

National Pet Alliance's  
Survey Report on

# Santa Clara County's Pet Population

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## Summary

*In August 1993, National Pet Alliance sponsored a scientific survey of pet ownership in Santa Clara County. While questions were asked regarding dogs and their owners, the majority of questions related to cats—because four times more cats are euthanized in our shelters than dogs. We wanted to see if we could determine why.*

*Our survey discovered:*

*The vast majority of owned cats, 86%, are already altered. Another 6% of owned cats are too young to be altered. Only 4% of the owned cat population is female, unspayed and old enough to have kittens. Education as to the importance of altering pet animals has obviously been effective in our community.*

*We found 16% of the currently spayed females had a litter of kittens prior to their being altered. Most of these were accidents, often because the owner was not aware young cats can become pregnant. Also, HALF of the females that had a litter before they were spayed were cats adopted as strays—often already pregnant. Only SIX of the cats in this group were allowed to have kittens on purpose.*

*Most people received their pet cats as gifts from friends, or adopted a stray off of the street. Only 3% of all owned cats came from breeders, and these cats were much MORE likely to be indoor-only pets, and so much LESS likely to become accidentally pregnant or stray.*

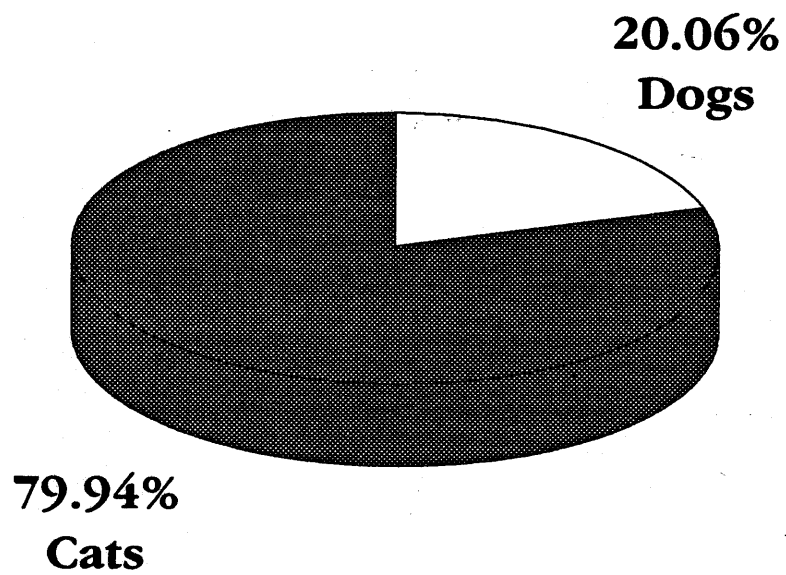
*Unowned cats constitute a whopping 41% (minimum) of the known cat population. 10% of all Santa Clara County households feed stray cats.*

*Only half of one percent of owned cats disappear, with no indication as to their fate. Through statistical projections, the number of owned, stray and DOA animals handled by Animal Control is only 8.5% of ALL stray and DOA cats handled by Animal Control.*

*Further information (not from our survey) reveals national numbers of animals being euthanized has dropped dramatically over the last decade. Santa Clara County Animal Control reports a drop of almost 10,000 cats handled from FY92 to FY93. While at first glance, one could assume this is due to cutbacks in services, there is a one-third drop in the number of cats being owner surrendered!*

*Our community should be proud of the high number of responsible cat owners who have their animals altered. Clearly the main cat population in question is unowned cats. Any proposal which purports to reduce the number of animals being euthanized at the shelter MUST address this issue, or it will fail in its efforts.*

### **Cats Vs Dogs Euthanized in Santa Clara County 1992**



## Introduction

In the past years, proposals to reduce the numbers of animals euthanized at animal shelters have been made at all levels of government throughout the country. These proposals claim to solve "the problem."

However, a problem cannot be solved until that problem is DEFINED. In this case, it first needs to be determined if the number of animals being euthanized, under the current system, is remaining static, increasing or decreasing. This information is available from national and local authorities.

Once that information is analyzed, it is then necessary to determine the source of the animals entering the shelters and being euthanized. Differentiations between dog and cat populations must be considered, since cats as a species have unique traits, and cannot be considered as simply small dogs! Specific questions need to be answered regarding pet ownership in our communities, to gain insight into regional trends. Once this is done, then the problem can be assessed and appropriately targeted solutions can be formed.

Up until now, though, these essential questions have not been asked. And up until now, any recommendations and proposals, no matter how well-meaning, were simply guesswork guided by peoples' emotions and beliefs—not hard data.

Certainly, people's beliefs about animals, and animals being euthanized in the shelters, are highly charged, highly emotional issues. Media seize upon the sensational images of animals behind bars, animals being euthanized, barrels of dead animals, serving to fan these emotional fires. Thoughtful questions regarding pet ownership aren't nearly as exciting for the nightly news!

Sadly, hastily enacted proposals, based on emotions, can actually cause harm to the very animals they seek to protect. Good, well-directed, enforceable proposals cannot be based on knee-jerk reactions; they require a firm knowledge of community and facts.

## PART ONE--ARE EUTHANASIAS GOING UP OR DOWN?

### National trends

In the late 1980's, nationwide reports of euthanasias

were estimated to be in the range of 20 million annually. In 1991, the estimate was 13 million. Current projections put the number of animals euthanized somewhere between 5 and 8 million. These reports are from the Humane Society of the United States, but there is a recent Tufts University study that puts current projections at about 3.5 million. By any method of calculation there is a tremendous drop in animal euthanasias.

### Locally

According to the Santa Clara Valley Humane Society (SCVHS) and the Santa Clara County Animal Shelter (SCCAS) figures, the number of cats and dogs euthanized in our county has remained fairly steady over the past eight years—approximately 32,000.

However, the number of animals surrendered to be euthanized by their owners has increased 300% over the same time period, and was 4,748 for fiscal year 1992 (FY 92). If the total number of animals euthanized has remained constant, but the portion of owner surrendered animals is dramatically increasing, then the number of animals being euthanized for *other* reasons must be decreasing.

Also, during the past eight years, while the number of animals being euthanized in SCC is remaining constant, the human population has been steadily increasing. Figure one shows the population of San Jose from 1985 to 1992, versus the *total* number of animals *handled* at the shelter.

