

Dog Attacks in Townsville:

A glance at exposure and prevention

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Overview

- Background
 - Public health concerns and benefits
 - Preliminary results
 - Registered dog characteristic
 - Exposure rates
 - Reported Aggression Incident characteristics
 - Incident, injured person, attacking dog
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Background

- 12,000 -14,000 Australians seek treatment annually from dog related injuries
 - 1,400 require hospitalization (Ozanne-Smith, 2001)
 - Why do they occur?
 - Owner negligence
 - Temperament
 - Environmental elements (AIAM, 2014)
 - Importance of understanding risk and trends
 - TCC Animal Management Plan 2014 - 2017
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Background (Cont.)

- Queensland Social Survey 2011
 - Dog attack rate: 1.23 per 100,000 people
 - Profile of dog owners
 - Female > male owners
 - Ages 45 – 54
 - Rural living
 - Characteristics of bite incidences
 - Leg/foot
 - Another person's house or yard
 - Unknown > Own dog
 - Adult males



Public health concerns

- Costs
 - Medical (Bennett, 2001)
 - Hospital
 - Infections or disfigurement
 - Psychological
- Deaths (Gilchrist, 2008)
- Diseases
 - Rabies (Sparkes, 2014)
- Lack of reporting



Public Health Benefits

- Various jobs and benefits (Kimble, 2011) (CDC, 2015)
 - Drug sniffing
 - Assisting the disabled
 - Farm
 - Overall health and wellbeing
 - Social development in children
 - Companion



Control and monitoring

- Required to register annually
- Universal Aggression incident reporting form



This is a form titled "Application for Dog Registration" from the Queensland Government. It includes sections for dog owner details, dog details, and a declaration. The form is designed to be filled out by the dog owner to register their dog annually.



This is a form titled "UNIVERSAL AGGRESSION INCIDENT REPORTING FORM". It is used to report incidents of dog aggression. The form includes sections for incident details, dog details, and a declaration. It is designed to be filled out by the person who witnessed the incident.



