



Division of Infectious Disease and Epidemiology  
**Animal Rabies Surveillance Report**  
 July 2020 to December 2020

**Report at a glance:**

- All animals tested for rabies have been described according to time, place, and species concerned.
- A total of **392** specimens were tested for animal rabies. Approximately **4.1%** of all specimens tested were positive for rabies virus.
- Approximately **45.7%** of the samples were tested in **June**.
- The majority of submissions (56.6%) came from **Providence County**. **One** submission (0.26%) was from **Connecticut**, and **two** submissions (0.51%) were from **Massachusetts**.
- **Bats** were the most commonly submitted species (62.5% of all submissions). Approximately 64.5% percent of the bat submissions came from **Providence County**.
- The highest rate of positive tests were in **bats** (37.5%) and **skunks** (37.5%), followed by **raccoons** (12.5%), **coyote** (6.3%), and **woodchuck** (6.3%). Refer to Table 2.
- Animals positive for rabies were found in **thirteen Rhode Island towns**.

Graph 1. Animal Rabies Testing Submission Results, July - December 2020, RI

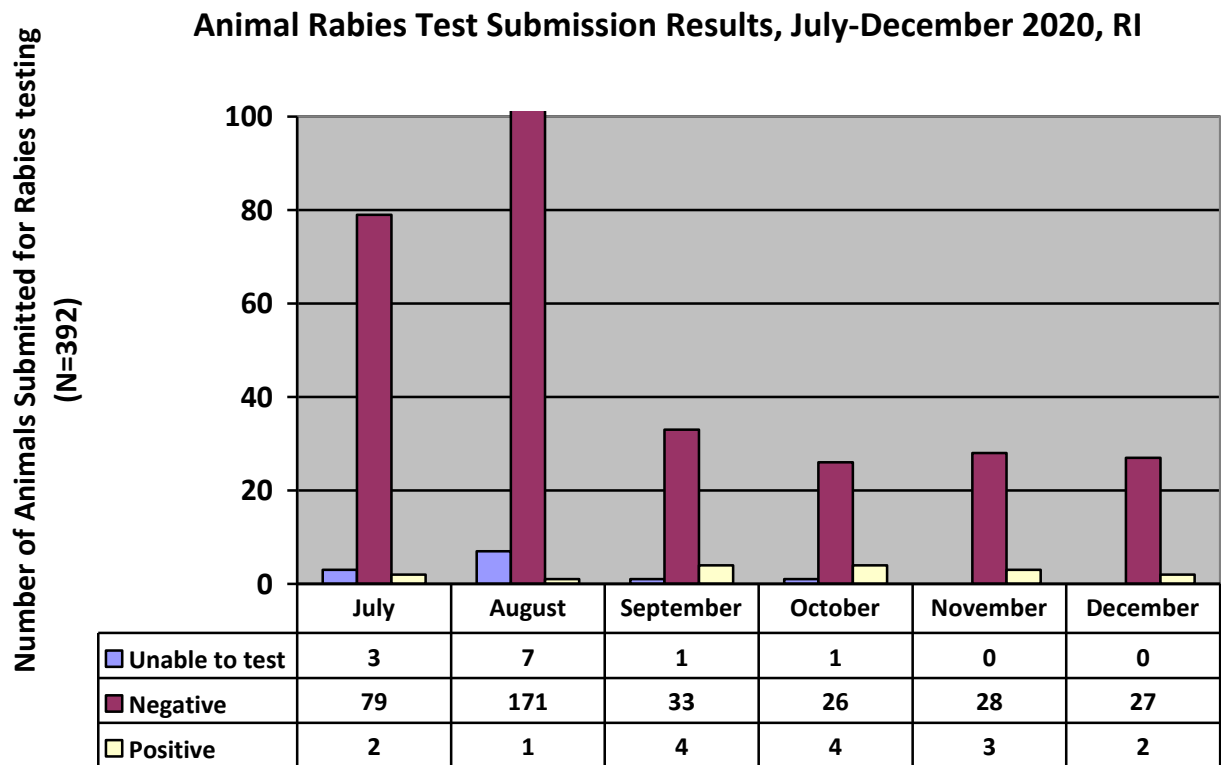


Table 1. Positive Rabies Test Results in Animals by County, July – December 2020, RI

| County       | Number of Positives | % of Total Positives |
|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Bristol      | 2                   | 12.5%                |
| Kent         | 3                   | 18.7%                |
| Providence   | 7                   | 43.8%                |
| Newport      | 0                   | 0.0%                 |
| Washington   | 4                   | 25.0%                |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>16</b>           | <b>100.0%</b>        |

