



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
DOG HEALTH**

**Border Terrier**

**Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

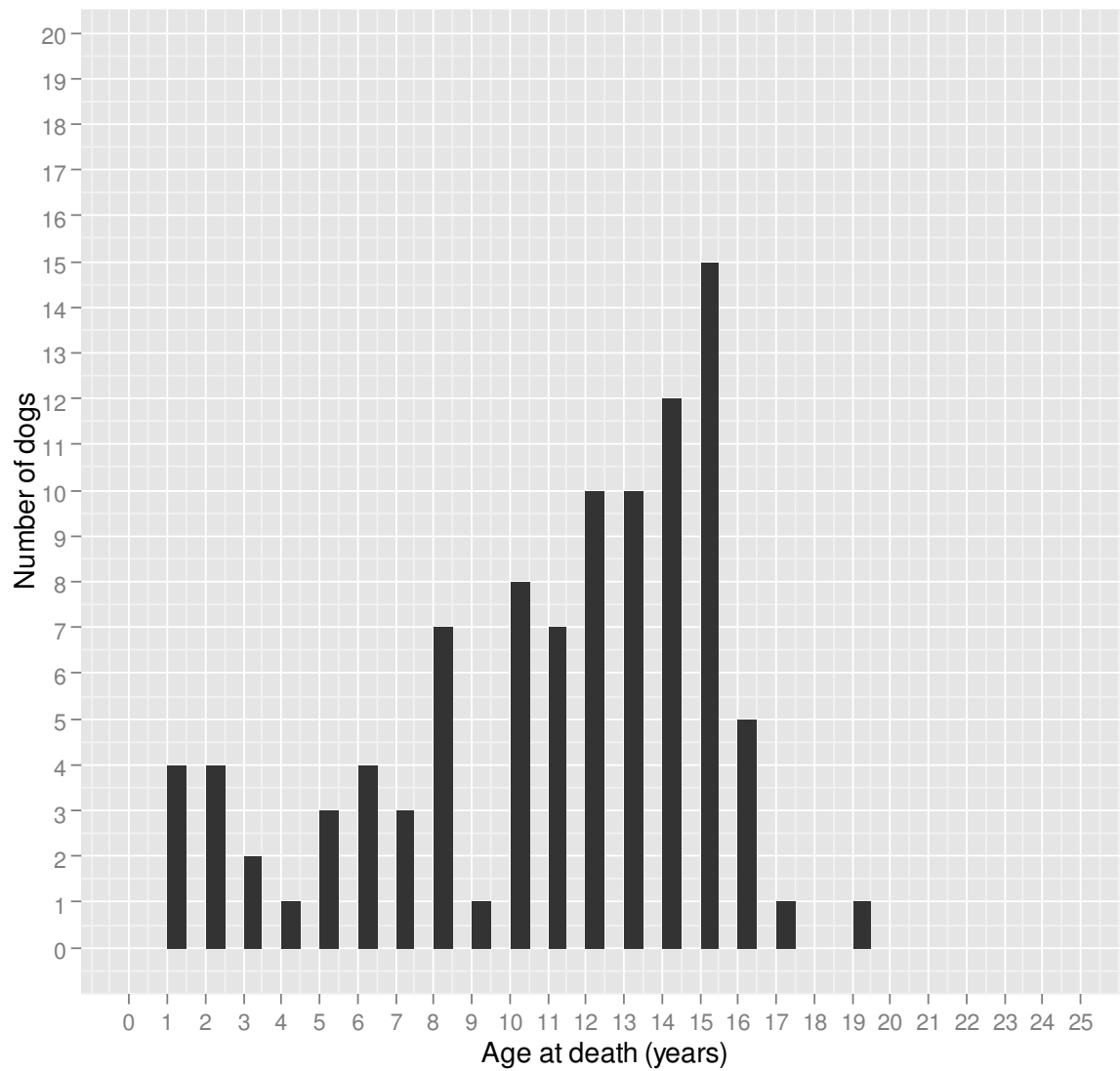
Forms were received representing 1,689 living dogs & 98 deceased dogs.

