# Afghan Hound
# Agria Breed Profiles
# Veterinary Care 2011-2016

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# Agria Insurance Data – Breed Statistics
# Dog: 2011-2016
# Afghan Hound

The rates and measures are based on data from Agria Djurförsäkring (Pet Insurance), Sweden. The primary goal of this ongoing work has been to provide information to breed clubs in Sweden to use in their work on health issues in their breed. The first Breed Profiles were provided to the Swedish Kennel Club and to each breed club (80 breeds; 1995-2002). The updates have been shared (1995-2006 over 100 breeds, 2006-2011 over 130 breeds), within Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and the UK. This version (2011-2016) will be available in several languages.

Every effort has been made to calculate statistics using scientifically valid techniques. The data are, however, affected by terms and conditions of the insurance products, the enrolment of pets in insurance, the owner's decisions regarding seeking and receiving veterinary care for their pet, the way in which veterinarians diagnose and treat illness, amongst other factors. These influences and factors may change over time.

To minimize possible misunderstanding, the materials are mainly presented as a comparison between the breed and the group All Breeds. It is assumed that changes or influences are likely to be similar across breeds. As this is the fourth presentation of breed statistics for dogs, and more are possible in the future, it is believed that this comparative approach is the safest, in terms of preventing misinterpretation or over-interpretation of findings.

Breed Profiles 2011-2016 are presented in a similar format to the previous updates 2006-2011. See below for a further description of the calculation of rates; the key feature is that the material is relatively conservative in calculating the occurrence of disease. This means that an animal is counted only once within any diagnostic category. Readers will want to know if rates of disease in their breed are increasing or decreasing over time. Due to the changing nature of the database and insurance policies, only comparisons between rates for the breed and All Breeds can be made. The relative rates (risks) compared to All Breeds in the earlier updates (1995-2006; 2006-2011) can be compared to those in this version (2011-2016). Differences between the breed and All Breeds may be due to changes in the rate of disease in the breed, in All Breeds or both. However, marked changes in breed risk are worth noting given that the entire data reflect over 1.76 million Years-at-Risk.

## Background Information and Hints on Interpretation

Rates are based on animal-Years-at-Risk (YAR) which take into account the actual time each animal was insured during the period 2011-2016. An animal insured for one entire year contributes 1.0 YAR, an animal insured for only 6 months contributes 0.5 YAR. Overall rates are expressed as the number experiencing an event (veterinary care or life) per 10,000 YAR. An animal that has one or more events within a diagnostic category is counted only once per category, but is counted separately for each new diagnostic category. Categories with less than 8 claimed animals are not presented. Breed designations may include coat or size varieties.

The rates used to measure life and veterinary care events are mortality and morbidity.
Mortality: Number of deaths per 10,000 YAR.
Morbidity: Number of animals that had one or more Veterinary Care Events (VCEs) per 10,000 YAR.

To interpret the horizontal bar charts (charts 1, 2, 3, 5, 7) where the breed is compared to All Breeds: The further to the right that bar extends, the more common the condition (the higher the rate). If the breed bar is approximately the same length as the bar for All Breeds, the breed experiences the condition to the same extent as All Breeds. For conditions where the breed bar is longer than the All Breeds bar, the breed has a higher rate for that condition compared to All Breeds. If the breed bar is shorter, then the breed experiences that condition less than All Breeds. Charts 4, 6 and 8 quantify the risk in the breed compared to All Breeds (Relative Risk; for interpretation see chart 4).
**Note**: No assessment of 'statistical significance' has been done.

**Note**: Animals could be veterinary care insured to any age, although the number insured declines at older ages. Life insurance ends automatically at a certain age, depending on the breed. Certain restrictions of the insurance policies affect the statistics, e.g. behaviour problems, preventive/prophylactic measures, are in general, not reimbursable and are not included in these statistics. Veterinary Care Events (Morbidity) are those visits to veterinarians for which the cost exceeded the excess/deductible and a claim was processed by the insurance company. Death (Mortality) includes events where a veterinarian assigned the cause of death. In some acute cases the owner and a witness confirmed the death of the animal.

Readers must balance all the presented information, together with what is already known about health issues in the breed, from other sources. This is especially true for breeds with smaller numbers of insured animals.

