

The Pandemic's Impact on Pet Ownership and Owners' Psychological Well-being

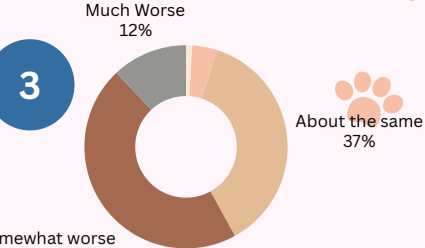
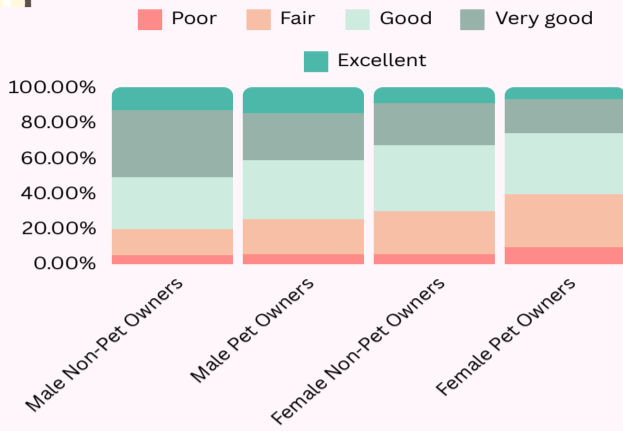
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The global COVID-19 pandemic, beginning in late 2019, brought significant changes to societies worldwide, affecting economies and mental health on a large scale.

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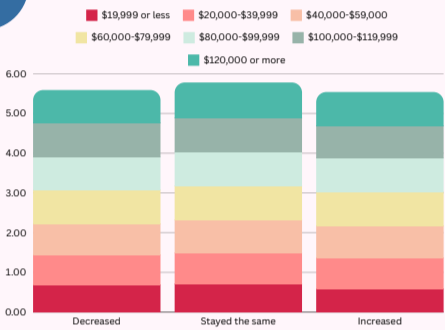
Difference in Mental health for Genders based on Pet Ownership during COVID-19



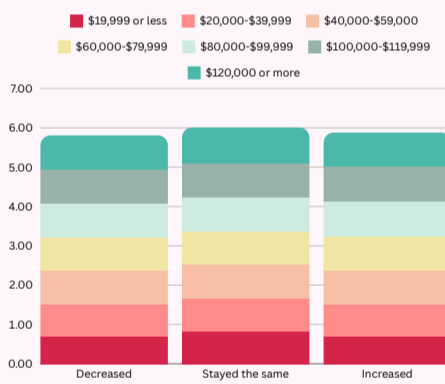
However, the Mental Health of New Pet Owners remained the same about 37%

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Impact of Change in Income In Pet Owners' Mental Health



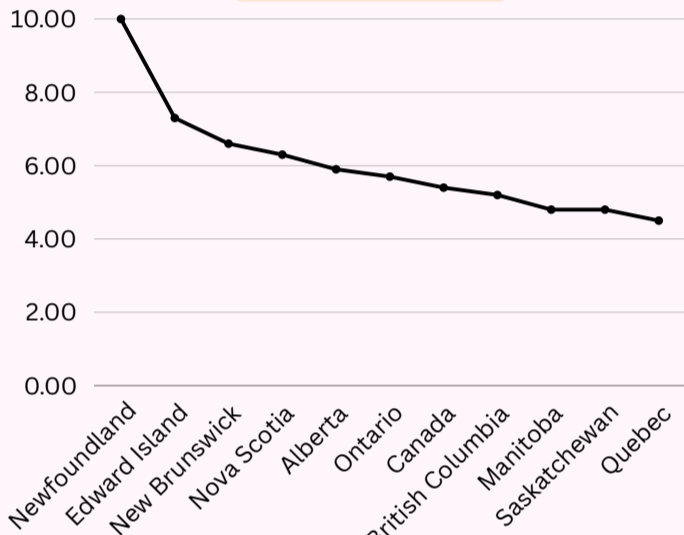
Impact of Change in Income In Non-Pet Owners' Mental Health



The high unemployment rate resulted in changes in incomes, consequently, affecting people's mental health.

