

# YouGov Survey: Pets



Sample 1000 U.S. Adult Citizens

Conducted May 6 - 10, 2022

Margin of Error ±3.4%

## 1. Do you have any pets?

Yes ..... 58%  
No ..... 42%

## 2. Do you have a dog?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes ..... 70%  
No ..... 30%

## 3. Do you have a cat?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes ..... 54%  
No ..... 46%

## 4. When you use a pronoun to refer to your pet, do you usually use...

*Asked of people who have a pet*

“It” ..... 7%  
“He or She” ..... 78%  
“They” ..... 6%  
None of the above ..... 5%  
Not sure ..... 4%

## 5. Do you consider your pets to be part of your family?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes ..... 91%  
No ..... 5%  
Not sure ..... 4%

## 6. When you feel bad, how often do you seek comfort from your pet?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Very often ..... 42%  
Somewhat often ..... 35%  
Not very often ..... 12%  
Not often at all ..... 7%  
Not sure ..... 4%

7. Thinking about your dog(s), do you consider yourself to be their...? Select all that apply.

*Asked of people who have a dog*

Parent .....	51%
Friend .....	24%
Best friend .....	33%
Owner .....	32%
Master .....	14%
Roommate .....	6%
Servant .....	5%
Other .....	3%
None of these .....	2%
Not sure .....	4%

8. Thinking about your cat(s), do you consider yourself to be their...? Select all that apply.

*Asked of people who have a cat*

Parent .....	43%
Friend .....	25%
Best friend .....	21%
Owner .....	34%
Master .....	6%
Roommate .....	8%
Servant .....	14%
Other .....	2%
None of these .....	3%
Not sure .....	4%

9. Who is more in charge in your home, the people or the pets?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

People .....	62%
Pets .....	10%
Both are equally in charge .....	25%
Not sure .....	3%

10. Do you ever talk at length to your dog(s)?

*Asked of people who have a dog*

Yes .....	60%
No .....	32%
Not sure .....	8%

11. Do you ever talk at length to your cat(s)?

*Asked of people who have a cat*

Yes .....	52%
No .....	40%
Not sure .....	8%

## 12. Have you ever hired a professional trainer for any of your pets?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes, I have .....	15%
No, I have not .....	81%
Not sure .....	3%

## 13. Do you feel anxious leaving your pet or pets home alone during the day?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	40%
No .....	55%
Not sure .....	5%

## 14. Do you have birthday celebrations for any of your pets?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	38%
No .....	58%
Not sure .....	4%

## 15. Do you buy gifts for birthdays or holidays for any of your pets?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	56%
No .....	42%
Not sure .....	3%

## 16. Do you ever dress your pet up for holidays or events?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	24%
No .....	74%
Not sure .....	2%

## 17. Do any of your pets sleep in bed with you?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	60%
No .....	37%
Not sure .....	4%

## 18. Have you ever flown on a plane with your pet?

*Asked of people who have a pet*

Yes .....	14%
No .....	83%
Not sure .....	3%

19. If one of your dogs had a life-threatening ailment, what is the maximum you would be willing to pay to restore their health?

*Asked of people who have a dog*

I wouldn't pay any amount	2%
Around \$20	1%
Around \$50	0%
Around \$100	3%
Around \$250	6%
Around \$500	12%
Around \$1,000	7%
Around \$1,500	4%
Around \$2,000	6%
Around \$3,000	4%
Around \$4,000	2%
Around \$5,000	6%
Around \$6,000	1%
Around \$7,000	1%
Around \$8,000	0%
Around \$9,000	0%
Around \$10,000	3%
More than \$10,000	9%
Not sure	33%

20. If one of your cats had a life-threatening ailment, what is the maximum you would be willing to pay to restore their health?

*Asked of people who have a cat*

I wouldn't pay any amount	3%
Around \$20	1%
Around \$50	1%
Around \$100	4%
Around \$250	5%
Around \$500	17%
Around \$1,000	12%
Around \$1,500	4%
Around \$2,000	6%
Around \$3,000	3%
Around \$4,000	1%
Around \$5,000	6%
Around \$6,000	2%
Around \$7,000	1%
Around \$8,000	0%
Around \$9,000	0%
Around \$10,000	2%
More than \$10,000	5%

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Not sure ..... 26%

**21. Do you think pets are capable of love?**

Yes ..... 83%  
 No ..... 8%  
 Not sure ..... 9%

**22. Do you think any of your dogs love you?**

*Asked of people who have a dog and say pets are capable of love*

Yes ..... 88%  
 No ..... 6%  
 Not sure ..... 6%

**23. Do you think any of your cats love you?**

*Asked of people who have a cat and say pets are capable of love*

Yes ..... 81%  
 No ..... 10%  
 Not sure ..... 10%

**24. Do you think pets can go to heaven?**

Yes ..... 48%  
 No ..... 14%  
 Not sure ..... 22%  
 I don't believe in heaven ..... 15%

**25. Do you think any of your pets will go to heaven?**

*Asked of people who have a pet and say pets can go to heaven*

Yes ..... 95%  
 No ..... 1%  
 Not sure ..... 4%

**26. Please imagine that you are getting a new pet. Where would you MOST prefer to get your new pet from?**

From a pet store ..... 6%  
 From a breeder ..... 11%  
 From an animal shelter or foster agency ..... 42%  
 From a friend or family member ..... 11%  
 From the streets (a stray cat, stray dog, etc.) ..... 7%  
 Other ..... 1%  
 Not sure ..... 13%  
 I would never get a pet ..... 8%

