

SPAY/ NEUTER RESOURCE OVERVIEW:

A SURVEY OF SHELTERS, RESCUES, AND PROGRAMS UTILIZED IN
COUNTIES AND REGIONS OF INDIANA

DECEMBER 12, 2012



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

www.in.gov/boah

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) undertook the study of spay and neuter resources available across the state after legislation was proposed to provide funding for a statewide program.

The information in this report was gathered via an online survey tool that was sent to as many animal control agencies, animal shelters, pet rescues and spay/neuter clinics as could be identified. (The list was built using BOAH's database, internet searches and referrals.) Groups that did not respond were subsequently contacted by telephone or in person to encourage completion of the survey. The results reflect the input of 171 of more than 200 groups identified statewide. Every effort was made to contact at least one organization in every county between May 1 and Oct. 1, 2012.

BACKGROUND

In the absence of statewide, mandated animal control, local government units must determine what—if any—animal control and sheltering services are offered in their jurisdictions. Goals typically focus on stray control, animal bite reporting, and adoption, if possible. The size and scope of these efforts range from large municipal shelters funded entirely by government to small privately run operations that receive no public dollars. Spay/neuter services are very much a part of their programs with the long-term mission to decrease the number of animals brought to the shelters.

Three entities exist in regard to spaying and neutering:

1. No-kill shelters that do not euthanize any adoptable animal. Generally a policy of private (vs. government) shelters, these organizations will utilize contracted veterinarians or (for larger facilities) veterinarians on staff to spay/neuter their own animals.
2. Low-cost spay/neuter clinics make services accessible and affordable to any member of the public or area shelters and rescues. In some cases, clients may need to meet financial qualifications; no-cost options are sometimes available for those unable to afford them.
3. Veterinarians in private clinical practice, long a source of health care, have seen a dramatic drop in the number of sterilization surgeries they perform because of those services being provided prior to adoption or from central spay/neuter clinics.

RESULTS

An effort was made to identify animal groups in each Indiana county. Nine counties had no responses—a few declined to participate, while others either had no organization to contact or could not be reached. A very diverse sample from very small rescues to very large shelters was identified. Survey results are attached, along with a map of responding organizations.

Organizational structures varied from private non-profits with governing boards to government-run and financed animal control agencies that are part of a city or county division, such as public safety, sheriff's office, or the city or county council. One-third of the groups surveyed worked with law enforcement, primarily on neglect cases or helping with seizure in an animal situation. Forty-three percent of responders report providing services to privately owned animals.

Service areas across county lines produced a mixed response. More than 50 percent of the organizations worked in some way with other counties, especially those bordering. About 30 percent of municipal shelters provided services strictly to their county or city residents.

Three statewide programs bear noting, as they provide wider area services in innovative ways. See attached Appendix for information on Spay Neuter Services Inc., Spay Indiana, Priority 4 Paws, as well as feral cat programs.

Vaccinations are among other services provided at spay/neuter shelters. The survey asked about vaccination protocols to see what is being done in the preventative health area. Almost all organizations (90%) gave canine distemper combination and feline panleukopenia combination with respiratory viruses. More than 60 percent vaccinated for bordatella or kennel cough. Rabies was given by veterinarians either on-site or required later as a condition of adoption. Indiana state law requires all dogs, cats and ferrets 3 months of age and older to be vaccinated for rabies by a licensed accredited veterinarian.

Funding categories were identified for various entities. Fewer than 25 percent were totally funded with public dollars. More than half of the respondents selected "Private Non-Profits," either with a government contract to provide services (20%) or operating on donations (34%) alone. Six privately funded stand-alone spay/neuter clinics were identified statewide. Funding for spay and neuter services was collected primarily from private donations (47%) with grant monies (25%), fee-for-service (24%), fundraisers (36%) and adoption fees (46%) providing the bulk of the funding. Only 3 percent of the groups identified public funding as part of their spay/neuter budget.

Some programs did not offer spay/neuter services at all (28%), but they frequently directed clients to resources in the community. Most groups focused on making sure the animals they dealt with directly were spayed or neutered and then looked to help the public by identifying programs that provide surgery, usually at a reduced rate for the consumer. The number of animals altered varied widely, but more than 60 percent of the programs performed surgery on 500 animals or fewer during the year.