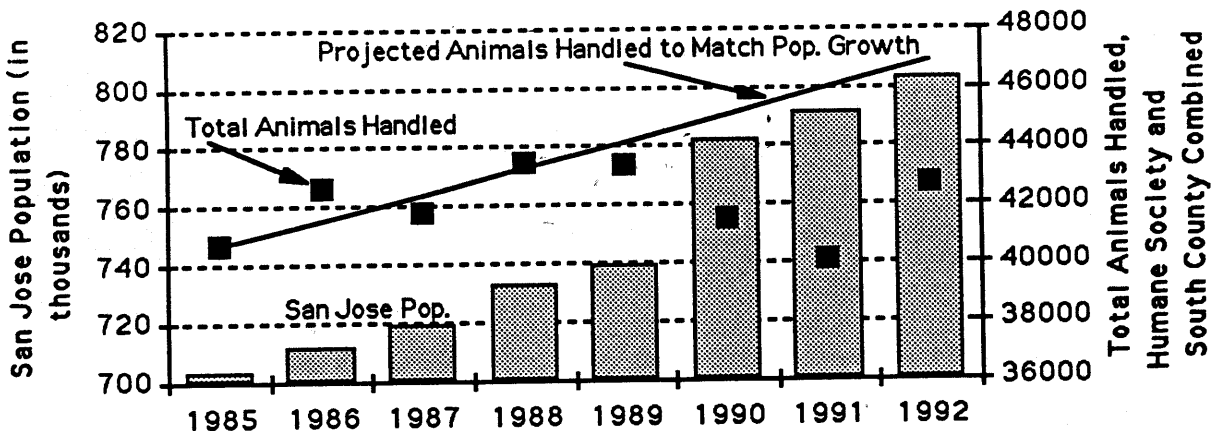
The number of cats entering the shelter far surpasses the number of dogs. Euthanasias for cats in FY93 was 14,207 versus 3,564 for dogs. Unfortunately, the SCVHS has not provided the data on the number of cats euthanized simply because they are underage kittens—an automatic death sentence which no ordinance will solve.

Recently released figures from Animal Control (AC) show a FY93 total of 17,771 animals euthanized. This is a drop of close to 10,000 in ONE YEAR!

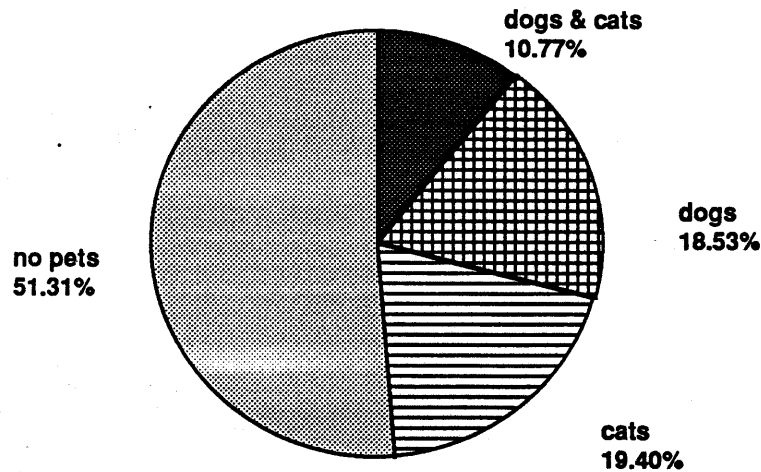
Why such a drop? The most obvious reason is AC ceased picking up stray animals halfway through the fiscal year due to drastic funding cutbacks.

But, that is not the entire story. The number of animals surrendered by *citizens* decreased by 3,578 last year. Are more people keeping animals they would have

Figure 1: San Jose Pop. vs. Animals Handled



**FIGURE 2: PET OWNERSHIP IN HOUSEHOLDS**



normally turned in to AC, or are more people deciding to dump these animals on country roads rather than taking them to the shelters? Will we see an explosion of litters of stray animals which will be the product of these roadside abandoned animals?

#### Conclusions

National trends show a dramatic drop in the number of animals being euthanized in shelters.

Locally, even while the number of animals euthanized have remained constant, the source of the animals has changed dramatically. The number of animals being owner-surrendered has increased 300% over the past eight years. And while the local human population has grown considerably, again, the number of animals euthanized has stayed fairly constant.

These figures indicate rather good news. While animals are still being euthanized, it is not the explosive, upward spiraling problem we have been led to believe. Something is working. Education to the importance of spay and neuter cannot be overlooked as a possible cause.

The dramatic drop of animals handled by AC last year can be directly linked to the reduction of services, but cannot be entirely explained by that situation. There is concern as to whether "bad press" regarding the shelters' services is causing people to abandon animals. Also, the sensational media coverage of animals being euthanized on television, and photos of barrels of dead cats, may also be scaring the public away from the shelters.

## PART TWO -- RESULTS OF THE NPA SURVEY

#### Introduction

National Pet Alliance (NPA), a San Jose based, non-profit organization of cat and dog fanciers and owners, decided to determine the nature of the pet ownership in Santa Clara County.

One purpose of the survey was to try to determine the

number of UNOWNED cats in the county. The survey concentrated on cats because, as stated above, cats are euthanized at the shelters in much greater numbers than dogs.

In addition, this survey was to determine various aspects of pet ownership in Santa Clara County. Questions were asked regarding number and type of animals owned, if these pets were altered, where the pets came from, and several other related questions. Survey respondents were also asked if they owned or rented their homes, to see if there was any relationship between home ownership and pet ownership.

The details of the methodology of this survey appears at the end of this report. A sample questionnaire also is included at the end of this report. Briefly, the survey was conducted by the independent firm of Nichols Research (Sunnyvale) during the months of August and September 1993. 1031 households were surveyed. This includes households that do not own any pets. All areas of Santa Clara County were surveyed, with the exception of Palo Alto. Palo Alto was not included because the survey needed to be compared with the numbers obtained from Santa Clara Valley Humane Society. Palo Alto operates its own shelter.

#### Who owns what in Santa Clara County?

Figure 2 shows the breakdown of households which own no pets, own cats, own dogs, or own both cats and dogs.

Of the households which own cats, there is an average of 1.7 cats. Of the households which own dogs, the average is 1.3 dogs.

However, another question asked how many households fed cats they did not own. 103 households (49 of this 103 owned no pets) fed an additional 351 cats.

