

The State of Pet Homelessness Index

The State of Pet Homelessness Index is the first data-led tool to measure the scale of pet homelessness at a country level and identify the key factors influencing the issue.

We partnered with leading animal welfare experts and organizations to develop it, using data from more than 200 sources and boosted by quantitative research.

There are an estimated **224 million** cats and dogs stray, on the street or in shelters across the **9 countries** currently included in the Index data.



Across the **9 countries** studied, there are more **stray/street cats** than **stray/street dogs** and shelter animals combined.



Stray pets: mixed opinions

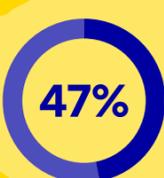
More than **2 in 3 people** believe cats and dogs should be removed from the streets and sheltered, rather than euthanized



37% would not consider adopting from a shelter and **23%** say they would not be able to find their preferred pet in a shelter



Half of prospective pet owners say they would worry about the history of the animal if they adopted from a shelter, and **47%** would worry they are emotionally damaged



1 in 4 people say stray animals are more likely to be aggressive, a danger to their pet and/or to humans

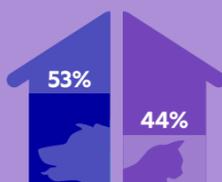


4 in 10 believe that there are too many homeless cats or dogs in their country

A dog is a person's best friend, so why not a landlord's?

There is high acknowledgment of the well-being benefits of pets - 1 in 2 pet owners say they got a pet for emotional support and companionship.

Index data shows globally, people believe it can be difficult to rent accommodation with a pet - with more challenges for dog owners than cat owners.



53% of respondents say it is difficult to find a rental home that allows you to own a dog, whereas only 44% of respondents said the same about cats

60%

of respondents say it is **difficult** to own a dog when you live in an **apartment**

Top reasons for giving up a dog or a cat include:

- Not enough space
- New home didn't allow
- Not at home enough

Pet ownership trends are changing

Countries with some of the biggest populations of homeless pets are also the ones showing the highest number of new pet owners

China and India have the most first time cat or dog owners, with the highest percentage of new owners being Gen Z or Millennials

India

65%

cats

63%

dogs

China

65%

cats

63%

dogs

First time owning a cat or a dog

Index data shows nearly **6 in 10** people believe that strays should be looked after by local, regional or national governments.



The State of Pet Homelessness Index was developed by Mars Petcare in partnership with:



Learn more at

endpethomelessness.com



Data source: The State of Pet Homelessness Index.

Data above represents the following 9 countries only: China, Germany, Greece, India, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, UK, US.