

2021 ILQP Analysis and Commentary

The 2021 event went off with the usual anticipation and excitement. Cheer-leading by various club groups helped bring out participation and planning, especially among the portables in all parts of the state. Weather was not a big factor.

Band conditions were ...meh.... At the start, it seemed that the higher bands might produce significant numbers of contacts, but few appeared to go there, being satisfied to stay on twenty and forty meters early and migrating to eighty meters as the day wore on. Only a dozen contacts were made on ten meters and about thirty on fifteen meters. On the other hand, nearly two hundred were made on one hundred sixty meters, an interesting trend! At the other end of the spectrum, about forty contacts were completed on two meter simplex and about a dozen on six meters.

Twenty meters accounted for just over nine thousand of the approximately fifty thousand total contacts reported, forty meters was good for about thirty thousand, and eighty picked up the rest (nearly ten thousand).

Reminder: contacts above 148 Mhz and on the WARC bands are not valid for ILQP.

Division by mode: CW accounted for about sixty percent of the reported contacts, digital modes for about a tenth of a percent and phone for the remainder. Most mobiles and rovers were CW only. If those are removed, the percentages of CW and phone are fairly equal.

Counties on the Air....

We tried. We really tried. No operations were scheduled in Carroll, and none materialized. N9G made too many last-minute route changes, got caught up in the pileups and failed (by three minutes) to get to Henderson. The other 100 counties were found in logs, though LEE and BURO barely made it. You can plan, but you can't guarantee. We really need more fixed stations and portables so the mobiles and rovers are not quite so frantic. Some counties were not workable on both modes as the mobiles and rovers accounted for a large percentage of "unique counties", and most of them operated CW only.

Club Competition

A total of twenty-four local clubs (plus Society of Midwest Contesters) were credited with Illinois entrants' scores. Metro DX Club aroused the interest of nine members and came away with the win. McHenry County Wireless Association was a fairly close second, with WIARC, PRIME ARA and Peoria Area ARC rounding out the top five.

Winners

If you operated for the full eight hours, had fun and didn't break too much stuff, you were a "winner". However, not everyone gets a plaque (or a certificate).

K9CT and K9PG repeated as the in-state winners of High and Low Power Fixed Stations with Craig breaking his previous record. He also receives the plaque for the most mixed-mode QSOs. Paul's win over K9RN was by only about one percent. KD9GY receives the plaque for most phone QSOs.

In the Mobile category, AD4EB (and driver KI4HVY) romped through twenty-four counties and logged an eye-popping total of 1303 QSOs, averaging over 160 per hour. I don't know if this can be topped, but I'm sure Jim and Melody will take a shot at it again. At least, we sure hope so! Jim also receives the plaque for the most CW QSOs. N9G (N9JF and KB9CES in disguise) were a distant second. K9WX and KA9FZR were good enough to also come from out-of-state and made significant contributions in the north and southeast.

As a Rover, N0AC came across the border and won again, covering several counties in the western sector. ND9E and AA0Z filled in some holes in the south.

The group of portable stations changed a bit in 2021 with some missing (from 2020) in the south but others being added in different parts of the state. K9D (with three operators) found the "magic touch" by operating in a park on a county line and pulled in the contesters, the county hunters and the park chasers on the way to an overall Portable category win. W9WB scored an impressive win in the 3-county group as a QRP station (and won the IL QRP certificate as well). K9NYO was the only 4-county entrant and did well from the suburban QTH. KF9D repeated as the single-county portable winner.

Out of State

There were entrants from forty-one states, three provinces and five other DXCC entities. There still has never been an ILQP entry from HI, Labrador, Newfoundland, Nunavut, Manitoba or the Yukon. If you want to get into the record books, there's your ticket!

