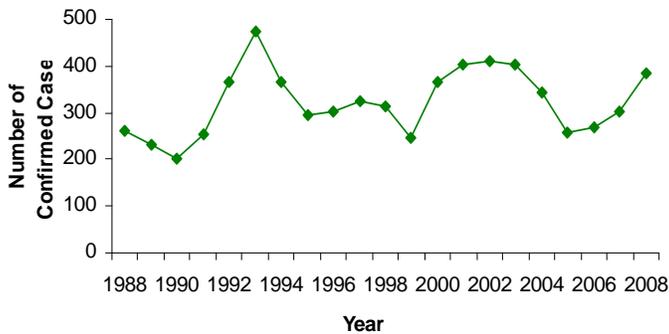
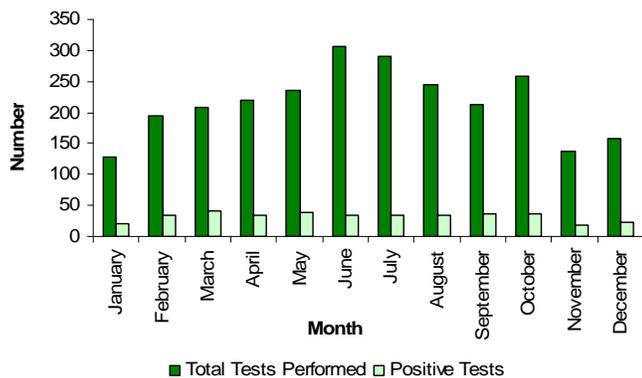


2008 Georgia Data Summary: RABIES

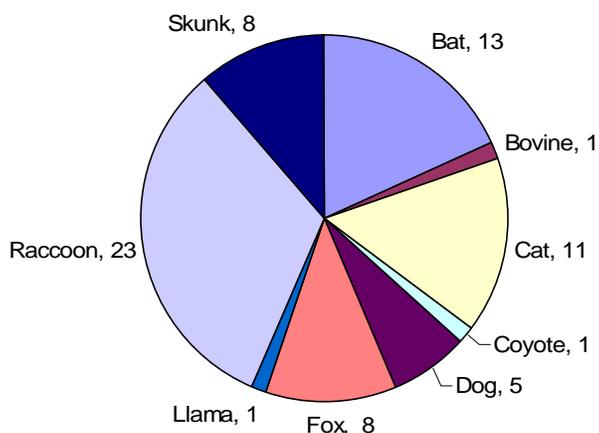
Confirmed Animal Rabies Cases in Georgia 1988-2008



