

8 black vulture facts

- Black vultures belong to the Cathartidae family, a group of seven species of New World vultures found in the Americas. ([Hawk Mountain Global Raptor Conservation](#))
- New World vultures are scavengers that feed mainly on carcasses of dead animals and live in temperate climates. These species include black vultures, turkey vultures, king vultures, Andean condors, California condors, greater yellow-headed vultures and lesser yellow-headed vultures. ([World Atlas](#))
- Black vultures are the heaviest vultures in the eastern U.S., weighing 4.5 to 6 pounds. ([Hawk Mountain Global Raptor Conservation](#))
- The oldest black vulture on record was at least 25 years, six months old when it was found in 1965 in Louisiana. They may live even longer in captivity. ([Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#))
- Black vultures lack a voice box, and so their vocal abilities are limited to making raspy hisses and grunts. ([Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#))
- Black vultures have a whitish patch near their wingtips that appears when they are in flight. Their head is dark gray. ([The National Audubon Society](#))
- Black vultures are known to breed throughout the southeastern and middle Atlantic region of the U.S. and are often sighted in southeastern Canada. The species also breeds throughout Central America and much of South America. ([Hawk Mountain Global Raptor Conservation](#))
- Black vulture parents regurgitate food to their young, and small nestlings receive liquefied food as often as 20 times a day. When the young are 14 days old, they begin receiving solid food. As the young mature, parents gradually spend more time away from the nest and feed older nestlings two to four times a day. ([Hawk Mountain Global Raptor Conservation](#))

