



**BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY SURVEY
USA NATIONAL POLL
FIELDED JULY 30 - AUGUST 4, 2023**

N=2012 Registered Voters, MoE $\pm 2.19\%$
1824 cellphone completes | 188 landline completes

INTRODUCTION

Hi, this is _____ and I am calling from Ascend, a survey research company. We are conducting a survey about important issues in your area, and we'd like to hear your opinions. We are not selling anything, and your responses will be kept confidential.

1. What is your opinion on your local animal shelter and the job it's doing?

1.	Very Favorable	28%
2.	Somewhat Favorable	17%
3.	Somewhat Unfavorable	4%
4.	Very Unfavorable	2%
5.	Don't Know / Unsure	50%

2. Which of the following statements best reflects your view of the role of euthanasia or killing in animal shelters?

1.	Animal shelters should only euthanize animals when they are too sick to be treated or too aggressive to be adopted.	64%
2.	Animal shelters should sometimes be allowed to kill otherwise healthy, treatable, or adoptable cats and dogs as a way to control the population of these animals or because the shelter is out of space.	15%
3.	Animal shelters should never be allowed to euthanize or kill an animal in their care.	12%
4.	Unsure	10%

3. Before today, how familiar were you with the term "No-Kill" in relation to animal shelters?

1.	Very familiar	48%
2.	Somewhat familiar	28%
3.	Heard of but not sure what it is.	8%
4.	Not heard of	16%

4. Do you think your local shelter should strive to achieve No-Kill status, which means at least 90% of healthy or treatable dogs and cats that enter the shelter eventually leave alive?

1.	Yes	79%
2.	No	7%
3.	Unsure	14%



5. Do you take care of any of the following types of free-roaming animals that do not belong to you (such as strays, feral or wild animals, etc.)? **CAN SELECT MULTIPLE**

1.	Dogs	13%
2.	Cats	20%
3.	Birds	19%
4.	Other	8%
5.	I do not care for free-roaming animals	54%

6. Which of the following do you do, or provide, for these free-roaming animals? **CAN SELECT MULTIPLE**
IF Q5 ≠ 5

1.	Food/drink	76%
2.	Shelter	16%
3.	Spay/neuter	6%
4.	Other medical attention	3%
5.	Other	5%

7. How familiar are you with the term “Trap-Neuter-Return” in relation to stray and “feral” cats?

1.	Very familiar	33%
2.	Somewhat familiar	28%
3.	Heard of but not sure what it is	11%
4.	Not heard of	28%

8. Trap-Neuter-Return, or TNR, programs control the stray and “feral” cat population by safely trapping, neutering, and then returning the animals to where they were found. These programs are a humane and effective alternative to simple catch-and-kill programs. Would you support or oppose a TNR program in your local community to address the stray and “feral” cat population?

1.	Strongly support	55%
2.	Somewhat support	22%
3.	Somewhat oppose	3%
4.	Strongly oppose	3%
5.	Unsure	18%



9. When you think about how your local animal control agency manages the population of stray and “feral” cats, which ONE of the following factors is most important to you? **SELECT UP TO 2 RESPONSES**
- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 1. | Health/welfare of the cats | 62% |
| 2. | Public health | 36% |
| 3. | Cost to taxpayers | 22% |
| 4. | Addressing nuisance behaviors, such as aggression, spraying, and yowling | 24% |
| 5. | Local environment/conservation concerns | 15% |
| 6. | Property rights | 7% |
| 7. | Other (SPECIFY) | 1% |
10. Assume for the moment that by implementing a Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program, your local shelter could meet the standard for a No-Kill shelter, with at least 90% of healthy and treatable dogs and cats leaving alive. If this were the case, do you believe that your local shelter should implement a TNR program?
- | | | |
|----|--------|-----|
| 1. | Yes | 71% |
| 2. | No | 8% |
| 3. | Unsure | 21% |
11. Last year, 378,000 dogs and cats were killed in animal shelters across the United States. Nearly three-fourths of all shelters in the U.S. are controlled directly or indirectly by local governments, costing taxpayers tens of millions of dollars per year. Do you agree or disagree that the catching-and-killing of dogs and cats is a good use of those tax dollars?
- | | | |
|----|----------|-----|
| 1. | Agree | 17% |
| 2. | Disagree | 56% |
| 3. | Unsure | 26% |
12. How likely would you be to vote for candidates for local office that support policies that reduce the number of healthy or treatable dogs and cats that are killed in area shelters?
- | | | |
|----|----------------------|-----|
| 1. | Much more likely | 34% |
| 2. | Somewhat more likely | 25% |
| 3. | Somewhat less likely | 4% |
| 4. | Much less likely | 8% |
| 5. | No Impact | 18% |
| 6. | Unsure | 11% |



DEMOGRAPHICS

Now, we just have a few more questions for demographic purposes...

13. Would you consider yourself a Republican, Independent, or Democrat?

RANDOMIZE ORDER

- | | | |
|----|-------------|-----|
| 1. | Republican | 34% |
| 2. | Independent | 28% |
| 3. | Democrat | 35% |
| 4. | Other | 3% |

14. Which of the following best describes your age?

- | | | |
|----|------------|-----|
| 1. | 18-24 | 4% |
| 2. | 25-34 | 13% |
| 3. | 35-44 | 16% |
| 4. | 45-54 | 17% |
| 5. | 55-64 | 20% |
| 6. | 65-74 | 18% |
| 7. | 75 or over | 13% |

15. How would you describe your ethnicity?

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|-----|
| 1. | White | 71% |
| 2. | Hispanic | 8% |
| 3. | Black | 6% |
| 4. | Asian | 2% |
| 5. | Native American | 1% |
| 6. | Other | 13% |

16. And, which of the following categories best describes your annual household income?

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|-----|
| 1. | Less than \$26,000 | 10% |
| 2. | \$26,000 to \$34,000 | 9% |
| 3. | \$34,000 to \$50,000 | 9% |
| 4. | \$50,000 to \$100,000 | 22% |
| 5. | \$100,000 to \$150,000 | 15% |
| 6. | More than \$150,000 | 14% |
| 7. | DK/Refused DNR | 23% |



17. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

1.	Less than High School	3%
2.	Highschool or GED Equivalent	12%
3.	Some College / Associate Degree	29%
4.	Bachelor's Degree	22%
5.	Postgraduate Degree	23%
6.	Don't Know / Refused	11%

18. Lastly, are you male or female? **BY OBSERVATION**

1.	Male	48%
2.	Female	52%

VERBATIMS FROM QUESTION 9

- End wild & feral cats killing wildlife 2
- No Issues / Opinions 13
- Care about health and welfare of feral cats 2
- Slow the growth of the wild and feral cats 3
- We should euthanize all feral cats 3
- More access to pet spay and neuter care 1
- End government overreach 2
- Unrelated Issues 2