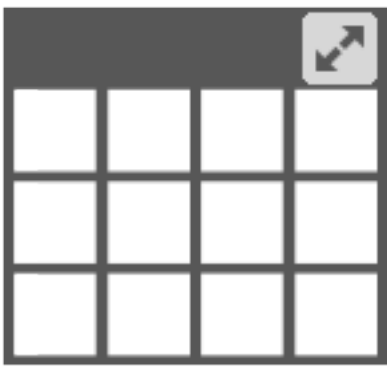

Human Rabies

Human rabies cases in the United States are rare, with only 1 to 3 cases reported annually. Twenty-three cases of human rabies have been reported in the United States in the past decade (2008-2017). Eight of these were contracted outside of the U.S. and its territories.

The number of human rabies deaths in the United States attributed to rabies has been steadily declining since the 1970's thanks to animal control and vaccination programs, successful outreach programs, and the availability of modern rabies biologics. Dog rabies vaccination programs have halted the natural spread of rabies among domestic dogs, which are no longer considered a rabies reservoir in the United States. Nonetheless, each year between 60 to 70 dogs and more than 250 cats are reported rabid. Nearly all these animals were unvaccinated and became infected from rabid wildlife (such as bats, raccoons, and skunks).

Despite the control of rabies in domestic dogs in the United States, each year interactions with suspect animals result in the need to observe or test hundreds of thousands of animals and to administer rabies postexposure prophylaxis to 30,000 to 60,000 persons.

Cases of Rabies in Humans in the United States and Puerto Rico from January 2008 Through September 2017 by Circumstances of Exposure and Rabies Virus Variant



Date of onset	Date of death	Reporting state	Age (y)	Sex	Exposure*	Rabies virus variant†
5-May-17	21-May-17	VA	65	F	Bite	Dog, India
25-Nov-15	1-Dec-15	PR	54	M	Bite	Dog-mongoose, Caribbean
17-Sep-15	3-Oct-15	WY	77	F	Contact	Bat, Ln
30-Jul-15	24-Aug-15	MA	65	M	Bite, Philippines	Dog, Philippines
12-Sep-14	26-Sep-14	MO	52	M	Unknown	Bat, Ps
16-May-13	11-Jun-13	TX	28	M	Unknown, Guatemala	Dog, Guatemala
31-Jan-13	27-Feb-13	MD	49	M	Kidney transplant	Raccoon, eastern United States
6-Jul-12	31-Jul-12	CA	34	M	Bite	Bat,Tb
22-Dec-11	23-Jan-12	MA	63	M	Contact	Bat, My sp
3-Dec-11	19-Dec-11	SC	46	F	Unknown	Bat,Tb
1-Sep-11	14-Oct-11	MA	40	M	Contact, Brazil	Dog, Brazil
21-Aug-11	1-Sep-11	NC	20	M	Unknown (organ donor)§	Raccoon, eastern United States
14-Aug-11	31-Aug-11	NY	25	M	Contact, Afghanistan	Dog, Afghanistan
30-Jun-11	20-Jul-11	NJ	73	F	Bite, Haiti	Dog, Haiti
30-Apr-11	Survived	CA	8	F	Unknown	Unknown
24-Dec-10	10-Jan-11	WI	70	M	Unknown	Bat, Ps
2-Aug-10	21-Aug-10	LA	19	M	Bite, Mexico	Bat, Dr
23-Oct-09	20-Nov-09	VA	42	M	Contact, India	Dog, India
20-Oct-09	11-Nov-09	MI	55	M	Contact	Bat, Ln
5-Oct-09	20-Oct-09	IN	43	M	Unknown	Bat, Ps
25-Feb-09	Survived	TX	17	F	Contact	Bat, unknown

19-Nov-08	30-Nov-08	MO	55	M	Bite	Bat, Ln
16-Mar-08	18-Mar-08	CA	16	M	Bite, Mexico	Fox,Tb related

*Data for exposure history are reported when plausible information was reported directly by the patient (if lucid or credible) or when a reliable account of an incident consistent with rabies virus exposure (eg, dog bite) was reported by an independent witness (usually a family member). Exposure histories are categorized as bite, contact (eg, waking to find bat on exposed skin) but no known bite was acknowledged, or unknown (ie, no information about known contact with an animal was elicited during case investigation).

†Rabies virus variants associated with terrestrial animals in the United States and Puerto Rico are identified with the names of the reservoir animal (eg, dog or raccoon), followed by the name of the most definitive geographic entity (usually the country) from which the variant has been identified. Rabies virus variants associated with bats are identified with the names of the species of bats in which they have been found to be circulating. Because information regarding the location of the exposure and the identity of the exposing animal is almost always retrospective and much information is frequently unavailable, the location of the exposure and the identity of the animal responsible for the infection are often limited to deduction. §Infection was not identified until 2013, when an organ recipient developed rabies.

Dr = *Desmodus rotundus*. Ln = *Lasionycteris noctivagans*. My sp = *Myotis* species. Ps = *Perimyotis subflavus*. Tb = *Tadarida brasiliensis*

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