



POSTAL NEWS

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U.S. Postal Service Releases Dog Attack National Rankings

BROOKLYN, NY — The number of postal employees attacked by dogs nationwide fell to 5,714 in 2018 — more than 500 fewer than in 2017 and more than 1,000 fewer since 2016. Today, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) highlights technology that likely helps to reduce potential attacks while releasing its annual list of cities with the most recorded dog attacks. The organization also highlights safety initiatives to help protect its employees and offers tips to pet owners.

“Our employees have been great at taking preventative measures against dog attacks, but they need help from our customers, too,” said USPS Safety Director Linda DeCarlo. “We are confident we can keep moving the trends of attacks downward, and ramping up overall awareness for everyone is the best way to do that.”

Tips and Technology

DeCarlo was in Brooklyn, NY today to kick off National Dog Bite Prevention Week, which runs Sunday, April 14, through Saturday, April 20. According to her, technology supports carrier safety in at least two ways: Mobile Delivery Devices, or scanners, used by carriers to confirm customer delivery, include a feature to indicate the presence of a dog at an individual address. And the Package Pickup application asks customers to indicate if dogs are at their address when they schedule package pickups, which allows USPS to send alerts to those carriers.



The Postal Service offers the following safety tips:

- When a letter carrier delivers mail or packages to your front door, place your dog in a separate room and close that door before opening the front door. Dogs have been known to burst through screen doors or plate glass windows to attack visitors.
- Parents should remind children and other family members not to take mail directly from letter carriers in the presence of the family pet. The dog may view the letter carrier handing mail to a family member as a threatening gesture.
- If a letter carrier feels threatened by a dog, or if a dog is loose or unleashed, the owner may be asked to pick up mail at a Post Office or another facility until the letter carrier is assured the pet has been restrained. If the dog is roaming the neighborhood, the pet owner's neighbors also may be asked to pick up their mail at the area's Post Office.

To access the video promoting Dog Bite Prevention, please click [here](#).

2018 Dog Attack Rankings by City

A total of 5,714 postal employees were attacked by dogs in 2018. The top 20 rankings are comprised of 29 cities, as some cities reported the same number of attacks:

	Office City	Office State	CY-18	CY-17
1	HOUSTON	TX	75	71
2	LOS ANGELES	CA	60	67
3	PHILADELPHIA	PA	51	27
4	CLEVELAND	OH	50	49
5	DALLAS	TX	49	40
6	SAN ANTONIO	TX	47	44
7	MINNEAPOLIS	MN	38	27
8	CHICAGO	IL	37	38
8	COLUMBUS	OH	37	43
10	FORT WORTH	TX	35	26
11	DETROIT	MI	34	32
12	SAN DIEGO	CA	33	46
13	CHARLOTTE	NC	32	27
13	MEMPHIS	TN	32	20
15	BALTIMORE	MD	31	44
15	DENVER	CO	31	35
15	KANSAS CITY	MO	31	32
18	ST. LOUIS	MO	30	52
19	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	29	22

19	SACRAMENTO	CA	29	24
21	OAKLAND	CA	28	28
22	SEATTLE	WA	27	28
23	CINCINNATI	OH	24	25
23	MIAMI	FL	24	25
23	PHOENIX	AZ	24	24
26	LOUISVILLE	KY	23	39
27	BROOKLYN	NY	22	21
27	LAS VEGAS	NV	22	19
27	PORTLAND	OR	22	24

Top 10 States



State	2017	2018
CA	918	794
TX	426	462
NY	339	339
OH	345	304
IL	297	273
PA	277	252
MI	258	224
FL	211	198
NC	190	169

A national map with statistics for each city can be accessed [at this link](#). For more data related to your area, please contact your local [USPS Corporate Communications professional](#).

National Dog Bite Prevention Week is a registered trademark of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

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