

Health Related Conditions

Four out of five Dalmatians are black and white in color; the other 20% are liver and white in color.

Seven percent of Dalmatians in the survey were patched and 78% had two brown eyes.

Figure 27 - Dalmatian Coat Colors

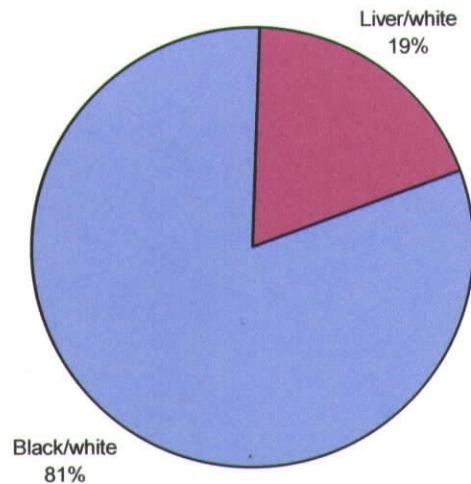


Figure 28 - Dalmatian Hearing Characteristics

13% of Dalmatians in the survey were either partially or totally deaf.

Data based on 763 dogs.

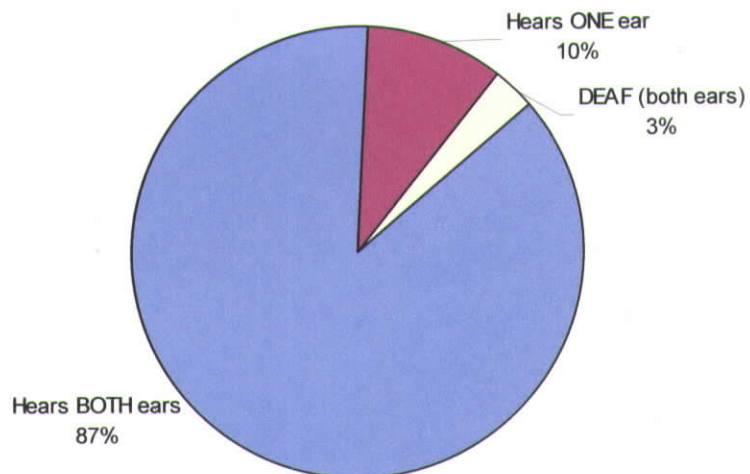


Figure 29 - Age at Death by Gender

The average Dalmatian lives to be 9.8 years of age, female dogs live slightly longer 9.9 years.

Data based on 187 deceased dogs. 91 male dogs and 96 female dogs.

