



GETTING 2 ZERO

**G2Z National Cat Action
Plan Draft 1 feedback
survey report**

This G2Z Discussion Paper proposed a way forward to achieve national consistency in effective domestic cat management and welfare strategies in Australia.

During the course of 2012/2013 the G2Z National Cat Action Plan (NCAP) discussion paper undertook an extensive development phase by the G2Z Steering Committee and G2Z Executive. This G2Z Discussion Paper proposed a way forward to achieve national consistency in effective domestic cat management and welfare strategies in Australia. It is intended that feral cat management is addressed in a separate process.

The Discussion Paper's aim was to generate feedback for the development of effective common approaches to domestic cat management and welfare across Australia, acknowledging some differences in approaches may be needed between urban and rural or remote communities. As states and local governments managing companion animal legislation are at different stages, it is not anticipated that commonality can be achieved simultaneously. However the benefits of achieving agreement across stakeholders nationally on a common direction should help reduce inconsistencies over time. This paper therefore offered a proposed way forward as a starting point for response and constructive suggestions from all stakeholders.

The objectives of this National Cat Action Plan are:

- To seek agreement on the need for common legislation which make it easier for communities to understand and is better for the welfare and management of domestic cats.
- To work towards effective breeding legislation and policies in line with an ethical approach that improves the well-being of domestic cats, other animals, and communities.

The NCAP was launched at the 5th National G2Z Summit in September of 2013 and the feedback survey was opened in November 2013. A comprehensive range of stakeholders e.g. state and local government, animal welfare groups, shelters, rescue groups, cat breeders, pet industry, veterinarians, veterinary schools, cat owners, volunteer community members, journalists, real estate professionals and wildlife groups were contacted directly inviting their response as well as the survey being accessible to the public.

The survey was available online, in writable pdf and in hard copy.

101 online responses were received and 11 responses were submitted by email.

The information sought from these stakeholders was:

- Which of these strategies were supported
- Any alternative successful strategies that could be offered
- How these strategies can best be achieved
- How these strategies in place
- Any concerns there may be

The aim was to use the responses provided by the stakeholders to add to or modify the proposal.

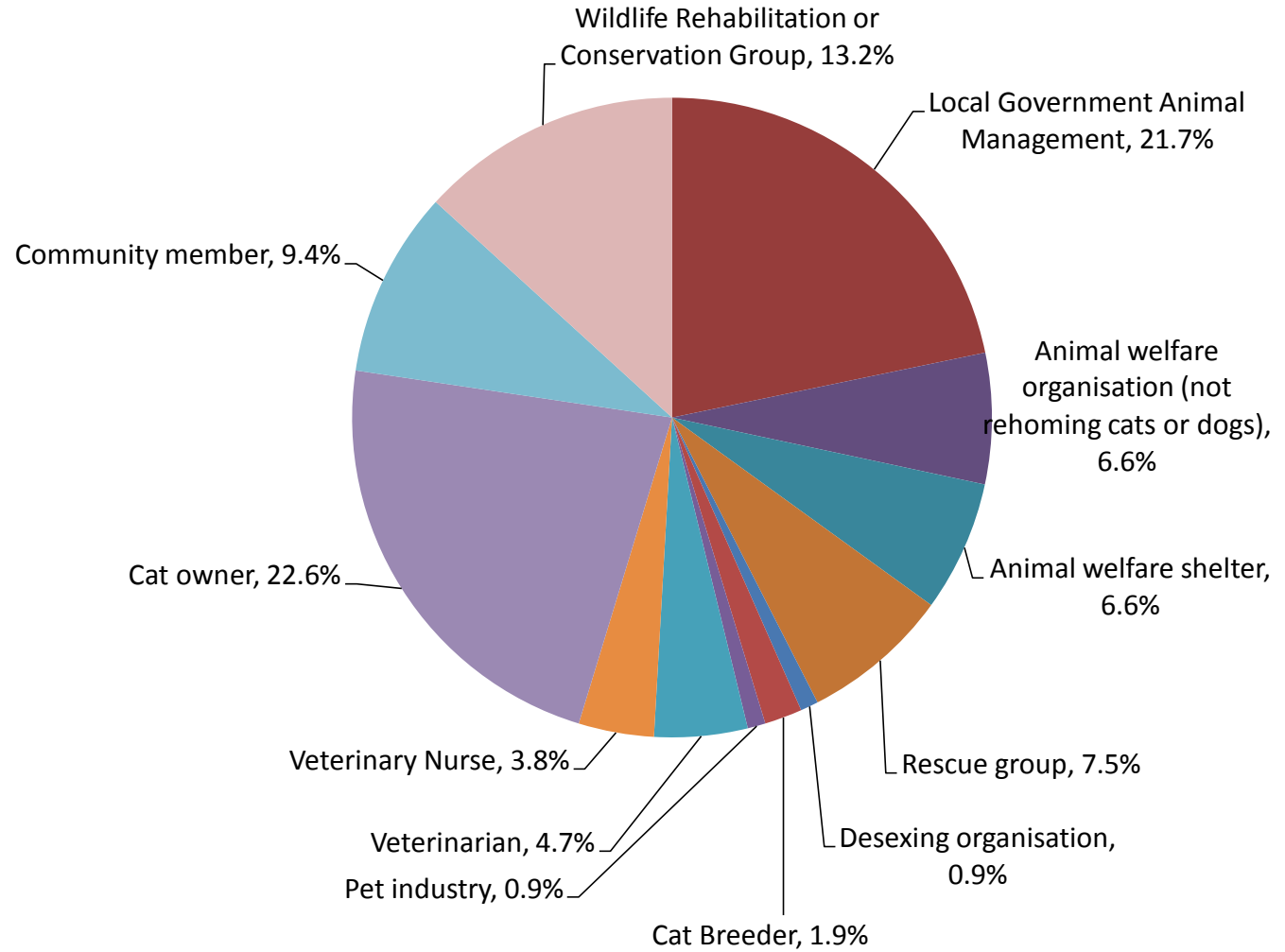
The survey was available online, in writable pdf and in hard copy and officially closed in January 2014 however the survey was left open and a number of responses have been received since then. 101 online responses were received and 11 responses were submitted by email. Real estate bodies, Journalists, Veterinary students, Veterinary faculty members, Veterinary practice managers, Pet stores and Local government councillors stakeholder groups were not represented in the survey responses.

Overwhelmingly support for the Plan's proposals was indicated by the respondents. There were a number of comments made and queries asked that alerted the authors to a lack of broad understanding across some issues and in response a Frequently Asked Questions document has been developed that will be available on the G2Z NCAP web page.

The tables below summarise the feedback given by the online responders.

Q1: Which is the main stakeholder group you are a part of:

- State Government - 0%
- Local Government Councillor - 0%
- Seller of cats e.g. pet shop - 0%
- Veterinary student - 0%
- Journalist - 0%
- Real Estate and Body Corporate bodies - 0%

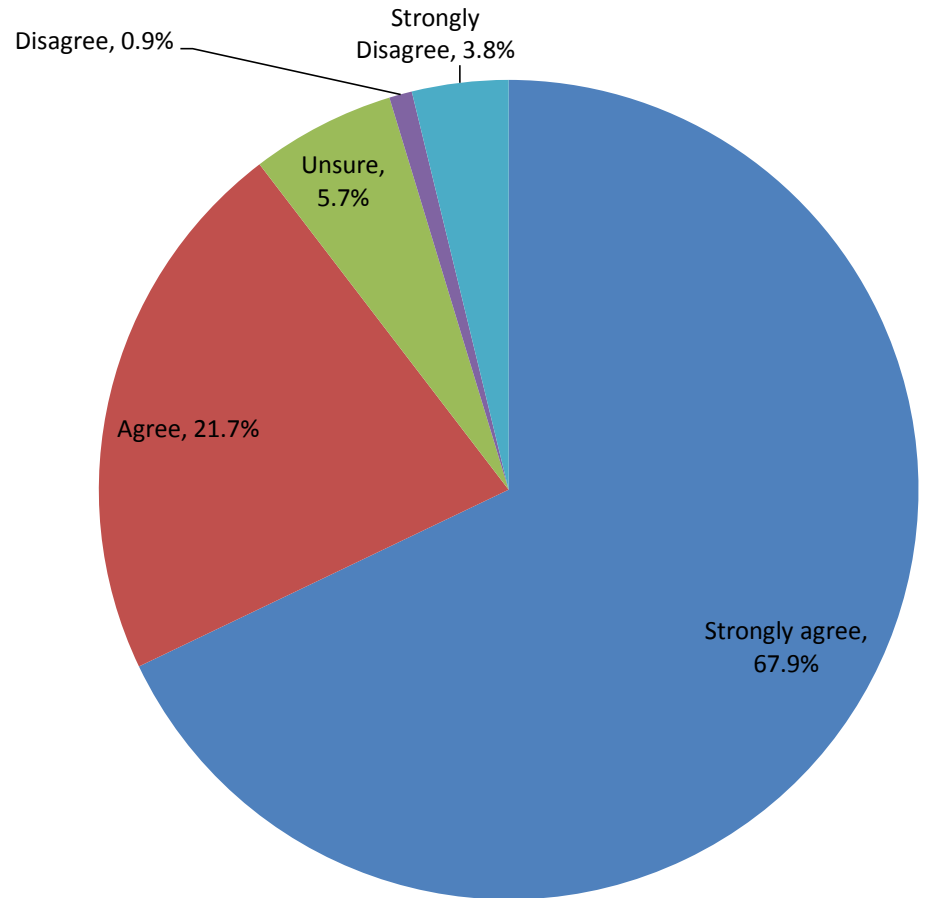


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Q2: Please indicate your level of agreement with the following proposals in the G2Z National Cat Action Plan:

There is a need for common cat legislation across all states.

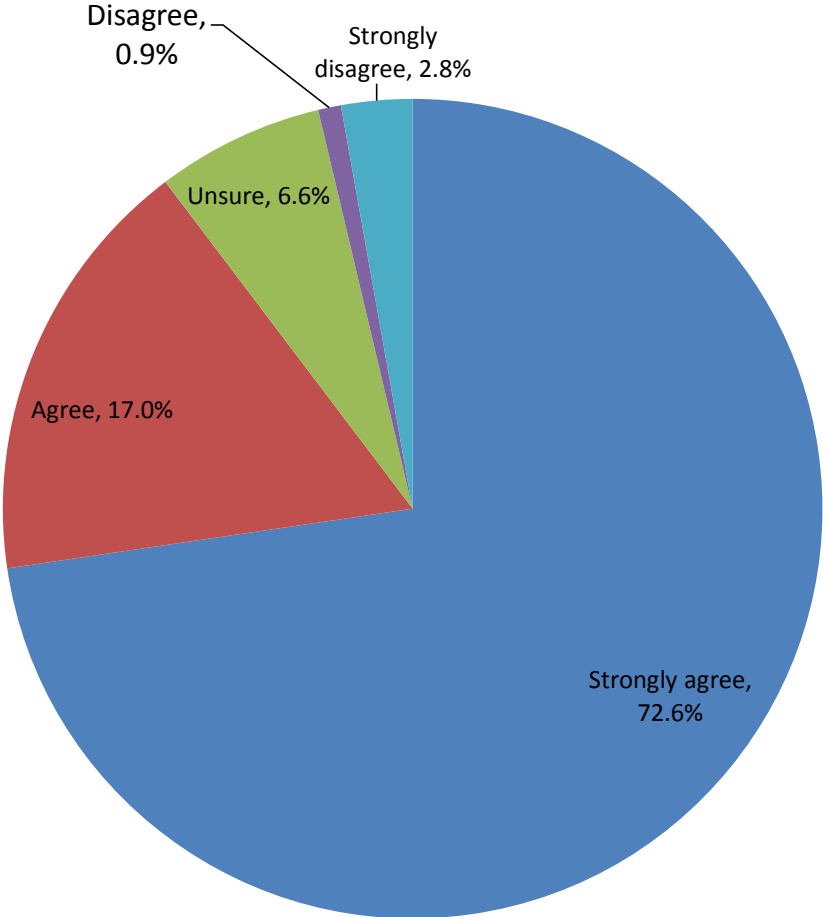


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree

Q3: Breeder Permit System - Anyone who breeds is required to have a government permit

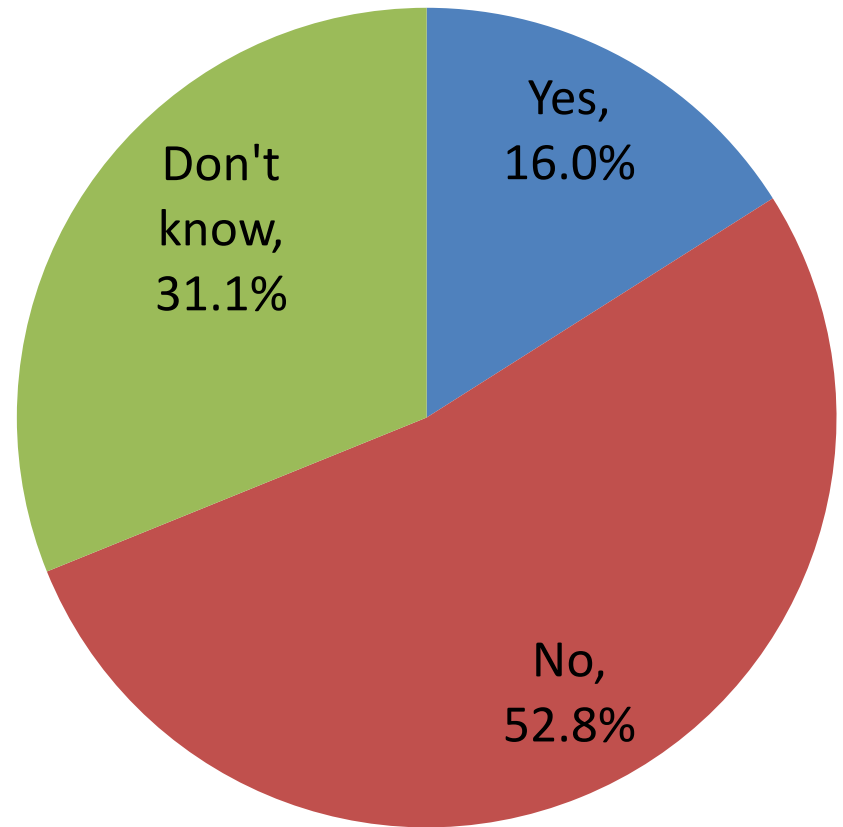


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree

Q4: Do you already have a requirement for a breeder to have a government permit in your municipality or state?

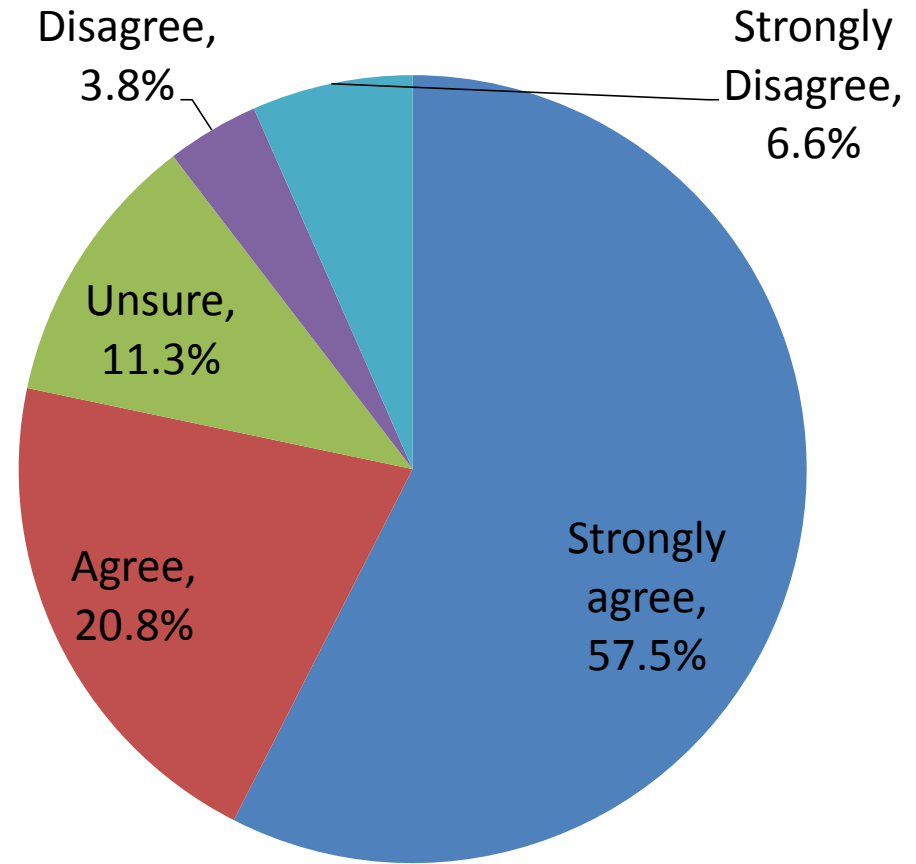


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q5: Breeder Permit - breeders pay (e.g. \$120 p.a.) for the Breeder Permit which covers the costs of inspection and keeping records.

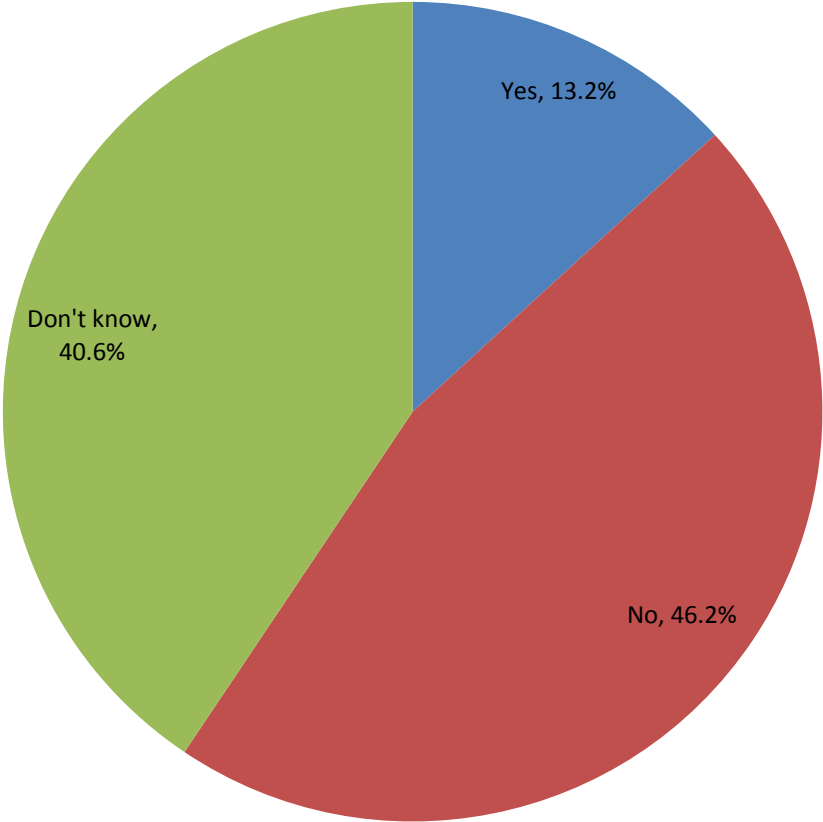


- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Unsure
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



Q6: Do you already have a requirement that breeders pay a fee for a permit in your municipality or state?

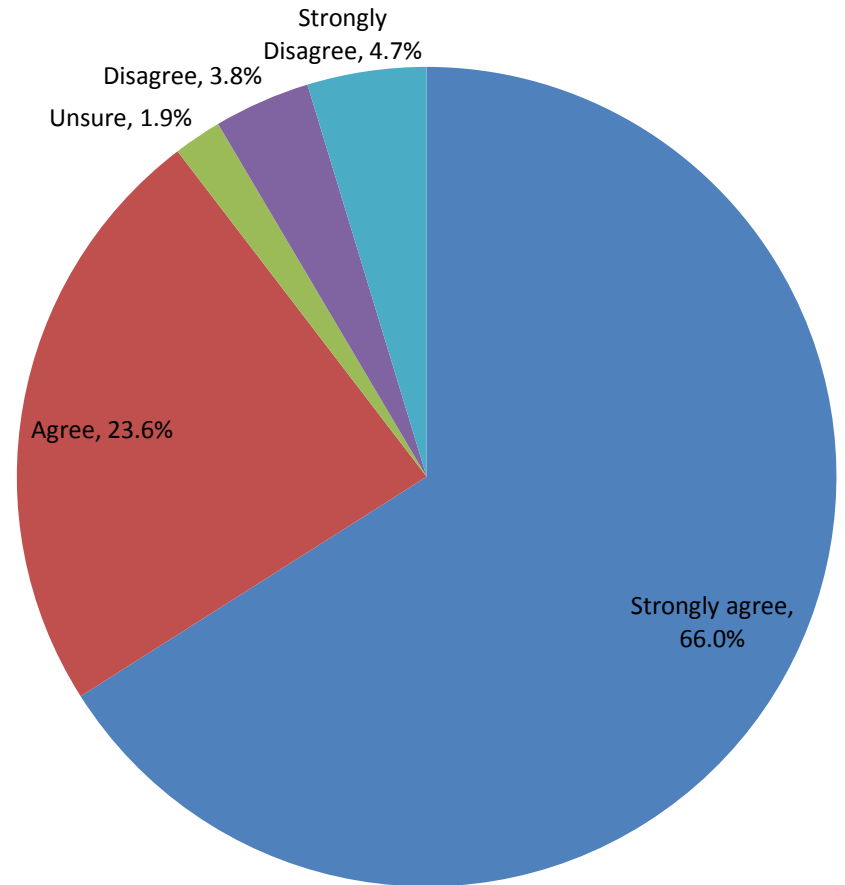


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q7: Breeder Permit - An independent accredited inspection conducted by local or state government officers or government-authorized animal welfare inspectors prior to permit issue and annually.