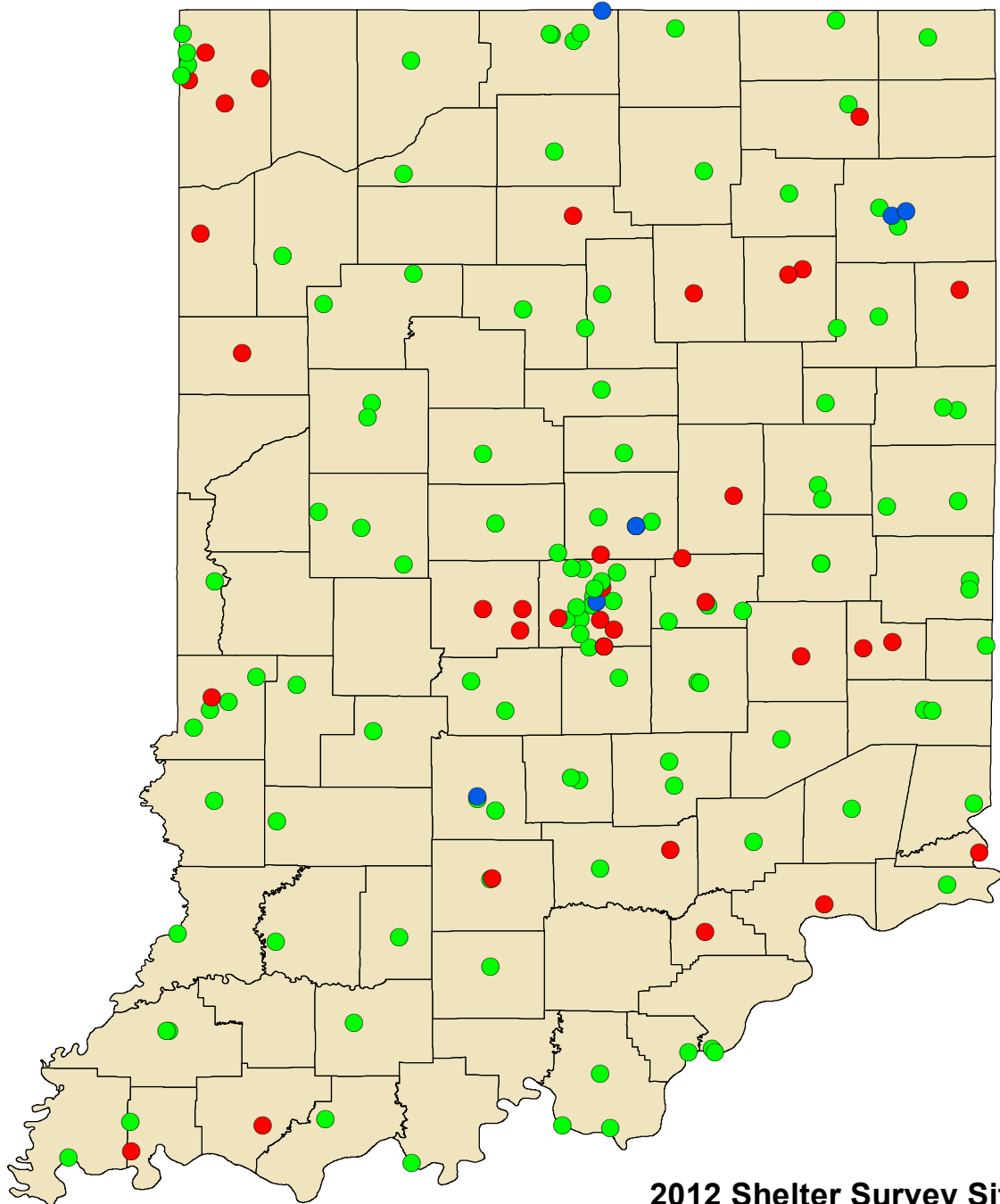
DISCUSSION

Animal shelters in Indiana come in all sizes and shapes. Government-run and financed agencies comprise a smaller percentage than private non-profits. The delivery of spay/neuter services seems to be trending from the private veterinarian in the community to in-house staff or stand-alone clinics that provide basic medical care. However, underserved counties may not have easy access to these services.

When asked what resources were most needed to provide more spay/neuter services to their clients and/or the general public, respondents placed low-cost services at the top of the list. However, most of the groups cited public education and outreach as just as important as lowering the cost.

