

# Christmas bird count

## Hamilton bird studies



The **Christmas Bird Count** started in 1900, when Frank Chapman, an ornithologist, came up with the idea of counting birds as an alternative to hunting them at Christmas (hunting them being the previous tradition).

Birders have been going out every year around Christmas, to spend the day walking, biking, or driving through a census area to count all the birds they see or hear.

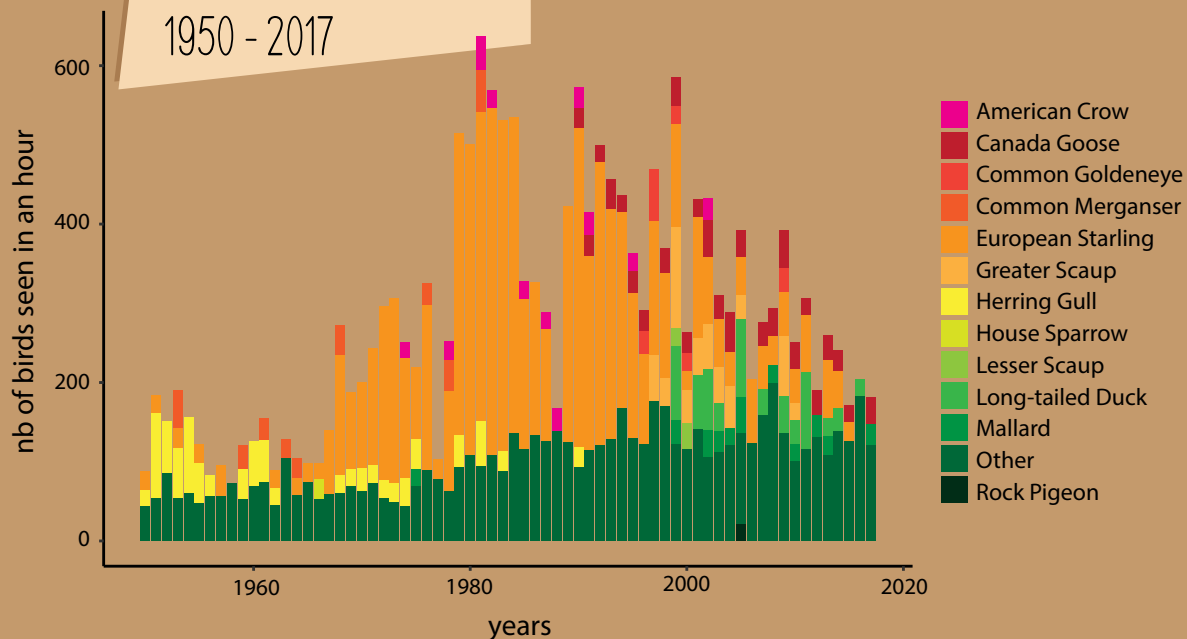


**171 hours of  
birding since 1950 !**



**Average temperature  
in December : -1°C**

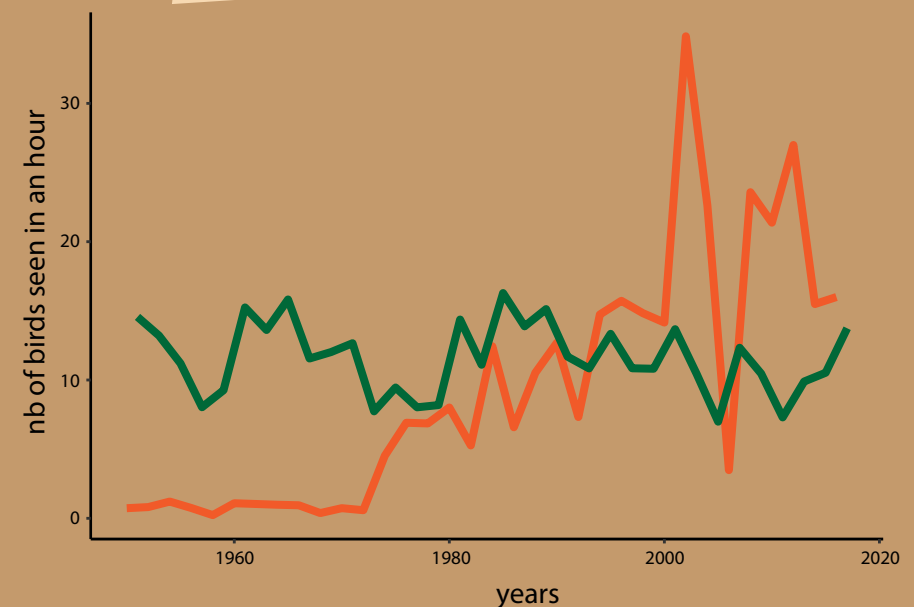
Birds counts in Hamilton  
1950 - 2017



The number of birds observed in the area on Christmas day increased drastically in the 1980's and 1990's following the introduction of some species by the authorities.

The evolution of Mallards count drastically increased since 1950 whereas the House sparrow seems to be stable over the years.

Mallards and sparrows observed  
1950 - 2017



Mallard



House Sparrow