Case Information:

89 Animals tested positive at HETL

17.1% Increase from 2018

Reported Rabid Animals:

- 57% of rabid animals were raccoons
- 23% of rabid animals were skunks
- 20% of rabid animals were foxes
- 9% of rabid animals were bats
- 2% other (includes one ferret and one woodchuck)

In Maine, lab-confirmed rabid animals were involved in:

- 57 domestic animal exposures
- 23 human exposures
- 9 domestic animal & human exposures

Laboratory:

- 644 animals submitted to HETL for testing
- 324 animals submitted July to September (50% of total)
- 174 animals submitted in August (27% of total)
- 612 animals tested
- 523 negative results
- 32 animals not tested*

*Reasons include improper packaging, delays in shipment, contamination of the specimen, questionable exposures, etc.

Trends:
- Highest number of animal rabies cases reported in Maine since 2012.
- Cases reported in 15 out of 16 counties.
- Highest number of rabid animals from Sagadahoc County.

For more information visit:
www.maine.gov/dhhs/rabies
www.cdc.gov/rabies
**Animal Rabies**

**Maine Surveillance Report | 2019**

### Weekly Distribution:

![Weekly Distribution Chart]

### Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP):

**147** Patients received or were recommended for rabies PEP

- **3%** decrease from 2018

**91%** Began treatment after an exposure

**6%** Patients were previously vaccinated for rabies

### Demographics:

- **Median age of 36**
- **Age range of 7 months-93 years**
- **63%** of patients were White (36% race unknown)
- **51%** of patients were female

### Exposure Types

- **54%** of exposure types were bites

### Exposure Sites

- **27%** of exposure sites were hand/fingers

### Exposure Sites

- **Hand/finger**
- **Arm**
- **Leg**
- **Head/neck**
- **Other**

### Prevention:

**Keep rabies vaccinations up-to-date for all dogs, cats, and ferrets**

**Feed pets indoors** and keep garbage cans and other food sources tightly secured

**Avoid contact with wildlife** or any animals you do not know

**After an animal exposure:**

- Clean all wounds with soap and water
- Call your local Animal Control Officer or Game Warden
- For **human** exposures, contact your healthcare provider
- For **pet & livestock** exposures, contact your veterinarian