#### Purebred cats or domestic variety?

Only 10.7% of the cat owning households claim to own purebred cats. We emphasize the word "claim" because it is sometimes difficult for people who are not

experts to accurately identify an animal as purebred. Some people mistakenly believe any cat with long hair must be a Persian, any cat with "points" is Siamese, and big, furry tabbies are Maine Coon Cats! Purebred cats have very specific characteristics, come from breeding programs, and can be registered with various registering bodies, such as the Cat Fanciers' Association.

When we further examine where people obtained their "purebreds" further doubt is raised that all of the cats claimed are truly purebred. Of the purebreds, 47.3% were either found or had been given to them! Only SIXTEEN purebred cats came from breeders, and seven came from pet stores.

Perhaps, in hindsight, a question could have been asked if the purebred was or could have been registered. But even with this gray area, the highest possible number of purebreds is only 10.7% of all owned cats!

With only 3.1% of the entire cat sample coming from breeders, this clearly points out that cat breeders are not creating an over-population problem, nor are they over-represented at the shelters.

Furthermore, 81.3% of the breeder obtained purebreds were indoor only pets, as opposed to 33.3 % of all the cats in the survey. (See Figure 3.) Indoor-only cats are less likely to become strays. Therefore there should be extremely few contacts between the shelters and breeder obtained purebreds due to this factor alone.

#### Where do Santa Clara residents get their cats?

Over 65% of the households obtained their cats either as "gifts" from family, friends, neighbors, etc. OR, one day they opened their front door to find a cat!

Again, only 3.1% of the entire cat sample came from

breeders.

Other sources of cats included pet stores, Animal Control or the Humane Society, from vets, in front of a store, or as a response to an ad in the paper. Figure 4 shows the percentages for each.

#### Are owned cats spayed or neutered?

Resoundingly, the answer is, YES!! People are altering their cats. 86.2% of all owned cats are already altered! Of the remaining 13.7% which are not altered, 5.8% of them are too young and the owner intends on altering. Furthermore, less than 4% of the owned cats were unaltered females old enough to reproduce.

Even the most negative nay-sayer must admit that having an 86% rate of altered pets, in this large community, is tremendously positive. We should be very proud of our community. And, it is obvious from this number that education DOES work.

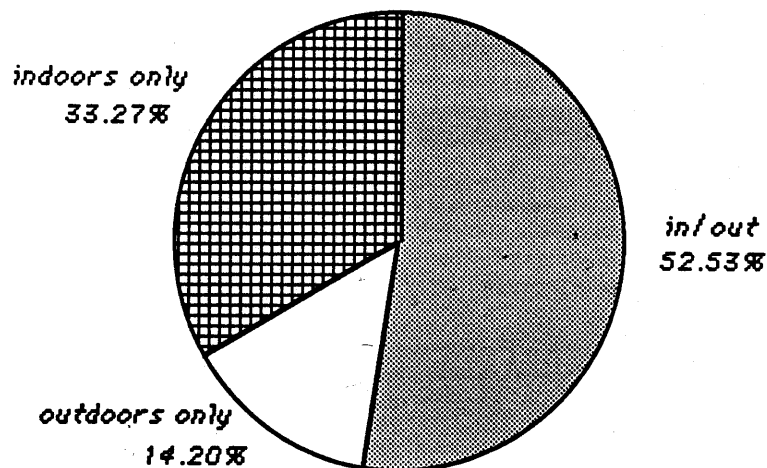
Figure 5 shows the number of owned cats altered, and if they are not altered, the reasons given.

#### The "Oops" factor

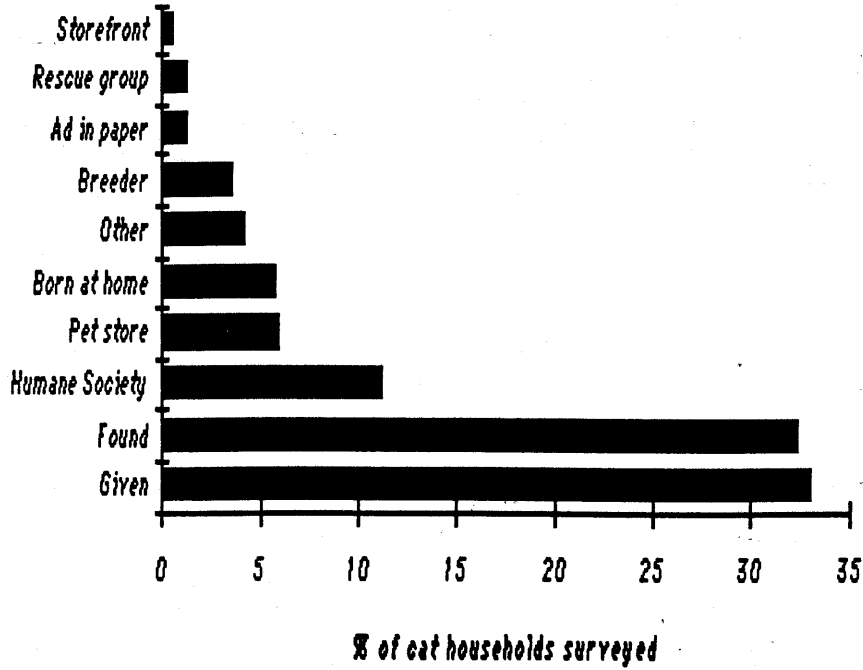
While the NPA survey discovered that 86.2% of owned cats are altered, it was also discovered that 16.3% of the owned, altered cats had a litter of kittens before they were spayed. Far and away the leading cause of this was the "Oops" factor. The survey respondent indicated that "Oops, I didn't realize the cat could get pregnant so young," or "Oops, I didn't realize the cat was in heat and she went outside."