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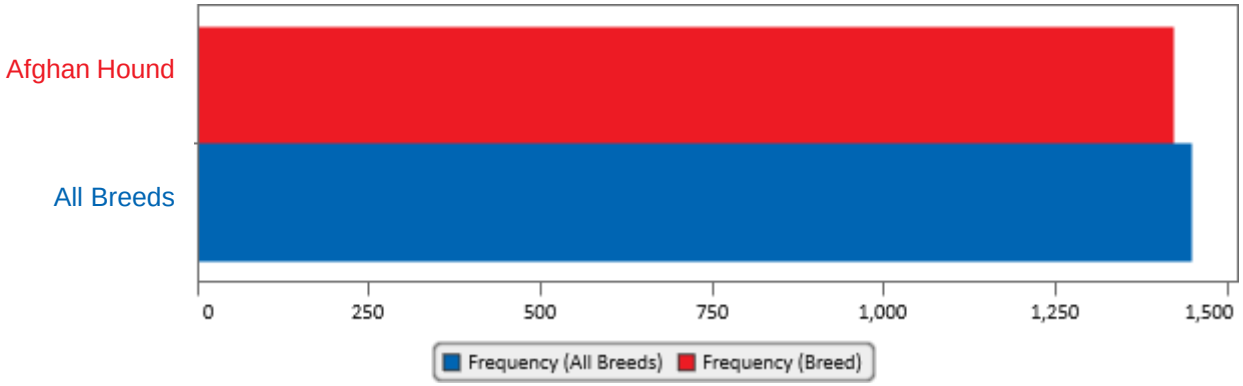
## Chart 1: Total Morbidity (per 10,000 YAR) – Afghan Hound and All Breeds 2011-2016




**Years-at-Risk 2011-2016** (whole period)
Afghan Hound: 1,000 < 2,500
All Breeds: 1.76 million

***Note!*** *This is a breed with a small number of insured individuals. Keep this in mind as you interpret the material.*

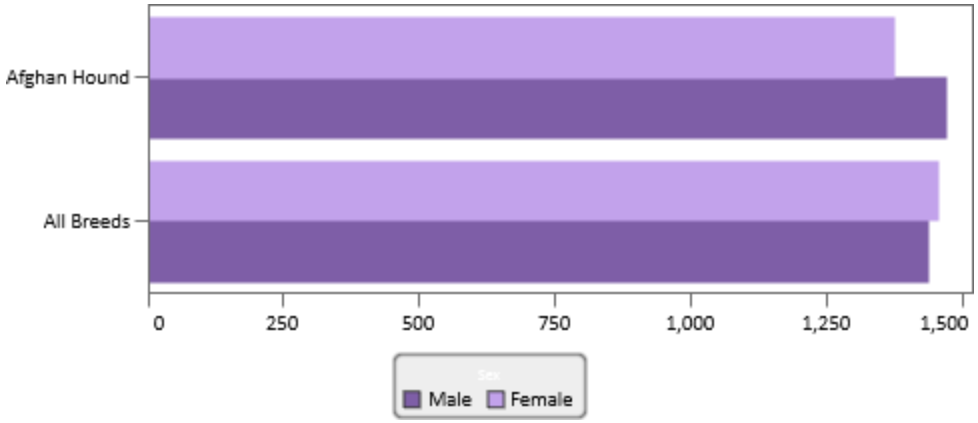
**Morbidity between 2011-2016**
Afghan Hound: 1,422 per 10,000 YAR
All Breeds: 1,448 per 10,000 YAR

**Interpretation:** Use the data on this page to get an overview of the health of the breed compared to All Breeds. For example, is the Morbidity lower, higher or approximately the same as for All Breeds?
**Reminder:** Mortality expresses the rate of death and Morbidity expresses the rate of one or more VCEs.

**Relative Risk Morbidity of Afghan Hound compared to All Breeds:** 0.98

**Interpretation:** Relative Risk represents the degree of increased or decreased risk of events for individuals in the breed compared to All Breeds.
For example a Relative Risk of 2 means that the risk in the breed is twice as high than for All Breeds. A Relative Risk less than 1 means that individuals in the breed have a lower risk compared to All Breeds.

## Chart 2: Total Morbidity (per 10,000 YAR) by sex – Afghan Hound and All Breeds 2011-2016




**Interpretation:** Compare between genders within the breed. Also compare males and females of the breed to the genders in All Breeds. If there are differences, consider general and specific causes of disease (chart 3-8) for explanations.
**Note:** Information on whether animals were spayed/neutered is not available.

