



Rabies in Colorado, 2018

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Rabies is regularly found among wildlife (especially skunks) in Colorado, even in urban areas. We monitor wildlife and test animals showing signs of rabies to determine how far the disease has spread among skunks.

Rabies is a serious threat to humans and animals. Our lab-based monitoring helps us prevent cases in people and control the spread of rabies in animals, decide what treatment to use when humans have been exposed, figure out how to manage animals that might have been exposed, and add to the science of the disease.

In 2018, 325 animals from Colorado tested positive for rabies. Of those, 198 rabid animals were known or strongly suspected of exposing 379 domestic pets, 165 livestock animals, and 118 people. These numbers may change as additional information is acquired.

Lab-confirmed, rabies positive animals by county, Colorado, Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2018

County	Bat	Skunk	Other wildlife	Domestic	Total
Adams	2				2
Arapahoe	4	1			5
Archuleta		1			1
Bent	1				1
Boulder	7	2			9
Broomfield	2		1 (raccoon)		3
Cheyenne		1			1
Douglas	1	3		1 (alpaca)	5
Denver	5	71			76
Eagle	1				1
El Paso	6	62	1 (raccoon)		69
Elbert		3			3
Fremont	2				2
Grand	1				1
Huerfano		1			1
Jefferson	8	18			26
Larimer	6	45	1 (coyote)		52
Las Animas		1			1
La Plata	3	2			5
Lincoln		2			2
Mesa	2				2
Montrose	1				1
Morgan	1	3			4
Otero	1				1
Ouray	1				1
Pitkin	1				1
Prowers		1			1
Pueblo	11	4		1 (dog)	16
Saguache	3				3
Weld	8	13	1 (raccoon)	7 (cats and dog)	29
Total	78	234	4	9	325

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