>	Grey-headed Wagtail – <i>thunbergi</i>	Jackdaw – <i>monedula</i>
Razorbill – <i>torda</i>	Treecreeper – <i>familiaris</i>	Bullfinch – <i>pyrrhula</i>

Not all records of species on these lists reach the relevant committee. Records not published here may not have been submitted or still be under consideration. It is helpful if descriptions of BBRC and WBRC species are submitted as soon as possible after the sighting. Records should be submitted to BBRC through county recorders or in an electronic form to secretary@bbrc.org.uk. If it is a written or typed description, please send it to the WBRC Secretary who will scan and send it on to the BBRC. Jon Green, Crud-yr-Awel, Bowls Road, Blaenporth, Cardigan SA43 2AR, email: welshrarebirds@tiscali.co.uk.

It is WOS policy only to publish records of species assessed by the BBRC or WBRC once it has been accepted by the relevant body.

Treatment of records in the Welsh Bird Report

The Systematic List covers the calendar year 2022 unless otherwise indicated. Bird reports were available for all recording areas except Gwent, Eastern Glamorgan and Radnorshire. Records submitted to BirdTrack and eBird have been used for these counties and, for some species, to supplement information for counties that produce summary reports. Any errors or omissions will be corrected in the 2023 report.

Species taxonomy and order is based on that of the International Ornithological Congress, status is based on The Welsh List (see p.383), English names are based on the BOURC British List and Welsh names on *The Birds of Wales/Adar Cymru* (Pritchard *et al.* 2021). The species included are those placed by WOS in Category A (recorded in an apparently natural state in Wales at least once since 1 January 1950) or Category C (introduced species that have a self-sustaining population). A list of birds, to subspecies level, that have been recorded in Wales is available at <https://birds.wales/welsh-rare-birds-committee>. Birds recorded away from captivity but not on the Welsh List are shown separately, following the systematic list.

The status summaries (in italics below each species name) are based on assessments published in *The Birds of Wales/Adar Cymru* (Pritchard *et al.* 2021), using population estimates in Hughes *et al.* (2020), Burnell *et al.* (2023) and Eaton *et al.* (2023a). The definitions used, based on records during 1990-2019, are: **Abundant**, **Fairly Common**, **Uncommon/Localised**, **Scarce** (more than 35 records, but fewer than five birds per year in the last few years), **Rare** (10-35 birds in past 30 years), **Very Rare** (3-9 birds in past 30 years) and **Extremely Rare** (0-2 birds in past 30 years) – see Thorpe and Stratford (2021). For rare breeding species, the total for its most recent appearance in the RBBP report are cited (*e.g.* Eaton *et al.* 2023b).

Waterbird alerts for Wales are from Woodward *et al.* (2019) and trends in non-estuarine waders are from Humphreys *et al.* (2021). For some species, monthly maximum counts for the main sites are tabulated as available. These figures are the peak count recorded at each site in that month and may not be coordinated counts on a single day. Some overlap may therefore occur, as birds move between sites. For some wildfowl, the numbers of breeding pairs are assessed by the number of males present during the breeding season.

WOS and county bird recorders have formally agreed the adoption of county names in both Welsh and English languages, which are shown on the website birds.wales. These reflect local usage, even though they vary in their use of the '-shire' suffix. These names are shown on the map on p.140, but for conciseness, the systematic list uses shortened forms (*e.g.* Brecon, not Breconshire).

Records from GLAMORGAN are split into E.GLAMORGAN and GOWER. Where sites border two vice-counties (mostly estuaries), records are shown based on the county from which they were seen, unless they were reported from both, such as on the well-watched Teifi estuary where birds are frequently reported from both Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion, so records are shown as PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION. In these instances, the maximum number/date range is reported, even if the exact dates and numbers differ slightly from each side.

On Anglesey, although Llyn Traffwll is part of RSPB Valley Wetlands nature reserve, it is counted separately from the rest of the site in the Wetland Bird Survey, and we follow that convention. Most of RSPB Conwy nature reserve is in DENBIGH, but a very small part of the reserve lies in CAERNARFON. Much of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands nature reserve is in Wirral, but this report includes records where birds were known to be in FLINT. The Clwyd estuary straddles the county border with Flintshire, but all records downstream of Rhuddlan are allocated to DENBIGH.

The records for some species are summarised to show the total recorded in each month for each county. Where a bird stays into two or more months it is recorded for each month. In tables of early and late migrants, the most extreme date in Wales is shown in bold type. Where comparable counts are shown for breeding seabirds, those that are lower in the current year are shaded grey. For breeding species, the conventions of confirmed, probable and possible breeding are followed (as per Balmer *et al.* 2013, for example), but those that are confirmed or reported as “bred” does not assume that nesting was successful. The conservation status of each species in Wales is noted as Red, Amber or Green species of conservation concern in Wales, from Johnstone *et al.* (2023), with most recent changes shown.

Abbreviations used in the report

AOL	Adults on Land
AON	Apparently Occupied Nests
AOS	Apparently Occupied Sites
asl	above sea level
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey
CP	Country Park
CQNR	Connah’s Quay NR
est.	estuary
GC	Golf Course
GP	Gravel Pit
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
NR	Nature Reserve
NNR	National Nature Reserve (designated)
P	Species present (in tables)
Pt	Point
R.	River
RBBP	Rare Breeding Birds Panel
Res.	Reservoir
RG	Ringling Group
WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
WP	Water Park
WTW	Water Treatment Works

Birds are aged according to their calendar year, as transcribed in the table below.

Welsh Bird Report description	Non-calendar description
Juvenile	Used only in relation to birds at nest/colony
1CY	Juvenile, first-winter (to 31 Dec.)
2CY	1 st winter (from 1 Jan.), 1 st summer, 2 nd -winter (to 31 Dec.)
3CY	2 nd -winter (from 1 Jan.), 2 nd -summer, 3 rd -winter (to 31 Dec.)

RECORDS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

In addition to the systematic list for 2022, attention is drawn to the following records of species and subspecies accepted by the relevant rarities committee that did not occur this year, but which feature in Green *et al.* 2023:

BLUE-WINGED TEAL *Spatula discors* CORHWYADEN ASGELL-LAS. CAERNARFON: The Spinnies on 30 March 2020. First county record.

WILSON’S PHALAROPE *Phalaropus tricolor* LLYDANDROED WILSON. FLINT: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 21-23 Sept. 2021.

BAROLO SHEARWATER *Puffinus baroli* ADERYN DRYCAN BAROLO. PEMBROKE: singles at Strumble Head on 1 Sept. 2000, 18 Sept. 2000, 25 Oct. 2000, 30 Oct. 2000 and 31 Aug. 2015. These were accepted following a review by the BBRC (Bacon *et al.* 2023).

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* CREYR NOS. E.GLAMORGAN: 2CY at Hensol Lake on 1 July 1999.

WESTERN SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia iberiae* TELOR BRONGOCH Y GORLLEWIN. PEMBROKE: Skomer on 20 May.

HUME’S WARBLER *Phylloscopus humeii* TELOR HUME. GOWER: Rhossili on 28-31 Oct. 2016.

BLACK-HEADED WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava feldegg* SIGLEN BENDDU. E.GLAMORGAN: 2CY female on Cardiff Bay barrage on 14 May 2021.

BLACK-HEADED/RED-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza melanocephala/bruniceps* BRAS PENDDU/PENGOCH. CAERNARFON: 1CY on Bardsey on 19-24 Sept. 1992, where it was ringed. This record had previously been accepted as Black-headed Bunting, but this has been amended following a BBRC review.

ERRATA IN WELSH BIRD REPORT 2021

The charts on pages 168, 175, 181 and 189 of WBR 2021 displayed incorrect values for the numbers of Yellow-legged Gulls (in 2021), Pomarine Skuas (in 2008-21), Black-throated Divers (in 2021) and Spoonbills (in 2021). These have been corrected in the updated charts in this report.

Ring-necked Duck. BRECON. Record at Dolymynach Res. also occurred in RADNOR.

Red-breasted Merganser. ANGLESEY: crèche of 23 was seen on 8 July.

Crane. CARMARTHEN record (3 April 2021) was also accepted for GOWER, as it flew from Whiteford Pt.

Grey Heron. RADNOR. Delete record from Leech Pool, as it is in Herefordshire.

Willow Tit. RADNOR. Delete record from Byton, as it is in Herefordshire.

Willow Warbler. RADNOR. Earliest were at four locations on 31 March.

Wren. Record from RSPB Carngafallt should have been placed in BRECON.

Rose-coloured Starling 2019/2020 ANGLESEY: 1CY at Cemlyn from 9 Sept. to 1 Oct. (not from 9 July), presumed same at Llanfaethlu from at least 27 Feb. (having been reported as present for some three weeks) to 19 March 2020.

2018 ANGLESEY: adult at Pen-y-sarn on 5-9 Nov. (not 5-6 Nov. at Amlwch).

Redwing. RADNOR. Earliest date was New Radnor on 13 Oct.

Fieldfare. RADNOR. Latest date was Knighton on 10 April.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to every birdwatcher who submitted a record during 2022. This report would be nothing without you. And an even bigger thank you to the county recorders, bird report editors and Observatory staff who compile their reports, shared their drafts and answered my queries so promptly. Thanks also to those who provided records to supplement those in bird reports, including the RSPB (especially Graham Jones on the Dee estuary), North Wales Wildlife Trust, Adrienne Stratford (Cross and Stratford Welsh Cough Project), and Fledgemoor, Goldcliff and Merseyside Ringing Groups.

My thanks also to Lee Barber (British Trust for Ornithology) for compiling the Ringing and Nest Records report, and to Rachael Barber for producing the maps in that paper; to Reg Thorpe and Adrienne Stratford for updating the Welsh List on behalf of the Welsh Birds Rarities Committee; to Bob Haycock for his help with breeding seabird data; to Richard Facey, Bob Haycock, Keith Noble, Rhion Pritchard and Dr Steph Tyler for proof-reading; and to the photographers, who are credited in the captions. Special thanks to Ian Spence for designing the report once again and for producing the maps on pages 140 and 203 using DMAP by Dr A.J. Morton. Thanks also to the secretariats of BirdTrack, the Wetland Bird Survey and the Seabird Monitoring Programme for making data available to the Report.

You will notice that this issue has reverted to the A5 format of Welsh Bird Reports used until 2020. Owing to printing costs, this is more affordable (and results in less waste) than the larger format used for the previous issues of *Milvus*.

Julian Hughes, Editor.



BRENT GOOSE *Branta bernicla* GWYDD DDU

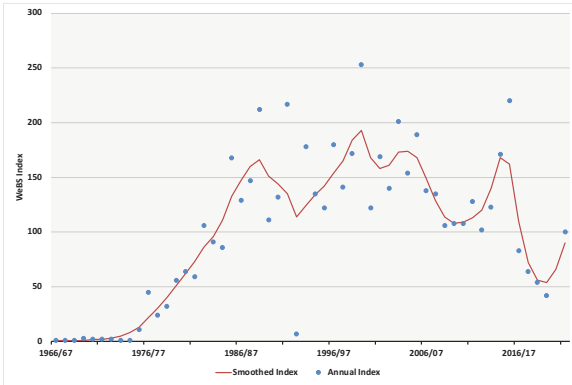
Regular wintering populations are found in the Burry Inlet, Beddmanarch Bay and around the Menai Strait. Elsewhere, small numbers are recorded in winter and on passage. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	327	400
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

B.b. bernicla (Dark-bellied Brent Goose / Gŵydd Ddu Fol-dywyll)

Amber WeBS alert: -36% long-term, greater than in England.

Wetland Bird Survey: Dark-bellied Brent Goose in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



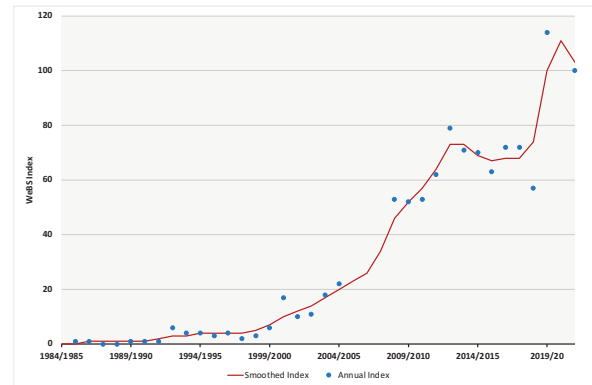
A welcome increase in the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales, which was more than double that of 2019/20, driven by a recovery in the Burry Inlet, GOWER, where the February total of 848 was the highest for the site since 2015/16.

<i>D-b. Brent Goose: max. at main sites</i>		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Whiteford	350	178	108					1
	Llanrhidian	210	377				82	104	25
	Salthouse Pt/Crofty	520	235	212		2	166		360
	Wernffrwd	150	284	220				50	426
	Weobley/Landimore	299	22	230		2	65	24	46
	Port Eynon Pt	99	75	28				16	102
CARMARTHEN	Burry Inlet north	17	65	48			17	186	179
	Taf/Tywi/Gwendraeth est.	36	50				85	500	13
CAERNARFON	Foryd	20	28	26	26	4		5	11

Other large counts: E.GLAMORGAN: 13 at Pink Bay on 3 May.

B.b. hrota (Pale-bellied Brent Goose / Gŵydd Ddu Canada)

The Wetland Bird Survey index was 12% below the previous year, but the second highest nonetheless. Anglesey and the adjacent part of Caernarfonshire continue to be the most important areas, the November count on Foryd, CAERNARFON, being the highest in the county since 2012. Numbers on the Dee estuary were the highest since WeBS recording began in the 1960s and the count in February was more than double the previous maximum in any year on the Welsh side.



Max. counts at other sites: E.GLAMORGAN: up to 41 at Aberthaw/Gileston on 1-19 Jan. (max. on 3rd); seven on Sully Island on 1 May; six at Aberthaw on 6 Dec.; ANGLESEY: 128 on Braint est. on 23 Jan. and 48 here on 5 March.

<i>P-b. Brent Goose: max. at main sites</i>		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	24	28	32	43	8		33	36
CAERNARFON	Foryd	375	110	254	c.200	100	100	405	11
	Traeth Lafan	83	160	72	37	2	3	34	47
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	385	613	169	50	33	120	50	60
	Traeth Melynog	330	124	92	42	78	371	348	373
	Penmon	106		32	57			12	
	Ynys Llanddwyn	210		23	18		4		
FLINT	Dee estuary, inc Gronant	36	120	111	52			8	130

Approximate monthly totals of both Brent Goose subspecies, excluding those above:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>bernicle</i>	46	17	19	12	3				4	4	48	54
<i>hrota</i>	29	6	3	5						24	6	47
race unknown	64		41	7	1				23		15	2

2021 FLINT, additional record: 66 at Walwen Marsh on 30 March.

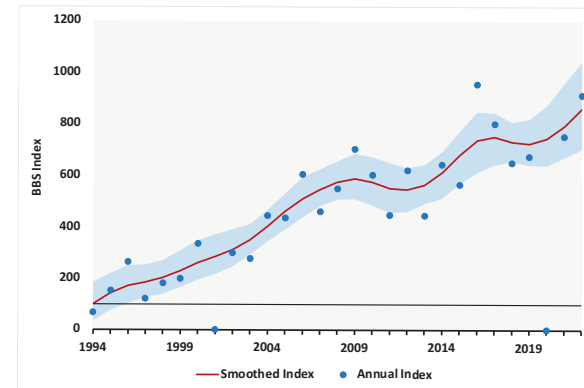
CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

GWYDD CANADA

Fairly common (8850 breeding pairs) and increasing introduced breeding resident (Category C). Large post-breeding gatherings occur.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4503	5226
% of BirdTrack lists	20%	23%

Breeding Bird Survey: Canada Goose in Wales, 1994-2022

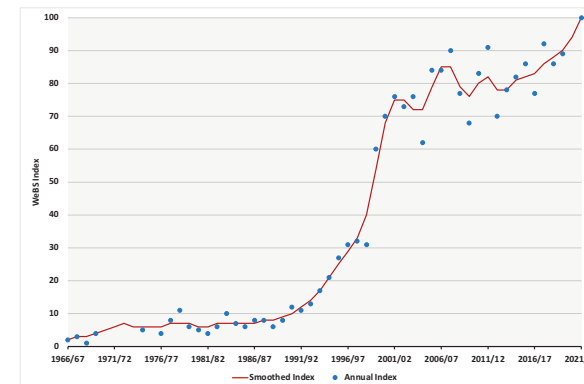


The few years of relative stability ceased as the smoothed index increased by 21% in a year, to a record high. The 459% increase since 1995 is the greatest of any species monitored by the Breeding Bird Survey.

Breeding records, presumed under-recorded: GWENT: 13 broods at 10 sites and probably bred at eight others; E.GLAMORGAN: 24 nests/broods at 16 sites; GOWER: broods at six sites, inc. two in Swansea Vale and several in Margam Park; CARMARTHEN: min. 11 pairs bred at four sites and probably at a fifth; PEMBROKE: bred at nine sites, including 11 pairs on Skomer;

CEREDIGION: several pairs bred at RSPB Ynys-hir/Ynyslas and Penbryn; RADNOR: two broods at Llandrindod Wells lake; probably bred at Dol Frwynog; BRECON: broods at four sites; MONTGOMERY: bred at Llyn Coed-y-dinas and Pwll Penarth; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at five sites, inc. young on Llynau Diffwys (518m), Llyn Cau (481m asl) and Llyn Arenig Fawr (407m asl); CAERNARFON: 6+ AON at Morfa Madryn NR, from which three broods were recorded; broods at four sites in Eryri, including fledged young on a small lake on Moel Siabod on 16 June (at 381m asl) but unclear if they hatched here; ANGLESEY: five broods at four sites; nests on island in Menai Strait and two nests on The Skerries; DENBIGH: six fledged from five nests at RSPB Conwy; 36 fledged young on the Clwyd est.; 1-2 broods at 14 other sites; FLINT: at least two pairs bred at Rhyl Brickfield Pond; bred at four other sites.

Wetland Bird Survey: Canada Goose in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Non-breeding: the trend having plateaued over the previous decade, it has increased strongly in the last 10 years to an all-time high. The number of sites holding ≥300 birds was on par with the 10-year mean.

Counts ≥300 in addition to the table: GWENT: >300 in Usk valley on 2 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 350 at Llŷs-y-fran Res. on 13 Feb.; FLINT: >300 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 2 Feb.; 300 at Shotwick Lake on 14 Aug.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: 380 at Is-y-coed on 22 Feb.

Sites with ≥300 Canada Geese		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Llandegfedd Res.	150	60	15	19	22		166	269	350	209	250	18
E.GLAMORGAN	Ogmore estuary	125	63	47	15	>20	19	100	475	819	133	339	175
	Flem'ston/Llanbydderi	180	107	74	24	26					27	238	300
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	62	33	42	12	25	236	196	60	305	225	25	42
GOWER	Neath Abbey	98	138	94	2				372	218	250		
	Burry Inlet – south	26	23	75		2	110	20	200	70	64		383
CARMARTHEN	Dryslwyn/Cilsan	300	500	125		2	3				790	811	350
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	224	27	38	2		5		105	42	250	510	219
	Nevern estuary		4	4		P		30	595	2	49		
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	549	400	22	5	140	350	45	199	700	409	620	660
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	300	70	95	75	570	1920	2000	756	634	843	1164	517
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	245	171	104	75	50	620	320	74	15	80	212	208
MONTGOMERY	Llyn Coed-y-dinas	1050	82	60	41	76	107		135	450	400	>800	>100
	Dolydd Hafren	200	30	20	22	8		24	167	10	250	180	850
MEIRIONNYDD	Mawddach estuary	184		13			139	236		202	231	308	
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd est.	602	404	106	17	19	70	120	50	567	431	642	262
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary	224	185	134	147	176	177	236	331	186	196	118	221
FLINT	Oakenholt Marsh	4000	500	3000	40	c.200	500	1000	800	1200	2700	1000	1600
	White Sands	90	100	35	4			30	60	80	430		1000

Canada Goose X Bar-headed Goose
DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 14 May and 11 July.

Canada Goose X Snow Goose
DENBIGH: Clwyd est. on 25 March.

Canada Goose X Greylag Goose
E.GLAMORGAN: Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 19-22 June; Parc Taf Bargoed on 12 Sept. and 9 Oct.; GOWER: Penclawdd on 12 Aug.; PEMBROKE: Sprinkle Pill in Jan., Oct. and Nov.; Teifi Marshes on 18 Aug.; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 26 June and 10 July.

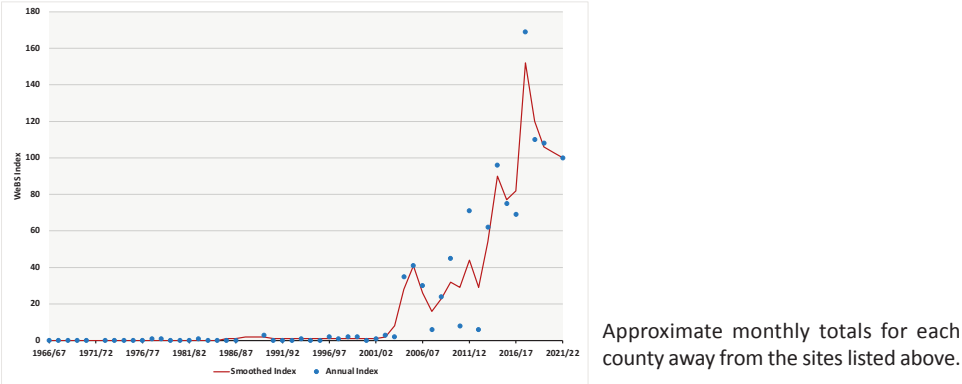
BARNACLE GOOSE *Branta leucopsis* GWYDD WYRAN
A regular winter visitor to the Dyfi estuary (breeding in Cumbria). Scarce breeder, but regular at two sites since the early 21st century (Category C). Wales Green listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	113	228
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding: CEREDIGION: 41 AON on Cardigan Island; BRECON: 15 young from at least eight pairs at Llangorse Lake, where 45 of 46 birds colour-ringed in 2021 returned in spring.

Non-breeding: a reduction in the size of peak counts on the Dyfi estuary are largely responsible for the recent downward trend in the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales. Numbers on the Teifi estuary were also down on the previous year.

Wetland Bird Survey: Barnacle Goose in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Barnacle Geese at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	144	135	46		9	52	28	43	35	26	17	58
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary			20	1	1	1		55	269	458	482	25
BRECON	Llangorse Lake		1	28	10	6	21	45	60				

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT									1	1		
E.GLAMORGAN		1	1						1			
GOWER	one at Fendrod Lake											
CARMARTHEN	10	5	2	2	1	8	8	4	2	3	2	8
PEMBROKE			24	1	3							
MONTGOMERY								1				
MEIRIONNYDD								19			14	22
CAERNARFON				2						6		
ANGLESEY	3	5	5	7	1	5	5	4	6	4	5	4
DENBIGH	1						4					
FLINT	4	2	4	2	2		2	1	4	3	2	2

Barnacle Goose X Snow Goose
BRECON: two at Llangorse Lake on 18 May.

Barnacle Goose X Greylag Goose
BRECON: one at Llangorse Lake during June-Aug. was colour-ringed (yellow P34) on 23 July.

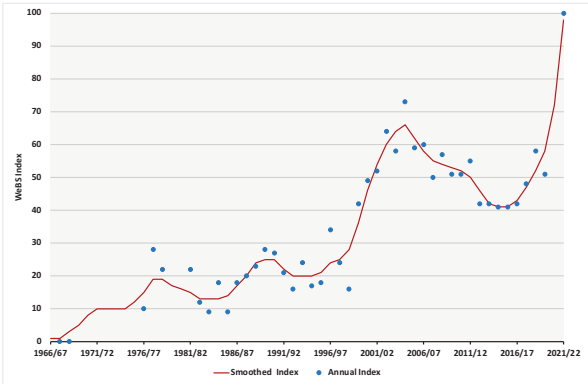
SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens* GWYDD YR EIRA
Although escapes have been seen in Wales for many decades (see p.365 for such records), no previous records were considered by the BBRC to be of wild origin.

FLINT: one at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands from 20 Jan. to 2 Feb., also at Shotwick and Flint on the last date. This is presumed to be the individual that has been on the English side of the Dee estuary for the previous couple of winters. It or another arrived on the Dee est. with 500 Pink-footed Geese on 26 Sept.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser* GWYDD LWYD
All records relate to naturalised birds (Category C). Localised breeder (1650 pairs), mainly in the north but increasing farther south.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2239	2460
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	11%

Wetland Bird Survey: Greylag Goose in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



The Skerries; DENBIGH: broods at six sites inc. hatched eggshells at Llyn Brân (440m asl); FLINT: single pairs bred at Padeswood, Gronant and Fauxdegla.

Non-breeding: an astonishing increase in the two years since the Wetland Bird Survey index was last plotted, especially in light of a decline in the early years of the century. The number of sites with ≥100 birds was the highest ever and the BirdTrack reporting rate has more than doubled since 2013.

Sites with ≥100 Greylag Geese		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	72	39	30	16	23	4	40	60	10	2	32	120
GOWER	Burry Inlet - south	46	24	22	3	6	3	120	278	44	104	80	39
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	54	51	30	29	56	25	83	208	173	18	85	25
	Dryslwyn/Cilsan	3	150	60		6					150	190	200
	Llyn Pencarreg	1		3	3	2	6	6	5	108		37	56
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	130	8	4	5	3	2	8	86	80	56	663	90
MONTGOMERY	Dolydd Hafren	125	c.100	1	12	4	2	4	25		111	1	200
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrhyd valleys	67	71	9	12	10	13	12	50	105	66	119	12
CAERNARFON	Foryd	110	68	36	4	5	2	58	610	310	152	36	90
	Traeth Lafan	137	25	18	9	6	6	20	>700	>100	208	25	1
ANGLESEY	RSPB Valley Wetlands	8	2	86	12	4	136	173	60	34			
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	100	90	48	86	78	54	131	90	65	86	242	324
	Llyn Traffwll	191	14	40	37	46	1142	1440	226	59	41	24	
	Cefni estuary	6		1	3	18	8	55	105	4	2		
	Llyn Coron	4	4		2		10	145	P				c.400
DENBIGH	Lleweni watermeadows	208	226	117	24	88	17	12	48		2		
	Llyn Brenig	3	3	5	11	P	290	220					
	Clwyd estuary	500			2	9	2	289	284	331	550	425	435
FLINT	Fagl Lane	120	144										

Counts/maxima ≥100 elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 280 on Dinefwr Pools on 23 Jan. and 100 here on 20 Aug.; 126 on Taf est. on 11 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 135 on Llyn Alaw on 14 Jan.; 102 at Cors Crugyll on 14 Nov.; 100 at Valley on 29 Dec.; DENBIGH: 290 at Llyn Brenig on 29 June; c.200 on Holt floods on 28 Dec.; FLINT: 120 at Rhuddlan LNR on 3 Jan.; 150 at Shotwick Lake on 14 Aug.; >100 at Talacre on 4 Sept.; 100 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 25 Sept. (up to 300 across the whole site during the year); >100 at Caerwys on 10 Oct.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: 500 at Trevalyn on 9 Feb.

PINK-FOOTED GOOSE *Anser brachyrhynchus* GWYDD DROETBINC
Regular on the Dee estuary (Flintshire), in increased numbers since 2010. Elsewhere, a scarce and irregular winter visitor, chiefly to North Wales. Spring and summer records relate to naturalised birds, as may some winter and autumn records. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	236	495
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	2%

The highest count on the FLINT part of the Dee est. in the first winter period was 8000 on White Sands on 20 March. As usual, numbers in the second winter period were lower (max. 4000 from Connah’s Quay NR on 11 Dec.) as birds from the estuary feed in the Dee Valley as far south as Wrexham, DENBIGH, until the end of the wildfowling season. The largest counts here were c.800 at Is-y-coed on 10 Feb. and c.600 at Holt floods on 28 Dec. A flock on Anglesey in each winter period was unusual for recent years (max. single count of 180 at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 21 March), as was c.800 west over Rhyl, FLINT, and Glanwydden, CAERNARFON, on 24 Dec.

Pink-footed Goose: county totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	20	20	20					
CARMARTHEN	5						2	1
CEREDIGION	4	1			10			73
BRECON							1*	
MONTGOMERY	3							
MEIRIONNYDD	33					1		
CAERNARFON				3	43	1	1	800
ANGLESEY	202	198	180		29			189
DENBIGH (excl. Dee Valley)						132		70
FLINT (excl. Dee estuary)	40		70			120	3	802

*bird presumed of naturalised origin at Llangasty Church from 31 Oct. to 2 Nov., later found dead with multiple Canada Geese; HPAI suspected cause of death.

2021 FLINT, correction: Dee estuary peak in the first winter period was 9000 at White Sands on 12 April.

TUNDRA BEAN GOOSE *Anser serrirostris* GWYDD LAFUR Y TWNDRA
Rare visitor from northeast Europe and Siberia. WBRC: 16 previous records.

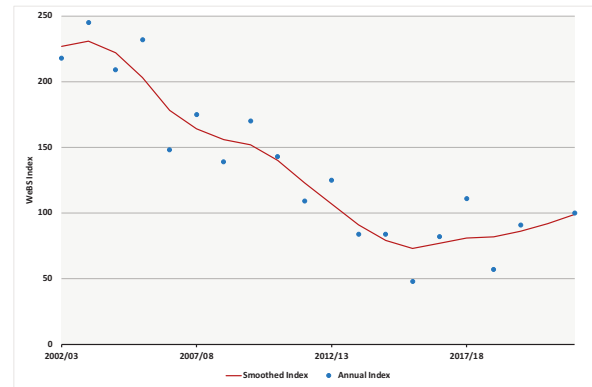
GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) from 25 Jan. to 11 Feb. returning from previous winter; CEREDIGION: two at Tan-y-bwlch from 28 Dec. 2021 to 3 Jan.

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons*

GWYDD DALCENWEN

Scarce winter visitor. Ceredigion and Anglesey support the only regular flocks of *flavirostris*. Rare elsewhere, although hard weather can result in increases in *albifrons* from the east. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	144	108
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A.a. flavirostris (Greenland White-fronted Goose / Gŵydd Dalcenwen yr Ynys Las)**Wetland Bird Survey: Greenland White-fronted Goose in Wales 2002/03-2021/22**

There has been a global decline in numbers, with a flyway population of just over 20,000 birds. The Anglesey count for winter 2021/22 was slightly higher than recent years and the family group in Glaslyn Valley was welcome, but the Dyfi count was down.

All records, singles unless stated: CEREDIGION/MEIRIONNYDD: 23 on Dyfi est. in first winter period and 16 in Nov./Dec.; Cors Caron on 14 Jan.; MEIRIONNYDD/CAERNARFON: three (one 1CY) in Glaslyn Valley between 23 Jan. and 20 March, and four here on 30-31 Jan.; CAERNARFON: RSPB Morfa Dinlle on 10-18 April; ANGLESEY: max. 21 in Cefni Valley/Llyn Coron in Jan. and 14 in Dec.

A.a. albifrons (European White-fronted Goose / Gŵydd Dalcenwen Ewrop)

The total of 39 was well above the 10-year average, mainly due to the flock in Meirionnydd. All records, singles unless stated: CARMARTHEN: two at Cilsan Bridge from Dec. 2021 to 14 Jan.; CEREDIGION: four at RSPB Ynys-hir on 4 Feb. and one here on 15 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: 23 south over Broadwater on 3 Jan.; Pont Croesor on 3 Jan.; Ynys on 6 March; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga on 1-3 Feb.; DENBIGH: five on Clwyd est. from 1 Jan. to 3 Feb.; five at Lleweni watermeadows on 14 Feb., presumed same as on Clwyd est.; FLINT: Connah's Quay NR on 6-29 March.

Subspecies not identified: E.GLAMORGAN: Cardiff Bay on 5 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: eight at Penclacwydd on 9 Jan.; Dryslwyn Castle on 20 Dec.

2021 FLINT, additional records: one at Maes Mynan on 18 April; two at Connah's Quay NR on 21 Dec. and one here on 23rd.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

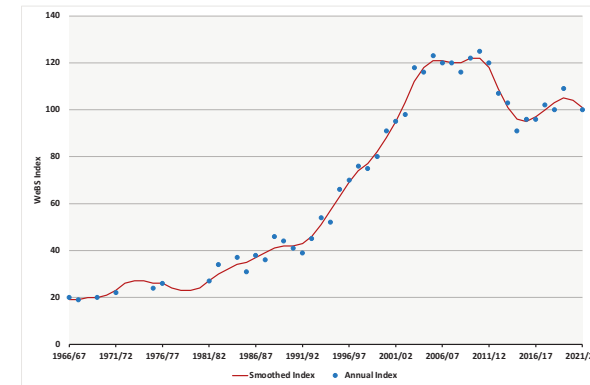
ALARCH DOF

Localised resident (485 breeding pairs). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3979	4364
% of BirdTrack lists	17%	20%

Breeding counts, single nest/brood at each site unless stated (not full surveys except Gower): GWENT: bred at eight sites and probably at five others; E.GLAMORGAN: three broods on Roath Park lake and single nests/broods

at 15 sites; GOWER: 11 pairs, of which 10 hatched 41 eggs, raising 34 chicks to autumn; CARMARTHEN: two broods at Penclacwydd, also bred at Dinefwr Park, Ashpits Pond and Sandy WP, and probably at Pwll

Wetland Bird Survey: Mute Swan in Wales 1966/67-2021/22

Non-breeding numbers have been stable over the last decade. Dead Mute Swans tested positive for HPAI at 15 Welsh sites during 2022, all in mid and South Wales. Numbers at Llangorse Lake, BRECON, in summer were 65% lower than pre-2021 counts but at the other important sites, such as Cardiff Bay, E.GLAMORGAN, and Traeth Lafan, CAERNARFON, they increased slightly.

Sites with ≥40 Mute Swans		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	St Brides	65	3	57	36	3	9	8	9	26	22	34	
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	63	50	49	38	101	174	178	211	163	122	71	49
	Roath Park Lake	84	77	80	60	59	100	145	78	59	64	67	67
	Knap lake, Barry	76	60	48	51	59	51	37	40	40	34	30	39
GOWER	Fendrod Lake	34	31	31	33	46	34	46	43	47	24	29	30
CARMARTHEN	Sandy Water Park	34	34	46	45	38	48	43	43	37	22	33	26
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	38	39	42	5	2	90	91	14	82	114	120	51
	Pembroke Mill Pond	44	50	38		24	32	29		17	7	15	70
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	7	9	8	14	49	96	80	40	73	68	60	21
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	11	6	7	2	58	101	103	145	201	138	13	7
	Foryd	2	5	4	3	14	53	34	21	24	22	1	4
ANGLESEY	Cefni Reservoir					33	2	83	76	23	34	2	
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary	8	4	3	35	57	36	13	11	11	13	13	12

Counts ≥40 elsewhere: E.GLAMORGAN: 43 on R.Ely between Leckwith and Penarth Road on 12 Oct.; 88 on Hensol Lake on 11 Dec.; BRECON/RADNOR: 66 at Glasbury/Llowes on 12 Feb.

BEWICK'S SWAN *Cygnus columbianus*

ALARCH BEWICK

Localised winter visitor in vanishingly small numbers. Red WeBS alert: -63% long-term and -72% short-term. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4	19
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A family group at the traditional site on the upper Dee estuary was the sole Welsh record in 2022. The Wetland Bird Survey is no longer able to produce a trend for Wales, and the index for the UK has fallen by 97% since 1990/91.

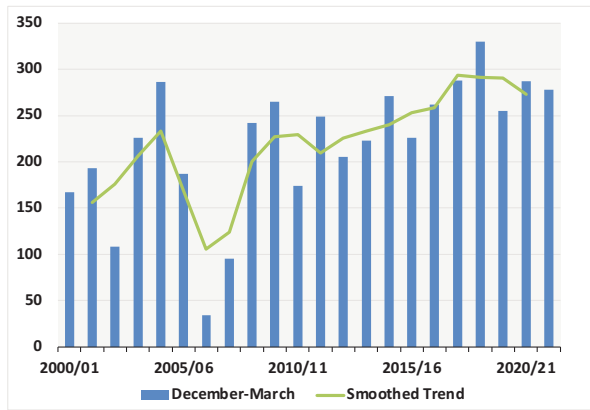
FLINT: up to four on Shotwick Fields on 9-26 Jan.

WHOOOPER SWAN *Cygnus cygnus* ALARCH Y GOGLEDD
Regular winter visitor in small numbers to several Welsh counties (population estimate 242, <1% of the Icelandic breeding population). Red WeBS alert: -56% short-term (the greatest decline in any UK country) but +21% for long-term. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	141	247
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The total was very similar to recent years, albeit at slightly fewer sites. The Wetland Bird Survey index, which has become less representative as flocks gather on agricultural land away from wetland count sites, showed a huge decline from the mid-1980s but has made a partial recovery in the last five years.

Whooper Swans recorded in Wales, based on county max. during Dec.-March, 2001/02-21/22



Whooper Swan at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Tywi valley	77	66	72	11	19	60
MEIRIONNYDD	Glaslyn valley	54	52	48	8	24	50
ANGLESEY	central Anglesey	53	52	23	13	2	21
FLINT	Dee estuary	40	36	21	8	19	11

Whooper Swan: other records	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN					4	1	1	3
GOWER	3		1					
CARMARTHEN	2	1	1		3	10		
PEMBROKE	10	8		2		6	3	5
CEREDIGION	27	16				9	6	7
RADNOR						2	2	
MONTGOMERY	5					3		28
MEIRIONNYDD						3		5
CAERNARFON	5	P	10		7	7	32	9
ANGLESEY	4	11	17		6	16	3	6
DENBIGH						4		1
FLINT	2	2	13	1		7	1	

EGYPTIAN GOOSE *Alopochen aegyptiaca* GWYDD YR AIFFT
Introduced (Category C). Despite an increase in numbers and range in England, it remains uncommon in Wales.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	176	311
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

This is by far the largest number of records in the Welsh Bird Report, and includes a brood in Montgomeryshire from the first confirmed nest in Wales. As recently as 2016, just four were recorded compared to c.40 in 2022, including 17 on the Dee estuary which is also the largest flock seen in Wales. Prior to 2022, there had been just one record in Caernarfonshire, but there were records from four sites this year alone. As a result, it overtook Great White Egret as the species with the greatest increase in BirdTrack records since 2013-15.

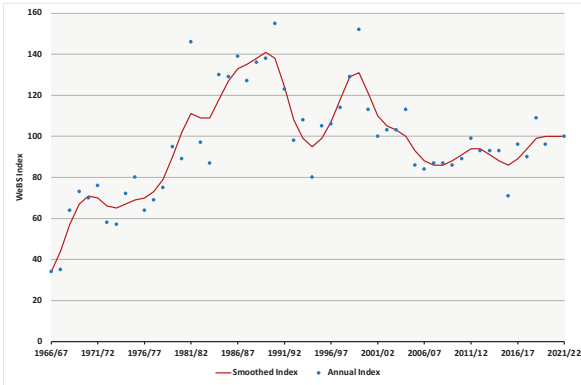
Breeding: MONTGOMERY: pair hatched three young at Llyn Coed-y-dinas.

All other records, single unless stated: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 18 Jan.; Nedern Valley on 14-17 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: Aberdare Park from 3 Jan. to 10 April; GOWER: Fendrod Lake from June to Dec.; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 24 Sept.; MONTGOMERY: two at Dolydd Hafren in Feb. and one in Dec.; Lymore Pools on 20 March; two near Welshpool on 29 Sept.; NT Powis Castle on 26 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: Ynys crossing, Dyfi est., on 21 April; CAERNARFON: Llyn Padarn on 23 Jan.; Porthmadog Cob on 2-7 June; Foryd on 14 Aug. and 11 Sept.; Aber Ogwen on 27 Aug.; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga on 24-26 April; Menai Strait on 29 April; Llyn Coron on 11 Oct. and five here on 16 Nov.; RSPB Valley Wetlands on 30 Oct.; three at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 19 Nov., increasing to six on 27th; DENBIGH: Clwyd est. on 1 Jan.; two at Oakfield, Wrexham, on 10 March; Conwy est. on 23 April; FLINT: up to three in upper Dee est. until 22 March, including a pair that bred on the Wirral part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and fledged 9+ young, which remained throughout the summer, occasionally as far north as Gronant. Others joined the flock, taking it to 17 in Sept.; 1-2 during Oct. to Dec.

SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna* HWYADEN YR EITHIN
Localised, possibly declining, breeding resident (1250 pairs) in coastal areas. Rare passage migrant to inland counties. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2806	3235
% of BirdTrack lists	12%	14%

Wetland Bird Survey: Shelduck in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Breeding: GWENT: bred at MoD Caerwent and Mathern, and fledged young at Llandegfedd Res. and Newport Wetlands Reserve in July; E.GLAMORGAN: bred on Ogmore est.; GOWER: three broods on Loughor est.; brood at Dalton's Pt and two other pairs probably bred on Burry Inlet; probably bred at R.Neath and Brunel Dock; CARMARTHEN: three pairs bred at Penclacwydd; 22 1CYs at Kidwelly Quay were presumed to have bred on Gwendraeth est.; PEMBROKE: two pairs on Skomer, 10 broods in the Milford Haven Waterway and Daugleddau estuary, and also bred on Teifi, Nevern and Gann estuaries; CEREDIGION: bred at Dyfi est. and Cors Fochno; MEIRIONNYDD: estimated 10-15 pairs on Mawddach est. and 12 pairs on Dwyrdd est.; bred at Mochras (Shell Island); CAERNARFON: 11 pairs at six

sites, and 36 young at Morfa Aber that probably fledged locally; ANGLESEY: single broods at Church Island, The Skerries, Traeth Coch and Alaw est., and at least one at Cemlyn; three pairs at Cefni est. fledged 10; DENBIGH: 31 young on Clwyd est. on 12 June; brood on Conwy est. on 21 July; FLINT: two fledged young at Gronant on 14 July.

Long-running monitoring of Milford Haven Waterway and Daugleddau estuary, PEMBROKE, found the lowest number of broods since 2017, but a slight increase in mean brood size (6.3/pair). The number of non-breeding birds present in June, 52, was almost double the 2021 count, but well below levels in the 1990s.

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate was at its highest since 2018. There has also been a slight increase in the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales in recent years, thanks to higher counts on the Cleddau estuary, Carmarthen Bay and Beddmanarch-Cymyran. The threshold for inclusion in the Report has increased to 200, as the number of sites with ≥100 birds has increased in recent years.

Sites with ≥100 Shelducks		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Undy	252		335	112	196		78		332	415	467	295
	St Brides	220	59	46	21	25	46	57	39	632	218	251	
	Newport Wetlands	161	163	65	141	37	100	300	475	300	500	500	12
E.GLAMORGAN	Rhymney & Gt Wharf	102		30	88		6	12		430			50
GOWER	Burry Inlet - south	534	420	244	82	17	74	2	9	43	151	171	72
CARMARTHEN	Machynys	280	11	6	18							44	
	Llanelli North dock	327	1	52								2	206
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	720	346	256	26	7	103	10	14	5	18	69	266
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	87	50	17	50	47	43	30	9	10	27	106	257
CAERNARFON	Foryd	650	72	130	53	46	20	8	6	2	20	42	68
	Traeth Lafan	397	334	60	100	60	39	21	52	10	136	85	230
ANGLESEY	Traeth Melynog	560	204	235	96	21	18			4	56	216	557
	Cefni estuary	150	6	24	65	3	15				87	450	352
FLINT	Gronant/Pt of Ayr	>80	18	150	124	140	350	172	122	800	1000	300	200
	Oakenholt Marsh	150	54	150	65	200	500	300	450	180	60	40	12
	Ffynnongroyw Bay	143		45	3	7	27	14	30	>500	8		158
	White Sands	10	22	35	71		250	500	183	65	3		

MANDARIN DUCK *Aix galericulata*

Introduced (Category C). Localised breeding resident, but almost certainly under-recorded in core counties in eastern Wales.

HWYADEN MANDARIN

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	189	198
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate has remained around 0.5% of submitted lists since 2016 and the number of breeding records was modest, below the 10-year average. More than 60% of records came from Gwent and east Denbighshire, but it is almost certainly under-recorded in the three counties of Powys.

Breeding evidence (single broods unless stated): GWENT: bred on R.Monnow at Llancillo and Osbaston, on R.Honddu at Lower Stainton, on R.Wye near Whitebrook and at Usk; CARMARTHEN: bred near Glanamman; BRECON/RADNOR: two broods on R.Wye at Estyn and one at Dolymynach Res., nests at Llysddinam and Newbridge-on-Wye, and pairs at 10 other sites; MONTGOMERY: bred at Dolydd Hafren; MEIRIONNYDD: possibly bred in Dylif, Glaslyn and Dee valleys; pair on Afon Trystion Res., Cynwyd on 3

April; CAERNARFON: possibly bred at Llanrwst; DENBIGH: three broods at Froncysyllte; R.Dee at Holt; R.Alyn at Llanferres; possibly bred at 13 other locations.

Records from county bird reports where provided (supplemented by those from BirdTrack/eBird).

Mandarin county totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	51	3	16	30	16	5	1	7	17	23	11	16
E.GLAMORGAN	1	3	1	3	2				1			
GOWER	2	1	3	5	1	2	2		1	1	5	1
CARMARTHEN	5		1	1	4				4	10		
PEMBROKE							1	1	1	1		
CEREDIGION			1		1		1			1	1	
BRECON	7	5	16	8	2	7	12	3			1	
RADNOR			4	7	3		14	1	7	115		
MONTGOMERY				5	7		3	2	2	11		
MEIRIONNYDD			5	3	2	3	1		21			
CAERNARFON				2	1		1					
ANGLESEY			1					1	1			
DENBIGH	39	15	28	26	30	8	6	10	18	15	25	15
FLINT	2	16	9	7	2	1			10		1	

Notable counts included in the table: GWENT: 47 on R.Wye between Tintern and Redbrook on 23 Jan.; BRECON/RADNOR: 115 in Elan Valley in Oct. and 80 at Dolymynach Res. on 12 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: 21 on R.Dee between Corwen and Cynwyd on 19 Sept.; DENBIGH: 20 at NT Chirk Castle on 30 Jan.; 21 at Pant-yr-ochain on 13 Nov.

GARGANEY *Spatula querquedula*

Recorded in small numbers on passage and occasionally breeds (10 confirmed records, last in 2021). RBBP: one pair in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

HWYADEN ADDFAIN

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	220	240
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding season. A pair at Llangorse Lake, BRECON, from 18 April to 6 May was suspected of making a breeding attempt, a pair summered at a site in RADNOR and may have attempted breeding, and a pair nested at RSPB Burton

Mere Wetlands but it is uncertain whether nesting occurred in FLINT or Wirral.

A minimum of 67 birds is the highest total since 2015, and included several groups on passage. These included six at Malltraeth Cob, ANGLESEY, and five at RSPB Conwy, DENBIGH, on 19 March, and six on the Gann estuary, PEMBROKE, on 14 July.

Garganey: county totals	TOTAL	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
GWENT	7		2	1		1	1	4	
E.GLAMORGAN	16	3	11	3			1		
GOWER	1	1							
CARMARTHEN	3			1				1	1
PEMBROKE	11	2*		1		6	1	1	
CEREDIGION	8	2*		2			2	4	2
BRECON	2	2	2						
RADNOR	5	1		2	2		1		
ANGLESEY	11	7	1	1			3	3	
DENBIGH	5	5							

*a pair on the R.Teifi were recorded in both counties. Numbers and dates are provisional for Gwent and Eastern Glamorgan.

Earliest and latest dates in each county.

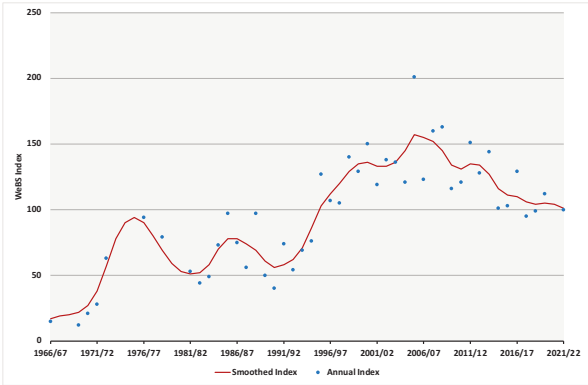
	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	23 April	Newport Wetlands Res. (Goldcliff)		26 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Res. (Goldcliff)
E.GLAMORGAN	23 March	Ton Breigam		13 Aug.	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	26 March	R.Kenfig		no autumn records	
CARMARTHEN	1 May	Penclacwydd		9 Oct.	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	21 March	Teifi Marshes		6 Sept.	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	21 March	Teifi estuary		9 Oct.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	18 April	Llangorse Lake		no autumn records	
RADNOR	18 March	Pwll Patti		20 Aug.	Llyn Heilyn
ANGLESEY	19 March	Malltraeth Cob		24 Sept.	Cefni Reservoir
DENBIGH	19 March	RSPB Conwy		no autumn records	

The RADNOR record was the earliest in the county this century, nine days earlier than one in 2009, those on ANGLESEY and DENBIGH were four and six days earlier than records in 2016.

SHOVELER *Spatula clypeata* HWYADEN LYDANBIG
Locally common winter visitor/passage migrant and rare breeder. RBBP: 11 confirmed (and 38 probable/possible) pairs in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1210	1765
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	7%

Wetland Bird Survey: Shoveler in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Counts ≥50 elsewhere: DENBIGH: 56 at Gresford Flash on 25 Dec.; FLINT: 78 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 11 Dec.

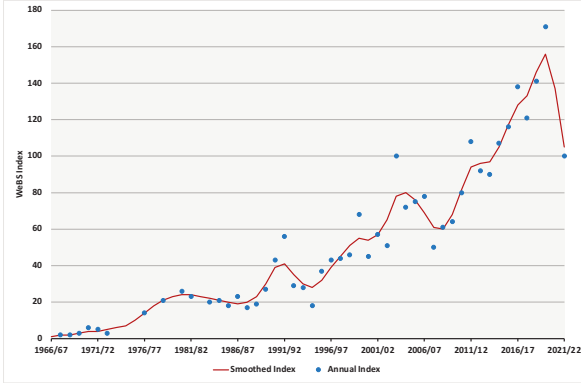
2021 FLINT, additional record: 55 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 24 Oct.; correction, 54 at Gronant on 7 June should have read 7 Jan.

Sites with ≥50 Shovelers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	95	56	59	53	2	3	6	18	50	25	15	19
	St Brides	55		23	1					10	16	103	
	Nash & Goldcliff Pill	44		2						12	61		27
E.GLAMORGAN	Rhymney estuary	82											40
GOWER	Wernffrwd	109	73							35		122	
	Salthouse Pill	187								7	110	54	
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	74	75	39	38	6	5	3	36	118	112	56	123
ANGLESEY	RSPB Valley Wetlands	9		50	22	7			1				20
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	683	45	50	31	9	6	4			33	230	151
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy	51	31	42	19	P		1	2	8	6	24	20
FLINT	Connah's Quay NR	60	30	15	2		6		5	8	10	85	125
	Shotton Paper Mill			19			5	7		10		75	

GADWALL *Mareca strepera* HWYADEN LWYD
Regular but localised breeding bird since 1969 (estimated 50-100 pairs). A regular winter visitor to most counties. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1300	1679
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	7%

Wetland Bird Survey: Gadwall in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Non-breeding: following a sustained increase in numbers during the last quarter century, it is something of a surprise that the Wetland Bird Survey index fell so sharply in the two years since 2019/20. Malltraeth Cob, Anglesey, and Llangorse Lake, Brecon, are among the sites with marked reductions. The downward trend is not reflected in the reporting rate from the last 10 years of BirdTrack, but the number of sites holding ≥20 Gadwall was slightly down.

Counts ≥20 elsewhere: GOWER: 20 at Staffal Haegr on 29 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: 51 at Ashpits Pond on 19 July and 54 here on 6 Aug.; 22 at Dinefwr Pools on 9 Oct.; 41 at Lliedi rivermouth on 20 Nov. and 42 here on 15 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 21 at Llyn Garreg-wen on 22 Jan.; 20 at Aber Ogwen on 20 Sept.; FLINT: 82 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 23 Jan. and 96 here on 11 Dec.

Sites with ≥20 Gadwalls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Green Moor Pool	40	30	5							12	7	
	Nedern Valley	23	9	17	26	6						6	13
	Newport Wetlands	24	22	19	20	18	14	50	106	72	22	10	23
E.GLAMORGAN	Kenfig Pool	47	46	29	21	24	3		2	2	33	16	19
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	44	50	12	45	48	137	82	69	122	30	64	12
	Penrhynwyn Pond	17		7		2			15	59	19	12	
	Witchett Pool	4	12	15						48			
ANGLESEY	RSPB Valley Wetlands	4		8	11	17	59	81	54	30	8	3	
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	17	8	6	8	4	3	3	35		2	12	6
	Cefni Reservoir	P	17	20		4			60	50	12	9	
	Llyn Traffwl	45	45	12	10	11	4	13	66	51	62	7	
	Llyn Llygeirian							40	17	4			
	Llyn Maelog	5		4	7	3	2		1	44	3		17
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy	33	36	35	51	42	51	>35	4	1	45	52	56
FLINT	Shotwick Lake	12	12		3				2	7	35		50
	Shotton Paper Mill			27	3		19	107		89		24	
	Shotton Steelworks	4	3			2	5	10	12	49	25		

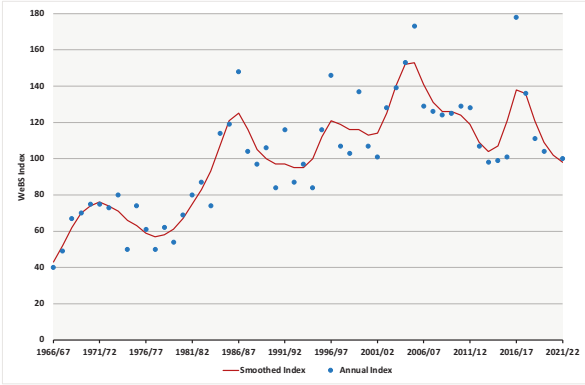
WIGEON *Mareca penelope*

CHWIIWELL

Common passage migrant and locally abundant winter visitor, chiefly to coastal counties. Rare breeder: five confirmed records, but none since 1978. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1983	2634
% of BirdTrack lists	8%	11%

Wetland Bird Survey: Wigeon in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey smoothed trend has fallen to its lowest point since the mid-1990s, and the number of sites holding ≥1000 birds was at its lowest this century, at just five.

Counts ≥300 in addition to those in the table: GWENT: 400 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 27 Nov.; CAERNARFON: >300 at Borth-y-Gest on 4 Dec.; DENBIGH: 600 at Bangor-is-y-coed and 300 at Holt on 23 Feb.; FLINT: 8000 between Bagillt and Flint on 14 Nov.

Sites with ≥300 Wigeons		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nedern Brook	330	385	93	106	3	374		392	330
	Mathern	320	230	136				39	72	242
	St Brides	345	9	2			9	5	112	
	Undy	134					330	397	109	110
	Nash & Goldcliff Pill	258	1070	371	3		25	102		355
	Newport Wetlands	500	320	350	32	11	45	61	60	185
GOWER	Burry Inlet - south	91	222	18	5		200	219	317	350
CARMARTHEN	Dryslwyn/Cilsan	300	250	22				35	154	386
	Penclacwydd	128	134	107	5	3	191	367	211	237
	Taf/Tywi/Gwendraeth est.	158	50	44			43	24	611	40
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	1938	598	70			906	2222	7799	4065
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	1500	1200	480	1	2	420	390	1440	1200
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater	300	46					111	106	272
	Tal-y-llyn	300	300	156			6	55	97	220
	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd estuary	1003	599	655			176	433	555	684
	Foryd	600	460	30	6	28	2100	4980	1100	1450
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	1735	556	310	26	13	1000	1341	1170	2065
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	588	433	101		3	280	155	206	20
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	587	475	525	>100		6	352	380	542
	Clwyd estuary	c.455	c.300	c.265	22	3	68	241	255	428
DENBIGH	Point of Ayr	884	892	174	2		100	42		229
FLINT	RSPB Burton Mere	810	193	75	8		8	8	134	132
	Oakenholt Marsh	1300	478	420	50	3	80	1000	700	800
	Connah's Quay NR	320	250	200	35		40	40	120	265

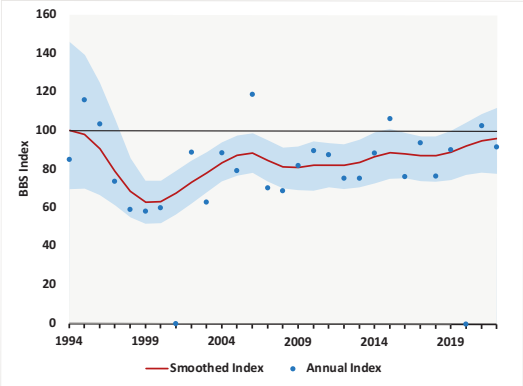
MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

HWYADEN WYLLT

Fairly common breeding resident (4600-11,000 pairs), abundant passage migrant and winter visitor to all counties. Amber WeBS alert: -43% long-term. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

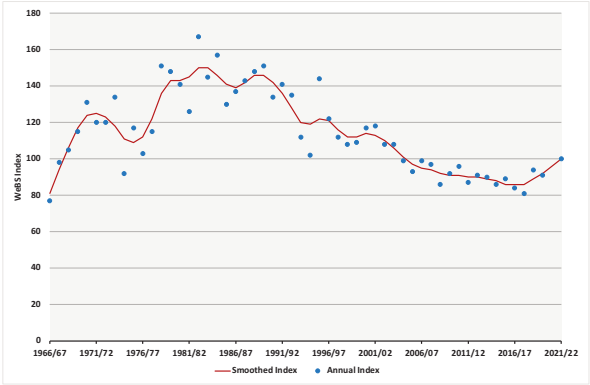
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	8165	8409
% of BirdTrack lists	36%	38%

Breeding Bird Survey: Mallard in Wales, 1994-2022



After quarter of a century below par, the smoothed Breeding Bird Survey index has almost returned to its 1994 level. A partial recovery from a long-term decline in numbers of non-breeding birds brought the annual Wetland Bird Survey index to its highest point since 2002/03.

Wetland Bird Survey: Mallard in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Count ≥ 200 in addition to those in the table. ANGLESEY: 240 off Carmel Head on 27 Oct.

Sites with ≥ 200 Mallards		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nash & Goldcliff Pill	34	39	32	32	41	149	27	82	398	221	140	
	Newport Wetlands	57	26	27	21	19	73	152	250	170	114	60	55
E.GLAMORGAN	Ogmore estuary	104	79	64	66	46	55	49	116	50	125	120	246
	Cardiff Bay	90	67	52	39	50	193	232	182	152	62	108	102
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	306	211	99	86	174	239	234	140	374	295	283	323
	Dryslwyn/Cilsan	200	18	1		2	3	2			58	38	65
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	341	193	227	8	9	148	88	58	274	203	430	501
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	200	46	8	23	16	20	13	150	150	171	249	251
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	122	113	64	40	50	120	180	50	268	250	197	178
RADNOR	Ffordd Fawr	10	60	41						98	330		275
MEIRIONNYDD	Mawddach estuary	46		20		25	1	P	P	116	232	98	32
CAERNARFON	Foryd	50	39	24	43	64	152	121	410	270	210	90	115
	Traeth Lafan	210	148	88	23	45	65	c.85	128	306	212	123	253
FLINT	Oakenholt Marsh	25	12	6	8		200	200	30	90	50	50	15
	Connah's Quay NR	18	6	6	45	231	520	670	850	300	24	30	30

BLACK DUCK *Anas rubripes* HWYADEN DDU
Very rare vagrant from eastern North America. BBRC: four previous records in Wales, the last in 2010.

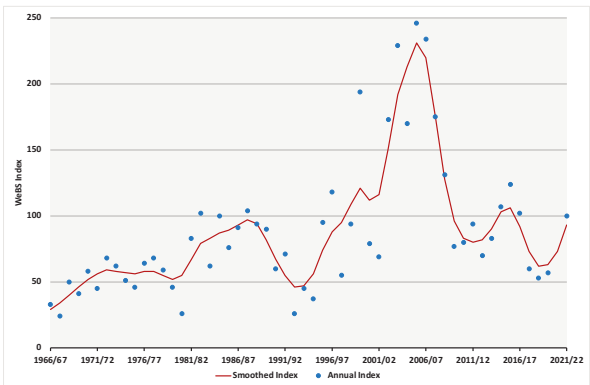
GOWER: male at Llanrhidian on 20-21 Dec., the first county record.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta* HWYADEN LOSTFAIN
Locally abundant winter visitor to some counties. Red WeBS alert: -52% medium term, the highest of any UK country, but +42% in long-term. RBBP: bred in Flintshire in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	571	845
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	3%

Breeding season, single unless stated: CAERNARFON: moulting male at Morfa Aber on 14 June; ANGLESEY: Cefni est. on 10-28 June; FLINT: Connah's Quay NR on 23 June, perhaps one of a pair that summered on the Wirral part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands.

Wetland Bird Survey: Pintail in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Non-breeding: a 43% increase in the Wetland Bird Survey annual index made it the highest for five years and a level that would have been considered typical in the 1980s and '90s. The BirdTrack reporting rate was the highest in 10 years. Counts of 82 at Angle Bay (on the Cleddau est.), PEMBROKE, in January and 1100 at Foryd, CAERNARFON, in December were the highest counts ever in those counties. The threshold for inclusion in the Report has increased to 100 birds.

Sites with ≥ 100 Pintails		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Peterstone	35	92	110	8	2	260	105	25	12
E.GLAMORGAN	Rhymney est. & Gt Wharf	140		55	31		1		1	30
GOWER	Llanrhidian	286	204					27	32	
	Wernffrwd	950	336					657	150	1630
	Dalton's Point	155	134	12			677	1311	110	160
CARMARTHEN	Gwendraeth estuary	224	270				75	145	79	50
	Penclacwydd	456	876	2	10	15	48	778	207	147
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	236	P	5			210	70	156	310
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd estuary	118	80					1	32	32
CAERNARFON	Foryd	498	60			8	150	203	120	1100
	Traeth Lafan	100	80	3			122	131	157	27
ANGLESEY	Cefni estuary	345	59	5			6	18	50	350
	Traeth Melynog	292	40				12			102
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	186	3	12	8			1	100	30
	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	226	89	4	1		4			P
FLINT	Point of Ayr	346	34	24	8		123	80	140	560
	Oakenholt Marsh	250	200	110	100	5	3000	20		18
	Connah's Quay NR			2	4	23	200	80		
	Ffynnongroyw Bay	225			2		>100	P		

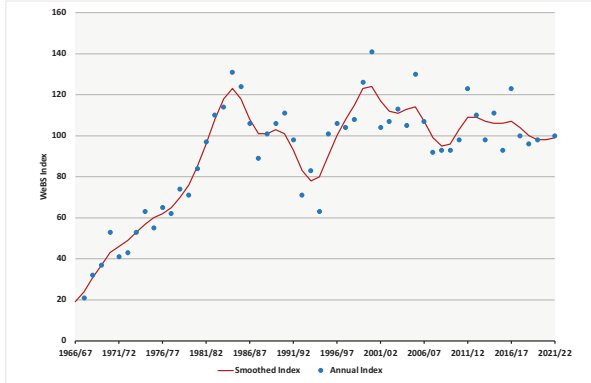
Counts ≥ 100 elsewhere: GWENT: 129 at Caldicot Pill on 17 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: >110 off Cardiff heliport on 1 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: 286 at Llanelli North dock on 15 Dec.; ANGLESEY: 110 at Braint est. on 1 Jan.; DENBIGH: 600 at Bangor-is-y-coed and 280 at Holt on 23 Feb.; FLINT: 3000 off Bagillt on 14 Nov.

Pintail X Mallard
BRECON: five on R.Mellte near Ystradfellte on 23 Jan. presumed to be of captive stock, perhaps released rather than escaped.

TEAL *Anas crecca* CORHWYADEN
Small numbers (60-250 pairs) breed in the uplands, otherwise a widespread and fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2685	3556
% of BirdTrack lists	11%	14%

Wetland Bird Survey: Teal in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Breeding: there were 2-3 confirmed pairs and possibles at 12 other sites. All birds in suitable habitat were: CARMARTHEN: pair bred at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: bred at Mynydd Preseli; CEREDIGION: present at Cors Caron, Cors Fochno, RSPB Ynys-hir and Llyn y Figyn; MEIRIONNYDD: possibly bred at Llyn Grych y Waun, Llyn Trawsfynydd, Tanrallt, lower R.Tryweryn, Llyn Tecwyn Isaf and an area of southwest Migneint; ANGLESEY: eight males at RSPB Cors Ddyga; FLINT: brood at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands, but uncertain which side of the border nesting occurred.

Non-breeding: national stability in the Wetland Bird Survey index, and the highest BirdTrack reporting rate since 2015, can disguise local trends. An Amber WeBS alert has been issued for

the Dee estuary (-25%) over the long-term, although numbers appear to have recovered in recent years. Although below the threshold for reporting here, notable for MONTGOMERY was a count of c.250 at Llyn Coed-y-dinas on 15 Dec. The number of sites holding ≥300 was more than 30% below the 2012-21 average.

Sites with ≥300 Teal		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nedern Valley	498	201	154	146							112	207
	Newport Wetlands	550	102	80	35	3	20	10	50	157	126	183	56
CARMARTHEN	Dryslwyn	200	125								32	158	300
PEMBROKE	Cledau estuary	1939	1308	747	6				15	245	911	2079	2027
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	352	100	70	7	2	3		44	629	830	811	499
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwryrd est.	329	333	410	5					345	346	796	53
CAERNARFON	Foryd	94	161	118	24		1	2	29	160	300	320	91
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga	1021	1050	215	110	6	2	16	c.25	5	160	630	540
CAER/DENB	Conwy estuary	151	69	30	23	2	6	20	60	c.300	510	c.160	225
FLINT	Oakenholt Marsh	820	200	260	40	6	1	30	500	2000	1100	1800	500
	Connah's Quay NR	90	160	60	6		1	9	320	350	420	220	500
	RSPB Burton Mere	368	54	44	31	8		5		300	34	72	182

Counts ≥300 elsewhere: FLINT: 420 at Pulford Brook on 23 Feb.; 2000 off Flint Pt on 14 Nov.

2021 FLINT, additional count: 322 at Pt of Ayr in Dec.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL *Anas carolinensis* CORHWYADEN ASGELLWERDD
Scarce visitor from North America; WBRC: 47 previous records.

ANGLESEY: male on Inland Sea on 3 and 20 Dec.

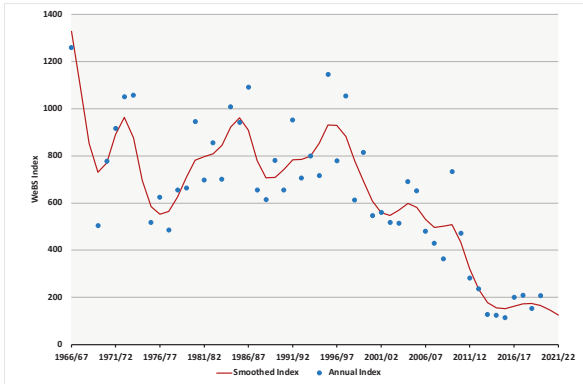
RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Netta rufina* HWYADEN GRIBGOCH
Naturalised, but scarce, despite breeding locally in England (Category C).

The number of reports was well above average, but many related to perhaps just a single, mobile individual, in southeast Wales. The population at Cotswold Water Park, Gloucestershire/Wiltshire, 48km east of the Welsh border, has increased in the last two decades (max. 20-28 pairs in 2018, Eaton *et al.* 2023a). GWENT: Ynys-y-fro Res. on 28 March; E.GLAMORGAN: male at Kenfig NNR on 10-26 March, 15 May and from 23 Nov. to 12 Dec., also at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 21 March and Parc Tredelech on 26 April; GOWER: Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 17-21 Dec.; DENBIGH: Gresford Flash on 30 Sept.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* HWYADEN BENGGOCH
A declining winter visitor, chiefly to southern coastal counties, and passage migrant. Red WeBS alert: -68% short term, -76% medium and -89% long term, the highest of any UK country. RBBP: seven confirmed and 15 probable/possible pairs in 2021. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	373	525
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Wetland Bird Survey: Pochard in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Breeding: only four confirmed breeding pairs, but some at Cors Ddyga may have been missed as flooding prevented monitoring in all potential habitat. CARMARTHEN: three pairs bred at Penclacwydd; ANGLESEY: two males at RSPB Cors Ddyga in May, where a juvenile was seen on 10 Aug.; three males at Llyn Traffwll in May; 10 at RSPB Valley Wetlands in June and 20 in July.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey smoothed trend reached an all-time low, more than 90% below its baseline in the late 1960s, as did the number of sites holding 20 or more. Most counties away from the southeast recorded very few: there were none in MEIRIONNYDD or RADNOR, 2-3 in CEREDIGION, two in MONTGOMERY, and four records of single birds in CAERNARFON. The

largest flock in BRECON was six, in FLINT seven, DENBIGH nine and in CARMARTHEN 11 birds. Only sites in GOWER, E.GLAMORGAN and ANGLESEY recorded more than 50.

Sites with ≥20 Pochards		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Cosmeston Lakes CP	27	8		2					10
	Kenfig Pool	40	82	5	1					
GOWER	Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir	85	76	P	1	P	P	56	P	
ANGLESEY	RSPB Valley Wetlands	2	18	32	21	16				8
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	4		18	55					
	Llyn Traffwll		31	10	1	1				

RING-NECKED DUCK *Aythya collaris*

HWYADEN DORCHOG

Scarce visitor from North America. WBRC: 68 previous records.

This species has undergone a remarkable change in status in recent years, with 72 across Britain in 2021 (White and Kehoe 2023) and 18 in Wales in 2022. Along with several considered to be returning birds, 14 were new arrivals. A group of six in GOWER for 10 weeks in the first winter period is the largest recorded in Wales. The changing status of the species (and the long-staying nature of some individuals) is evident in the BirdTrack reporting rate, which has increased by 300% since 2013-15, putting it fifth in the list of species with the greatest increases. This is the last year that the WBRC will consider records of this species. All records were adult males unless stated.

GWENT: Ynys-y-fro Res. from 5 Nov. into 2023; E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR from 21 Dec. 2021 to 10 March; female at Lisvane Res., Cardiff Bay and Cosmeston Lakes CP from 26 Oct. 2021 to 19 April, and a 2CY female here from 4 Nov. 2021 until April 2022; these returned to the same area from 12 and 16 Oct. respectively, until the end of the year; female at Llwyn-on Res. from 22 Jan. to 1 Feb.; GOWER: Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 1 and 25 Jan., 25-27 Feb. and 1-4 March, presumed same as Kenfig above; two males and four females at Margam Opencast Pond between 3 Feb. and 16 April; CARMARTHEN: Talley Lakes on 9-18 Oct. and from 14 Nov. to 9 Dec., also at Llyn Pencarreg from 19 Oct. to 1 Nov., with a female at the two sites on 9-31 Dec.; 1CY male at Llyn Pencarreg on 24-1 Nov., then at Talley Lakes from 14 Nov. to 4 Dec.; PEMBROKE: Rosebush Res. from 23 Jan. to 13 Feb. and 4 March, possibly same on 12 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: Llyn Tegid on 23-30 Jan. and 11 Feb., considered to be a returning bird, and again on 16 Nov. and 11 Dec., and into 2023; ANGLESEY: Cefni Res. on 18 March; RSPB Valley Lakes from 22 July to 14 Aug.; DENBIGH: Llyn Brenig on 4 March, assumed to be same as on Llyn Tegid.

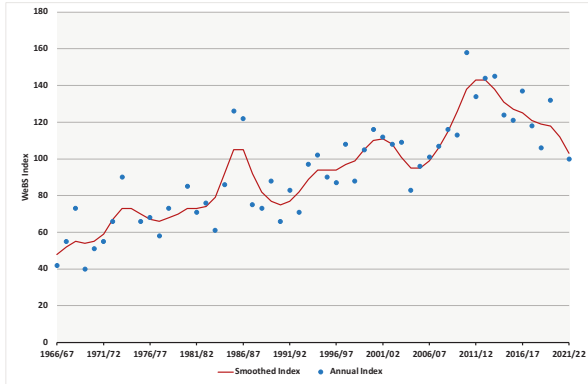
TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

HWYADEN GOPOG

Uncommon breeding species (765-1350 pairs). Fairly common winter visitor. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2357	2658
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	11%

Wetland Bird Survey: Tufted Duck in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



the Wetland Bird Survey index has fallen back to its 2005/06 level, although the encounter rate on BirdTrack lists has not changed dramatically in the last decade. Only two sites held more than 250 Tufted Ducks, but the 960 at Cardiff Bay in December was notable.

Sites with ≥50 Tufted Ducks		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Ponthir Reservoir	25				2	20	54	80	49	45	12	11
	Ynys-y-fro Reservoir	9					11	36	72	68	79	40	66
E.GLAMORGAN	Hensol Lake	15	12	188	12	2	3	6	9	9	12	11	23
	Cardiff Bay	237	162	31	50	8	13	6	19	40	82	179	960
	Cosmeston Lakes CP	220	48	18	12				4	5	8	50	200
	Kenfig Pool	67	99	52	40	2		4			1	4	20
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	148	63	68	81	16	50	121	127	49	26	39	137
	Roath Park Lake	82	92	58	52				1	7	22	27	75
	Llwyn-on Reservoir	54	53	2									60
GOWER	Eglwys Nunydd Res.	167	77	20				50	110	P	105	P	
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	40	53	30	29	38	50	14	30	8	22	40	27
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	400	148	18	17	3	1	2	18	9	174	262	>200
	Talybont Reservoir	76	6	4			6	21	27	14	21	52	71
MEIRIONNYDD	Llyn Trawsfynydd	41	12	44	66	33		7		67	43	54	
ANGLESEY	Cefni Reservoir	190	62	15		12				P	130	49	
	Llyn Alaw	220			13		P			10	100+		
	RSPB Valley Wetlands	42	27	33	39	22	48	60	51	4		9	10
	Llyn Traffwll	35	25	44	53	68	25	36	62	11	8	1	
DENBIGH	Hanmer Mere	52	52	49	34				4	26	33	39	7
	RSPB Conwy	22	18	22	47	22	61	10	12	9	8	41	20
FLINT	Shotton Paper Mill			81	114		65	53		125		199	
	Shotwick Lake	>45			>25					184	123		c.90
	Brickfield Pond, Rhyl	84	71	41	24	11	7	15	29	42	34	42	51

Counts ≥50 elsewhere: GWENT: 58 at Parc Bryn Bach on 9 Nov.; FLINT: 70 at Cop Hole pool on 16 Oct.

SCAUP *Aythya marila*

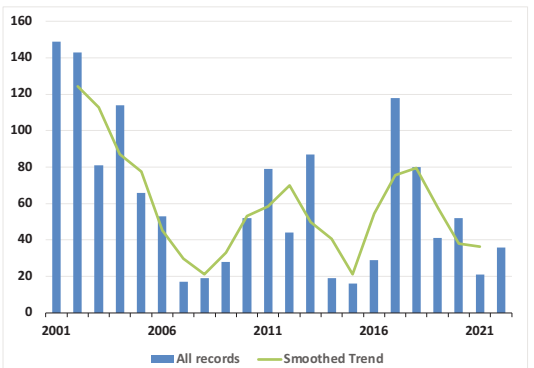
HWYADEN BENDDU

Localised winter visitor, declining since the mid-1990s. Red WeBS alert: -54% long term. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	363	469
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Non-breeding: numbers in Wales counted by the Wetland Bird Survey (which may not be representative) have been stable for the last 25 years, but far lower than in the early 1990s, which now seems a remarkable anomaly. Five males and five females in Carmarthen Bay in Jan. and Feb. was the largest group of the year.

Scaup recorded in Wales, based on sum of site maxima in Dec. to March, 2000/01-2021/22



Scaup: county totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	4	4	2							1		1
GOWER	5	3										2
CARMARTHEN	11	10										
PEMBROKE	1						1	1				
CEREDIGION	1		1									
BRECON										1	4	1
MEIRIONNYDD			1									
CAERNARFON	1		1								1	2
ANGLESEY	4	2	2				1					
DENBIGH	6	3	2							1	1	
FLINT	3	1						1		1		

2021 FLINT, correction: female (at Brickfield Pond, Rhyl) from 4 Jan. to 29 March and from 24 Sept. into 2022 (as per table above).

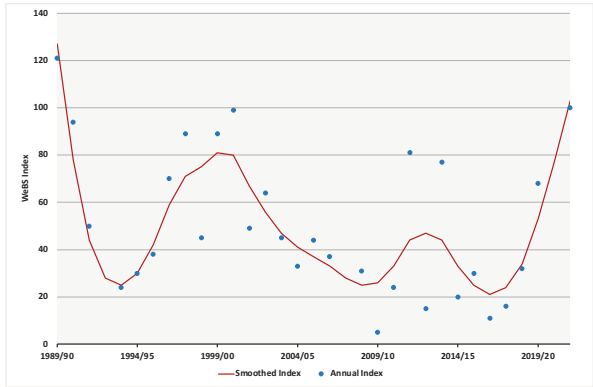
LESSER SCAUP *Aythya affinis* HWYADEN BENDDU LEIAF
Very rare vagrant from North America. WBRC: eight previous records in Wales.

GOWER: 2CY female at Eglwys Nunydd Res. from 29 March to 26 April.

EIDER *Somateria mollissima* HWYADEN FWYTHBLU
Localised winter visitor and scarce breeder (<20 pairs). Wintering numbers fell dramatically in the early 1990s and have fluctuated since. Red WeBS alert: -63% long term and -61% short-term (amber alert -47% medium term). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	229	348
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Wetland Bird Survey: Eider in Wales 1989/90-2021/22



Breeding: while the Welsh population appears to be stable, albeit probably under-recorded, that on the Calf of Man - less than 75km northwest of Anglesey – increased from 70 pairs in 2021 to 118 pairs, having been no more than 20 pairs during 2005-17. CAERNARFON: brood at Aber Ogwen; pair and a single male around Little Orme until mid-May and a pair below the Great Orme until early May but no breeding evidence.

Non-breeding: Wetland Bird Survey counts in Wales increased significantly in 2019/20 and 2021/22, to the second highest level since monitoring began, with increases away from the traditional sites. Numbers at Broadwater, MEIRIONNYDD, were the lowest since 2017 and just a quarter of the 2012-21 average.

Eider: max. at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Whiteford	80	88	62	105	5	27		33	44		45	84
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater and coast	9	13	8	12	3	6	11	6	6	2	7	
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan/Conwy Bay	40	1	39	38	93	86	61	58	50	50	30	6
ANGLESEY	Penmon		1	c.50	29	24	c.30	3		21		1	15

Other notable records and county max.: CARMARTHEN: 35 in Pembrey harbour on 30 April and 30 here on 16 May; seven at Pwll on 7 June; PEMBROKE: nine off Strumble Head on 4 Jan.; seven at Amroth on 3 Feb.; CEREDIGION: max. five at New Quay on 27 Jan.; MEIRIONNYDD: 12 at Traeth Bach, Dwyryd est. on 23 Jan.; CAERNARFON: 22 past Little Orme on 3 Jan.; six off Black Rock Sands on 26 Sept.; ANGLESEY: 45 off Benllech on 28 Jan.; 19 off Moelfre on 26 March; FLINT: one at Connah’s Quay NR on 15 June was the first site record.



SURF SCOTER *Melanitta perspicillata* MOR-HWYADEN YR EWYN
Scarce trans-Atlantic visitor. WBRC: 76 previous records.

CARMARTHEN: three males and at least one female in Carmarthen Bay from 16 Jan. to 16 March; CAERNARFON: male at Criccieth on 19 Nov.; DENBIGH: min. three males off Old Colwyn/Llanddulas (two of which were considered new arrivals) in first winter period to 24 March, and two again from 13 Nov. to year end.

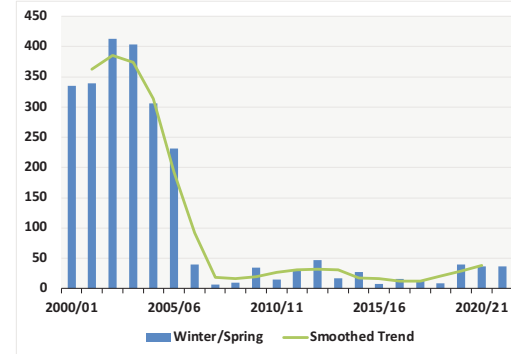
VELVET SCOTER *Melanitta fusca*

MOR-HWYADEN Y GOGLEDD

Localised winter visitor, regular in small numbers to some coastal counties. Occasionally recorded on passage, but rare inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	44	81
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Velvet Scoters recorded in Wales, based on county max. during Dec-April, 2001/02-21/22



was the first county record; CAERNARFON: Foryd on 15 Jan.; three off Little Orme on 23 Jan. and two here on 1 April; three off Great Orme on 14 April; Llanfairfechan on 22 Nov.; Rhos Pt on 26 Nov.; ANGLESEY: Benllech on 21 Feb.; DENBIGH: up to eight off Old Colwyn, Llanddulas and Pensarn in first winter period to 14 March, 1-2 here from 8 Oct. and max. five on 1 Dec.

COMMON SCOTER *Melanitta nigra*

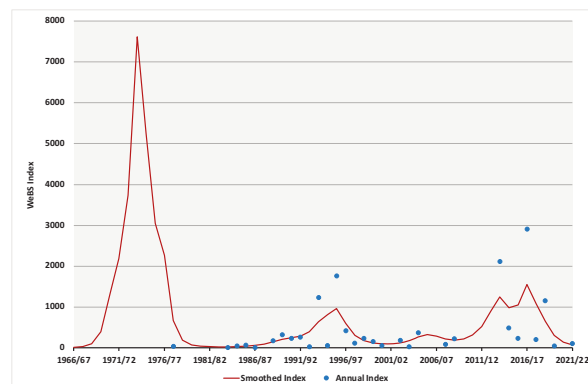
MOR-HWYADEN DDU

Locally abundant coastal visitor, recorded all year round but mainly during the winter. Numbers increasing, although there was an 18% decline in Carmarthen Bay between 2009/10 and 2016/17. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	539	658
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

The Wetland Bird Survey is the only annual indication of trend, but represents poorly the totals out of sight from land, and even those within coastal waters as they are undertaken on a fixed day each month. The counts below are formed mainly from *ad hoc* records and reveal the lowest number of counts >100 since 2009. The Denbighshire coast remains the most important area, the flock frequently extending to the east coast of Anglesey, but previous aerial surveys show even greater numbers beyond the range of optical gear.

Wetland Bird Survey: Common Scoter in Wales 1966/67-2019/20



Decreases around the British coast and the Baltic Sea have led to the international population estimate being revised down by 55%, and the species' listing as Vulnerable by IUCN/BirdLife International. Numbers in Wales have increased slightly from the downward trend in the previous decade, but remain a shadow of the totals from the early years of the century.

All records, singles unless stated: CARMARTHEN: six (one male) off Pendine on 5-6 Feb., thereafter 3-4 up to 16 March and two on 28th; PEMBROKE: in St Brides Bay, three off Broad Haven on 2-9 Jan. and six here on 10th, and three off Druidston from 20 Feb. to 3 March; five passed Strumble Head on 13 April and three on 4 Nov.; two off Broad Haven on 26-31 Dec.; CEREDIGION: two males and a female off Llanrhystud on 11 April; BRECON: 1CY at Llangorse Lake from 20 Nov. to 4 Dec.

Common Scoter: max. at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Cefn Sidan	1000		2000	300	300	40		500	500	300	34	1320
PEMBROKE	Strumble Head				6			430	152	247	100	220	
MEIRIONNYDD	Arthro estuary	158		47	97					30	242	23	14
CAERNARFON	Tremadog Bay	430	40						5	8	35	450	730
	Bardsey			9	31		51	27	76	146	73		
DENBIGH	Rhos Pt-Clwyd est.	10,000	8000	13,000		20		30	>200	>200	>1200	3000	1142

Other site max.: GWENT: three at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 10 May; E.GLAMORGAN: four flocks over Maesteg on night of 30 March included 310 male calls and 10 females; max. elsewhere 12 off Porthcawl on 30 Sept.; GOWER: 241 at Broughton Bay on 14 March; 200 at Oxwich on 8 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: 5000 off Pendine in Jan. and Nov.; PEMBROKE: 150 in St Brides Bay on 12-20 Jan.; 50 off Ramsey on 15 June and 35 off Skomer on 16th; autumn total at Strumble Head was 2227, of which 95% were males; CEREDIGION: 349 off Ynyslas on 13 Jan.; 65 off Aberporth on 26 Jan.; 170 at Mwnt on 9 Sept.; 74 off Penbryn on 23 Dec.; BRECON: 25 on Llangorse Lake on 15 Nov.; RADNOR: 12 in Elan Valley in Oct.; one on Llandrindod Wells lake on 11-14 Oct.; eight on Claerwen Res. in Nov.; seven records sound-recorded on nocturnal migration; MONTGOMERY: one on Lake Vyrnwy on 17 May; MEIRIONNYDD: 40 off Harlech on 1 Jan., 90 here on 14 April, 40 on 9 June and 20 on 21 Dec.; CAERNARFON: c.300 off Afonwen on 13 Jan.; 2000 off Little Orme in Jan. and Great Orme in April; ANGLESEY: 40 off RSPB South Stack on 7 June; 150 past Bull Bay on 26 July; c.5000 off Benllech on 29 Nov.; DENBIGH: 16 on Llyn Brenig on 15 Nov.; FLINT: 400 off Gronant on 25 April.

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis*

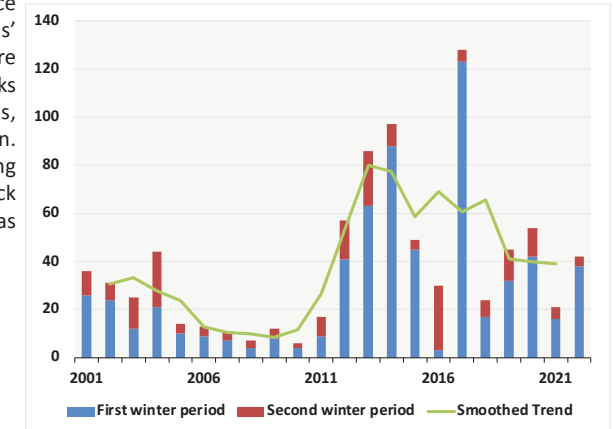
HWYADEN GYNFFONHIR

Local winter visitor and passage migrant. Rare inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	150	256
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

There has been a 65% decline in numbers in the Baltic Sea since 1992/93, contributing to the species' global status as Vulnerable. There were more BirdTrack records this year thanks to several long-staying individuals, including five in Tremadog Bay in Jan. and five in Carmarthen Bay during March and early April. One off Black Rock, CAERNARFON, on 2 June was unseasonal.

Long-tailed Ducks recorded in Wales, 2001-22



Long-tailed Duck: county totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN		4	5	5			1
PEMBROKE	1	1					1
CEREDIGION					1		
CAERNARFON	7	2	2	1			2
ANGLESEY		1			1	3	
DENBIGH	2	3				1	
FLINT	1			1			

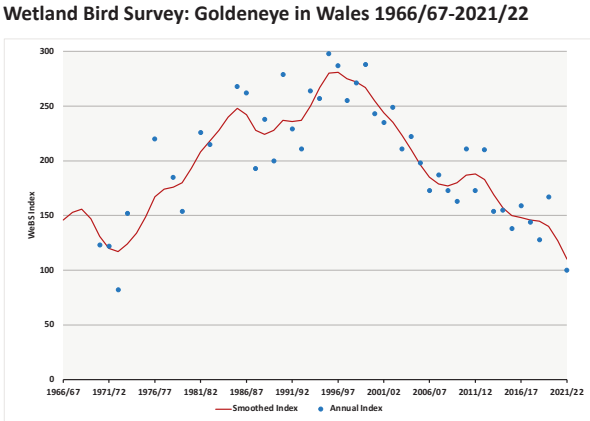
GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

HWYADEN LYGAD-AUR

Localised winter visitor and passage migrant. Amber WeBS alerts: -30% short term, -26% medium -45% long-term. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	386	468
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	2%

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey smoothed trend has reached a record low, 66% below its 1996/97 peak. Surprisingly, perhaps, the number of sites qualifying for listing here was above the recent average, but aside from Llyn Alaw, Beddmanarch Bay and Llangorse Lake, all sites recorded 25 or fewer. The BirdTrack reporting rate (1.8%) was the lowest of any year without a lockdown.



Sites with ≥10 Goldeneyes		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Kenfig Pool	11	16	9			3	3
	Ogmore estuary	20	12	2			8	18
GOWER	Eglwys Nunydd Res.	25	21	P			3	
CARMARTHEN	Talley Lakes	6	8	11			4	5
PEMBROKE	Rosebush Reservoir	5	6	6			7	12
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	48	37	24	2	4	20	40
MEIRIONNYDD	Llyn Tegid	4	10	5				
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	15	16	15	6	1	5	14
	Foryd	11	8	8	2	1	1	8
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	41	15	5		4	P	7
	Cemlyn	5	13	4			8	8
	RSPB Valley Wetlands	13		6	1	3	8	4
	Llyn Traffwll	13	21	6				
DENBIGH	Hanmer Mere	12	19	11				2
	Llyn Brenig	9	4	12	2		3	4

Counts ≥10 elsewhere: PEMBROKE: 16 at Pentwyn Res. on 24 Jan.; 10 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 29 Dec.; ANGLESEY: 36 on Llyn Alaw on 14 Jan.; 11 on Cefni Res. on 11 March.

Unseasonal: ANGLESEY: four at Cemlyn on 7 July.

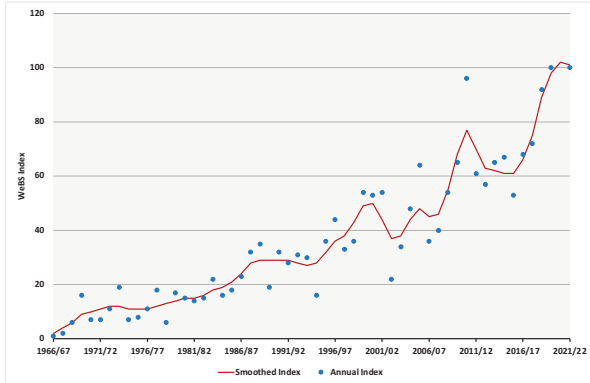
GOOSANDER *Mergus merganser*

HWYADEN DDANHEDDOG

Breeds on most Welsh rivers, the breeding population is estimated at 685 pairs and the winter total at 1460 individuals. Most Goosanders wintering in Wales are thought to be British breeders. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1553	1627
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	6%

Wetland Bird Survey: Goosander in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



at Fachwen, Llyn Padarn and Betws-y-coed; probably bred at Llanrwst; DENBIGH: two broods on Clwyd est.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index remained at its highest ever level, as did the BirdTrack reporting rate at 6.3% of lists.

Sites with ≥20 Goosanders		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Llanfihangel Gobion	3		7	7	14	3	26		5			10
	Brynmawr Pond	9	20	11	2							3	10
	Parc Bryn Bach	1	14								13	36	1
CARMARTHEN	Llyn Pencarreg	3						7	5	21			
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	47	37	34							1	17	27
RADNOR	Llandrindod Lake	19	26	1							23	10	7
MONTGOMERY	Dolydd Hafren	20	12	5	8	5	P	16	4	5	2		4
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater	6	10	4	6		3	13	30	13	30	11	2
	Llyn Trawsfynydd	21		P		6	2	2		14	2	11	
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	10	2	4	5	19	26	28	12	10	13	4	2
DENBIGH	Dee Valley	28	30			2							1
	Clwyd estuary*	14	10	11	5	16	18	29	17	21	33	26	17

*some peak counts on Rhyl Marine Lake or Brickfield Pond, FLINT.