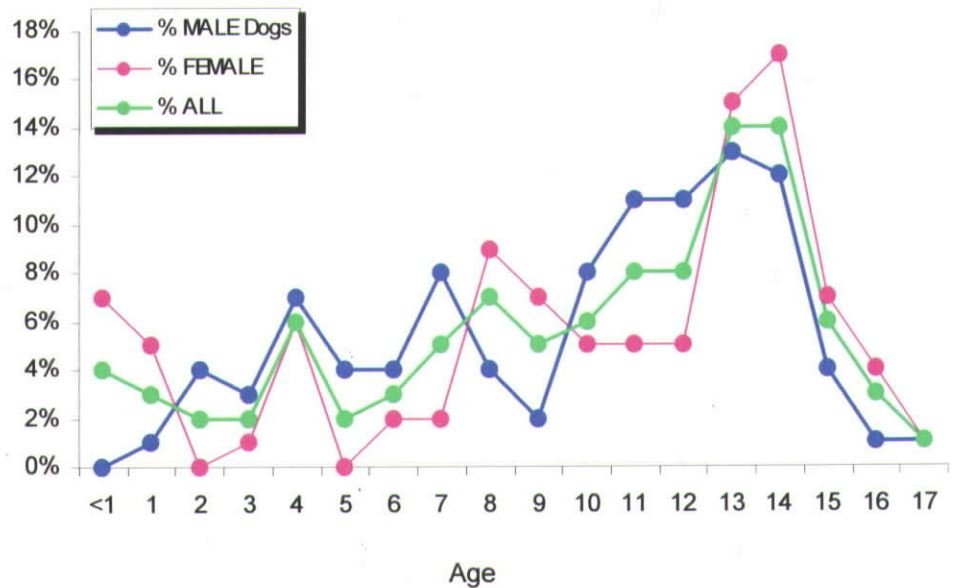
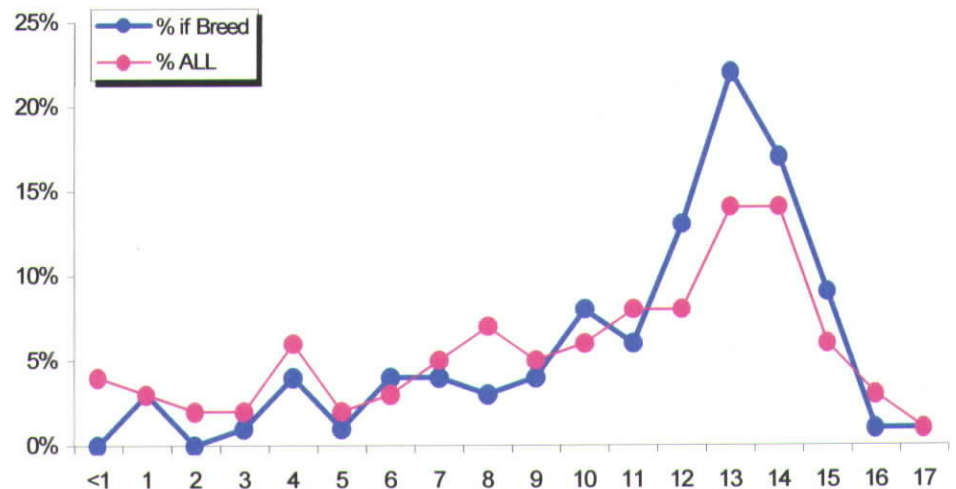


Figure 30 - Average Age at Death for Breeding Dogs

Dalmatians who were bred, on average live 1.5 years longer than dogs that were not bred or 11.3 years compared with 9.8 years respectively.

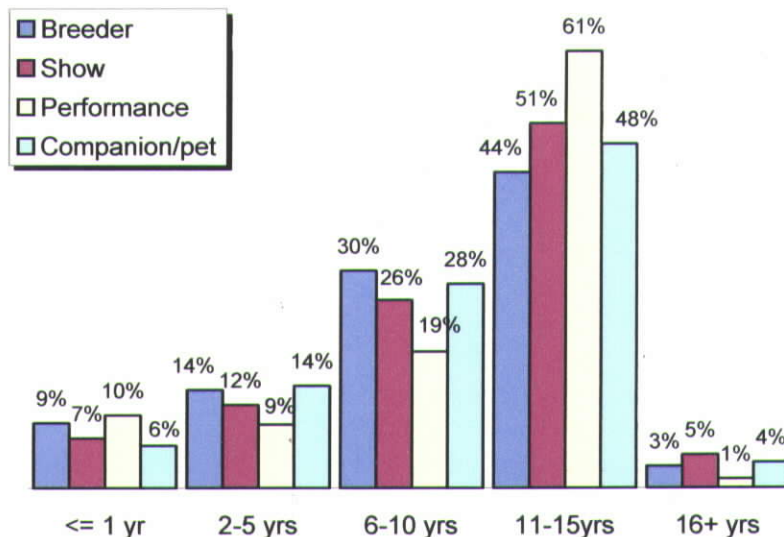
Data based on 78 dogs.



Performance Dalmatians on average lived longer than other Dalmatians (61%) lived to between 11-15 years of age compared with 48% of companion/pet Dalmatians.

Data based on 187 deceased dogs.

