



**THE KENNEL CLUB  
DOG HEALTH**

**Rottweiler**

**Pedigree Breed Health Survey**

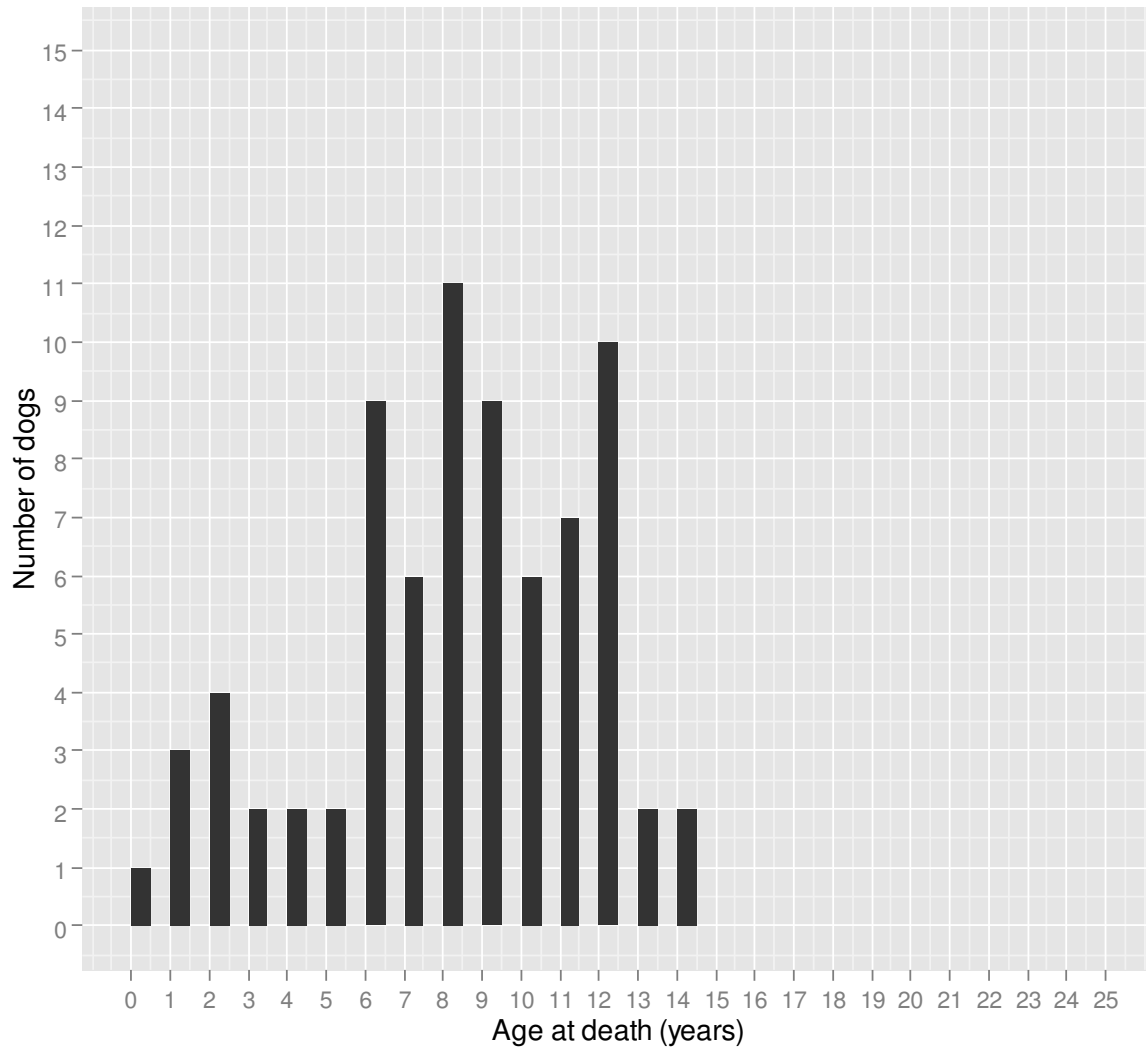
Forms were received representing 309 living dogs & 76 deceased dogs.