**Mortality results**

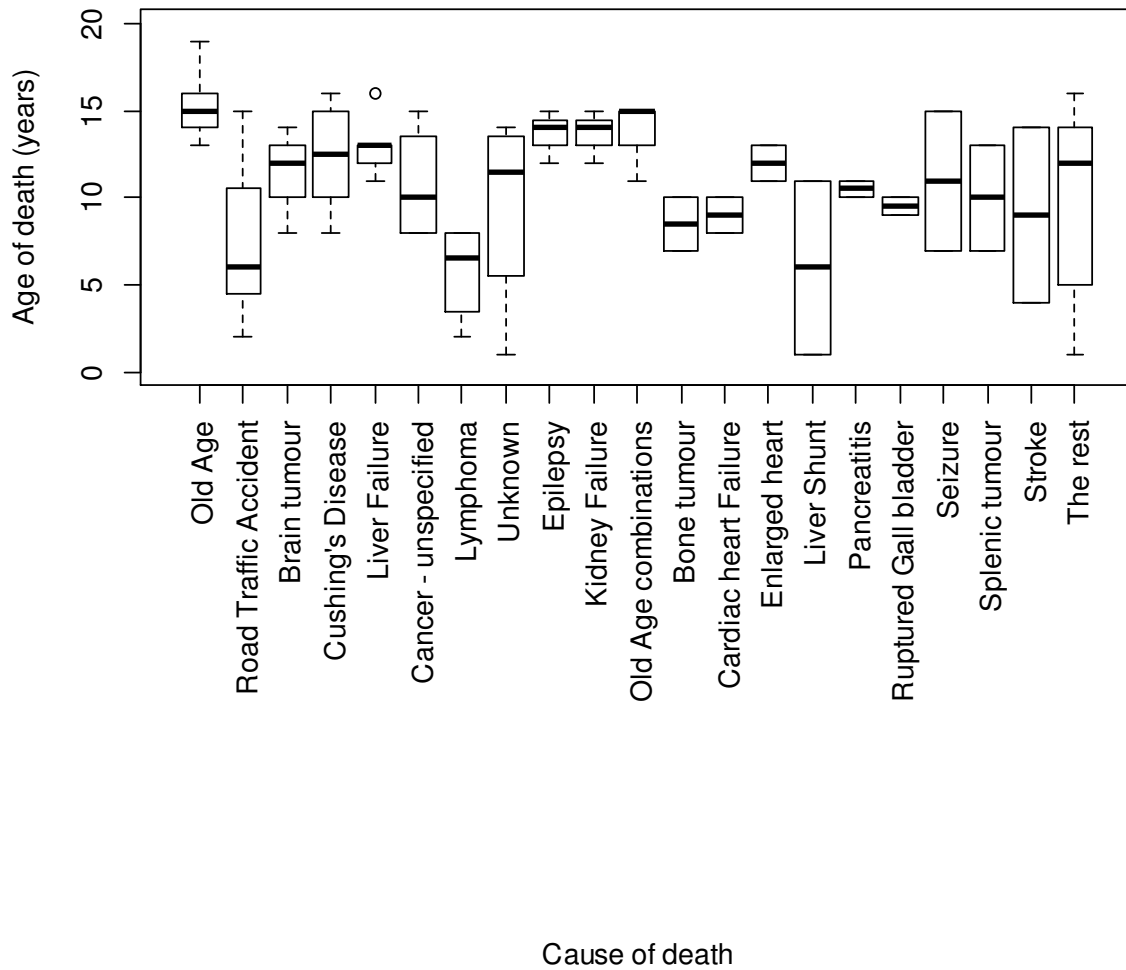
A total of 98 deaths were reported, representing 1.75% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median longevity for the Border Terrier was 12 years (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes in Figure 2.