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8YWa VYf &\$%&



2012 Shelter Survey Sites

- Shelter with No Spay Neuter
- Shelter with Spay Neuter
- Spay Neuter Clinic Only

Indiana State Board of Animal Health Spay/Neuter Survey Results

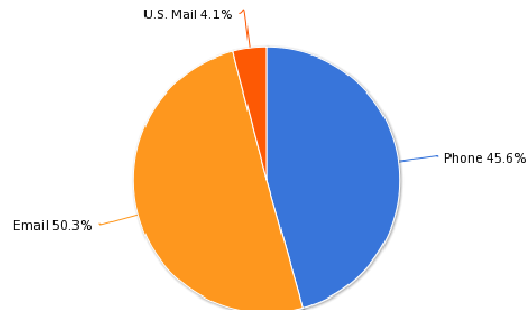
December 2012

1. In what county is your organization located?

County	Count	Percent
Adams	2	1.2%
Allen	4	2.3%
Bartholomew	3	1.8%
Benton	1	0.6%
Blackford	1	0.6%
Boone	1	0.6%
Brown	2	1.2%
Carroll	0	0.0%
Cass	2	1.2%
Clark	2	1.2%
Clay	1	0.6%
Clinton	1	0.6%
Crawford	0	0.0%
Daviess	1	0.6%
Dearborn	1	0.6%
Decatur	2	1.2%
De Kalb	0	0.0%
Delaware	2	1.2%
Dubois	1	0.6%
Elkhart	1	0.6%
Fayette	2	1.2%
Floyd	1	0.6%
Fountain	0	0.0%
Franklin	3	1.8%
Fulton	1	0.6%
Gibson	2	1.2%
Grant	1	0.6%
Greene	1	0.6%
Hamilton	4	2.3%
Hancock	4	2.3%
Harrison	2	1.2%
Hendricks	4	2.3%
Henry	2	1.2%
Howard	1	0.6%
Huntington	2	1.2%
Jackson	2	1.2%
Jasper	1	0.6%
Jay	2	1.2%
Jefferson	1	0.6%
Jennings	1	0.6%
Johnson	3	1.8%
Knox	1	0.6%
Kosciusko	1	0.6%
La Porte	1	0.6%
Lagrange	1	0.6%
Lake	7	4.1%
Lawrence	2	1.2%
Madison	2	1.2%
Marion	27	15.8%
Marshall	1	0.6%
Martin	1	0.6%
Miami	1	0.6%
Monroe	3	1.8%

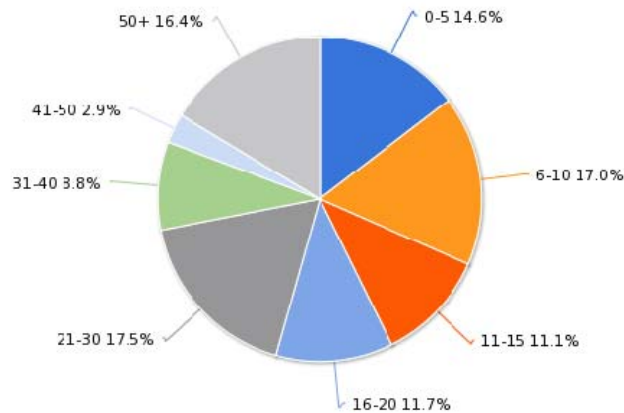
Montgomery	4	2.3%
Morgan	2	1.2%
Newton	1	0.6%
Noble	2	1.2%
Ohio	1	0.6%
Orange	1	0.6%
Owen	1	0.6%
Parke	0	0.0%
Perry	1	0.6%
Pike	0	0.0%
Porter	1	0.6%
Posey	1	0.6%
Pulaski	0	0.0%
Putnam	0	0.0%
Randolph	2	1.2%
Ripley	1	0.6%
Rush	1	0.6%
St. Joseph	4	2.3%
Scott	1	0.6%
Shelby	2	1.2%
Spencer	1	0.6%
Starke	1	0.6%
Steuben	1	0.6%
Sullivan	1	0.6%
Switzerland	1	0.6%
Tippecanoe	5	2.9%
Tipton	1	0.6%
Union	1	0.6%
Vanderburgh	2	1.2%
Vermillion	1	0.6%
Vigo	5	2.9%
Wabash	1	0.6%
Warren	1	0.6%
Warrick	1	0.6%
Washington	0	0.0%
Wayne	2	1.2%
Wells	2	1.2%
White	1	0.6%
Whitley	1	0.6%

2. What is your organization's preferred method of contact?



Method	Count	Percent
Phone	78	45.6%
Fax	0	0.0%
Email	86	50.3%
U.S. Mail	7	4.1%

3. How many years has your organization been in existence?



Years	Count	Percent
0-5	25	14.6%
6-10	29	17.0%
11-15	19	11.1%
16-20	20	11.7%
21-30	30	17.5%
31-40	15	8.8%
41-50	5	2.9%
50+	28	16.4%

