

SPECIES YOU'LL SEE

Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Alabama's only nesting hummingbird, and the only one you'll see in summer. Common statewide.	BREEDER
Rufous Hummingbird	Fiery orange, famously feisty. Alabama's regular winter visitor — and overwhelmingly a coastal one.	WINTER
Black-chinned Hummingbird	A second winter visitor, easily mistaken for Ruby-throated. Usually confirmed only in the hand.	WINTER

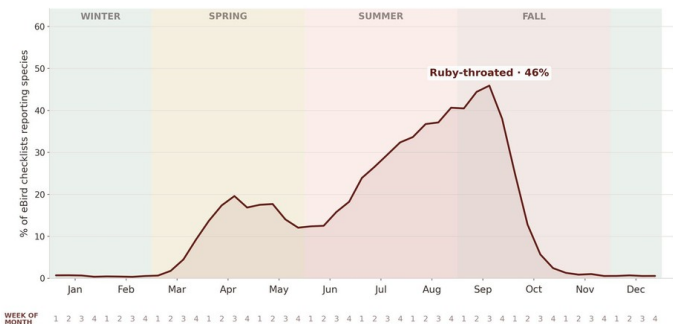
Also recorded: Buff-bellied, Calliope, Allen's, Broad-tailed, Anna's, and Broad-billed all turn up in winter in small numbers — genuine one-offs, not birds to expect.

WINTER HUMMINGBIRDS

Winter hummingbirds in Alabama are a Gulf Coast story. Around Mobile they're reported every week of the winter; around Birmingham and Huntsville, essentially never.

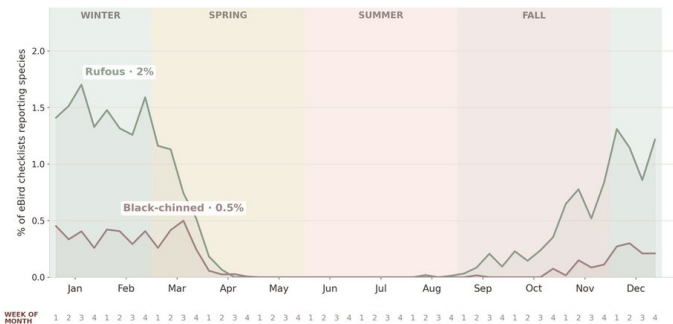
Two decades of banding found Rufous made up about half of all hummingbirds caught in winter across southern Alabama and northern Florida — not Ruby-throated. On the coast, leave a feeder up all year.

ALABAMA'S HUMMINGBIRD SEASON, STATEWIDE



Source: eBird bar chart data (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), 2016–2025 (pulled Aug 2026)

ALABAMA'S WINTER VISITORS, STATEWIDE



Source: eBird bar chart data (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), 2016–2025 (pulled Aug 2026)

MIGRATION WINDOW

REGION	FIRST ARRIVALS	RELIABLY COMMON BY
Mobile (Gulf Coast)	Late February	Late March
Jefferson (Birmingham)	Mid-March	Mid-April
Madison (Huntsville)	Mid-March	Mid-April

Birmingham and Huntsville run on the same schedule — there's no north-south lag inland. The only meaningful divide in Alabama is coast versus inland. Busiest month statewide: September.

TOP NATIVE PLANTS BY REGION

Gulf Coast	Central Alabama & Black Belt	North Alabama & Tennessee Valley
Coral Honeysuckle	Wild Bergamot	Wild Bergamot
Trumpet Creeper	Cardinal Flower	Eastern Columbine
Crossvine	Coral Honeysuckle	Jewelweed
Red Buckeye	Indian Pink	Crossvine

PERFECT LITTLE SANCTUARY® — TOP ALABAMA PERFORMERS

- ✓ Lance-Leaved Coreopsis — Alabama native
- ✓ Black-Eyed Susan — Alabama native
- ✓ Purple Coneflower — Alabama native

Best planting window: October (late Sept–early Nov), timed to spring migration. 9 of the blend's 12 varieties need cold, moist stratification, so fall sowing works best.

