



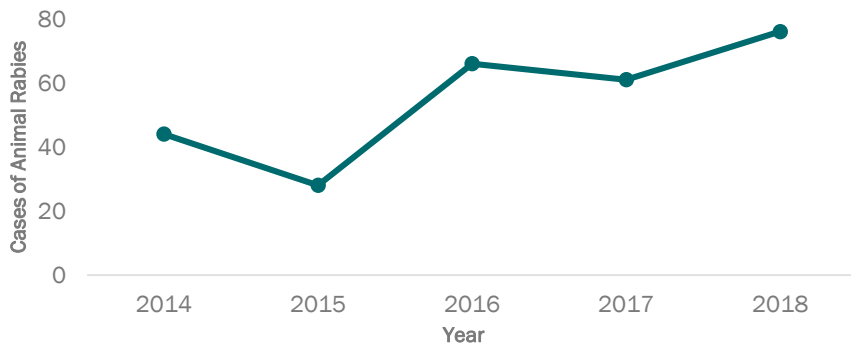
Animal Rabies

Maine Surveillance Report | 2018

Case Information:

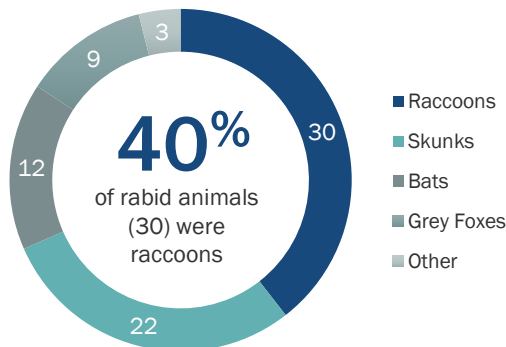
76 Animals tested positive at HETL

24.6% Increase from 2017



Exposure Characteristics:

Reported Rabid Animals



In Maine, confirmed* rabid animals were involved in:

47 domestic animal exposures **18** human exposures **8** domestic animal & human exposures

* No exposures identified for three cases involving a confirmed rabid animal

Laboratory:



- **602** animals submitted to HETL for testing
- **570** animals tested (95% of total submissions)
- **494** negative results (87% of total tested)
- **32** animals not tested[^]

[^] Reasons for not testing animals include improper packaging, delays in shipment, contamination of the specimen, questionable exposures, etc.

Rabies Post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):

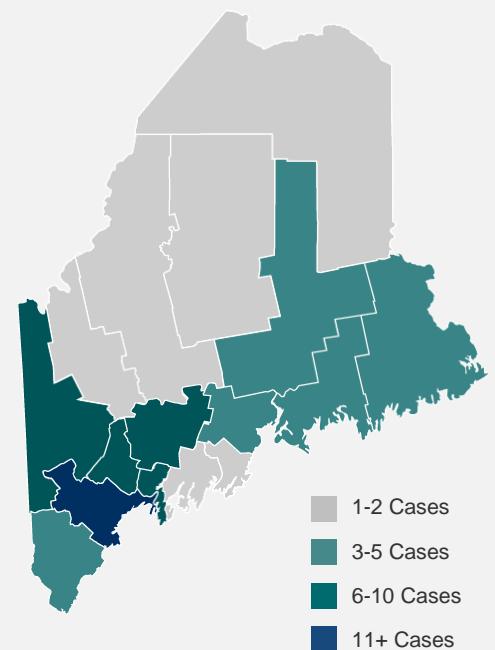


- **152** patients received or were recommended for rabies PEP (**96%** began treatment after an exposure)
- **41%** increase from 2017

A case from 2018:

In the summer of 2018, an otter emerged from the water onto a beach and began chasing some beach goers, including children. Marine Patrol captured the otter to submit it for rabies testing after the otter bit a person. The otter tested positive for rabies virus and the person exposed by the otter received rabies PEP.

Geography:



Prevention:

- Vaccinate dogs and cats (even if indoor)
- Avoid contact with wildlife or any animal you do not know
- After an animal bite:
 - Clean wounds with soap and water
 - Call your local ACO or Game Warden
 - Speak to your provider for treatment recommendations

For more information visit:

www.maine.gov/dhhs/rabies
www.cdc.gov/rabies