

## December 12 - 16, 2016 Kentucky Waterfowl Ground Counts

(Survey data not available for all locations. Updates will be posted when possible)

Here is a map showing the average temps nationwide from September to November. This freakish weather event has attributed to the low numbers we have experienced so far:

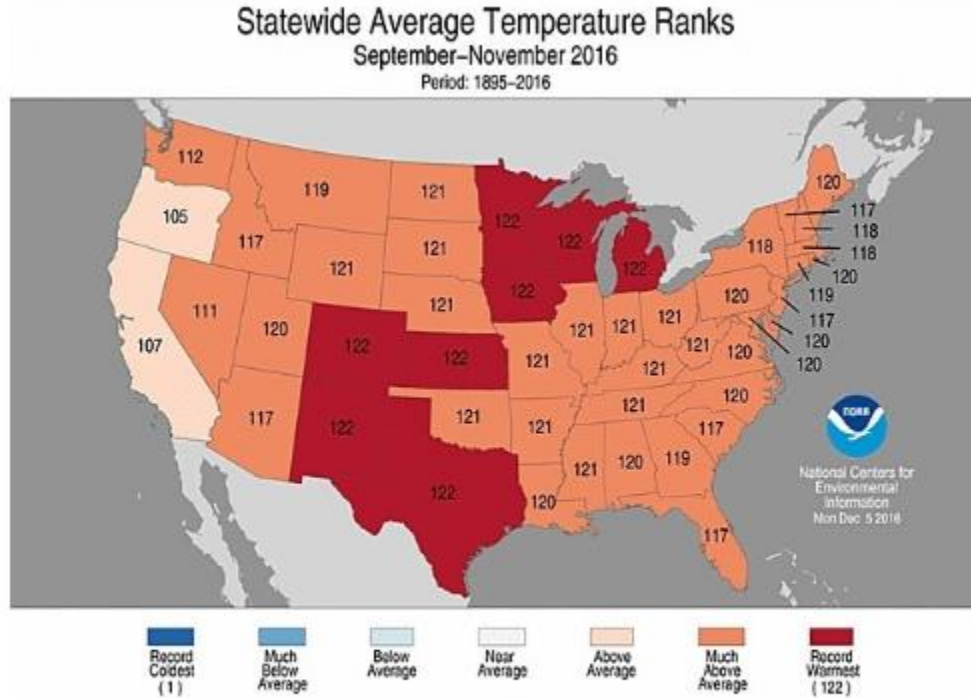


Figure 2. Statewide rankings for average temperature during September–November 2016, as compared to each September–November period since 1895. Darker shades of orange indicate higher rankings for warmth, with 1 denoting the coldest month on record and 122 the warmest.

We are still dry on several of our management areas, but with a little luck, the rain will continue to fall. The cold weather has finally brought in some birds and most counts have increased from last week. There are still plenty of ducks and geese being reported in states north of here, so hopefully they will be making their way south. Good luck to all and remember to be safe.

Location	Number	Species Composition	Comments
Ballard WMA	60,672 ducks 120 CA Geese 5,020 WF geese	86% Mallard, 5% GW Teal, 4% Gadwall, 3% Ring-neck, the remaining mix are wood duck, Shoveler, Wigeon, & black duck.	Habitat is looking great and we are getting water into spots that have previously had none. Birds are grouped up in very large numbers. The River is predicted to drop out on Sunday

			evening, which will cause issues with getting water.
Boatwright WMA	2,000 ducks 16 CA geese		Pumping water where possible. Habitat conditions are great, but we are still lacking water in several spots.
Birdsville Island	Not surveyed		
Kentucky/Barkley Lakes	Not Surveyed		
Duck Island	Not Surveyed		
Barren River Lake	90 Ducks 55 CA geese	90% Divers (45% ringnecks, 45% bufflehead, 10% redhead) 10% Dabblers (Mallards and Shoveler)	Peters Creek MSU 10% full, Long Creek- Calvert Springs and units adjacent to CS are 60% full, other units 0%
Doug Travis WMA	3,250 ducks	95% Mallards, 5% mixed dabblers.	All 3 wells running and area is 60% flooded. Still need more river to allow impoundments to hold.
Cave Run Lake	Not Surveyed		
Peabody WMA	411 Ducks 31 CA Geese	85% Mallard, 15% Gadwall	Rainfall totals have been insufficient to fill moist soil units.
Sloughs WMA	22,000 Ducks 8,750 WF Geese 3,650 Snows 210 CA Geese 22 Swans	90% Mallard, 10% GW teal, pintail, & black ducks.	The area remains unseasonably dry with the majority of the Pond Creek wetland complex still without water. Except where the birds have kept it open, shallow water has been frozen for the past two days. Ducks are concentrated in moist soil impoundments and natural sloughs, where they are keeping large pockets of water ice-free. Snow geese have been roosting on the refuge; feeding on winter wheat and

			standing corn throughout the night. At dawn, large numbers of geese have been observed heading north across the Ohio River, likely loafing on warm-water ponds throughout the day.
Yellowbank WMA	380 Ducks	80% Mallards, 5% Gadwall & Black ducks, 5% Shoveler, 5% Wood Duck, & 5% various divers.	MSU's flooded by pumps are at 50% water capacity, and are ice covered. All other units have little water and need rain.
Blue Grass Army Depot (all lakes and ponds)	Not suveyed		
Herrington Lake	No birds sited at survey locations.	Some mallards are in the area, but not seen on the survey locations. Raccoons were safe this week...	
Taylorsville Lake	No ducks or geese observed while conducting waterfowl survey		Pump is repaired and in place, but the river is still too low to pump from. Lake is a little below winter pool.
Cedar Cr./Dix R. WMA	Not surveyed		
Green River WMA	Not surveyed		