

# CWD surveillance in Iceland

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Photo: Skarphéðinn G. Þórisson  
Reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*)



Only one type of cervid in Iceland:  
*Rangifer tarandus*

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- Imported from Northern Norway 1771-1787 to different parts of Iceland.
- **Current habitat:** highlands in eastern part of Iceland, ca. 7000 animals (summer count)
- Regarded exotic in Icelandic fauna.
- Abundance and distribution controlled by hunting, 1000-1500 animals/year.



# CWD testing in Iceland (2003-2018)

Year	Total animals	Healthy / hunted	Fallen stock	Fallen stock symptoms
2003	26		26*	Looking unhealthy
2006	7	7		
2007	2		2	Emaciated
2008	2		2	Emaciated, unknown
2011	2		2	Hind limb paralyse, diarrhea
2012	3		3	Emaciated, sudden death (2)
2015	1		1	Emaciated
2016	14	13	1	Sudden death
2017	54	53	1	Unknown
2018	100	95	5	Unknown, broken leg, accidents (3)
<b>Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>43</b>	

\*Samples collected in 2003 as part of a study on the health of Icelandic reindeer, tested in 2006. Samples were collected from a total of 26 unhealthy looking animals from one area in the south-eastern part of Iceland; 23 tonsils and 25 brain samples (both sample types from 22 animals).