

# A Taxonomic List of the Major Groups of Birds

-with indications of North American families

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Following are the major groups of birds, as they have been designated so far, focusing especially on the Orders and Families of the current birds of the world, and designating (with underlines>) families represented in North and Middle America.

**Avialans and extinct birds:** A brief nested lineage is presented initially that starts with the Avialans—those dinosaurs believed to be more closely related to birds than to other dinos such as *Deinonychus*. Extinct fossil bird groups are presented mostly according to Chiappe (2001, 2002) and Sereno (2005). Until we get to modern birds (Neornithes), I have not represented groups as orders or families, because the most reliable paleontological data is still presented largely only at the level of genus. Some researchers (and researchers from some cultures in particular) are apt to ascribe order status to their fossil finds, but it is very possible that nearly every genus discovered in the Jurassic and Cretaceous, at least, merits order status. Therefore I have avoided dividing genera into families and orders, and mentioned only the number of genera that have been described. Among modern birds, Neornithes, the vast majority of fossil and subfossil finds are thought to be consistent with contemporary orders; thus only four extinct orders are listed here, each designated by a dagger (†). Two of them (*Lithornithiformes* and *Gastornithiformes*) went extinct before the historical period, so are listed in the introductory ancient lineage; the other two (*Dinornithiformes* and *Aepyornithiformes*) went extinct in the historical period (because of humans), and so are in the main list. As the fossil record improves over time, no doubt additional extinct orders (especially from fossils) will be designated. However, this will always be a difficult task, and placing them among contemporary orders will even be more difficult, for several reasons: (1) the issue mentioned above regarding the difference among scientists in their likelihood of ascribing higher



White-throated sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Passeriformes: Emberizidae). Mahopac, New York (April Lahti, 2015).



Violet sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus* (Apodiformes: Trochilidae). Monteverde, Costa Rica (April Lahti, 2008).

taxonomic status. (2) There is no reliable way of designating a taxonomic rank above species for a fossil bird that is consistent with the ranks of extant birds, for which their ranks were determined in part by genetic distance. And, finally, and most importantly, (3) extinct bird groups might not relate well to modern groups because evolution changes these things over time. Notice that what was once a tiny clade within Order Saurischia is now considered a class (Aves) all to itself, comprised of many orders! Of course, all animals derived once upon a time from one humble little protist species. This is a routine situation in evolution, yet our classification system cannot handle real life. That's ok, because we classify just to help ourselves know what's out there. Wise evolutionary biologists don't take these categories too seriously. One last note about the extinct birds: as we move down the lineage

through ever more specific (and chronologically later) groups, avialians eventually become birds. When we should start calling them birds is up for debate. Certainly by the time we get to the loon-like *Hesperornis*, everybody calls them birds, even though technically (according to this list and its sources) they are outside of Class Aves.

**Contemporary birds:** The orders and families represented in the main list, but not their sequence, are consistent with the International Ornithological Congress (IOC) World Bird List, 2015 edition. That classification divides the extant birds of the world into 40 orders, comprised of 239 families (plus two *incertae sedis*), which in turn are comprised of 2,282 genera. A total of 10,612 extant species (20,757 subspecies) of birds have been identified. The IOC list only groups species into orders and families. Here, following groundbreaking work in the last few years on the higher divisions among birds, I have modified the IOC sequence accordingly and also added putative superorders and other lineages above the order level (in nonpasserines) and below the order level (in passerines) to aid in connecting this list to what we know about the evolutionary history of birds. Much of the arrangement of extant orders is based on Jarvis et al. (2014), with some help from Prum et al. (2015), particularly with respect to the placement of Ciconiiformes. The names of superorders as suggested by Jarvis et al. are pretty poor (geez, we should put somebody who has an imagination and knows Latin in charge of naming such groups!), but the groupings are largely good. Paleognath arrangement and extinct groups are based on Mitchell et al. (2014). The arrangement of families and other clades within Passeriformes is based on John Boyd's *Taxonomy in Flux* (2015), although the number of families has been restricted to the more conservative IOC list. In general the relationships are better known for the nonpasserines than the passerines. In this list in general, the sequence of families within an order means little to nothing about their relationships within the order; the exceptions (in the passerines) are designated as such, with clade headings. All categories are intended to represent genetic relatedness, with those clades more indented being nested within those less indented.