**Mortality results**

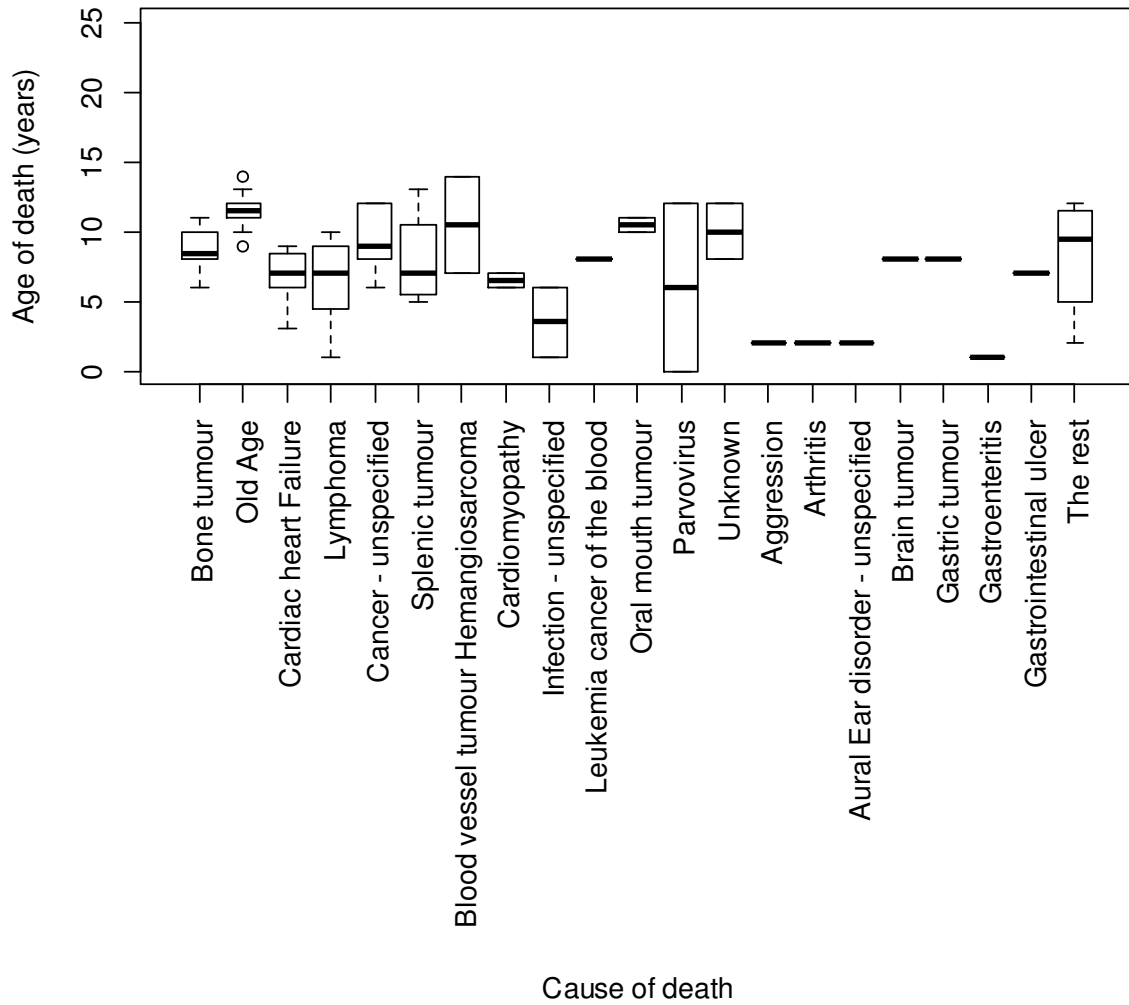
A total of 76 deaths were reported, representing 1.35% of all deaths reported in the Pedigree Breed Health survey. The median longevity for the Rottweiler was 8 years (Figure 1). Table 1 shows the causes of death for the breed. Age at death is presented for the most common causes in Figure 2.