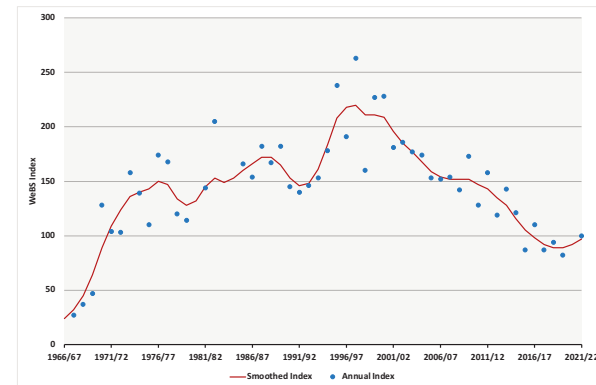
Counts ≥20 elsewhere: CEREDIGION: 21 at Llyn Eiddwen in March; RADNOR: 35 on Llanbwchlllyn on 5 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 21 on Dwyfor est. on 28 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 50 off Beaumaris on 12 July; 25 at Llyn Pen-y-parc on 20 Dec.; DENBIGH: 50 at Gresford Flash on 6 Jan. and 26 here on 6 Nov.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

Localised winter visitor, mainly to the North Wales coast. Amber WeBS alerts: -26% short-term, -37% medium and -34% long-term. Small numbers breed, chiefly in the northwest – RBBP: five confirmed and 13 probable/possible pairs in 2021. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	649	718
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	3%

Wetland Bird Survey: Red-breasted Merganser in Wales 1966/67-2021/22



Non-breeding: a slight increase in the Wetland Bird Survey index compared to recent years, but nonetheless 56% below the 1996/97 peak. The BirdTrack reporting rate was 25% lower than its pre-pandemic level and the number of sites holding >20 birds at least once during the year was the lowest since 2007. An Amber WeBS alert (-31% medium term and -28% long term) has been issued for Traeth Lafan/Conwy Bay SPA.

Sites with >20 Red-breasted Mergansers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
MEIRIONNYDD	Artro estuary	32	9	3	2						2	3	4
CAERNARFON	Foryd	2	17	3	26	1	3	2	2	9	10	7	7
	Traeth Lafan	20	11	62	17	4	12	41	23	22	28	9	23
	Penrhyn Bay	22	41	18	2					2	1	6	23
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	17	29	86	6	2		2	3	2	2	6	6
	Traeth Melynog	2	9	60	45	1				2	1	11	2
DENBIGH	Rhos on Sea-Llanddulas	24	10	23	2							8	13

Counts >20 elsewhere: CAERNARFON: 25 at Y Gamlas off Carreg y Defaid on 5 April; ANGLESEY: 20 off Ynys Llanddwyn on 17 April and 28 Oct.; 25 off Penmon on 14 June.

RED GROUSE *Lagopus lagopus*

Localised resident on heather uplands (835 breeding pairs). Has declined but may have stabilised in recent years. Wales Red-listed.

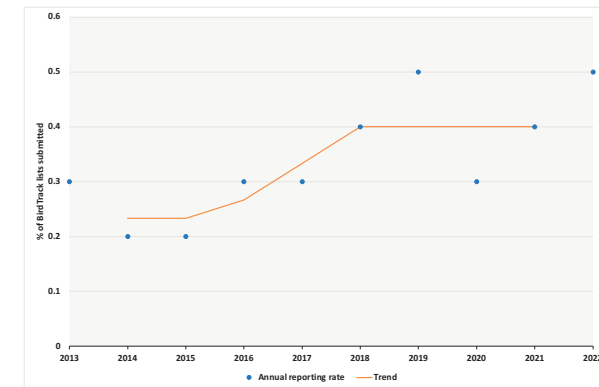
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	109	146
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate is low, but has increased slightly in recent years. Breeding season counts are individuals unless stated: GWENT: six on The Bloreng on 28 March, where breeding was later confirmed; pair on

HWYADEN FRONGOCH

Breeding season: aside from the lockdown year of 2020, this is the lowest number of confirmed breeding records since 2013. MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Tywyn, and possibly on Dwyrdd est., Llyn Trawsfynydd and Pont Croesor; ANGLESEY: brood at Traeth Dulas.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Red Grouse in Wales 2013-22



Moel Wnion in June and a pair in Anafon Valley; in Glyderau, on Y Foel Gloch on 2 June; DENBIGH: max. 28 on Esclusham Mountain/Ruabon Moor on 2 June, where breeding confirmed; two at NWWT Gors Maen Llwyd in March; two on Moel Famau on 5 April and one here on 12 Nov.; three at Eglwyseg in March and one in July; two at Pistyll Rhaeadr on 31 May; one in Ceiriog Forest in May and June; five at Mynydd Tarw on 19 Aug.

Non-breeding (max. counts) elsewhere: GWENT: 1-2 on Mynydd Llangatwg in Jan.-March and three in Oct.; two at Coity Mountain in Jan. and three here in Nov.; one on Sugarloaf in Jan.; one on Hatterall Ridge on 21 March; three on Mynydd y Garn Fawr on 30 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: two on Waunwen on 27 Feb.; RADNOR: three on Bache Hill in Jan. and one here in Aug.; two on Beacon Hill in March; 40 in the Elenydd on 2 Oct., the highest count this century; BRECON: singles at seven sites during year, 1-2 on Rhiw-y-fan and Rhos Dirion in Nov., three on Fan Fawr in Sept. and Gwaun Cerrig Llwydion in Nov.; droppings on Pen Cerrig-calch and Lord Hereford's Knob in Nov.; MONTGOMERY: one in Cwm Llwyd on 31 May; MEIRIONNYDD: two at Blaen-y-coed on 22 Jan. and here in Oct. and Nov.; four on Rhinog Fawr on 3 Sept.; three on edge of Coed y Brenin on 2 Nov.; CAERNARFON: one above Penmaenmawr on 14 Jan. and three on Tal-y-fan on 6 Dec.; two near Llyn Conwy on 22 Jan.; one at Ffynnon Eidda on 27 March; DENBIGH: 23 on Horseshoe Pass on 30 Oct.; 140 at Llandegla/Esclusham Mountain on 4 Nov.; FLINT: five at Fauxdegla on 25 Oct.

BLACK GROUSE *Lyrurus tetrix*

Localised and declining breeding resident on moorlands of North Wales. There were 328 lekking males in the core area in 2018, the last year of full survey. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	53	82
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

There was no co-ordinated lek survey in North Wales, so only a small number of records (counts of males) from well-watched lek sites and one nature reserve. The largest lek reported contained 17 males. MONTGOMERY: three at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; DENBIGH: three on Llantysilio Mountain on 15 Feb.; three at Eglwyseg on 3 March; max. 40 on Esclusham Mountain on 2 May; FLINT: Fauxdegla on 25 Oct.

Additional sites outside the breeding season: CAERNARFON: male at Carnedd y Ddelw in Y Carneddau on 27 Aug. was very unusual.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: 28 at Esclusham Mountain on 29 May.

GREY PARTRIDGE *Perdix perdix*

PETRISEN

Uncommon, almost extinct, breeding species. Remaining populations are probably maintained by releases. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	26	12
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The number of estates from Wales contributing to the Partridge Count Scheme has fallen to just two, and in 2022 there were no birds at either site, cf. 1.7 per 100ha in 2021 (GWCT 2022).

Singles unless stated. E.GLAMORGAN: two at Gileston on 16 July; MONTGOMERY: two at Llyn-du, Welshpool, on 16 April; Dolydd Hafren on 16 April and 7 Sept.; released at Commins Coch and Bachelldre, near Churchstoke, where it is believed numbers were maintained through the year; ANGLESEY: Llyn Coron on 5 Jan.; two at Llynfaes on 24 June; seven on Mynydd Bodafon on 1 Nov.; DENBIGH: probably bred at Groes, near Denbigh; FLINT: three at Connah's Quay NR on 1 Jan., and two here sporadically to 2 May; two near Nannerch on 30 May.

2021 FLINT, additional record: one near Ysceifiog on 11 May.

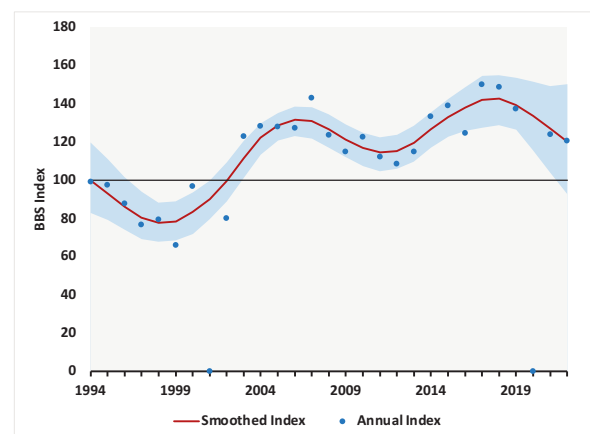
PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

FFESANT

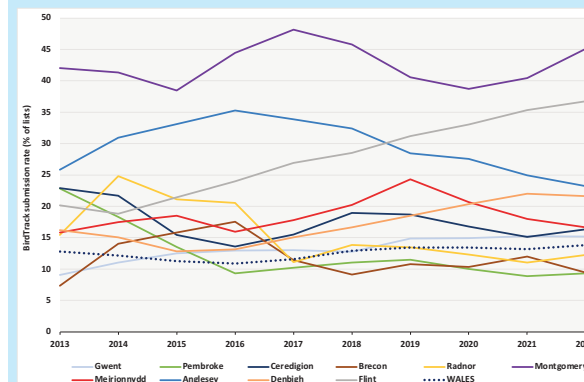
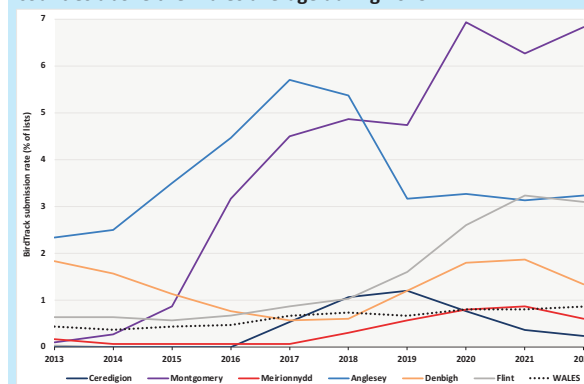
Introduced (Category C) and fairly common throughout Wales (165,000 breeding pairs). Many more are released than breed, but few records are included in county reports.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2973	2835
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	13%

A further slight fall, of 2% since 2021, in the annual Breeding Bird Survey index brings the total reduction in the smoothed index to 17% since 2018. This may reflect fewer releases in 2020 and 2021 owing to uncertainties about shooting days owing to COVID-19, but would not have been influenced by any reduction in releases resulting from HPAI restrictions later in 2022 that reportedly reduced the availability of eggs and poults for release, especially those imported from France. The BBS is a coarse indicator of release numbers, since much will depend on overwinter survival, but is currently the only publicly available metric on which Natural Resources Wales can judge trends. The index is 37% higher than in 1995.

Breeding Bird Survey: Pheasant in Wales, 1994-2022

count has changed little in the last decade. The largest counts were 100 at Flemingston Moor, E.GLAMORGAN, and 85 at Berriew, MONTGOMERY, on 29 Oct. and 4 Dec. respectively.

Trends in BirdTrack reporting of released gamebirds**BirdTrack reporting rate (smoothed trend): Pheasant in counties above the Wales average during 2013-22****BirdTrack reporting rate (smoothed trend): Red-legged Partridge in counties above the Wales average during 2013-22**

Concerns about the environmental impacts of released gamebirds have been raised by several nature conservation organisations in recent years, leading to Natural Resources Wales to call for evidence in 2022 and consult on proposals to increase regulation of releases in 2023. It is difficult to assess the numbers involved or annual trends because there is no reporting of numbers released or locations, and WOS has called for this to be a statutory requirement for those releasing non-native gamebirds in Wales.

BirdTrack provides one coarse indicator of trends in Pheasant and Red-legged Partridge, although it can be biased in several ways, not least the variable geographic effort between years. BirdTrack reporting rates vary considerably between counties - for simplicity, the charts show the three-year rolling mean reporting rate for counties consistently above the Wales average, so excluding Eastern Glamorgan, Gower and Carmarthenshire. These seem to reflect the broad patterns identified from other sources (such as the APHA Poultry Register) used by Madden (2023), commissioned by Natural Resources Wales.

The all-Wales BirdTrack reporting rate for Pheasant in 2022 (13.1%) was similar to recent years, and seemed unaffected by reported reductions in numbers released in 2020 and 2021 (related to COVID lockdown uncertainties) and 2022 (resulting from HPAI, especially in France, from which many eggs are bought). This reflects the relatively ubiquitous presence of Pheasants in many habitats, often well away from release areas. Only in Ceredigion and Meirionnydd has there been a recent fall in reporting rates following previous increases, although there appear to be longer-term reductions in Pembrokeshire, Breconshire and Radnorshire. The rate has also fallen in Carmarthenshire but doubled in Eastern Glamorgan, albeit from a lower base in each county. The mean reporting rate has almost doubled in Flintshire since 2012-14, and almost doubled in Denbighshire since 2014-16.

Reporting rates for Red-legged Partridge are typically just 10% those for Pheasant in most counties, but far higher in some years in Montgomeryshire and Anglesey. There is some evidence of a slight reduction in reporting rate in most counties in 2022, which may reflect the impact on releases of HPAI mentioned above. As for Pheasant, the chart shows only those counties with reporting rates above the Welsh average; numbers elsewhere were negligible in most years. The trends in reporting rate for this species may be more closely aligned to trends in releases if Red-legged Partridges move shorter distances away from release because of greater habitat specialisation.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

SOFLIAR

Rare and irregular breeding species, irruptive in some years; uncommon passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed.

There were just seven records which, along with 2013, is the lowest total since 2002. PEMBROKE: Martin's Haven on 16 May; St David's airfield on 16 Aug.; RADNOR: Rhos-y-Meirch on 7-8 July; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga from 29 June to 2 July; Marian Newydd, Llanggoed, on 16 Sept.; DENBIGH: Moel Goch, Mynydd Hiraethog, on 16 June; Holt on 21 July; FLINT: Gronant on 21 July.

RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE *Alectoris rufa*

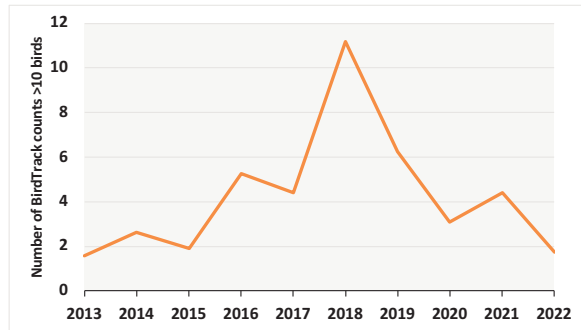
PETRISEN GOESGOCH

Introduced (Category C) and localised (1400 breeding pairs). Most sightings are of birds released for shooting, and there are few records of breeding.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	294	191
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	<1%

Encounters by BirdTrack users returned **Red-legged Partridge counts >10 recorded on BirdTrack 2013-22**

to levels typical of recent times following a surprising spike in 2021, but the numbers recorded were far lower than usual. The number of counts of more than 10 birds was 60% lower than the average during 2013-21, and has returned to levels recorded during 2013-15. Although generally sedentary, one on the Great Orme, CAERNARFON, on 11 April was well away from any release sites.

**NIGHTJAR** *Caprimulgus europaeus*

TROELLWR MAWR

Localised summer visitor (280 males in 2004, now probably >500), mainly dependent on clearfell areas in forestry plantations. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	76	71
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Nightjars are probably under-recorded, as birders tend to visit a small number of traditional sites. Until there is a new national survey, population trends are not accurately known. The first of the year was on the very early date of

9 April at NWWT Gwaith Powdwr, MEIRIONNYDD, and the latest was one hunting moths in arc lights at Crickhowell, BRECON, on 31 Aug.

Breeding sites, max. per site unless stated: GWENT: three at Blaenavon and Wentwood; two at Broad Meend, The Volland and Sirhowy Valley CP; singles at Beacon Hill and Llandenny; E.GLAMORGAN: seven at Gwynno Forest; four at Cwm Kenfig and Llanwonno; two at eight sites and singles at three others; GOWER: six at Foel Fynyddau; four at Mynydd Dinas; two at Penhydd and Cefn Bryn; one at Briton Ferry Wood; CARMARTHEN: three at Llyn Llech Owain and Mynydd Llanbydder; two at Pen-crug-melyn and Pen Cerrig-mwyn; singles at three other sites; PEMBROKE: two at Ty-Rhyg; CEREDIGION: four at RSPB Ynys-hir, Cross Inn Forest and near Joppa; two at Cors Fochno, Bwlch Nant-yr-arian; one in a garden at Llangwryfion

on 7 July; BRECON: four in Coelbren forest and Gwaun Hepste; three at Ynys Poste and Brynbair; two at Castle Drake, Coed Fennifach, Tal-y-bont Res. and Penwyllt; singles at seven other sites; MONTGOMERY: present in forestry above Lake Vyrnwy; singles in Ceri Forest and at Lower Short Ditch on the Kerry Ridgeway; MEIRIONNYDD: two at RSPB Mawddach Woodlands; pair and a male at Gwaith Powdwr; male at Nant Prysor plantation (at 450m asl); male at Rhiwbryddir; CAERNARFON: four at Cors Bodygynydd; one in Coed Gwydir on edge of Betws-y-coed on 27 July; DENBIGH: 12 in Coed Llandgela; 10 at Fenn's Moss; 2-3 near Llyn Brenig; FLINT: pair in Nercwys Forest; one in Wern-y-Gaer near Rhosesmor, a new location.

ALPINE SWIFT *Tachymarptis melba*

GWENNOL DDU'R ALPAU

Scarce visitor from southern Europe. WBRC: 46 previous records.

GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 12 April; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 22 April; Elegug Stacks on 3 July.

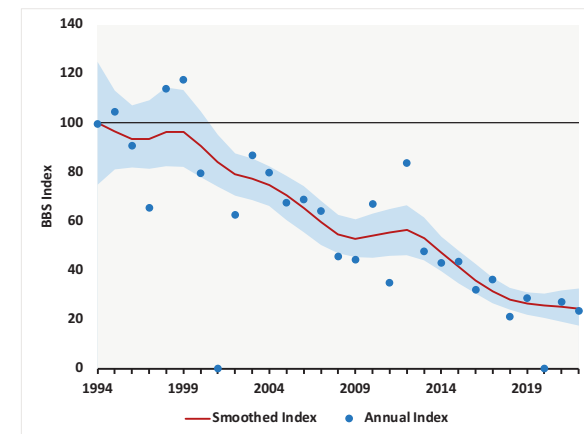
SWIFT *Apus apus*

GWENNOL DDU

Localised and declining summer visitor (4100 pairs). Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1725	1509
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	6%

Although well recorded on passage and in suitable habitat at the right time of year, breeding records for this largely urban species are generally sparse. The Breeding Bird

Breeding Bird Survey: Swift in Wales, 1994-2022

occupied boxes was five in Cowbridge High Street, E.GLAMORGAN. The greatest concentrations were again in Cardiff and the GWENT valleys. It is telling that there were counts of 80 or more, the threshold long used for the Welsh Bird Report, from only four sites, although the flock of 500 over Cardiff Bay was notable.

Breeding records in county reports, BirdTrack and eBird: GWENT: bred in Undy and probably at Brynmawr, Abergavenny and Ystrad Mynach; E.GLAMORGAN: 9 AON on Marlas Estate, Cornelly; probably bred at Blaencaerau, Porthcawl, near Fairwater Park, Cardiff, and near Brewery Fields, Bridgend; GOWER: 3 AON in Port Talbot centre and Pontrhydyfen, 2 AON on Sandfields Estate and singles at four other sites; probably

bred at four sites; CARMARTHEN: 3 AON at National Botanic Gardens, 3 AON on Cynghordy viaduct and 2 AON in Cynghordy; PEMBROKE: bred at five locations; appeared to nest in cliffs on St Govan's Head; RADNOR: bred in Rhayader; BRECON: 15 AON at two sites in Builth Wells; bred in Brecon and probably in Bwlch, Defynnog, Llanwrthwl and two sites in Dyffryn Cwannon; MEIRIONNYDD: 4 AON in Dolgellau; 3-4 AON at Tanygrisiau; 1-2 AON at nine other sites and probably bred at six other locations; CAERNARFON: 7 AON in Bethesda, 4 AON in Penmaenmawr, 3 AON at Coed Mawr-Bangor and Penmachno, 2 AON at five sites and 1 AON at 10 other sites; ANGLESEY: 13 AON in Menai Bridge, 7 AON in Holyhead, 2 AON in Llanfair-yn-Nhowyn and 1+ AON in six other villages, and probably bred at four other sites; DENBIGH: 7 AON in Llanrwst, 2 AON at Fron Haul and bred at Llanfair DC; probably nested at three other sites; FLINT: 11 AON at Nannerch, singles at four sites; probably nested at Caerwys and Abermorddu.

Counts ≥80: E.GLAMORGAN: c.300 at Cardiff Bay on 10 May, 100 here on 12th, 85 on 24th, 95 on 30th, 500 on 5 June, 150 on 18th, 170 on 25th and 100 on 28th; GOWER: 120 over Penclawdd Pill on 26 July and 170 here on 31st; CARMARTHEN: 125 over Kidwelly Marsh on 7 Aug.; BRECON: 85 over Llangorse Lake on 30 May.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	28 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve	16 Sept.	Abertillery
E.GLAMORGAN	28 April	Kenfig NNR	1 Nov.	Bridgend*
GOWER	1 May	Rhossili	31 Aug.	Cwmgwrach
CARMARTHEN	27 April	Llangennech	2 Sept.	Mynydd Llangydeyrn
PEMBROKE	16 April	Elegug Stacks, Castlemartin	12 Nov.	Milford Haven*
CEREDIGION	1 May	Aberaeron	5 Sept.	Cors Caron
BRECON	22 April	Llanfaes	15 Aug.	Ystradgynlais
RADNOR	26 April	Newbridge	2 Sept.	Llanelwedd
MONTGOMERY	7 April	Mochdre, near Newtown	27 Aug.	Guildfield
MEIRIONNYDD	14 April	Arthog Bog	31 Oct.	Tywyn*
CAERNARFON	27 April	Bardsey	30 Oct.	Edern*
ANGLESEY	12 April	Rhosneigr	8 Sept.	Alaw estuary
DENBIGH	28 April	RSPB Conwy	2 Sept.	Wrexham
FLINT	2 May	Rhyl Brickfield Pond	29 Oct.	Prestatyn*

The first in MEIRIONNYDD was two days ahead of the previous earliest this century, in 2019, and that on ANGLESEY was four days earlier than records in 2012 and 2015. The last in E.GLAMORGAN was three days after the previous latest this century, in 2015 and the last in PEMBROKE was a remarkable six weeks later than the previous latest this century, in 2000; that in MEIRIONNYDD was five weeks and four days later than one in 2019; and the bird in FLINT was six weeks and two days later than one in 2015. The dates could suggest Pallid Swift, of which there was an influx of at least 60 confirmed records in Britain between 21 October and 16 November, but views were insufficient to confirm this*. There were three other records of Swift sp. In E.GLAMORGAN during 21-29 Oct.

PALLID SWIFT *Apus pallidus*

COBLYN GWELW

Very rare visitor from southern Europe, usually in late autumn. WBRC: five previous records.

CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 26 Oct., the first county record, and one of a record influx into Britain.

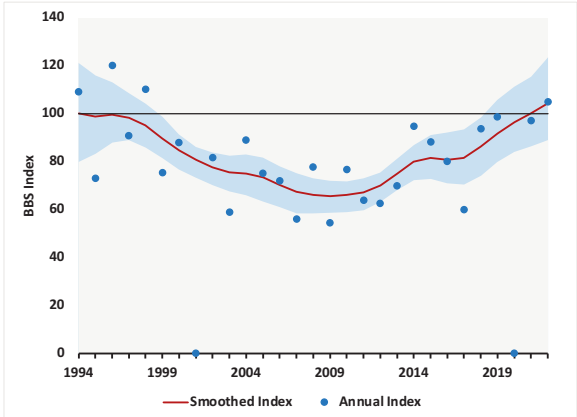
CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

COG

Localised summer visitor (1900 breeding 'pairs') but now scarce in lowlands except on passage. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	614	643
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Breeding Bird Survey: Cuckoo in Wales, 1994-2022



An 8% increase in a year brings the much-loved harbinger of spring into positive territory for the first time since the Breeding Bird Survey began in 1994. It is all too scarce a story for a Red List species, so noteworthy and in contrast to the 73% decline in England since 1995, where a much greater proportion of the population was historically in the lowlands. The BirdTrack reporting rate was typical of the last decade.

Territorial males (site max.) unless stated: GWENT: three at Mynydd Garnclochdy; two in Cwm Coed y Cerrig and The Bloreng, and singles at 25 other sites, including birds at Magor Marsh and Newport Wetlands Reserve into early June; E.GLAMORGAN: three at Cwm Cadlan NR and Cwmfelin, two at eight sites and singles at c.20 other sites; bred at Foel y Dyffryn and Penderyn Bodwigian; GOWER: 1-2 at 37 sites; CARMARTHEN: three at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas, two at Mynydd Llangydeyrn and Crug Melyn, and singles at seven other sites; PEMBROKE: 1-2 at 14 sites; juv. at St Justinian on 15 June; CEREDIGION: 1-2 at 30 sites; RADNOR: two at three sites and singles at another 13; BRECON: 33 males at 25 sites in May, inc. three in Coelbren forestry and two at four sites; juveniles at four sites; MONTGOMERY: three at Lake Vyrnwy, two each at Llyn Mawr and Llanbrynmair, and singles at eight other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: five at North Vivod Mountain, three at Cwm Hesgyn, Llyn Trawsfynydd and Dduallt; two at six sites and single birds at 50 others; CAERNARFON: up to five in Aber Valley and Cors Bodgynydd, four at Craflwyn, three in Nant Ffrancon, Cwm Pennant, Cwm Eigiau and Nant Crafnant, and 1-2 at 58 other sites; ANGLESEY: juveniles at Cemlyn on 27 June and RSPB Cors Ddyga on 2 Sept.; DENBIGH: five on Esclusham Mountain, three in Ceiriog Forest and 1-2 at 12 other sites; juv. at NWWT Gors Maen Llwyd on 26 Aug.; FLINT: two at Penycloddiau on 9-15 May and singles at nine sites.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	18 April	Penyrheol	21 July	Y Domen Fawr
E.GLAMORGAN	13 April	Garth Hill, Soar	7 Aug.	Penderyn Bodwigian
GOWER	12 April	Cwm Corrwg	30 Aug.	Abercreggan & Glynccorwg
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Cilfynydd	9 July	Cilgwyn
PEMBROKE	14 April	Ty-Rhyg and Pantmaenog	8 Sept.	Hook
CEREDIGION	10 April	Trefenter	30 Aug.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	14 April	Talgarth	4 Aug.	Nant Ddu
RADNOR	17 April	Ireland Moor	16 July	Gwaunceste Hill
MONTGOMERY	17 April	Dylife	27 June	Coed Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	15 April	Corris and Abergynolwyn	5 Aug.	Gelliilydan
CAERNARFON	14 April	Pensychnant	15 Aug.	Great Orme
ANGLESEY	13 April	Traeth Dulas and Lligwy	4 Sept.	Hen Borth
DENBIGH	15 April	Pentre Llyn-cymmer	26 Aug.	Llyn Brenig
FLINT	23 April	Caerwys	17 Aug.	Upper Dee estuary

The last of the year in CEREDIGION, two days later than in 2021, and on ANGLESEY, nine days later than in 2016, were the latest records in those counties this century, while the last in FLINT matched a record in 2020.

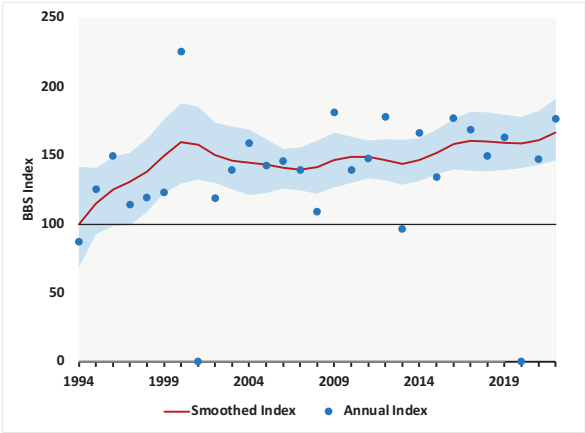
2021 DENBIGH, correction: earliest was 10 April at Fenn’s Moss.

FERAL PIGEON *Columba livia* COLOMEN DDOF
Fairly common resident (41,000 breeding pairs) in towns and on some sea cliffs (Category C). Greatly under-recorded. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2670	3375
% of BirdTrack lists	13%	17%

The Breeding Bird Survey smoothed trend reached a new high, 40% above its 1995 value. The BirdTrack recording rate increased following declines since 2016.

Breeding Bird Survey: Feral Pigeon in Wales, 1994-2022



Counts ≥100: E.GLAMORGAN: >100 at Knap Lake, Barry, throughout the year (max. 160 on 5 Dec.); 150 in Roath Park, Cardiff, on 23 June; 120 at Aberdare Park on 11 Dec.; 100 at Cardiff Bay on 14 Dec.; GOWER: 135 at Brynmill Park, Swansea, on 15 Feb. and 200 here in Dec.; PEMBROKE: 126 at Tenby on 22 Feb.; >100 at Haverfordwest on 5 March and c.200 here on 5 Sept.; BRECON: 100 in Brecon town throughout the year; CAERNARFON: 100 at Conwy on 1 Jan.; DENBIGH: >100 at Horton’s Nose on 8 Oct.; FLINT: >100 at Saltney Ferry on 21 April; 168 at Garden City on 18 Sept.

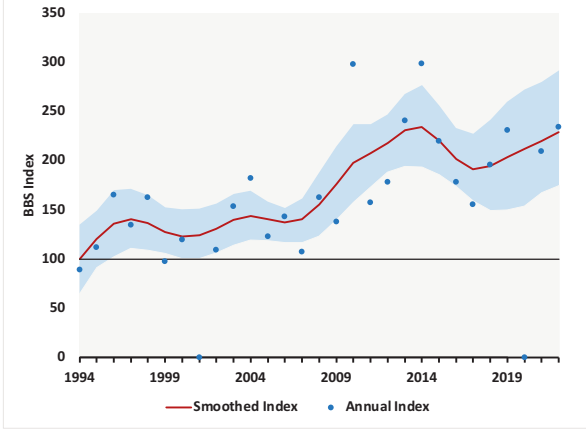
STOCK DOVE *Columba oenas* COLOMEN WYLLT
Fairly common resident (21,500 territories), mostly in lowland areas. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1054	1210
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	5%

The Stock Dove population has almost made up all of the losses in the last decade, and the Breeding Bird Survey smoothed index is now 83% higher than in 1995. The BirdTrack reporting rate was the highest ever, and the three-year mean has increased from 3.2% of lists in 2013-15 to 4.9% in 2020-22. There was evidence of movements in southeast Wales between mid-Oct. and mid-Nov., but on a smaller scale than 2021.

The threshold for inclusion here has been increased from ≥15 to ≥25, reflecting the increase in the population: GWENT: 35 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 20 Aug.; 40 at Goldcliff Pt on 24 Oct. and 74 here on 25th; 80 at Cross Ash on 2 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: 27 at Mynydd Ty-Talwyn on 12 Jan.; >25 at Lavernock Pt on 20 Oct. and 114 here on 13 Nov.; 27 at Wenvoe Quarry on 30 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: 103 at Llanllwni on 30 June; PEMBROKE: 32 at Marloes Mere on 20 Jan. and 56 here on 23 March; 30 at Carew Cheriton on 10 March and 25 here on 14 Dec.; 53 at Gupton on 5 Dec.; BRECON: 45 in a Glastir wildbird crop at Llansantffraed on 7 Jan.; 42 outside Brecon on 26 Jan.; 25 at Trecastle on 24 March; 150 on arable stubble at Llanhamlach on 13 Nov. and >300 here on 11 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 32 at Cors Caron on 27 Jan.;

Breeding Bird Survey: Stock Dove in Wales, 1994-2022



DENBIGH: 50 at Gresford Flash in Jan. and 90 here on 20 Feb.; FLINT: 39 at Old Warren Farm, Broughton, on 8 Jan.; 26 on Shotwick Fields on 9 Jan. and c.30 here on 15th; >30 at Ysceifiog Res. on 22 Feb.; 36 at Sandycroft on 15 June; 50 at Connah’s Quay NR on 11 July.



Woodpigeon (Angharad Jones)

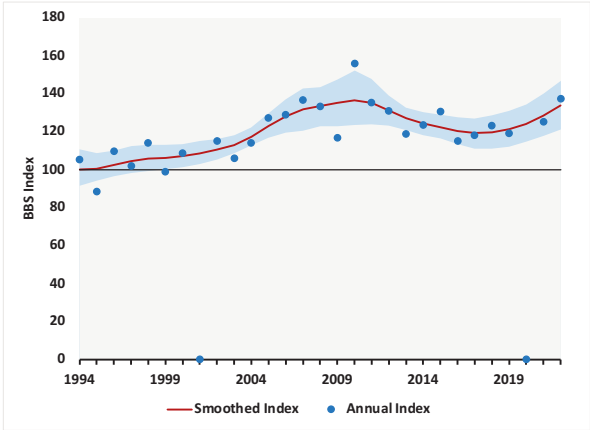
WOODPIGEON *Columba palumbus* YSGUTHAN
Abundant breeding species (295,000 pairs), passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	11918	12298
% of BirdTrack lists	55%	60%

Breeding: the Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales continues to recover from whatever caused a dip in the last decade, and is now 28% above its 1995 level.

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate increased to its highest level aside from 2020 when lockdowns

Breeding Bird Survey: Woodpigeon in Wales, 1994-2022



Wales, and may well be the largest ever in Britain. Up to the end of 2022, it was the seventh highest anywhere in Europe on the migration-recording website Trektellen.

Large flocks or counts ≥300: GWENT: 14 counts on eight dates between 24 Oct. and 13 Nov., mostly along the coast but also from inland at Cross Ash, Osbaston and Llandegfedd Res. The largest was 264,644 over Porthskewett between 7.15am and 12pm on 4 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: 19 counts on 13 dates, all from the Cardiff area, between 20 Oct. and 20 Nov., the largest being on 4 Nov., inc. 77,050 west over Cardiff Bay in 3.5 hours; PEMBROKE: 750 at Sprinkle Pill on 12 Nov.; BRECON: 500 over Beacons Park on 12 Oct.; RADNOR: 2000 south over New Radnor on 5 Nov.; MONTGOMERY: 500 west over Welshpool on 6 Nov.

TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* TURTUR
Extinct as a breeding species following a long decline in the late 20th century; uncommon passage migrant, mainly in spring. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	15	16
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The 16 records match last year’s total. All single birds unless stated: GOWER: Penlleger 8 June; Parc Mawr on 5 July; Southgate on 20-21 July; Llangennith on 11 and 17 Oct., and same or another at Pitton Cross on the latter date; CARMARTHEN: Pont Abraham on 2 May; Bancyfelin on 7 June; Kidwelly Quay on 14 Sept.; PEMBROKE: Trefin on 19 May; Skokholm on 11 and 20 Sept.; St Govan’s Head on 18 Sept.; CEREDIGION: Cilcennin on 7 June; MEIRIONNYDD: Fairbourne on 14 May; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 2 June; ANGLESEY: Cemaes Bay on 11 Oct., reported present for around a week.

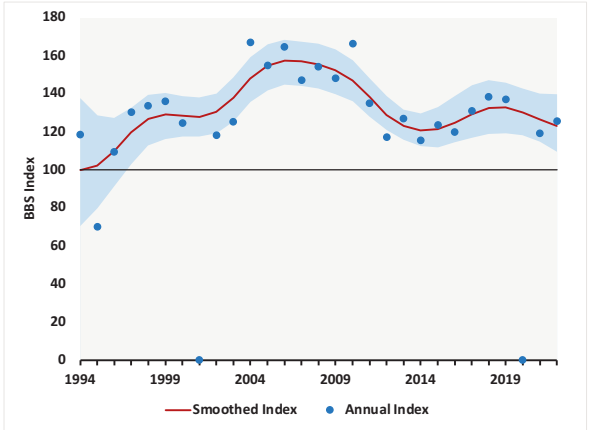
COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto* TURTUR DORCHOG
Fairly common resident (87,000 breeding pairs), having first appeared in Wales in 1959. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3718	3691
% of BirdTrack lists	17%	18%

The Breeding Bird Survey annual index has not varied significantly in the last decade, and remains 24% above its 1995 baseline. However, the year-round reporting rate in the BTO Garden BirdWatch has fallen 24% since 2006 and the average count has halved, although numbers have levelled out in recent years.

resulted in a suburban bias of records. Visits to gardens have increased over the long-term, and the BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rate of 80.4% in June was the highest ever. Numbers recorded on autumn migration were slightly smaller than in 2021, and more concentrated in both time and space. Of almost 466,000 birds (in counts of ≥300) reported to Trektellen, BirdTrack and eBird in October and November, 62% were from one site (Porthskewett, GWENT) and 80% were on a single date (4 Nov.). Usually, large counts are spread across several days, and there were few inland counts this year. However, the total from Porthskewett on 4 Nov. was the largest ever day-count in

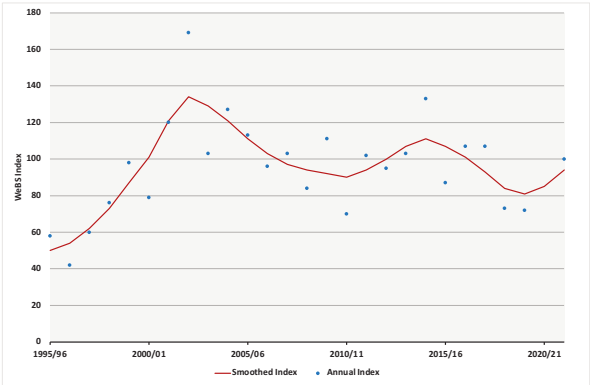
Breeding Bird Survey: Collared Dove in Wales, 1994-2022



WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus* RHEGEN DWR
Scarce breeder (215 territories), more commonly recorded as a passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	587	790
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	3%

Wetland Bird Survey: Water Rail in Wales 1995/96-2021/22



Rhoscolyn on 11 April; DENBIGH: present at RSPB Conwy; FLINT: three regularly at Gronant; present at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands; one at Connah’s Quay on 16 and 26 July.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey suggests stability in the population over the last 20 years, but the BirdTrack reporting rate is 33% lower than its level of 2013-15.

Counts ≥25: GOWER: 40 at Scurllage on 24 Aug.; CEREDIGION: 27 at Borth on 30 Aug.; CAERNARFON: 25 at Glanwydden on 12 July; FLINT: 34 at Rhyl Brickfield Pond on 2 Feb. and 35 here on 12 Oct.; 44 at Ynys Farm, Rhyl, on 21 Aug. and counts >30 in the area until 1 Nov. (max. 86 on 23 Oct.).

Breeding season (April-July), presence unless more certain evidence provided: GWENT: bred at Newport Wetlands Reserve (five calling males) and probably at Peterstone Wentlooge; E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR and Tir Founder as per table; two at Cwmbach wetlands on 23 July; GOWER: probably bred at Kenfig reedbed and present at four other sites; CARMARTHEN: two pairs bred at Penclacwydd; present at Ashpits Pond and Ffrwd Fen; PEMBROKE: probably bred at Teifi Marshes; CEREDIGION: bred at RSPB Ynys-hir and present at Cors Fochno; BRECON: at least one pair bred successfully at Llangorse Lake; MONTGOMERY: bred at Cors Dyfi and Guilsfield; CAERNARFON: one at Cors Geirch on 15 June; ANGLESEY: four territories at RSPB Cors Ddya; probably bred at RSPB Valley Wetlands;

Sites with ≥5 Water Rails		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	7	3	3	4	5	2	1	3	3	4	14	7
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	12	3	4							4	7	3
	Kenfig NNR	5	2	2		1		1	3	2	6	2	3
	Tir Founder fields	2	2	2	2	1		2	2	3	3	5	7
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	5	5	2						2		2	3
PEMBROKE	Castlemartin Corse	6		2						1	12	4	4
	Skokholm			2	1			1	2	6	9	3	2
	Teifi Marshes	9	1	2					1	1	3	2	1
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	3	4	4	1		2	2	1	2	3	8	9
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga	6	1	6	1	1					1	18	8
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy	16*	3	1	1	1	1		1	1	2	3	5

*surveyed using playback response.

Counts ≥5 elsewhere: E.GLAMORGAN: eight at Cadoxton Ponds on 14 Dec.*; five at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 24 Dec.; PEMBROKE: five on Dowrog Common on 11 Jan.; FLINT: eight at Gronant on 24 March, five here on 14 Nov. and 22 Dec., and 10 on 7 Dec.

CORNCRAKE *Crex crex*

RHEGEN YR YD

Former breeder (last probably in 1996). Scarce passage migrant. WBRC: 168 records since 1967.

PEMBROKE: 1CY on Skokholm on 19 Sept.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

RHEGEN FRAITH

Scarce visitor and occasional breeder. RBBP: one calling male in 2021. WBRC: 122 records since 1967.

CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 21 Aug.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

IAR DDWR

Fairly common breeding resident (14,500 territories) and winter visitor. Wales Green-listed.

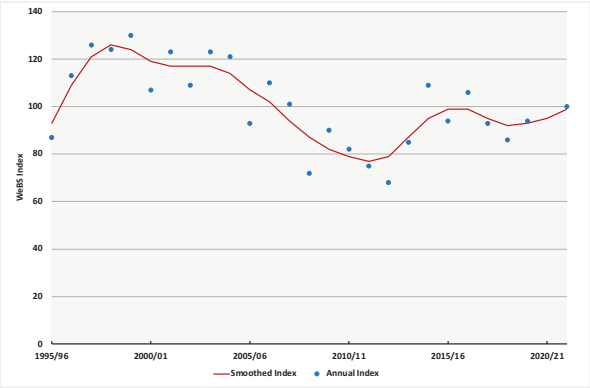
	2021	2022	Both the Wetland Bird Survey index and the BirdTrack reporting rate indicate a stable population in Wales. There is no monitoring of Moorhen breeding abundance.
No of BirdTrack records	4030	4961	
% of BirdTrack lists	18%	23%	

Sites with ≥40 Moorhens		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Mont & Brecon Canal*	54	55	35	20	21	15	10			36	36	
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay**	28	24	15	12	11	5	12	41	71	61	44	42
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	66	48	30	36	31	31	35	36	32	35	47	44
PEMBROKE	Pembroke Mill Ponds	22	27	30	3	6	3			97		46	25
	Bosherston Lakes	38	37	14		10	2	9	6	16	40	94	42

* Bettws Lane to M4; ** includes Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve and Hamadryad.

Counts ≥40 elsewhere: PEMBROKE: 51 at Withybush Pool on 24 Feb.; BRECON: 60 between Pencelli and Tower on R.Usk in July.

Wetland Bird Survey: Moorhen in Wales 1995/96-2021/22



COOT *Fulica atra*

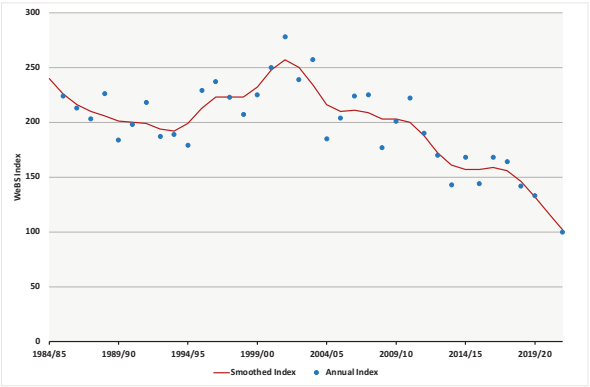
CWTIAR

Localised breeding resident (1600 pairs) and winter visitor, widespread but declining in many areas. Amber WeBS alert: -27% medium term. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3402	3768
% of BirdTrack lists	15%	18%

The downward trend in the Wetland Bird Survey counts has accelerated over the last two years, bringing the index to 61% below its level of 20 years ago. The only comparable

Wetland Bird Survey: Coot in Wales 1984/85-2021/22



breeding data is from Cardiff, E.GLAMORGAN, where 56 pairs fledged 14 young, an average of 0.25/nest (cf. 0.6 in 2021). Away from Anglesey, Coot is now scarce in western counties, especially as a breeding species: there were no confirmed nests in (and only three possible breeding sites) in Meirionnydd, the only evidence of breeding in Pembrokeshire was at Marloes Mere, and in each of Ceredigion and Caernarfonshire nesting was reported from just three sites.

Sites with ≥100 Coots		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Brynmawr Pond	52	31	22	14	15	22	53	95	116	118	115	131
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	306	180	88	80	102	169	345	488	596	626	521	511
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	34	48	41	24	26	48	68	89	114	162	214	220
	Roath Park Lake	140	67	60	150	75	100	156	85	245	237	162	211
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	30	150	53	53	35	180	210	300	400	512	436	640
ANGLESEY	Cefni Reservoir	P	28	P		P			3	230	425	130	
	Llyn Traffwll	18	23	8	13	10	61	74	115	129	111	10	
FLINT	Shotwick Lake	19			8		10		25	150	275	248	
	Ysceifiog Reservoir	c.100	37	>40	6	20		c.30		c.50	>100		150

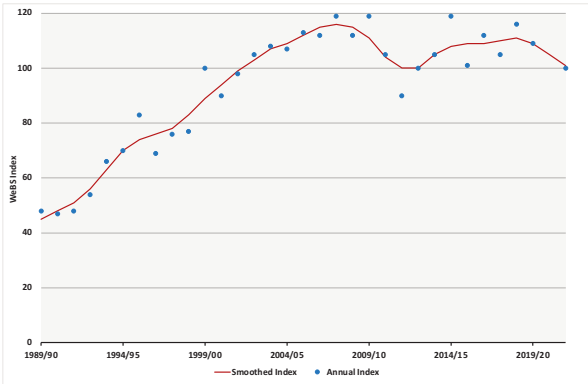
Counts ≥100 elsewhere: GWENT: 105 at Ynys-y-fro Res. on 29 Dec.

Notable: ANGLESEY: a subadult fed on the carcass of a seal pup in Bull Bay.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis* GWYACH FACH
Localised breeder (240-640 pairs), scarce in land-locked counties. Winter visitor. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2468	2889
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	12%

Wetland Bird Survey: Little Grebe in Wales 1989/90-2021/22



pairs bred at Gronant (one had two broods) and one pair each at five other sites.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales has been stable since the turn of the century, as has the BirdTrack reporting rate since 2014. The number of sites holding at least 10 birds has been growing, and henceforth the threshold for inclusion in the Welsh Bird Report has changed from 10 to 20. The count of 109 at Shotwick Lake on 9 Sept. was the highest ever in Wales.

Sites with ≥20 Little Grebes		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Ynys-y-fro Reservoir						8	14	19	20	20	17	19
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay*	33	29	12	1		1	2	15	28	43	46	48
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	24	26	25	11	3	5	33	44	62	65	57	37
GOWER	Eglwys Nunydd Res.	16	6	5	P			25	P	P		P	
PEMBROKE	Pembroke Mill Pond	13	10	6						20		28	39
ANGLESEY	Cefni Reservoir	48	12	P			3	1	42	c.50	13	12	
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy	13	17	7	5	4	6	14	22	25	25	17	11
FLINT	Shotwick Lake	42			2		2	6	29	109	76		43

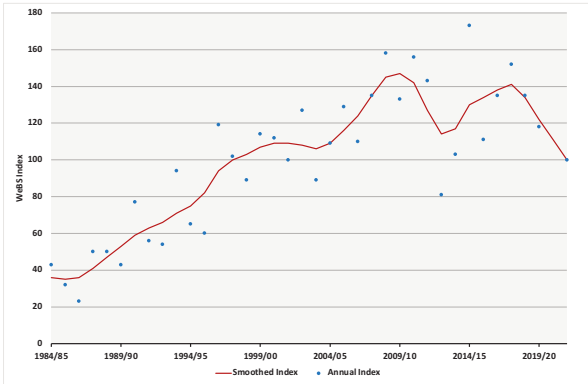
*includes R.Taff at Hamadryad

Counts ≥20 elsewhere. CEREDIGION: 21 at Pant pool on 25 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 37 at Llyn Llygeirian on 21 Aug.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* GWYACH FAWR GOPOG
Localised breeding species (270 pairs). More coastal in winter and recorded on passage from several counties. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1910	2220
% of BirdTrack lists	8%	10%

Wetland Bird Survey: Great Crested Grebe in Wales 1984/85-2021/22



Llyn Brenig and Brymbo; FLINT: bred at Rhyl Brickfield Pond and Llyn Cyfynwy.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index in 2021/22 was at its lowest level for almost a decade, and the smoothed trend fell to its lowest since 1997/98. This is driven, in particular, by lower counts at Traeth Lafan and Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir (-50% in five-year mean compared to 2002/03-2006/07), whereas most other sites have remained stable. The BirdTrack reporting rate has, in contrast, changed little through the last 10 years.

Sites with ≥20 Great Crested Grebes		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Llandegfedd Res.	6	6	12	22	15		18	10	43	46	7	
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay*	35	45	70	65	61	46	66	91	88	59	58	48
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	2	18	24	22	26	43	37	20	16	8	6	2
GOWER	Blackpill	94	41						4	9	11	7	20
	Baglan Bay	99	86	2							36	125	201
	Burry Inlet – south	20		18	6	1	1		1	50	15	6	12
	Eglwys Nunydd Res.	25	20	P	P				P	P		P	
CARMARTHEN	Pwll	9	3	33	5	2	1	3			67		
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	21	26	12	20	25	23	14	26	10	17	14	11
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	80	39	97	4	14	19	54	c.100	162	35	21	47
	Little Orme-Rhos Point	20	85	3		2		1	1	1	3	28	15
ANGLESEY	Benllech	69	66	6	2					4	6	20+	
DENBIGH	Rhos Pt-Kimmel Bay	>50	c.65	20	1				6	1	31	10	92

*some counts include Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve.

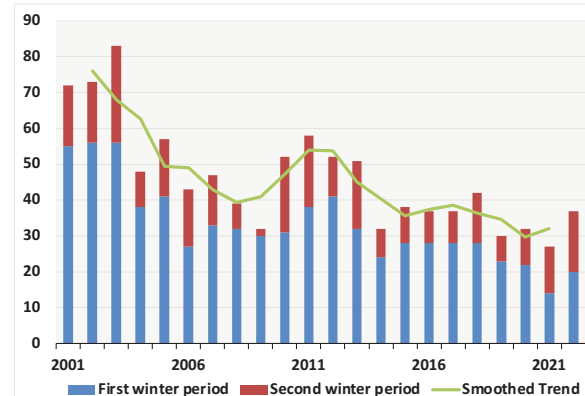
Counts ≥20 elsewhere: GWENT: 49 on Ponthir Res. on 9 Sept.; GOWER: 30 in Port Talbot harbour in Jan.; PEMBROKE: 24 at Amroth on 3 Feb.

SLAVONIAN GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

GWYACH GORNIOG

Local winter visitor, chiefly to coastal waters, occasionally recorded on passage. Rare inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	131	232
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Slavonian Grebes recorded in Wales, based on site max. in each season, 2001-22

here on 24 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: R.Liedi at Llanelli on 17 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Sprinkle Pill on 8-11 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: Harlech on 4 Dec.; CAERNARFON: three off Borth-y-gest on 19 Nov. and two off Black Rock Sands on 4 Dec.; Penmaenmawr on 12 Dec.; ANGLESEY: two off Beaumaris on 14 Oct.; FLINT: Cop Hole Pool on 16-19 Oct., also on Shotwick Lake on 18th-22nd and Connah's Quay NR on 25th.

Slavonian Grebe: max. at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Burry Inlet	2	1	1	1	1
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	2	1		1	1
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	4	3	3	3	6

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

GWYACH YDDFDDU

Local, but declining, winter visitor to coastal waters, occasionally recorded on passage. Formerly bred on Anglesey. Wales Amber-listed.

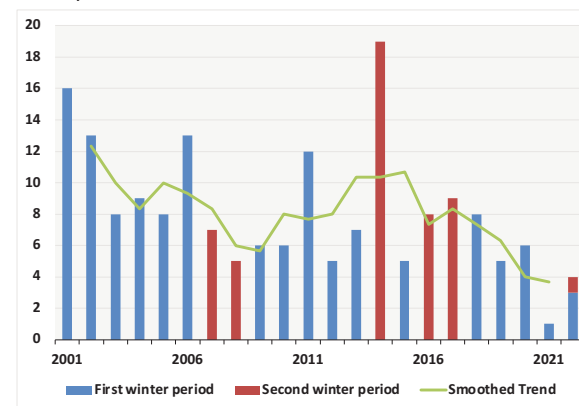
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1	52
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Aber Ogwen on 17 Jan.; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga from 13 Nov. to 3 Dec.

The long-term decline may have stabilised, though few now stay for a long period in winter.

First winter period in addition to those in the table: GOWER: Eglwys Nunydd Res. from 1 Jan. to 1 April; two at Whiteford Pt on 8 Jan.; Wernffrwd on 6 March; Salthouse Pt on 13 March; CEREDIGION: Ynyslas on 3-7 Jan. and 11 Feb.; CAERNARFON: Great Orme on 5 and 30 Jan., and 1 March; Carreg y Defaid on 25 Jan.; ANGLESEY: three off Ynys Llanddwyn on 10 Jan. and six here on 17th; Llyn Llygeirian on 5 March; DENBIGH: Llyn Brenig on 5 Jan.; three off Old Colwyn in Jan. and four here in March.

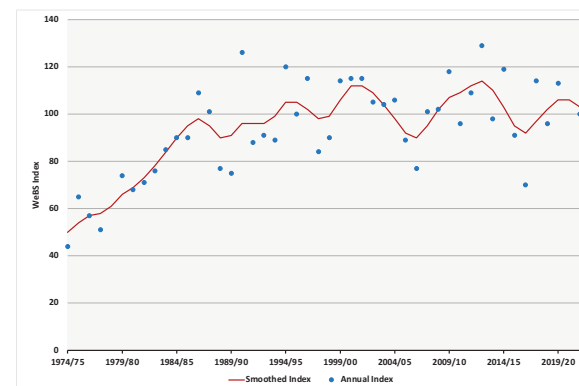
Second winter period: GOWER: Whiteford Pt on 19 Nov.; Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 17-21 Dec. and two

Black-necked Grebes recorded in Wales, based on site max. in each season, 2001-22**OYSTERCATCHER** *Haematopus ostralegus*

PIDODEN FOR

Localised breeding species and abundant winter visitor to all coastal areas of Wales. 35% decline on non-estuarine sites (2006/07-2015/16). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4698	5191
% of BirdTrack lists	20%	22%

Wetland Bird Survey: Oystercatcher in Wales 1974/75-2021/22

Breeding: GWENT: three pairs at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) fledged no young; E.GLAMORGAN: bred on Flat Holm and probably at Kenfig NNR; GOWER: probably bred at Briton Ferry; GOWER/CARMARTHEN: bred on Loughor est.; PEMBROKE: bred at six sites, inc. 73 pairs on Skomer and 25 on Ramsey, and probably at another seven; CEREDIGION: four pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir, three at Aberporth (all failed), and bred at six other sites; BRECON: bred at Llangorse Crannog Island and probably at Scethrog; RADNOR: 3-4 pairs along R.Wye and probably bred at Ffordd Fawr; MONTGOMERY: pair bred at Llyn Coed-y-dinas and probably on shingle banks on R.Severn; MEIRIONNYDD: 1-2 pairs bred on Arthro est. and a pair at Llanaber; possibly bred at Llyn Trawfynydd (three pairs), Aberdyfi and Gwerclas; CAERNARFON: 74 nests on Bardsey, 14% above the 1953-22 mean, but only 13 young fledged (0.18/pair); two pairs bred at Morfa Madryn/Glan y Mor Elias; nested on an Osprey platform in the Conwy Valley; ANGLESEY: three fledged from min. 12 pairs; two pairs at RSPB Valley Wetlands; 25 AON at a site on the west of the island; bred at Cemlyn and Port Trecastell, and possibly at Bull Bay; DENBIGH: two fledged from two pairs at RSPB Conwy; bred successfully in Rhos harbour; also nested at Horton's Nose and possibly at four other sites; FLINT: four pairs bred at RSPB Point of Ayr and at Gronant; bred at Rhyl Marine Lake.

Non-breeding: declines are evident in Swansea Bay and Burry Inlet, whereas the January count in Carmarthen Bay (12,856) was the highest in any month for a decade. The BirdTrack reporting rate, which has been falling since 2013, did not recover in 2022 to its level of pre-lockdown years.

Sites with ≥1000 Oystercatchers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Whiteford	4600	2000	650		400	195	750	3400	2350	330	P	3850
	Wernffrwd	2000	300	173				214	211	450	877	2200	112
	Crofty/Penclawdd	1132	550	346			8	449	1300	1250	1000	1300	3100
	Salthouse Pt/Llanrhidian	86	2500							311	984		
	R.Neath/Crymlyn	453	500	52	250		50	341	700	1100	1243	1000	800
CARMARTHEN	Swansea Bay	1158	914	452	102	1		341	661	1109	487	624	530
	Cefn Padrig	1200	47	47				15	26	3800	110	3650	377
	Pembrey/Burry Port	200	2694	217	1500	350	466	50	150	500	381	294	2580
	Machynys	1074	704	256	2							1350	
	Penclacwydd	297	1				2		10	10		117	2288
	Llanelli North Dock	34								1240	455	1200	2200
	Gwendraeth estuary	7020		212				1		8010	6294	5035	7015
	Taf estuary	2002	803	500	1				80	740	1000	5000	508
	Tywi estuary	538	727	926	610		145	420		1000	1919	2607	338
	Glaslyn/Dwryd estuary	1390	415	258	4	16	7	230		895	220	1140	659
MEIR/CAER													
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	1433	679	1100	500	350	500	1200	3275	2683	3583	3901	5298
FLINT	Gronant	1152	1200	816	452	16	19	400	392	280	1250	400	35
	Point of Ayr	4000	6000	3500	1000	450	60	25	2000	7500	7500	1400	8000
	Ffynnongroyw	2500	200	800	1000	1000	1000	1700	2500	4000	1000		1500
	Mostyn	>2000	1500		60				3	7	100	25	1000
	Walwen	490	127	330	175	121	133	1163	2630	3230	4653	4600	6300
	CQNR/Oakenholt	400	110	75	100	100	20	400	600	900	350	2000	>150

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*
Rare visitor from southern Europe. WBRC: 20 previous records.

HIRGOES ADEINDDU

Surprisingly, given the increased frequency with which the species has occurred in southern Britain in the last decade, these were the first Welsh records since 2013. GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 10 May; CARMARTHEN: male at Penclacwydd on 11-16 April; ANGLESEY: female at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 17 April, later seen in Lancashire.

AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*
Breeds in Gwent and eastern Flintshire, elsewhere a scarce visitor. RBBP: 59 pairs at three sites in 2021. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

CAMBIG

		2021	2022	Breeding: low breeding productivity as a result of low rainfall/water levels and predation. GWENT: only two breeding pairs (cf. 30 in 2021), neither of which fledged young; FLINT: 49 pairs at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (0.58 fledged/pair from 72 pairs across whole site); pair at Connah's Quay NR fledged one young (0.3).									
No of BirdTrack records		423	607										
% of BirdTrack lists		1%	2%										

Avocet: max. at regular sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	2	40	62	16	4	6		1	3			35
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt Marsh	1		6	8	5	16	2	2	1		1	3

Other records, singles unless stated: GWENT: two at Caldicot Pill on 10 Feb.; four at Mathern on 14 Nov.; 12 at Nash on 11 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: two on Gwendraeth est. from 2021 to 17 Jan.; Kidwelly Quay on 20 Oct.; Penclacwydd on 27-29 Dec.; ANGLESEY: Alaw est. on 1-3 Jan.; Cemlyn on 20 April and two here on 28th; Malltraeth Cob on 9 Aug.; DENBIGH: two at RSPB Conwy on 4 May.

2021 FLINT, additional record: one at Gronant on 28 May.

LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*
Rapidly declining breeder – almost extinct in many counties. Also a winter visitor, principally in coastal areas and especially during hard weather to the east. 95% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). Wales Red-listed.

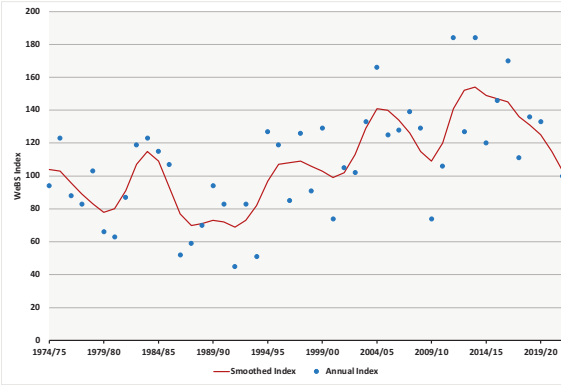
CORNCHWIGLEN

		2021	2022	Breeding: evidence was reported from 45 sites (cf. 52 in 2021). Counts where breeding was confirmed totalled min. 136 nests at 18 sites, and where productivity monitoring was undertaken, the mean was 0.72 young fledged/pair (cf. 0.52 in 2021).									
No of BirdTrack records		2160	2776										
% of BirdTrack lists		9%	11%										

Breeding evidence (fledged young/pair where monitored): GWENT: eight pairs fledged no young at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff); one nest in Nedern Valley; possibly bred at Garn Lakes and St Brides; E.GLAMORGAN: pair bred at Kenfig NNR, and probably at Dowlais and Perthcelyn rifle range; GOWER: probably bred at Llanrhidian (two pairs) and possibly at Afan est. and Upper Pitton; CARMARTHEN: three young fledged from 19 nests at Penclacwydd (0.16); CEREDIGION: 37 young fledged from 38 pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir (0.97); pair at Cors Caron in April; BRECON: 15 pairs at 10 sites, of which at least six pairs nested; four males displayed at other sites; MONTGOMERY: four pairs bred on Heldre Hill; MEIRIONNYDD: pair bred at Mynydd Mynyllod, probably bred at Penllyn and possibly at Fairbourne, Ynys Crossing and Llyn Trawsfynydd; CAERNARFON: one fledged from 16 AON at Morfa Dinlle (0.06); 5-7 AON at Morfa Madryn/Glan y Mor Elias, but probably only one fledged; ANGLESEY: 52 fledged from 42 pairs at RSPB Cors Ddyga (1.24); one fledged from seven pairs at RSPB Valley Wetlands (0.14); three pairs at Cors Bodeilio, where young seen on 30 May; several pairs at Cors Erddreiniog; DENBIGH: bred at Ynys Wen; two pairs at Fenn's Moss and probably bred at six other sites; FLINT: 54 pairs on the Flintshire part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (0.75 fledged/pair from 69 pairs across whole site); possibly bred at Hendy Ponds.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index has fluctuated but shown no strong long-term trend. The

Wetland Bird Survey: Lapwing in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



BirdTrack reporting rate returned to the level of pre-lockdown years, but remains lower than a decade ago. Cold weather in early December pushed large numbers into Wales, especially to the west coast and resulted in higher numbers than usual in Radnorshire and Montgomeryshire.

Flocks ≥500 in addition to those in the table: GWENT: 1004 on Undy Levels on 7 Feb.; GOWER: 500 at Morfa Bacas on 1 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 800 at Heathfield GP on 31 Jan.; 500 at Marloes on 15 Nov. and 1000 on 24 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 700 at Llanrhystud on 24 Jan.; ANGLESEY:

Sites with ≥500 Lapwings		Jan	Feb	Mar				
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	1000	300	100	80	214	340	650
GOWER	Llanrhidian/Wernffrwd	650	94	8		90	9	200
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	795	239	39	87	49	156	792
	Morfa Bacas	500					38	30
	Gwendraeth estuary	3985	500	7	16	121	290	1041
	Taf estuary	600	360			2	500	1005
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	2036	500			300	730	2000
	Castlemartin Corse	500	250	1		65	250	310
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	900	200	1	3	36	330	850
CAERNARFON	Foryd/Morfa Dinlle	2900	260	24	52	30	740	670
	Traeth Lafan	150	100	50	30	57	198	500
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga	1100	1200	44	9	300	450	1100
	Llyn Traffwll	1060	18	2	85	130	21	
	Malltraeth Cob	>1200	250		95	66	>400	1200
	Traeth Melynog	640	355			1	12	2
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy	110	70	20	35	50	151	550
	Clwyd estuary	1800	1452	5	170	669	1153	3342
FLINT	Point of Ayr/Talacre	843	318	3	115	125	>500	688
	CQNR/Oakenholt	3500	700	40	100	980	2300	1200

600 at Tywyn Fferam on 10 Jan.; 1000 at Llyn Coron on 16 Jan.; 500 at Llanbadrig on 8 Dec.; >500 at Aberffraw from 30 Nov. to 9 Dec.; DENBIGH: 550 at Kimmel Bay on 24 Jan.; 700 over Fenn’s Moss on 3 Feb.; 500 at Bangor-is-y-coed on 23 Feb.; FLINT: 1200 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 4 March.

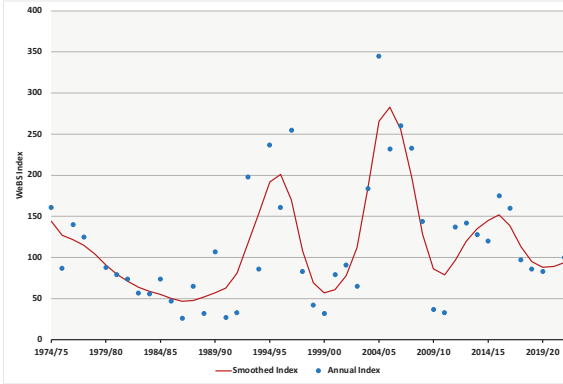
Golden Plovers (David Parry)



GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* CWTIAD AUR
Declining breeding species (36 pairs in 2008), found chiefly on upland plateaux in mid and eastern Wales. Localised in winter, usually in large flocks. Amber WeBS alert: -39% medium term (but +76% long term). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	457	459
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Wetland Bird Survey: Golden Plover in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥400 Golden Plovers		Jan	Feb	Mar				
E.GLAMORGAN	Kenfig NNR	150	140	231	18	200		>500
	Sker area	500	250	400	100	250	50	>1000
GOWER	Wernffrwd-Weobley	1900	1400	650		400	>700	400
CARMARTHEN	Gwendraeth estuary	750	2000	500		1000	2000	750
	Taf estuary	2000	2077				5100	2000
PEMBROKE	Cleddau/Landshipping	2000	1200		7	c.1000	2000	1000
	Castlemartin Corse	1600	500	100		3	130	600
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	960			1			400
CAERNARFON	Foryd/Morfa Dinlle	2120	>600	200	450	500	240	150
	Traeth Crugan	110		800	15			450
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga		80	600			100	50
	Cemlyn	800	P	1000	180	52	>50	
	Malltraeth/Cefni est.	P		580	>200	359		1000

Other winter flocks ≥400 in coastal counties: PEMBROKE: 500 at Ford Pill on 12 Jan. and 800 here on 11 Feb.; c.700 at Croes Goch on 14 Jan. and 1000 here on 9 Dec.; 700 at Abercastle on 15 Jan. and 550 here on 15 Dec.; 700 at Puncheston on 25 Oct.; 1500 at Treffynnon on 11 Feb. and in Nov.; 410 at Manorbier Bay on 14 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 400 at Llanrhystud on 26 Feb. and 500 here on 11 Dec.; 800 at Ynys Tachwedd on 11 Dec.; CAERNARFON: >1000 at Porth Neigwl on 1 Jan.; ANGLESEY: 900 at Tywyn Fferam on 10 Jan.; 2400 at Aberffraw on 4 Feb. and 1500 here on 30 Nov.

Inland sites with ≥70 Golden Plovers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr			
BRECON	Mynydd Illtyd	132	195	70	0	193	359	41
	Llandefalle Hill	197		100	9	45		

Other inland counts ≥70: E.GLAMORGAN: 200 at Rhaslas Pond on 8 Nov.; CARMARTHEN: 80 at Garreg Fraith on 5 March; 100 at Tair Carn on 19 March; BRECON: 135 at Llyn Pen-y-lan on 12 Jan.; 225 at Cwmwysg on 5 Feb.; 250 on Mynydd Bwlch-y-groes on 12 Feb.; 150 at Y Gamrhiw on 25 Feb.; 90 at Mynydd Llangatwg

on 20 Feb.; RADNOR: 362 on Ireland Moor on 4 Jan.; 410 on The Begwyns in March; 360 on The Begwyns and Ireland Moor in Dec.; MONTGOMERY: 100 at Banc Du, near Llangurig, on 7 March; 81 west of Dylife on 20 Oct.; max. 200 on Heldre Hill on 27 Oct.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica*
Rare visitor from North America. WBRC: 24 previous records.

CORGWTIAD AUR AMERICA

ANGLESEY: adult at Cemlyn from 31 Aug. to 25 Sept.

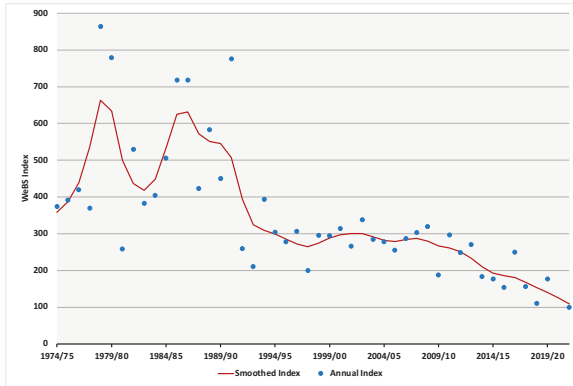
GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*
Localised winter visitor to Welsh estuaries, and spring and autumn migrant. Red WeBS alert: -57% long term and amber (-34%) short term. 90% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). Wales Red-listed.

CWTIAD LLWYD

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	242	376
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

The Wetland Bird Survey index reached a new low, 83% below its level in 1986/87, and the number of sites holding ≥40 has halved in just 10 years. On the Burry Inlet SPA, red WeBS alerts have been issued for the long (-75%) and medium term (61%) and an amber alert (-41%) for the short term, although 200 at Dalton's Pt, GOWER, on 22 Jan. was the largest count for some years. On the Dee estuary SPA, an amber WeBS alert (-37%) has been issued for the long-term.

Wetland Bird Survey: Grey Plover in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥40 Grey Plovers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nash & Goldcliff Point	17	2		2	10	2		1	50	81	70	38
	Peterstone Wentlooge	53		6	4	4						2	2
GOWER	Burry Inlet – south	200	60	3	3		4				4		6
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	81	75	9			2		2	7	35	78	63
FLINT	Point of Ayr	5	48	17	10				2	2	22	P	3

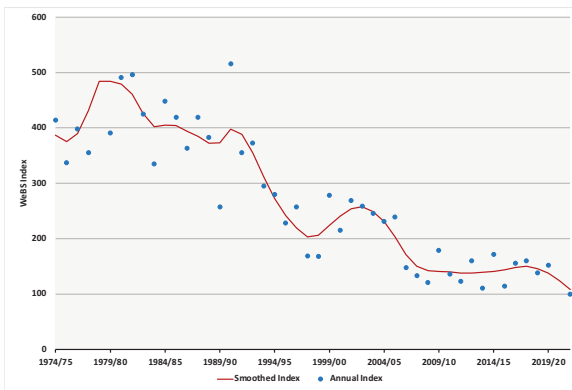
RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*
Scarce breeder (254 pairs in 2007, but records suggest a decline since). Passage migrant and winter visitor to all coastal areas. Red WeBS alert: -62% long-term. Wales Red-listed.

CWTIAD TORCHOG

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1345	1396
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	6%

Breeding: 47 pairs confirmed and at least another 10 probably or possibly bred (cf. 28+ and eight in 2021). GWENT: pair at Newport Wetlands Reserve fledged no

Wetland Bird Survey: Ringed Plover in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Penrhyn Bay beach; ANGLESEY: two nests at a site on the west of the island; probably bred at RSPB South Stack, Cemlyn, Traeth Dulas and Holyhead; DENBIGH: 1 AON at Towyn; FLINT: 18 AON at Gronant, probably included re-lays; eight pairs at RSPB Point of Ayr.

Non-breeding: following more than a decade of stability, the Wetland Bird Survey index fell further in 2021/22, to a record low, 78% below its peak in 1978/79.

Max. monthly counts at sites holding ≥100 birds at least once during the year.

Sites with ≥100 Ringed Plovers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Newton beach	73	66	20	1	7			145	105	80	74	63
GOWER	Burry Inlet – south	30	30	3		114	12	12	425	70	72		6
CARMARTHEN	Burry Port		30	9	2			2	150	12	200	P	130
	Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Point	5					6			104	16		10
	Pembrey harbour	30	36	6	19	12	4	3	21	82	312	181	48
CEREDIGION	Dyfi estuary/Borth	9	2	17	15	65	5	8	110	87	41	19	27
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	30	30	45	5	5	5	5	20	132	75	109	43
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary	9	5			14	1	3	120	38	4	11	7
FLINT	Point of Ayr/Talacre	3	2	6	50	155	10	15	150	>80	2		3
	Gronant	22	20	11	20	56	30	14	130	197	55	30	25

Counts ≥100 elsewhere. GOWER: 120 at Port Eynon on 28 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 125 at Talsarnau on 5 May; CAERNARFON: 360 at Foryd in Aug.

Several small, dark birds thought to be of the subspecies *C.h. psammodomus*, which breed in Svalbard, the Faeroes, Iceland and westward, passed through Bardsey, CAERNARFON, in spring and autumn.

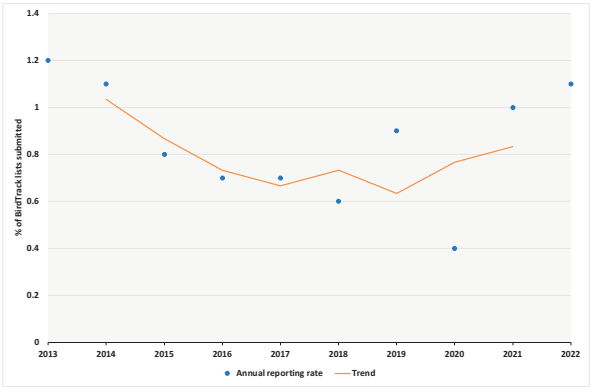
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*
Localised breeder on industrial sites and gravel shoals of South Wales rivers: 144 pairs in 2007 (RBBP: 35 pairs in 2021). Uncommon passage migrant elsewhere. Wales Green-listed.

CWTIAD TORCHOG BACH

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	273	290
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate was the highest since 2014. The records below total 42-50 pairs (cf. 24-32 in 2021 but without a survey of the R.Tywi).

BirdTrack reporting rate: Little Ringed Plover in Wales 2013-22



Afonwen; ANGLESEY: pair double-brooded at RSPB Cors Ddyga, two fledged from first clutch, outcome not known from second (second island record); DENBIGH: bred at Aled Isaf Res. for second consecutive year; possibly bred at two other sites; FLINT: nested at St Asaph Business Park, incubating from late May to at least 7 Aug., presumed infertile; two at Connah’s Quay NR but no evidence of breeding. Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	20 March	Nedern Valley		9 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	19 March	The Watermill, Ogmore		2 Sept.	The Watermill, Ogmore
GOWER	14 March	Margam Opencast		4 Aug.	Castell-du
CARMARTHEN	25 March	Llandeilo		no autumn records	
PEMBROKE	27 March	Skokholm		3 Sept.	Llys-y-fran Reservoir
CEREDIGION	19 March	Llanrhystud		27 Sept.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	23 March	Llangasty Point		18 July	Llangasty Point
RADNOR	20 March	Glasbury		4 Sept.	Llowes
MONTGOMERY	20 March	Dolydd Hafren		20 Aug.	Llyn Coed-y-dinas
MEIRIONNYDD	28 April	Dyfi estuary		3 Sept.	Tywyn
CAERNARFON	18 April	Pont Llyfni		6 Nov.	Pwllheli
ANGLESEY	27 March	Cemlyn		5 July	RSPB Cors Ddyga & Traeth Dulas
DENBIGH	21 March	Lleweni watermeadows		5 Sept.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	22 March	A547 west of Rhuddlan		7 Aug.	St Asaph

The first of the year in DENBIGH was the earliest county record this century by three days (cf. 2006). The last of the year in RADNOR was the latest county record this century, two days later than one in 2019. One in CAERNARFON from 22 Oct. to 6 Nov. was the latest ever county record (cf. 29 Aug. 2011 as the previous latest this century).

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* CWTIAD CAINT
Rare spring and autumn passage migrant. WBRC: 48 previous records.

GWENT: 1CY at Goldcliff Pt on 30 April; E.GLAMORGAN: female at Kenfig NNR on 1-2 June and in GOWER at Margam Sands on 1 June.

GWENT: pair at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) fledged no young; E.GLAMORGAN: bred on Hirwaun ind. estate; GOWER: two pairs probably bred on Upper Loughor est. at Castell-du; CARMARTHEN: survey found 35 pairs along on R.Tywi between Carmarthen and Rhosmaen; BRECON: two pairs bred at Scethrog and single pairs at Llangasty, Llangorse and Talybont Res.; MONTGOMERY: possibly bred at Dolydd Hafren, Llandinam, Caersws and Llyn Coed-y-dinas; MEIRIONNYDD: probably bred at Llyn Trawfynydd (two territories); CAERNARFON: possibly bred at

DOTTEREL *Charadrius morinellus* HUTAN Y MYNYDD
Uncommon passage migrant in spring and autumn; nested sporadically until the 1970s, and suspected occasionally since. RBBP: one occupied territory in 2019. Wales Amber-listed.

Spring records: min. 21 at seven sites (cf. 15 at five sites in 2021). GWENT: Collister Pill on 28-29 April; CARMARTHEN: Garreg Lwyd on 24 April; BRECON: seven on Banc-y-celyn on 28 April; CAERNARFON: two on Foel Grach on 19 April; three on Foel Fras on 8 May and five here on 16th; ANGLESEY: Llanfwrog on 18 April; RSPB South Stack on 25 April.

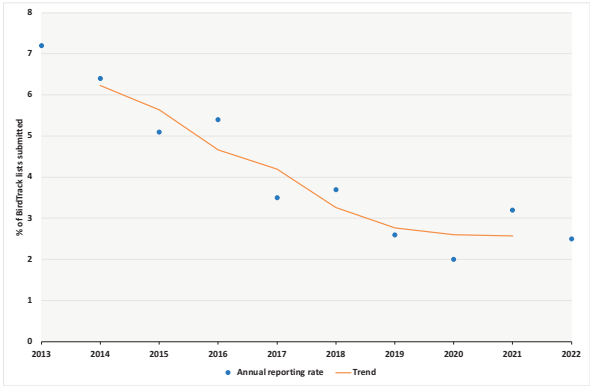
In autumn, 13 were recorded at five sites (cf. 14 at eight sites in 2021). GOWER: Whiteford Pt on 21-22 Sept.; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 1-10 Sept.; CEREDIGION: Drum Peithnant on 10 Sept.; CAERNARFON: four on Foel Grach on 27 Aug.; two on Great Orme on 29 Aug., three 1CY here on 8-9 Sept., increasing to four on 10-12th, two on 13th and one on 17th-23rd.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* COEGYLFINIR
Locally common in coastal counties on spring and autumn passage, scarce inland. A few overwinter. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	924	720
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	3%

The BirdTrack reporting rate has fallen markedly during the last decade, and maximum counts from regular sites were well below par. This may reflect the trend in breeding population in Iceland, where it is presumed most Whimbrels are heading in spring. Surveys show strong to moderate signs of decreases in three of the four regions of Iceland monitored during the last decade or so (Tómas Grétar Gunnarsson in litt.). Spring passage began with one at Uskmouth, GWENT, on 10 April. An unseasonal record in late June - presumably a failed breeder making an early southbound migration - was notable by its location, over Bannau Bryncheiniog National Park, BRECON. The last passage record was at Foryd, CAERNARFON, on 12 Nov.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Whimbrel in Wales 2013-22



Passage counts ≥30 in addition to those in the table: CARMARTHEN: 35 at Burry Port harbour on 13 May; PEMBROKE: 55 at Pencarnan on 25 April; 50 at West Williamston on 27 April; 35 past Strumble Head on 31 July and 54 here on 19 Aug.; CEREDIGION: 33 at Aberystwyth on 26 April; 73 at Ynyslas on 29 April; CAERNARFON: 40 at Aber Geirch on 4 May; 30 at Abersoch on 7 May.

Sites with ≥30 Whimbrels		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
GWENT	Goldcliff Point	40	53	8	2	2	1	
	Peterstone	8	>50	1	6	3		
GOWER	Whiteford Pt	45	50		3			
CARMARTHEN	Gwendraeth estuary	49	79	3	4	6	7	1
	Pwll	74	14		4			
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	27	33		8	4	7	1
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	54	23	1	13	12	7	2

First winter period, all singles unless stated. CARMARTHEN: Tywi estuary on 13 March; CAERNARFON: two on Great Orme on 22 Jan.; Bardsey on 22 March and 3-5 April was suspected of overwintering; ANGLESEY: Traeth Coch on 5 Jan.; 1-2 at Porth y Pistyll on 10 Feb.; Cemlyn on 27 Feb.; Penmon Pool on 2 March; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 4 and 13 March.

Second winter period. E.GLAMORGAN: one at Sker Pt on 12-31 Dec.; PEMBROKE: seven at Angle Bay on 13 Dec., the largest winter flock ever in Wales (*cf.* six in Carmarthenshire in 1971).

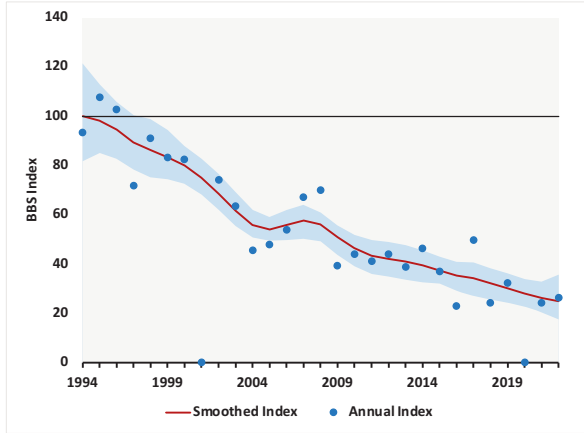
Inland records, all singles unless stated: GWENT: Blackwood on 23 April; Slade Wood on 8 Sept.; BRECON: Llangasty on 16 April, nine here on 4 May, one on 6th and two on 16th; Felincmlais Pool on 6 May; Crai on 22 June; Llangorse Lake on 20 Aug.; Glan Usk on 21 Aug.

CURLEW *Numenius arquata*

Localised and declining breeding species in upland Wales and a few lowland sites. Widespread but declining winter visitor to coastal areas. Amber WeBS alert: -37% long-term, the greatest decline of any country in the UK. 64% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3754	4405
% of BirdTrack lists	15%	17%

Breeding Bird Survey: Curlew in Wales, 1994-2022

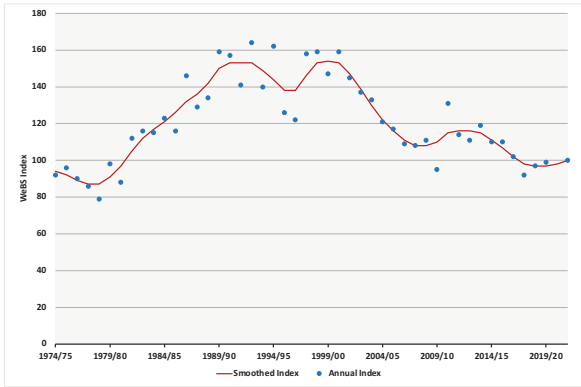


calling male on Cors Caron in late April and one here in mid-July; present at Teifi pools; RADNOR: 26 pairs at 18 sites in survey of c.65% of sites occupied this century; BRECON: outside ICA 12 (see table), 10-11 pairs probably bred; MONTGOMERY: brood probably fledged near Bryn Posteg, Llanidloes; pair bred on farmland above Lake Vyrnwy and near Arddleen but none fledged (male of latter pair winters annually in Jersey); possibly bred at Rhiwhiraeth and Graig Ddu; MEIRIONNYDD: three territories on Mynydd Mynyllod, two near Llyn Trawsfynydd and singles at eight sites, mostly above the Dee Valley; CAERNARFON: possibly bred on Mynythno Common, Garn Bentyrch and Foel Gopyn; ANGLESEY: at least four pairs in Cefni Valley, where young seen; DENBIGH: possibly bred near Llyn Cyfynwy, Aled Isaf Res., Bryn Myllt pond, Garreg Ddu, Pen-y-cae Top Res., Esclusham Mountain, Eglwyseg and above Llanfair TH.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales fell by 35% between 1999/2000 and 2021/22, but remains just above the level of the late 1970s. An exception to the downward trend is Traeth Lafan, where

			Population estimates and breeding productivity where known
Important Curlew Area	County	Lead organisation	
1 Cefni Valley	ANGLESEY	RSPB Cymru	6 territories (2019)
2 Mynydd Hiraethog*	DENBIGH	RSPB Cymru	46 territories (2022). Seven fledged from 16 nests found (0.44)
3 Ysbyty Ifan*	CAERNARFON/DENBIGH	National Trust	13 territories (2022). Two fledged from six nests found (0.33)
4 Ruabon	DENBIGH	GWCT	No information available
5 South Clwyd Mountains	MEIR/DENBIGH	Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB	No survey
6 Berwyn	MONT/MEIR/DEN	Natural Resources Wales	No survey
7 Fenn's & Whixall Moss*	DENBIGH/Salop	Natural Resources Wales	Estimated 6-10 pairs (2022)
8 Curlew Country*	MONT/Salop	Curlew Country project	No survey
9 Montgomeryshire	MONTGOMERY	Monts Wildlife Trust	45 territories (2021)
10 Elenydd*	RADNOR	Elan Valley Trust	7 territories (2022). None confirmed to have fledged from six nests found.
11 Ireland Moor	RADNOR	GWCT	No information available
12 Usk catchment & Llangorse Lake	BRECON/GWENT	Bannau Brycheiniog NPA	9 pairs bred and four other territories occupied by at least one bird (2022).

Wetland Bird Survey: Curlew in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



the Wales count record was broken for the second consecutive year, in August. A Red WeBS alert has been issued for the Burry Inlet SPA (-60%) and an Amber alert in the Dee estuary SPA (-37%). The BirdTrack reporting rate recovered to its 2019 level, but remains 26% below that of 2013-15.

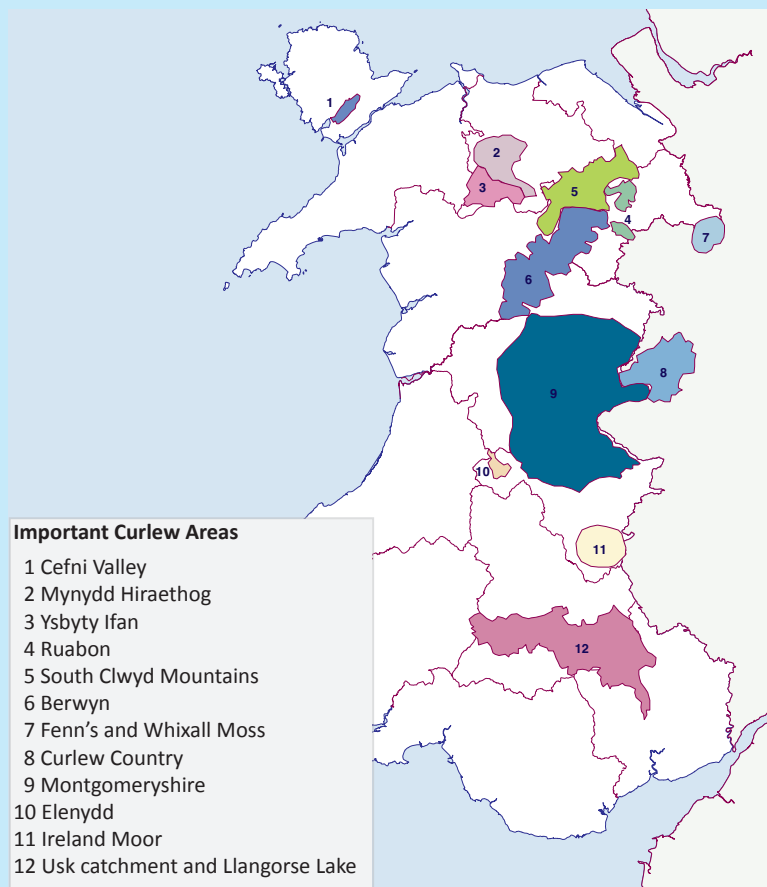
Notable. GOWER: a colour-ringed bird (K6) on Neath est. on 28 Sept. had been released on Dartmoor on 4 Aug. as part of a headstarting translocation project.

Sites with ≥500 Curlews		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	308	215	176	48	55	117	548	405	400	262	242	258
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	421	282	99			79	996		236	484	308	348
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	379	280	354	25	4	1	164	197	501	411	417	368
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	987	942	250	500	160	500	1040	2250	1000	1174	1174	596
FLINT	Point of Ayr/Talacre	852	652	824	250	150	136	1000	1200	1000	1007	c.500	625
	Ffynongroyw				30				1077	50			

Important Curlew Areas

Twelve locations have been identified as Important Curlew Areas (ICA) by Gylfinir Cymru/Curlew Wales, a partnership of organisations with a shared ambition of reversing the decline in breeding Curlew in Wales. The partnership published *A Wales Action Plan for the Recovery of Curlew* in 2021. ICAs were selected based on known numbers of breeding Curlews and/or groups or landowners who expressed enthusiasm to organise conservation interventions, although as of 2022, only five (marked * in the table on p.202) were underway. In order to maximise conservation effort for the breeding population, Gylfinir Cymru asks birdwatchers, farmers, gamekeepers and others who see Curlews away from the coast, anywhere in Wales, during March to July to submit details to bit.ly/curlewcymru.

Gylfinir Cymru is a partnership of Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority, British Association for Shooting and Conservation, British Trust for Ornithology, Countryside Alliance, Curlew Country, Denbighshire County Council/Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Elan Valley Trust, Farmers' Union of Wales, Local Environmental Records Centres Wales, Natural Resources Wales, Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT), National Farmers' Union Wales, National Gamekeepers' Organisation, National Trust, RSPB Cymru, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Welsh Ornithological Society, Welsh Government and Wildlife Trusts Wales. curlewwales.org / gylfinircymru.org



BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*

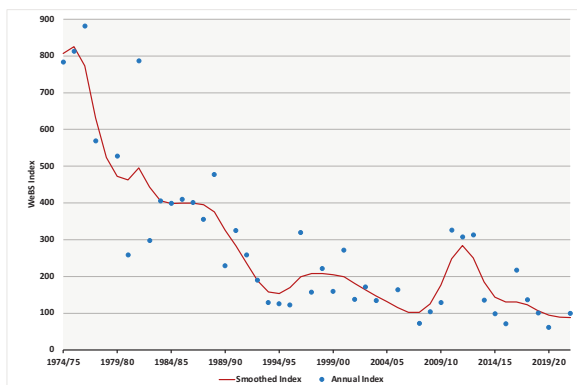
RHOSTOG GYNFFONFRAITH

Local passage migrant, more numerous in autumn than spring, and winter visitor. Rare away from the coasts. Red WeBS alert: -50% long-term and -51% short-term, although +21% medium term. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	474	484
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Wetland Bird Survey: Bar-tailed Godwit in Wales 1974/75-2021/22

The Wetland Bird Survey smoothed index for Wales reached a record low in 2021/22, 89% below its peak in 1975/76. The number of sites holding ≥50 birds at least once during the year has halved in just 10 years. Counts are down markedly in the Burry Inlet and Cleddau estuary. A WeBS red alert (-54%) for the long-term and an amber alert (-46%) for the short-term has been issued on the Dee estuary SPA, although a count at Point of Ayr was the highest for several years. The BirdTrack reporting rate was the highest since 2014.



Sites with ≥50 Bar-tailed Godwits		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Burry Port/Pembrey	8	3	7	57	120	4	2		8	1	3	1
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	50	16	8	5	6		1		7	35	5	18
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	>250	70	11	17	2	1	1	20	15	20	90	25
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	116	75	71	50		1	6	2	25	40	32	33
FLINT	Point of Ayr	2		1	80	170			3	3	8	15	

Counts ≥50 elsewhere. GOWER: 320 at Penclawdd on 13 Nov.

2021 GOWER: counts of 169, 257, 33 and 286 at Loughor Bridge on 23-26 April represented a very large influx to the county.

