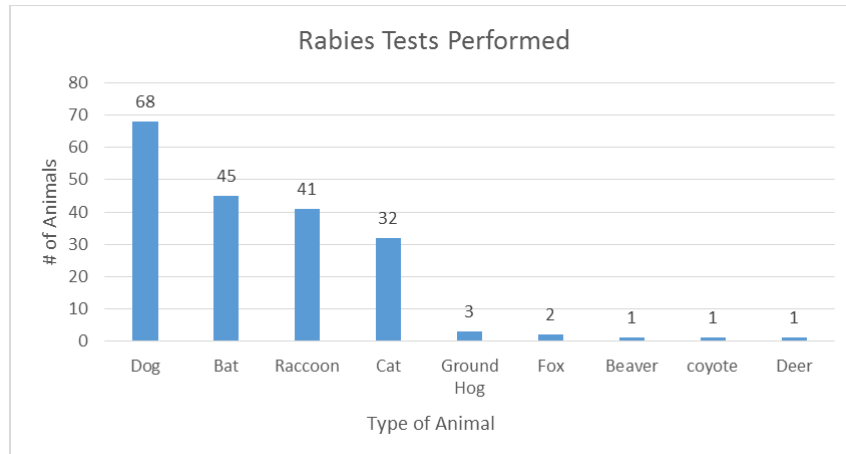


## 2017 Rabies Surveillance Summary

In 2017 a total of **194** animals were submitted to the DC Department of Health for rabies testing at the DC Public Health Laboratory.



Less than 12% (23/196) of all animals submitted tested positive for the rabies virus, with raccoons most commonly testing positive:

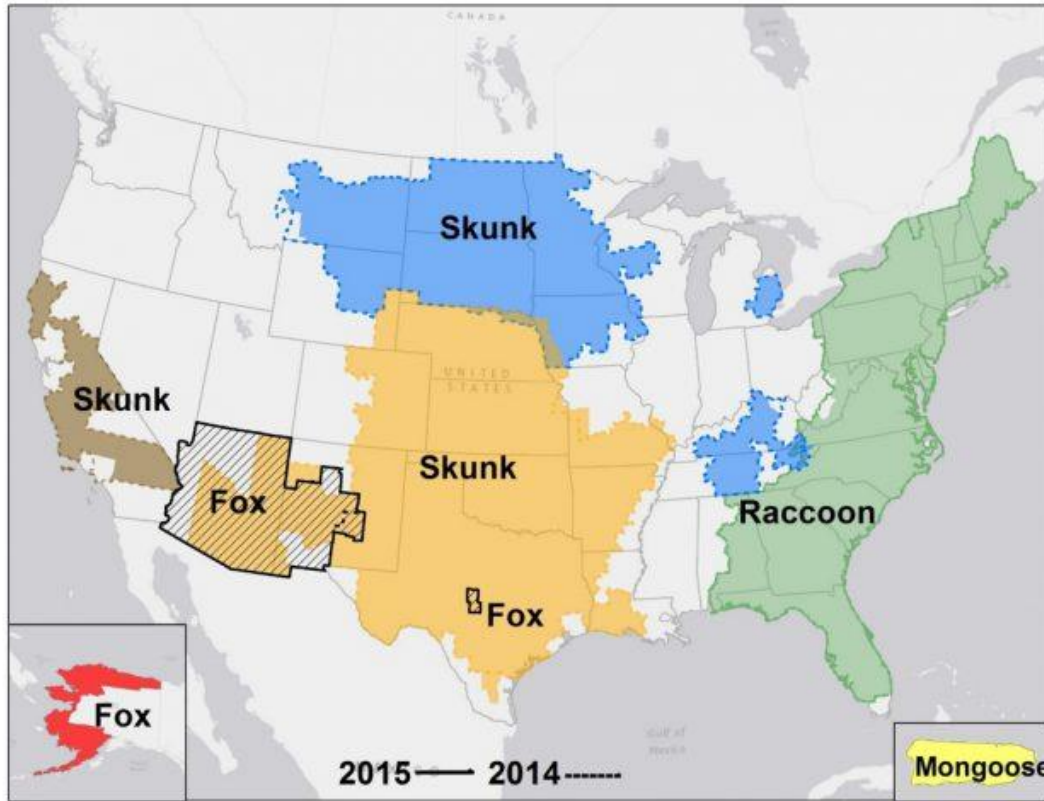
### Final Rabies Test Results

	Positive	Negative	Inconclusive	Unsatisfactory Sample	% Positive
<b>Raccoon</b>	20	18	0	3	52.6%
<b>Bat</b>	3	41	0	1	6.8%
<b>Dog</b>	0	65	1	2	0.0%
<b>Cat</b>	0	29	1	2	0.0%
<b>Groundhog</b>	0	3	0	0	0.0%
<b>Fox</b>	0	2	0	0	0.0%
<b>Beaver</b>	0	1	0	0	0.0%
<b>Coyote</b>	0	1	0	0	0.0%
<b>Deer</b>	0	1	0	0	0.0%

\*Samples were classified as inconclusive or unsatisfactory if there was not enough brain material to perform a direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) test.