Table 2. Positive Rabies Test Results in Animals by Species, July – December 2020, RI

| Species   | # Positive | % Positive By Species<br>(Number of this species positive/ number of this species tested) x 100 | % Positive Overall<br>(Number positive for this species / Number of all positive tests) x 100 |
|-----------|------------|---|---|
| Bat       | 6          | 2.5 %   | 37.5%   |
| Coyote    | 1          | 50.0%   | 6.3%  |
| Raccoon   | 2          | 20.0%   | 12.5%   |
| Skunk     | 6          | 30.0%   | 37.5%   |
| Woodchuck | 1          | 8.33%   | 6.3%  |

Graph 2. Animal Rabies Test Submission Results by Species, July - December 2020, RI

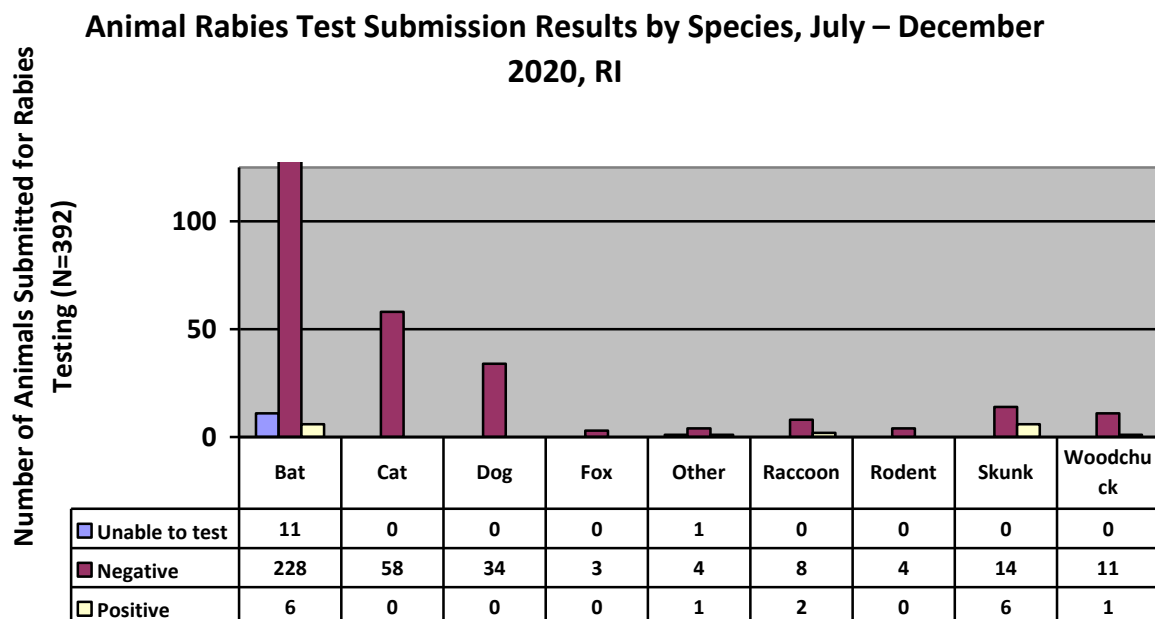


Table 3. Animals Submitted for Rabies Testing by Species and Locale, July – December 2020, RI