L.l. taymyrensis (Siberian Bar-tailed Godwit / Rhostog Gynffonfraith Siberia)

No previous records in Wales.

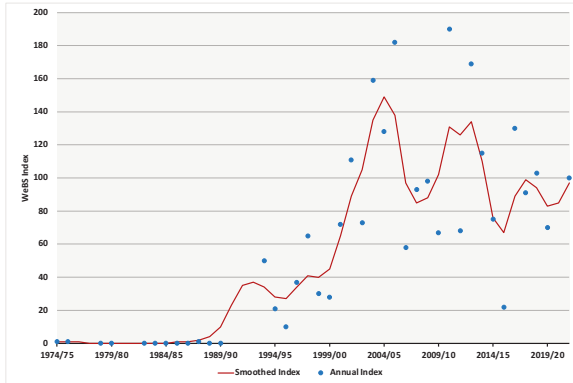
West Africa is the wintering ground for this race, and it was judged by the WBRC, with a >99% probability, that the bird was of this subspecies, based on its winter location.

2021 CEREDIGION: one caught and ringed at RSPB Ynys-hir on 8 Oct. was seen subsequently at Zira Iwik, Mauritania, on 30 Nov. 2022.

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* RHOSTOG GYNFFONDDU
Localised spring and autumn passage migrant; wintering numbers have increased on the Dee estuary, usually on the English side. Amber WeBS alert: -27% short-term, but +140% for long-term. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1401	2024
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	8%

Wetland Bird Survey: Black-tailed Godwit in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥100 Black-tailed Godwits		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands Reserve	15	35	556	770	31	6	195	271	1000	820	632	107
	St Brides			144	10		1	8	1		200	156	
GOWER	Upper Loughor est./M Bacas	122	335	305	350	5	3	26	115	359	163	7	11
	Dalton's Pt/Penclawdd	250	2	62	332			85		81	217	450	11
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	393	252	556	862	441	389	407	910	906	991	364	278
	Taf/Tywi/Gwendraeth est.	30	107	140			4		6	75	1	367	222
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	66	119	25	55	2	1	39	27	20	3	53	193
	Pembroke Mill Ponds	8		58						47	40	147	
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	174	95	15	20			1	5	10	25	90	340
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddgy	646	345	300	P	2	8	2			40	200	285
	Malltraeth/Cefni estuary	150	150	408	196	42	8	5	11	21	3	P	240
FLINT	Gronant	463	235	39		1		35	2	9			11
	Point of Ayr/Talacre	72	129	93	>30	20	24	20	2	200	50		261
	Flint saltmarsh	27		1	1					1	c.250	>1000	c.500
	Dee Sands	1100	150	401	1000	300	550	1224	1200	1250	4300	4000	2000
	Connah's Quay NR			12		180	1200	1100	1400	750	30	15	

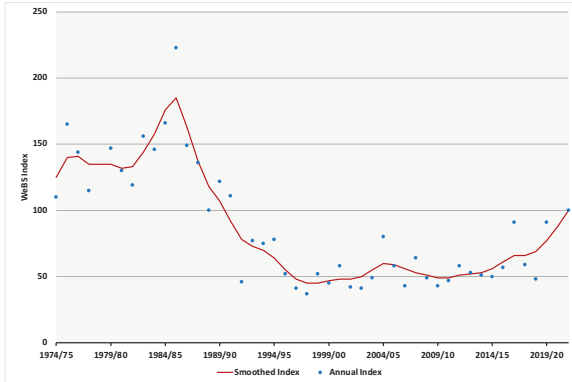
Inland records: BRECON: 15 over seven dates at Llangorse Lake between March and Dec., max. eight on 27 April.

L.I. limosa
Rare passage migrant, but status unclear.
CARMARTHEN: a colour-ringed bird at Penclacwydd on 5 May had been reared in captivity on the Ouse Washes in 2021 as part of a headstarting project and was released at Welney, Norfolk, on 15 June. It moved to Titchwell and Cley in July, then the Suffolk coast in August, and returned to Titchwell in late autumn 2021. The sighting at Penclacwydd was the first since mid-November. Category R1 (see p.365).

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* CWTIAD TRAETH
Localised passage migrant and winter visitor, 66% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). A few non-breeding birds are present throughout the summer. Rare inland. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1204	1174
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	5%

Wetland Bird Survey: Turnstone in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



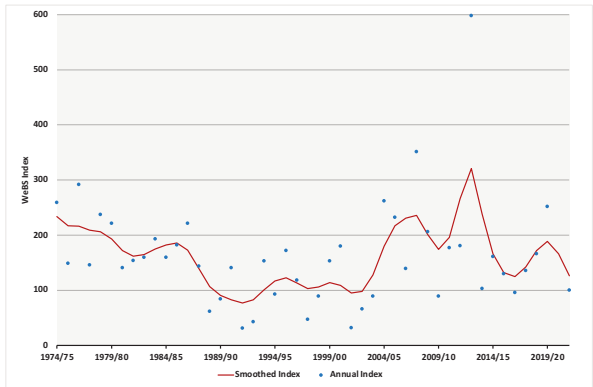
Sites with ≥50 Turnstones		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Newton Point	65	50	16		18			14	72	83	51	45
	Porthcawl	12	145	78						50	60		
	Sker Point	25	145	120	30	4		P		2	6	6	58
GOWER	Knab Rock/Mumbles	75	104	26	50		20	5	168	187	233	97	24
CARMARTHEN	Burry Port	167	54		3	3				64	117		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			51	34	12	2	22	59	68	54		
	Foryd	120	140	70	7			2	21	80	160	170	110
	Traeth Lafan	164	100	80	114			14	95	176	136	62	110
	Llandudno	16	55	19	35					12	45	51	
	Penrhyn Bay/Rhos Pt	20	40	50	110	6		35	104	153	90	80	57
	lower Conwy estuary	300	150	260	140					1	49	33	194
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch Bay	6	>50	2					2		3	32	2
DENBIGH	Llanddulas-Abergele	81		19	5					5	20	12	21
	Clwyd estuary	>35	64	157	214	14	11	6	204	94	220	288	173
FLINT	Mostyn	53			30				10			25	
	Walwen Marsh	45	40	7	4				20	25	59		

Counts ≥50 elsewhere: GWENT: c.150 at Caldicot Pill on 17 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: 61 in Sully Bay on 6 Jan.; 76 at Lock's Common on 12 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 100 on Seiont est. on 22 Sept.; ANGLESEY: 105 between Britannia Bridge and Gallow's Pt on 9 Oct.

KNOT *Calidris canutus* PIBYDD YR ABER
Locally common winter visitor to some estuaries, but scarce elsewhere. Also passage migrant, but rare inland. Red WeBS alert: -50% for medium term and -55% for short term. Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	341	447
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	2%

Wetland Bird Survey: Knot in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥300 Knots		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Burry Inlet – south	300	2000					2	8	89		90	2
CARMARTHEN	Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Pt	440								110	261	16	6
	Penclacwydd	1	1		16	30	2		3	250	360	185	3
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	301	100	30	5		3		2		18	2	39
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	25	20	250	250	5	4	12	1	>50	300	300	300

Counts >300 elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: 350 on Pendine beach on 9 Jan.; ANGLESEY: 450 at Braint est. on 12 Jan. and 1000 at nearby Traeth Melynog on 23 Jan.

C.c. canutus (Siberian Knot / Pibydd yr Aber Siberia)

Not previously recorded in Wales.

Although small numbers of this subspecies are thought to pass through southeast England regularly, all Knot recorded in Wales previously were considered Icelandic (*C.c. islandica*). This individual occurred during a period when good numbers of juvenile Curlew Sandpipers, also from Siberia, were in western Britain. The origin of this individual was determined based on its wintering location, far to the south of the known wintering range of *islandica*.

2020 CEREDIGION: one caught and colour-ringed at Ynyslas on 2 Sept. was subsequently seen at Ebel Kheaiznaya, Banc d’Arguin, Mauritania, on 27-29 Nov. and 13 Dec. 2021 by a Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ) expedition.

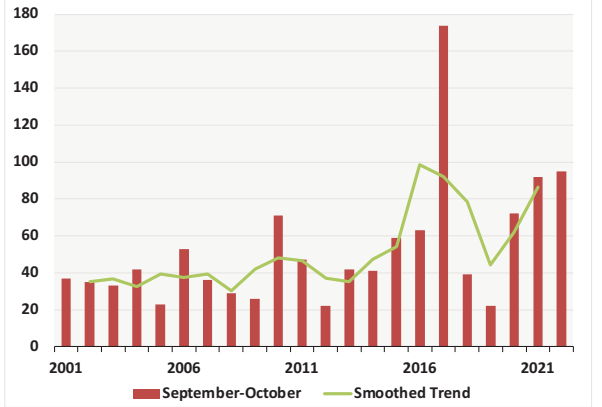
RUFF *Calidris pugnax* PIBYDD TORCHOG
Localised passage migrant in small numbers, principally in autumn. Occasionally winters. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	304	511
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	2%

Another good year: the BirdTrack reporting rate was almost double the average for 2013-20. The aggregated maxima in each recording area during September/October averaged 48 in 2001-20, so the 95 this year was the second-best year this century.

Counts ≥5 not included in the table: GWENT: six at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 26 Sept.; ANGLESEY: seven at Malltraeth Cob on 8 Sept.; FLINT: six at Gronant on 8 Sept.; 15 on RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 11 Sept.

Ruff recorded in Autumn, based on max. monthly count in each county in Sept.-Oct., 2001-22



Ruff: monthly totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT			1	1	3			4	10	4		
E.GLAMORGAN									2	4		
GOWER							1		4	2		
CARMARTHEN	1	1	2	2	1			6	7	2	2	
PEMBROKE			1	2	1			8	7	4	1	
CEREDIGION									8	1	1	
MEIRIONNYDD										1		
CAERNARFON			1						4	3		
ANGLESEY	3	2	2	3	1			2	24	3	1	4
DENBIGH									5			
FLINT	1			3	1		5	4	21	9	1	

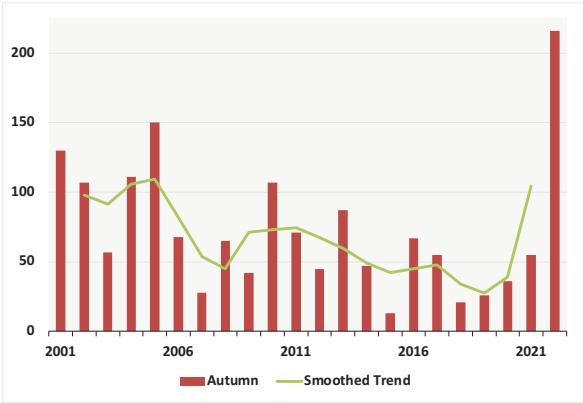
CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

Uncommon passage migrant to coastal areas, principally in autumn, relatively numerous in some years. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	200	572
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

The best year since 1999 by some margin (note the chart shows a more conservative tally as it is based on the peak count in each county). All were coastal except one at Aled Isaf Res., DENBIGH, from 31 Aug. to 2 Sept. The majority were in Sept./Oct. except for a late arrival at RSPB Cors Ddya, ANGLESEY, from 30 Nov. to 3 Dec.

Curlew Sandpipers recorded in Wales, based on monthly max. by season in each county 2001-22



Curlew Sandpiper: weekly max. at main sites		25-31 Aug.	1-6 Sep.	7-13 Sep.	14-20 Sep.	21-27 Sep.	28 Sep.-4 Oct	5-11 Oct.	12-18 Oct.	19-25 Oct.
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	1	8	3	1	3	10	4		3
CARMARTHEN	Kidwelly Quay				5	9	15	3		
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary		1	3	2	3		1		
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary		1	1	4	5				1
ANGLESEY	Alaw estuary		16	5	3	1				
	Malltraeth Cob	2	13	17	4	8	3	1		
DENBIGH	RSPB Conwy		2	3	0	6	6	1		
	Clwyd estuary	0	5	4	3	3	5	12	1	1
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	1	3	1	0	5	1	3	0	0

Min. numbers of Curlew Sandpipers present each month, including sum of weekly site counts above.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	1	4	2			37	14		
E.GLAMORGAN					1	1			
GOWER					1	11	1		
CARMARTHEN		1				28	19		
PEMBROKE			1	1		49	1		
CEREDIGION						10	1		
MEIRIONNYDD						3			
CAERNARFON			1		1	17	12		
ANGLESEY	1	2		1	4	77	6	1	1
DENBIGH					1	31	22	1	
FLINT						15	4		

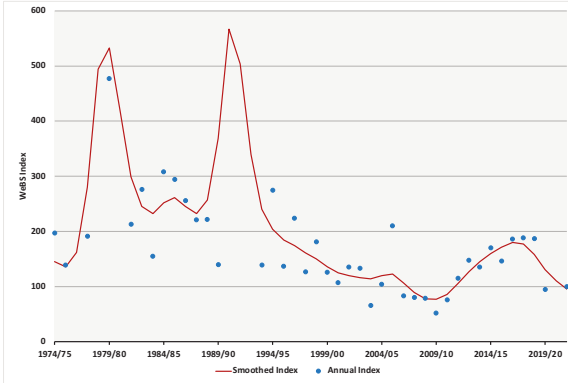
TEMMINCK’S STINT *Calidris temminckii* PIBYDD TEMMINCK
Scarce passage migrant, usually in spring. WBRC: 63 previous records.

GWENT: three at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 15-16 May. This is the third occasion that three have occurred together in Wales.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba* PIBYDD Y TYWOD
Winter visitor, locally fairly common on sandy beaches in Flintshire and South Wales. Passage migrant on the coast but scarce inland. Amber WeBS alerts: -42% for short-term and -45% for medium term. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	365	407
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

Wetland Bird Survey: Sanderling in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



The last two years of Wetland Bird Survey counts have stemmed the recovery in numbers during the 2010s, while the BirdTrack reporting rate returned to its pre-pandemic level. Sites with the greatest reductions since the early 1990s include the Denbighshire coast (-88% in 30 years) and Clwyd estuary (-39%).

Flocks ≥50 elsewhere. GOWER: 150 on Swansea East breakwater on 29 Jan.; 58 at Oxwich on 15 Nov.; 50 at Rhossili on 1 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: 111 at Machynys on 19 Jan. and 55 here on 23 Feb.; 53 at Pendine Sands on 11 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: 220 on Harlech beach on 8 May; CAERNARFON: 53 at Llandudno on 13 March; 160 at Traeth Crugan on 22 March and 120 here on 16 Sept.; 60 at Afonwen on 10 April; 50 at Black Rock Sands on 1 May; ANGLESEY: 103 on Alaw est. on 22 July.

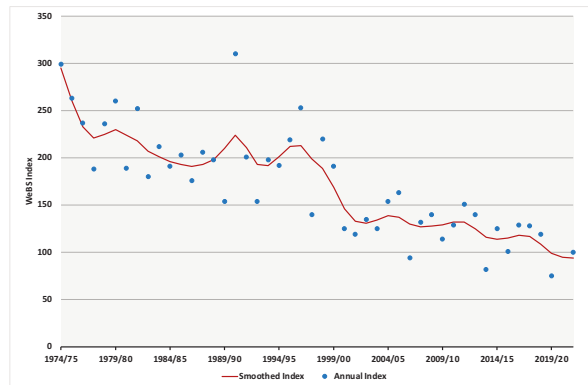
Sites with ≥50 Sanderlings		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Newton Pt & beach	53	140	20		22			20	50	64	107	13
	Kenfig Sands	8		150	1		15	P	20	90	15		
	Flat Holm	200				1				50			
	Sker Pt & Pink Bay	150	50	280	1			P	P	6	36	1	89
	Sully Island & Bay			100	111	50	3		1	50			
GOWER	Aberafan Beach	61	110	100	157	9				18	393	470	
	Margam Sands	320	206	450	200		260					373	
	Port Talbot harbour	22		150	150				40			50	
CARMARTHEN	Burry Port/Pembrey	89	125	57	500	550	94		100	100	100	6	
	Cefn Sidan/Tywyn Pt	590			250					8	21	61	18
CAERNARFON	Lower Conwy estuary	146	75	132	50						87	78	82
DENBIGH	Horton’s Nose	35	10			2			3		60	4	22
FLINT	Gronant/Point of Ayr	62	25	147	12	25	12	2	10	15	5	55	50

Inland. BRECON: Llangasty on 3-4 May.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina* PIBYDD MAWN
Scarce and local breeder, restricted to a few blanket bogs with scattered pools. Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor. Amber WeBS alert: -44% long-term, the highest of any UK country. 94% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1768	2300
% of BirdTrack lists	7%	9%

Breeding. MEIRIONNYDD: one singing at the south end of Llyn Trawsfynydd on 30 April and three displaying here on 1 May.

Wetland Bird Survey: Dunlin in Wales 1974/75-2021/22

Non-breeding: the smoothed Wetland Bird Survey index reached its lowest ever value in 2021/22, 68% below its 1974/75 baseline. Amber WeBS alerts have been issued for short (-26%) and long (-41%) term declines in Burry Inlet SPA, and numbers on the Dee estuary have halved in the last 20 years, although less so on the Welsh side. The only major sites in Wales to see an increase since the turn of the century are the Inland Sea/Alaw estuary and Foryd Bay. The BirdTrack reporting rate recovered from the consequence of travel restrictions in 2020 and 2021.

Sites with ≥1000 Dunlins		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nash & Goldcliff Pill	1700	1400	300	200	1000	300	185	112	220	313	500	405
	Peterstone Wentlooge	3000	1	95		85		1	86	40	150	200	670
	St Brides	2000	50	1	5	260	9	8	40		150	50	
	Caldicot Pill	4000	2000	20	3	5		21	26	188		300	4000
	West Pill		4500							12		2000	
GOWER	Undy	6000			4	32				59		1400	900
	Crofty/Penclawdd	1200	53	43						38	759	700	109
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	2461	1000	20	4	23	15	20	36	128	174	466	1992
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	4412	>600	165	100	15	15	1	62	220	>250	c.1200	3324
FLINT	Point of Ayr/Talacre	1000	350	50	100	420	13	34	300	50	150	400	1500
	CQNR/Oakenholt	300	53		50	55		2	40	27	5500		5000
	Walwen Marsh	3	1350	175									300
	Dee Sands	1800	1000	300	50	100		120	120	1000	3200	4500	5000

Counts ≥1000 elsewhere. GWENT: 3600 at Collister Pill on 10 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: >1000 on Rhymney est. on 1 Jan.; ANGLESEY: c.1000 at Friar's Bay on 8 Jan.

PURPLE SANDPIPER *Calidris maritima*

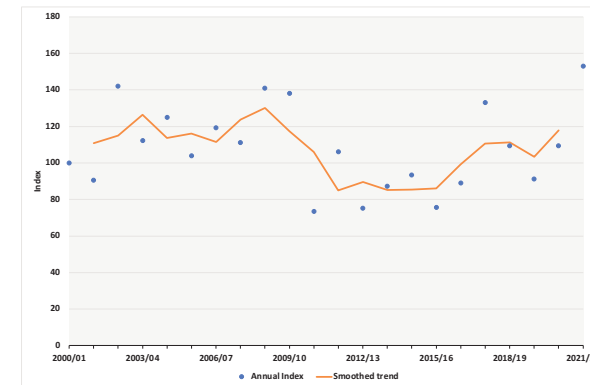
PIBYDD DU

Localised winter visitor in small numbers to rocky shorelines. Red WeBS alerts: -51% medium term and amber alert (-42%) for short-term, but long-term is +96%. Wales Red-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	181	191
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

There is no Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales, but that for the whole of the UK is 60% lower than the peak in the late 1980s. The most recent Non-estuarine Waterbird Survey (NEWS) in 2015/16 found 75% fewer Purple

Sandpipers in Wales than in 1984/85, and estimated the wintering population to be 41 birds. However, both surveys are snapshots, and numbers can vary greatly at any site between tidal cycles and years. Based on those surveys, we have reported in recent Welsh Bird Reports that counts have fallen and the species was Red-listed in Birds of Conservation Concern Wales 4 (Johnstone *et al.* 2023). However, an index based on all Welsh sites (n=15) that recorded 10 birds more than once since 2000 suggests relatively little change since the turn of the century, and an upward trend since 2015/16 as numbers recovered from a dip at the end of the first decade. The BirdTrack reporting rate was at its highest since 2016, with records from 30 sites (*cf.* 23 sites in 2016).

Purple Sandpiper site trends: Index of peak counts of Purple Sandpiper from top 15 sites in Wales, 2000/01-2021/22

ever recorded in Wales. Elsewhere in North Wales, counts at Rhos Point are down by just 10%, and numbers at Cemlyn and Trearddur Bay increased slightly.

Max. monthly counts at sites holding ≥10 birds at least once during the year.

Sites with ≥10 Purple Sandpipers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Porthcawl Pt-Rest Bay	2	7	13									22
	Skerr Point area	3	4	10	1							14	1
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			109	44	36	0	0	12	31	18		
	Rhos/Penrhyn Bay	14	15	13	1							9	10
ANGLESEY	Cemlyn	25	3	7	2	1		1	2	2	6	10	8
	Trearddur Bay	25	2	2							8	3	15

Counts ≥10 elsewhere. PEMBROKE: 16 on Skomer in March; 12 on Skokholm on 29 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 22 on Ynys Llanddwyn on 14 April.

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

PIBYDD BACH

Uncommon passage migrant in small numbers to coastal areas, principally in autumn. Rare inland. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	275	233
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Spring passage: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 15-17 May, 20 and 30 May, and 17 June; CEREDIGION: Llanrhystud on 16-22 April; RSPB Ynys-hir on 30-31 May; CAERNARFON: Afon Wen on 31 May;

ANGLESEY: Alaw est. on 19-22 and 31 May; Cymyran on 20 May; Silver Bay on 20-21 May and Cemlyn on same dates; FLINT: RSPB Pt of Ayr on 31 May.

Autumn passage, involved a min. 60 individuals (*cf.* 89 in 2021), below the 30 year average (n=90). All were singles unless stated: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 7, 17-21, 25 and 28 Aug., 1-3 Sept., two on 4-5th, one on 14-15th, two on 20th, one on 21st-22nd, three on 24-25th and two on 26-29th, and one on 22-23 Oct.; Peterstone Gout/St Brides on 14 Aug.; Peterstone Wentlooge on 17 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 21-22 and 28 Sept.; CARMARTHEN: Pembrey harbour on 4 Sept.; Banc-y-Lord on 11 Sept.; Penclacwydd on 1-6 Oct.; PEMBROKE: Angle Bay on 17-18 Aug., two here on 20th and one on 12 Sept.; Gann est. on 2 Sept.; Llys-y-fran Res. on 3-6 Sept.; Nevers est. on 5 Sept.; Dale airfield on 8-9 Sept.;

CEREDIGION: Llanon on 4-5 Sept. and two here on 6th; Borth on 6 Sept.; Llansantffraed on 7 Sept.; two at Ynyslas on 2 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Glaslyn Marshes and Morfa Madryn NR on 9 Sept.; Rhos Pt on 8 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Alaw est. on 23 July; Cemlyn on 30 Aug.; up to three at Malltraeth Cob on 1-10 Sept. (max. on 2nd); Beddmanarch Bay on 8 Sept.; Church Island on 23 Sept.; two at Traeth Dulas on 4 Oct.; DENBIGH: up to three at RSPB Conwy on 4-9 Sept., one here on 13th and 30th, one on 2 and 8 Oct.; Clwyd est. on 6-7 Oct. and from 22 Oct. to 1 Nov.; FLINT: Connah’s Quay NR on 31 Aug.; Rhyl Marine Lake on 11 Sept.; three on RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 21-27 Sept.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Calidris subruficollis*

Scarce transatlantic visitor. WBRC: 74 previous records.

PIBYDD BRONLLWYD

CAERNARFON: RSPB Morfa Dinlle from 24-28 Sept. and 5-8 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 4 Sept.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*

Scarce vagrant from North America and Siberia. WBRC: 147 previous records.

PIBYDD CAIN

CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 24 Sept.; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 2 June; Nevern est. on 20 July; Dale airfield on 8-9 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: Llyn Trawsfynydd from 29 April to 2 May.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER *Limnodromus scalopaceus*

Rare visitor from Arctic Siberia and coastal Alaska. BBRC: 21 previous records.

GIACH GYLFINHIR

CAERNARFON: 1CY ringed at Aber Ogwen on 9 Oct., then at Glan-y-môr Elias on 18 Oct. and Morfa Madryn NR on 22-26 Oct. This is only the third time that the species has been ringed in Britain and Ireland.

WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*

Localised and declining breeder. Widespread and fairly common in winter. Wales Red-listed.

CYFFYLOG

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	165	211
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

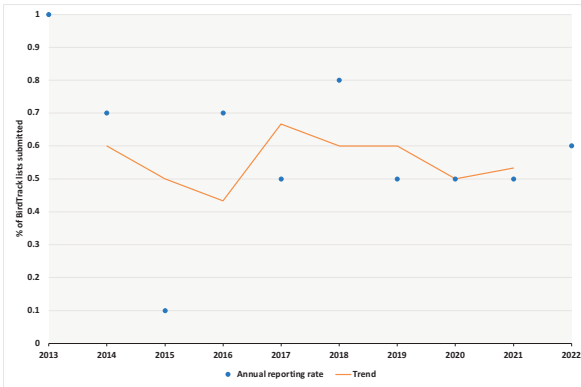
Breeding: records of breeding or possible breeding have been in single figures for several years, so the min. of 12 birds at seven sites here represents a slight increase. A survey planned for 2023 will provide a more complete

picture of their current status. GWENT: probably bred at Broad Meend (five roding males) and possibly at Beacon Hill and Wentwood; E.GLAMORGAN: two at Coed Llanwonno on 13 May; MONTGOMERY: one at Plas Tanat, near Penygarnedd, on 9 June; MEIRIONNYDD: roding male at Ty Isaf, Rhosygwalia, on 28 May; DENBIGH: Coed Llandegla on 22 and 29 June.

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate remains consistent. Most multiple counts were from nocturnal ringing effort or shoots.

≥3 in first winter period. E.GLAMORGAN: three in Alun Valley on 9 and 13 Jan.; four west of Pontypridd on 2 Feb.; GOWER: up to 20 at Brychmoel Farm, Upper Killay, in Jan.; three at Waunarlwydd on 21 Feb.; three to roost at Banwen on 26 March; CARMARTHEN: three at Fforest on 11 Jan.; three at Gwernogle on 18 Jan.; five near Ginst Pt on 29 Jan.; PEMBROKE: seven at Boncath on 1 Jan. and six here on 29th; four at

BirdTrack reporting rate: Woodcock in Wales 2013-22



four at Llwynderw on 30 Jan.; CAERNARFON: three southeast of Llangybi on 1 Jan.; seven at Penisarwaun on 2 Jan. and 14 here on 25 Feb.; max. nine at Glanwydden in Jan. and eight in Feb.; nine near Tal-y-cafn on 3 Feb.; ANGLESEY: Mynydd Bodafon on 1 Jan.; three at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 14 Jan.; four in Newborough Forest on 16 Jan.; DENBIGH: three at Glyn Ceiriog on 4 March; 15 at Oakfield, Wrexham, on 10 March; FLINT: nine left roost at Old Warren Farm, Broughton, on 22 Feb.; 16 left roost on Cherry Orchard Road, Broughton, on 24 Feb.

≥3 in second winter period: E.GLAMORGAN: five to roost at Twyn Blaen-nant on 4 Dec.; GOWER: three at Mead Moor on 27 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: three near Ginst Pt on 3 Dec.; three at Cynnant on 16 Dec.; six at Cynghordy on 26 Dec.; PEMBROKE: five at Amroth on 20 Nov.; five at Llanychaer on 16 Dec.; BRECON: four at Usk Res. and three near Talgarth during 22-27 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: three at Corris on 25 Nov.; CAERNARFON: seven at Penisarwaun on 18 Nov.; three at Porth Meudwy on 20 Nov.; three at Glanwydden on 28 Nov.; ANGLESEY: several at Mynydd y Garn on 8 Oct.; 12 in Newborough Forest on 21 Nov.; nine at RSPB South Stack on 22 Nov.; four near Bryngwran on 20 Dec.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: eight at Fenn’s Moss on 4 March.

JACK SNIFE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Uncommon (and probably under-recorded) passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber-listed.

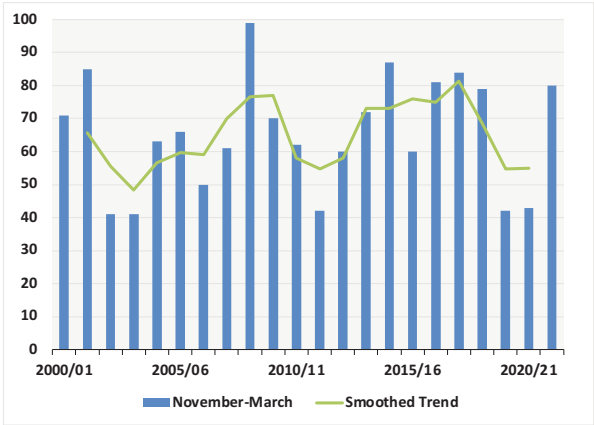
GIACH BACH

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	98	104
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A return to normality following a couple of lean years, thanks in part to some good counts in northwest Wales. The mean BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales was 43% lower in the last five years than the previous five, although this will have been affected by lockdown in early 2021.

Counts ≥5 included in the table on p.215: CARMARTHEN: five on Taf est. saltmarsh on 15 March; BRECON: five at Llangorse Lake in Jan. and Nov., and six here in Dec.; CAERNARFON: 13 at Foryd on 23 Jan., the highest count from any site in the county since 2008; ANGLESEY: nine at Cors Crugyll on 17 Jan. and 10 here on 14 Nov.; 15 at Traeth Coch on 13 Nov.

Jack Snipe recorded in Wales, based on county max. during Nov.-March, 2000/01-21/22



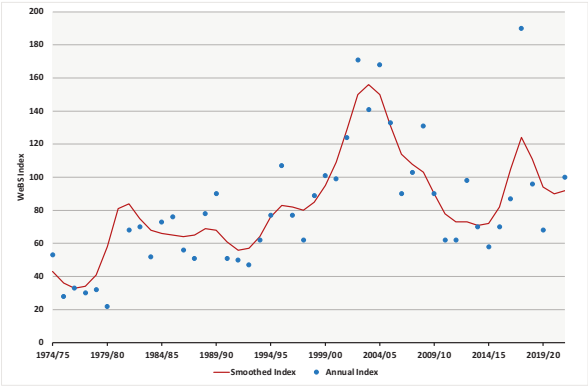
Jack Snipe: county totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	1		2			1		6
E.GLAMORGAN	1	1	2			1	2	8
GOWER	7				4			
CARMARTHEN	8	2	5			2	4	4
PEMBROKE	4	7	9		1	3		4
CEREDIGION	1		2					2
BRECON	8					2	5	6
RADNOR								1
MONTGOMERY						1	1	2
MEIRIONNYDD	1	3				1	2	
CAERNARFON	15	2	6	2	1		3	3
ANGLESEY	14	3	1			2	16	4
DENBIGH	4	1	3			1	1	2
FLINT	1	1	3				3	7

SNIFE *Gallinago gallinago* GIACH CYFFREDIN
Localised but declining breeder (1100 pairs). Fairly common and more widespread in winter. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1263	1522
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	6%

Breeding. Records denote presence of a single bird in suitable habitat during the breeding season (from 26 sites, cf. 35 in 2021) unless greater evidence is provided: E.GLAMORGAN: two at Nant Moel Res. on 25 May and singles at Gelligaer Common on 22 May and Rhaslas Pond on 16 July; CARMARTHEN: probably bred at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas; chipping at Usk Res. on 29 May; CEREDIGION: three displayed at RSPB Ynys-hir; also at Cors Fochno and Cors Caron; BRECON: 17 present (nine with breeding evidence) at 12 sites, inc. four drumming at Cefngwaunhynog (Coelbren) and two each at Mynydd Wysg and Crai; MONTGOMERY: stable breeding population at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; Llyn Hir on 23 May; MEIRIONNYDD: territories at six sites; CAERNARFON: one in the Ffrydlas valley near Gyrn on 28 May; two at Capel Curig on 5 June; ANGLESEY: possibly bred at Cors Bodeilio; two at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 5 June and one on 20th; DENBIGH: probably bred at Fenn’s Moss and Esclusham Mountain.

Wetland Bird Survey: Snipe in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Non-breeding: the long-term trend remains slightly upward, despite considerable annual variation in the Wetland Bird Survey index.

Counts ≥40 in addition to those in the table. GOWER: 45 at Cwm Kenfig on 20 Nov.; CARMARTHEN: c.50 at Wynnstay, Cross Hands, on 11 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 50 at Marloes on 24 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 60 at Morfa Aber on 9 Nov.; ANGLESEY: c.40 at Silver Bay on 22 Jan.; 200 at Traeth Coch on 13 Nov.; 40 at Cemlyn on 27 Nov.; 40 on Church Island on 25 Dec.; FLINT: 65 at Gronant on 30 Dec.



Snipe (Annie Haycock)

Sites with ≥40 Snipe		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Taf estuary	186	12	2			1	1	1	61
	Gwendraeth estuary	19	63	7		2	4	1	21	50
	Penclacwydd	41	45	6		1	1	7	21	22
	Pembrey Burrows	54							32	70
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	115	36	33			7	3	11	90
	Dowrog Pool	8	21	18		3	15	49	28	12
	Castlemartin Corse	c.100	32	6	1	10	1	2	12	30
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	4	3	22	3	6	8	2	2	90
BRECON	Mynydd Illtyd	60	53				6	48	95	76
CAERNARFON	Pwllheli	2	60	18				79		
	Foryd/Morfa Dinlle	78	84	99	5	2	4	18	754	58
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga	88	8	28	3	3	50	15	114	100
	RSPB Valley Wetlands	40	16	6	1				21	2
	Cors Crugyll	120		11	7	1	1	24	108	
FLINT	Gronant	1	3	1	3	2	18	2	65	65

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus* LLYDANDROED GYDDFGOCH
Scarce passage migrant. WBRC: 69 previous records.

MEIRIONNYDD/CAERNARFON: Glaslyn Marshes on 7 Sept. (the last record in Meirionnydd was in 1935); ANGLESEY: Llyn Coron on 10-13 Sept.

GREY PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius*

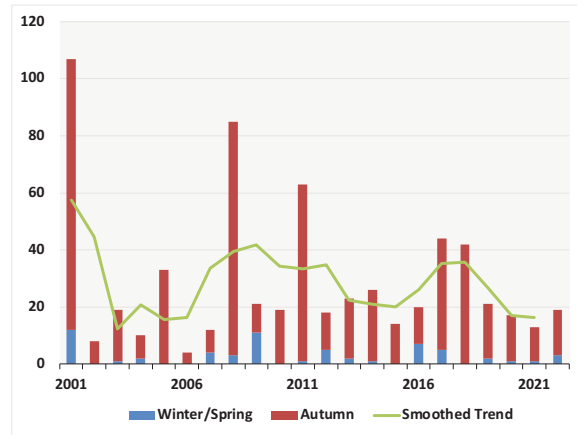
LLYDANDROED LLWYD

Uncommon and irregular passage migrant, predominantly to coastal areas during September-October. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	26	64
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A very average year. Singles unless stated: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 1-17 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: Ogmor est. on 3 Jan.; PEMBROKE: Gann est. on 12 Sept.; Strumble Head on 8 and 10 Oct., and two on 3 Nov.; Pembroke Mill Pond on 15 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: Broadwater on 8 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD/CAERNARFON: Glaslyn/Dwyrdd est. on 28 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 24 Sept. and 15 Oct.; Porth Oer on 26 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Traeth Dulas on 29 Oct.; Cemlyn on 9 Nov.; Porth Swtan on 26 Nov.

Grey Phalaropes recorded in Wales, 2001-22

**COMMON SANDPIPER** *Actitis hypoleucos*

PIBYDD DORLAN

Summer visitor that breeds in most counties, but declining (490 pairs). Around 20 over-winter, though up to 40 in some years. Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	927	950
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	3%

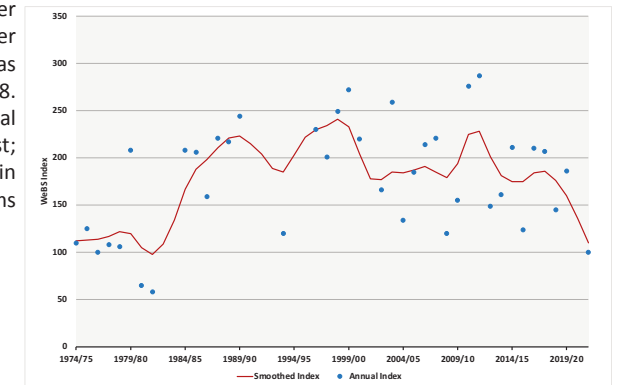
Breeding: the Waterways Breeding Bird Survey index for the UK has fallen steadily, by 42% (1998-2022) and the UK Breeding Bird Survey index fell by 27% over a similar period. There is no separate trend for Wales for either

scheme, but the BirdTrack reporting rate in the breeding season has fallen only by 22%, whereas the rates in the spring and autumn migration periods fell by greater amounts.

Summary of breeding season records: GWENT: possibly bred at two sites on R.Usk; two at Parc Bryn Bach on 30 May and 16 June; CARMARTHEN: bred at Abercothi and on R.Doethie, and probably at nine other sites; CEREDIGION: Glandyfi, Llyn Brienne and Teifi est. in June; BRECON: 22 pairs/territories at 14 sites, inc. 7-8 along 4.5km of R.Usk between Pencelli and Llansantffraed, and four at Crai Res. where drawdown increased the lake margin; RADNOR: several pairs in Elan Valley and at least one at Hay-on-Wye; MONTGOMERY: bred at Dolydd Hafren, and probably at Lake Vyrnwy and many sites along the county's rivers; MEIRIONNYDD: three territories at Llyn Trawsfynydd, two on Tal-y-llyn and singles at Llyn Arenig Fawr and Maentwrog; probably/possibly bred at nine other sites; CAERNARFON: bred at Cors Bodgynydd and Nant Ffranc, probably/possibly at 15 other sites; DENBIGH: two pairs bred at Aled Isaf Res.; probably bred at Llyn Brenig, RSPB Conwy and near Plas Berwyn, and possibly near Nebo; FLINT: one near Coed Llandegla on 22 June.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey annual index was its lowest for 40 years and 46% below that in 2019/20. The decline in Wales has been swift, with the 2021 index 65% below that of 2011. It is a species

that shows very different trends elsewhere in Britain, with a shallower decline in England but a greater reduction in Scotland, from which it has bounced back strongly since 2018. Small numbers overwintered at coastal sites, mainly in the south and west; note that some individuals occurred in two counties, where an estuary forms the boundary.

Wetland Bird Survey: Common Sandpiper in Wales 1974/75-2021/22

C Sandpiper: winter records	Jan	Feb	Mar	Min.	Nov	Dec	Min.
GWENT						1	1
E.GLAMORGAN	4	3	5	6	4	3	4
GOWER	5	2	4	7	7	1	7
CARMARTHEN	3	2	1	5	1	1	3
PEMBROKE	6	6	3	7	8	7	8
CEREDIGION	1	1		1	4	2	3
MEIRIONNYDD		2		2			
ANGLESEY	2	1	1	2	2	1	3
DENBIGH	1			1		1	1
FLINT	1	1		1	1	1	1

Largest counts were six at Eglwys Nunydd Res., GOWER, on 3 Nov. and up to six on Cleddau est., PEMBROKE, from Oct. to Dec.

Spring passage, max. counts ≥ 3 : GWENT: four at Mathern on 18 April; three on R.Usk at Abergavenny and Peterstone Gout on 19 April; seven at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 22 April; five at Llanwenarth on 23 April; five at Llanfihangel Gobion on 25 April; four on R.Usk at Llanfoist and three at Llandgefedd Res. on 28 April; E.GLAMORGAN: three at Cardiff Bay on 14 April; three at Llwyn-on Res. on 17 April; three at Ogmor on 24 April and five here on 27th; three at Llanishen Res. on 28 April; three on R.Taff near Radyr Weir on 16 May; CARMARTHEN: three at Dredger Jetty on 18 April; three at Kidwelly Quay on 26 April; three at Pembrey harbour on 29 April; PEMBROKE: four on Nevern est. on 20 April; PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION: eight on Teifi est. on 24 April; CEREDIGION: five at Ynyslas on 12 April; four at Aberystwyth on 27 April; five on R.Leri on 4 May; BRECON: three at Llangorse Lake on 3 May; MEIRIONNYDD: max. eight at Llyn Trawsfynydd on 15 May; CAERNARFON: five on Bardsey on 16 April; three on Llyn Dinas on 27 April; three at Aber Geirch on 4 May; ANGLESEY: four at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 17 April; five at Cemlyn on 23 April; four on Alaw est. on 24 April; three west of Wylfa on 8 May; DENBIGH: three at Hanmer Mere on 17 April; four at RSPB Conwy on 23 April and 1 May, and three here on 21 April; three on Clwyd est. on 27 April and 8 May.

Post-breeding and autumn passage counts ≥ 7 : GWENT: eight at Mathern on 15 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: seven on Radyr floodplain on 5 July; 11 on Ogmor est. on 16 Aug.; GOWER: seven at Penclawdd on 12 Aug.; 15 at Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 25 Aug. and >11 here on 11 Sept.; PEMBROKE: eight at Higgon's Well, Cleddau est., on 22 July and nine here on 19 Aug.; 11 on Gann est. on 15 Aug.; PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION: 18 on Teifi est. on 7-10 July and seven here on 3 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 19 at Aberporth on 19 July; eight at Llanon

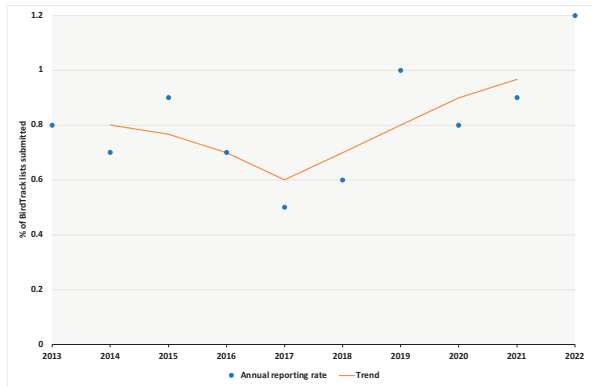
on 1 Aug.; BRECON: 10 at Talybont Res. on 22 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 13 on Alaw est. on 20 July; FLINT: 21 on R.Dee between Garden City and Connah’s Quay NR on 2 July.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* PIBYDD GWYRDD
Regular passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers. Amber WeBS alerts: -48% long-term and -30% medium term, but short-term increase is 93%. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	244	352
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

There is no Wetland Bird Survey trend for Wales, but that for Britain has been falling slowly since its peak at the start of the century. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales is low, but achieved a new high in 2022. Peak passage is in Aug./Sept., and small numbers overwintered, at both coastal and inland sites; note that some individuals occurred in two counties, where an estuary forms the boundary.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Green Sandpiper in Wales 2013-22



Green Sandpiper: max. at main sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	River Usk	1			1			1	5	1			
E.GLAMORGAN	Pendoylan/Peterston	4	4	3	3		2	3	10	7	6	5	5
	Dyffryn Bach	5	1	2				4	4	1			3
	Elsewhere on R. Ely		1						2	3	3		

G Sandpiper: winter records	Jan	Feb	Mar	Min.	Nov	Dec	Min.
GWENT					1	3	3
E.GLAMORGAN (additional)	1		1	2		1	1
GOWER		3		3	1	1	1
CARMARTHEN	3	2	2	5	1	2	3
PEMBROKE	1	5		5	2	2	4
CEREDIGION	2	2	3	3	5	4	5
BRECON					1	2	2
MONTGOMERY	1	1		1	1	1	1
MEIRIONNYDD	1	1		1	1	1	1
CAERNARFON					1		1
ANGLESEY	9	1	1	9	1	1	2
DENBIGH	1			1			
FLINT	4	1	1	4	3	1	3

Counts ≥4 on passage: CARMARTHEN: six at Commissioner’s Bridge, Kidwelly, on 15 Oct.; CEREDIGION: six at RSPB Ynys-hir on 15 Aug., five here on 20 Sept. and seven on 9 Oct.; ANGLESEY: five on Cefni Res. on 24 Sept.; DENBIGH: four at RSPB Conwy on 17 Aug.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS *Tringa flavipes* MELYNGOES BACH
Rare visitor from North America. WBRC: 27 previous records.

CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 10 May, the third county record.

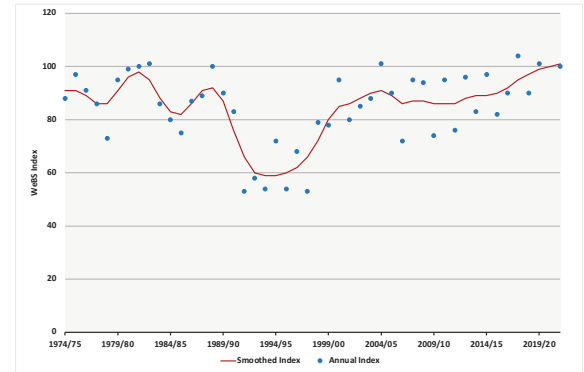
REDSHANK *Tringa totanus* PIBYDD COESGOCH
Localised and declining breeding species, now confined chiefly to saltmarshes. Abundant around the coast in winter, but 52% decline on non-estuarine sites (1997/98-2015/16). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2682	3588
% of BirdTrack lists	11%	14%

Breeding season: 95-100 pairs bred at 10 sites (cf. 117-119 at six sites in 2021). Mean productivity 0.85 chicks/pair where monitored (cf. 0.6 in 2021). GWENT: 20 pairs fledged 18 young (0.9 fledged/pair) at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff); CEREDIGION: 44 pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir, the highest total since 2008; two pairs at Cors Caron; BRECON: two at Llangorse Lake on 29 June; MEIRIONNYDD: three territories at Mochras saltings and one at Penmaenpool; CAERNARFON: possibly bred at Morfa Madryn NR; ANGLESEY: territory at RSPB Cors Ddyga; two at Cemlyn on 8 June and in early July; FLINT: 26 pairs bred in Flintshire part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands (0.8 fledged/pair from 44 pairs across whole site).

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index has made a recovery from the sharp drop in the 1990s, in contrast to the rest of the Britain, which recorded declines. This is likely to reflect the status of breeding populations in different parts of Europe, especially in Iceland from which a greater proportion of the Welsh wintering population derives. The Dee estuary remains the most important site in Britain, where half of the total peak counts were at RSPB Oakenholt Marsh and Connah’s Quay NR. Other North Wales estuaries – Traeth Lafan, Conwy, Foryd and Alaw

Wetland Bird Survey: Redshank in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥300 Redshanks		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	St Brides	200	102	25	31		9	100	262	220	328	200	
E.GLAMORGAN	Rhymney estuary	700		400	207		12	130		300			800
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwrydd	102	125	56	7	1	8	215	555	732	390	67	111
	Llanelli North Dock	9	124							248	300	74	19
	Gwendraeth estuary	41	21	50				244	356	362	350	86	22
PEMBROKE	Cledau estuary	420	421	234	25		5	267	63	312	448	450	678
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	478	357	154	103	15	16	20	410	893	1673	960	1465
	Foryd	171	230	150	30			50	140	170	240	380	261
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	405	391	255	10			11	P	64	29	20	21
DENBIGH	Conwy estuary	340	295	484	250	3	12	259	278	468	421	640	376
	Clwyd estuary	350	163	180	38	2	35	141	270	209	286	246	196
FLINT	Point of Ayr/Talacre	435	329	210	>50			100	7	200	800	c.200	512
	Flint saltmarsh	86	33	185	265				212	630	280		100
	Oakenholt Marsh	220	200	200	200	3	3	2500	4000	3000	3800	400	220
	Connah’s Quay NR	20	20	10	90	1	50	2000	880	5050	3000	50	11

– have all recorded increases over the last 30 years, whereas counts have fallen in the southwest, on the Cleddau, Carmarthen Bay and Burry Inlet, over the same period. The BirdTrack reporting rate recovered to its 2019 levels following two years with disruptive lockdowns.

Count >300 in addition to those in the table. CARMARTHEN: 302 at Lliedi river mouth on 4 Sept.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

PIBYDD GRAEAN

Uncommon passage migrant, principally in the autumn but with a scattering of spring records. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	106	105
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

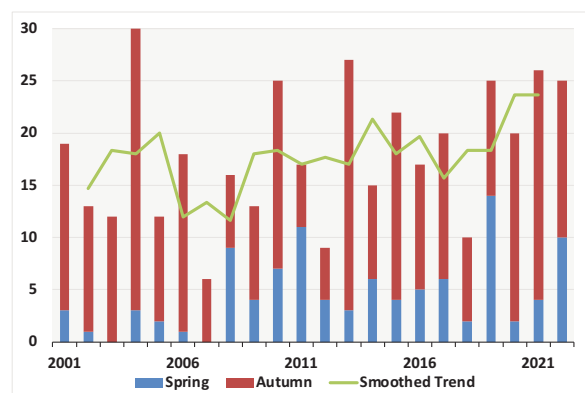
A total of 25, very similar to recent years. Spring passage: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 21 May; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 28-29 April; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 30 April, two here on 4 May, one on 8th and three on 9-10th; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga from 29 April to 4 May; Cemlyn on 3 May.

Autumn passage, singles unless stated:

GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 17-18 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 10-12 Aug.; GOWER: Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 10 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 11-16 Aug. PEMBROKE: Penberi Res. on 7 Aug.; Gann est. on 13-17 Aug. and two here on 14th; Marloes Mere on 17 Aug.; CEREDIGION: Cors Caron on 13-22 Aug.; ANGLESEY: Valley Doors on 8-14 Sept.; DENBIGH: Clwyd est. on 1 Aug.

2021 FLINT, additional record: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 15 Sept.

Wood Sandpipers recorded in Wales, based on site maxima, 2001-22



SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

PIBYDD COESGOCH MANNOG

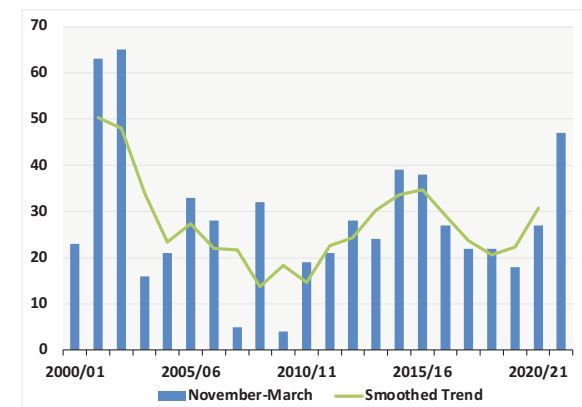
Uncommon but regular passage migrant to coastal counties, mainly in autumn. Although only small numbers overwinter, chiefly in the Burry Inlet and Dee estuary, Wales holds >50% of the British population. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	483	583
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

There is no smoothed trend for the Wetland Bird Survey in Wales, but the annual index for 2021/22 was on a par with recent years, whereas the BirdTrack reporting rate in the last two years was the highest in the last decade. The Dee

estuary, and in particular Connah's Quay NR, remains the most important Welsh site; numbers in the Burry Inlet and Cleddau estuary have fallen, however.

Spotted Redshank recorded in Wales, based on peak site counts during Nov.-March, 2000/01-21/22



Sites with ≥4 Spotted Redshanks		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
FLINT	Oakenholt Marsh	4	7	3					4	1	12	10	11
	Connah's Quay NR						1	9	16	21	23	4	1

Numbers in each county, including those in the table above.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	1	1	1	6			1	1			2	1
E.GLAMORGAN								1				
CARMARTHEN	2	3	1	1				1	3	2	1	2
PEMBROKE		1										
CEREDIGION								1		1		
CAERNARFON								1	1	3	2	
ANGLESEY			1					1				
DENBIGH – all RSPB Conwy	2	2	1	2	1		1	3	2	3	1	2
FLINT	4	7	3			1	14	16	23	23	14	12

2021 FLINT, correction: max. count in Sept. was 19 at Connah's Quay NR.

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

PIBYDD COESWYRDD

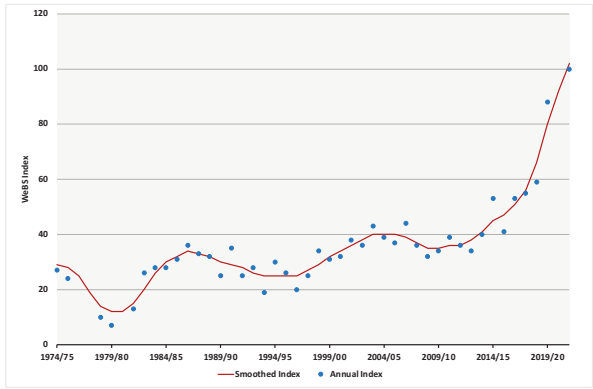
Locally common in coastal areas on passage, chiefly in autumn, and over winter. Scarce inland. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	896	1127
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	4%

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales reached another new high in 2021/22, 183% above its value of just 10 years ago. Driving that growth are a handful of sites: Penclacwydd, Carmarthen Bay, Cleddau

estuary and Traeth Lafan (which set a county record in Oct.), whereas counts on the Dee estuary have fallen. Ten Welsh sites are now of GB importance, although the qualifying threshold is likely to be raised at the next review. The rate of increase here is greater than in England, and in contrast to a decline in non-breeding numbers in Scotland in recent years. The increase in BirdTrack reporting relative to 2021 has returned the rate to its pre-pandemic level.

Wetland Bird Survey: Greenshank in Wales 1974/75-2021/22



Sites with ≥15 Greenshanks		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	22	22	5	7	2	1	58	68	83	52	15	20
	Gwendraeth estuary	5	9	7				13	23	22	21	8	37
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	52	44	45	5	1	1	38	12	38	40	48	51
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd estuary		2	3	1			2		18	9	9	2
CAERNARFON	Foryd	12	13	12	3			8	11	19	25	14	14
	Traeth Lafan	10	20	14	6	2	6	19	28	27	61	21	18
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	9	10	8	7	1	6	12	18	21	17	2	5
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	22	5	5	3	2	1	11	32	42	23	16	7

Min. numbers in each county (including max. site counts above).

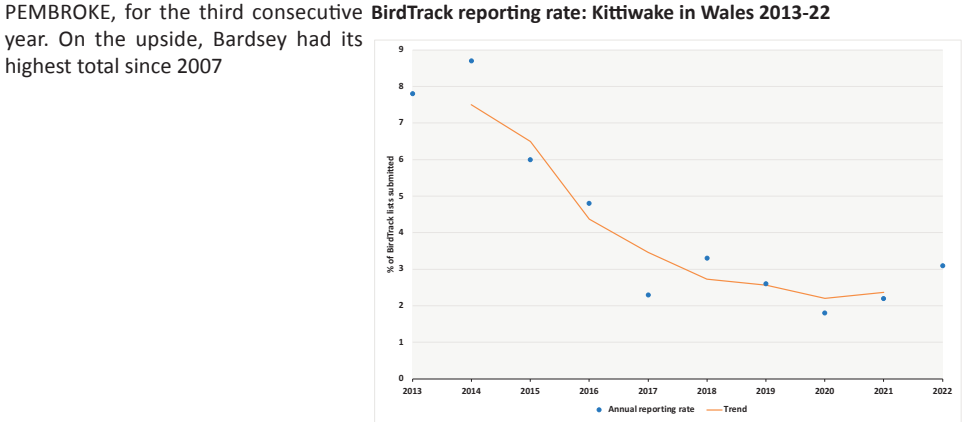
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT				3	3	1		3	3			
E.GLAMORGAN					1	1	1	4	1			
GOWER	7	4	5	1				2	25	4	3	5
CARMARTHEN	29	33	15	10	3	2	71	91	110	73	25	59
PEMBROKE	57	46	48	8	2	2	39	18	41	42	49	57
CEREDIGION	1	1	1	2	2			12	14	12	7	6
BRECON				1			2					
MONTGOMERY	2								2			
MEIRIONNYDD		1	3	1					23	14	13	2
CAERNARFON	28	36	29	9	2	6	32	40	72	88	35	35
ANGLESEY	21	14	11	10	2	6	14	36	31	45	8	14
DENBIGH	6	2	3			1	2	4	6	1	1	5
FLINT	23	6	8	4	2	1	14	36	46	28	20	8

KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* GWYLAN GOESDDU
Declining breeder in coastal areas from Gower to Caernarfonshire (4782 pairs, -34% since 2000). Large numbers occur offshore on passage. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	576	757
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	3%

Breeding counts: 3148 AON (cf. 3288 at the same sites when last counted, -4%). Increases at several colonies were outweighed by further declines on the Little Orme and Puffin Island and none bred on the Castlemartin peninsula,

PEMBROKE, for the third consecutive year. On the upside, Bardsey had its highest total since 2007



Numbers of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	Previous count (year)
PEMBROKE	St Margaret's Island	226	271 (2021)
	Skomer	1544	1439 (2021)
	Ramsey	46	51 (2021)
	Grassholm	45	30 (2018)
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	230	181 (2021)
	Great Orme	780	898 (2021)
	Little Orme	95	180 (2021)
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	11	10 (2021)
	Puffin Island	148	203 (2021)
	Ynys Moelfre	23	c.25 (2021)

Other breeding sites. GOWER: bred on Mumbles Pier (max. count 566 on 27 June but not count of AON); CEREDIGION: New Quay; ANGLESEY: bred near Traeth Lligwy.

Nest productivity (young/ breeding pair). PEMBROKE: 0.63 on Skomer (cf. 0.79 in 2021) (Newman *et al.* 2022); no chicks from 22 nests monitored on

Ramsey; CAERNARFON: 0.69 on Bardsey (cf. 1.48 in 2021) and just slightly below the 10-year mean.

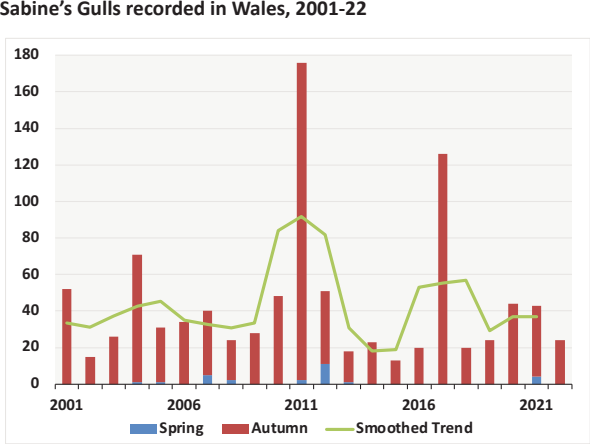
Notable non-breeding records: E.GLAMORGAN: 60 from Irongate Pt, Porthcawl, on 18 Feb.; 36 off Lavernock Pt on 14 May and 60 here on 9 Nov.; GOWER: 500 passed Port Eynon Pt on 29 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: 52 off Penclacwydd following Storm Eunice on 19 Feb.; 150 off Cefn Sidan on 15 May and c.200 here on 26 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 250 roosted in Monkstone Bay on 3 Jan.; CEREDIGION: 1000 passed Mwnt on 21 Aug. and 8000 here on 1 Oct.; BRECON: adult at Llangorse Lake on 26 Nov.; RADNOR: Craig Goch Res. on 7 April; MONTGOMERY: one dead at Llandinam on 5 March following storms; CAERNARFON: 440 passed Aberdaron on 20 Aug., 1785 here on 1 Oct. and 300 on 22 Nov.; 400 off Aber Dwyfor on 28 Aug.; 1500 off Criccieth on 22 Sept.

Kittiwake: daily max. at watchpoints		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Mumbles Pier/Head	1	140	350	381	530	566	500	373	446	47	4	
PEMBROKE	Skokholm			174	83	214	203	863	681	1381	241	623	500
	Strumble Head				20	100	100	500	800	5000	5000	2000	2
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			40	727	350	300	400	4000	2164	1900	30	
	Great Orme	2	10	220	300	300	250	300	200	20	1	3	2
	Little Orme	28	147	8	50	25		40					
ANGLESEY	Point Lynas					6	P	40		255	900	750	
	RSPB South Stack	1	13	40	65	127	150	P	P	45	19	19	4
	Cemlyn to Wylfa	20				6	9		855	6	1420	2100	

SABINE'S GULL *Xema sabini* GWYLAN SABINE
Uncommon visitor to the coast in autumn, numbers vary according to the frequency of westerly gales. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	13	12
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A below average total, of which more than 60% were from Pembrokeshire. Singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: Sker Pt on 10 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 3 and 22 Aug., 6, 9, 14 and 15 Sept., two here on 26 Sept. and singles on 27th and 1, 6, 7 and 8 Oct.; CEREDIGION: Mwnt on 9 Sept.; CAERNARFON: juv. off Bardsey on 16 Sept., adult here on 26th, and juvs on 1 and 2 Oct.; juv. off Criccieth on 11 Nov. and presumed same at Black Rock Sands on 13-15th; ANGLESEY: Bull Bay on 27 Sept.; Trearddur Bay on 6 Oct. and two at Cemlyn on same date.



BONAPARTE'S GULL *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* GWYLAN BONAPARTE
Rare visitor from North America. BBRC: 29 previous records.

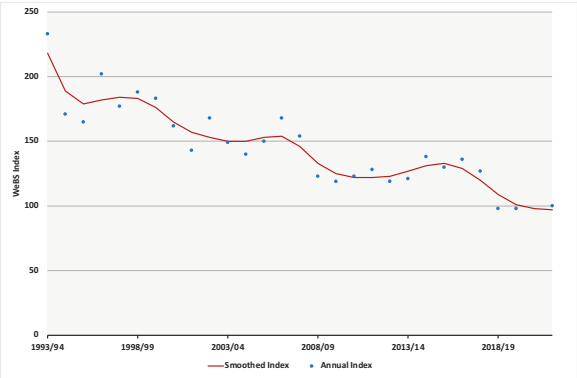
E.GLAMORGAN: 3CY at Cardiff Bay from 29 Jan. to 13 March, also at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 9 and 12 March, considered same as here in spring 2021; adult at Cardiff Bay on 23 April, considered same as here in 2019 and 2021; CARMARTHEN: 3CY at Sandy WP on 27 April; PEMBROKE: 1CY at Llys-y-fran Res. on 25 Nov.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* GWYLAN BENDDU
Local and declining breeding species (1670 pairs, -16% since 2000). Abundant and widespread passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6441	7354
% of BirdTrack lists	29%	33%

Breeding (AON unless stated) and productivity (fledged young/breeding pair): CARMARTHEN: 407 AON at Penclacwydd; also bred at Sandy WP and Penclacwydd; BRECON: pair fledged young at Llangasty; MONTGOMERY: c.100 pairs fledged c.150 young (1.5/pair) at Llyn Coed-y-dinas; 5 AON at Llyn y Tarw; MEIRIONNYDD: 10 AON on Llyn Oerfel; CAERNARFON: 28 AON at Morfa Dinlle; 5 AON at Morfa Madryn NR; ANGLESEY: 250-275 pairs at Cemlyn fledged 375 young (1.36-1.5/nest); 8 AON at a site on the west of the island; min. three AON on Llyn Traffwl; DENBIGH: three fledged at Fenn's Moss; FLINT: 733 AON fledged 1250 young (1.71/nest) at Shotton Steelworks; also bred at Connah's Quay NR (at least 80 young hatched, cf. eight hatched from three pairs in 2021) and RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales declined by 56% since 1993/94, further entrenching its position on the Red List, and this was before the impacts of HPAI became apparent in winter 2022/23. The BirdTrack reporting rate was higher than the previous two years, but remains lower than the 2013-15 mean.



Max. monthly counts at sites holding ≥1000 birds at least once during the year.

Sites with ≥1000 Black-headed Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nash & Goldcliff Pill	23	400	12	16	28	150	550	1223	1673	1112	50	65
	Peterstone Wentlooge	65		300	4		460	1100	1350	1900	550	81	245
	Caldicot Pill	104		54		2		914	1726	596	1198	60	150
	Undy	128		168				1000		651	1500	51	138
	St Brides	200	240	96			120	800	1310	663	514	589	
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	600	1450	1200	1000	10	11	310	360	120	510	410	400
CARMARTHEN	Gwendraeth estuary	104	20	100	10			100	25	541	1550	81	116
PEMBROKE	Llys-y-fran Reservoir		1200	1							30	2000	550
	Cleddau estuary	1085	922	212						1658	1193	819	570
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	1400	1400	1200						50		1100	1100
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	106	135	43	85	140	630	800	2819	1407	554	110	27
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	117	1380	219	10	10	15	32	12	66	50	33	15
DENBIGH	Conwy estuary	>400	c.500	500	62	50	288	1971	1080	860	376	870	188
	Clwyd estuary	841	844	c.500	c.60	314	344	1000	338	443	223	226	86
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	2300	c.500	c.500	500	265	312	1200	1150	973	320	300	340
	Flint Marsh	96		23	70	73	51	1545	325	400	42		60

Counts ≥1000 elsewhere. E.GLAMORGAN: 1000 off Lavernock Pt on 19 Feb.; 1500 on Rhymney est. on 16 July; CARMARTHEN: c.1000 east at Cefn Sidan on 11 Aug.; CEREDIGION: >2500 at Capel Bangor on 28 Jan.; FLINT: 1500 at Holt on 23 Feb.; 1000 at Ffynngongroyw on 15 July.

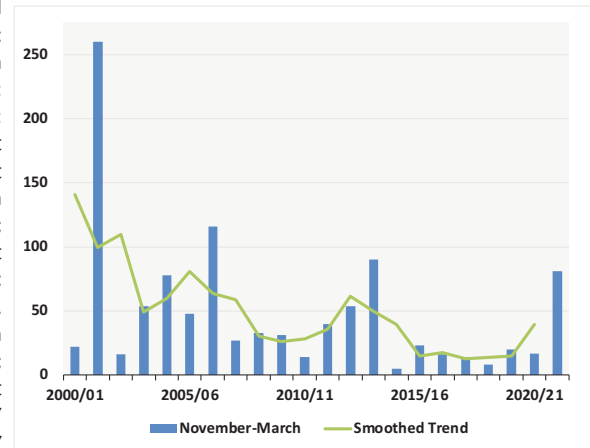
LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus* GWYLAN FECHAN
Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor to the coast. Rare inland. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	90	187
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The number of Little Gulls overwintering within sight of the Welsh coast was the highest for eight years. The total for the year was a minimum of 173, which included 21 off Strumble Head on 18 November. The record at an inland gull colony in Denbighshire was unusual, as was the long-staying bird in Flintshire. There were also several mid-summer records. All were single birds unless stated:

First winter period/spring migration: GWENT: St Brides on 22 Feb.; E.GLAMORGAN: Summerhouse Pt on 17 Feb.; adult in Cardiff Bay on 19-22 Feb., 3 and 11-17 March (two on 16th), and 2CY here on 8-12 April;

Kenfig NNR on 18-23 Feb.; Irongate Pt, Porthcawl, on 20 Feb.; adult and 2CY on Ogmor est. on 21 Feb.; Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 23 March; GOWER: Loughor est. on 19-22 Feb., max. seven on 21st; Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 23 Feb.; two at Castell-du on 19 March; CARMARTHEN: adult and two 2CY at Loughor bridge on 21 Feb.; 2CY at Bynea on 22 Feb. and Penclacwydd on 24th; 2CY at Sandy WP on 23-26 March; adult at Ferryside on 2 June; 1CY at Penclacwydd on 2 June; PEMBROKE: Ramsey on 4 Feb.; 3CY on Nevern est. on 14-15 Feb.; two adults at Amroth on 19 Feb.; Martin's Haven on 23 June; CEREDIGION: adult and 3 2CYs at Aberystwyth on 19 Feb., adult and 2CY here on 22nd and 2CY on 23rd; two 2CY at Llanrhystud and an adult at Aberaeron on 19 Feb.; two at Mwnt on 19 June; BRECON: two at Llangorse Lake on 1 April, singles on 2nd and 7th, two on 8th, one on 11th and two on 23rd; RADNOR: two at Llanbwchlllyn on 2 April; MEIRIONNYDD: two at Broadwater on 20 Jan.; CAERNARFON: Mynydd Mawr on 3 Jan.; up to nine off Criccieth on 20-21 Jan.; Rhos Pt on 24 Feb.; ANGLESEY: Trearddur Bay on 2 Jan.; Beddmanarch Bay on 18 Jan.; Benllech on 30 Jan.; 2CY at Cemlyn on 30 May; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 30 March; in the Black-headed Gull colony at Fenn's Moss on 21 April; FLINT: 2CY at Connah's Quay NR from 7 March to 3 May (presumed same as at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands).



Autumn migration/second winter period: GWENT: 1CY at Goldcliff Pt on 5 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: two 1CY on Ogmor est. on 8-11 Nov., one until 15th; Kenfig NNR on 17 Nov.; Sker Pt on 20 Nov.; Porthcawl on 23 Nov.; GOWER: 1CY at Blackpill on 19 July; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 14 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 6 and 26 Sept., two on 6 Nov. and one on 24th, and one on 4 Dec.; 47 passed Strumble Head (39 1CY) between 27 Sept. and 24 Nov. (max. 21 on 18 Nov.); Amroth on 7 Nov.; Llys-y-fran Res. on 27 Nov.; CEREDIGION: adult at Mwnt on 1 Oct., 1CY here on 6th and 8th, and 3 Nov.; 1CY at Tanybwlic on 27 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: two at Tonfanau on 6 July; Dwyrdd est. on 29 July; Aberdyfi on 12 Aug.; CAERNARFON: Dwyfor est. on 28 July; Bardsey on 14 and 29 Aug., two on 1 and 9 Oct. and singles on 6th, 14th and 15th; Llandudno Bay on 27 Sept.; two at Porth Ysgaden and three at Aberdaron on 1 Oct.; Porth Oer on 17 Oct. and 3 Nov.; five off Rhos Pt on 17 Nov. and nine here on 18th; Criccieth on 10 Nov., three here on 26th and two on 27-28th; ANGLESEY: 1CY at Pt Lynas on 21 Aug., 28 Sept., 1 Oct., seven on 4 Nov. and one on 18th; from a boat off Dulas on 9 Oct.; Beaumaris on 13 Nov.; Cemlyn on 18 Nov.

MEDITERRANEAN GULL *Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*

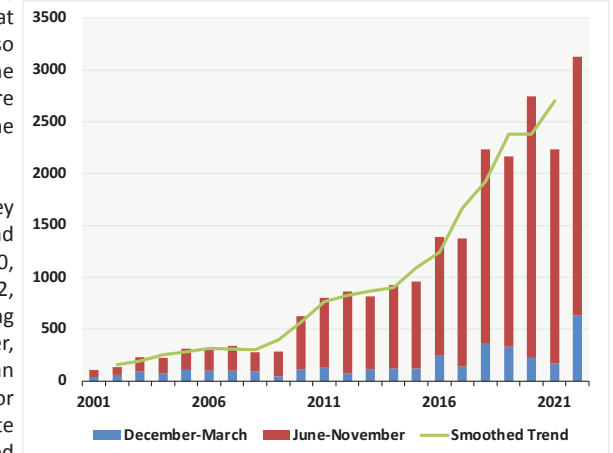
GWYLAN MOR Y CANOLDIR

Increasingly common visitor, chiefly to coastal counties, especially in late summer. Small numbers summer (RBBP: 8-9 pairs in 2021) and occasionally breed. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	717	918
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	4%

Breeding: CARMARTHEN: 3 AON at Penclacwydd but none successful; ANGLESEY: pair fledged two young at Cemlyn and a second pair present (also six 1CY on 18 May); FLINT: some breeding birds at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands were seen in Wales, but the six nests were all in England.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales (not shown) had increased exponentially up to 2019/20, but was 82% lower in winter 2021/22, resulting in the smoothed trend falling back to its 2016/17 value. However, some sites that host Mediterranean Gulls are not counted in the survey, or at least not coinciding with the late summer influx, and these are included in the chart shown here. Notable are the increased numbers in the first half of the year. The count of 1250 at Llanon, CEREDIGION, on 2 August was the largest ever in Wales, 508 at Pembrey harbour on 17 July was a record count for Carmarthenshire, and 308 off Bardsey, CAERNARFON, on 11 Oct. was a record island count. The BirdTrack reporting rate was its highest since 2015.



Sites with ≥30 Mediterranean Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Porthcawl to Rest Bay	17	22	17			2	8	9	18	90	31	
GOWER	Bracelet Bay	44	25	6	1		5	120	108	60	101	61	54
	Blackpill	45	2	3				40	277	70	84	56	2
	Port Eynon	14	1					21	41	105	118	122	23
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	1		3	7	6	137	25					
	Burry Port/Pembrey			1			83	508	315	27	5		1
PEMBROKE	Nevern estuary	2	5					3	2	2	50	5	3
	Skokholm							4	52	29	23	138	117
	Gann estuary	35	47	18		1	9	10	3	17	23	20	13
	Fishguard harbour	5	10					4	6	19	17	53	13
CEREDIGION	Cardigan Bay coast							55	1250	>500	165	<10	<10
CAERNARFON	Porthdinllaen						2		19	>150	4		
	Porth Ysgaden							24	18	3	65		
	Bardsey						2	18	26	5	307		
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	1	2	1			1	43	30	53	20	2	15

Counts ≥30 elsewhere. PEMBROKE: 199 passed Strumble Head, max. 98 on 4 Nov. (the same date as 138 passed Skokholm); CAERNARFON: 70 at Pwllheli on 30 Aug.; 65 at Porth Ysgaden on 25 Oct.

Inland records: E.GLAMORGAN: Caerphilly Castle on 23 and 30 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: Cilsan Bridge on 22 Feb.

COMMON GULL *Larus canus*

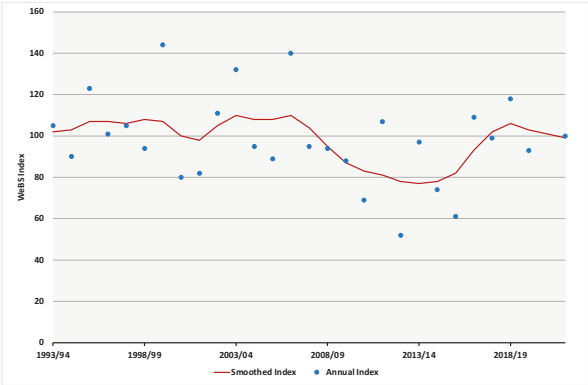
GWYLAN GWEUNYDD

Fairly common winter and passage visitor, especially to northeast Wales. Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1358	1547
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	7%

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales has recovered from a dip in the 2010s, and while the BirdTrack reporting rate returned to its 2019 level, it was at the lower end of its range for the previous decade. Once again, the largest counts were in northeast Wales in late winter, but the September count at Traeth Lafan was far higher than usual for the site. Small numbers summer in North Wales, but less usual were singles on the Teifi est. in June and over the summit of Pen-y-fan, BRECON, on 4 June.

Wetland Bird Survey: Common Gull in Wales 1993/94-2021/22



Sites with ≥250 Common Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GOWER	Broughton Bay	370	21	147							47		
CARMARTHEN	Cefn Sidan	400	641	51									500
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	300	10	50	2		1		1		11	10	600
MEIRIONNYDD	Arthro estuary		371	35	12						2	38	13
	Broadwater/Dysynni	351	175						1		2	103	448
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	200		8	220	55	26	160	612	1200	35	5	3
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary	>200	127	c.300	68	6	5	25	41	47	30	85	25
FLINT	Gronant	1100	>2000	75	243		2	60	40	44	115	600	26

Counts ≥250 elsewhere. CARMARTHEN: 750 on Gwendraeth est. on 21 March; PEMBROKE: 302 on Gann est. on 5 April; ANGLESEY: 420 at Traeth Dulas on 28 Jan.; DENBIGH: >1200 at Llanddulas on 26 Feb.; FLINT: >300 at Ffynnongroyw on 16 Jan.; 300 at Cilcain in Jan. and 1100 here on 7 March; c.800 at Flint on 10 Nov.; c.300 at Alltarni on 14 Nov.

2021 FLINT, additional record: 5000 roosted between Flint Pt and Bagillt on 14 Dec.

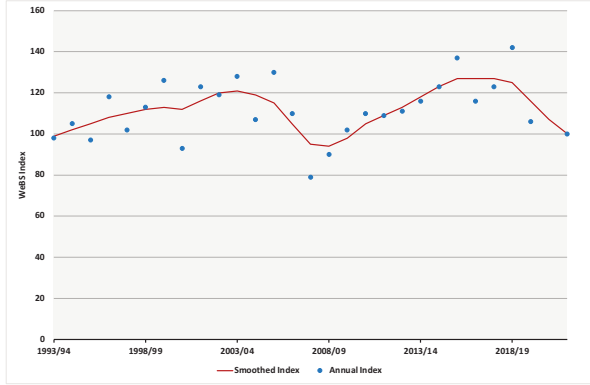
GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus marinus*

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FAWR

Widely distributed and increasing breeder (648 pairs, +49% since 2000). Fairly common and widespread along coast in winter. Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3485	3761
% of BirdTrack lists	16%	17%

Wetland Bird Survey: Great Black-backed Gull in Wales 1993/94-2021/22



While counts of non-breeding birds (WeBS) have remained stable and the small Welsh breeding population has increased (Pritchard *et al.* 2021), this is in contrast to the World population which has fallen by 48% since 1985. The largest reductions are on the eastern seaboard of North America, Greenland and Iceland. The species is being considered as globally Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List (Langlois Lopez *et al.* 2023).

Breeding colony counts: 353 AON (cf. 350 in 2021). Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Numbers of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	2021 count
PEMBROKE	Caldey	7	8
	St Margaret's Island	63	67
	Castlemartin peninsula	2	3
	Skokholm	78	80
	Skomer	114	103
	Middleholm	10	nc
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	4	2
	Ynysoedd Gwylan	41	51
ANGLESEY	Llyn Maelog	1	0
	The Skerries	38	31
	RSPB Valley Wetlands	3	3
	RSPB South Stack	2	2

Other breeding sites: GOWER: 1 AON at Port Talbot steelworks; PEMBROKE: bred on Grassholm and Ramsey; ANGLESEY: nested on Puffin Island; single nest on North Stack; DENBIGH: three pairs bred at Llyn Brenig; FLINT: pair nested on an industrial unit in Rhyl.

Nest productivity (chicks/ breeding pair): PEMBROKE: 102 fledged on Skokholm (1.3) (Brown and Eagle 2022); 1.64 on Skomer (cf. 1.68 in 2021)

(Newman *et al.* 2022); CAERNARFON: 7 fledged on Bardsey (1.75); ANGLESEY: 42 fledged on The Skerries (1.11).

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for 2021/22 was its lowest since 2008/09, and although the BirdTrack reporting rate was higher than the two previous lockdown-affected years, the trend across the last decade has also been downward.

Sites with ≥30 Great Black-backed Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm (roost counts)				48	54	49	80	68	95	46	17	18
	Blucks Pool/Freshwater W									115	150	5	
	Gann estuary	60	70	6	21	1	2	13	94	14	23	22	60
	Nevern estuary	5	23	23	7	12	10	8	38	9	5	6	12
	Strumble Head	16	2	30		4	2	4	17	8	10	6	1
	Skomer			3	40	100	40	200	3	134			
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	32		20	2		19		2	10	86	30	8
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	28	4	6	6	2	6	6	35	22	24	15	5
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary	7	6	7	8	9	10	18	15	26	35	16	9
FLINT	Gronant	37	17	5	12	6	8	11	17	31	17	13	16
	Point of Ayr	13	27	2					3	30	30	2	3
	CQNR/Oakenholt	9	6	5	6	3	6	12	30	9	5	8	2

Counts ≥30 elsewhere. PEMBROKE: c.50 at Wiseman’s Bridge on 22 Feb.; 35 at Marloes on 29 April; 45 at Smalls lighthouse on 23 June; 80 at Dale airfield on 28 Aug.; 102 at St Davids Head on 30 Oct.; 100 at Little Haven on 25 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 52 at Ynyslas on 3 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 30 at Ynysgain on 27 Sept.; 32 at Rhos Pt on 17 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 45-50 at RSPB South Stack between 30 April and 5 May, and 30 here on 27 May; 200 on Puffin Island on 5 May and 50 here on 13 June; 30 off Amlwch on 24 July.

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus*

GWYLAN Y GOGLEDD

Uncommon but regular visitor to coastal areas of Wales, chiefly in mid-winter. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

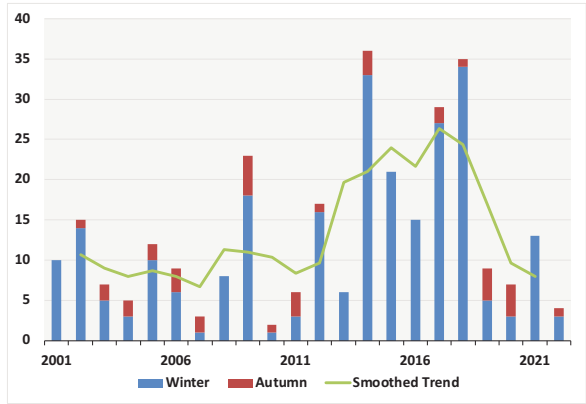
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	32	4
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Glaucous Gulls recorded in Wales, 2001-22

The fewest records since 2010 and it increasingly looks as though the boom years of 2014-18 were the exception. Note that the winter period on the chart starts in December.

First winter period: PEMBROKE: 2CY at Skokholm on 20 March.

Second winter period: PEMBROKE: 1CY at Llys-y-fran Res. from 27 Nov. to 31 Dec.



Iceland Gull (Jonathan Bull)

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucoides*

GWYLAN YR ARCTIG

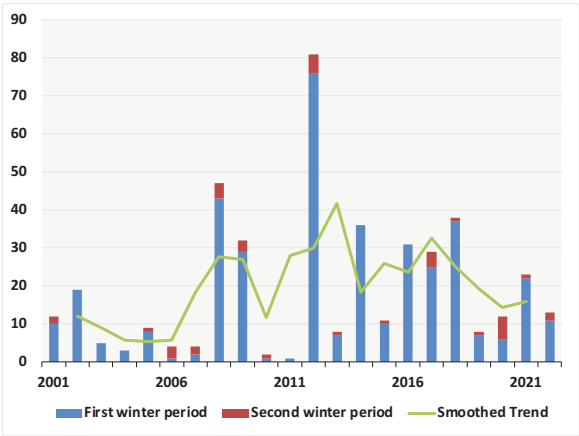
Uncommon and irregular winter visitor to coastal areas. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	263	227
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

There has been no strong trend in Iceland Gulls recorded in Wales, 2001-22 numbers since around 2008, but 2022 was below par. The Caernarfonsire bird was late to depart in spring. All were single 2CY birds unless stated:

First winter period: E.GLAMORGAN: adult at Sker Pt on 4 March; 2CY in Cardiff Bay during 6-25 March; CARMARTHEN: 3CY at Cilsan Bridge on 22 Feb.; PEMBROKE: at least two at Llys-y-fran Res. in Jan. to 9 Feb., perhaps same at Uzmaston on 6 Jan. and Treffynnon Marsh on 17 Feb.; Nevern est. on 29 Jan.; PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION: adult at Teifi est. on 1 and 21-22 Jan., 8 and 10 Feb., 20 March, subadult here on 2-3 and 24 April; CEREDIGION: subadult at Tanybwllch on 18 Feb.; CAERNARFON: 2CY on the Little Orme from 2021 to 1 May, and a 3CY with it on 21 Feb.; presumed same 2CY on Great Orme on 5-22 May; Llyn Bach on 20-21 Feb.

Second winter period: PEMBROKE: 1CY at Fishguard on 10 Nov.; 1CY at Llys-y-fran Res. from 27 Nov. to 31 Dec.



HERRING GULL *Larus argentatus*

GWYLAN PENWAIG

Declining breeder on natural nest sites (9815 pairs, -23% since 2000) but increasing on buildings (13,766 pairs). Widespread in winter, including inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022	Coastal colony breeding counts: 3505 AON (cf. 3657 in 2021, -4%). Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.
No of BirdTrack records	11559	11553	
% of BirdTrack lists	54%	54%	

Numbers of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	2021 count
PEMBROKE	Caldey	1736	1950
	Castlemartin peninsula	133	174
	Middleholm	43	nc
	Skokholm	309	305
CAERNARFON	Skomer	266	271
	Bardsey	378	337
	Ynys Gwylan Fawr	42	57
ANGLESEY	The Skerries	641	563

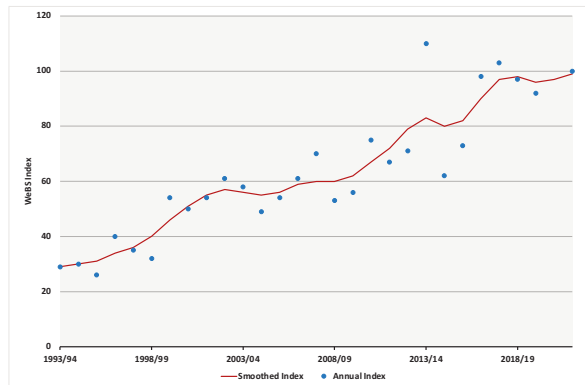
Nest productivity (young/breeding pair): PEMBROKE: 213 fledged on Skokholm (0.69) (Brown and Eagle 2022); 0.79 on Skomer (cf. 0 in 2021) was the highest since 2012 (Newman *et al.* 2022); CAERNARFON: 78 fledged from a sample of 124 AON on Bardsey (0.63); min. 40 young from 42 nests on Ynys

Gwylan-fawr (0.95); ANGLESEY: 153 fledged on The Skerries (0.24).

The only comparable assessment of rooftop nests was at Pembroke Dock Industrial Estate, PEMBROKE, where 84 AON were recorded (*cf.* 64 in 2019). A survey of Port Talbot steelworks, GOWER, recorded 142 AON. Rooftop locations are only reported here when surveys are undertaken.

Other breeding records away from buildings: GWENT: seven nests at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff); E.GLAMORGAN: min. three pairs at Nash Pt; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd and Gilman Pt; PEMBROKE: Strumble Head, Grassholm, Ramsey, Dinas Head, Aber Rhigian, Cat Rock, and Lydstep Pt; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Llyn Trawsfynydd; CAERNARFON: 11 AON at Pen-y-clip; two fledged from one nest at Morfa Madryn NR; 1 AON at Morfa Dinlle; ANGLESEY: 37 AON at RSPB South Stack (not full site count); 8 AON at Porth y Pribys; nests at Porth Eilian, Traeth Lligwy, Trearddur Bay and islands in Menai Strait; DENBIGH: 6 AON in Llanddulas Quarry; bred at Llyn Brenig; FLINT: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands.

Wetland Bird Survey: Herring Gull in Wales 1993/94-2021/22



Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales had increased steadily until 2017/18, since when it has stabilised. The recent trend in the BirdTrack reporting rate is similar.

Sites with ≥1000 Herring Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Flat Holm	140	30	500	1000	1500	1000	250	50	3	2	1	
PEMBROKE	Llys-y-fran Reservoir	11	3	12						2	14	3	3000
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	700	9	200	300	50	99	9	30	226	2100	1800	68
BRECON	Pontsticill Reservoir	2630									560		1600
	Llangorse Lake	95	90	450						5		1750	130
FLINT	Gronant	844	1540	454	265	461	401	650	528	332	458	c.200	169
	Point of Ayr	74	6149	782			700	1000	400	200	610		56

Counts ≥1000 elsewhere. E.GLAMORGAN: 1250 west over Pyle on 30 Jan. and >1500 here on 19 Feb.; 1300 fed in Rest Bay on 12 Sept.; GOWER: 3000 roosted on Neath est. in Jan.; 1250 west over Llanmihangel on 30 Jan.; CEREDIGION: 2000 at Ynylas on 10 July; DENBIGH: 863 on Clwyd est. on 22 Feb.

CASPIAN GULL *Larus cachinnans*

GWYLAN BONTAIDD

Rare visitor from eastern Europe and central Asia. WBRC: 19 previous records.

E.GLAMORGAN: 2CY at Cardiff Bay, sporadically from 14 Jan. to 11 March, and a 1CY here on 21 Aug.; PEMBROKE: adult at Gann est. on 23-26 Dec.; DENBIGH: 1CY at Gresford Flash on 27 Dec.

Not included above were 2CYs at Caerleon, Gwent, on 20 Jan. and at Cardiff Bay, E.Glamorgan, from 21 Nov. to 8 Dec. that were considered to be hybrids.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus michahellis*

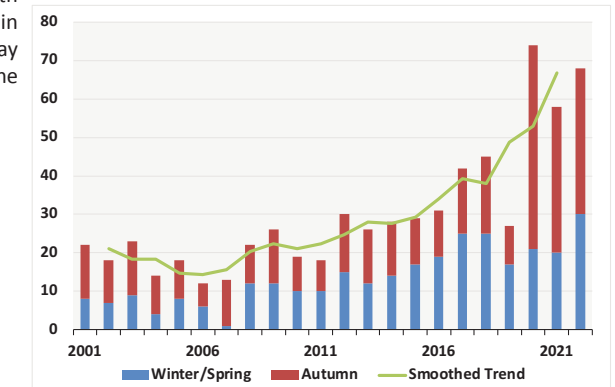
GWYLAN GOESFELEN

Uncommon and irregular autumn/winter visitor to coastal areas, especially East Glamorgan and Gower. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	82	95
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The numbers recorded seem to have stabilised following a decade of growth in the 2010s. Most records were in South Wales, especially in Cardiff Bay where the count in November was the largest ever recorded in Wales.

Yellow-legged Gulls recorded in Wales, based on largest count in each county per season, 2001-22



Yellow-legged Gull: monthly totals		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT									2	1			
E.GLAMORGAN	Cardiff Bay	5	3	5	1	2	3	3				14	3
	Cosmeston Lakes CP	1		1		5		1		1		1	
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	1		1		1	1		1		1	1	1
	elsewhere	1	2	1				2	1			2	2
GOWER		5	5					1	1	1			
CARMARTHEN		1		1				1	5	3	6	6	4
PEMBROKE		10	6		1			1	2	3	7	7	6
BRECON		1	1	1				1			1	2	1
MEIRIONNYDD									1				
CAERNARFON					1				1		1		
ANGLESEY										1			
DENBIGH					1								1
FLINT								1	2				1

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus*

GWYLAN GEFNDDU FACH

Declining breeder on natural sites (13,084 pairs, -45% since 2000), but increasing on buildings (10,748 pairs). Occurs on smaller numbers on passage and in winter. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6063	5797
% of BirdTrack lists	29%	29%

Coastal breeding counts: 10,542 AON is just less than 1% lower (*cf.* 10,634) than at the same sites in 2021. The Skokholm total was the lowest since 1945, and has fallen by 44% since 2013 (Brown and Eagle 2022). Numbers

increased on Bardsey following last year's record low total and remained 12% below the 10-year mean, but there was a 16% increase on Flat Holm. Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Number of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	2021 count
E.GLAMORGAN	Flat Holm	1691	1460
PEMBROKE	Caldey	415	511
	St Margaret's Island	47	25
	Castlemartin peninsula	9	15
	Skokholm	833	935
	Middleholm	5	nc
	Skomer	7262	7412
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	159	102
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	4	7
	The Skerries	122	167

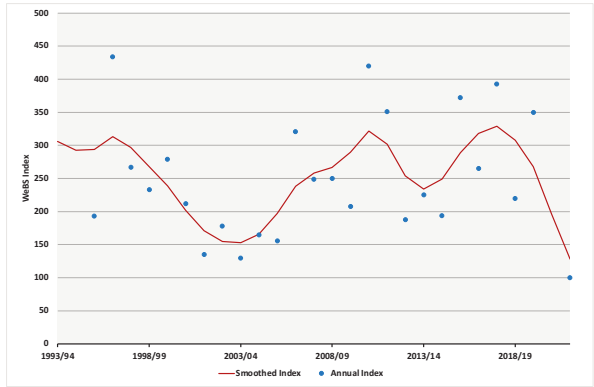
Other breeding sites away from buildings: PEMBROKE: Ramsey and Grassholm; MEIRIONNYDD: possibly bred among Herring Gulls at Llyn Trawsfynydd; CAERNARFON: 1 AON on Ynys Gwylan Fawr; ANGLESEY: Puffin Island; DENBIGH: Llyn Brenig; FLINT: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands.

Nest productivity (chicks/ breeding pair): PEMBROKE: 441 fledged on Skokholm (0.53, cf. 0.89 in 2021) (Brown and Eagle 2022); CAERNARFON: 40 fledged from a sample of 117 nests on Bardsey (0.34), 18% below the 10-year mean; ANGLESEY: 12 fledged on The Skerries (0.1).

