

# Dog attack deaths and maimings, U.S. & Canada

## September 1982 to December 31, 2021

Reports are logged as received, and the current log is printed out as requested.

Complete updates are posted annually at [www.ANIMALS24-7.org](http://www.ANIMALS24-7.org), including at <https://www.animals24-7.org/2015/12/23/pit-bull-statistics/>.

Compiled by the editors of *ANIMALS 24-7* from media accounts since 1982, this table lists dogs by breed type or ancestry, or as “unidentified,” as designated by animal control officers or others with evident expertise. All accounts are cross-checked by date, location, and identity of the victim.

Attacks by police dogs, trained guard dogs, and dogs verifiably trained specifically to fight were for 32 years excluded, but proved to be so rare—far less than 1%—that they no longer are. Attacks by police dogs, trained guard dogs, and dogs verifiably trained specifically to fight, 1982-present, have been added back in, but remain less than 1% of the whole.

### Assessment of severity

“Attacks doing bodily harm” includes all fatalities, maimings, and other injuries requiring extensive hospital treatment. “Maimings” includes permanent disfigurement or loss of a limb. The Ian Dunbar scale for evaluating dog attack severity did not yet exist until decades after this data log originated, but all attacks in the log would rate a high 4, 5, or 6 on the Dunbar scale.

Where there is an asterisk (#), indicating unusual aspects of a case, please see the footnotes. If there are more "attacks" than "victims," it means that there were multiple dogs involved in some attacks. If the numbers of "victims" does not equal the numbers of "deaths" and "maimings," it means that some of the victims -- in attacks in which some people were killed or maimed -- were not killed or maimed.

Because attacks involve varying numbers of dogs and victims, because victims' ages are not always disclosed, and because not all victims of an attack in which someone is killed or disfigured are themselves killed or disfigured, these numbers cannot be added up from left to right to get a balance.

Over the duration of the data collection, the severity of the logged attacks appears to be at approximately the 1-bite-in-10,000 level.

### Dog population analysis

The “%/dogs” column states the percentage of each breed of dog among 17,200,041 classified ads listing dogs for sale at web sites circa July 1, 2021. For the most popular breeds the numbers are averaged with those found in similar surveys done annually since 2010. For most breeds, normal fluctuation from year to year is in the range of 1% up or down. Similar data has been collected in many previous years, but until 2010 was not included in this table. If a percentage is not listed for a breed or mix, it either appears to be too low to calculate or too difficult to isolate from other variants of the breed or mix. In some cases, including German shepherds, pit bulls and Rottweilers, the percentage includes mixes.

There is a persistent allegation by pit bull advocates that pit bulls are over-represented among reported dog attack deaths and maimings because of misidentifications or because “pit bull” is, according to them, a generic term covering several similar types of dog. However, the frequency of pit bull attacks among these worst-in-10,000 cases is so disproportionate that even if half of the attacks in the pit bull category were misattributed, or even if the pit bull category was split four ways, attacks by pit bulls and their closest relatives would still outnumber attacks by any other breed.

## Definition of “pit bull”

Pit bull advocates also commonly subdivide the pit bull category into artificial subdivisions such as “bull terrier,” “Ambulls,” “American bully,” “American bulldog,” “American pit bull terrier,” “Amstaff,” “American Staffordshire,” “Colby bulldog,” “Johnson bulldog,” “Olde English bulldog,” “Tudor bulldog,” “Staffordshire terrier,” *et al*, all of which are brand names for extensively mingled lines of dogs bred for baiting and fighting, with only inbred cosmetic differences among them. *ANIMALS 24-7* records fatal and disfiguring attacks by pit bulls under any brand name as pit bull attacks, because this is in fact what the dogs are, with no distinctions relevant to behavior or purpose of breeding among them.

Comparably, we use single lines to record all attacks by setters, pointers, poodles, and many other breeds which are often artificially subdivided by fanciers, but are otherwise not different in any way meaningful to dog behavior.

## Multi-sourcing

There is also a persistent allegation by pit bull advocates that the use of media accounts as a data source — in most instances, multiple accounts from a variety of media — is somehow suspect. Reality is that media coverage incorporates information from police reports, animal control reports, witness accounts, victim accounts in many instances, and hospital reports. Media coverage is, in short, multi-sourced, unlike reports from any single source.

Note: to ensure that the columns are aligned properly, please print this table from e-mail using a non-proportional font, such as Courier or Roman Fixed Width.

Breed	Attacks doing bodily harm [dogs X victims]	Child victims [-----Individuals-----]	Adult victims	Deaths	Maimings	%/dogs	Notes
Akita	89	54	33	9	69	0.4%	#
Akita mix (inspecific)	2	2	0	0	2		
Akita/Chow mix	3	3	0	0	3		
Akita/Lab mix	1	1	0	0	1		
Akita/terrier mix	2	1	0	0	1		
Airedale/boxer	1	1	0	1	0		#
Airedale	2	1	1	2	0	0.2%	#
Anatolian shepherd	3	1	2	0	3	1.3%	
Australian shepherd	20	9	9	0	14		
Australian shepherd mix	4	0	2	1	1		#
Basset	2	0	2	0	2		#
Basset/GSD mix	1	1	0	1	0		
Basset/beagle mix	1	1	0	0	1		
Basset/Lab mix	1	1	0	1	0		
Beagle	4	3	1	1	3	2.8%	#
Beagle/Lab mix	1	0	1	0	1		#
Belgian shepherd (Malinois)	38	17	15	3	26	0.5%	#
Bernese mountain dog	1	0	1	0	1	0.3%	
Black mouth cur	5	3	2	0	5	0.7%	#
Boerboel	1	0	1	1	0		
Border collie	7	4	4	2	7	0.9%	#
Border collie/dachshund	1	1	0	0	1		
Border collie terrier	1	0	1	0	1	0.5%	
Boston terrier	2	0	1	1	0	0.5%	#
Boxer	128	37	59	14	75	1.6%	#
Boxer/Australian shepherd	1	1	0	0	1		







**Crude totals:** 11246 4339 4216 970 7390 64.5%

(The above numbers differ from the totals below because the totals below have been adjusted to avoid duplication in reporting attacks involving multiple dogs of differing breeds. The last number, 84.3%, signifies that the dogs of breeds and mixes representing 15.7% of all dogs have not been involved in fatal or disfiguring attacks since September 1982.)