**Median Age (years) at first VCE**

**Afghan Hound:** 6.1

**All Breeds:** 5.2

**Definition:** Morbidity - for 50% of animals their first VCE occurred before this age and 50% after.

**Interpretation:** Compare the breed to All Breeds.
**Note:** For Morbidity (VCE's) this value will be somewhat overestimated as some animals may have experienced a similar event before this data observation period started.

**Median Average Age (years) of the insured animals**

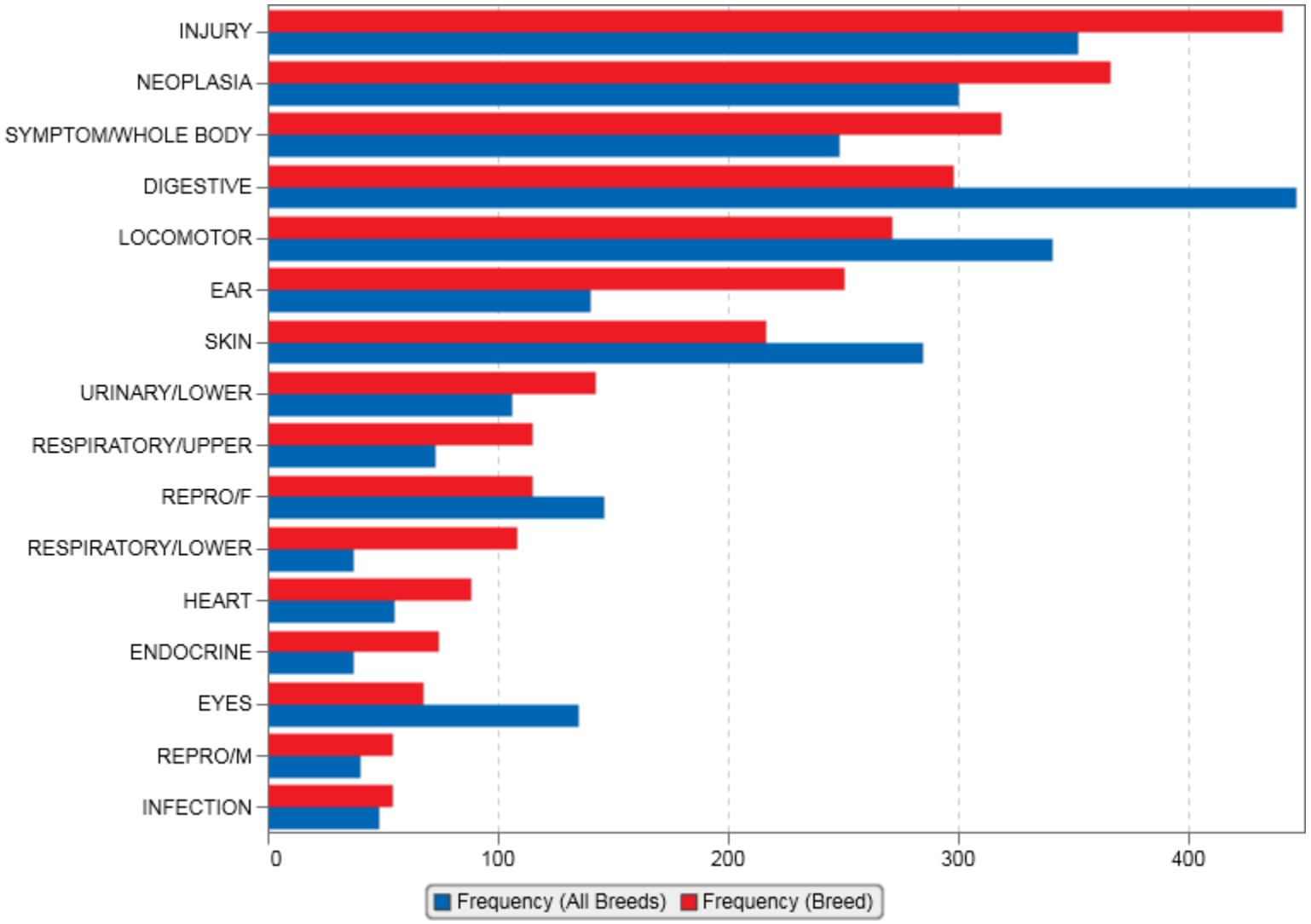
**Afghan Hound:** 5.5

**All Breeds:** 4.2

**Definition:** 50% of the animals had an average age that was lower and 50% had an average age that was higher than the value above.

