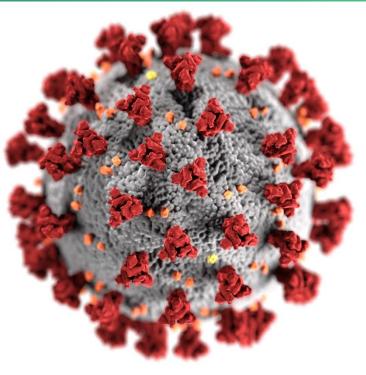
**SARS-CoV-2 at the Zoo:** A National Picture of What we Have Learned About SARS-CoV-2 in Zoo Animals

### Ria Ghai, MSc PhD

- Doctoral Epidemiologist
- One Health Office
- National Centers for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

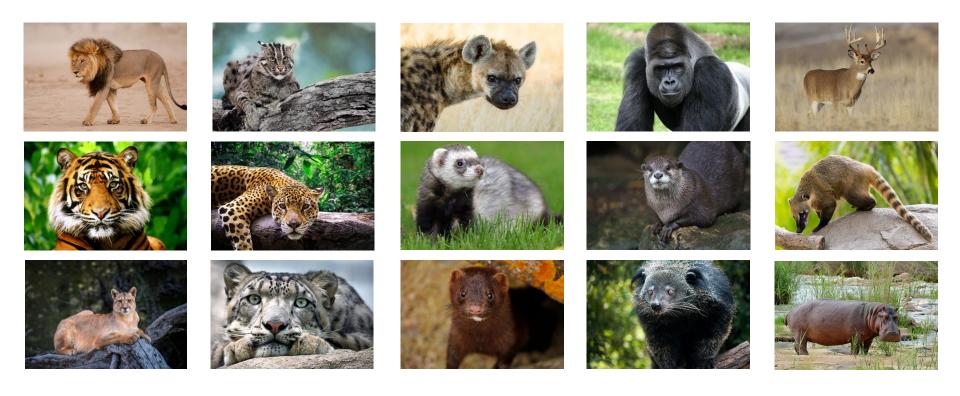




cdc.gov/coronavirus

Zoos provide opportunities for education, they support conservation, protect endangered species, and aid in animal research

## Zoo Species Known to be Susceptible to SARS-CoV-2





#### Louisville Zoo Female Snow Leopard Tests Positive for SARS-CoV-2

Great Cats Tested Presumptive Positive For COVID-19 at the Smithsonian's National Zoo

Sep. 17, 202





Asian Small-Clawed Otters at Georgia Aquarium Test Positive for COVID-19



The otters showed respiratory symptoms but are improving

#### Two spotted hyenas at the Denver Zoo are the first known to have Covid-19.



Ngozi, 22, is one of two hyenas at the Denver Zoo among the first in the world to have tested positive for the coronavirus, according to officials. Denver Zoo



Winston, an elderly silverback gorilla, is one of eight gorillas that have recovered from Covid-19 at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

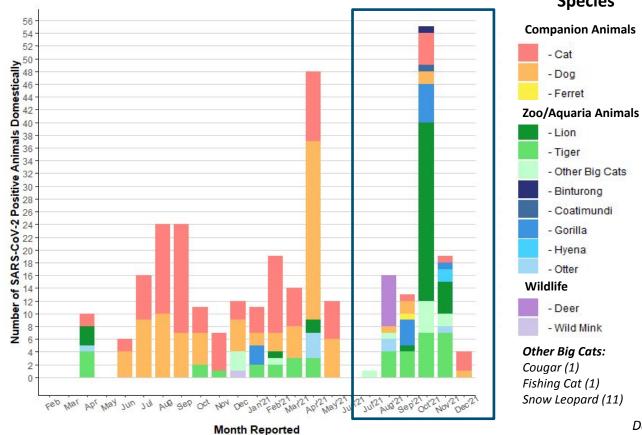


October 14, 2021

#### Denver Zoo's Tigers Test Positive for COVID-19

November 3 Update: Nikita and Yuri have received three consecutive negative tests, and are considered fully recovered from COVID-19. Keepers say both tigers are doing well and are no longer showing any symptoms, and have good appetites.

