

SPECIES YOU'LL SEE

Ruby-throated Hummingbird Indiana's only nesting hummingbird, and the only one you'll see most of the year. Common statewide. **BREEDER**

Rufous Hummingbird Fiery orange, famously feisty. Indiana's regular winter visitor, most years. **WINTER**

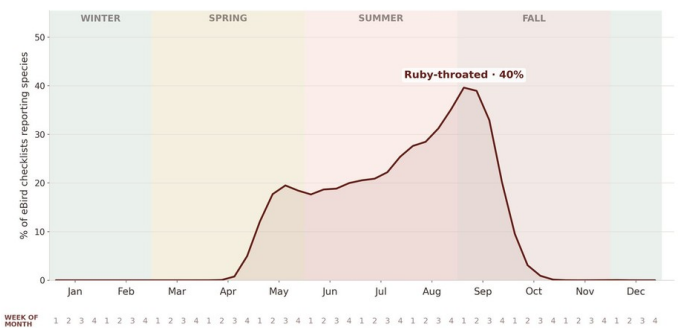
Also recorded: a single Black-chinned and a single Anna's, per Amos Butler Audubon — genuine one-offs, not birds to expect.

WINTER HUMMINGBIRDS

Rufous is Indiana's regular winter visitor — roughly **80 accepted records** per Amos Butler Audubon, far ahead of any other western migrant. Migrants can pass through as early as September, but the regular winter presence typically builds from late October into November, lingering into December, January, or later.

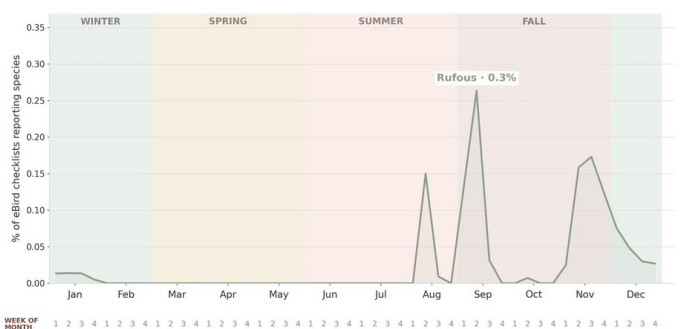
A small number of Ruby-throateds skip migration entirely and overwinter in Indiana instead. Keep a feeder up through the cold months for a shot at either.

INDIANA'S HUMMINGBIRD SEASON, STATEWIDE



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

INDIANA'S WINTER VISITOR, STATEWIDE



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

MIGRATION WINDOW

COUNTY	FIRST ARRIVALS	RELIABLY COMMON BY
Vanderburgh (Evansville)	Mid-April	Early May
Monroe (Bloomington)	Late April	Early May
Marion (Indianapolis)	Late April	Early May
Allen (Fort Wayne)	Early May	Mid-May
St. Joseph (South Bend)	Early May	Mid-May

About three weeks separates the earliest county (Vanderburgh, far south) from the latest. Busiest month statewide: **September**. Most gone by late October.

TOP NATIVE PLANTS

Spring — First Arrivals
Wild Columbine Trumpet Honeysuckle

Midsummer
Bee Balm (Wild Bergamot) Jewelweed

Late Summer — Migration Fuel
Cardinal Flower

Shady yard? Jewelweed is the pick — most hummingbird favorites want full sun, but jewelweed handles shade and still delivers.

PERFECT LITTLE SANCTUARY® — TOP INDIANA PERFORMERS

- ✓ Purple Coneflower — *Indiana native*
- ✓ Black-Eyed Susan — *Indiana native*
- ✓ Lance-Leaved Coreopsis — *Indiana native*
- ✓ Perennial Lupine — *confirmed Indiana native*

*Best planting window: **October**, timed to spring migration. 9 of the blend's 12 varieties need cold, moist stratification, so fall sowing works best.*

FULL SEASON TIMELINE

Feeders up	Mid-March (south) – early April (north)
First arrivals	Mid-April (south) – early May (north)
Nesting season	Late May – late July
Southbound migration begins	Late July, males first
Statewide peak	Early September
Most departed	Late October
Rufous: early migrants	September
Rufous: regular winter presence	Late October – November