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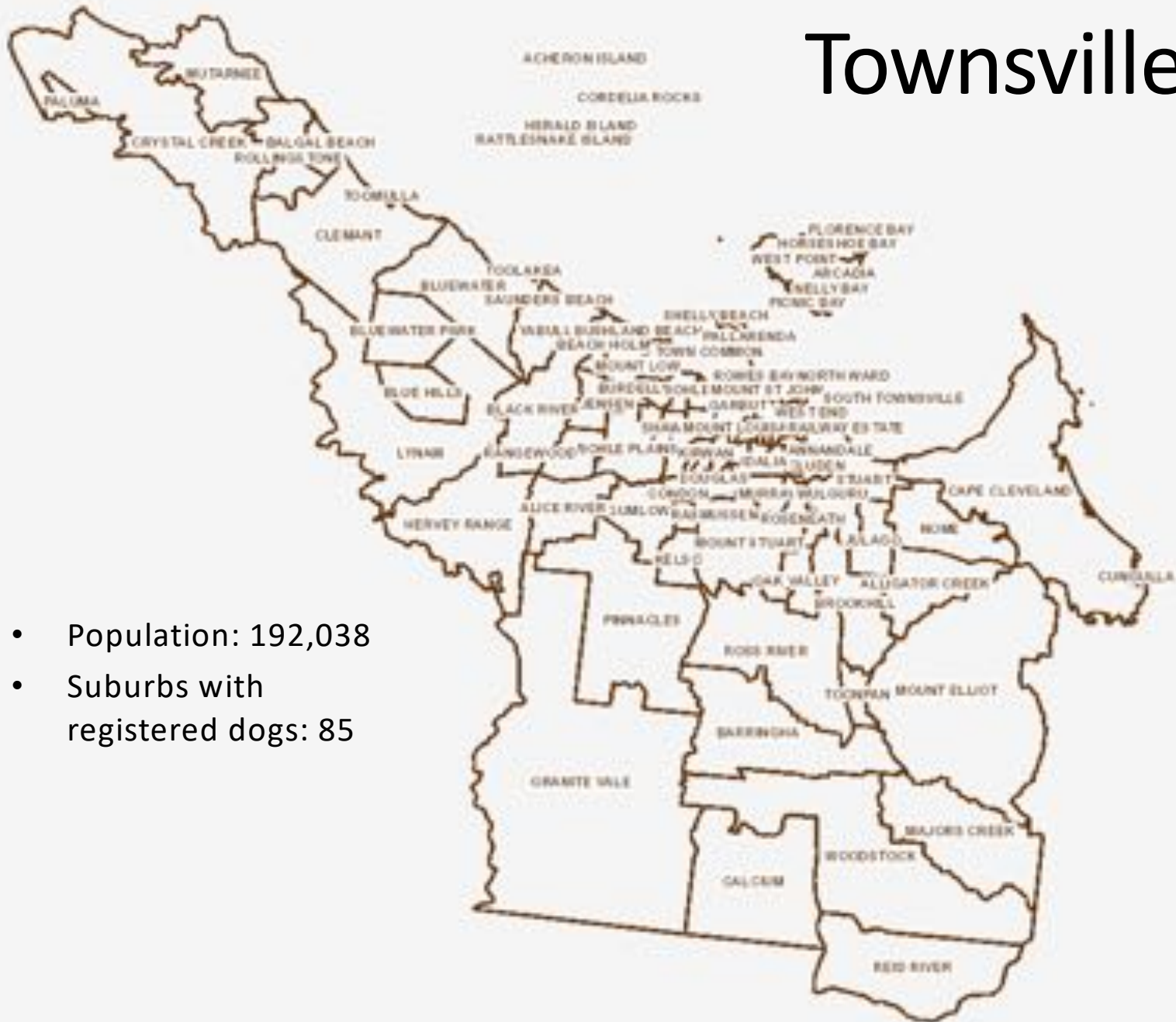


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- AIAM position statement
 - Managing Dog Aggression in the Community

- Non-identifiable data sets
 - Registration applications
 - Aggression incident reports
 - Attack vs. aggression
 - Date is based on incident recording
 - Limitation
 - Reported
 - Two years of data
 - Some fields had missing data
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Townsville



- Population: 192,038
- Suburbs with registered dogs: 85

Registered dogs

	Frequency (%)
Gender	
Male	18,593 (49)
Female	18,932 (50)
Unknown	259 (1)
Desexed	
Yes	27,649 (73)
No	10,135 (27)