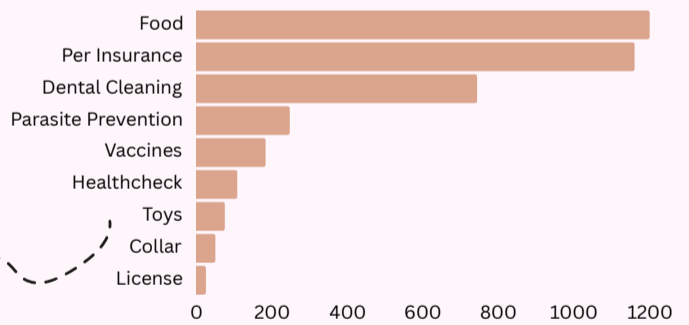
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Increase in Unemployment in Different Provinces of Canada



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Annual Cost of Caring for a Dog in Canada 2022, by Expense Type

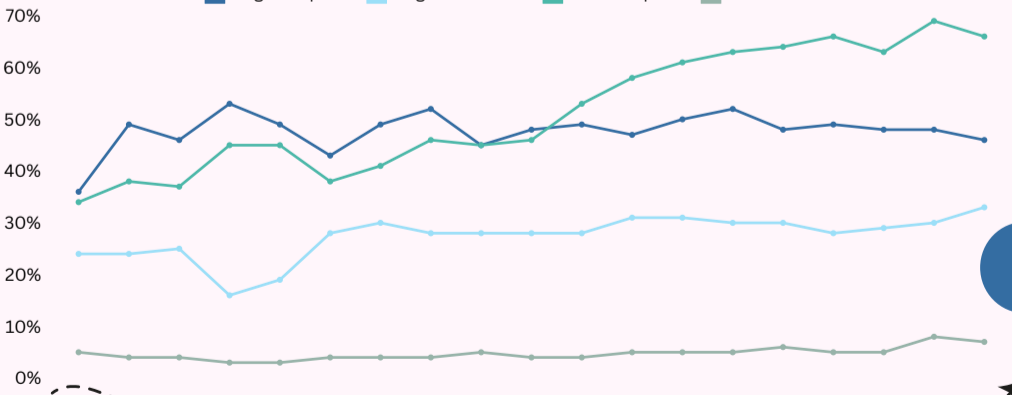


The cost of raising pets as too high which a financial strain on pet owners, especially when they where struggling to make ends meet.

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Changes in Pet Adoption Rates

Dogs Adopted, Dogs Reclaimed, Cats Adopted, Cats Reclaimed



8

Conclusion

COVID-19 had an adverse effect on vulnerable groups like women and people with lower groups. Moreover, global inflation and increase in unemployment rate led to the abandonment of pets.

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Recommendations

- 01 Define appropriate individual/family profiles for pet adoption
- 02 Encourage pet owners to participate in social groups
- 03 Conduct further research to understand a true picture of pandemic effects
- 04 Develop economic supportive politics for pet owners and pet shelters

Sources

Denis-Robichaud, J., Aenishaenslin, C., Richard, L., Desmarchelier, M., & Carabin, H. (2021). Association between Pet Ownership and Mental Health and Well-Being of Canadians Assessed in a Cross-Sectional Study during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Harvard Dataverse. Statista Consumer Insights. (2024). Target audience: Pet lovers in Canada. Statista. Statistics Canada. (2024). Rate of unemployment in Canada from 2000 to 2023. Statista. Statista. (2021). Change in number of people in selected income tiers due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic worldwide in 2020. Ontario Veterinary Medical Association. (2022). Annual cost of caring for a cat in Canada in 2022, by expense type. Statista.