



Dog Care Issues & MSPCA Activities in Malta

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Objectives

To conduct a quantitative study of Maltese adults in order to:

- *collect information about the extent of dog ownership in Malta;*
- *collect information on the views of the Maltese on neutering;*
- *collect information on certain aspects of pet care among the Maltese (specifically: neutering, micro-chipping, approaches to problems and Clicker Training and the Puppy Plan);*
- *collect information on what the Maltese think of stray dogs;*
- *Collect information on international homing of dogs and cats;*
- *identify latent demand of homing of stray dogs;*
- *assess the extent of recollection of SPCA activities in schools;*
- *assess how the views of the Maltese have changed since the direct involvement of Dogs Trust in the Maltese context; and to*
- *collect information on the use of 'clicker training' and the 'Puppy Plan'.*



Issues

- Dog ownership among the Maltese;
- Knowledge about, and attitudes to and practice of neutering; Social beneficiaries & neutering
- Practice of micro-chipping;
- Attitudes to stray animals;
- International homing of dogs and cats;
- Willingness to re-home animals;
- Handling of problems and clicker training; and
- Knowledge and interest in Clicker and Puppy Plan



Sample Profile

- A representative sample of 500 Maltese aged 14 and over were surveyed by telephone
- Study was conducted in November 2017

[Each interviewee represents 602.22 persons of the universe studied]



Data analysis

Each figure is analysed by

- *Gender*
- *Age Group*
- *Socio-Economic Category* of the respondents or of the Main Breadwinner in the family unit where applicable
- *Region*



Sample Profile

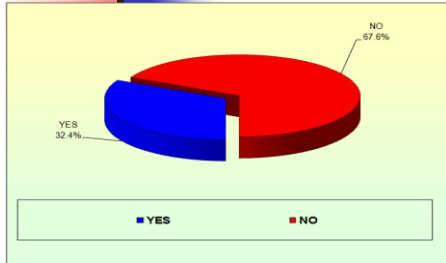
	TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
<i>N</i> =	500	244	256
	%	%	%
14-25	18.8	19.7	18.0
26-35	17.0	18.0	16.0
36-50	31.2	32.0	30.5
51-65	19.0	18.0	19.9
65+	14.0	12.3	15.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sample Profile

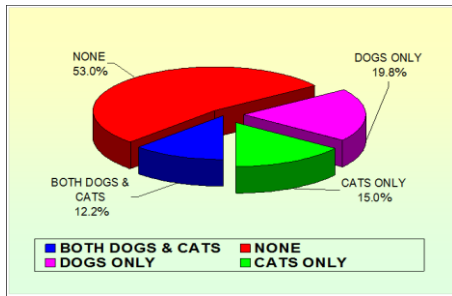
-by Socio-economic Group

	TOTAL	AB	C1	C2	DE
<i>N=</i>	500	56	191	132	121
	%	%	%	%	%
14-25	18.8	12.5	21.5	14.4	22.3
26-35	17.0	28.6	15.2	17.4	14.0
36-50	31.2	30.4	34.6	32.6	24.8
51-65	19.0	12.5	18.8	17.4	24.0
65+	14.0	16.1	9.9	18.2	14.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

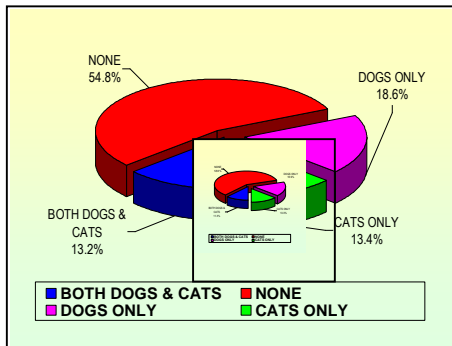
Dog & Cat Ownership [Base=All]



