

## Supplementary Material

### Pet Wellbeing During COVID-19 Lockdown

Welcome!

This is a research survey about the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on pets in New Zealand.

This survey is open to all pet owners in New Zealand who are aged 18 years or older.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

By participating in this survey you are providing consent for your answers to be used in this research.

If you have any further questions please contact [fiona@companionanimals.nz](mailto:fiona@companionanimals.nz)

**\*Required**

Do you feel that your pets have experienced any negative impacts from the lockdown? If yes, what negative impacts have they experienced? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, how do you feel the lockdown has impacted your pets wellbeing? \*

1   2   3   4   5

Wellbeing is far worse   ○   ○   ○   ○   ○   Wellbeing is much better

Have you noticed any changes in your pets behaviour during lockdown? If yes, please give details. \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Has your pet received veterinary care during the lockdown? \*

Yes - my pet has gone in to see the veterinarian

Yes - my pet has received a veterinary consultation via phone or email

No - my pet has not received veterinary care during the lockdown

If your pet did not receive veterinary care during the lockdown, what was the reason for this?

My pet did not require veterinary care during the lockdown period

My vet clinic advised that I delay my veterinary visit until after the lockdown period

I decided the veterinary care could wait until after the lockdown period

Compared to pre-lockdown, how much exercise have your pets been getting during lockdown? \*

1   2   3   4   5

A lot less   ○   ○   ○   ○   ○   A lot more

The guidelines for dog walking during lockdown included having your dog on a lead at all times, not allowing your dog to interact with other dogs or people outside your bubble, and walking only from home (as opposed to driving somewhere to walk your dog). Do you feel these guidelines were reasonable? \*

Yes, the guidelines were reasonable

No, the guidelines were not reasonable

I'm not sure

Compared to pre-lockdown, how much time have you spent playing with your pets? \*

1   2   3   4   5

A lot less   ○   ○   ○   ○   ○   A lot more

Have you changed the feeding of your pet during lockdown? (Select all that apply) \*

Yes, feeding a different food

Yes, feeding at a different time

Yes, feeding more treats

Yes, feeding less treats

Yes, feeding more food overall

Yes, feeding less food overall

Yes, feeding in a different way e.g. using a puzzle ball, hiding food

No, I haven't changed the feeding

Are you concerned about the future wellbeing of your pets after lockdown? If yes, what are you concerned about? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Are you concerned about the future wellbeing of New Zealand pets generally (not just your own pets) after lockdown? If yes, what are you concerned about? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

If you are happy for us to contact you for a follow-up survey on this topic, please enter your email address below.

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Submit

What pets do you have? (Select all that apply) \*

Dog

Cat

Fish

Horse/Pony

Rabbit

Guinea Pig

Rat / Mouse

Reptile

Birds

Overall, are the adults in the household spending more time at home now compared to before lockdown? \*

1   2   3   4   5

No, adults continue to work and are away the normal amount or more   ○   ○   ○   ○   ○   Yes, adults are home far more than before

In your household during lockdown, are there children home who would normally be in school? \*

Yes

No

Do you feel that your pets have experienced any positive benefits from the lockdown? If yes, what benefits have they experienced? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Figure S1. Survey 1 Pet Wellbeing During COVID-19 Lockdown.

## The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of NZ pets.

Welcome!

This is a research survey about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of pets in New Zealand.

This survey is open to all pet owners in New Zealand who are aged 18 years or older.

The survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete.

By participating in this survey you are providing consent for your answers to be used in this research.

If you have any further questions please contact [fiona@companionanimals.nz](mailto:fiona@companionanimals.nz)

\*Required

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What pets do you have? (Select all that apply) \*

Dog

Cat

Fish

Horse / Pony

Rabbit

Guinea Pig

Rat / Mouse

Reptile

Bird

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Do you feel that your pets wellbeing was better during Alert Level 4 lockdown or during Alert Level 1? \*

Wellbeing was much better during Alert Level 4

Wellbeing was a bit better during Alert Level 4

Wellbeing is the same at Alert Level 4 and Alert Level 1

Wellbeing is a bit better during Alert Level 1

Wellbeing is a lot better during Alert Level 1

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Which of the following behaviours did your pet show during Alert Level 4 lockdown? (Select all that apply) \*

Being more needy / clingy than normal

Being more affectionate than normal

Being calmer / more relaxed than normal

Making more noise than normal e.g. barking, whining, meowing

Being more nervous / anxious / worried / stressed than normal

Being sad / depressed / lethargic

Being bored

Being more reactive to other animals / less sociable with other animals

Toileting issues e.g. urinating inside

Showing signs of separation anxiety

None of these behaviours

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Which of the following behaviours is your pet showing lately during Alert Level 1? (Select all that apply) \*

Being more needy / clingy than normal

Being more affectionate than normal

Being calmer / more relaxed than normal

Making more noise than normal e.g. barking, whining, meowing

Being more nervous / anxious / worried / stressed than normal

Being sad / depressed / lethargic

Being bored

Being more reactive to other animals / less sociable with other animals

Toileting issues e.g. urinating inside

Showing signs of separation anxiety

None of these behaviours

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Did you seek advice after Alert Level 4 lockdown for pet behavioural issues? (Select all that apply) \*

No

Yes - I consulted with an animal behaviour professional

Yes - I sought advice from friends and family

Yes - I sought advice from other information sources e.g. internet, books, social media

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What, if anything, did you do to prepare your pet to transition from Alert Level 4 to Alert Level 1? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

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Compared to pre-lockdown (e.g. February 2020), how much exercise is your pet getting now? \*

1   2   3   4   5

My pet gets a lot LESS exercise now than they did pre-lockdown                  My pet gets a lot MORE exercise now than they did pre-lockdown

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Compared to pre-lockdown (e.g. February 2020), how much time do you spend playing with your pet? \*

1   2   3   4   5

I spend a lot LESS time playing with my pet now than I did pre-lockdown                  I spend a lot MORE time playing with my pet now than I did pre-lockdown

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Are you feeding your pet differently lately compared to how you were feeding them during Alert Level 4 lockdown? (Select all that apply) \*

Yes - feeding different food

Yes - feeding at a different time

Yes - feeding more treats

Yes - feeding less treats

Yes - feeding more food overall

Yes - feeding less food overall

Yes - feeding in a different way e.g. use of a treat ball, hiding food

No - I haven't changed the feeding

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If you answered yes to the question above, why have you changed the feeding?

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

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Overall, are you concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your pets wellbeing? If yes, what are you concerned about? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

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Overall, are you concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of pets in NZ generally (not just your own pets)? If yes, what are you concerned about? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Submit

**Figure S2.** Survey 2 The Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the Wellbeing of NZ Pets.