The only comparable assessment of rooftop nests was at Pembroke Dock Industrial Estate, PEMBROKE, where 38 AON were recorded (cf. 27 in 2019). Rooftop locations are only reported here when surveys are undertaken.

Wetland Bird Survey: Lesser Black-backed Gull in Wales 1993/94-2021/22

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index was 71% below its previous annual value, in 2019/20, and the lowest in its 28 years. The BirdTrack reporting rate has been falling for several years, and unlike many other species, did not recover from its levels of 2020 and 2021. Llys-y-fran Reservoir, PEMBROKE, remains the most important site by some margin, with up to 7000 roosting, but the five-year average is 40% lower than 20 years ago, as are peak counts on the Cleddau estuary in the same county. The November count in Flintshire was far higher than is typical on the Welsh side of the Dee estuary.



Sites with ≥200 Lsr Black-backed Gulls		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	Cosmeston Lakes CP	70	135	205	184	150	86	65	70	52			31
	Cardiff Bay	80	100	90	90	80	100	250	260	140	100	80	60
	Flat Holm	10	15	1000	2000	2000	4000	3000	150	1	2		
	Llanishen/Lisvane Res.	90	70	90	135	111	50	160	300	60	51	98	100
CARMARTHEN	Llyn Pencarreg	5						8	490	48	600	600	
PEMBROKE	Llys-y-fran Reservoir	5000	2500	700	115			50			1500	7000	4000
	Skomer			1	400	7	200	750		1			
	Skokholm			969	750	650	330	490	239	50	5	27	10
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	49		99	49		49	9	1	6	210	56	5
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	1500	850	320	8	90	380	350	35	1800	113	105	2000
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			83	303	255	200	80	95	19	107		
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	45	30	15	54	30	55	40	87	36	90	1050	140

Counts ≥200 elsewhere. CARMARTHEN: 205 following a plough at Cyngordy on 13 July; PEMBROKE: 500 on the Gann est. on 29 Jan.; 210 at Llanrhian on 10 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 200 at Silian on 30 Nov.; RADNOR: 248 on Llynheilyn on 14 June.

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne caspia* MOR-WENNOL GAWRAIDD
Rare visitor, breeding no closer than the northern Baltic Sea. BBRC: 13 previous records.

GWENT: 3CY+ at West Pill, Undy, on 14 July.

SANDWICH TERN *Thalasseus sandvicensis* MOR-WENNOL BIGDDU
Passage migrant to most coastal areas. One established breeding site (max. 2650 AON in 2015). Scarce inland. Wales Amber-listed.

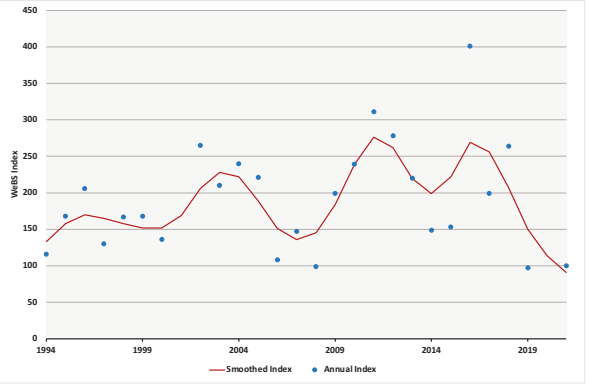
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	909	845
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	3%

Breeding numbers and productivity (young/AON): ANGLESEY: 2200-2400 AON at Cemlyn (cf. 1901 in 2021) fledged 1700-1900 young (0.71-0.86); in addition, young birds of mixed ages were seen on the Inland Sea in late

summer, where it is presumed they bred; FLINT: two pairs displayed and exchanged fish at RSPB Point of Ayr for several days in June.

Wetland Bird Survey: Sandwich Tern in Wales 1993/94-2021/22

Non-breeding: Sandwich Terns from Wales' only colony vacated Cemlyn prior to the spread of HPAI through the Irish Sea, but other sites to the north and east were not so fortunate. The impact of the virus in Scottish and Cumbrian colonies may have contributed to the Wetland Bird Survey smoothed index reaching a new low, but it had also been unusually low in 2019. By contrast, there has been no strong trend in the BirdTrack reporting rate.



Sandwich Tern: max. at main sites		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
CARMARTHEN	Pembrey harbour	10		1	128	370	250	2
PEMB/CERE	Teifi estuary	1	1	6	56	56	7	
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	7		2	30	1200	45	
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater/Tonfanau	27			42	150	32	
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	402	118	9	100	110	40	1
	Rhos Point	19	136		173	458	204	60
	Bardsey	4	3	1	2	32	104	1
DENBIGH	Clwyd estuary		c.100	67	381	421	>50	2
FLINT	Point of Ayr		10	10	600	10	>20	
	Mostyn	16	10			40	70	
	Gronant	8	5	13	c.75	70	c.200	

Counts ≥50 elsewhere. CARMARTHEN: c.200 off Cefn Sidan on 13 Aug. and 100 here on 27th; CEREDIGION: 70 at Aberporth on 4 Aug.; 3000 off New Quay on 4 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: 200 on Artro est. on 14 Sept.; CAERNARFON: max. 97 at Port Ysgaden on 18 July; max. 89 at Aber Dwyfor on 3 Aug.; 450 at Afon Wen on 5 and 15 Aug. and 200 here on 17 Sept.; 50 at Hafan y Môr on 24 July; 50 at Black Rock Sands on 1 Aug. and 3000 here on 4 Sept.; 55 at Criccieth on 20 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 72 off Llanggoed on 27 April; 150 off Puffin Island on 31 May and 80 here on 30 June; 55 off RSPB South Stack on 13 July and 41 here on 24 Aug.; 304 passed Wylfa Head on 4 Aug.; 200 passed Pt Lynas on 5 Aug.

Inland counties: BRECON: two at Talybont Res. on 16 April.

Earliest and latest dates in each coastal county (provisional in E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
E.GLAMORGAN	13 April	Sully Bay	5 Oct.	Porthcawl
GOWER	8 April	Bracelet Bay	6 Oct.	Port Eynon
CARMARTHEN	21 March	Cefn Sidan	12 Oct.	Cefn Sidan
PEMBROKE	25 March	Martin’s Haven	22 Nov.*	Goodwick
CEREDIGION	20 March	Ynyslas	1 Nov.	New Quay
MEIRIONNYDD	8 April	Tonfanau	29 Sept.	Tonfanau
CAERNARFON	10 March	Morfa Aber	7 Nov.	Bangor harbour
ANGLESEY	22 March	Cemlyn	13 Nov.	Beddmanarch Bay
DENBIGH	13 April	Rhos-on-Sea	16 Nov.	Llanddulas
FLINT	10 April	Prestatyn	23 Oct.	Rhyl Splash Point

*Winter record: PEMBROKE: Fishguard on 5 Dec.

The last in DENBIGH was the latest county record this century by 14 days, cf. 2004.

Ringling: the number of colour-ringed Sandwich Tern sightings on the North Wales coast by a co-ordinated reporting project was 207 (of 142 individuals), compared to 409 sightings (of 207 individuals). Ringing of chicks in UK breeding colonies was suspended in late June as a result of HPAl. The majority of sightings (53%) were of Welsh-ringed birds, from the breeding colony at Cemlyn, ANGLESEY, or caught on passage at Ynyslas, CEREDIGION. Other resightings were of Sandwich Terns ringed at colonies at Lady’s Island Lake, Co.Wexford (22%), Hodbarrow, Cumbria (15%), Northumberland (3%), three colonies in Scotland (2%), one in Northern Ireland (2%) and the remainder from other colonies in the Republic of Ireland and the Netherlands. The oldest was one ringed at Ynyslas in August 2013.

LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons*

MOR-WENNOL FACH

Breeds in Flintshire. RBBP: 211 young fledged from 177 nests at two sites in 2021. Elsewhere, uncommon spring and autumn passage migrant to other coasts. Rare inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	65	85
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

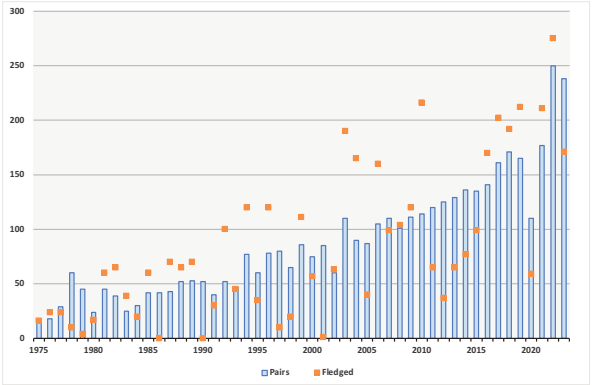
The growth of the Gronant colony, and of the satellite colony at RSPB Point of Ayr since 2019, is a real success story, thanks to nest protection schemes at both sites. Each reached its highest total in at least 80 years. The combined total was the highest in Wales since 1916, when 200 pairs nested at Point of Ayr. In 2022, Gronant was the second largest UK colony, with only Winterton, Norfolk, holding more nests. Productivity at Point of Ayr was the second highest among colonies containing >30 nests. Combined, the two sites held almost 11% of the UK population and averaged 1.1 fledged young/nest. Wales has exceeded the minimum for population viability (0.74) in six of the last seven years.

Along with the surprise nesting in Gower, perhaps the first nest in South Wales since 1936, it was an

excellent year at a time when some North Sea colonies were being ravaged by HPAl. The first egg laid at Gronant was on 9 May, the earliest date for which records are available, and quite possibly the earliest ever here.

Breeding: GOWER: pair incubated eggs, but no chicks were seen; FLINT: 211 AON at Gronant (cf. 163 nests in 2021) fledged min. 209 young (0.99/nest); 39 AON at RSPB Pt of Ayr (cf. 14 in 2021) fledged 66 young (1.69/nest).

Little Tern pairs and fledged young (Gronant 1975-2022 and RSPB Point of Ayr 2019-22).



Non-breeding: numbers recorded by the Wetland Bird Survey (not shown) peaked in 2019, and although it fell back in 2022, was nonetheless the second highest value since recording began in 1994. There was no strong trend in the BirdTrack reporting rate.

Earliest and latest dates in each county of occurrence (provisional in E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
E.GLAMORGAN	29 April	Sker Point	no autumn records	
GOWER	1 May	Morfa beach	5 Aug.	Oxwich
CARMARTHEN	no spring records		4 Sept.	Pembrey harbour
PEMBROKE	no spring records		9 Sept.	Strumble Head
CEREDIGION	no spring records		28 Aug.	Ynyslas
MEIRIONNYDD	6 May	Glaslyn estuary	no autumn records	
CAERNARFON	6 May	Glaslyn estuary	6 Sept.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	15 May	Moelfre	no autumn records	
DENBIGH	23 May	Horton’s Nose	no autumn records	
FLINT	29 April	Gronant	7 Sept.	Gronant

All other records (max. site counts only in Flintshire), singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: Lavernock Pt on 4 June; CARMARTHEN: Pembrey harbour on 26 June, two here on 14 July and one on 28 Aug.; three at Cefn Sidan on 13 Aug. and one on 29th; PEMBROKE: two off Strumble Head on 23 Aug. and 7 Sept.; Skokholm on 6 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: Mochras on 11 May; CAERNARFON: two at Rhos Pt on 4 and 23 Aug.; FLINT: 59 at Pt of Ayr on 15 May; 580 at Gronant on 17 July.

Colour-ring resightings: 278 individuals were identified at Gronant through observations of roosting birds at high tide, and a further 123 birds through examination of footage of birds filmed within the fenced colony. Of this total, 93% were birds ringed at Gronant, 7% had hatched in the Republic of Ireland and there were three birds from Teesmouth, in northeast England.

ROSEATE TERN *Sterna dougallii* MOR-WENNOL WRIDOG
Occasional breeder on Anglesey – RBBP: two pairs fledged four young in 2019. Uncommon passage visitor to other coasts. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	179	24
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding season: ANGLESEY: pair fledged one young on The Skerries; one at Cemlyn on dates between 7 May and 26 July, with a second bird here on 22 June, and a juvenile with an adult on 24 July.

All other records, singles unless stated: PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 6 Sept. and two here on 10 Oct., the latest county record with a known date, which were seen off Mwnt, CEREDIGION, 90 minutes previously; CAERNARFON: Rhos Pt on 25 July; adult and 1CY at Afon Wen from 29 July to 17 Aug.; adult and 1CY off Bardsey on 20 Aug.; ANGLESEY: Aberffraw on 15 May.

Roseate X Common Tern.
Pair fledged three hybrid young on The Skerries; a Roseate Tern paired with a Common X Roseate hybrid but not thought to have bred.

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* MOR-WENNOL GYFFREDIN
Four breeding colonies. Passage migrant to other coasts and sometimes inland. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	304	282
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

A year of mixed fortunes at the four colonies, with total numbers at least 15% lower than in 2021. Productivity was good at the two larger colonies, moderate at Cemlyn, but non-existent at the other, resulting in a national average of 0.77 young fledged/nest.

Apparently Occupied Nests at all colonies		AON count		Fledged young/AON	Mean productivity
		2022	2021		
ANGLESEY	Cemlyn	120-150	265	75-100	0.5-0.83
	The Skerries	350	324	327	0.93
	west Anglesey site	60	174	0	0
FLINT	Shotton steelworks	410	382	352	0.86

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
E.GLAMORGAN	14 April	Cardiff Bay	5 Sept.	Sker Point
GOWER	15 April	Salthouse Point	19 Sept.	Llanrhidian
CARMARTHEN	16 May	Penclacwydd	17 Sept.	Dredger Jetty, Pwll
PEMBROKE	no spring records		22 Oct.	Angle Bay
CEREDIGION	no spring records		28 Oct.	New Quay
BRECON	29 April	Dolymynach Res.	9 Sept.	Llangorse Lake
MONTGOMERY	3 May	Llyn Coed-y-dinas	7 July	Llyn Coed-y-dinas
MEIRIONNYDD	no spring records		7 Sept.	Llyn Tegid
CAERNARFON	18 April	Aberdesach/Seiont est.	27 Oct.	Bangor
ANGLESEY	18 April	Inland Sea	28 Sept.	Point Lynas
DENBIGH	21 April	RSPB Conwy	29 Oct.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	28 April	Connah's Quay NR	7 Sept.	Gronant

The last in DENBIGH was 29 days later than the previous latest county record this century, in 2010.

Non-breeding counts ≥10 away from colonies: GOWER: 12 in Burry Inlet on 13 Sept.; CARMARTHEN: 10 at Pembrey Sands on 26 Aug., 27 on 25th, 12 on 28th and 20 on 4 Sept.; PEMBROKE: off Strumble Head, 10 on 22 Aug., 21 on 23rd, 13 on 26th, 100 on 6 Sept. and 20 on 7th; CEREDIGION: 383 passed Mwnt on 9 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 76 off Morfa Aber on 2 June; 150 at Afon Wen on 15 Aug.; 15 off Criccieth on 21 Aug.; 10 in Dwyfor est. on 28 Aug.; 107 passed Bardsey on 6 Sept., 52 here on 7th and 10 on 15th; ANGLESEY: 25 off Puffin Island on 31 May; 50 off Amlwch on 24 July; DENBIGH: 10 at Horton's Nose on 15 May; FLINT: max. 170 at Connah's Quay NR on 31 May and 200 here on 13 July.

Inland, additional to the table: BRECON: one at Llangorse Lake on 22 July and five here on 3-5 Sept.; MONTGOMERY: one at Llyn Mawr on 18 May.

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisaea* MOR-WENNOL Y GOGLEDD
Three colonies, all on Anglesey. Passage migrant to other coasts, but generally scarcer than Common Tern. Scarce inland. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	254	184
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A small increase (4%) in the number of nests in Wales, but as for Common Tern, the breeding productivity was variable, with the national average of 0.3 fledged young/nest.

Apparently Occupied Nests at all colonies		AON count		Fledged young/AON	Mean productivity
		2022	2021		
ANGLESEY	Cemlyn	240-260	114	150-200	0.58-0.92
	The Skerries	2930	2976	882	0.42
	west Anglesey site	369	319	5	0.01

Non-breeding counts ≥10: GWENT: 103 off Goldcliff Pt on 2 May; E.GLAMORGAN: 16 off Lavernock Pt on 21 May; PEMBROKE: 32 passed Strumble Head, max. 10 on 23 Aug.; 78 off Skokholm on 5 Sept., 11 on 6th, 14 on 7th and 25 on 8th; CEREDIGION: 37 passed Mwnt on 9 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 23 passed Bardsey on 24 Aug., 17 here on 2 Sept. and 193 on 6th; ANGLESEY: 18 off Puffin Island on 5 May; 20 passed Point Lynas on 18 Aug.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	22 April	Newport Wetlands	30 Oct.	Newport Wetlands
E.GLAMORGAN	15 May	Lavernock Point	19 Nov.	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	no spring records		9 Nov.	Port Talbot
CARMARTHEN	25 April	Burry Port harbour	5 Oct.	Pembrey harbour
PEMBROKE	no spring records		27 Nov.	Fishguard harbour
CEREDIGION	26 April	Aberystwyth	9 Sept.	Mwnt
BRECON	no spring records		9 Oct.	Llangorse Lake
MEIRIONNYDD	6 May	Glaslyn estuary	no autumn records	
CAERNARFON	6 May	Glaslyn estuary	5 Nov.	Carreg y Defaid
ANGLESEY	25 April	Cemlyn	5 Nov.	Holyhead
DENBIGH	15 May	Horton's Nose	14 Nov.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	30 April	Gronant	10 Nov.	RSPB Point of Ayr

There was an unusual number of records in November, the latest this century in many counties: if confirmed, the last in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN were, respectively, 18 days later than one in 2004 and eight days later than one in 2020. In PEMBROKE, one until 27 Nov. was the latest ever county record, the

last in BRECON matched a 2014 record, and in DENBIGH and FLINT, the last were 18 and 14 days later respectively (*cf.* 2017 and 2007).

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

CORSWENNOL ADEINWEN

Rare visitor from southeast Europe. WBRC: 44 previous records.

ANGLESEY: 1CY at Cemlyn on 4 Sept.

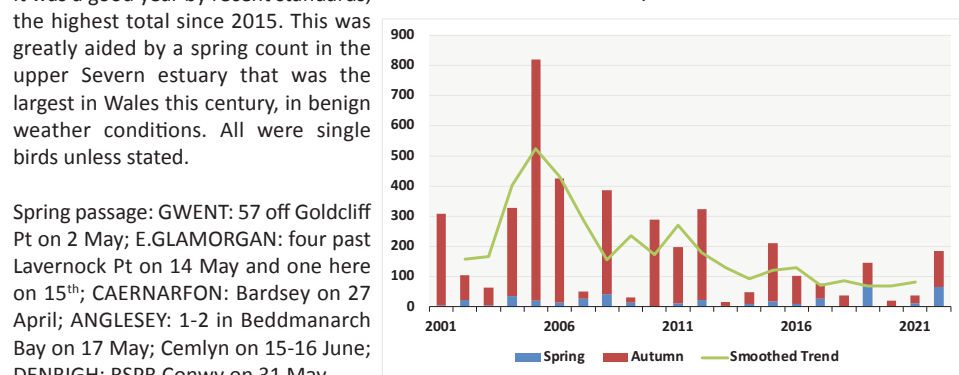
BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

CORSWENNOL DDU

Uncommon passage migrant, chiefly to coastal counties but also on inland waters; spring records are usually fewer in number but there are substantial influxes in some years. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	20	84
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

It was a good year by recent standards, Black Terns recorded in Wales, 2001-22



Spring passage: GWENT: 57 off Goldcliff Pt on 2 May; E.GLAMORGAN: four past Lavernock Pt on 14 May and one here on 15th; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 27 April; ANGLESEY: 1-2 in Beddmanarch Bay on 17 May; Cemlyn on 15-16 June; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 31 May.

Autumn passage, single birds unless stated: GWENT: three at Llandegfedd Res. on 24 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: Lamby Lake on 5-8 Oct., two here on 9-12th; GOWER: Weobley on 5 Sept.; CARMARTHEN: Burry Port/Pembrey harbour on 4-5 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 63 passed Strumble Head between 19 Aug. and 16 Sept., max. 23 on 8 Sept.; Teifi Marshes on 1 Sept.; two off Skomer on 8 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 14 passed Mwnt on 9 Sept.; Ynyslas on 13, 14 and 18 Sept.; BRECON: four at Llangorse Lake on 22 July, singles here on 9 and 17-23 Aug., four on 24th (one to 27th), two on 5 Sept. and one on 6th; RADNOR: Dolymynach Res. on 20 Aug.; three at Llanbwchllyn on 24 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: Fairbourne on 6 Sept.; Aberdyfi on 14 and 18 Sept.; Aberdysynni on 18 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD/CAERNARFON: two on Glaslyn Marshes on 12 Sept.; CAERNARFON: Dinas Dinlle on 30 Aug.; Porth Oer on 4 Sept.; three passed Bardsey on 7 Sept.; Rhos Pt on 10 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Skerries on 24 July; Pt Lynas on 18-19 Sept.

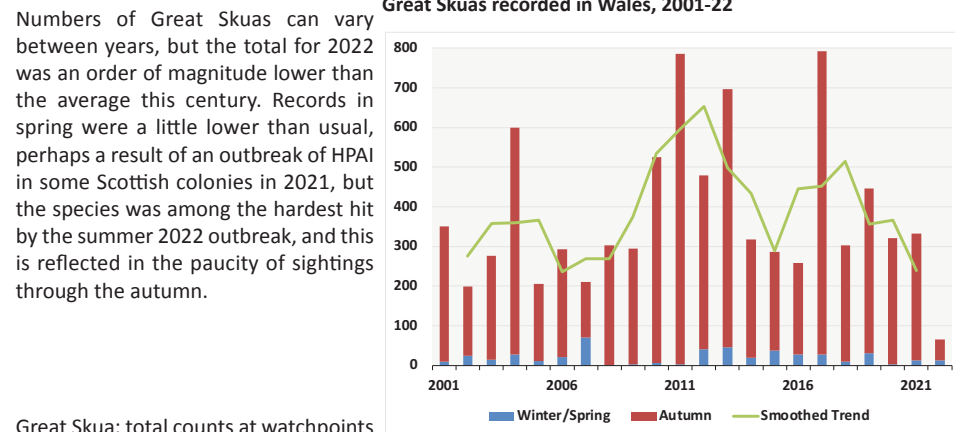
GREAT SKUA *Stercorarius skua*

SGIWEN FAWR

Regular on autumn passage along the west coast. Numbers vary annually, the highest counts dependent on the strength and frequency of onshore gales. Small numbers in spring, and occasionally in winter. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	49	20
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Great Skuas recorded in Wales, 2001-22



Great Skua: total counts at watchpoints

		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
PEMBROKE	Strumble Head			1		5	3	6	2
	Skokholm				2	1	4		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	2					3	3	
ANGLESEY	Point Lynas			1		1	5		

Other records, all single birds unless stated: CARMARTHEN: Telpyn Pt on 4 Jan.; Pembrey harbour on 29 Aug.; Penclacwydd on 18 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Deer Park on 15 July; St Govan's Head on 3 Aug.; CEREDIGION: Mwnt on 7 April, 20 Aug. and 9 Sept., three here on 1 Oct. and two on 6th; two off New Quay on 7 April; Aberystwyth on 6 May; Morfa Bychan on 14 May; Llansantffraed on 3 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Porthdinllaen on 8 May; two at Llanfairfechan on 25 Aug.; Criccieth on 22 Sept.; Aberdaron on 1 Oct.; Porth Oer on 29 Dec.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 26 July; west of Wylfa on 26 Sept.

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

SGIWEN FRECH

Uncommon passage migrant, chiefly in autumn. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	12	9
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

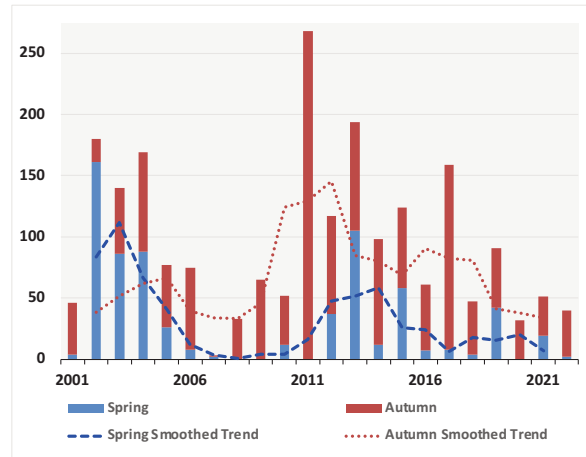
The number of individuals recorded in the autumn was similar to the previous couple of years, but a poor spring led to the lowest annual total since 2007. The Carmarthenshire record, the first in the county since 2015, was more than 20km from the sea, but perhaps had worked its way up the Tywi valley. All single birds unless stated.

Spring passage: CEREDIGION: Ynyslas on 13 May; ANGLESEY: 20 miles offshore on 31 May.

Autumn passage: CARMARTHEN: National Botanic Garden on 24 Nov.; PEMBROKE: from Strumble Head,

three on 6 Sept., two on 8th, three on 15th, six on 1 Oct., one on 2nd, two on 10th, one on 15th and one on 4 Nov.; CEREDIGION: Mwnt on 1 Oct. and two here on 6th; New Quay on 2 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: Tywyn on 22 Sept.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 28 Aug., singles on six dates in Sept. and two on 8th and 9th; Crickieth on 22 Sept.; Porth Oer on 9 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 1CY off Pt Lynas on 23 Sept.

Pomarine Skuas recorded in Wales, 2001-22



ARCTIC SKUA *Stercorarius parasiticus*

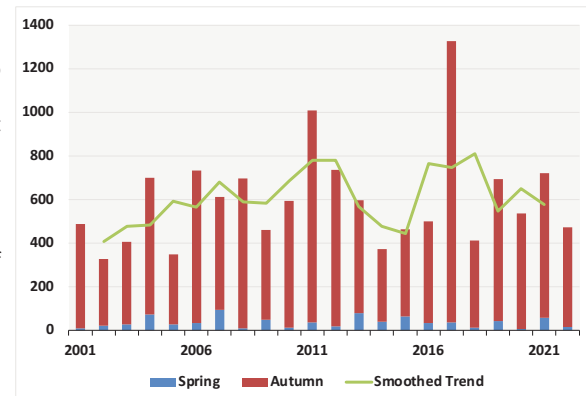
Passage bird off coastal counties; uncommon in spring, more numerous in autumn. Wales Amber-listed.

SGIWEN Y GOGLEDD

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	58	65
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate more than halved between 2013-15 and 2020-22, and numbers recorded in Wales were the lowest this century. There was no evidence of significant impact of HPAI in Scottish colonies, but who knows what occurred in more remote colonies in the Faeroes and Iceland, from which some of our passage birds originate. The highest counts were 25 off Crickieth, CAERNARFON, on 22 September and off Strumble Head, PEMBROKE, on 26th.

Arctic Skuas recorded in Wales, 2001-22



Arctic Skua: total counts		Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
GWENT			2						
E.GLAMORGAN			2				1	1	
GOWER						1			
CARMARTHEN			2				2		
PEMBROKE	Strumble Head				3	39	92	28	1
	elsewhere	1	1	1		3	24		
CEREDIGION					4	13	15	14	
MEIRIONNYDD	Tywyn						2		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey				1	11	44	18	
	elsewhere	3	2		3	11	29	10	3
ANGLESEY	Point Lynas			1	1	6	27	3	1
	Cemlyn		1		1	9	4	1	
	elsewhere			2		10	4	2	
DENBIGH								1	
FLINT					1	1	1	1	

LONG-TAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudus*

Uncommon passage migrant, chiefly along the western seaboard during westerly gales. Unusual in spring. Wales Amber-listed.

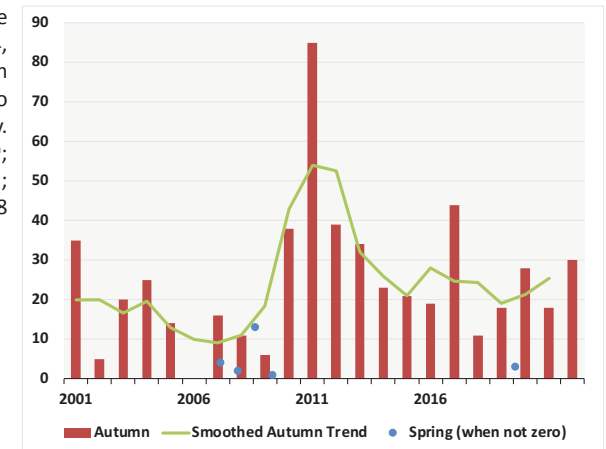
SGIWEN LOSTFAIN

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	16	7
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

All were single 1CY birds unless stated.

PEMBROKE: singles from Strumble Head on four dates in Sept., two on 14, 15 and 26th, four on 27th, and two on 28th. In Oct., there were records on two dates, including five on 1st, and in Nov. three on 4th and one on 18th; CEREDIGION: Mwnt on 9 Sept.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 25 July, 8 and 26 Sept.

Long-tailed Skuas recorded in Wales, 2001-22



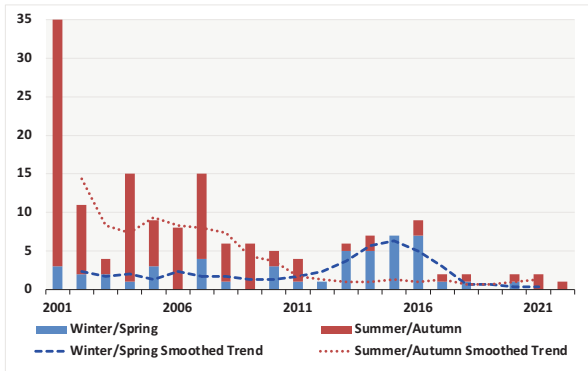
LITTLE AUK *Alle alle*

CARFIL BACH

Scarce and declining winter visitor in irregular numbers off the western seaboard. Most sightings are in late autumn and early winter, often following westerly gales. Wales Red-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

CAERNARFON: Porth Oer on 3 Nov.

Little Auks (including dead and moribund) in Wales, 2001-22



GUILLEMOT *Uria aalge*

GWYLOG

Abundant and increasing breeding species in southwestern and northwestern counties (104,737 AOL, +76% since 2000). Moves away to moult after breeding and returns to vicinity of colonies as early as December. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	706	951
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	4%

Breeding counts tabulated: 81,771 AOL, the long-term trend is still one of increase (*cf.* 81,167 in the previous count, +0.7%), with Skokholm and Bardsey both reaching record totals. The Skokholm colony has increased more

than five-fold in 20 years (Brown and Eagle 2022), while Bardsey has increased by 60% since 2011, although some of the increase may arise from greater use of digital imagery for monitoring. However, two unseasonal storms in May resulted in many Guillemots losing their eggs from breeding ledges in Pembrokeshire, leading to the lowest breeding success on Skomer for several decades. Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Number of Adults on Land at regularly monitored sites.

		AOL	Previous count (year)
PEMBROKE	Caldey	119	140 (2021)
	St Margaret's Island	1395	1685 (2021)
	Castlemartin Peninsula	19,035	18,611 (2021)
	Skokholm	5515	5065 (2021)
	Middleholm	455	302 (2018)
CAERNARFON	Skomer	31,790	27,269 (2021)
	Bardsey	2193	1432 (2021)
	Ynysodd Gwylan	90	103 (2021)
	Great Orme	2322	2403 (2021)
	Little Orme	1059	1014 (2021)
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	8038	7592 (2021)
	Ynys Lawd	5560	11,731 (2020)
	Puffin Island	4200	3820 (2021)

Other breeding records. GOWER: Worm's Head; CEREDIGION: Cardigan Island, New Quay and Ynys Lochtyn.

Nesting productivity estimates (chicks/breeding pair): PEMBROKE: 0.73 on Skomer (*cf.* 0.61 in 2021) (Newman *et al.* 2022); CAERNARFON: 35 chicks fledged from a sample plot of 95 AOLs on Bardsey (0.37).

Guillemot: daily max. at watchpoints

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm			4306	3500	4500	4500	1200	205	160	293	247	173
	Strumble Head		250		6	100	200	100	300	1000	3000		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			30	406	500	1000	150	12	81	132	2	
	Great Orme	450	>500	>400	700	450	500	300	2	50			220
	Little Orme	200	180	70	160	75		2		1	9	2	170

The March count on Skokholm was >600 higher than ever counted in that month.

Non-breeding counts ≥5: E.GLAMORGAN: seven off Lavernock Pt on 21 May; GOWER: max. 59 at Port Eynon on 17 June and 24 here on 26 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: eight at Cefn Sidan on 17 May and c.40 here on 26 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 30 in Fishguard Harbour on 2 Oct.; CEREDIGION: 30 off Gwbert on 12 Jan., 20 here on 8 Feb. and 29 on 17 March; 20 off New Quay on 19 Jan.; 1000 past Mwnt on 8 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: 15 off Aberdysynni on 13 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 45 off Porthdinllaen on 9 Feb.; 15 off Morfa Dinlle on 30 Aug.; eight off Crickieth on 22 Sept., five here on 30 Oct. and 12 on 11 Nov.; 12 off Mynydd Mawr on 16 Oct., five here on 15 Nov. and 10 on 29th; 50 off Llanfairfechan on 22 Nov.; 10 off Rhos Pt on 29 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 400 west of Wylfa on 14 Jan.; 30 in Holyhead harbour on 13 March; 10 off Moelfre on 26 March; monthly max off Pt Lynas, 50 on 19 Aug., 15 on 27 Sept. and 15 on 1 Oct.; 50 off Wylfa Head on 13 Oct.; DENBIGH: five off Rhos-on-Sea on 18 Jan. and off Colwyn Bay on 15 Feb.; 20 off Llandulas on 20 March.

RAZORBILL *Alca torda*

LLURS

Fairly common and increasing breeder in northwest Wales and Pembrokeshire (23,640 AOL, +82% since 2000). Some disperse south in winter but others remain in Welsh waters. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	551	779
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	3%

Breeding counts: a continued increase at the tabulated colonies. The 21,978 AOL (*cf.* 17,635 in the previous count at these sites, +25%), included the highest ever total on Skokholm (*cf.* 800 pairs in 2007) (Brown and Eagle 2022).

Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Number of Adults on Land at regularly monitored sites.

		AOL	Previous count (year)
PEMBROKE	Caldey	190	188 (2021)
	St Margaret's Island	366	244 (2021)
	Castlemartin peninsula	1558	1682 (2021)
	Skokholm	3965	3356 (2021)
	Middleholm	569	410 (2018)
CAERNARFON	Skomer	10,192	8168 (2021)
	Bardsey	1937	1220 (2021)
	Ynysodd Gwylan	32	12 (2021)
	Great Orme	254	247 (2021)
	Little Orme	40	49 (2021)
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	1646	1378 (2021)
	Puffin Island	1229	681 (2021)

Other breeding records. PEMBROKE: Carn Fran, Lydstep, Morfa Head, Ynys Ddu, Pen Brush, Goodwick and Dinas Island; ANGLESEY: 9 AOL on The Skerries.

Nesting productivity estimates (chicks/breeding pair): PEMBROKE: c.0.64 on Skokholm (*cf.* 0.47 in 2021) (Brown and Eagle 2022 also report that the first egg of the year, on 15 April, was the earliest ever on the

island, *cf.* 19 April 2019); 0.47 on Skomer for active and regularly occupied sites (*cf.* 0.5 in 2021) (Newman *et al.* 2022).

Non-breeding counts ≥5: CARMARTHEN: seven off Gilman Pt on 16 Jan.; eight off Telpyn Pt on 23 Jan; 12

off Cefn Sidan on 17 May and c.50 here on 26 Sept.; PEMBROKE: five off Amroth on 16 Jan.; five in St Brides Bay on 20 March; 30 off Skomer on 10 Sept.; CEREDIGION: nine off Gwbert on 17 March; 1000 past Mwnt on 8 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: five off Aberdysynni on 13 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 25 off Llanfairfechan on 18 Jan.; 15 off Rhos Pt on 18 Jan. and 24 here on 1 Dec.; 620 passed Aberdaron on 1 Oct.; 660 passed Porth Ysgaden on 7 Oct.; 10 off Mynydd Mawr on 15 Nov.; ANGLESEY: six at Holyhead Harbour on 13 March; 50 at Pt Lynas on 19 Aug.; 140 off Cemlyn on 21 Aug.; 10 off Carmel Head on 11 Oct.; 1950 west of Wylfa on 4 Nov.; DENBIGH: 20 off Llanddulas on 12 March and 13 here on 2 Dec.

Razorbill: daily max. at watchpoints.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm			2866	2450	2600	3000	400	50	174	28	7	5
	Strumble Head					40	200	150	200	1000	3000		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			94	700	2000	1500	500	35	2119	1586		
	Great Orme	100	85	200	300	60	21	30	3	10			1
	Little Orme	200	200	50	75	15		1			4	1	2
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	20	15	800	1500	1500	1000			2	14		

BLACK GUILLEMOT *Cephus grylle* GWYLOG DDU
Localised and uncommon breeding species, primarily on Anglesey (38 pairs, +15% since 2000). Small numbers elsewhere outside the breeding season. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	275	232
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

Although fewer nests were confirmed than in 2021, the combined number of individuals around potential breeding areas was similar. Two in Pembrokeshire again may be evading confirmation of a breeding attempt, and June records off Cemaes Head, New Quay and Bardsey are notable.

Breeding season, individuals unless stated: PEMBROKE: up to two in Fishguard harbour from Jan. to Oct. but no evidence of breeding; Cemaes Head on 2 June; CEREDIGION: New Quay on 7 and 17 Jan. and 1 and 17 June; CAERNARFON: at least two nests on the Great Orme: five pairs in March and max. counts of 20 in April and June, and 13 in July; independent juv. in Llandudno Bay on 13-15 Aug. could have originated from the Great or Little Orme, and 2-3 remained in area to Dec.; Bardsey on 2 and 22 June; ANGLESEY: 17 off Fedwr Fawr on 11 Feb.; seven in Holyhead Harbour on 20 April; two off Traeth Lligwy on 2 May; two off Penmon on 20 March and 3 June; four off Pt Lynas on 7 June; seven off Cemlyn on 16 June.

All records away from above sites, singles unless stated: PEMBROKE: Wiseman’s Bridge on 8 Jan.; Strumble Head on 2 March; CAERNARFON: Pwllheli harbour on 11 Jan. and 8 Feb.; Foryd on 11 Jan. and 10 April; Rhos Pt on 21 Jan.; Criccieth on 21 Feb.; six off Bangor on 21 Feb., one here on 29-30 Sept. and 13 Oct.; 31 off Penmaenmawr on 8 Aug.; Penrhyn Bay on 24 Jan. and 15 Sept.; Y Gamlas near Carreg y Defaid on 5 Nov.; ANGLESEY: two off Traeth Bychan on 20 Jan.; up to four in Beddmanarch Bay in Jan. and three here in second winter period; three off Traeth Lligwy and four off Benllech on 28 Jan.; four off Moelfre on 20 Feb.; 1-2 in various other locations; DENBIGH: 1CY in Rhos harbour on 15 Sept.

PUFFIN *Fratercula arctica* PAL
Locally abundant on offshore islands and a few western headlands, currently increasing (30,663 AOB, +104% since 2000) but numbers remain below pre-1939 levels. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	196	248
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Breeding counts: 51,238 (mixed count units), cf. 47,493 in the previous counts (+8%), but that increase is driven almost entirely by Skomer and Middleholm. Numbers at most other colonies fell, including on Bardsey where the

20% reduction was the first year-on-year deficit since 2012, against an upward trend since the island was colonised in 2000. Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Numbers at regularly monitored sites (individuals, pairs or occupied burrows)

		Count	2021 count
PEMBROKE	St Margaret’s Island (ind)	2	2
	Stackpole Head (ind)	1	14
	Skokholm (ind)	10,611	11,245
	Skomer & Middleholm (ind)	38,896	34,813
CAERNARFON	Bardsey (pairs)	160	202
	Ynysoedd Gwylan (AOB)	788	349
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack (AOB)	5	6
	Puffin Island (ind)	34	13
	The Skerries (AOB)	741	849

Nesting productivity (chicks fledged per active burrow): PEMBROKE: c.0.72 on Skokholm (cf. 0.8 in 2021) (Brown and Eagle 2022).

Max. daily counts each month at Bardsey, CAERNARFON.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Bardsey	2	168	150	192	173	0	1

PEMBROKE: a count of 38,896 Puffins from Skomer in March was the largest since before the Second World War and a count of 10,611 off Skokholm on 23 March was the second highest since 1945, but still below pre-War estimates of 40,000 by R.M. Lockley. Of interest, 22 were seen from a boat in the Celtic Sea on 22 Oct., approx. 70 miles southwest of the Castlemartin peninsula.

Counts elsewhere, single birds unless stated. PEMBROKE: Ramsey on 21 Sept.; 101 passed Strumble Head, max. 40 on 3 July; six off Fishguard harbour on 2 Oct.; Skokholm on 2 Oct.; CEREDIGION: New Quay from 27 May to 1 June; MEIRIONNYDD: Aberdysynni on 2 Oct., first county record since 2010; CAERNARFON: six off Ynysoedd Gwylan on 24 March; Great Orme on 30 April and 6 July; four at Porth Ysgaden on 4 June, five here on 14 July, 18 on 15th and smaller numbers to 21st; Aberdaron on 11 July; ANGLESEY: 13 off Cemlyn on 8 July; 11 west of Wylfa on 20 July; Pt Lynas on several dates in July-Sept., max. six on 25 Sept.; FLINT: Connah’s Quay NR on 15 May, the first on the reserve.

RED-THROATED DIVER *Gavia stellata* TROCHYDD GYDDFGOCH
Localised coastal winter visitor and passage migrant, sometimes in large concentrations. Rare inland. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	340	454
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	2%

The Wetland Bird Survey index for Wales fell by 79% in its first 10 years, but has since remained fairly stable, as has the BirdTrack reporting rate over the last decade. Numbers in the first winter period were fairly typical, although 119 between Telpyn Pt and Marros on 3 March was a record count for CARMARTHEN.

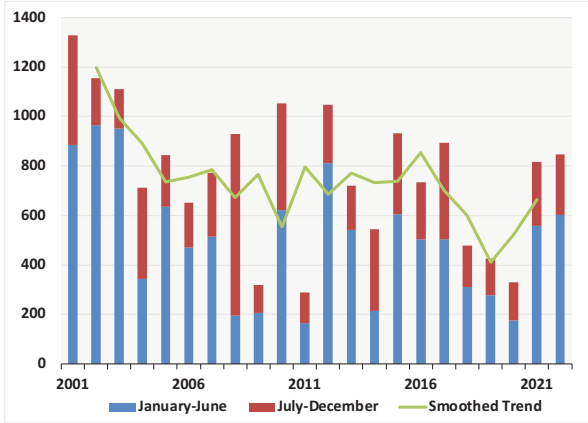
Sites with ≥20 Red-throated Divers		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CARMARTHEN	Carmarthen Bay	36	6	119	23				64	
PEMBROKE	St Brides Bay	30	5	9	2			1	5	16
CAERNARFON	Little Orme-Rhos Pt	102	127	6			17	3	47	18
	Traeth Lafan	53		91	3		2	3	14	18

Max. counts elsewhere: E.GLAMORGAN: three off Sker Pt on 16 Dec.; GOWER: six in Baglan Bay on 23 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: 21 at Cefn Sidan on 29 April; PEMBROKE: 87 off Amroth on 26 March; 40 passed Strumble Head on 25 Nov.; CEREDIGION: 27 between Llansantffraed and Aberaeron, and 21 off Aberystwyth in

March; up to 30 off Aberporth in Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: nine off Artro est. in April; ANGLESEY: >50 off Benllech on 23 Jan.; DENBIGH: 30 off Old Colwyn on 17 Jan.; 49 off Colwyn Bay on 3 March and 60 here on 12th; 33 off Llanddulas on 5 Nov.; FLINT: six off Rhyl on 21 Feb.

Inland: DENBIGH: Gresford Flash on 8-10 Jan.

Red-throated Diver recorded in Wales, based on peak site counts ≥20 birds each season, 2001-22



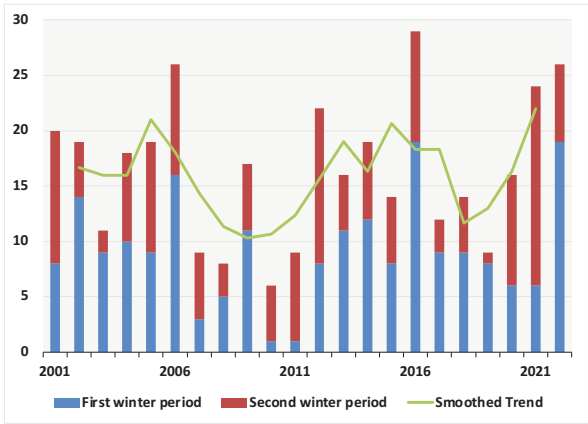
BLACK-THROATED DIVER *Gavia arctica*
Uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed.

TROCHYDD GYDDFDDU

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	44	28
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The second successive year of good numbers, aided by an exceptional count for Caernarfonshire of six in April. All records, singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: Lavernock Pt on 9 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 4 Jan.; Broad Haven on 10-17 Jan.; Cwm-yr-Eglwys on 11 Jan.; Martin's Haven on 15 Jan.; Nolton to Druidston on 11-15 Feb.; two in Goultrop Roads on 2 March; past Strumble Head on 27 Sept., 3 and 10 Oct. and three here on 28th; Fishguard Harbour on 17 Dec.; CEREDIGION: Aberystwyth on 28 April; Ynyslas on 5 May; CAERNARFON: Porthdinllaen on 2 Jan. and 1 March; two off Penmaenmawr on 18 Jan.; Little Orme on 21 Jan. and 2 Feb.; Aberdesach on 5 March, six here on 18 April and one on 5 Dec.; ANGLESEY: Porth Nobla on 4 Jan.; Inland Sea on 5 Jan. and Beddmanarch Bay on 12th; Benllech on 22 and 27 Jan., and 18 March; Cemlyn on 5 Oct.; DENBIGH: Pensarn on 29 Nov.

Black-throated Divers recorded in Wales, based on max. in each county in each season 2001-22



PACIFIC DIVER *Gavia pacifica*
Extremely rare vagrant from North America. BBRC: one previous record, in 2007.

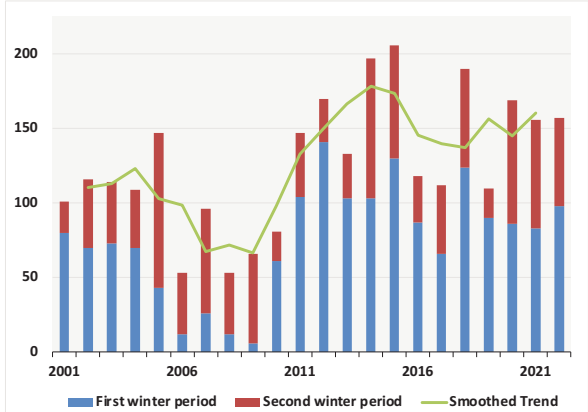
GOWER: 1CY at Eglwys Nunydd Res. from 11 Dec. 2021 to 27 Feb.

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER *Gavia immer*
Winter visitor and passage migrant, recorded offshore in small numbers annually. Scarce inland. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	268	391
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate was up on the previous year, which had included a winter lockdown, but the cumulative counts have been fairly stable over that period. Notable among the records below was a flock of nine flying northeast from The Skerries, ANGLESEY, on 2 May and two off nearby Cemlyn on 3 June. There was also one off Black Rock Sands, CAERNARFON, on 6 June.

Great Northern Divers recorded in Wales, based on annual max. in each county 2001-22



Great Northern Diver: total counts		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN												2	1
GOWER		5	3	2							1	2	3
CARMARTHEN		3	1									2	5
PEMBROKE	Wiseman's Bridge-Amroth	1	1									1	1
	Cleddau estuary	3	2	1		1						1	3
	St Brides Bay	6	2	7	5							2	3
	Strumble Head	4								1	4	6	9
	Fishguard Harbour	5										1	1
	elsewhere	2	2	2	2							4	
CEREDIGION		1		1	2	1					1	5	1
MEIRIONNYDD											1	2	3
CAERNARFON	Caernarfon Bay	2	30	36	26	20					2	2	24
	elsewhere	16	5	4			1			1	7	10	10
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch Bay	4	2								1	2	3
	elsewhere	9	2	1		9	2		1	6	4	7	1
DENBIGH		1	2	1							2	1	
FLINT		1										1	



Wilson’s Petrel (Dave Astins)

WILSON’S PETREL *Oceanites oceanicus* PEDTRYN DRYCIN WILSON
Rare visitor, breeding in the southern hemisphere. BBRC: 14 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 19 Aug. At least three were seen the same day from a pelagic trip in the Celtic Deep.

STORM PETREL *Hydrobates pelagicus* PEDRYN DRYCIN
Breeds on Bardsey and on six Pembrokeshire islands (2943 pairs, +11% since 2000). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	29	24
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Apparently Occupied Breeding Sites: PEMBROKE: 102 transect responses on Skokholm (cf. 86 responses in 2021); estimated productivity was 0.85 fledged chicks/breeding pair (cf. 0.8 in 2021), the highest in the last decade (Brown and Eagle 2022); at least 7 AOS on Ramsey (cf. 7 in 2021); 15 individuals on Skomer; sites occupied on Grassholm but no counts; CAERNARFON: nestbox used on Bardsey but monitoring restrictions prevented confirmation of hatching; evidence of nesting on Ynys Gwylan Fawr for the the first time; ANGLESEY: survey on The Skerries found none.

Max. daily counts each month at Skokholm, PEMBROKE.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Skokholm	58	160	163	180	153	5	1

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate has fallen sharply since 2013, and now barely registers. All records, singles unless stated: PEMBROKE: 22 from Strumble Head, two on 25 July, 17 over seven days in Aug. (max. six on 20th) and singles on three dates in Sept.; CEREDIGION: New Quay on 26 May and 25 July; two off Mwnt on 21 June, nine here on 5 July and 20 on 12th; CAERNARFON: three off Criccieth on 30 Oct.

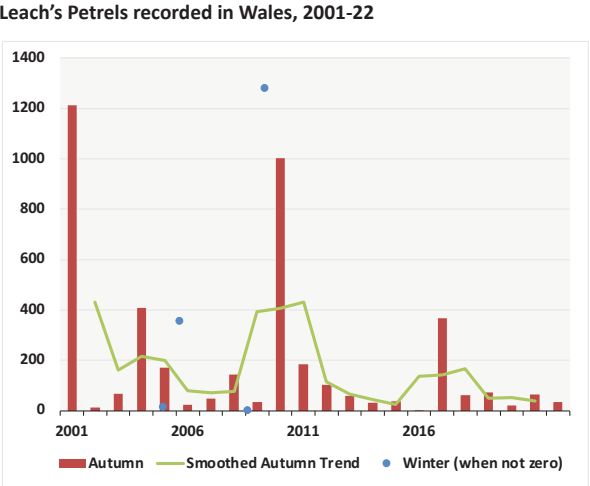
Ringling. PEMBROKE: 103 caught on Skomer over three nights in mid-July, of which 50 were unringed; an adult ringed on Little Saltee, Co. Wexford, Ireland on 3 July was caught on Skokholm on 20 July; CAERNARFON: 152 caught and ringed on Bardsey and another 29 controlled here on 11 nights between 19 June and 1 Aug.

LEACH’S PETREL *Hydrobates leucorhous* PEDRYN-DRYCIN LEACH
Uncommon autumn visitor, most frequent off the North Wales coast and Cardigan Bay during storms in September. Wales Red-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	7	9
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Another poor year for the species, although three in the Upper Dee estuary were notable. Only 2016 and 2020 saw fewer records this century. It is not known from where Leach’s Petrels in Welsh waters originate, but the trend reflects a 68% decline measured on St Kilda during 2000-19, a site that previously held almost all (94%) of Britain and Ireland’s breeding pairs (Deakin 2021).

All singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: from Cardiff Bay barrage on 2 Nov.; one from Lavernock Pt on 2 Nov., five here on 9th and two on 10th; PEMBROKE: 11 passed Strumble Head, eight on 26 Sept., two on 27th and one on 28th; CEREDIGION: New Quay on 4 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Criccieth on 28 Oct., three here on 10 Nov. and five on 11th; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 5 Oct.; FLINT: three at Connah’s Quay NR on 26 Sept. and one on 27th.



FULMAR *Fulmarus glacialis*

ADERYN DRYCIN Y GRAIG

Localised and declining breeding species (2494 pairs, -27% since 2000). Frequent offshore in most months. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	794	835
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	4%

Breeding colony counts: 1430 AOS (cf. 1410, -1.4% since the previous count at the same sites). Those with increases outnumbered those with reductions, including Bardsey's highest nest count since 2006, and Skokholm's total was just one below the record total in 2021 (Brown and Eagle 2022). Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.

Number of Apparently Occupied Sites at regularly monitored locations.

		AOS	Previous count (year)
GOWER	Rhossili/Fall Bay/Lewes Castle	4	5 (2021)
PEMBROKE	Caldey	92	101 (2021)
	St. Margaret's Island	12	c.12 (2021)
	Castlemartin peninsula	92	50 (2021)
	Skokholm	224	225 (2021)
	Middleholm	5	2 (2018)
	Skomer	538	576 (2021)
	Ramsey	313	305 (2021)
CAERNARFON	Great Orme	42	26 (2021)
	Little Orme	7	8 (2021)
	Pen y clip	5	3 (2021)
	Carreg y Llam	7	4 (2021)
	Bardsey	35	21 (2021)
ANGLESEY	Puffin Island	23	50 (2021)
	RSPB South Stack	28	14 (2019)
DENBIGH	Llanddulas Quarries	3	8 (2021)

Other breeding records. E.GLAMORGAN: up to five pairs probably bred at Nash Pt; CARMARTHEN: AOS at Gilman Pt and Telpyn Pt; PEMBROKE: 10 AOS at Nolton Haven; 6 AOS at Goodwick; 4 AOS at Marloes, 3 AOS at Haroldston, 1 AOS at St Anne's Head; occupied sites at Carn Fran, Lydstep, St Davids peninsula and Cwm Rhigian; ANGLESEY: 17 AOS at Traeth Lligwy; 6 AOS at Porth Fydllyn; also nested at Bull Bay and Porth Swtan.

Nesting productivity estimates (chicks/breeding pair): PEMBROKE: c.0.52 on Skokholm (cf. 0.51 in 2021), the ninth consecutive year that the 1972-2022 mean of 0.45 has been exceeded (Brown and Eagle 2022); 0.39 on Skomer (cf. 0.45 in 2021) (Newman *et al.* 2022); 0.41 on Ramsey (cf. 0.1 in 2021) from a sample of 56 nests; CAERNARFON: 0.63 on Bardsey (cf. 0.57 in 2021).

The BirdTrack reporting rate has been falling since 2013 but was accentuated by lockdowns in the previous years. The rate was 66% lower in 2020-22 than in 2013-15. Non-breeding records/county maxima ≥10: E.GLAMORGAN: 40 at Nash Pt on 14 Feb.; PEMBROKE: 50 off Nolton Haven on 11 Feb. and 30 here on 20 Dec.; included in table below 81 rafting off Skokholm on 15 Nov.; CEREDIGION: 40 off New Quay on 17 April and 30 off Mwnt on 21st; CAERNARFON: 67 west past Little Orme on 3 Jan.; 40 rafting in Llandudno Bay on 18 Jan.; 22 on ledges on Great Orme on 27 Nov. and 21 here on 19 Dec.; DENBIGH: 10 off Llanddulas on 17 Jan.

<i>Fulmar: max. daily counts on islands</i>		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	158	198	169	180	110	57	55	4	138	10
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	2	27	25	30	6	8	28	7		

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris borealis*

ADERYN DRYCIN CORY

Scarce autumn passage migrant. WBRC: 119 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 25 July; Skokholm on 25 July and 20 Aug.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 29 July; Pt Lynas on 1 Sept.

SOOTY SHEARWATER *Ardenna grisea*

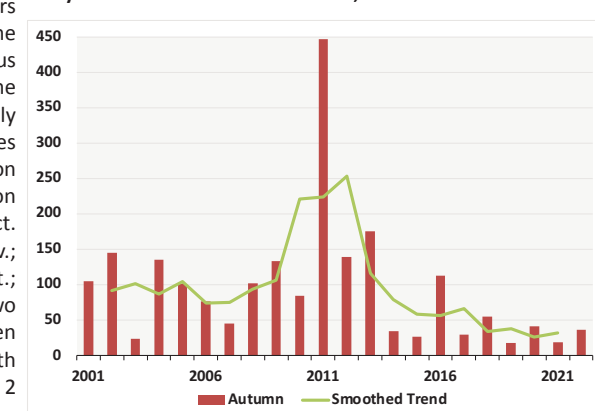
ADERYN DRYCIN DU

Uncommon autumn passage migrant, though numbers vary. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2	4
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The low numbers of recent years continue, perhaps reflecting the species' global Near Threatened status owing to the impact of fisheries, the harvesting of young and possibly climate change. All records, singles unless stated: PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 18 Aug.; 25 off Strumble Head, two on 26 Sept. and four on 27th, 16 on 1 Oct. and one on 2nd and two on 9 Nov.; CEREDIGION: Mwnt on 1 Oct.; CAERNARFON: four off Bardsey and two off Aberdaron on 1 Oct.; Porth Ysgaden on 1 Oct.; Porth Oer on 6 Oct.; Criccieth on 11 Nov.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 2 Oct.

Sooty Shearwaters recorded in Wales, 2001-22

**GREAT SHEARWATER** *Ardenna gravis*

ADERYN DRYCIN MAWR

Scarce autumn passage migrant. WBRC: 293 previous records.

PEMBROKE: one from a boat south of Grassholm on 24 Aug.

MANX SHEARWATER *Puffinus puffinus*

ADERYN DRYCIN MANAW

Breeds on Pembrokeshire islands and Bardsey, which hold 480,627 pairs, over half the global population. Large feeding movements and autumn passage off western coasts and even well up into the Bristol Channel. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	426	396
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Breeding: PEMBROKE: responses from 1247 AOB in study plots on Skomer (cf. 1410 in 2021) (Newman *et al.* 2022); 710 AOB (cf. 670 in 2021) in a sample study area of 8000m² on Skokholm (Brown and Eagle 2022); 6225 AOB on Ramsey (cf. 4796 in 2016); CAERNARFON: present but no full count on Bardsey; called from potentially suitable habitat on the Great Orme at 01:30 on 18 June.

Notable was a record of an egg in a Skokholm nest in early June from which the same pair had damaged

an egg on 15 May; wardens believe that although the original (damaged) egg could have been laid by another bird, it is more plausible that the second egg was a re-lay, something rarely reported and never proven conclusively in this species (Brown and Eagle 2022).

Nesting productivity estimates (chicks/breeding pair): PEMBROKE: c.0.69 on Skokholm (*cf.* 0.79 in 2021) (Brown and Eagle 2022); CAERNARFON: 57 fledged from sample plot of 74 burrows on Bardsey, 0.77/nest (*cf.* 0.65 in 2021), 5% above the average since 1998.

There were winter records in CAERNARFON, past Mynydd Mawr on 3 Jan. and off Porth Oer on 17 Feb. while the first in PEMBROKE was at Skokholm on 6 March, the third earliest on the island this century. The last records of the year were off Strumble Head, PEMBROKE, on 25 Nov. and Porth Oer, CAERNARFON, on 19-20 Dec.

Manx Shearwater: max. daily counts		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	1340	5200	12,550	5000	22,000	27,500	3174	11	7
	Strumble Head		1	500	500	2000	1800	500	99	20
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	152	230	10,000	2500	1000	12,252	266	58	
	Porth Ysgaden			1380	600	1510	2600	1		
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	1	5	5418	>500	143	85	3	1	1

Other large counts: GWENT: 371 off Goldcliff Pt on 4 June (included birds up and down channel, so likely to be some repetition); E.GLAMORGAN: 400 off Lavernock Pt on 4 June; 1500 off Irongate Pt on 28 June and 131 here on 2 Aug.; GOWER: max. 3500 off Port Eynon on 30 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: c.3000 off Cefn Sidan on 17 May, c.3500 here on 28th, 2302 on 13 June and 2118 on 11 Aug.; PEMBROKE: 10,000 off Skomer on 11 June and 15,000 here on 24 July; 1500 off Marloes on 2 July; CEREDIGION: 20,000 off Ynyslas on 10 July and 6500 on 14 Aug.; 3000 between Borth and Aberystwyth on 9 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: >1000 off Tywyn on 2 June; >10,000 off Aberdysynni on 21 July; CAERNARFON: >200 rafting off the Great Orme on 27 July; 1100 off Criccieth on 20 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 2500/hour west past Cemlyn on 25 July; 4680 passed Wylfa Head on 4 Aug.

We might expect increasing counts in the Bristol Channel as the breeding population on Lundy, Devon, has increased to over 12,500 breeding pairs, from 500 at the turn of the century.

BALEARIC SHEARWATER *Puffinus mauretanicus* ADERYN DRYCIN BALEARIG
Uncommon autumn migrant to western coasts, though larger numbers can occur in the Celtic Sea (e.g. 23% of the global population in 2014). Wales Red-listed.

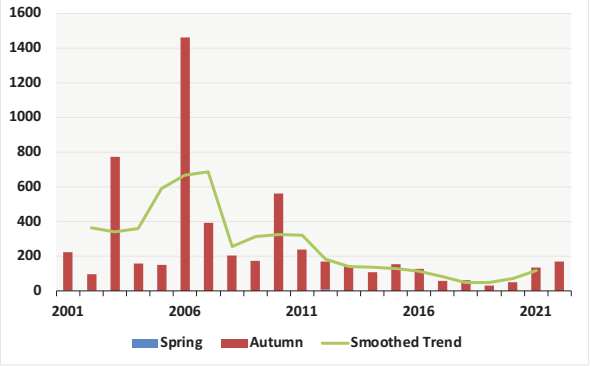
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	14	34
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

It was the best autumn since 2011, with 176 individuals, but numbers of this globally threatened species remain far lower than in the first decade of the century.

Balearic Shearwater: total counts		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	3	4	3	
	Strumble Head		36	34	19
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			21	5
ANGLESEY	Cemlyn		6	1	1

Other records, singles unless stated: **Balearic Shearwaters recorded in Wales, 2001-22**

CARMARTHEN: Cefn Sidan on 12 Aug., the fifth county record; CEREDIGION: off Ynys Lochtyn on 14 Aug.; Mwnt on 20 Aug., 13 here on 9 Sept. and five on 1 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Criccieth on 20 Aug.; two off Porth Oer on 24 Aug. and one here on 27th; Porth Ysgaden on 31 Aug.; Rhos Pt on 26 Sept.; ANGLESEY: Wylfa and Pt Lynas on 4 Aug.; Wylfa on 5, 21 and 24 Aug.; two past Llam Carw on 23 Aug.; Pt Lynas on 25 and 26 Aug., and 9 Sept.; two passed RSPB South Stack on 25 Aug.



WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia* CICONIA GWYN
Scarce visitor from mainland Europe, but birds also introduced to southern England. Only those proven to be unringed are accepted as wild – see also p.366. WBRC: 75 previous records.

FLINT: Queensferry on 27 March.

GANNET *Morus bassanus* HUGAN
Two breeding colonies. Elsewhere, occurs off all coasts throughout the year. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1264	1293
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	5%

Apparently Occupied Sites: PEMBROKE: 34,491, compared to 36,011 in 2015 (-4%), in mid-June, before it became evident that HPAI was causing high mortality in adults and chicks; ANGLESEY: 21 on Ynys Badrig, fledged at least seven (max. count 300 on 24 May).

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate for Gannet, much like other passage seabirds, has halved since 2013-15, suggesting that relatively fewer seawatching records are being submitted.

Gannet: max. daily counts		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm			12	29	122	52	5838	940	458	204	35	16
	Strumble Head		20	11		50	100	200	150	500	500	250	
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			8	71	33	48	60	159	742	257		
	Porth Ysgaden				5	40	59	129	48	27	10		
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack		7	11	18	41	25	>50	45	150	94	5	5
	Point Lynas			P	P	2	7	80	40	244	1		

Other notable counts and county max. GWENT: three off Goldcliff Pt on 20 Feb. and four here on 24 April; E.GLAMORGAN: nine off Lavernock Pt on 5 June; GOWER: up to 150 daily off Port Eynon Pt between 28 Aug. and 1 Sept.; 60 fed in Three Cliffs Bay on 9 Sept.; CARMARTHEN: 125 off Cefn Sidan on 28 May and c.200 here on 26 and 28 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 400 off Skomer on 25 July and 1000 here on 14 Aug.; CEREDIGION: 400 off Gwbert on 25 June and 21 July; 220 off Ynyslas on 14 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 25 off Aberdysynni on 2 May and 105 here on 24 July; 30 off Aberdyfi on 12 July; CAERNARFON: 139 in Llandudno

Bay on 7 May; 140 off Criccieth on 20 Aug. and 750 here on 22 Sept.; 620 off Aberdaron and 204 off Rhos Pt on 1 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 230 west of Wylfa on 2 Oct.; DENBIGH: six off Rhos-on-Sea on 30 Oct.; FLINT: >35 feeding off Gronant on 28 June.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* MULFRAN
Breeding resident in coastal counties (1477 pairs, -17% since 2000). Frequent offshore elsewhere. Regular inland. Wintering population 2894 individuals. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022	Apparently Occupied Nests: 1197 (cf. 1031 when tabulated sites were last counted, +16%). This was a welcome increase, at almost every colony, after last year’s recent low point. Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.
No of BirdTrack records	5371	5830	
% of BirdTrack lists	24%	26%	

Number of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	Previous count (year)
PEMBROKE	St Margaret’s Island	137	112 (2021)
	Dinas Head	3	2 (2018)
	Middleholm	15	10 (2021)
MONTGOMERY	Llyn Coed-y-dinas	3	3 (2021)
CAERNARFON	Great Orme	95	53 (2021)
	Little Orme	422	428 (2021)
	Ynysoedd Gwylan	6	10 (2021)
ANGLESEY	Puffin Island	502	402 (2021)
	RSPB South Stack	14	11 (2021)

Other nest sites: GOWER: 1 AON at Southgate; CEREDIGION: 1 AON on Cardigan Island was unusual; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Craig yr Aderyn; ANGLESEY: 2-5 AON at Ynys Llanddwyn on 7 March.

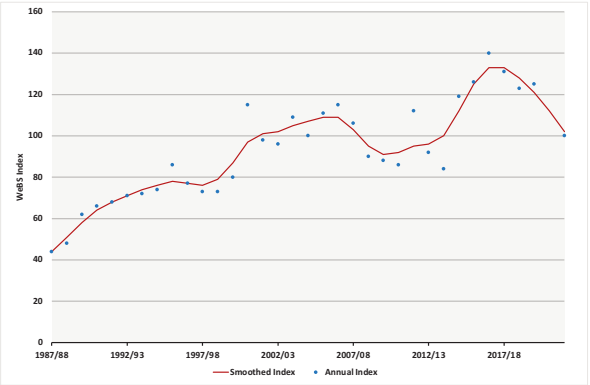
Non-breeding: the WeBS smoothed trend has fallen to its lowest level since 2013/14, and by 23% in just four years, reflecting the decline in the breeding population. Much of this is driven by reductions on the coast between Colwyn Bay and Abergele, although totals on the adjacent Clwyd estuary have increased.

Sites with ≥50 Cormorants		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
E.GLAMORGAN	*Cardiff Bay	87	68	39	14	7	20	22	29	63	88	91	122
GOWER	Burry Inlet – south	19	18						48	55			14
CARMARTHEN	Penclacwydd	47	12	17	3	2	12	14	16	34	53	73	63
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	52	131	33	9	3	6	2	13	60	117	56	55
CER/MONT/MEI	Dyfi estuary	15	4	11	20	8	25	67	34	60	71	38	8
MEIRIONNYDD	Broadwater/Aberdysynni	13	11		31	12		73	134	67	38	16	3
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd estuary	7	2	2		12	P		137	3	16	3	
CAERNARFON	Great Orme	15	16	45	20	4	50	55	20	10	10	6	17
	Little Orme	400	200	52	200	90	44	68	50	200	127	127	62
DENBIGH	Llanddulas-Abergele	24	50	12	9	3	3		1	86	22	31	21
	Clwyd estuary	31	38	66	50	166	152	173	287	283	247	74	66
FLINT	Gronant	368	55	31	58	81	73	70	132	180	c.300	c.400	160
	CQNR/Oakenholt	>20	28	48	17	7	7	20	32	58	42	16	12

*includes Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve.

Counts ≥50 elsewhere: MEIRIONNYDD: 62 at Harlech on 22 June; CAERNARFON: regularly off Rhos Pt, highest hourly rate was 137 on 11 Sept.; 65 fed off Penrhyn Bay breakwater on 20 Sept. and c.80 roosted here at low tide on 29th; ANGLESEY: 100 off Ynys Llanddwyn on 5 Aug.; FLINT: 105 on R.Clwyd at St Asaph on 27 May; c.60 at Talacre on 11 Dec.

P.c. sinensis (Continental Cormorant / Wetland Bird Survey: Cormorant in Wales 1987/88-2021/22 Mulfran y Cyfandir)
Likely to be under-reported, especially inland where 18% of birds shot in the late 1990s were identified as this subspecies. WBRC maintained records from the first identified in the field, in 2004, until 2020. It determined regular occurrence, especially in Breconshire. The Welsh Bird Report continues to report records that include details of the angle of the gular patch (Newson et al. 2004), which is the only diagnostic feature.



E.GLAMORGAN: four at Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 20 March; BRECON: two at Llangorse Lake on 12 Jan., one on 26th, three on 12 March and one on 16 April.

SHAG *Gulosus aristotelis* MULFRAN WERDD
Localised breeding species on rocky coasts from Gower to Anglesey (651 pairs, -29% since 2000). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022	Breeding colony counts: 334 Apparently Occupied Nests (cf. 346 when these sites were last counted, -3%). There are some stark differences in the table below, including the almost total abandonment of the colony on the Little Orme, but the second highest count on Bardsey since 1953. Shaded figures show declines since the previous count.
No of BirdTrack records	952	1187	
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	5%	

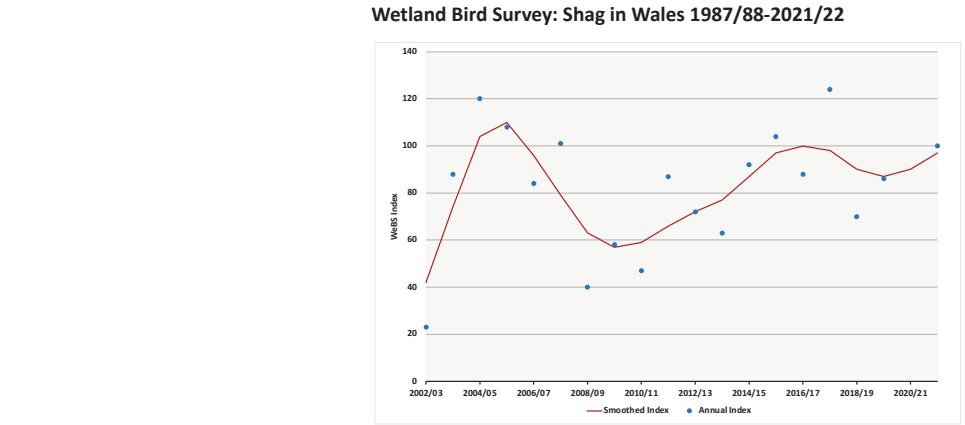
Number of Apparently Occupied Nests at regularly monitored sites.

		AON	Previous count (year)
PEMBROKE	Middleholm	21	13 (2021)
	Caldey	3	0 (2021)
	St Margaret’s Island	3	3 (2021)
	Skomer	4	2 (2021)
	Castlemartin peninsula	7	6 (2021)
CEREDIGION	Cardigan Island	4	4 (2021)
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	65	59 (2021)
	Ynysoedd Gwylan	29	45(2021)
	Great Orme	9	0 (2021)
	Little Orme	2	29 (2021)
ANGLESEY	Puffin Island	169	172 (2021)
	RSPB South Stack	8	6 (2019)
	The Skerries	10	7 (2021)

Other breeding records. GOWER: pair bred at Devil’s Truck; PEMBROKE: probably bred at Carn Fran, Ramsey and Morfa Head; CEREDIGION: 4 AON on Cardigan Island; ANGLESEY: 3 AON on Ynys Llanddwyn.

Fledging productivity (young/ nest): CAERNARFON: 146 fledged on Bardsey (2.25); 38 young in 23 nests on Ynys Gwylan-fawr (1.31); ANGLESEY: 17 fledged on The Skerries (1.7).

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index suggests a stable population, but may not be representative of their favoured rocky coasts. The mean annual BirdTrack reporting rate fell 55% between 2013-15 and 2020-22, but at least some of this probably results from fewer seawatches in recent years, evident in the rate for more pelagic species.



Max. daily counts from sites in CAERNARFON.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bardsey			21	47	50	162	70	85	41	36	3	
Great Orme	18	12	20	28	18	41	50	3	21	6	5	19
Little Orme-Rhos Pt	200	120	52	28	4		11	82	300	142	180	27

Max. counts elsewhere: GOWER: four in Bracelet Bay on 15 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 18 in Fishguard harbour on 4 Jan.; max. 27 off Skokholm on 27 Aug.; 17 at Druidston on 25 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 17 off Ynyslas on 5 Jan.; 24 off Mwnt on 4 Aug.; 40 at Gwbert on 8 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 11 off Aberdysynni in Feb. and Sept.; CAERNARFON: 30 at Porth Ysgaden on 18 July and 50 here on 28 Aug.; 25 at Foryd on 27 Feb.; ANGLESEY: 30 off Traeth Coch on 28 April; 20 off Aberffraw on 1 July; >80 off Penmon Pt on 25 Dec.; DENBIGH: 22 off Llanddulas on 24 Feb.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* IBIS DDU
Uncommon but increasing visitor from Europe. WBRC: 149 previous records.

Although challenging to ascertain how many individuals were involved, the records below represent 25 individuals. This was the last year that the WBRC assessed records. All single birds unless stated. GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 26-29 March and Peterstone Gout on 3 April; E.GLAMORGAN: Tir Founder fields on 26 April; Kenfig NNR on 19 Nov.; GOWER: two at Waunarlwyd from 5 Jan. to 18 Feb., one of which was at Swansea Vale on 11 Feb. and 25 March, and presumed same as Gowerton on 15 Dec. 2021; three over Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 17 Jan.; Llansamlet on 8 March; Reynoldston on 15 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: five at Burry Port on 5 Jan.; Llwynhendy on 26 Jan.; two at Penclacwydd on 10-17 Feb. and one presumed same at Bynea on 23 Feb.; four at Penclacwydd and Loughor est. on 18 April; Penclacwydd on 10-14 Sept., possibly since 6th; PEMBROKE: two at Castlemartin Corse on 14-15 Jan.; Hook on 8 Jan.; Dale from 19 Jan. to 1 Feb. and 13-23 March; Nevern est. on 3 Nov.; CEREDIGION: Llangwryfon on 8 Jan.; ANGLESEY: three over Traeth Dulas on 4 Jan., presumed same two adults at Llyn Maelog on 14-20 Jan. and the 2CY on 14-26th.

SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia* LLWYBIG
Uncommon visitor to Wales, mainly to coastal wetlands, in autumn, but increasingly in spring and summer. Wales Amber-listed.

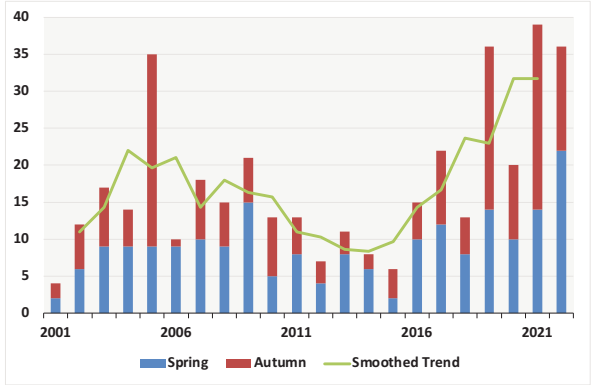
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	140	332
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Following record numbers in winter 2021/22, there were fewer in the second half of the year, and records were less widely distributed.

In addition to those in the table below, singles unless stated: CARMARTHEN: Taf est. on 14 Sept.; ANGLESEY: RSPB Cors Ddyga on 5 April.

2021 FLINT, additional records: one at Sealand Rifle Range on 21 April; max. three at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands on 17 May; singles at Connah's Quay NR on 11 July, 3-29 Aug. and 8-12 Oct.

Spoonbills recorded in Wales, based on max. in each county in each season 2001-22



Spoonbill: max. at principal sites		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Newport Wetlands	1		2	5	1		1			1		1
GOWER/CARM	Burry Inlet	10	8	9	5	4				5	6	6	6
FLINT	Dee estuary							1	5	4			

BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris* ADERYN Y BWN
Uncommon but regular winter visitor and, since 2016, breeding species. RBBP: nine booming males and three nests in 2021. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	92	105
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding season: 8-9 booming males. GWENT: one boomed at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth); E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig on 15 May; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 29 April; ANGLESEY: three boomed at RSPB Cors

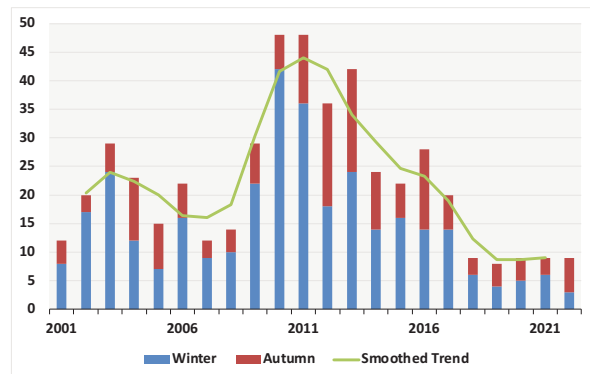
Ddyga and four at RSPB Valley Wetlands (although one for just a week in early May), but no proof of successful breeding.

2021 FLINT, additional record: one at Gronant on 28 May.

Non-breeding: note that the chart on p.261 excludes birds from sites once nesting has been confirmed. Single birds elsewhere in the first winter period: E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 11 Jan.; GOWER: Oxwich Marsh on 5 March; MONTGOMERY: Cors Dyfi on 15 March.

Second winter period: E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 21 Sept., 10 Oct. and from 16 Nov. to 30 Dec., with two here on 10-12 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 14 Dec.; PEMBROKE: Bosherton Lakes on 18 Nov.; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 7, 18 and 20 Sept.; BRECON: Llangorse Lake on 3 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: Crynllwyn reedbed, Ynysmaengwyn, on 24 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Malltraeth Cob on 7 Aug.

Non-breeding Bitterns recorded in Wales away from breeding sites, 2001-22

**CATTLE EGRET** *Bubulcus ibis*

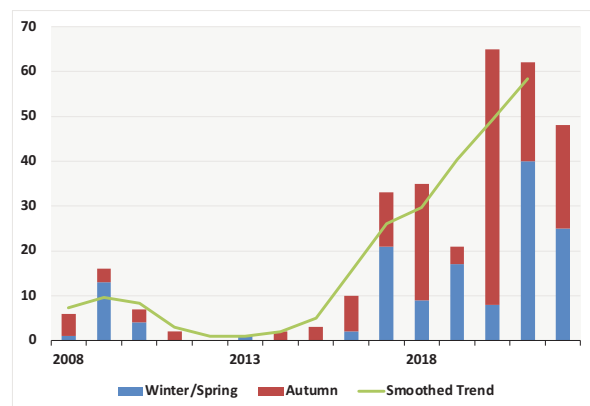
CREYR GWARTHEG

Uncommon, but increasing, visitor from Europe. Nested just over the Flintshire border at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands in 2017, 2019 and 2020. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	147	280
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Singles unless stated: GWENT: St Brides from 23 Dec. 2021 to 6 March; Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 25 Aug. and 13-14 Oct.; Peterstone Wentlooge on 17 Sept. and 9 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: Llanishen Res. on 5 Sept.; Lavernock Pt on 9 Oct. (as Gwent); GOWER: Penclawdd on 14 July; CARMARTHEN: Penallt Farm, Kidwelly, from Dec. 2021 to 11 Jan.; Penclacwydd area on 14-18 April and another on 9 Oct.; St Clears on 11 Dec.; PEMBROKE: up to eight on R.Pembroke near Quoits Mill from 2021 until 17 March and then at Nevern est. on 21st; St Davids on 1 Jan.; Llys-y-fran Res. from 23 Jan. to 23 Feb.; Castlemartin Corse on 7 June and 7 Sept.; Porthclais on 18-19 Oct.; two at Westfield Pill on 16 Nov.; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 7 Sept.; RADNOR: Lower Wye throughout the year; two at Llowes on 20 March; MONTGOMERY: Dolydd Hafren on dates between 2 Feb. and 29 March, and again on 7 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey from 17 Jan. to 28 March; Aber Ogwen on 13 Sept., 9 and 16 Oct.; Seiont est. on 21 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Valley area between 4 Jan. and 6 April, sometimes at Llyn Traffwll (two here on 18-20 March) and at Llyn Llywenan; RSPB Cors Ddyga from 28 Aug. to 9 Sept.; DENBIGH: Clwyd est. from 13 Oct. to 1 Nov.; FLINT: two at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands Border Pool on 26 March, four here on 3 April (a pair displayed in the heronry on the Wirral side in May), one on 13-24 Sept. and four on 13-31 Oct.; two at Gronant on 21 April; two on Shotwick Fields on 27 Nov.; two at Connah's Quay NR on 7 Dec.

Cattle Egrets recorded in Wales, 2008-22

**GREY HERON** *Ardea cinerea*

CREYR GLAS

Fairly common resident species. The BTO Heronries Census estimated 797 (694-951) AON in 2019. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4354	5053
% of BirdTrack lists	18%	22%

The Breeding Bird Survey trend fluctuates over the long-term, but remains only a little below the baseline, whereas the UK results from the dedicated BTO Heronries Census show a decline of more than 26% since 1995.

Apparently Occupied Nests. GWENT: five at Magor Marsh; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Tir Founder fields; GOWER: 20-23 at seven sites (cf. 23-25 at the same sites in 2021), largest 5 at Margam; PEMBROKE: 39 at seven sites (largest 12 at Mastlebridge); CEREDIGION: 16 at Cockshead; three at Nanteos; BRECON: 66 AON at four sites (largest 29 at Llandetty); MONTGOMERY: 32 at The Flash, Welshpool; bred at six other sites; CAERNARFON: 44 at five sites (largest 16 at Glynllifon) and bred at Trefriw; ANGLESEY: bred at Church Island and Bodorgan; DENBIGH: 29 at four sites (largest 18 at Llyn-y-briw, near Llangedwyn).

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: 6 AON at Tal-y-cafn and 5 AON at Lleweni.

Non-breeding: the Wetland Bird Survey index has increased slightly over the ten years, but has yet to make up the decline that occurred in the previous decade.

Sites with ≥10 Grey Herons		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Nedern Valley	8	12	3	10	12	2					2	3
	Magor Marsh	1	13	4	6	6	6	4	2	3	3		1
GOWER	Margam Park	2	11	2	8	6	2	1	2	2	1		2
	Gwendraeth estuary	4	17	17	1			5	1	8	10	13	12
	Tywi estuary	10	2	11		3	1	5			2	6	1
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	6	6	13					3	8	8	4	5
BRECON	Llangorse Lake	20	11	11	3	2	4	2	2	5	6	4	10
MEIR/CAER	Glaslyn/Dwyrdd est.			1						11	1	4	
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	23	6	2	2	1	15	2	21	21	28	17	10
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	8	9	12									
	RSPB Cors Ddyga	2		7	4	5	5	10	6	4	2	4	
	Church Island		20	10		11		7		1	30	16	28
DENBIGH	Conwy estuary	26	26	3	13	9	6	10	11	6	14	11	11
	Clwyd estuary	3	1	1	1	2	5	10	10	7	2	4	2
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	8	7	4	5	5	8	14	12	16	12	9	9

Counts ≥10 elsewhere. E.GLAMORGAN: 13 at Pen y Graig, Treharris, on 4 March; 11 at Coryton Woods on 8 March; GOWER: 10 at Briton Ferry on 2 Jan.; BRECON: 11 at Y Byddwyn NR on 18 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 10 at Cefni Res. on 27 Aug.; FLINT: 14 at White Sands on 31 Aug.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

CREYR PORFFOR

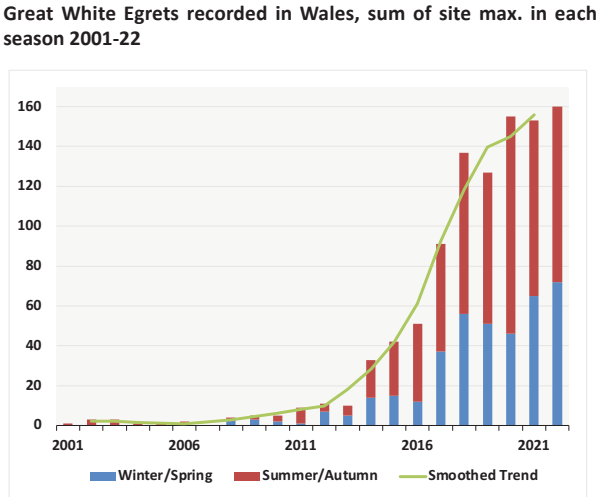
Scarce visitor from southern Europe. WBRC: 74 previous records.

GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmoth) on 15-22 May; ANGLESEY: RSPB Valley Wetlands on 18-19 July; RSPB Cors Ddyga on 3-23 Aug.

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Ardea alba* CREYR MAWR GWYN
Uncommon but increasingly regular visitor at any time of the year. RBBP: possibly bred in E.Glamorgan in 2020 and 2021, and bred on Wirral side of the Dee estuary from 2019. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	790	960
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	3%

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate reached another new high (3.1%), having been consistently <1% until 2018. It is no longer feasible to calculate accurately the number of individuals in Wales, so the site maxima in each period are used to generate a trend, and that rate of growth may be slowing. Records on the Dee estuary, FLINT, in spring may have included two pairs that nested on the Wirral part of RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands. The 21 at Connah's Quay NR, FLINT, in September matches the total here in August 2021 as the Welsh record.



Great White Egret: county totals		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT			1	1	2	2		2	3	2	1	1	2
E.GLAMORGAN		2		2	2	2	3	3		4	4	1	
GOWER	Burry Inlet - south	9	3	6	1		2		3	4	4	1	1
CARMARTHEN	Gwendraeth estuary	1	2	2				1	1	2	3	2	2
	Dryslwyn/Cilsan	4	2	2	2			1	1	1	2	4	4
	elsewhere	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	1	7	4	3	4
PEMBROKE		1		3	1		2			2	10	2	
PEM/MONT/CER	Dyfi estuary	1	3	2	3	1	2	3	2	4	6	7	2
CEREDIGION			1		1		1	1	3	2			1
BRECON		13	12	6	3	3		1	3	3	4	7	11
RADNOR				6							6		1
MONTGOMERY		3	1	2	2	1	3	1	4	3	2	4	1
MEIRIONNYDD		1		2	1		1		1				
CAERNARFON		1	1		4		1	2	1	2	3	3	1
ANGLESEY	RSPB Cors Ddyga	3	2	7	4	2	1	3	1	1	2	1	2
	elsewhere	1		4	1	1		2	1	1	2		
DENBIGH	Conwy estuary	1	1		1	1	2	2	2	3	5	3	2
	elsewhere	1								1	1		
FLINT		4	2	3	6	2	7	18	14	22	11	5	3

Largest groups (included above): GOWER: nine at Staffal Haegr on 28 Jan.; PEMBROKE: six over Ceibwr on 20 Oct. presumed to be the same as on the Dyfi est., CEREDIGION, on 19th; BRECON: 13 at Llangorse Lake in Jan. (only three records in the county were away from this site); RADNOR: six at Glasbury in March and

Oct.; FLINT: 21 at Connah's Quay NR on 21 Sept.

Colour-ringing: MONTGOMERY: red AAR at Aberbechan on 7 Jan. (and also seen in the county in July and Oct. 2021) had hatched in Somerset in spring 2021.

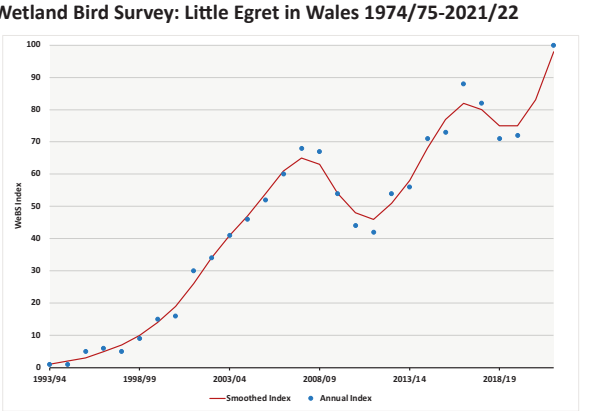
LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta* CREYR BACH
Rare but increasing breeder - RBBP: 153 nests at 20 sites in 2021. Fairly common autumn migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3727	4561
% of BirdTrack lists	15%	19%

Breeding: c.82 AON. GWENT: 9 AON at Magor Marsh; GOWER: 5-7 AON at one site; CARMARTHEN: bred at four sites, two of which had 3 AON each; BRECON: breeding suspected at two sites; RADNOR: 3 AON; MONTGOMERY: 3 AON at The Flash, Welshpool; CAERNARFON: 21 AON at Abercegin, two AON at Benarth but none at Glynllifon; ANGLESEY: at least 10 young at Bodorgan herony; DENBIGH: 5 AON at Tal-y-cafn; FLINT: min. 20 AON at RSPB Pt of Ayr.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: 7-8 AON at Tal-y-cafn.

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate and the Wetland Bird Survey index each reached a new high, following a couple of poorer years. The 81 at Cymyran on 19 Sept. was a record count for ANGLESEY, and WeBS counts at Traeth Lafan were the highest since 2016/17.



Sites with ≥30 Little Egrets		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	Magor Marsh	1	13	5	44	20	15	7	4			1	1
GOWER	Burry Inlet - south	45	21	20	21	12	10	29	15	14	21	45	25
	Upper Loughor estuary	6	12	10	7	15	12	25	30+	54	12	11	9
	Neath estuary	7	25	15	1	1		10	20	9	52	14	17
CARMARTHEN	Loughor estuary	5	12	10	7	12	10	7	30	10	7	8	9
	Penclacwydd	6	4	5	4	3	6	30	45	93	26	10	11
	Cefn Padrig	2		10	4	1	2	5	42	9	39	11	
	Llanelli North Dock	7						2		47	66	17	
	Gwendraeth estuary	9	6	24	3	5	3	15	38	39	38	23	16
	Taf estuary	12	12	18	2		1			46	38	28	6
PEMBROKE	Cleddau estuary	42	39	43	4	2	8	23	85	87	83	64	41
MEIRIONNYDD	Mawddach estuary	3		7	1			1		30	22	11	8
CAERNARFON	Traeth Lafan	15	10	13	16	10	25	51	86	165	62	25	4
	Foryd	13	6	23	9	18	28	26	34	36	11	12	20
ANGLESEY	Beddmanarch-Cymyran	14	14	33	4	2	9	3	30	81	57	5	9
DENBIGH	Conwy estuary	41	19	11	15	14	30	60	60	68	36	35	18
FLINT	CQNR/Oakenholt	5	3	14	11	7	25	50	86	84	50	12	4
	Bagillt Bank	1	9	2	9	5	2	15	12	137	140		3
	Walwen Fields	4		3	10	2	8	37	101	11	40	4	1
	Point of Ayr	7	10	9	37	15	20	25	32	50	19	4	7

Other site maxima ≥30: ANGLESEY: 64 roosted at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 12 Aug.; DENBIGH: 47 on Clwyd est. on 13 Sept.; FLINT: 30 at Flint on 11 Aug.

Highest inland counts: BRECON: 24 at Llangorse Lake in Aug. and 22 here in Jan.; RADNOR: 19 at Glasbury/Llowes on 20 March; MONTGOMERY: 22 at Dolydd Hafren on 25 Jan.; 25 at Llyn Coed-y-dinas on 18 Sept.

