

A comparison of the incidence of conditions reported in the health surveys done in 1991 and in 2000 suggest that little has changed, with disorders of bones and joints the most often reported, followed by airway problems. There was an increase in the number of cases of atopic dermatitis reported recently. Some conditions, such as hemivertebrae or hip dysplasia could be under-reported if the dogs are asymptomatic and pet owners would have no need to x-ray. Other more subtle conditions, such as autoimmune diseases, might go undetected unless dogs are sent to veterinary specialists who ask for special lab tests. One hundred and fifty dogs were reported in the 2000 survey as having no disorder (completely healthy).

RESULTS FROM THE 1991 AND 2000 HEALTH SURVEY

DISORDER	1991 (497 surveys)		2000 (371 surveys)	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
BONES AND JOINTS	125 total	25%	98 total	28%
Hemi or butterfly vertebrae	41	08	40	12
Patellar luxation	27	05	12	03
Hip dysplasia	15	03	14	04
Disc degeneration	15	03	15	04
Other	27	06	17	05
AIRWAY AND TEETH	97 total	20%	54	15%
Cleft palate	36	07	02	01
Elongated soft palate	24	05	27	08
Stenotic nares	06	01	20	06
Other Airway problems	15	03	07	02
Abnormal teeth	16	03	—	—
EYE DISORDERS	49 total	10%	27 total	08%
Retinal dysplasia	13	03	01	0.05
Cherry Eye	09	02	—	—
Everted third eyelid	07	01	—	—
Entropion	06	01	03	01
Other	14	03	23	07
SKIN DISORDERS	44 total	09%	88 total	25%
Atopic dermatitis	20	04	21	06
Other	24	05	67	19
CANCER	29 total	06%	20 total	06%
REPRODUCTION	27 total	06%	23 total	07%
IMMUNE SYSTEM	27 total	06%	04 total	01%
OTHER DISORDERS	65 total	13%	57 total	16 %

Forty nine owners responded to the question "What are the three most important diseases of the French bulldog?" Below is a summary of those responses. The most numerous responses were conditions that are characteristic of being a short-nosed, chondrodystrophic dwarf breed. First is spinal abnormalities and the effects of some of these abnormalities on mobility and quality of life. Second were conditions associated with brachycephalic syndrome such as stenotic nares, elongated soft palate and miscellaneous breathing difficulties.

RESPONSES

- 44 Spinal Conditions (vertebral malformations, disc disease)
- 34 Brachycephalic Syndrome (palate, nares and breathing problems)
- 19 Allergies (skin and other)
- 14 Orthopedic Conditions(hip dysplasia, luxating patellas)
- 4 Behavior
- 3 Epilepsy
- 3 Autoimmune

3 Cardiovascular
3 Reproductive
1 Cancer