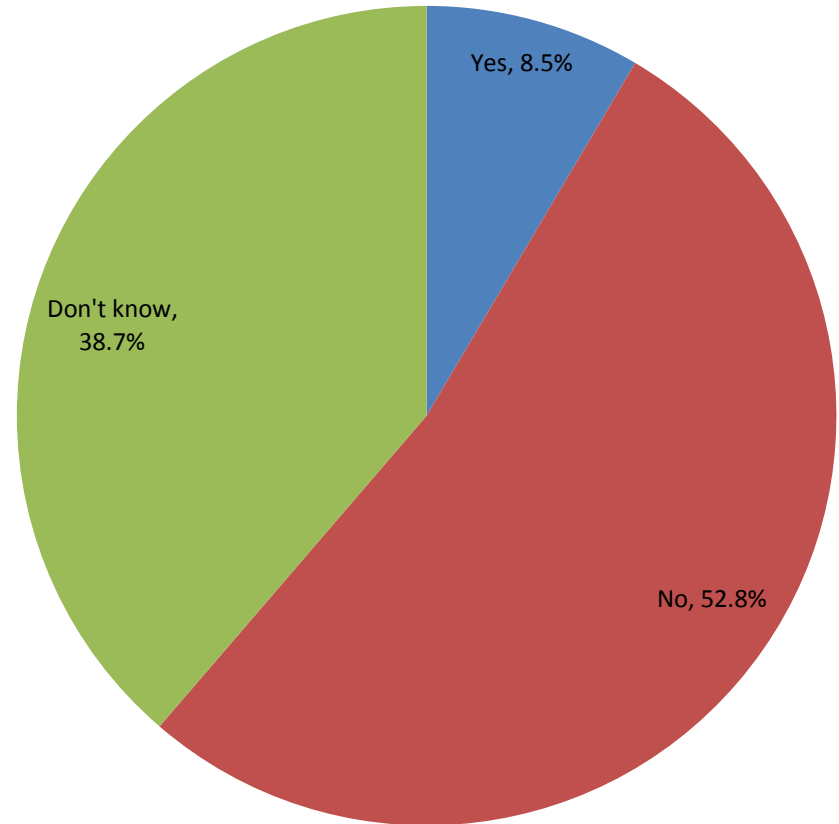


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q8: Do you already have the requirement for an independent accredited inspection conducted by local or state government officers or government-authorized animal welfare inspectors prior to permit issue and annually in your municipality or state?

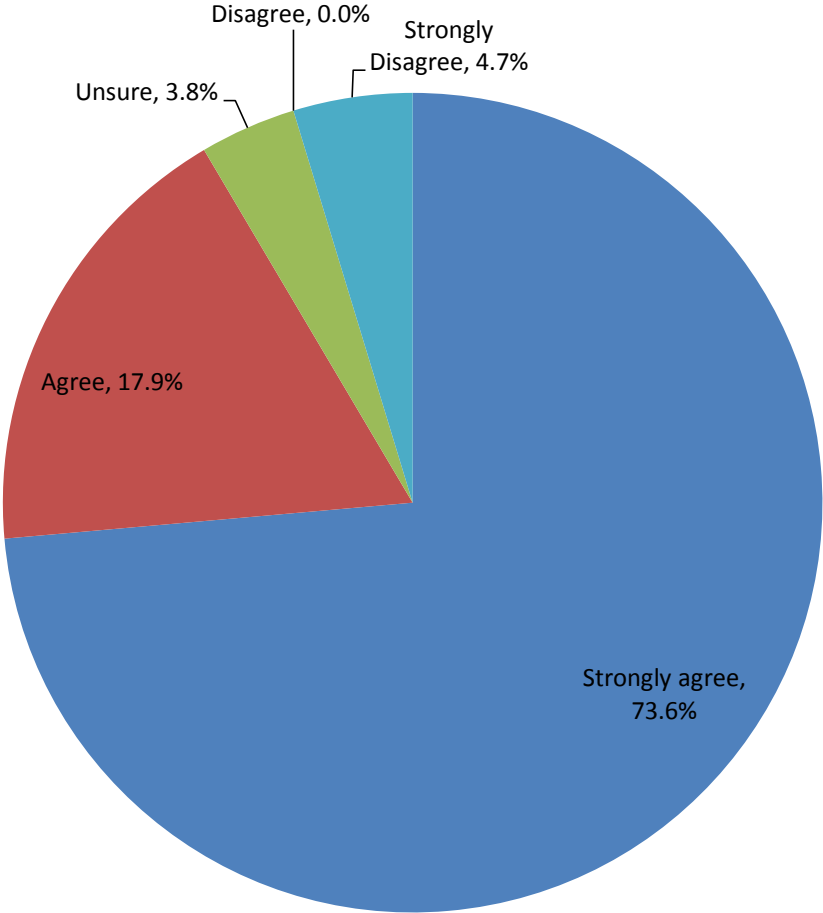


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q9: Breeder Permit - Inspections based on compulsory Standards.

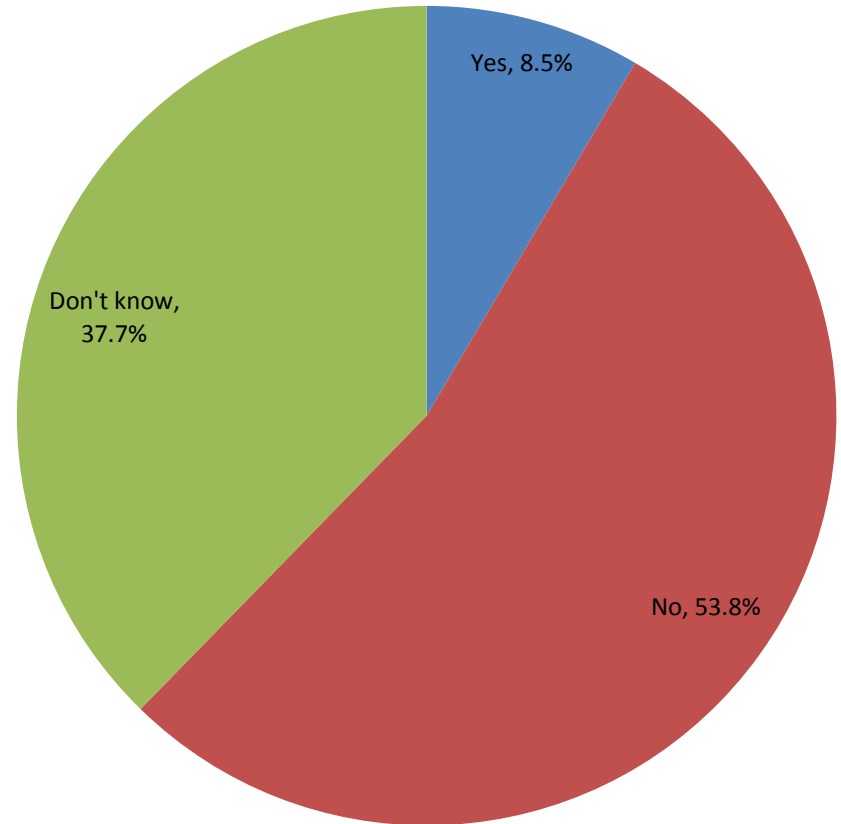


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q10: Do you already have breeder permit inspections based on compulsory standards in your municipality or state?

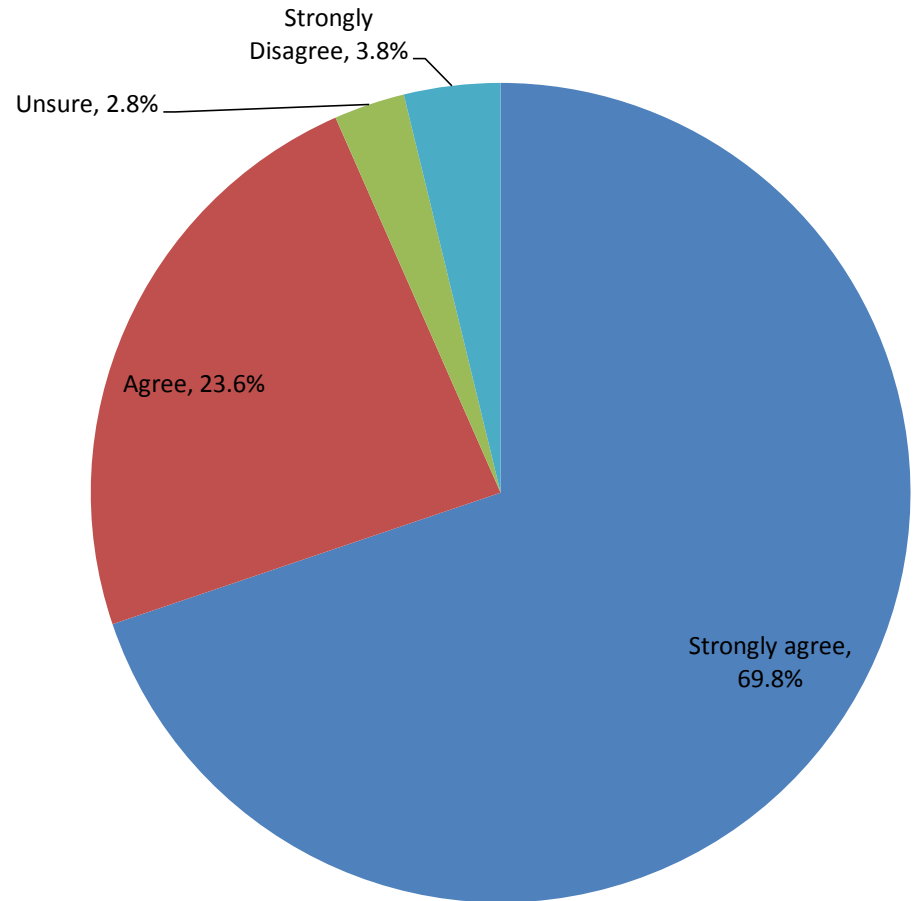


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q11: Breeder Permit - Requirement to publish Breeder Permit Numbers with all animals advertised or presented for sale.



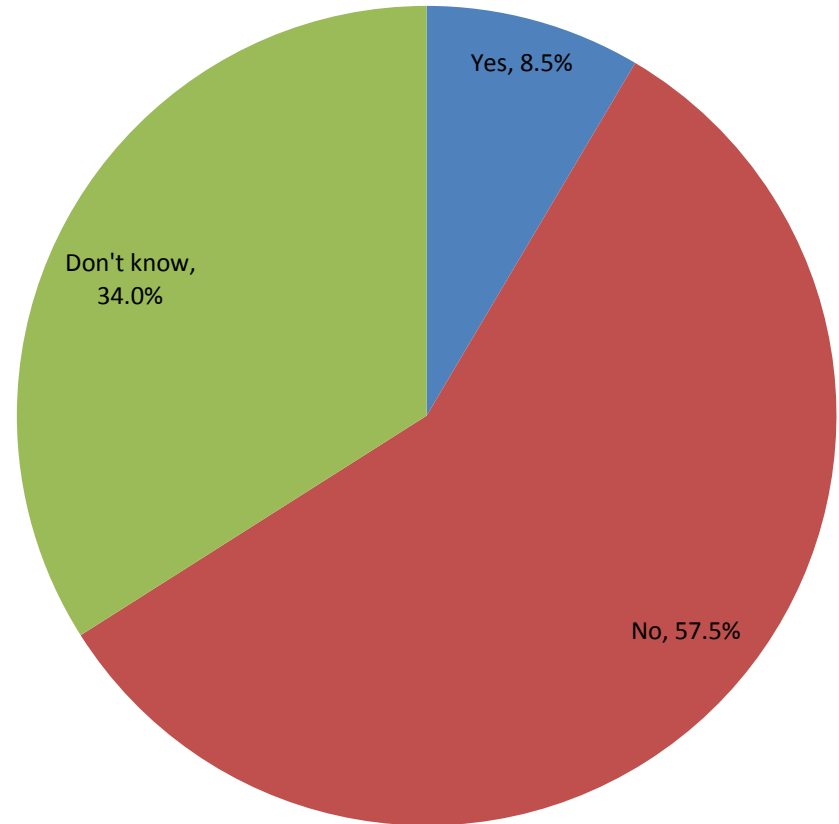
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Disagree, 0.0%

■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree



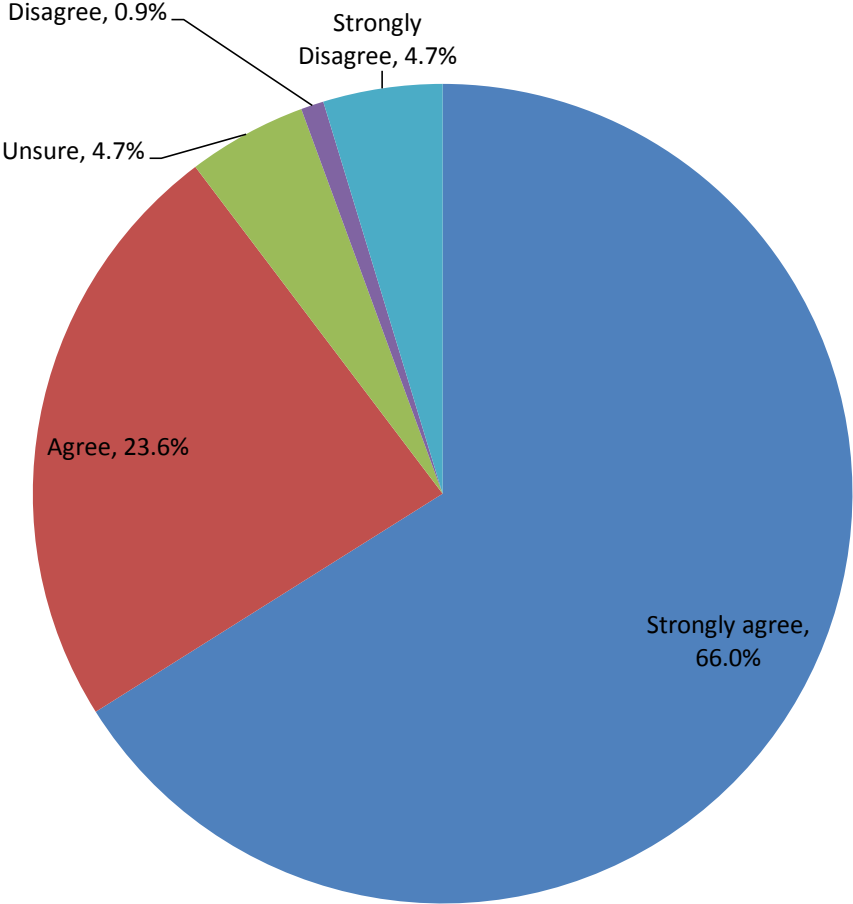
Q12: Do you already have a requirement to publish Breeder Permit Numbers in your municipality or state?



Answered: 101 Skipped: 0

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q13: Breeder Permit - A national register of independently accredited breeders accessible to the public.

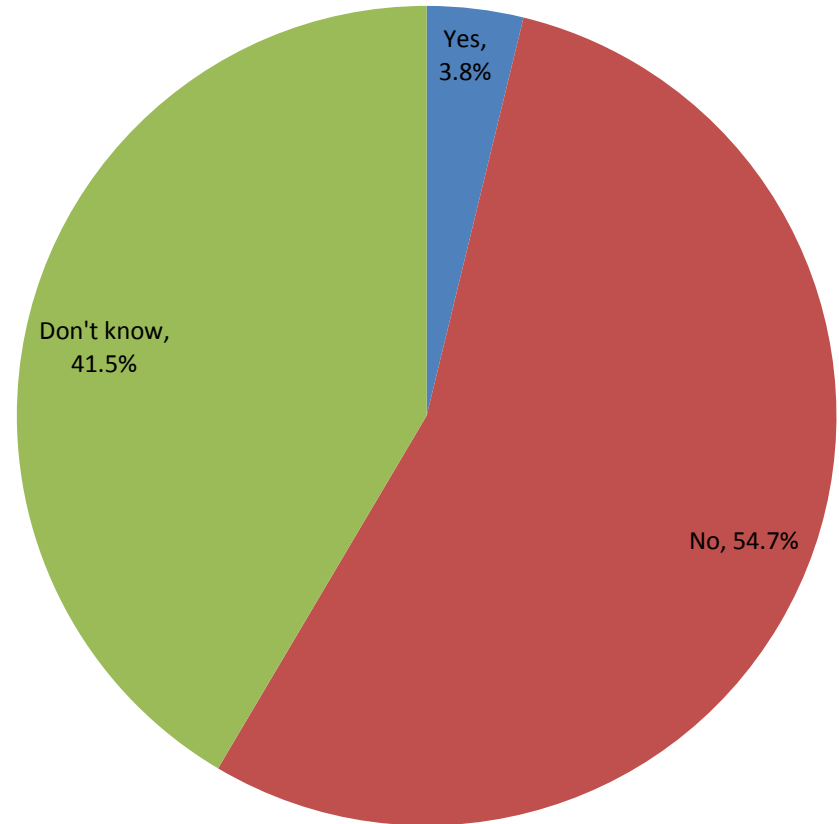


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q14: Do you already have a register of independently accredited breeders accessible to the public in your municipality or state?

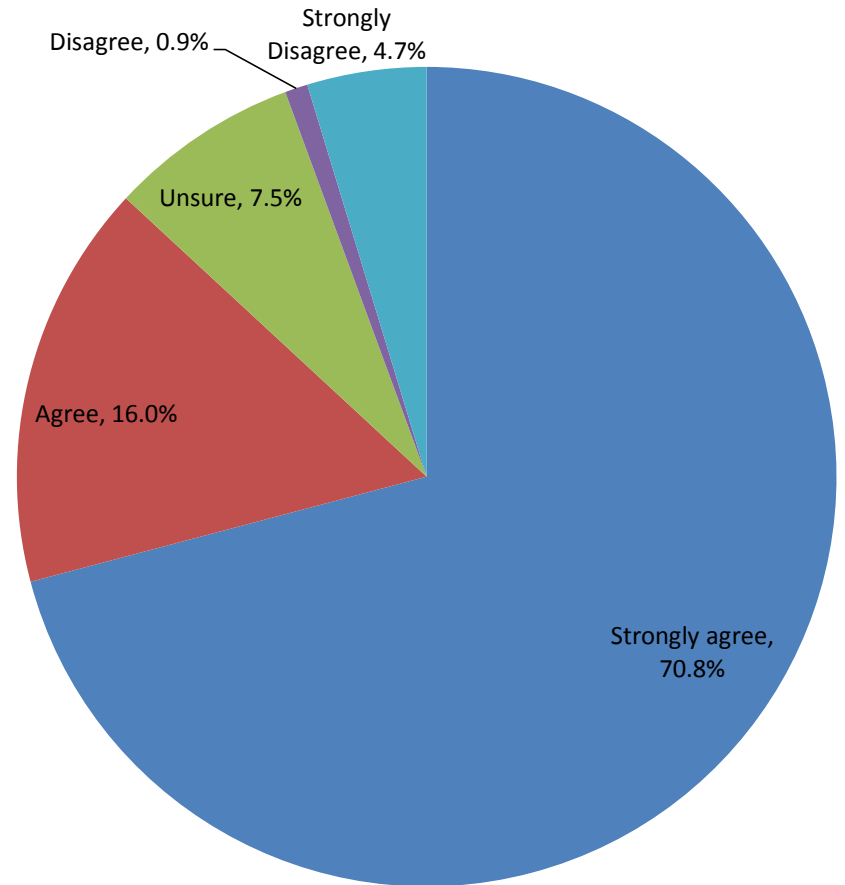


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q15: Breeder Permit - Breeder to desex all kittens and cats before sale or transfer, except when sold to another permitted breeder, or a veterinarian provides a written certificate that desexing the kitten is likely to be a serious risk to the animal's health. (Sale or transfer at 10 weeks to allow time for desexing).