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* GWALCH PYSGOD
Rare breeder since 2004 - RBBP: seven nests and three other territories in 2021. Elsewhere, an uncommon passage migrant.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	213	379
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

Breeding: 17 chicks from seven nests, the best year on record, and at least five further territories occupied without evidence of breeding. BRECON: pair summered in Usk Valley and 1-2 birds in Wye Valley; RADNOR: birds summered at two sites; MONTGOMERY: three fledged at MWT Cors Dyfi; three fledged at Clywedog Res.; MEIRIONNYDD: three chicks fledged in Nant Glaslyn, the eldest being the 50th to hatch since the nest was occupied in 2004 (and sighted in Senegal in Dec. 2022); three chicks at another nest plus a territorial pair elsewhere in the north of county and 1-2 pairs present at a site in the south of the county but breeding not confirmed; CAERNARFON: two chicks fledged at Pont Croesor; one chick fledged at a new site; ANGLESEY: male in Cefni Valley from 17 June to late Aug., with a second male on 17 June; DENBIGH: two fledged at Llyn Brenig.

2021: DENBIGH: an additional nest was reported to the Rare Breeding Bird Panel (Eaton *et al.* 2023b) that had not been reported to the county recorder.

Earliest: 21 March at Malltraeth, ANGLESEY; latest: 28 Oct. at Sprinkle Pill, PEMBROKE. The trend of birds remaining at sites in the autumn has increased. This year's included 1-2 in the Burry Inlet, GOWER, on 4-20 Sept.; at least two in the Cleddau est., PEMBROKE, from 3 Sept. to at least 21 Oct. (one of which fledged from northwest Wales in 2019); up to three on the Teifi est., PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION, from 11 Sept. to 24 Oct.; one at Traeth Lafan, CAERNARFON, from 11 Sept. to 5 Oct.; and a 1CY male on Cefni est., ANGLESEY, from 6 Sept. to 7 Oct.

Notable. MEIRIONNYDD/CAERNARFON: nine in the air at Pont Croesor on 5 Sept. is likely to be the largest single count ever in Wales.

Numbers in each county, excluding those listed in the breeding season above.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
GWENT		2				2	1	1
E.GLAMORGAN	1	4						
GOWER	1					3	5	
CARMARTHEN		1			1	4	4	2
PEMBROKE		3	1	1		1	7	6
CEREDIGION		2			1		1	1
BRECON		4		1		4	1	
RADNOR	1					1		1
MONTGOMERY			1		1	2	1	
MEIRIONNYDD	1	3	2		1	4	3	
CAERNARFON	1	3	7	2	1	5	7	1
ANGLESEY	2	2	4	2	1	2	1	
DENBIGH	1	3	1			2		
FLINT		3	1				1	

HONEY-BUZZARD *Pernis apivorus* BODA MEL
Rare breeder since 1992. Population estimated at 14-20 pairs but under-reported. RBBP: 2-4 pairs in 2021. Rare on passage elsewhere. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6	4
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding. GOWER: two nests with young but ultimate outcome not known, a fledged juvenile at a third site, and a displaying male at a fourth; two males were seen at two further locations on several dates throughout the season with no display noted.

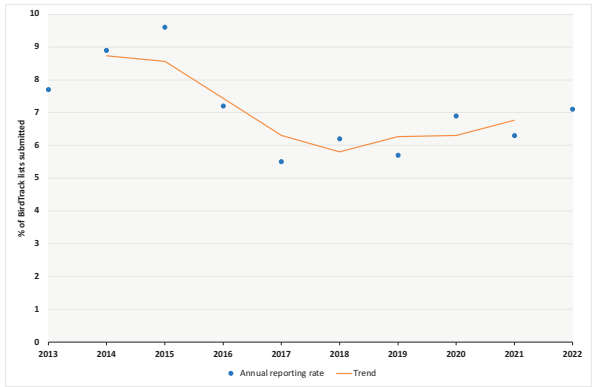
Single birds elsewhere: CARMARTHEN: Llyn Llech Owain on 18 May; PEMBROKE: Strumble Head on 10 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: Dolgellau on 20 Aug.; CAERNARFON: Porthmadog on 1 Aug.; Betws-y-coed on 10 Oct.

SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus* GWALCH GLAS
Fairly common resident (2950 breeding pairs).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1745	1937
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	7%

The UK Breeding Bird Survey index is 25% below its 1995 baseline (and 34% below the peak in 2001), but no trend is produced for Wales. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales fell until 2018, as did the BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rate, but has since made a partial recovery.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Sparrowhawk in Wales 2013-22



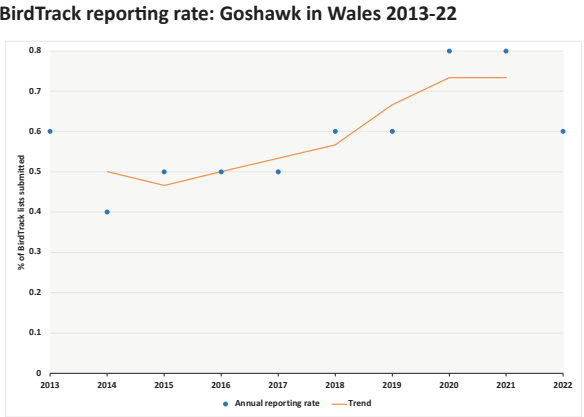
GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis* GWALCH MARTH
(Re)introduced (Category C) breeding resident, probably in all Welsh counties (310 pairs). RBBP: 39-146 pairs in 2021. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	266	223
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

Breeding season records: GWENT: bred at one site and probably at two others; E.GLAMORGAN: probably bred at three sites, and possibly at another 16; GOWER: seven territories occupied; CARMARTHEN: bred at one site and possibly at six others, fewer than usual thought related to the removal of diseased Larch plantations (Carmarthenshire Bird Report); PEMBROKE: present at five sites; CEREDIGION: several pairs around Dyfi est.; BRECON: bred at six sites, probably at 11 and possibly at another seven; MONTGOMERY: >40 pairs bred in the county; MEIRIONNYDD: min. seven territories, and present at four other sites; CAERNARFON: 1-2 in three areas of Conwy Valley; DENBIGH:

three pairs in Clocaenog Forest; FLINT: probably bred at a site in the northwest of the county and possibly at a site in the Clwydian Hills.

Selected records outside breeding season, singles unless stated: GOWER: two other sites; PEMBROKE: Skomer on 22 Aug., 10-16 Sept. and 1-12 Oct.; ANGLESEY: nine records, including two at a conifer plantation on 14 Oct.; FLINT: three sites.



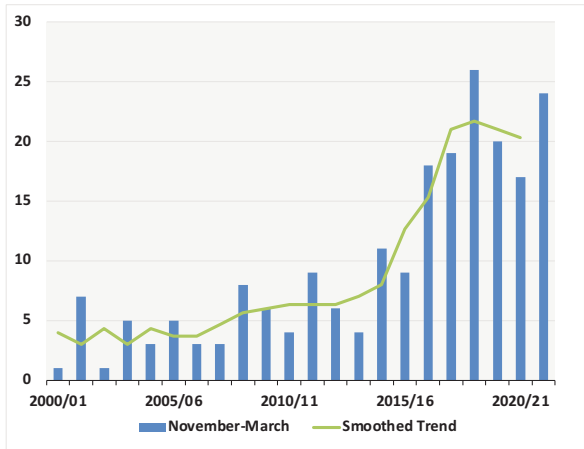
MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus* BODA'R GWERNI
Rare breeder. RBBP: six nests in three counties in 2021. Small numbers winter.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	551	951
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	3%

The BirdTrack reporting rate, at 3.3%, reached a new high, and the three-year average has increased almost five-fold since 2013-15, in line with the species' return as a breeding bird to Wales and expansion elsewhere in the UK. The number of wintering birds was greater than in the previous couple of winters, when lockdowns may have prevented recording.

Breeding sites: GWENT: two pairs bred at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) but outcome uncertain; CARMARTHEN: probably bred; ANGLESEY: four fledged from three pairs at RSPB Cors Ddyga (up to five birds in first winter period and six in the second); one pair fledged three young at RSPB Valley Wetlands (1-2 in each winter period).

Wintering Marsh Harriers recorded in Wales, based on county max. during Nov.-March, 2000/01-21/22



Numbers in each county, excluding those listed in the breeding season above

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	1			2				2	1			1
E.GLAMORGAN	3	2	1	1		1			1	1	1	2
GOWER	2					1	1	1	4		2	2
CARMARTHEN	3			1		1	2	1	2	2		
PEMBROKE	3	1	1	1	5	3	1	5	8	5	3	1
CEREDIGION	2	1		1	1	1		2	5	4	4	4
BRECON				1				1		1	2	
MONTGOMERY				1					3			
MEIRIONNYDD						1		1	1	1	1	3
CAERNARFON			1			2	2	2	7	3	1	
ANGLESEY	1	2	1	1	1		2	3	3		1	1
DENBIGH			1	1						3	2	
FLINT	6	2	2	2	1	1	4	2	3	5		5

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* BODA TINWEN
Rare breeder in the uplands of north and mid-Wales. RBBP: 29-41 pairs in 2021. Uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant elsewhere. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	257	316
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

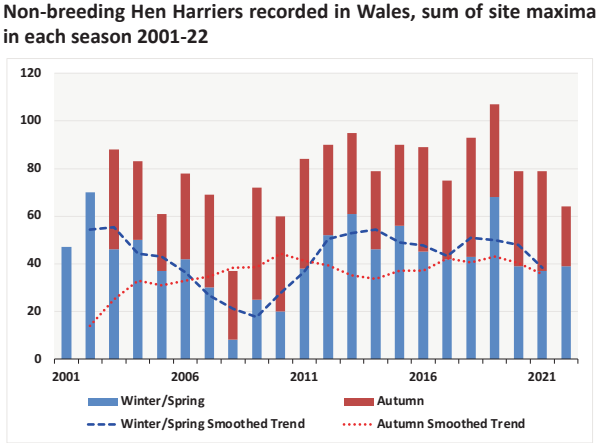
Breeding. 49 territorial pairs (and at least 36 nests), the highest number reported since the national survey in 2010. Of 34 nests where the outcome was known, 83 chicks fledged (2.4 young/nest). Ten chicks from five nests were fitted with GPS satellite tags by the RSPB, funded by Natural Resources Wales. Chicks from two nests in Eryri, CAERNARFON, tested positive for HPAI. Most nest data provided by RSPB Cymru and Keith Offord, who surveyed 52 previously occupied sites in Berwyn NNR and found 12 territorial pairs.

BRECON: possible breeding pair; RADNOR: four territories occupied; five young fledged from the two nests with known outcomes; MONTGOMERY: two pairs fledged eight young (4.0 young/pair) and the outcome at a third nest was unknown; a male displayed at another location; MEIRIONNYDD: 14 nests located, from which 33 chicks fledged (2.54) and the outcome at another nest was unknown; five other territories occupied. CAERNARFON: three nests but chicks fledged (five) from only one (1.67); four other territories occupied; DENBIGH: 13 nests located, from which 32 chicks fledged (2.46); three other territories occupied and birds seen at two other sites.

Approximate numbers in each county, excluding those listed in the breeding season above.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	2	1										1
E.GLAMORGAN		1						1	1	5	1	
GOWER	3	2	2			1				3	5	3
CARMARTHEN	2					1	1	2				
PEMBROKE	6	3	6	1	1			1		1	5	6
CEREDIGION	3	3	1					1	1		1	2
CER/MONT/MEI – Dyfi est.	2						1			1		2
BRECON	2	3					2		2		2	2
MEIRIONNYDD	1	2		1				1	1	2		1
CAERNARFON	2	1	3	2	3	2		3	2	2	2	1
ANGLESEY	4	2	4	2	2						2	2
DENBIGH	1	4	3	1			1			4	2	2
FLINT	2	2							1	1		

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate has been 0.4% for each of the last two years, the lowest level yet and less than half the value in the previous eight years. Records from bird reports were at their lowest since 2010.



PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* BODA LLWYDWYN
Very rare vagrant from eastern Europe, but range has expanded westwards. BBRC: two previous records.

PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 12 Sept.

RED KITE *Milvus milvus* BARCUD COCH
Recovered population following near extinction early in the 20th century (1350 breeding pairs), although remains uncommon within 30km of coast. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

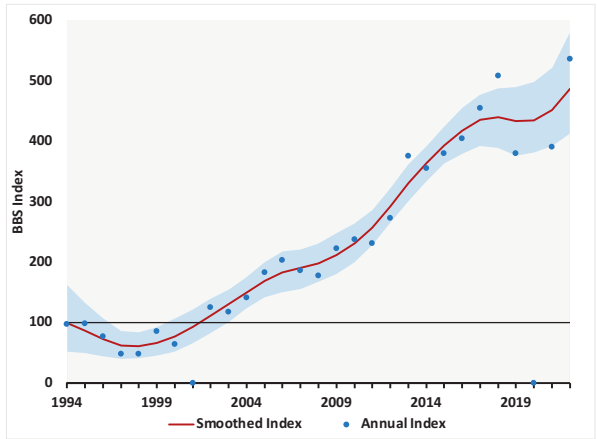
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2427	2404
% of BirdTrack lists	9%	8%

Following a couple of years below par, the Breeding Bird Survey index climbed to a new high, at 423% the greatest increase of any native species in Wales over the long-term. The BirdTrack reporting rate was slightly below its record high of 2021.

Selected breeding records outside core area: GWENT: two nests at Brynmawr; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Rhymney and probably at three other sites; GOWER: three pairs probably bred; ANGLESEY: probably bred near Talwrn; FLINT: pair in Clwydian Hills, but breeding not confirmed.

Large counts included: GOWER: 51 at

Breeding Bird Survey: Red Kite in Wales, 1994-2022



Crymlyn Burrows on 18 April; CARMARTHEN: 90 at Llanddeusant feeding station on 28 April and >200 here on 24 Sept.; 31 on a field spread with slurry at Cilsan Bridge on 20 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 16 near Haverfordwest on 19 Jan.; 15 at Cemaes Head on 8 July; CEREDIGION: 105 at Bwlch Nant-yr-Arian on 14 Jan., 175 here on 7 Aug. and 24 Sept., and 300 on 19 Sept.; BRECON: 18 following tractors during hay-making near Cefn Llechid on 13 July; 31 over Talgarth on 10 Dec.; RADNOR: 400 at Gigrin Farm on 27 Feb., >300 here on 24 May, 400 on 23 Aug. and 450 on 25 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: 19 at Pennal on 15 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 10 above Caerhun on 3 Feb. and >25 over Tal-y-bont on 28 Dec.; DENBIGH: 20 at Garreg Ddu, Berwyn, on 25 Oct.; 12 at Llanarmon DC on 8 Sept.

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans* BARCUD DU
Rare visitor from mainland Europe. WBRC: 27 previous records.

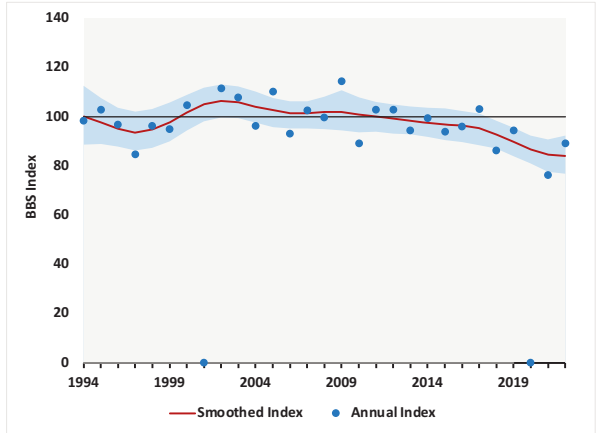
GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 2 Sept.; CEREDIGION: Bwlch Nant-yr-arian on 1-9 Aug.; ANGLESEY: Llyn Coron on 7 Aug.

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo* BWN CATH
Fairly common and widespread breeding resident (9850-13,500 pairs). Wales Green-listed

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6841	6295
% of BirdTrack lists	29%	27%

Breeding Bird Survey: Buzzard in Wales, 1994-2022

A slight recovery in the Breeding Bird Survey index compared to 2021, but as a scavenging species, HPAI has potential for a considerable impact. The index is 13% below its 1995 baseline, and 21% lower than its 2002 peak, a direction of travel evident in all parts of the UK. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales was its lowest yet.



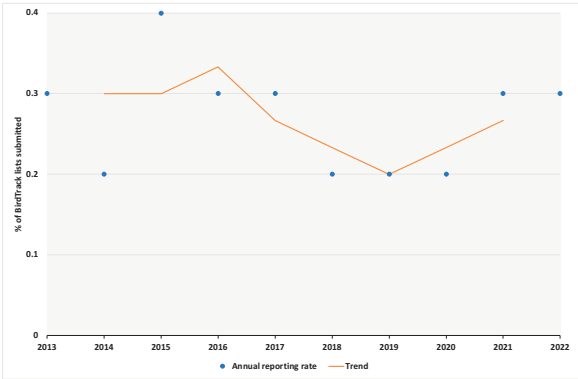
Large counts: GWENT: 10 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 18 March; E.GLAMORGAN: 36 over Fairwater Park on 30 June; CEREDIGION: 11 at Cors Caron on 27 Jan.; BRECON: 19 at Y Byddwyn NR on 10 March and 23 here on 18 Oct.; 13 over Pencelli on 3 May; 15 worming on a field near Libanus on 9 Oct.; RADNOR: 12 near Glasbury on 10 Feb.; MONTGOMERY: 12 feeding on worms near Dylife on 5 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 22 at Caerhun on 28 Feb.; ANGLESEY: 19 over Mynydd Bodafon on 18 Sept.; DENBIGH: 12 near Llansilin on 20 March and 30 April; 10 at Mwdwl-eithin on 10 April.

BARN OWL *Tyto alba* TYLLUAN WEN
Uncommon breeding resident in all counties (633-728 pairs). Population probably stable in the long term, but annual numbers vary considerably. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	128	136
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding, 423 young ringed at 147 nests containing broods (2.88 young/nest, cf. 3.29 in 2021). Data courtesy of Goldcliff Ringing Group, Montgomeryshire Barn Owl Group and Species Habitat Protection Group, and individual ringers in other counties.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Barn Owl in Wales 2013-22



Barn Owl: breeding productivity.

	Nests	Young ringed	Young/nest
GWENT	15	45	3.0
GOWER	12	38	3.2
BRECON	4	12	3.0
MONTGOMERY	92	261	2.8
CAERNARFON	7	20	2.9
DENBIGH	17	49	2.9
FLINT	4	10	2.5

March-May; ANGLESEY: two fledged from two pairs at RSPB Cors Ddysa; 1-2 pairs bred at Aberffraw; present at one other site.

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua* TYLLUAN FACH
Introduced (Category C), localised and declining breeding resident (250-300 pairs).

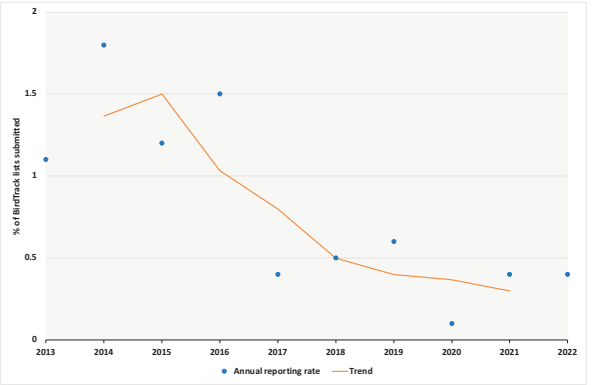
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	113	112
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The mean BirdTrack reporting rate fell by 85% between 2013-15 and 2020-22, illustrating how many parts of Wales have lost Little Owls. Records in bird reports came from 26 sites, but no breeding was confirmed. There was only a single record on Bardsey, CAERNARFON, and it was the first year since the Bird Observatory opened in 1953 that none bred here.

Breeding season, singles unless stated. PEMBROKE: probably bred on Ramsey; present near Nevern; CEREDIGION: Pwll Du, Borth, on 10 June; RADNOR: near Hay-on-Wye on 14 Aug.; BRECON: Cradoc in Jan., June and July; MONTGOMERY: near Caersws on 9 April; near Arddleen on two dates in early April; CAERNARFON: Llanberis on 15 March; Methlem on 8 May; Bardsey on 12 July; ANGLESEY: Rhoscolyn in March, June and Aug.; pair at Cemlyn in April and singles here until mid-Sept.; singing at RSPB South Stack

in May, seen in July, Nov. and Dec.; **BirdTrack reporting rate: Little Owl in Wales 2013-22**
Porth Wen on 21 June; DENBIGH: Rossett on 3 April; FLINT: Sandycroft on 20 April.

Non-breeding away from sites above, singles unless stated: GWENT: Portskewett on 17-18 Jan.; Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 27 Feb. and 23 Aug.; Llandegfedd Res. on 4 March; Lower Machen on 19 July; 1-2 at Llanwenarth between Aug. and Dec.; CARMARTHEN: Johnstown on 1 Aug.; MONTGOMERY: Llandysil on 2 Feb.; ANGLESEY: Aberffraw and Llyn Coron in Feb., and Malltraeth on 14 Dec.; FLINT: Ysceifiog Res. and Caerwys in March.



LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus* TYLLUAN GORNIOG
Uncommon resident, perhaps c.100 breeding pairs, mainly in conifer woodland. RBBP: 2-5 pairs in 2021. Uncommon passage migrant in a broader suite of habitats. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4	7
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding confirmed at three sites. GWENT: brood at Blaenavon; BRECON: young near Llanwrthwl on 9 Aug.; MONTGOMERY: young near Cefn Coch in June; DENBIGH: one at Coed Llandgela in June.

Non-breeding records, singles unless stated. PEMBROKE: Skomer on 11 Oct.; Martin's Haven on 19 Nov.; BRECON: roosted near Llangorse and Garthbreny in Jan.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 25, 29 and 30 Sept., two here on 13 Oct., two ringed here on 16th, one on 23rd and two caught on 26th, one of which had been ringed on 16th.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus* TYLLUAN GLUSTIOG
Uncommon breeding resident. RBBP: 3-5 pairs in 2021. Winter visitor and passage migrant in small numbers to all counties. Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

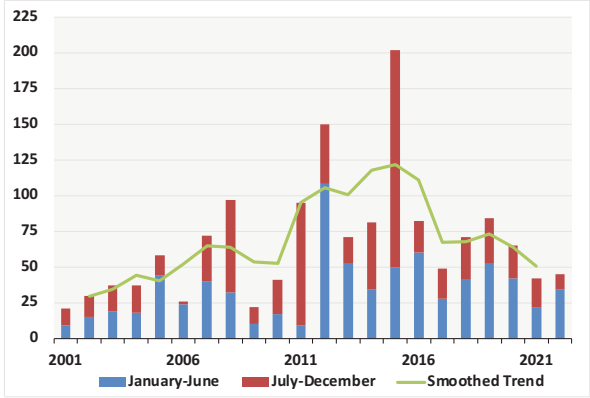
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	131	119
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding season: PEMBROKE: one territory on Skomer; MONTGOMERY: pair nested at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: singles at two sites; DENBIGH: one on Mynydd Hiraethog in June. Birds were absent from previously occupied sites in Berwyn NNR, and there were no incidental records.

Non-breeding: numbers of this itinerant species can vary considerably between years, but the BirdTrack reporting rate has fallen consistently over the last decade, and in 2020-22 was 83% below its value in 2013-15. Bird reports contained the lowest number of reports in the second winter period since 2006.

Unseasonal for location: ANGLESEY: Alaw est. on 4 July; FLINT: Flint on 12 Aug.

Non-breeding Short-eared Owls recorded in Wales, 2001-22 (sum of peak counts at each site per season, and all passage records on the islands)



SE Owl: non-breeding totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	1					2	3	
E.GLAMORGAN	2							
CARMARTHEN	1	1					3	2
PEMBROKE	10	2	1					
CEREDIGION	1	1						1
BRECON	1							
MEIRIONNYDD	2							
CAERNARFON		2		1	2			
ANGLESEY	5	2	3	4		4	2	
DENBIGH	5	5	2			1	1	1
FLINT	2		1	1	1			

TAWNY OWL *Strix aluco* TYLLUAN FRECH
Fairly common and widespread, but declining, breeding resident in all counties (2550-3800 pairs). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	581	521
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate had been slowly increasing, but dropped back in 2022, although it is likely to be very under-recorded. The number of sites with a calling bird during the year: GWENT: 24 sites, including Brynmawr and Llandegfedd where breeding was proven; E.GLAMORGAN: 60 sites, including three where breeding was confirmed; GOWER: 33 sites, inc. five at Glynneath in Dec.; CARMARTHEN: 18 sites, inc. a young bird at Glanaman; PEMBROKE: 25 sites, including fledged brood at Lydstep; CEREDIGION: 14 sites, including three at RSPB Ynys-hir in Jan.; RADNOR: seven sites; BRECON: 21 sites, inc. confirmed breeding at four; MONTGOMERY: 11 sites, including a brood at Breideen Hill; MEIRIONNYDD: 22 sites, all with 1-2 birds except three at Arthog and Cynwyd; CAERNARFON: 40 sites, all with 1-2 birds except three at Nant-y-Gama/Craigside; bred at Aber Ogwen; ANGLESEY: nine sites; DENBIGH: 28 sites (breeding confirmed at Llanferres), most with 1-2 birds but four at Eglwyseg on 24 Aug.; FLINT: six sites, inc. four at Pantymwyn on 20 April.



Tawny Owl (Jonathan Bull)

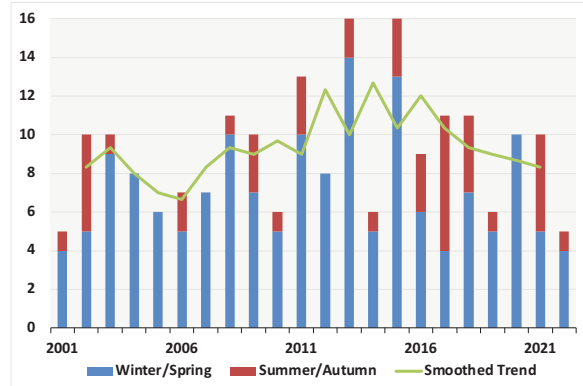
HOPOE *Upupa epops*

COPOG

Uncommon but regular passage migrant to Wales. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	53	9
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Just four records in spring and one in autumn makes 2022 the poorest year for records since 2001. All were single birds: PEMBROKE: Skomer on 22-23 March; Skokholm on 24 March; ANGLESEY: Penmon on 17 April; Porth Wen on 15 Sept.; FLINT: Talacre dunes on 28 March.

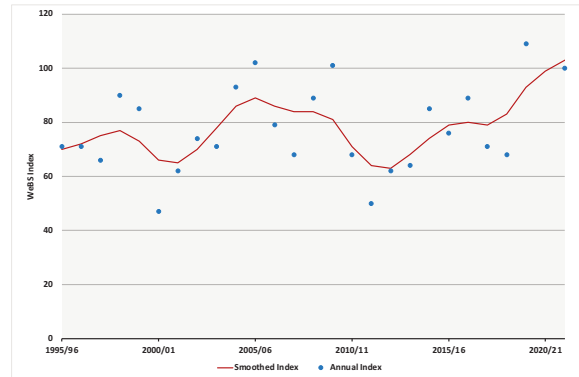
Hoopoes recorded in Wales, 2001-22**KINGFISHER** *Alcedo atthis*

GLAS Y DORLAN

Resident in lowland areas (445-970 breeding pairs). Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	893	1265
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	5%

The UK indices for both the Breeding Bird Survey and the Waterways Breeding Bird Survey show a slight increase in the last couple of years, but the long-term trend is still 14-17% down in each. There is no separate trend for Wales. The Wetland Bird Survey smoothed index and BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales were both at their highest ever level, but may not be very representative.

Wetland Bird Survey: Kingfisher in Wales 1974/75-2021/22

Breeding season: GWENT: probably bred on R.Usk at Llanfoist and possibly at three other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Ystrad Mynach, probably at Abercwmboi Lake and Tir Founder fields, and possibly at another 17 sites; GOWER: bred in Port Talbot, probably at Margam CP and Penllergaer Valley, and possibly at five other sites; CARMARTHEN: pair bred (and possibly a second) at Penclacwydd; bred at Cilsan Bridge, probably at two other sites and possibly at three more; PEMBROKE: probably bred on Gann est. and possibly at five other sites; PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION: bred on Teifi est.; CEREDIGION: bred at Llandysul and possibly at RSPB Ynys-hir;

RADNOR: singles at seven sites; BRECON: bred at eight sites and possibly at another eight; MONTGOMERY: probably bred at Dolydd Hafren, possibly at Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain and Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Maentwrog, probably at Pont Croesor and Mawddach est., and possibly at two other sites; CAERNARFON: bred at NWWT Spinnies and Llanrwst, and possibly at three other sites; ANGLESEY: probably bred at Cemlyn, and possibly south of Llangefni; DENBIGH: bred at Llanrwst, probably at NT Bodnant Garden and possibly at eight other sites; FLINT: bred at Dyserth, and one at Wepre Brook in June.

Notable records. PEMBROKE: singles on Skomer on 3 Sept. and Skokholm on 20th.

BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

GWYBEDOG GWENYN

Scarce visitor from Europe. WBRC: 81 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Bosherton Lakes on 11 July; ANGLESEY: RSPB South Stack on 21 May.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

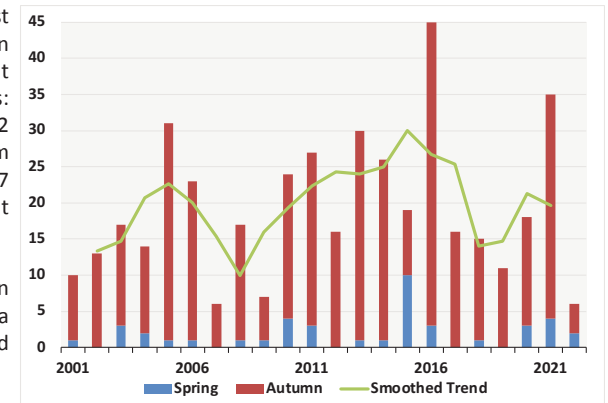
PENGAM

Uncommon but regular passage migrant, chiefly to coastal counties in autumn. RBBP: singing males at two sites in 2021. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	60	17
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Similar to Hoopoe, it was the worst year this century for passage birds with just two records in spring and 3-4 in autumn, although two records in Gwent await verification. All were singles: PEMBROKE: St Davids on 27 April; 1-2 on Skomer on 15-21 Aug.; Skokholm from 30 Aug. to 8 Sept.; Kilpaison on 17 Sept.; BRECON: 'anting' in a garden at Cynala (Cefngorwydd) on 13 May.

2021 GOWER: singing male at a site on 24-30 May; BRECON: singing male at a site on 8 June; DENBIGH: World's End on 9 May.

Wrynecks recorded in Wales, 2001-22**LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER** *Dryobates minor*

CNOCELL FRAITH FACH

Rare breeding resident (105-320 pairs), principally distributed in the lowlands and along the main river valleys. RBBP: 18 territories in 2021. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	8	5
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The number of breeding season records has shrunk further, from 18 sites in 2021 to single birds at 10 sites during March to July, with no proven nesting and for the first time ever no records in Ceredigion. GWENT: Coed-y-Cerrig NNR on 28 March; CARMARTHEN: drumming at Pentre Felin on 19 March; BRECON: Glanusk Park on 4 March

and 22 Aug.; RADNOR: present at five sites; MEIRIONNYDD: R.Dylif, Glaslyn, on 30 May; FLINT: east of Bodelwyddan on 23 April.

Single birds at other sites outside the breeding season: CARMARTHEN: Cyngordy in Feb. and Dec.; BRECON: Northwest of Dardy on 22 Aug.; CAERNARFON: Glanwydden on 13 Aug.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos major*

Fairly common breeding resident (21,500 pairs). Wales Green-listed.

CNOCELL FRAITH FAWR

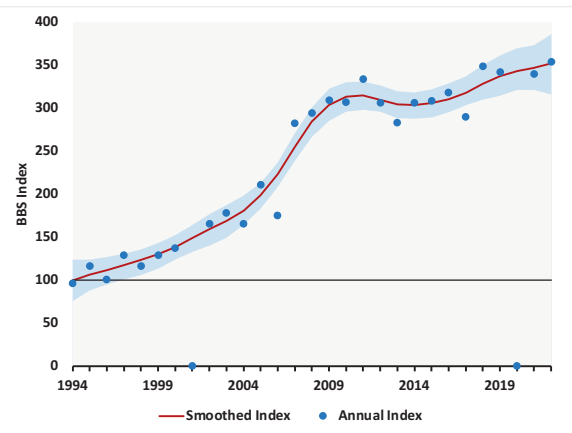
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4378	4000
% of BirdTrack lists	20%	18%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales increased by 226% during 1995-2021, reaching another new high. Increases in the BirdTrack reporting rate (by 38% in the seven years since 2013-15) and BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rates are also evident, although in the latter project the trend has been stable since 2017.

Ringling. PEMBROKE: one ringed at Mullock on 6 Dec. 2020 was recaptured at Godalming, Surrey, on 13 Sept. 2022, a distance of 321km.

Notable. CAERNARFON: singles on 27-29 March and 20 April were unusual spring records on Bardsey; ANGLESEY: one flew in off the sea at Pt Lynas on 3 Oct. and one was at RSPB South Stack on 8 Oct.

Breeding Bird Survey: Great Spotted Woodpecker in Wales, 1994-2022



GREEN WOODPECKER *Picus viridis*

Uncommon breeding resident (3,350 pairs). Formerly more widespread, but declining in western counties, Montgomery and Radnor. Wales Amber-listed.

CNOCELL WERDD

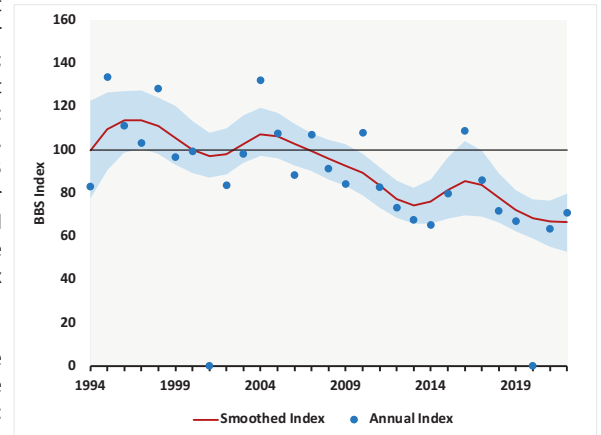
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1521	1401
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	6%

BirdTrack reporting rate increased by 37% between 2013-15 and 2020-22, which may reflect a bias of lists submitted from southeast Wales but, if so, would suggest they are holding their own in this area.

Breeding away from Gwent, E.Glamorgan and Brecon: GOWER: bred or probably bred at five sites, and recorded at 53 others during the year; CARMARTHEN: bred at Llandybïe and Glanamman, probably at three other sites, and singles seen at five more; CEREDIGION: juv. at Aberbanc on 10 Sept.; RADNOR: pair at

Breeding Bird Survey: Green Woodpecker in Wales, 1994-2022

Dutlas and singles at six other sites; MONTGOMERY: probably bred at Garreg Ddu, Middletown Hill and near Lanerfyl, and singles at 11 other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: singles at nine sites but no breeding evidence; CAERNARFON: bred at Ystumlllyn and near Llanbedrog, probably at four sites, and singles at 13 other sites; DENBIGH: bred at Llanfair Talhaiarn, probably at NT Erddig and possibly at 15 other sites, most in the southeast; FLINT: possibly bred at six sites.



Single birds, unless stated, outside the breeding season in counties where breeding is restricted or rare: CARMARTHEN: five sites in addition to those above; PEMBROKE: six records, inc. two on Haverfordwest GC on 24 May and one on Ramsey on 11 Oct.; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir in Jan., Feb., April and Sept.; Denmark Farm on 20 Feb.; Blaenpennal on 6 March; Lledrod on 10 March; two near Aberaeron on 10 Oct.; Henllan on 26 Oct.; Cwm Twrch on 27 Nov.; Allt y Crib on 16 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 15 sites in addition to those above; DENBIGH: 36 sites, all except four southeast of the Horseshoe Pass; FLINT: five sites besides those with breeding season records.

KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Uncommon and declining resident (1750 breeding pairs). Partial and passage migrant to some counties in small numbers. Wales Amber-listed.

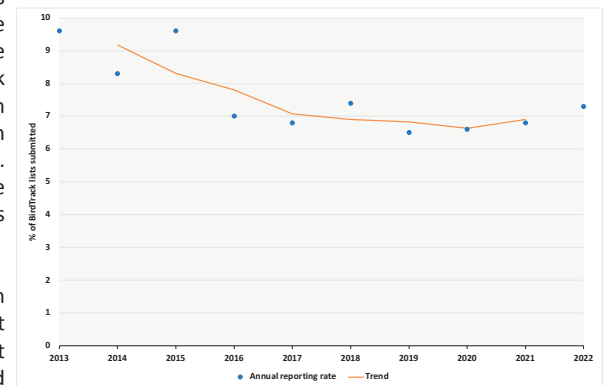
CUDYLL COCH

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1819	1942
% of BirdTrack lists	7%	7%

The UK Breeding Bird Survey index has fallen by 43% since 1995, but the species is too scarce for a trend to be generated for Wales. The BirdTrack reporting rate is 25% lower than in 2013-15, but appears to have been more stable over the last few years. Some upland raptor fieldworkers have remarked on an increase in Kestrels hunting on moorland.

Incomplete breeding information includes: GWENT: probably bred at Gilwern Hill and Bulwark, possibly at four other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Tarren y Bwlfa and Nash Pt, probably at Craig-Evan-Layshon Common and possibly at 21 other sites; GOWER: bred at three sites and probably at one; CARMARTHEN: no records in May or June, but a family group at Pembrey Burrows on 2 Sept.;

BirdTrack reporting rate: Kestrel in Wales 2013-22



PEMBROKE: bred at Cippin Stone, probably at Castlemartin Range, Carn Ingli and Nolton Haven, and possibly at 26 other sites, almost all along the coast; CEREDIGION: possibly bred at RSPB Ynys-hir and singles at 11 other sites; BRECON: bred at three sites in Bannau Brycheiniog, but no evidence elsewhere; RADNOR: present at seven sites; MONTGOMERY: two pairs bred at Llyn Mawr, one pair at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy, and possibly bred at seven other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at two sites and possibly at three others; CAERNARFON: probably bred at Nant Ffrancon and Carn Fadryn, and possibly at three others; ANGLESEY: two fledged at Porth Swtan; probably bred at RSPB South Stack and possibly at 15 other sites; DENBIGH: present at 17 sites but no breeding evidence reported; FLINT: pair fledged two young at Sealand; probably bred at Moel Arthur and Dobshill, and possibly at four other sites.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

CUDYLL BACH

Rare breeding resident in the uplands - RBBP: 10-14 pairs in 2021. Elsewhere, an uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	195	253
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

There is no information on the current size of the Merlin population in Wales, or elsewhere in the UK, but the BirdTrack reporting rate indicates that it is seen infrequently by birdwatchers, in or outside the breeding season. This year's one nest, two probables and nine possibles compares to five nests and four possible breeding sites in 2021. Eighteen previously occupied sites in Berwyn NNR and one in Meirionnydd were surveyed and all were found empty.

Breeding season. E.GLAMORGAN: single bird at two sites in late April/May;

Merlin: non-breeding totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT		1	1									
E.GLAMORGAN	2							3	1	8	4	1
GOWER	3	2	2	2					1	5	3	1
CARMARTHEN	1		2								2	
PEMBROKE	8	2	4	6	2			1	3	12	7	6
CEREDIGION	5	2	3	1					1	4	4	3
BRECON	2		1							1	1	2
RADNOR			1									
MONTGOMERY	2	2	1						1	1	2	2
MEIRIONNYDD			1		1			1	3	1	2	1
CAERNARFON	1	4	1	2	1			1	5	8	3	3
ANGLESEY	4	3	1	1	1				1			2
DENBIGH	1	3	4	2					2	2	1	1
FLINT	4				1		1		2	2	3	1

CARMARTHEN: records from two upland areas; CEREDIGION: one pair bred; BRECON: five territories occupied, with successful breeding in at least two; MONTGOMERY: pair on Pumlumon in March; MEIRIONNYDD: two pairs fledged five and four young respectively (4.5/nest); pair fledged four at a site in the east of the county; CAERNARFON: pair in Y Carneddau, and singles near Penmaenmawr and Rhyd-ddu in June; DENBIGH: two at Llyn Brân in April and one in May; one at Esclusham Mountain in April and June.

HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

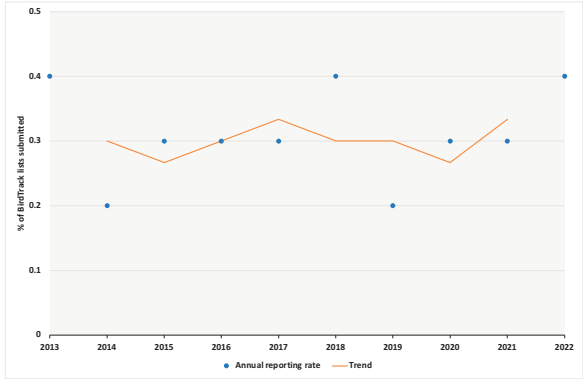
HEBOG YR EHEDYDD

Rare but increasing breeder (205 pairs). RBBP: 13-41 pairs in 2021. Uncommon passage migrant elsewhere. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	158	173
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate has remained very similar since 2013, below 0.5% of lists submitted. There was breeding evidence from 13 sites, but this excludes details from its Gwent stronghold. GWENT: probably bred at Kingcoed; CARMARTHEN: seven territories, most in Tywi Valley; CEREDIGION: probably bred at Cors Caron; BRECON: 11 territories, with eight young fledged from three nests that could be checked; MONTGOMERY: bred near Newtown and probably at two other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: 1-2 birds in central Coed-y-Brenin; CAERNARFON: probably bred in Conwy Valley; DENBIGH: probably bred at Fenn's Moss.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Hobby in Wales 2013-22



Hobby: non-breeding totals	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
GWENT	1	7	7	4	8	2	1
E.GLAMORGAN	1	2	1	3	2	4	3
GOWER	2	1				1	
CARMARTHEN			1	2			
PEMBROKE	1		4	1	2		1
CEREDIGION	recorded at 13 sites						
BRECON		1	1	1	1	1	1
RADNOR					2		
MONTGOMERY		1		2			1
MEIRIONNYDD			2	1	1		
CAERNARFON		1	2		5		
ANGLESEY	1	1		2	1	1	
DENBIGH		5	5	6	4	2	
FLINT		3		2	3	1	2

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	17 April	Llanfihangel Gobion		9 Oct.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	24 April	St Donat's		6 Oct.	Ogmore estuary
GOWER	16 April	Margam Moors		5 Sept.	Mewslade
CARMARTHEN	18 April	Llangunnor		11 Sept.	Kidwelly Marsh
PEMBROKE	14 April	Teifi Marshes		7 Oct.	Porthclais
CEREDIGION	14 April	Teifi Marshes		11 Oct.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	2 May	Brecon		21 Oct.	Llangasty
RADNOR	5 May	Aberedw Hill & Newchurch		12 Oct.	Old Radnor & Huntington
MONTGOMERY	8 May	Cors Dyfi		29 Oct.	Llangurig
MEIRIONNYDD	16 June	Corris		31 Aug.	Tywyn
CAERNARFON	15 May	Bardsey		28 Aug.	Trefriw & Glanwydden
ANGLESEY	28 April	Wylfa Woods		3 Sept.	Malltraeth Cob
DENBIGH	5 May	Fenn's Moss		2 Sept.	Fenn's Moss
FLINT	5 May	RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands		2 Oct.	Connah's Quay NR

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus*

HEBOG TRAMOR

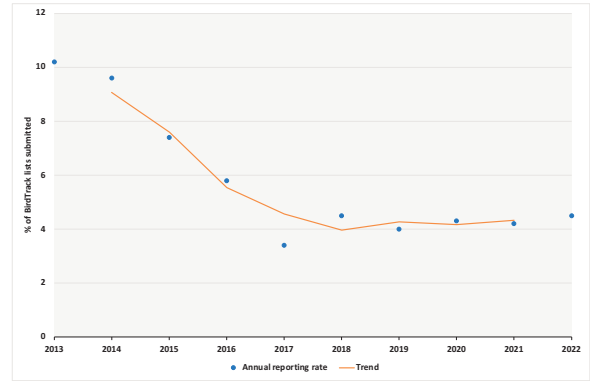
Rare but declining breeder (279 territories in 2014). RBBP: 82-140 pairs in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1229	1255
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	5%

The decline in known breeding pairs (see box) is reflected in the encounter rate by users of BirdTrack, with the reporting rate down 52% between 2013-15 and 2020-22. Breeding productivity, at 1.34 young/nest (with a known outcome), was higher than the 0.94 young/nest in 2021, but below that in the previous two years.

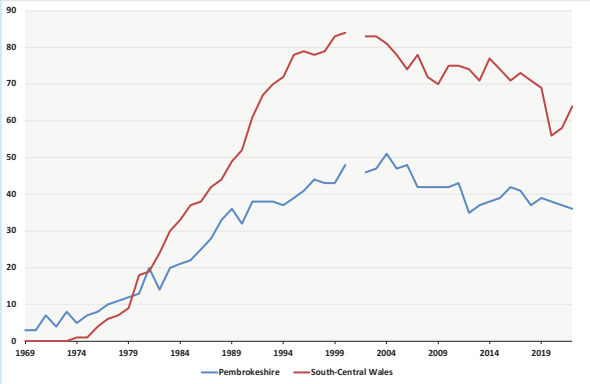
Breeding information from South Wales Peregrine Monitoring Group, Pembrokeshire Bird Group and bird reports: GWENT: of 11 territories visited, 10 were occupied (90%), from which nine young fledged (0.9/confirmed nest); E.GLAMORGAN/GOWER: of 33 territories visited, 27 were occupied (82%), from which 40 young fledged (1.48/confirmed nest); CARMARTHEN: of six territories visited, five were occupied (83%), from which two young fledged (0.4/confirmed nest); PEMBROKE: 33 occupied territories, at which 25 made a breeding attempt (cf. 17 in 2021), fledging min. 21 young (0.84/confirmed nest); BRECON: of 18 territories visited, 13 were occupied (72%) and eight nests confirmed, from which 14 young fledged (1.75/confirmed nest); RADNOR: present at 12 sites; at five visited, three pairs bred from which three young fledged (1.0/confirmed nest); MONTGOMERY: population considered stable at c.15 pairs; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at a site in southwest Migneint and possibly at three other sites; CAERNARFON: bred at seven sites; ANGLESEY: present at five sites; DENBIGH: bred at a coastal site, an inland quarry and at one site in Berwyn NNR (absent from two others), probably at three other sites and possibly at another four.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Peregrine in Wales 2013-22



Long-term monitoring in PEMBROKE shows that the number of occupied territories has fallen by 23% since the peak in 2005, and is now at its lowest level since 1993. The mean number of young fledged per nest has also shown a long-term decline, and since 2019 has been at its lowest in the time series. In 2022, no young were known to have fledged along the north coast, for the first year since 2010. Data courtesy of Bob Haycock, Pembrokeshire Bird Group.

Annual territory occupancy in South Central Wales and Pembrokeshire, 1969-2022.



Monitoring by the South Wales Peregrine Monitoring Group, in E.GLAMORGAN, GOWER, BRECON, and parts of GWENT, CARMARTHEN and RADNOR recorded a similar reduction, of 24%, since the peak in 2000. The dips in 2020 and 2021 reflect fewer visits made owing to travel restrictions during the COVID pandemic. Data courtesy of Andrew King.

GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus*

EURYN

Scarce migrant from southern Europe, usually as a spring overshoot. WBRC: 221 previous records.

Four individuals. CAERNARFON: female/immature on Bardsey on 17 May, 2CY caught and ringed here on 2 June, immature male on 4-6th and a second immature male here on 6th.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor*

CIGYDD MAWR

Uncommon but annual winter visitor and passage migrant from northeast Europe. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

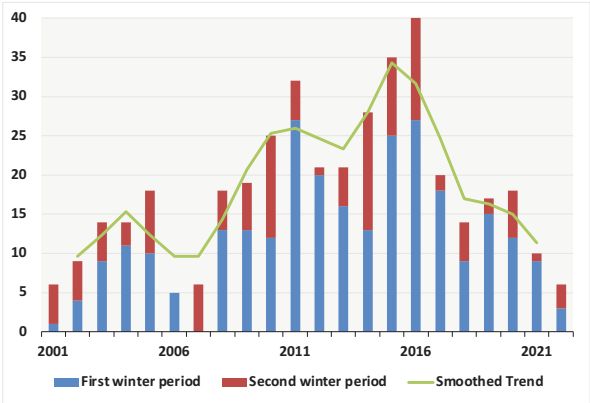
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	65	109
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

First winter period/spring passage: DENBIGH: at least one northwest of Llyn Brenig from 4 Jan. to 20 March.

Second winter period: BRECON: Castell Dinas on 28 Oct.; MONTGOMERY: Dyfnant Forest on 8 Dec.; ANGLESEY: Breakwater CP on 4-5 Nov.; DENBIGH: Fenn's Moss on 16 Nov. (at adjacent Whixall Moss from 22 Oct. to 4 Nov.); at least one (and perhaps up to four) northwest of Llyn Brenig on 12-22 Nov.

2021 DENBIGH: Fenn's Moss on 1 April; at least one near Llyn Brenig from 17 Nov. to 16 Dec., and two

here on the last date. Four birds **Great Grey Shrikes** recorded in Wales, 2001-22 reported here on 2 Dec.



WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator* CIGYDD PENGGOCH
Scarce migrant from southern Europe. WBRC: 131 previous records.

PEMBROKE: female at Castlemartin Range on 18-24 May; male singing on Skomer on 19-20 May and another male here on 12 July.

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio* CIGYDD CEFNGOCH
Scarce passage migrant from mainland Europe. Former breeder, last in 2006. WBRC: 168 records since 1967.

E.GLAMORGAN: 1CY at Kenfig NNR on 13-31 Oct.; PEMBROKE: male on Skomer on 18-20 May.

JAY *Garrulus glandarius* SGRECH Y COED
Fairly common and widespread resident (35,500 territories), though scarce in west Llŷn and much of Anglesey. Autumn/winter influxes from the east occur irregularly. Wales Green-listed.

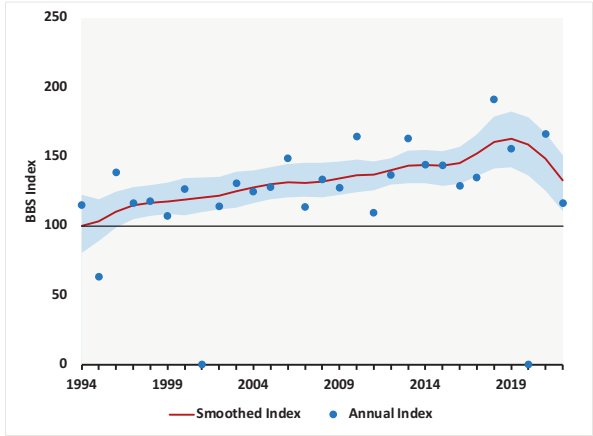
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3419	2682
% of BirdTrack lists	15%	12%

The Breeding Bird Survey index dropped by (a non-significant) 30% and the BirdTrack reporting rate by 16% below their record highs in 2021, the autumn of which saw major displacement of Jays across Wales. Nonetheless, the BBS remains 44% above its 1995 level.

Counts ≥10: CARMARTHEN: 13 at Penclacwydd on 3 June; MONTGOMERY: 10 at Llwynderw on 18 March; MEIRIONNYDD: 11 at Ratgoed on 13 March.

Notable. CAERNARFON: one on Bardsey lighthouse on 27 May, the island’s first record since 1993 and first ever in spring.

Breeding Bird Survey: Jay in Wales, 1994-2022

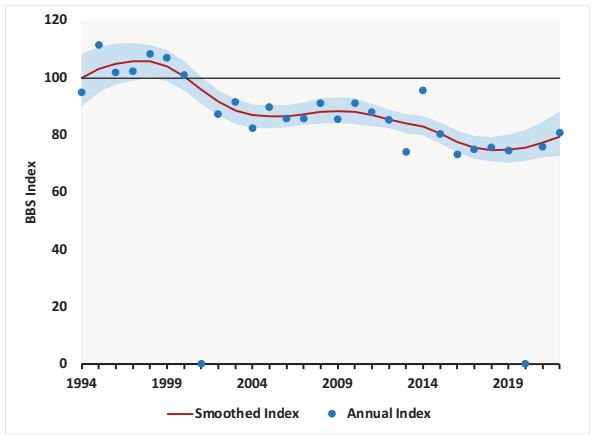


MAGPIE *Pica pica* PIODEN
Fairly common and widespread resident (79,500 territories). Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	11266	10826
% of BirdTrack lists	53%	52%

The Breeding Bird Survey annual index was its highest since 2015, but still more than 25% below the 1995 baseline. No trend is evident in the reporting rate or numbers in the BTO Garden BirdWatch, however. On Bardsey, CAERNARFON, 14 pairs raised 24 young, (*cf.* eight pairs and 14 young in 2021), the highest abundance since 2016, after which the population had almost halved; the increase followed an influx the previous autumn.

Breeding Bird Survey: Magpie in Wales, 1994-2022



Counts ≥20: E.GLAMORGAN: 20 at Heath Park on 8 Jan.; 50 roosted near North Cornelly on 9 Jan., increasing to 77 on 16th; 27 at Kenfig NNR on 11 Jan.; >20 at Forest Farm on 13 Jan.; 22 at Penywaun on 26 Jan.; 30 at Cathays cemetery on 1 Feb.; 20 in Bute Park on 3 Feb.; 49 at Hamadryad Park on 21 Feb. and 24 here on 4 June; 35 at Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve on 3 March; 21 at Dunraven on 3 Oct.; 20 at Dare Valley CP on 23 Oct.; 22 at Penrhos Cutting on 24 Nov.; GOWER: 77 roosted near Llanmihangel on 16 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 30 at Lydstep on 30 Jan.; 27 at St Davids Head on 10 Oct.; CAERNARFON: following an influx to Bardsey in autumn 2021, numbers remained >40 throughout spring

and summer (max. 56 in April), with further immigration increasing the number to 74 on 22 Oct.; 28 on Little Orme on 17 March; ANGLESEY: 28 at RSPB South Stack on 19 March, group of 21 here on 17 April that flew out to sea and then u-turned; 22 at Malltraeth Cob on 7 Aug.; DENBIGH: 24 in Abergele on 10 Jan.; 60 from a roost in Kinmel Bay on 26 Jan.; 52 at RSPB Conwy on 10 Nov.; FLINT: 20 at Connah’s Quay NR on 12 Jan., 30 here on 2 and 9 Feb., and 28 on 14 Aug.; 96 pre-roosting on southern edge of Rhyl on 21 Feb., 65 here on 4 March and 20 on 29 Dec.

2021 FLINT: 26 at Bagillt on 25 Jan.; 26 at Rhyl on 10 March.

CHOUGH *Pyrrhonorax pyrrhonorax*

BRAN GOESGOCH

Uncommon resident, mainly on cliff coasts of the western seaboard (252-278 pairs in 2014). RBBP: 278 pairs in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1342	1708
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	6%

Breeding season: in PEMBROKE, although the number of breeding pairs was slightly lower than in 2021, the number of nests with eggs and young was slightly higher and average nest productivity was close to the long-term average (Hodges and Haycock 2023). In North and mid-Wales, the number of confirmed and probable breeding pairs (170) was the highest since 2017 and the maximum (193 pairs) was the highest since at least 2011 (Cross and Stratford Welsh Chough Project and Bardsey Bird Observatory). The mean number of young/brood ringed in North Wales was 2.8 (*cf.* mean of 2.9 in 2011-21).

E.GLAMORGAN: 2-3 pairs bred on Vale of Glamorgan coast; CARMARTHEN: two at Gilman Pt during 2-17 Feb., one here in May; three at Telpyn Pt on 29 July and one here on 19 Sept.

	Occupied territories	Nests	Nests from which young fledged	Min. no of young fledged	Young fledged/successful nest
GOWER	5	4	4	10	2.5
PEMBROKE	85	75	63	159	2.5

	Nests*	Broods ringed	Young ringed	Young/brood ringed
CEREDIGION	20-32	13	40	2.1
MEIRIONNYDD	9	3	10	3.3
CAERNARFON	103-111	29	86	3.2
ANGLESEY	36-39	17	37	2.4
DENBIGH	2	1	3	3.0

* Range shows min. (confirmed and probable pairs) to max. (with possible breeding pairs).

Analysis of 25 years of nest monitoring data collected by Cross and Stratford, found that the proportion of territories occupied each year at inland sites in North and Mid-Wales fell by more than two-thirds and nesting success by one-third (Cross *et al.* 2023). Breeding metrics have fallen at coastal sites, although less dramatically. RSPB Cymru warned that this could lead to local extinctions and has called for targeted options to enable livestock farmers to provide the grazing that Choughs need.

Non-breeding: the all-Wales BirdTrack reporting rate was its highest (6.4% of lists submitted) since 2016, but in the three counties with the largest populations, have varied markedly. Pembrokeshire has always had the highest reporting rate, but this was down almost one-third in 2022 compared to 2013-15. The reporting rate in Caernarfonshire fell during the lockdown years of 2020 and 2021, and barely recovered in 2022, which was 37% below the pre-pandemic average. Anglesey by contrast had a far higher reporting rate in 2022, 40% above that in 2015 which had been the previous best.

Notable counts during Jan. to April. BirdTrack reporting rate: Chough in Wales 2013-22

E.GLAMORGAN: 10 at Ogmores Castle on 20 Jan.; GOWER: 12 on Pennard GC on 27 Jan. and at Rhossili on 28 March; PEMBROKE: 98-115 non-breeders present based on flock counts between late March and mid-May, inc. 15-20 between Ramsey and the adjacent St Davids Peninsula, 15-20 between Skomer, Skokholm and the Marloes to St Ann’s Head coast, and 16-20 on Castlemartin Range; CEREDIGION: 22 at Penderi in Jan.; CAERNARFON: 39 at Pared Llechymenyn on 1 March; 45 at Mynydd Anelog on 6 March; 20 at Cefn Maen Amor on 26 March; ANGLESEY: 24 roosted at RSPB South Stack on 7 March.

Max. monthly counts on Bardsey, CAERNARFON.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Bardsey	26	20	13	16	34	30	17	40	10

Notable counts during July to Dec.: E.GLAMORGAN: 10, including four juveniles, at Southerndown on 9 July and 11 here on 27 Oct.; GOWER: 20 at Rhossili on 30 July; 11 at Port Eynon Pt on 6 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: up to four at Llyn y Fan Fach on 5-12 Aug., only the second inland record in the county (see also Brecon); PEMBROKE: 200 at 12 roost sites in late Aug., the highest total since co-ordinated counts started in 2014 (largest roost was 50 on Strumble peninsula); daytime max. counts inc. 36 on Ramsey on 13 July; 21 at Goodwick on 6 Aug.; 20 on Skokholm on 10 Sept.; 28 over Castlemartin Corse on 15 Sept.; 40 at Port Maenmelyn on 17 Sept.; 35 at Pwllderi on 18 Sept.; 36 at Kete on 21 Sept.; 30 on St Ann’s Head on 21-23 Sept.; 31 on Skokholm on 8 Oct.; 37 at Freshwater West on 20 Nov.; 28 at Giltar Pt on 4 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 37 at Morfa Bychan in July and 24 here in Aug.; 25 at Penderi on 24 Sept.; 14 at Mwnt on 22 Sept. and 8 Oct.; BRECON: three above Llyn y Fan Fawr on 5-9 Aug. and one at Fan y Big on 7th, which joined together at the first site on 12th. These are the first in the county (see also Carmarthen); MEIRIONNYDD: 15 at Arthog on 6 Sept.; 11 at Aberdysynni on 23 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 45 in Anafon Valley on 2 Aug.; 40-50 roosted at Penmaenmawr on 9 Aug.; 52-55 at Nefyn on 16 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 50 at RSPB South Stack on 1 July, 43 here on 10 Sept. and 52 on 25 Nov.; 30 at RSPB Valley Wetlands on 13 Nov.; DENBIGH: nine near Llangollen on 14 Oct.

Ringling. ANGLESEY: a male that nested near Porth Wen had been ringed as a chick at Pt Lynas in 1998, and was still alive at the end of 2022, at more than 24.5 years old. It is not only the oldest Chough in the British and Irish ringling scheme, but also the oldest passerine ever recorded.

JACKDAW *Coloeus monedula*

JAC-Y-DO

Fairly common and widespread resident (155,000 pairs). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	10575	10026
% of BirdTrack lists	50%	48%

The 17-year decline in the Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales continues, although it remains 8% above the 1995 baseline.

Counts ≥ 300 : E.GLAMORGAN: 300 at Pant Norton on 1 Jan.; 409 on Pontcanna Fields on 13 Feb.; 500 at Pwll y Waun on 2 March; 300 in Aberdare Park on 11 March and 29 Dec.; >300 in Rhymney on 27 June and 12 July; 400 at Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 12 Oct.; GOWER: 323 in Swansea Vale on 12 Jan.; 800-1000 over Briton Ferry in both winter periods; 485 at Swansea Enterprise Park on 12 July; CARMARTHEN: 1000 at Llansteffan on 19 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 350 at Lydstep on 5 Jan. and 11 Feb.; 326 at Bosherton Lakes on 23 Jan.; 400 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 13 Feb.; 1000 at Haverfordwest racecourse on 16 Feb.; 400 at Pembroke Mill Pond on 24 June; 500 by Gann est. on 29 July; 1325 at Coshaston Pill on 12 Nov.; 700 at Marloes on 17 Nov.; BRECON: 450 over Hay-on-Wye on 22 June and at Llangorse Lake on 26th; 340 in the Trecastle area on 29-30 June; 550 at Ffrwdgrech on 18 Aug.; MONTGOMERY: 400 in Montgomery on 26 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 530 at Penhowe Uchaf near Bangor on 31 July; ANGLESEY: 300 at RSPB South Stack on 7 March; FLINT: 320 at Connah's Quay NR on 12 Jan.; 600 at Caerwys on 13 March; c.300 at Rhydymwyn on 21 Oct. and 6 Nov.; >500 at Rhuddlan on 10 Nov.

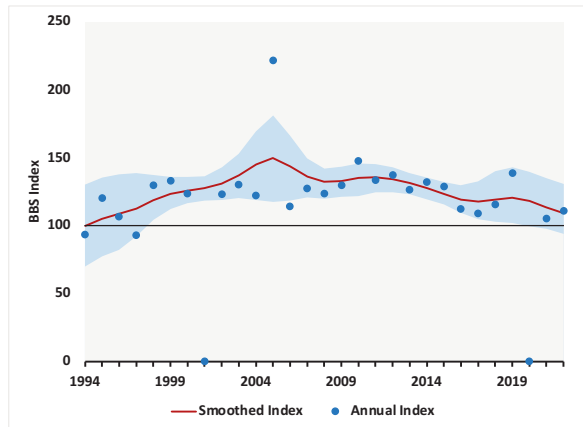
2021 FLINT, additional record: 1500 south of Rhyl on 31 Dec.

C. m. monedula (Nordic Jackdaw / Jac-y-do Llychlyn)

The WBRC recorded 24 showing features of this form during 2010-21 but cannot be certain whether these are genuine Scandinavian birds or their plumage characteristics are within the normal variation of British Jackdaws.

GWENT: Lower Beaufort Pond near Brynmawr on 23 Jan.; GOWER: Neath on 10 March; ANGLESEY: Hen Borth on 18 Nov.

Breeding Bird Survey: Jackdaw in Wales, 1994-2022

**ROOK** *Corvus frugilegus*

YDFRAN

Fairly common resident, breeding mainly below 300m (35,500 pairs). Wales Red-listed (Green prior to 2023).

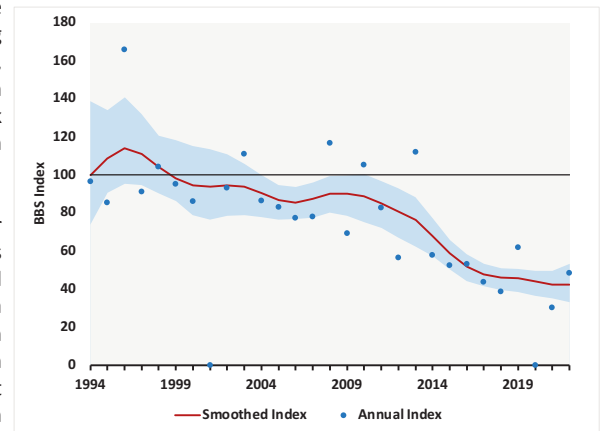
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2687	2589
% of BirdTrack lists	12%	12%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales in 2022 was 60% higher than the previous year, the biggest one-year change of any species in Wales. Yet the long-term smoothed trend is still among the most negative of any species monitored

by the BBS, at 61% below its 1995 level. **Breeding Bird Survey: Rook in Wales, 1994-2022**

That is reflected in a consistent decline in the BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rate, which reached its lowest point, 58% lower than in the starting year in 1995. By contrast, the BirdTrack reporting rate increased 32% between 2013-15 and 2020-22.

WOS organised the first of a two-year Wales Rook Survey, in which 461 tetrads were visited (81% of the target). A full analysis will be undertaken once data from the second year have been collated. The figures below are taken from a variety of sources and should not be interpreted as complete, except in PEMBROKE where birdwatchers organised a comprehensive survey that found 6608 AON at 203 sites (cf. 8280 AON at 268 sites in 1975). Rook nest density was higher in the western/south-western side of the county and lower on the eastern side of the county (Haycock and Haycock 2022).



Apparently Occupied Nests. GWENT: 43 AON at Oldcastle; 39 AON at Troy Farm; 30 AON at NT Clytha; nested at eight other sites; GOWER: 550 AON at 34 sites (cf. 523 at 31 sites in 2021), largest rookery was 47 AON at Cwm Ivy; CARMARTHEN: rookery at Cothi Bridge; PEMBROKE: 6608 AON at 203 sites (absent from 60 previously occupied sites), around 60% of which were counted in 2013-16, with similar numbers. Largest rookeries were 202 AON at Upper Solva, 215 AON at St Davids and 222 AON at St Nicholas (Haycock and Haycock 2022); CEREDIGION: four colonies; RADNOR: 4% reduction in AON on 2021 (but 9.7% higher than 2012), largest was 34 AON at Crossways; BRECON: seven sites (29 AON at three counted, largest 13 at Felin Glais); MONTGOMERY: bred at Dolydd Hafren and Crew Green; MEIRIONNYDD: 772 AON at 29 sites, largest were 115 AON at Hendwr Park-Llandrillo and 107 AON near Druid crossroads; CAERNARFON: WOS survey found 1174 AON at 66 sites, largest 115 at Carreg, near Aberdaron; DENBIGH: 679 AON at 15 sites, largest 116 at Llysfas College and 80 at Gellifor; FLINT: 251 AON at nine sites, largest were 63 at Tre-Mostyn and 41 at Gwespyr.

Counts ≥ 100 away from rookeries: CARMARTHEN: >100 at Laugharne on 8-9 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 100 at Haverfordwest racecourse on 16 and 27 Feb.; 140 at Marloes Mere on 14 May and 100 here on 2 July; 100 at Druidston on 21 June; 110 at Dale airfield on 7 Sept.; 100 at Newport on 20 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: 133 at Pennal on 1 Jan.; 246 at Broadwater on 29 Jan.; 250 at Sarnau, north of Bala, on 14 Sept.; CAERNARFON: >100 near Porth Meudwy on 17 Sept.; DENBIGH: 237 at Llewenni on 12 Sept.; c.100 at NT Chirk Castle on 11 Nov.; 200 near Eglwyseg on 29 Dec.; FLINT: c.100 at Hawarden Industrial Park on 29 Jan.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone*

BRAN DYDDYN

Abundant and widespread resident (160,000 territories). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	14691	14266
% of BirdTrack lists	68%	68%

The Breeding Bird Survey annual index was at its highest since 2014, and up 19% on the previous year. Carrion Crow overtook Blackbird to become the most ubiquitous species on BirdTrack lists, although the reporting rate has fallen slightly in the last couple of years. The only site with comparable breeding information is Bardsey,

CAERNARFON, where nine pairs nested, one more than in 2021, and a minimum of 11 young fledged (as last year).

Counts ≥100: GWENT: 205 at Mathern on 18 July; E.GLAMORGAN: 100 on Newbridge fields on 12 Feb.; 130 at Nash Pt on 3 July; 200 at Rhymney on 12 July; >200 on Swanbridge beach and Sully Island on 14 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: 291 roosted at Capel Seion on 12 Jan.; 880 on mudflats off Kidwelly Quay on 7 July; 120 at Llangadog Common on 20 July; 130 to roost at Glan yr Ystrad on 14 Aug.; 200 at Laugharne on 1 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 118 at Sprinkle Pill on 3 Jan.; 150 at Marloes on 15 July and 100 here on 1 Oct.; 100 by Nevern est. on 8

Oct.; 100 by Gann est. on 28 Oct.; CEREDIGION: 112 at Nanteos pool in April; BRECON: 120 at Llangorse Lake on 27 Feb.; 120 at Talybont on 14 March; 160 to roost at Pennorth on 1 July; MONTGOMERY: 107 on pasture near Hafren Forest on 7 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: 200 at Glandyfi on 17 Nov.; 232 at Ynys saltings on 20 Nov.; ANGLESEY: >100 on Alaw est. on 9 July; DENBIGH: 140 roosted at Coed y Gopa on 18 Nov.

HOODED CROW *Corvus cornix*

BRAN LWYD

Uncommon and irregular wanderer to Wales, presumed from Ireland, and mainly to west coast in winter. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	243	354
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

It is difficult to account for mobility within and between counties, but the increasing trend is nonetheless clear. For the second successive year, a number remained through the summer although there was no evidence of breeding.

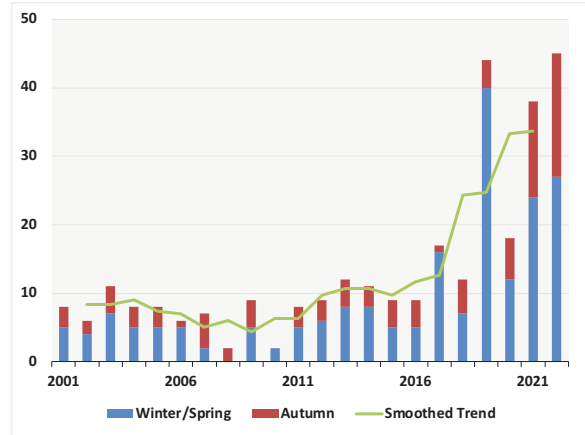
Single birds unless stated: PEMBROKE: Gann est. from 1 Jan. to 15 March and 10 Nov.; Skokholm on 20-24 March; two on Skomer on 2 May; St Davids Head on 17-27 May; Dale airfield from 29 Aug. to 2 Sept.; Porthclais on 15 Nov. and 13 Dec.; Trefin on 19 Dec.; CEREDIGION: Nanteos pool on 14 May; MEIRIONNYDD: Tonfanau/Aberdysynni/ Tywyn from 29 July to 1 Sept.; CAERNARFON: Morfa Dinlle on 5

Breeding Bird Survey: Carrion Crow in Wales, 1994-2022



2004; 120 at Llangorse Lake on 27 Feb.; 120 at Talybont on 14 March; 160 to roost at Pennorth on 1 July; MONTGOMERY: 107 on pasture near Hafren Forest on 7 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: 200 at Glandyfi on 17 Nov.; 232 at Ynys saltings on 20 Nov.; ANGLESEY: >100 on Alaw est. on 9 July; DENBIGH: 140 roosted at Coed y Gopa on 18 Nov.

Hooded Crows recorded in Wales, based on county max. in each season 2001-22



March; two on Lôn Las Ogwen on 26 March; Cwm Idwal on 17 April, presumed same at Llanberis on 19th; two on Bardsey on 3 April and 11 May, singles on 17-22 April, on five dates in May, 7 June, 28 Aug. and 20 Oct., possibly same at Uwchmynydd/Mynydd Bychestyn on 3 June, 5 Aug., 25 Sept., 2 Oct. and 14 Dec.; Great Orme on 23 April, 8 May and 13 June; two at Pen Cilan on 27 April; Drum, Carneddau, on 3 June, possibly same at Llanberis on 1 July; Conwy est. on 12 July; Porth Meudwy on 11 Oct.; ANGLESEY: at least one at RSPB South Stack throughout the year (except Sept.), inc. two in March, May and June, and up to four in April; Alaw est. from 1 Jan. to 9 March, and 29 June to 1 Sept., with two here on 23 July; at least one in Cemlyn-Carmel Head area between 8 Jan. and 14 May, and up to four here in April (max. on 22nd), then one between 9 Aug. and 25 Sept.; Newborough Warren on 7 and 15 March and two here on 23 Sept.; Cors Bodeilio on 8 May; Breakwater CP on 24 June; Traeth Dulas from 4 July to 14 Sept.; Alaw est. on 28 July; Rhoscolyn from 6 Aug. to 26 Sept.; DENBIGH/FLINT: Clwyd est. from 21 April to 10 Nov.

Hooded X Carrion Crow hybrid

CAERNARFON: Bangor University on 2 and 26 March; ANGLESEY: Newborough on 7 May and 9 Nov.; Holyhead on 9 June; Trearddur Bay on 24 June.

RAVEN *Corvus corax*

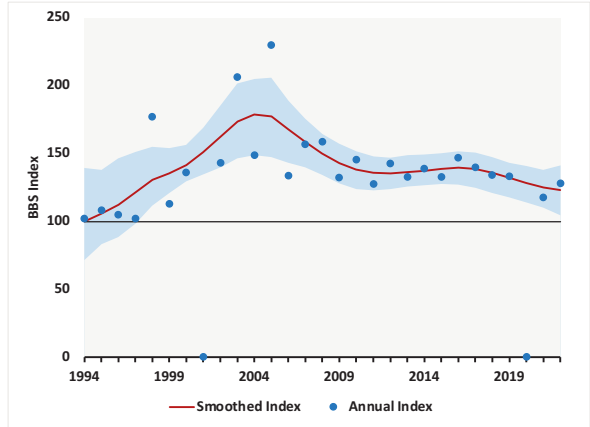
CIGFRAN

Widespread resident (2,150 pairs). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4972	4919
% of BirdTrack lists	21%	22%

The annual Breeding Bird Survey index continues to fall slowly, down 31% from its 2004 peak but nonetheless above the 1995 baseline. The BirdTrack reporting rate has also been falling slowly, and was 13% lower in 2020-22 than in 2013-15.

Breeding Bird Survey: Raven in Wales, 1994-2022



Max. roost counts in E.GLAMORGAN.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bryn Pica tip	30	142	178	197					41	65	27	
Abernant	25		17					215				33

Counts ≥20: E.GLAMORGAN: 20 at Perthcelyn rifle range on 27 Feb.; 25 at Penderyn on 3 July; 22 at Lavernock Pt on 21 Sept.; 67 at Cwmbach on 17 Nov.; GOWER: 77 in small groups over Llanrhidian Marsh on 25 Jan.; 39 near Crymlyn on 15 May; 30 at Foel Fynyddau on 12 Aug.; 22 at Weobley Castle on 25 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 30 at St Brides on 14 Jan.; 20 on Skomer on 13-15 Sept. and 59 here on 2 Oct.; CEREDIGION: 30 at Cockshead on 13 March; MONTGOMERY/DENBIGH: 22 at Llechrydau on 28 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: 22

at Cwm Hesgyn in Aug.; 20 at Portmeirion on 8 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 37 at RSPB South Stack on 3 Oct. Notable: 12 fed on a dolphin corpse near Ynys Llanddwyn on 18 Oct.

WAXWING *Bombycilla garrulus*

CYNFFON SIDAN

Uncommon winter visitor, though annual numbers vary greatly.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	0	4
% of BirdTrack lists	0	<1%

E.GLAMORGAN: six at Maesteg on 16 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Botwnnog on 16 Nov.; FLINT: Mynydd Isa on 28 Dec.

COAL TIT *Periparus ater*

TITW PENDDU

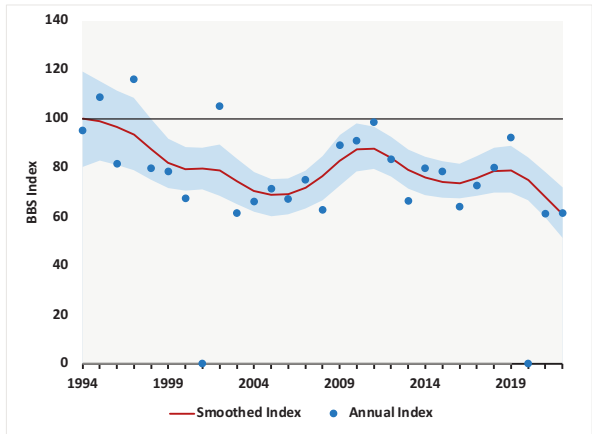
Fairly common and widespread resident (75,000 territories), most numerous in conifer woodlands. Rare passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3768	3000
% of BirdTrack lists	17%	14%

The Breeding Bird Survey smoothed index hit a new low, 31% below the 1995 baseline. The declining trend is similar to Goldcrest, but for neither species is there a very obvious cause. The BirdTrack reporting rate had shown no similar trend until this year, when it was 13% below the value in 2013-15. The only comparable survey was at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where 40 breeding territories (in 112ha of woodland) is very similar to counts since 2006.

Counts ≥10: GWENT: 18 in an Abertillery garden on 20 Jan.; 21 in Chepstow Park Wood on 26 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: 20 at Wern Ddu on 23 Jan.; 12 at Craig Abercwmboi on 27 Feb.; 14 at Coed Darwonno on 9 Oct.; GOWER: 12 in Siskin flock at Mynydd Nant-y-bar on 11 Feb.; MONTGOMERY: 28 ringed at Cefn Coch on 12 March, 10 here on 20 Aug. and 22 ringed on 10 Sept.; 21 at Corris on 18 Sept.; 15 at Aberllefenni on 23 Oct., 19 here on 30th and 28 on 18 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: 15 at Pantperthog on 23 Jan. and 25 here on 21 Aug.; 12 at Bod Petryal on 26 Feb.; 23 at Ratgoed on 10 July and 15 here on 23 Oct.; 21 at Corris on 18 Sept. and 28 here on 18 Dec.; 19 at Aberllefenni on 31 Oct.; 11 at Tan-y-coed, Dyfi forest on 29 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 11 at NWWT Spinnies on 9 Jan.; 14 at Treborth Botanic Garden on 10 July; 10 at Coed Gwydir on 3 Sept.; DENBIGH: 35 at Alwen Res. on 9 Jan.; 20 at Nilig, Clocaenog, on 23 Jan.; up to 20 regularly on feeders at Llyn Brenig visitor centre in Feb.; 11 at Coed Hafod on 6 April; 10 at NT Bodnant Garden on 10 June; FLINT: 10 at Nercwys Forest on 10 Jan.

Breeding Bird Survey: Coal Tit in Wales, 1994-2022



MARSH TIT *Poecile palustris*

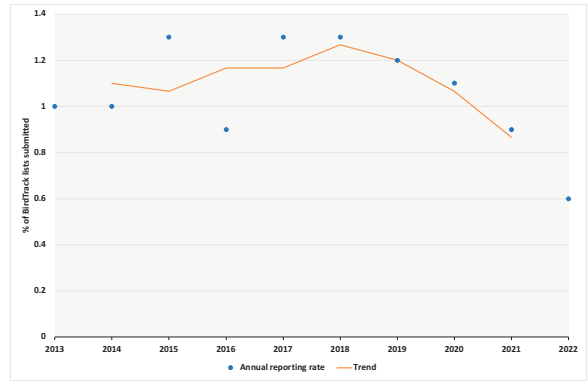
TITW'R WERN

Uncommon and localised resident (4850 territories), probably declining throughout Wales and absent from large parts of the north and west. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	251	200
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

The proportion of BirdTrack lists including Marsh Tit has fallen dramatically since 2018 and is now around half of its average level prior to that year.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Marsh Tit in Wales 2013-22



Breeding season (mid-April to June), individuals unless stated: GWENT: bred at Llanfihangel Gobion and near Osbaston, and possibly at Lasgarn Wood and Llandogo; E.GLAMORGAN: Mynydd Garthmaelwg on 14 June; GOWER: 2-3 pairs at Clyne Woods, two at Gelli-hir Woods and a pair bred near High Pennard; CARMARTHEN: pair fledged six at Cynghordy; also bred at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas and possibly at three other sites; PEMBROKE: 3+ pairs in Cwm Gwaun at Llanychaer, bred at Minwear Woods, probably in Pengelli Forest and possibly at six other sites; CEREDIGION: possibly bred at Allt Rhyd-y-groes; pairs at Coed y Foel on 1 March and Cors Caron on 14 April (and one on 17 Sept.); singles at Llanerchaeron on 2 March, Lampeter on 11 April and Llangybi on 27 June; BRECON: bred at Coed Nant Brân and probably at 10 other sites; RADNOR: probably bred at RWT Gilfach and Foronwen Wood; MONTGOMERY: bred in Dormouse boxes at Cwm-y-wydden, near Manafon, and MWT Dyfnant Meadows; singles at four sites; MEIRIONNYDD: Bod Petryal on 11 March; Glyndyfrdwy on 23 April; CAERNARFON: Pensychnant, Conwy, on 16 April; Pont Cyfyng on 31 May; Crymlyn on 14 June; DENBIGH: pair at Crêst Mawr, Denbigh, on 2 April.

Outside breeding season elsewhere, all single birds unless stated: GWENT: Whitebrook on 15 Jan.; two at Skirrid Fawr on 27 July; Llanishen in July, Sept. and Dec.; Upper Hael Wood, Redbrook, on 25 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: two at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 3 Jan. and singles here in Feb. and Dec., and one in nearby Cwm George Wood on 15 Aug.; GOWER: present at 10 sites additional to those above, inc. 11 at Rhossili Down on 6 March and four in Ilston Valley on 21 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: two at Castle Woods and Glanaman, and singles at six other sites; PEMBROKE: 1-2 at 10 sites, and three at Little Milford on 3 Jan.; CEREDIGION: Henllan on 16 Feb. and 20 Sept.; two at RSPB Ynys-hir on 31 Dec.; BRECON: six sites, inc. two at The Cwm in both winter periods; RADNOR: Llanbwchlllyn in Jan.; Llandrindod Wood in Jan.-March and Oct.-Dec.; MONTGOMERY: three sites; MEIRIONNYDD: in a garden near Afon Dysynni on 26 July; CAERNARFON: Llanbedr-y-cennin on 25 Jan. and 4 Dec.; Dolwyddelan on 9 Feb.; Craig-y-don on 1 Aug.; DENBIGH: eight sites, inc. four at Froncysyllte on 22 Sept. and two at NT Erddig on 2 Dec.; FLINT: Rough Piece Wood near Dobs Hill on 13 Jan.; Loggerheads CP in Jan. and Feb.; two near Pantymwyn on 8 and 17 Feb. and one in a garden nearby on 19 Nov.

WILLOW TIT *Poecile montanus* TITW'R HELYG
Uncommon, localised and declining resident (estimated 1195 pairs in 2019-20), mostly in west and central Wales. RBBP: 124 pairs in 2020. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	96	101
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

probably bred at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas; Llandybie on 5 March; PEMBROKE: probably bred at Teifi Marshes and possibly at Pengelli Forest; CEREDIGION: probably bred at Cors Caron; pair at Longwood on 25 May; BRECON: bred at Mynydd Wysg (Usk Res.), probably in Glasfynydd Forest and at Dyffryn Cwannon; MONTGOMERY: bred at Lake Vyrnwy and Dyfnant Forest; DENBIGH: Rhyd-y-foel on 14 April; Fenn's Moss on 11 June; FLINT: pair at Caerwys on 27 April; Talacre on 18 May.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: two at Fenn's Moss on 15 April; FLINT, additional record: two near Caerwys on 9 May.

Outside the breeding season elsewhere, singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: Upper Llynfi Valley on 1 and 6 Jan.; Old Caerau colliery on 28 Jan. and 23 March; two at Pwll Waun Cynon NR in Feb. and one here on 29 Aug.; Coed Taf Fawr on 1 Feb.; Cyfarthfa Park on 23 Aug. and nearby at Taf Fechan on 25 Aug.; in a Cwmbach garden between 6 Nov. and 22 Dec.; Abernant on 27 Nov.; GOWER: two at Gowerton on 27 Jan.; two at Walters Arena near Glynneath on 16 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: on feeders at Llyn Llech Owain CP in both winter periods, max. four on 28 Nov.; Ynysdawela Nature Park on 14 Feb.; Gallytbere on 15 July; two at Ffos-las Lakes on 8 Aug.; three at Banc Cornicyll on 25 Nov.; PEMBROKE: two at Llandilo on 1 Dec. and at Tŷ Rhyg on 15 Dec., and singles at four other sites; CEREDIGION: Denmark Farm on 30 Jan.; Clywedog plantation on 6 Oct.; RADNOR: two at Coed y Cefn, Rhayader, on 18-21 Sept.; BRECON: Gamrhiw on 3 Feb.; Abertrewryn on 1 July; Crai Res. on 3 July; Taf Fechan forest on 28 Sept.; MONTGOMERY: Llwynderw and Foel Fawr in Aug.; DENBIGH: 1-2 on feeders at Llyn Brenig visitor centre from Jan. to April and in Nov.; Nilig, Clocaenog, in Jan./Feb.; Alwen Res. on 24 July; FLINT: Gwern on 13 Jan.; Rhewl-Mostyn on 23 March.

BLUE TIT *Cyanistes caeruleus* TITW TOMOS LAS
Abundant resident (415,000 territories), most numerous in deciduous woodland but more widespread in winter. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	11073	10357
% of BirdTrack lists	51%	49%

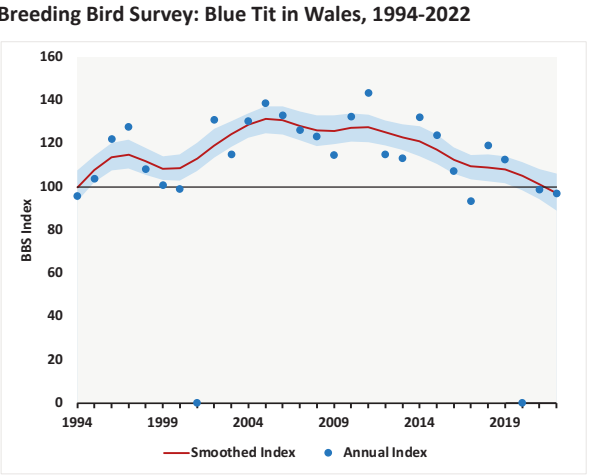
The Breeding Bird Survey shows Blue Tit in a negative long-term trend for the first time, and 26% below its 2005 peak. Several breeding seasons of low nest productivity owing to poor weather conditions in spring feed quickly into the

population size. Given the cold April of 2021 followed by the wettest May on record, it is surprising the one-year decline was less than 2%. At the only site with comparable data, RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, 89 territories was identical to that in 2017, but 22% lower than the 113 territories in 2011 and 115 in 2006.

Peak garden use (reporting rate of 91.6% in January) was the lowest since the BTO Garden BirdWatch started in 1995. The BirdTrack reporting rate also dipped below 50% of submitted lists for the first time ever. A notable count was 50 at feeders in a Trecastle garden, BRECON, on 7 Jan., and the Breconshire Bird Report reports that Blue Tits outnumber Great Tit by 2:1, a reversal of the situation a few years ago.

At the sites below with nestbox projects monitored by ringing groups, it was a more productive year than 2021. From 293 pairs at seven sites, the mean productivity was 5.57 chicks per pair (*cf.* 4.2 at the same sites in 2021). Nonetheless, there were marked differences, even locally: the average pair at the second most productive site in the table fledged 76% more chicks than those at the least productive site, which is

less than 18 miles due the south, at the opposite end of the Clwydian hills, DENBIGH. Although tree composition, and thus the phenology of leafing, varies between woodlands, data from 34 sites across Britain (including three long-running studies in northeast Wales) showed no relationship with first egg date or clutch size of Blue Tits (Branston *et al.* 2023).



Blue Tit: breeding productivity at regularly monitored sites					
		Pairs	Young fledged	Young/nest	2021 young/nest
GOWER	Cwm Clydach	54	341	6.31	5.70
CARMARTHEN	RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas	77	529	6.87	5.03
BRECON	Coed Nant Brân	14	65	4.64	1.63
DENBIGH	Conwy Valley	53	267	5.04	1.14
	Glyn Arthur	26	163	6.27	3.63
	Prion	27	117	4.33	6.11
	Glyn Ceiriog	42	149	3.55	3.61

Monitoring at other sites. CARMARTHEN: in mixed woodland at Cynghordy, average clutch size was 8.05 eggs and average number of young raised per successful nest was 6.6 young; in Sessile Oak/Birch woodland at Halfway, 10.5 eggs and 9.5 young; at Gwynfe, eight nestboxes had an average clutch size of 6.6 eggs.

GREAT TIT *Parus major* TITW MAWR
Abundant and widespread throughout Wales up to c.500m above sea level except on small islands (255,000 territories). Wales Green-listed.

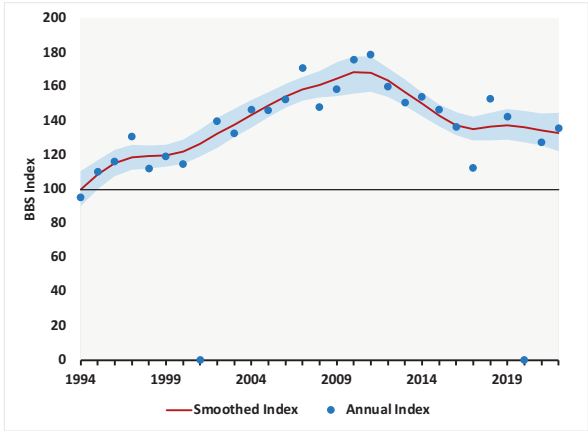
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	8909	8263
% of BirdTrack lists	41%	40%

In contrast to the continuing decline in Blue Tit abundance, and despite low breeding productivity in 2021, the annual Breeding Bird Survey index increased by (a non-significant) 6% in 2022. Although the index has fallen since 2010, it remains 24% above its 1995 value. The only site surveyed for which there is comparable data is RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where 57 territories were recorded in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 59 in 2017, 74 in 2011 and 89 in 2006).

There has been a long-term decline in the reporting rate from gardens, both the annual maximum and minimum in the BTO Garden BirdWatch (78.2% in Jan. and 67.8% in Sept.) were the lowest since the project started in 1995. The BirdTrack reporting rate has been fairly steady since 2013, returning to levels of pre-lockdown years.

At the sites below with nestbox projects monitored by ringing groups, it was a markedly more productive year than 2021, which had been the lowest across the UK since recording started in the 1960s as a result of heavy rain in May. From 131 pairs at seven sites in 2022, the mean productivity was 4.88 chicks per pair (*cf.* 3.16 at the same sites in 2021).

Breeding Bird Survey: Great Tit in Wales, 1994-2022



Great Tit: breeding productivity at regularly monitored sites		Pairs	Young fledged	Young/nest	2021 young/nest
GOWER	Cwm Clydach	25	143	5.72	4.6
CARMARTHEN	RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas	27	172	6.37	3.26
BRECON	Coed Nant Brân	4	18	4.5	0.67
DENBIGH	Conwy Valley	22	59	2.69	1.77
	Glyn Arthur	13	66	5.08	2.47
	Prion	12	60	5.00	3.73
	Glyn Ceiriog	28	121	4.32	2.26

BEARDED TIT *Panurus biarmicus*

Breeds at Newport Wetlands Reserve (RBBP: three pairs in 2021) and occurs occasionally at other reedbeds in southeast Wales. Bred in Anglesey (1967-69) and Gower (1973-86). Elsewhere, rare autumn and winter visitor. Seven records away from Gwent and East Glamorgan since 2000. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	20	20
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding: GWENT: two pairs at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth). This is the lowest total since nesting was confirmed there in 2005 (*cf.* six pairs in 2010-19).

Bearded Tit: max. counts	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Newport Wetlands			3	4	2	1	1	3	P	2	3	

Other records: E.GLAMORGAN: three in Cardiff Bay on 23 March.