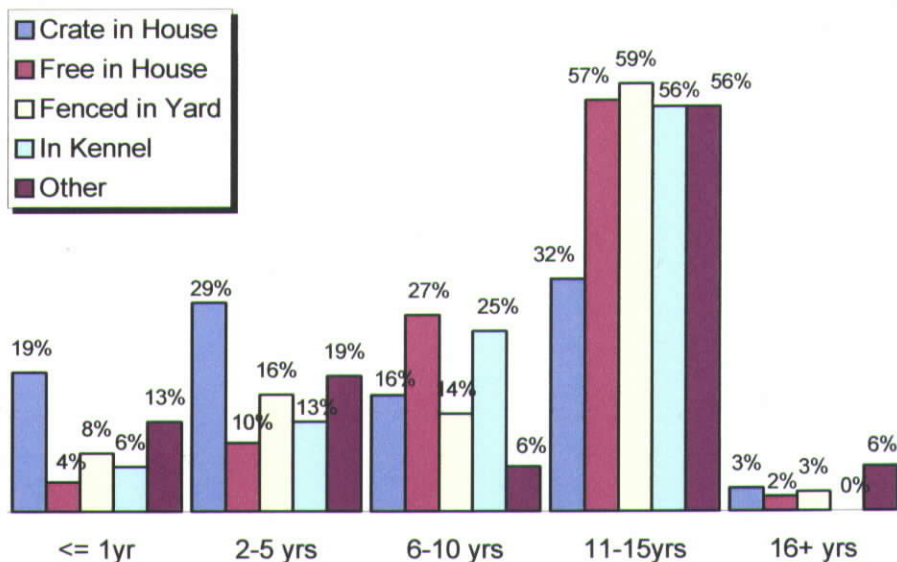
Figure 31 - Age at Death by Owners Primary Interest in Owning a Dalmatian



Dalmatians who are primarily housed in a crate in the house during the day died at an early age than other Dalmatians. 48% of these dogs died before they were six years of age.

Data based on 187 deceased dogs.

Figure 32 - Age at Death by Primary Housing of Dalmatian During the Day



11% of female dogs living with other female dogs died before their second birthday compared with 0% of male dogs under the age of two living with other male dogs.

Data based on 187 deceased dogs. 91 male dogs and 96 female dogs.

Figure 33 - Age at Death for Dog Lives with Others Dogs of the Same Sex

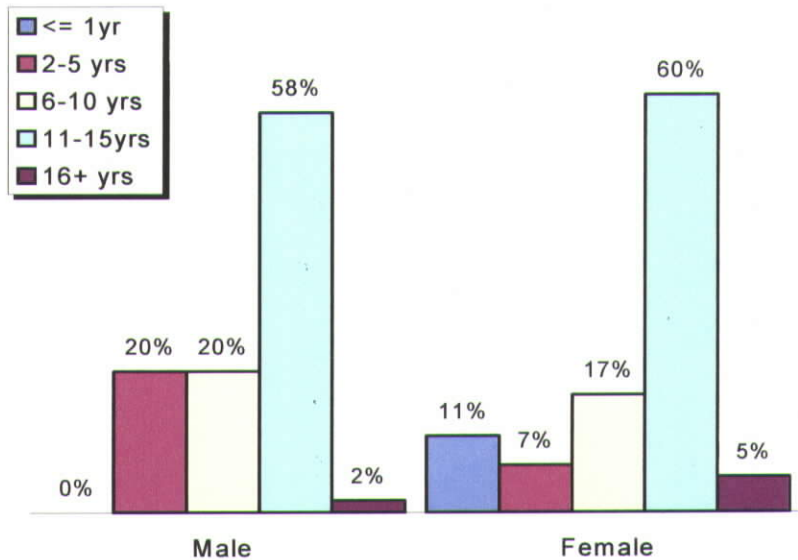


Table 34 - Age at Death for Three Most Common Diets

Dalmatian who lived on a diet of dry and home-prepared foods lived 1.7 years longer than the average Dalmatian regardless of diet. Dogs who lived on a diet of dry food only lived 0.1 years less than the average.

Data based on 185 deceased dogs.