Figure 6 shows the reasons given for 16.3% of all owned, altered females having had a litter before they were altered. As shown, the two major reasons were either some variation of the "Oops" factor, or a previously unowned cat

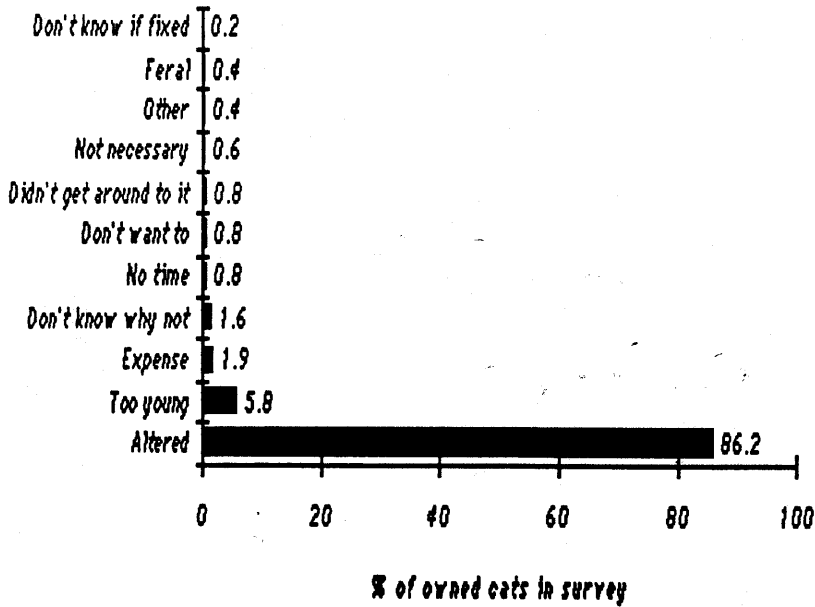
**FIGURE 3: INDOOR VS. OUTDOOR CATS**



**FIGURE 4: WHERE PEOPLE GET THEIR PET CATS**



**FIGURE 5: ALTERED VS. UNALTERED CATS**



showed up pregnant on someone's doorstep, and the household took the cat in as a new pet.

The people whose cats had litters prior to spaying are not the chronic, socially irresponsible, evil people as are often portrayed. These litters were, for the most part, accidents. And this survey showed 50% of the litters born to females that later were spayed, were born to cats adopted "off of the street", often already pregnant. Legislation is not going to prevent either of these incidents from happening.

While education as to the importance of neutering pets not in planned breeding programs is obviously sinking in, there does appear to be a need for further education as to the importance of not putting off the surgery. People need to learn that, yes, a six-month old kitten can and will get pregnant, especially if that kitten is born in the summer. January and February are the times when cats start their heat cycles.

There has been some exciting strides in the veterinary community in the past few years regarding the spaying and neutering of animals at VERY young ages, and this issue bears further examination.

Only SIX cats in the survey were allowed to have kittens on purpose.

#### Owned pet population of Santa Clara County

Santa Clara County has 495,480 households (not counting the 24,700 households in Palo Alto). With 30.16% of the surveyed households owning 1.65 cats, the projected number of owned cats is 246,571.

Similarly, 29.29% of the households owned 1.34

dogs, for a projected total of 194,636 dogs.

#### If you are an owned cat, you live with a home owner

If you own a cat, you are most likely a home owner. 74% of our county's cat owners own their own home (which includes condos, mobile homes and townhouses). Whereas only 59% of the overall population are homeowners.

Only 7.4% of cat owners rent apartments. It is generally recognized that cats are "easier" apartment pets than dogs, and the survey bore that out, with only 3.2% of dog owners living in rented apartments.

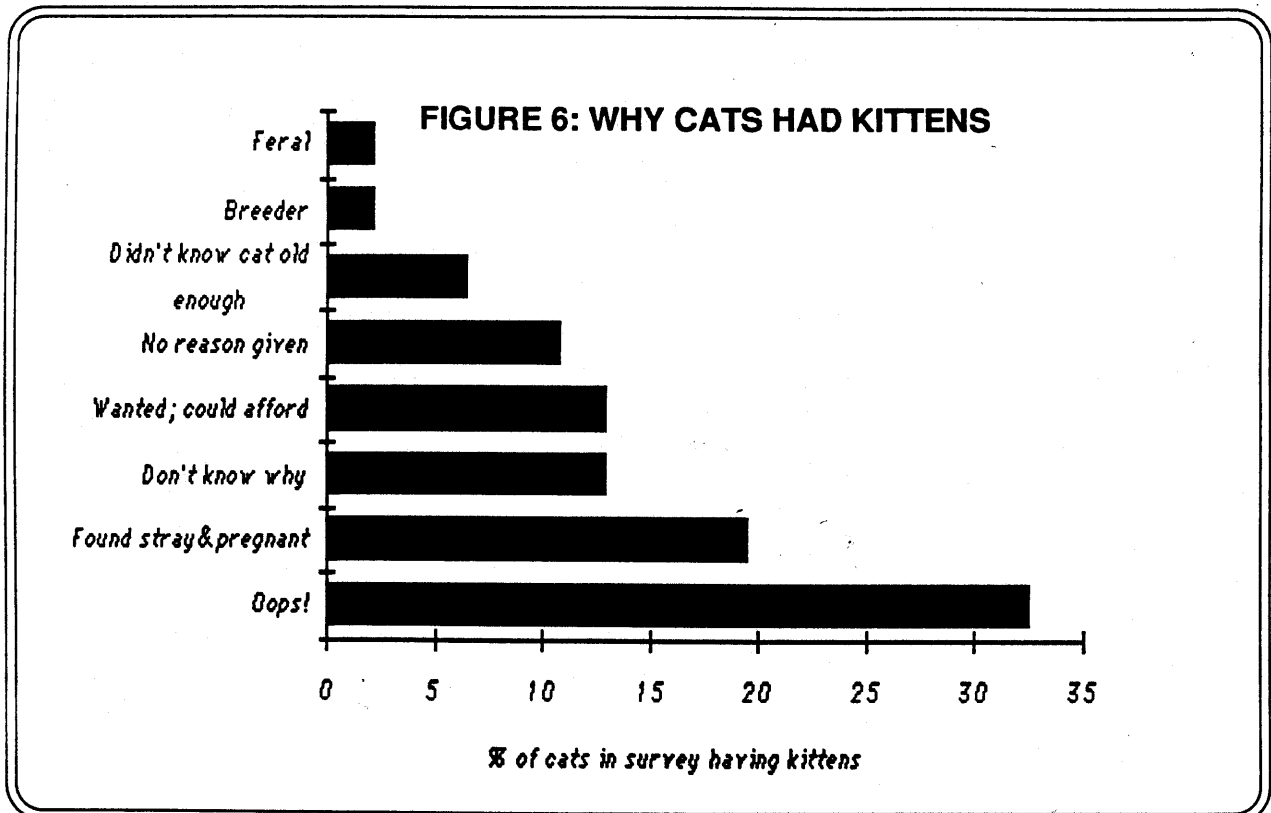
One method of getting more cats adopted out of the shelter is to open up more prospective homes. Making it easier for renters to own a small pet would do this. However, landlords must be comfortable that pet-owning tenants won't ruin the property.