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea*

Former breeding species. Uncommon, usually on autumn passage.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3	9
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Non-breeding, singles unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: four at Lavernock Pt on 23 Oct. and one here on 27th; GOWER: Mewslade Bay on 13 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 18 Oct.; Great Orme on 4 Dec.; ANGLESEY: RSPB South Stack on 20 Oct.; Breakwater CP on 25 Oct.

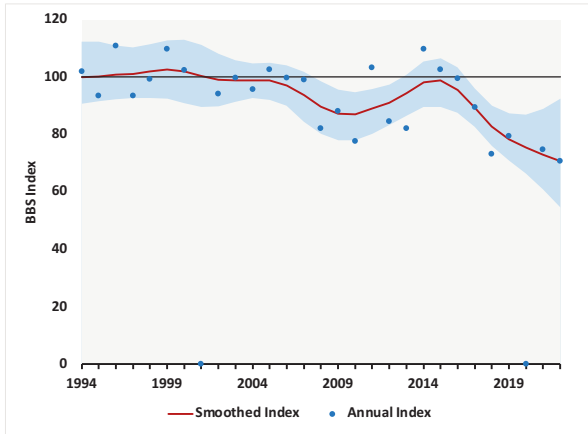
SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

Fairly common and widespread but declining breeding species (115,000 territories) and passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2596	2792
% of BirdTrack lists	11%	12%

An increase in the UK Skylark population made headlines when the Breeding Bird Survey results for 2022 were published, but that trend is driven by increases in the other three countries. In Wales, the BBS index hit another new low, 27% below its baseline, most of which has occurred since 2015. Notable among spring counts was a record 29 singing males at Newport Wetlands Reserve, GWENT (*cf.* previous max. 23 in 2021).

Breeding Bird Survey: Skylark in Wales, 1994-2022



Counts ≥100: E.GLAMORGAN: c.260 at Tyn y Caeau Farm, Marcross, on 15-16 Jan.; PEMBROKE: movements over Skokholm included >100 on four dates in the first half of Oct. (max. 222 on 8th), 140 on 28th and 221 on 3 Nov.; 514 over Skomer on 8 Oct. and 247 on a date in Nov.; 200 southwest over Porthgain on 23 Oct.; 100 at Martin’s Haven on 12 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 160 over Mwnt on 12 Jan.; MONTGOMERY: 150 on Heldre Hill on 16 Oct.; 200 on north edge of Montgomery on 26 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 359 over Bardsey on 11 Oct., 754 here on 13th, 230 on 16th and 376 on 18th; ANGLESEY: 200 near Braint est. on 23 Jan.; 120 on stubble at Cemlyn on 2 Oct.; 124 at RSPB South Stack on 18 Oct.; FLINT: 150 on Flint Marsh on 12 Dec.

SHORE LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

Scarce passage migrant, mainly in autumn, and rare winter visitor, from northeast Europe. WBRC: 292 individuals recorded.

PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 23-24 April, the fourth for the island, and the third to be found on 23 April.

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Scarce visitor from southern Europe. WBRC: 37 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Dale airfield on 9 Sept.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* GWENNOL Y GLENNYDD
Locally common breeding visitor, most numerous in eastern counties. Passage migrant elsewhere. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1502	1315
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	5%

The UK indices for both the Breeding Bird Survey and the Waterways Breeding Bird Survey fell from the previous year, but are stable in the long-term. Although far from comparable in statistical robustness, the BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales was also stable.

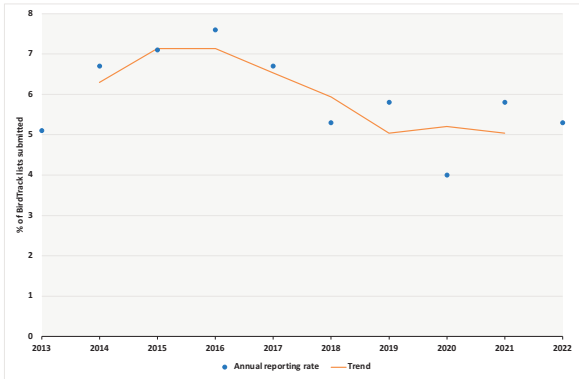
Breeding colonies (Apparently Occupied Nests unless stated): GWENT: on R.Usk, 12 AON at Llanfihangel Gobion, and bred at Abergavenny and Llanfoist; on R.Monnow, 60 and 6 AON at Llangua, 12 AON at Tregate, 3-4 AON at Grosmont and bred near Osbaston; E.GLAMORGAN: 9 AON in Llangynwydd STW; 6 AON in drainage holes beside R.Ogwr in Bridgend; 4 AON in drainage holes in Treharris; 3 AON in R.Llynfi at Lletty Brongu; 3 AON in drainage holes at Robertstown; inspected drainage holes in Cardiff Bay dock, but nesting not confirmed; GOWER: 120-125 AON (*cf.* 96-102 at the same 16 sites in 2021); CARMARTHEN: 55 AON in ash cliffs at Burry Port; also bred on R.Tywi at Dryslwyn and Pen-lan, RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas and in artificial bank at Penclacwydd; PEMBROKE: 50 AON at Nolton Haven; 20 AON at Marloes Sands and Newgale beach; 10+ AON at Black Cliff; 6 AON at Freshwater West; also bred at Great

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	4 March	Newport Wetlands Reserve	5 Oct.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	11 March	Cardiff Bay & Merthyr Mawr	8 Oct.	Cosmeston Lakes CP
GOWER	14 March	Port Talbot	15 Sept.	Swansea Vale
CARMARTHEN	15 March	Telpyn Point	1 Oct.	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	4 March	Llys-y-fran Reservoir	13 Oct.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	10 March	Teifi estuary	26 Sept.	Aberaeron
BRECON	18 March	Pipton	17 Sept.	Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	18 March	Glasbury	10 Oct.	Glanwey & Llanbwchlllyn
MONTGOMERY	19 March	Dolydd Hafren & Caersws	22 Sept.	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	16 March	Druid	9 Sept.	Tonfanau
CAERNARFON	15 March	Dinas, Llyn	20 Sept.	Dwyfor estuary
ANGLESEY	27 Feb.	Llyn Pen-y-parc	25 Oct.	Traeth Lligwy
DENBIGH	8 March	Llanrwst	1 Oct.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	16 March	Rhyl Brickfield Pond	25 Sept.	Hawarden Industrial Park

The first on ANGLESEY was the earliest ever for that county and four days earlier than one in 2019. At the other end of the year, the RADNOR records were three days later than the previous latest this century, in 2020. The last in DENBIGH was the first Oct. record in the county this century, four days later than one at the same site in 2012.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Sand Martin in Wales 2013-22



Furzenip and Broomhill Burrows (new sites), Aberbach, Abermawr, Gupton/Frainslake, Southwood Farm and R.Cleddau at Llawhaden; probably nested at Manorbier Bay; BRECON: 70 AON on four lengths of R.Usk at Pencelli/Scethrog, 5-10 AON on R.Honddhu at Upper Cwmtidy and at least 2 AON on R.Senni at Defynnog; RADNOR: probably nested at Builth Wells; MONTGOMERY: bred at Dolydd Hafren; MEIRIONNYDD: 21 AON at Mochras harbour; bred at Llandderfel, Llyn Celyn and in soft cliffs at Tonfanau; CAERNARFON: 5 AON in Nant Ffrancon, three small colonies at Trefriw, one at Nefyn and one at Porthdinllaen; ANGLESEY: bred in soft cliffs at Traeth Lleiniog, Traeth Lligwy and Crigyll est.; DENBIGH: several AON in NE arm of Llyn Brenig; nest-building on R.Alyn at Llanferres on 29 April; FLINT: >20 AON at Flint Pt; 2 AON on R.Elwy at St Asaph.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: probably bred near Gresford.

Counts ≥100: GWENT: at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 10 dates between 23 July and 11 Sept., the largest being 300 on 23 July, 10 and 12 Aug., and 372 on 29 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: 100 over Cardiff Bay on 22 April; 150 at Tir Founder fields on 2 July; c.100 at Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 6 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 144 over Skokholm on 19 Sept.; PEMBROKE/CEREDIGION: 300 at Teifi Marshes on 13 April, 200 here on 14th and 100 on 15th; BRECON: monthly max. roosting at Llangorse Lake were 400 on 28 June, >2000 on 21 July and 800 on 6 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 100 at Dolydd Hafren on 1 Sept.; ANGLESEY: 130 roosted at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 19 April; 500 at Llyn Penrhyn on 2 May; 150 at Llyn Coron on 31 Aug.; DENBIGH: 110 at RSPB Conwy on 1 May.

2021 GOWER: 474 at Castell-du on 17 July.

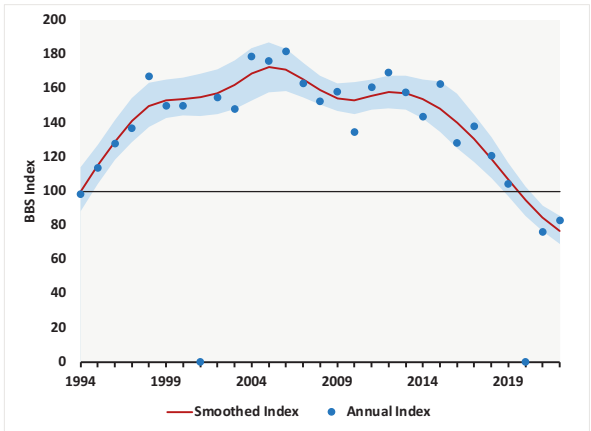
SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* GWENNOL
Fairly common and widespread summer visitor (82,000 territories) and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	5269	4960
% of BirdTrack lists	22%	21%

The decline of Swallows is evident in the Breeding Bird Survey results in all parts of the UK, although started in Wales a little later than elsewhere. The smoothed index has fallen by 51% since its most recent peak in 2012, and on its long-term trend now qualifies for Amber-listing, with a decline of 26%. The BirdTrack reporting rate has also fallen consistently over the last decade, and was 32% below its 2013-15 level in 2020-22.

One in Carmarthenshire seems to have overwintered successfully, being seen into mid-March, while another made it at least to mid-February on Anglesey. For now, winter records (December to

Breeding Bird Survey: Swallow in Wales, 1994-2022



February) are reported separately from other late/early dates shown in the table below.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN) - March to November.

	<i>Earliest</i>	<i>Site</i>		<i>Latest</i>	<i>Site</i>
GWENT	31 March	Osbaston		24 Oct.*	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	29 March	Three sites		6 Nov.	Lavernock Point
GOWER	2 April	Swansea Vale		25 Nov.	Morriston
CARMARTHEN	30 March*	Pembrey Burrows		16 Nov.	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	18 March	Strumble Head		9 Nov.*	Abercastle
CEREDIGION	9 March	Cors Caron		28 Oct.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	29 March	Tallylyn		23 Oct.	Brecon
RADNOR	26 March	Newbridge		31 Oct.	Knighton
MONTGOMERY	28 March	GUILFIELD		19 Oct.	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	7 April	R.Dylif, Glaslyn		23 Oct.	Llyn Trawsfynydd
CAERNARFON	2 April	Bardsey		30 Oct.	Porth Oer
ANGLESEY	29 March*	RSPB South Stack		27 Nov.*	Cemlyn
DENBIGH	30 March	NT Erddig & RSPB Conwy		9 Oct.	NT Chirk Castle
FLINT	30 March	Rhyl Brickfield Pond		10 Nov.	Clwyd estuary

*Winter records, singles unless stated: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 2 Dec. and three here on 6th; CARMARTHEN: Kidwelly Quay STW from 2021 to 13 March; PEMBROKE: Llanychaer on 1 Dec.; ANGLESEY: 1-2 around Newborough/Bodorgan between 8 Jan. and 15 Feb., same or another at Aberffraw on 3 Feb.; Traeth Coch on 4 Dec.

The first in CEREDIGION was the earliest in the county this century, a week earlier than in 2009, 2014 and 2015.

Counts ≥300 on spring passage: GWENT: 311 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 2 May; PEMBROKE: 300 at St Davids Head on 14 May; ANGLESEY: 320 passed RSPB South Stack in one hour and 500 at Llyn Penrhyn on 2 May.

Counts ≥300 on autumn passage: GWENT: 473 in four hours at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 24 Sept. and 360 here on 2 Oct.; GOWER: 2000 over Oxwich Marsh on 10 Aug. and >400 here on 25th; >370 over Margam Moors on 18 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: south over Lavernock Pt, 400 on 14 Sept.; 4800 (in four hours) on 17th, 3000 (in one hour) on 20th, 400 on 2 Oct., 1700 on 3rd and 600 on 9th; CARMARTHEN: c.1000 fed over Kidwelly Marsh on 13 Sept.; 976 in 75 mins at Telpyn Pt on 17 Sept. and 1491 here in 70 mins on 18th; min. >6000 over Ginst Pt in one hour on 19 Sept.; PEMBROKE: over Skokholm on 10 dates between 13 Sept. and 3 Oct., inc. 4752 on 19 Sept., 1939 on 2 Oct. and 1544 on 23 Sept.; 1500 over Skokholm on 2 Oct.; 400 over Marloes Mere on 8 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 300 west at Morfa Madryn NR on 13 Aug.; 362 over Bardsey on 28 Aug., 1215 here on 29th, 344 on 1 Sept. and 450 on 2nd; ANGLESEY: 10,000 roosted at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 12-23 Aug. and 1000 here on 29th.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

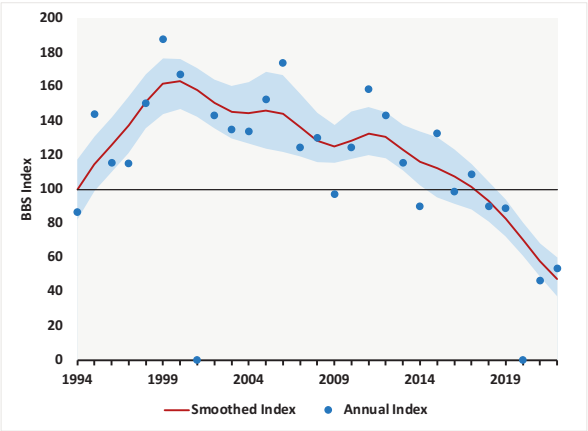
GWENNOL Y BONDO

Fairly common summer visitor (67,500 pairs). Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2395	2444
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	10%

The speed of the House Martin’s **Breeding Bird Survey: House Martin in Wales, 1994-2022**

decline is alarming. Having only been added to the Amber list of conservation concern recently, the Breeding Bird Survey trend puts it on the brink of qualifying for the Red list, with a 49% decline since 1995 and 56% in just 10 years. Since the turn of the century, numbers have fallen by three-quarters in Wales. The BirdTrack reporting rate has also fallen, by 30% between 2013-15 and 2020-22, whereas the BTO Garden BirdWatch shows no strong trend. The *Carmarthenshire Bird Report* commented that several observers noted their absence at previously occupied sites.



Apparently Occupied Nests. GWENT: bred at nine sites, including six AON on a house in Risca where young were still being fed on 12 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: nests at 11 sites, inc. 65 AON in Penarth Marina and Glebe St., the fewest since recording here began in 2014; presumed to have nested on cliffs at Nash Pt (20 present on 3 July); GOWER: bred at four sites and probably at four others; CARMARTHEN: 2 AON at Dinas church; 1 AON at Croes y ceiliog; probably bred at National Botanic Garden, and collected mud at Johnstown and Llyn Brianne; PEMBROKE: nests at 13 sites, including on sea cliffs at Great Furzenip, Ceibwr Bay and St Govan’s Head; 12 AON on buildings on Ramsey; RADNOR: 15 AON at Pilleth, 10 at Llwyn Farm near Llandbadarn y Garreg; nested at Dol Frwynog and Gladestry; BRECON: 11 AON at Sennybridge, 11 of 12 boxes occupied at Cradoc, six at The Cwm, 12 AON across five other sites, and breeding suspected at eight other sites; single nests at two sites still occupied on 21 Sept.; MONTGOMERY: bred at Llansilan and probably at Trefnant and Churchstoke; MEIRIONNYDD: 10 AON at two sites in Tal y Llyn, 2 AON at Dolgoch Falls and at Pennal; bred at Abergynolwyn; CAERNARFON: 55 AON at 10 sites, largest colony of 19 on Aber Falls Hotel; ANGLESEY: 9 AON on a house in Bethel, at least one still active on 9 Sept.; DENBIGH: nine sites, inc. 7 AON at Lleweni; FLINT: bred at Rhydymwyn NR, Ysbyty Glan Clwyd, Rhuddlan and Knowle Hill.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	<i>Earliest</i>	<i>Site</i>		<i>Latest</i>	<i>Site</i>
GWENT	1 April	Nedern Valley		16 Oct.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	20 March	Kenfig NNR		23 Oct.	Nant y Moel
GOWER	18 March	Pontardawe		13 Oct.	Mewslade
CARMARTHEN	7 April	Llyn Pencarreg		1 Oct.	Glan yr Ystrad
PEMBROKE	26 March	Strumble Head		20 Nov.	Lydstep
CEREDIGION	5 April	Teifi Marshes		3 Oct.	Borth
BRECON	6 April	Dolymynach Res.		25 Oct.	Bronllys
RADNOR	10 April	Llandrindod		21 Oct.	Llanelwedd
MONTGOMERY	7 April	Llyn Coed-y-dinas		7 Oct.	Dolydd Hafren & Aberhafesp
MEIRIONNYDD	7 April	R.Dylif, Glaslyn		22 Sept.	two sites near Dolgellau
CAERNARFON	28 March	Bardsey		27 Oct.	Morfa Nefyn
ANGLESEY	21 March	RSPB Cors Ddyga		8 Oct.	RSPB South Stack
DENBIGH	5 April	Llyn Brenig		2 Oct.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	6 April	Connah’s Quay NR		1 Oct.	Hawarden Industrial Park

The last in Wales this year, in PEMBROKE, was two days later than the previous latest county record this century, in 2007.

Counts ≥200: GWENT: 1000 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 5 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: over Lavernock Pt, 400 on 17 Sept., 1100 on 19th and 1000 on 20th, 250 on 2 Oct., 350 on 3rd and 300 on 9th; CARMARTHEN: c.300 SW at Dinefwr Park on 23 Aug.; c.200 at Sandy WP on 1 Sept.; PEMBROKE: >200 at Cemaes Head on 12 May; 350 at St Davids Head on 19 Sept.; CAERNARFON: >300 on three dates in Aug., inc. 468 on 10th and 490 on 29th, then 272 on 1 Sept.; FLINT: 254 at Gronant on 7 Sept.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Cecropsis daurica*

GWENNOL DINGOCH

Scarce visitor from southern Europe. WBRC: 34 previous records.

E.GLAMORGAN: Cosmeston Lakes CP on 26 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Aberdaron on 19 Oct.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

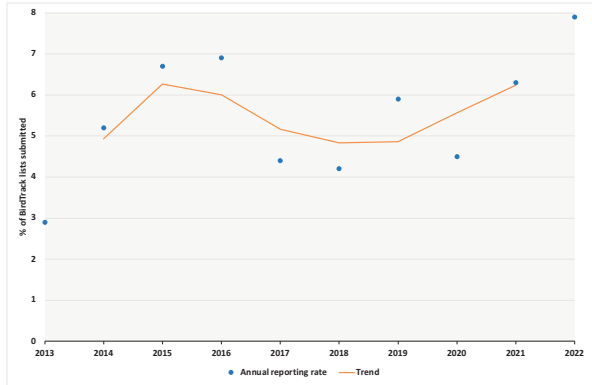
TELOR CETTI

Uncommon but increasing resident (300-600 breeding pairs). Occasional away from core areas in winter. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1485	1875
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	8%

BirdTrack reporting rate: Cetti's Warbler in Wales 2013-22

The BirdTrack reporting rate reached a record value, having fully recovered from setbacks in 2017 and 2018 related to cold winter weather, although the count at the most important site, Newport Wetlands Reserve, was down on 2021.



Singing males in breeding season unless stated: GWENT: 82 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth), cf. 93 in 2021; seven at Peterstone sluice farm; four at Peterstone Wentlooge, St Brides, Duffryn and Magor Marsh; 1-2 at eight other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: 14 at Cardiff Bay Wetlands Reserve; 11 at Cadoxton Pools and two at the nearby rivermouth; nine at Kenfig NNR; five at Hendre Lake; three at Hendre Pond; two at Cosmeston Lakes CP, Parc Tredelerch and on R.Ely at Leckwith; singles at 12 other sites inc. confirmed breeding at Tir Founder fields; GOWER: 3-4 at Oxwich Marsh, three at Cors Crymlyn, two at Margam Moors and Pant y Sais Fen, and singles at seven sites; CARMARTHEN: 55, including 20 at Penclacwydd, five at Penrhyngwyn Pond, Ffrwd Fen and Delta Lakes, and 1-4 at nine other sites; PEMBROKE: eight at Castlemartin Corse; six at Llangloffan Fen; five at Teifi Marshes (18 ringed during the year); three at Goodwick Moor; 1-2 at eight other sites; CEREDIGION: six at RSPB Ynys-hir and Cors Fochno/Ynyslas; singles at Tre'r-ddol and Aberleri; BRECON: six at Llangorse Lake; MONTGOMERY: four at MWT Cors Dyfi and probably bred at Pwll Penarth; MEIRIONNYDD: Llanaber; CAERNARFON: Porth Colmon, Ystumlyn and Cors Geirch; ANGLESEY: 22 at RSPB Cors Ddyga; 17 at RSPB Valley Wetlands (site record); five at Llyn Maelog; singles at eight other sites; DENBIGH: 3-4 at RSPB Conwy

and one at Tir Llwyd Ind. Park, Towyn; FLINT: 10 at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands; min. six at Gronant; 1-2 at five other sites.

2021 FLINT, additional breeding season record: one at Rhuddlan NR.

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

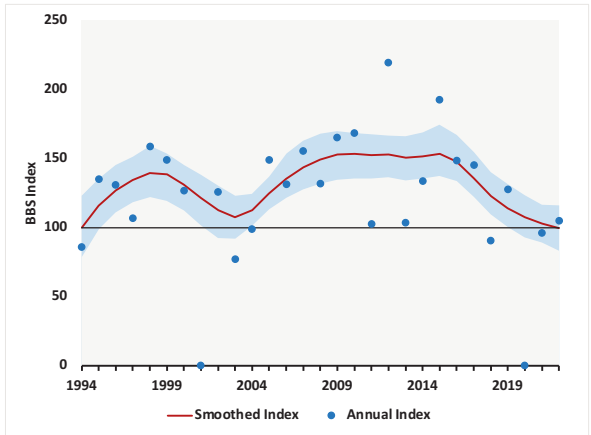
TITW CYNFFONHIR

Fairly common resident (28,000 territories), widely distributed except on parts of Llŷn and Anglesey, and rare on other islands. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3939	4150
% of BirdTrack lists	18%	19%

Breeding Bird Survey: Long-tailed Tit in Wales, 1994-2022

In common with its close relatives, the recent trend in breeding numbers is downward: the smoothed Breeding Bird Survey index is now on a par with its 1995 level, having fallen by 33% in 10 years. The BirdTrack reporting rate however, was 19% higher in 2020-22 than in 2013-15 and the BTO Garden BirdWatch also shows a long-term increase. The counts at Hendre Lake park, E.GLAMORGAN, in November are, perhaps rather surprisingly, the largest we hold in our records.



Counts ≥20: GWENT: 22 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 2 and 25 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: 30 at Hensol Forest on 3 Jan.; 21 at Tir Founder fields on 21 Jan.; 20 by Glamorgan Canal at Whitchurch on 5 June; 23 at Merthyr Mawr on 10 Aug.; 20 at Dunraven on 29 Sept.; 32 at Kenfig NNR on 23 Oct.; 20 at Coed y Bwl on 30 Oct.; 20 at Lavernock Pt on 3 and 6 Nov.; 20 at Forest Farm CP on 11 Nov.; >100 at Hendre Lake park on 12 and 19 Nov.; 21 at Parc Penallta on 15 Nov.; c.20 at St Fagans on 11 Dec.; GOWER: 22 at Whiteford Burrows on 23 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: 27 at Penrhyngwyn on 10 Oct.; 20 at Kidwelly Quay on 29 Oct.; 21 at Penclacwydd on 15 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 23 at Landshipping on 14 Jan.; 24 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 9 Feb.; 38 at Bosherston Lakes on 23 Feb.; >20 at NT Colby Gardens on 3 Nov.; 30 at St Brides on 14 Nov.; CEREDIGION: 24 at Pandy on 3 Oct.; c.50 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 28 Oct.; RADNOR: 20 at Cwm Du on 3 July; BRECON: 30 at Crickhowell on 23 June; MEIRIONNYDD: 21 at Tal-y-llyn on 2 Oct. and 25 here on 5 Nov.; 48 at Ratgoed on 23 Oct.; 25 at Tal y Llyn on 5 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 42 at Glanwydden on 22 Jan., 22 here on 5 June and 27 Nov.; 20 at Pensychnant on 7 June; DENBIGH: 26 at NT Erddig on 13 Jan.; 30 at NT Chirk Castle on 28 Aug.; 23 at Llechrydau on 12 Oct.; FLINT: max. 20 at Connah's Quay NR on 24 Jan. and 22 here on 2 Nov.

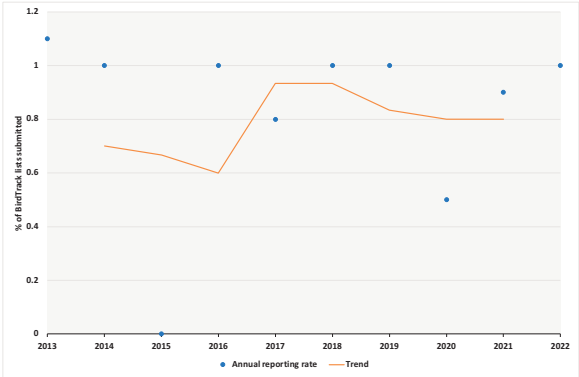
2021 additional records. DENBIGH: 21 at Fenn's Moss on 11 Aug.; FLINT: 20 at Connah's Quay NR on 19 Oct.

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* TELOR COED
Localised and uncommon, but declining, summer visitor to upland woods (2850 breeding males). Passage migrant in small numbers at coastal sites. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	255	249
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

There is no Breeding Bird Survey trend **BirdTrack reporting rate: Wood Warbler in Wales 2013-22**

for Wales, but the UK trend shows a 79% decline since 1995. This quite possibly includes sites in England from which the species has been lost completely during that time, so the change in Wales may be less dramatic. Over the shorter-term, the BirdTrack reporting rate has remained very consistent, but that may not reflect numbers. County reports suggest reductions in many areas, especially in Larch forestry that has been felled owing to disease.



Singing males holding territory unless stated: GWENT: six at St Mary’s Vale, three at St David’s Vale and Wentwood, and 1-2 at seven other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: five at Hirwaun sidings, three at Darren Woods and 1-2 at 12 other sites; GOWER: six in Nant Craig-yr-aber, two in Cwm Clydach and also probably bred at Briton Ferry Woods; singles at six sites during May; CARMARTHEN: 12 at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas, seven at Trawsnant, five in Nant Melyn, two at Halfway, Nant y Gelynen and Gelli Hernin, and singles at three other sites; PEMBROKE: three at Minwear Woods, two at Cwm Gwaun and one at Allt Pengegin Isaf; CEREDIGION: 24 at RSPB Ynys-hir (*cf.* 31 in 2017, 53 in 2011); 20 at Hafod Estate; 13 at Coed Maenarthur; six at Longwood; five in Cwm Einion and Cwm Clettwr, three on west shore of Llyn Brianne and singles at five other sites; BRECON: 21 sites, inc. eight at

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	23 April	Blaenavon Valley	14 Aug.	Bulwark, Mathern estuary
E.GLAMORGAN	16 April	Pennsylvania Wood	18 Aug.	Wenvoe Quarry
GOWER	2 May	Briton Ferry Wood	no autumn records	
CARMARTHEN	18 April	Gelli Hernin	19 July	Halfway
PEMBROKE	25 April	Bosherston Lakes	no autumn records	
CEREDIGION	18 April	Talybont	18 Aug.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	16 April	Cnwch Wood	19 July	Halfway Forest
RADNOR	25 April	Kilcenni Dingle	10 Aug.	Elan Valley
MONTGOMERY	24 April	Cefn Llwyni	no autumn records	
MEIRIONNYDD	17 April	Corris	10 July	Ratgoed
CAERNARFON	23 March	Capel Curig	no autumn records	
DENBIGH	20 April	Nercwys Pant Du	8 July	Chirk Castle
FLINT	15 May	Penycloddiau & St Asaph	no autumn records	

The first of the year was the earliest ever in CAERNARFON and the earliest in Wales this century by three days (*cf.* Ceredigion in 2003), and possibly ever. The first in MEIRIONNYDD was one day earlier than records in 2016 and 2018.

RSPB Carngafallt, seven at Lower Chapel Wood and Trawsnant, six at Cnwch Wood/Eln Village, five at Buckland Hill, and 1-4 at the others; RADNOR: 11 locations, mainly in Elan Valley and also four at Abbeycwmhir and RWT Gilfach; MONTGOMERY: 1-3 at seven sites; MEIRIONNYDD: 18 sites, max. eight at Bod Petryal, and six at Nant Gwernol and Ganllwyd; CAERNARFON: 24 sites, max. nine in Nant Crafnant; DENBIGH: three at Coed Hafod and 1-2 at seven other sites; FLINT: two in a mature Scots Pine plantation at Penycloddiau for fourth consecutive year (breeding confirmed in 2019).

WESTERN BONELLI’S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli* TELOR BONELLI Y GORLLEWIN
Rare visitor from northwest Europe. WBRC: 15 previous records.

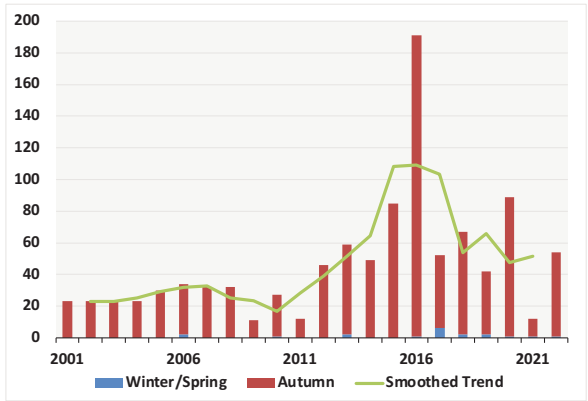
PEMBROKE: Skomer on 29 Aug.

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus* TELOR AELFELYN
Uncommon passage migrant, mainly in autumn, from northeast Europe. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	20	103
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

A return to more typical numbers following a poor autumn in 2021.

Yellow-browed Warblers recorded in Wales, 2001-22



Yellow-browed Warbler: county totals		Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT			2	1	
E.GLAMORGAN		2	2	1	1
GOWER		1	6	1	1
PEMBROKE			6	2	3
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	1	9		
	elsewhere	1	7		
ANGLESEY		2	5		
FLINT			1		

PALLAS’S WARBLER *Phylloscopus proregulus* TELOR PALLAS
Scarce autumn visitor from northern Siberia. WBRC: 49 previous records.

GOWER: ringed at Southgate on 25 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 1CY ringed on Bardsey on 24 Oct.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus* TELOR HELYG
Abundant summer visitor (265,000 breeding territories) and passage migrant. Numerous up to c.670m but becoming less common in lowland habitats in the south. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3244	2589
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	11%

The Breeding Bird Survey smoothed trend in Wales continues to slide, the index now 19% below its 1995 baseline and more than 20% below its recent 2011 peak. The long-term decline is far greater in England (-47%), and particularly acute in eastern and southeast England (-89%). The decline is also detected in the BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales, which fell 24% between 2013-15 and 2020-22. The only site with comparable breeding figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where there were 121 territories in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 169 in 2017 and 142 in 2006).

Sites with ≥10 singing males (on territory or passage) in southeast Wales: GWENT: 14 at Parc Bryn Bach; 12 at Mynydd Llangatwg and Garn Lakes; E.GLAMORGAN: 16 at Kenfig NNR and Twyn-giden farm, Cwmfelin; 15 at Blackmill; 13 at Darren y Bannau Caerau forest; 12 at Lluest-wen Res.; 10 in Cwm Rhydymilwyr; 10 in Dare Valley CP.

Counts of ≥10 on spring passage: GWENT: 27 at Garn Lakes on 17 April; GOWER: >15 at Lliw Res. on 15 April; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 16 dates between 3 April and 1 May (max. 62 on 3 May); Skomer on 13
Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

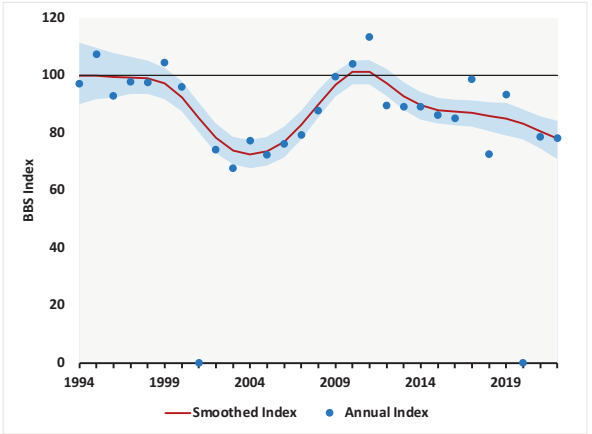
	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	24 March	Newport Wetlands Reserve	10 Oct.	Peterstone Pill
E.GLAMORGAN	16 March	Kenfig NR	10 Oct.	Bridgend
GOWER	3 April	Gnoll Park & Eglwys Nunydd Res.	16 Sept.	Swansea Vale
CARMARTHEN	15 March	Mynydd Llangyndeyrn	10 Oct.	Penrhyngwyn
PEMBROKE	20 March	Lydstep Headland	13 Oct.	Martin’s Haven
CEREDIGION	23 March	Teifi Marshes	23 Sept.	Cors Caron
BRECON	5 April	Llangammarch Wells	4 Oct.	Llangasty
RADNOR	26 March	Cwmbach	29 Sept.	Clyro
MONTGOMERY	11 April	Cors Dyfi & Llandinam Gravels	12 Sept.	Garreg Ddu
MEIRIONNYDD	2 April	R.Dylif, Glaslyn	19 Sept.	Aberdyfi
CAERNARFON	19 March	Bethesda	18 Oct.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	22 March	Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn	24 Sept.	RSPB South Stack
DENBIGH	22 March	RSPB Conwy	12 Sept.	Garreg Ddu
FLINT	6 April	Connah’s Quay NR	8 Sept.	Gronant

The first in CARMARTHEN was the earliest in the county this century, by nine days (*cf.* 2003 and 2010). The earliest in RADNOR was on the same date as in three previous years this century (*cf.* 2009, 2011 and 2014) and the last was six days later than one in 2019. The last in BRECON was the latest this century by nine days (*cf.* 2008).

dates from 12 April to 3 May (max. 73 on 27 April); 11 on St Davids Head on 21 April; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 28 days in April and five in May (max. 126 on 12 April and 27 on 2 May); 10 on Great Orme on 30 April.

On autumn passage: PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 32 dates from 19 July to 8 Sept. (max. 227 on 1 Sept., of which 176 were caught for ringing); Skomer on 30 July, 1 Aug. and max. 19 on a date in Sept.; 23 at Trwyn Llwyd on 1 Sept.; 15 at Higgon’s Well on 12 Sept.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on two dates in July (11 on 25th and 27th), on 20 dates in Aug. (max. 312 on 9th) and on seven dates in Sept. (max. 66 on 1st).

Breeding Bird Survey: Willow Warbler in Wales, 1994-2022

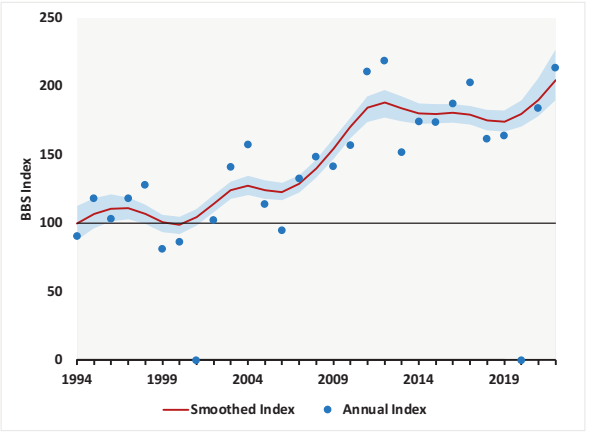


CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita* SIFF-SIAFF
Abundant summer visitor (245,000 breeding territories) and on passage. Winters in small numbers. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6524	6488
% of BirdTrack lists	28%	29%

A significant 16% increase in the Breeding Bird Survey index in just one year brought the long-term trend to 78% above its 1995 level. The BirdTrack reporting rate in March-October has largely recovered from a dip in 2018. There were 100 territories in 112ha of woodland at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION (*cf.* 79 in 2017 and 35 in 2006).

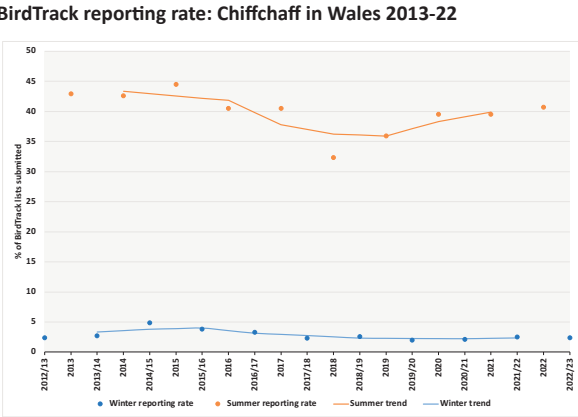
Breeding Bird Survey: Chiffchaff in Wales, 1994-2022



Notable counts on spring passage: GWENT: 11 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 9 March and 50 here on 26th; CARMARTHEN: 16 at Marros on 27 March; 12 at Penclacwydd on 28 March; PEMBROKE: 30 at Pantmaenog on 24 March; 35 at Higgon’s Well on 25 March; 25 at Haroldston Wood on 26 March; CAERNARFON: 40 at Aberdaron on 24 March; 44 on Bardsey on 12 April; ANGLESEY: 12 at Silver Bay on 11 April; DENBIGH: 17 at Plassey, Wrexham, on 23 March; 10 at RSPB Conwy on 19 March.

Autumn passage: GWENT: 19 at Llanwenarth on 6 Aug.; 10 near Osbaston on 18 Aug.; 10 at Newport

Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 29 Sept. and 2 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: 10-20 at Lavernock Pt on seven dates between 10 Sept. and 8 Oct.; GOWER: 39 ringed at Oxwich NNR on 25 Sept. and 27 here on 19 Nov.; 30 at Mewslade on 13 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: 17 at Telpyn Pt on 17 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 14 on Skomer on 29 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 32 on Bardsey on 9 Sept.; DENBIGH: 10 at Moel Findeg on 31 Aug.



Winter records, including those of *P.c. tristis* listed below. Some birds occurred over an extended period.

	Jan	Feb	Nov	Dec
GWENT	4	4	6	3
E.GLAMORGAN	17	8	30	13
GOWER	4	2	31*	3-5
CARMARTHEN	10	17	5	16
PEMBROKE	41	25	31	24
CEREDIGION	6	3	1	
BRECON	4		1	
RADNOR		1		
MONTGOMERY	5		2	
MEIRIONNYDD		1	2	
CAERNARFON	6	2	4	
ANGLESEY	1	2	8	4
DENBIGH	1	2	5	2
FLINT		1	5	4

*includes 27 ringed at Oxwich on 27 Nov., listed above.

***P.c. tristis* (Siberian Chiffchaff / Siff-siaff Siberia)**
Uncommon autumn migrant and occasional winter visitor. 134 records since 1995.

Since records of this species are no longer assessed by the WBRC, those published here were reported to show characteristics of *P.c. tristis*. The total of c.45 is the highest in a single year, and one-quarter of those recorded since 1995. The majority were, as usual, in the early months of the year, but there was evident passage on the islands in spring, including a territorial male on Bardsey for almost three weeks in June. All records were of single birds unless stated: GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 14 Jan.; E.GLAMORGAN: up to four at Kenfig NNR in first winter period and one on 11-30 Dec.; Cardiff Bay on 14-17 Feb.; Nash Pt on 27 Oct.; Lavernock Pt on 5-20 Nov.; GOWER: Margam Opencast on 4 and 14 Feb.; CARMARTHEN: Kidwelly Quay on 12 Jan. and two here on 21 Feb.; Llyn Llech Owain CP on 18 Jan.; three at Tawelan Brook, Johnstown, on 27 Jan.; PEMBROKE: Hook on 6-7 Jan.; two at Trefin STW on 17 Jan. and one here on 18 March; St Florence STW, Tenby, on 15 Jan.; Castlemartin Corse on 17 Jan.; Rosemarket on 30 Jan.; three different birds on Skokholm on 13, 18 and 28 April (only two previous spring records on the island); Skomer on 26 April and two here on 4 Nov.; Skokholm on 4 Oct.; Trefin STW on 14 Dec.;

CAERNARFON: two at Porth Meudwy on 1 Jan., one here on 10th and one on 12 March; three at Pontllyfni STW on 3 Jan. and one on 7 Dec.; Aberdaron STW on 28 Jan. and 3 March; on Bardsey on 26 April, two singing males here on 29 May, one holding territory until 18 June, and one on 31 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Carmel Head on 15 April; Llyn Coron on 27 Nov.; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 2 Nov.; FLINT: Rhyl Brickfield Pond on 9 Dec.

AQUATIC WARBLER *Acrocephalus paludicola* TELOR DWR
Scarce autumn passage migrant from eastern Europe. WBRC: 85 previous records.

GWENT: ringed at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 13 Aug.

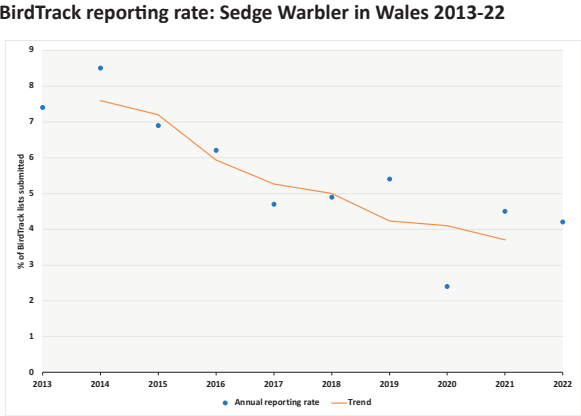
SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* TELOR HESG
Fairly common passage migrant and summer visitor, numerous at some sites (19,500 breeding territories). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1062	965
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	4%

This is a species in trouble, and not only in Wales - the UK Breeding Bird Survey index has fallen by 29% in just 10 years. It occurs in too few BBS squares in Wales for a trend to be generated, but the BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales was its lowest ever, save for an evident drop in 2020 as a result of COVID travel restrictions. In 2022, the rate was 44% lower than in 2013-15.

Notable spring passage: PEMBROKE: 90 at Teifi Marshes on 7 May; 15 on Skokholm on 14 May; 10 at Castlemartin Corse on 10 May; 30 on Skomer on 15 May; CAERNARFON: 24 on Bardsey on 27 April and 11 here on 5 May; FLINT: 19 at Gronant on 3 May.

Breeding territories: GWENT: 32 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth), three at Magor Marsh (where breeding was confirmed) and two at Mathern; E.GLAMORGAN: five at Tir Founder fields and 1-2 at nine other sites; GOWER: bred at four sites: six territories at Moor Lake, five at Margam Moors, four at Oxwich Marsh, three in Swansea Vale, and 1-2 at six other sites; CARMARTHEN: 10 at Penclacwydd, eight at Johnstown and 1-2 at five other sites; PEMBROKE: 28 on Skomer, two on Ramsey, bred at Teifi Marshes (90 here on 7 May) and probably/possibly at 24 other sites; CEREDIGION: 15 at RSPB Ynys-hir, three at Ynyslas and present at four other sites; BRECON: three territories at Llangasty and singles at two others; MONTGOMERY: several at MWT Cors Dyfi, two at Pwll Penarth and one at Llyn Coed-y-dinas; probably bred at Dolydd Hafren and possibly at two other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: four on Arthro est., three on Mawddach est. and singles at seven sites; CAERNARFON: 13 territories at Morfa Dinlle, nine on Bardsey, six in the Daron Valley, three at Morfa Aber, and 1-2 at 10 other sites; ANGLESEY: 19 sites, including 51 at



RSPB Cors Ddyga, 11 at Cemlyn and seven at RSPB South Stack; DENBIGH: 16 at RSPB Conwy; bred on Clwyd est. and possibly at eight other sites; FLINT: 19 at Gronant (where breeding was confirmed) and territories at seven other sites.

Autumn passage: GOWER: 28 ringed at Oxwich Marsh on 6 Aug. and 25 here on 28 Aug.; PEMBROKE: 30 on Skokholm on 27 July; 19 at Teifi Marshes on 28 Aug.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	12 April	Magor Marsh		14 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff)
E.GLAMORGAN	12 April	Cardiff Bay		5 Sept.	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	13 April	Oxwich NNR & Margam Moors		24 Sept.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Penclacwydd		12 Aug.	Johnstown
PEMBROKE	12 April	Teifi Marshes		21 Sept.	Teifi Marshes
CEREDIGION	13 April	Teifi Marshes & Tanybwllch		21 Sept.	Teifi Marshes
BRECON	27 April	Llangasty		14 Aug.	Blaentawe
RADNOR	10 April	Llandrindod Lake		20 Sept.	Llanbwchllyn
MONTGOMERY	15 April	Llyn Coed-y-dinas		29 Sept.	Llyn Coed-y-dinas & Trefnant Wood
MEIRIONNYDD	28 April	Broadwater		10 Sept.	Tal-y-llyn
CAERNARFON	16 April	Bardsey		9 Sept.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	13 April	RSPB Cors Ddyga		9 Sept.	RSPB Cors Ddyga
DENBIGH	13 April	RSPB Conwy		13 Sept.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	16 April	Gronant		7 Sept.	Gronant

The first of the year was also the earliest in RADNOR this century, three days earlier than in 2014, and the county’s last of the year matched one in 2015.

REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

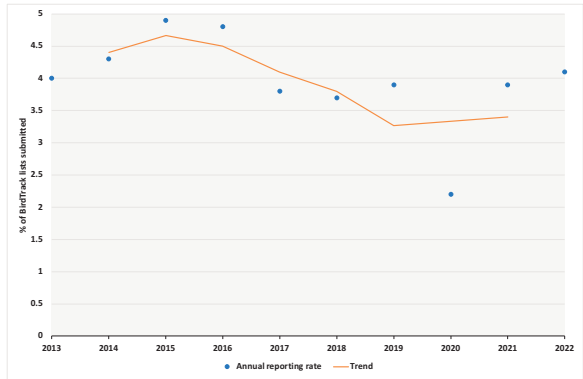
Locally fairly common and increasing summer visitor (11,000 breeding pairs). Uncommon passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	907	925
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	4%

The UK index for the Breeding Bird Survey has increased slowly since 1995, but it occurs in too few BBS squares in Wales for a trend to be generated. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales has increased slowly since a fall in the middle of the last decade that was also apparent in the UK BBS trend.

Breeding territories: GWENT: 24 at Newport Wetlands Reserve, 15 around Peterstone village, 11 at Peterstone Wentlooge, six at Duffryn, St Brides and Mathern, five at Marshfield, four at Magor Marsh and Magor Pill, and 1-3 at

BirdTrack reporting rate: Reed Warbler in Wales 2013-22



12 other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Pwll y Waun; 12 at Hendre Lake, seven at Cadoxton Ponds and Tir Founder fields, six at Cosmeston Lakes CP, four at Lamby Lake and Parc Taf Bargoed, and 1-3 at 20 other sites; GOWER: bred at Oxwich Marsh and probably at seven other sites; CARMARTHEN: 27 at Penclacwydd, five at Pwll and 1-2 at five other sites; PEMBROKE: >50 at Castlemartin Corse, nine at Teifi Marshes, six at Stackpole, four at Westfield Pill, two at Goodwick Moor and singles at eight sites, inc. confirmed breeding at Tenby; CEREDIGION: three at Borth and RSPB Ynys-hir, and bred at four other sites; BRECON: 75+ territories at Llangorse Lake and one at Scethrog; MONTGOMERY: six at Dolydd Hafren, five at Llyn Coed-y-dinas and singles at three other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: eight at Broadwater, three at Ynys Pool and 2+ on Mawddach est.; CAERNARFON: bred at Morfa Madryn NR; seven territories at Pwllheli, five at Morfa Dinlle; three at Glanwydden and 1-2 at four other sites; ANGLESEY: 15 sites, inc. 49 at RSPB Cors Ddyga; DENBIGH: 14 at RSPB Conwy; four on Afon Ganol, Rhos-on-Sea, three at Hanmer Mere and 1-2 at four other sites, inc. confirmed breeding on Clwyd est.; FLINT: 24 at Gronant (where breeding was confirmed) and eight at Talacre; bred at Fagl Lane GPs and possibly at six other sites.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	10 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve		23 Sept.	West Pill
E.GLAMORGAN	10 April	Cardiff Bay		22 Sept.	Hendre Lake
GOWER	13 April	Margam Moors		8 Oct.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Ashpits Pond		25 Aug.	Hendy
PEMBROKE	13 April	Higgon’s Well		12 Oct.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	15 April	Teifi Marshes		4 Nov.	Teifi Marshes
BRECON	14 April	Llangorse Lake		10 Sept.	Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	14 April	Llandrindod Lake		16 Sept.	Llanbwchllyn
MONTGOMERY	26 April	Cors Dyfi		29 July	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	30 April	Tonfanau		14 Sept.	Ynys Pool
CAERNARFON	15 April	Glanwydden		23 Oct.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	14 April	RSPB Valley Wetlands		21 Aug.	RSPB Cors Ddyga
DENBIGH	13 April	RSPB Conwy		21 Sept.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	17 April	Shotton Paper Mill		28 July	Gronant

The first in RADNOR was the county’s earliest this century, a day ahead of one in 2015. The last in CEREDIGION was two day’s later than one at the same site in 2021, while the last in MEIRIONNYDD and CAERNARFON matched the counties’ latest dates this century, in 2021 and 2009 respectively.

MARSH WARBLER *Acrocephalus palustris*

Rare visitor from mainland Europe. WBRC: 30 previous records.

CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 6 June and another ringed here on 31 Aug.

MELODIOUS WARBLER *Hippolais polyglotta*

Scarce migrant from western Europe. WBRC: 231 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Skomer on 6-10 Oct.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina*

TELOR AUR

Scarce migrant from northeast Europe. WBRC: 126 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 29-30 May and 1 Sept., the latter caught and ringed.

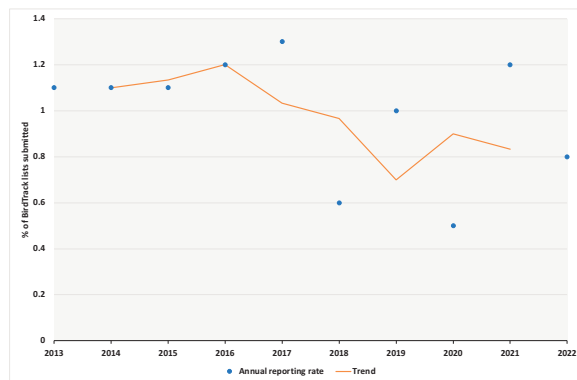
GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

TROELLWR BACH

Uncommon summer visitor (2000 breeding territories), widespread but thinly distributed in all counties, and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	342	239
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

The UK index for the Breeding Bird Survey fluctuates, consistent with a species that shows little natal site fidelity. However, Grasshopper Warbler occurs in too few squares in Wales for a BBS trend to be generated. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales was below its 2021 level, and almost 30% below the 2013-15 mean.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Grasshopper Warbler in Wales 2013-22

Singing males: GWENT: two at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth), singles at Brynmawr Pond, Magor Pill and Garnlydan Res.; E.GLAMORGAN: 2-3 at Penywaun Mountain, two at Bryn Carnau Farm and singles at five other sites in April, but only one in May, at Cwm Cadlan; GOWER: 1-2 pairs bred at Oxwich NNR, probably bred at two sites and singles at five other sites; CARMARTHEN: four at Mynydd Llangydeyrn, two at Hendy and singles at two other sites; PEMBROKE: probably bred at St Justinian; four at Castlemartin Corse, two at

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	12 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve	27 Aug.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	14 April	Merthyr Mawr & Bryn Carnau Farm	16 July	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	9 April	Oxwich NNR	5 Sept.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Pwll lagoon	28 July	Ffos-las Lakes
PEMBROKE	12 April	St Govan's Head & St Davids	8 Sept.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	13 April	Llechryd	3 Sept.	Cors Caron
BRECON	18 April	Coed y Rhaiaidr	29 July	Ystradfellte
RADNOR	8 April	Ysfa	19 Aug.	Rhosgoch
MONTGOMERY	18 April	Cors Dyfi	16 Aug.	Llyn Hir
MEIRIONNYDD	16 April	Arenig Fawr	19 July	Broadwater
CAERNARFON	12 April	Nant-y-Gama	12 Sept.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	12 April	Cemlyn	1 Sept.	RSPB South Stack
DENBIGH	13 April	RSPB Conwy	11 Sept.	NT Erddig
FLINT	14 April	Talacre	2 July	Gronant

Llangloffan Fen and singles at 15 sites; CEREDIGION: singles at seven sites; BRECON: 1-2 at seven sites; RADNOR: Cwm Llygod and RWT Gilfach; MONTGOMERY: MWT Cors Dyfi and RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: 1-2 at 19 sites; CAERNARFON: 25 sites, inc. four at Cwm Pennant; ANGLESEY: three at Cors Erddreiniog, two at four sites; singles at five other sites; DENBIGH: singles at 12 sites but territories only at Esclusham Mountain; FLINT: four at Gronant; two at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and singles at three other sites.

BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla*

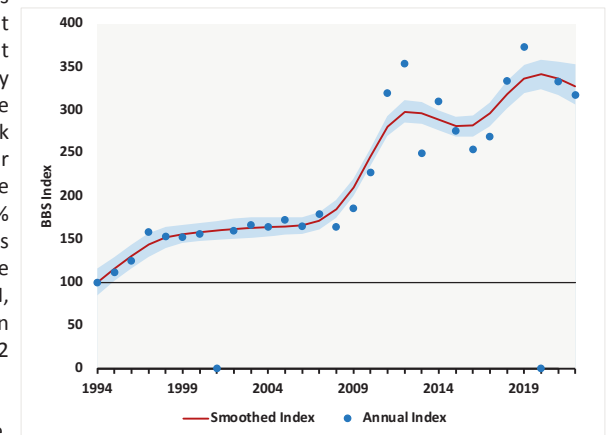
TELOR PENDDU

Abundant summer visitor (265,000 breeding territories) and passage migrant. Uncommon but widespread winter visitor (min. 2000 individuals). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4212	3770
% of BirdTrack lists	18%	17%

Breeding Bird Survey: Blackcap in Wales, 1994-2022

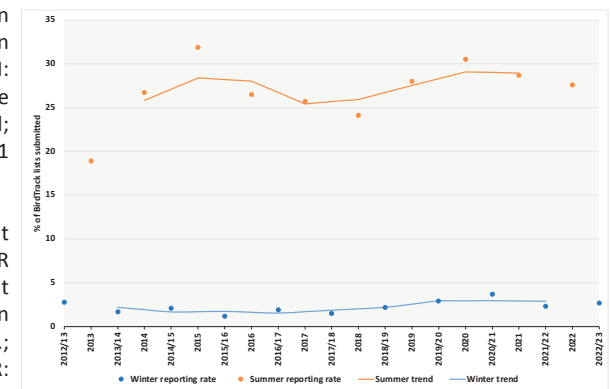
The Breeding Bird Survey index has dropped back from its 2019 high, but remains 191% above its baseline. That is the highest long-term increase of any passerine except Stonechat. The summer (April-October) BirdTrack reporting rate - at 27.6% - was lower than the last couple of years, while the winter rate (November-March), at 2.7% of lists submitted in 2022/23, was typical. The only site with comparable figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where there were 130 territories in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 92 in 2017, 82 in 2011 and 42 in 2006).



Max. day counts on spring passage. GWENT: 20 near Osbaston on 14 April; E.GLAMORGAN: 10 at Lavernock Pt on 23 April; PEMBROKE: 21 on Skomer on 12 April and 34 here on 27th, 40 on Skokholm on 13 April; CAERNARFON: 126 on Bardsey on 12 April and 83 here on 22nd; 20 at Aberdaron on 18 April; FLINT: 23 at Cefn Estate on 22 April; 21 east of Bodelwyddan on 24 April.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Blackcap in Wales 2013-22

Autumn. E.GLAMORGAN: 25 at Pant Norton on 21 Aug.; 27 at Kenfig NNR and 20 at Dunraven on 2 Sept.; 15 at Lavernock Pt on 10 Sept. and 10 here on 17th; 18 at East Aberthaw on 18 Sept.; 15 at Kenfig NNR on 13 Oct.; GOWER: 27 at Oxwich NNR on 28 Aug., 30 here on 25 Sept. and 10 on 8 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 17 on Skokholm on 29 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 14 on Bardsey on 9 Sept. and 10 here on 21 Oct.



Blackcap: winter records	Jan	Feb	Nov	Dec
GWENT	3	3	2	4
E.GLAMORGAN	11	6	8	13
GOWER	5	3	1	9
CARMARTHEN	7	7	11	7
PEMBROKE	3	1	10	16
CEREDIGION	4		1	7
BRECON		1		4
MONTGOMERY				1
MEIRIONNYDD	1	1	1	2
CAERNARFON	3	6	4	8
ANGLESEY			2	1
DENBIGH	7	2	3	10
FLINT	3	1	2	4

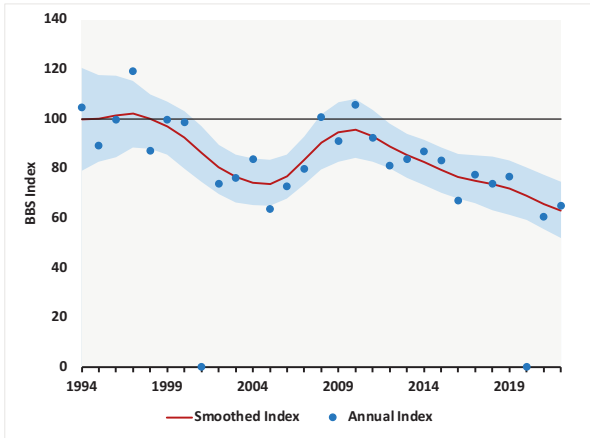
GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* TELOR YR ARDD
Fairly common, widespread summer visitor (39,500 breeding territories) and passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	525	372
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

This is another declining warbler that may be under the radar, although the *Breconshire Bird Report* commented that there are good densities in some habitats. The fall in abundance since 2010 has not slowed, with the Breeding Bird Survey index hitting a new low, 34% below its 1995 level. The trend is similar across the UK. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales, at 1.5% of lists submitted, was the lowest ever, and the three-year mean was 30% below that for 2013-15.

Notable breeding counts: E.GLAMORGAN: six singing males at Blackmill on 6 May; CARMARTHEN: eight at Troed Rhiw Ruddwen in May/June; PEMBROKE: 11 at Llangloffan Fen on 12 May; CEREDIGION: 18 territories at RSPB Ynys-hir, similar to counts since 2006.

Breeding Bird Survey: Garden Warbler in Wales, 1994-2022



Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	25 April	Llanfihangel Gobion	31 Aug.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	21 April	Kenfig NNR	2 Sept.	Norton & Lavernock Pt
GOWER	25 April	Cors Crymlyn	11 Sept.	High Pennard
CARMARTHEN	24 April	Allt Rhyd y Groes	23 Aug.	Penclacwydd
PEMBROKE	13 April	Haverfordwest	21 Sept.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	17 April	Cross Inn Forest	29 Aug.	Llechryd
BRECON	21 April	Llangasty	25 Aug.	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl
RADNOR	19 April	Gladestry	10 Oct.	Norton
MONTGOMERY	18 April	Pwll Penarth	17 Aug.	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant
MEIRIONNYDD	14 April	Pont Croesor	10 July	Ratgoed
CAERNARFON	22 April	Rachub	11 Oct.	Bardsey & Mynydd Anelog
ANGLESEY	14 April	Newborough Forest	25 Oct.	Breakwater CP, Holyhead
DENBIGH	26 April	RSPB Conwy	9 Aug.	RSPB Conwy
FLINT	24 April	Padeswood	16 Aug.	Nercwys Forest

BARRED WARBLER *Curruca nisoria* TELOR RHESOG
Scarce migrant from eastern Europe. WBRC: 112 previous records.

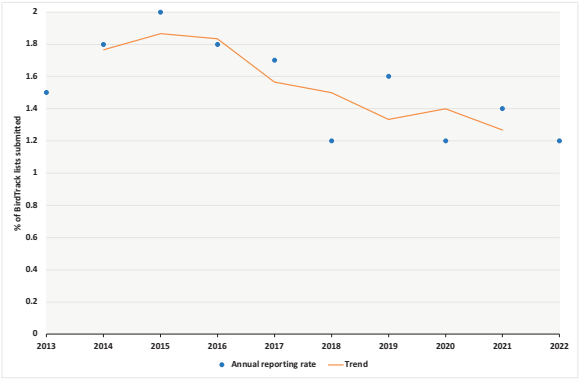
PEMBROKE: 1CY on Ramsey on 6 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 1CY ringed on Bardsey on 12 Sept., and others here on 29th and 22-23 Oct.

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Curruca curruca* LLWYDFRON FACH
Fairly common, but patchily distributed, summer visitor (6950 territories) and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	349	305
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

BirdTrack reporting rate: Lesser Whitethroat in Wales 2013-22

The breeding trend for Lesser Whitethroat in Wales remains uncertain because of low sample size in the Breeding Bird Survey. The UK index had been recovering from a substantial decrease in the late 1990s, but the smoothed trend has fallen by 17% since 2019. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales has been falling since 2015, and is now 40% below its peak. Fewer records were reported to the Radnorshire recorder than in any year this century.



Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	17 April	Peterstone Wentlooge		26 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	18 April	Hendre Lake		20 Oct.	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	20 April*	Little Wernhalog		no autumn records	
CARMARTHEN	18 April	Penclacwydd		7 Aug.	Commissioner's Bridge, Kidwelly
PEMBROKE	19 April	Gann estuary		5 Nov.	Skomer
CEREDIGION	24 April	Llanrhystud		28 Aug.	Penbryn
BRECON	24 April	Llanddew		no autumn records	
RADNOR	22 April	Cwmbach		6 Sept.	Clyro
MONTGOMERY	25 April	Middletown		15 Aug.	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	14 May	Cwm Cywarch		no autumn records	
CAERNARFON	21 April	Daron Valley & Penrhyn Bay		19 Oct.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	17 April*	Amlwch		5 Oct.*	Breakwater CP, Holyhead
DENBIGH	20 April*	RSPB Conwy		21 Aug.	Clwyd estuary
FLINT	21 April	Saltney Ferry		28 Aug.	Saltney Ferry

2021 DENBIGH, correction: latest was on 4 Aug. beside the Clwyd est.

*Wintering. Most Lesser Whitethroats reported in Britain (and elsewhere in northwest Europe) between October and March and northwest Europe are likely to be of Siberian origin (Collinson *et al.* 2022), but currently only those confirmed by mtDNA are accepted as *C.c. blythi*. Four in 2022 compares to 10 winter records in the 32 years from 1990 to 2021, excluding known *blythi*. GOWER: West Cross on 7 Jan.; ANGLESEY: Breakwater CP from 19 Jan. to 14 Feb. (suspected *C.c. blythi*); RSPB Cors Ddyga on 12 Dec.; DENBIGH: Chirk garden from mid-March to 9 April.

***C.c. blythi* (Siberian Lesser Whitethroat/Llwydfron Fach Siberia).**
Very rare vagrant from Siberia, which winters in Central Asia. WBRC: five previous records.

Records confirmed by DNA. CEREDIGION: Llechryd from 29 Dec. into 2023; CAERNARFON: male singing on Bardsey on 27 May, the third spring record in Britain (the first was also on Bardsey, in 2014).

MOLTONI'S WARBLER *Curruca subalpina* TELOR MOLTONI
Extremely rare vagrant from Mediterranean islands, not previously recorded in Wales.

PEMBROKE: singing male on Skokholm on 17-29 May, caught and ringed. First record for Wales.

WHITETHROAT *Curruca communis* LLWYDFRON
Fairly common and widespread summer visitor (79,500 territories) and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2343	1959
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	9%

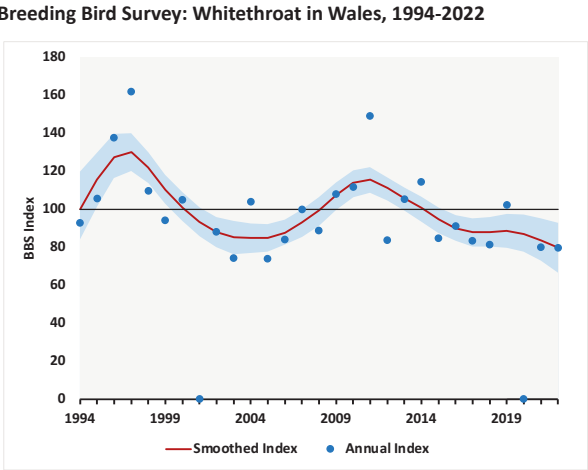
The Breeding Bird Survey index in Wales continues to fall, to a record low and down by 28% in just 10 years. The BirdTrack reporting rate has fallen by a similar amount over a similar period: the 2020-22 mean value was 30% lower than that in 2013-15.

Notable counts on spring passage: GWENT: 20 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 26 April;

PEMBROKE: 20 at Marloes Mere on 14 May; 16 on Skomer on 15 May; 12 on St Davids Head on 18 May; CEREDIGION:

15 at Tanybwllch on 5 May; CAERNARFON: seven at Porthdinllaen on 2 May; 19 between Aberdaron and Porth Meudwy on 14 May; 19 on Bardsey on 16 May; ANGLESEY: eight at Amlwch on 30 April.

Notable count on autumn passage: ANGLESEY: 13 at Cemlyn on 29 July.



Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	13 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve		19 Sept.	West Pill
E.GLAMORGAN	12 April	Kenfig NNR		23 Oct.	Kenfig NNR
GOWER	13 April	Margam Moors		25 Sept.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Penclacwydd & Pwll		23 Sept.	Kymer's Canal, Kidwelly
PEMBROKE	12 April	Skomer		10 Oct.	Lydstep Headland
CEREDIGION	10 April	New Quay		17 Oct.	Clywedog plantation
BRECON	16 April	Llangasty		3 Sept.	Llangasty
RADNOR	8 April	Ysfa		20 Sept.	Cwmbach
MONTGOMERY	23 April	Bachelldre, near Churchstoke		16 Aug.	MWT Llanymynech Rocks
MEIRIONNYDD	23 April	Pont Croesor		16 Sept.	Tonfanau
CAERNARFON	14 April	Uwchmynydd		13 Oct.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	14 April	Traeth Lligwy & Cemlyn		2 Oct.	RSPB South Stack
DENBIGH	15 April	RSPB Conwy		13 Sept.	Clwyd estuary
FLINT	14 April	Bagillt		8 Sept.	Gronant

The first in CEREDIGION was the earliest this century, a day earlier than in four previous years. In CARMARTHEN, the last of the year, on 15-23 Sept., was the latest county record this century by two days (*cf.* 2014)

2021 DENBIGH, correction: latest was on 15 Sept. beside the Clwyd est.

DARTFORD WARBLER *Curruca undata* TELOR DARTFORD
Rare breeder, mainly in south and west Wales. RBBP: 12 pairs in 2021. Occasional elsewhere, usually in autumn. Wales Amber listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	14	41
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Finally, it would seem that this species is recovering from cold, snowy conditions in March 2018 that reduced the number of breeding pairs, especially in Pembrokeshire. The total of 6-14 pairs in South and West Wales is the best since

2017, but still well below the average of 20 pairs in 2015-19. Presence at three sites in northwest Wales is the most yet in a single year.

All records: GWENT: female/1CY at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 31 Oct. and from 20 Nov. to 10 Dec.; GOWER: bred at three sites on Gower, probably at a fourth, and present at four others in the breeding season; 1-2 from four other sites outside the breeding season; CARMARTHEN: pair and juvenile at one site, and a single at another, both in the west of the county; PEMBROKE: two territories on St Davids Head and Plumstone Mountain; possibly bred at Manorbier and Castlemartin Range; recorded at six other sites; CAERNARFON: bred at a site in the northeast of the county, fledging one young; possibly bred at a new site on Pen Llŷn; three at another site on Llŷn on 16 Jan.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapilla*

DRYW PENFFLAMGOCH

Scarce breeding resident and uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	88	226
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate, comprising non-breeding birds almost exclusively, has fallen since 2013, but in 2022 was typical of recent years. More Firecrests were ringed in Wales, 70, than in any previous year, helping to increase autumn totals in several counties. There were only three records with breeding evidence, but no information was available from its Gwent stronghold.

Breeding season: GWENT: possibly bred at Wentwood; E.GLAMORGAN: pair at Coed Coesau-whips on 21 March; BRECON: possibly bred at Cwm Crai.

2021 BRECON, additional record: nested in Buckland Wood.

Firecrest: non-breeding totals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT			1	1		1	1		
E.GLAMORGAN						2	7	5	2
GOWER				1		2	7	3	2
CARMARTHEN							1		1
PEMBROKE	8	4	1			4	26	21	14
PEMB/CERE - Teifi Marshes							4	6	
CEREDIGION		1	1			1	4		
MEIRIONNYDD									1
CAERNARFON	1	1	3		1		18	13	6
ANGLESEY	3	3					13	10	1
DENBIGH	3	1					2	5	2
FLINT	1							1	

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

DRYW EURBEN

Fairly common resident (85,500 territories), abundant passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2922	3186
% of BirdTrack lists	13%	15%

A non-significant increase in the annual Breeding Bird Survey index compared to 2021 pulled the long-term decline back under 50%, by which it qualified for Red-listing in Wales last year. The upward trend since 2018's 'Beast from the East' blast of cold weather in early spring is evident in the chart, and in the BirdTrack reporting rate that includes non-breeding birds. This year's was the highest value since, but still 18% below the 2013-15 mean. The only site with comparable breeding figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, with 56 territories in 112ha (*cf.* 54 in 2017, 27 in 2011 and 46 in 2006).

Counts ≥20: GOWER: 30 at Mewslade on 30 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 26 at Bosherton Lakes on 23 Feb.; 21 at Old Mill Grounds on 25 Feb.; MEIRIONNYDD: 20 at Pantperthog on 21 Aug.; 24 at Ratgoed on 23 Oct.; CAERNARFON: monthly max. ≥20 on Bardsey, 24 on 24 March, 30 here on 25 Sept. and 33 on 19 Oct.; 25 at Porth Meudwy on 11 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 23 west of Wylfa on 31 Oct.; DENBIGH: 24 at Coed Hafod on 6 April; flock of 20 at north end of Llyn Brenig on 16 Sept.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

DRYW

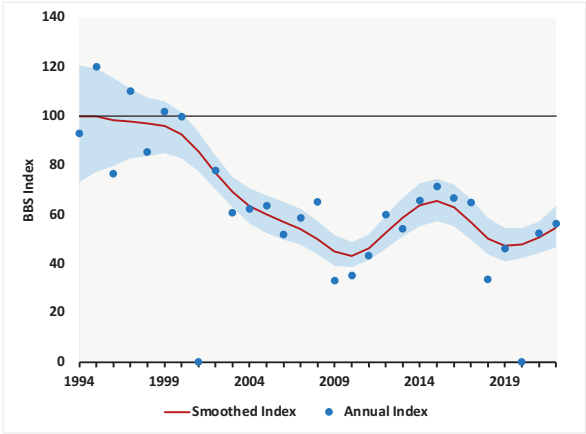
Abundant resident up to c.900 metres, and most ubiquitous bird species in Wales (1.3 million territories). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	10741	10250
% of BirdTrack lists	50%	50%

The long-term trend for Wales' most abundant bird remains positive (+25% in the Breeding Bird Survey during 1995-2021). Like Goldcrest, the population was hit by cold conditions just before the 2018 breeding season, but it recovered more rapidly. The BirdTrack reporting rate also fell markedly in 2018 but has been slower to return to its 2017 level. The only sites with comparable breeding counts are: Bardsey, CAERNARFON, where 161 singing males were recorded, 23% more than in 2021 and 184% above the 1953-2022 average; and RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where 244 territories were recorded in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 216 in 2017, 134 in 2011 and 161 in 2006).

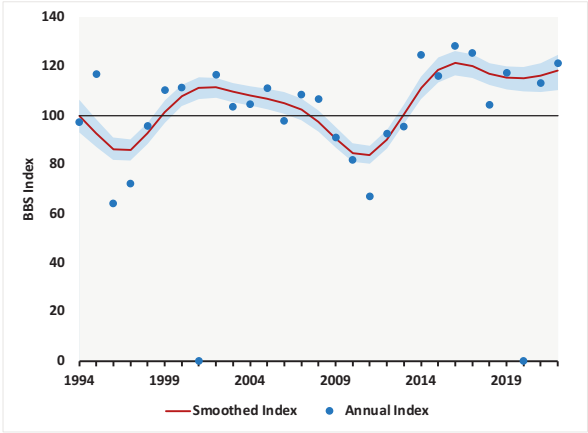
Wren: max. daily counts	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE, Skokholm	57	45	35	38	35	29	22	55	38	38

Breeding Bird Survey: Goldcrest in Wales, 1994-2022



Other notable counts: PEMBROKE: 81 Breeding Bird Survey: Wren in Wales, 1994-2022

at Old Mill Grounds on 6 June; 41 at Little Milford on 5 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 34 at Ratgoed on 23 Oct. and 25 nearby on 30th; ANGLESEY: 15 at Penmon Pt on 20 Sept.; 23 west of Wylfa on 31 Oct.; DENBIGH: 35 at Coed Hafod on 6 April; 31 at Ceiriog Forest on 12 June.



Nuthatch (Ian Fawcett)

NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea* DELOR CNAU
Fairly common and widely distributed resident of mature deciduous and mixed woodland (60,000 breeding territories). Wales Green-listed.

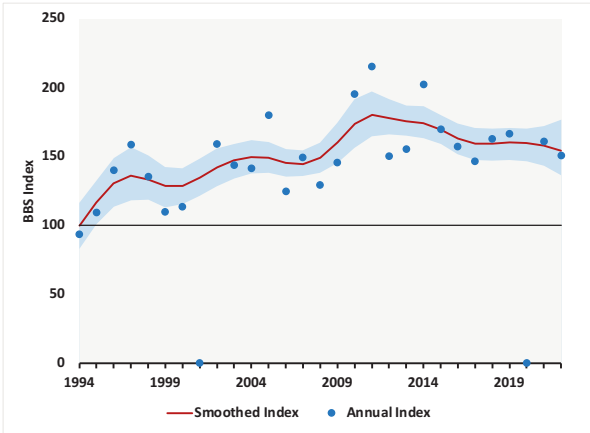
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4004	3100
% of BirdTrack lists	18%	14%

Although the Breeding Bird Survey smoothed index has fallen by more than 12% in the last 10 years, the longer-term trend remains positive, 35% higher than in 1995. The BirdTrack reporting rate returned to its pre-2020 levels following a couple of years with higher values.

Breeding surveys. GOWER: six pairs at RSPB Cwm Clydach laid eggs, from which three pairs fledged 18 young (3.0/nest); CARMARTHEN: 19 pairs at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas (cf. 15 in 2006); CEREDIGION: 23 pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir (cf. 25 in 2017).

Notable. ANGLESEY: one at Penmon Pt on 20 Oct. suggests local movement.

Breeding Bird Survey: Nuthatch in Wales, 1994-2022



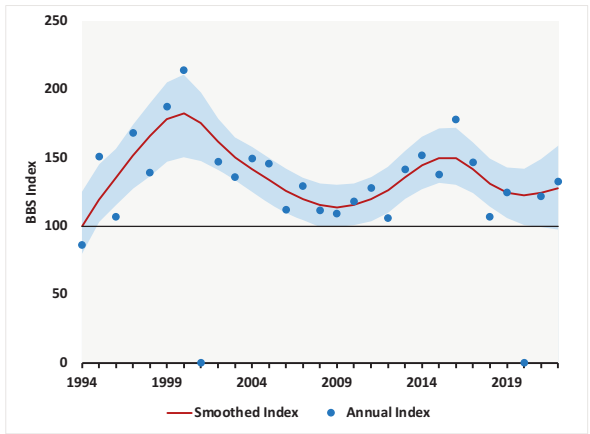
TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris* DRINGWR BACH
Fairly common and widespread resident (37,500 breeding territories). Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1255	1177
% of BirdTrack lists	5%	5%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales fluctuates, much more so than at a UK level, but both indices are stable in the long-term. The BirdTrack and BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rates shows similar stability. The only site with comparable surveys was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where there were 24 territories in 112ha of woodland (cf. 31 in 2017).

Notable record. ANGLESEY: one at Breakwater CP on 23 Oct. was only the observer's third here in 48 years. The species did not occur on Holy Island during the 2007-11 Bird Atlas.

Breeding Bird Survey: Treecreeper in Wales, 1994-2022



ROSE-COLOURED STARLING *Pastor roseus*

DRUDWEN WRIDOG

Scarce migrant from southeast Europe, prone to irruptions in some years. WBRC: 173 previous records.

Fewer sightings than the previous two record-breaking years, with 13 individuals, but this brings the total since 2020 to 55, which is 30% of the total ever recorded in Wales. The species will not be considered by the WBRC after the end of 2022.

All single birds, adults unless stated. E.GLAMORGAN: Bridgend on 4 June; Cwmbach wetlands on 17 June; 1CY (at time of finding) near Bridgend from 9 Dec. to 11 Feb. 2023; CARMARTHEN: 2CY male at Abergwilli on 4-5 June; PEMBROKE: St Davids on 30 June; CEREDIGION: Aberaeron on 4 May; Borth on 5 June; Llangwryfon on 6-13 July; Teifi Marshes on 2 Aug.; CAERNARFON: Llandudno Junction on 7-13 June; Dinas Dinlle on 16 June; ANGLESEY: Llanfechell on 9 June, presumed same at Llanfairynghornwy on 10th; 2CY female at Cemaes Bay on 15 June.

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

DRUDWEN

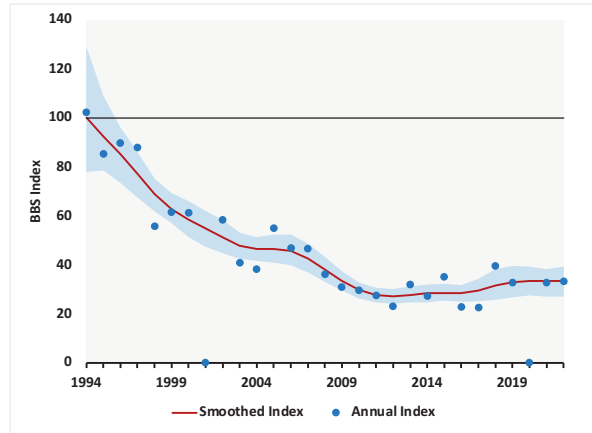
Fairly common resident (90,000 breeding pairs). Abundant passage migrant and winter visitor from eastern Europe. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	5942	6077
% of BirdTrack lists	27%	28%

Breeding: the population has bumped along at a similar level for the last 15 years, but the Breeding Bird Survey smoothed index is still 64% below its 1995 level.

Non-breeding: the BirdTrack reporting rate has remained very consistent, between 25% and 29% of lists submitted since 2013. Starling visits to Welsh gardens generally peak in mid-winter, according to the BTO Garden BirdWatch, but the reporting rate has fallen from an average 62% in 1995/96-2000/01 to 50% of gardens in 2018/19-2022/23.

Breeding Bird Survey: Starling in Wales, 1994-2022



Large winter flocks/roosts >1000 in first winter period: GWENT: 8000 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 1 Jan.; GOWER: 1000 at Llanrhidian Marsh on 25 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: 1000 at Dryswlyn Castle on 15 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 50,000 at Castlemartin Corse on 20 Jan.; 1500 in Milford Haven on 27 Jan.; 2000 at Leonardston on 11 Feb.; CEREDIGION: 10,000 roosted on Aberystwyth Pier on 25 Feb.; BRECON: 12,500 roosted at Llangasty on 2 Jan.; MONTGOMERY: c.15,000 at Llwydiarth Hall, near Llanfihangel, on 23 Jan.; c.1000 at Trefnant on 25 Jan.; ANGLESEY: 1000 at Alaw est. on 1 Jan.; c.50,000 at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 9-11 Jan.; FLINT: 2000 at Connah’s Quay NR on 29 Jan.

>1000 in the second winter period: GWENT: 1000 at Caldicot on 22 and 30 Oct. and at Magor Pill on 24th; max. 60,000 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 16 Nov.; CARMARTHEN: c.1000 over Pembrey Burrows on 12 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 2400 at Teifi Marshes on 16 Oct.; up to 10,000 southeast over Haverfordwest on 19

Nov.; 1000 at Little Milford on 23 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 2053 at Llanon on 25 Oct.; 10,000 roosted on Aberystwyth Pier on 22 Nov. and 20,000 here on 12 Dec., but none later in the month; BRECON: 45,000 roosted at Llangorse Lake on 20 Oct.; 100,000 roosted at Tŷ Mawr reedbed on 25 Nov. and 30,000 here on 3 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 1110 on Bardsey on 19 Oct.; 40,000 roosted at Ystumllyn Marsh on 14 Nov.; ANGLESEY: up to 5000 past RSPB South Stack daily during 20-31 Oct. and 4000 here on 28-29 Nov.; c.50,000 roosted at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 1 Dec.; DENBIGH: 5000 at Garreg Ddu on 13 Nov.; 15,000 near Rhydyddan on 30 Nov.; FLINT: 1243 south of Rhyl on 1 Nov.; >1000 at Flint on 10 Nov.; c.2100 from roost at Gronant on 7 Dec. and c.4000 here on 22nd; 2000 at Connah’s Quay NR on 11 Dec.; c.2500 to roost over Rhuddlan on 24 Dec.

Notable. ANGLESEY: one mimicking a Grey Partridge in Cemaes on 25 Dec. was probably not a local breeder as Grey Partridge is virtually extinct on the island.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

BRONFRAITH

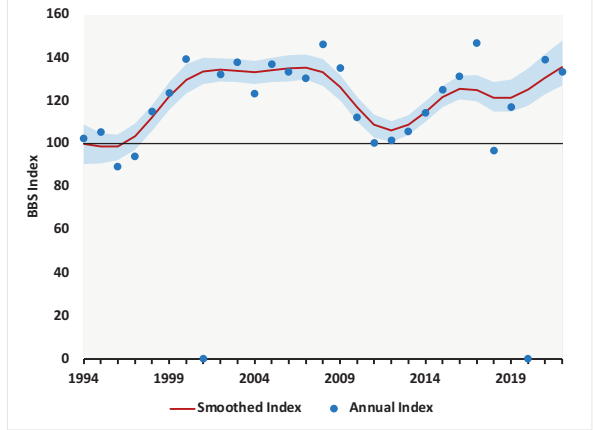
Fairly common and widespread resident (160,000 breeding territories), winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	6510	5609
% of BirdTrack lists	30%	26%

The Breeding Bird Survey smoothed trend reached a record high in 2022, as it did UK-wide, and is now 32% above its baseline in Wales. By contrast, the reporting rate in the BTO Garden BirdWatch has fallen over the long-term. The BirdTrack reporting rate dropped back from a couple of years with elevated numbers of records. There were 43 territories in 112ha of woodland at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION (cf. 50 in 2017, 32 in 2011 and 55 in 2006).

Counts ≥30: GWENT: 42 at Llanwenarth on 16 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 39 on Skokholm on 14 Nov.

Breeding Bird Survey: Song Thrush in Wales, 1994-2022



MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

BRYCH COED

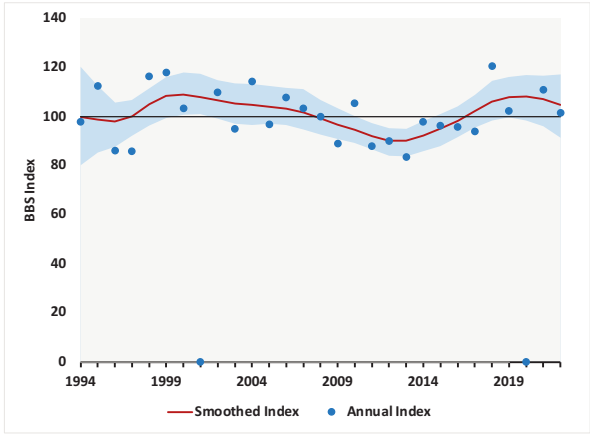
Fairly common resident (26,000 breeding territories). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3331	2931
% of BirdTrack lists	15%	13%

Despite a small drop in the annual Breeding Bird Survey index, the Mistle Thrush trend remains just in the black, 8% above its 1995 value. Similar to Song Thrush, the BirdTrack reporting rate fell back after a couple of higher years, but otherwise was typical of the last decade. There were 12 territories at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, similar to surveys since 2006.

Flocks ≥20: GWENT: 60 over Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 24 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: 40 at Penrhiw-Cradoc, Mountain Ash, on 14 Aug.; 82 in half an hour over Ton-ty-pel and 70 over Perthcelyn rifle range on 11 Sept.; 24 at Aberdare cemetery on 20 Sept.; GOWER: flock of 55 at Oxwich Bay on 26 Aug.; 20 at Weobley Castle on 27 Aug.; CARMARTHEN: 33 at Caedelyn Farm, Llanedi, on 18 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 26 at Llangwryfon on 19 March; 85 in Cwm Einion on 26 Sept.; BRECON: 25 above Llanigon on 13 June; MONTGOMERY: 38 at Llwynderw on 4 Sept.; 21 near Staylitttle on 8 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: 30 at Penrhyn-deudraeth on 6 July; 79 foraging in forest clear fell at Coed y Brenin on 2 Aug.

Breeding Bird Survey: Mistle Thrush in Wales, 1994-2022



REDWING *Turdus iliacus*

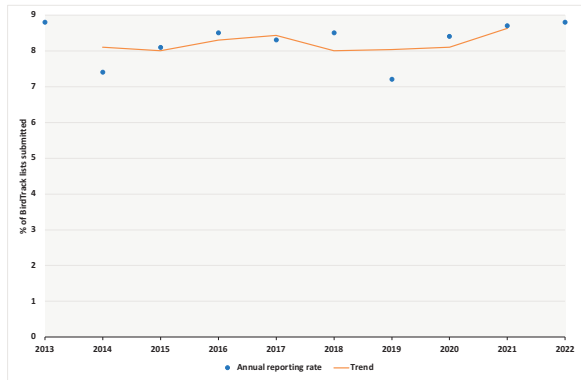
COCH DAN ADAIN

Abundant winter visitor and passage migrant from northeast Europe; particularly numerous in severe winters. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2089	2117
% of BirdTrack lists	9%	9%

It was an excellent autumn for Redwings, with large numbers from mid-October. The BirdTrack reporting rate equalled its highest annual value (8.8%), but the numbers involved were higher, including a count of 10,000 over Lavernock Pt on 1 November. These filtered into gardens later in the winter, occurring in 9.4% of those that participate in the BTO Garden BirdWatch, the highest reporting rate since cold weather in February 2018.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Redwing in Wales 2013-22



Counts ≥120 in the first winter period: GWENT: 250 in Nant Big on 5 and 20 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 225 at Little Milford on 3 Jan.; 340 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 9 Feb.; CAERNARFON: sound-recorded over Penrhyn Bay on four nights during 24-29 March (max. 648 on 28th); 173 on Bardsey on 30 March; DENBIGH: max. 327 at Lleweni watermeadows on 19 Jan.; c.500 near Sportsman's Arms, Hiraethog, on 13 Feb.

Counts ≥120 in the second winter period: GWENT: 280 over Osbaston and 140 at Llandgeffed Res. on 20 Oct., and >300 at the latter site on 25th; 2000 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 24 Oct. and 200

Latest and earliest dates in each county.

	Latest	Site	Earliest	Site
GWENT (provisional)	2 April	Llandegfedd Reservoir	30 Sept.	The Bloreng
E.GLAMORGAN	5 April	Robertstown	25 Sept.	Pentyrch
GOWER	12 April	Glais	3 Oct.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	2 April	Troed y Rhiw Beynon	4 Oct.	Ffarmers
PEMBROKE	5 April	Skokholm	25 Sept.	Llanychaer
CEREDIGION	3 April	RSPB Ynys-hir	30 Sept.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	6 April	Llangasty	2 Oct.	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl
RADNOR	5 April	Knighton	29 Sept.	Presteigne
MONTGOMERY	8 April	Cefn Coch	7 Oct.	Staylitttle
MEIRIONNYDD	4 April	Rhiwbryfdir	29 Sept.	Llan Ffestiniog
CAERNARFON	21 April	Daron Valley	28 Sept.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	30 March	RSPB South Stack	13 Oct.	Silver Bay
DENBIGH	31 March	Bettisfield Moss	11 Oct.	Alwen Reservoir
FLINT	26 April	Babell	10 Oct.	Coed Talon

here on 3 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: 26 counts from 12 sites, the largest being 3400 at Dunraven Bay on 19 Oct., 2050 at Lavernock Pt on 20th, 1200 here on 21st, >2000 on 30th, 10,000 in 3.5 hours on 1 Nov. and 1000 here on 13th; GOWER: >500 over Pennard GC and 432 at Morriston on 20 Oct., and 273 at the latter site on 21st; CARMARTHEN: >500 southeast through Nant Morlais on 20 Oct.; c.120 at Salem on 15 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 1400 at Trefin, 550 at Nine Wells and 326 on Ramsey on 19 Oct.; 150 at Dale airfield on 20 Oct.; 150 at St Florence on 22 Oct.; 120 at Carew on 12 Dec.; 400 at Llanychaer on 10-17 Dec.; 200 at Ford Pill on 21 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 600 south over Cwm Einion on 24 Oct.; BRECON: 500 over Crickhowell on 20 Oct.; 130 over The Cwm, Llanwrthwl, on 21 Oct. and >300 there on 22nd; >400 on Mynydd Illtyd on 22 Oct.; >800 at Llangasty on 24 Oct.; >1000 east over WTSWW Y Byddwn on 13 Nov.; 500 east over Beacons Park in one hour on 14 Nov.; RADNOR: 4000 south over Radnor Forest on 19 Oct.; MONTGOMERY: 120 at Garreg ddu on 19 Oct.; c.1,000 migrating west up the Severn Valley at Llandinam on 20 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: 250 at Cynwyd on 20 Oct.; 220 at Wenallt on 12 Nov. and 122 here on 22 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 2310 over Bardsey, 1130 over Morfa Madryn NR and 1040 over Great Orme on 19 Oct., and >1000 over Bangor on 20th; ANGLESEY: 921 over RSPB South Stack in three hours on 19 Oct.; 250 over Talwrn on 20 Oct.; FLINT: c.500 at St Asaph Business Park, on 19 Oct.

2021 additional records: DENBIGH: 1000 at Fenn's Moss on 7 Nov.; FLINT: 700 at Bagillt on 23 Jan.

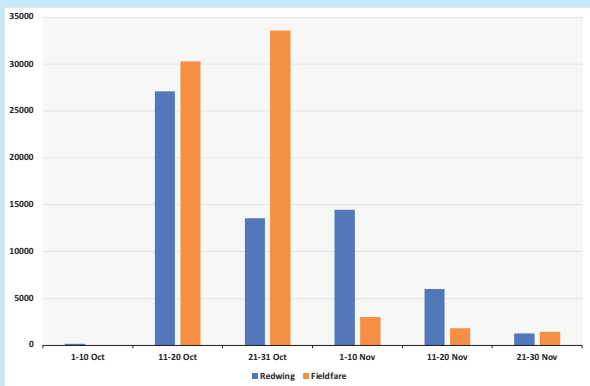
Major influx of thrushes in October

In most years, Redwings occur more widely in Wales than Fieldfares. This is reflected in the BirdTrack reporting rate for the whole year – that for Redwing is typically twice that for Fieldfare. This was the case in 2022, although in October and November specifically, the Fieldfare reporting rate (12.6%) was higher than any previous year.