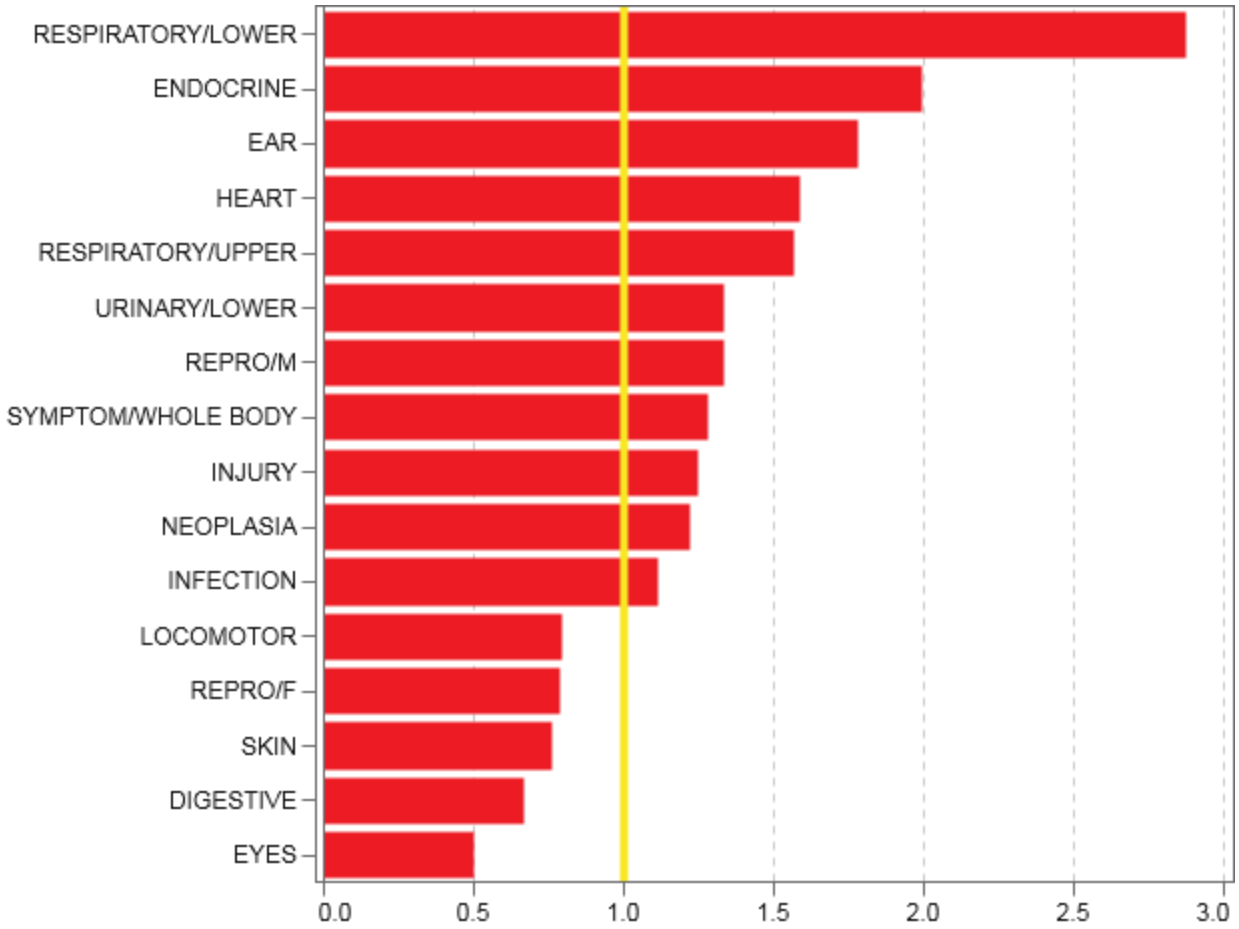
**Interpretation:** Is the insured population of this breed similar in age, younger or older than All Breed?