| <b>City</b>     | <b>Species</b> | <b>Negative</b> | <b>Unable to Test</b> | <b>Positive</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Barrington      | Bat            | 3               | 1                     | 0               | 4            |
|                 | Skunk          | 1               | 0                     | 1               | 2            |
| Bristol         | Bat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Cat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Dog            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Skunk          | 3               | 0                     | 1               | 4            |
| Burrillville    | Woodchuck      | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Bat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Cat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Raccoon        | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
| Charlestown     | Skunk          | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Bat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Bat            | 4               | 1                     | 0               | 5            |
| Coventry        | Cat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Dog            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Skunk          | 0               | 0                     | 1               | 1            |
|                 | Bat            | 31              | 2                     | 1               | 34           |
| Cranston        | Cat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Coyote         | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Dog            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Bat            | 5               | 0                     | 0               | 5            |
| Cumberland      | Cat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Dog            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Cat            | 12              | 0                     | 0               | 12           |
| East Greenwich  | Dog            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Fox            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Bat            | 7               | 1                     | 0               | 8            |
| East Providence | Cat            | 3               | 0                     | 0               | 3            |
|                 | Coyote         | 0               | 0                     | 1               | 1            |
|                 | Dog            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Raccoon        | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Skunk          | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
| Exeter          | Bat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Cat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Dog            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
|                 | Skunk          | 0               | 0                     | 1               | 1            |
| Foster          | Bat            | 2               | 0                     | 0               | 2            |
|                 | Cat            | 1               | 0                     | 0               | 1            |
| Glocester       | Bat            | 6               | 0                     | 0               | 6            |

|                  |           |    |   |   |    |
|------------------|-----------|----|---|---|----|
|                  | Cat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Woodchuck | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Hopkinton        | Bat       | 1  | 1 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Fox       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Jamestown        | Bat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Johnston         | Bat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                  | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Sheep     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Lincoln          | Bat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                  | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Little Compton   | Bat       | 3  | 0 | 0 | 3  |
| Middletown       | Cat       | 3  | 0 | 0 | 3  |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Narragansett     | Bat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Newport          | Bat       | 9  | 2 | 0 | 11 |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Raccoon   | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| North Kingstown  | Bat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| North Providence | Bat       | 5  | 0 | 0 | 5  |
|                  | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| North Smithfield | Bat       | 7  | 0 | 0 | 7  |
|                  | Woodchuck | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
| Pawtucket        | Bat       | 8  | 0 | 1 | 9  |
|                  | Cat       | 3  | 0 | 0 | 3  |
|                  | Dog       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Raccoon   | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Skunk     | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1  |
| Portsmouth       | Bat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Cat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Dog       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                  | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Providence       | Bat       | 59 | 2 | 2 | 63 |
|                  | Cat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                  | Dog       | 8  | 0 | 0 | 8  |
|                  | Opossum   | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                  | Raccoon   | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |

|                 |           |    |   |   |    |
|-----------------|-----------|----|---|---|----|
|                 | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Woodchuck | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
| Richmond        | Bat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
| Scituate        | Bat       | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1  |
| Smithfield      | Bat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                 | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Fox       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Rodent    | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| South Kingstown | Bat       | 7  | 0 | 0 | 7  |
|                 | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Deer      | 0  | 1 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Horse     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Raccoon   | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1  |
|                 | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Woodchuck | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1  |
| Tiverton        | Bat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Skunk     | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Woodchuck | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Warren          | Bat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                 | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Raccoon   | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Warwick         | Bat       | 17 | 0 | 0 | 17 |
|                 | Cat       | 6  | 0 | 0 | 6  |
|                 | Dog       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                 | Rodent    | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Skunk     | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                 | Woodchuck | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
| West Greenwich  | Bat       | 1  | 0 | 1 | 2  |
|                 | Cat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
| West Warwick    | Bat       | 4  | 0 | 0 | 4  |
|                 | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Raccoon   | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1  |
|                 | Rodent    | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Woodchuck | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
| Westerly        | Bat       | 13 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
|                 | Cat       | 2  | 0 | 0 | 2  |
|                 | Rodent    | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Skunk     | 0  | 0 | 1 | 1  |
| Woonsocket      | Bat       | 3  | 0 | 1 | 4  |
|                 | Cat       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |
|                 | Dog       | 1  | 0 | 0 | 1  |

|               |             |     |    |    |     |
|---------------|-------------|-----|----|----|-----|
|               | Woodchuck   | 1   | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Connecticut   | Cat         | 1   | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Massachusetts | Bat         | 1   | 0  | 0  | 1   |
|               | Cat         | 1   | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Total         | All Species | 364 | 12 | 16 | 392 |

For the most current information or questions regarding data/methods, please contact: Jason Garrett, BSN, MPH  
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