**Table 1** The twenty most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 98 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>	<b>Proportion (%)</b>
Old Age	14	14.29
Road Traffic Accident	7	7.14
Brain tumour	6	6.12
Cushing's Disease	6	6.12
Liver Failure	5	5.10
Cancer - unspecified	4	4.08
Lymphoma	4	4.08
Unknown	4	4.08
Epilepsy	3	3.06
Kidney Failure	3	3.06
Old Age combinations	3	3.06
Bone tumour	2	2.04
Cardiac heart Failure	2	2.04
Enlarged heart	2	2.04
Liver Shunt	2	2.04
Pancreatitis	2	2.04
Ruptured Gall bladder	2	2.04
Seizure	2	2.04
Splenic tumour	2	2.04
Stroke	2	2.04



**Figure 1:** Histogram of the longevity for 98 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 12 years (minimum= 1 years, maximum= 19 years); mean age at death was 10.85 years



**Figure 2:** Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the twenty most common causes of death (N=98). The solid line within each box represents the median age of death from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

## **Morbidity results**

The 1,689 live Border Terriers represented 3.92% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 1,689 Border Terrier which the survey covers, 1,201 had reported no conditions and 489 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 8 conditions), giving a total of 828 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Border Terrier's are shown in Table 3. There were 1481 dogs with responses for Body Condition displayed in Table 4.

The median age the dogs were first affected by a condition was 2 years (min = 0 years, max= 15 years, Figure 3). The ages for the most common conditions is displayed in Figure 4. Table 5 shows the frequency of occurrence of all reported disease conditions for the Border Terrier.

**Table 2:** The summary statistics for the dogs' current age when survey was completed

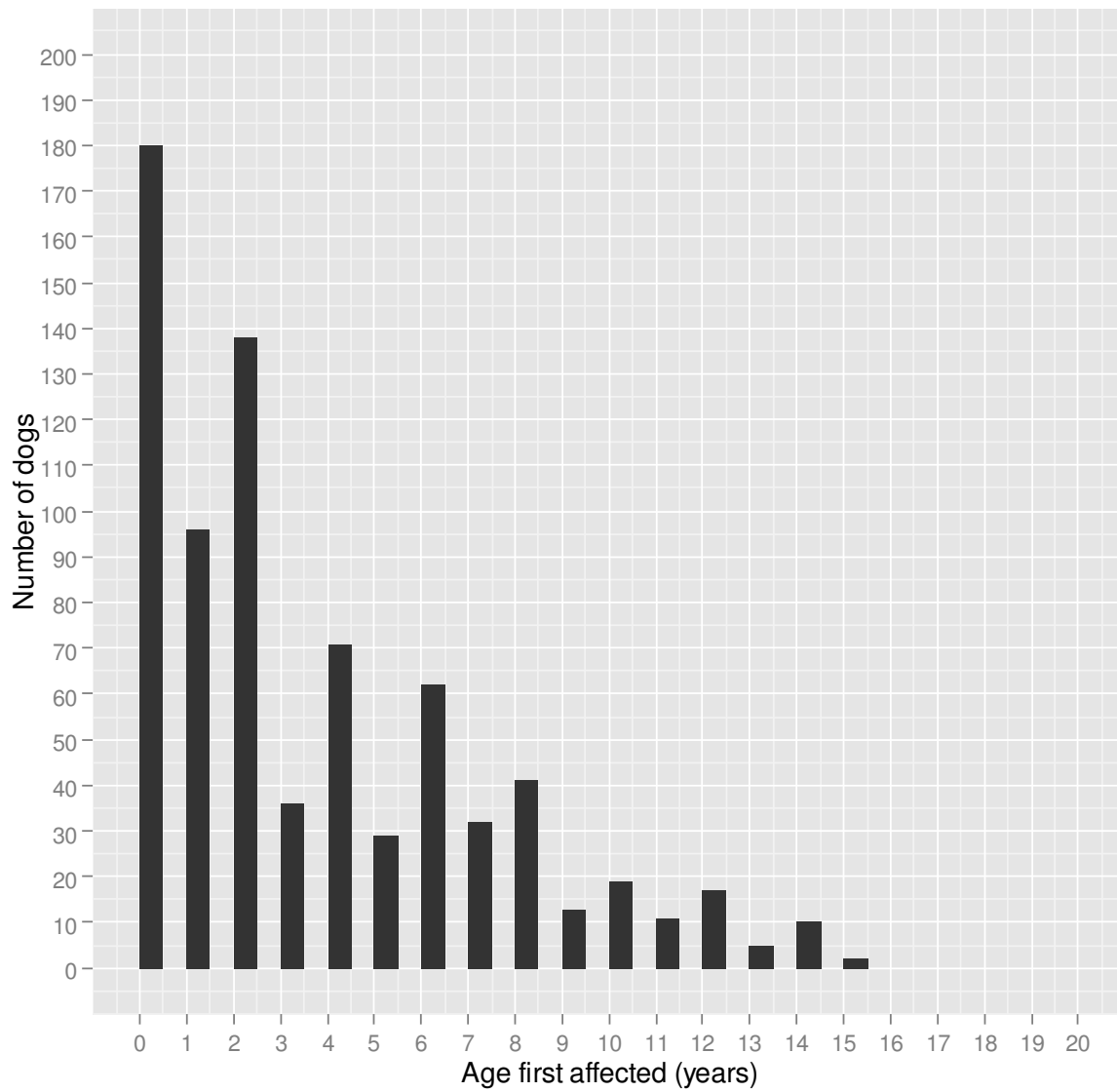
<b>Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
1,689	4.47	4	0	28

