

Freedom of Information request 435-23

Request

Can you tell me:

1. In each of the last three financial years (up to and including 2022/23), how many incidents have there been when people have been treated for an animal bite. Please break the figures down for each year and, if possible, break the figures down to give information about the types of animal the bite came from (i.e. dog, cat, adder, etc.).
2. In each of those years, what was the youngest age of those treated for an animal bite?
3. In each of the last three financial years (up to and including 2022/23), how many people have been treated for other injuries inflicted by an animal (i.e. trampling by cows, attacked by birds etc.). Please break the figures down for each year and, if possible, break the figures down to give information about the types of animal the bite came from (i.e. dog, cat, adder, etc.).

Response

1. The number of incidents when people have been treated for an animal bite is:

Diagnosis Description	2020'21	2021'22	2022'23
Bitten By Rat In Unspecified Place	<5	<5	0
Bitten Or Struck By Dog	125	164	167
Bitten Or Struck By Other Mammals	38	35	46
Bitten Or Stung By Nonvenomous Insects And Other Nonvenomous Arthropods	31	62	40
Bitten Or Crushed By Other Reptiles In Unspecified Place	<5	0	<5

2. The youngest age (in years) of those shown in Question 1 is:

Diagnosis Description	2020'21	2021'22	2022'23
Bitten By Rat In Unspecified Place	51	17	-
Bitten Or Struck By Dog	2	3	1
Bitten Or Struck By Other Mammals	2	4	17
Bitten Or Stung By Nonvenomous Insects And Other Nonvenomous Arthropods	<1	3	2
Bitten Or Crushed By Other Reptiles In Unspecified Place	65	-	56

3. The number of people who have been treated for other injuries inflicted by an animal is:

Diagnosis Description	2020'21	2021'22	2022'23
Contact With Venomous Spiders In Unspecified Place	0	0	<5
Contact With Hornets, Wasps And Bees	<5	32	10
Animal-Rider Or Occ Of Animal-Drawn Vehicle Injured In Transport Accident	22	21	24

As the number of events in some areas are very small and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **435-23** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.