**Ancillary information:** For each order and family, I have indicated how many species are included in the group, although this information is rather subject to change with further research. I have also included a common name that represents the group if there is one that has some degree of consensus. Note that common names are great aids to memory and communication but they vary over time, space, and language, and are not official scientific designators.

**North American families:** The official American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) has consistently updated the list of bird families that are represented by at least one species in North and Middle America—that is, from the North Pole to the Panama Canal, including islands in that area, and even outside of that area if they are part of one of the respective countries. This is the list that was previously called just “Birds of North America”, although the geographic coverage has not changed. I have underlined all of the families represented in that list according to the 2015 edition, excluding accidental species but including introduced species. Six genera are *incertae sedis* and thus are also excluded until their relationships are determined—*Nesospingus*, *Phaenicophilus*, *Calyptophilus*, *Rhodinocichla*, *Mitrospingus*, and *Spindalis*. Note that the number of species indicated for each family is the global value, not just for North America. The AOU currently deviates from IOC in that it gives *Sapayoa* and *Oxyruncus* family status; here I stick to the IOC and do not list them as families. Likewise the AOU does not give *Coereba* family status but the IOC does, and so I list Coerebidae. A total of 115



**Brown pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis***  
**(Pelecaniformes: Pelecanidae). Sanibel**  
**Island, Florida (April Lahti, 2014).**

North American families are listed here: 60 nonpasserine and 55 passerine).

# ORDERS AND FAMILIES OF BIRDS

-40 orders, 239 families of extant birds, 4 orders of extinct birds

-No extinct families are represented.

-115 underlined families are represented in North or Middle America.

## CLASS REPTILIA

### CLADE DINOSAURIA

#### ORDER SAURISCHIA

##### SUBORDER THEROPODA

AVIALAE clade (8 genera described, plus Avebrevicauda)

AVEBREVICAUDA clade (2 genera described, plus Pygostylia)

PYGOSTYLIA clade (6 genera described, plus Ornithothoraces)

ORNITHOTHORACES clade

†ENANTIORNITHES clade (84 genera described)

EUORNITHES clade (30 genera described, plus Ornithurae)

ORNITHURAE clade (20 genera described, plus  
Neornithes)

NEORNITHES clade (34 genera described  
*incertae sedis* or basal, plus those below)

†**ORDER LITHORNITHIFORMES** – false  
tinamous (4 genera described)

†**ORDER GASTORNITHIFORMES** –  
diatrymas (5 genera described)

***Neornithes = Aves!***



American goldfinch *Spinus tristis* (Passeriformes: Fringillidae).  
Mahopac, New York (April Lahti, 2015).

# CLASS AVES

## PALAEOGNATHAE

**ORDER STRUTHIONIFORMES** (1 family, 2 species)  
Family Struthionidae – ostriches (2 species)

**ORDER RHEIFORMES** (1 family, 2 species)  
Family Rheidae – rheas (2 species)

**ORDER TINAMIFORMES** (1 family, 47 species)  
Family Tinamidae – tinamous (47 species)

†**ORDER DINORNITHIFORMES** – moas

**ORDER APTERYGIFORMES** (1 family, 5 species)  
Family Apterygidae – kiwis (5 species)

†**ORDER AEPYORNITHIFORMES** – elephant birds

**ORDER CASUARIIFORMES** (2 families, 4 species)  
Family Casuariidae – cassowaries (3 species)  
Family Dromaiidae – emu (1 species)

