



United States Dog Bite Statistics

- 70% of dog bite victims are children
- 61% of dog attacks occur at home or at a familiar place
- 77% of bites are by a family dog or the dog of a friend
- Any breed of dog can bite
- The list of “dangerous” dog breeds changes each year based on the most popular breeds
- 44,000 dog bites to the face are reported each year
- Over 20% of reported dog attacks were by dogs that were chained or broke free from a chain.
- At least 16 documented attacks involved intact males attacking children near a female in estrus.
- Dog bites account for the 2nd highest number of children’s injuries, behind baseball and softball.
- 25% of homeowners’ insurance claims are bite cases.
- Of 4.7 million dog bite cases in 1999, 800,000 needed medical care.
- 20% of bite case medical costs exceed \$17,000; 10% exceed \$75,000.
- Insurance liability payouts for 2002 totaled over \$345.5 million in dog bite related claims

Sources:

- www.dogbitelaw.com
- www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/fact/dogbites.htm
- www.workingdogs.com
- www.dogexpert.com
- Delise, Karen, *Fatal Dog Attacks*, Anubis Press, Manorville, NY, 2002

Education is the key to reducing the number of dog bites.

www.kidsanddogs.org

Creating a safer environment for children, adults and dogs