4. Do you have an advisory or governing board?

	Count	Percent
Yes	119	69.6%
No	52	30.4%

5. Do you work with other Indiana counties (intake, serving, impacting)?

	Count	Percent
Yes	93	54.4%
No	78	45.6%

6. If yes, which counties?

County	Count	Percent
All Indiana Counties	34	20.0%
No Other Indiana Counties	52	30.6%
Adams	3	1.8%
Allen	1	0.6%
Bartholomew	1	0.6%
Benton	1	0.6%
Blackford	1	0.6%
Boone	5	2.9%
Brown	4	2.4%
Carroll	2	1.2%
Cass	1	0.6%
Clark	2	1.2%
Clay	5	2.9%
Clinton	4	2.4%
Crawford	3	1.8%

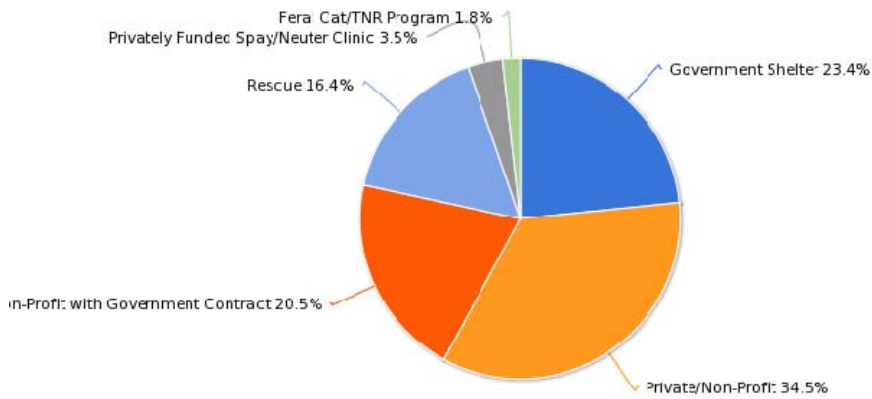
Daviess	1	0.6%
Dearborn	2	1.2%
Decatur	4	2.4%
De Kalb	2	1.2%
Delaware	3	1.8%
Dubois	2	1.2%
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Fayette	3	1.8%
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Gibson	1	0.6%
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Huntington	5	2.9%
Jackson	6	3.5%
Jasper	4	2.4%
Jay	2	1.2%
Jefferson	1	0.6%
Jennings	3	1.8%
Johnson	10	5.9%
Knox	0	0.0%
Kosciusko	3	1.8%
La Porte	4	2.4%
Lagrange	4	2.4%
Lake	3	1.8%
Lawrence	3	1.8%
Madison	4	2.4%
Marion	24	14.1%
Marshall	4	2.4%
Martin	2	1.2%
Miami	2	1.2%
Monroe	4	2.4%
Montgomery	2	1.2%
Morgan	9	5.3%
Newton	3	1.8%
Noble	3	1.8%
Ohio	1	0.6%
Orange	2	1.2%
Owen	4	2.4%
Parke	2	1.2%
Perry	1	0.6%
Pike	1	0.6%
Porter	5	2.9%
Posey	1	0.6%
Pulaski	0	0.0%
Putnam	4	2.4%
Randolph	1	0.6%
Ripley	3	1.8%
Rush	4	2.4%
St. Joseph	2	1.2%
Scott	2	1.2%

Shelby	5	2.9%
Spencer	2	1.2%
Starke	2	1.2%
Steuben	2	1.2%
Sullivan	5	2.9%
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Tippecanoe	3	1.8%
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Union	2	1.2%
Vanderburgh	1	0.6%
Vermillion	4	2.4%
Vigo	7	4.1%
Wabash	1	0.6%
Warren	0	0.0%
Warrick	2	1.2%
Washington	2	1.2%
Wayne	1	0.6%
Wells	3	1.8%
White	3	1.8%
Whitley	5	2.9%

7. Is your organization currently affiliated with a law enforcement agency?

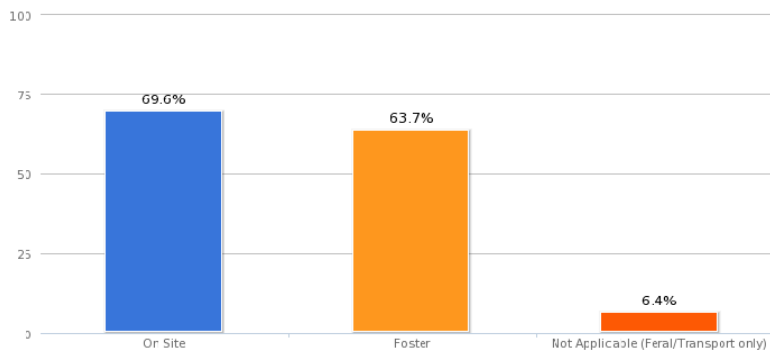
	Count	Percent
Yes	59	34.5%
No	112	65.5%