The San Francisco SPCA has an innovative program, called The Open Door, which provides bonds against damages to landlords of tenants who adopt pets from the SPCA. When we last checked with the SFSPCA, they had yet to make a single payment for damages!

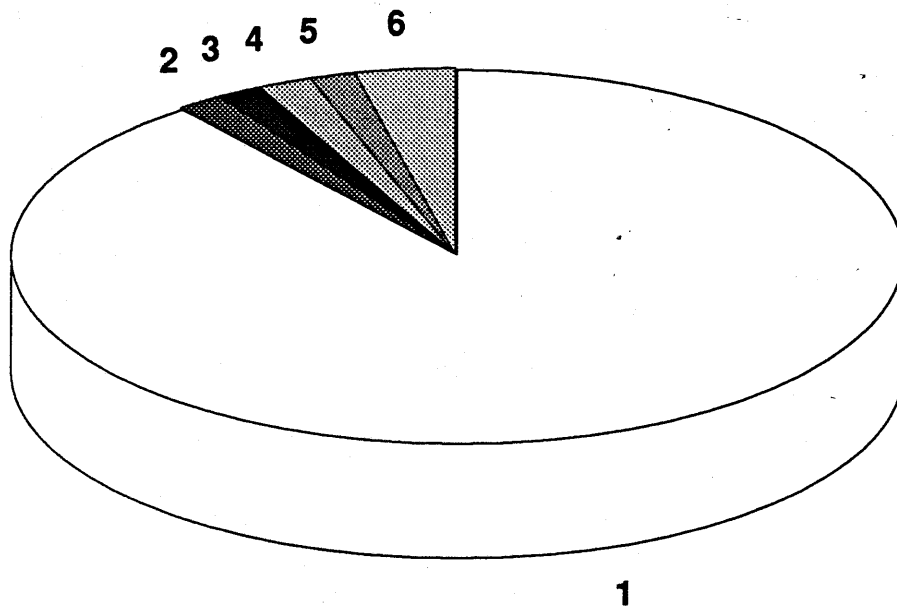
#### Owned cats at the shelters

NPA survey respondents were asked if their owned cats had disappeared for 24 hours or more over the last year. 57 of the cats had done just that, but the good news is that 51 of these returned on their own.

10 of the owners of the 57 missing cats checked with the shelter. Of the 6 cats which did not come back on their own: 1 was redeemed at Animal Control; 1 was found



## What Happened to Owned Cats Which Disappeared for 24 Hours or More



- 1 - 89.4% RETURNED ON THEIR OWN**
- 2 - 1.75% REDEEMED FROM ANIMAL CONTROL**
- 3 - 1.75% FOUND DEAD**
- 4 - 1.75% RETURNED TO OLD HOME**
- 5 - 1.75% DID NOT ANSWER QUESTION**
- 6 - 3.51% NEVER RETURNED**

dead; 1 returned to a previous home; 2 never showed up; and one respondent had no answer.

One of the owners of one of the two cats which never showed up did call AC. With one cat which was redeemed from animal control, we have a total of 3 cats in our sample which either were handled by, or could have been handled by AC.

Projecting these numbers out to the owned cat population, .58% of owned cats (1421 cats) should be, or could be, handled by AC annually. Of these cats, two-thirds of their owners should check with AC to recover their lost cats.

Due to the extremely low number of owned cats which disappear, never to be seen again, we project that only 8.46% of the stray and DOA cats handled by AC are owned cats.  $(4,576 \text{ DOA} + 12,220 \text{ strays} = 16,796. 1,421 \text{ owned cats} / 16,796 = 8.46\%)$

### Estimation of the unowned cat population

103 households fed cats they did not own. Some of these good Samaritans owned animals and some did not. These 103 households fed a total of 351 stray cats. So, an average household that feeds strays feeds 3.4 of them. 103 households was 10% of all households surveyed.

Projecting 49,548 Santa Clara County household feeding strays, the KNOWN stray population will be 168,463. The total owned population is 246,571. The total known cat population, including fed strays is 415,034.

FED STRAYS ARE 40.6% OF THE TOTAL KNOWN CAT POPULATION.

Common sense would also lead one to believe that this is the LOW END figure of stray cats, as there are any number of feral cats not being fed.

## DISCUSSION

The previous pages indicate just a portion of the information which can be gleaned from the National Pet Alliance survey. For the sake of brevity, we have concentrated on the most important aspects of the study.

Before a reasonable solution to a problem can be determined, first the problem must be defined. Cries of, "Huge numbers of animals are being killed in our shelters, and something must be done!" are emotionally stimulating but do not serve to solve anything. Specific questions need to be asked, and answers analyzed.

First, we must look at the assertion "huge numbers of animals are being killed in our shelters." Are they? Well, yes AND no. National figures (from the Humane Society of the United States) show that euthanasias have dramatically decreased in the last decade. Locally, while the human population of just the City of San Jose has grown by over 100,000, the number of animals euthanized in our shelters has remained fairly steady. The number of owner surrendered animals has risen by 300% over the last eight years.

While animals are being euthanized at our shelters, it is not in the out-of-control, upward spiral we have been lead to believe.

The "problem" now can be better stated as: We would like to further reduce the numbers of animals being euthanized at our shelters. Now we need to look to "how to do this?"

Our survey discovered Santa Clara County cat owners are very responsible. 86% of all owned cats are neutered! Furthermore, less than 4% of the owned cats were unaltered females old enough to reproduce. Clearly the message that pet cats, not in a planned breeding program, need to be altered has taken hold.

In the past few years, we have heard that "education just isn't working"! Now we know that for the false statement it is. Of course education works! That doesn't mean we should now be complacent. Our community should continue the message. Additionally, this study indicates a need for more education when it comes to letting people know YOUNG animals can get pregnant.

Proposals with fines and licensing aimed at the irresponsible pet owner are not appropriate in our community. No legislation is able to prevent the accidental litters which happen to otherwise responsible cat owners.