**Table 1** The twenty most common causes of death/reasons for euthanasia (N = 76 deceased dogs).

<b>Cause of death</b>	<b>Number of cases</b>	<b>Proportion (%)</b>
Bone tumour	10	13.16
Old Age	10	13.16
Cardiac heart Failure	7	9.21
Lymphoma	7	9.21
Cancer - unspecified	5	6.58
Splenic tumour	4	5.26
Blood vessel tumour Hemangiosarcoma	2	2.63
Cardiomyopathy	2	2.63
Infection - unspecified	2	2.63
Leukemia cancer of the blood	2	2.63
Oral mouth tumour	2	2.63
Parvovirus	2	2.63
Unknown	2	2.63
Aggression	1	1.32
Arthritis	1	1.32
Aural Ear disorder - unspecified	1	1.32
Brain tumour	1	1.32
Gastric tumour	1	1.32
Gastroenteritis	1	1.32
Gastrointestinal ulcer	1	1.32



**Figure 1:** Histogram of the longevity for 76 reported deaths: overall median age at death was 8 years (minimum=0 years, maximum=14 years); mean age at death was 8.04 years



**Figure 2:** Box and whisker plot of age at death in years for the twenty most common causes of death (N=76). 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 309 live Rottweilers represented 0.72% of total dogs in the survey. The median age of live dogs for the breed was 4 years (Table 2). Of the 309 Rottweilers which the survey covers, 191 had reported no conditions and 118 reported affected by at least one condition (min = 1 condition(s), max = 8 conditions), giving a total of 218 incidents of conditions.

The gender, neuter status and age of neutering summary statistics for Rottweilers are shown in Table 3. There were 252 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= 12 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 Rottweiler.