27. Do you think people who dislike animals are less trustworthy or more trustworthy than people who do like animals?

Less trustworthy	40%
Equally as trustworthy	33%
More trustworthy	5%
Not sure	22%

28. How helpful do you think pets can be in comforting people with depression or anxiety?

Very helpful	63%
Somewhat helpful	25%
Not very helpful	3%
Not at all helpful	2%
Not sure	8%

29. Which comes closest to your opinion about how animals are treated under the current legal system?

Animals don't have enough legal rights	34%
Animal rights are good as is	36%
Animals have too many legal rights	8%
Not sure	22%

30. Do you think that current laws on animal cruelty in the U.S. are too strict, or not strict enough?

Too strict	5%
About right	32%
Not strict enough	45%
Not sure	17%

31. When a couple who shares a pet together divorces, should the judge consider the pet's best interests when deciding who gets custody?

Yes	61%
No	12%
Not sure	28%

32. Should a judge ever give a divorcing couple joint custody of a pet, so that each person takes turns looking after the pet?

Yes	41%
No	20%
Not sure	39%

33. Do you think people should be allowed to bring their dogs into offices?

Yes, they should	25%
Yes, but only with service dogs	37%
No	22%
Not sure	16%

34. Do you think people should be allowed to bring their dogs onto airplanes?

Yes, they should	23%
Yes, but only with service dogs	42%
No	19%
Not sure	16%

35. Do you think people should be allowed to bring their dogs into restaurants?

Yes, they should	14%
Yes, but only with service dogs	45%
No	28%
Not sure	12%

36. Do you think people should be allowed to bring their dogs into shopping malls?

Yes, they should	21%
Yes, but only with service dogs	46%
No	20%
Not sure	13%

37. If you're in public and you see someone with a dog on a leash, do you think it's OK to pet the dog, or do you need to ask the owner for permission first?

OK to pet the dog	5%
Should ask for permission	74%
It is not OK to pet the dog no matter what	12%
Not sure	8%

38. If you're walking your dog and it defecates on the sidewalk, do you usually pick it up, or not?  
*Asked of people who have a dog*

Yes	66%
No	4%
I don't walk my dog on sidewalks	28%
Prefer not to say	2%

39. Do you approve or disapprove of cat owners walking their cat outdoors on a leash?

Strongly approve	32%
Somewhat approve	24%
Somewhat disapprove	10%
Strongly disapprove	5%
Not sure	29%

40. Should workplaces that offer bereavement leave (time off following the loss of a family member) extend the leave to employees whose pet has died?

Yes .....	37%
No .....	36%
Not sure .....	27%

41. How do you feel about people giving pets traditionally human names?

All for it .....	28%
OK with it .....	52%
Not a fan .....	9%
Not sure .....	11%

42. Do you think a pet is generally a good or bad gift to give someone?

Good .....	30%
Bad .....	35%
Not sure .....	35%

43. Do you approve or disapprove of people who don't eat meat to feeding their dogs a meat-free diet?

Approve .....	14%
Disapprove .....	36%
No opinion .....	35%
Not sure .....	15%

44. Do you think of yourself as more of a "cat person" or a "dog person"?

Cat person .....	20%
Dog person .....	40%
I like cats and dogs equally .....	31%
I don't like cats or dogs .....	8%

45. When it comes to your personality, do you think you are more like a cat or a dog?

Cat .....	26%
Dog .....	35%
Not like either .....	25%
Not sure .....	15%

46. Do you think pets usually share some of the same personality traits as their owners, or not?

Yes, they do .....	53%
No, they don't .....	18%
Not sure .....	29%



**47. Do you think pets usually share a physical resemblance to their owners, or not?**

Yes, they do .....	23%
No, they don't .....	47%
Not sure .....	31%

**48. To what extent do you think a dog's breed is predictive of their personality?**

Very predictive .....	13%
Somewhat predictive .....	45%
Not very predictive .....	14%
Not at all predictive .....	8%
Not sure .....	20%

**49. Do you think that some breeds of dogs are or are not inherently more dangerous than other breeds?**

Some breeds are inherently more dangerous .....	51%
Some breeds are NOT inherently more dangerous .....	28%
Not sure .....	21%

<b>Interviewing Dates</b>	May 6 - 10, 2022
<b>Target population</b>	U.S. Citizens, aged 18 and over.
<b>Sampling method</b>	Respondents were selected from YouGov's opt-in Internet panel using sample matching. A random sample (stratified by gender, age, race, education, geographic region, and voter registration) was selected from the 2018 American Community Study. Voter registration was imputed from the November 2018 Current Population Survey Registration and Voting Supplement.
<b>Weighting</b>	The sample was weighted based on gender, age, race, education, news interest, and 2020 Presidential vote (or non-vote). The weights range from 0.378 to 4.501, with a mean of one and a standard deviation of 0.466.
<b>Number of respondents</b>	1000
<b>Margin of error</b>	± 3.4% (adjusted for weighting)
<b>Survey mode</b>	Web-based interviews
<b>Questions not reported</b>	70 questions not reported.