## Chart 3: Morbidity (per 10,000 YAR) for General Causes (Level 3) – Afghan Hound and All Breeds 2011-2016



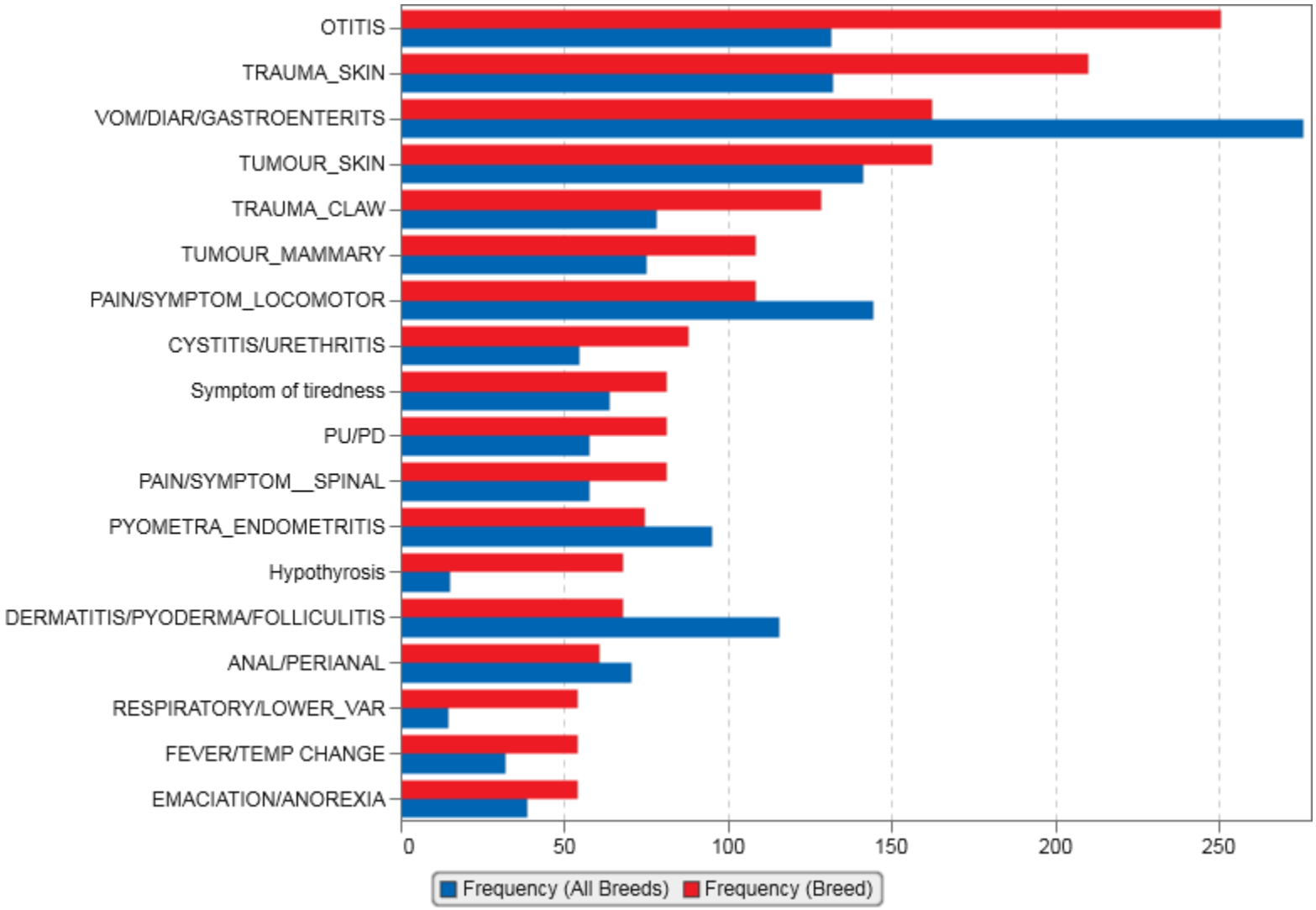

**Reminder:** Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

## Chart 4: Relative Risk Morbidity for General Causes (Level 3) – Afghan Hound compared to All Breeds 2011-2016



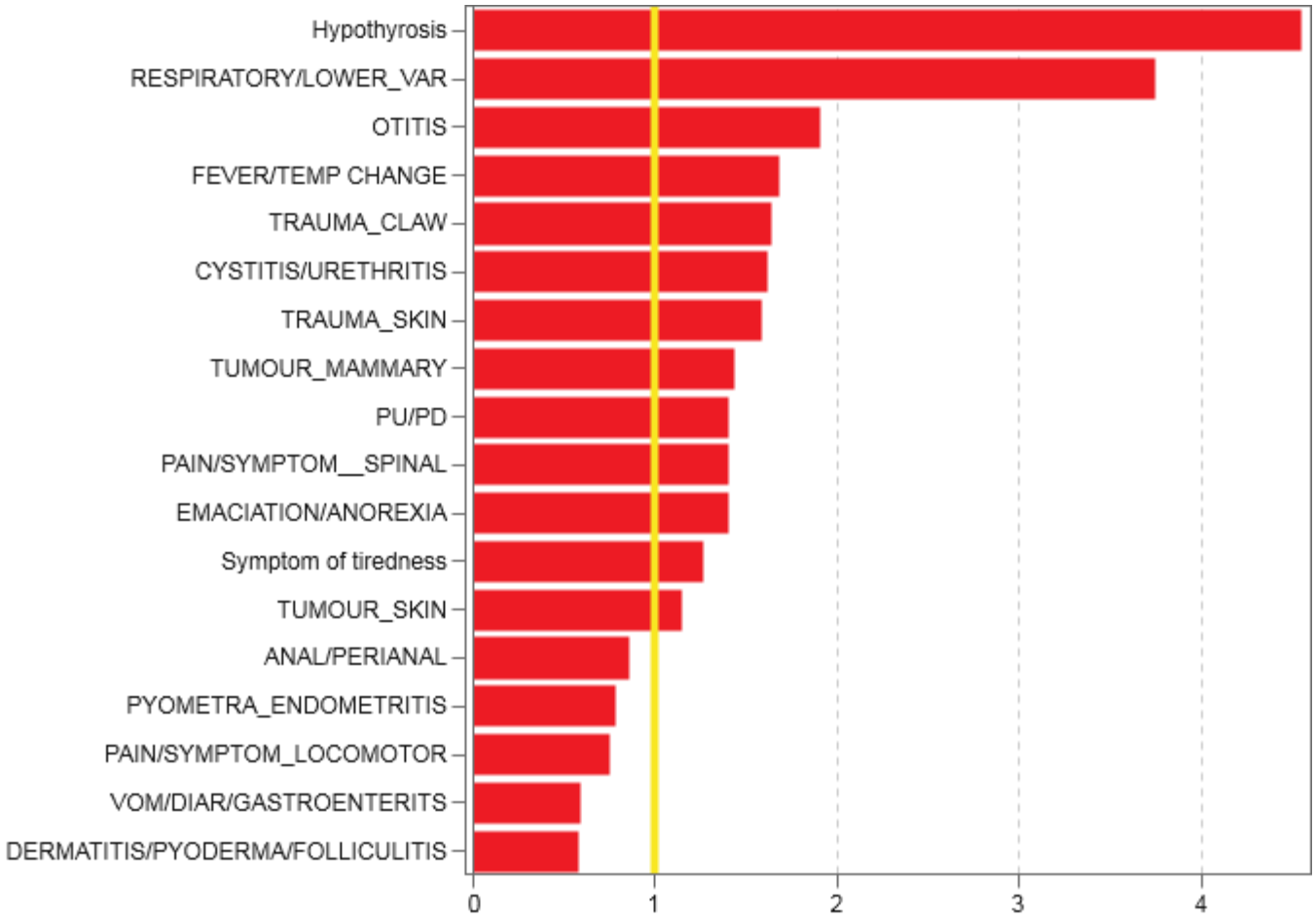

**Interpretation:** The yellow line is the baseline risk for All Breeds; For those conditions where the red bar goes to the right of the yellow line, the breed is at increased risk compared to All Breeds. If the bar goes to '2' it means that the risk in the breed is approximately 2 times higher than for All Breeds.
**Reminder:** Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