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

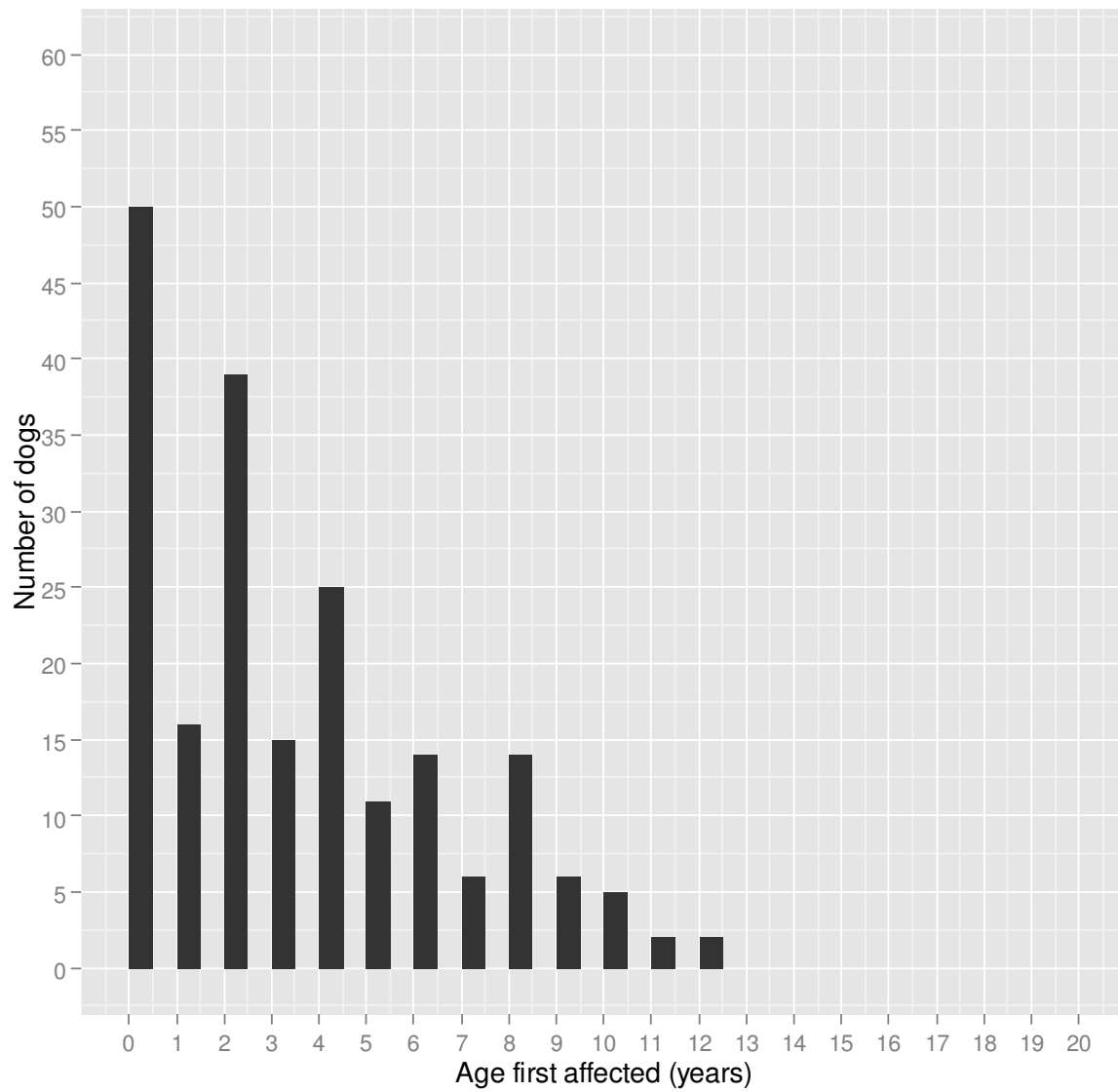
<b>Number of Dogs</b>	<b>Mean age (years)</b>	<b>Median age (years)</b>	<b>Min age (years)</b>	<b>Max age (years)</b>
310	4.44	4	0	15