**Totals of dogs attacking humans in fatal & disfiguring cases:**  
11170 4298 4834 931 7410 64.5%

**Totals of humans attacked by dogs in fatal & disfiguring cases:**  
9074 4164 4798 905 7066 64.5%

(The sum of fatalities is less than the total from adding up the column because of deaths involving multiple dogs of differing breed.)

**Pit bulls & close pit mixes:**  
7765 2783 3616 561 5321 5.4%  
70% 67% 75% 60% 75%

**Molosser breeds, including pit bulls, Rottweilers, Presa Canarios, Cane Corsos, mastiffs, Dogo Argentinos, Fila Brasieros, sharpeis, boxers, boerboels, Ovarchkas, and their mixes:**  
8740 3317 3977 698 5984 8.6%  
80% 80% 85% 77% 88%

**Wolf-like breeds, broadly defined to include Akitas, German shepherds, huskies, Jindos, Karelian bear dogs, Malamutes, Malinois, wolf hybrids, Shiba Inus, and their mixes:**  
715 393 224 112 430 6.1%  
7% 10% 5% 13% 7%

**Chows & their close mixes, a chow being apparently an ancient cross of wolf-like Arctic dogs with molossers:**  
95 56 29 12 66 1.0%  
1% 2% 1% 2% 1%

## Pit bull & pit mix trends, 1982-present

The 1992 data line represents the first 10 years of data collection:

YEAR	ATTACKS		CHILDREN		ADULTS		KILLED		MAIMED	
	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year
1992	106		45		61		19		38	
2001	646		302		207		59		341	
2002	732	86	347	45	229	22	65	6	395	54
2003	860	128	397	50	285	56	78	13	466	71
2004	939	79	435	38	311	26	86	8	504	38
2005	1083	144	496	61	351	40	100	14	585	81
2006	1197	114	525	29	398	47	114	14	648	63
2007	1276	79	556	31	421	23	128	14	685	37
2008	1402	126	597	41	458	37	142	14	739	54

YEAR	ATTACKS		CHILDREN		ADULTS		KILLED		MAIMED	
	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year	Total	Year
2009	1564	162	670	73	509	51	166	24	832	93
2010	1809	245	780	110	599	80	195	29	974	142
2011	2104	295	882	102	710	111	218	24	1172	198
2012	2395	291	972	90	842	132	250	32	1353	181
2013	2967	572	1188	214	1082	240	280	30	1779	426
2014	3570	603	1452	264	1361	279	312	32	2235	456
2015	4218	648	1661	209	1715	354	346	34	2697	462
2016	4946	728	1892	231	2065	350	375	29	3244	547
2017	5665	719	2191	298	2422	357	415	40	3815	571
2018	6288	623	2404	214	2780	358	447	32	4318	500
2019	6992	699	2575	186	3163	383	480	33	4794	476
2020	7402	400	2682	107	3393	230	519	38	5052	259
2021	7772	370	2783	101	3616	223	561	43	5331	279

### Notes on unusual cases:

**AIREDALE/BOXER:** The only listed attack was by 10 dogs at once.

**AIREDALE:** **Anne Beth Grotzky**, 87, died from complications of surgery for a broken hip suffered on July 27, 2010 when an Airedale kept by **Dale Eggers**, 65, knocked her down. Eggers was fined \$500 for allowing the dog to run at large.

**AKITA:** Two fatalities occurring in 1991 and 1993 were initially excluded because they were reportedly inflicted by guard dogs. This has been disputed. Whether these attacks are included or excluded makes little difference to the overall statistical patterns shown on this chart.

**AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD MIX:** Involved with golden retriever mix in July 26, 2008 fatal attack on **Lorraine May**, 74, of Titusville, Florida.

**BASSET HOUND:** **Ernest & Kim Lawrence**, of Moira, New York, were both injured in 2010 in separate attacks by the same basset hound, who was adopted from the North Country Animal Shelter. Related litigation was underway at last report.

**BEAGLE:** The fatality was a strangulation caused by tugging on a leash which was around a child's neck.

**BEAGLE/LAB & PIT/MASTIFF** both attacked **Jim Kerchmar** of Fayetteville, NC on 4-9-2017.

**BELGIAN SHEPHERD (MALINOIS):** A Malinois & a German shepherd killed **David Fear**, 64, & critically injured Betty Long, 85, in Grover Beach, CA on 12-13-16.

**BLACK MOUTH CUR:** **Jackie Brooks**, 74, was mauled in Lamar County, Texas, in September 2018 by a mixed pack including Rhodesian ridgeback, black mouth cur and leopard hound, aka Catahoula dogs, according to the county sheriff's office.

**BORDER COLLIE:** Involved in 4-dog attack. The other dogs were two pit bulls and a mastiff.

**BOSTON TERRIER:** **Elizabeth Louise Hirt**, 93, of Bethel Township, Ohio, was found badly mauled by her two Boston terriers on November 27, 2012. Remaining in intensive care for the next two weeks, she died on December 11, 2012.

**BOXER:** A fatal attack on 3-week-old infant also involved a Rottweiler. **Jérémie McLaughlin-Thibault**, 47, was on June 3, 2021 convicted in Montreal, Quebec of manslaughter in the June 29, 2019 beating death of **Vickie Belle-Isle**, 32, who died in hospital a day after both were repeatedly bitten by a boxer belonging to a man who shared the apartment with Belle-Isle and witness Sylvain Houde. Belle-Isle suffered multiple bites to many parts of her body, but Houde testified and the coroner agreed that McLaughlin-Thibault inflicted the fatal injuries by clubbing Belle-Isle multiple times with a roll of plastic bags.

**BULLDOG (ENGLISH):** **Lola Endres**, 61, of Brownsburg, Indiana, apparently suffered a fatal heart attack on May 8, 2016 while suffering multiple "very serious" bites to her legs from her rescued English bull dogs, according to police.

