

CCAC FACTS & FIGURES

DATE OF REVISION: October 4, 2018



The Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) is the national peer-review organization responsible for setting, maintaining, and overseeing the implementation of high standards for animal ethics and care in science throughout Canada.

Created in 1968, the CCAC is an independent, non-profit organization, acting in the interests of the Canadian people by continually advancing high standards of animal ethics and care in science.

FUNDING

The CCAC is financed primarily by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), with additional contributions from federal science-based departments and agencies, as well as annual program participation fees paid by CCAC-certified institutions participating in our programs.

Designed to be equitable and affordable, while preserving the arm's-length nature of the CCAC and our programs, the fee structure ensures that the contribution of an institution is not linked to the resources required from the CCAC.

\$2,635,308



Audited report for April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018

2000+

- VOLUNTEER EXPERTS**
veterinarians, animal welfare experts, statisticians, bioethicists, etc.
- COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

**SERVE
ON**

~200

**LOCAL ANIMAL
CARE COMMITTEES**

to help fulfill the
CCAC's mandate and
deliver our programs
in institutions across
Canada.

In both Canada and abroad, animals are studied and counted in the wild, on farms, and in research facilities for Canadian science.



From biomedical laboratories where researchers study fundamental science, to veterinary colleges where students learn to treat animals, and national parks where ecologists study wildlife populations, the CCAC and our network of volunteer experts are there to ensure the highest standards of animal ethics and care.

www.ccac.ca

4,415,467

ANIMALS IN SCIENCE REPORTED TO THE CCAC IN 2017.

In 2017, scientists and educators worked with these animals the most:



31.2%

MICE

1,376,389



27.0%

BIRDS

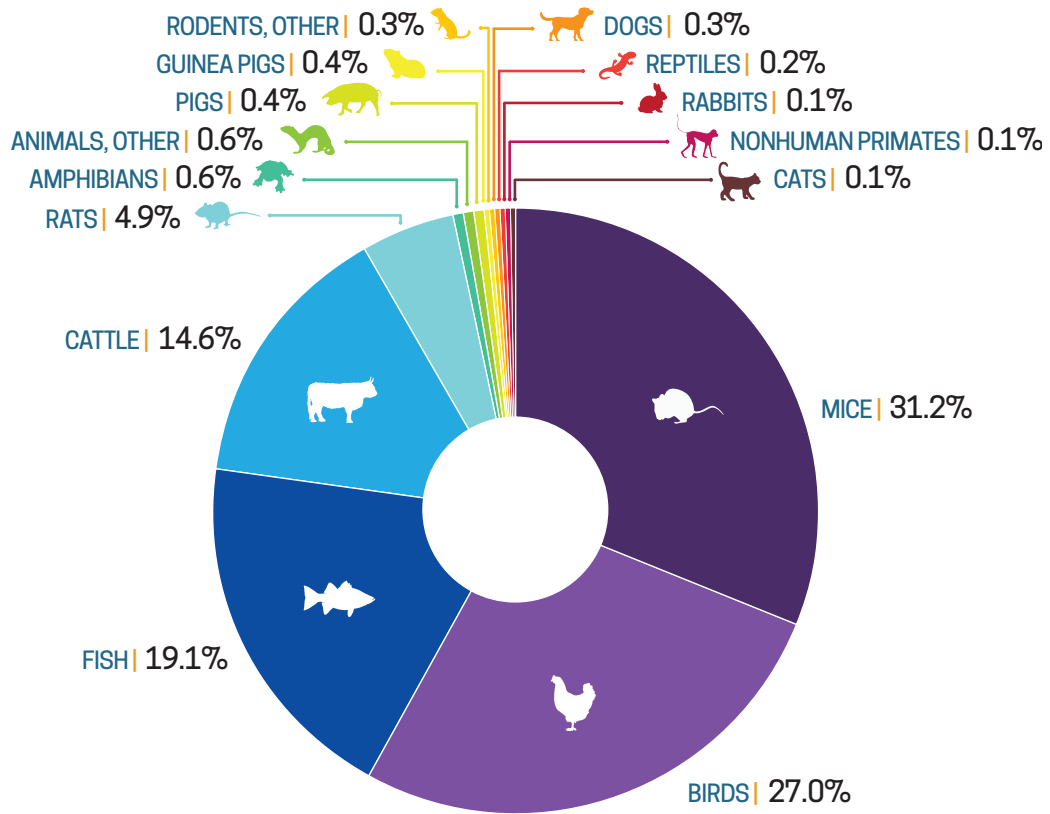
1,192,740



19.1%

FISH

842,405



NOTE: The percentages in this graph total 99.9% due to rounding.



Newly generated genetically modified animals are classified as Category of Invasiveness D as a precaution until the welfare status of the animals can be determined.

2.5M

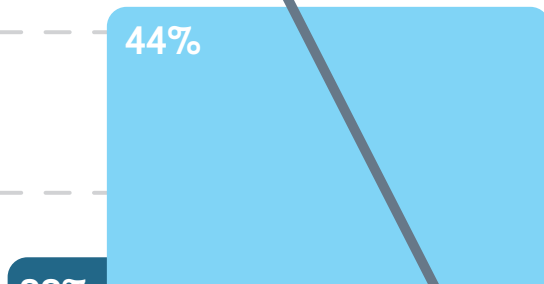
2.0M

1.5M

1.0M

500K

0



2%

CATEGORIES OF INVASIVENESS

Categories of invasiveness are based on a precautionary approach and protocols are assigned a category according to the potential level of pain and distress that the animals might experience.

- B** Experiments which cause little or no discomfort or stress
- C** Experiments which cause minor stress or pain of short duration
- D** Experiments which cause moderate to severe distress or discomfort
- E** Procedures which cause severe pain near, at, or above the pain tolerance threshold of unanesthetized conscious animals



Fish, mice, and guinea pigs were the most frequently used animals in procedures which were classified as Category of Invasiveness E. The majority of these procedures were conducted for regulatory testing.

Category of Invasiveness A is assigned where protocols involve the use of tissue, tissue culture, eggs, invertebrates, protozoa or other animal use where neither vertebrates nor cephalopods are involved, and are not published in the annual CCAC surveys of animal use.

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THE **MAJORITY** OF ANIMALS REPORTED IN 2017 WERE IN **FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH STUDIES**, REPRESENTING **2,051,113 ANIMALS**.

FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH



43.8%

Studies of a fundamental nature in science relating to essential structures or functions

 Investigating how certain hormones produced from the gut and brain regulate energy balance, growth, and reproduction in fish

 Studying the migration patterns of an endangered species of bird

MEDICAL OR CLINICAL STUDIES

Studies for medical purposes that relate to human or animal diseases or disorders

Studying rodents to better understand the genes involved in human diabetes, cancer, and arthritis 

33.0%



DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTS OR DEVICES




12.6%

Studies for the development of products or appliances for human or veterinary medicine

 Studying pigs to develop artificial organs for humans

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Teaching and training to communicate scientific concepts, and develop practical skills and expertise in specific techniques

Training college and university students in the principles of biology and animal health 

5.9%




REGULATORY TESTING



4.7%

Studies for regulatory testing of products for the protection of humans, animals, or the environment

Health Canada's regulatory standards require medical research be performed on animals before human trials can commence

 Testing the efficacy of a new medication for Parkinson's Disease on nonhuman primates

CERTIFICATION

The CCAC assesses and certifies Canadian institutions that work with animals for scientific purposes (research, teaching, and testing), that meet CCAC's high standards. In 2017-2018:

197

public and private sector institutions belonged to the CCAC program

4

institutions were placed on probation

THREE Rs

There continues to be an increased focus on the Three Rs by researchers to develop new alternatives to animal models.

R Replacing the number of animals in science

R Reducing the number animals in science

R Refining care and procedures to minimize pain and distress

While there are many alternatives to animal testing currently under development, only those methods that are validated and accepted by government agencies can be used in regulatory testing.

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