- Type of dog:
 - Pet - 30,609
 - Working - 37
 - Therapy - 23



Total registered: 37,784

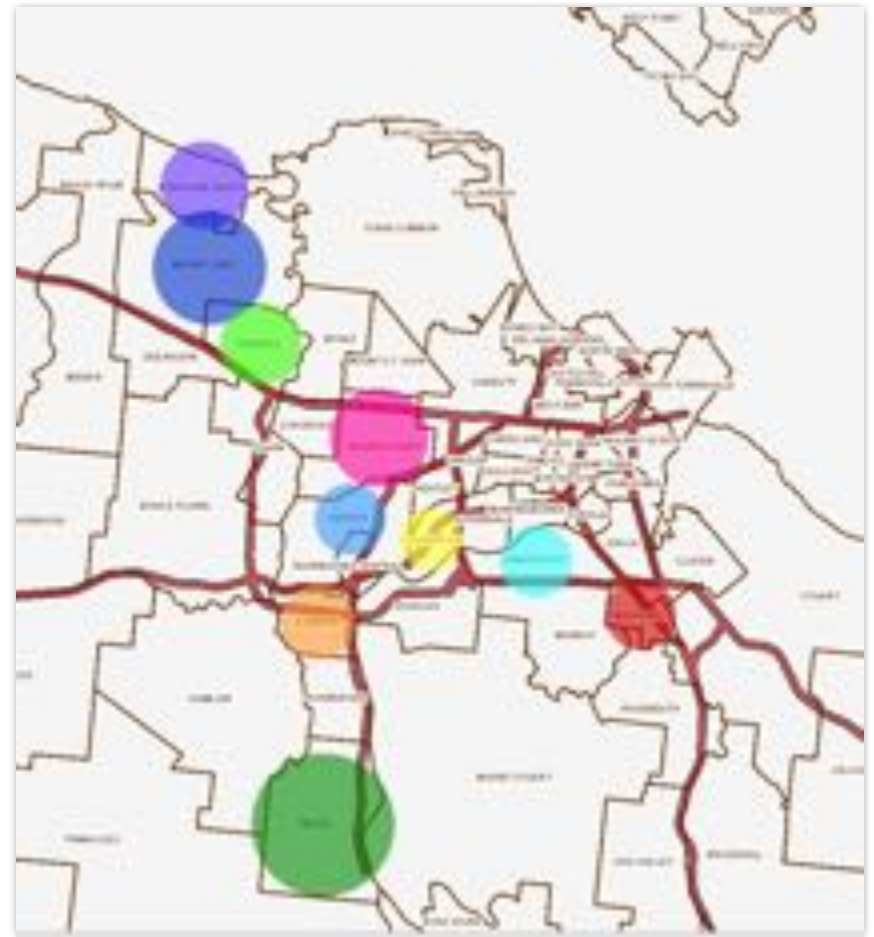
20 dogs per 100 people

Top 20 registered dogs breeds

Rank	Breed	Number Registered	Rank	Breed	Number Registered
1	Stafford Bull Terrier	2221	11	Kelpie Cross	815
2	Maltese Cross	1921	12	Jack Russel Terrier	805
3	Cattle dog	1534	13	Shih tzu Cross	745
4	Stafford B.T. Cross	1476	14	Chihuahua	711
5	Border Collie	1387	15	Border Collie Cross	706
6	Cattle dog Cross	1159	16	Mastiff Cross	645
7	Labrador	1125	17	Maltese	638
8	Labrador Cross	879	18	Jack Russel T. Cross	622
9	German Shepard	849	19	Bull Arab	553
10	Bull Arab Cross	815	20	Minifox Terrier	531

Registered dogs by suburb

Rank	Suburb	Number of registered dog (%)
1	Kirwan	4483 (11.9)
2	Kelso	2947 (7.8)
3	Mt. Louisa	1801 (4.8)
4	Annandale	1587 (4.2)
5	Bushland Beach	1488 (3.9)
6	Condon	1225 (3.2)
7	Cranbrook	1143 (3.0)
8	Wulguru	1119 (3.0)
9	Burdell	1118 (3.0)
10	Mt. Low	1009 (2.9)



Rate of exposure by suburb

	Suburb	Pop.	Suburb	# reg. dogs	Suburb	# dogs per 100 person
1	Kirwan	21,771	Kirwan	4483	Burdell	50.0
2	Kelso	10,202	Kelso	2947	Mt. Low	46.0
3	Annandale	8,974	Mt. Louisa	1801	Bluewater	44.4
4	Mt. Louisa	7,992	Annandale	1587	Pinnacles	43.6
5	Douglas	7,184	Bushland Beach	1488	Bluewater Park	35.4
6	Cranbrook	6,146	Condon	1225	Yabulu	33.9
7	Condon	5,866	Cranbrook	1143	Alligator Creek	33.8
8	Bushland Beach	5,659	Wulguru	1119	Black River	31.8
9	North Ward	5,097	Burdell	1118	Oonoonba	31.2
10	Aitkenvale	4,909	Mt. Low	1009	Cungulla	30.4