As a mobile, it is fairly easy to tell within the first couple of counties who is "serious" about the contest this year. There were several who were obviously going to score well, and the logs confirmed this. K9RS (Delaware) was the easy winner in the High Power category, though WA0JCO (Missouri) found one more county (82 vs 81). K4BAI (Georgia) and KA6BIM (Oregon) were separated (3rd and 4th) by the equivalent of a single contact! In the Low Power category, K9NW (Ohio) won fairly easily over W8PI (Michigan) with K8MR (Ohio) and N9NM (Texas) separated by only a couple of contacts. KE0TT was the out-of-state QRP winner.

New Records

K9CT broke his own record for Illinois Fixed High Power. While not records, K9PG, K9RN and N9SJ joined the Top Ten list for Illinois Fixed Low Power.

AD4EB's mobile score is a new record, edging out the standard set by KF9D back in 2002.

KM9O and K7DZE join the Top Ten for 3-county portables. K9D takes over the #1 spot for two-county portables by a wide margin, with W9WE, KD9NET and W9UUU joining the Top Ten chart in this grouping. KF9D beat his 2020 effort and retains top spot in the single-county portable crowd, with N9EP, N9I and W9NXM joining the Top Ten.

Somebody needs to set up a portable station that includes Alexander County. There has never been a score submitted to ILQP by a fixed or portable station in that county! Or, we could bug someone who actually LIVES in that county to get on and submit a log. There are apparently twenty-six hams in the county and they are NOT all Technicians!

K9RS joins the Top Ten for Non-IL High Power and K9NW for Low Power, though no one challenged the mark set last year by K1RO. OM2VL's score, while down from 2020, was still good enough for fifth on the all-time DX list.

AD4EB's CW QSO total was a new record for "Raw Numbers". He now has the top six spots in this list. His 2021 total is also #3 on the "total CW QSOs list" competing with county line stations.

In county/state/DX records, K9D becomes #1 for BOND and FAYE, W9JWC #1 for DEWT, N9I #1 for JACK, N9EP #1 for LASA, K9CT #1 for PEOR, K9UIY #1 for STEP and KF9D #1 for WTSD. KY7M tops the list all-time for AZ, K9RS for DE, HB9BXF (first ever from Switzerland), WA0JCO for MO, VE9VIC for NB, and AA1SU for VT. In addition, K9NW joins KV8Q in OH with identical scores!

Miscellaneous musings, gripes and head-scratches....

Log submissions came thick and fast. An attempt was made to acknowledge each one as quickly as possible and to keep the "Logs Received" list updated on the web. The vast majority of the logs were submitted in acceptable formats. Those that could not be fixed were returned for modification. One NYQP log was received as was one HIQP log. A few .adi files were received and had to be either rejected and modified or just modified (with gnashing of teeth). Most of the Excel files received worked fine, though those who changed the order of columns sent logs that had to be changed...again....

Each year, we get fewer logs with non-standard county abbreviations, and we thank you! The fact that log checking here is not “automated” means some get a “pass” on log entries that are “not exactly correct” if we can figure out what you meant. Entries that are “wrong” get “busted” with no credit. “Unique” entries are all checked to see if they are legitimate calls. Those that are get further scrutiny as to location and whether or not they match other logs. I’m sure CQWW has a better system, and they probably don’t provide as much latitude to things that don’t look right...but I could be mistaken....

Just about three percent of submitted log entries were judged to be either duplicates or busted calls/exchanges. No points were assigned to these, but neither were other penalties assessed.

Most other possible comments here would fall under “griping”, and those to whom they would be (anonymously) directed would forget them by next October...so....

The wizardry of WA9GBC with Excel macros has made the process much easier over the years. His programming, and an insane amount of manual scrutiny, have made it possible this year to get the ILQP results out under a month past the log due date. Thanks, Dave!