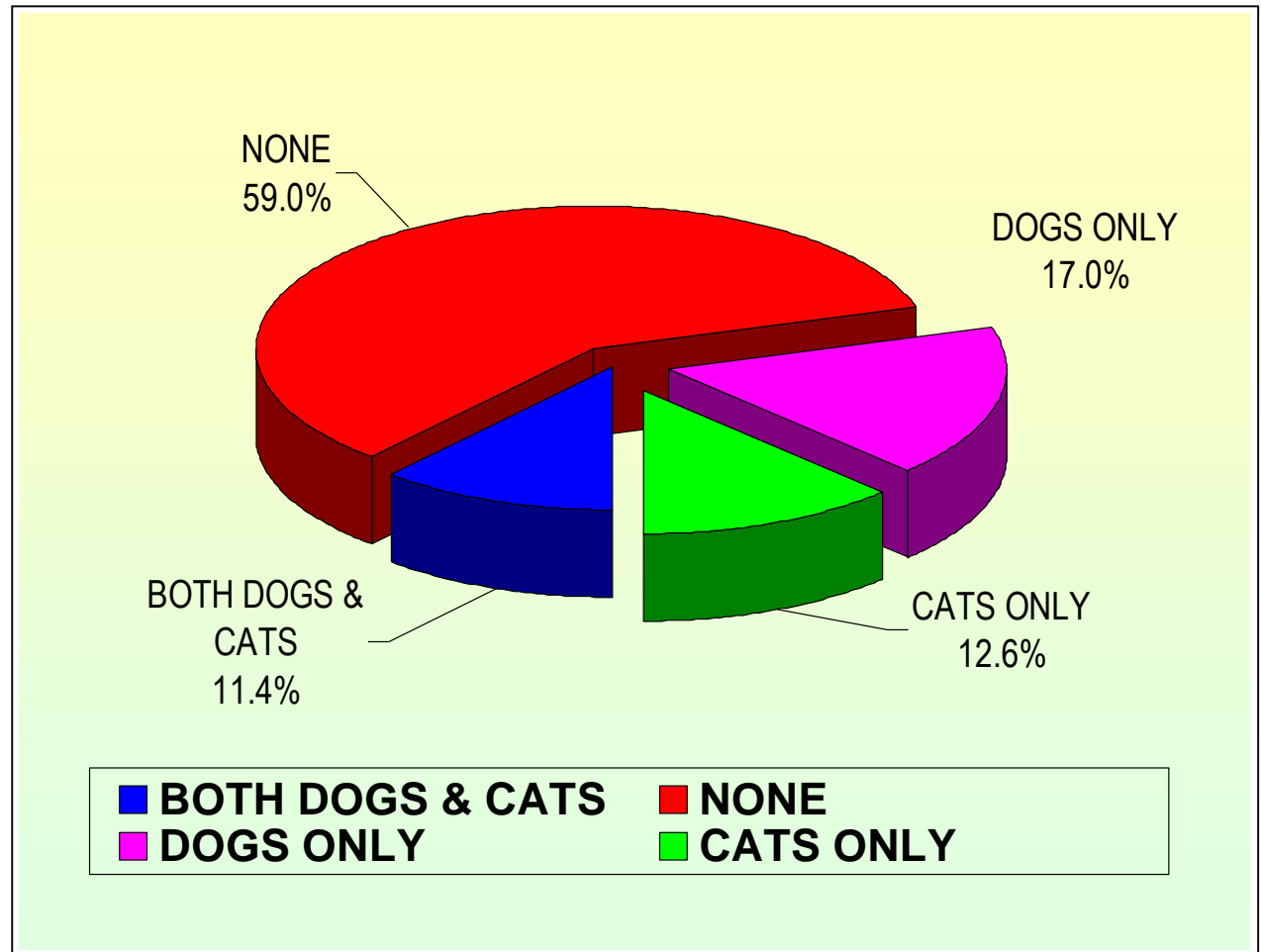
2014



2015

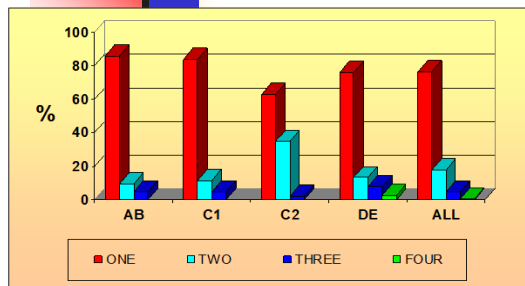


2016

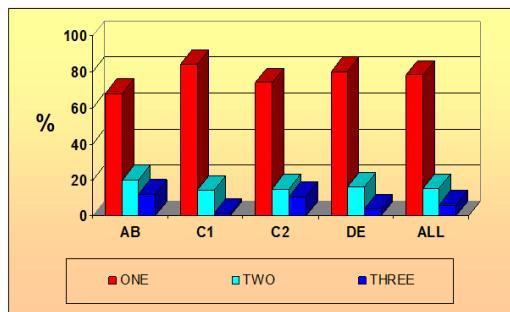


Number of Dogs Owned

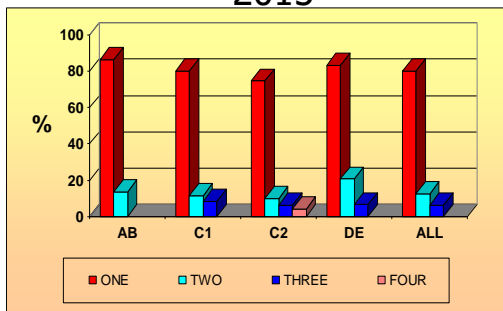
[By Socio-Economic Group; Base=Dog owners only]