Reported Incidences

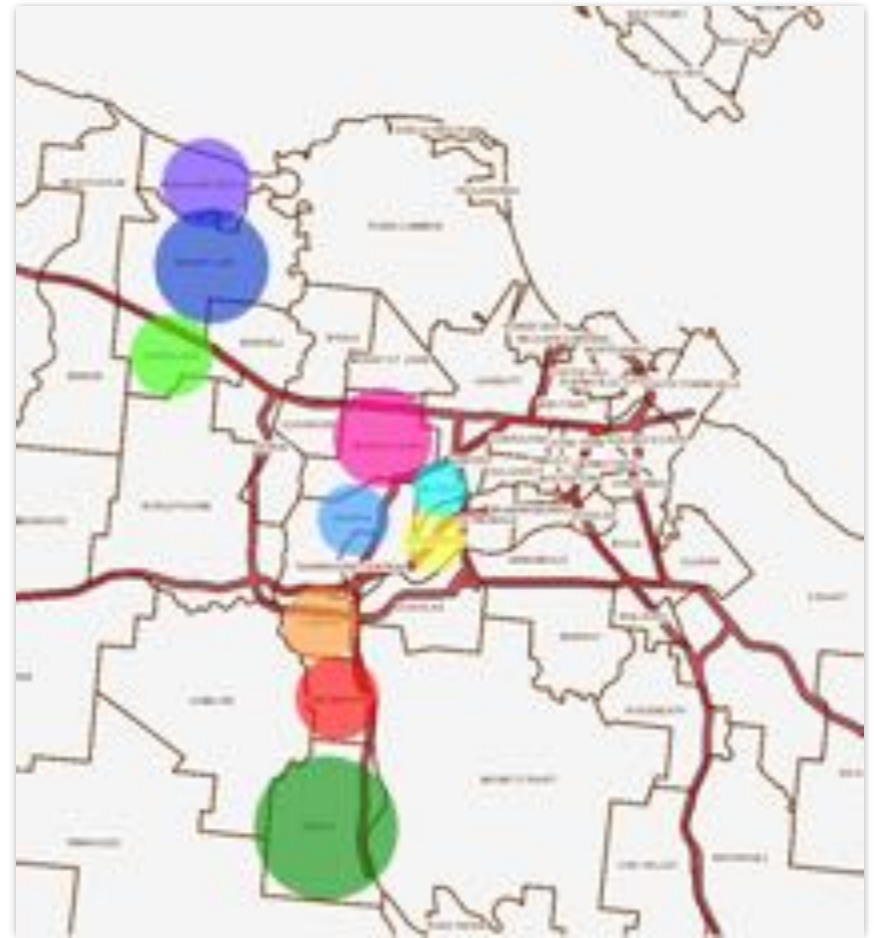
(1 July, 2013 – 30 June, 2015)

Attacks	Frequency
Animal	585
Human	290
Both	40
Unknown	9
Total	924

- 2013/2014: 466
- 2014/2015: 458
- Attack rate on humans:
 - 6.0 per 10,000 people annually

Incidents by suburb

Rank	Suburb	Incidence (%)
1	Kelso	100 (10.8)
2	Kirwan	80 (8.7)
3	Mt. Low	40 (4.3)
4	Deeragun	38 (4.1)
5	Cranbrook	35 (3.8)
6	Rasmussen	35 (3.8)
7	Bushland Beach	33 (3.6)
8	Condon	33 (3.6)
9	Mt. Louisa	32 (3.5)
10	Heatley	27 (2.9)



Rate by suburb

Rank	Suburb	Per 1000 people	Rank	Suburb	Incidence (%)
1	Oak Valley	11.9	1	Kelso	100 (10.8)
2	Bluewater	10.1	2	Kirwan	80 (8.7)
3	Mt. Low	8.4	3	Mt. Low	40 (4.3)
4	Balgal Beach	7.7	4	Deeragun	38 (4.1)
5	Nome	7.1	5	Cranbrook	35 (3.8)
6	Pallarenda	5.5	6	Rasmussen	35 (3.8)
7	Deeragun	5.4	7	Bushland Beach	33 (3.6)
8	Vincent	5.2	8	Condon	33 (3.6)
9	Black River	4.9	9	Mt. Louisa	32 (3.5)
10	Kelso	4.9	10	Heatley	27 (2.9)

