

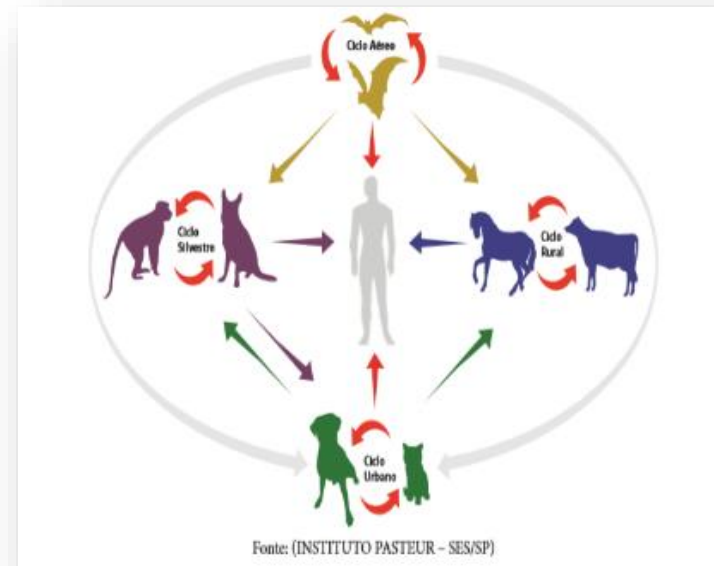
# Spatial Distribution of Rabies Knowledge and Prophylaxis in the Population Served at Basic Health Units

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## INTRODUCTION

Rabies is a generally fatal viral zoonosis characterized by neurological signs such as aggression and paralysis. Transmitted mainly by dog/canine bites, the disease is responsible for around 59,000 deaths annually, with 40% of victims being children. Organizations such as the World Health Organization seek to eliminate it by 2030, focusing on animal vaccination and control of wild mammals. In Brazil, rabies is endemic, with emphasis on the role of bats in transmission. Animal immunization and human prophylaxis are essential for control (Ito et al., 2001).



## METHODS

This was a quantitative and descriptive non-experimental research with a cross-sectional design.

