

(Jeff Maw)



Cardinalidae the PIRANGA TANAGERS, CARDINALS, and ALLIES

The taxonomic classification of some birds in the family Cardinalidae remains unclear. Many changes in family placement and arrangement have been made, and future changes to these taxonomic classifications should be expected. For example, the *Piranga* Tanagers were once included in the Tanager family Thraupidae.

For our purposes, the Cardinal family is a grouping of more than 60 species of birds distributed throughout North and South America. A total of 18 of these cardinals, *Piranga* tanagers, grosbeaks, and buntings, have been documented in North America, and 11 have been documented in the Carolinas. Species accounts for 10 of these are presented below and the 11th, the Black-headed Grosbeak, is discussed in the Supplementary Bird List.