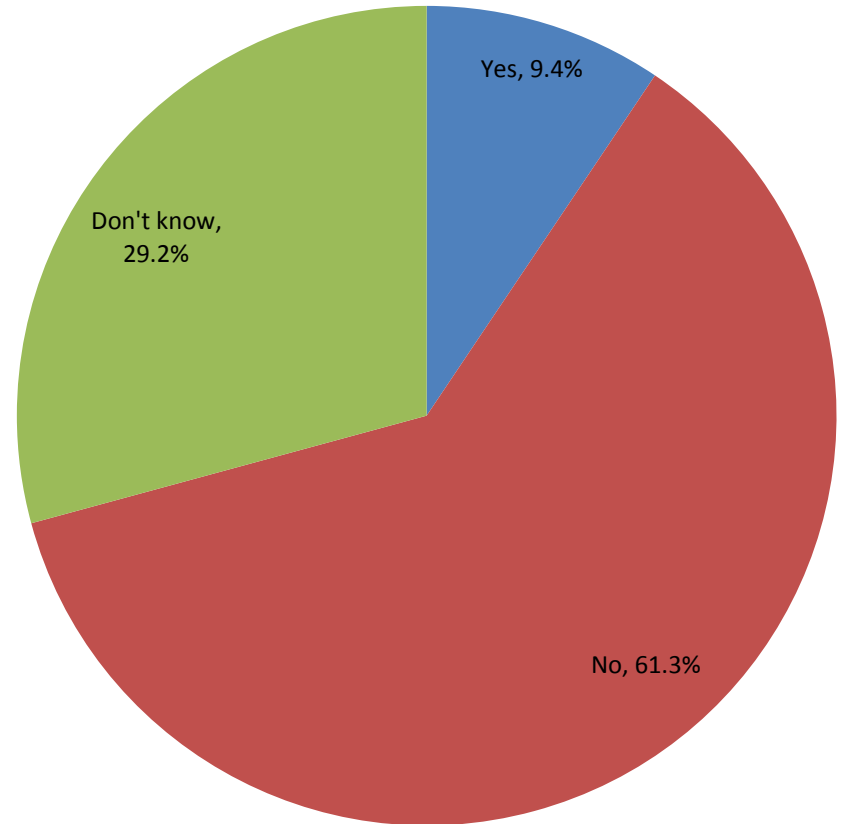


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q16: Do you already have the requirement for breeders to desex all kittens and cats prior to sale or transfer in your municipality or state?

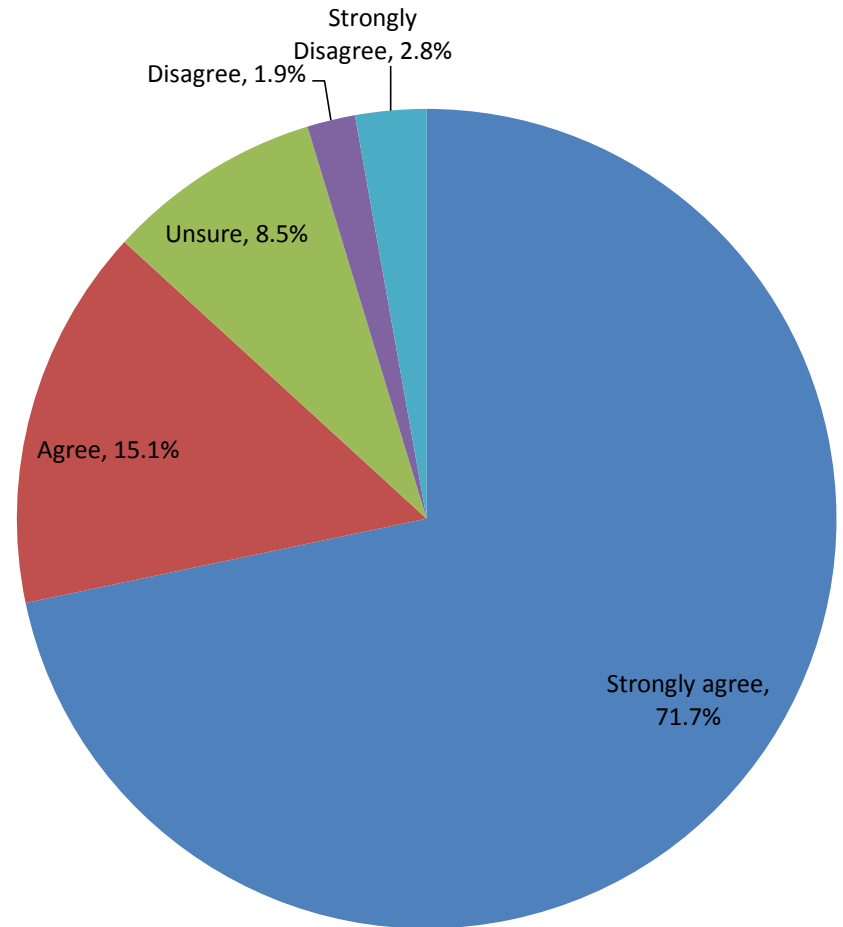


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q17: Breeder Permit - Cooperative subsidised desexing programs, at affordable rates, readily available and promoted, for concession or low income earners to desex mother cats and kittens of unplanned litters or when a litter of kittens is surrendered to a shelter, pound or pet shop and to prevent unplanned breeding.

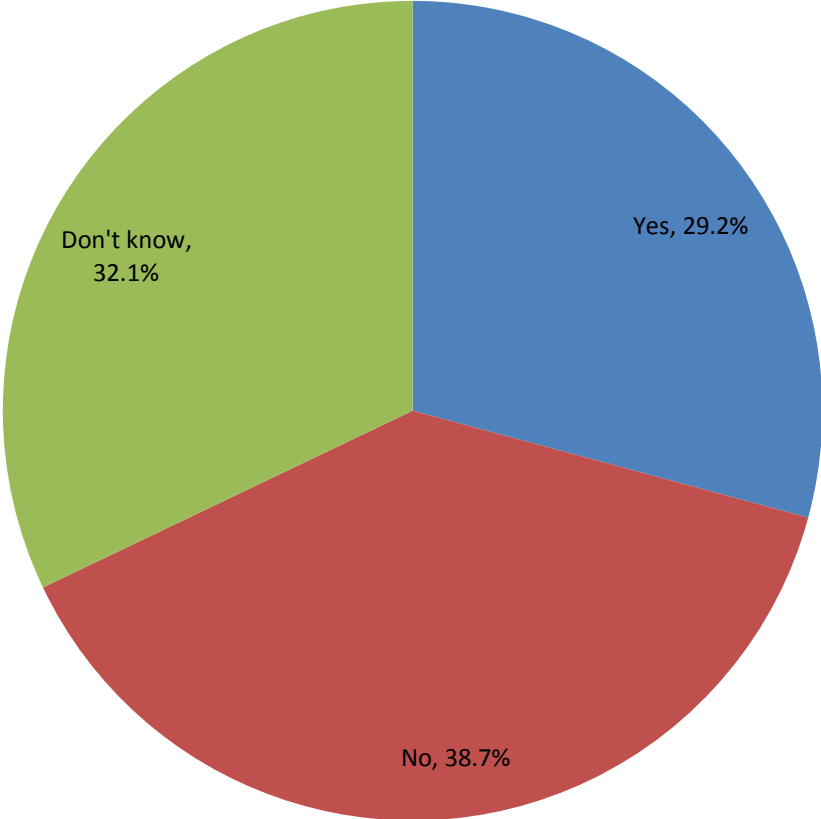


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q18: Do you already have a cooperative, subsidised desexing program in your municipality or state?

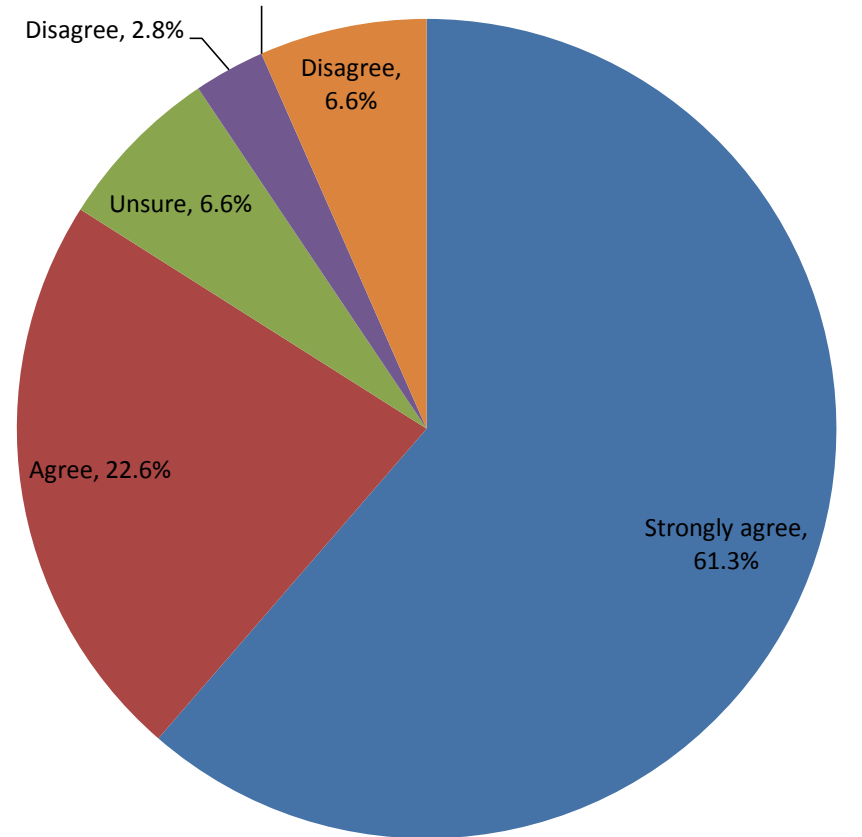


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q19: Seller Permits and Standards - Sellers of cats e.g. pet shops, wholesalers supplying to pet shops, sellers through the internet, pay for a Seller Permit to cover the costs of inspection.

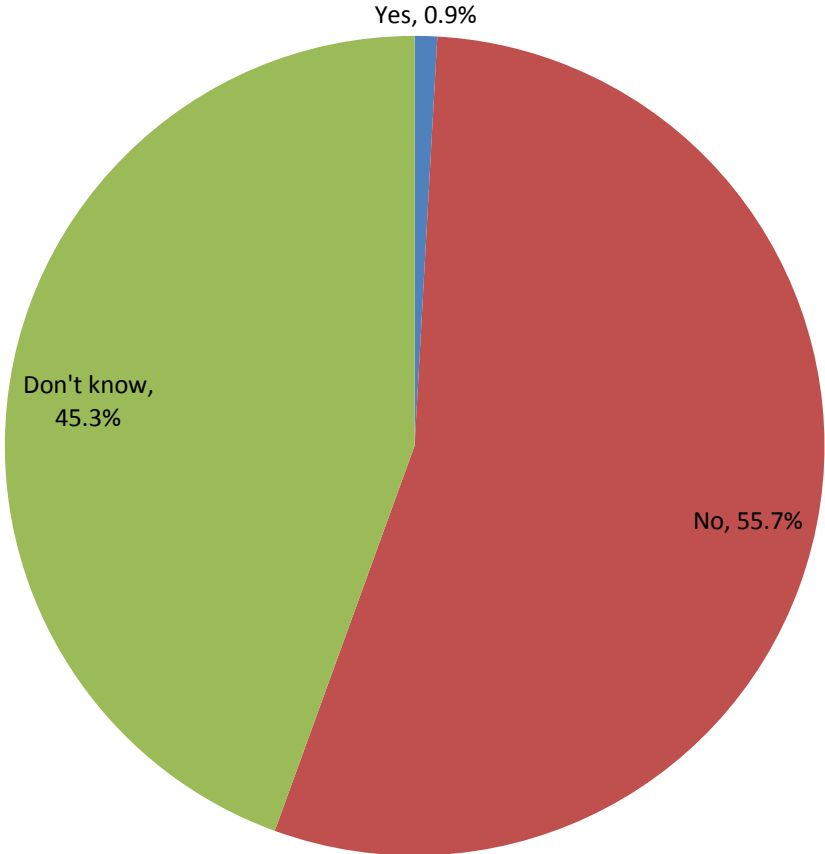


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly ■ Disagree

Q20: Do you already have paid Seller Permits in your municipality or state?

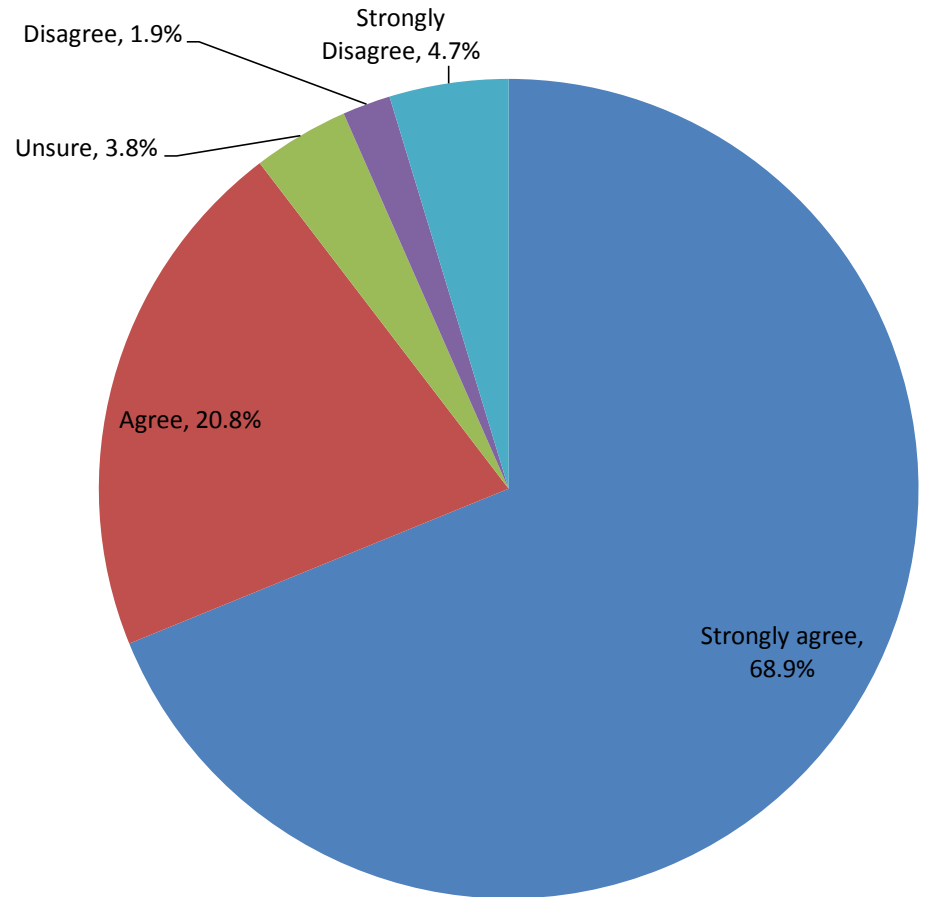


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q21: Seller Permits and Standards - Seller and Breeder Permit numbers displayed where cats and dogs are sold.

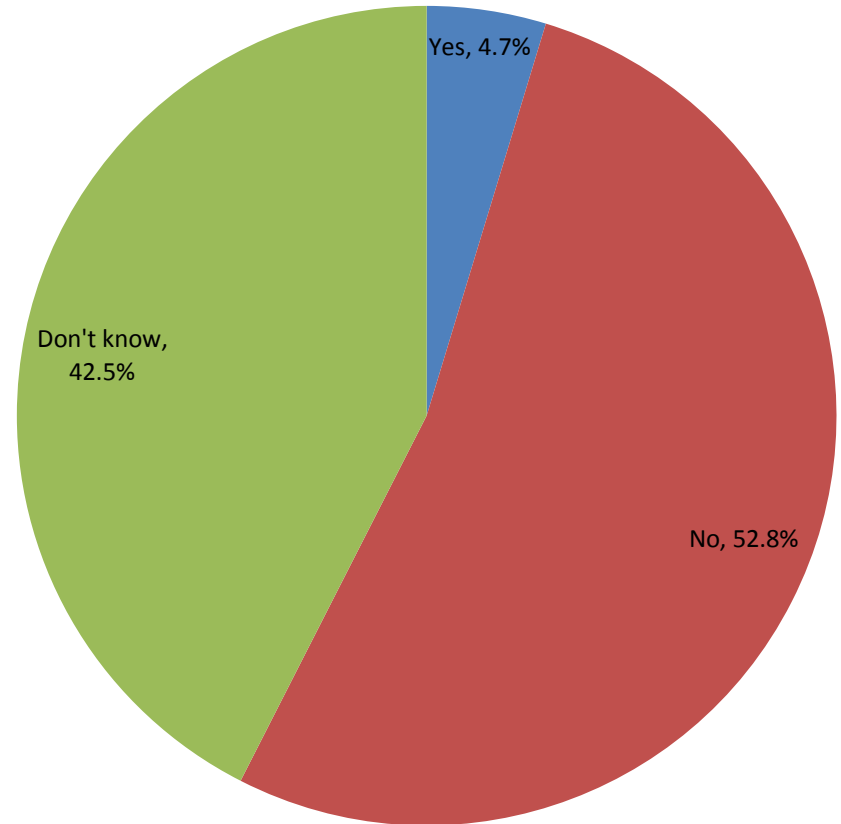


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q22: Do you already have a requirement to display Seller and Breeder permit numbers where cats and dogs are sold in your municipality or state?

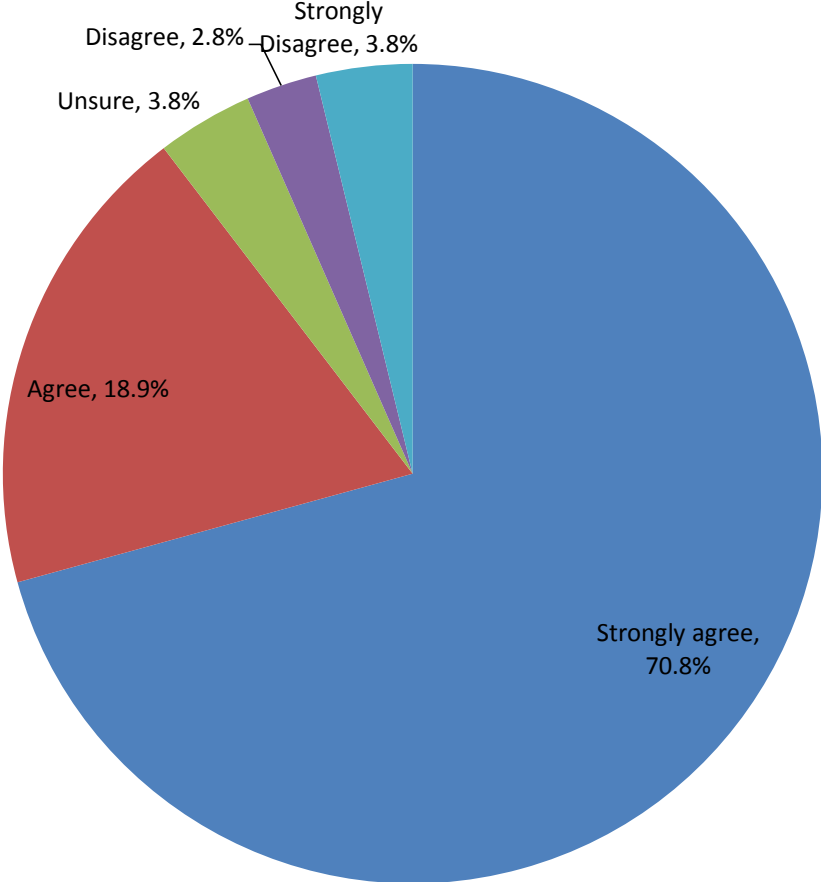


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q23: Seller Permits and Standards - Records of the source of all animals to be accessible by inspectors and local government authorities.