**BULL MASTIFF/PRESA CANARIO:** A 13-day-old child was killed in Houston on September 3, 2011 by a dog described by sheriff's department and animal control first responders as a pit bull, but later

reported by some media as a Lab mix. Harris County Veterinary Services eventually identified the dog as a Presa Canario. William Kohler of Cincinnati described the dog who attacked him on May 4, 2018 as a Rottweiler; video showed it was a Presa Canario.

**CANE CORSO & Presa Canario** both were reportedly involved in a June 11, 2019 attack in Spotsylvania, Virginia.

**CANE CORSO/PIT BULL:** The dog who killed **Jayelin Graham**, 4, in Brooklyn on 5/27/11 was reported by some sources as a Cane Corso and by others as a pit bull. A pit bull was also found at the scene. A *New York Daily News* photo of the killer dog showed both Cane Corso and pit bull characteristics.

**CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL:** **Gary Abbuhl**, 65, suffered fractured femur & other injuries on March 5, 2009 in Boulder, Colorado after dog belonging to **Kelly Engholt**, 31, ran into his bicycle.

**COTON DE TULEAR:** Reports differed as to whether the 2014 Coton de Tulear attack on a mail carrier was serious enough to include.

**CHIHUAHUA:** Dog on retractable leash leaped up and bit the lip of a six-year-old who was riding past on a bicycle. The bicycle's momentum and restraint on the dog apparently increased the severity of the injury (8-12-08, Springfield Township, Indiana.) The adult victim suffered a torn eyelid.

**CHOW/LAB MIX:** **Elizabeth Flood**, 71, was found dead in Antioch, IL in June 2016 with extensive bites from a Lab/chow mix and a German shepherd, but coroner said she was already dead before she was mauled.

**COONHOUND:** Victim **Kenneth D. Bock** died in 2010 from *Capnocytophaga canimorsus sepsis* infection.

**DACHSHUND:** **Julia Beck**, 87, of Fort Wayne, died 5/15/05, two weeks after attack by dachshund & Lab at home she shared with **Michael T. Kitchen**, 48, and **Linda A. Kitchen**, 57. **Linda Floyd**, 56, a diabetic, lost toe to dachshund who gnawed it off in her sleep 6/30/08. One of four Dachshunds in the home climbed on furniture to maul 4-week-old baby in Kuna, Idaho, 10-2017. **Tracy Janine Garcia**, 52, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, was killed on May 10, 2018 by a pit bull and a pack of pit mixes, but was misidentified by tabloid headlines as the purported victim of an attack by dachshunds.

**DOBERMAN:** At least two Dobermans were among 16 dogs who are believed to have killed **Sherry Schweder**, 65, and her husband **Luther Schweder**, on August 15, 2009 in Lexington, Georgia. At least one Doberman was reportedly among the seven dogs who killed **Deborah Onsurez**, 56, in Modesto, California on December 28, 2017. Doberman, pit bull, & Rottweiler were all involved in 3-dog attack on couple in East Dallas, TX, on 6-1-2019.

**DOGO ARGENTINO & pit bull** both attacked child in St. Lin-Laurentides, Quebec on 4-13-2017.

**EAST HIGHLAND TERRIER:** Victim, age 75, died of heart attack.

**FILA BRASIERO:** Bitten repeatedly on August 3, 2007 by four Fila Brasieros, also described in some accounts as "three bull mastiffs and one English bulldog," **Jacob Adams**, 40, died from a pre-existing condition called intravascular sickling, associated with illnesses including sickle cell anemia, hepatitis, and diabetes. Intravascular sickling can flare up and become fatal under conditions of extreme exertion.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD:** Four disfiguring attacks on four different victims were inflicted by the same German shepherd between May 2000 and October 2009. The dog's keeper, **Gary McKeown**, 55 of Plymouth, Pennsylvania, was sentenced to two years on probation plus 100 hours of community service, and was fined \$2,244 in connection with the fourth attack. The dog was euthanized. Two German shepherds and a pit bull were the three dogs identified by breed in a June 2015 seven-dog attack on a man named Michael Martin in Brownsburg, Indiana. **Max Gracia II** died of septic shock on August 10, 2015 while in police custody in Orlando, Florida, four days after he was bitten during an altercation with a K9 dog after committing an armed robbery. **Daisy Bradshaw**, 68, was found dead and partially consumed by her two German shepherds at her Staten Island home on October 26, 2016. Unclear was whether the dogs killed her. Bradshaw was seen alive less than 24 hours earlier. A Malinois & a German shepherd killed **David Fear**, 64, & critically injured **Betty Long**, 85, in Grover Beach, CA on 12-13-16. At least one German shepherd was reportedly among the seven dogs who killed **Deborah Onsurez**, 56, in Modesto, California on December 28, 2017. **Sharon Larson**, 58, of Milwaukee, died on June 3, 2018 from a *Capnocytophaga canimorsus* bacteria infection after being nipped by her new GSD puppy.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD/HOUND/CUR MIX:** Four alleged "German shepherd/hound/cur mixes" on February 15, 2021 killed Deann Stephenson, 59, in Porter, Texas. The four dogs may have actually been pit bulls, but in absence of photos this cannot be positively ascertained.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD/LAB MIX:** Attica, New York Police Chief **John Palillo** identified the alleged service dog who mauled 2-year-old **Emilee Amrhein** on April 4, 2004 as a “lab shepherd mix.” WHEC video of the dog showed a dog of golden Lab coloration and a pit bull-like head.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD/MASTIFF MIX:** This dog was also identified by eyewitnesses as a pit bull.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD MIX:** One fatality victim, age 83, was apparently killed by an overly rowdy greeting. The victim was knocked down and suffered multiple broken bones, but was not bitten. The dog had bitten a person on a previous occasion. In that case, the skin was not broken. Another 83-year-old victim was killed by either a German shepherd/Labrador mix or a pit bull. Not clear whether both dogs attacked her, or just one of them. An 18-day-old child was killed in an attack also involving a pit bull/golden Lab mix. Mail carrier **Robert Rochester**, 55, of New Castle, Delaware, died on October 17, 2012 from a heart attack five days after receiving hospital treatment for multiple bites inflicted by a German shepherd who was shot at the scene by police. The death was eventually found to have resulted from the dog attack. The two dogs who killed **Daisie Bradshaw**, 65, of Staten Island on October 25, 2016 were identified as “German shepherd mix-breed dogs” in reportage about Bradshaw’s daughter and owner of the dogs **Dawn Schoentube**’s subsequent effort to save them from euthanasia, but photos of the dogs released after the final hearing made clear that the dogs were in truth predominantly pit bulls. **Korbin Michael Williams**, of Gaffney, S.C., was killed on December 2, 2017 by two pit bulls and a German shepherd.

