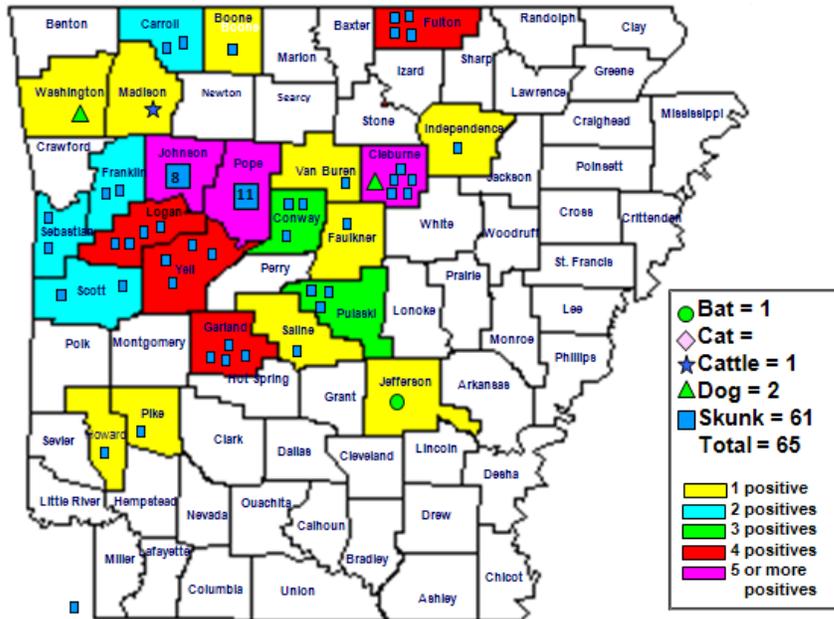


## Update: Rabies in Arkansas

Arkansas is reporting an unusual number of skunk variant rabies cases this year. The “outbreak” started in the area of the Ozark and Ouachita mountains, but cases are now being reported further south and east (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Animal Rabies – Arkansas, as of April 11, 2013



There may be a true focus in Northwest and West Central Arkansas. It is quite possible that the increase in cases in other parts of the state is due to increased surveillance. Unlike Louisiana, Arkansas is not limited in its ability to test strangely behaving wild animals as there is no requirement that people (or other animals) are involved.

The single skunk at the bottom of Figure 1 corresponds to a rabies case in Texas from early 2013 (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Southeast United States



In 2013, Louisiana also reported a skunk-related rabies case near the heel of the state’s boot-shaped figure.