



Familiarizing yourself with the basic normal vital signs of your pet will help you to identify health problems quicker and prevent possible emergencies. When possible, seeing your vet at the first sign of an illness can have a better prognosis, and might end up being a less expensive visit than waiting too long and it ends up becoming an emergency.

Normal rates are when your animal is resting, but any pain, stress, or injury can cause them to increase.

Dogs

Temperature: 38.0 °C - 39.2 °C (100.5 °F - 102.5 °F)

Respiratory rate: 10 - 24 breaths per minute

Cardiac rate: 60 - 100 beats per minute in large breeds
100 - 140 beats per minute in small breeds

A dog that is in pain, having heart or respiratory problems, suffering from heat stroke, is stressed or excited will have a higher respiratory rate.

Up to 1 year old, a puppies' heart rate can be as high as 180 beats per minute.

