CAUSES OF DEATH IN 2001, comparing human fatalities caused by normal activities to fatal captive exotic animal attacks. The figures are for US residents, based on year 2001.

Cause of death in 2001	Number
Total number of deaths by all causes in 2001	2,416,425
Dry land	
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes	37,862
Fall on and from steps and stairs	1,462
Fall from, out of, or through building or structure	580
Slipping/stumbling	564
Fall involving bed	516
Accidental strangulation and suffocation in bed	456
Fall on and from ladder	376
Fall involving chair	181
Fall involving wheelchair	157
Skates/skis/skateboard/roller-skates	119
Fall from tree	111
Fall from cliff	68
Contact with hot tap water	57
Contact with powered lawn mower	45
Dog attack	25
Toys-children 0-14	25
Pushing or collision with another person	22
Contact with hot drinks and oils	6
In the water	
Drowning while in natural water	845
Drowning while in swimming pool	494
Drowning following fall into natural water	209
Drowning following fall into swimming pool	102
Diving or jumping into water (excluding drowning)	68
Shark attacks	3
Captive Exotic Animals Attacks	
Captive reptiles in the USA	<mark>1.5</mark> *
Captive big cats in the USA	<mark>1**</mark>
Captive elephants	<mark>0.81**</mark>
Captive bears	<mark>0.125**</mark>
Captive non-human primates	<mark>0***</mark>

Source: CDC, FARS, CPSC and Wikipedia \* Based on 11 year average 1995-2006 numbers

<sup>\*\*</sup> Based on 16 year average 1990-2006 numbers

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> In 1997/Atlanta, Georgia, one Yerkes primate researcher supposedly died of herpes B after she was splashed in the eye with bodily fluids from a rhesus macaque, but this can NOT be classified as animal 'attack', just like a nurse or doctor accidentally getting infected with a blood from an AIDS patients can not be called a murder.