Age at death	Dry food only	Dry & home prepared	Dry, canned & home prepared
<1	1	1	0
1	3	0	1
2	3	0	0
3	1	1	0
4	6	1	2
5	4	0	0
6	4	1	0
7	7	0	1
8	7	3	1
9	5	1	3
10	4	4	2
11	7	6	1
12	7	5	3
13	13	5	5
14	11	8	3
15	8	1	0
16	1	2	2
17	0	2	0
Average Age at Death	9.7	11.5	10.7
Total	92	41	24
Percent of Total Dead dogs by Diet	50%	22%	13%

Table 35 – List of Medicines

Heartworm medicine was the most often listed medicine Dalmatians were taking according to their owners (45%).

Data based on 153 owners providing responses for 301 dogs.

Medication Name	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
Heartworm medicine	126	45%
Allopurinol	27	10%
Phenylpropanolamine	20	7%
Soloxine	13	5%
Glucosamine	10	4%
Thyroxine	10	4%
Rimadyl	8	3%
Filaribits Plus	7	3%
Amiltriptyline	5	2%
Aspirin	5	2%
Enacard	5	2%
Glyco-flex	4	1%
Prednisone	4	1%
Antibiotics	3	1%
Chlortrimetron	3	1%
Dermcaps	3	1%
Ester C	3	1%
Fatty acid supplement	3	1%
Hydroxyzine	3	1%
Lasix	3	1%
Lipiderm	3	1%
Otomax	3	1%
Potassium	3	1%
Benadryl	2	1%
Flax oil	2	1%
Hydrangia	2	1%
Total	280	

Note: 27 times a medicine was mentioned only once and therefore is not included in table 35.

Table 36 - Major Disease Categories

There were 14 major disease categories from which survey respondents were to list their dog(s) illnesses. Table 36 lists these disease categories in descending order with skin being the common disease category mentioned at 24% of all responses for which diseases were listed.

Note: owners were permitted to enter the same disease category more than one time per dog if that dog had had the disease or health condition more than once in their lifetime.

Data based on 513 dogs having one or more disease listed for them.

Disease Category	Number of Occurrences	Percent of Occurrences
Skin	273	24%
Kidney/Liver/Urinary	173	15%
Orthopedic (bones)	90	8%
Neurology	84	7%
Reproductive (Female)	82	7%
Ear	62	6%
Cancer	60	5%
Cardiovascular	58	5%
Endocrine (Hormone)	49	4%
Ophthalmology (eyes)	36	3%
Gastroenterology	30	3%
Reproductive (Male)	19	2%
Blood	7	1%
Miscellaneous	101	9%
Total All Disease Categories	1,124	

Table 37 – Actual Number of Dogs with the Top Five Major Disease Categories

Table 37 lists the top five major disease categories and the actual number of dogs from the survey with those diseases.

Data based on 513 dogs.

Disease Category	Number of DOGS	Percent of DOGS
Skin	199	39%
Kidney/Liver/Urinary	135	26%
Orthopedic (bones)	78	15%
Neurology	69	13%
Reproductive (Female)	47	9%

36 of the 111 dogs with cause of death coded died from kidney/liver/urinary health-related conditions.

Data based on 111 dogs with cause of death coded.

Note: data for cause of death was reported at the major disease category level, as the numbers of responses at the specific disease code level were too small to report to be meaningful.

Table 38 – Cause of Death by Major Disease Category

Disease Category	Number of Dogs	Percent of Dogs
Kidney/Liver/Urinary	36	32%
Neurology	21	19%
Cancer	20	18%
Cardiovascular	16	14%
Gastroenterology	7	6%
Blood	4	4%
Orthopedic (bones)	4	4%
All other Disease Categories	3	3%
Total All Disease Categories	111	

NOTE: only major disease categories with 3 or more responses are included in table 38.

Table 39 - Major Disease Categories by Age Group

Table 39 summarizes the age at which Dalmatians developed diseases in the 14 major diseases categories. Figures 40, 41 and 42 graphically depict the age of disease onset for skin, kidney/liver/urinary and orthopedic (bones) categories.

Note: owners were permitted to enter the same disease category more than one time per dog if that dog had had the disease or health condition more than once in their lifetime.

Data based on 513 dogs having one or more disease listed for them.