8. How is your organization primarily funded?



Method	Count	Percent
Government Shelter	40	23.4%
Private/Non-Profit	59	34.5%
Private/Non-Profit with Government Contract	35	20.5%
Rescue	28	16.4%
Privately Funded Spay/Neuter Clinic	6	3.5%
Feral Cat/Trap-Neuter-Return Program	3	1.8%

9. How are animals housed within your organization?



Housing	Count	Percent
On Site	119	69.6%
Foster	109	63.7%
Not Applicable (Feral/Transport only)	11	6.4%

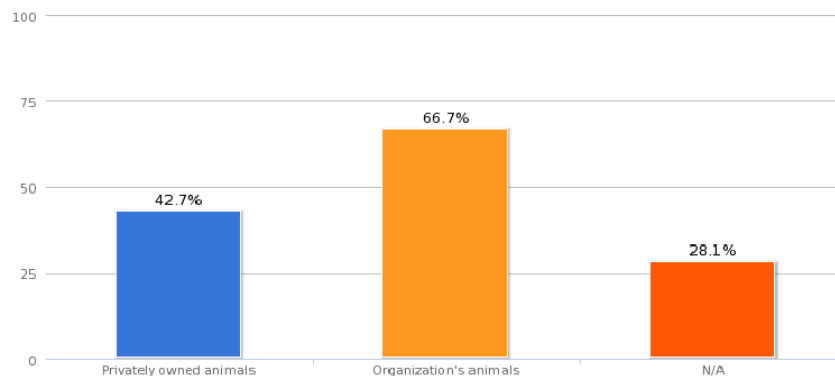
10. Please describe how your organization is staffed:

# of staff members	0	1-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-30	31-50	51-100	101-200	200+
Paid/Full Time	22.6%	58.9%	8.2%	6.2%	0.7%	1.4%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	33	86	12	9	1	2	3	0	0	0
Part Time	35.8%	47.8%	11.9%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	48	64	16	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Volunteer	13.7%	26.1%	17.0%	8.5%	7.8%	5.2%	5.9%	7.2%	3.3%	5.2%
	21	40	26	13	12	8	9	11	5	8

11. Which of the following services do you currently provide for your community? Please select all that apply placing the organization's primary focus in the #1 position.

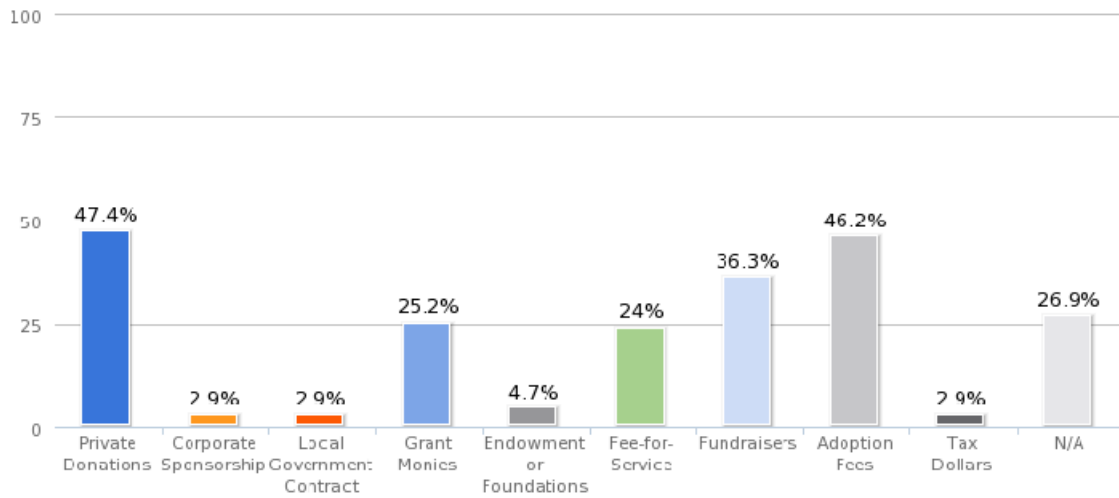
Service	Total Score	Overall Rank
Rescue	413	1
Shelter	405	2
Spay/Neuter Program	313	3
Animal Control	311	4
Humane Society	248	5