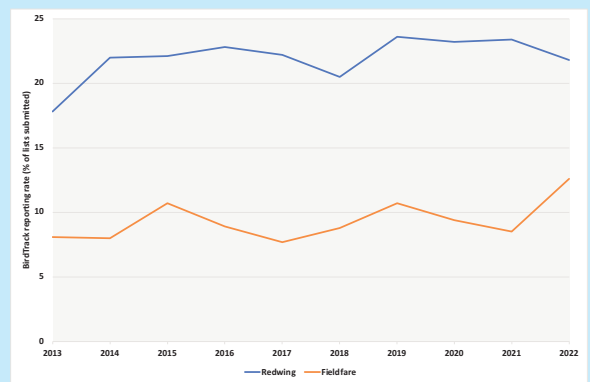
Numbers of Redwings are also typically greater than Fieldfare, but this was not the case in autumn 2022. There was a significant arrival of both species overnight on 19 October, with 17,406 Redwings and 23,564 Fieldfares reported to BirdTrack and eBird on a single day. It being a Wednesday, rather than a weekend, it seems likely that many others will have passed unrecorded. Weather charts for 18/19 October show high pressure off Norway, creating an easterly airflow across the North Sea, which would have provided good conditions for thrushes to migrate west. However, simultaneously a warm front moved slowly northeast over southern Britain and a low-pressure system forming over the Atlantic created murky and drizzly conditions in Wales that forced birds to ground, stalling their passage to southwest Europe.

The numbers of Redwings reported dropped rapidly over the next week, whereas Fieldfare numbers remained high, with more than 8000 daily on three of the following four days. Fieldfare numbers continued to supercede those of Redwing every day until 1 November, when another surge of Redwings (10,148) was recorded. Redwings then outnumbered Fieldfares until the last few days of November, with further (smaller) arrivals apparent on 12-13th.

Redwing and Fieldfare counts reported to BirdTrack and eBird in 10-day periods in October and November 2022



Redwing and Fieldfare reporting rates on BirdTrack, October and November 2013-22



BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*

Abundant breeding resident (665,000 pairs), passage migrant and winter visitor from northeast Europe. Wales Green-listed.

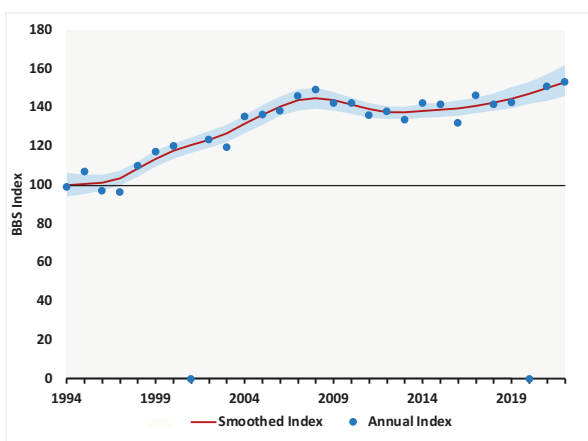
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	14767	13776
% of BirdTrack lists	68%	66%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales hit another new high, and is 49% above its 1995 baseline. The BirdTrack reporting rate fell, causing Blackbird to lose the top spot

MWYALCHEN

Breeding Bird Survey: Blackbird in Wales, 1994-2022

as the most frequently reported species on lists submitted. The BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate was also slightly lower than the previous two years in which lockdowns occurred. However, in a Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust survey, Blackbirds occurred in 49% of gardens, twice as many as in 2021.



Counts ≥30 in winter and on passage: E.GLAMORGAN: 31 at Penrhiw-Cradoc, Mountain Ash, on 9 Oct.; 38 at Aberdare Park on 17 Dec.; PEMBROKE: 32 at Higgon's Well on 4 Jan.; 42 at Bosherton Lakes on 14 Jan.; 43 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 9 Feb.; 61 at Old Mill Grounds NR on 25 Feb.; 48 on Skokholm on 14 Nov.; 30 at St Davids airfield on 13 Nov.; 30 at Carew Cheriton on 16 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 30 on Cardigan Island on 26 Feb.; 35 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 31 Dec.; BRECON: 40 at Cefn Moel on 18 April; MEIRIONNYDD: 36 at Corris on 18 Dec.; CAERNARFON: 42 sound-recorded over Penrhyn Bay on 28 March; 38 on Bardsey on 21 Oct.; 32 at Glanwydden on 11 Dec.; ANGLESEY: 40 at RSPB South Stack on 20 Oct.; FLINT: 32 at Connah's Quay NR on 22 Dec.

2021 FLINT, additional record: 30 at Pantymwyn on 24 Nov.

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

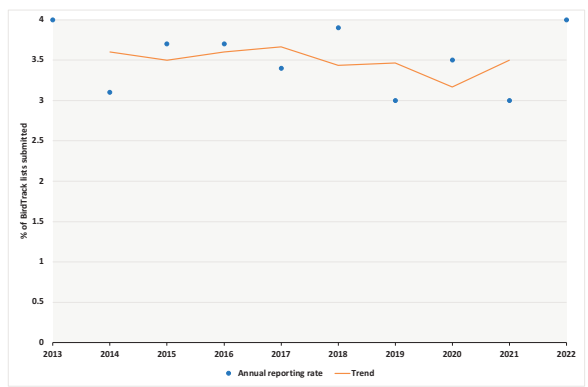
Winter visitor and passage migrant from northeast Europe in variable numbers; often abundant. Wales Amber-listed.

SOCAN EIRA

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	775	1024
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	4%

As for Redwing, the BirdTrack reporting rate matched 2013 as the equal highest ever. Counts in the autumn included three of over 6000 birds: two in southeast Wales and the largest ever count on Bardsey, CAERNARFON. These were the largest Welsh counts for some years. The BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rate was the highest since Feb. 2018 when freezing conditions forced large numbers into gardens.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Fieldfare in Wales 2013-22



Latest and earliest dates in each county

	Latest	Site	Earliest	Site
GWENT (provisional)	4 April	Abercarn	19 Oct.	Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff)
E.GLAMORGAN	29 April	Cwm Nant Gwyn	19 Oct.	Rest Bay
GOWER	22 March	Crynant	19 Oct.	Port Talbot docks
CARMARTHEN	3 April	Llanarthne	19 Oct.	Kidwelly Quay & Pembrey CP
PEMBROKE	28 March	Skokholm	19 Oct.	six locations
CEREDIGION	21 March	Henllan	12 Oct.	Llangwryfon
BRECON	9 April	Libanus	6 Oct.	Llysdinam
RADNOR	5 April	Knighton	19 Oct.	Presteigne
MONTGOMERY	24 April	Mochdre, Newtown	13 Oct.	Hafren Forest
MEIRIONNYDD	10 April	Cwm Cywarch	23 Oct.	three locations
CAERNARFON	13 April	Daron Valley	18 Oct.	Bangor
ANGLESEY	18 April	Aberffraw	19 Oct.	Silver Bay
DENBIGH	18 April	Cae-llwyd Reservoir	14 Oct.	Chirk
FLINT	2 April	Caerwys	19 Oct.	Three sites

Counts ≥120 in the first winter period: GWENT: 120 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 16 Jan.; BRECON: 200 at Garthbrengy on 21 Jan.; RADNOR: 120 north of Hay-on-Wye on 10 Feb.; MONTGOMERY: 200 at Llanbrynmair on 2 March; DENBIGH: 300 at Llyn Brenig on 23 Jan.; >200 at Ysbyty Ifan on 26 Feb.

≥120 in the second winter period: GWENT: 19 counts from eight sites between 20 Oct. and 19 Nov., the largest being 6000 over Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 24 Oct. (all other counts 120-650); E.GLAMORGAN: 23 counts from 11 sites, the largest being 1800 at Lavernock Pt on 20 Oct., 6100 on 21st, 1300 on 23rd, 1150 on 29th and 1800 on 30th, and 1448 at Tarren y Bwllfa on 21 Oct.; GOWER: 130 at Port Talbot docks on 19 Oct.; c.170 at Mynydd Penhydd on 23 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: 300 over Pembrey CP on 19 Oct.; c.300 at Pâl y Cwrt on 20 Oct.; PEMBROKE: >4000 near St Davids, 3414 over Skomer, 620 over Ramsey and 800 at Nine Wells on 19 Oct.; 1500 at Cresswell Quay, 1000 at Llandilo and at Waddock Lakes, 289 on Skokholm and 200 at Carew on 20 Oct.; 650 at Orlandon Kilns and 200 at St Petrox on 21 Oct.; 200 at St Florence and West Williamston on 22 Oct.; 300 at Trefin on 24 Dec.; BRECON: 1500 roosted in Cnwch Wood and 300 near Llangasty on 24 Oct.; 600 east over Cefn Moel on 27 Oct.; 150 on Mynydd Llangatwg and 200 around Llangasty on 30 Oct.; 200 east over WTSWW Y Byddwn on 13 Nov.; >500 south over Dolmynach Res. on 14 Nov.; RADNOR: 200 north of Bwlch-y-sarnau on 26 Dec.; BRECON: 150 at Mynydd Llangatwg on 27 Oct.; MONTGOMERY: 925 south at Dylife on 20 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 6970 over Bardsey, ‘thousands’ over the Daron Valley and c.1000 over Great Orme (in one hour) on 19 Oct.; >120 passed Bangor Mountain on 20 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 2283 over RSPB South Stack in three hours on 19 Oct.; DENBIGH: >350 at Clwyd est. on 30 Nov.

2021 FLINT, additional record: 150 at Fenn’s Moss on 7 Nov.

RING OUZEL*Turdus torquatus*

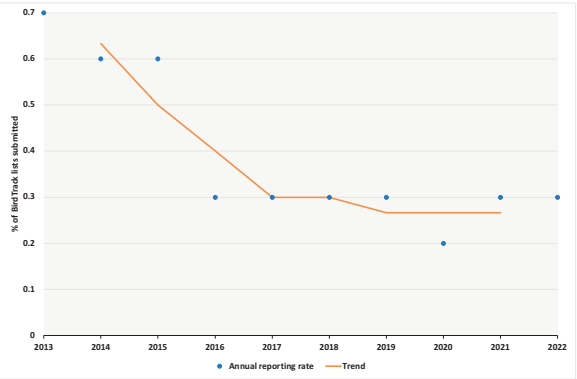
MWYALCHEN Y MYNYDD

Uncommon and declining summer visitor to the uplands (444-457 breeding pairs) and passage migrant on coast. *Wales Red-listed.*

	2021	2022	There is no Breeding Bird Survey trend for Wales, but the UK index of a 36% increase in the medium-term (2010-20) was tempered by a 32% decrease in the last year. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales is, not unsurprisingly, low but has been stable over recent years. There was notable migration through the Clwydian Hills in early
No of BirdTrack records	170	186	
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%	

April and mid-Wales in the third week **BirdTrack reporting rate: Ring Ouzel in Wales 2013-22** of October.

Single breeding territory/singing male unless stated: CARMARTHEN: male at Llyn y Fan Fach on 28 May and singing male at Pysgotwr Gorge on 29th; BRECON: possibly bred at Craig Cerrig Gleisiad and Senni Valley; RADNOR: bred at three sites not occupied for many years; MEIRIONNYDD: probably bred on Arenig Fawr and probably/possibly at seven other sites; CAERNARFON: bred in Cwm Eigiau and probably on Yr Eifl; present at 17 other sites; DENBIGH: male near Llangwm on 10 April.



Passage of ≥10 birds: CEREDIGION: 37 at Cwm Berwyn on 24 Oct.; BRECON: 17 at Cnwch Wood on 23 Oct. (possibly same as Radnor); 13 at Twyn Cil-rhew on 31 Oct.; RADNOR: 44 in in Elan Valley and 16 at Beacon Hill on 23 Oct.; 14 at Gilfach NR and 10 at Llanfihangel Nant Melan on 24 Oct.; DENBIGH: c.30 below Moel-y-Gaer on 14 April; FLINT: min. 21 (15 males) on Pencycloddiau on 9 April.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	20 March	Pwll Du quarries	28 Oct.	Nant yr Hafod
E.GLAMORGAN	no spring records		1 Nov.	Dunraven Bay
GOWER	3 May	Crynant	27 Oct.	Oxwich Point
CARMARTHEN	3 April	Pâl y Cwrt	4 Nov.	Burry Port & Mynydd Du
PEMBROKE	23 March	Skomer	4 Nov.	St Govan’s Head
CEREDIGION	18 March	Maesllyn pool	28 Oct.	Cwm Berwyn
BRECON	29 March*	Craig Cerrig Gleisiad	31 Oct.*	Twyn Cil-rhew
RADNOR	26 March	Garreg Ddu Reservoir	9 Nov.	Penygarn Reservoir
MONTGOMERY	9 April	Belan, Welshpool	27 Oct.	Llandinam GP
MEIRIONNYDD	9 April	Y Garnedd	30 Oct.	Aberllefenni
CAERNARFON	21 March	Nant Peris	27 Nov.	Sychnant Pass
ANGLESEY	11 April	Porth y Garan, Rhoscolyn	12 Nov.	Rhoscolyn
DENBIGH	13 March	Esclusham Mountain	no autumn records	
FLINT	2 April	Talacre	no autumn records	

The first in PEMBROKE matched the earliest this century, also on Skomer in 2017. The last record in CAERNARFON, of three birds, was the county’s latest this century by one week (*cf.* 2021) and that on ANGLESEY was two days later than a bird at Rhoscolyn in 2002.

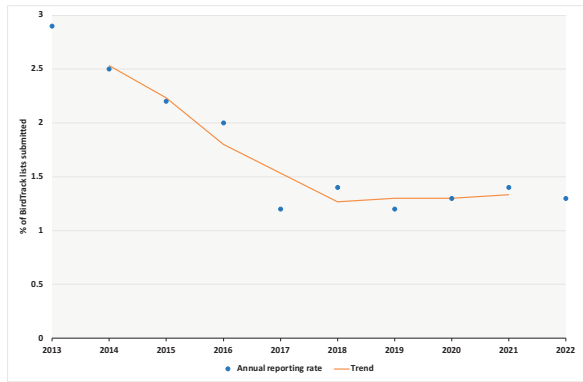
*Winter records: BRECON: Coldbrook on 17 Jan.; 1CY at Pen-y-fan on 2 Dec.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata* GWYBEDOG MANNOG
Uncommon and declining summer visitor (5700 breeding territories). Locally common passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	436	372
% of BirdTrack lists	1%	1%

The UK Breeding Bird Survey index has hit another new low, down 68% during 1995-2021, but Spotted Flycatchers occur on too few survey squares in Wales to produce a trend here. The BirdTrack reporting rate fell sharply during 2013-17, but has since been more consistent at 47% below the baseline., whereas the BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate is unchanged over the same period.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Spotted Flycatcher in Wales 2013-22



Breeding: GWENT: bred at Coed Llanbradach, probably at eight sites and possibly at nine others; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at seven sites and probably at nine others; GOWER: bred at Glynneath, Mynydd y Castell and Cwm Nant y Fedw, probably at two sites and possibly at six others; CARMARTHEN: two pairs at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas (*cf.* nine in 2006); bred at three other sites and probably/possibly at five others; PEMBROKE: bred near Cuffern and Gelli Hill, probably at Roch and possibly at three other sites; CEREDIGION: seven territories in 112ha at RSPB Ynys-hir (*cf.* 4 in 2017, 6 in 2011 and 7 in 2006); bred at Cellan, Nant Maenllwyd and Cwm Einion, and possibly at 14 other sites; BRECON: bred at 20 sites, inc. 2-3 AON at Llangasty, 2 AON at Hay Bridge woods and The Cwm, Llanwrthwl; probably bred at several other sites; RADNOR: bred at Caban Coch Res., Cwm Du and Dol Frwynog; probably bred at Garreg Du Res. and possibly at six other sites; MONTGOMERY: c.10 breeding

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	15 May	Llanfihangel Gobion	17 Sept.	Peterstone
E.GLAMORGAN	7 May	Groes-faen	18 Sept.	East Aberthaw & St Fagans
GOWER	19 April	Crynant	2 Oct.	Margam Abbey
CARMARTHEN	14 May	Penclacwydd	8 Sept.	Llanedi
PEMBROKE	24 April	Neyland Marina	30 Oct.	Carew Cheriton
CEREDIGION	15 May	RSPB Ynys-hir & Ystrad Fflur	1 Oct.	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	14 May	three locations	9 Sept.	Llangorse Common
RADNOR	4 May	Boughrood	11 Sept.	Llanbister
MONTGOMERY	1 May	Llandyssil	9 Sept.	Dylife
MEIRIONNYDD	7 May	Llangwm	15 Sept.	Pennal
CAERNARFON	26 April	Porth Meudwy	21 Oct.	Bardsey
ANGLESEY	4 May	RSPB South Stack	5 Oct.	Soldier's Point, Holyhead
DENBIGH	7 May	Cwm Pennaner, Blaen-y-cwm	27 Aug.	Aberduna NR
FLINT	27 April	St Asaph	23 Sept.	Bagillt

The first and last in FLINT beat this century's previous dates by two days (*cf.* 29 April 2010 and 21 Sept. 2018).

pairs at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; many nests throughout the county successfully fledged young. MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Cwm Cywarch, Coed Farchynys and NWWT Gwaith Powdwr, and probably/possibly at 10 other sites; CAERNARFON: bred at Trefriw, probably at Penrhyn Castle and Betws-y-coed, and possibly at nine other sites; ANGLESEY: present at three sites; DENBIGH: bred at six sites and probably at another seven; FLINT: present at St Asaph and Moel Arthur on 2 July.

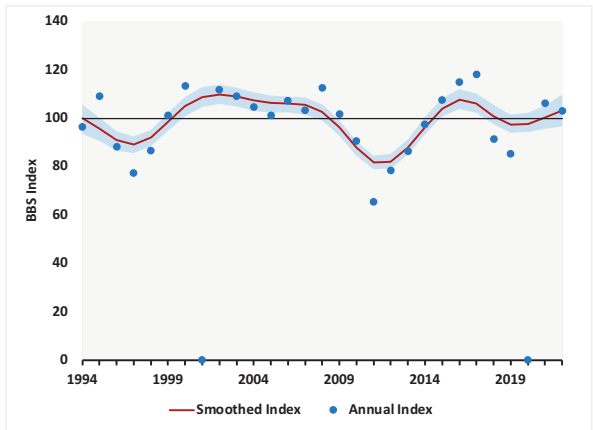
Notable passage counts: PEMBROKE: 26 on Skomer on 15 May and 41 here on 1 Sept.; 15 on Skokholm on 16 May and 11 here on 31 Aug.; CEREDIGION: 12 at Strata Florida on 10 Aug. were presumed locally-bred; CAERNARFON: 91 on Bardsey on 16 May and 25 on 17th, then 15 on 30 Aug.; 12 on the Great Orme and nine around Aberdaron on 16 May.

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula* ROBIN GOCH
Abundant and widespread resident (905,000 breeding territories) and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	13970	13501
% of BirdTrack lists	65%	64%

The Robin breeding population generally recovers within a couple of years from severe winter weather. The smoothed Breeding Bird Survey index has been within 10% of its baseline in 23 of the 26 years since 1995, and the BirdTrack and BTO Garden BirdWatch reporting rates have also been constant. The only site with comparable figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where there were 108 territories in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 78 in 2017, 65 in 2011 and 91 in 2006).

Breeding Bird Survey: Robin in Wales, 1994-2022



Counts ≥20 likely to be on passage: GWENT: >20 at Newport Wetlands Reserve on 24 Sept. and 22 here on 9 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: 20 on Flat Holm on 24 Sept.; GOWER: 20 at Whiteford Burrows on 20 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: 26 at Penclacwydd on 15 Nov.; PEMBROKE: >20 on Skokholm on 73 of 88 days between 13 Sept. and 9 Dec. (max. 86 on 3 Oct.); 39 at Higgon's Well on 12 Sept.; 23 on Skomer on 14 Sept. and 68 here on 13 Oct.; 22 at Strumble Head on 18 Sept.; 32 at St Davids Head on 19 Sept. and 30 here on 10 Oct.; 31 on Ynys Dinas on 31 Oct.; MEIRIONNYDD: 26 at Pennal on 4 Sept.; 40 at Corris on 18 Sept. and 29 here on 4 Nov.; 63 at Tal-y-llyn on 2 Oct. and 44 here on 9th; 61 at Ratgoed on 23 Oct.; 21 at Aberllefenni on 30 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 49 on Bardsey on 10 Sept. and 44 here on 13 Oct.; 32 at Porth Meudwy on 11 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 20 at Silver Bay on 13 Oct.; DENBIGH: 30 at RSPB Conwy on 19 Nov.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*
Former breeder, now scarce migrant. WBRC: 125 records since 1967.

EOS

CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 27 April.

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*
Scarce visitor from mainland Europe. WBRC: 52 previous records.

BRONLAS SMOTYN COCH

CAERNARFON: 2CY of the red-spotted subspecies L.s. svecica on Bardsey on 2 June.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parva*
Scarce visitor, usually in autumn, from Scandinavia and eastern Europe. WBRC: 180 previous records.

GWYBEDOG BRONGOCH

PEMBROKE: 1CY at Porth Clais on 22-23 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 1CY on Bardsey on 22 Oct., a second ringed here on 25th and a third on 27th.

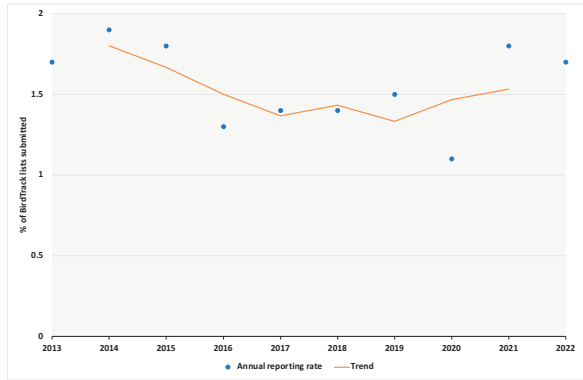
PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*
Locally fairly common but declining summer visitor in most mainland counties (15,000-19,000 breeding territories). Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

GWYBEDOG BRITH

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	505	436
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

The UK Breeding Bird Survey showed a 22% fall in just five years, and a reduction of 56% in the long-term (1995-2021). The species does not occur in sufficient BBS squares to generate a trend for Wales, even though we hold the majority of the UK population. The BirdTrack reporting rate was above average, which is welcome news, but more detailed studies paint a bleaker picture. At the nine tabulated sites, 1530 young fledged from 405 nests (3.78/nest, very similar to the 3.76 at the same sites in 2021), but there was marked variance between sites. Elsewhere at Llysdinam, BRECON, it was the worst year in 40 years of recording: one pair nested and the chicks died at 12 days old, *cf.* 70 young fledged each year in the early 1980s; here, the woodland canopy has become too high, parts of the wood having been under-planted with *Rhododendron ponticum*.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Pied Flycatcher in Wales 2013-22



Pied Flycatcher: breeding productivity at regularly monitored sites.

		Nests	Young ringed	Young/nest	2021 young/nest
GOWER	Cwm Clydach	16	56	3.5	4.9 (2021)
	RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas	135†	645	4.78	3.16 (2021)
BRECON	Coed Nant Brân	22	68	3.1	*3.93 (2021)
MONTGOMERY	Cefn Llwyni	18	50	2.77	5.72 (2021)
	RSPB Lake Vyrnwy	106	367	3.46	3.9 (2021)
DENBIGH	Conwy Valley	30	76	2.53	*4.06 (2021)
	Glyn Arthur	17	44	2.59	*1.74 (2021)
	Prion	33	118	3.58	*5.68 (2021)
	Glyn Ceiriog	28	106	3.79	*4.68 (2021)

*estimate of number fledged; † 66% of reserve nestboxes monitored.

Data courtesy of Fledgemore and Merseyside Ringing Groups, Cwm Clydach volunteers, Rob Thomas and Mike Haigh.

Other selected breeding records: GWENT: bred at Ninewells and Llanvihangel Crucorney and probably at St David’s Vale, St Mary’s Vale and Pandy; E.GLAMORGAN: bred near Wenvoe Quarry and probably at Pontisticill Res.; GOWER: probably bred at Glan Gwrelych; CARMARTHEN: bred at eight sites, inc. Halfway where 6.5 young fledged per successful nest and at Cynghordy where 5.0 young/nest fledged (*cf.* 5.1 at both sites in 2021); PEMBROKE: five males in Cwm Gwaun and two at five other sites; CEREDIGION: 66 pairs at RSPB Ynys-hir (*cf.* 69 in 2017 and 76 in 2006); seven singing males at Longwood, six at Hafod estate, Cwm Carfan and Ystrad Fflur, and present at six other sites; RADNOR: two pairs at Cwm Du, the only site in the southern half of the county; probably nested at Fronwen Wood and RWT Gilfach and possibly at 16 other sites; BRECON: breeding evidence from 14 sites, inc. 22 fledged broods at Coed y Ciliau, 16 from 18 occupied boxes at Rhiw, Llanwrthwl, and 10 territories at Cnwch Wood and at WTSWW Coed Dyrysiog, eight occupied boxes at Red Wood, Newbridge-on-Wye; MONTGOMERY: bred at MWT Dolforwyn Woods, Coed Bron-y-fedw and Llwynderw, probably at Llanerch-yr-Aur, and possibly at 14 other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Cwm Cywarch (max. 20 birds on 17 April), Clawdd Dolfach and Coed Nant y Pandy; possibly bred at another 33 sites, inc. Coed Crafnant (max. 20 birds on 20 April); CAERNARFON: widespread through Eryri NP, inc. eight at Coedty Res.; DENBIGH: bred at six sites, probably at six and possibly at another 12; FLINT: bred at Loggerheads CP, Coed Cilygroeslwyd (4 AON) and Pantymwyn, and probably at five other sites.

2021 FLINT: bred at Rhydymwyn.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	20 April	St Mary’s Vale	14 Sept.	Rogiet
E.GLAMORGAN	12 April	Cosmeston Lakes CP	24 Aug.	near Wenvoe Quarry
GOWER	12 April	Swansea Vale	25 Aug.	Oxwich NNR
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Ffarmers	15 July	Galltybere
PEMBROKE	12 April	Llanychaer	24 Sept.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	13 April	RSPB Ynys-hir	21 Aug.	Llanarth
BRECON	12 April	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl	26 July	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl
RADNOR	6 April	Kilcenni Dingle	20 Sept.	Rhosgoch
MONTGOMERY	25 March	Allt Goch, Llanidloes	5 Aug.	Moel y Golfa
MEIRIONNYDD	8 April	Abergwynant	10 July	above Arthog
CAERNARFON	11 April	Fachwen	17 Sept.	Great Orme
ANGLESEY	18 April	RSPB Cors Ddyga	12 Sept.	Rhoscolyn
DENBIGH	12 April	Eglwyseg	8 Aug.	Moel Arthur
FLINT	8 April	Queensferry	8 Aug.	Moel Arthur

The first in MONTGOMERY was the earliest this century, five days ahead of one at the same breeding site in 2021 and on ANGLESEY, where the species does not breed, was nine days earlier than on the island in 2001. In autumn, the last in RADNOR was four days after the previous latest this century, in 2015.

Notable passage counts: PEMBROKE: five on Skomer and four on Skokholm on 12 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 11 on Bardsey on 12 Sept.

RED-FLANKED BLUETAIL *Tarsiger cyanurus* CYNFFONLAS YSTLYSGOCH
Very rare visitor from Russia and Fennoscandia. BBRC: six previous records.

The first year with two Welsh records, including remarkably the second inland South Wales record. E.GLAMORGAN: 1CY at Coed-y-Wenallt, Nantgarw, on 16-17 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 1CY ringed on Bardsey on 29 Oct.

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros* TINGOCH DU
Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers. Occasional breeder, possibly in 2021. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	319	418
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

BirdTrack reporting rate: Black Redstart in Wales 2013-22

The BirdTrack reporting rate is low, reflecting this species' scarcity in Wales, but surprisingly consistent in the last five years. There was no evidence of breeding, but there were two records in North Wales in June, one close to a suspected breeding site in 2021.

There was a small but obvious passage in late April - 44 of the min. 105 birds seen in the first half of the year were recorded in the week of 21-27 March. The table includes seven on Skomer and six on mainland PEMBROKE, on 23 March, and 12 on Bardsey, CAERNARFON, on the same date.

Autumn passage was larger, but spread across several weeks. Numbers on the islands should be regarded as a minimum, as they include only the peak count during successive days with records.

Non-breeding birds outside the months shown in the table. PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 10 May; Skomer on 17 May; CEREDIGION: New Quay on 17 Aug.; MONTGOMERY: Newtown on 1 June; MEIRIONNYDD: Llanbedr on 22 June; CAERNARFON: one on Bardsey on 4 June and two here on 5th; Great Orme on 7-8 June.

Notable behaviour. BRECON: one picked at a dead Woodcock on the pavement below a Peregrine's prey cache on St Mary's Church, Brecon, on 28 Dec.

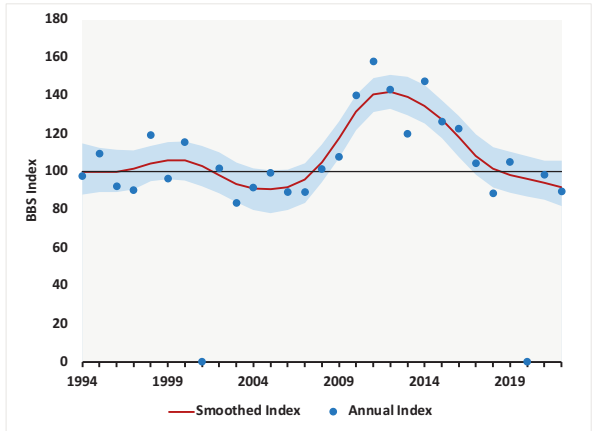
Black Redstart: totals	TOTAL	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Oct	Nov	Dec
GWENT	6		1	3		2	1	2
E.GLAMORGAN	34	8	8	6	3	2	12	10
GOWER	19	1		6	1	1	7	5
CARMARTHEN	10			2			5	3
PEMBROKE	86	3	3	20	5	14	40	4
CEREDIGION	18	2		1	1	2	11	2
BRECON	3				1	1		1
RADNOR	3			2	1			
MONTGOMERY	1						1	
MEIRIONNYDD	1	1						1
CAERNARFON	41	1		14	2	8	9	7
ANGLESEY	33	3	1	6	2	1	20	6
DENBIGH	1							1
FLINT	4	1		1			2	1

REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* TINGOCH
Fairly common summer visitor in deciduous woodland and upland ffridd (50,500 breeding pairs), but scarce in Anglesey and Pembrokeshire. Passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	709	718
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	3%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales fell 33% during 2011-21, and the smoothed trend has only been lower in three years (2004-06) of the last 26. The BirdTrack reporting rate has shown a similar trend, and was 40% lower in 2020-22 than in 2013-15. The only site with comparable figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where there were 32 territories (*cf.* 46 in 2017, 56 in 2011 and 47 in 2006).

Breeding Bird Survey: Redstart in Wales, 1994-2022



Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	11 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve		28 Sept.	Clydach gorge
E.GLAMORGAN	11 April	Kenfig NNR		15 Oct.	Cardiff Bay
GOWER	27 April	Lliw Reservoirs		31 Aug.	Cimla
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Ashpits Pond & Pentrefelin		12 Sept.	Mynydd Llanllwni
PEMBROKE	9 April	Haroldston Woods		30 Oct.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	5 April	RSPB Ynys-hir		26 July	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	10 April	Llangenny		6 Sept.	Llangasty
RADNOR	31 March	Penygarreg Reservoir		10 Sept.	Evancoyd
MONTGOMERY	9 April	Abermule		28 Aug.	Llwynderw, Llanidloes
MEIRIONNYDD	15 April	Coed Crafnant & Cwm Bychan		14 Aug.	Cynwyd
CAERNARFON	12 April	Bardsey		1 Nov.	Pontllyfni
ANGLESEY	5 May	Cemlyn		2 Sept.	RSPB Cors Ddyga
DENBIGH	13 April	Gelli'r Bugail		12 Sept.	Lleweni watermeadows
FLINT	14 April	Caerwys		27 Aug.	St Asaph

The first in Wales this year matched dates in 2008 and 2010 as the earliest in RADNOR this century, also in the Elan Valley. The last of the year in CAERNARFON was the latest ever in the county, three days after the previous latest, in 1982.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra*

CREC YR EITHIN

Localised and declining summer visitor, breeding in upland areas (2825 pairs in 2013). Wales Red-listed.

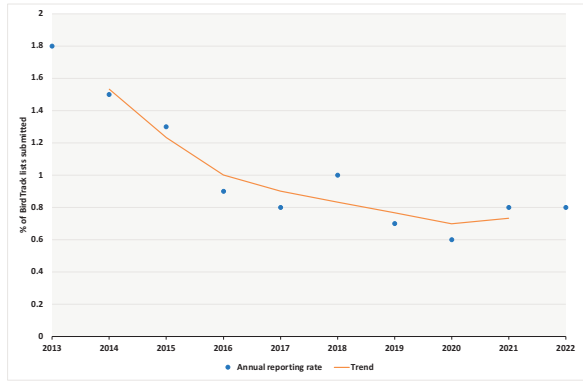
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	292	283
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The UK Breeding Bird Survey index has fallen by 68% since 1995, and flatlined since 2009. No trend can be generated for Wales as the species is already too scarce. The BirdTrack reporting rate has been below 1% for much of the last decade, with very little difference this year between passage and breeding seasons.

Breeding: GWENT: bred at Sugar Loaf and The Bloreng, and probably on Mynydd Garnclochdy; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Castell Nos and Bryn Du; GOWER: bred at Cwm Nant y Fedw; CARMARTHEN: two pairs at RSPB

Gwenffrwd-Dinas (cf. 17 in 2013); 2-3 pairs on Blaen Nant Melyn; probably bred below Tair Carn; PEMBROKE: at least two pairs on Brynberian Moor and three at Eithbed Fach; CEREDIGION: bred at Cors Caron; 33 singing males in Doethie catchment area; seven at Soar y Mynydd on 9 May; BRECON: 23 territories, although although many known sites on the margins of the Black Mountains were not visited; RADNOR: bred at Great Rhos and Y Glog Fawr in Elan Valley, and probably at eight other sites, half in the

BirdTrack reporting rate: Whinchat in Wales 2013-22



Elenydd; MONTGOMERY: c.50 pairs at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; probably bred at Garreg Ddu; MEIRIONNYDD: three pairs bred at Cwm Hesgyn, 1-2 birds at 12 other sites; CAERNARFON: 1-2 at 10 sites, but only two confirmed breeding; ANGLESEY: one at RSPB South Stack on 15 June and two here on 3 July but no other evidence of breeding; DENBIGH: 2-3 pairs bred on western slope of Moel Famau and also on Esclusham Mountain, Ceiriog Forest and above Aled Res., Hiraethog.; possibly bred at three other sites.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site		Latest	Site
GWENT	20 April	Abergavenny		11 Oct.	Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth)
E.GLAMORGAN	23 April	Hayes Point (freshly dead)		18 Oct.	Dunraven Bay
GOWER	no spring records			20 Oct.	Llangennith
CARMARTHEN	13 April	Hendy		19 Sept.	Ginst Point
PEMBROKE	16 April	Castlemartin Corse		21 Nov.	Newgale
CEREDIGION	22 April	Dolgoch		13 Sept.	Llanrhystud
BRECON	30 April	Craig Cerrig Gleisiad & Libanus		2 Sept.	Garnlydan
RADNOR	22 April	The Begwyns		19 Oct.	Glasbury
MONTGOMERY	9 May	Llangurig		14 July	Llyn Hir
MEIRIONNYDD	26 April	Gelli Grin, Berwyn		30 Aug.	Broadwater
CAERNARFON	14 April	Great Orme		25 Sept.	Aberdaron
ANGLESEY	15 April	RSPB Cors Ddyga		9 Sept.	Alaw estuary & Cemlyn
DENBIGH	21 April	Clwyd estuary		31 Aug.	Llyn Gweryd
FLINT	21 April	Gronant		3 Sept.	Connah's Quay NR

The last of the year in PEMBROKE was 13 days later than the previous latest this century, in 2019, and the last in RADNOR was a day later (cf. 2010).

STONECHAT *Saxicola rubicola*

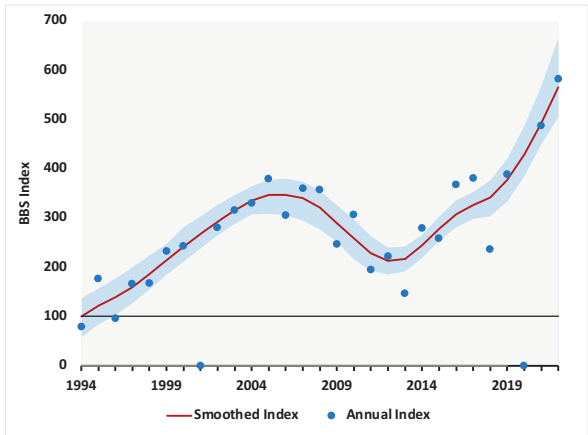
CLOCHDAR Y CERRIG

Fairly common resident (12,082 pairs in 2013) in uplands and coastal heath, though numbers vary as a result of winter and spring weather. More widespread in winter. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3491	4524
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	18%

Breeding Bird Survey: Stonechat in Wales, 1994-2022

Stonechat continues to be one of the big winners of milder winters and current land management regimes. The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales reached a new high for the fourth consecutive year. The long-term upward trend (+306% during 1995-2021) is the highest of any passerine species in Wales. Illustrating this, 20 breeding pairs were recorded on Bardsey, five more than 2021 and the highest total ever on the Island. The BirdTrack reporting rate shows more inter-annual variation, but increased substantially on the 2021 value to its highest ever level.





Stonechats (Jamie Smart)

Autumn passage: GWENT: 14 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 18 Oct.; GOWER: 10 at Llanrhidian on 10 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 30 on St Davids Head on 19 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 25 on Bardsey on 24 July, 44 here in late Aug. and 46 on 2 Sept.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* TINWEN Y GARN
Fairly common summer visitor, chiefly around upland pasture (13,759 breeding pairs). Abundant passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

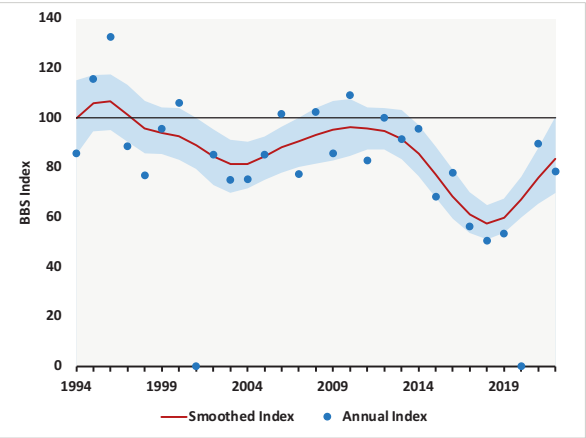
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1779	1676
% of BirdTrack lists	6%	6%

The annual Breeding Bird Survey index, while higher than six of the last seven years, was 12% lower than in 2021, tempering its recent recovery. The long-term trend (1995-2021) reflects a population decline of 28%, justifying its

Wheatear: max. day counts each week at main watchpoints.

		March			April				May
		17-23	24-31	1-7	8-14	15-21	22-28	29-5	6-12
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	16	33	26	32	36	156	31	
	Skomer	7			14	8	79		
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	1	13		42	11	210	25	4
	Great Orme	1	5	10	>30	21	30	1	50
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	3	1	2	15	26	26	10	13
	Cemlyn				16	15	50	15	11

inclusion as an Amber-list bird of **Breeding Bird Survey: Wheatear in Wales, 1994-2022** conservation concern. The BirdTrack reporting rate was similar to 2021, but that is 40% below the 2013-15 value.



Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN).

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	12 March	Collister Pill	31 Oct.	Mynydd Llangatwg
E.GLAMORGAN	10 March	Sker Point	4 Nov.	Sker Point
GOWER	10 March	Britton Ferry	16 Oct.	Wernffrwd
CARMARTHEN	12 March	Penclacwydd	1 Nov.	Herbert's Quarry, Mynydd Du
PEMBROKE	10 March	Skokholm & Dale airfield	5 Nov.	Aberbach
CEREDIGION	11 March	Mwnt	11 Nov.	Tanybwllch
BRECON	13 March	Llangoed Common	19 Sept.	Fforest Fach
RADNOR	12 March	The Begwyns	3 Nov.	The Begwyns
MONTGOMERY	2 April	Cors Dyfi	18 Sept.	Dylife
MEIRIONNYDD	17 March	Llandanwg	13 Oct.	Arthro estuary
CAERNARFON	12 March	Great Orme & Daron Valley	3 Dec.	Dwyfor estuary
ANGLESEY	7 March	Cemlyn	6 Nov.	Breakwater CP
DENBIGH	6 March	Esclusham Mountain	1 Nov.	Clwyd estuary
FLINT	23 March	Moel Arthur	8 Oct.	Connah's Quay NR

The first in DENBIGH matched the earliest in the county this century, in 2010 while the last was the first Nov. record this century, by two days (cf. 2004). The last in RADNOR was a day later than one in 2015, while that in CAERNARFON was the first ever Dec. record in the county and 18 days later than the previous latest, in 1982.

Other spring passage counts ≥10: E.GLAMORGAN: 15 at Sker Pt on 28 March; GOWER: 13 at Briton Ferry on 12 April; 14 at Weobley saltings on 18 April; CARMARTHEN: c.15 at Pâl y Cwrt on 27 March; 10 at Pembrey Burrows on 2 May; PEMBROKE: 30 at Pwll Deri on 21 April; 14 on Elegug Stacks on 22 April; 13 at Marloes Mere on 23 April and 20 here on 2 May; 14 at Whitesands Bay and 12 at Penllechwen on 24 April; 12 at Wooltack Pt on 27 April; >20 at Dale airfield on 4 May; CEREDIGION: 10 at Ynyslas on 7 May; MEIRIONNYDD: 12 at Broadwater on 31 March; 12 above Arthog on 18 April; 12 on Moel Ysgyfarnogod on 20 April; 16 at Talsarnau on 5 May; CAERNARFON: 40 at Penmaenmawr on 18 March; 14 in Nant Ffrancon on 15 and 18 April; 14 in Aber Valley on 16 April; 10 at Porthdinllaen on 17 April; ANGLESEY: 12 at Silver Bay on 13 April; 28 west of Wylfa on 16 April, 33 here on 4 May and 35 on 8th; DENBIGH: 10 on Bryn Alyn on 18 April; 15 on Esclusham Mountain on 22 April; 20 at Minera NR on 9 May; FLINT: 10 at Gronant on 6

May; 14 by Clwyd est. on 8 May.

Autumn passage counts ≥10: E.GLAMORGAN: 21 at Sker Pt on 30 Aug. and 12 here on 19 Sept.; 10 at Ogmores Caves on 14 Sept.; GOWER: 12 at Weobley on 13 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 30 on Skomer on 26 July and 35 on a date in Aug.; 12 at Deer Park on 31 July; 10 at St Govan’s Head on 1 Aug.; 10 at Dale airfield on 8 Sept.; max. monthly day counts on Skokholm, 56 on 30 July, 55 on 21 Aug. and 44 on 14 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 10 at Llanrhystud on 13 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 27 on Bardsey on 9 Aug., 19 on 7 Sept.; 10 on Great Orme on 13 Sept.; ANGLESEY: 14 at RSPB South Stack on 30 Aug.

Colour-ringing: red CPL, ringed on the Isle of Man in July 2021, was seen at RSPB South Stack, ANGLESEY, on 6 June and then on the Great Orme, CAERNARFON, on 21 Aug.

2021 DENBIGH: 12 below Horseshoe Pass on 22 April; 12 at Minera on 14 May; FLINT: 20 at Gronant on 24 April; 14 near Caerwys on 7 May; 10 on Deeside Ind. Estate on 10 May; Greenland Wheatear correction, record near Caerwys on 7 May was of five birds, not one.

***O.o. leucorhoa* (Greenland Wheatear / Tinwen y Garn yr Ynys Las)**

Birds reported to show characteristics of the Greenland race, singles unless stated: GOWER: four on Pennard GC on 14 Sept.; Whiteford Burrows on 17 Sept.; PEMBROKE: Skokholm, on 11 dates between 11 April and 17 May (max. 21 on 23 April); Skomer on 29 July; Strumble Head on 4 Nov.; CEREDIGION: 12 at Llanrhystud on 16 April, 37 here on 24th and 23 on 1 May; BRECON: Mynydd Llangynidr on 15 Sept.; MEIRIONNYDD: Llyn Trawsfynydd on 30 April; Harlech on 9 June; CAERNARFON: Great Orme on 22 April, six here on 26th, 24 on 27th, 13 on 29th, three on 3 May, 23 on 5th, 26 on 9th and 18 on 10th; nine at Porth Ysgo on 24 April; three at Morfa Madryn NR on 1 May and seven here on 14th; Mynydd Mawr on 8 May; Penrhyn Bay on 11 May; ANGLESEY: four at RSPB South Stack on 2 April and one here on 23rd; Penmon Pt on 8 May; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 30 April and two here on 7 May; six at Clwyd est. on 23 May; FLINT: 12 near Lloc on 6 May and 11 here on 13th; Connah’s Quay NR on 28 May.

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina*

TINWEN FELYNLLWYD

Very rare visitor from west and central Asia. BBRC: seven previous records.

CAERNARFON: Uwchmynydd from 3 Nov. to 1 Dec. This was the latest date of any of the Welsh records.

DESERT WHEATEAR *Oenanthe deserti*

TINWEN Y DIFFEITHWCH

Very rare visitor from North Africa and the Middle East. BBRC: eight previous records.

GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 16-18 Nov.

DIPPER *Cinclus cinclus*

BRONWEN Y DWR

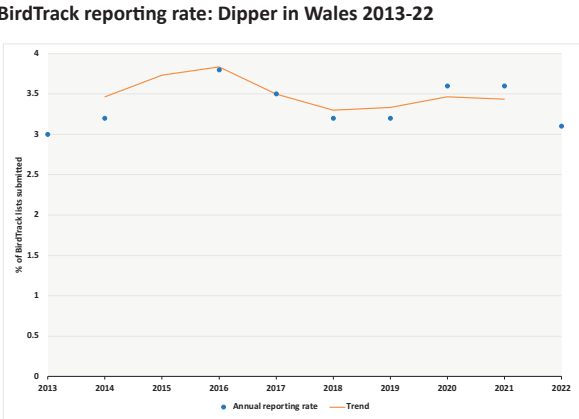
Fairly common resident of fast flowing streams, particularly in hill areas (1150-4050 breeding pairs). In winter, upland birds move downstream. Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1019	932
% of BirdTrack lists	4%	3%

The Waterways Bird Survey and Breeding Bird Survey indices for the UK both show a steady decline by 25% since 1999 and 47% since 1995 respectively. There is no index for Wales. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales is steady,

although the 2022 value was lower than any year since 2013. The *Cambrian Bird Report* suggests a decline in northern Eryri, where a walk from the top of Llyn Ogwen down to Tyn y Maes bridge (approx. 7km) on 28 March found none (cf. 4-5 pairs within the last 10 years), although a breeding pair was later confirmed in Nant Ffrancon.

Incomplete breeding records: GWENT: 20 nests on the lower Wye tributaries; E.GLAMORGAN: 37 pairs monitored by Fledgemore nest-recording group in The Valleys fledged 47 young, an average of 1.27/nest (cf. 2.75 in 2021); GOWER: bred at nine sites and probably/possibly at two others; CARMARTHEN: 13 nests monitored in the northeast had a mean clutch size of 5.4 and a mean 4.0 young fledged. No second nest attempts were found, probably a result of low water levels; bred at Gwennlian Pool, probably at four sites and possibly at seven others; PEMBROKE: bred at County Hall and Withybush hospital, Haverfordwest, and at Fishguard, and probably at 10 other sites; CEREDIGION: probably bred at Cei Bach and Cenarth Falls, and possibly at eight other sites; RADNOR: records from five sites; BRECON: five nests on R.Mellte, Ystradfellte, fledged 14 young (2.8/nest); bred on R.Dyfnant, R.Hirnant and R.Usk at Crickhowell, probably at two sites and possibly at 20 others; MONTGOMERY: recorded at three sites; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at three sites, probably at one and possibly at 17 others; CAERNARFON: bred at 13 sites and probably/possibly at 24 others; ANGLESEY: two pairs at The Dingle, Llangefni; DENBIGH: bred at seven sites, probably at five and possibly at another 13; FLINT: possibly bred at five sites.



TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

GOLFAN MYNYDD

Declining and localised resident, with a patchy distribution (200-325 breeding pairs). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	13	14
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Encouraging reports from the RADNOR county recorder suggest a continued westward spread back to formerly occupied areas, but there were no confirmed breeding records.

Singles unless stated. BRECON: four at feeders in Lower Chapel, Brecon, on 19 Jan. and eight here on 26 April; one at Twyn-yr-odyn on 21 March; RADNOR: family parties seen at five sites; highest counts were in Dec., 35 at New Radnor and 22 at Presteigne; MONTGOMERY: two in an Old Churchstoke garden in Feb. and March; three at Dolydd Hafren on 21 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Great Orme on 9 Oct.; five on Bardsey on 15-18 Sept., reducing gradually to one on 23rd, and one here on 18 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Bryngwran on 26 April; Cemlyn on 5 June and two here on 22nd; Pt Lynas on 28 Oct.; three at Llanfwrog on 13 Nov. and one here on 16th; DENBIGH: two at Trefnant on 14 June; FLINT: reported in a Gronant garden on 2 Jan. and at NWWT Big Pool Wood on 17th.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

ADERYN Y TO

Abundant and widespread resident (800,000 breeding pairs). Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	8389	7879
% of BirdTrack lists	39%	38%

A further 9% increase in the annual index since 2021 takes the Breeding Bird Survey smoothed index for Wales to a new high, greater than any other UK country and 98% above its 1995 level. The BirdTrack reporting rate has also increased over the last half decade, whereas the BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate has remained stable, at 85% of participating gardens.

Counts ≥70: E.GLAMORGAN: >100 at Rhose Pt on 20 March; 71 at Whitchurch on 28 April; 108 at Roath on 7 May; 87 at Colcot on 9 May and 89 here on 11 June; 70 at Rest Bay on 19 June; 80 at Sully Island on 2 Oct.; GOWER: >70 at Pen-y-Bryn on 6 Feb.; >100 at Murton on 10 March; >100 at Scurlage on 26 July; >70 at Three Cliffs Bay on 10 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 108 at Marloes Mere on 18 Aug.; MEIRIONNYDD: 84 at Trawsfynydd on 27 July; CAERNARFON: 70 in Llandudno on 2 Aug.; 70 at Glanwydden on 3 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 100 at Mynachdy, Carmel Head, on 18 Sept.

Notable. CAERNARFON: 10 on Bardsey on 19 Oct. was the largest count for many years. House Sparrow bred on the island until 1973, with up to 25 pairs, but is now a rare passage migrant, typically with 1-2 records each year.

DUNNOCK *Prunella modularis*

LLWYD Y GWRYCH

Abundant breeding resident (310,000 territories). Occasional post-breeding movements noted on the islands. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

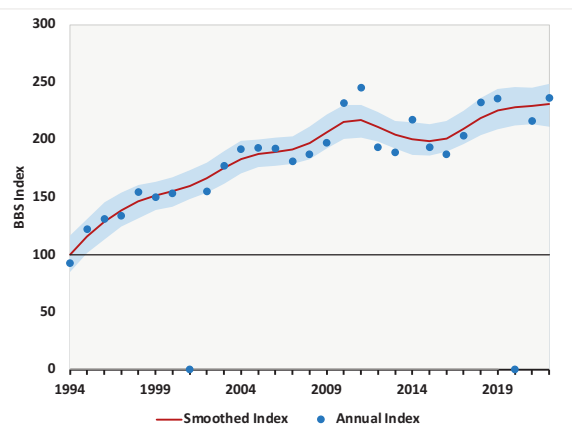
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	9733	9004
% of BirdTrack lists	46%	44%

The Breeding Bird Survey index for Wales reached a new high in 2022, 35% above its 1995 baseline. Discounting the BirdTrack reporting rate in 2020 and 2021 when there was a suburban bias to records during lockdowns, Dunnocks

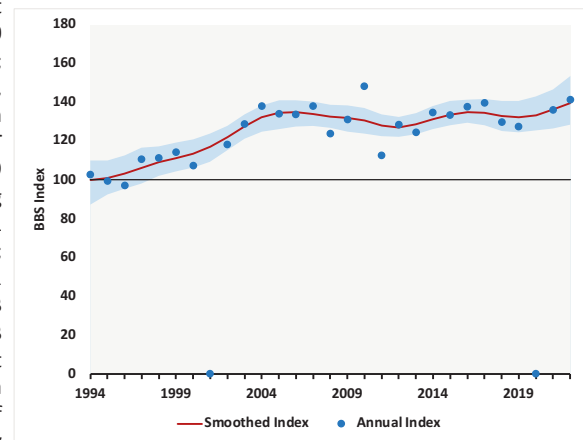
appear to be recovering from a decline between 2017 and 2018, perhaps related to cold weather in early spring. Surprisingly, this recent increase is not reflected in the BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate, which has fallen since 2017. One site with comparable breeding figures, RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, recorded 51 territories in 112ha of woodland (*cf.* 41 in 2017, 18 in 2011 and 21 in 2006).

Counts ≥10 outside breeding season: E.GLAMORGAN: 10 in Upper Llynfi Valley on 6 Jan.; 10 at South Pentryrch on 17 March; >10 at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 23 March; 11 at Kenfig NNR on 30 March and 17 April; >10 at Ruthin on 25 April; 12 at Forest Farm CP on 6 July; 10 on Flat Holm on 29 Sept.; 17 at Sutton Rise, Bridgend, on 10 Oct.; 10-13 at Hendre Lake park throughout the year; GOWER: 13 between Limeslade and Rotherslade on 7 Feb.; 19 at Rhossili on 18 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 12 at Skrinkle Pill on 3 Feb.; 10 at Nolton

Breeding Bird Survey: House Sparrow in Wales, 1994-2022

**Breeding Bird Survey: Dunnock in Wales, 1994-2022**

Haven on 11 Feb.; 25 on St Davids Head on 2 Oct.; 10 at Caer Bwdy and 19 at Nine Wells on 20 Oct.; CEREDIGION: 10 at RSPB Ynys-hir on 31 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: 13 at Ratgoed, Aberllefenni, on 23 Oct.; 11 at Corris on 4 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 10 at NWWT Spinnies on 16 Feb.; 28 on Bardsey on 9 Sept. and 33 here on 2 Oct. indicating movements; 19 at Port Meudwy on 11 Oct.; 13 at Glanwydden on 30 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 27 at RSPB South Stack on 1 Sept. and 19 here on 13 Oct.; 15 at RSPB Valley Wetlands on 13 Nov.; 10 at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 19 Nov.; DENBIGH: 11 at RSPB Conwy on 24 Jan.; FLINT: 14 in a Gronant garden on 2 Jan.; 19 at Pt of Ayr Warren Farm on 4 Jan.; 11 at Llyn y Pandy on 3 Oct.; 10 at Rhyl Brickfield Pond on 12 Dec.; 11 beside Clwyd est. on 14 Dec.

**WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava flavissima*

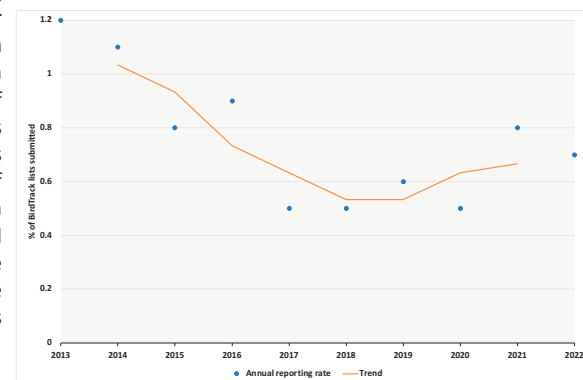
SIGLEN FELEN Y GORLLEWIN

Declining, now scarce, breeder and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	261	244
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

This species is too scarce for a Breeding Bird Survey trend to be generated for Wales, and interestingly the long-term decline in the UK BBS trend has been stemmed since 2007. The frequency of occurrence on BirdTrack lists in Wales is low and had been falling, but that has reversed a little in the last couple of years, and news of an increase in breeding numbers in Radnorshire and of increased sightings in Breconshire are welcome. Complete breeding data were not available from Gwent, which has held breeding pairs in recent years.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Western Yellow Wagtail in Wales 2013-22



Breeding: GWENT: bred near Osbaston; BRECON: nested at Gileston Farm, Talybont-on-Usk, and possibly at four other sites, generally around spring-sown crops, but no recording in Wye Valley around Llyswen, which usually holds 2-3 pairs; RADNOR: 28-32 pairs at five sites, an increase; MONTGOMERY: probably bred at Bacheldre; one at Dolydd Hafren on 22 May and 10-11 June; singles at four other sites; DENBIGH: 1-2 pairs probably bred at Bettisfield; one at Fenn's Moss on 26 June; FLINT: four pairs at RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands and female fed two recently fledged young at nearby Shotwick Fields on 30 June; one at Beeches Farm, Sandycroft, on 15 June.

2021 FLINT: territory at Saltney.

Notable passage: GWENT: 25 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 18 Aug., 89 here on 27th, 28 on 29th and 42 on 3 Sept.; E.GLAMORGAN: >50 at Sker Pt and farm on 28 Aug.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	<i>Earliest</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Latest</i>	<i>Site</i>
GWENT	12 April	Newport Wetlands Reserve	24 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	16 April	Sully Island	1 Oct.	Cosmeston Lakes CP
GOWER	9 May	Margam	27 Oct.	Castell-du
CARMARTHEN	no spring records		13 Sept.	Kidwelly Marsh
PEMBROKE	24 April	Skomer	10 Oct.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	17 April	Ynyslas	16 Sept.	Ynyslas
BRECON	21 April	Llangasty Point	21 Sept.	Llangorse Lake
RADNOR	30 March	Llowes	10 Oct.	Llowes
MONTGOMERY	3 May	Bacheldre	22 Sept.	Dolydd Hafren
MEIRIONNYDD	14 May	Llynnau Cregennen	14 Aug.	Broadwater
CAERNARFON	23 April	Bardsey (flava)	7 Sept.	Porthmadog Cob
ANGLESEY	11 April	Borth Wen, Rhoscolyn	6 Oct.	RSPB South Stack
DENBIGH	27 April	RSPB Conwy	23 Aug.	Bangor racecourse
FLINT	21 April	Gronant	4 Aug.	Gronant

The first of the year in RADNOR was the earliest ever in the county.

***M.f. flava* (Blue-headed Wagtail / Siglen Felen Benlas)**

Uncommon passage migrant, primarily to coastal sites in spring.

PEMBROKE: female over-summered on Skomer; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 23 April, 9 and 11 May and 21 June; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 29 April, 4 and 8 May; The Skerries on 3 May.

***M. f. thunbergi* (Grey-headed / Siglen Benlwyd)**

Rare visitor from Fennoscandia and Russia. WBRC: 18 previous records.

PEMBROKE: Skomer on 6 June, the second record for the island.

***M.f. flava* X *M.f. flavissima* hybrid (“Channel Wagtail”)**

E.GLAMORGAN: Cardiff Bay on 28 April; BRECON: male at Llangorse Lake on 22-24 April, which then nested at Ddewr Farm and fledged several young; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 29 April.

2021 DENBIGH, additional record: two at RSPB Conwy on 9 May.

CITRINE WAGTAIL *Motacilla citreola*

SIGLEN SITRAIDD

Rare visitor from eastern Europe and Asia. WBRC: 14 previous records.

GWENT: 1CY at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 18-31 Aug.; ANGLESEY: female at Cemlyn on 8 May.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

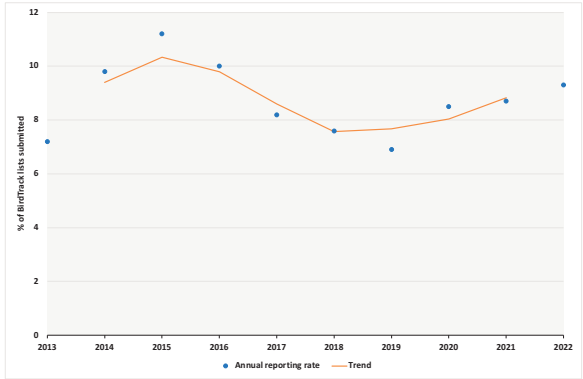
SIGLEN LWYD

Fairly common breeding resident (5950 pairs), mainly along fast-flowing streams in all counties. Most move downstream in winter. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2257	2331
% of BirdTrack lists	9%	9%

Although there is insufficient data to generate a long-term Breeding Bird Survey trend for Wales, that for the last 10 years (2011-21) is up by almost 42%, higher even than the UK index from the Waterways Breeding Bird Survey, which increased 28% over the same period. The BirdTrack reporting rate for Wales is climbing again after a fall in the first half of the last decade. Numbers on autumn passage were lower than in 2021.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Grey Wagtail in Wales 2013-22



Max. daily counts (≥10) on autumn passage.

	August				September						
	29	30	3	9	11	17	20	23	24	25	28
GWENT Levels	11		13								
ANGLESEY, RSPB South Stack		3	3	3	6	12	11	21	5	18	14

Counts ≥10 elsewhere outside breeding season: E.GLAMORGAN: 25 at Lavernock Pt on 14 Sept.; PEMBROKE: 10 on Skokholm on 10 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 11 at New Quay on 17 Oct.; CAERNARFON: ≥10 on Bardsey on three dates in Sept. (max. 13 on 20th), 11 here on 2 Oct., 14 on 3rd and 11 on 11th.

PIED WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

SIGLEN FRAITH

Fairly common and widespread breeding resident (56,000 breeding pairs). Passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Green-listed.

Pied/White Wagtail	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	5960	6034
% of BirdTrack lists	27%	28%

The long-term trend in breeding numbers is stable (-5%, 1995-2021), as is the BirdTrack reporting rate and the BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate since 2013. The UK Waterways Breeding Bird Survey index has fallen by 44% since 1999, however.

Counts >100 of *yarrellii*: CARMARTHEN: c.100 roosted at Myrtle Hill retail park, Carmarthen, on 17 Jan.; 149 at Pembrey CP on 2 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 480 roosted at Withybush hospital on 11 Feb.; c.100 roosted at Teifi Marshes on 13 April (with *M.a. alba*, see below); MEIRIONNYDD: 170 at Glandyfi on 8 Oct.; BRECON: 150 roosted at Llangorse Lake reedbed from 28 Sept. to 2 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 120 (may have included *alba*) on Bardsey on one date in Oct.; FLINT: pre-roost at St Asaph Business Park peaked at 150 on 2 Feb.

***M.a. alba* (White Wagtail / Siglen Wen) Breeding Bird Survey: Pied Wagtail in Wales, 1994-2022**

Passage migrant in spring and autumn, mainly of Icelandic population.

Spring passage counts ≥ 5 : CARMARTHEN: five at Pembrey harbour on 14 April; PEMBROKE: six at St Dogmaels on 11 April; 200 at Teifi Marshes on 13 April, 100 here on 19th and 35 on 27th; 30 at Llanrhian on 23 April; eight at Dale airfield on 27 April; CEREDIGION: 64 at Llanrhystud on 16 April; BRECON: five at Llangorse Lake on 27 April; MEIRIONNYDD: seven at Arthog Bog on 20 April; CAERNARFON: ≥ 10 on eight dates in April, max. 34 on 17th; five at Morfa Madryn NR on 17 April; ANGLESEY: counts at Cemlyn below; 34 west of Wylfa on 13 April, 120 here on 15th and 228 on 16th; six at RSPB Cors Ddyga on 18 Aug.; DENBIGH: six at RSPB Conwy on 25 Feb. and 29 May, and 20 here on 13 June; FLINT: 26 at Gronant on 21 April, 50 here on 30 April and 17 on 3 May.

Autumn passage counts ≥ 5 : CARMARTHEN: six at Penclacwydd on 6 Sept.; 12 at Penrhwyngwyn on 12 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 25 on Bardsey on 31 Aug., 16 here on 2 Sept., 12 on 11 Oct. (and ≥ 10 on three other dates); 15 at Trwyn y Penrhyn, Aberdaron, on 1 Sept.; DENBIGH: five at RSPB Conwy on 2 Sept.; FLINT: five at Rhyl Marine Lake on 30 Aug.

Max. daily counts (≥ 5) of *M.a. alba* at Cemlyn, ANGLESEY, on spring passage.

	April										May									
	15	16	17	18	19	20	23	26	27	28	29	30	2	4	7	8	9	10		
Cemlyn	9	20	9	38	9	9	50	6	7	17	6	16	9	12	12	13	14	7		

2021 FLINT: at least 12 at Gronant on 18 May.

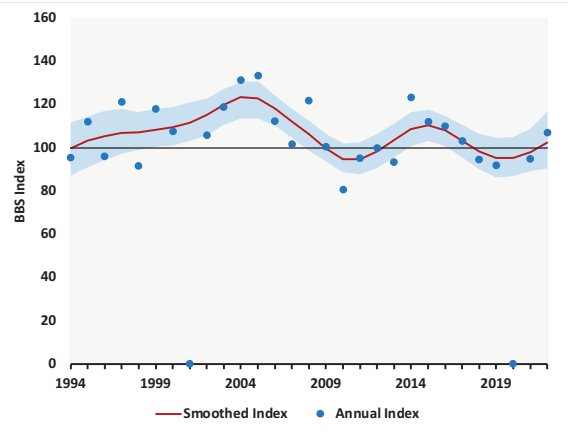
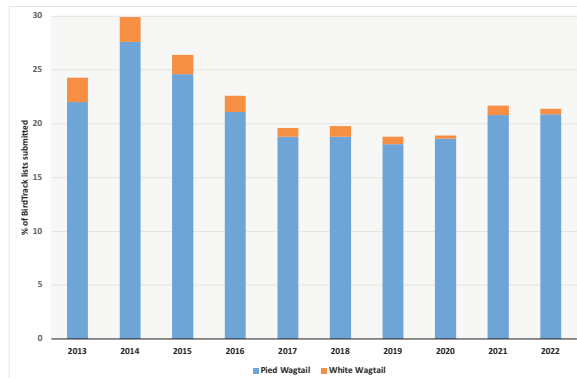
RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus richardi*

CORHEDYDD RICHARD

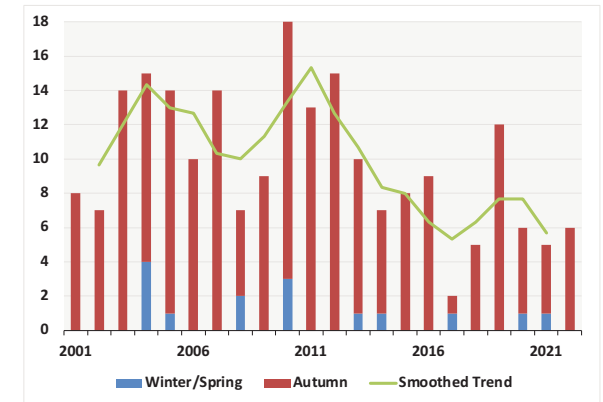
Uncommon autumn passage migrant. Now proven to winter regularly in southwest France from east Asian breeding range, thought to be via a route north of the Alps. Wales Amber-listed (not assessed prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4	3
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

6-7 records, all single birds. PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 15 and 29 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 14 Oct.; Great Orme on 3 Nov.; ANGLESEY: Porth Nobla on 21 Oct.;

**BirdTrack reporting rate: Pied and White Wagtail in Wales 2013-22**

Rhoscolyn on 31 Oct. and, possibly Richard's Pipits recorded in Wales, 2001-22 same, here on 1 Dec.

**MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis***

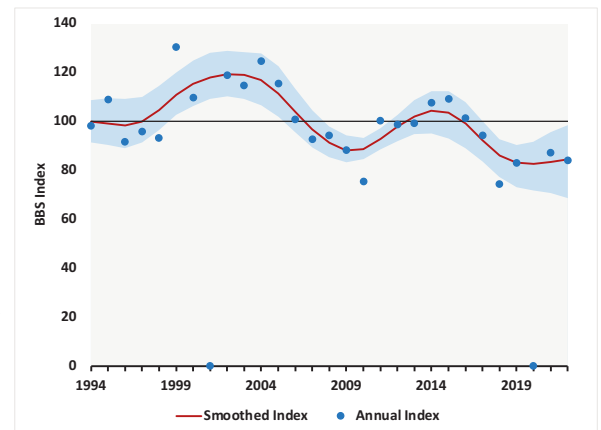
CORHEDYDD Y WAUN

Abundant and widespread breeding species, especially on moorland (170,000 pairs). Winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	4532	4764
% of BirdTrack lists	19%	21%

The Breeding Bird Survey annual index in 2022 was little different to the last few years, but remains more than 15% lower than in 1995, and 29% lower than in 2002. By contrast, 87 breeding pairs were recorded on Bardsey, an increase of 36 pairs since 2021 and 61% above the 1953-2022 average.

The BirdTrack reporting rate has shown a similar trend, and in 2020-22 was 30% below its value in 2013-15. Visible migration in autumn was on a far smaller scale than in 2021, but there was a notable spring passage in northwest Wales in mid-April.

Breeding Bird Survey: Meadow Pipit in Wales, 1994-2022

Counts ≥ 100 in winter/spring. GOWER:

156 over Margam Moors on 16 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 111 on Skokholm on 24 March; 122 at Cemaes Head on 27 March; CAERNARFON: ≥ 100 on Bardsey on eight dates during 21-31 March, max. 313 on 24th, and 111 here on 12 April; 355 over Great Orme on 26 March, 512 here on 11 April and 479 on 14th (all three-hour counts); c.100 in Nant Ffrancon on 31 March; ANGLESEY: 104 at RSPB South Stack on 11 March, 148 here on 14th, 118 on 21st and 121 on 23rd (each one-hour counts); 160 west of Wylfa on 9 April and 390 here on 16th; DENBIGH: >100 at Esclusham Mountain on 29 April.

Max. counts by week at sites with ≥100 more than once during autumn.

		September					October	
		1-7	8-14	15-21	22-28	29-5	6-12	13-19
GWENT	Newport Wetlands Reserve				1182	256	2460	
E.GLAMORGAN	Lavernock Point		1200				300	
PEMBROKE	Skokholm			187	151	141	220	
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	226		128		132	539	530
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	112	185		268	205	178	

Counts ≥100 elsewhere in autumn. E.GLAMORGAN: 200 at Sker Pt on 3 Oct.; 204 over Cardiff Bay on 9 Oct.; 130 at Dunraven Bay on 18 Oct.; GOWER: 100 at Tonmawr on 17 Sept.; CEREDIGION: 200 at Ynyslas on 15 Oct.; 254 at Llanon on 25 Oct.; BRECON: 150 at Mynydd Illtyd on 8 Oct.; MONTGOMERY/DENBIGH: 106 at Llechrydau on 19 Sept.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

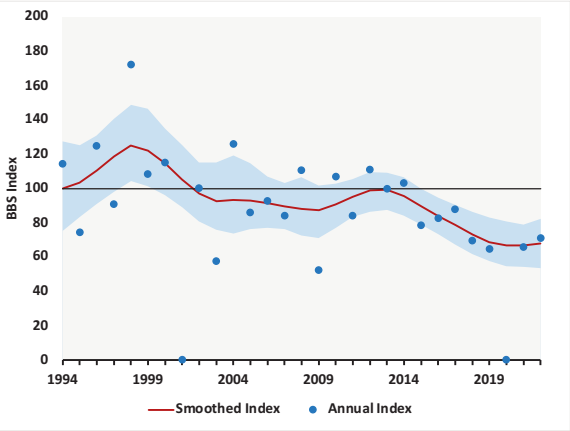
CORHEDYDD Y COED

Fairly common, but localised, summer visitor (16,500 breeding pairs) and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	438	407
% of BirdTrack lists	2%	2%

Breeding Bird Survey: Tree Pipit in Wales, 1994-2022

The Breeding Bird Survey annual index was similar to the last few years, but the smoothed index is 35% below its 1995 level, with much of the decline in the last 10 years. The only site with comparable figures was RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, where 12 territories were recorded in 112ha of woodland (cf. 17 in 2017, 43 in 2011 and 38 in 2006). The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales has shown a similar reduction, of 36% in 2020-22 compared to 2013-15. There were some good counts over Newport Wetlands in the second half of August.



Notable counts: GWENT: 50-60 over Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 18 Aug., 26 here on 21st and 10 on 27th; GOWER: 20 at Oxwich NNR on 13 Aug. and >10 here on 31st; CAERNARFON: 11 over Great Orme on 30 April; 10 on Bardsey on 28 Aug.; ANGLESEY: 13 between Hen Borth and Carmel Head on 15 April.

Earliest and latest dates in each county (provisional in GWENT and E.GLAMORGAN)

	Earliest	Site	Latest	Site
GWENT	14 April	Usk	26 Sept.	Newport Wetlands Reserve
E.GLAMORGAN	14 April	Garth Hill	30 Sept.	Merthyr Mawr
GOWER	8 April	Abergarwed	13 Oct.	Mewslade
CARMARTHEN	11 April	Salem	23 Sept.	Gweunydd Cochion
PEMBROKE	21 April	St Davids Head	25 Sept.	Skokholm
CEREDIGION	14 April	Cross Inn Forest	15 July	RSPB Ynys-hir
BRECON	9 April	Gwryne Fawr Reservoir	8 Aug.	The Cwm, Llanwrthwl
RADNOR	6 April	The Begwyns	11 Sept.	Llyn Heilyn
MONTGOMERY	14 April	Machynlleth & Middletown Hill	28 Aug.	Llwynderw
MEIRIONNYDD	17 April	Cwm Cywarch	10 Sept.	Fairbourne
CAERNARFON	11 April	Great Orme	28 Sept.	Foryd
ANGLESEY	14 April	Llanlleiana	11 Sept.	RSPB South Stack & Carmel Head
DENBIGH	16 April	RSPB Conwy	14 Sept.	Abergele
FLINT	14 April	Moel Findeg	7 Sept.	Gronant

OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT *Anthus hodgsoni*

CORHEDYDD GWYRDDGEFN

Very rare vagrant from Russia. WBRC: five previous records.

PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 13 Nov., the first on the island since April 1948, which then was the first for Britain. This was also the latest date for a Welsh record.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

CORHEDYDD Y DWR

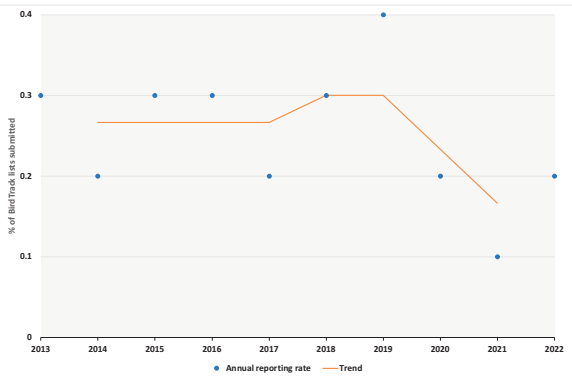
Uncommon, but locally numerous, winter visitor, mainly to coastal areas, and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	143	109
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

The Severn estuary is the most important part of Wales for this species, with double-figure counts in both winter periods. In North Wales a count of seven at RSPB Cors Ddyga was notable, although more must surely be unrecorded in the vast saltmarsh of the Dee estuary.

First winter period, single birds unless stated: GWENT: max. 11 at Peterstone Sluice Farm on 22 March, four at Peterstone Gout on 19 March and three at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 4 March; E.GLAMORGAN: three at Rumney Great Wharf on 5 Jan., one here on 12 and 19 Feb. and two on 2 April; Ogmore est. on 5-20 March, and two here on 19th; Walls Pool, Gileston, on 13 March; GOWER: upper Loughor est. on 4

BirdTrack reporting rate: Water Pipit in Wales 2013-22



and 8 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: Penclacwydd on 12 Jan., four here on 3 Feb., one on 10th and two on 5 April; Banc y Lord on 20 Feb.; PEMBROKE: Nevern est. from 15 Feb. to 5 March; CEREDIGION: up to two at Tan-y-bwlch from 13 Jan. to 6 March; MEIRIONNYDD: Dwyrdd est. on 11 Feb.; three at Tonfanau Pool on 9 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Foryd on 20 March; ANGLESEY: Traeth Dulas on 1 Jan.; three at Traeth Coch on 5 Jan. and one here on 17 Feb.; Brynsiencyn on 21 Feb.

Second winter period: GWENT: max. six at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 24 Oct.; 17 at Peterstone Sluice Farm on 26 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: two on Ogmere est. on 11 Nov. and 1-2 here on 6-16 Dec.; two at West Aberthaw on 8 Dec.; Rumney Great Wharf on 12 Dec.; GOWER: Llanrhidian on 10 Nov.; Castell-du on 20 Nov.; CARMARTHEN: Pontarddulais on 20 Nov.; Penclacwydd on 9 Dec.; PEMBROKE: Bosherton Lakes on 18 Oct.; Nevern est. from 5 Nov. to 31 Dec.; 1-2 at Newgale from 12 Nov. to 31 Dec.; CEREDIGION: Tan-y-bwlch on 27 Nov.; MEIRIONNYDD: three at Tonfanau on 9 Nov.; CAERNARFON: Foryd on 22 Nov.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 9 Nov.; RSPB Cors Ddyga from 12 Nov. to 3 Dec., max. seven on 30 Nov., and one north of the A55 here on 5 Dec.; DENBIGH: Clwyd est. on 21 Oct.; RSPB Conwy on 25 Oct.; FLINT: Gronant on 4 Dec. and two here on 30th; Connah’s Quay NR on 22 Dec.

ROCK PIPIT *Anthus petrosus*

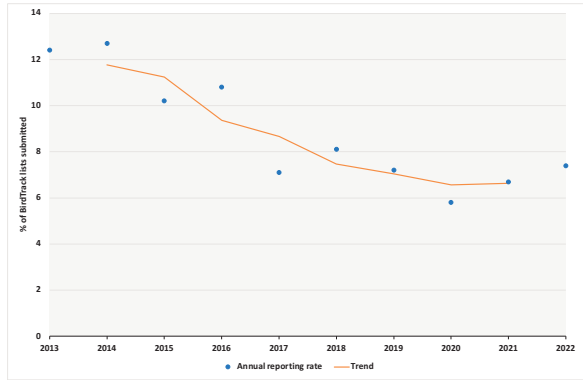
CORHEDYDD Y GRAIG

Localised, fairly common resident of rocky coastlines, except in Flintshire and Gwent. Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor to estuaries from Scandinavia. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	1580	1752
% of BirdTrack lists	7%	7%

The BirdTrack reporting rate, the only guide to trends in Wales, saw a slight uplift but remained 44% below its 2013-15 value in 2020-22. The only site with consistent breeding surveys is Bardsey, CAERNARFON, which recorded 32 breeding pairs, two fewer than in 2021.

BirdTrack reporting rate: Rock Pipit in Wales 2013-22



Rock Pipit: max. daily counts at observatories		Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
PEMBROKE	Skokholm	49	24	46	34	44	66	68	75	76	51
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	52	45	27	28	26	41	53	42	7	

Counts ≥10 elsewhere: E.GLAMORGAN: 15 on Ogmere Down on 11 Feb. and 10 July; 10 at Southerndown on 5 May and 20 here on 6 Dec.; up to 16 on Sully beach in each winter period; GOWER: 14 on Rhossili Head on 26 March; CARMARTHEN: 12 at Penclacwydd on 3 Feb.; PEMBROKE: 38 at Abercastle on 16 Jan.; 10 on Strumble Head on 21 March and 1 Oct.; 15 at Stackpole on 15 May; 16 on Marloes peninsula on 17 Aug.; 10 on Skomer on 12 July and 25 here on 14 Sept.; 19 on Skomer on a date in Oct.; 15 at Porthgain and 10 on Gann est. on 23 Oct.; 10 at Freshwater West on 20 Nov.; 12 at Newgale on 22 Nov.; CEREDIGION: 44 south at Llanon on 25 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 12 west of Porthdinllaen on 9 Jan. and 31 Dec.; 12 on Great

Orme on 12 Feb.; 12 on Little Orme on 22 Feb.; ANGLESEY: 10 at RSPB South Stack on 26 April; 10 at Porth Swtan on 26 Sept.; 10 at Moelfre on 16 Oct.; 10 around Holyhead Breakwater on 6 Nov.; 10 at Trearddur Bay on 26 Dec.

Notable. RADNOR: one at Elan Valley on 29 Aug.

A.p. littoralis (Scandinavian Rock Pipit / Corhedydd y Graig Llychlyn)

Passage migrant, but probably under-recorded.

RADNOR: Glasbury Bridge on 2 April; ANGLESEY: colour-ringed bird at Malltraeth from 2021 to 1 Feb. at least; DENBIGH: RSPB Conwy on 19 Dec.

2021 CARMARTHEN: one ringed at Penclacwydd on 24 Nov. was caught by a ringer at Tarevika, Vest-Agder, Norway on 29 Sept. 2022.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

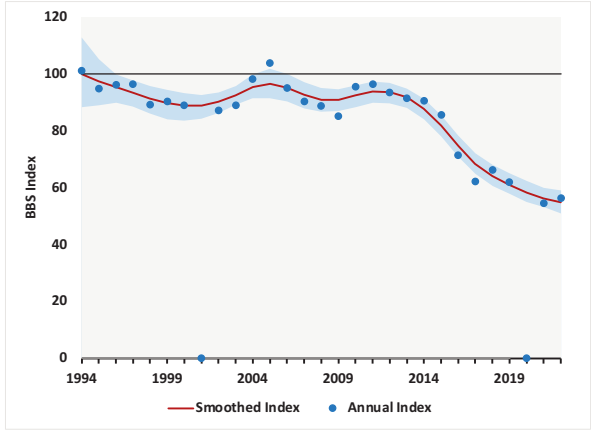
JI-BINC

Abundant resident (470,000 breeding territories), passage migrant and winter visitor. Wales Amber-listed (Green prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	8443	7685
% of BirdTrack lists	39%	36%

Breeding Bird Survey: Chaffinch in Wales, 1994-2022

Breeding: a marginal increase in the annual BBS index tempered the scale of recent decline in Chaffinch abundance, but nonetheless it is 42% lower than in 1995, more than three-quarters of that decrease occurring in just a decade. The decline is greater here than elsewhere in the UK, although England has almost caught up. There were 83 territories in 112ha of woodland at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION (cf. 87 in 2017, 97 in 2011 and 133 in 2006).



The BTO Garden BirdWatch has shown declining garden use since 2013: the reporting rate of 70% in January was the lowest peak in any year since the

Max. counts by week at sites with ≥100 more than once during autumn.

		Sept		October			November		
		28-4	5-10	11-17	18-24	25-31	1-7	8-14	15-22
GWENT	Gwent Levels				2450	249			
E.GLAMORGAN	Lavernock Point	304			450	160	600	1090	
CAERNARFON	Bardsey			266	179	167	35		
	Bangor Mountain			228	302	845			5
	Aber/Llanfairfechan		27			520		410	6
	Great Orme			80	1060	845	83		
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack		110	711	945	400	770	105	
FLINT	Flint Castle					819	507		

project started in 1995. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales hit a new low, and was 27% lower in 2020-22 than in 2013-15.

Migration: passage was evident along all coasts, principally between mid-October and mid-November. Counts ≥100 in addition to those in the table on p.350. E.GLAMORGAN: 1600 at Dunraven Bay on 18 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 138 at Tenby Marsh on 15 Jan.; >100 at Marloes on 21 Jan.; 3800 west at Ceibwr on 22 Oct.; 150 at Strumble Head on 28 Oct. and 100 here on 9 Nov.; c.100 at Broad Haven on 19 Nov.; 100 at Castlemartin Corse on 5 Dec.; CEREDIGION: 130 over Cwm Einion on 6 Oct. and >400 south here on 24th; 5475 at Llanon and 400 at Morfa Bychan on 25 Oct.; BRECON: 220 at wild bird cover crop at Llansantffraed on 7 Jan., possibly same as 150 in a swede field at Llangasty on 11 Feb.; 500 in grazed fodder-beet at Lower Chapel on 19 Jan.; 100 in a weedy swede field at Pencelli on 7 March; 120 feeding on beechmast at Buckland Wood on 2 Dec.; MONTGOMERY: 200 at Pentre on 26 Dec.; MEIRIONNYDD: 100 fed on beechmast below Cadair Idris on 21 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 300 near Llangybi on 1 Jan.; 150 south of Bangor on 4 Feb.; 150 at Grepach, Uwchmynydd, on 1 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 100 at Newborough Warren on 5 Jan.; 250 in Newborough Forest on 9 July; 1110 west of Wylfa and 250 in Benllech on 31 Oct.; DENBIGH: 110 at Gresford Flash on 9 Jan.

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

PINC Y MYNYDD

Winter visitor in variable numbers; seldom numerous and usually locally distributed. Wales Green-listed (incorrectly listed previously as Amber).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	181	228
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

The BirdTrack reporting rate trend is strongly influenced by the 2018/19 winter influx, and although there were no counts on the scale of that year in 2022, it was above the

BirdTrack reporting rate: Brambling in Wales 2013-22

recent average. There was visible migration on south and west coasts in late October and mid-November. There were two late spring records: near Newtown, MONTGOMERY, on 6 May and on Skokholm, PEMBROKE, on 21-23 May. The earliest autumn record was at Bwlchyddar, MONTGOMERY, on 24 Sept.

Counts ≥10 in first winter period: GWENT: 15 above Brynmawr on 13 April; BRECON: up to 50 in a Llansantffraed birdcrop from 7 Jan. to 6 Feb. before moving to a weedy, grazed field of root crops at Llangasty (max. 60 on 11 Feb.); 15 in a Llanfihangel Tallyllyn garden through early March; MONTGOMERY: 60 at Dolydd Hafren throughout Feb.; 100 at Mochdre, near Newtown, on 10 March, inc. a leucistic bird; DENBIGH: up to 20 at

Counts at sites with ≥10 more than once during late autumn.

		October										November					
		13	16	18	20	21	22	23	24	25	27	30	3	6	12	13	29
E.GLAMORGAN	Lavernock Point			1	4	2	4	2		1		2		2	3	11	
CAERNARFON	Great Orme				1		3			10	1		3		8		
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	2	2	11	8			3	2	3			1		1		2

Llyn Brenig visitor centre between 19 Jan. and 15 April (max. on 24 Feb.).

Counts ≥10 in second winter period: CEREDIGION: 15 at Ystumtuen on 29 Dec.; RADNOR: 10 at top of Garreg-Du Res. on 29 Dec.; MONTGOMERY: 10 at Pentre on 26 Dec.

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

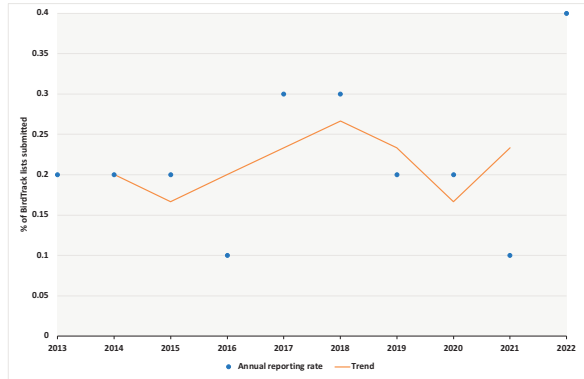
GYLFINBRAFF

Localised and uncommon resident, principally in southeast Wales and Meirionnydd. RBBP: 27 pairs recorded in 2021, but estimated total is c.460 pairs. Uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor from Norway. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	145	203
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

BirdTrack reporting rate: Hawfinch in Wales 2013-22

The BirdTrack reporting rate is low, but higher in 2022 than any previous year, including the influx autumn of 2017. There was a scattering of records away from the usual winter haunts, the most notable being in a Rhossili garden in April and on Pen Llŷn in May.



Breeding season (mainly April to June): GWENT: bred at Slade Wood; two at Lower Minnett’s Wood from 30 March to 22 June; two at Usk on 1 April and one here on 12 June; Llanishen on 1 June; E.GLAMORGAN: bred at Porthkerry CP; probably bred at Coed Coesau-whips and Berllan-gollen; females caught at Fforest Ganol in April and May had brood patches and were likely birds breeding here (max. 16 on 25 March and records to mid-June); two at Fforest Fawr on 6 May; one at Tongwynlais on 15 July (and three on 11 Nov.); BRECON: one by A40 at Halfway Forest on 14 June; pair at Llanerch-yr-yrfa, Esgaer Irfon, on 31 July; MONTGOMERY: one visited a Machynlleth garden regularly during April to June; MEIRIONNYDD: five in a garden near Dolgellau in March/April and on 19 June; CAERNARFON: one at Gloddaeth and Marl Woods in April, May and Oct. (four here in Jan.).

First winter period elsewhere, singles unless stated: GWENT: up to three at Marshfield St Mary’s between 11 Jan. and 7 Feb.; Mitchel Troy on 4-6 Feb. and seven here on 26th; Magor Marsh on 14 and 28 March; E.GLAMORGAN: Michaelston-le-pit and Wenvoe on 1 Jan.; Penarth on 13 Jan.; 10 at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 5 Feb.; up to three at Tongwynlais on 14-22 Feb.; GOWER: Upper Pitton garden on 12 April; CEREDIGION: singing male at Tre’r-ddol on 24 March; BRECON: two at Usk Res. on 4 Jan.; Llanfihangel Tallyllyn garden on 16 March; Taf Fechan Forest on 27 March; Coed Tŷ Mawr on 4 April; MONTGOMERY: Llyn Coed-y-dinas on 20 Dec.; two at Powis Castle on 26 Dec. and six here on 29th; MEIRIONNYDD: male in Ffestiniog on 16 Feb., a pair here on 13 March and four on 29 April; max. 10 to roost at Llanelltyd on 8 March; Coed-y-brenin in early March; Abergwynant on several dates between 15 March and 14 April; CAERNARFON: Caerhun on 5 Jan., up to three here from 27 Feb. to 20 March; six at Llanbedr-y-cennin on 25 Jan. and one here on 30 March; four at Llanrhos and one below Llyn Elsi on 28 Jan.; in a Nefyn garden on 1 May; CAERNARFON/DENBIGH: up to 18 at Llanrwst between 1 Jan. and 19 March (max. on 10 March); DENBIGH: up to eight at Llanfair DC from 17 Jan. to 26 March (max. on final date); Craig Bron-banog on 11 Feb.;

Llanbedr DC on 23 Jan.; Tregeiriog on 19 and 26 March; in a Denbigh garden on 25-26 April; FLINT: Halkyn churchyard on 14 March.

Second winter period: GWENT: two at Rogiet on 27 Oct.; E.GLAMORGAN: Cwm George Wood on 15 Aug.; Cosmeston Lakes CP on 5 Nov. and four here on 25 Dec.; Lavernock Pt on 12 Nov.; Wenvoe Quarry on 30 Nov.; CARMARTHEN: two at Penclacwydd on 25 Oct.; three at Cynghordy on 28 Dec.; CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 25 Oct.; MONTGOMERY: Llyn Coed-y-dinas on 20 Dec.; two at NT Powis Castle on 26 Dec. and six here on 29th; MEIRIONNYDD: 1-2 at Llanelltyd from 19 Sept. to year end; Llanuwchllyn on 24 Dec.; CAERNARFON: Caerhun on 10 Nov.; Morfa Aber on 13 Nov.; Llanbedr-y-cennin on 4 Dec.; DENBIGH: five at Llanrwst on 24-29 Dec.

2021 E.GLAMORGAN, correction: 27 caught at Fforest Ganol, of which five were retraps; FLINT, additional record: St Asaph on 16 Oct.