## NEOGNATHAE : Galloanseres

**ORDER ANSERIFORMES** – waterfowl (3 families, 177 species)  
Family Anhimidae – screamers (3 species)  
Family Anseranatidae – magpie goose (1 species)  
Family Anatidae – ducks, geese, and swans (173 species)

**ORDER GALLIFORMES** – landfowl (5 families, 299 species)  
Family Megapodiidae – megapodes (21 species)  
Family Cracidae – chachalacas, curassows, and guans (55 species)  
Family Numididae – guineafowl (6 species)  
Family Odontophoridae – New World quail (34 species)  
Family Phasianidae – pheasants and allies (183 species)

## NEOGNATHAE : **Neoaves** (the rest)

### *COLUMBEA*

#### *SUPERORDER PHOENICOPTERIMORPHAE*

**ORDER PODICIPEDIFORMES** (1 family, 23 species)  
Family Podicipedidae – grebes (23 species)

**ORDER PHOENICOPTERIFORMES** (1 family, 6 species)  
Family Phoenicopteridae – flamingos (6 species)

#### *SUPERORDER COLUMBIMORPHAE*

**ORDER COLUMBIFORMES** (1 family, 334 species)  
Family Columbidae – pigeons and doves (334 species)

**ORDER PTEROCLIDIFORMES** (1 family, 16 species)  
Family Pteroclididae – sandgrouse (16 species)

**ORDER MESITORNITHIFORMES** (1 family, 3 species)  
Family Mesitornithidae – mesites (3 species)

### *PASSEREA* (the rest)

#### *SUPERORDER OTIDIMORPHAE*

**ORDER CUCULIFORMES** (1 family, 149 species)  
Family Cuculidae – cuckoos (149 species)

**ORDER MUSOPHAGIFORMES** (1 family, 23 species)  
Family Musophagidae – turacos (23 species)

**ORDER OTIDIFORMES** (1 family, 26 species)  
Family Otididae – bustards (26 species)

#### *SUPERORDER CAPRIMULGIMORPHAE*

**ORDER CAPRIMULGIFORMES** – nightjars or goatsuckers and allies (4 families, 122 species)  
Family Podargidae – frogmouths (16 species)  
Family Steatornithidae – oilbird (1 species)  
Family Nyctibiidae – potoos (7 species)  
Family Caprimulgidae – nightjars (98 species)

**ORDER APODIFORMES** – hummingbirds, swifts, and allies (4 families, 475 species)

Family Aegothelidae – owlet-nightjars (10 species)

Family Hemiprocnidae – treeswifts (10 species)

Family Apodidae – swifts (106 species)

Family Trochilidae – hummingbirds (349 species)

*SUPERORDER OPISTHOCOMIMORPHAE*

**ORDER OPISTHOCOMIFORMES** (1 family, 1 species)

Family Opisthocomidae – hoatzin (1 species)

*SUPERORDER CURSORIMORPHAE*

**ORDER GRUIFORMES** – cranes, rails, and allies (6 families, 190 species)

Family Sarothruridae – flufftails (12 species)

Family Heliornithidae – finfoots (3 species)

Family Rallidae – rails, crakes, and coots (156 species)

Family Psophiidae – trumpeters (3 species)

Family Gruidae – cranes (15 species)

Family Aramidae – limpkin (1 species)

**ORDER CHARADRIIFORMES** – shorebirds (19 families, 384 species)

Family Turnicidae – buttonquail (17 species)

Family Burhinidae – stone-curlews or thick-knees (10 species)

Family Chionidae – sheathbills (2 species)

Family Pluvianellidae – Magellanic plover (1 species)

Family Haematopodidae – oystercatchers (12 species)

Family Dromadidae – crab-plover (1 species)

Family Ibidorhynchidae – ibisbill (1 species)

Family Recurvirostridae – stilts and avocets (10 species)