Incident characteristics

	Number of dogs involved in an incident			
	One	Two	Three	Total
Human	247	42	1	290
Both	23	13	4	40
Animal	349	178	13	585
Unknown	9	0	0	9
Total	673	233	18	924

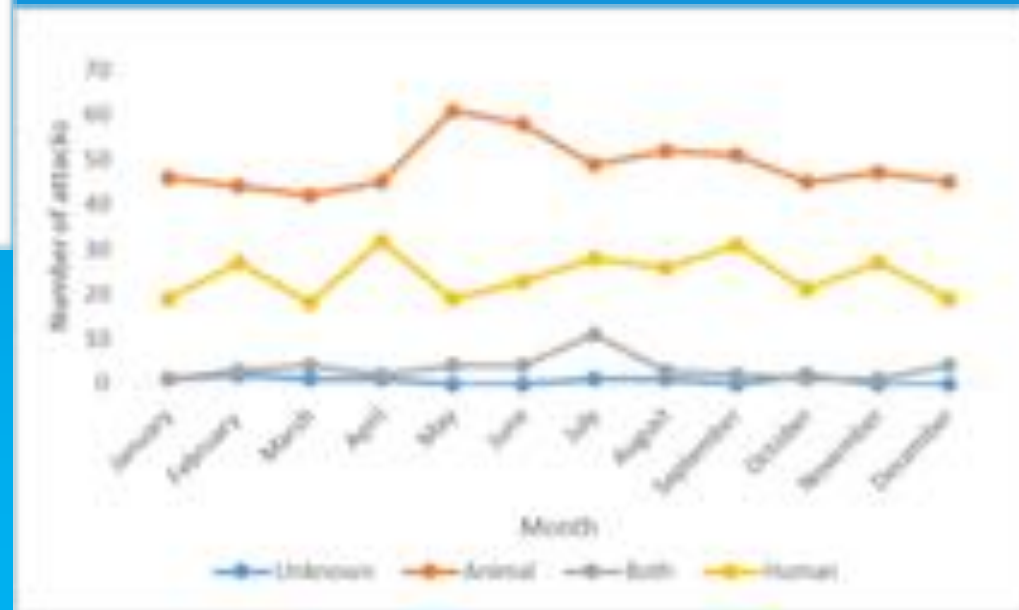
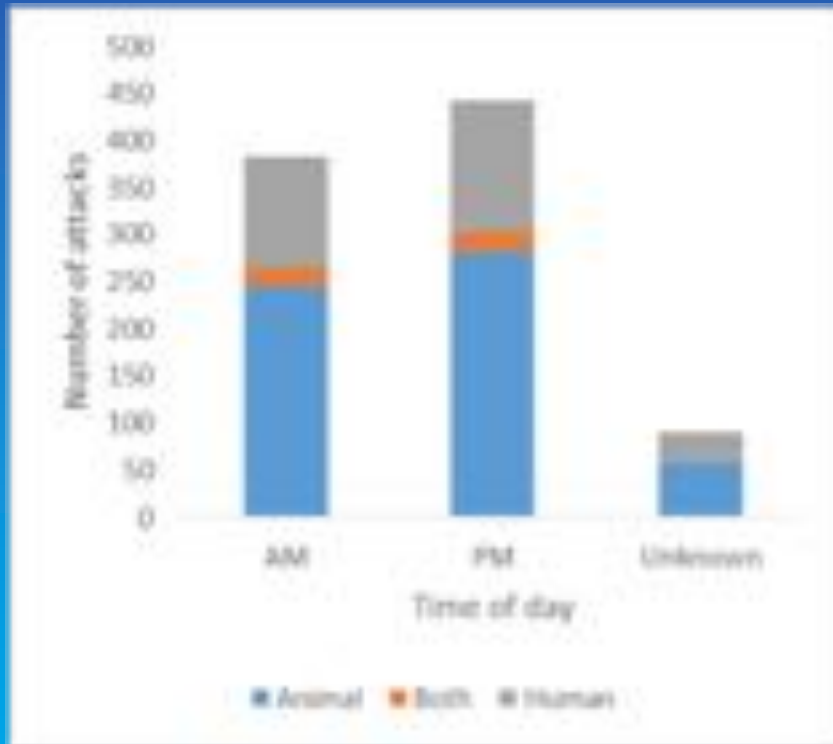