**GERMAN SHEPHERD/HUSKY MIX:** Neighbors identified the “German shepherd and husky mix” who killed **Kyle Holland**, 5, in Lincoln Park, Michigan, on July 12, 2010 (with a Lab mix) as a wolf hybrid.

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER:** One dog responsible for an attack was rabid. Another accidentally strangled **Kaitlyn Hassard**, 6, of Manorville, Long Island, on 1/24/06, by tugging at her scarf.

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER MIX:** Involved with Australian shepherd mix in July 26, 2008 fatal attack on **Lorraine May**, 74, of Titusville, Florida.

**GREAT PYRANEES/LAB:** The multi-dog fatality reported also involved two husky/cattle dog mixes. The victim was process server **Erin McClesky**, killed on June 15, 2016 in Travis County, Texas.

**GREYHOUND/GSD CROSS:** An April 18, 2017 attack in Monona, Wisc. was attributed by Shelter From the Storm to a “greyhound/GSD cross,” but photos clearly showed a pit bull.

**HAWAIIAN POI DOG:** “The Hawaiian Poi Dog is an extinct breed of pariah dog from Hawai‘i,” according to Wikipedia, but attempts have been made to back-breed mongrels to recover the poi, and the dogs involved in the reported case were identified as poi by the Hawaiian victims.

**HOUND MIX:** The “hound/terrier mix” who attacked **Ryan Baxter**, 6, on February 14, 2014 in Marsing, Idaho, might in truth have been a pit bull. **John Bruno**, 5, of Warrington, PA, was strangled on 3-15-2017 when his dog tugged at his scarf.

**HUSKY:** **Leon Julian Peysen**, 70, of Hewitt, Texas, was killed in a May 6, 2021 car crash in a parking lot, after his own husky inflicted a bite to his neck so severe that police initially thought it was a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Peysen had just picked up the husky and two other unidentified dogs after finding them running at large.

**JACK RUSSELL TERRIER:** **Patricia Schneider**, 50, of Discovery Bay, Calif., whose spleen had been removed, died in 2/98 of infection, 3 days after receiving bite on lip at home of Diane Gardner and Elaine Goodney. A Jack Russell chewed off gangrenous toe of **Jerry Douthett**, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, in August 2010.

**KEESHOND:** A 91-year-old woman whose arm was badly mauled by her “Keeshond mix” on November 14, 2014 at her home in Stratford, Connecticut died four days later from kidney failure believed to have resulted from an infection transmitted by bites. The dog was subsequently found to have a brain tumor.

**LABRADOR:** Adult victim was attacked in her home by as many as 23 dogs owned by daughter. The Lab who severely mauled **Jasmine Charboneau**, 2, on 7/29/04 in Devils Lake, ND, proved to be rabid.

**Gaia Nova**, 3 months, of Sherman Oaks, California, was fatally mauled in an incident involving a Rottweiler, a Lab, and a small terrier.

**LABRADOR MIX:** Reports varied as to whether one case was severe enough to include. At least one Lab mix was reportedly among the seven dogs who killed **Deborah Onsurez**, 56, in Modesto, California on December 28, 2017.

**LABRADOR/MASTIFF MIX:** Two Lab/mastiff mixes, a mastiff, a pit bull, and a Rottweiler/Lab mix all participated in killing Adieanna O’Shea, 19, of Marysville, Tennessee, on August 23, 2019.

**MASTIFF:** Two mastiff attacks also involved an attacking pit bull. Two Lab/mastiff mixes, a mastiff, a pit bull, and a Rottweiler/Lab mix all participated in killing Adieanna O’Shea, 19, of Marysville, Tennessee, on August 23, 2019.

**MINI-PINSCHER:** One miniature pinscher apparently joined two pit bulls in attacking a child. The dog has also been identified in some accounts as a Doberman. Either way, this isolated event is not of statistical significance relative to the larger patterns of dog attacks.

**OLD ENGLISH SHEEP DOG:** **Gertrude Monroe**, 87, mother of **Kathryn Schwarb** of Birmingham, Michigan, on December 19, 1984 tripped over King Boots, 8, an award-winning show dog belonging to Schwarb, and was severely bitten. Whether Monroe died of the bites, the fall, or a heart attack or stroke preceding the fall was not clearly established. King Boots was defanged and castrated, by judicial order, as this was the second biting incident involving him.

#### **PIT BULL (unusual cases only):**

Three cases have involved dogs who assisted in killings carried out by a human, and may have inflicted the fatal injuries. The March 1987 murder of **Rose Marie Medley**, 25, near Phenix City, Alabama, by convicted serial killer Curtis Grantham and accomplice Thomas Poole, was added to this list in September 2021. Poole testified that Grantham cut the victim’s throat after setting the pit bull on her, but the throat injury was consistent with a pit bull attack, and Poole had cause to implicate Grantham as much as possible, to mitigate his own involvement.

Another unusual case was a 6-year-old girl who was caught and strangled by a pit bull’s chain. An 83-year-old victim was killed by either a German shepherd/Labrador mix or a pit bull, but it was not clear whether both dogs attacked her, or just one of them. One case involved a woman who was apparently killed by two pit bulls and one Rottweiler.

**Not listed but suspect** was the December 1998 death of **Z’aira Marshall**, age 4, in Glen Burnie, Maryland. Her father, **Richard Prince Marshall**, 25, left her remains inside two plastic garbage bags in a wooded area near the Baltimore/Washington Airport, telling a friend that he was disposing of a dead pit bull. She was not reported missing until August 1999. Richard Prince Marshall led police to the remains, saying she had died of convulsions of unknown origin. Decomposition was so advanced that the cause of death could not be determined.