For the committee, N9JF

High Illinois QSO Party Scores through 2021 event

Illinois Fixed Station (split HP/LP beginning 2016)

K9CT	234806	21	HP
K9CT	195328	20	HP
K9CT	188650	17	HP
K9CT	188250	15	
K9CT	185070	16	HP
K9CT	183300	18	HP
K9PG	180081	15	
K9CT	177536	14	
K9PG	169500	16	LP
K9PG	168554	14	
KB9UWU	167570	14	
K9PG	166608	17	LP
K9PG	157220	20	LP
K9PG	124602	21	LP
K9RN	123200	21	LP
N9SJ	102384	21	LP

Illinois Mobile Station ***

AD4DB	217460	21	
KF9D	215052	02	
AD4EB	195330	15	
AD4EB	193752	20	
KF9D	187920	04	
W1NN	183160	00	
W1NN	180122	02	
KF9D	177572	03	
AD4EB	176398	17	
KF9D	174384	05	

Illinois County-Line Portable Station (since 1996) ***

W9AIU	614220	18	(4)
W9AIU	612720	17	(4)
W9AIU	535840	16	(4)
N9FN	513420	14	(4)
N9JF	507580	00	(4)
W9AIU	473200	15	(4)
W9AIU	454960	20	(4)
N9FN	446880	15	(4)
W9DY	424888	00	(4)
N9GZ	418476	04	(4)

K9BGL	297000	20	(3)
K9BGL	200220	19	(3)
K9BGL	198162	18	(3)
NR9Q	138494	17	(3)
KC9I	128186	17	(3)
KD0NEO	114444	17	(3)
KM9O	83979	21	(3)
K7DZE	64206	21	(3)
K9D	222780	21	(2)
W9W	112518	17	(2)
W9WE	62496	21	(2)
W9W	59502	18	(2)
W9WE	55748	19	(2)
W9WE	49126	18	(2)
W9WE	47520	20	(2)
KD0NEO/9	29088	20	(2)
KD9NET	25160	21	(2)
W9UUU	23986	21	(2)
KF9D	144384	21	(1)
KF9D	120512	20	(1)
N9EP	116620	21	(1)
KU9Z	101308	17	(1)
KF9D	96258	19	(1)
KF9D	87000	18	(1)
N9EP	78761	18	(1)
N9EP	71252	19	(1)
N9I	66780	21	(1)
W9NXM	59073	21	(1)

Illinois Rover Station (since 2007)

KF9D	207108	14	
KF9D	191140	13	
KJ9C	178656	18	
N9C (N0AC)	163344	20	
KJ9C	156208	14	
KJ9C	153134	15	
KJ9C	150895	13	
KF9D	146138	12	
W9TY	144480	08	
AC0RA	134176	18	

Stations Outside Illinois (SPLIT HP/LP 2016)

K1RO	58491	20	HP
K1RO	58408	18	HP
K4BAI	51701	04	
K1RO	50220	17	HP
WA3HAE	45300	04	
WA3HAE	44499	07	
KI6RRN	44156	20	HP
K9OM	43989	18	LP
K8BB	43912	06	
NE0P	42660	02	
WA3HAE	41310	08	
N4VA	41308	07	
AD1C	41130	02	
K9RS	41067	21	HP
WA3HAE	40629	14	
WB8WKQ	38688	18	LP
K4BAI	38962	18	
WB8WKQ	37620	17	LP
N8II	37392	20	LP
K8MR	35956	18	LP
K9NW	33880	21	LP

Illinois QRP Stations (since 2000)

NN9K/P	165816	14	(3-COUNTY)
NN9K/P	130172	13	(2-COUNTY)
K9ZO	69812	15	
K9ZO	62759	20	
W9TO/P	57750	06	
N9MZP	49220	05	
N9MZP	45227	04	
W9TO	44730	04	
W9SE	42504	02	
W9SE	42416	13	
K9ZO	36708	18	

Stations Outside Illinois QRP (since 1998)

W8TM	39936	13
K5IID	31980	00
W8TM	26524	08
KE0G	24150	08
W8TM	21546	06
KE0TT	18760	18
W8TM	18752	09
AE8M	18300	15
W8TM	18000	05
W8TM	17554	03
KE0TT	17500	19

