



Based on band recoveries from 1951 to 1998

Most wood ducks banded in Maryland leave the state by early-mid November. They spend the rest of the fall and winter in the southeastern U.S., mainly North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. About 70% of recoveries in the first year (direct recoveries) occur in states south of Maryland.

In subsequent years (indirect recoveries), Maryland banded drakes are commonly recovered in states north of Maryland as nesting pairs form on wintering areas and the hen's homing instincts dictate the pairs subsequent migration path.

Maryland bands approximately 400 wood ducks annually.