With only 3.1% of all the owned cats coming from breeders (people actually breeding their cats on purpose, usually in a purebred breeding program), it is obvious that claims that the "breeders" are to blame is just not true. In fact, 81% of breeder obtained cats are strictly indoor-only pets, and these are MUCH less likely to get pregnant accidentally by the "Oops" factor, and they are MUCH less likely to wind up at Animal Control. Again, common sense would bear this out, as one simply does not see the hills and the alleys teaming with packs of Persians and Abyssinian cats!

What you DO see is 10% of Santa Clara County households feeding several cats they don't own. These unowned cats account for a MINIMUM 41% of the ENTIRE known cat population of Santa Clara County.

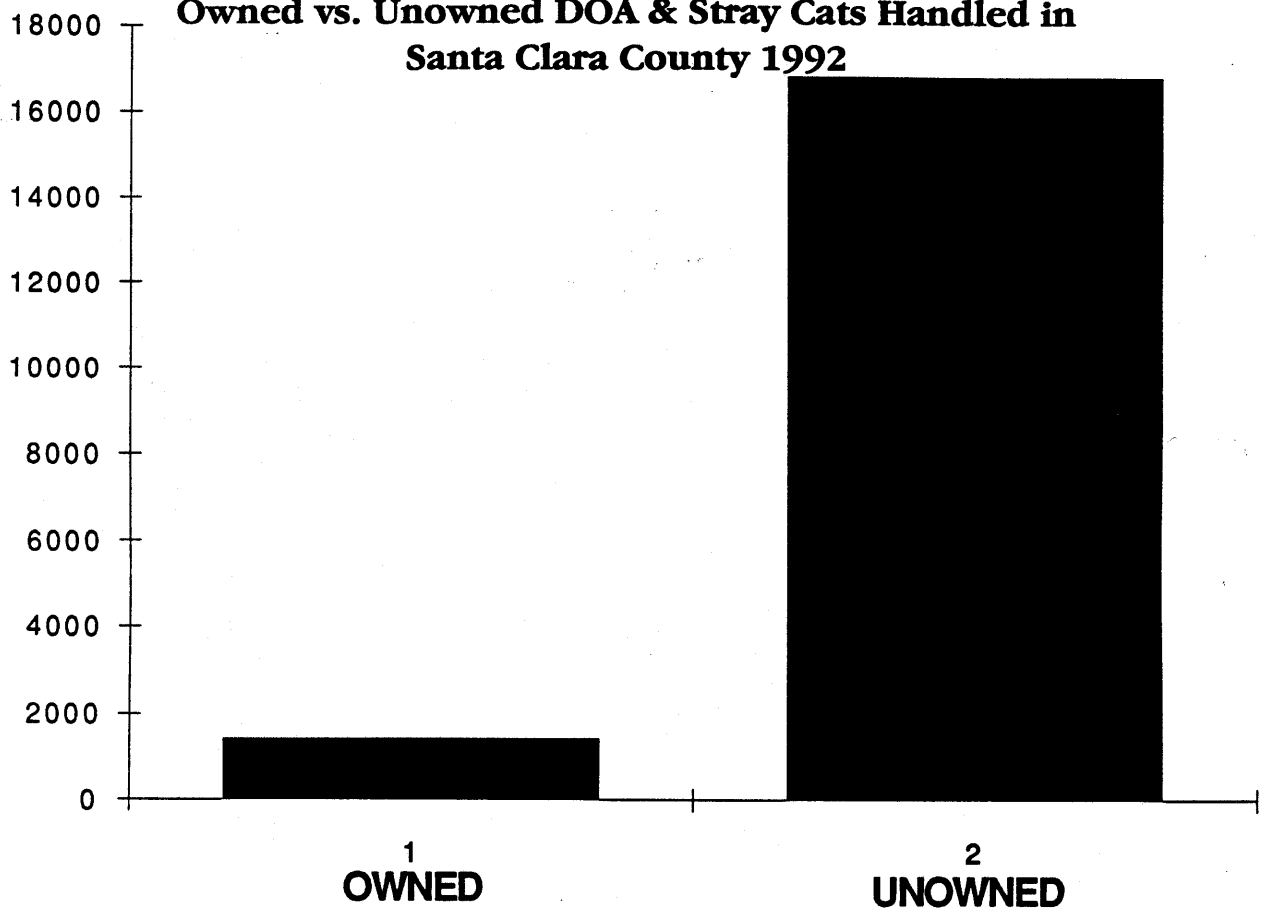
Unowned cats do not get themselves neutered. Unowned cats do not buy licenses. When the vast number of known unowned cats is analyzed against the large number of altered owned pets, it becomes clear that the unowned cat population is THE "problem" in our County. Any proposal which ignores this huge cat population is doomed to failure.

Unowned cats are just that, unowned. They are a community problem. A "solution" which puts the burden of the unowned cat population only on responsible cat and dog owners is unfair.

We live in a unique part of the country, with very special, creative citizens. This survey doesn't pretend to have asked and answered ALL of the issues surrounding domestic animals and their interactions with humans. But we have uncovered some heretofore unknown, and frankly exciting information. It is time for us to come together to find solutions to the proven needs of our community.

The following pages include our recommendations, based on our knowledge of our community and its needs.

**Owned vs. Unowned DOA & Stray Cats Handled in  
Santa Clara County 1992**



## RECOMMENDATIONS

National Pet Alliance has always been in favor of proactive, specific solutions to our community's pet-human interaction. With this survey we can now target specific areas which need the most attention. We can now analyze what is appropriate and what is not. Santa Clara County has a very large unowned cat population. The number of unowned cats amounts to AT LEAST 41% of our total cat population. The solution to reduce the number of these cats entering, and being euthanized at the shelters MUST be addressed.

We recommend a Trap, Test, Vaccinate, Alter and Release (TTVAR) program. There are many such programs operating nationwide. Feral cats are HUMANELY trapped. Cats are checked for any signs of ownership, and barring that are tested for two major diseases of cats—Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV). Both the diseases are infectious, both are fatal, and neither have a cure. Cats testing positive for these diseases are humanely euthanized. Cats testing negative are altered and then released back to where they came from, or if that is deemed unsafe, to a safe area. This is one type of program, there are several variations; one of the more prevalent is where only MALE cats are altered.