DX Stations (since 1998)

OM2VL	38665	18
OM2VL	32844	20
DL3DXX	28968	20
OM2VL	25256	19
OM2VL	23927	21
OM2VL	23779	17
OM2VL	21240	14
DL5ME	20250	02
DL3GA	12768	13
DL3DXX	10560	09

Illinois Mults: Non-Illinois Stations

WA3HAE	100	04
K1RO	97	20
K4BAI	97	04
K5KPE	96	17
W8TM	96	13
OM2VL	95	18
KB9OWD	95	13
K4XU	95	02
K9WX	92	15
N4VA	92	07
N4PN	91	15
K8IR	91	06
WA3HAE	91	07
WA3HAE	91	01
K8IR	91	03
K1RO	90	18

Multipliers: Illinois Stations ***

N9JF/P	205	00
W9DY/P	173	00
K9PG	156	17
K9CT	154	17
K9CT	150	18
K9PG	149	18
K9ZO	149	02
K9ZO	149	03
W9AIU	148	17
K9PG	147	02
N2BJ	146	13
K9ZO	145	05
KI9A	144	02

Counties Worked IL Stations

K9CT	98	16
K9PG	97	17
K9NR	94	17
K9PG	94	15
K9PG	93	18
K9PG	93	16
WT2P/9	92	17
K9CT	91	15
K9CT	90	17
K9PG	90	14

*** change in calculating bonus multipliers for mobile and portable stations means results before and after 02 are not comparable ***

Counties OP'd from: Illinois Mobile Stations

KF9D	29	96
KF9D	27	92
AD4EB	26	15
KF9D	25	94
KF9D	25	12
AD4EB	24	21
KF9D	24	98
KF9D	24	93
KF9D	24	97
AD4EB	23	20
W9MSE	23	10
KF9D	23	95
NN9K	23	07

CW QSO's : Illinois Stations

N9FN/P	1528	14
W9DY/P	1452	02
AD4EB/M	1303	21
AD4EB/M	1233	20
N9FN/P	1192	09
N9GZ/P	1168	04
W9DY/P	1156	00
N9GZ/P	1152	06
AD4EB/M	1149	15
KN9T/P	1128	99

CW QSO'S 'RAW': IL STNS

AD4EB/M	1303	21
AD4EB/M	1233	20
AD4EB/M	1149	15
AD4EB/M	991	17
AD4EB/M	905	18
AD4EB/M	888	14
K0PC/M	876	17
W9MSE/M	818	13
KF9D/R	765	13
N9BIL/M	712	10
W9MSE/M	712	10

CW QSO's: Non-Illinois Stations

K4BAI	229	04
NT2A	222	14
KV8Q	220	14
K1RO	216	20
NE0P	211	02
N4VA	208	07
K1PQS	205	02
AD1C	200	02
NE0P	199	04
WA3HAE	199	04
WA3HAE	199	08

Phone QSO's: Illinois Stations

NR9Q/P	1521	14
N9CDX/P	1404	05
AB9DU/P	1395	03
KN9T/P	1076	03
AB9DU/P	1002	04
WX9PIA/P	984	11
N9FN/P	952	05
N9FN/P	924	14
N9GZ/P	908	04
N9FN/P	908	11

Phone QSO's 'Raw': Illinois Stns

N2BJ	931	10
NV9L	889	14
KE9N	797	14
N2BJ	735	11
KB9UWU	691	14
K2DRH	642	10
N2BJ	641	14
N9OK	568	14
K9CT	536	14
NA9Q	521	10

Phone QSO's: Non-Illinois Stations

W0BH	195	09
K5KPE	192	14
W0BH	183	07
WB8WKQ	158	09
N4PN	147	05
KC0DEB	136	10
W4PHS	134	10
K8BB	133	06
K4BAI	132	14
N8II	129	11