Family Charadriidae – plovers (67 species)

Family Pluvianidae – Egyptian plover (1 species)

Family Rostratulidae – painted-snipes (3 species)

Family Jacanidae – jacanas (8 species)

Family Pedionomidae – plains-wanderer (1 species)

Family Thinocoridae – seedsnipes (4 species)

Family Scolopacidae – sandpipers and snipes (96 species)

Family Glareolidae – coursers and pratincoles (17 species)

Family Laridae – gulls, terns, and skimmers (101 species)

Family Stercorariidae – skuas (7 species)

Family Alcidae – auks (25 species)

*SUPERORDER PHAETHONTIMORPHAE*

**ORDER PHAETHONTIFORMES** (1 family, 3 species)  
Family Phaethontidae – tropicbirds (3 species)

**ORDER EURYPYGIFORMES** (2 families, 2 species)  
Family Rhynochetidae – kagu (1 species)  
Family Eurypygidae – sunbittern (1 species)

AEQUORNITHES – core waterbirds (6 orders)

*SUPERORDER GAVIIMORPHAE*

**ORDER GAVIIFORMES** (1 family, 5 species)  
Family Gaviidae – loons or divers (5 species)

*SUPERORDER PROCELLARIIMORPHAE*

**ORDER SPHENISCIFORMES** (1 family, 18 species)  
Family Spheniscidae – penguins (18 species)

**ORDER PROCELLARIIFORMES** – tubenoses or pelagic birds (5 families, 144 species)  
Family Oceanitidae – Austral storm petrels (9 species)  
Family Diomedidae – albatrosses (21 species)  
Family Hydrobatidae – northern storm petrels (16 species)  
Family Procellariidae – petrels and shearwaters (94 species)  
Family Pelecanoididae – diving petrels (4 species)

*SUPERORDER PELECANIMORPHAE*

**ORDER CICONIIFORMES** (1 family, 19 species)  
Family Ciconiidae – storks (19 species)

**ORDER PELECANIFORMES** – pelicans, herons, and allies (5 families, 118 species)  
Family Threskiornithidae – ibises and spoonbills (36 species)  
Family Ardeidae – herons and bitterns (72 species)  
Family Scopidae – hamerkop (1 species)  
Family Balaenicipitidae – shoebill (1 species)  
Family Pelecanidae – pelicans (8 species)

**ORDER SULIFORMES** (4 families, 60 species)  
Family Fregatidae – frigatebirds (5 species)  
Family Sulidae – gannets and boobies (10 species)  
Family Phalacrocoracidae – cormorants and shags (41 species)

Family Anhingidae – aningas or darters (4 species)

TELLURAVES: AFROAVES – core landbirds, originating in Africa (8 orders)

*SUPERORDER ACCIPITRIMORPHAE*

**ORDER ACCIPITRIFORMES** – hawks and allies (4 families, 265 species)

Family Cathartidae – New World vultures (7 species)

Family Sagittariidae – secretarybird (1 species)

Family Pandionidae – ospreys (2 species)

Family Accipitridae – kites, hawks, and eagles (255 species)

*SUPERORDER STRIGIMORPHAE*

**ORDER STRIGIFORMES** – owls (2 families, 241 species)

Family Tytonidae – barn owls (19 species)

Family Strigidae – owls (222 species)

*SUPERORDER CORACIIMORPHAE*

**ORDER COLIIFORMES** (1 family, 6 species)

Family Coliidae – mousebirds (6 species)

**ORDER LEPTOSOMIFORMES** (1 family, 1 species)

Family Leptosomidae – cuckoo-roller (1 species)

**ORDER TROGONIFORMES** (1 family, 43 species)

Family Trogonidae – trogons (43 species)

**ORDER BUCEROTIFORMES** – hornbills and hoopoes (4 families, 74 species)

Family Upupidae – hoopoes (4 species)

Family Phoeniculidae – wood hoopoes (9 species)

