



## Rabies in Colorado January 1 - December 16, 2016 Lab Confirmed Rabies Positive Animals

The establishment of endemic rabies in a terrestrial wildlife reservoir, especially in the urban areas, has had enormous public health repercussions. In an effort to identify rabies activity, CDPHE continues to conduct a rabies surveillance project for wildlife showing abnormal behavioral signs of rabies to determine the distribution of skunk rabies in Colorado.

With the risk of rabies being high in wild animals (especially skunks) laboratory-based rabies surveillance is essential for rabies prevention and control. This allows accurate information that will guide human post exposure prophylaxis decisions; determine the management of potentially exposed animals, aid in emerging pathogen discovery and to describe the epidemiology of the disease.

As of December 16, 2016, 88 animals have tested positive for rabies in Colorado. Of these, 65 rabid animals were known or strongly suspected of exposing 100 domestic pets, 116 livestock animals, and 32 humans.

County	Bat	Skunk	Other Wildlife	Domestic	Total
Adams	1	2			3
Arapahoe	5	5			10
Baca		1	1	1-cat	3
Boulder	7	2	1		10
Broomfield	1				1
Chaffee	1				1
Denver	3	1			4
Douglas		3			3
Eagle	2				2
Elbert		3			3
El Paso	3				3
Jefferson	4	5		1-cat	10
La Plata	1				1
Larimer	12				12
Morgan		2			2
Pitkin	1				1
Pueblo	13				13
Saguache	1				1
Weld	3	1		1-cat	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>88</b>

## Lab Confirmed Rabies Positive Animals by Month