**Table 3:** Gender, neuter status and age summary statistics for dogs where gender and neuter status was reported

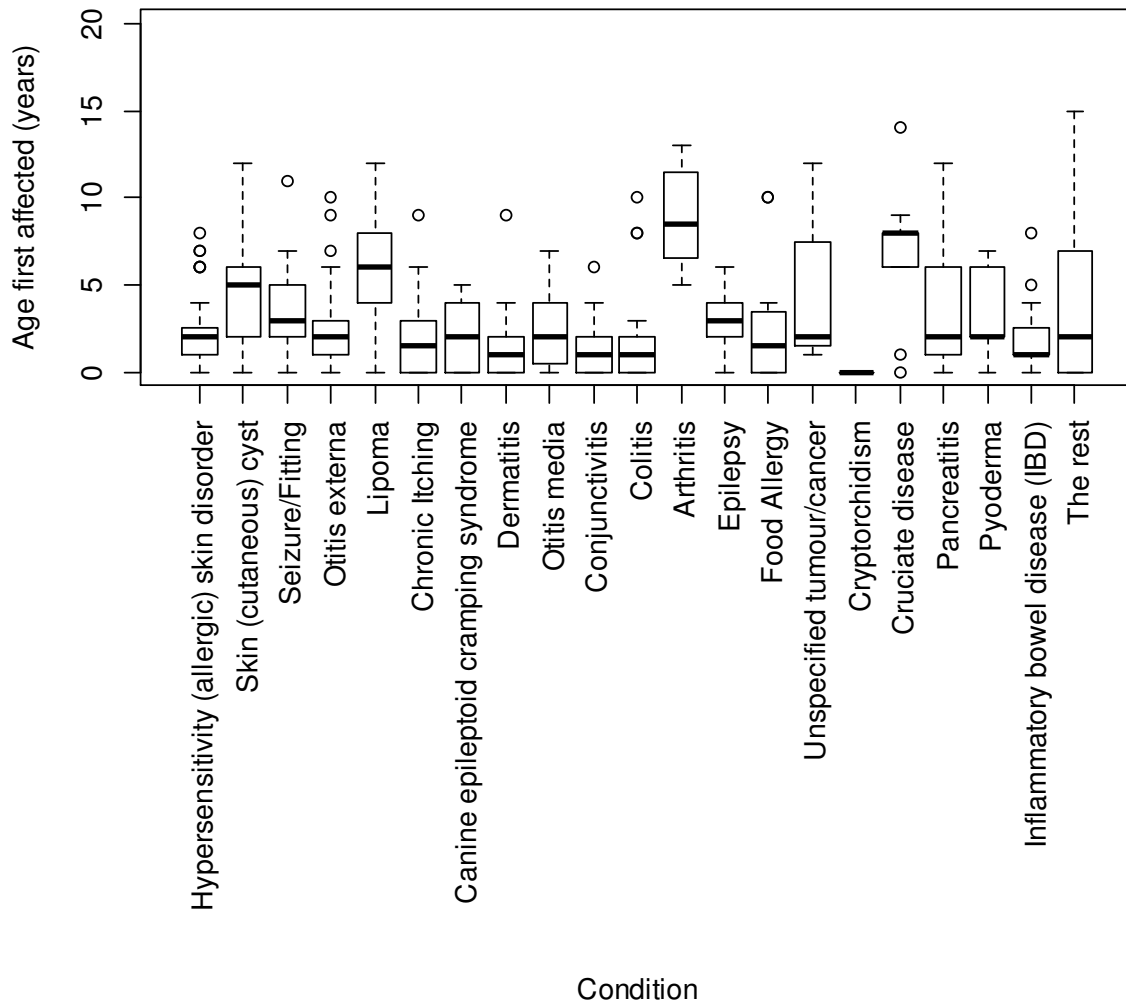
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Neuter status</b>	<b>Age known</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Median age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Min age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Max age neutered (years)</b>
Female	Neutered	Yes	498	1.09	0	0	10
Female	Neutered	No	8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	No	275	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	30	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	525	0.72	0	0	13
Male	Neutered	No	8	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Not neutered	No	312	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	34	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Table 4:** The body condition comment and the age of the dog when this comment was made

