

Biological Data for Common Laboratory Animal Species*

	Mouse	Rat	Hamster	Guinea Pig	Gerbil	Rabbit	Ferret	Cat	Dog	Swine	Sheep	Horse	Cattle
Body Temp. (°F)	96.6-99.7	96.6-99.5	98.6-100.4	98.6-103.1	96.3-102.7	100.4-104	100-104	100.4-102.2	100.4-102.2	101-103.8	101-103.8	99-101	100.4-102.7
Heart Rate (per minute)	328-780	250-600	250-600	230-320	260-600	130-325	180-220	110-140	60-120	60-80	60-80	30-70	60-70
Respiratory Rate (per minute)	90-220	66-144	35-120	42-104	70-120	30-60	25-30	15-25	10-30	8-18	18-20	10-12	25-30
Weight: Adult Male	25-40 g	300-500 g	80-120 g	500-800 g	80-90 g	2-6 kg	1.35-2.7 kg	2-5 kg	10-30 kg	100-300 kg	50-150 kg	400-600 kg	500-1500 kg
Weight: Adult Female	25-40g	200-400 g	80-120 g	500-800 g	70-80 g	2-6 kg	0.45-0.9 kg	2-5 kg	10-30 kg	100-300 kg	50-150 kg	400-600 kg	500-1500 kg
Weight: Newborn	1g	5 g	8-12 g	70-90 g	3 g	30-80 g	10 g	125 g	300-500 g	1-1.5 kg	4-5.5 kg	30-60 kg	24-45 kg
Daily Water Consumption	4-7 ml	24-60 ml	10 ml	50-80 ml	3-6 ml	100-600 ml	75-100 ml	100-200 ml	400-1200 ml	1-4% body wt	1-3 L	25-55 L	45-65 L
Daily Food Consumption	3-6 g	15-30 g	10 g	30-48 g	4-7 g	100-300 g	140-190 g	100-200 g	450-1350 g	1-4% body wt	1-2 kg	2-3% body wt	2-4% body wt
Life Span (years)	1-3	2.5-3.5	1.5-2	4-6	2-4	5-8	5-8	12-16	12-14	6-9 years	8-13 years	20-35 years	12-15 years
Sexual Maturity	40-60 days	65-110 days	42-70 days	60-90 days	70-84 days	4-6 months	8-12 months	5-6 months	6-10 months	7-9 months	5-7 months	10-24 months	12-14 months
Estrous Cycle Frequency	4-5 days	4-5 days	4 days	16-18 days	4-6 days	induced	continuous	6-7 months	6-7 months	18-24 days	16-17 days	19-23 days	19-23 days
Duration of Estrus	10 hours	13-15 hours	20 hours	6-11 hours	24 hours	continuous	n/a	3-6 days	7-9 days	2-3 days	24-48 hours	5.5 days	12-14 hours
Gestation Period	19-21 days	20-22 days	15-16 days	60-65 days	24-26 days	29-35 days	41-43 days	62-65 days	58-67 days	112-115 days	144-151 days	330-550 days	280-290 days
Average Litter Size	6-12	7-11	5-10	2-4	4-5	4-10	6-8	3-6	4-12	8-15	1-3	1	1
Age at Weaning	21 days	21 days	21 days	18-24 days	21 days	4-6 weeks	5-7 weeks	6-7 weeks	6-8 weeks	4-6 weeks	8-12 weeks	4-6 months	6-8 months
Breeding Life	8 months	1.5 years	1 year	2-4 years	3 years	3 years	n/a	5-8 years	6-14 years	4-5 years	3-5 years	10 years	10 years

*The data in this table is reproduced with permission from the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science; Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician Training Manual, 1989 Table 14.1.