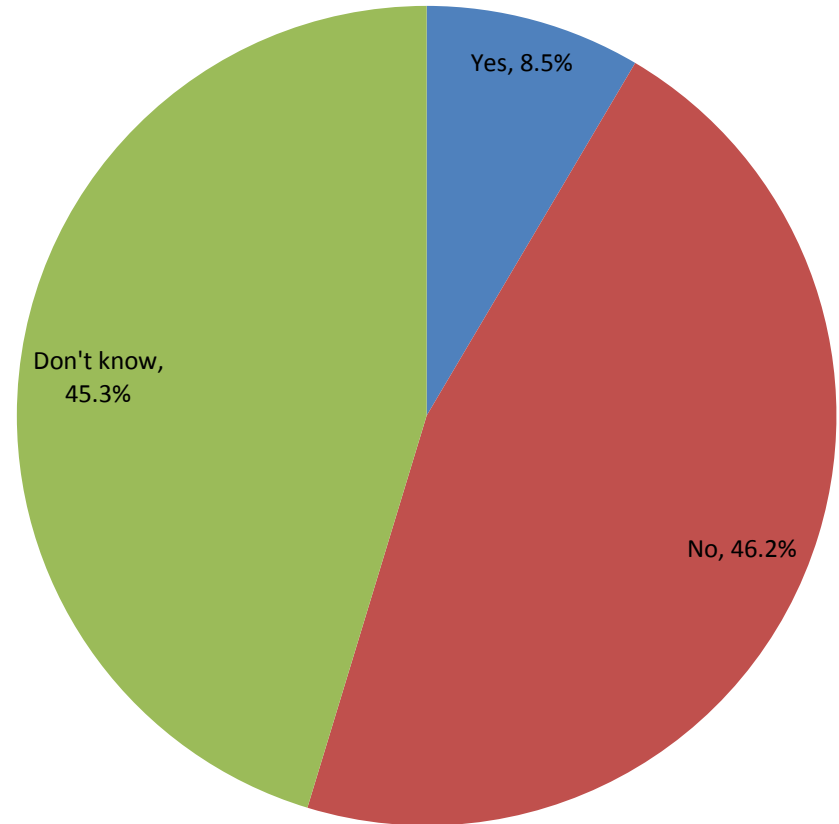


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q24: Do you already have a requirement that animal source records be accessible by inspectors and local government authorities in your municipality or state?

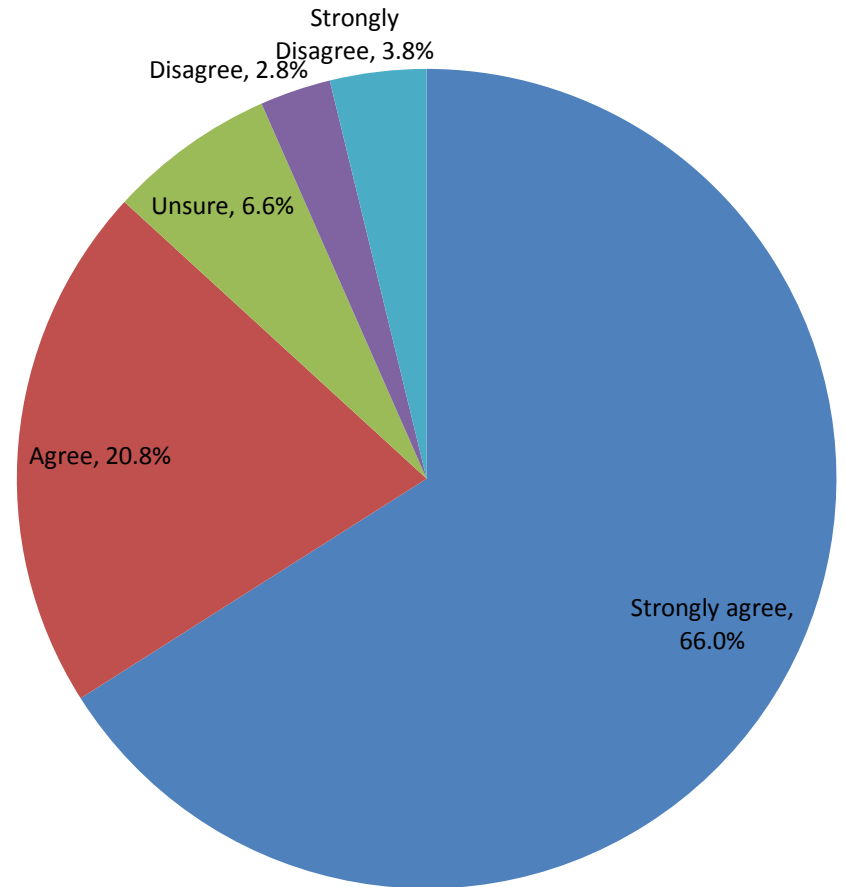


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q25: Seller Permits and Standards - Sellers to desex all kittens and cats prior to sale except when sold to another permitted breeder, or a veterinarian provides a written certificate that desexing the kitten is likely to be a serious risk to the animal's health. (Sale or transfer at 10 weeks to allow time for desexing). This is necessary while breeder permit legislation is at different stages between states/local governments, as undesexed animals may be transferred between states and local government areas.

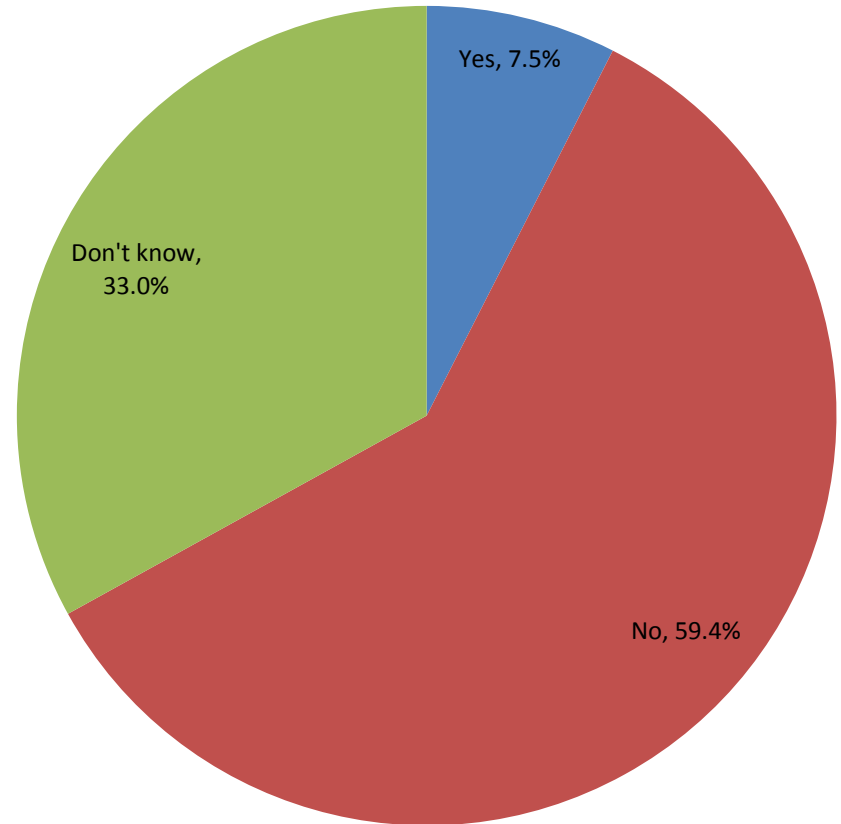


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q26: Do you already have the requirement for sellers to desex cats and kittens prior to sale in your municipality or state?

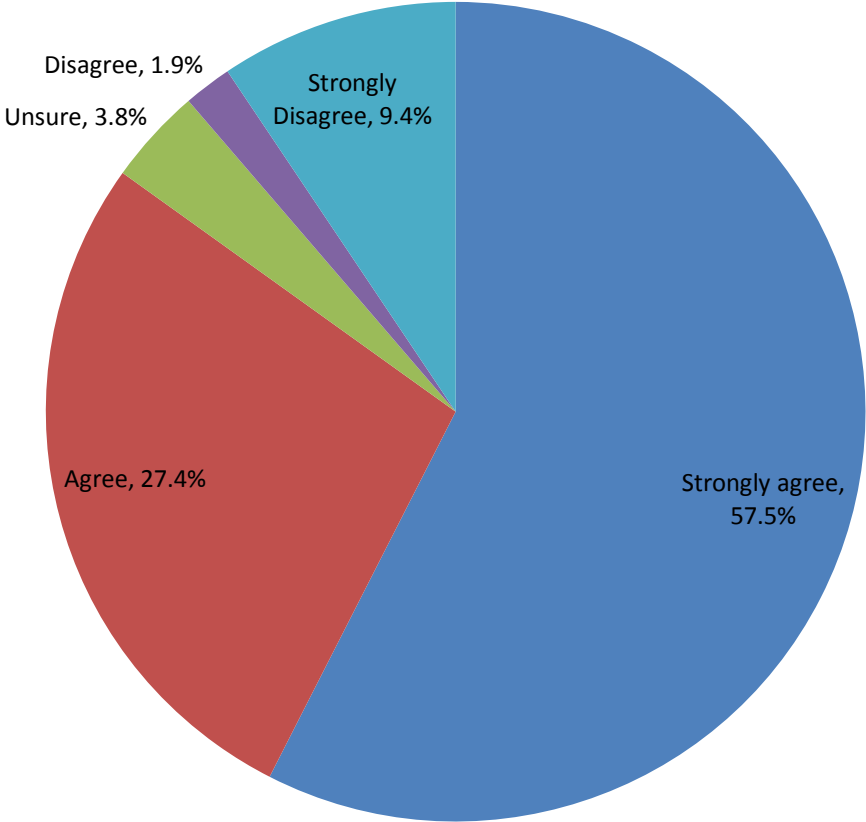


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q27: Seller Permits and Standards - Publication of independently accredited pet shops on a shared government site.

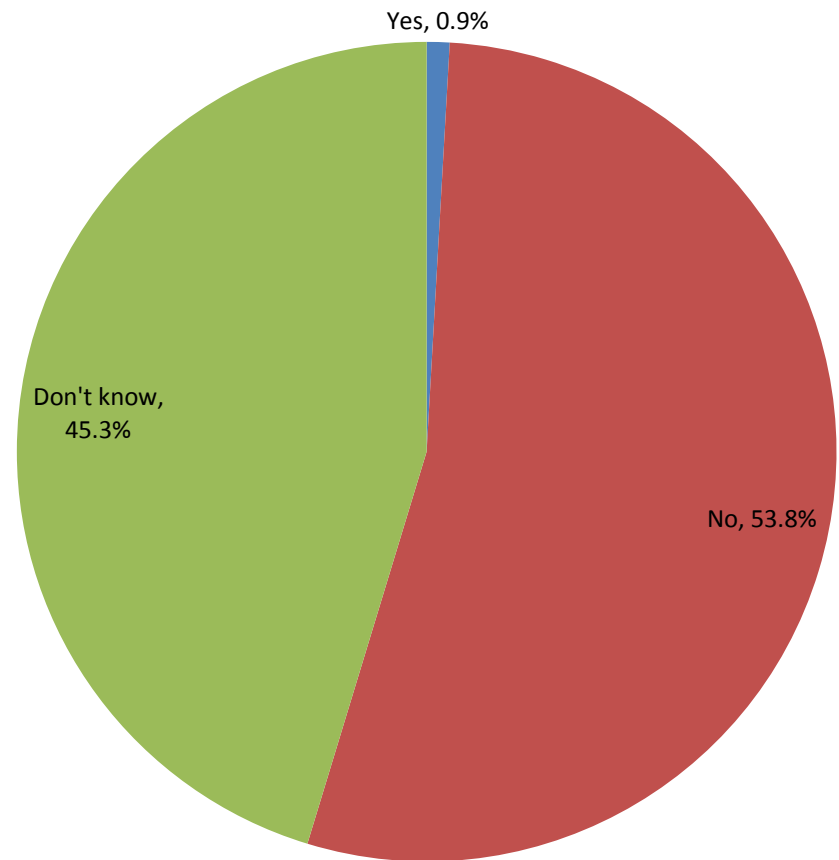


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

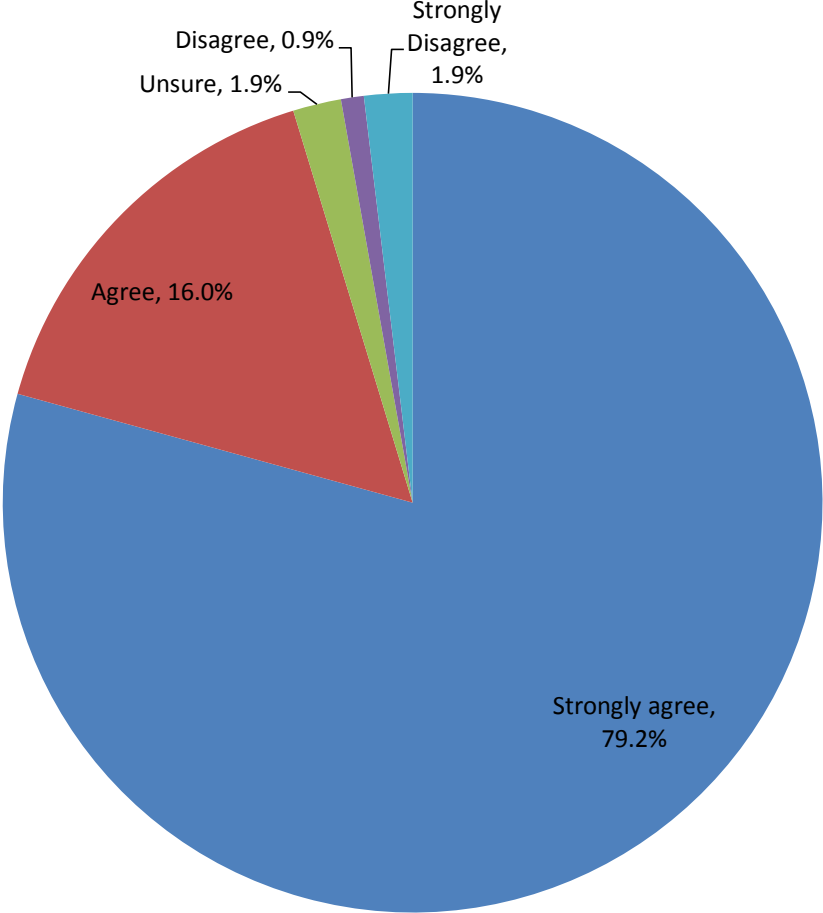
Q28: Do you already have a published list of independantly accredited petshops in your municipality or state?



Answered: 101 Skipped: 0

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q29: All kittens and cats required to be microchipped prior to sale or transfer.

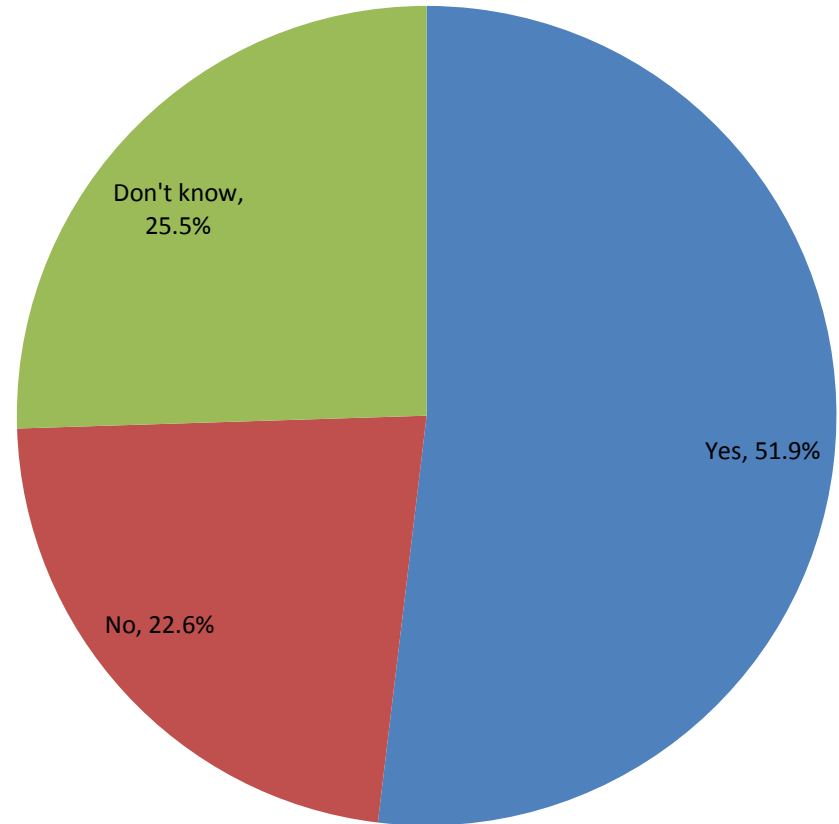


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q30: Do you already have a requirement for all kittens and cats to be microchipped prior to sale or transfer in your municipality or state?

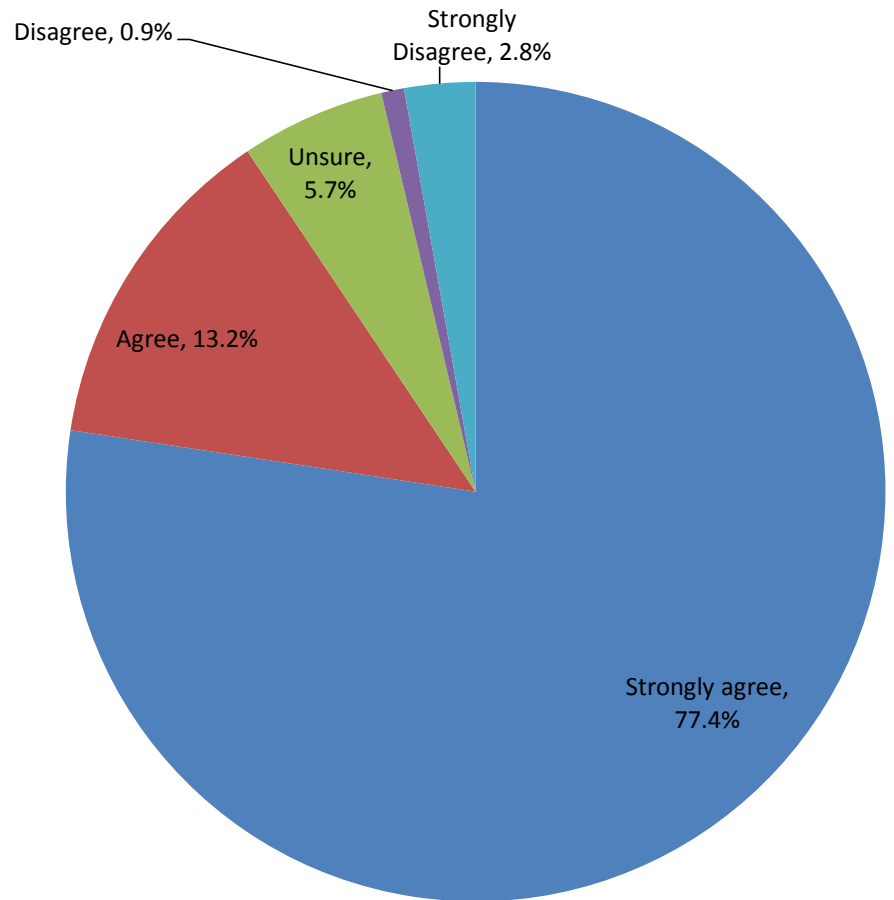


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q31: All pounds, shelters and rescue groups required to desex all cats and kittens prior to rehoming

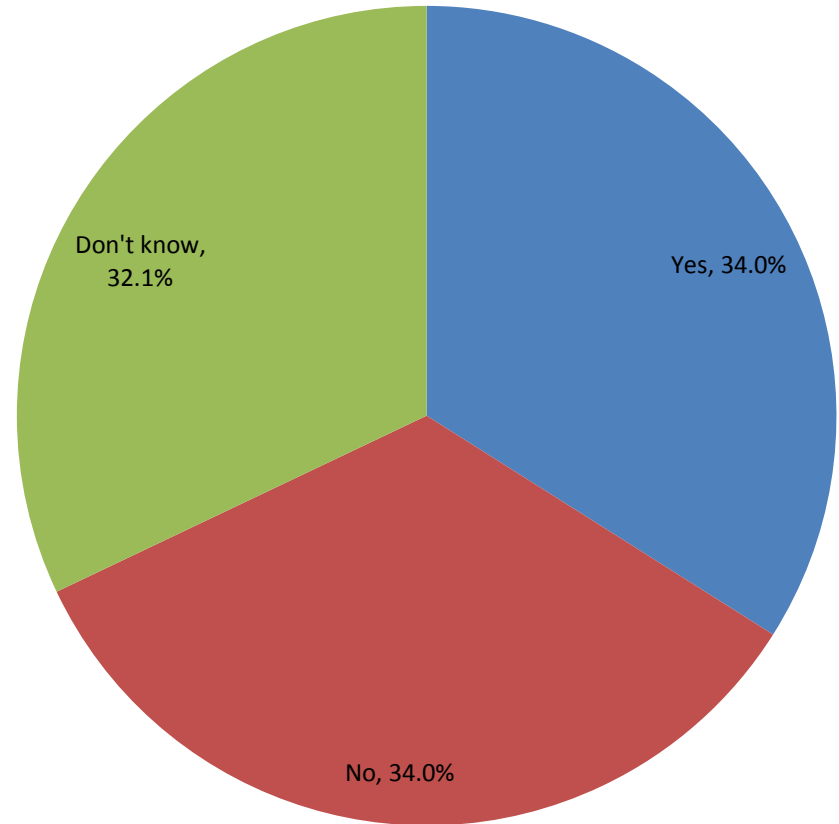


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q32: Do you already have the requirement for pounds, shelters and rescue groups to desex all cats and kittens prior to rehoming in your municipality or state?

