Percentage of Species Tested in 2018

- Bat: 41.4%
- Common Raccoon: 3.8%
- Domestic Cat: 21.3%
- Domestic Livestock: 5.4%
- Domestic Dog: 22.5%
- Striped Skunk: 2.6%
- Other Mammal Species: 3.2%

7% of the 208 bats were positive for rabies
1% of the 107 cats were positive for rabies
8% of the 13 skunks were positive for rabies

Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Recommendations by Public Health

Indication for Rabies PEP, MT 2018

- Animal Tested Positive for Rabies: 11
- Animal Specimen Unsuitable for Testing: 10
- Bat Sleeping Exposure: 52
- Unable to Locate Domestic Animal: 76
- Wild Animal Exposure, Unavailable for Testing: 27

Public health authorities may recommend rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (rPEP) if the animal responsible for a suspected exposure cannot be evaluated for rabies either by observation (when applicable) or testing. In 2018, rPEP was administered or recommended to be administered to 238 people.

Rabies Deaths in the US and Worldwide

59,000 deaths worldwide due to rabies each year.
98% of these worldwide human rabies deaths are from exposures to rabid dogs.

Certain animal populations have their own variations of the rabies virus. According to the CDC, at the beginning of the 20th century, the canine variant of the rabies virus was common in the United States, but beginning in 1947, animal vaccination and leash control laws led to improved rabies control nationwide. Due to pet vaccination efforts, the canine variant was eliminated from the US in 2004. Unvaccinated dogs can still be infected by other rabid animals, such as skunks or bats.

Bats and skunks are high risk animals for rabies transmission to humans. According to CDC, during 1960–2018, among 89 U.S. acquired human rabies cases, 62 (70%) were attributed to bats.

Human cases of rabies were reported in 1996 and 1997. Both deaths were associated with bat strains.

Public health in the 406
Communicable Disease Epidemiology

World Rabies Day
September 28, 2019