



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
DOG HEALTH**

**Bull Terrier**

**Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

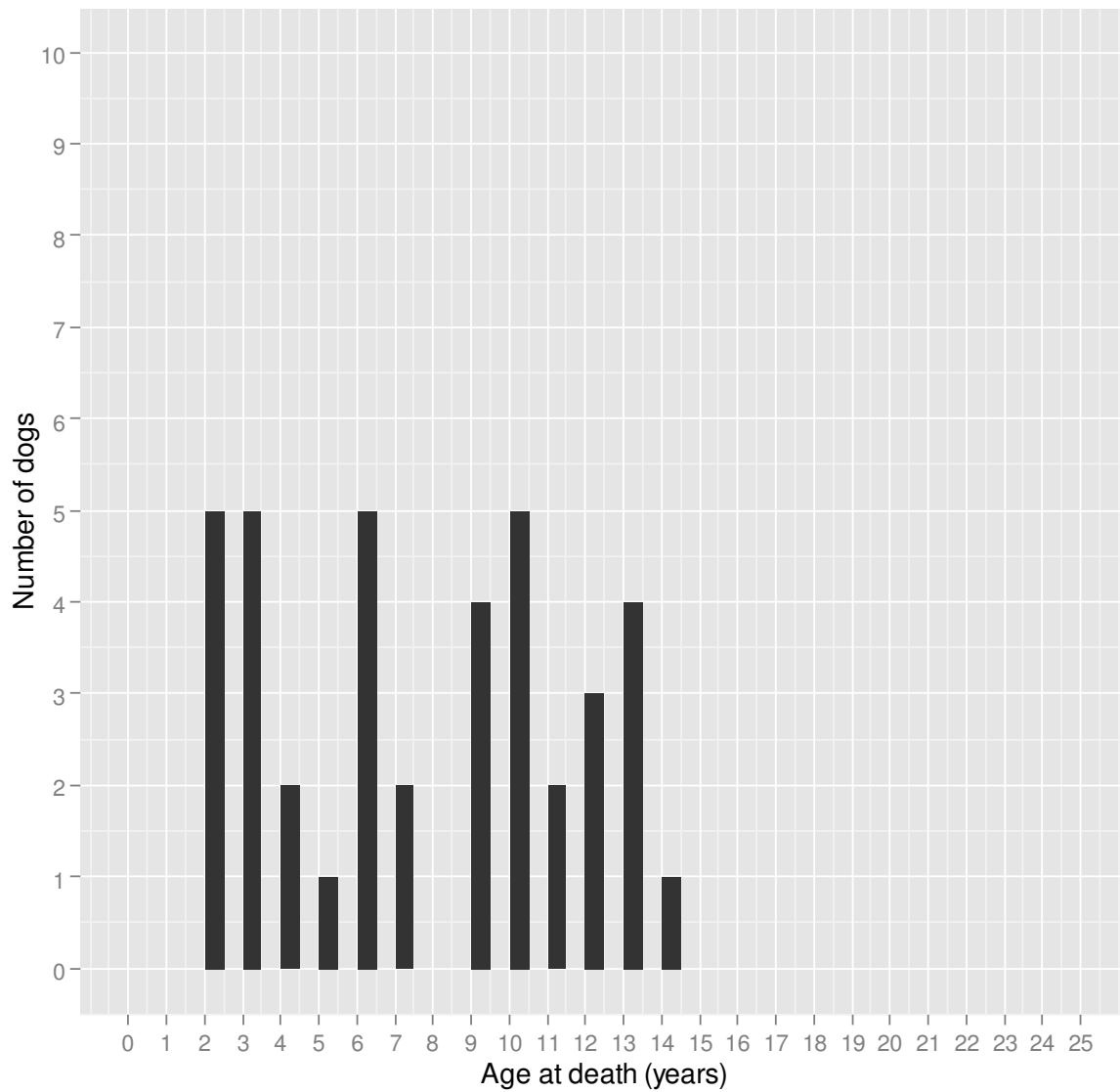
Forms were received representing 213 living dogs & 39 deceased dogs.

