

20 Years of Animal Research in Great Britain



Scientific testing on animals

Organisations that carry out scientific, veterinary and medical research in Great Britain must record the number of procedures that are carried out on live animals each year to comply with the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. Animals can only be used in scientific research when there is no viable alternative available.

Types of animal research



Fundamental



Regulatory



Translational



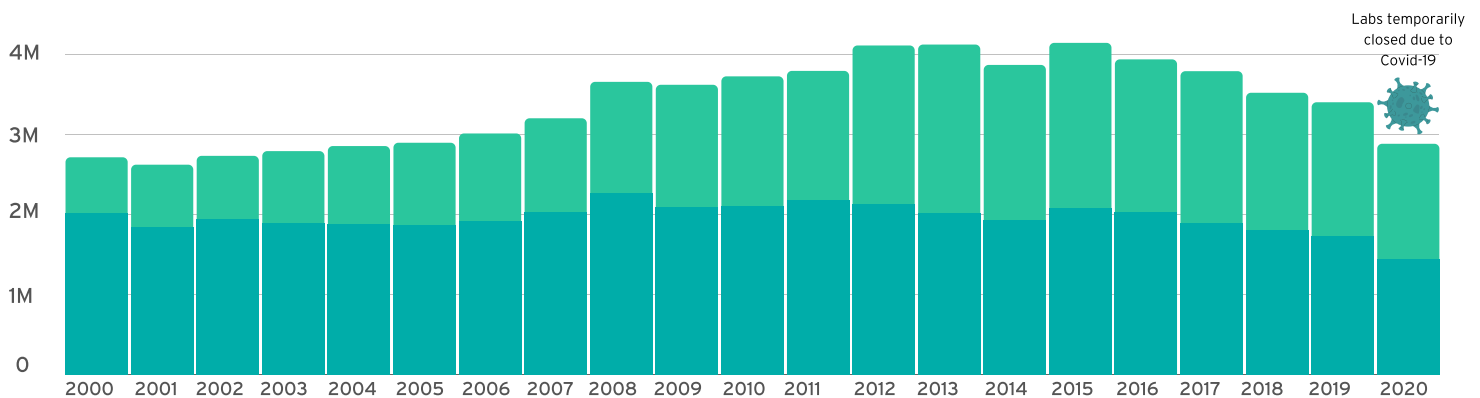
Environmental



Animals are not used to test cosmetic, household or tobacco products

Procedures and their purpose

Experimental procedures Breeding and creation of genetically altered animals



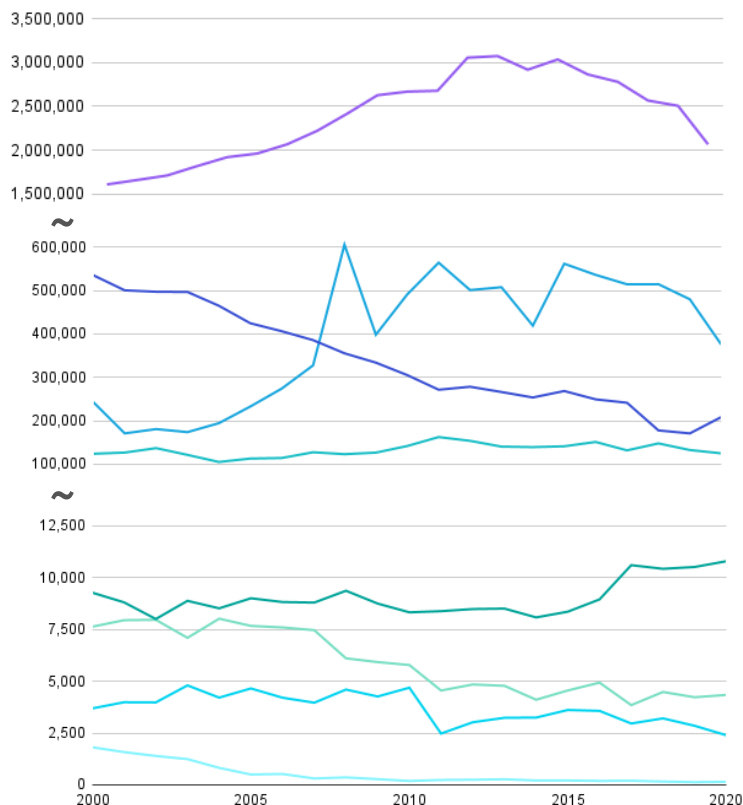
Procedures by animal species

Most commonly used animals

Mice Rats Fish Birds

Only used when no other species is suitable

Horses Dogs Monkeys Cats

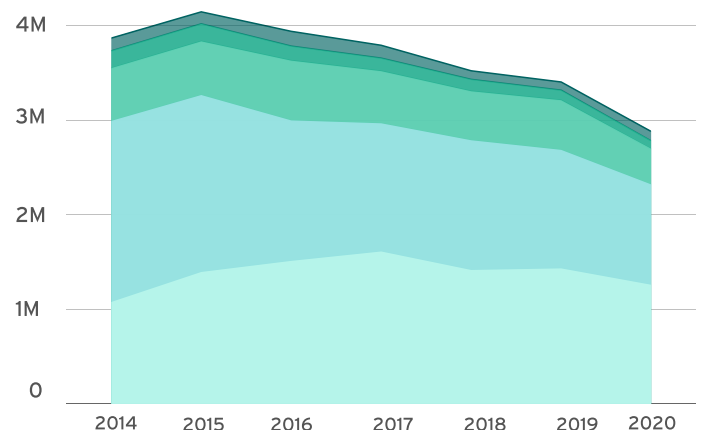


Procedures by severity

From 2014, procedures have been categorised by their retrospective severity. Procedures can be as mild as an injection or as severe as an organ transplant.

Sub-threshold Mild Moderate Severe Non-recovery

Procedure examples



This data has been sourced from the UK Government Home Office annual report 'Statistics of scientific procedures on living animals, Great Britain' for the years 2000 - 2020.