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

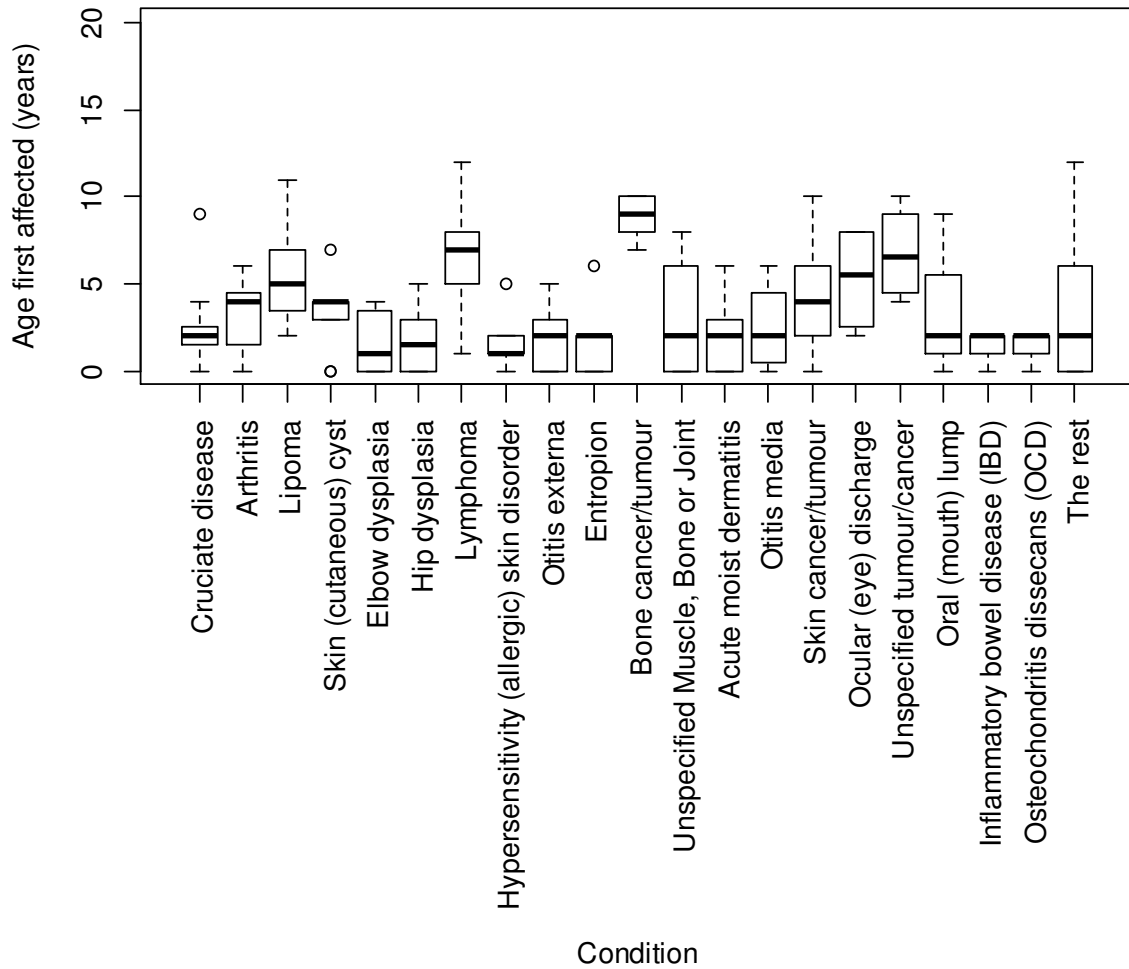
<b>Sex</b>	<b>Neuter status</b>	<b>Age known</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Mean age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Median age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Min age neutered (years)</b>	<b>Max age neutered (years)</b>
Female	Neutered	Yes	77	1.99	1	0	8
Female	Neutered	No	2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Not neutered	No	83	NA	NA	NA	NA
Female	Unknown	No	4	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Neutered	Yes	51	1.75	1	0	9
Male	Not neutered	No	88	NA	NA	NA	NA
Male	Unknown	No	5	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	15	4.67	4	0	11
Normal	221	3.31	2	0	12
Somewhat overweight	13	4.77	4	2	9
Somewhat underweight	1	0.00	0	0	0
very overweight	2	7.00	7	6	8



**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 = 310 live dogs)

Condition	Number of cases of disease	Proportion (%)	Prevalence (%)
Cruciate disease	18	8.26	5.83
Arthritis	13	5.96	4.21
Lipoma	11	5.05	3.56
Skin (cutaneous) cyst	11	5.05	3.56
Elbow dysplasia	8	3.67	2.59
Hip dysplasia	8	3.67	2.59
Lymphoma	7	3.21	2.27
Hypersensitivity (allergic) skin disorder	6	2.75	1.94
Otitis externa	6	2.75	1.94
Acute moist dermatitis	5	2.29	1.62
Bone cancer/tumour	5	2.29	1.62
Entropion	5	2.29	1.62
Otitis media	5	2.29	1.62
Skin cancer/tumour	5	2.29	1.62
Unspecified Muscle, Bone or Joint	5	2.29	1.62
Ocular (eye) discharge	4	1.83	1.29
Oral (mouth) lump	4	1.83	1.29
Unspecified tumour/cancer	4	1.83	1.29
Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD)	3	1.38	0.97
Osteochondritis dissecans (OCD)	3	1.38	0.97

Proportion of morbidity as %= N/218 disease conditions, prevalence %= N/309 live dogs

### **Summary**

From the dogs surveyed, most Rottweilers were not affected by a disease condition (61.81%). The most commonly reported disease condition in live dogs was cruciate disease. There were two causes of death that represented an equal proportion of the deaths; these causes were bone tumour and old age.