Currently, this level of raccoons testing positive for rabies (>50%) is comparative to other jurisdictions in the eastern US as the raccoon rabies variant is the most common circulating in the region:

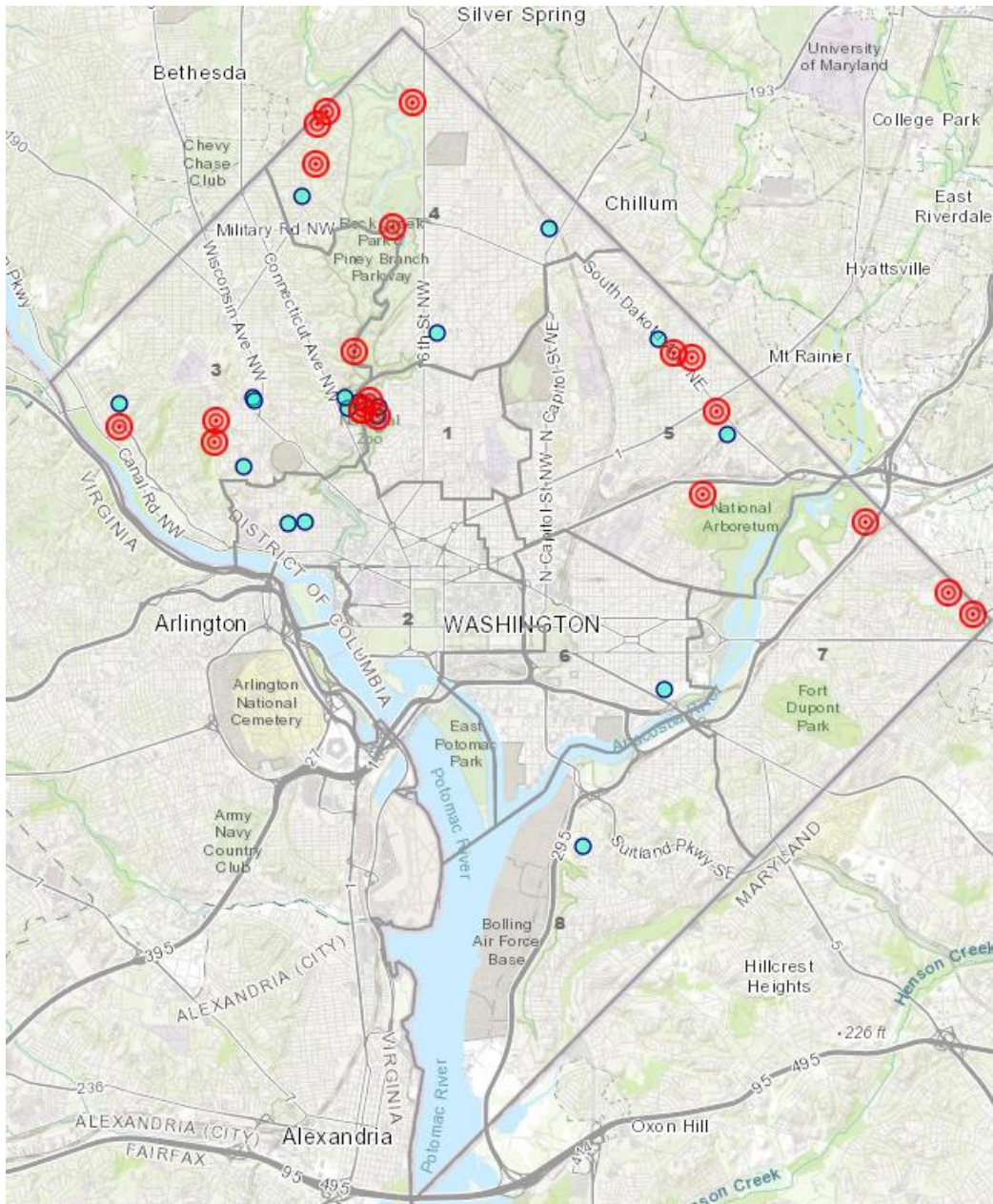
**Distribution of major rabies virus variants among mesocarnivores in the United States and Puerto Rico, 2008 to 2015**



\*Data from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov).