**Also not listed but suspect** was the July 2006 death of **Serenity Brown**, 2, in Brooklyn, New York, who was not reported missing until 2011. The *New York Daily News* on February 10 2014 reported that police believe her father **Edward “Chuck” Brown** fatally punched her, immersed her in a bathtub, fed her remains to a pit bull, then killed the pit bull. Brown has not been charged, the *Daily News* indicated, due to lack of forensic evidence.

A month-old baby girl was smothered in May 2005 in Lockland, Ohio, when a pit bull lay down on top of her.

**Rashawn Thompson**, 18, was mauled on 4/25/07 by 13 dogs, including one pit bull and 12 of unidentifiable mix.

**Amber Strode**, 22, of Springfield, Illinois, was found dismembered by pit bulls in her home on January 28, 2008. Coroner Susan Boone ruled that Strode had died of a cocaine overdose before the pit bulls attacked her. Boone later resigned for allegedly falsifying evidence in that and several other cases.

**Leanne Bechtel** was convicted on October 26, 2012 of killing **Autumn Franks**, 3, on April 3, 2008, in Lakewood, Washington. Bechtel contended that Franks suffered multiple skull fractures when knocked off a couch by a pit bull. However, Franks had suffered earlier injuries, including a prior skull fracture, indicative of human-inflicted abuse. The Franks case is accordingly not included in the dog attack data.

As many as 27 pit bull puppies in August 2008 used terminal cancer patient **Michael Warner**, 55, “as a food source,” according to Pierce County sheriff’s spokesman Ed Troyer. Warner died from his injuries.

**Louanne Okapal**, 55, of Sauk County, Wisconsin, suffered severe facial injuries on February 14, 2009 when a pit bull attacked a horse she was saddling and the horse kicked her in the face.

A woman who was not named by police was killed on June 4, 2009 in Hayward, California, when a leashed pit bull ran after his owner, who had bicycled across railway tracks in front of an oncoming train, and dragged the woman in front of the train. The pit bull was also killed.

This chart formerly included a stat line separate from pit bulls for “American bulldogs,” and a line separate from either for “Bull terrier (not pit.)” The lines for both “American bulldogs” and “Bull

terrier (not pit)" both recorded an attack on September 13, 2007 in Livingston County, Michigan, by five dogs described by Livingston County animal control director **Anne Burns** as resembling an "English bulldog on stilts," and/or "bull terrier" but not pit bull. Photos subsequently established that all five of these dogs were in fact pit bulls. They killed two adults.

**Robert J. Klatch**, 83, of Port St. Lucie, Florida, was injured by a pit bull who attacked his shih tsu on February 11, 2009. Klatch died of his injuries and other deteriorating health conditions apparently aggravated by the dog attack on April 21, 2009.

Animal control officer **Teresa Foss**, 48, of Plainfield, Connecticut, died on October 8, 2009, from head injuries suffered when a pit bull she had been called to apprehend apparently knocked her down.

**Timothy Niemeyer**, 56, of Indianapolis, suffered a fatal heart attack on October 10, 2009 when attacked by a pit bull; he died on October 14.

**Ethel Baker Horton**, 65, of Lee County, Wisconsin, died of a heart attack on March 4, 2010 while intervening in an attack on her husband, **Jerry Horton**, 71.

Portland, Oregon police officer **Stephen Gandy**, 33, suffered a life-threatening blood infection from a bite by a pit bull on April 12, 2010.

**Miracle Parham**, 14, of Henry County, Georgia, was killed by a car on October 5, 2010 while trying to escape from a pit bull who rushed her at her school bus stop.

**Christina Casey**, 53, was killed on November 2, 2010 in her yard in Moreno Valley, California, by two dogs who were initially identified as pit bulls, but were later mentioned in various reports as mixes of pit bull & Akita and/or pit bull & Weimaraner and/or pit bull, Weimaraner, and Labrador retriever. The one consistent aspect of the description was that the dogs were at least part pit bull & of pit bull configuration.

**Richard Martratt**, 64, died from a heart attack on November 25, 2010, after stabbing one of two pit bulls who had knocked down **Joan Hardin**, 78. **Alan Hardin**, 50, was bitten in the same incident.

**A fatality not included in the numbers** was **Anna Smith Brown**, 68, of Wilmington, North Carolina, who was killed in a car crash on December 5, 2010 while trying to rush her 20-month-old granddaughter to a hospital after the granddaughter suffered a facially disfiguring bite from a pit bull.

**Cary Grant**, 56, died of a heart attack in Sullivan, Ohio, on April 17, 2011, soon after a pit bull attack which appeared to be the triggering event.

**Addyson Paige Camerino**, nine days old, was killed on August 30, 2011 in Bladen County, North Carolina, by at least three dogs from among a group including "a pit bull, bulldog, Alaskan malamute, German shepherd and German shepherd-bulldog mix," according to investigators. Neighbors reported that the household also included a Rottweiler.

**Emako Mendoza**, 76, of San Diego, died on December 24, 2011. She had been hospitalized since losing her left arm and leg in a June 18, 2011 attack by two pit bulls.

**Mable Harrison McCallister**, 84, of Cleveland, Tennessee, was mauled on the face and neck on December 18, 2011. She died on January 1, 2012.

**Diane Jansen**, 59, suffered a fatal stroke when attacked by a pit bull on March 4, 2012 in Escondido, California.

**Tim Thomas**, 49, of Douglas County, Georgia, on July 13, 2012 suffered a fatal heart attack while trying to stop his two pit bulls from killing a Lhasa Apso.

**America Viridiana**, 4, was killed on August 23, 2012 in Tijuana, Mexico, by an adult pit bull brought from San Diego only days earlier by her grandfather, **Godofredo Cruz Martinez**, 55. Although the attack occurred a few miles outside the U.S., it is listed because almost the entire life and acculturation of the dog were in the U.S.

**James Harding**, 62, of East Baltimore, Maryland, was killed on February 22, 2013 when he ran in front of a car while trying to escape an attack by two pit bulls.

**Carlos Eligio Trevino**, 54, of Idaho Falls, Idaho, died of "apparent natural causes" on January 7, 2014 after breaking up a fight involving seven pit bulls and pit mixes.