Attacking breeds

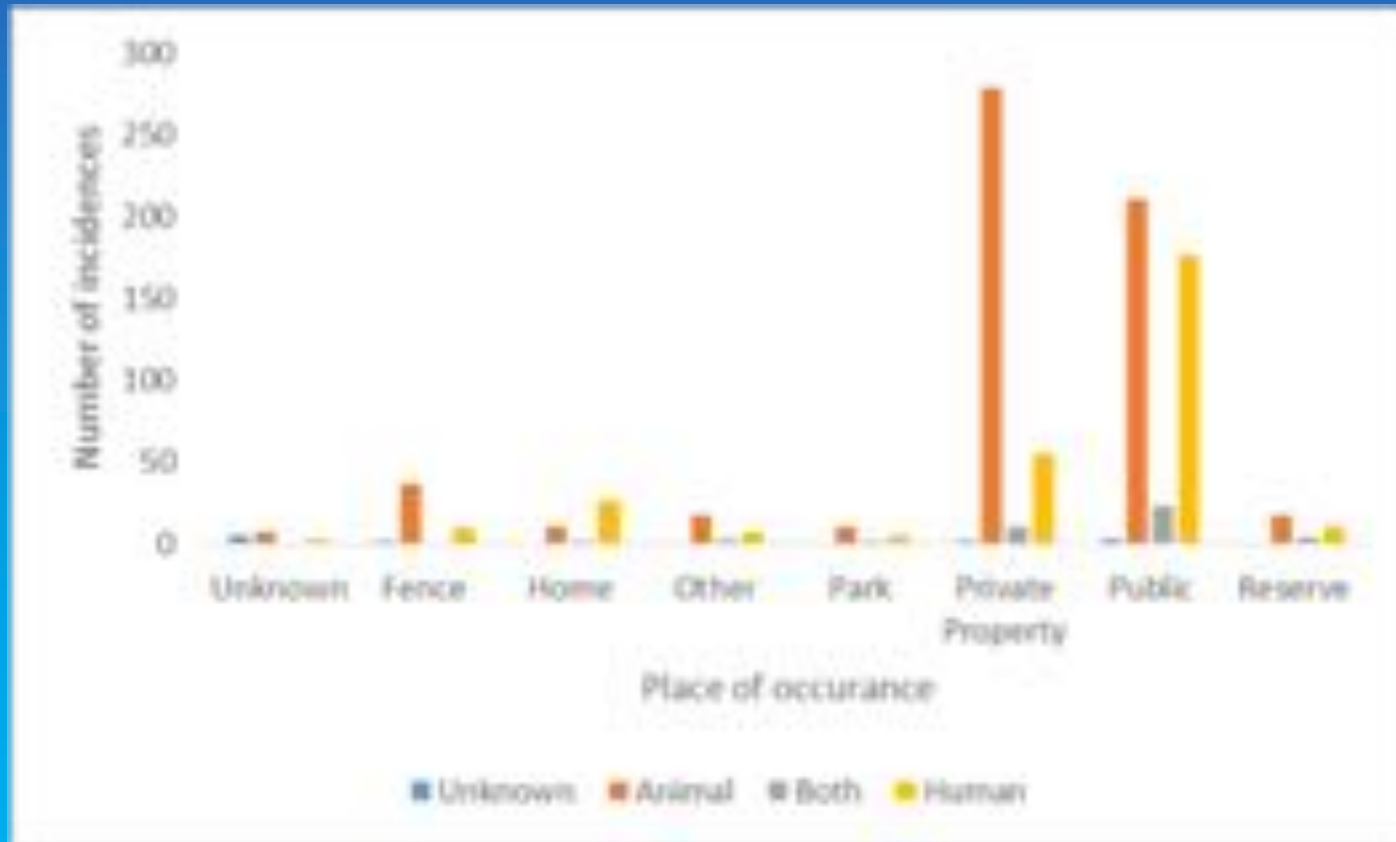
Rank	Breed	Number involved in incidences
1	Stafford Bull Terrier	100
2	Mastiff Cross	65
3	Bull Arab Cross	57
4	Bull Arab	54
5	Cattle dog Cross	54
6	Unknown	52
7	Stafford B.T. Cross	51
8	Cattle Dog	43
9	American Safford	34
10	Kelpie Cross	23