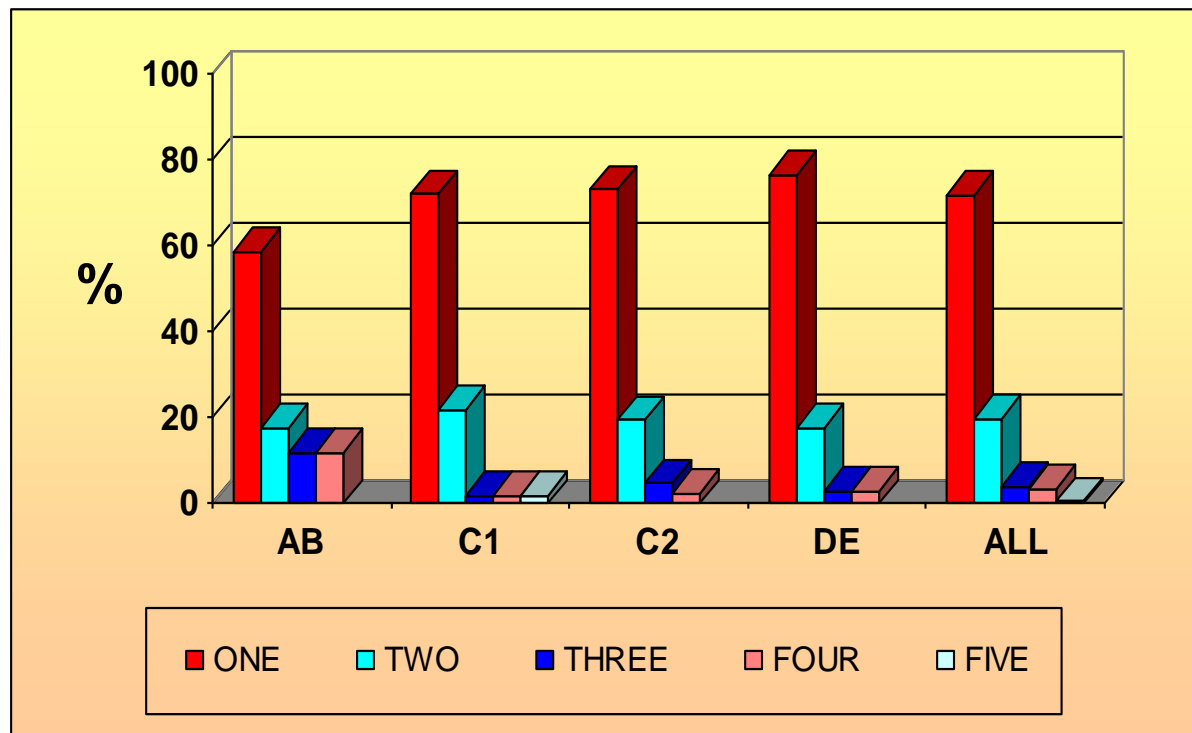
2014



2015



2016



- **AB: professional, managerial, administrative**
- **C1: higher clerical, clerical, supervisor, skilled craftsmen and technicians, owner/manager of small business**
- **C2: skilled manual workers and foremen**
- **DE: semi-skilled, unskilled, labourers, casual workers and persons whose income is provided by the State**

Number of Dogs Owned (2008)

Secondary research has confirmed that projections for total dog ownership in Malta must be computed on the basis of households since a dog is perceived to be owned by each member of the family, even if only person actually bought or acquired it. Each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households (139,583 divided by 500=279.166). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 218 = 60,858$.

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	151	1	151	42154
	22	2	44	12283
	3	3	9	2512
	2	4	8	2233
	1	6	6	1675
TOTAL:	179		218	60858

Number of Dogs Owned (2010)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2010 result in a total estimated dog population of 59,462 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households (139,583 divided by 500=279.166). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 213 = 59462$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	124	1	124	34617
	23	2	46	12842
	11	3	33	9212
	2	5	10	2792
TOTAL:	160		213	59462

Number of Dogs Owned (2012)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2012 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($139,583 \div 500 = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 177 = 49,412$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	139	1	139	38804
	16	2	32	8933
	2	3	6	1675
TOTAL:	157		177	49412

Number of Dogs Owned (2013)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2013 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($139,583 \div 500 = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 190 = 53042$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	135	1	135	37687
	20	2	40	11167
	5	3	15	4188
TOTAL:	160		190	53042

Number of Dogs Owned (2014)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2013 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($\frac{139,583}{500} = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 210 = 57508$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	124	1	124	34617
	29	2	58	16192
	8	3	24	6670
	1	4	4	
TOTAL:	160		210	57508

Number of Dogs Owned (2015)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2015 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($139,583 \div 500 = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 205 = 57195$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	125	1	125	34875
	25	2	50	13950
	10	3	30	8370
TOTAL:	160		205	57195

Number of Dogs Owned (2016)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2015 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($139,583 \div 500 = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 205 = 57195$ (rounded).

	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	127	1	127	35433
	20	2	40	11160
	10	3	30	8370
	2	4	8	2232
TOTAL:	159		205	57195

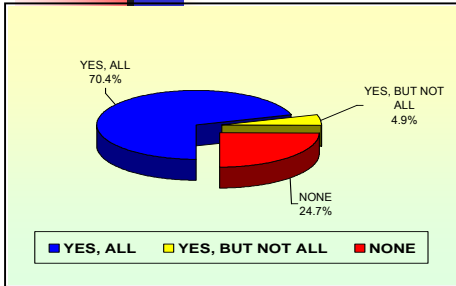
Number of Dogs Owned (2017)

The same projections for dog ownership in 2015 result in a total estimated dog population of 49,412 dogs. Since the same census data is used as the survey base, each of 500 respondents represents 279.166 households ($\frac{139,583}{500} = 279.166$). The projected number of dogs is $279 \times 205 = 57195$ (rounded).

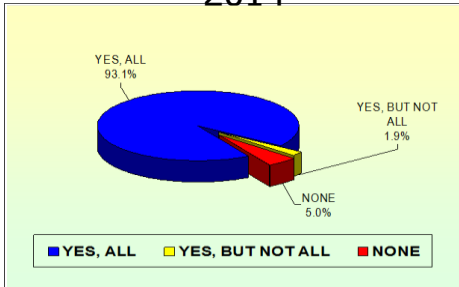
	Respondents	Number Of Dogs	Total No of Dogs as Documented by Study	Projected Number of Dogs
	102	1	102	28458
	28	2	56	15624
	6	3	18	5022
	5	4	20	5580
	1	5	5	1395
TOTAL:	159		201	56079

Are your dogs neutered?