**Not listed** is **Pedro Tepale**, 51, whose remains were being eaten by a pit bull and a Rottweiler when discovered on February 14, 2014 by **Torsten Werner**, animal control officer for Mendocino County, California. The man was believed to have already been dead when the dogs found him.

An unidentified 24-year-old man suffered a severe but not life-threatening head injury in Springfield, Illinois on March 6, 2014 when hit by a car while trying to escape a pit bull attack.

**Davon Jiggetts**, 17, of Fulton County, Georgia, was killed by a car on April 11, 2014 while trying to evade an attacking pit bull.

**Derrick Sanders**, 45, was found dead in a ditch in Benton County, Mississippi on July 4, 2014 near where **David Glass Sr.** was found alive but later died from similar injuries in September 2014. **Eric Hodges**, 35, was on February 22, 2018 convicted of manslaughter in both cases.

**Not included** among these statistics is **Ryan Brown**, 15, of Fayette County, Tennessee, who was fatally injured on August 3, 2014 when struck by a pan his twin brother threw to try to break up a fight between two family pit bulls.

**Not listed** is **Robert Franti**, 40, found dead on October 13, 2014 in Greenwood, Indiana. Police said Franti's pit bull and Cane Corso had eaten the soft tissue from his face, neck, and upper chest, but ascribed his death to a drug overdose.

**Not listed** are **Rickey Robertson**, 49, and another man who was not identified, who were killed in Houston on September 20, 2015 while trying to rescue Robertson's pit bull from the 610 South Loop freeway.

The dog who killed an unidentified 2-year-old in Berkeley County, West Virginia, on September 28, 2015 was called a "boxer-mix" in some media accounts, but was called a pit bull by neighbors who actually knew the dog.

**Valente Lopez Aguirre**, 59, and **Robert Simonian**, 74, were found dead from drowning in irrigation canals with extensive dog bites on their bodies in the same part of Fresno, California, on April 14, 2016 and July 7, 2016, respectively. Both were eventually identified by law enforcement as victims of the same three pit bulls, who were impounded after the first attack but were returned to owner **Harold Matthews**, 70, before the second.

**Lisa Musson Breckenridge** aka **Lisa B. May** died in San Antonio, TX in 2016 from sepsis contracted through a dog bite five days earlier.

**Unidentified victims:** two fighting female pit bulls on June 28, 2016 attacked a woman in her early 30s in Manteca, California, as she tried to separate them. Her 74-year-old father suffered a fatal heart attack while coming to her aid.

Two Rottweilers, a Rott/mastiff mix, and a pit bull/chow mix together killed a 60-year-old man on August 20, 2016 in Jacksonville, Florida.

**Lana Amuny**, 58, drowned on October 29, 2016 near Lumberton, Texas, along with a pit bull. Investigators believe Amuny drowned while trying to break up a fight between two pit bulls.

**Christian Dallett**, 53, was killed in a fall on February 23, 2017 in Red Hook, Brooklyn, New York, apparently pulled down stairs while walking a pit bull and a Queensland heeler.

**James E. Bennett**, hospitalized after attack on February 19, 2017 in Palm Coast, Florida, in which his 7-year-old Yorkie was killed and after which his wife Sandra required hospitalization, died of an apparently related heart attack on February 22, 2017.

**Not included** in this list as a victim of a pit bull attack is **Rylan Weidman**, 9 months, killed in a house fire on June 1, 2017 in Tampa, Florida, when "an aggressive pit bull on the property" drove back would-be rescuers, according to *Tampa Times* staff writer Tony Marrero.

**Also not included** is an unidentified woman who was found dead of unknown causes in her Detroit home on June 7, 2017. Police removed 32 dogs from the home, among them an unknown number of aggressive pit bulls.

The dog belonging to **Ronald Kevin Mundy Jr.** who mauled **Marlin Termaine Jackson** aboard a Delta Airlines flight on June 4, 2017 was described by media as a "chocolate Lab mix," but photos clearly showed a pit bull.

**Not listed: Armando Garcia**, 17, killed by a ricochet from a police bullet fired at a charging pit bull on June 22, 2017 in Palmdale, California.

**Not listed: Andrea Gusman**, 6, of Nampa, Idaho, was in critical condition in mid-June 2017 after a pit bull mauled her at her father's home in Mexico. The pit was not known to be of U.S. origin.

**William Gamble**, 66, died at Florida Hospital Flagler on August 3, 2017, three days and five heart attacks after he was mauled by a pit bull.

**Not listed: Tracy Dowdy Fain** died from a sudden stroke on August 7, 2017 at the Children's Healthcare of Atlanta hospital in Egleston, Georgia, while accompanying her son Ethan Fain, 7, as he had stitches removed following reconstructive surgery for injuries suffered in a Christmas Eve pit bull attack.

**Shirley Wright**, 89, of Toledo, Ohio, died on June 8, 2017, from injuries inflicted by a pit bull on May 6, 2017.

An alleged pit bull who attacked a mail carrier in Gilmanton, NH on 8-14-2017 was licensed as a “black Labrador.”

**An unidentified male victim** apparently died from heart attack on September 21, 2017 in Hamilton, Ontario while being bitten by pit bull.

**Not listed: Patricia Crosby**, 53, of Detroit, shot dead on October 9, 2017 by Michael Williams, 61, who was trying to protect her from an attacking pit bull.

**Haze Groin**, 2 months old, was found dead in Hamilton County, Ohio on November 7, 2017 of respiratory failure with blood coming from his nose, after his mother said she saw the family pit bull sitting on him. “Authorities are zeroing in on sudden infant death syndrome,” Fox News reported. The weight of a dog sitting on an infant could induce or accelerate a SIDS death. (Parallel cases were the January 20, 2000 death of six-month-old Jonathon Chandler, who was crushed by a Rottweiler in his bed in Lancaster, Ohio, along with the May 2005 death of a baby who was allegedly crushed by a pit bull in Lockland, Ohio.

**An unidentified Philadelphia man** died in hospital on November 24, 2017 from an unspecified “medical trauma,” after having been mauled by four pit bulls moments after a neighbor gave him a plate of food, suffering multiple leg injuries.

**Korbin Michael Williams**, of Gaffney, S.C., was killed on December 2, 2017 by two pit bulls and a German shepherd. At least one pit bull was reportedly among the seven dogs who killed **Deborah Onsurez**, 56, in Modesto, California on December 28, 2017.

