

West Virginia Animal Rabies Surveillance Report



JANUARY 1 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

The purpose of this report is to share descriptive surveillance data related to animal rabies activity with public health partners in West Virginia. All information in this report is considered provisional. For questions or comments, please contact either Michael Abshire or Eric Dotseth at (304) 558-5358 or by email.

Office of Laboratory Services (OLS) and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Data:

During the period of January 1 to September 10, 2026, 36 animals tested positive for rabies at OLS. There was one out of state cat that tested positive at OLS that was included on this map. USDA had four rabies positive animals in 2026 (two raccoons from Brooke County and one each in Ohio County and Randolph County), but their data is only accurate up to June 30, 2026 (Tables 1 and 2).

Species	Total
Bat	5
Cat	3
Cow	1
Raccoon	26
Skunk	5
Total	40

Table 1. Rabies positives by species.

County	Total
Berkeley	6
Boone	1
Brooke	3
Grant	5
Greenbrier	1
Hampshire	2
Hardy	1
Jefferson	3
Lewis	1
Mineral	4
Monroe	3
Ohio	2
Out of State	1
Pendleton	3
Preston	1
Randolph	2
Wood	1
Total	40

Table 2. Rabies positives by county.

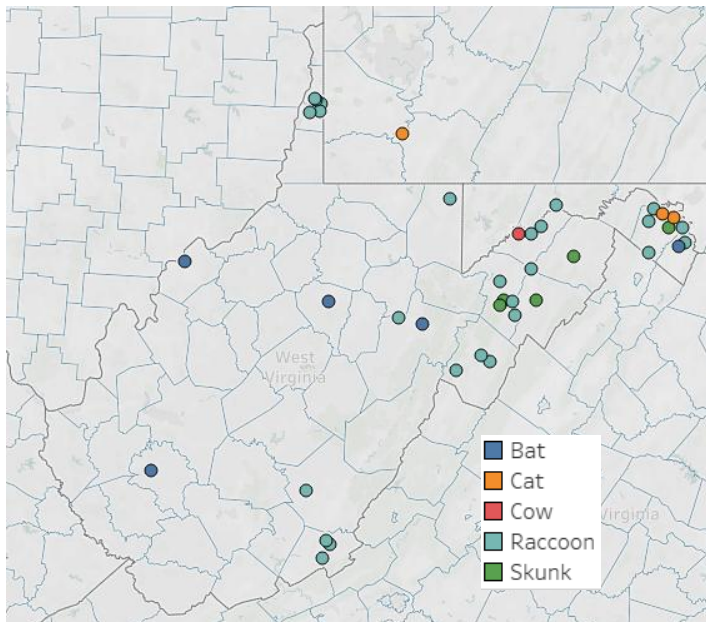


Figure 1. Map of rabies positive animals tested at OLS and USDA through 9/10/26.