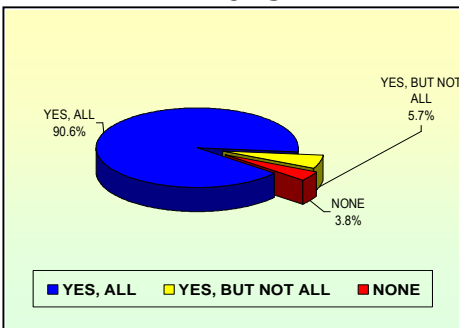
[Base=Dog owners only]



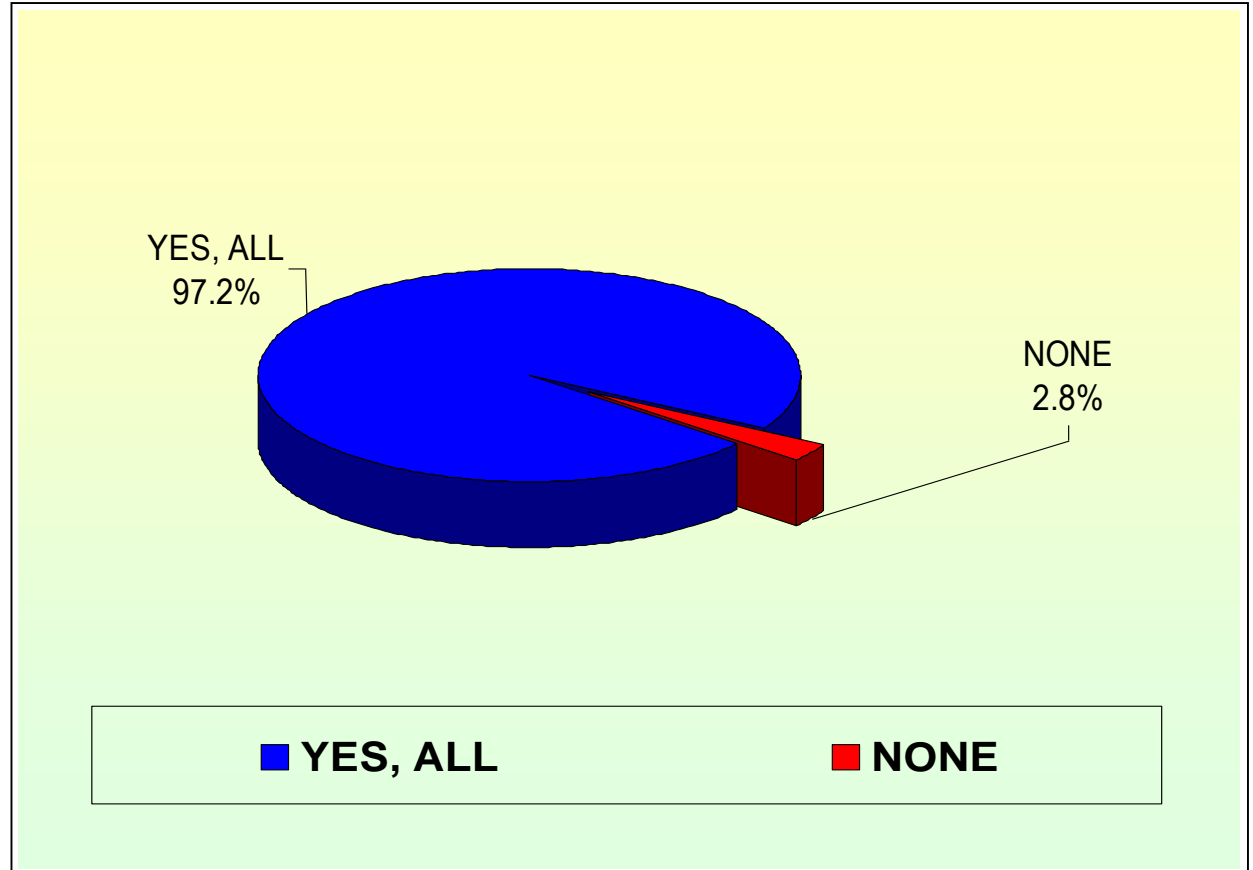
2014



2015

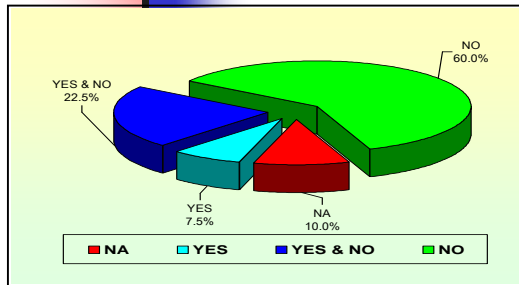


2015

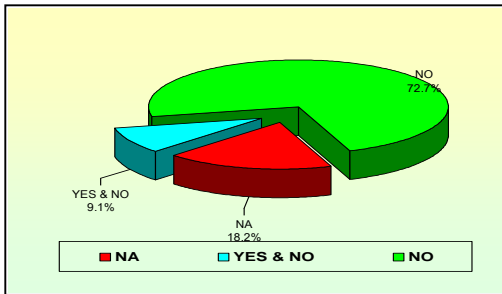


If your dogs are not neutered, would you consider neutering them?