<b>Body condition</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age comment made (years)</b>	<b>Median age comment made (years)</b>	<b>Min age comment made (years)</b>	<b>Max age comment made (years)</b>
No comment was made by vet	84	3.48	3	0	14
Normal	1260	3.80	3	0	17
Somewhat overweight	127	5.44	6	0	12
Somewhat underweight	7	4.71	4	1	10
Very underweight	3	7.00	8	3	10



**Figure 3:** Histogram showing frequency of known age at diagnosis for the disease conditions reported



**Figure 4:** Box and whisker plot of age at diagnosis in years for the most common disease conditions in descending order. The solid line within each box represents the median age at diagnosis from the condition. The box represents 50% of the dogs and the whiskers represent 95% of the dogs for each condition. The circles (o) represent possible outliers

**Table 5:** The most commonly reported disease conditions in descending order for the breed (N = 1,689 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	54	3.20	5.37
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	42	2.49	4.18
Otitis externa	38	2.25	3.78
Seizure/Fitting	38	2.25	3.78
Lipoma	33	1.95	3.28
Chronic Itching	29	1.72	2.89
Canine epileptoid cramping syndrome	27	1.60	2.69
Dermatitis	24	1.42	2.39
Otitis media	23	1.36	2.29
Conjunctivitis	20	1.18	1.99
Arthritis	18	1.07	1.79
Colitis	18	1.07	1.79
Epilepsy	18	1.07	1.79
Food Allergy	16	0.95	1.59
Cryptorchidism	14	0.83	1.39
Unspecified tumour/cancer	14	0.83	1.39
Cruciate disease	13	0.77	1.29
Pancreatitis	12	0.71	1.19
Pyoderma	12	0.71	1.19
Ear mite infestation	11	0.65	1.09

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/828 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/1,689 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed, most Border Terriers were not affected by a disease condition (70.98%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder. The most commonly reported cause of death was old age.