Family Bucorvidae – ground hornbills (2 species)

Family Bucerotidae – hornbills (59 species)

**ORDER PICIFORMES** – woodpeckers and allies (9 families, 443 species)

Family Galbulidae – jacamars (18 species)

Family Bucconidae – puffbirds (37 species)

Family Capitonidae – New World barbets (15 species)

Family Semnornithidae – toucan barbets (2 species)



Family Ramphastidae – toucans (46 species)  
Family Megalaimidae – Asian barbets (32 species)  
Family Lybiidae – African barbets (42 species)  
Family Indicatoridae – honeyguides (17 species)  
Family Picidae – woodpeckers (234 species)

**ORDER CORACIIFORMES** – rollers, kingfishers, and allies (6 families, 177 species)

Family Coraciidae – rollers (12 species)  
Family Brachypteraciidae – ground rollers (5 species)  
Family Alcedinidae – kingfishers (114 species)  
Family Todidae – todies (5 species)  
Family Momotidae – motmots (14 species)  
Family Meropidae – bee-eaters (27 species)

TELLURAVES: AUSTRALAVES – core landbirds, originating in Australasia (4 orders)

*SUPERORDER CARIAMIMORPHAE*

**ORDER CARIAMIFORMES** (1 family, 2 species)  
Family Cariamidae – seriemas (2 species)

*SUPERORDER FALCONIMORPHAE*

**ORDER FALCONIFORMES** (1 family, 67 species)  
Family Falconidae – falcons and caracaras (67 species)

*SUPERORDER PASSERIMORPHAE*

**ORDER PSITTACIFORMES** – parrots (4 families, 395 species)  
Family Strigopidae – New Zealand parrots (4 species)  
Family Cacatuidae – cockatoos (21 species)  
Family Psittacidae – African and New World parrots (178 species)  
Family Psittaculidae – Old World parrots (192 species)

**ORDER PASSERIFORMES** – passerines or perching birds (131 families, 6399 species)  
(see Passeriform section starting next page)



Laughing gull *Leucophaeus atricilla* (Charadriiformes: Laridae). Sanibel Island, Florida (April Lahti, 2014).

## ORDER PASSERIFORMES (131 families, 6399 species)

### SUBORDER ACANTHISITTI

Family Acanthisittidae – New Zealand wrens (4 species)

### SUBORDER TYRANNI – suboscines

INFRAORDER EURYLAIMIDES – Old World suboscines

Family Eurylaimidae – broadbills (20 species)

Family Pittidae – pittas (33 species)

INFRAORDER TYRANNIDES – New World suboscines

SUPERFAMILY TYRANNOIDEA - bronchophones

Family Furnariidae – ovenbirds (313 species)

Family Thamnophilidae – antbirds (236 species)

Family Formicariidae – antthrushes (12 species)

Family Grallariidae – antipittas (53 species) 5781

Family Conopophagidae – gnateaters (11 species)

Family Rhinocryptidae – tapaculos (59 species)

Family Melanopareiidae – crescentchests (4 species)

SUPERFAMILY FURNARIOIDEA - tracheophones

Family Tyrannidae – tyrant flycatchers (432 species)

Family Cotingidae – cotingas (66 species)

Family Pipridae – manakins (52 species)

Family Tityridae – tityras and becards (45 species)

### SUBORDER PASSERI – oscines or songbirds (the rest)

INFRAORDER MENURIDA – Australian ancient songbirds

Family Menuridae – lyrebirds (2 species)

Family Atrichornithidae – scrubbirds (2 species)

INFRAORDER CLIMACTERIDA – Australasian bowerbirds & treecreepers  
Family Ptilonorhynchidae – bowerbirds (20 species)  
Family Climacteridae – Australasian treecreepers (7 species)