**Mortality results**

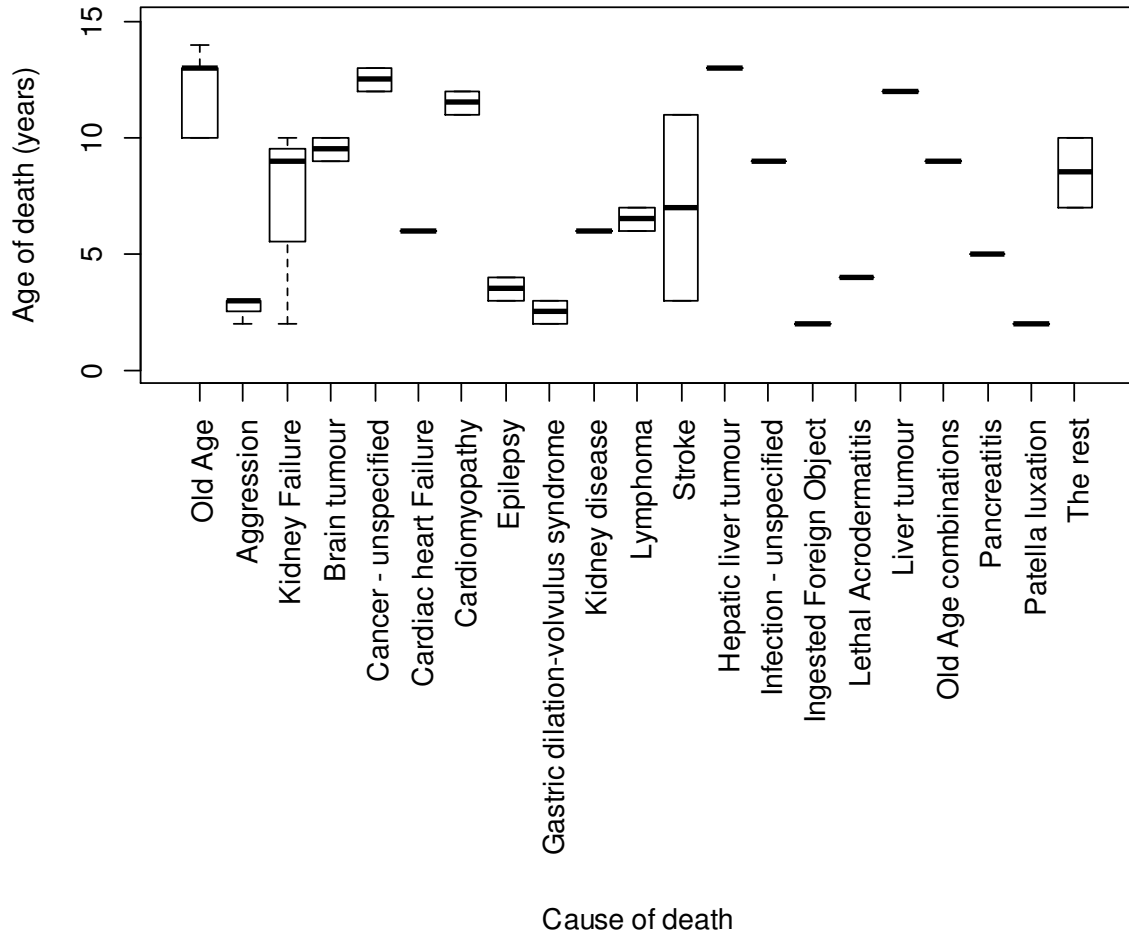
A total of 39 deaths were reported, representing 0.69% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median age for the Bull Terrier was 7 years (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes in Figure 2.

**Table 1** The twenty most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 39 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>	<b>Proportion (%)</b>
Old Age	5	12.82
Aggression	3	7.69
Kidney Failure	3	7.69
Brain tumour	2	5.13
Cancer - unspecified	2	5.13
Cardiac heart Failure	2	5.13
Cardiomyopathy	2	5.13
Epilepsy	2	5.13
Gastric dilation-volvulus syndrome GDV Bloat	2	5.13
Kidney disease	2	5.13
Lymphoma	2	5.13
Stroke	2	5.13
Hepatic liver tumour	1	2.56
Infection - unspecified	1	2.56
Ingested Foreign Object	1	2.56
Lethal Acrodermatitis	1	2.56
Liver tumour	1	2.56
Old Age combinations	1	2.56
Pancreatitis	1	2.56
Patella luxation	1	2.56



**Figure 1:** Histogram of the longevity for 39 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 7 years (minimum= 2 years, maximum= 14 years); mean age at death was 7.49 years



**Figure 2:** Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the twenty most common causes of death (N=39). 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 213 live Bull Terriers represented 0.50% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 213 Bull Terrier which the survey covers, 105 had reported no conditions and 108 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 10 conditions), giving a total of 244 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Bull Terrier's are shown in Table 3. There were 172 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= 10 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 Bull Terrier.

