

BAT BYTES: Rabies Review and Zoonotic Updates

Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning
 Kelly Giesbrecht, DVM, MPH, State Public Health Veterinarian

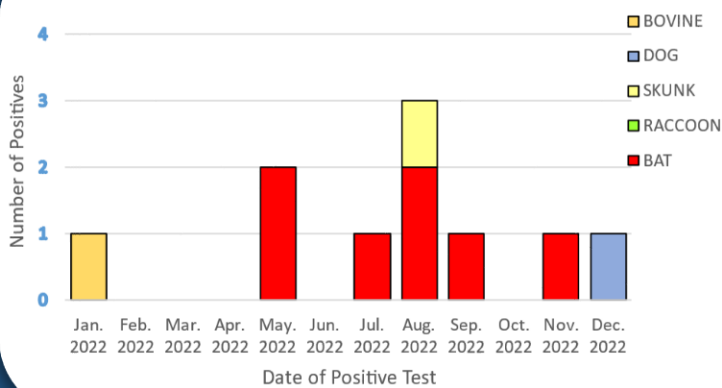


Kentucky Public Health
 Prevent. Promote. Protect.

This Issue:

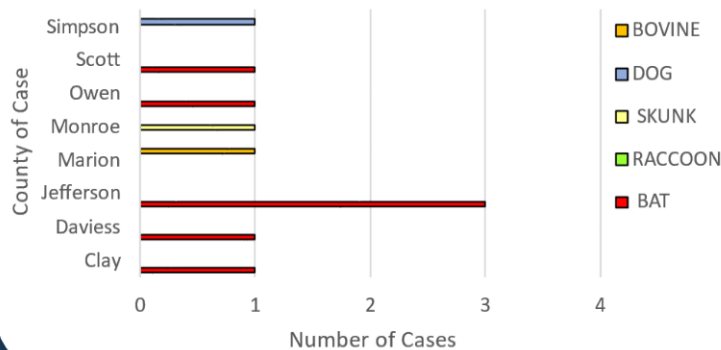
- 2022 Rabies Cases: 10
- Species and County Distribution
- 2022 Positive Rabies Epi Curve
- Importing dogs into the United States
- Review: Pre-exposure rabies shots for people

2022 Positive Rabies: Kentucky



Be sure to recommend a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator be contacted when bats are found in the house.

2022 Kentucky Rabies by County



Guidelines for importing a dog into the US:

- Temporary import restriction from High-risk countries will remain in place through July 2023.
- As of March 2023, dogs from a high-risk country must have a CDC Rabies Vaccination and microchip record.
- Dogs must have a CDC Dog Import Permit:
- [How to Apply for a CDC Dog Import Permit](#)
- [Bringing a Dog into the United States | Bringing an Animal into U.S. | Importation | CDC](#)
- [High-Risk Countries for Dog Rabies | Bringing an Animal into U.S. | Importation | CDC](#)
- In May 2022 the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices modified the preexposure prophylaxis human rabies vaccination schedule
- 2-doses (days 0 and 7) intramuscular rabies vaccination series replaces the 3-dose series
- [Pre-exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\) | Prevention | CDC](#)
- If a bat is found in a bedroom, testing the bat or rabies PEP is recommended if the bat is unavailable
- UKVDL Rabies Map: [Ky Rabies \(uky.edu\)](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

>216 Bats were tested at the state lab in 2022
 Kentucky saw 1 rabid dog in 2019,
 3 rabid dogs in 2020,
 2 rabid dogs in 2021
 1 rabid dog in 2022.

They were unvaccinated or under-vaccinated and all had skunk variant rabies.

Kentucky Rabies Positive Animals 2017-2022

