

TABLE 1-TOTAL NUMBERS AND ODDS OF AN ACCIDENTAL DEATH IN THE USA BY CAUSE OF INJURY in 2003 – comparing human fatalities caused by captive exotic and wild animals (average up to year 2006) to deaths caused in the course of a normal daily routine in every day life in 2003. REXANO, www.rexano.org, only used fatalities numbers since all deaths are reported and there is only one degree of death. Injuries in all walks of life range from life threatening to simple Band-Aid fix and many go unreported. The average life expectancy of 77 years was used to calculate the lifetime odds.

Cause of death in 2003	Number of deaths per year	One-year odds	Lifetime odds
Captive non-human primate	0*	0	0
Captive bear	0.125**	1 in 2,416,000,000	1 in 32,000,000
Captive elephant	0.81**	378,000,000	5,000,000
Captive big/exotic cat	1**	302,000,000	4,000,000
Captive reptile	1.5***	201,000,000	2,700,000
Fireworks discharge	11	26,440,910	340,733
Contact with hot tap-water	26	11,186,539	144,156
Flood	26	11,186,539	144,156
Bitten or struck by dog	32	9,089,063	117,127
Earthquake and other earth movements	32	9,089,063	117,127
Struck by or against another person	39	7,457,692	96,104
Lightning	47	6,188,298	79,746
Contact with hornets, wasps and bees	66	4,406,818	56,789
Cataclysmic storm (****)	75	3,878,000	49,974
Animal rider or occupant of animal-drawn vehicle	101	2,879,703	37,110
Alcohol	373	779,759	10,048
Fall on and from ladder or scaffolding	417	697,482	8,988
Drowning and submersion while in or falling into swimming pool	515	564,757	7,278
Firearms discharge	730	398,425	5,134
Air and space transport accidents	742	391,981	5,051
Occupant of all-terrain or other off-road motor vehicle	906	321,026	4,137
Drowning and submersion while in or falling into natural water	1225	237,429	3,060
Fall on and from stairs and steps	1,588	183,155	2,360
Exposure to smoke, fire and flames	3,369	86,331	1,113
Motorcycle riding	3,676	79,121	1,020
Assault by firearm	11,920	24,400	314
Motor vehicle accidents	44,757	6,498	84

Source: National Safety Council, National Center for Health Statistics, U.S. Census, animal attack news reports

*In 1997 in Atlanta, Georgia, one Yerkes primate researcher supposedly died of herpes B after she was splashed in the eye with bodily fluids from a rhesus macaque; this can NOT be classified as animal 'attack', just like a nurse or doctor being accidentally infected with a blood from an AIDS patients can not be called a murder.

** Based on 16 year average 1990-2006 numbers

*** Based on 11 year average 1995-2006 numbers

(****)Includes hurricanes, tornadoes, blizzards, dust storms and other cataclysmic storms.

Note: Exotic animal yearly and lifetime odds numbers were rounded due to their extremely large size for the ease of use and quoting purposes in the media and legislative sessions.

The figures in Table 2 and Table 3 are for US residents, and are based on 2001. Other odds, indicated with an asterisk (*) in Table 1 are based on long-term data.

Table 2 - LIFETIME Odds in USA in 2001

Cause of Death in 2001	Lifetime Odds
Heart Disease	1-in-5
Cancer	1-in-7
Stroke	1-in-23
Accidental Injury	1-in-36
Motor Vehicle Accident*	1-in-100
Intentional Self-harm (suicide)	1-in-121
Falling Down	1-in-246
Assault by Firearm	1-in-325
Fire or Smoke	1-in-1,116
Natural Forces (heat, cold, storms, quakes, etc.)	1-in-3,357
Electrocution*	1-in-5,000
Drowning	1-in-8,942
Air Travel Accident*	1-in-20,000
Flood* (included also in Natural Forces above)	1-in-30,000
Legal Execution	1-in-58,618
Tornado* (included also in Natural Forces above)	1-in-60,000
Lightning Strike (included also in Natural Forces above)	1-in-83,930
Snake, Bee or other Venomous Bite or Sting*	1-in-100,000
Earthquake (included also in Natural Forces above)	1-in-131,890
Dog Attack	1-in-147,717
Asteroid Impact*	1-in-200,000**
Tsunami*	1-in-500,000
Fireworks Discharge	1-in-615,488
Captive Reptile related fatalities in USA	1-in-2,681,245
Captive Exotic Cat related fatalities in USA	1-in-4,000,000
Captive Elephant related fatalities	1-in-5,000,000
Captive Bear related fatalities	1-in-32,174,949
Captive Non-human primate related fatalities	0

** Perhaps 1-in-500,000

SOURCES: National Center for Health Statistics, CDC; American Cancer Society; National Safety Council; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; World Health Organization; USGS; Clark Chapman, SwRI; David Morrison, NASA; Michael Paine, Planetary Society Australian Volunteers

Table 3 -CAUSE OF DEATH IN USA in 2001

Cause of death in 2001	Number
All causes	2,416,425
Dry land	
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes	37,862
Fall on and from steps and stairs	1,462
Fall from, out of, or through building or structure	580
Slipping/stumbling	564
Fall involving bed	516
Accidental strangulation and suffocation in bed	456
Fall on and from ladder	376
Fall involving chair	181
Fall involving wheelchair	157
Skates/skis/skateboard/roller-skates	119
Fall from tree	111
Fall from cliff	68
Contact with hot tap water	57
Contact with powered lawn mower	45
Dog attack	25
Toys-children 0-14	25
Pushing or collision with another person	22
Contact with hot drinks and oils	6
In the water	
Drowning while in natural water	845
Drowning while in swimming pool	494
Drowning following fall into natural water	209
Drowning following fall into swimming pool	102
Diving or jumping into water (excluding drowning)	68
Shark attacks	3
Captive Exotic Animals	
Captive reptiles in the USA	1.5*
Captive big cats in the USA	1**
Captive elephants	0.81**
Captive bears	0.125**
Captive non-human primates	0***

Source: CDC, FARS, CPSC and Wikipedia

* Based on 11 year average 1995-2006 numbers

** Based on 16 year average 1990-2006 numbers

*** In 1997/Atlanta, Georgia, one Yerkes primate researcher supposedly died of herpes B after she was splashed in the eye with bodily fluids from a rhesus macaque, but this can NOT be classified as animal 'attack', just like a nurse or doctor accidentally getting infected with a blood from an AIDS patients can not be called a murder.

Now, how scared should we be of captive privately owned big cats, and how scared should we be of everyday life?

Are you still worried about captive exotic animal attack?

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