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

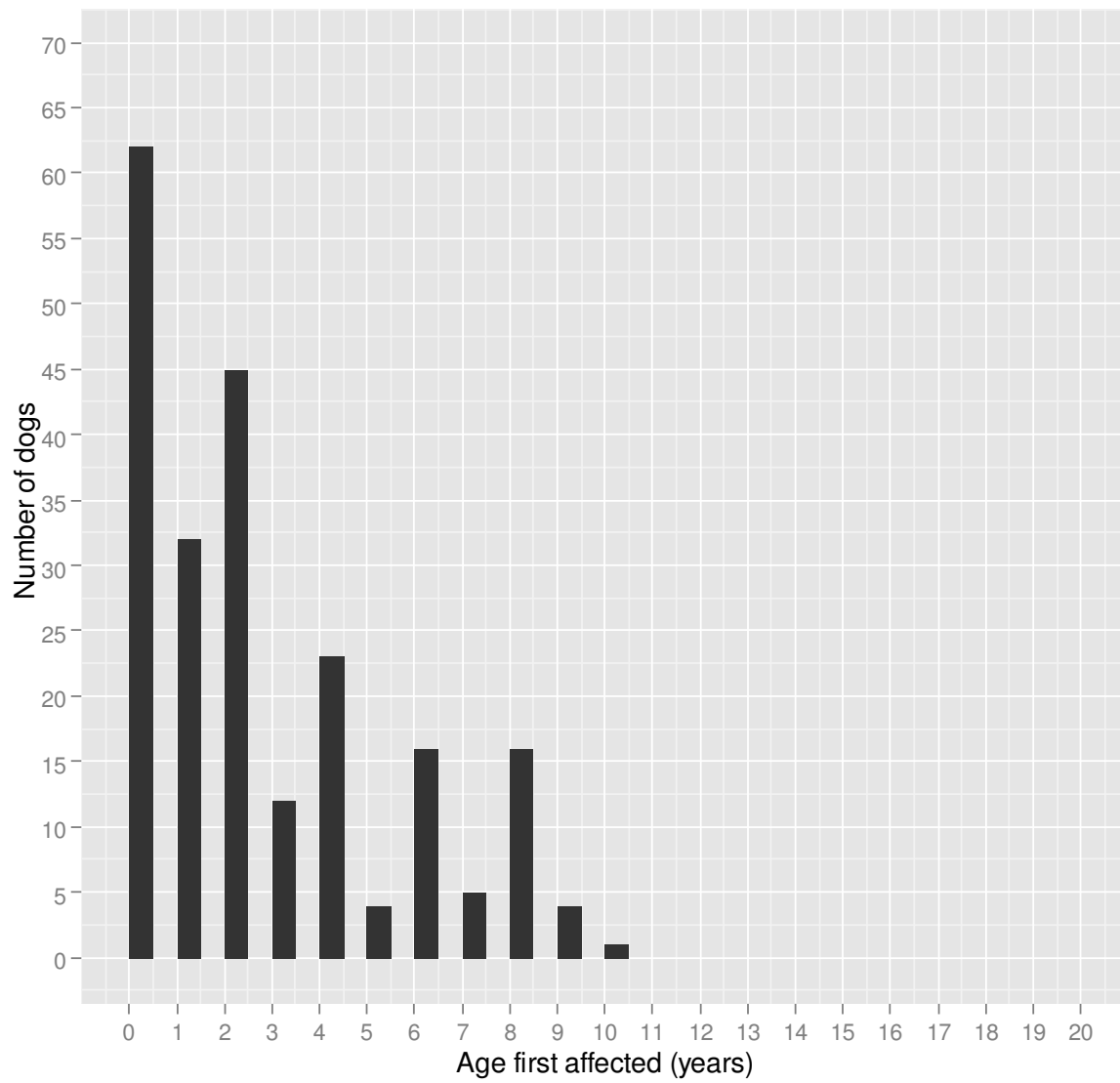
<b>Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
213	4.26	4	0	11