12. To whom does your organization provide spay/neuter services?



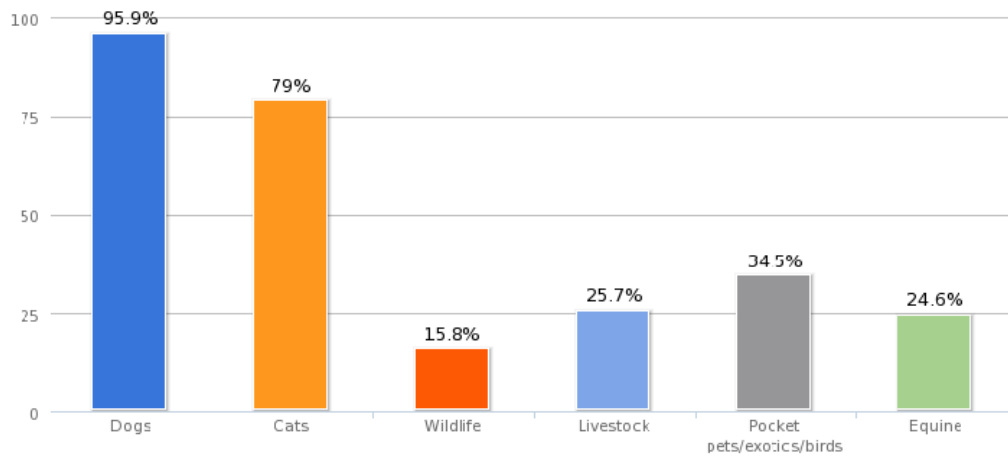
Population Served	Count	Percent
Privately owned animals	73	42.7%
Organization's animals	114	66.7%
N/A	48	28.1%

13. How is your organization's spay/neuter program funded?



Funding Method	Count	Percent
Private Donations	81	47.4%
Corporate Sponsorship	5	2.9%
Local Government Contract	5	2.9%
Grant Monies	43	25.2%
Endowment or Foundations	8	4.7%
Fee-for-Service	41	24.0%
Fundraisers	62	36.3%
Adoption Fees	79	46.2%
Tax Dollars	5	2.9%
N/A	46	26.9%

14. What species of animals do you handle?



Species	Count	Percent
Dogs	164	95.9%
Cats	135	79.0%
Wildlife	27	15.8%
Livestock	44	25.7%
Pocket pets/exotics/birds	59	34.5%
Equine	42	24.6%

15. What is your total annual intake volume for each species?

	0	1-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501-600	601-700	701-800	801-900	901-1000	1001-1250	1251-1500	1501-2000	2001-4000	4001-7000	7000+
Dogs	8.2% 14	28.1% 48	9.4% 16	6.4% 11	5.8% 10	4.1% 7	4.1% 7	6.4% 11	7.0% 12	0.0% 0	2.3% 4	8.2% 14	1.2% 2	4.1% 7	2.9% 5	1.2% 2	0.6% 1
Cats	24.6% 42	20.5% 35	4.1% 7	5.8% 10	6.4% 11	3.5% 6	2.9% 5	4.7% 8	5.8% 10	3.5% 6	2.3% 4	5.8% 10	0.6% 1	3.5% 6	3.5% 6	1.8% 3	0.6% 1
Wildlife	86.0% 147	10.5% 18	1.2% 2	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0
Livestock	76.6% 131	22.8% 39	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0
Pocket pets/Exotics/Birds	64.9% 111	32.2% 55	0.6% 1	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	1.2% 2	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0
Equine	79.5% 136	19.9% 34	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0

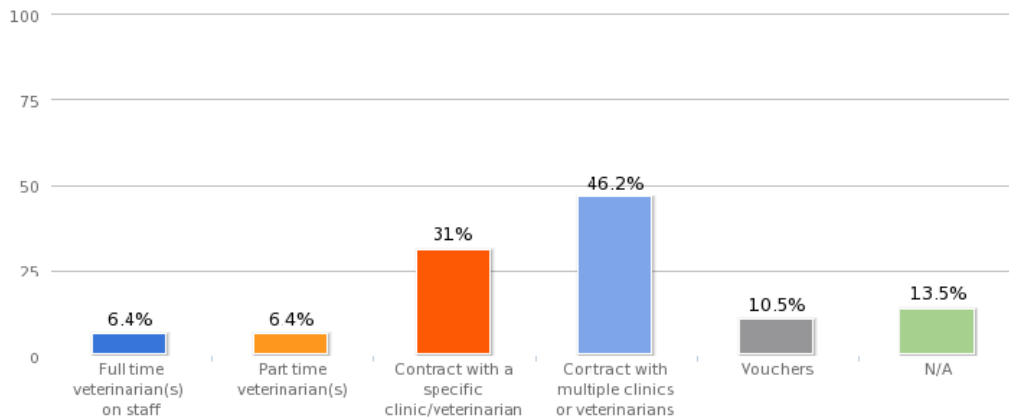
16. Please indicate your housing capacity for the following species:

