

# MAINE PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

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*Maine Department of Health and Human Services  
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC)  
(Formerly Bureau of Health)  
11 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011  
Phone 1-800-821-5821 / Fax 207-287-7443*

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###PHINFO###

**TO:** Animal Care, Epidemiologists, HETL, Maine Municipal Offices Required

**FROM:** Stephen Sears, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Public Health Director

**SUBJECT:** Maine Animal Rabies 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Update – January 1-December 31, 2010

**DATE:** 1/21/2011

**TIME:**

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## Animal Rabies 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Update

**January 1 – December 31, 2010**

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) provides quarterly updates on animal rabies to veterinarians and other animal health professionals. This update may be used as an educational tool to inform pet owners and other members of the public about the risk of rabies in Maine and in their communities.

This update provides information on rabid animals through the fourth quarter of 2010 (Jan. 1-Dec. 31). Results are based on animals submitted to the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for testing following contact with a human, domestic animal, or livestock (Table 1). USDA APHIS Wildlife Services performs supplemental surveillance of rabid animals with no human, domestic animal, or livestock exposure (Table 2). The count of positive animals statewide may not be representative of the true incidence of animal rabies. See the updated Maine CDC rabies website for more information, including regularly updated rabies data:

[www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/rabies/rabies2010.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/rabies/rabies2010.htm).

Rabies is transmitted when the virus is introduced into bite wounds, open cuts in skin, or onto mucous membranes from saliva or other potentially infectious material, such as neural tissue. Prompt recognition and reporting of possible exposures to medical professionals, public health officials, and local animal control officers is critical. Please refer to the Maine Rabies Management Guidelines

([www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/ddc/documents/RabiesManagementGuide2005.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/ddc/documents/RabiesManagementGuide2005.pdf)) when assessing a possible exposure. Maine CDC provides consultation and receives reports by phone at 1-800-821-5821 or fax at 1-800-293-7534.

**Table 1. Current quarter and year-to-date animal rabies by county, town and species in Maine - HETL, 2010**

County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Oct 1–Dec 31)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1-Dec 31)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other (Species)		
Androscoggin	Auburn	1					
	Durham	1					
	Lewiston			2	1 (Cat)		
	Lisbon			1*			
	Lisbon Falls			1*			
	Livermore Falls			1			
	Poland		1*				
	Turner			1		<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>
Cumberland	Brunswick		1				
	Gorham		1*				
	Gray		1	1			
	Harpswell	1					
	New Gloucester			1			
	North Yarmouth		1				
	Portland		1				
	Scarborough				1 (Red Fox)		
	S. Harpswell		1				
	Standish			1			
	Westbrook				1 (Gray Fox)		
Windham		1, 2*			<b>3</b>	<b>15</b>	
Hancock	Surry			1	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	
Kennebec	Albion			1			
	Augusta			1*			
	Gardiner		1*				
	Hallowell			1			
	Litchfield			1*			
	Manchester				1 (Gray Fox)		

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County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Oct 1–Dec 31)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1–Dec 31)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other (Species)		
	Oakland		1				
	Sidney		2				
	Vassalboro		1	1*			
	Winslow				1 (Woodchuck)	4	12
Knox	Washington		1	1		0	2
Lincoln	Boothbay		1				
	Bristol		1				
	Wiscasset		1			0	3
Oxford	Buckfield				1 (Gray Fox)		
	Hebron				1 (Red Fox)		
	Norway				1 (Gray Fox)		
	Waterford		2			0	5
Penobscot	Bangor	1					
	Dixmont			1*			
	Lincoln	1				1	3
Sagadahoc	Bath			1*		1	1
Somerset	Cornville		1				
	Madison		1				
	Norridgewock		1				
	Starks				1 (Red Fox)	0	4
York	Buxton			1*			
	Hollis		1				
	Old Orchard Beach		1				
	Waterboro		2	1		1	6
<b>Species Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9</b>		
<b>Maine Total</b>						<b>13</b>	<b>62</b>

\* Represents an animal that tested positive for rabies in the current quarter

**Table 2. Current quarter and year-to-date animal rabies by county, town and species in Maine – USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, 2010**

County	Town	Animal Species				Current Quarter Total (Oct 1–Dec 31)	Year-to-Date Total (Jan 1–Dec 31)
		Bat	Raccoon	Skunk	Other (Species)		
Aroostook	Sherman Mills		2	1		0	3
Franklin	New Vineyard		1*			1	1
Penobscot	Indian Island				1 (Fox)	0	1
<b>Species Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>Maine Total</b>						<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

\* Represents an animal that tested positive for rabies in the current quarter

# Animal Rabies 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Update

January 1 – December 31, 2010

The following figures show animal rabies data for Maine year-to-date in 2010.

Figure 1. Animal rabies by quarter and year, Maine, 2007-2010 (HETL data)

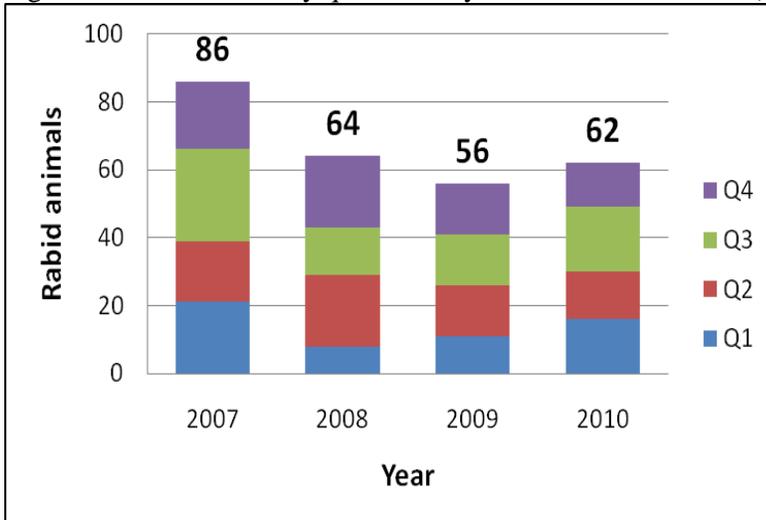


Figure 2. Animal rabies data by county, Maine, January 1-December 31, 2010 (HETL & USDA data)