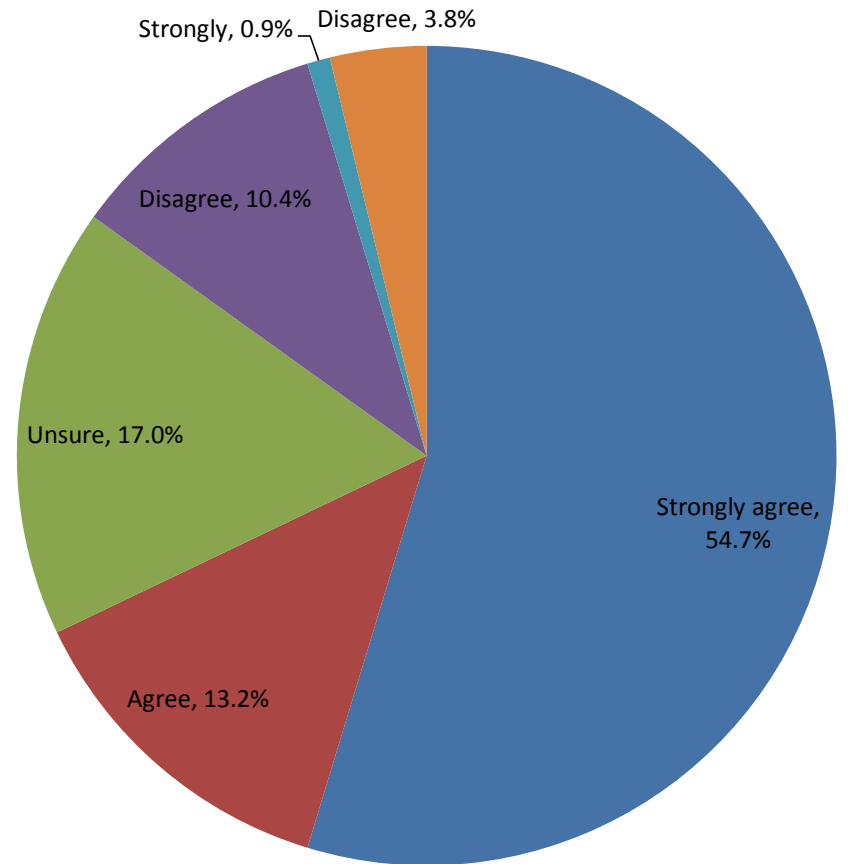


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q33: Low cost cat registration annually (under \$20 per annum) and from 12 weeks of age.

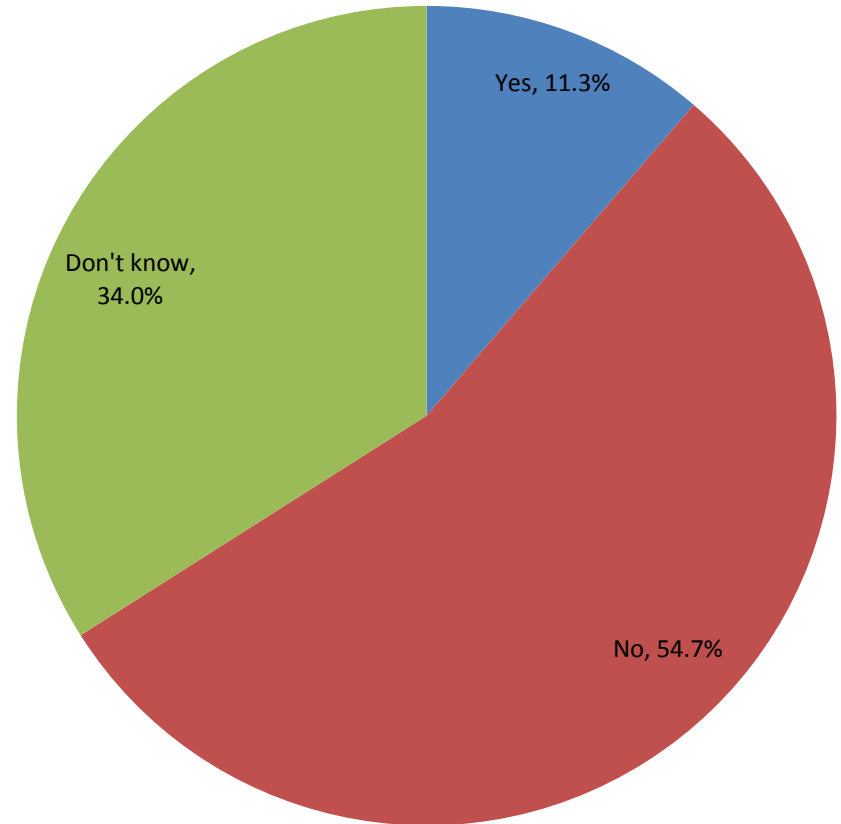


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly ■ Disagree

Q34: Do you already have low cost cat registration annually (under \$20 per annum) and from 12 weeks of age in your municipality or state?

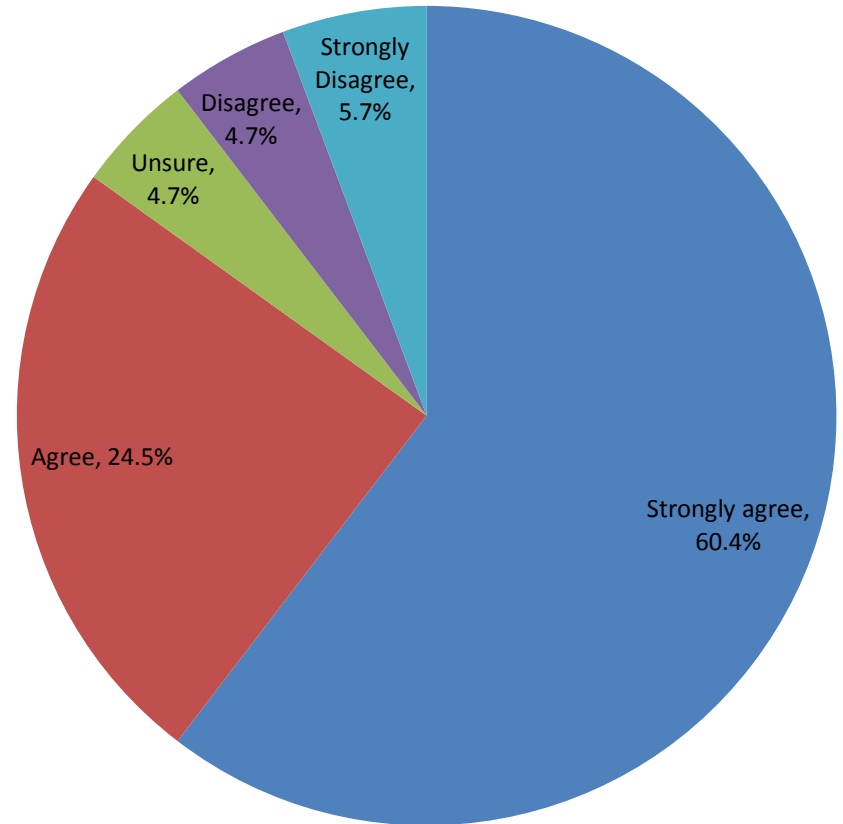


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■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q35: State Government to work with Body Corporate and Real Estate bodies to develop nationally consistent legislation and policies to support pet friendly accommodation.

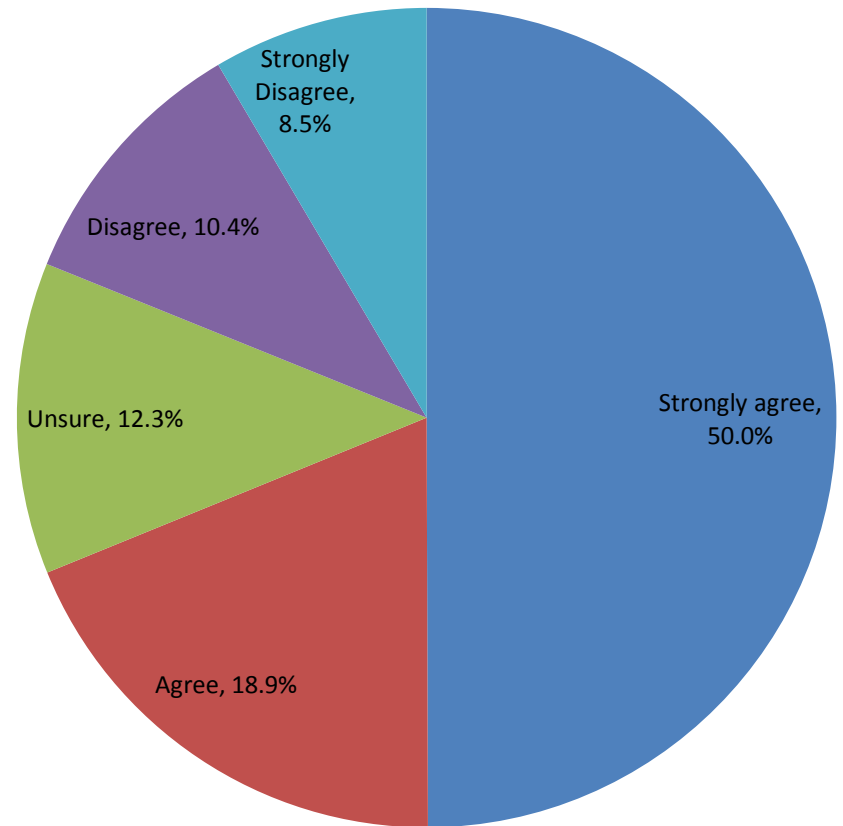


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q36: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Return animals home rather than impound.

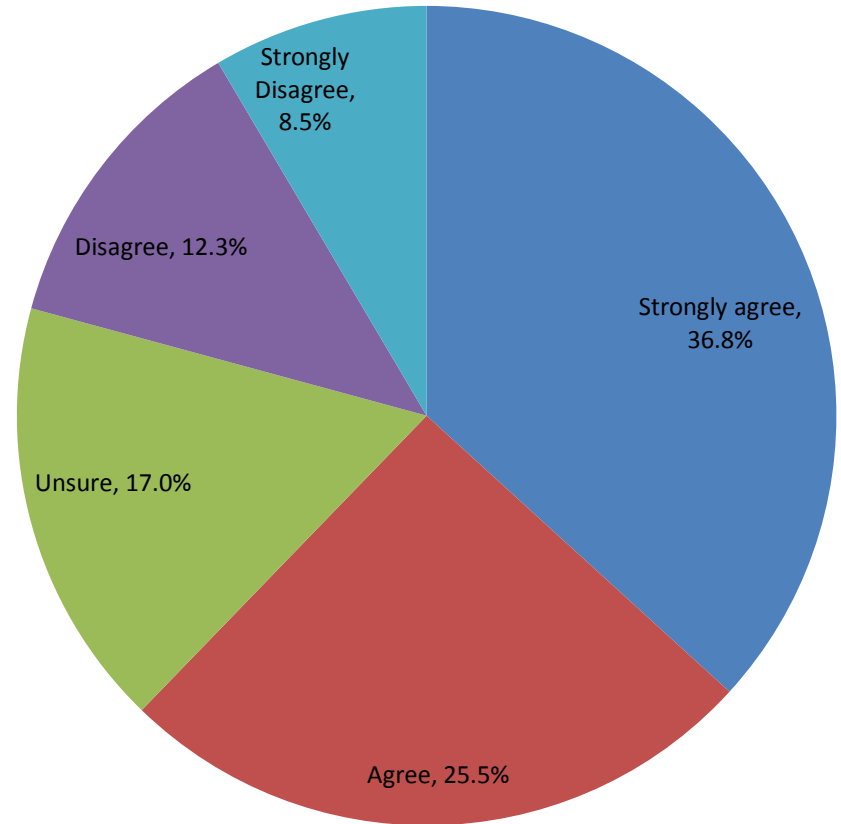


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q37: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Waive infringement fees for first wandering offence.

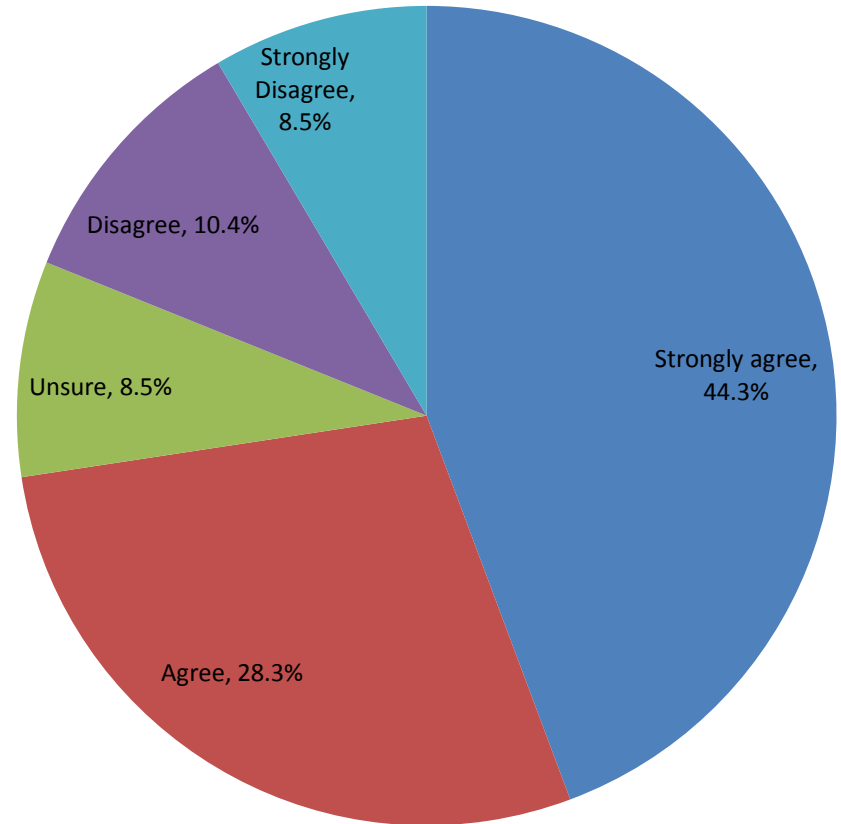


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q38: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Waive or reduce impound fees when owners desex and identify their cat (or dog).

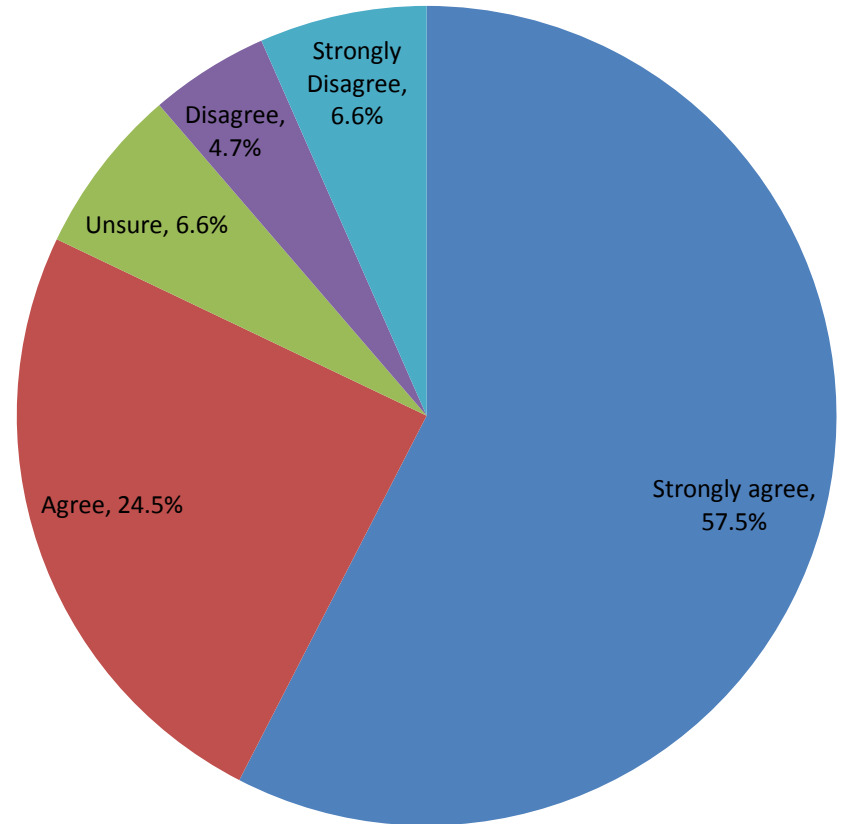


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q39: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Provide desexing subsidies and reduced registration fees for responsible carers who adopt and desex stray or unowned cats.

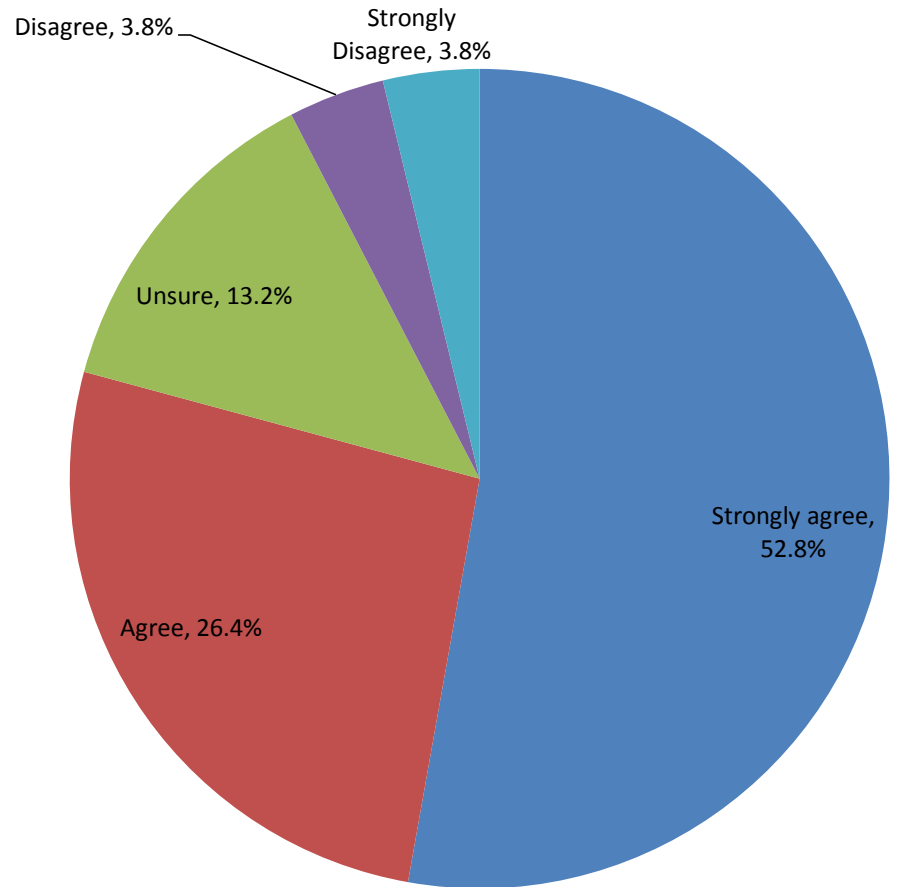


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q40: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Provide Animal Help Lines for information on how to address common animal ownership issues.

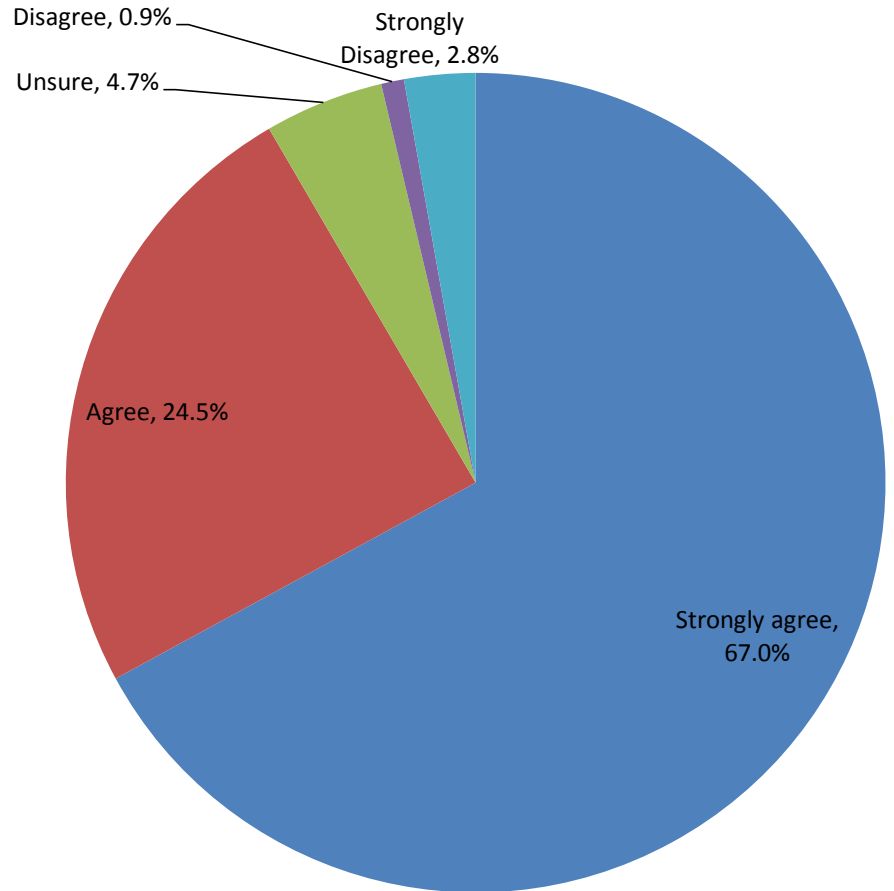


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q41: Local Government to provide owner support policies - Provide information on various cat containment methods.