**Tracy Janine Garcia**, 52, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, was killed on May 10, 2018 by a pit bull and a pack of pit mixes, but was misidentified by tabloid headlines as the purported victim of an attack by dachshunds.

**Cashus Dean Case**, 44, of Seaside, Oregon, not listed as a pit bull fatality, was shot dead by police on July 24, 2018, who arrived to find Case, a convicted felon, waving two black powder pistols and shouting, after Case rescued neighbor Rick Derby from a pit bull mauling. Derby credited Case with saving his life.

**Greg Manteufel**, of West Bend, WI, in 2018 suffered quadruple amputations and the removal of part of his nose to fight a Capnocytophaga canimorsus infection apparently contracted from his eight-year-old pit bull.

**Deborah Russell**, 63, of Morgan County, MO, died of a heart attack on September 1, 2018 while under attack by a pit bull.

**82-year-old woman** not yet identified to media as of 1-1-2019 was found in Fresno, California with multiple bite wounds to both legs from pit bulls on December 13, 2018; died from heart attack.

**Angela Johnson**, 70, mauled by three pit bulls on December 15, 2018 in Anza, California, died on February 10, 2019 after 57 days on life support.

**Diamond Jones**, 17, of Jackson, MS, had asthma attack & went into cardiac arrest, but survived, in May 2019 after suffering foot injury from pit bull attack.

Doberman, pit bull, & Rottweiler were all involved in 3-dog attack on couple in East Dallas, TX, on 6-1-2019.

Two Lab/mastiff mixes, a mastiff, a pit bull, and a Rottweiler/Lab mix all participated in killing **Adieanna O’Shea**, 19, of Marysville, Tennessee, on August 23, 2019.

**Joshua Jadusingh**, 27, of Adams, MA, was under attack on 2-5-2020 by his own two pit bulls when killed by a neighbor using crossbow to try to save Jadusingh. Descriptions of Jadusingh’s injuries suggest a high likelihood that he might have been killed even if the neighbor had not responded to his screams.

**Raelynn Larrison**, 4 months, Dayton, OH, was reportedly smothered by a pit bull on December 31, 2020.

**Rhonda Lobo**, 58, 3-25-2021, Cranston, RI. Own pit pulled her in front of pickup truck.

**Unidentified woman** was reported by WKBN to have been killed by her own pit bull on March 27, 2021. However, Madison Trampler of WFMJ reported on March 30, 2021 that the victim was still alive and expected to recover. This attack therefore is not listed as a fatality.

**Oscar Herrera**, 32, not included in these statistics, was on April 28, 2021 shot by a sheriff’s deputy in Reading Township, Michigan, after responding to a complaint that Herrera’s pit bull was

running at large. The pit bull attacked & injured the deputy, the deputy shot the pit bull, Herrera lunged at the deputy with a knife, and the deputy then shot Herrera dead.

**PIT BULL/LAB MIX:** One child was killed in an attack also involving a German shepherd mix. Cary Phelan, of Papillion, Nebraska, died in August 2012 from an infection transmitted by a pit bull/Lab mix.

**PIT BULL/POINTER MIX:** Was involved in attack on **Iran Menses**, 66, of Los Angeles, on 5/28/00, along with two pit bull terriers, but apparently did not inflict any of Menses' injuries.

**POMERANIAN MIX:** The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and local media initially identified the dog who killed a six-week-old girl on October 8, 2000 as a Pomeranian. Photos later revealed that the dog was substantially larger than a Pomeranian, with coloration resembling that of a brindle Patterdale terrier (a smaller close relative of a pit bull.)

**POODLE:** 2002 case involved prescription drug use possibly affecting dog as well as victim. A pit bull attack on a 3-year-old on December 2, 2011 in Seymour, TN also involved two poodles who apparently joined in.

**QUEENSLAND HEELER:** category also includes "cattle dog," "Australian cattle dog," & "blue heeler." **Christian Dallett**, 53, was killed in a fall on February 23, 2017 in Red Hook, Brooklyn, New York, apparently pulled down stairs while walking a pit bull and a Queensland heeler. At least one Queensland heeler was reportedly among the seven dogs who killed **Deborah Onsurez**, 56, in Modesto, California on December 28, 2017. **Jimmy Lee Grigg**, 53, of Santa Fe, Texas, was fatally mauled on March 14, 2019 by three dogs identified by family members as "cattle dog mixes," who may have actually been pit bulls.

#### **ROTTWEILER:**

Ten Rottweiler fatalities occurring in the 1980s and 1990s, now added to this log, were overlooked and not included until June 22, 2017.

**Jonathon Chandler**, 6 months, of Lancaster, Ohio, was reportedly crushed in bed on January 20, 2000 by the family Rottweiler. Four other children, ages 2-11, were removed from home of **Shelly Fisher**; case was investigated as possible negligent homicide. Another case involved a woman who was apparently killed by two pit bulls and one Rottweiler.

The May 15, 2005 death of **Neil Pera** is Wallingford, Connecticut, was attributed by the coroner to cirrhosis of the liver, but police photographs of his remains and the reports of the responding police officers indicate that innumerable bites were involved, apparently as Pera curled into a fetal position to avoid further injury. He died afterward, stretched out on his badly bitten back.

**Joe Mortensen**, 22, of Dix Hills, N.Y., was mauled by two Rottweilers belonging to James Mazzone, 44, in June 2007, when the Rottweilers allegedly attacked his pit bull mix.

A man fleeing an attack by two Rottweilers was critically injured by a car on September 20, 2009 in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Mail carrier **Hao Yun "Eddie" Lin** of Oceanside, California, suffered a fatal head injury in a fall while trying to evade a lunging Rottweiler on May 25, 2010.

**Michael Winter**, 30, of Henrietta Township, Lorain County, Ohio, was killed on June 15, 2010 by a reportedly Rottweiler-led pack also including five bull mastiffs and three pit bull/boxer mixes.

Not listed is an unidentified man whose remains were being eaten by a pit bull and a Rottweiler when found on February 14, 2014 by **Torsten Werner**, animal control officer for Mendocino County, Calif. The man was believed to have already been dead when the dogs found him.