Disease Category	1 year or younger	2-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16 years or older	Total Number Occurrences
Skin	126	107	31	9	0	273
Kidney/Liver/Urinary	49	78	34	12	0	173
Orthopedic (bones)	8	19	38	25	0	90
Neurology	18	27	18	21	0	84
Reproductive (Female)	27	41	10	2	0	80
Ear	30	18	7	7	0	62
Cancer	7	10	26	16	0	59
Cardiovascular	8	9	22	19	0	58
Endocrine (Hormone)	5	20	17	7	0	49
Ophthalmology (eyes)	13	5	11	7	0	36
Gastro-enterology	8	8	7	7	0	30

NOTE: only disease categories with 20 or more responses are listed in table39.

Figure 40 - Age at Onset of Skin Problems

46% of Dalmatians with skin problems develop those problems when they are one-year of age or younger.

Data based on 273 dogs.

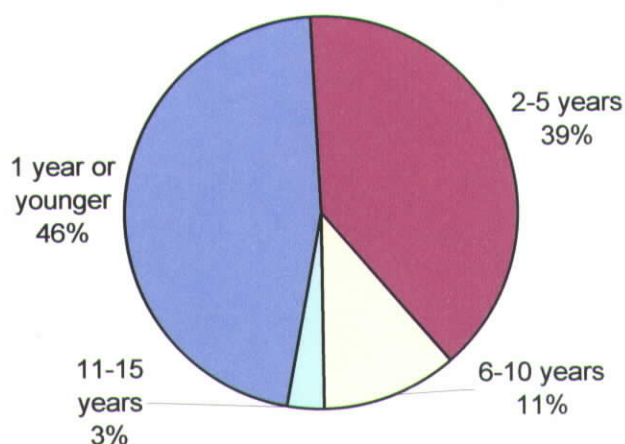
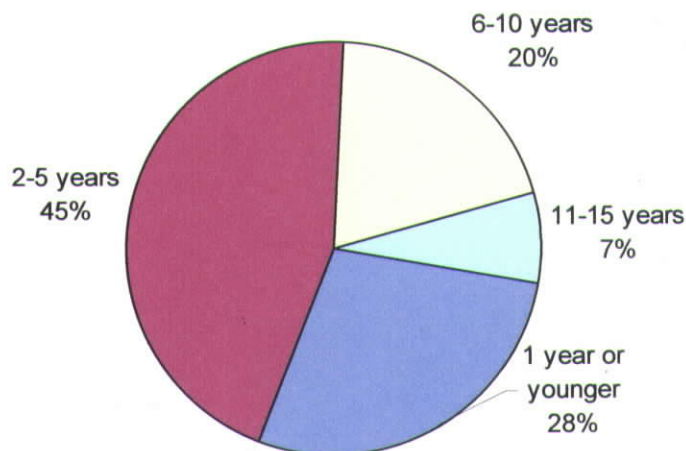


Figure 41 - Age at Onset of Kidney/Liver/Urinary Problems

45% of Dalmatians with kidney/liver/urinary problems develop those problems when they are between 2-5 years of age.

Data based on 173 dogs.



42% of Dalmatians with orthopedic (bones) problems develop those problems when they are between 6-10 years of age.

Data based on 90 dogs.

Figure 42 – Age at Onset of Orthopedic (bones) Problems

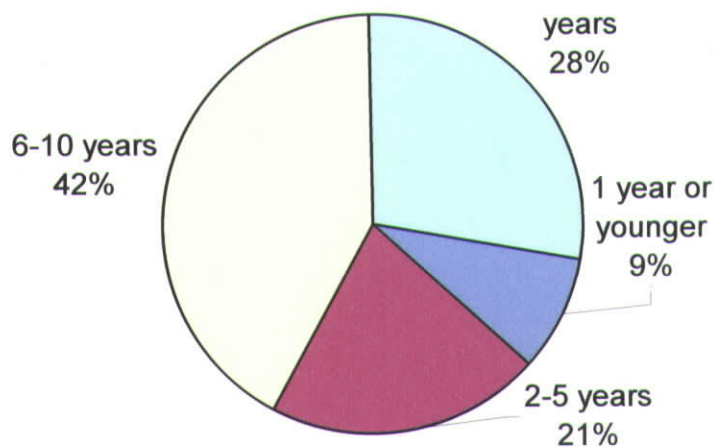


Table 43 – Most Common Disease Codes

There were 174 disease codes grouped into 14 major disease categories from which survey respondents were to list their dog(s) illnesses. Table 43 lists the 16 disease codes with 20 or more responses. The most common response was allergies code 301 with 100 responses (9%).

