

Dog Bites by Severity (2012-2023)

San Antonio Animal Care Services, Texas

Emphasizing the rise in "severe" injury dog bites in the city of San Antonio between 2018 to 2023.

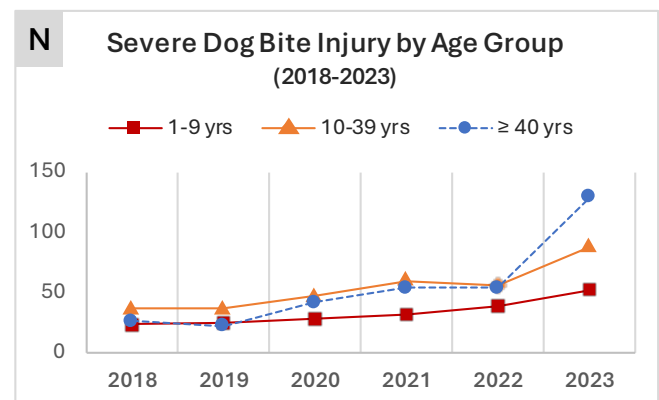
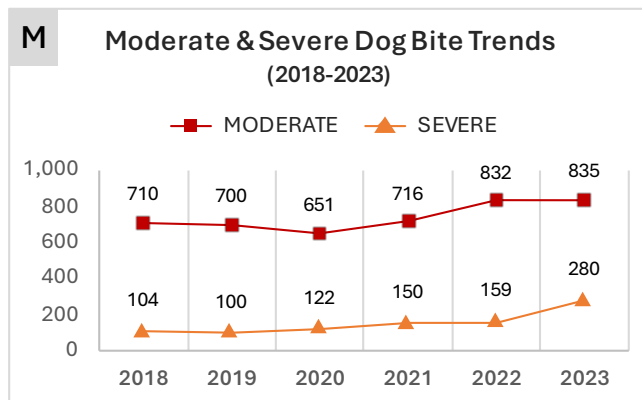
FISCAL YEAR	MILD	MODERATE	SEVERE	UNFOUNDED	NOT LISTED	TOTAL*	% SEVERE
2012	1,950	1,085	135	26	301	3,497	4%
2013	2,071	1,004	115	24	458	3,672	3%
2014	1,628	832	106	46	404	3,016	4%
2015	1,612	714	98	45	359	2,828	3%
2016	1,566	667	94	18	313	2,658	4%
2017	1,684	636	116	9	320	2,765	4%
2018	1,750	710	104	20	292	2,876	4%
2019	1,896	700	100	21	206	2,923	3%
2020	1,886	651	122	12	167	2,838	4%
2021	1,638	716	150	7	129	2,640	6%
2022	1,788	832	159	15	139	2,933	5%
2023	1,708	835	280	24	177	3,024	9%
Total	21,177	9,382	1,579	267	3,265	35,670	

Bite Severity Increase (2018 to 2023)

Mild Bite Increase	-2%
Moderate Bite Increase	18%
Severe Bite Increase	169%

Age Groups (2018 to 2023)

1-9 yrs old	117%
10-39 yrs old	138%
≥ 40- yrs old	396%



Severe Bites by Age Group (2012-2023)

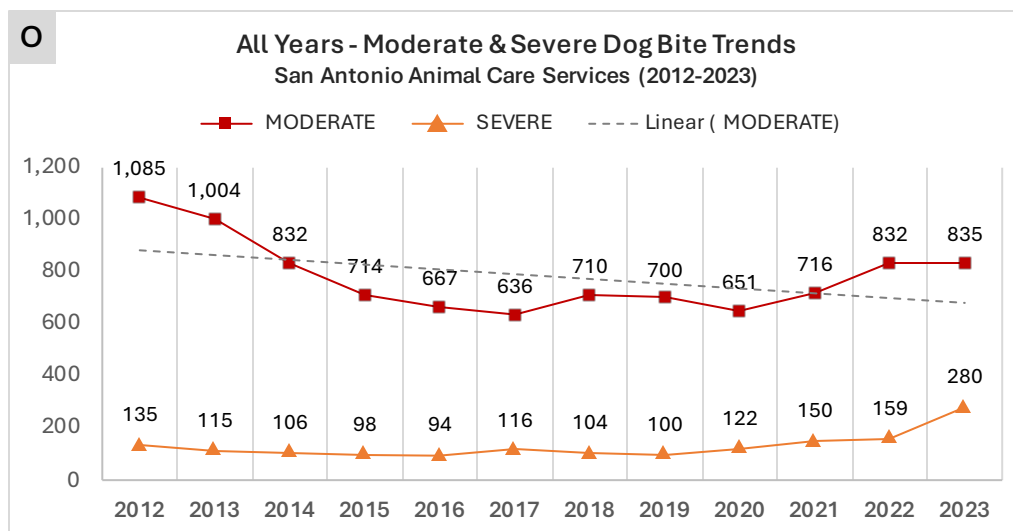
FISCAL YEAR	0 yrs	1-9 yrs	10-39 yrs	≥ 40 yrs	NOT LISTED	TOTAL	% ≥ 40 yrs
2012	9	26	55	45	0	135	33%
2013	15	29	36	35	0	115	30%
2014	29	27	22	28	0	106	26%
2015	12	14	42	30	0	98	31%
2016	17	25	24	23	5	94	24%
2017	0	19	28	21	48	116	18%
2018	2	24	37	26	15	104	25%
2019	0	25	37	22	16	100	22%
2020	0	28	47	42	5	122	34%
2021	1	32	60	54	3	150	36%
2022	0	38	56	54	11	159	34%
2023	0	52	88	129	11	280	46%
Grand Total	85	339	532	509	114	1,579	

