





WALTHAM'





Jane.Murray@bristol.ac.uk

+44 (0)117 331 9206

Murray, J.K.¹, Casey, R.A.¹, Gale, E.¹, Buffington C.A.T.² and Gruffydd-Jones, T.J.¹



¹ School of Veterinary Science, University of Bristol, Langford House, Langford, Bristol, UK ¹The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

Dristol Cats The aim of the study is to collect data prospectively to study risk factors for a range of outcomes including health, specific diseases, unwanted behaviours and obesity.

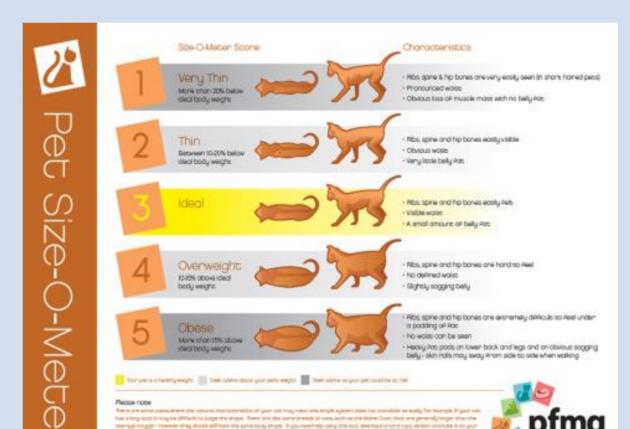
Recruitment:

Pet kittens aged approximately 8-16 weeks were recruited to the study between 01/06/10 and 31/12/13.

Study advertised using a variety of methods (e.g. vet practices, pet forums, rescue centres) to reduce selection bias.

Data collection:

- Owner-completed questionnaires. Issued at registration (Q1), 6 months (Q2), 12 months (Q3), 18 months (Q4), 2.5 years (Q5) and 4 years (Q6), and annually thereafter.
- Questionnaire completion rates: Q2 = 1899 (86.8%), Q3 1725 (78.8%)
- Data from vets. (Additional data, and data to validate owner-reported information)
 - Body condition scores
 - Oral health scores
 - Veterinary records
- **Buccal swabs** (for DNA)
- Faecal samples (Age 6m, 2.5yrs)





Reasons for leaving the study by Q3 (12 months)	
	Owner left study / uncontactable
9 7 15	 Cat rehomed, new owner did not want to participate in study
	Road traffic accident
120	 Other causes of mortality (e.g. killed by dog, died during spay operation)
	■ FIP
18	Cat missing
	Reason unknown





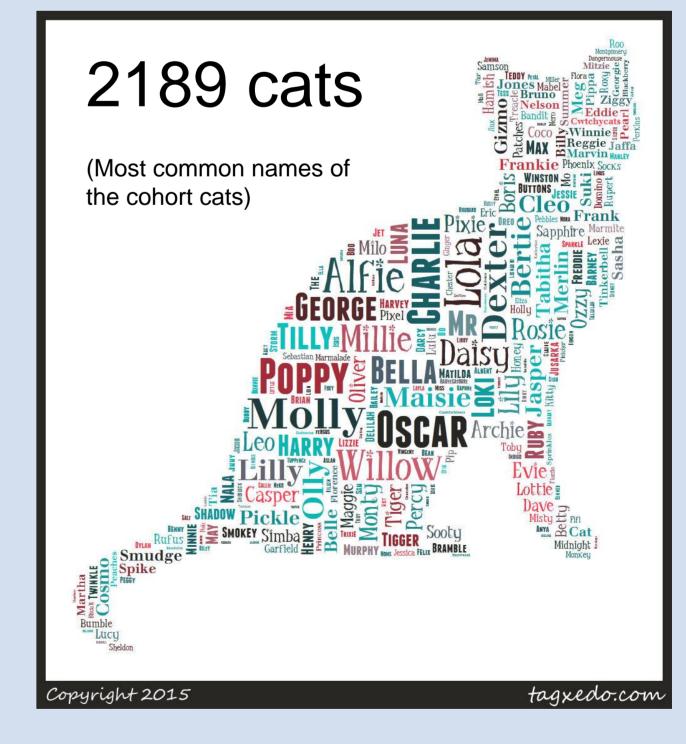
Characteristics of the cohort: (Q1 data for 2189 cats, some missing data)

SEX: 52.1% (1138) Male

*** MULTICAT HOUSEHOLDS:** 61.6% (1338) lived in multi-cat households (at Q1)

BREED: 77.4% mixed breed/moggy, 22.6% pedigree (118 British Shorthair, 71 Maine Coon, 42 Ragdoll, 40 Siamese, 36 Bengal, 26 Burmese, 16 Birman, 15 Norwegian Forest Cat, 12 Persian, 13 Oriental shorthair, 98 other breeds each with <10 cats)

SOURCE: 45.1% (988) friends/relatives/neighbours, local adverts 18.5% (404) rescue centres



Location of

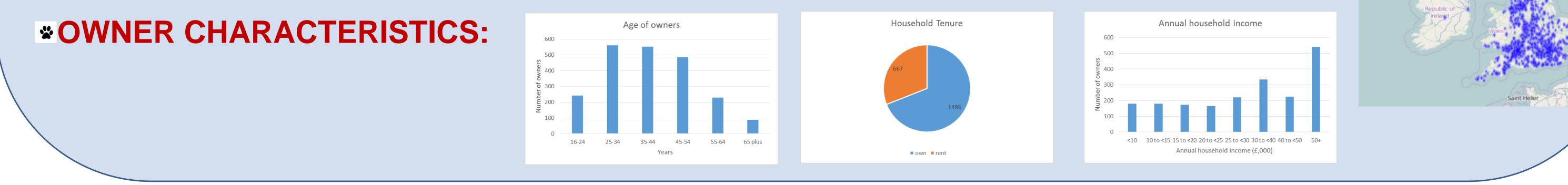
households

18.6% (406) pedigree breeders

7.7% (168) bred by owner (63 accidentally)

7.3% (159) stray/feral/abandoned

2.9% (64) pet shop / other



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We thank owners of cohort cats for their participation in the study. Emma Gale and Jane Murray are funded by Waltham[®] and Cats Protection, respectively.