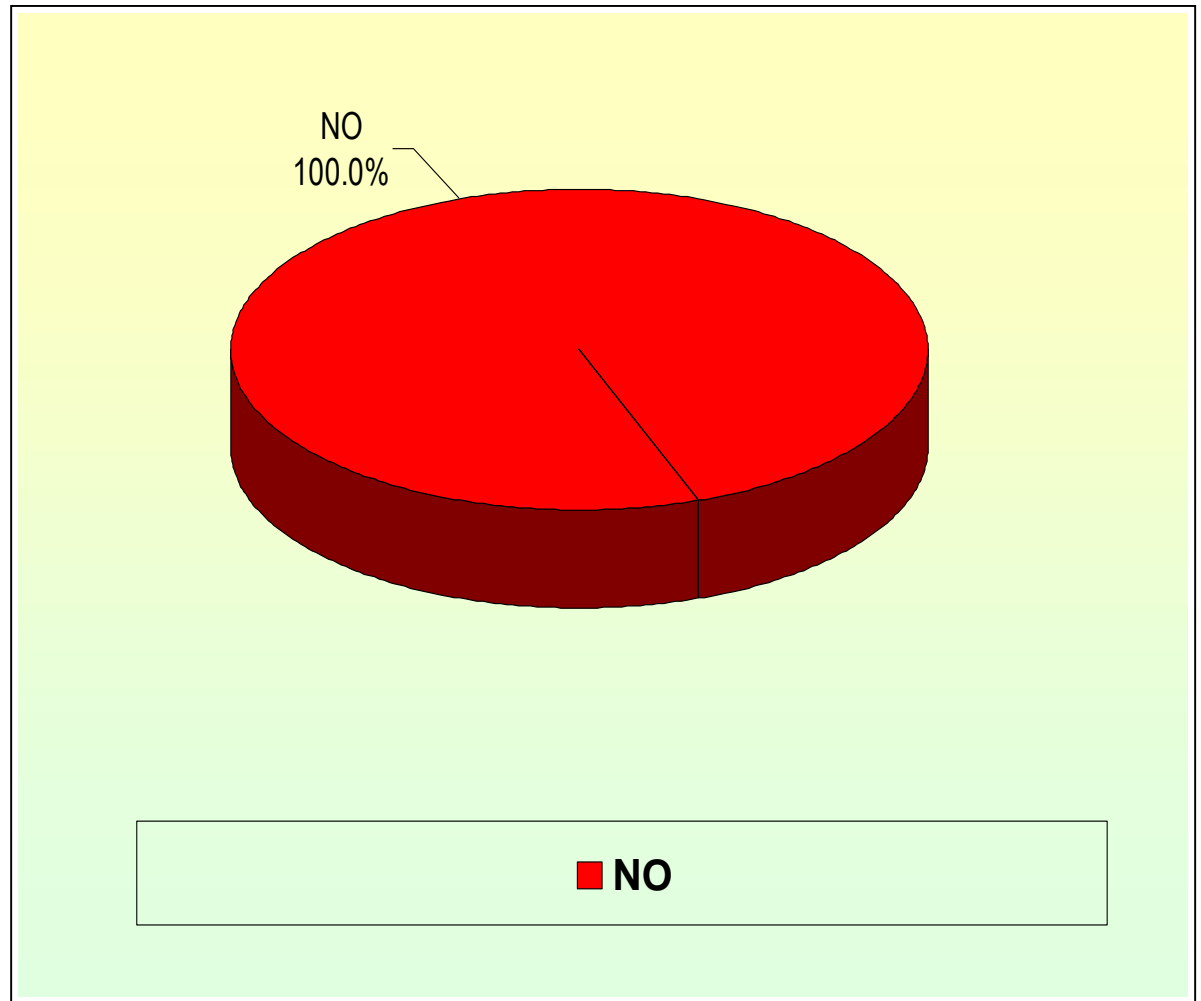
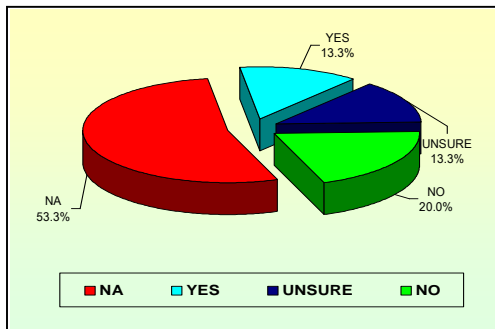
[Base=All who own a dog]



2013

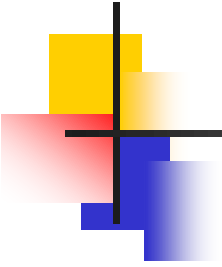


2015



Where did you get your dogs from?

[Base=All who own a dog]



■ NA	1.4%
■ I bought it	45.1%
■ Given by friends	23.9%
■ From a home	5.6%
■ I picked it as stray	17.6%
■ From a shelter	7.0%

NOTE: Totals may add up to more than 100%
because replies refer to all dogs and sources
could have been different for each pet

Did you get a dog from a Malta or foreign home?

[Base=All who got a dog from a home]

- From Malta 87.5%
- From outside Malta 12.5%

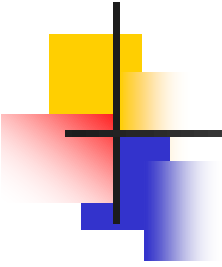
Why did you get a dog from a foreign home?

[Base=All who got a dog from a home outside Malta]

- Because there is a wider choice 100.00%

Would you consider adopting a dog from a international organisation?

[Base=All who stated that they own a dog]



