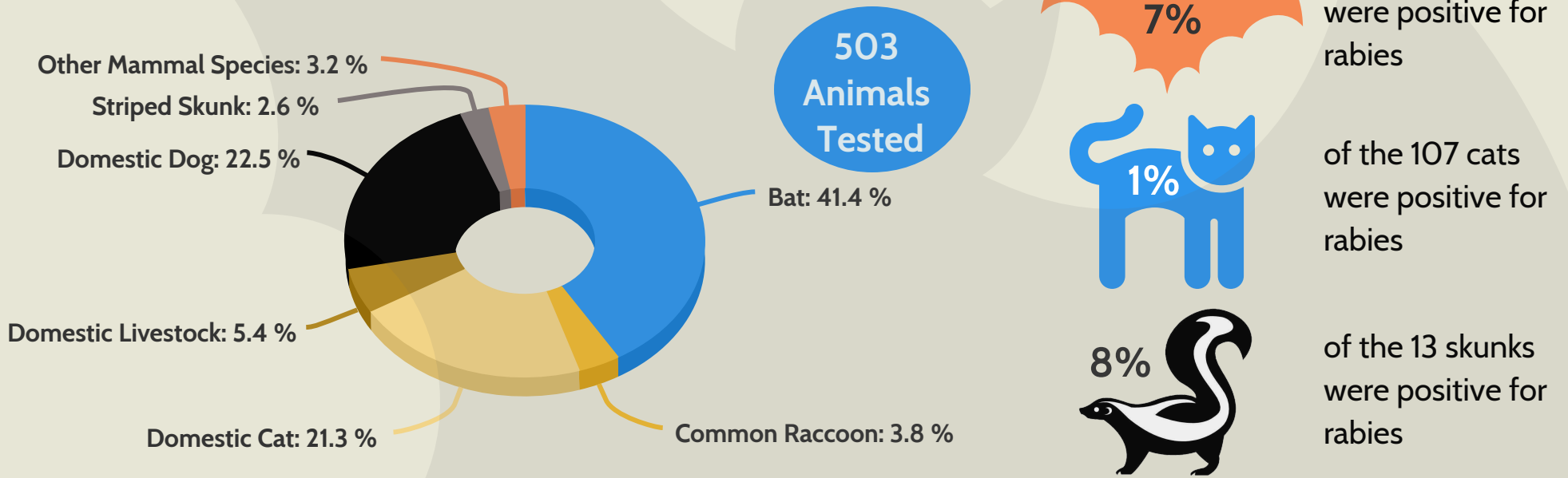


World Rabies Day September 28, 2019

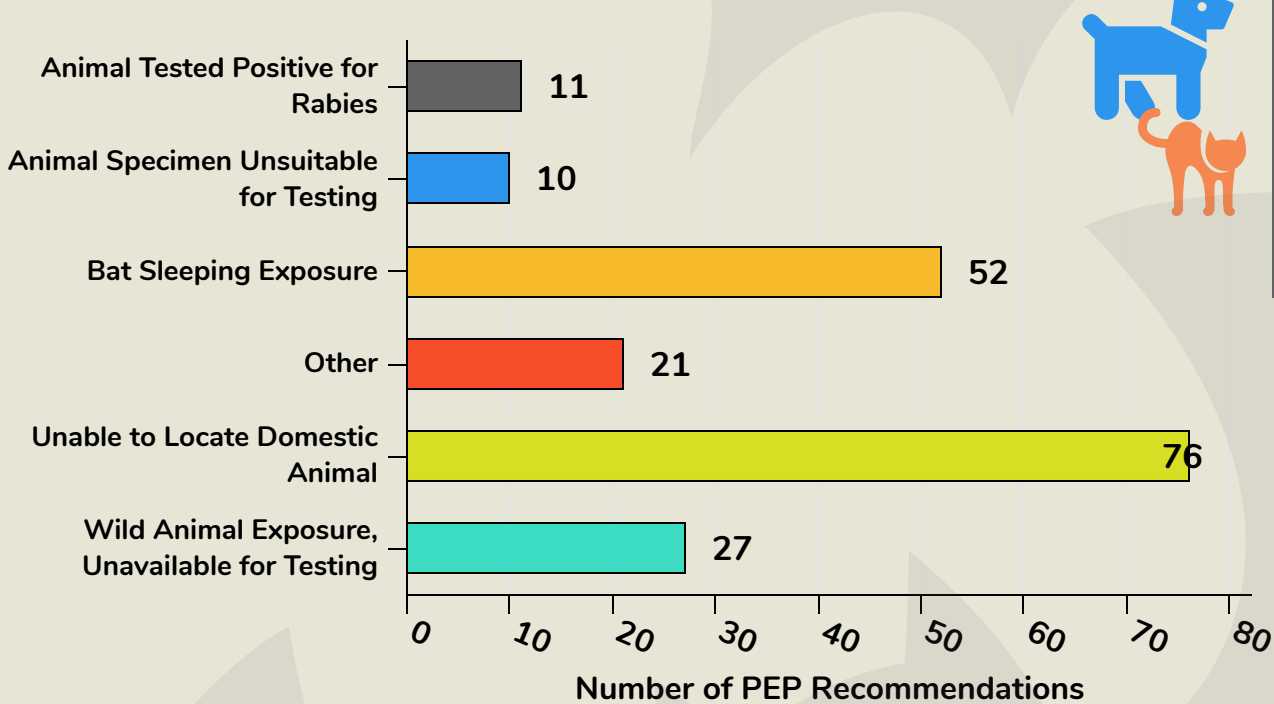
Animal Rabies Testing, Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, 2018

Percentage of Species Tested in 2018



Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Recommendations by Public Health

Indication for Rabies PEP, MT 2018



Owned dogs and cats are low risk animals for rabies transmission to humans because they are more likely to be vaccinated and can be found for follow-up. Feral pets are at greater risk of acquiring rabies from wildlife, and transmitting it to humans and other animals.

Bats and skunks are high risk animals for rabies transmission to humans.

According to CDC, during 1960–2018, among 89 U.S. acquired human rabies cases, 62 (70%) were attributed to bats.

Public health authorities may recommend rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (rPEP) if the animal responsible for a suspected exposure cannot be evaluated for rabies either by observation (when applicable) or testing. In 2018, rPEP was administered or recommended to be administered to **238** people.

Rabies Deaths in the US and Worldwide

Certain animal populations have their own variations of the rabies virus. According to the CDC, at the beginning of the 20th century, the canine variant of the rabies virus was common in the United States, but beginning in 1947, animal vaccination and leash control laws led to improved rabies control nationwide. Due to pet vaccination efforts, the canine variant was eliminated from the US in 2004. Unvaccinated dogs can still be infected by other rabid animals, such as skunks or bats.



59,000 deaths worldwide due to rabies each year.



98% of these worldwide human rabies deaths are from exposures to rabid dogs.



Avg. 2 human deaths in the US due to rabies each year.



2 Cases have been reported in Montana.

Human cases of rabies were reported in **1996** and **1997**. Both deaths were associated with bat strains.