## Chart 5: Morbidity (per 10,000 YAR) for Specific Causes (Level 1) – Afghan Hound and All Breeds 2011-2016




**Reminder:** Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

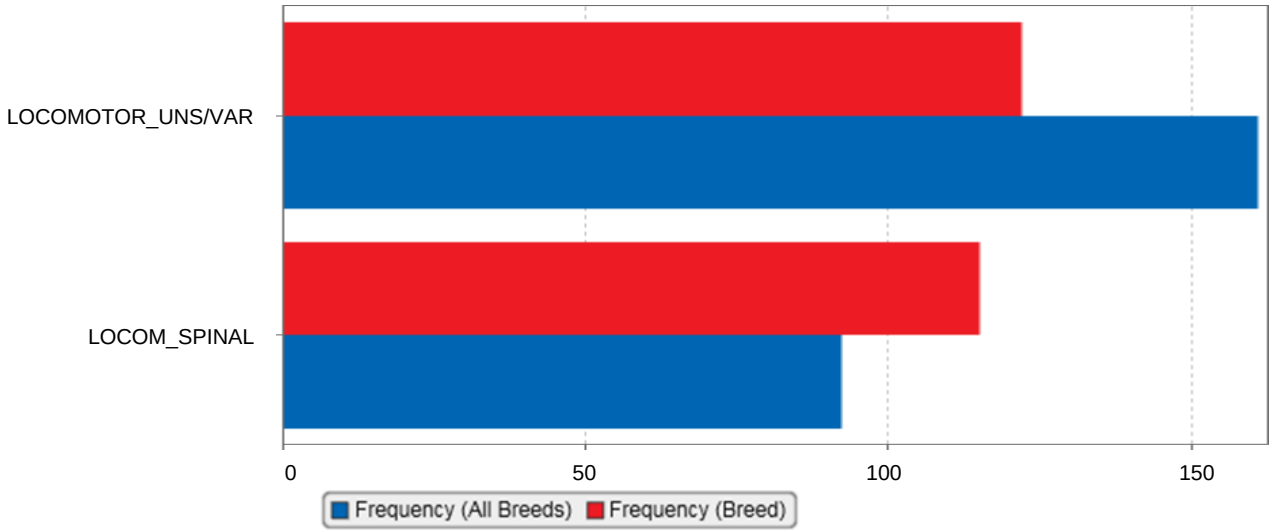
## Chart 6: Relative Risk Morbidity for Specific Causes (Level 1) – Afghan Hound compared to All Breeds 2011-2016




**Interpretation:** As for chart 4.

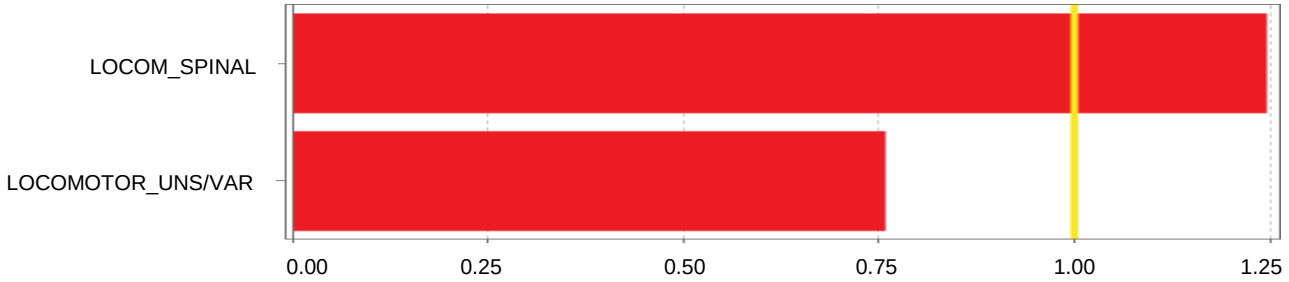
**Note:** Rare conditions that occur sporadically may appear as high Relative Risk. Compare to previous chart(s) to consider both how common a condition is as well as its Relative Risk. Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

## Chart 7: Morbidity (per 10,000 YAR) of Locomotor Problems – Afghan Hound and All Breeds 2011-2016




**Note:** 'UNS/VAR' means that the veterinarian did not specify a specific location or diagnosis or that there were symptoms from two locations or more. Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