■ NA	90.8%
■ Yes, definitely	2.8%
■ Yes	2.8%
■ Yes & No	2.8%
■ Not sure	0.7%

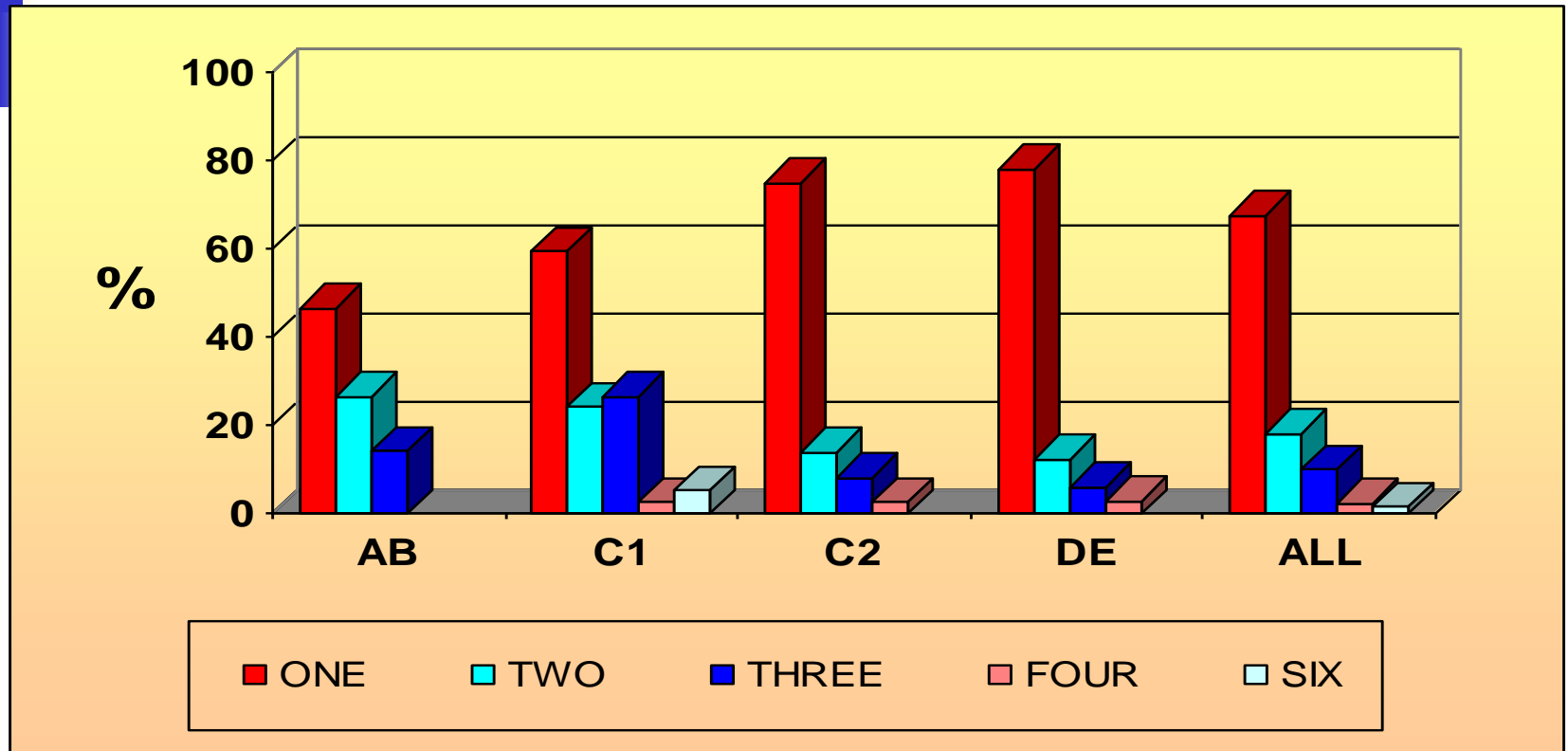


Did the previous owner give you information about parents & upbringing? [Base=All who had bought a dog]

- NA 9.4%
- Yes, very 53.1%
- Yes, but not enough 10.9%
- No, I did not ask 17.2%
- No, they had no information 9.4%

Number of Cats Owned

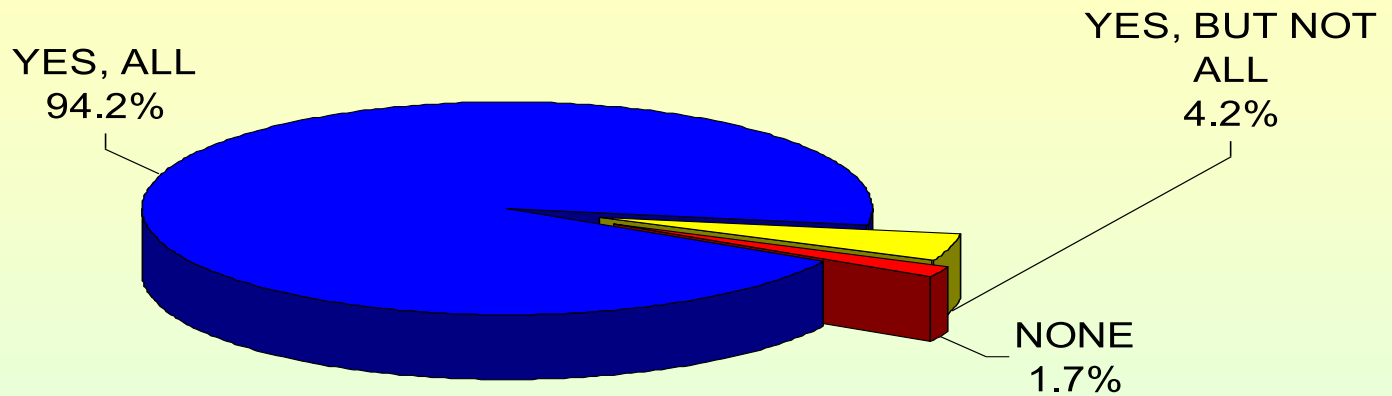
[By Socio-Economic Group; Base=Cat owners only]



- AB: professional, managerial, administrative
- C1: higher clerical, clerical, supervisor, skilled craftsmen and technicians, owner/manager of small business
- C2: skilled manual workers and foremen
- DE: semi-skilled, unskilled, labourers, casual workers and persons whose income is provided by the State

Are your cats neutered?