Whatever the type of TTVAR program, the long term gain for Animal Control in this valley FAR outweighs the initial costs. Furthermore, with an aggressive TTVAR program, results would be seen in just a few years time.

We do not believe that unowned cats, simply because they have no "human" address, are necessarily a problem. Certainly they can be, but just as often they can be providing a valuable cog in an ecological system. Raccoons and rabbits, for example, also don't have human owners, and we don't find it necessary to kill them for it. This is part of the reason we recommend the "release" part of the TTVAR system.

We believe a TTVAR is a safe, effective, humane and fiscally feasible solution to the unowned cat population.

Every cat, no matter how young, must be altered prior to leaving any animal shelter. This simple step will solve the manpower problems of the follow-up calls to determine if the animal adopted has been altered. This will also prevent the shelters from being unwitting participants in the number of litters produced accidentally (which our survey found to be the main reason owned cats had litters).

Education is clearly one of our best tools. We already have an 86% rate of altered, owned cats! But we can do even better. We need to let people know that young animals can get pregnant. Many people whose animals had litters had planned on having their animal sterilized but it got pregnant before the owners got around to having the surgery.

We recommend the education continuing from the shelters, and also a cooperative education program from our veterinary community. Recent years have shown some amazing progress in the art of sterilizing domestic animals at very young ages.

We recommend a renter-landlord adoption incentive program such as the San Francisco SPCA has instituted. There are a lot of potential homes out there in the rental community. By providing such an open door policy, more animals can be adopted from the shelters.

In these tough fiscal times, when we don't even have enough money for the libraries, it would be fiscally irresponsible to implement a costly, unneeded licensing program. We suggest using the amount of money the city would lose on cat licensing to fund the positive, TTVAR program instead! Furthermore, the vast numbers of unowned cats in our community are everyone's problems, and the funding for handling them should not be placed solely on the responsible pet owners of our community.

We do NOT recommend punitive, coercive, bureaucratic solutions. They do not work and they are not appropriately targeted for our County and City. We recommend positive, community interactive programs!

# **TTVAR**

**TRAP** Unowned stray cats

**TEST** for Feline Leukemia and Feline Aids

**VACCINATE** for common illnesses and rabies

**ALTER** the cat to end their reproductive life

**RELEASE** back to where they were found

**1=5**

**Every female altered will reduce the number of kittens and additional cats handled by animal control by at least 5**

# SAVINGS

**Cost to Alter One Female Cat,  
Vaccinate and Test  
\$100.**

**Cost for Animal Control to  
To Handle her First Litter  
\$230**

**Cost for Animal Control to  
Handle her Second Litter  
\$230.**

**Cost for Animal Control to  
Handle her Third Litter  
(and her 5 Female Off-  
spring's Litters)  
\$1380.**

**\$100 SPENT SAVES \$1740 IN  
COSTS IN LESS THAN 2 YEARS**

## TTVAR

**Trap, Test, Vaccinate, Alter, and Release**

## **Methodology**

Questions asked and methodology for the survey were developed under the guidance of Dr. Roger Nassar, a nationally known statistician, with many published pet population studies to his credit.

The study was targeted to cats because the number of cats euthanized as a percent of total animals euthanized has increased from 53.4% to 80% over the past 8 years in this county. Additionally, in FY93, 4 times as many cats than dogs were euthanized.

Each telephone prefix in Santa Clara County was researched to determine the number of listed residential households within that prefix. The number of survey calls made within each prefix was based on the proportion of households in each prefix, in relation to the number of households in the county. A computer generated list of random telephone numbers was then developed. Using the list of random numbers, the research company was instructed to attempt contact to a specific number of households within each prefix. If contact could not be made, they attempted the phone number at least 4 times before going on to another number on the list. All calls to businesses were disconnected.

7209 Calls were attempted. Contact was made with 2006 households, with 654 refusing to participate and 1352 households completing the survey. Excess calls were made to several prefixes. As a result, 321 completed questionnaires were randomly discarded.

FY 93 ANIMAL STATISTICS  
SANTA CLARA VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

	HUMANE SOCIETY	COUNTY	MOUNTAIN VIEW	TOTALS
TOTAL DOGS DOA	1220	1178	0	2398
TOTAL CATS DOA	2999	1577	0	4576
TOTAL ANIMALS DOA	4219	2755	0	6974
TOTAL QUARANTINED DOGS	98	221	0	319
TOTAL QUARANTINED CATS	159	121	0	280
TOTAL QUARANTINED ANIMALS	257	342	0	599
TOTAL STRAY DOGS	1957	4601	0	6558
TOTAL STRAY CATS	9169	3051	0	12220
TOTAL STRAY ANIMALS	11126	7652	0	18778
TOTAL SURRENDERED DOGS	4107	196	0	4303
TOTAL SURRENDERED CATS	7169	70	0	7239
TOTAL SURRENDERED ANIMALS	11276	266	0	11542
TOTAL INCOMING DOGS W/O DOA	6162	5018	0	11180
TOTAL INCOMING CATS W/O DOA	16497	3242	0	19739
TOTAL INCOMING ANIMALS W/O DOA	22659	8260	0	30919
TOTAL DOGS EUTHANIZED W/O PTS	1663	1857	44	3564
TOTAL CATS EUTHANIZED W/O PTS	11075	3112	20	14207
TOTAL ANIMALS EUTHANIZED W/O PTS	12738	4969	64	17771
TOTAL DOGS PTS-OR	1569	0	0	1569
TOTAL CATS PTS-OR	2044	0	0	2044
TOTAL ANIMALS PTS-OR	3613	0	0	3613
TOTAL DOGS RECLAIMED	574	1862	14	2450
TOTAL CATS RECLAIMED	310	77	0	387
TOTAL ANIMALS RECLAIMED	884	1939	14	2837
TOTAL DOGS ADOPTED	2363	1215	27	3605
TOTAL CATS ADOPTED	2998	133	1	3132
TOTAL ANIMALS ADOPTED	5361	1348	28	6737
TOTAL OUTGOING DOGS	6169	4934	85	11044
TOTAL OUTGOING CATS	16427	3322	21	19552
TOTAL OUTGOING ANIMALS	22596	8256	106	30958
DOGS ON HAND	702	947	0	1649
CATS ON HAND	1837	387	0	2224
DOGS DIED IN CAGE	4	3		7
CATS DIED IN CAGE	16	10		26
DOGS MISSING	3	7		10
CATS MISSING	14	5		19

FIGURES INCLUDE SPECIAL HOLD/POLICE IMPOUNDS  
FIGURES INCLUDE PREVIOUS MONTH'S DISPOSITIONS.