## Chart 8: Relative Risk Morbidity for Locomotor Problems – Afghan Hound compared to All Breeds 2011-2016




**Interpretation:** As for chart 4.
**Reminder:** Categories are shown only if at least 8 animals had the diagnosis.

## Chart 9: Percent (Years-at-Risk) of Afghan Hound with a registration number from a kennel club

**Median Average Age (years) of the insured animals**

Median Average Age (years) Registered: 5.5

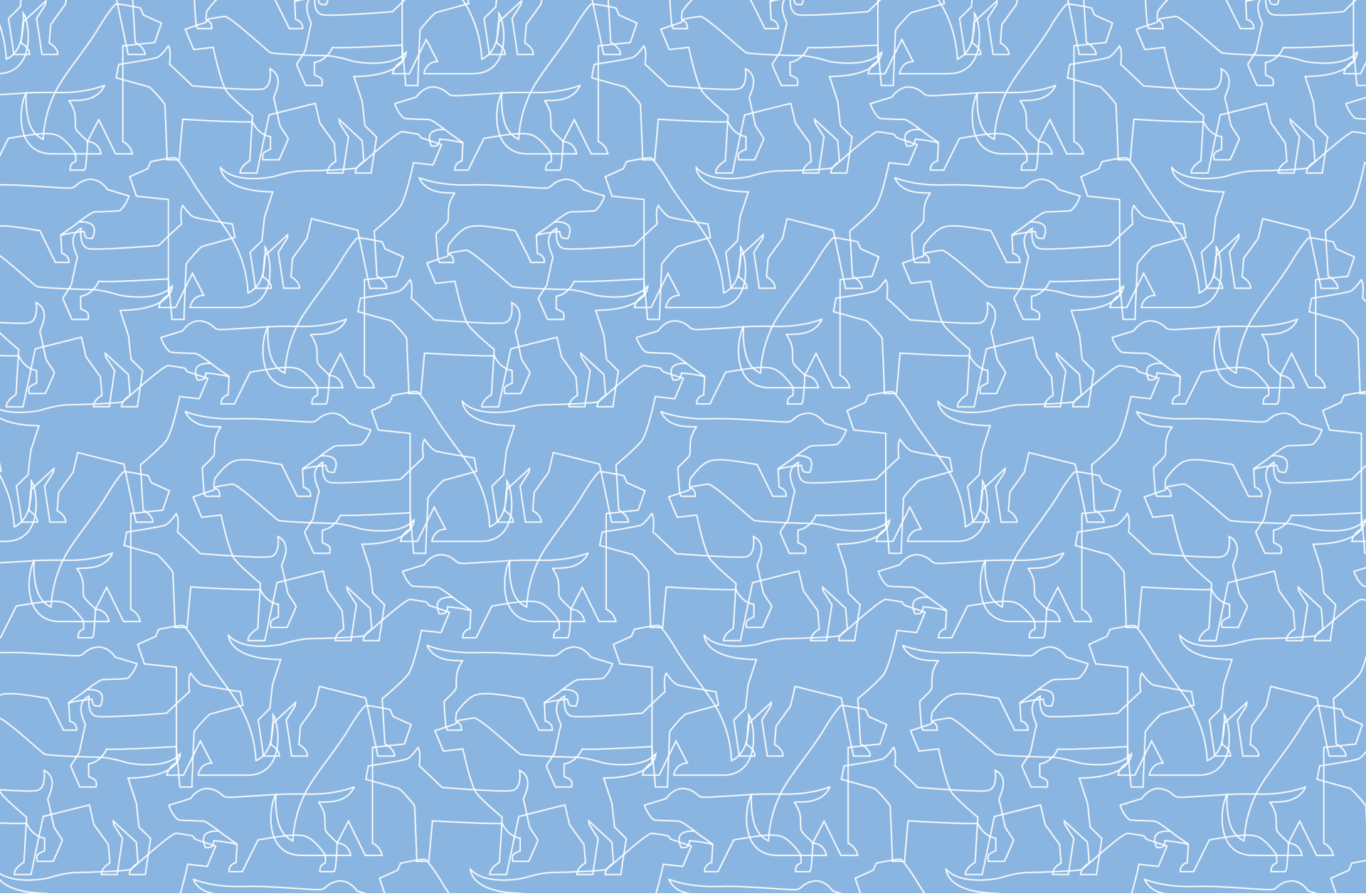
Median Average Age (years) Unregistered: 3.3

## Chart 10: Total Morbidity for Registered and Unregistered

– **Afghan Hound 2011-2016**

***Note!*** *Chart not presented for this breed as there are too few unregistered dogs for valid data.*

**Interpretation:** This chart compares the rate of events (Morbidity) between animals with a registration number and those without. Differences may be influenced partly by different age distribution in the two groups (see above).



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