[Base=Cat owners only]



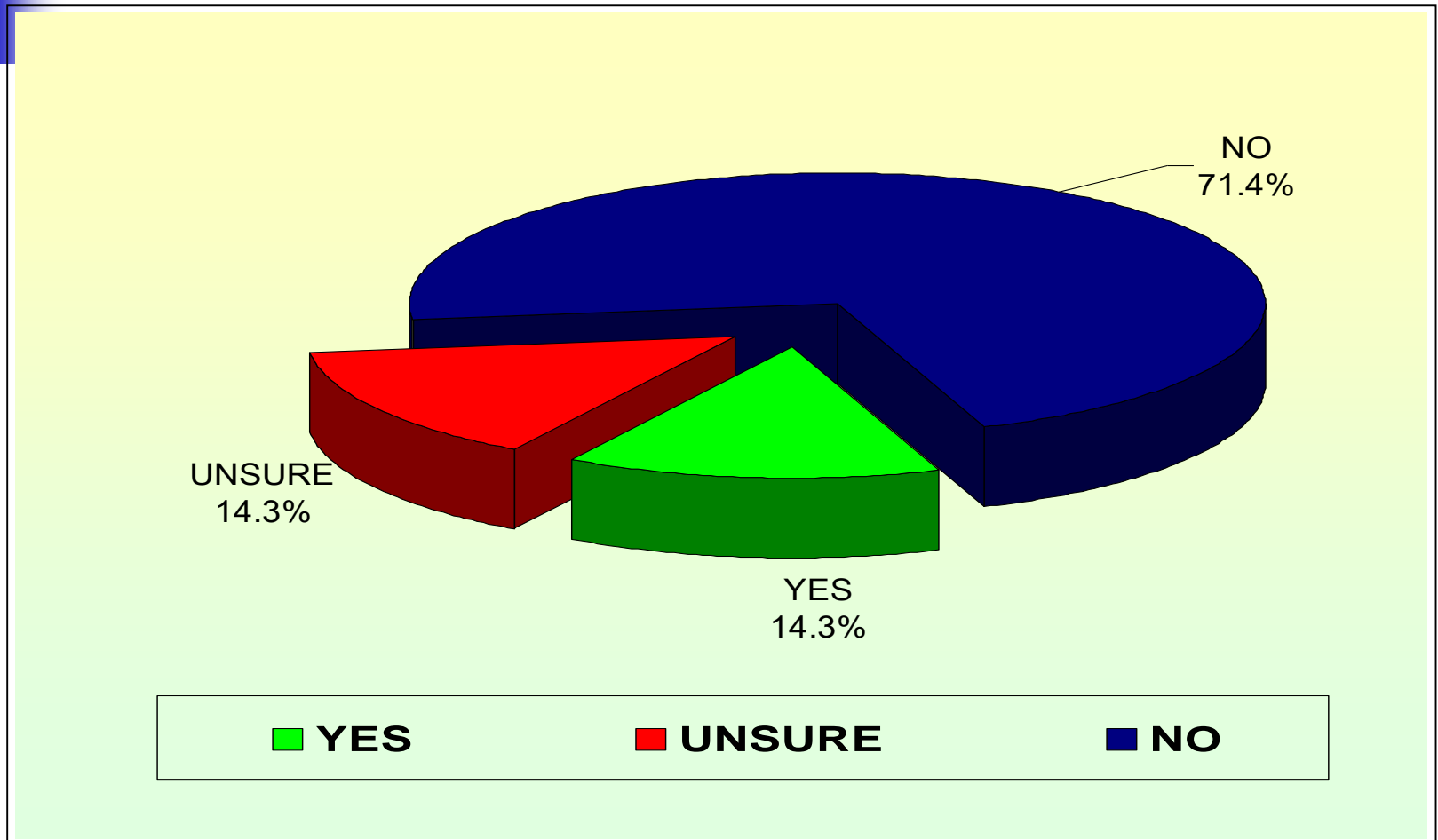
■ YES, ALL

■ YES, BUT NOT ALL

■ NONE

If your cats are not neutered, would you consider neutering them?

[Base=All who own a dog]



Where did you get your cats from?

[Base=All who own a cat]

- NA 2.5%
- I bought it 41.7%
- Given by friends 25.8%
- From a home 5.8%
- I picked it as stray 20.8%
- From a shelter 2.5%
- International homing 0.8%

NOTE: Totals may add up to more than 100%
because replies refer to all cats and sources could
have been different for each pet

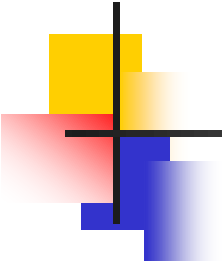
Did you get a cat from a Malta or foreign home?

[Base=All who got a cat from a home]

- From Malta 100.0%
- From outside Malta 0.0%

Would you consider adopting a cat from a international organisation?

[Base=All who stated that they own a cat]



■ NA	86.7%
■ Yes, definitely	1.7%
■ Yes	2.5%
■ Yes & No	5.8%
■ Not sure	2.5%
■ Definitely not	0.8%



Did the previous owner give you information about parents & upbringing? [Base=All who had bought a cat]

- Yes, a lot 64.0%
- Yes, but not enough 14.0%
- No, I did not ask 12.0%
- No, they did not have any 10.0%



Why would you NOT consider neutering your PETS?