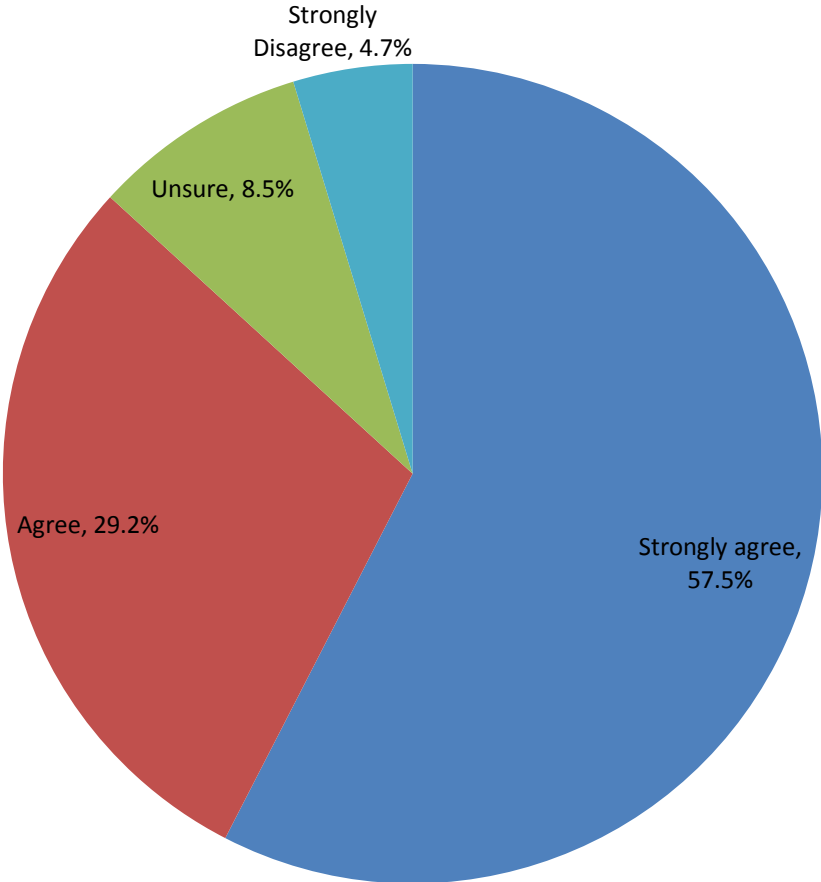


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q42: Coalitions of local stakeholder representatives to work cooperatively on implementing G2Z solutions.

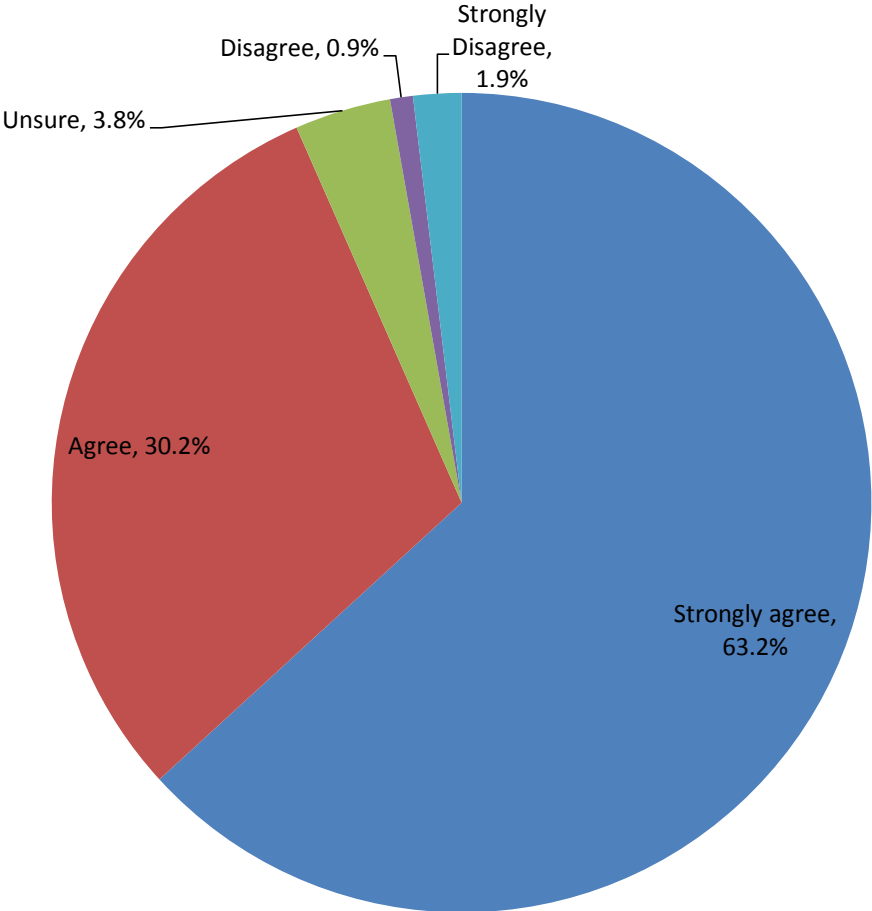


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q43: Share statistics as a motivator to get your community involved in solutions.

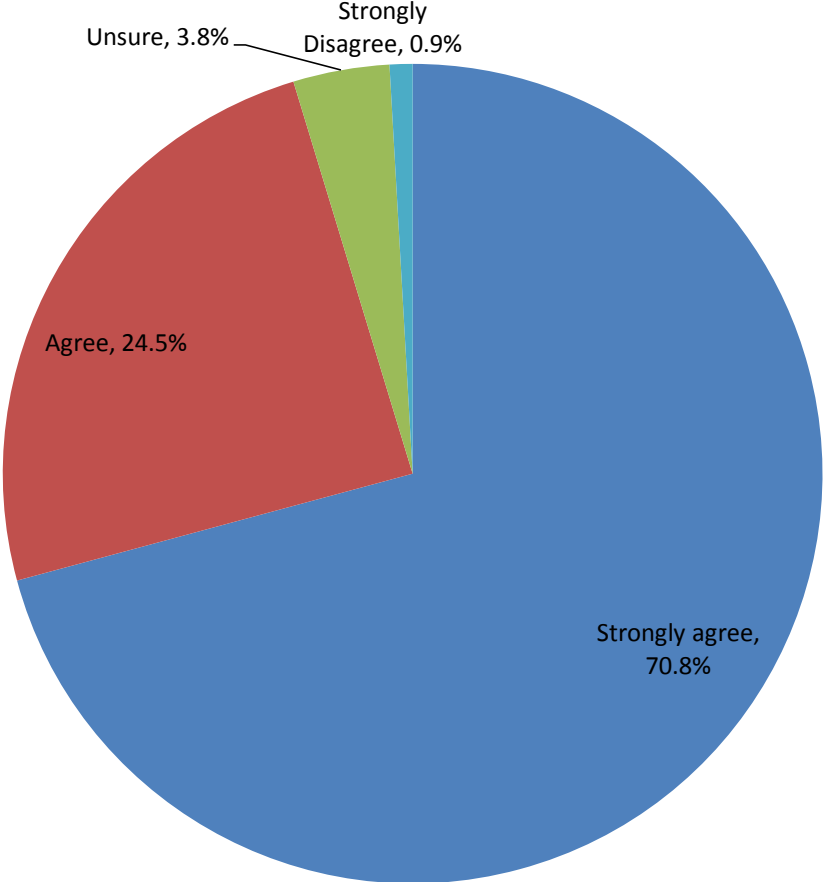


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q44: Education programs for primary and secondary students.

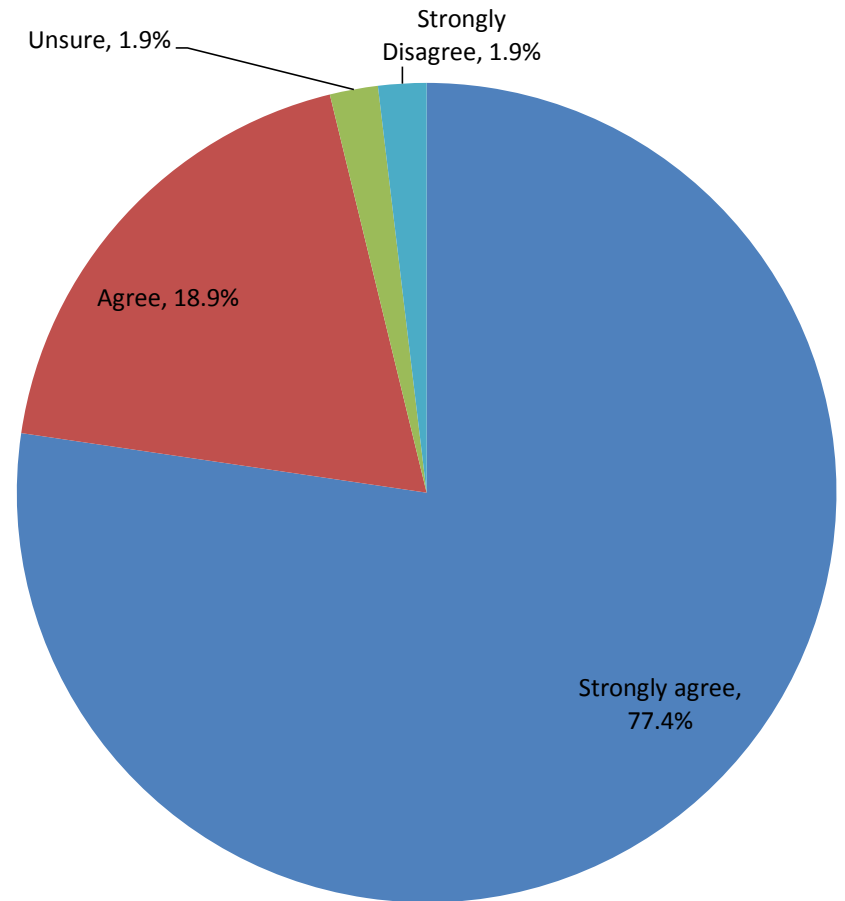


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q45: Community Education programs to raise awareness about desexing, identification, training and keeping cats safe.

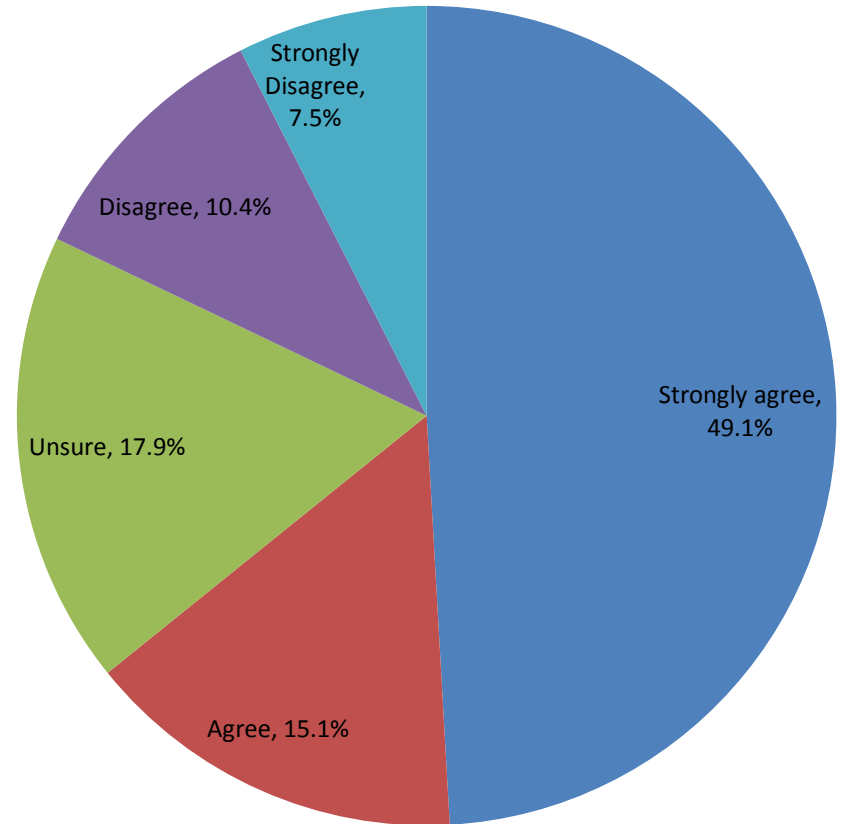


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q46: Shelters and Pounds - Fostering of all unweaned kittens, timid and sick cats and kittens until they are able to be safely desexed and rehomed.

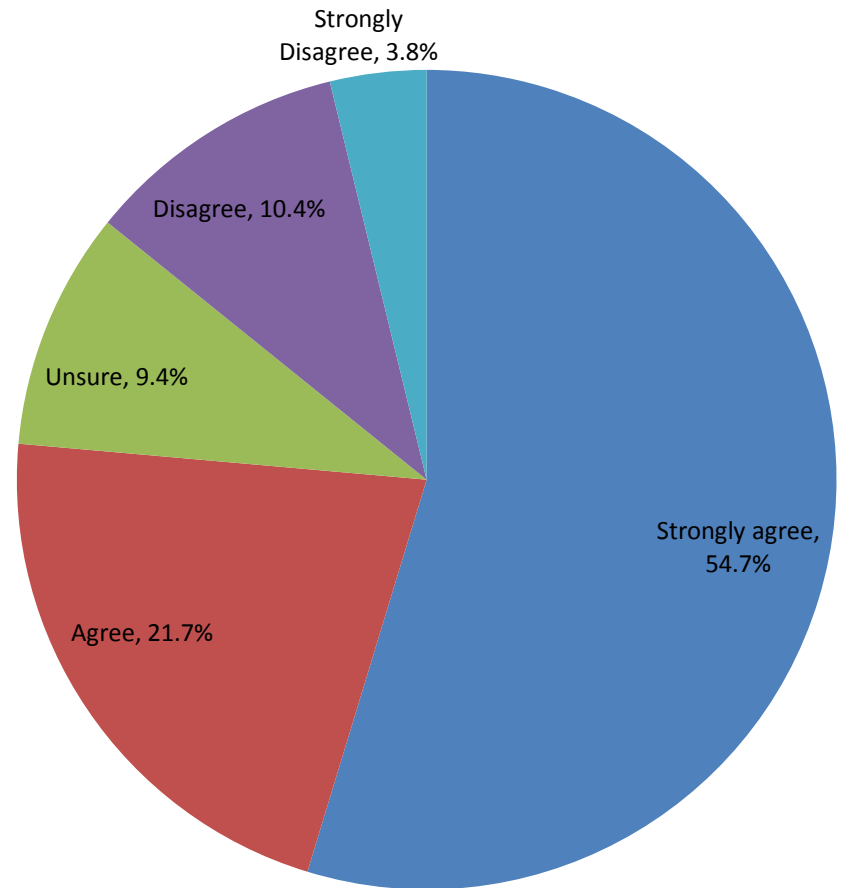


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q47: Shelters and Pounds - Have a shelter/pound veterinary clinic to provide desexing and on-site care to all animals.

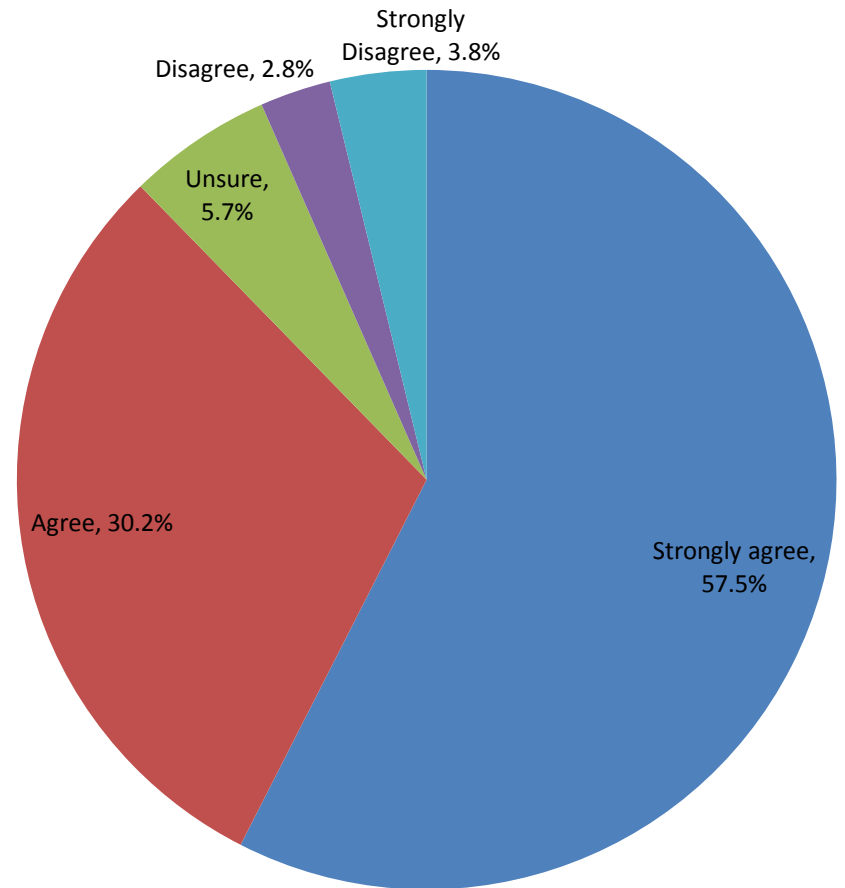


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q48: Shelters and Pounds - Proactive Rehoming Policies i.e. online promotions, extensive opening hours.

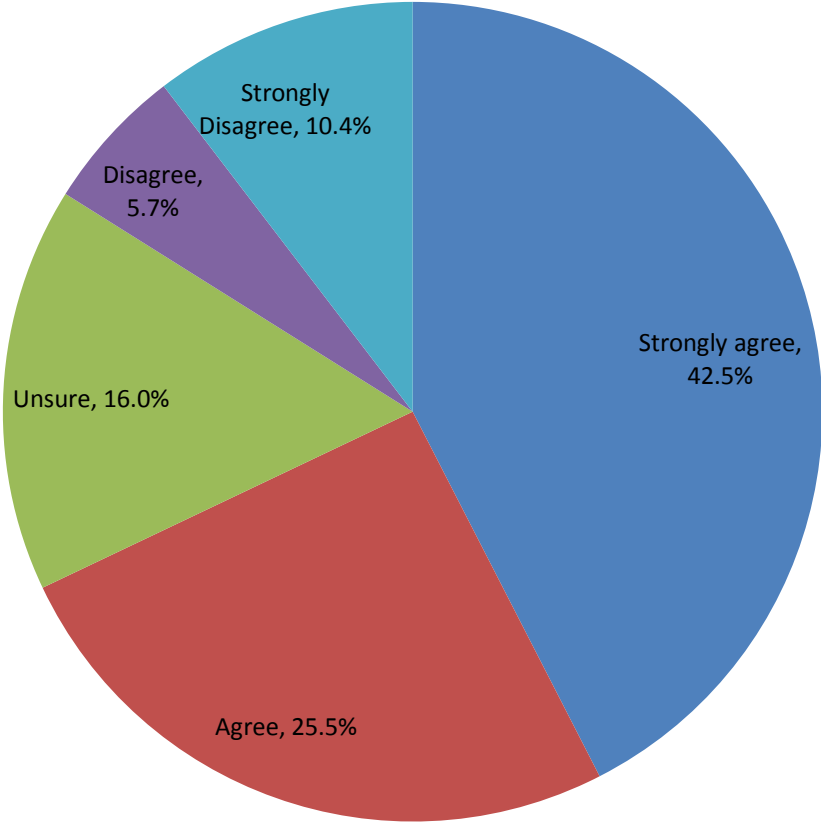


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■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q49: Shelters and Pounds - Local pet shops to rehome pound/shelter cats and kittens.