Rank	Breed	Number Registered
1	Stafford Bull Terrier	2221
2	Maltese Cross	1921
3	Cattle dog	1534
4	Stafford B.T. Cross	1476
5	Border Collie	1387
6	Cattle dog Cross	1159
7	Labrador	1125
8	Labrador Cross	879
9	German Shepard	849
10	Bull Arab Cross	815

Incidences by day/month



Incidences by place of occurrence



Incidences (cont.)

Was the attacking dog known to the victim?

	Yes	No	Unknown
Animal	220	303	62
Both	13	19	8
Human	133	129	28
Unknown	1	0	8
Total	367	451	106

Was the attacking dog under effective control?

	Yes	No	Unknown
Animal	37	459	89
Both	0	28	12
Human	48	195	47
Unknown	0	3	6
Total	85	685	154

Attack on other Animals

Attacks on Animals	Frequency
Dog	399
Cat	90
Poultry	70
Guinea Pig	16
Livestock	11
Other	7
Total	593



Injured person characteristics

	Number of incidences
Age	
Child	53
Teenager	2
Adult	237
Total	292
Treatment	
GP Consult	70
Hospital	48
None	119
Other	32
Total	269

Nature of injury	Number of incidences
Puncture	87
No contact	64
Other	38
Cut/Laceration	26
Abrasion	25
Bodily Harm	23
Bruise	5
Penetration	1
Fracture	1
Total	270

Attacking dog characteristics

	Total attacking dogs
Sex	
Female	394
Male	514
Unknown	131
Desexed	
Yes	309
No	537
Unknown	195
Registered	
Yes	671
No	229
Unknown	153

	Total attacking dogs
Microchipped	
Yes	199
No	210
Unknown	642
Declared Prior	
Yes	19
No	916
Unknown	125
Hunting animal	
Yes	31
No	440
Unknown	593

Attacking dog characteristics

	Total attacking dogs
Declared as a result	
Yes - Menacing	27
Yes - Dangerous	90
No	882
Destroyed	67
Involved in previous incident	
Yes	17
No	352
Unknown	542

- Looking toward the future
- Prevention
- Need to encourage responsible dog ownership
 - Desexing and microchipping is not enough

“Accurate and complete reporting of dog bites is an essential element of a bite prevention program. These reports are vital not only for case management and judicial review but for planning, implementing, and evaluating the status of the problem.” (Rhea, 2011)

What's in a name?

Rank	Most common	Most creative
1	Bella	Captain Rainbow Sparkles
2	Molly	Fallafel
3	Charlie	Coke Zero
4	Max	Prince Fatty
5	Ruby	Princes Monster Truck



References

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•Questions?