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

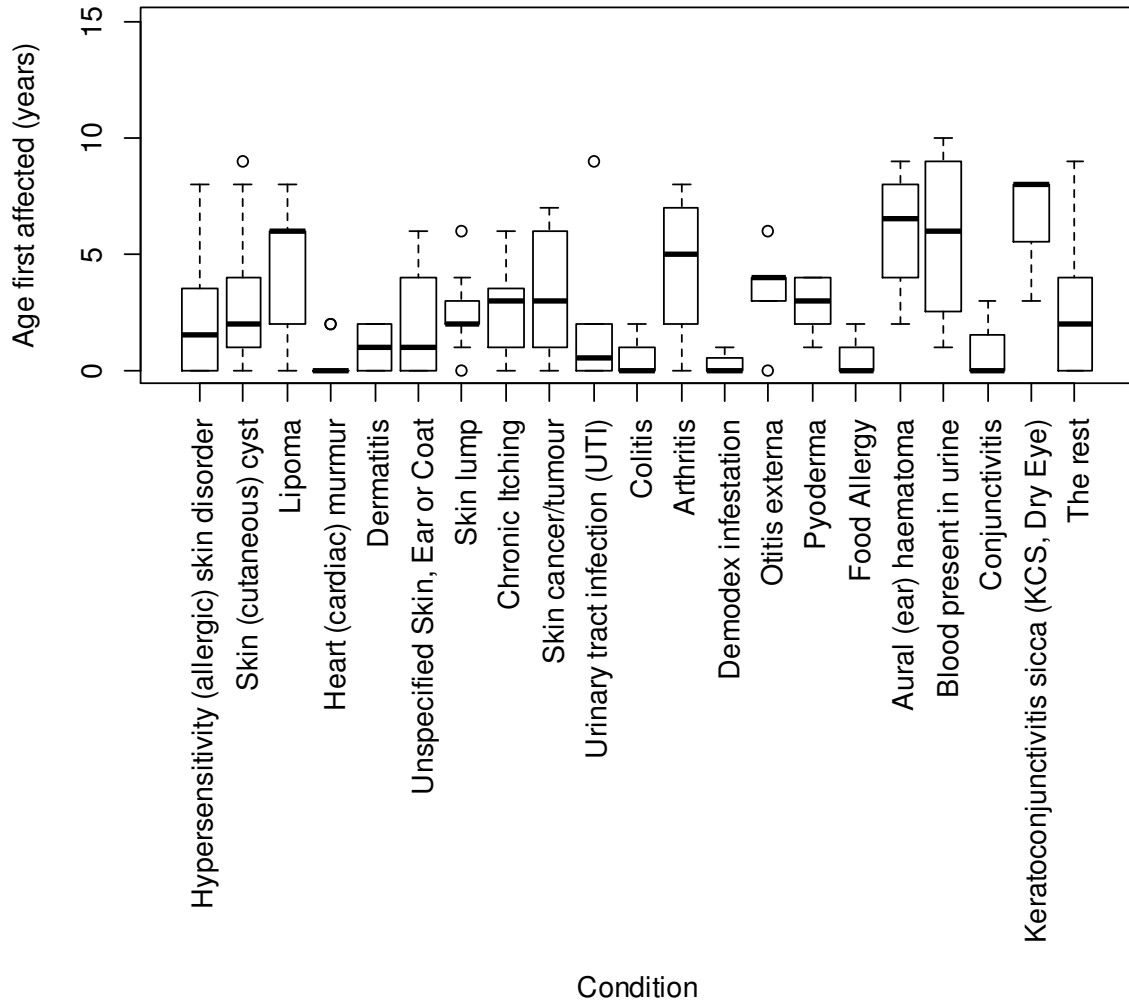
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Neuter status</b>	<b>Age known</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Median age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Min age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Max age neutered (years)</b>
Female	Neutered	Yes	67	1.33	0	0	7
Female	Neutered	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	No	43	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	1	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	39	1.51	1	0	10
Male	Not neutered	No	59	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	3	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 (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
No comment was made by vet	12	3.50	2	0	10
Normal	140	3.41	3	0	12
Somewhat overweight	19	4.74	5	2	8
Very underweight	1	2.00	2	2	2



**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 = 213 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	26	108.33	12.21
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	18	75.00	8.45
Lipoma	15	62.50	7.04
Dermatitis	11	45.83	5.16
Heart (cardiac) murmur	11	45.83	5.16
Unspecified Skin, Ear or Coat	10	41.67	4.69
Skin lump	9	37.50	4.23
Chronic Itching	7	29.17	3.29
Skin cancer/tumour	6	25.00	2.82
Urinary tract infection (UTI)	6	25.00	2.82
Arthritis	5	20.83	2.35
Colitis	5	20.83	2.35
Demodex infestation	5	20.83	2.35
Food Allergy	5	20.83	2.35
Otitis externa	5	20.83	2.35
Pyoderma	5	20.83	2.35
Aural (ear) haematoma	4	16.67	1.88
Blood present in urine	4	16.67	1.88
Chronic (long-term) kidney failure	3	12.50	1.41
Conjunctivitis	3	12.50	1.41

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/244 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/213 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed, most Bull Terriers were affected by a disease condition (29.29%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder. The most commonly reported cause of death was old age.