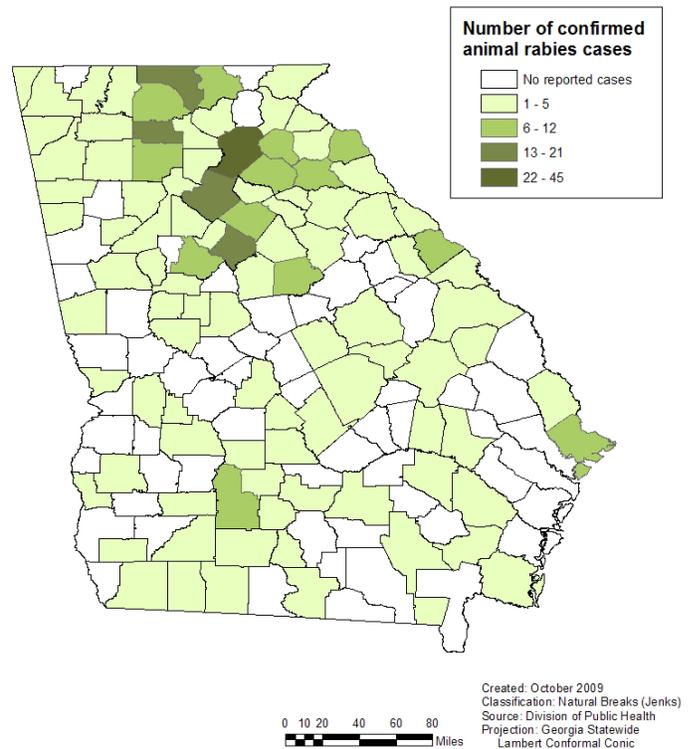
Rabies Tests Performed in Georgia, 2008



Source of Human Exposures to Rabid Animals in Georgia, 2008

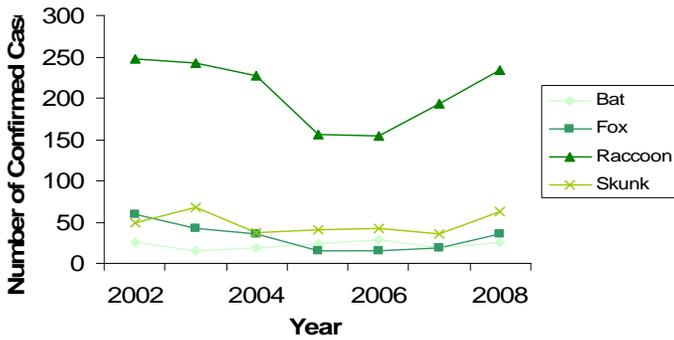


Confirmed Animal Rabies Cases by County, 2008

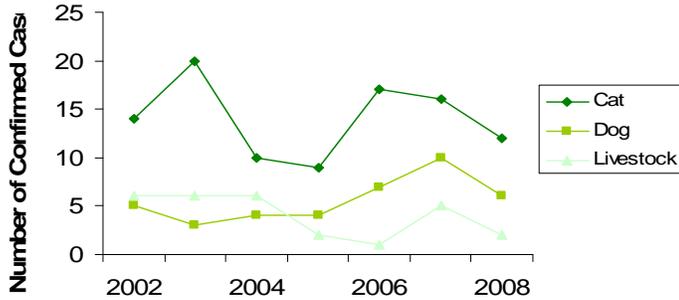


- Georgia has been identified as having a high endemicity of rabies in wild animals (e.g., raccoons, skunks, foxes, bats) and a low endemicity in domestic animals (e.g., cats, dogs, livestock).
- In the Southeastern United States, the primary reservoir of rabies is the raccoon. Both raccoon and bat variants of the rabies virus have been found in Georgia.
- In 2008, 2595 animal specimens were laboratory tested for rabies. Three hundred and eighty-five (14.8%) tested positive.
- Of the 159 counties in Georgia, 148 submitted animal specimens for rabies testing. Ninety-nine counties were found to have at least one positive animal rabies case.

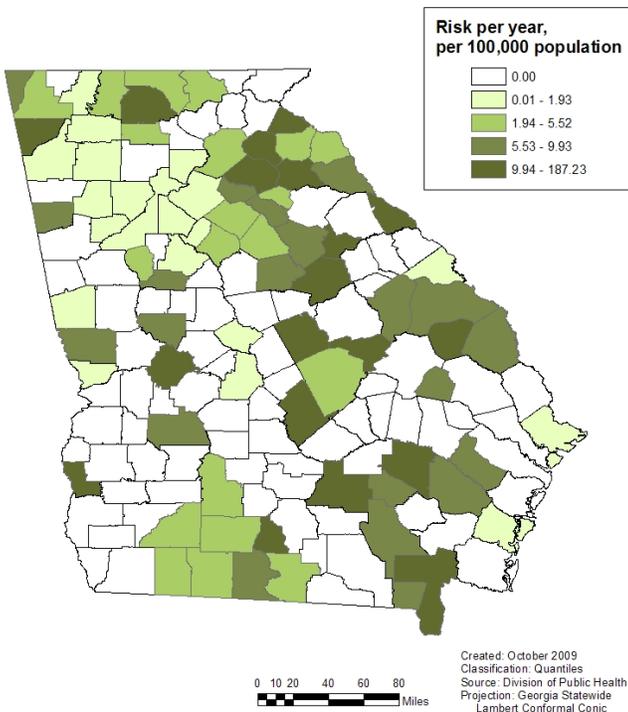
Confirmed Rabies Cases in Wild Animals Georgia, 2002-2008



Confirmed Rabies Cases in Domestic Animals Georgia, 2002-2008



Incidence of Human Exposures to Confirmed Rabid Animals by Reporting County, 2006-2008



Positive Rabies Tests by Species in Georgia, 2008

Species	Positive Tests	Percent of Total Positive Tests
Bat	25	6.49%
Bear	0	0%
Beaver	0	0%
Bobcat	5	1.30%
Bovine	1	0.26%
Cat	12	3.12%
Chipmunk	0	0%
Cow	0	0%
Coyote	2	0.52%
Dog	6	1.56%
Donkey	0	0%
Ferret	0	0%
Flying Squirrel	0	0%
Fox	36	9.35%
Goat	0	0%
Groundhog	0	0%
Hamster	0	0%
Horse	1	0.26%
Llama	1	0.26%
Mouse	0	0%
Muskrat	0	0%
Opossum	0	0%
Otter	0	0%
Pig	0	0%
Raccoon	234	60.78%
Rat	0	0%
Skunk	62	16.10%
Squirrel	0	0%
Total	385	100%

- Wild animals accounted for 94.5% of positive animal rabies cases in 2008, with raccoons comprising over 60% of rabid animals.
- Domestic animals accounted for only 5.5% of positive rabies cases.
- There have been no human rabies cases reported in Georgia since 2000.
- Animal bites are considered a notifiable condition in Georgia and should be reported to Public Health within 24 hours.