	0	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-75	76-100	101-150	150+
Dogs	14.0% 24	15.2% 26	16.4% 28	11.7% 20	12.3% 21	8.2% 14	11.1% 19	2.9% 5	4.7% 8	3.5% 6
Cats	28.1% 48	11.1% 19	8.8% 15	15.2% 26	6.4% 11	7.0% 12	7.6% 13	1.8% 3	5.3% 9	8.8% 15
Wildlife	94.2% 161	5.8% 10	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0
Livestock	86.0% 147	13.5% 23	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0
Pocket pets/Exotics/Birds	72.5% 124	20.5% 35	3.5% 6	1.2% 2	1.2% 2	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.6% 1
Equine	88.9% 152	10.5% 18	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.0% 0	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	0.0% 0

17. How many dogs and cats does your organization spay/neuter annually?

	0	1-100	101-200	201-300	301-400	401-500	501-600	601-700	701-800	801-900	901-1000	1001-1250	1251-1500	1501-2000	2001-4000	4001-6000	6001-8000	8000+
Dogs	19.4% 33	31.8% 54	11.8% 20	9.4% 16	2.9% 5	2.4% 4	2.9% 5	4.7% 8	1.8% 3	1.2% 2	1.2% 2	5.9% 10	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	2.9% 5	0.0% 0	1.2% 2	0.0% 0
Cats	33.9% 58	25.1% 43	7.6% 13	5.8% 10	4.1% 7	4.1% 7	2.3% 4	3.5% 6	0.6% 1	2.3% 4	1.8% 3	3.5% 6	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	2.3% 4	1.8% 3	0.6% 1	0.0% 0

18. How are veterinary medical services provided to your organization? (Ex: radiographs, emergency, illness)

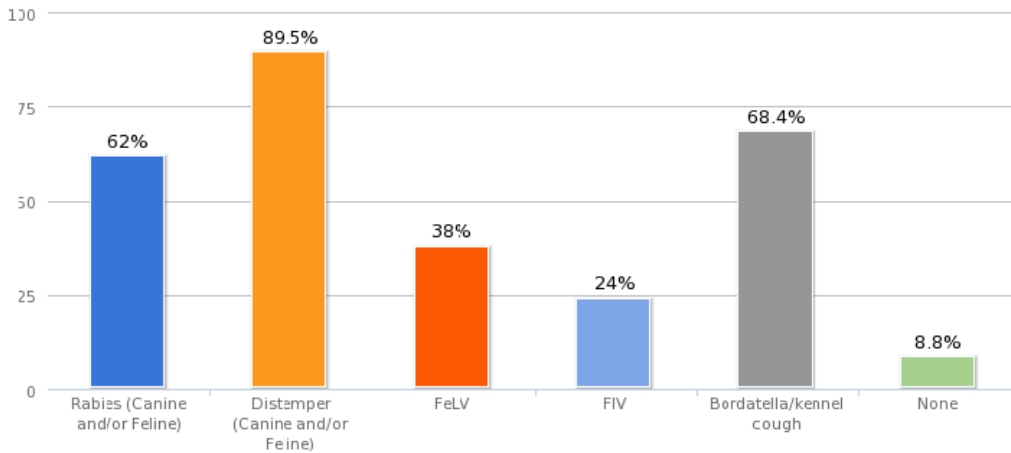


Provider	Count	Percent
Full time veterinarian(s) on staff	11	6.4%
Part time veterinarian(s)	11	6.4%
Contract with a specific clinic/veterinarian	53	31.0%
Contract with multiple clinics or veterinarians	79	46.2%
Vouchers	18	10.5%
N/A	23	13.5%

19. How are spay/neuter services provided to your organization?

	In-house surgery	Referral to local clinic	Mobile clinic	Not Applicable
Full time veterinarian(s) on staff	7.1% 12	0.6% 1	0.0% 0	92.4% 157
Part time veterinarian	5.9% 10	1.8% 3	0.0% 0	92.9% 158
Contract with a specific clinic/veterinarian	8.8% 15	23.5% 40	3.5% 6	66.5% 113
Contract with multiple clinics or veterinarians	7.6% 13	36.8% 63	1.8% 3	55.0% 94
Vouchers	2.9% 5	22.9% 39	0.6% 1	74.1% 126