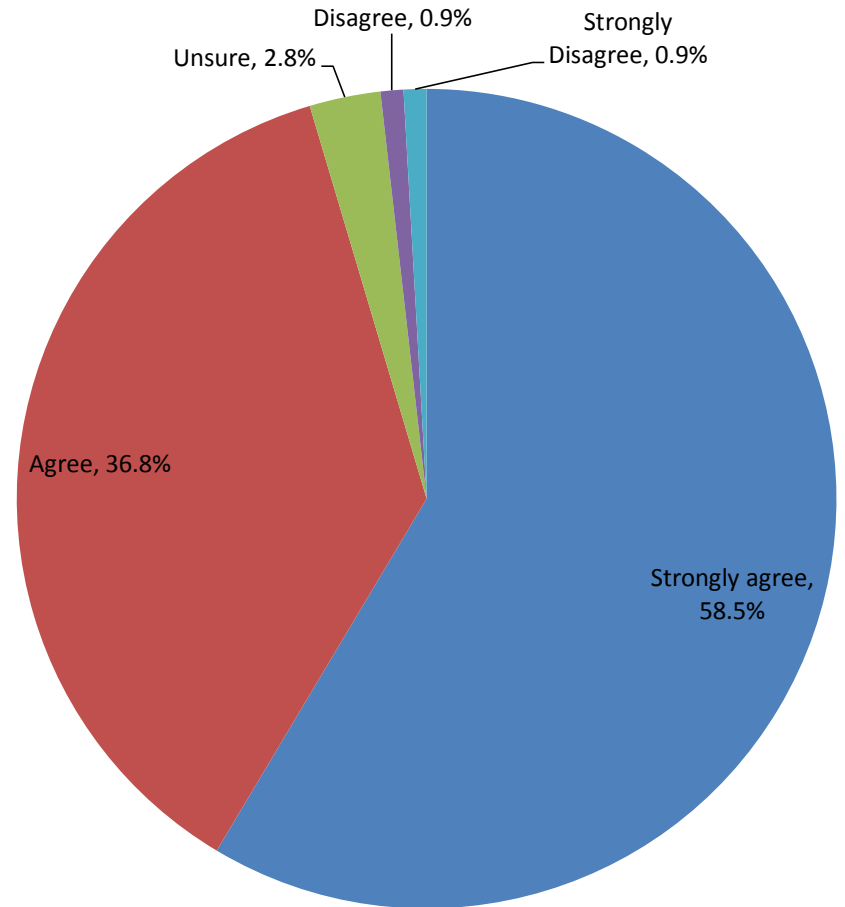


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q50: Veterinary schools and veterinary students - Provide all veterinary students with work placement in animal shelters.

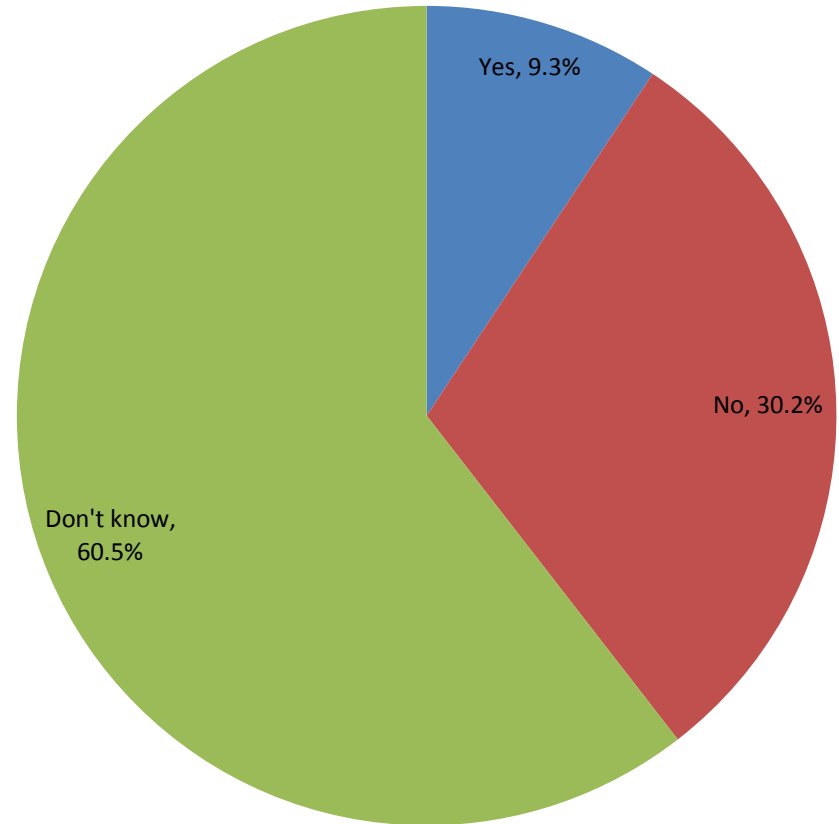


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q51: If you are a veterinary school or student, do you already have this element of the plan in place or is it under consideration?

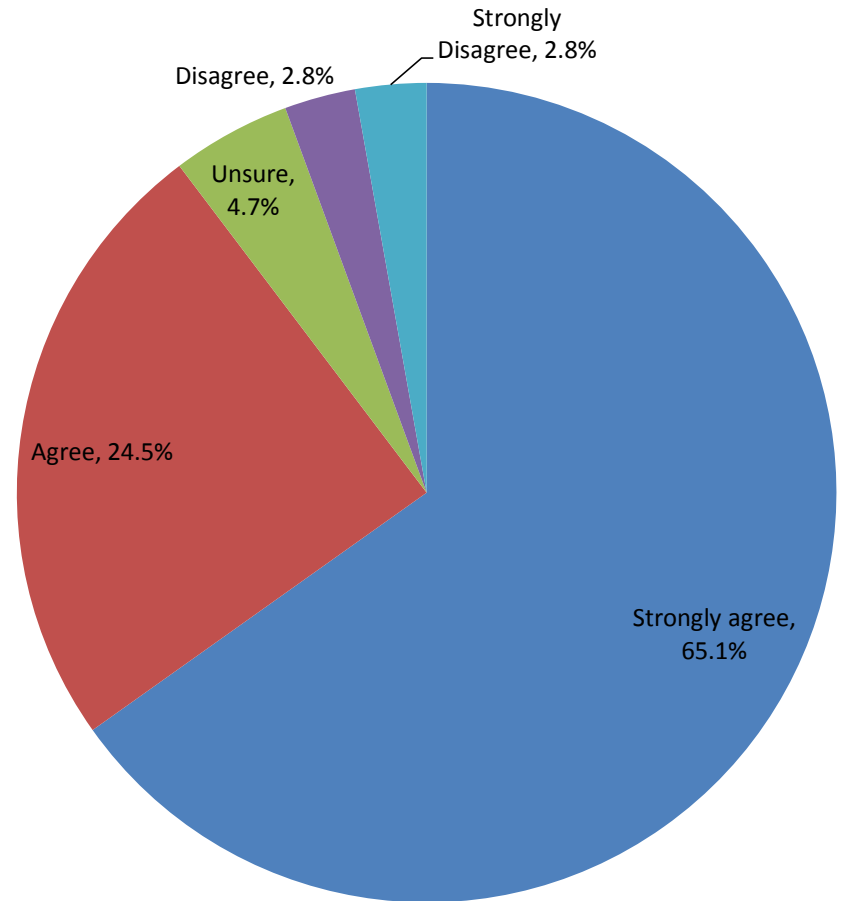


Answered: 42 Skipped: 59



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q52: Veterinary Schools and veterinary students - Provide students with training in early age desexing.

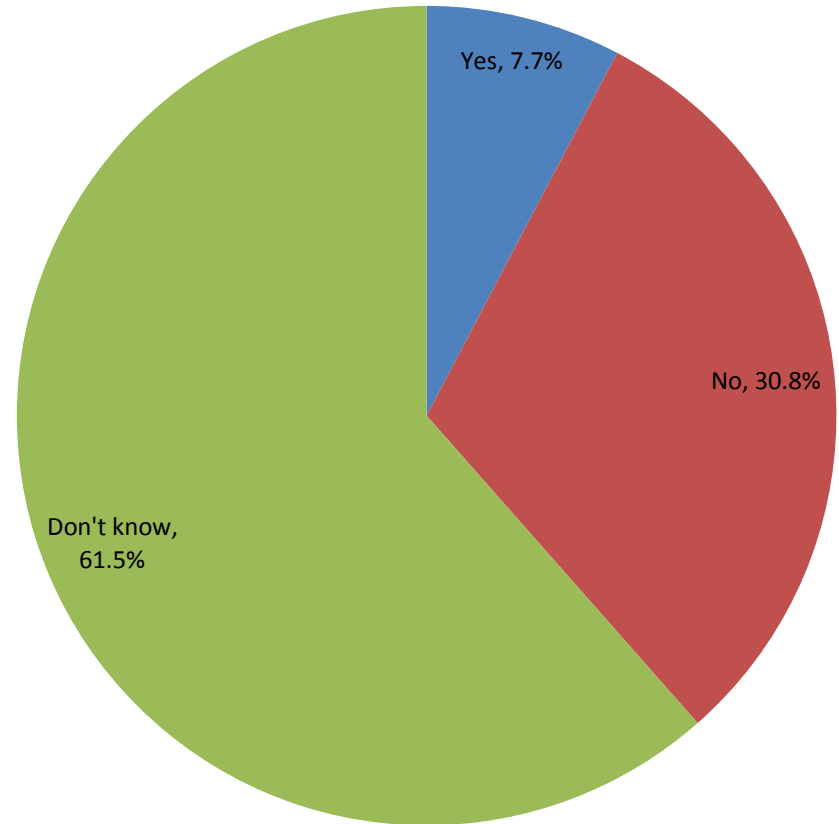


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q53: If you are a veterinary school or student, do you already have this element of the plan in place or is it under consideration?

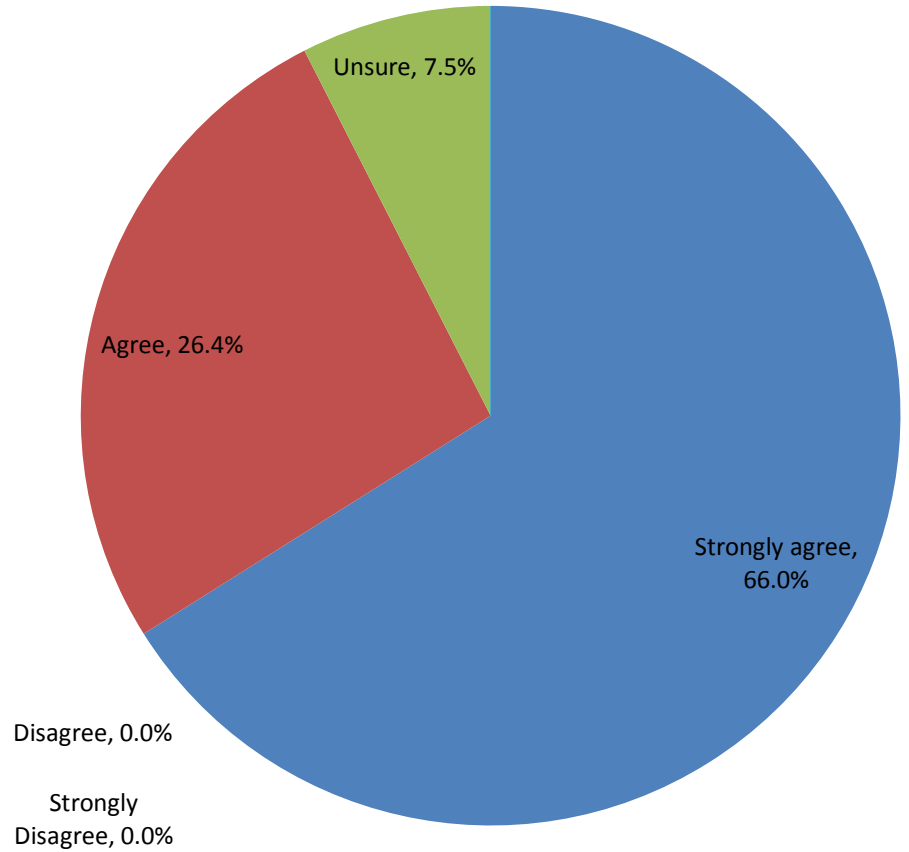


Answered: 38 Skipped: 63



■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q54: Veterinary Schools and veterinary students - Include in course content unwanted cat issues and ways veterinarians can help address these issues.

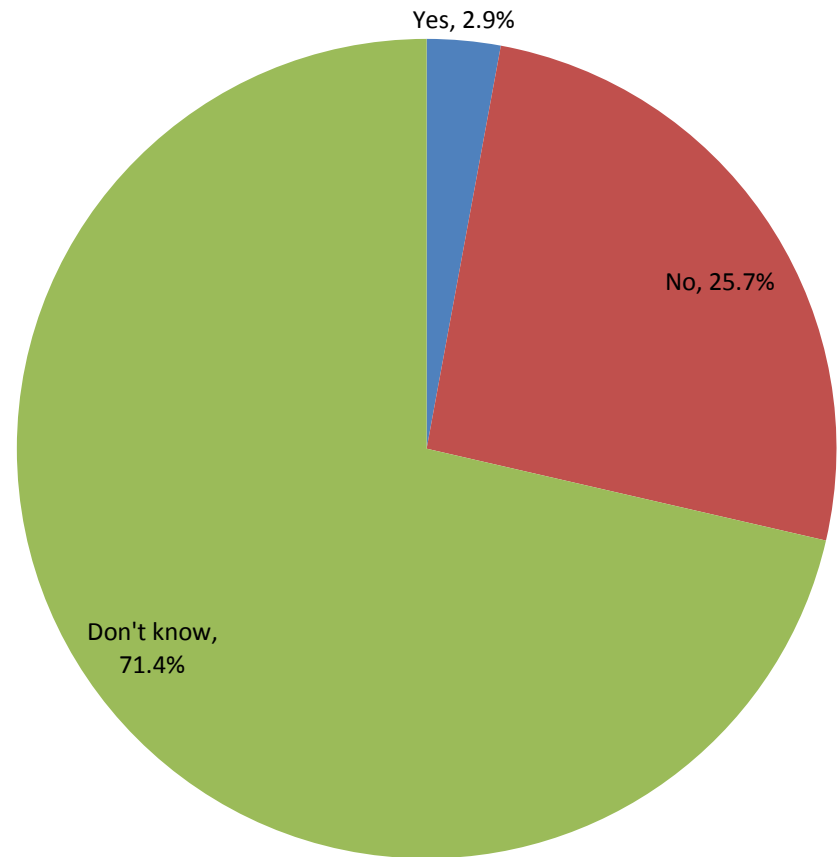


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

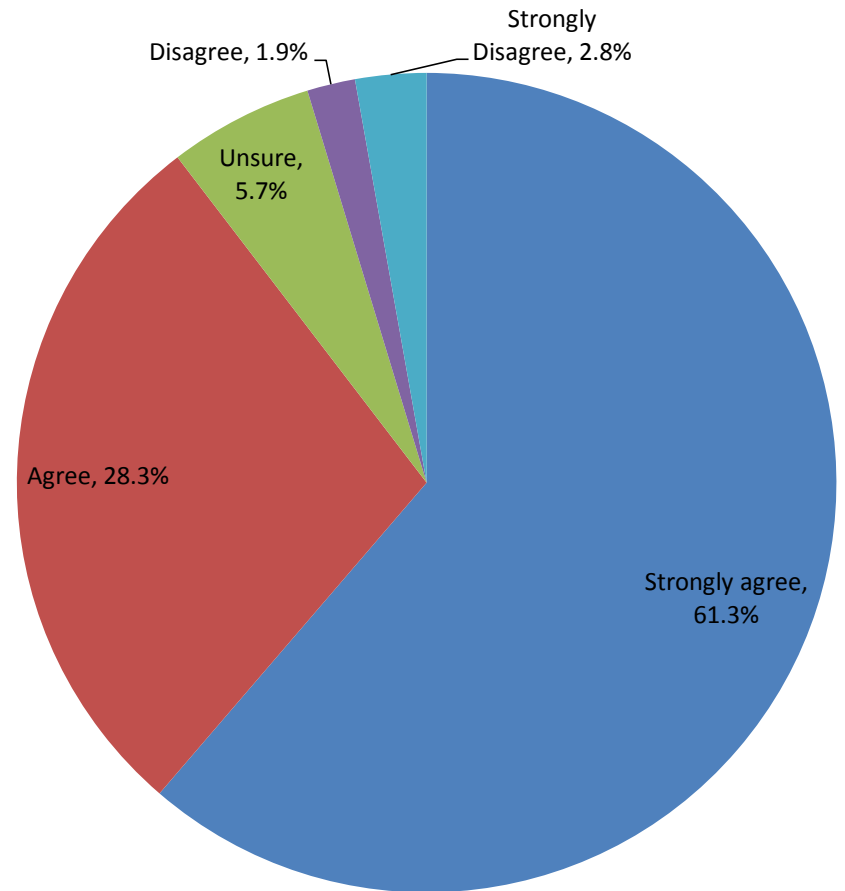
Q55: If you are a veterinary school or student do you already have this element of the plan in place or is it under consideration?



Answered: 33 Skipped: 68

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Q56: Veterinary Practices - Establish a Community Veterinary Clinic or other community desexing support system.

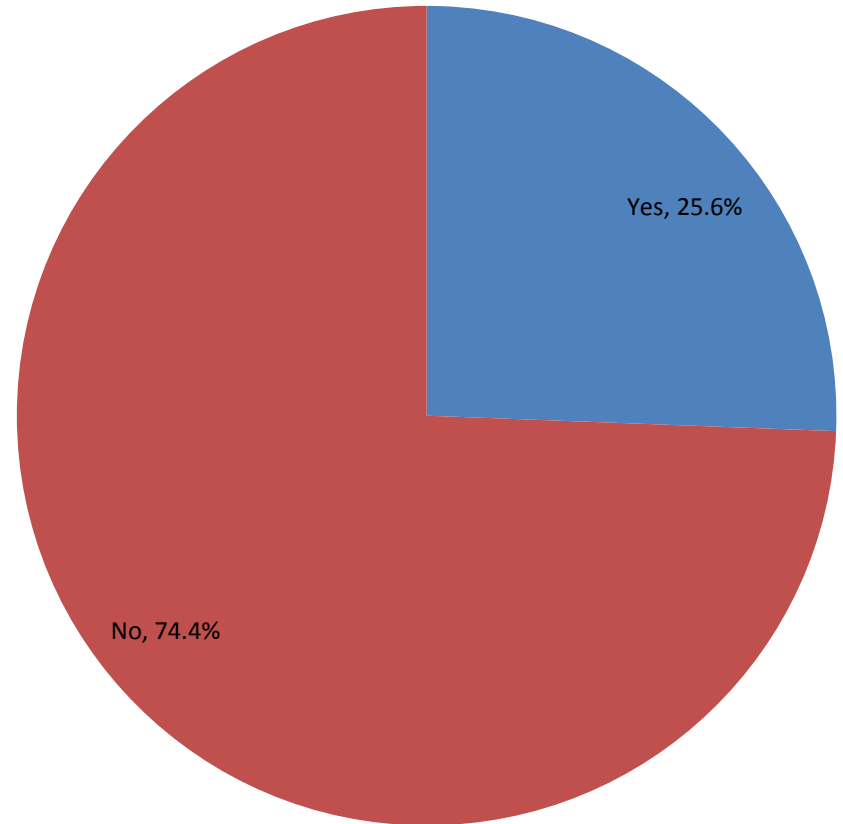


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

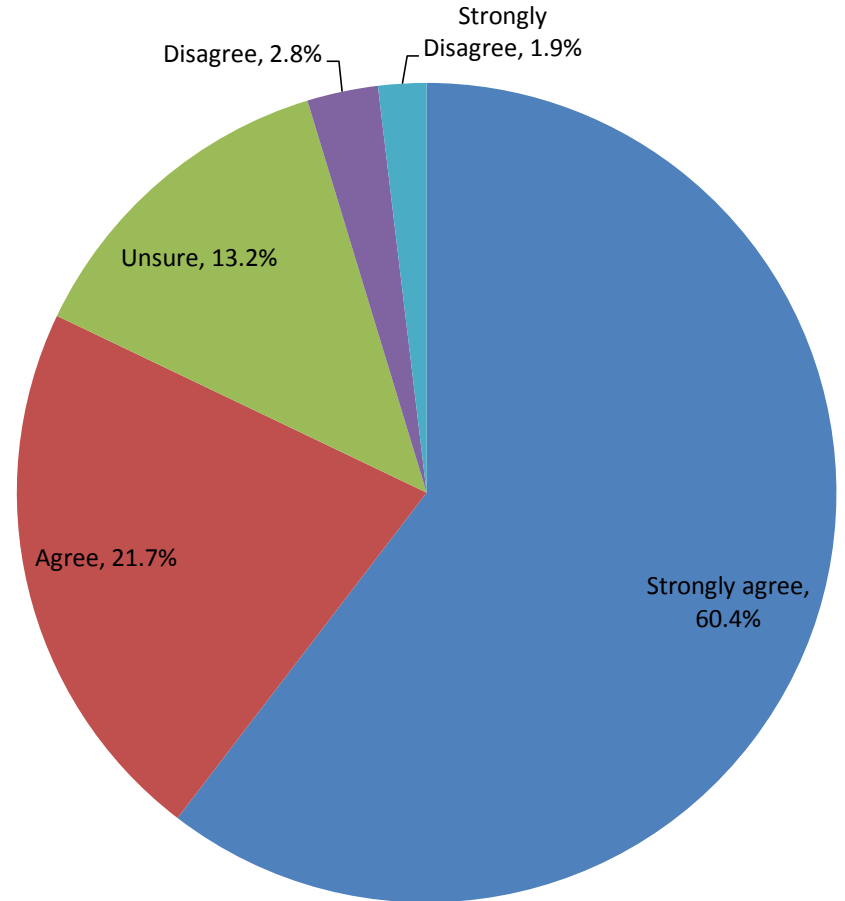
Q57: Do you have already have this element of the plan in place in your veterinary clinic?