Of the 38 raccoons tested, 20 were positive (52.6%).

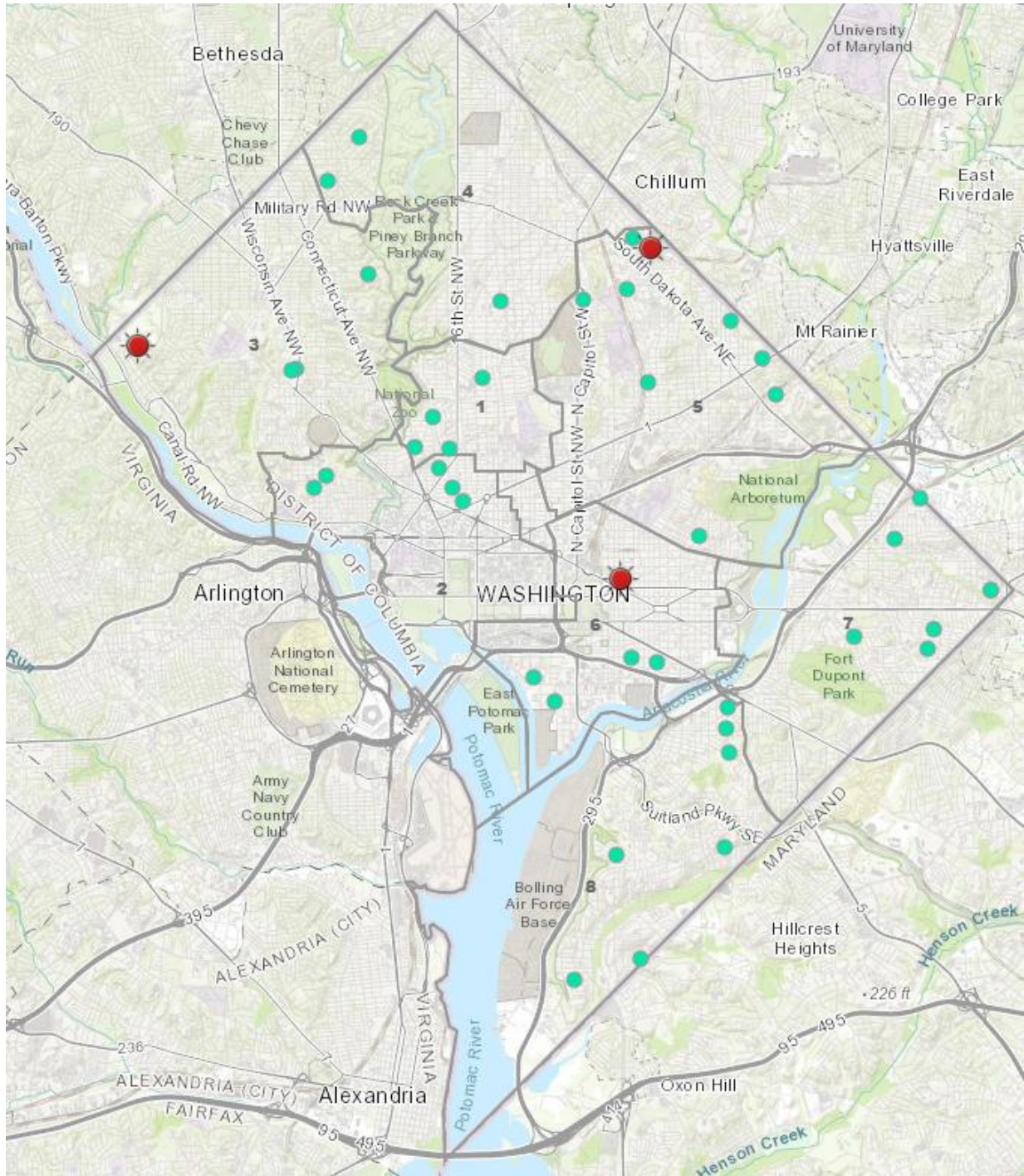
### Location of Tested Raccoons and Final Test Result



Red bullseye = positive for rabies  
Teal circle = negative for rabies

Of the 44 bats tested, 3 were positive (6.8%).

### Location of Tested Bats and Final Test Result



Red circle = positive for rabies  
Turquoise circle = negative for rabies