West Virginia Animal Rabies Surveillance Report

January 1 – October 5, 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 October 5, 2026, 42 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 five rabies positive animals in 2026 (two raccoons from Brooke County and one each in Ohio County and Randolph County and a skunk from Tucker), but their data is only accurate up to August 31, 2026 (Tables 1 and 2).

Species	Total
Bat	9
Cat	3
Cow	1
Fox	1
Raccoon	27
Skunk	6
Total	**47**

Table 1. Rabies positives by species.

County	Total
Berkeley	6
Boone	1
Brooke	3
Grant	5
Greenbrier	1
Hampshire	2
Hardy	1
Jefferson	3
Kanawha	2
Lewis	1
Marion	1
Mason	1
Mineral	5
Monroe	3
Ohio	2
Out of State	1
Pendleton	4
Preston	1
Randolph	2
Tucker	1
Wood	1
Total	**47**

Table 2. Rabies positives by county.

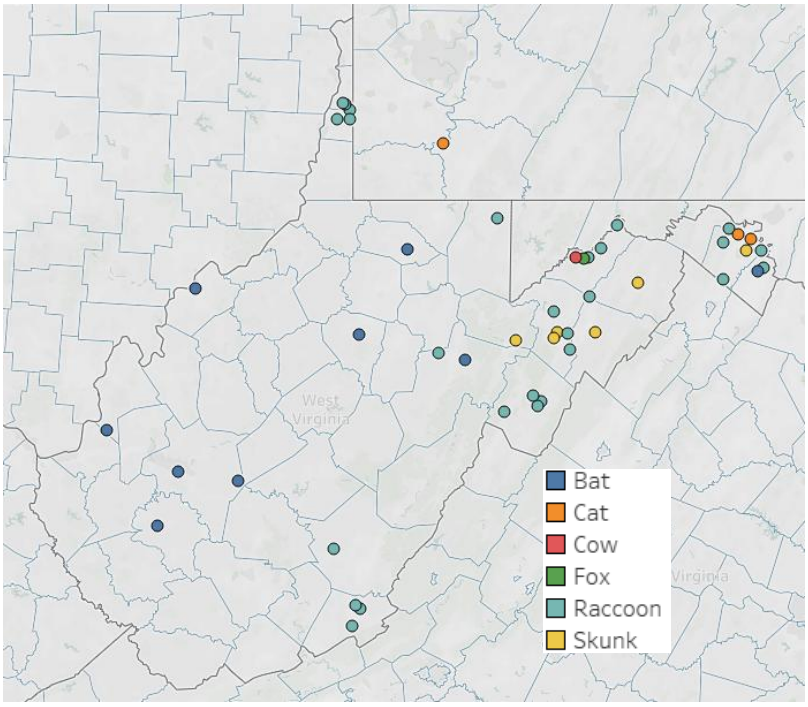

Figure 1. Map of rabies positive animals tested at OLS and USDA through 10/5/26.