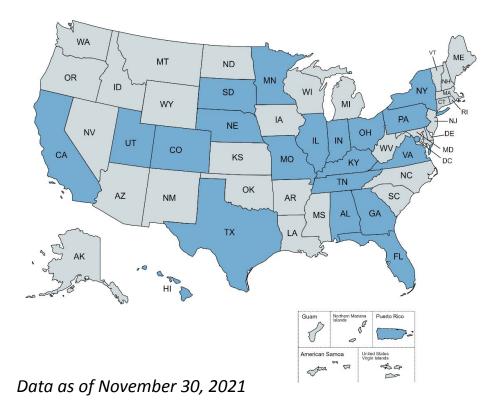
## Animals Reported Positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the United States, 2020-2021



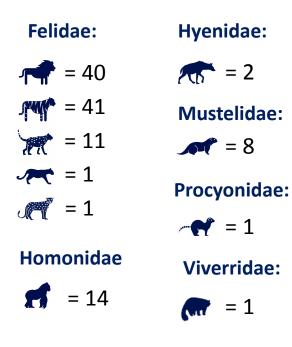
**Species** 

Data as of December 7, 2021

# States with Zoos Reporting Animal SARS-CoV-2 Cases

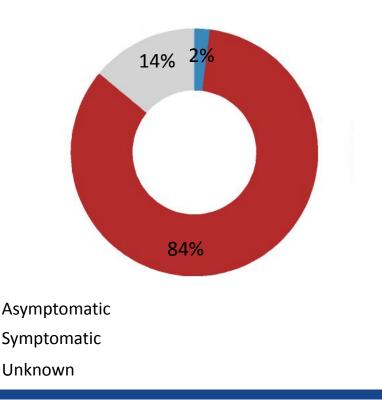


**120** animal cases reported from 32 zoos in 22 states

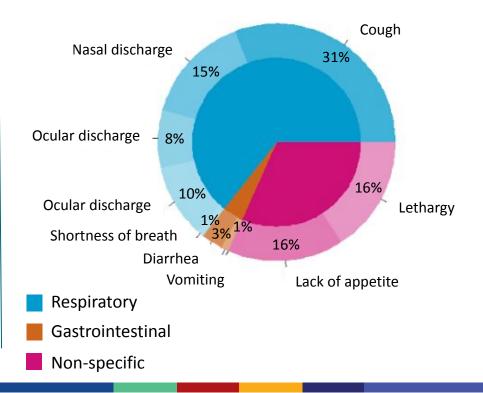


# Clinical Signs: 84% of Zoo Animals with SARS-CoV-2

#### Percent Reporting Clinical Signs



Breakdown of Clinical Signs



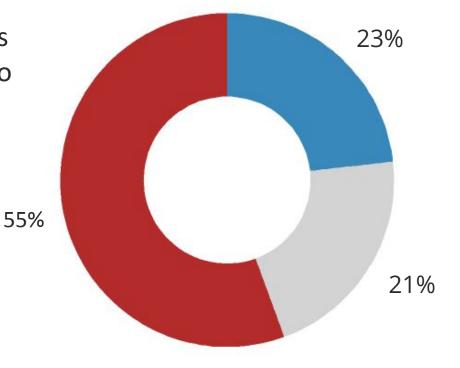
# How are Zoo Animals Becoming Infected with SARS-CoV-2?

55% of Zoo Animal Cases had a known exposure to a person with COVID-19

No known exposure

Known exposure

Unknown



# Summary and Webinar Purpose

#### **COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies at Zoos:**

- Increased biosafety/biosecurity around susceptible species
- Masks (visitors, staff/volunteers)
- PPE (staff/volunteers)
- Vaccination (people, animals)
- Other

### **Ongoing Concerns:**

- Transmission
  - Inter-species transmission
  - Animal-to-human transmission
- Vaccine breakthroughs (people and animals)
- Variants
  - Increased transmissibility
  - Increased diseases severity





For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov Mention of any company or product does not constitute endorsement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

