

SPECIES	KILLING METHOD	NUMBER KILLED
Beaver 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	291,000
Bobcat 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	40,000
Chinchilla (Caged) 	Electrocuted (genital or ear-to-foot); neck broken	75,000¹
Coyote 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot; poisoned; strangled by snare	491,000
Fisher 	Drowned or crushed by leghold or body-crushing trap; clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	6,000
Fox (Caged) 	Electrocuted (anal); poisoned (by injection); gassed	20,000²
Fox (Wild) 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot; strangled by snare	368,000
Lynx 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	1,200
Marten (American Sable) 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; crushed by trap	12,000
Mink (Caged) 	Gassed; neck broken; poisoned (by injection)	2,600,000³
Mink (Wild) 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	115,000
Muskrat 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	1,358,000
Nutria 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap; crushed by trap	237,000
Opossum 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	211,000
Otter 	Drowned in leghold or body-crushing trap	20,000
Raccoon 	Drowned, clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap; hunted and shot	2,575,000
Skunk 	Clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	63,000
Weasel 	Crushed by leghold trap; clubbed, suffocated, or shot after being caught in leghold trap	7,000



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*

¹Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade
²Oslo Fur Auctions
³USDA 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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