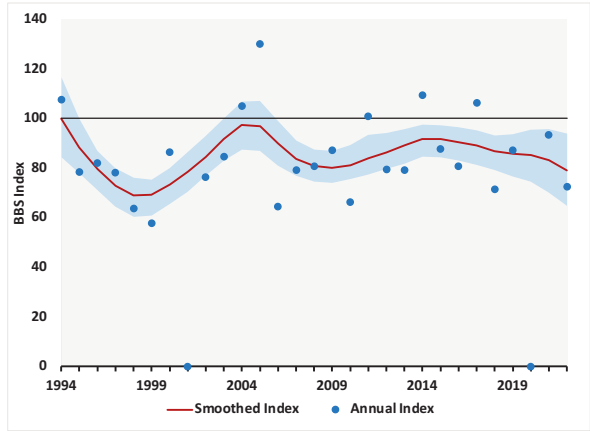
BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

COCH Y BERLLAN

Fairly common resident in the lowlands, patchier in its distribution in the far west and scarce in the uplands (29,500 breeding territories). Wales Amber-listed (Red prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3168	2725
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	12%

Breeding Bird Survey: Bullfinch in Wales, 1994-2022



Counts ≥10: GWENT: 12 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 13 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: 10-12 at Ysguborwen Farm, Aberdare, in late Feb. and early March; 14 at Lavernock Pt on 22 Oct. and 13 Nov.; GOWER: 10 at Blaen Nant on 7 Jan.; 10 at Whiteford Burrows on 25 Jan.; PEMBROKE: 10 at Cashfield on 6 June; BRECON: 10 near Trecastle on 12 Aug.; 11 The Cwm, Llanwrthwl, on 18 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 12 at Mynydd Mawr on 9 Jan.; 10 at Aberdaron on 15 Jan.; 10 at Maesgeirchen on 1 Nov.; DENBIGH: max. 13 at RSPB Conwy on 24 Jan.; 25 fed in deep heather below summit of Moel Famau on 4 Feb.; 24 around Llyn Brenig on 26 Dec.

COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*

LLINOS GOCH

Scarce passage migrant from north/eastern Europe. WBRC: 172 previous records.

PEMBROKE: 1CY ringed on Skokholm on 1-3 Oct.; 1CY/female at Porthgain on 26 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 1CY male on Bardsey on 1-2 Oct.

2019 CAERNARFON: 1CY male singing on Great Orme on 2 June.

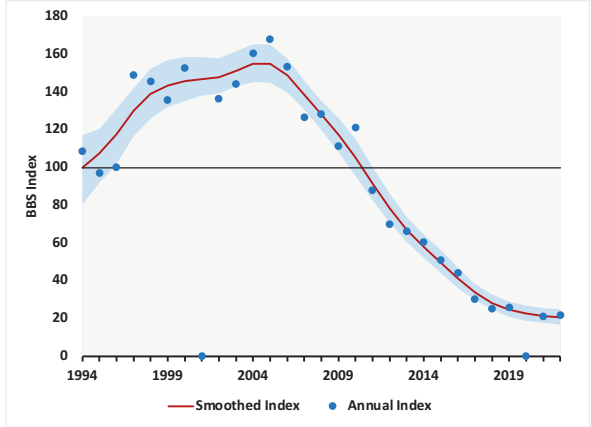
GREENFINCH *Chloris chloris*

LLINOS WERDD

Fairly common resident (38,000 breeding pairs), but has declined as a result of Trichomonosis disease. Wales Red-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3273	3150
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	14%

Breeding Bird Survey: Greenfinch in Wales, 1994-2022



Greenfinch remains the species monitored by the Breeding Bird Survey that is undergoing the greatest long-term decline in Wales, by 80% during 1995-2021, and by 77% in just 10 years. None was recorded in a survey of 112 ha of woodland at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, compared to one territory in 2017 and seven in 2006. Perhaps there are some signs of the population collapse bottoming out: in 2022, the BBS index and BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate both increased slightly on the previous year, and the BirdTrack reporting rate was identical to that for 2021.

Counts ≥40: GWENT: 40 at Portskewett on 6 Dec., increasing to c.100 on 16th; CARMARTHEN: 60 at Llangennech Marsh on 25 Nov.; CAERNARFON: 106 roosted in Llandudno town centre on 14 Feb. and c.90 here on 11 Nov.; ANGLESEY: 40 at RSPB South Stack on 13 Oct.; 50 at Malltraeth Cob in Dec.

2021 FLINT: 100 at Connah's Quay NR on 2 Oct.

TWITE *Linaria flavirostris*

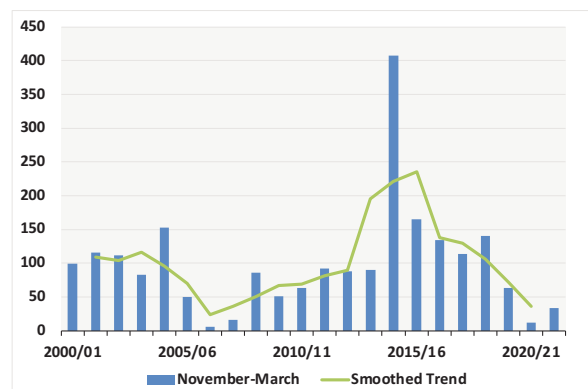
LLINOS Y MYNYDD

Rare breeding species, now restricted to a small part of Caernarfonshire. Uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	29	98
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Breeding season: CAERNARFON: two in Nant Ffrancon on 15 March, max. three here in May, and juvenile on 2 Aug.; three at foot of Moel Eilio, Llanberis, on 26 July; DENBIGH: one at a former breeding site in Mynydd Hiraethog on 16 June.

Non-breeding: winter 2021/22 saw higher numbers than the previous winter's low counts that were doubtless affected by lockdown. Winter 2022/23 (not shown on the chart) also started much better, especially at the main sites in Flintshire. Singles unless stated: MEIRIONNYDD: Broadwater on 30 Aug.; CAERNARFON: Bardsey on 18 and 22 April, and 2 and 28 Oct.; two at Nant-y-benglog on 1 Oct.; Morfa Madryn on 10 Nov.; up to 20 at Dwyfor est. on 15-16 Dec.; ANGLESEY: Soldier's Pt on 1-14 Nov., with a second here on 4-5th; three between Llyn Coron and Aberffraw on 4 Nov.; FLINT: monthly max. 28 at Connah's Quay NR on 1 Jan., 26 on 14 Feb., 22 on 20 March and last three on 1 April, then four on 23 Nov. and 34 on 11 Dec.; max. four at Flint Castle on 29 Oct. and 25 here on 27 Nov. and 29 Dec.; max. six at Gronant on 19 Nov. and 14 on 27 Dec.; 80 at Walwen Marsh on 26 Dec.



2021 FLINT, additional record: three at Gronant on 7 Jan.; correction, highest counts on Dee est. were 32 at Flint Castle on 29 Jan. and 27 at Connah's Quay NR on 28 March.

LINNET *Linaria cannabina*

LLINOS

Fairly common resident (47,500 breeding territories) and passage migrant. Wales Red-listed.

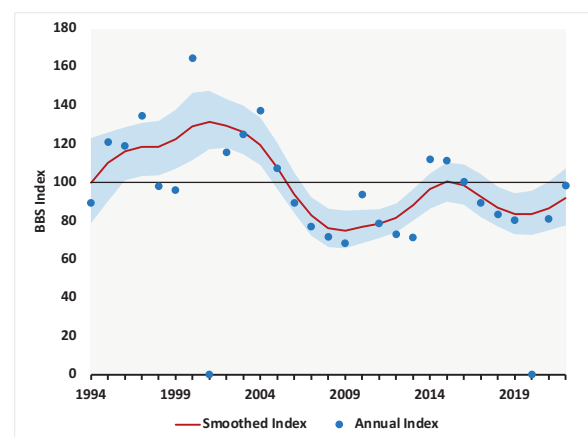
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	3308	3684
% of BirdTrack lists	14%	16%

A 22% increase in the Breeding Bird Survey annual index was a positive one-year change that was exceeded by only three other species. The BirdTrack reporting rate was also up, to its highest level since 2016, but still 21% lower in 2020-22 than in 2013-15. There were some good late summer counts, notably up to 3000 at Castlemartin Corse, Pembrokeshire, and passage was evident in April in North Wales and in September in the south.

Breeding surveys: PEMBROKE: 64 pairs on Ramsey (cf. 48 in 2021).

Counts ≥ 100 in first winter period: GOWER: 100 at Rhossili Head on 2 Feb. and 26 March; PEMBROKE: c.100 at Marloes on 21 Jan.; 200 north of Newport on 14 Feb.; 250 at Dale

Breeding Bird Survey: Linnet in Wales, 1994-2022



airfield on 25 March; CEREDIGION: 100 at Llangwryfon on 31 March; BRECON: 100 in weedy swede field at Llangasty on 7 Jan.; CAERNARFON: 100 at Crugeran near Sarn on 3 Jan.; southward passage ≥ 100 over Bardsey daily during 12-16 April, inc. 303 on 14th, 399 on 15th and 380 on 16th; 185 at Aberdaron on 14 April; ANGLESEY: 100 at Llyn Maelog on 16 Jan.; 454 west of Wylfa and 173 at RSPB South Stack on 16 April.

Counts ≥ 100 in second winter period: GWENT: >100 at Peterstone Sluice Farm on 30 July; 140 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 11 Aug.; >100 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) between 24 Sept. and 25 Oct., max. 389 on 9 Oct. and 430 on 24th; E.GLAMORGAN: 100 at Southerndown on 30 Sept.; 120 at Lavernock Pt on 2 Oct.; 225 here on 3rd, 250 on 9th and 100 on 21st; 250 at Dunraven on 3 Oct. and 380 here on 18th; GOWER: 200 at Scurlage on 17 Aug.; 165 at Weobley on 27 Aug.; c.200 at Rhossili on 1 Sept. and 150 here on 11 Oct.; CARMARTHEN: c.200 at Pembrey Harbour on 27 Aug.; PEMBROKE: >100 at Wooltack Pt on 2 July; 180 west of Abereiddi on 14 Aug.; c.100 at Marloes Mere on 18 Aug. and 13 Oct.; c.250 feeding on sunflowers at Leonardston on 12 Sept.; 600 at Gupton Farm/Castlemartin Corse on 15 Sept., increasing to c.3000 (2531 counted from photo.) on 29th, then c.300 throughout autumn until 365 on 5 Dec.; 200 at Dale airfield on 19 Sept. and 100 here on 5 Nov.; 100 at Dowrog Common on 23 Sept.; 115 on Skokholm on 29 Sept. and 118 here on 8 Oct.; 250 at Llys-y-fran Res. on 14 Oct.; 450 at Nine Wells on 21 Oct.; BRECON: 225 in Oilseed Rape at Llanhamlach on 23 July; 300 fed on dry bed of Talybont Res. on 30 Sept., feeding on Redshank *Persicaria maculosa*; RADNOR: >150 at Hope Chapel, NE of Llanelwedd, on 22 Sept.; CAERNARFON: 139 over Bardsey on 26 July, then daily ≥ 100 until mid-Sept. (max. 365 on 26 Aug. and 315 on 1 Sept.), 259 on 8 Oct., 166 on 13th and 105 on 18th; >100 at Llanfairfechan on 25 Aug. and 8 Oct.; 110 at Morfa Madryn NR on 3 Sept., increasing to 150 on 17th; 115 at Fort Belan on 18 Sept.; ANGLESEY: c.100 at Alaw est. on 9 Sept.; c.200 at Malltraeth Cob on 1 Oct.; 102 west of Wylfa on 31 Oct.; DENBIGH: >100 at Gresford Flash on 11 Jan. and 20 Feb.; >150 at Llanfair Talhaiarn on 18 Nov.; FLINT: max. 200 at Connah's Quay NR on 2 Nov. and at Flint Castle on 27th; 150 at Pt of Ayr on 9 Nov.

2021 FLINT, additional record: 150 at Bagillt on 25 Jan.

LESSER REDPOLL *Acanthis cabaret*

LLINOS BENGGOCH FECHAN

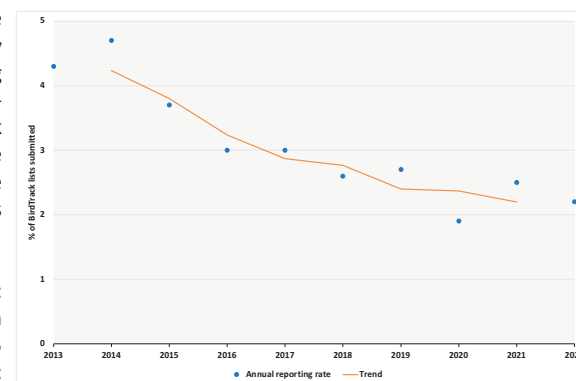
Uncommon breeding species, passage migrant and winter visitor in variable numbers. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	636	555
% of BirdTrack lists	3%	2%

The annual Breeding Bird Survey index was 22% higher than in 2021, the greatest one-year increase of any species monitored bar two, reducing the deficit in the ten-year index (2011-21) to -18%. However, the BirdTrack reporting rate has declined more dramatically, down by almost half since 2013-15, and many county reports comment on the paucity of records.

Counts ≥ 15 in first winter period: E.GLAMORGAN: 35 at Dare Valley CP on 30 Jan.; c.50 at Penyard on 14 Feb.; 25 at Old Caerau colliery on 23 Feb.; CARMARTHEN: 25 at Cilsan Bridge on

BirdTrack reporting rate: Lesser Redpoll in Wales 2013-22



15 Jan.; BRECON: 30 at Llangorse Lake on 8 Feb.; MEIRIONNYDD: 30 at Ganllwyd on 24 Jan.; CAERNARFON: 15 over Great Orme on 26-27 March; DENBIGH: 40 south of Sportsman’s Arms, Hiraethog, on 19 Feb.; c.40 at Eglwyseg on 1 May; 20 at Llyn Brenig on 11 May.

Counts ≥15 in second winter period: GWENT: >60 at Peterstone Wentlooge on 15 Aug.; 15 at Parc Nant-y-Waun on 2 Nov.; E.GLAMORGAN: 24 at Lavernock Pt on 25 Oct.; 20 at Rudry Common on 29 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 15 on St Davids Head on 10 Oct.; BRECON: 15 at Yr Allt, Sennybridge, on 21 Sept.; 60 at Llangasty on 19 Nov.; 24 in Coed-y-rhaiadr on 29 Dec.; FLINT: 40 at Nercwys Forest on 20 Oct.

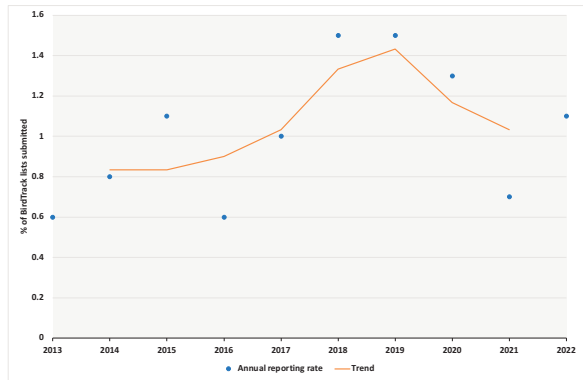
2021 FLINT, additional records: 16 at Pantymwyn on 6 Feb.; 15+ over St Asaph Business Park on 2 May.

COMMON CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra* GYLFINGROES
Locally fairly common breeding species although numbers fluctuate. Occasional irruptive immigrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	196	308
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	1%

BirdTrack reporting rate: Common Crossbill in Wales 2013-22

The Breeding Bird Survey index for the UK (there is not one for Wales) has declined by 23% in the long-term (1995-2021), and by 59% in the medium-term (2011-21), following a decade of growth from 2000. The BirdTrack reporting rate in Wales was within the range of the previous decade, but there were very few records of large groups.



Breeding evidence: E.GLAMORGAN: probably bred at Garnwen, Maesteg, and in Garw Forest near Pantygog; GOWER: seven pairs in Crynant Forest (of which two in autumn), five pairs at Hirfwydd (two in autumn), two pairs at Walters Arena, Glynneath (both in autumn/early winter); also bred at Cwm Ivy and Margam Park, and probably at Rheola; CARMARTHEN: probably bred at Cefn Gwenffrwd and possibly at Usk Res. and Blaenuad Forest; MONTGOMERY: probably bred at RSPB Lake Vyrnwy; MEIRIONNYDD: bred at Bod Petryal (>20 on 23 March included recently fledged young); CAERNARFON: possibly bred in Beddgelert Forest; ANGLESEY: bred in Newborough Forest; present at Pentraeth Forest in July; DENBIGH: bred at several sites in Clocaenog Forest; FLINT: possibly bred at Nercwys Forest.

Counts ≥25: E.GLAMORGAN: 27 at Llwyn-on Res. on 3 Jan. and 29 here on 20 Nov.; 30 at Garwnant on 27 Jan.; GOWER: up to 80 in Crynant Forest from 28 Nov. to 4 Dec.; BRECON: >85 at Llaneglwys Forest and Ysgwydd Hwch forestry on 19 Jan.; DENBIGH: >30 at Nilig, Clocaenog Forest, on 27 Feb.

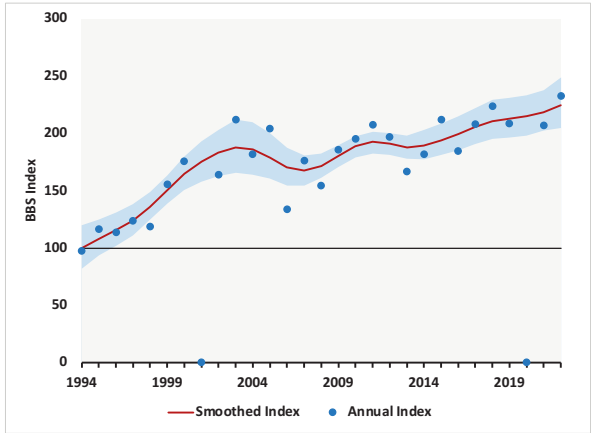
2021 DENBIGH: >40 at Bwlchgwyn, Llandegla, on 1 Jan.; >50 at Llyn Alwen on 27 Oct.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* NICO
Fairly common resident and summer visitor (180,000 breeding pairs) and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	9488	9077
% of BirdTrack lists	44%	43%

A 12% increase in the Breeding Bird Survey index since 2021 sent the smoothed trend to a record high, 102% above its 1995 level. The BTO Garden BirdWatch also recorded a long-term increase, although the peak recording rate in the year (67% of gardens in April) was the lowest since 2015, and the BirdTrack reporting rate seems also to have stabilised since the same date.

Breeding Bird Survey: Goldfinch in Wales, 1994-2022



Flocks ≥100 in spring: GOWER: 100 at Rhossili on 21 Jan.; CEREDIGION: 120 at Morfa Bychan on 14 April; CAERNARFON: 107 over Bardsey on 12 April, 394 here on 14th, 143 on 15th and 105 on 17th; 120 at Aberdaron on 14 April; ANGLESEY: 278 at RSPB South Stack and 128 west of Wylfa on 16 April.

Counts ≥150 on autumn passage in southeast Wales.

		September											October		
		3	9	18	20	21	22	23	24	25	27	29	6	12	13
GWENT	Gwent Levels		761						408	115					138
E.GLAMORGAN	Lavernock Pt	940	900	830	400	300	144	500			630	950	300	1695	1192

Other flocks ≥150 in autumn: E.GLAMORGAN: 320 at Dunraven here on 18 Oct.; GOWER: 320 fed on sunflowers at Rhossili Head on 11 Oct.; PEMBROKE: 200 at Castlemartin Corse and 147 on Skokholm on 29 Sept.; BRECON: 150 at Llangorse Lake on 21 July, 300 here on 21 Sept. and 200 on 2 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 200 over Great Orme on 11 Sept.; 201 over Bardsey on 2 Oct., 317 on 3rd, 316 on 13th and 129 on 18th; ANGLESEY: 275 at Pt Lynas on 28 Aug.; FLINT: max. 200 at Connah’s Quay NR on 25 Sept.

SERIN *Serinus serinus* LLINOS FRECH
Rare visitor from continental Europe. WBRC: 35 previous records.

PEMBROKE: female on Skokholm on 20 May.

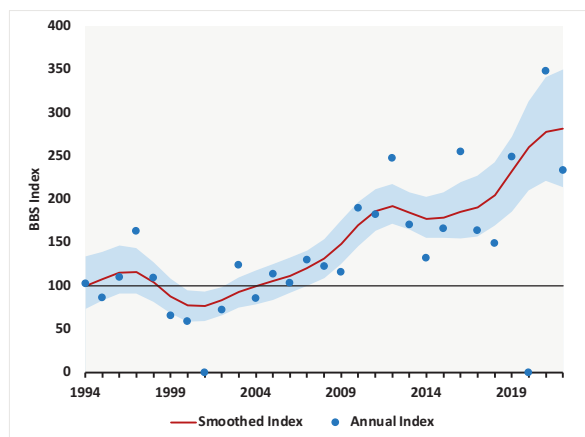
SISKIN *Spinus spinus*

PILA GWYRDD

Fairly common but local breeding species (58,500 pairs), winter visitor and passage migrant. Wales Green-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2399	2449
% of BirdTrack lists	10%	11%

Breeding Bird Survey: Siskin in Wales, 1994-2022



Siskin has been one of the most successful species in recent decades, its Breeding Bird Survey index seeming to increase incrementally. Surprisingly, it was the species with the largest one-year fall in numbers in Wales, the index down 33% since 2021. Whether this is the start of a genuine dent in population growth remains to be seen. The BirdTrack reporting rate climbed to its highest since 2013.

Max. counts by week at principal sites during autumn.

		October				November	
		5-10	11-17	18-24	25-31	1-7	8-14
E.GLAMORGAN	Lavernock Point		17	100	41		104
CAERNARFON	Bardsey	128	259*	178	4	35	
ANGLESEY	RSPB South Stack	90	125	70	50	51	10

*on 13th, equalled the highest day count on the island.

Counts ≥60 elsewhere. GWENT: c.100 at Llanthony on 31 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: 100 at Llwyn-on Res. on 27 Feb.; 70 in an Aberaman garden on 17 March; 60 at Lavernock Pt on 26 March and 72 here on 27th; 90 at Dunraven on 18 Oct.; 60 at Dare Valley CP on 19 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: 60 at Penclacwydd in Jan.; >100 at Pembrey CP on 9 Feb.; PEMBROKE: 98 on Skokholm on 11 Oct. and 90 here on 13th; 150 over Strumble Head on 9 Nov.; BRECON: 150 at Lower Llangynidr in Jan.; 100 at The Cwm, Llanwrthwl, on 10 Jan. and 80 here on 30 Nov.; 130 near Crownant on 11 Feb.; MONTGOMERY: c.60 at Llwynderw on 2 Feb.; 80 at Lake Vyrnwy on 11 Feb. and 150 here on 27 April; MEIRIONNYDD: 70 at Cwm Cywarch on 21 March and 10 April, and 60 here on 2 July; 60 at Corris on 2 Oct.; CAERNARFON: 94 at Porth Meudwy on 11 Oct.; 87 over Bangor Mountain on 18 Oct.; ANGLESEY: 237 west of Wylfa on 31 Oct.; DENBIGH: >100 at Llyn Brenig on 5 April and 60 here on 24 June; FLINT: 68 in an hour at Flint Castle on 31 Oct.

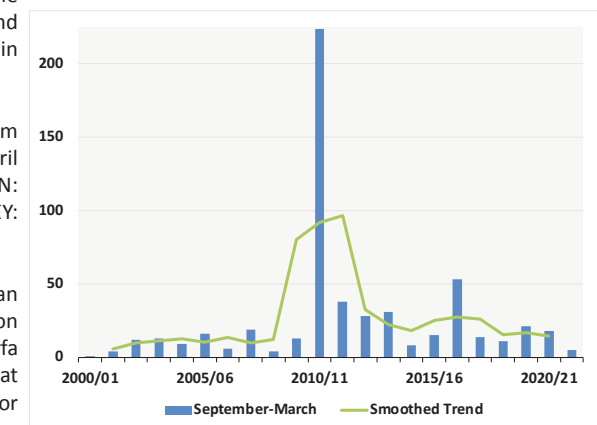
LAPLAND BUNTING *Calcarius lapponicus*

BRAS Y GOGLEDD

Uncommon but regular passage migrant, especially in autumn, and occasional winter resident. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	79	49
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Lapland Buntings recorded in Wales, based on largest count in each county during Sept.-March, 2000/01-21/22



A below-average year, with just three birds on spring passage (although the Skokholm record was only the second for the island in that season) and 26 in autumn. Singles unless stated.

Spring passage. PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 20-26 April, only the second April record for the island; CAERNARFON: Great Orme on 26 March; ANGLESEY: RSPB South Stack on 23 March.

Autumn passage. GOWER: Llanrhidian on 10 Nov.; PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 13, 15 and 22 Nov.; CEREDIGION: Morfa Bychan on 25 Oct.; CAERNARFON: Great Orme on 9-10 Sept. and 18 Oct.; Bangor Mountain on 18 Oct.; two over Bardsey on 19 Oct. and one on 20th; Llanfairfechan on 13 Nov.; Dinas Dinlle on 24 Dec.; ANGLESEY: RSPB South Stack on 25 Sept., 3, 6, 20 Oct., three on 23rd, and singles on 25 Oct. and 5 Nov.; Llyn Alaw on 20 Oct.; two at Soldier's Pt on 4-6 Nov. and at least one until 11th; FLINT: Flint Castle on 31 Oct.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis*

BRAS YR EIRA

Uncommon but regular autumn passage migrant and winter visitor. Most are considered to be of the subspecies *insulae*, which breed in Iceland. Wales Amber-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	271	172
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

Numbers were typical of recent years, despite a reduction in the BirdTrack reporting rate.

First winter period, single birds unless stated: GOWER: Cefn Bryn on 26 March; CARMARTHEN: four at Cefn Sidan from 2021 to 1 Jan., three here on 3-4th and two until 6 Feb.; PEMBROKE: Pembroke on 25 Feb.; BRECON: three on Craig Gwaun Taf on 10 Jan., one on Waun Fach on 16th, two on Pen-y-fan on 18th with another here on 3 April; MEIRIONNYDD: Fairbourne on 9 Jan.; CAERNARFON: Dinas Dinlle on 1-2 Jan.; Great Orme from 28 Jan. to 16 Feb.; Llanfairfechan on 17 March; Little Orme on 2 April; Trwyn Bychestyn on 8 April; Llanberis on 9 April; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 12 Jan. and 9 March, and two here on 20 March; three at Moelfre on 15 Feb.; Trearddur Bay on 24 Feb.; Bull Bay on 6 April; DENBIGH: Aled Isaf Res. on 26-29 March; NWWT Gors Maen Llwyd on 27 March; FLINT: Pt of Ayr on 1-24 Jan.; Gronant on 3 Feb.

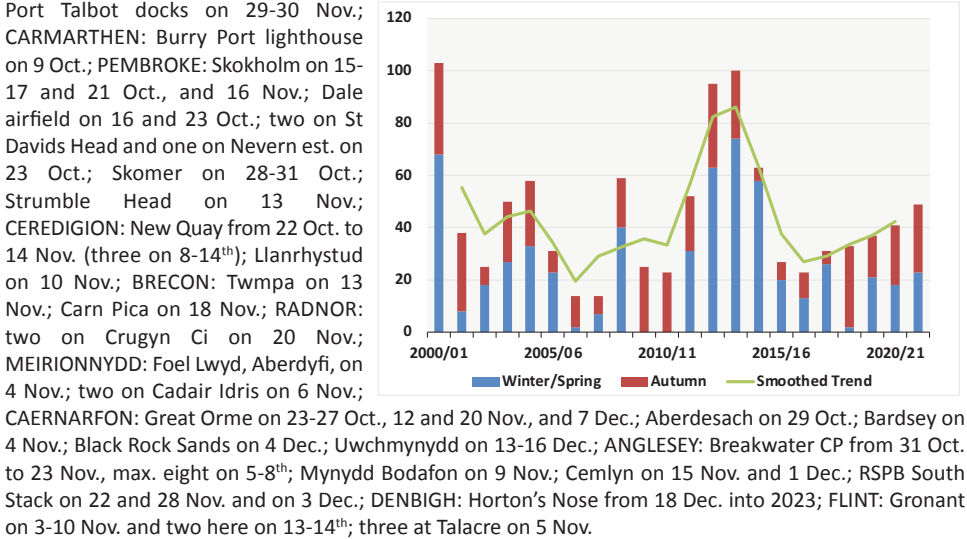
Unseasonal. PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 9 June.

Second winter period, single birds unless stated: E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 22-24 Oct. and 7 Dec.; Southerndown on 25-26 Oct.; GOWER: Llangennith/Rhossili Bay on 11 Oct., possibly same near Burry

Snow Bunting (Neil Alderson)



Holms on 13th and The Knab on 16 Oct.; **Snow Buntings recorded in Wales, based on largest count in each two at Whiteford Burrows on 29 Oct.; county per season, 2001-22**



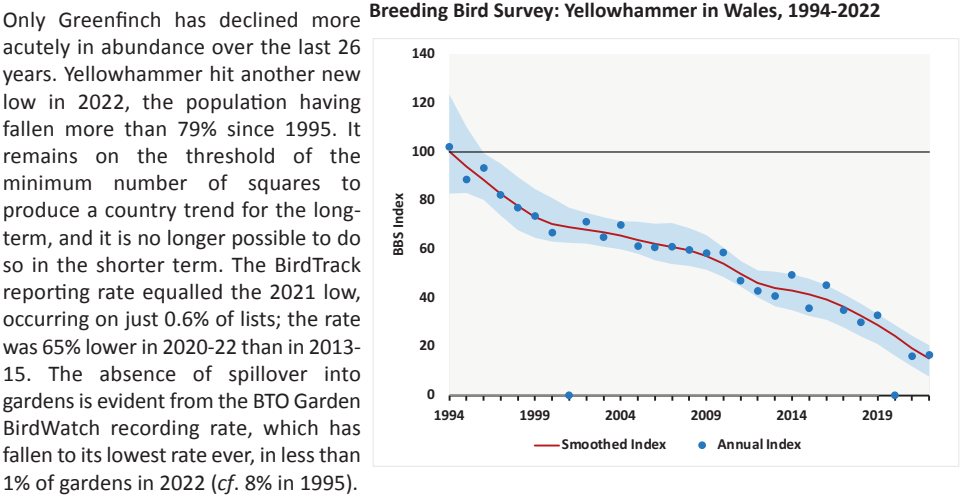
2021 E.GLAMORGAN, additional record: Waun Wen/Mynydd y Gaer, Pencoed, on 21 Nov.

CORN BUNTING *Emberiza calandra* BRAS YR YD
Rare visitor and former regular breeder, which possibly bred in 2020. WBRC: 25 individuals since 2000, but only two since 2010 away from Bettisfield.

DENBIGH: two singing males, and probably bred, at Bettisfield.

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella* BRAS MELYN
Declining but patchily-distributed and locally fairly common resident (31,500 breeding territories). Wales Red-listed.

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	241	193
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%



In recent years, some of the highest winter counts have been in Breconshire, in unharvested crops funded by the Glastir agri-environment scheme. The *Breconshire Bird Report* commented that “long experience of monitoring has shown that birdcrops have real benefits for seed-eating farmland birds but to do so there needs to be both a tighter prescription of spring-sown crop components, and a wider roll-out of 0.5–1.5 ha plantings into every lowland parish in the county (and indeed, ideally across Wales).”

Breeding evidence: GWENT: bred at The Bloreng, probably at St Mary’s Vale and possibly at four other sites; E.GLAMORGAN: probably bred at East Aberthaw, Pant Norton and Gileston, possibly at Pen-onn and Coed-y-bwl; GOWER: 15 males between Mewslade and Penrice, six males at Frogmore, five birds at Llangennith, and 1-2 males at five other sites; CARMARTHEN: four singing males at Marros Mountain; five in the Cothi Valley; probably bred at RSPB Gwenffrwd-Dinas and Allt Blaen Nant Melyn, and possibly near Trimsaran; PEMBROKE: bred near Freshwater East, probably on Plumstone Mountain and possibly at eight other sites, inc. 10 singing males on Dale Road and four at Rhyndaston Mountain; CEREDIGION: singing males at Ystumtuen and two near Bontgoch; RADNOR: possibly bred at seven sites; BRECON: 36 territories in the central part of the county, inc. eight around Mynydd Aberyscir; MONTGOMERY: probably three pairs at Welshpool GC and possibly bred at seven other sites; MEIRIONNYDD: singles at eight sites; CAERNARFON: five on Mynydd Rhiw, two singing males at Penarfynydd and Mynythno Common; around

Llyn Padarn, a pair at Clegyr and two singing males at Dinorwig; singing male at Craflwyn, near Beddgelert; ANGLESEY: 1-2 males at Llandyfrydog and a juv. here on 6 Sept.; males at Cemaes on 18 June and Alaw est. on 4 July but no breeding evidence; DENBIGH: bred at Garreg Ddu, probably at Mwdwl-eithin and possibly at six other sites; FLINT: probably bred near Cilcain and Penycloddiau.

Counts ≥10: E.GLAMORGAN: up to 21 at Ty'n-y-caeau Farm, Marcross, in Jan. and Feb.; 10 at Monknash on 15 Jan.; CEREDIGION: 10 in an Ystumtuen garden on 10 Jan.; BRECON: 20 in Glastir unharvested spring barley at Llansantffraed from 7 Jan. to 11 Feb. (max. 25 on 14 Jan.); 25 in Glastir unharvested spring oats on 30 Nov.; DENBIGH: 37 in a garden near Bodfari on 10 Feb.

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana*

BRAS GERDDI

Scarce migrant from southern Europe. WBRC: 183 previous records.

GWENT: Tranch, Pontypool, on 28 Aug. (nocturnal migration recording); E.GLAMORGAN: 1CY at Lavernock Pt on 17-20 Sept.

CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirius*

BRAS FFRAINIC

Former breeder, but now an extremely rare visitor. WBRC: recorded only once in the last 40 years, on Bardsey in 2004.

This was a real surprise for South Wales birders, but given the successful recovery of the species in southwest England thanks to work by the RSPB and farmers, perhaps it was inevitable, and if that recovery continues, arable farmers in southeast Wales could play an important role in the further expansion of the species' range.

E.GLAMORGAN: Ty'n-y-Caeau Farm, Marcross, from 12 Jan. to 17 Feb., the first for the recording area since a pair at Marcross in 1934.

LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla*

BRAS BYCHAN

Scarce visitor from northeast Europe and Arctic Russia. WBRC: 35 previous records.

CAERNARFON: sound-recorded on Bardsey on 19 Oct.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

BRAS CYRS

Fairly common resident, mainly in damp habitats (17,500 breeding territories). Wales Green-listed (Amber prior to 2023).

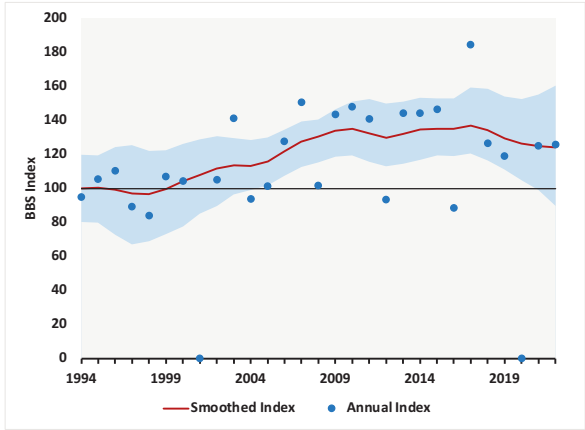
	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	2040	2074
% of BirdTrack lists	8%	9%

Like Yellowhammer, this species lies right on the limit of being recorded in sufficient Breeding Bird Survey squares to generate a country trend, hence the wide confidence intervals. The long-term trend is far more positive, however (+24%, 1995-2021). The BirdTrack reporting rate was slightly higher in the previous two lockdown-affected years, but was otherwise the lowest ever, 37% below the 2013-15 mean. The BTO Garden BirdWatch recording rate also hit a new low, the species recorded in a maximum of 1.5% of gardens in any

month (cf. 6% just five years ago).

Counts ≥20: GWENT: >50 at Peterstone Sluice Farm on 29 Aug.; >30 at Pen-y-fan Pond, Abertillery, on 15 Sept.; c.30 at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Uskmouth) on 6 Nov.; PEMBROKE: 20 at Dale airfield on 20 Oct.; BRECON: Glastir winter birdcrop at Llansantffraed held 40 on 14-22 Jan. and 25 on 11 Feb.; Glastir birdcrop in Pennorth attracted max. 20 in Oct., 75 in Nov. and 50 in Dec.; ANGLESEY: 32 at Newborough Warren on 23 Jan.; 20 at Traeth Coch on 17 Feb.; 22 at Cemlyn on 15 May; DENBIGH: 30 at Fenn's Moss on 25 Jan., 20 here on 4 July and >40 on 13 Dec.

Breeding Bird Survey: Reed Bunting in Wales, 1994-2022



2021 DENBIGH: 23 at Fenn's Moss on 8 July.

DARK-EYED JUNCO *Junco hyemalis*

JYNCO LLYGATDDU

Very rare vagrant from North America. BBRC: three previous records.

PEMBROKE: singing male at Musselwick, Dale, on 22 May.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW *Zonotrichia albicollis*

BRAS GYDDFWYN

Very rare vagrant from North America. BBRC: three records accepted prior to 2022.

E.GLAMORGAN: Porthcawl garden on 25 June.

2009 AT SEA: on a container vessel off Pt Llynas, Anglesey on 26 May. It was photographed by a pilot taking the ship into Liverpool and posted on a Facebook page in December 2021. The ship had come from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the bird left the vessel prior to docking.

TENNESSEE WARBLER *Leiothlypis peregrina*

TELOR TENNESSEE

Extremely rare vagrant from North America. Not previously recorded in Wales.

PEMBROKE: Skokholm on 12 Oct.

ESCAPES AND REINTRODUCTIONS

The categories shown in this section are species that:

- D. would otherwise appear in Category A except that there is reasonable doubt that they have ever occurred in a natural state. There were none in 2022.
- E. have been recorded as introductions, human-assisted transportees or escapees from captivity, and whose breeding populations (if any) are thought not to be self-sustaining.
- R1. have been released (in Wales, UK or Europe) for conservation purpose.
- R2. released (in Wales or UK) for sporting/hunting or other purpose

The following species (single birds unless stated) were reported to county recorders, eBird and BirdTrack.

RED-BREASTED GOOSE *Branta ruficollis* GWYDD FRONGOCH
Category E. MEIRIONNYDD: Ynys on 3 and 27 Oct., and 13 Nov.

ACKLING GOOSE *Branta hutchinsii* GWYDD GLEGYROG
Category E. E.GLAMORGAN: nominate subspecies ('Richardson's') at Kenfig NNR on 3-9 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: two at Dryslwyn from 18 Nov. to 29 Dec.

ROSS'S GOOSE *Anser rossii* GWYDD ROSS
Category E. CEREDIGION: RSPB Ynys-hir on 16 Oct.

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens* GWYDD YR EIRA
Category E. E.GLAMORGAN: Kenfig NNR on 23 Jan.; Ogmor est. on 14 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Bryngwran on 4 Jan.

SWAN GOOSE *Anser cygnoides* ALARCH WYDD
Category E. E.GLAMORGAN: Parc Taf Bargoed all year; four on R.Taff at Butetown from 25 Sept. to 2 Dec.; GOWER: Fendrod Lake on 8 May.

BLACK SWAN *Cygnus atratus* ALARCH DDU
Category E. This is the largest number of records for several years, but those in North Wales may relate to just three individuals. The number of confirmed breeding pairs reported in the UK was 4-9 per year during 2016-20, none of which were in Wales (Eaton *et al.* 2023a). PEMBROKE: up to three on Caldey from 28 April to 7 July; two on Teifi Marshes on 12 July; CAERNARFON: Cwm-y-glo on 30 March; Caernarfon on 29 April (as Anglesey); Foryd on 15 May, 10 Oct. and 7-11 Dec.; Aber Ogwen from 30 May to 5 July, and three here on 10 July and at Morfa Aber on 14 Aug., then one here on 13 Nov.; Glaslyn Marshes on 11 Oct.; ANGLESEY: Cemlyn on 21 April; Menai Strait on 29 April; two at Malltraeth Cob on 31 May, Llyn Llywenan on 2 June, Inland Sea on 3rd-10th and Llyn Dinam on 9 July; Llyn Traffwl on 19 July; three on Inland Sea from 22 July to 21 Aug. and at Trearddur Bay on 26 Sept.; Capel Coch on 11-17 Dec.

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea* HWYADEN GOCH YR EITHIN
Category E. GOWER: Landimore on 23 May, 31 June and 20 Dec.; BRECON/RADNOR: Dolymynach Res. on 25 June; FLINT: up to four in upper Dee est. from 1 Jan. to 23 Sept., then 1-2 until 24 Nov. when six were at Connah's Quay NR/RSPB Oakenholt Marsh, of which five remained until 11 Dec.

MUSCOVY DUCK *Cairina moschata* HWYADEN FWSG
Category E. The breeding record in Carmarthenshire is the first in Wales since one in Breconshire in 2016 (Eaton *et al.* 2023a). E.GLAMORGAN: Clydach Vale CP throughout the year; GOWER: Eglwys Nunydd Res. on 1 Jan.; Pontardulais garden centre on 2 April; Fendrod Lake from 20 June to 31 Dec.; CARMARTHEN: bred in a roadside oak tree at Rhandirmwyn; FLINT: Fagl Lane GP on 3-17 Jan.; up to three at Buckley

Common during Jan. to April and one for the remainder of the year.

WOOD DUCK *Aix sponsa* HWYADEN GRIBOG Y COED
Category E. GWENT: max. three pairs at Ebbw Vale festival park on 27 Feb.; Brynmawr Pond on 31 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: Hensol Lake on 15 May; DENBIGH: Cae Ddol, Rhuthun, on 4-27 Feb.; FLINT: Llay pool on 22 March; Fagl Lane GP in spring.

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Netta rufina* HWYADEN GRIBGOCH
Records of naturalised birds are shown on p.166.
Category E. GOWER the released bird at Gnoll Park present since 2021 remained throughout the year.

REEVES'S PHEASANT *Syrnaticus reevesii* FFESANT REEVES
Category R2. FLINT: one shot at Llanasa in Dec.

GOLDEN PHEASANT *Chrysolophus pictus* FFESANT EURAID
Category E. GOWER: Rhydyfro on 24 May.

SILVER PHEASANT *Lophura nycthemera* FFESANT ARIAN
Category E. ANGLESEY: Cemaes woods and nearby gardens from 12 July to at least 28 Nov.

INDIAN PEAFOWL *Pavo cristatus* PAUN
Category E. GOWER: two at Frogmoor on 13 May; CAERNARFON: Bangor High Street on 27 Sept.; FLINT: two at Trelawnydd on 29 March.

CRANE *Grus grus* GARAN
Category A and R1. There were 53 records accepted as wild birds up to 2021, not including pairs (and chicks) that bred or attempted to breed in South Wales in 2015-19. The WBRC has decided that as with White Stork, unless birds are proven to be unringed, for the time being all records should be considered not proven of wild origin, as most will relate to the Great Crane Project reintroductions in southwest England. GWENT: two at Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 20 May; one at Redwick on 25 Oct.

LONG-TOED LAPWING *Vanellus crassirostris* CORNCHWIGLEN HIRFYS
Category E. MEIRIONNYDD: Glandyfi on 19 Oct. This is the species' first appearance in a *Welsh Bird Report*.

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia* CICONIA GWYN
Category A and R1. There were 75 records accepted as wild birds (even though some may have been escapes) up to 2021. However, with a release programme now underway in southeast England, the WBRC has decided that as with Crane, unless birds are proven to be unringed, for the time being all records should be considered not proven of wild origin. GWENT: Newport Wetlands Reserve (Goldcliff) on 3 April; four roosted on a building at Chepstow on 8 Aug.; E.GLAMORGAN: Barry on 8 Aug. and two over Porthcawl on 9th.

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE *Haliaeetus albicilla* ERYR MOR
Category A and R1. 2CY male (ring G816) released on the Isle of Wight in 2020 spent 11-12 April in BRECON and E.GLAMORGAN, hunting around Cathedine and roosting each night near Llangorse Lake. On 13th, after progressing along the Beacons, it moved south to hunt over Rhaslas Common, then flew southeast into GWENT, crossing Cwmbran and Newport before heading out over the Severn estuary. DENBIGH: 4CY female (ring G318) released on the Isle of Wight in 2019 and seen at Fenn's and Whixall Moss on 3-5 Aug., having summered in the Peak District.

HARRIS’S HAWK *Parabuteo unicinctus* GWALCH HARRIS
Category E. It is presumed that the bird in Caernarfonsire was of the same origin as four in 2018, two of which attempted to breed, for which the owner was prosecuted. GWENT: Peterstone Wentlooge on 19 March; E.GLAMORGAN: Llanishen and Lisvane Res. on 9 July; CAERNARFON: Aberdaron in early Feb.; FLINT: Connah’s Quay on 8 Feb.

PLUM-HEADED PARAKEET *Psittacula cyanocephala* PARACIT PEN COCHLAS
Category E. CAERNARFON: in a Llandudno garden on 31 March.

RING-NECKED PARAKEET *Psittacula krameri* PARACIT TORCHOG
Category E, as there is no evidence that the population in Wales is self-sustaining nor that records in Wales are from a self-sustaining population elsewhere. This situation may well change, and so birders and county recorders are encouraged to report all sightings (see Facey and Vafidis 2020).

	2021	2022
No of BirdTrack records	25	24
% of BirdTrack lists	<1%	<1%

GWENT: Chepstow on 6 Sept.; Undy on 26-27 Oct.; Ringland, Newport, on 31 Dec.; E.GLAMORGAN: in Cardiff, two in Parc Tredelerch on 25 Jan. and 11-14 Sept., singles in Whitchurch on 20 July and 17 Sept., Bute Park on 19 Sept. and Fairwater on 11 Oct., and two at Cosmeston Lakes CP on 26 Dec.; one at Hendre Lake from May to Sept.; GOWER: Bishopston on 16 Jan.; CARMARTHEN: Llandeilo on 5 Jan.; ANGLESEY: Benllech on 5 Nov., which has lived locally for several years; DENBIGH: Towyn on 25 Jan.; FLINT: Rhyl Brickfield Pond on 12 Jan.; NWWT Big Pool Wood on 24 March; four at Dyserth on 25 March; Llanasa on 2 Dec.

2021 FLINT, additional records: Soughton in Jan.; garden near Gronant almost weekly from July to Dec.

NORTHERN CARDINAL *Cardinalis cardinalis* CARDINAL CYFFREDIN
PEMBROKE: on a bird table in Dale on 20-21 June. This is the species’ first appearance in a *Welsh Bird Report*.

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Ringling and nest recording report for Wales 2022

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Ringling trends
From a low point in 2009, the number of birds ringling in Wales has continued to increase, to a peak in the last four years (excluding 2020 owing to COVID) of 80,882 birds in 2018. With only 4,388 fewer birds, the total for 2022 consisted of 57,642 full-grown birds and 18,852 pulli (chicks). In 2022, the number of recaptures, which also cover resightings, is at an all-time high and, as well as ringling information, these data provide details on bird movements and longevity. The number of pulli ringling was slightly above the average of the previous 10 years.

Table 1. Numbers of full-grown birds and pulli ringling and recaptured each year, 2012-22.

Year	Full-grown	Pulli	Total	Recaptures
2022	57,642	18,852	76,494	23,331
2021	56,281	17,072	73,353	22,056
2020	54,476	5,938	60,414	19,742
2019	57,726	22,557	80,283	22,176
2018	60,455	20,427	80,882	22,631
2017	58,196	20,296	78,492	19,745
2016	57,187	18,953	76,140	20,380
2015	52,971	21,231	74,202	17,764
2014	53,917	19,633	73,550	15,646
2013	41,578	15,813	57,391	12,840
2012	33,970	15,529	49,499	11,258
Total	584,399	196,301	780,700	207,569

Following two longevity records broken in 2021, for Hawfinch and Dipper, three British and Irish longevity records were broken by birds in Wales in 2022, for Kittiwake, Chough and House Sparrow.

In line with the whole of Britain and Ireland, Blue Tit (7461) was the most ringling species in Wales in 2022. This rarely changes, but the differences between years can provide greater insight into annual variations of a species. This year’s increase of 1222 Blue Tit pulli ringling compared to 2021 indicates an increase in productivity. The number of Pied Flycatcher (5788) ringling was slightly less than 2021 (6194). Siskin numbers ringling (5669) increased by 1432 birds, including a 1J (fledgling flying weakly) which is an age class infrequently ringling. The next most ringling species were Goldfinch, Dunlin, Great Tit and Manx Shearwater. There was a large reduction in the number of most seabird species ringling in 2022, due to another devastating virus, which affected birds rather than humans. HPAI restrictions were imposed by NRW via the BTO during the seabird breeding season, so most seabird trips ringling fewer birds owing to increased hygiene regulations or were cancelled altogether.

Pied Flycatcher (5060) was again the most frequently ringling pulli (chick) in Wales, followed by Blue Tit (2862), Great Tit (1429) and Black-headed Gull (838). Ringling pulli is useful as the age and exact location of where the bird came from is known and can form a deeper understanding of population dynamics. These pulli records are often associated with a record to the BTO Nest Record Scheme, enriching further the information gained.

It is hard to differentiate between changes in bird demography and ringer effort, as is evident in Table 2, because an increase in ringer effort usually means more birds are ringling. Two BTO schemes try to

standardise 'effort', and produce information on adult survival, productivity and abundance. These are the Constant Effort Site (CES) and Retrapping Adults for Survival (RAS). The number of registered CES in Wales remains stable at five in 2022 after losing three sites in 2020. There is financial support from the BTO to all CES projects, which contributes to the price of rings. Ideally 15 CE Sites are needed to produce Wales-specific population trends, so if Welsh ringers know of sites where 200-300 birds may be caught between May and the end of August, the BTO would like to hear of them at ces@bto.org. Since 2020, Garden CES - a pilot scheme created during COVID - hopes to increase our understanding of population change in urban environments. There are currently two projects running in Wales.

Wales does very well for the number of RAS studies considering the modest number of ringers. There were 28 RAS studies active in 2022 (24 in 2021), for Pied Flycatcher (eight), Dipper (two), Reed Warbler (two), House Sparrow (two) and single studies of Arctic Tern, Chough (new), Common Tern, Curlew (new), Guillemot, Hawfinch, Jackdaw (new), Kittiwake, Mute Swan (new), Razorbill, Reed Bunting, Shag, Siskin and Wheatear. There is still a lot of opportunity for more RAS projects, where recaptures of birds ringed in previous RAS seasons should be around 30-50 individual birds. Many species are suitable for a RAS but Barn Owl, Dipper, Mute Swan, Starling, Swallow, Pied Flycatcher, House Sparrow and Manx Shearwater fit particularly well.

Note that the order of birds shown in Tables 2 and 3 differs from the order of the Systematic List.

Table 2. Numbers of pulli and fully-grown birds of each species ringed in 2022 compared to 2021.

Species	2021				2022				
	Pulli	Fully-grown	2021 Total	Retrap/resighting	Pulli	Fully-grown	2022 Total	Retrap/resighting	Total difference
Brent Goose	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	0	0	0	17	0	1	1	8	1
Barnacle Goose	0	46	46	4	0	9	9	41	-37
Greylag Goose	0	0	0	4	2	0	2	0	2
White-fronted Goose	0	8	8	7	0	0	0	1	-8
Whooper Swan	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	2
Mute Swan	71	24	95	155	65	23	88	80	-7
Shelduck	0	15	15	8	0	4	4	2	-11
Mandarin Duck	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	-1
Mallard	1	3	4	1	0	22	22	1	18
Teal	0	8	8	0	0	5	5	4	-3
Tufted Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
Goosander	2	5	7	0	0	5	5	1	-2
Quail	0	1	1	0	0	4	4	0	3
Storm Petrel	41	1275	1316	339	32	573	605	118	-711
Leach's Petrel	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Fulmar	2	1	3	0	0	5	5	0	2
Manx Shearwater	562	2678	3240	1038	310	2177	2487	1853	-753
White Stork	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
Little Grebe	0	3	3	0	0	4	4	1	1
Cattle Egret	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Grey Heron	0	1	1	1	5	0	5	0	4
Great White Egret	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	3	0
Little Egret	7	0	7	10	5	11	16	16	9
Gannet	0	35	35	10	0	11	11	6	-24

Species	2021				2022				
	Pulli	Fully-grown	2021 Total	Retrap/resighting	Pulli	Fully-grown	2022 Total	Retrap/resighting	Total difference
Shag	350	13	363	113	506	12	518	211	155
Cormorant	294	0	294	11	147	0	147	19	-147
Osprey	6	0	6	2	17	0	17	3	11
Sparrowhawk	0	33	33	3	0	23	23	5	-10
Goshawk	18	0	18	2	11	0	11	0	-7
Marsh Harrier	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0
Hen Harrier	11	0	11	1	19	0	19	1	8
Red Kite	7	3	10	5	9	3	12	8	2
Buzzard	0	7	7	0	2	11	13	3	6
Water Rail	0	5	5	0	0	5	5	0	0
Moorhen	0	2	2	1	0	13	13	3	11
Coot	0	1	1	2	2	14	16	2	15
Oystercatcher	13	1085	1098	293	17	289	306	142	-792
Lapwing	1	14	15	0	7	21	28	0	13
Golden Plover	0	30	30	1	0	43	43	9	13
Grey Plover	0	1	1	2	0	4	4	1	3
Ringed Plover	28	193	221	124	16	143	159	124	-62
Little Ringed Plover	3	1	4	0	6	0	6	0	2
Whimbrel	0	39	39	4	0	40	40	2	1
Curlew	4	139	143	274	21	100	121	283	-22
Bar-tailed Godwit	0	10	10	3	0	6	6	0	-4
Black-tailed Godwit	0	4	4	0	0	5	5	0	1
Turnstone	0	92	92	62	0	53	53	38	-39
Knot	0	26	26	28	0	25	25	0	-1
Ruff	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	-5
Curlew Sandpiper	0	1	1	0	0	14	14	0	13
Sanderling	0	18	18	0	0	7	7	0	-11
Dunlin	0	1891	1891	92	0	3287	3287	790	1396
Purple Sandpiper	0	1	1	1	0	6	6	3	5
Little Stint	0	4	4	0	0	3	3	0	-1
Long-billed Dowitcher	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
Woodcock	0	354	354	44	0	412	412	57	58
Jack Snipe	0	25	25	3	0	35	35	6	10
Snipe	0	62	62	2	0	94	94	4	32
Common Sandpiper	1	4	5	0	0	4	4	0	-1
Green Sandpiper	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	1	-2
Redshank	0	192	192	126	0	448	448	134	256
Greenshank	0	1	1	0	0	3	3	0	-2
Kittiwake	0	17	17	240	6	31	37	115	20
Black-headed Gull	419	2	421	104	838	0	838	93	417
Mediterranean Gull	0	0	0	46	0	0	0	52	0
Great Black-backed Gull	121	1	122	153	156	6	162	128	40
Common Gull	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Herring Gull	573	120	693	218	573	58	631	147	-62
Lesser Black-backed Gull	363	234	597	387	576	261	837	324	-240

Species	2021				2022				Total difference
	Pulli	Fully-grown	2021 Total	Retrap/resighting	Pulli	Fully-grown	2022 Total	Retrap/resighting	
Caspian Tern	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sandwich Tern	0	16	16	211	123	1	124	170	108
Little Tern	243	21	264	323	253	8	261	641	-3
Common Tern	377	26	403	58	365	15	380	132	-23
Arctic Tern	525	36	561	172	500	20	520	127	-41
Great Skua	0	1	1	0	7	0	7	0	6
Guillemot	964	153	1117	71	719	48	767	42	-350
Razorbill	449	87	536	229	390	85	475	271	-61
Black Guillemot	0	0	0	0	3	2	5	0	5
Puffin	48	164	212	671	104	182	286	373	74
Stock Dove	37	6	43	0	37	8	45	1	2
Woodpigeon	14	36	50	19	29	34	63	11	13
Collared Dove	0	58	58	10	1	53	54	5	-4
Cuckoo	0	7	7	0	0	6	6	0	-1
Barn Owl	631	35	666	51	600	41	641	57	25
Tawny Owl	34	15	49	1	32	11	43	2	-6
Little Owl	3	1	4	0	1	2	3	0	1
Long-eared Owl	0	0	0	0	4	3	7	1	7
Short-eared Owl	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Nightjar	35	65	100	41	56	84	140	63	40
Swift	0	1	1	0	2	3	5	0	4
Kingfisher	0	17	17	13	0	50	50	21	33
Wryneck	0	3	3	0	0	2	2	0	-1
Great Spotted Woodpecker	0	190	190	194	0	168	168	122	-22
Green Woodpecker	0	2	2	0	0	4	4	0	2
Kestrel	91	2	93	6	74	1	75	1	-18
Merlin	0	1	1	0	5	0	5	0	4
Hobby	10	1	11	2	12	1	13	0	2
Peregrine	12	0	12	2	12	1	13	0	1
Red-eyed Vireo	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Golden Oriole	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Jay	0	94	94	13	0	61	61	17	-33
Magpie	5	32	37	11	7	41	48	13	11
Chough	164	22	186	105	175	18	193	107	7
Jackdaw	73	121	194	24	68	118	186	176	-8
Rook	0	69	69	23	4	49	53	9	-16
Carriion Crow	5	6	11	1	16	5	21	1	10
Raven	9	0	9	0	4	3	7	0	-2
Coal Tit	46	505	551	450	57	404	461	350	-90
Marsh Tit	17	13	30	27	19	11	30	18	0
Willow Tit	20	30	50	19	9	38	47	13	-3
Blue Tit	1640	5234	6874	2573	2862	4599	7461	2498	587
Great Tit	889	1818	2707	1317	1429	1705	3134	1314	427
Bearded Tit	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Skylark	8	31	39	1	8	75	83	2	44

Species	2021				2022				Total difference
	Pulli	Fully-grown	2021 Total	Retrap/resighting	Pulli	Fully-grown	2022 Total	Retrap/resighting	
Sand Martin	0	415	415	45	0	308	308	0	-107
Swallow	329	2616	2945	35	379	1301	1680	41	-1265
House Martin	8	109	117	9	25	311	336	10	219
Cetti's Warbler	0	166	166	86	2	147	149	105	-17
Long-tailed Tit	0	618	618	218	0	914	914	422	296
Willow Warbler	19	2080	2099	205	17	1947	1964	171	-135
Chiffchaff	4	2245	2249	362	0	2396	2396	295	147
Western Bonelli's Warbler	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Wood Warbler	63	12	75	1	53	10	63	16	-12
Yellow-browed Warbler	0	2	2	0	0	5	5	0	3
Pallas's Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2
Sedge Warbler	5	1315	1320	305	4	1213	1217	232	-103
Blyth's Reed Warbler	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Reed Warbler	4	1402	1406	394	4	1171	1175	364	-231
Marsh Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Icterine Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Grasshopper Warbler	1	51	52	9	0	61	61	5	9
Blackcap	11	2009	2020	182	3	2388	2391	172	371
Barred Warbler	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Garden Warbler	1	103	104	18	4	121	125	11	21
Lesser Whitethroat	0	22	22	0	0	39	39	4	17
Whitethroat	6	271	277	69	0	340	340	68	63
Subalpine Warbler sp.	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	1	-1
Dartford Warbler	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	2
Firecrest	0	10	10	0	0	65	65	5	55
Goldcrest	0	1069	1069	179	0	1492	1492	229	423
Wren	22	827	849	411	18	947	965	406	116
Nuthatch	189	187	376	254	236	127	363	199	-13
Treecreeper	13	73	86	19	11	129	140	27	54
Starling	15	2192	2207	138	11	1242	1253	142	-954
Ring Ouzel	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	-4
Blackbird	164	1070	1234	705	110	1171	1281	640	47
Fieldfare	0	32	32	0	0	107	107	1	75
Redwing	0	2489	2489	3	0	2197	2197	3	-292
Song Thrush	64	230	294	46	68	317	385	48	91
Mistle Thrush	0	13	13	0	0	10	10	0	-3
Spotted Flycatcher	49	84	133	3	16	40	56	2	-77
Robin	98	1202	1300	1052	65	1427	1492	1015	192
Nightingale	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Red-flanked Bluetail	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Red-breasted Flycatcher	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2
Pied Flycatcher	5437	757	6194	379	5060	728	5788	732	-406
Black Redstart	0	4	4	1	0	7	7	0	3
Redstart	393	53	446	3	381	58	439	13	-7
Whinchat	8	4	12	0	17	2	19	0	7

Species	2021				2022				Total difference
	Pulli	Fully-grown	2021 Total	Retrap/resighting	Pulli	Fully-grown	2022 Total	Retrap/resighting	
Stonechat	16	95	111	16	39	101	140	16	29
Wheatear	47	117	164	71	25	145	170	84	6
Dipper	648	107	755	175	594	111	705	209	-50
House Sparrow	154	1552	1706	1531	78	1649	1727	953	-21
Tree Sparrow	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Dunnock	14	849	863	900	20	906	926	864	63
Western Yellow Wagtail	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
Grey Wagtail	161	53	214	0	142	38	180	2	-34
Pied Wagtail	104	163	267	13	63	120	183	18	-84
Meadow Pipit	9	1185	1194	46	10	702	712	28	-482
Tree Pipit	47	39	86	1	39	32	71	0	-15
Water Pipit	0	13	13	0	0	1	1	0	-12
Rock Pipit	4	55	59	1	3	151	154	40	95
Chaffinch	9	1498	1507	313	6	1750	1756	279	249
Brambling	0	71	71	2	0	142	142	3	71
Hawfinch	0	221	221	215	0	281	281	230	60
Bullfinch	0	384	384	145	5	430	435	172	51
Common Rosefinch	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	-1
Greenfinch	0	874	874	139	0	1130	1130	200	256
Twite	0	3	3	2	0	16	16	16	13
Linnet	0	134	134	5	0	695	695	205	561
Redpoll sp.	0	38	38	3	0	89	89	5	51
Lesser Redpoll	0	511	511	36	0	609	609	152	98
Goldfinch	9	3089	3098	1032	3	3587	3590	1257	492
Siskin	0	4237	4237	1365	1	5668	5669	1576	1432
Yellowhammer	0	28	28	1	0	5	5	1	-23
Cirl Bunting	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
Little Bunting	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-1
Reed Bunting	1	221	222	223	4	231	235	131	13
Total	17,376	56,941	74,317	21,990	18,852	57,640	76,492	23,226	2175

The table shows the number of birds ringed and those that have been recaptured or identified by a colour ring. The totals are derived from the BTO ringing database, which also populates the Online Ringing Report: www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/ringing/publications/online-ringing-reports

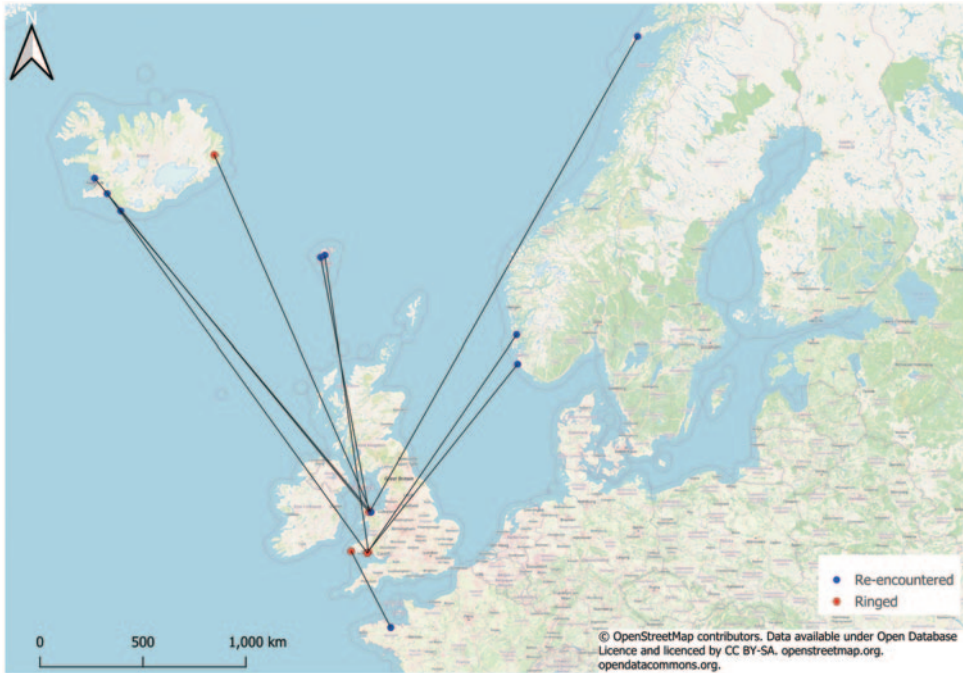
2022 selected recoveries

Below is a small selection of recoveries that stand out from the 23,226 re-encounters (recaptures, resightings or birds found dead) in 2022. The reports of note either involve long distances travelled, unusual species or longevity. Ringed birds are most likely to be found by ringers, but reports from non-ringers are also very important, particularly in areas less covered by ringers. Rings and colour rings can also be read on live birds by members of the public, helping to ‘fill in the gap’ of the bird’s life history. To report a ringed bird, go to www.ring.ac; you will receive details of the bird including where and when the bird was ringed.

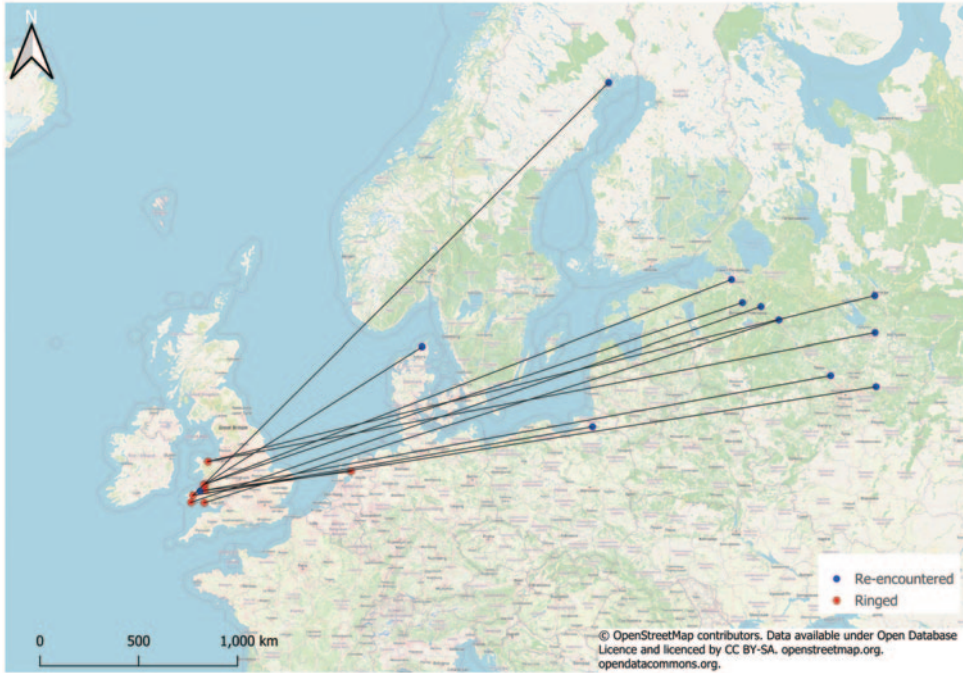
Storm Petrel (2758046)
13-09-2020
26-08-2022

Nestling
Skokholm, Pembrokeshire
Skokholm, Pembrokeshire
0km
1y 11m 13d

Ring found in Short-eared Owl pellet



Ringing and re-encounter locations of Oystercatcher with movements outside Britain and Ireland in 2022



Ringing and re-encounter locations of Woodcock with movements outside Britain and Ireland in 2022

Whooper Swan (A4846)	Adult male		
04-08-1996	Skjálftavatn, Kelduhverfi, Norður-Pingeyjarsýsla, Iceland 66°4'N 16°38'W		
01-04-2022	Letterston, Pembrokeshire		
	1701km SE 25y 7m 28d	Euthanized owing to fractured spine	
Hen Harrier (FJ24931)	Nestling		
17-07-2022	Confidential site near Nebo, Denbighshire		
28-09-2022	Bethesda, Caernarfonshire		
	23km 0y 2m 11d	Avian Influenza confirmed by post mortem	
Kestrel (EM22326)	Nestling		
20-06-2022	Cwm Marchnant, Ffair-Rhos, Ceredigion		
06-09-2022	West Compton, Dorset		
	199km SSE 0y 2m 17d	Freshly dead. Hit by vehicle	
Lapwing (DT24944)	Adult female		
08-01-2018	Ynys Tachwedd, Ynyslas, Ceredigion		
15-09-2018	Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Kent		
05-10-2018	Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Kent		
14-10-2022	Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Kent		
15-10-2022	Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Kent		
19-10-2022	Dungeness RSPB Reserve, Kent		
	371km ESE 4y 9m 11d	Colour ring sighting	
Long-billed Dowitcher (ST00441)	First year		
08-10-2022	Ogwen Estuary, Caernarfonshire		
18-10-2022	Llanfairfechan, Caernarfonshire		
	7km E 0y 0m 10d	Metal ring read. Third ringing record in Britain and Ireland, and first Welsh ringing and re-sighting records	
Bar-tailed Godwit (DT79929)	First year		
08-10-2021	Ynys-hir RSPB Reserve, Eglwys Fach, Ceredigion		
30-11-2022	Zira, Iwik, Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania 19°52'N 16°18'W		
	3,787km SSW 1y 1m 22d	Colour ring sighting. First British-ringed bird to Mauritania	
Whimbrel (EA71964)	Adult		
01-05-2021	Llansantffraid, Llanon, Ceredigion		
01-05-2022	East Coast Nature Reserve, Newcastle, Wicklow		
	167km WNW 1y 0m 0d	Colour ring sighting	
Curlew (FP14227)	Nestling		
13-06-2010	Turrerich, Perth and Kinross		
29-05-2022	Aberystwyth, Ceredigion		
	458km S 11y 11m 16d	Ring found in a purchased bag of compost	
Herring Gull (GC90421)	Nestling		
20-06-2011	St Tudwal's Island West, Caernarfonshire		
22-08-2022	Rhyd-y-clafdy, Caernarfonshire		
	6km NNW 11y 2m 2d	Found freshly dead	
Kittiwake (EB80423)	Adult		
16-06-1991	Skomer, Pembrokeshire		
18-04-2022	Skomer, Pembrokeshire		
	0km 30y 10m 2d	Colour ring sighting	
		New British and Irish longevity record (previously 28 years 6 months 5 days in 1993)	
Guillemot (T25547)	Nestling		
18-06-1987	Ynys Gwylan, Caernarfonshire		
23-06-2022	Ynys Gwylan-bâch, Caernarfonshire		
	0km 35y 0m 5d	Caught by ringer. Current longevity record 40y 11m 23d	
Collared Dove (EY64826)	First year		
10-08-2016	Wicken Green Village, Norfolk		
29-09-2022	Bagillt, Flintshire		
	265km WNW 6y 1m 19d	Found in garden shortly before dying	

Barn Owl (FB60379)	Nestling		
28-06-2022	Stocklands Farm, Radyr, Eastern Glamorgan		
21-08-2022	Cardiff Museum – checked, then released outside.		
05-10-2022	Cosmeston Lakes Country Park, Eastern Glamorgan		
	0km 0y 3m 7d	Found freshly dead	
Barn Owl (FH92017)	Nestling		
07-06-2014	Snitter, Northumberland		
12-07-2018	Confidential site, near Rhuthun, Denbighshire		
31-12-2018	Confidential site, near Rhuthun, Denbighshire		
09-01-2022	Confidential site, near Rhuthun, Denbighshire		
	274km NNE 7y 7m 2d	Caught by ringer	
Nightjar (M6370)	First year		
21-08-2021	Glæde, Thisted, Viborg, Denmark 57°6'N 8°55'E		
29-06-2022	Cefn Hafod-lom, Clocaenog Forest, Denbighshire		
	312km WSW 0y 10m 8d	Caught by ringer. First record from Denmark	
Great Spotted Woodpecker (LB62365)	First year		
06-12-2020	Mullock, near Marloes, Pembrokeshire		
01-01-2021	Mullock, near Marloes, Pembrokeshire – caught by ringer		
13-09-2022	Crownpits, Godalming, Surrey		
	321km ESE 1y 9m 7d	Freshly dead	
Rock Pipit (2244224)	First year		
24-11-2021	Penclacwydd, Carmarthenshire		
29-09-2022	Tarevika, Vest-Agder, Norway 58°7'N 6°34'E		
	990km NE 0y 10m 5d	Caught by ringer	
Blackbird (XP82101)	Nestling		
31-05-1992	Flat Holm, Eastern Glamorgan		
25-11-2022	Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Eastern Glamorgan		
	24km NW 30y 5m 25d	Ring only. Found by metal detector	
Chiffchaff (LKP716)	First year		
07-07-2022	Fell Cottages, Slaley, Northumberland		
17-09-2022	Hill Farm, Abermule, Montgomeryshire		
	272km SSW 0y 2m 10d	Caught by ringer	
Firecrest (ANV856)	First year		
24-09-2022	Vinkenbaan Westenschouwen, Burg-Haamstede, The Netherlands 51°40'N 3°40'E		
23-10-2022	Pen-y-Groeslon, Bryn croes, Caernarfonshire		
	582km WNW 0y 0m 29d	Caught by ringer	
Pied Flycatcher (Z069214)	Nestling		
08-06-2014	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
25-05-2015	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
28-05-2016	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
13-05-2017	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
19-05-2018	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
19-05-2019	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
12-06-2022	Lake Vyrnwy, Montgomeryshire		
	0km 8y 0m 4d	Caught by ringer. Longevity record 9y 7d	
Chough (ET54746)	Nestling		
18-05-1998	Confidential site, Anglesey		
13-04-2022	North Anglesey Coast		
	23y 10m 26d	Colour ring sighting	
		New British and Irish longevity record (previous 23 years 11 days in 2019)	
House Sparrow (TL62834)	Juvenile		
08-07-2008	Bedwas, Gwent		
08-03-2013	Bedwas, Gwent		
01-03-2022	Bedwas, Gwent		
30-03-2022	Bedwas, Gwent		
	0km 13y 8m 22d	New British and Irish longevity record (previous 12 years 8 months 27 days in 2020)	

Brambling (ACD0993)	Second year male	
	30-01-2019	Dolfor, Newtown, Montgomeryshire
	18-02-2022	Garth, Llangollen, Denbighshire
	60km NNE	3y 0m 19d
		Caught by ringer
Lesser Redpoll (AAA6640)	Second year male	
	27-04-2018	Garden, Penrhiw, Denbighshire
	19-11-2022	Woolston Eyes, Warrington, Cheshire
	88km E	4y 6m 23d
		Caught by ringer
Common Rosefinch (TX22136)	Adult male	
	29-05-2021	Skokholm, Pembrokeshire
	05-06-2022	Ballycotton, Cork, Ireland
	210km W	1y 0m 7d
		Caught by cat and when released, flew into window and died
Hawfinch (NW66167)	Second year female	
	29-03-2013	Bont Newydd, Dolgellau, Meirionnydd
	11-05-2015	Bont Newydd, Dolgellau, Meirionnydd
	16-04-2018	Near Dolgellau, Meirionnydd
	12-05-2021	Llanelltyd, Dolgellau, Meirionnydd
	05-04-2022	Llanelltyd, Dolgellau, Meirionnydd
	6km SSW	9y 0m 7d
		Colour ring sighting



House Sparrow (Ewan Turner)

It takes several years to learn to be a ringer, as the welfare of the bird is paramount and I am grateful to all the ringers who ringed and recaptured birds in Wales, including those who submitted over 100 records each (in order of the number of records from the greatest first).

Gower RG, Teifi RG, Mid Wales RG, Merseyside RG, Scan RG, Bardsey BO, Skokholm RG, Pembrokeshire RG, SG Dodd, Llangorse RG, P Roughley, M Haigh, Spence and Brenchley, Belvide RG, Kenfig RG, Cardiff RG, A Stratford, PJ Belman, DJ Stanyard, Fledgemore Nest Recording Group, Dr SJ Tyler, Dr MJ Wood, K Jones, WD Hall, KA Capps, LJ Barber and RE Barber, G Roberts, East Dales RG, JMS Lewis, Havard and Sloan, Professor TR Birkhead, JA Lawton Roberts, Dr IP Vaughan, Dr FM Slater, I Beggs, LV Gregory, Flat Holm RG, AA Robinson, PA Jenks, Cross and Stratford Welsh Chough Project, Dr GE Austin, DT Hill, DG Coker, RP Clevely, PJ Rock, DC Proll, WM Jones and D Anning.

Nest Record Scheme

The Nest Record Scheme (NRS) records the progress of an individual nesting attempt and provides vital information on how many fledglings are produced. Linked with environmental data, this can help to identify the causes of population declines. Anyone can be a nest recorder and those who do, follow a code of

conduct to make sure that recording this information minimises disturbance at nests. Being a nest recorder gives a greater understanding of where birds nest, the habitats they prefer and bird behaviour.

From a recent low point in 2009 of 2636 nest records submitted, 2022 showed a dramatic increase in the number of nest records, to 5711. This is only slightly fewer than the high point of 5822 records in 2019. With increases in nestbox monitoring and species-specific projects, nest recording in Wales looks promising. Blue Tit was the most nest-recorded species in Wales (1510 records), followed by Pied Flycatcher (966 records), Great Tit (663 records), Little Tern (304 records) and Kittiwake (252 records). Blue Tit, Little Tern and Kittiwake also showed an increase in the number of nest records from 2021 by more than 100. There were some large decreases, notably Razorbill (126 fewer nest records) and Manx Shearwater (98 fewer). This is likely to have been the result of Avian Influenza being found in seabird colonies; to reduce any effect from nest recorders, monitoring was temporarily reduced.

Every nest record contributes to our knowledge of bird productivity, especially when found early in the nesting attempt. This also contributes more key information, principally first egg date, clutch size, number hatched and the nest outcome. It can be surprising to see that some common species are overlooked with regards to nest monitoring, for example in 2022, only three Swift, three Mallard, one Greenfinch and no nests of the iconic Curlew were recorded in the whole of Wales. This does mean that every single nest can make a large contribution.

More information can be found at www.bto.org/nrs

Table 3. Numbers of nest records for Wales by species in 2022: 5711 nests of 114 species.

Species	No. of records		Change	Species	No. of records		Change
	2021	2022			2021	2022	
Mute Swan	25	8	-17	Jackdaw	28	27	-1
Canada Goose	2	1	-1	Carriion Crow	3	8	5
Mandarin Duck	2	0	-2	Raven	19	10	-9
Mallard	6	3	-3	Goldcrest	0	2	2
Goosander	1	0	-1	Firecrest	1	0	-1
Fulmar	1	0	-1	Blue Tit	1254	1510	256
Manx Shearwater	98	0	-98	Great Tit	633	663	30
Storm Petrel	39	0	-39	Coal Tit	11	9	-2
Cormorant	2	1	-1	Willow Tit	2	1	-1
Shag	29	6	-23	Marsh Tit	5	4	-1
Little Egret	1	2	1	Skylark	8	3	-5
Grey Heron	0	4	4	Sand Martin	9	0	-9
Little Grebe	1	1	0	Swallow	136	150	14



Kestrel (Bob Haycock)

Species	No. of records		Change	Species	No. of records		Change
	2021	2022			2021	2022	
Great Crested Grebe	8	1	-7	House Martin	7	13	6
Red Kite	25	29	4	Long-tailed Tit	16	20	4
Hen Harrier	3	6	3	Wood Warbler	23	21	-2
Goshawk	13	9	-4	Chiffchaff	6	3	-3
Sparrowhawk	0	1	1	Willow Warbler	11	13	2
Buzzard	2	3	1	Blackcap	21	6	-15
Osprey	6	8	2	Garden Warbler	3	4	1
Kestrel	26	19	-7	Whitethroat	2	0	-2
Merlin	0	2	2	Dartford Warbler	0	1	1
Hobby	5	5	0	Grasshopper Warbler	1	0	-1
Peregrine	10	14	4	Sedge Warbler	1	1	0
Moorhen	13	9	-4	Nuthatch	88	58	-30
Coot	75	59	-16	Treecreeper	5	5	0
Oystercatcher	5	8	3	Wren	35	36	1
Little Ringed Plover	3	7	4	Starling	24	25	1
Ringed Plover	11	15	4	Dipper	225	221	-4
Lapwing	8	2	-6	Blackbird	176	138	-38
Woodcock	0	1	1	Song Thrush	99	64	-35
Curlew	1	0	-1	Mistle Thrush	4	6	2
Common Sandpiper	1	1	0	Spotted Flycatcher	14	10	-4
Kittiwake	120	252	132	Robin	73	40	-33
Lesser Black-backed Gull	20	4	-16	Pied Flycatcher	1010	966	-44
Herring Gull	14	3	-11	Redstart	114	115	1
Little Tern	155	304	149	Whinchat	2	0	-2
Guillemot	30	0	-30	Stonechat	5	10	5
Razorbill	143	17	-126	Wheatear	10	9	-1
Black Guillemot	0	2	2	Dunnock	25	17	-8
Puffin	41	60	19	House Sparrow	125	88	-37
Stock Dove	37	43	6	Western Yellow Wagtail	0	1	1
Woodpigeon	25	40	15	Grey Wagtail	62	51	-11
Collared Dove	2	1	-1	Pied Wagtail	35	35	0
Cuckoo	2	0	-2	Tree Pipit	17	17	0
Barn Owl	204	213	9	Meadow Pipit	22	7	-15
Little Owl	2	1	-1	Rock Pipit	1	1	0
Tawny Owl	19	12	-7	Chaffinch	10	8	-2
Long-eared Owl	0	1	1	Greenfinch	0	1	1
Nightjar	27	33	6	Goldfinch	15	5	-10
Swift	3	3	0	Siskin	1	0	-1
Kingfisher	0	1	1	Linnet	5	7	2
Green Woodpecker	1	0	-1	Lesser Redpoll	2	2	0
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1	1	0	Common Crossbill	0	2	2
Chough	64	72	8	Bullfinch	5	3	-2
Magpie	0	2	2	Yellowhammer	0	1	1
Jay	2	0	-2	Reed Bunting	1	3	2
				Total	5744	5711	-33

Nest recording is easy to do, providing the NRS Code of Conduct is followed. However, to find nests of some species takes practice and experience. We are grateful to all the nest recorders who have given their time to study and monitor wild birds, particularly the following who submitted nest records in Wales in 2022. In order of the number of records submitted, with the highest first.

Merseyside RG, Fledgemoor Nest Recording Group, Mid Wales RG, Gwent Nest Box Project, John Hyde, John Lloyd, Paul Roughley, Lyndon Jeffery, John Lawton Roberts, Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust, RSPB Ynys-hir, RSPB Mid-Wales Woodlands reserves, Gower RG, Teifi RG, Havard and Sloan, Gary Pitt, David Coker, Steph Tyler, Matthew Wood, Jerry Lewis, Mike Haigh, Kelvin Jones, Claire Backshall, Cross and Stratford Welsh Chough Project, Ian M Spence and Giles RM Pepler, Ron Clevely, Lee Barber, David Owen, Gwyn Roberts, David Anning, North Wales Wildlife Trust, Jim Clark, Steve Roberts, Bardsey Bird Observatory, Paddy Jenks, Jeremy Richards, Adrienne Stratford, East Dales RG, Skokholm RG, Cedwyn Davies, Goldcliff RG, Parc Natur Penglais Support Group, Kate de Oliveira, Leo Smith, Brian Briggs, David Cooksey, Colin Everett, Graham Brand, Cardiff RG, Sally Taylor, Arron Roberts, David Woodhouse, Graham Austin, Phil Belman, South Wales Peregrine Monitoring Group, Rhoslyn Williams, Nicholas Beswick, Andrew Dixon, Ian Tillotson, Pembrokeshire RG, Tammy Stretton, Stephen Howe, Fred Slater, Christopher Naylor, Allan Rustell, Michael Thomas, Anglesey Barn Owl Group, Ian Beggs, Steve Binney, Jacob Davies, Stacey Delbridge, Seumus Eaves, Richard Ellis, Mervyn Greening, David Jones, Nicholas Kite, Andrew Shaw and Tony Taylor.



Black Guillemot (Jonathan Bull)

The Welsh List: A Checklist of the birds of Wales (7th edition)

R.I. Thorpe and A. Stratford
Bryn Llus, Rhostryfan, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL54 7PF

Summary
This paper provides an update to the sixth edition of the Checklist of Birds of Wales (Thorpe and Stratford 2022). The list follows the BOURC British List (BOU 2022), which follows the International Ornithological Community (IOC) World Bird List version 13.2 (Gill *et al.* 2023). It also highlights changes in line with recent decisions by the British Ornithologists’ Union Records Committee (BOURC), the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) and the Welsh Birds Rarities Committee (WBRC). The full list is available on the Welsh Ornithological Society website.

Introduction
This is the seventh edition of the Checklist of the birds of Wales, hereafter referred to as the Welsh List, and has been prepared as a statement of the status of those species that are known to have occurred in Wales and the surrounding seas (up to 12 nautical miles). It incorporates all changes up to 30 November 2023, based on accepted records that occurred up to 31 December 2022.

The Welsh List
The Welsh List is the list of birds recorded in Wales, maintained by the Welsh Ornithological Society (WOS) through the Welsh Birds Rarities Committee (WBRC). Records have only been included after acceptance by the British Ornithologists’ Union Records Committee (BOURC) and/or the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC).

The Welsh List (seventh edition) can be viewed on the WOS website: <https://birdsin.wales/welsh-rare-birds-committee>. For each species, the list includes the English vernacular name, Welsh name and scientific name, and each is assigned to a Species Category and Species Status (see Thorpe and Stratford 2018 for full details).

The Welsh List is under regular review by the WBRC, with new species added, and potentially some removed following re-assessment. There remain a few issues to resolve over the subspecies identity of some species, but these do not affect the assignment of species to categories.

Taxonomy, English and Welsh names
In maintaining the Welsh List, the WBRC relies on the IOC World Bird List for all decisions regarding taxonomic issues and on the BOURC for English names. Welsh names follow those used in *The Birds of Wales* (Pritchard *et al.* 2021).

The Welsh List changes since the sixth edition (2022)
The order and scientific names remain unchanged. The changes to the species/subspecies list were:

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens* GWYDD YR EIRA
2CY+ RSPB Burton Mere and Dee Estuary Saltmarsh, FLINT, 30 Jan. to 2 Feb. 2022.

The status of Snow Goose in Wales has been difficult to determine due to the presence of escaped individuals and the difficulties of assessing the likelihood of individuals from Category C populations breeding elsewhere in the UK reaching Wales. Snow Goose was added to Category C5 of the Welsh List in 2018, but removed and placed in Category E in 2019 (Thorpe and Stratford 2019, Thorpe and Stratford 2020).

Local birdwatchers consider this individual present on the Dee Estuary in 2022 to be the same individual that was present with Pink-footed Goose in Lancashire during winter/spring 2022. It was present in Lancashire on 17 Jan. 2022 and then again from 9 Feb. and remained there until 20 April. It was considered by the WBRC to meet the BOURC and BBRC criteria for acceptance of wildfowl occurring in an apparently natural state (Green 2023).

This species is added to Category A of the Welsh List.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa taymyrensis* (Siberian Bar-tailed Godwit / *Rhostog Gynffonfraith Siberia*)
One ringed at RSPB Ynys-hir, CEREDIGION, on 8 Oct. 2021 was seen subsequently at Zira Iwlik, Mauritania, on 30 Nov. 2022. It was judged by the WBRC, with a >99% probability, that the bird was of the *taymyrensis* subspecies, based on the location of the bird in winter. Birds of this subspecies breed in western Siberia and winter along the Atlantic coast of Africa, whereas most Bar-tailed Godwits that occur in Wales are of the subspecies *L.l. lapponica*, which breeds in Fennoscandia and winters in northwest Europe (Green 2023).

This subspecies is added to Category A of the Welsh List.

KNOT *Calidris canutus canutus* (Siberian Knot / *Pibydd yr Aber Siberia*)
One colour-ringed at Ynyslas, CEREDIGION, on 2 Sept. 2020 and subsequently seen at Ebel Kheaznaya, Banc d’Arguin, Mauritania, on 27-29 Nov. and 13 Dec. 2021. Although small numbers of this subspecies are thought to pass through southeast England regularly, all Knot recorded in Wales previously were considered of the Icelandic subspecies, *C.c. islandica*. The origin of this individual was determined based on its wintering location, far to the south of the known wintering range of *C.c. islandica* (Green 2023).

This subspecies is added to Category A of the Welsh List.

BAROLO SHEARWATER *Puffinus baroli* ADERYN DRYCAN BAROLO.
One on Skomer, PEMBROKE, from 26 June to 10 July 1981 and from 21 June to 25 July 1982 (James 1986). Following a review by the BBRC (Bacon *et al.* 2023) this record remains the first accepted record for Wales. All other records were reviewed, resulting in several previously accepted records found to be no longer proven (Green 2023).

This species remains in Category A of the Welsh List.

MOLTONI’S WARBLER *Curruca subalpina* TELOR MOLTONI
Male on Skokholm, PEMBROKE, on 17-29 May 2022, caught and ringed (Green 2023).

This species is added to Category A of the Welsh List.

TENNESSEE WARBLER *Leiothlypis peregrina* TELOR TENNESSEE
One on Skokholm, PEMBROKE, on 12 Oct. 2022 (Green 2023).

This species is added to Category A of the Welsh List.

The number of species recorded in Wales (as of 30 November 2023), within each category, is now as follows:

Category	Total
A	442
B	7
C	8
Total	457

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County reports 2022

Eastern Glamorgan Bird Report 2022. Editor: Ceri Jones.

Available online at glamorganbirds.org.uk

Gower Birds - the birds of Swansea and Neath Port Talbot 2022.

Available from Jeremy Douglas-Jones, 14 Alder Way, West Cross, Swansea SA3 5PD. Price: £7 plus £1.85 p&p. Cheques payable to Gower Ornithological Society.

Carmarthenshire Bird Report 2022. Editor: Rob Hunt.

Available from Gary Harper, Maesteg, Capel Seion, Drefach, Llanelli SA14 7BS. Cheque for £7 (includes postage) payable to Carmarthenshire Bird Club.

Pembrokeshire Bird Report 2022. Editors: S.E. Berry and J. Green.

Available online at pembsbirds.blogspot.com/p/the-annual-pembrokeshire-bird-reports.html

Ceredigion Bird Report 2022. Editor: Russell Jones.

Available by email from the Editor: russellbronygan@outlook.com

Breconshire Bird Report 2022. Editor: Andrew King.

Available from the Editor, Heddfan, Pennorth, Brecon LD3 7EX. £8 plus £2 for p&p, and from several retail outlets in the county. Check brecknockbirds.co.uk for details.

Montgomeryshire Bird Report 2022. Editor: Simon Boyes.

Available online at montgomerybirdblog.blogspot.com/p/county-reports.html

Cambrian Bird Report 2022 (Anglesey, Caernarfonshire and Meirionnydd). Editor: Rhion Pritchard.

Available from Rhion Pritchard, Pant Afonig, Hafod Lane, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 4BU. Price £8 including p&p, cheque payable to Cambrian Ornithological Society.

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Milvus

Milvus: The Journal of the Welsh Ornithological Society

Milvus: Cylchgrawn Cymdeithas Adaryddol Cymru

Milvus (previously Birds in Wales and Welsh Birds) is the official journal of the Welsh Ornithological Society. It publishes original research, reviews, short communications and commentaries on any aspect of ornithology in Wales. The Society is keen that the journal should accurately reflect and present ornithological activity in Wales and encourages submissions from professionals and amateurs, alike. It can be found, online, here: birdsins.wales/milvus

Three issues are published each year, as standard. Additional Special Issues may be published, when appropriate.

1. Devoted entirely to original articles. Accepted articles as Online First and are available via the website soon after acceptance. All articles also appear in the printed version that is published in June/July. One article per issue is made available as Open Access concurrent with the printing of the issue.
2. The annual Scarce and Rare Birds Report (currently edited by Jon Green) that is available online only.
3. Primarily devoted to the Welsh Bird Report and the annual report on bird ringing in Wales (currently edited by Julian Hughes).

About the Welsh Ornithological Society

WOS is the national body to unify birdwatchers and ornithologists across the whole of Wales. We actively support bird conservation in Wales as the only Welsh-based organisation to do so, by funding research and encouraging publication of papers and articles related to birds in Wales. WOS represents affiliated local and county bird clubs and groups with many country agencies and Welsh Government to help conserve birds in Wales.

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Support the Welsh Ornithological Society

The Welsh Ornithological Society aims to:

- Raise the profile of bird conservation in Wales through publications, social media and our website.
- Engage with the Welsh Government to improve the protection of birds in Wales; for example by restricting licences to control fish-eating birds through a stricter regime based on reliable evidence.
- Support research into birds in Wales through surveys, awards and small grants to members.

To join The Welsh Ornithological Society, visit birdsins.wales/join-wos/



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