Illinois Local Club Cumulative

PRIME ARA	1364856	17	20 entries
Green River Val ARS	1294183	05	24
PRIME ARA	1168377	16	16
PRIME ARA	1055812	14	12
PRIME ARA	994891	15	18
Green River Val ARS	950573	04	25
PRIME	917573	13	16
Kankakee ARS	831671	11	18
Green River Val ARS	772857	07	16
Green River Val ARS	741789	06	12

ILQP county/state/province/country score records updated 2021

COUNTY	STATION	SCORE	YEAR
ADAM	N9JF/P	84134	05
ALEX			
BOND	K9D/P	111390	21
BOON	W9DY/P	106222	00
BROW	N9JF/P	80375	99
BURO	K9WA/P	102828	05
CALH	W9WE/P	36432	13
CARR	K9OT/P	67628	13
CASS	AC9FL	25872	16
CHAM	N9FN/P	111720	15
CHRS	KC9HW	6954	08
CLRK	N9EP/P	80343	14
CLAY	K9DXA/P	38100	14
CLNT	K9BGL/P	99000	20
COLE	KD9AC	20328	05
COOK	K9PG	144060	02
CRAW	AH6EZ/W9	71755	13
CUMB	AC9FL	20025	17
DEKA	W9DY/P	106222	00
DEWT	W9JWC	31291	21
DOUG	N9FN/P	111720	15
DUPG	K9PG	180081	15
EDGR	N9FN/P	111720	15
EDWA	NV9S/P	13912	16
EFFG	K9DXA/P	38100	14
FAYE	K9D/P	111390	21
FORD	WR9L	39567	14
FRNK	W9W/P	94869	16
FULT	AB9DU/P	40455	03
GALL	W9AIU/P	153180	17
GREE	W9FGH/P	78210	05
GRUN	W9ILY	107144	19
HAML	W9AIU/P	153180	17
HANC	N9JF/P	84134	05
HARD	KM9O/P	19800	17
HNDR	NR9Q/P	40553	16
HENR	K9WA/P	102828	05
IROQ	K9PG	155530	04
JACK	N9I	66780	21
JASP	AH6EZ/W9	71755	13
JEFF	W9W/P	94869	16
JERS	W9FGH/P	78210	05
JODA	KF9D/P	108250	16
JOHN	N9JF/P	128995	00
KANE	WT2P/9	90220	17

KANK	K9NR	146544	16
KEND	K9COE	10432	05
KNOX	NN9K/P	65436	13
LAKE	W9QL	94094	15
LASA	N9EP/P	116620	21
LAWR	N8OOU	8694	13
LEE	N9CDX/P	71934	13
LIVG	WR9L	39567	14
LOGN	K9ZM	37823	10
MACN	WR9D	127292	13
MCPN	WS9V	120015	17
MADN	W9GKA	27100	05
MARI	W9IL	82500	07
MSHL	KN9T/P	78679	07
MASN	WX9JC/P	20670	08
MSSC	ND9E/P	23644	14
MCDN	NN1N	63612	20
MCHE	W9CWO(N7US)	142606	20
MCLN	K9ZO	165539	02
MNRD	WA9AQN	77172	08
MRCR	NR9Q/P	40553	16
MNRO	K0ATC/P	61944	14
MNTG	K9GXU/P	19888	13
MORG	WB9LWO	2580	10
MOUL	NJ9Q	29600	17
OGLE	W9DY/P	106222	00
PEOR	K9CT	234806	21
PERR	WA9TUG	16080	15
PIAT	W9XC	45700	13
PIKE	N9JF/P	80375	99
POPE	N9JF/P	128995	00
PULA	KD9MS	33579	20
PUTN	KN9T/P	78679	07
RAND	K0ATC/P	61944	14
RICH	NV9S/P	13912	16
ROCK	W9RI	63036	06
SALI	W9AIU/P	153180	17
SANG	K9OM	68432	98
SCHY	N9JF/P	84134	05
SCOT	KB9TVR	220	15
SHEL	N9PPJ/P	6400	17
STAR	N9CDX	53664	05
SCLA	KI9A	142848	02
STEP	K9UIY	59696	21
TAZW	WX9U	79860	10
UNIO	KD0NEO/P	38148	17
VERM	N9FN/P	111720	15
WABA	NV9S/P	13912	16
WARR	NR9Q/P	40553	16