**Anthony Wind**, 26, was both disfigured and killed during an epileptic seizure in separate attacks by his girlfriend **Barbara Murray** adopted "service" Rottweiler, who had been through at least three animal shelters. The fatal attack came on May 24, 2015.

Two Rottweilers, a Rott/mastiff mix, and a pit bull together killed a 60-year-old man on August 20, 2016 in Jacksonville, Florida.

**Gaia Nova**, 3 months, of Sherman Oaks, California, was fatally mauled in an incident involving a Rottweiler, a Lab, and a small terrier.

Doberman, pit bull, & Rottweiler were all involved in 3-dog attack on couple in East Dallas, TX, on 6-1-2019.

Rottweiler & Sharpei mix were both involved in 6-8-2019 attack on child in Washington D.C.

**ROTTWEILER/LAB MIX:** Two Lab/mastiff mixes, a mastiff, a pit bull, and a Rottweiler/Lab mix all participated in killing **Adieanna Oshea**, 19, of Marysville, Tennessee, on August 23, 2019.

**SCHNAUZER:** **Michael James Obergas**, eight weeks, was killed by a giant schnauzer and a Lab at his home in Houston on August 20, 2017.

**SHARPEI:** Rottweiler & Sharpei mix were both involved in 6-8-2019 attack on child in Washington D.C.

**SHIH TSU:** **Christine Caron**, 42, of Ottawa, Ontario, bitten while playing with her Shih Tsu, lost her left arm and both legs to a *Capnocytophaga canimorsus* bacterial infection, the *Ottawa Citizen* reported on July 22, 2013. Three other dogs licked the wound. The Public Health Agency of Canada found that only 200 human cases of this type of infection had been reported worldwide since 1976. "Medical literature emphasizes that the infection is much more severe in immune incompetent hosts including those with functional or anatomic asplenia [absence of a spleen]," wrote ProMed moderator Larry Lutwick.

**TERRIER MIX (non-pit bull):** two of the three victims were injured by both pit bull and a small terrier in the same attack. **Gaia Nova**, 3 months, of Sherman Oaks, California, was fatally mauled in an incident involving a Rottweiler, a Lab, and a small terrier.

#### **UNIDENTIFIED:**

The death of **Nicholas Benjamin Loris**, 6, of Davidson County, NC, on February 21, 1987, was belatedly recognized by the county medical examiner as having been caused by an attack by an unknown dog in January 2012.

**Keith Trout**, 60, of York, PA, died on November 23, 2011 from a septic dog bite, apparently inflicted by one of his own dogs. No breed information was available about the dogs.

Sisters **Josefina Ledezma**, 63, and **Estela Regalado**, 51, of Brownsville, TX, were injured on January 24, 2013 by about a dozen of 29 dogs kept in their home, who appeared in news video to be typical mixed-breed Mexican street dogs. Many of the dogs who were not involved in the attack were puppies.

**Robin Sullins**, 48, of Leander, Texas, lost both legs and nine fingers to *Capnocytophaga canimorsus* infection resulting from bites suffered on Christmas Day 2013 while breaking up a fight between her two dogs of unidentified breed. At least two of three dogs involved in a June 2015 pack attack in Lake Gaston, North Carolina, proved to be rabid.

**James Derle Patterson** of Jacksons Gap, AL died of a heart attack on May 8, 2017 while fending off an attack by multiple dogs.

**Sandra Kaiser**, 71, of Redding, Connecticut, died on May 12, 2017 after suffering "very serious injuries" in an attack by her own dog, police chief **Doug Fuchs** told **Christopher Burns** of the *Redding Pilot*. Wrote Burns, "Fuchs said the dog was a both a 'mixed breed' and 'rescue' dog, but was 'not a pit bull.'"

A unnamed man, 70, died in Russell County, Alabama on July 5, 2017 from "an apparent medical episode" while fending off a dog attack.

Four of the seven dogs who mauled **Sheena Rose** on 8-22-2017 in Byhalia, Mississippi were pit mixes; three of unknown mix.

**Eric Daniel Grimm**, 48, of Lebanon, Oregon, died on July 18, 2021 from an apparent heart attack suffered immediately after breaking up a household dog attack.

**Branden Murphy**, 28, of Sandusky, Ohio, was mauled by an unidentified dog and then fatally shot on October 8, 2008. Brian C. Lewis, 35, was charged with his murder. While the dog attack is logged above, Murphy is not counted as a dog attack fatality.

**WEST HIGHLAND TERRIER:** **Rose Kazarian**, 75, suffered a fatal heart attack after a bite by a leashed West Highland terrier while visiting her husband's grave at the Hope Cemetery in Worcester, Massachusetts.

#### **WOLF HYBRID:**

Whether any of the dogs identified by their owners or case investigators as "wolf hybrids" and listed under this heading in fact included any recent wild wolf ancestry is questionable, due to the extreme rarity of bona fide wolves in private possession and the high incidence of Akitas, Malamutes, and other dogs resembling wolves being cross-bred to produce offspring saleable as wolf-dogs. Nonetheless, these dogs have been thought to be wolf hybrids, have been raised, sold, and treated as such, and dogs in this

category are much more likely than the average dog to attack children, who are in the size range of a wolf's normal prey, than adults.

One adult fatality was a small woman who was defending two children. The other was a small woman, 61, who was apparently defending her dog. In that instance, the wolf hybrid was identified as being a wolf hybrid/German shepherd cross, with the German shepherd configuration dominant. Some experts are skeptical that the animal had any wolf ancestry at all.

A third possible adult fatality was **Patricia Ritz**, 67, of Ohio County, Kentucky, a multi-time convicted animal hoarder whose remains were found on September 24, 2013. Her remains had apparently been eaten by some of her 50 starving wolf-hybrids, but her cause of death was not determined.

Merritt & Beth Clifton, editors  
**ANIMALS 24-7**  
**[www.Animals24-7.org](http://www.Animals24-7.org)**  
POB 101, Greenbank, WA 98253

Telephone: 360-678-1057  
Cell: 360-969-0450  
E-mail: [Animals24.7@frontier.com](mailto:Animals24.7@frontier.com)