## Santa Clara County Report on Pet Population

### Raw Numbers from Phone Survey

11/4/93

1. Dogs 405/302 Households
  2. Cats 233 Male  
281 Female=514/311 Households
  3. Strays 351/103 Households
  4. Domestic Cats 450  
Purebred 55  
Don't Know 9
  5. Indoor Only-171  
Outdoor Only 72  
Indoor/Outdoor 270  
No Answer 1
  6. Ages of Cats  
<4 mos-17  
>4<1 year-52  
1-5 years-175  
5-10 years-167  
Over 10 yrs-77  
Don't know-26
  7. How cat obtained  
Found-167  
Born at home-30  
Given by friend/relative-170  
Pet store-31  
Breeder-19  
Rescue-7  
AnimControl-58  
Ad in paper-7  
In front of store-3  
Other-22 (mostly vets)
  8. How long cat owned  
<4mos-37  
>4mos<1 yr-57  
1-5 yr-184  
5-10 yr-163  
>10 year-65  
Don't know-8
  9. Cat Altered  
Yes-443  
No-70
  10. Female had litter before spay-46
- 9B. Why cat had litter  
Oops-15  
Feral-1  
Breeder-1  
Wanted-6  
Don't know why-6  
Found stray & PG-9  
Didn't know old enough-3  
No answer-5
  - 9C. Reason for not altering  
Too young-30  
Don't want to-4  
Expensive-10  
No time-6  
Other-20
  10. Did cat disappear  
Yes-57  
No-454
  - 10A. Came back-51  
Redeemed from Anim Control-1  
Never came back-2  
Found dead-1  
Other-2
  - 10B. Did you check w/Anim Cntrl  
Yes-10  
No-47  
Number households-1031  
571-Home owners  
146-Home renters  
50-Twnhs/Duplex Owners  
44-Twnhs/Duplex renters  
22-Condo owners  
152-Apt renters  
19-Mblhm Owners  
1-Mblhm renter  
2-Rest home  
6-Other  
17-Refused
- 7209 Calls attempted  
2006 Contacts made  
654 Refused to participate  
1352 Completed survey  
321 Randomly discarded excess calls to certain prefixes

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling from Nichols Research to conduct a quick survey on pets in Santa Clara. We are not selling or soliciting anything. May I ask you some quick questions?

1. How many dogs, if any, do you own? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How many male or female cats, if any, do you own? ( IF MISSING LESS THAN 4 WEEKS, CONSIDER OWNED)  
A) Male \_\_\_\_\_ B) Female \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many additional neighborhood cats do you feed but don't own? (STRAYS) \_\_\_\_\_  
IF NO CATS OWNED, SKIP TO QUESTION #11
4. Please describe your owned cat(s) - how many are: READ LIST  
A) Domestic \_\_\_\_\_ B) Purebred \_\_\_\_\_
5. How many of these cat(s) are kept:  
A) Indoors only \_\_\_\_\_ B) Outdoors only \_\_\_\_\_ C) Indoor/Outdoor \_\_\_\_\_
6. What are the ages of your cat(s) ? DO NOT READ LIST  
A) <4 months \_\_\_\_\_ B) 4 months - 1 year \_\_\_\_\_ C) 1 - 5 years \_\_\_\_\_  
D) 5 to 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ E) Over 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ F) Don't Know \_\_\_\_\_
7. How did you originally obtain the cat(s)? DO NOT READ LIST  
A) Found as a stray \_\_\_\_\_ F. From a rescue group \_\_\_\_\_  
B) Born at my home \_\_\_\_\_ G. From Animal Control/Humane Society \_\_\_\_\_  
C) Given by a friend/relative \_\_\_\_\_ H. Replied to ad in paper \_\_\_\_\_  
D) From a pet store \_\_\_\_\_ I. In front of a store or flea market \_\_\_\_\_  
E) From a breeder \_\_\_\_\_ J. Other \_\_\_\_\_
8. How long have you owned your cat(s)? DO NOT READ LIST - GET ANSWER FOR EACH  
A) <4 months \_\_\_\_\_ B) 4 months - 1 year \_\_\_\_\_ C) 1 - 5 years \_\_\_\_\_  
D) 5 to 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ E) Over 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ F) Don't Know \_\_\_\_\_
9. Have your cat(s) been spayed (F) or neutered (M)?  
A) Yes, Females \_\_\_\_\_ (ASK 9A) B) No, Females \_\_\_\_\_ (ASK 9C)  
C) Yes, Males \_\_\_\_\_ D) No, Males \_\_\_\_\_ (ASK 9C)  
  
9A: How many females had a litter prior to being spayed? \_\_\_\_\_ (IF ANY DID ASK 9B)  
9B: Why did they have a litter? \_\_\_\_\_  
9C: What was the reason for not altering your \_\_\_\_\_ cat(s) INDICATE M OR F NEXT TO EACH NUMBER  
A) Too Young \_\_\_\_\_ D) Expensive \_\_\_\_\_  
B) Used as a breeder \_\_\_\_\_ E) Not Necessary (Kept indoors) \_\_\_\_\_  
C) Don't want to \_\_\_\_\_ F) Other \_\_\_\_\_
10. For the period July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1993 did any cat(s) you own disappear for 24 hours or more?  
A) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (ASK 10A & 10B) B) No \_\_\_\_\_ (SKIP TO QUESTION #11)  
  
10A: What happened to the cat(s)?  
A) Came back on own \_\_\_\_\_ D) Never came back \_\_\_\_\_  
B) Returned due to ad or flyer \_\_\_\_\_ E) Found dead \_\_\_\_\_  
C) Redeemed from An Control/Hum Soc \_\_\_\_\_ F) Other \_\_\_\_\_
- 10B: Did you check with Animal Control or the Humane Society for your missing cat(s)?  
A) Yes \_\_\_\_\_ B) No \_\_\_\_\_
11. Please tell me the number of persons in your household: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Is that an apartment, home, duplex or townhouse? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Are you the: A) Owner \_\_\_\_\_ B) Renter \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your time. May we have your initials or first name for verification reasons only? Thank you.

Have a great day/evening!

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_