



## National Pet Health Survey: Healthy Pets, Healthy People

### Background

Over 55% of U.S. households own a pet dog or cat. Companion animals can have direct benefits to their owners' health and well-being. In addition, because pets often share their owners' living spaces and have accelerated life spans, they can also be important indicators of exposure to chemicals and other potential health risks to humans.

The One Health Commission is using citizen science and crowdsourcing tools to collect important data from the public about disease and health in pet dogs and cats. EPA is collaborating with the OHC on this effort and will be analyzing the collected survey data. The summarized results may also be integrated into EPA's EnviroAtlas website

([www.epa.gov/enviroatlas](http://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas)).

EnviroAtlas is a set of online interactive tools and resources that can be used to explore the benefits people receive from nature.

### Data Collection

OHC is administering a short (~6 minute) online survey to record specific types of pet disease and health data such as cancers, diabetes, asthma, and tick-borne illnesses. The survey also collects related data such as the pets' sex, age, breed, weight,



and whether they live indoors or outdoors. If participants choose, a survey can be completed for each dog or cat in the household.

The survey is open to the public and accepting responses (as of October 2017). Data collection will take place until January 20, 2020, or until the maximum number of respondents (300,000) has filled out the survey, whichever comes first.

Summaries of the survey data will be periodically provided on the public website.

### Anticipated Outcomes

The OHC is committed to working collaboratively to attain optimal health for people, domestic animals, wildlife, plants, and the environment.

The intent for this survey data collection is to shed light on health and disease for pet dogs and cats across the U.S. and provide scientists, concerned pet

owners, and the general public with an informational database for further exploration.

By incorporating collected pet health data into EnviroAtlas, citizen scientists will be able to view pet health information by specified areas, such as zip codes or states, in order to learn about emerging pet health issues in those geographic areas.

These data also can help EPA researchers identify potential human exposure to health risks by locating where health issues affecting pets might also be impacting pet owners.

### Access the Survey

<https://www.onehealthcommission.org/index.cfm?NodeID=93484>

### Twitter Updates

@OneHealthCom

### Contact

[PetSurvey@onehealthcommission.org](mailto:PetSurvey@onehealthcommission.org)