INFRAORDER MELIPHAGIDA – Australasian insectivores & nectarivores  
Family Maluridae – Australasian wrens (29 species)  
Family Meliphagidae – honeyeaters (187 species)  
Family Dasyornithidae – bristlebirds (3 species)  
Family Pardalotidae – pardalotes (4 species)  
Family Acanthizidae – Australasian warblers (65 species)

INFRAORDER ORTHONYCHIDA – Australasian logrunners and pseudo-babblers  
Family Pomatostomidae – Australasian babblers (5 species)  
Family Orthonychidae – logrunners (3 species)

INFRAORDER CORVIDA

Family Paramythiidae – painted berrypeckers (2 species)  
Family Psophodidae – whipbirds, jewel-babblers, and quail-thrushes (17 species)  
Family Platysteiridae – wattle-eyes and batises (33 species)  
Family Malaconotidae – bushshrikes (49 species)  
Family Machaerirhynchidae – boatbills (2 species)  
Family Vangidae – vangas (21 species)  
Family Pityriaseidae – bristlehead (1 species)  
Family Artamidae – woodswallows, butcherbirds, and allies (24 species)  
Family Aegithinidae – loras (4 species)  
Family Campephagidae – cuckooshrikes (92 species)  
Family Mohouidae – whiteheads (3 species)  
Family Neosittidae – sittellas (3 species)  
Family Eulacestomatidae – ploughbill (1 species)  
Family Oreoicidae – Australo-Papuan bellbirds (3 species)  
Family Pachycephalidae – whistlers and allies (56 species)  
Family Laniidae – shrikes (33 species)  
Family Vireonidae – vireos and greenlets (63 species)  
Family Oriolidae – figbirds and Old World orioles (38 species)  
Family Dicruridae – drongos (25 species)  
Family Rhipiduridae – fantails (50 species)  
Family Monarchidae – monarchs (101 species)  
Family Corvidae – crows and jays (130 species)  
Family Corcoracidae – Australian mudnesters (2 species)  
Family Melampittidae – melampittas (2 species)  
Family Ifritidae – ifrita (1 species)  
Family Paradisaeidae – birds-of-paradise (41 species)

INFRAORDER PASSERIDA (the rest)  
MELANOCHARITOIDEA clade

Family Melanocharitidae – berrypeckers and longbills (10 species)

CNEMOPHILOIDEA clade

Family Cnemophilidae – satinbirds (3 species)

CALLAEOIDEA clade

Family Callaeidae – New Zealand wattlebirds (5 species)

Family Notiomystidae – stitchbird (1 species)

Family Petroicidae – Australasian robins (49 species)

PICATHARTOIDEA

Family Picathartidae – rockfowl (2 species)

Family Chaetopidae – rockjumpers (2 species)

Family Eupetidae – rail-babbler (1 species)

PAROIDEA clade (titmice and allies)

Family Stenostiridae – fairy flycatchers (9 species)

Family Paridae – tits and chickadees (64 species)

Family Remizidae – penduline tits (11 species)

Family Hyliotidae – hyliotas (4 species)

SYLVOIDEA clade (Old World warblers/babblers and allies)

Family Nicatoridae – nicators (3 species)

Family Panuridae – bearded reedling (1 species)

Family Alaudidae – larks (97 species)

Family Pycnonotidae – bulbuls (151 species)

Family Hirundinidae – swallows and martins (88 species)

Family Pnoepygidae – wren-babblers (5 species) 3406

Family Macrosphenidae – crombecs and African warblers (18 species)

Family Aegithalidae – bushtits (13 species)

Family Phylloscopidae – leaf warblers and allies (77 species)

Family Cettiidae – cettia bush warblers and allies (32 species)

Family Acrocephalidae – reed warblers and allies (61 species)

Family Cisticolidae – cisticolas and allies (158 species)

Family Locustellidae – grassbirds and allies (62 species)

Family Donacobiidae – black-capped donacobius (1 species)