Adapted questionnaire – Zoonosis

Questionnaire administered randomly n= 400

Self-answered by participant

Research Ethics Committee n 3401.325

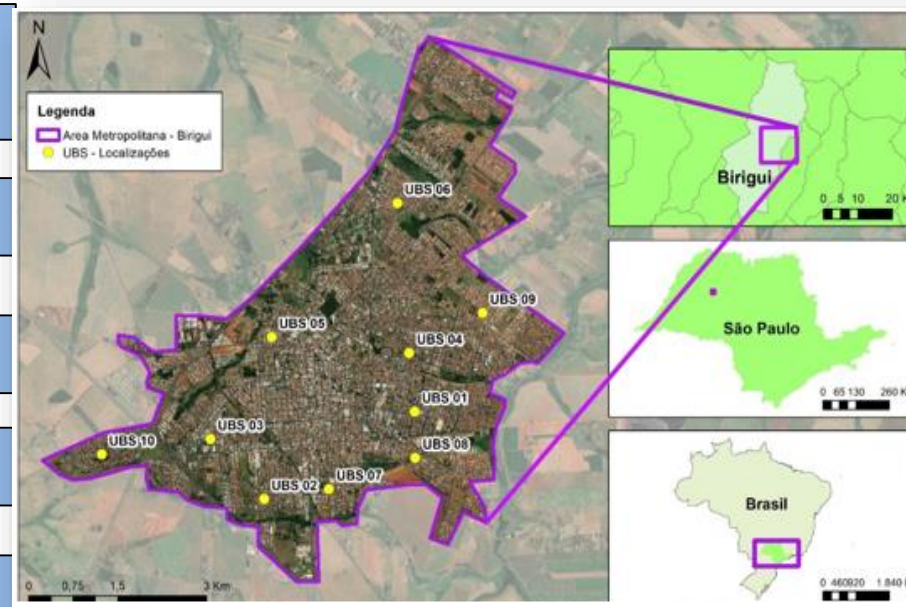


Fig 1 Localización Birigui- São Paulo state

## RESULTS

74.25% (n=297) of the participants were female, the disease. Clusters with 44% (n=176) were between 31-50 years of age, and 67% (n=268) of the population correctly identified the animals that transmit the disease. Among those interviewed, 61% (n=244) identified the urban, aerial, wild and rural cycles of rabies. As for the infectious agent, 75.75% (n=303) correctly indicated the virus, and 67% (n= 268) indicated dogs, cats, bats and cattle as transmitters of the disease. Higher densities of knowledge and practices were identified in central UBS as well as the most vulnerable, which were UBS in peripheral regions.

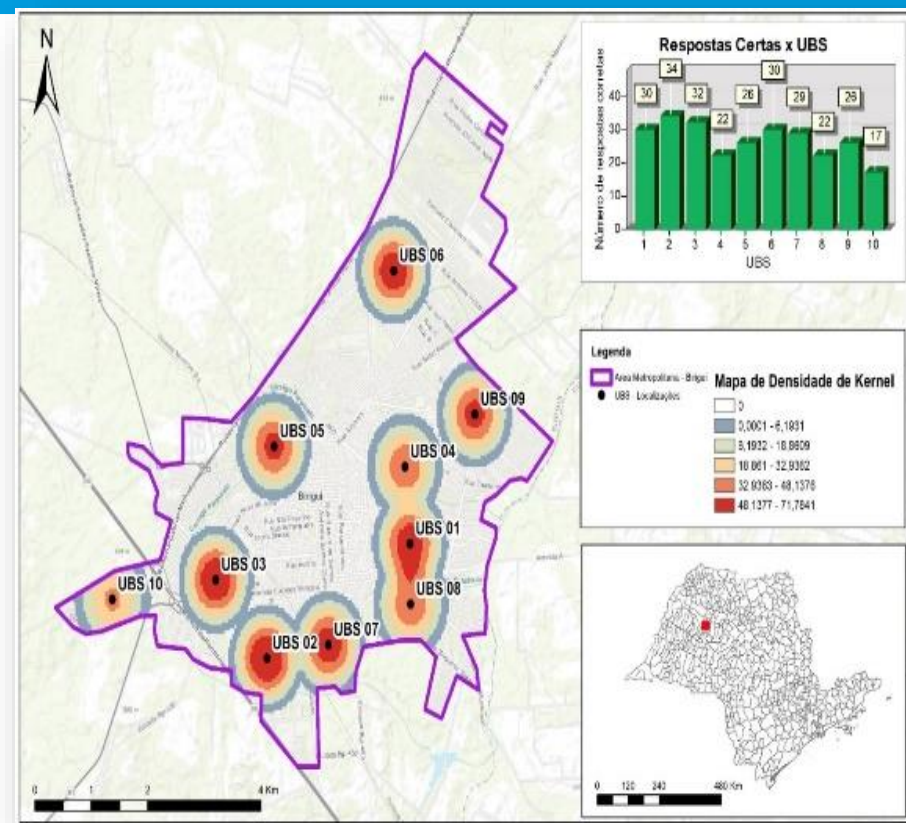


Fig 2- Spatial distribution of the number of hits according to rabies-transmitting animal according to the UBSs. Kernel density map,

## CONCLUSION

There was a spatial pattern among the populations served by the UBS analyzed, where it was found that those that had better prevention practices regarding zoonosis also maintained the highest levels of education and correct answers regarding the epidemiological aspects of rabies, these were UBS located in urban central area regions. On the other hand, the UBS that were located in peripheral regions and that had lower numbers of correct answers remained in the group of the most vulnerable populations in the study under the other variables analyzed.

References: Ito M, Arai YT, Itou T, Sakai T, Ito FH, Takasaki T, et al. Genetic characterization and geographic distribution of rabies virus isolates in Brazil: Identification of two reservoirs, dogs and vampire bats. *Virology*. 2001;284(2):214–22.

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