

SPECIES	KILLING METHOD	NUMBER KILLED
<b>Beaver</b> 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	<b>291,000</b>
<b>Bobcat</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	<b>40,000</b>
<b>Chinchilla (Caged)</b> 	Electrocuted (genital or ear-to-foot); neck broken	<b>75,000<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Coyote</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot; poisoned; strangled by snare	<b>491,000</b>
<b>Fisher</b> 	Drowned or crushed by leghold or body-crushing trap; clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Fox (Caged)</b> 	Electrocuted (anal); poisoned (by injection); gassed	<b>20,000<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Fox (Wild)</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot; strangled by snare	<b>368,000</b>
<b>Lynx</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	<b>1,200</b>
<b>Marten (American Sable)</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; crushed by trap	<b>12,000</b>
<b>Mink (Caged)</b> 	Gassed; neck broken; poisoned (by injection)	<b>2,600,000<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Mink (Wild)</b> 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	<b>115,000</b>
<b>Muskrat</b> 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	<b>1,358,000</b>
<b>Nutria</b> 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap; crushed by trap	<b>237,000</b>
<b>Opossum</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	<b>211,000</b>
<b>Otter</b> 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	<b>20,000</b>
<b>Raccoon</b> 	Drowned, clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	<b>2,575,000</b>
<b>Skunk</b> 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	<b>63,000</b>
<b>Weasel</b> 	Crushed by leghold trap; clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	<b>7,000</b>



## Notes

Poisonous substances used for lethal injection include chloral hydrate, magnesium sulfate, and nicotine sulfate (often in the form of a pesticide) diluted with rubbing alcohol. Sodium pentobarbital, the drug preferred for euthanasia of companion animals, is a legally controlled substance and must be administered by a veterinarian or other licensed professional. Due to the resulting high costs associated with its use, it is rarely used in the killing of animals raised commercially for fur.

Carbon monoxide used in gassing animals raised for fur is often derived from engine exhaust and used hot and unfiltered.

Killing methods for trapped animals are derived from state wildlife agencies' trapper-education manuals such as *Trapping Furbearers, an Introduction to Responsible Trapping*, published by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Unless otherwise noted, annual kill estimates are derived from state wildlife agency reports. As some state agencies do not track the number of furbearing animals killed, these numbers are thought to be low.

*Information compiled by  
The Humane Society  
of the United States*

<sup>1</sup>Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade  
<sup>2</sup>Oslo Fur Auctions  
<sup>3</sup>USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

# How Do Fur Animals Die?

The fur industry kills millions of animals each year for their fur. The sixteen species most commonly killed in the United States, and the methods most commonly used to kill them, are shown inside. The numbers killed are yearly averages for 1995 through 1998.



Fur-Free Century™ is a consumer-driven, activist-oriented campaign designed to bring an end to the use of animal fur in the new century.

#### **Fur-Free Materials Available from The HSUS**

Questions and Answers about Fur  
Trapping—The Inside Story  
Caged Fur—The Inside Story  
How Do Fur Animals Die?  
The Decline of the Fur Fashion Industry  
Betrayal of Trust—The Slaughter of Dogs and Cats  
What Is That They're Wearing? Dog and Cat Fur Exposé  
Mary Wore a Little Lamb—The Truth about Karakul Lamb Fur  
Warning Brochure—Don't Shop at Stores That Sell Fur

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