20. What vaccines are given to animals under your organization's care?



Vaccines	Count	Percent
Rabies (Canine and/or Feline)	106	62.0%
Distemper (Canine and/or Feline)	153	89.5%
Feline Leukemia (FeLV)	65	38.0%
Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)	41	24.0%
Bordatella/Kennel Cough	117	68.4%
None	15	8.8%

21. Please rank the following needs in terms of increasing the number of animals spayed/neutered in association with your organization:

Needs	Total Score	Overall Rank
Low cost services	568	1
Public Education/Outreach	498	2
Veterinary/shelter partnerships	346	3
Facility	302	4
Staffing	293	5

APPENDIX

STATEWIDE PROGRAMS

Three unique statewide programs need to be highlighted in this study. Two have been included in the survey results; the other one is just getting under way.

Spay Neuter Services Inc receives the funds from designated Indiana license plates purchased at the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. *Spay Indiana* is a resource database provided by the Humane Society of Indianapolis that directs people to spay and neuter resources available around the state of Indiana. *Priority 4 Paws* surgical trailer was launched in August of 2012 by the Purdue College of Veterinary Medicine as a teaching tool for students while providing spay/neuter services regionally.

While these new models are being innovative in matching pet owners with spay/neuter resources, as well as providing mobile services, no information currently exists to document the success of these programs. Documenting the impact of these efforts would be important in evaluating the need for further, similar programs.

SPAY NEUTER SERVICES INC. (SNSI)

Founded in 1977, this organization provides services to those with a demonstrated financial need. Once approved, the animal owner must take a voucher with his/her dog or cat to an approved veterinary clinic for the procedure, then the veterinarian is reimbursed by SNSI. The surgery price is reduced and the animal owner pays \$20. Many clinics in Indianapolis accept these vouchers, and may also offer reduced-price vaccines. February and October are designated as special months in which veterinary clinics offer special reduced rates on surgery and basic medical needs like vaccinations. These awareness months are open to all pet owners, not just approved applicants. SNSI continues to seek veterinary clinics around the state to participate in their programs

SNSI applied for an Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles specialty license plate to supplement funding for their spay/neuter assistance program (SNAP). Since revenues of approximately \$25,000 per month began in late 2011, SNSI has provided about 2000 surgeries a year. The group has also developed a grant program for 501c3 organizations, so they can obtain blocks of 10 free surgeries financed with license plate funds. SNSI has a board of directors, but a separate board that administers the license plate funds specifically. Their website is www.spayneuterservices.org , with www.getthemfixed.org soon to be added.

SPAY INDIANA

This service has been operating since April 2012 to direct the public to the closest spay/neuter resources in Indiana. Contact is made primarily by internet and email, or an infrequently used toll-free number. Most contact is made through internet searches by zip code. This service is provided by the Humane Society of Indianapolis (HSI), which tracks new programs, special

programs and any available resources for reduced cost spay and neuter. This is an effort to reach out to the public, emphasize the need to spay and neuter, and refer pet owners to services locally. Their website is www.spayindiana.org

PRIORITY 4 PAWS SURGICAL TRAILER, PURDUE COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

This service was launched in August 2012 with funding provided by PetSmart Charities, the Tony Stewart Foundation, the Ryan Newman Foundation, Midmark, Purdue University and LifeLine Mobile. The program revolves around a custom-built trailer that is equipped to perform spay and neuter services along with basic medical care (pulled by a donated truck) to shelters within 115 miles of West Lafayette. The program may expand its reach as it continues to operate. Fourth year veterinary students can sign up for a rotation that entails traveling and doing surgery four days a week at various locations in Indiana. From July through November, 831 animals have been spayed or neutered, and 38 percent of those have been on pediatric animals. Surgeries are performed on shelter animals only, which the shelter staff selects, and not offered to the general public. The goals of the program are to provide services that will help increase the adoption of shelter animals, provide practical surgical experience to veterinary students, and to instill a philanthropic spirit so that graduating students will be willing to help shelters near where they chose to practice. A veterinarian and veterinary technician were hired to staff the trailer and coordinate the students who participate in the program.

FERAL CAT PROGRAMS

Feral cat programs are a different effort, but part of the overall spay/neuter endeavor. These programs target primarily urban and suburban areas where feral (unowned and unsocialized) cats live in large colonies, which can create a burden on the health of the environment. The challenge is these cats are not easily caught and are unadoptable to a home setting. Nationwide efforts have utilized a trap-neuter-return protocol where these cats are managed as a colony (fed and identified), trapped in wildlife traps, neutered and ear-tipped, then returned to their wild surroundings and monitored. Ordinances in various cities, including Indianapolis, have supported these programs, but they generate disagreement in other sectors.