Family Bernieridae – Malagasy warblers (11 species)

Family Timaliidae – babblers (55 species)

Family Pellorneidae – fulvetas and ground babblers (70 species)

Family Leiothrichidae – laughingthrushes (133 species)

Family Sylviidae – sylviid babblers (70 species)

Family Zosteropidae – white-eyes (127 species)

Family Erythroceridae – yellow flycatchers (3 species)

REGULOIDEA clade

Family Regulidae – goldcrests and kinglets (6 species)

BOMBYCILLOIDEA clade (waxwings and allies)

Family Elachuridae – elachura (1 species)

Family Bombycillidae – waxwings (3 species)

Family Ptiliogonatidae – silky-flycatchers (4 species)

Family Hypocoliidae – hypocolius (1 species)

Family Dulidae – palmchat (1 species)

Family Mohoidae – oos (5 species)

- Family Hylocitridae – hylocitrea (1 species)
- CERTHIOIDEA clade (wrens, treecreepers, and allies)
  - Family Certhiidae – treecreepers (11 species)
  - Family Troglodytidae – wrens (84 species)
  - Family Polioptilidae – gnatcatchers (18 species)
  - Family Sittidae – nuthatches (28 species) 2386
  - Family Tichodromidae – wallcreeper (1 species)
- MUSCICAPOIDEA clade (Old World flycatchers, starlings, and allies)
  - Family Mimidae – mockingbirds and thrashers (34 species)
  - Family Sturnidae – starlings and rhabdornis (123 species)
  - Family Buphagidae – oxpeckers (2 species)
  - Family Turdidae – thrushes (167 species)
  - Family Muscicapidae – chats and Old World flycatchers (321 species)
  - Family Cinclidae – dippers (5 species)
- PASSEROIDEA clade (finches, New World warblers, blackbirds, and allies, including “nine-primaries oscines”)
  - Family Arcanatoridae – dapple-throat and allies (3 species)
  - Family Promeropidae – sugarbirds (2 species)
  - Family Irenidae – fairy-bluebirds (2 species)
  - Family Chloropseidae – leafbirds (11 species)
  - Family Dicaeidae – flowerpeckers (48 species)
  - Family Nectariniidae – sunbirds (143 species)
  - Family Passeridae – Old World sparrows and snowfinches (51 species)
  - Family Ploceidae – weavers and widowbirds (109 species)
  - Family Estrildidae – waxbills, munias, and allies (141 species)
  - Family Viduidae – indigobirds and whydahs (20 species)
  - Family Peucedramidae – olive warbler (1 species)
  - Family Prunellidae – accentors (13 species)
  - Family Motacillidae – wagtails and pipits (66 species)
  - Family Urocynchramidae – Przevalski’s finch (1 species)
- Nine-primaried oscine clade, within Passeroidea:
  - Family Fringillidae – finches (225 species)
  - Family Parulidae – New World warblers or wood warblers (119 species)
  - Family Icteridae – oropendulas, New World orioles, and blackbirds (109 species)
  - Family Coerebidae – bananaquit (1 species)
  - Family Emberizidae – buntings, New World sparrows, and allies (180 species)
  - Family Thraupidae – tanagers and allies (374 species)
  - Family Calcariidae – longspurs, snow buntings (6 species)
  - Family Cardinalidae – cardinals, grosbeaks, and allies (70 species)
- Probable Passerida families of unknown affinity:
  - Family Tephrodornithidae – woodshrikes and allies (8 species) 1746
  - Family Prionopidae – helmetshrikes (8 species)
  - Family Rhagologidae – mottled berryhunter (1 species)
  - Family Scotocercidae – streaked scrub warbler (1 species)
  - Family Incertae Sedis 1 – uncertain identity (3 species)

Family Incertae Sedis 2 – uncertain identity (6 species)



Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (Accipitriformes: Pandionidae). Jamaica Bay, New York (April Lahti, 2011).