Answered: 41 Skipped: 60

■ Yes ■ No

Q58: Veterinary Practices - Offer early age desexing of kittens from 8 - 10 weeks of age.

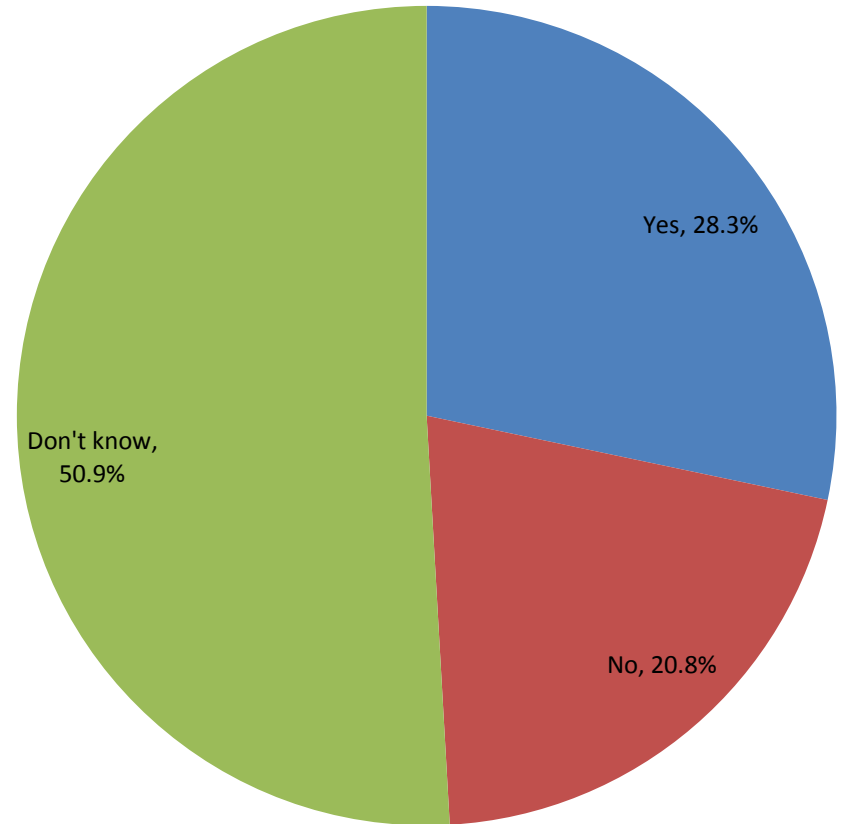


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q59: Do you already offer early age desexing of kittens from 8 - 10 weeks of age in your veterinary clinic?

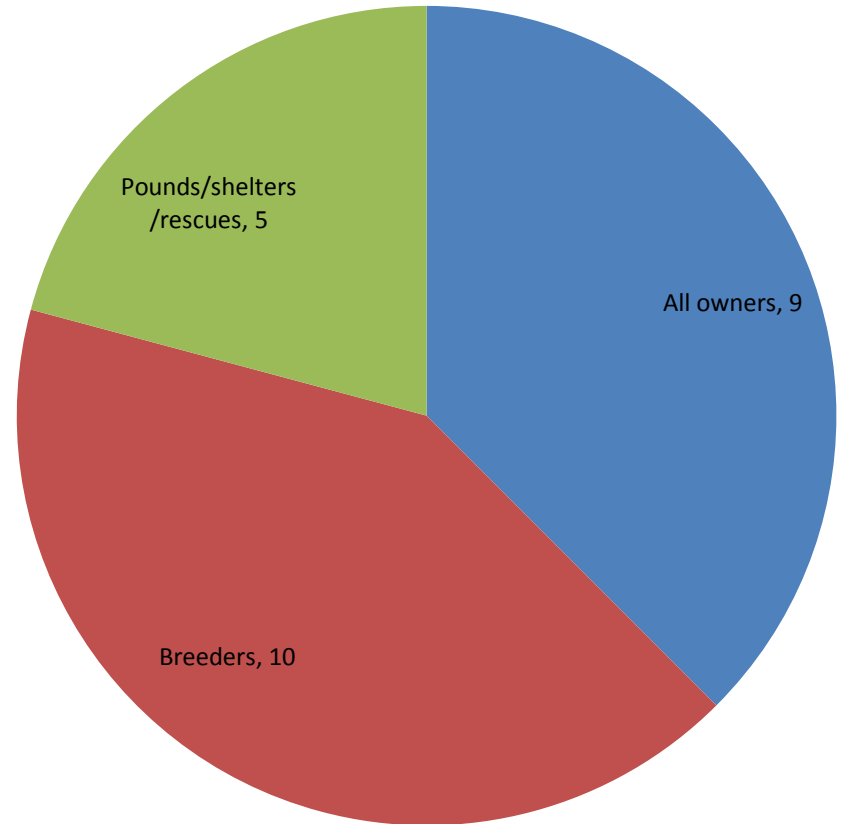


Answered: 51 Skipped: 50

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q60: If your clinic does offer early age desexing of kittens from 8 - 10 weeks of age is it to:

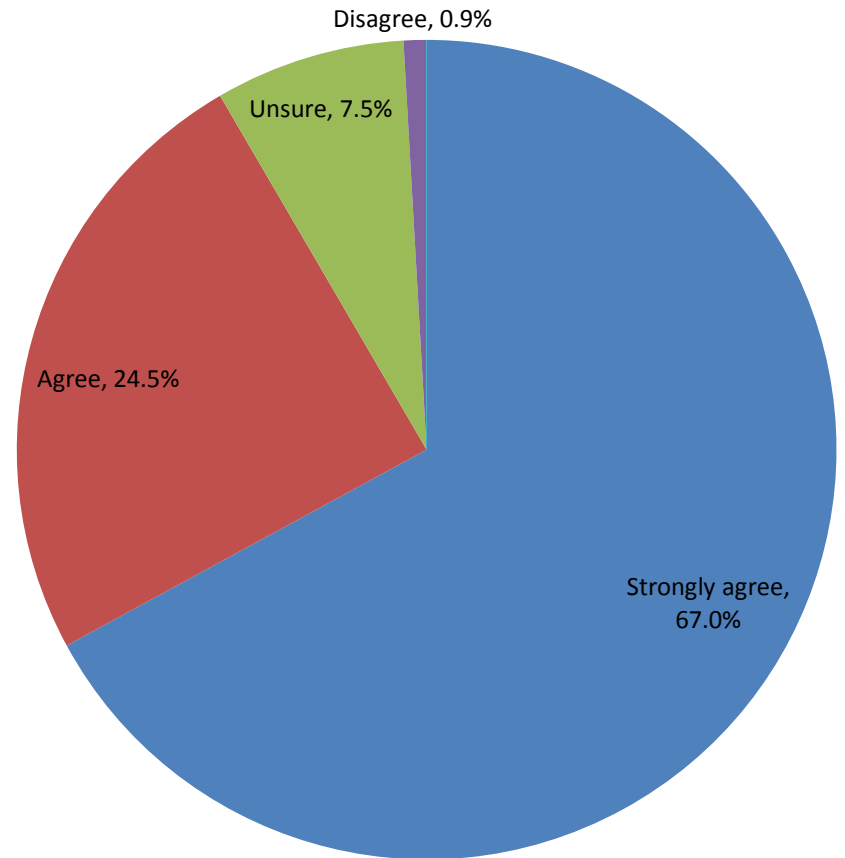


Answered: 25 Skipped: 76



■ All owners ■ Breeders ■ Pounds/shelters/rescues

Q61: Journalists - Share information about the issues AND how the community can contribute positively to solutions.



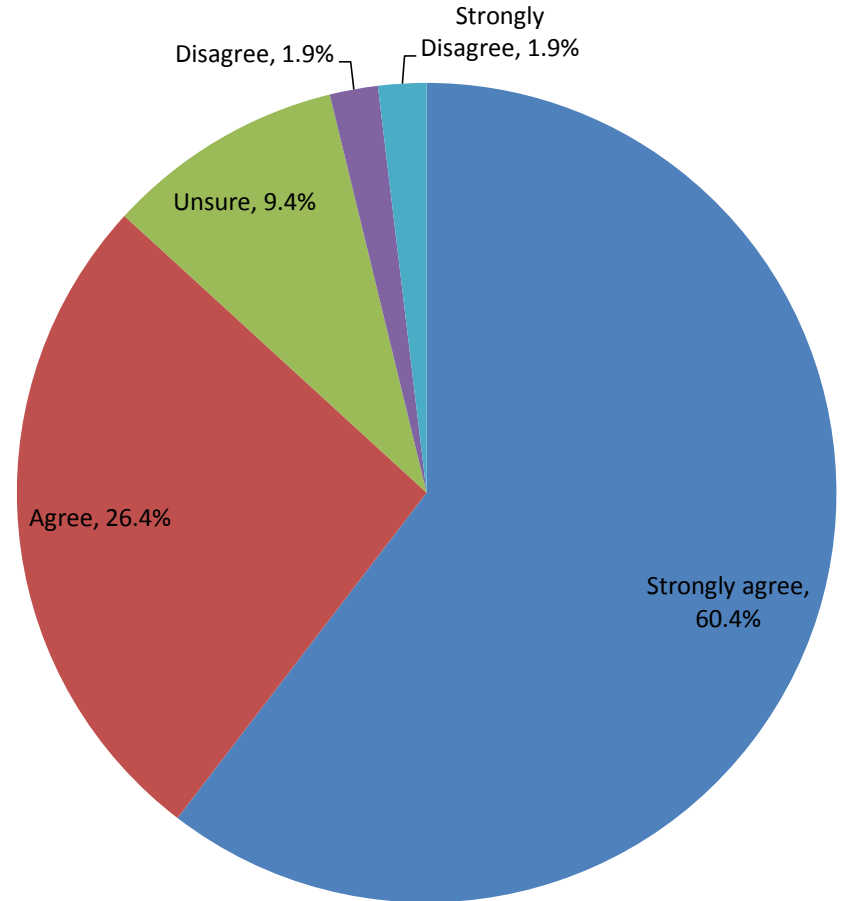
Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



Strongly Disagree, 0.0%

■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q62: Journalists - Report on G2Z initiatives of local government and animal welfare groups.

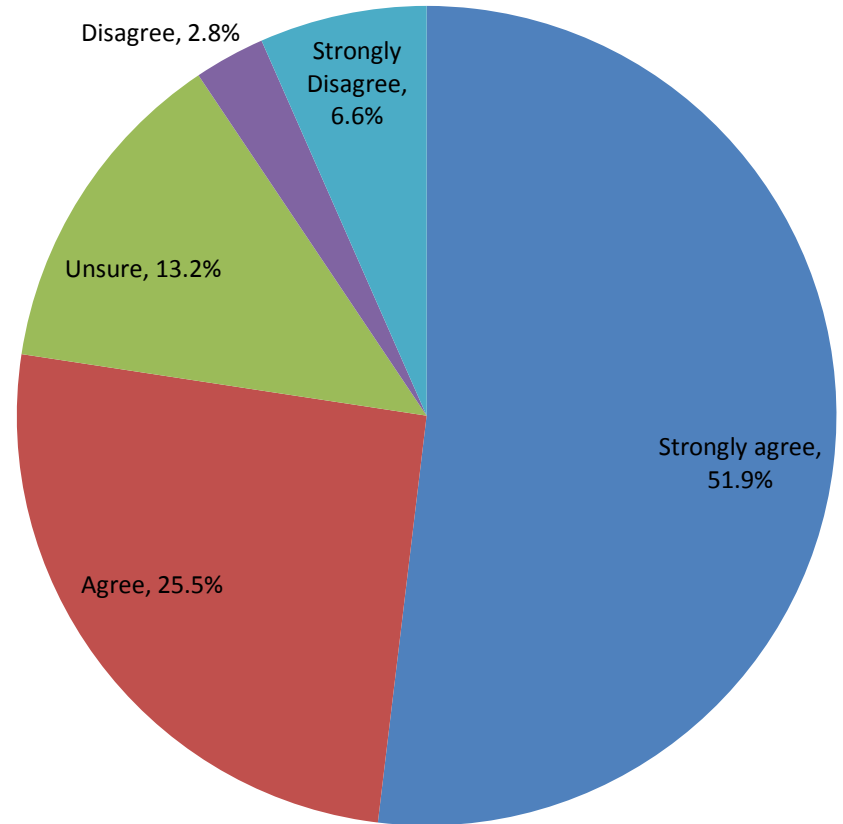


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q63: Real Estate Professionals and Body Corporate Bodies promote cat friendly lease agreements.

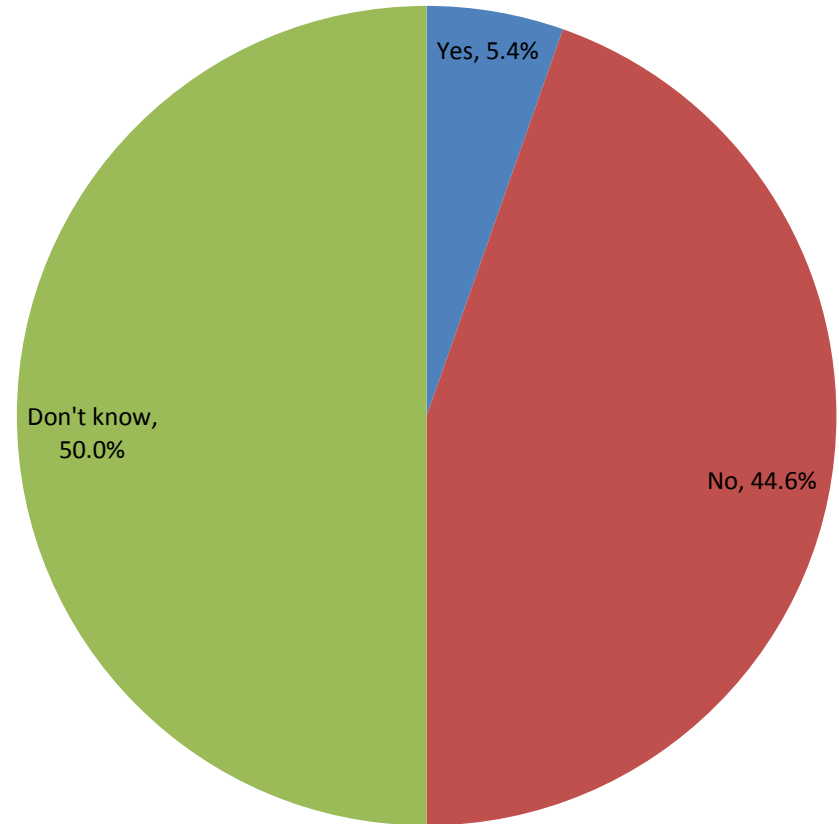


Answered: 101 Skipped: 0



■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Unsure ■ Disagree ■ Strongly Disagree

Q64: Do you have already have this element of the plan in place in your real estate or body corporate organisation?

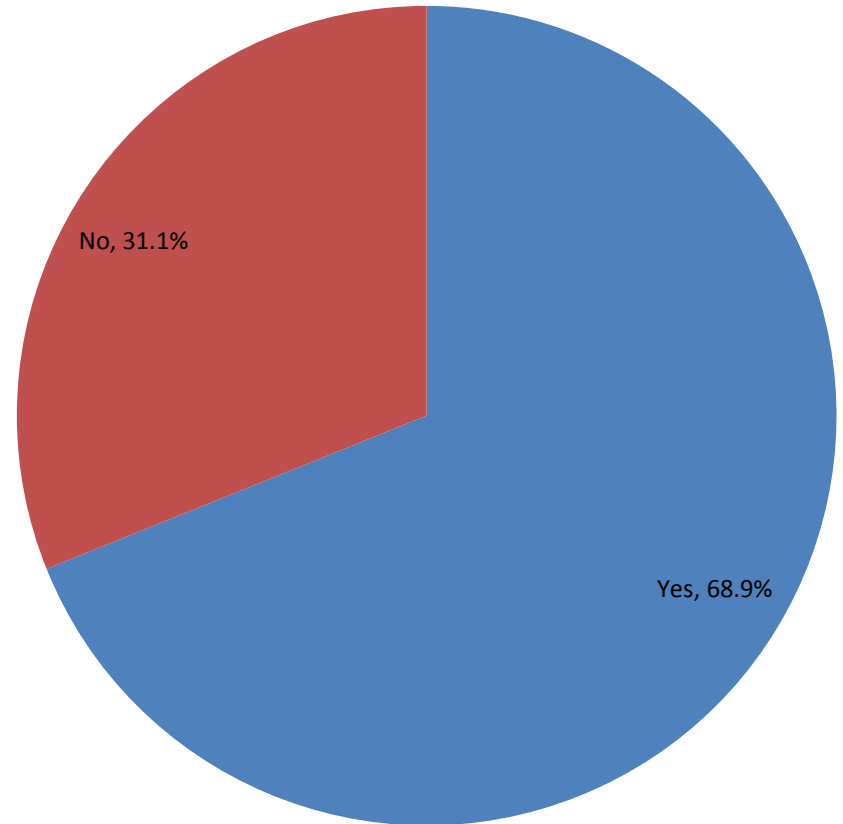


Answered: 54 Skipped: 47

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know



Q67: I give permission for my name/organisations name to be included in the list of respondents with the results of this consultation.



Answered: 101 Skipped: 0

■ Yes ■ No

In addition to the online responses, 12 written responses were received from organisations, including:

- 3 Animal Welfare organisations
- 2 Cat Breeder Organisations
- 2 State Governments
- 1 Local Govt An Man Dept
- 1 Vet organisation
- 1US University
- 1 Australian University
- 1 Law Society

See summary of these responses on next slide



Results of the 10 written responses from organisations are summarised below:

Responses **Agree** **Don't agree** **Partly agree** **No Comment** **Overall general support for plan**

Solutions	Animals Australia	AVA	Tas Govt Invasive Species Dept	The Law Society of NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee	UQ Centre for Companion Animal Health	Animal Welfare League Australia	Ipswich City Council	Ballarat Animal Advocates Association	UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Programme	QLD DAFF Animal Biosecurity & Welfare	Australian Cat Federation	Australian National Cats Inc.
1 Common legislation across jurisdictions	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
2 Breeder Permit System	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Partly agree	Partly agree	Agree	Partly agree
3 Pet Shop Permit System	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Partly agree	Partly agree	Agree	No Comment
4 Desexing prior to sale or transfer from breeders	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Partly agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree
5 Desexing prior to sale or transfer from pet shops	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Partly agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree
6 Microchipping from breeder	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	Agree
7 Cooperative Desexing Programs	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree
8 LG Owner support policies	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
9 Sharing local statistics and solutions with public	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
10 Education Programs in Primary & Sec Schools (involve in cat issues and solutions)	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment
11 Community Education Program	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment
12 Vet School in pounds/shelters/learnin g EAD	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
13 Shelter Vet clinics	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
14 Desex all cats/kittens prior to rehoming	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	Agree	Partly agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Partly agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree
15 Community Vet Clinic's	Agree	No Comment	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
16 Fostering	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Partly agree	Partly agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment
17 Cat friendly accommodation laws with owner responsibilities	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	Agree	No Comment	Agree	No Comment

National Cat Action Plan progress

The responses received via the online and manual surveys have been used to add to and modify the National Cat Action Plan proposal.

The online and manual responses have been used to add to and modify the National Cat Action Plan proposal.

The revised document NCAP Draft 2 was addressed at a national meeting of stakeholders in August 2014 for further refinement to produce a strongly supported way forward.

To receive updates on the progress of the G2Z National Cat Action Plan, email us to be on the G2Z e-News mailing list.

For enquiries or to arrange a meeting with a G2Z representative to discuss these strategies, either by attending one of your organisation's meetings or a personal or Skype meeting with a key representative of your organisation, please email info@g2z.org.au. We offer our services to work with you to put the proposal into action.