



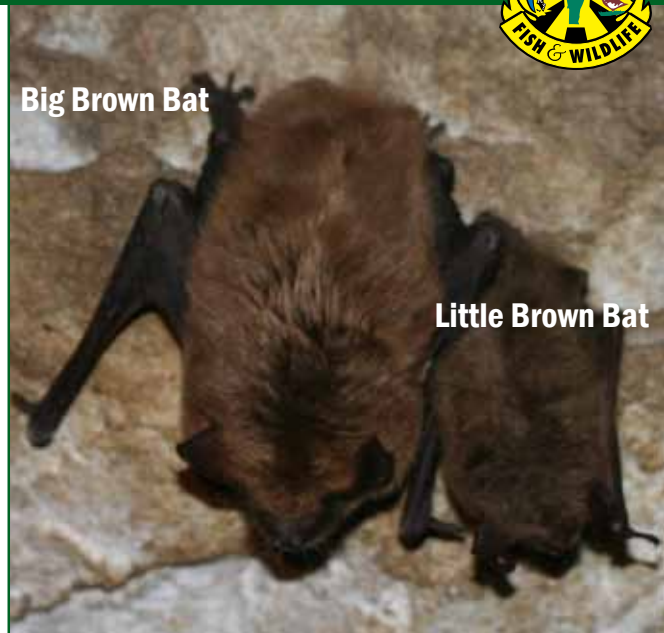
# How to Tell the Difference Between Little Brown and Big Brown Bats

## House Bats

The little brown bat and the big brown bat are referred to as “house bats” and can typically be found in buildings in Vermont from mid-April to October. Occasionally, the big brown can be found in buildings throughout the winter months, hibernating in attics or basements. When both species are present, size is the easiest characteristic to distinguish the two species – big brown bats are more than twice the size of little brown bats.

### Little brown bat

- Adult little brown bats are typically only 2.5 – 4 inches long from nose to tail, about the size of an adult’s thumb.
- Fur is uniformly dark brown and glossy on the back with slightly paler, grayish fur underneath.
- Wing membranes are dark brown with a typical wingspan of 8.5–11 inches.
- Little brown bat guano is about the size of a typical grain of uncooked rice. The big brown bat guano is larger.



**Short brown fur on back**



**Little Brown Bat**



**Small Nose**

### Big brown bat

- Larger in size than little brown bats, about 4 to 5 inches in body length.
- A broader nose stands out compared to that of a little brown.
- The fur looks long and silky, and is typically chocolate brown in color.
- The wing membranes, ears, feet and face are dark brown to blackish in color with an 11-13 inch wingspan.

**Long silky fur**



**Big Brown Bat**



**Large Nose**

## Comparing Guano Size

