Pawtucket Pit Bull Bites Pre- and During Ban Years

These graphic charts created by DogsBite.org display the radical reduction of pit bull bites in Pawtucket after ban enforcement began, versus national statistics of severe bodily injury attacks inflicted by pit bulls collected by Animals 24-7 over a similar time period. Table 2 is based on "Pit bull & pit mix trends, 1982-present," a subsection of: Dog attack deaths and maimings, U.S. & Canada September 1982 to September 13, 2013, by Merritt Clifton, editor of Animals 24-7.

In 2013, state legislators adopted a preemption law that bars municipalities from enacting breed-specific laws. During the years of the ban (2004 to 2013) there was an average of 2.3 pit bull bites annually. That increased over a 10-fold to 23.2 bites annually by 2019, greater than even the pre-ban years.