WASH	K9BGL/P	99000	20
WAYN	KD0NEO/9	14544	20
WHIT	W9AIU/P	153180	17
WTSD	KF9D/P	144384	21
WILL	N2BJ	128188	13
WMSN	N9JF/P	128995	00
WBGO	W9DY/P	106222	00
WOOD	K3WA	107125	16
AB	VE6NS	336	15
AL	K5WP	16965	14
AK	AL1G	2	15
AR	K5KPE	36096	17
AZ	KY7M	16926	21
BC	VA7RN	6030	20
CA	KI6RRN	44156	20
CO	N9CO/0	33292	02
CT	W1QK	19240	20
DE	K9RS	41067	21
DX-CU	CU2JT	4902	07
DX-DL	DL3DXX	28968	20
DX-G	G3JJG	364	02
DX-HA	HA0DU	7074	02
DX-HB	HB9BXF	2	21
DX-I	IK2CFD	450	20
DX-LA	LA8OM	162	02
DX-LZ	LZ4TU	6	14
DX-LY	LY3BA	5124	02
DX-OE	OE5NNN	2294	02
DX-OK	OK1FCA	1500	02
DX-OM	0M2VL	32844	20
DX-ON	OT6M (ON9CC)	3782	20
DX-PA	PA3ARM	4292	02
DX-SM	SM5ALJ	300	14
DX-SP	SP4JWR	1232	04
DX-UA	UA3AGW	576	16
DX-UR	UT5UIA	3080	04
DX-VK	VK2CZ	4	01
DX-YO	YO4ATW	200	08
DX-VP2V	VP2V/KG9N	18	09
FL	NO4S	23700	01
GA	K4BAI	51701	04
HI	no record		
IA	KW0J	25813	17
ID	K7TM	6321	17
IN	K9WX	34776	14
KS	W0BH	39818	07
KY	K4FT	27231	16
LA	AC5O	12726	20

LAB	no record		
MA	AD1C	41130	02
MB	no record		
MD	K4MUT	32895	04
ME	K1PQS	32292	02
MI	K8BB	43912	06
MN	WA0MHJ	37758	06
MO	WA0JCO	25338	21
MS	W5XX	10208	19
MT	KI7MT	14616	15
NB	VE9VIC	3306	21
NC	N4UOH	31584	02
ND	KD0CVZ	1872	10
NE	KV0I	23904	20
NF	no record		
NH	K1RO	58491	20
NJ	W2LHL	17324	04
NM	W5RJJ	2535	20
NS	VE1RGB	17388	09
NU	no record		
NV	KC7NUP	3552	04
NY	NT2A	35076	14
OH	K9NW	33880	21
OH	KV8Q	33880	14
OK	NE0P	42660	02
ON	VE3NBJ	30562	07
OR	K4XU	34675	02
PA	WA3HAE	45300	04
PEI	VY2SS	14573	08
QC	VE2EM/M	18072	02
RI	W1WBB	20496	20
SC	N4IQ	24409	16
SD	K0HW	21216	06
SK	VE5SDH	14003	15
TN	KE0L	32121	20
TX	K5LH	25800	09
UT	WE7G	7038	08
VA	N4VA	41308	07
VT	AA1SU	8650	21
WA	W6OAT	20306	19
WI	W9YQ	34272	06
WV	N8II	37392	20
WY	WG7Y	2880	04
YT	no record		