*"Scratches" were not included for any year. If included, total bites = 35,710

All Years Chart - Historical Comparison

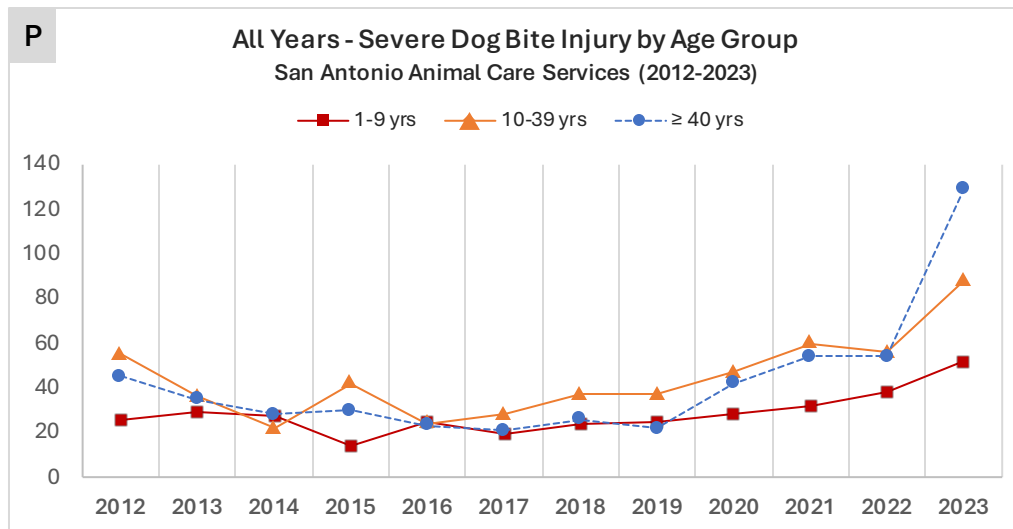
San Antonio Animal Care Services, Texas

All years for comparison purposes. The population in the city of San Antonio rose 8% between 2012 to 2023.*



Severity

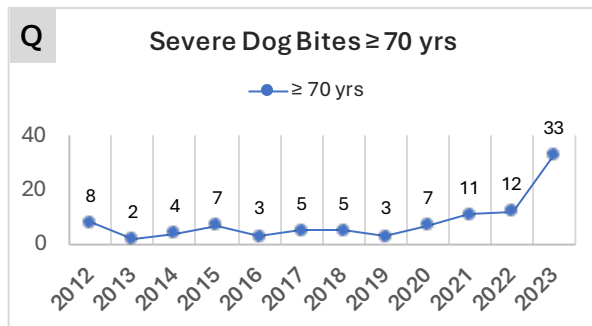
Severe dog bite injuries (the least frequent) were stable within a rising human population, then rose 169% from 2018 to 2023. "Moderate" dog bite injuries (the next least frequent) rose 18% during the same period. The trendline shows that moderate bite injuries have been declining since 2012.



Age Groups

Severe dog bite injuries for all age groups began rising in 2018, but rose the most for 10-39 years (138%) and ≥ 40 years (396%) between 2018 to 2023. The ≥ 40 year age group was stable until the first year of the pandemic.

In 2023, there were 5 high-profile dog maulings in the city covered by the media, including 2 fatal dog attacks. Of these victims, 80% (4 of 5) were ≥ 40 years old.†



Fastest Rising Age Group

≤ 70 yrs

Among the ≥ 40 years age group, ≥ 70 years rose the most over the 12-year period, more than doubling in the number of incidents between the two 6-year periods (2012-2017 and 2018-2023) from 29 to 71, a 145% rise. Followed by 60-69 years, which also more than doubled between the two periods from 30 to 61, a 103% rise.

*City of San Antonio population: 1,383,810 in 2012 to 1,495,295 in 2023.

<https://www.neilsberg.com/insights/san-antonio-tx-population-by-year/>

†Ramon Najera, 81; Paul Striegl Jr., 47; 13-year old male victim; Max de Los Santos, 76; and a 68-year old male victim.