



# TEXAS BAIRD'S RAT SNAKE

*(PATHEROPHIS BIARDI)*

## ANIMAL FACTS

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### WILD LOCALITY:

Southwest United States & Mexico

### HABITAT:

Forested Areas, Deserts, & Grasslands

### LIFESTYLE:

Primarily Terrestrial, Semi-Arboreal (ground-dwelling, occasionally in trees)

### DIET:

Small Mammals, Small Birds, Occasional Reptiles, & Eggs (carnivore)

### LIFE EXPECTANCY:

~ 10-15 years in the care of humans (less in the wild)

### ADULT SIZE:

~ 3-4 ft, & 500-800g

### ACTIVITY:

Cathemeral (active in the day or night)

### CONSERVATION STATUS:

Least Concern

### THREATS:

Habitat Loss, Invasive Species, & Human Influence

### FUN FACTS:

Baird's Rat Snakes, like all rat snakes, are primarily rodent eaters, but can also consume food items such as small birds and eggs. They are able to hunt in the trees due to their skills at climbing, but will typically be found on the ground. Babies of this species look very different when newly hatched than they do when adult sized. As they grow and shed (as all other snakes do) they gradually lose their spotted patterns and baby coloration, and develop long dorsal stripes along their bodies. Each individual looks different than the next, and their colors can range from orange to gold, to brown, to silver, and sometimes a mix of all of those together.