Data based on 513 dogs having one or more disease listed for them.

Disease Code	Disease Description	Total Number of Occurrences	Percent of Occurrences
301	Allergies	100	9%
1500	Missing teeth - premolars	50	4%
1001	Arthritis	43	4%
1401	Chronic ear infections	40	4%
709	Bladder stones	38	3%
407	Hypothyroid	34	3%
716	Stones - purine/urate	31	3%
203	Heart murmur	30	3%
1507	Stool eating	29	3%
311	Flea allergy	26	2%
805	Seizures	25	2%
303	Demodex (mange)	24	2%
314	Sebacious cysts	21	2%
700	Kidney/liver/urinary - other	21	2%
300	Skin - other	20	2%
808	Epilepsy	20	2%
All other 158 disease codes		572	51%
TOTAL		1,124	

NOTE: only disease codes with 20 or more responses are included in table43.

Table 44 – Most Common Disease Codes by Age Group

Table 44 summarizes the age at which Dalmatians developed diseases from the 174 disease codes. Figures 44 and 45 graphically depict the age of disease onset for allergies and arthritis.

Data based on 513 dogs having one or more disease listed for them.

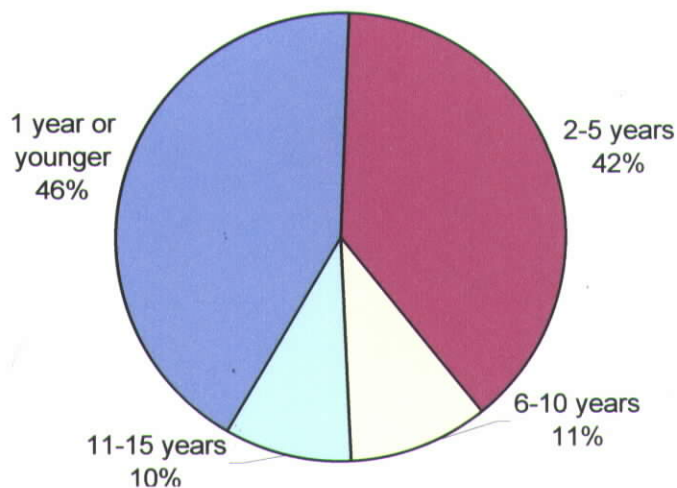
Disease Code Description	1 year or younger	2-5 years	6-10 years	11-15 years	16 years or older	Total Number of Occurrences
Allergies	46	42	11	1	0	100
Missing teeth - premolars	43	4	2	1	0	50
Arthritis	3	3	23	14	0	43
Chronic ear infections	21	14	5	0	0	40
Bladder stones	8	22	6	2	0	38
Hypothyroid	2	14	14	4	0	34
Stones - purine/urate	11	14	6	0	0	31
Heart murmur	6	6	11	7	0	30
Stool eating	13	13	2	1	0	29
Flea allergy	13	13	0	0	0	26
Seizures	9	13	2	1	0	25
Demodex (mange)	20	3	1	0	0	24
Sebacious cysts	2	8	6	5	0	21
Kidney/liver/urinary - other	5	9	5	2	0	21
Skin - other	12	7	1	0	0	20
Epilepsy	6	14	0	0	0	20

NOTE: only disease codes with 20 or more responses are included in table44.

46% of Dalmatians with allergy problems develop those problems when they are one year of age or younger.

Figure 45 - Age at Onset of Allergies

Data based on 100 dogs.



53% of Dalmatians develop arthritis between 6-10 years of age.

Figure 46 - Age at Onset of Arthritis

Data based on 43 dogs.