[Base=All whose PETS are NOT neutered but were UNSURE/UNWILLING to consider neutering them]

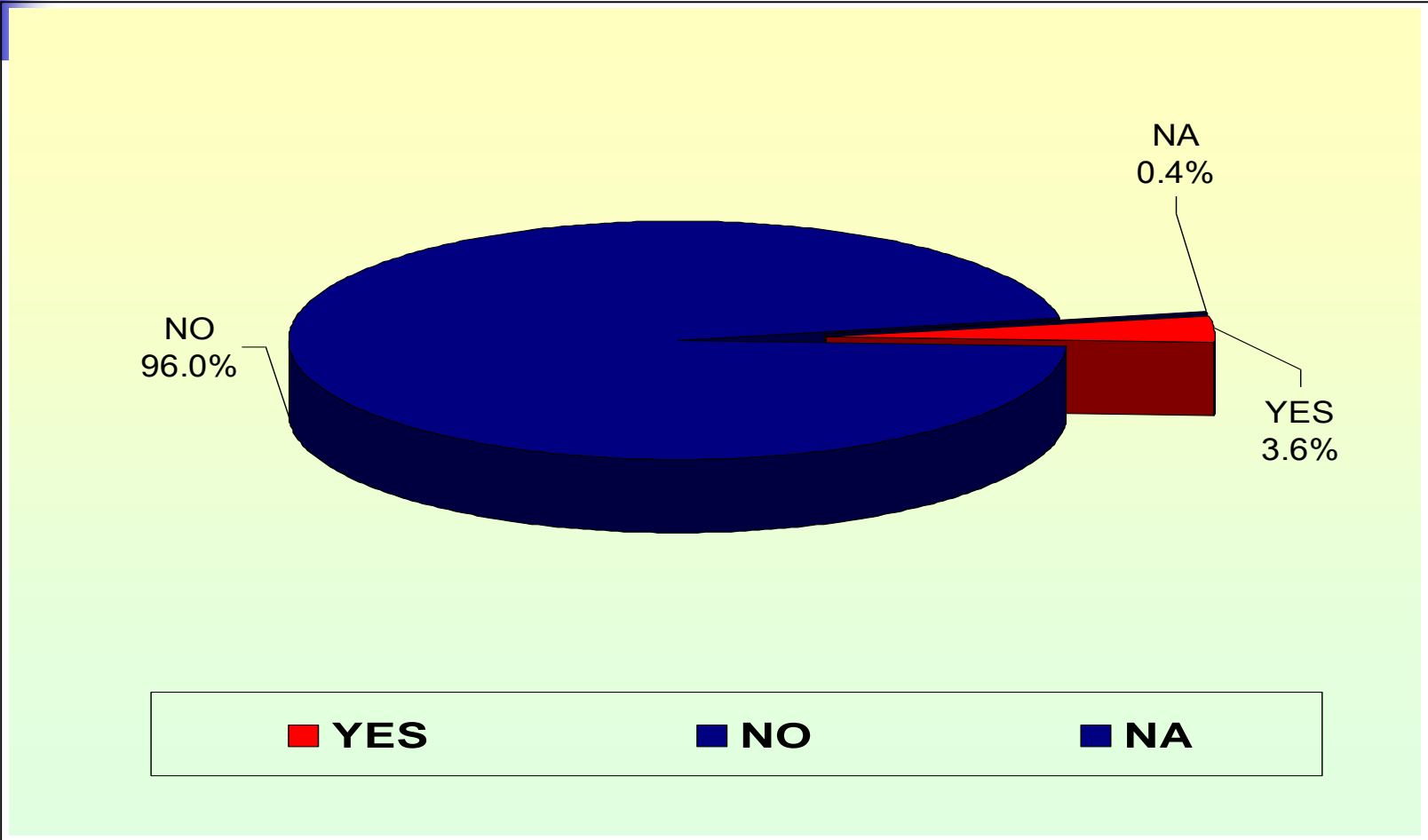
- It might hep the environment [if I do] 100%

Why would you not consider neutering your PETS?

[Base=All whose PETS are NOT neutered but were UNWILLING to consider neutering them]

- I want to breed them 50.0%
- I think it is cruel 37.5%
- They will be not be normal if neutered 12.5%
- The operation might damage my pets 12.5%

Are you a recipient of some kind of social benefit? [Base=All]





Would you be interested to neuter a dog at the special rate of €19? [Base=All recipients of some social benefit]

- Yes 94.4%
- Unsure 5.6%

What is the maximum you would pay to neuter a dog?

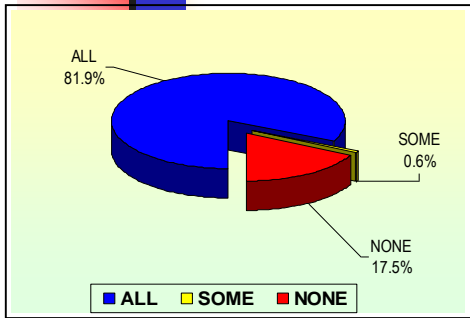
[Base=All recipients of some social benefit)



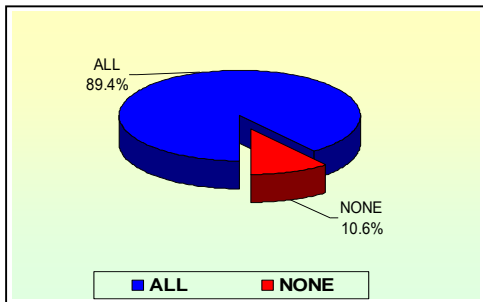
- NA 5.6%
- 19 Euros 22.2%
- 20 Euros 72.2%

Are your DOGS micro-chipped?

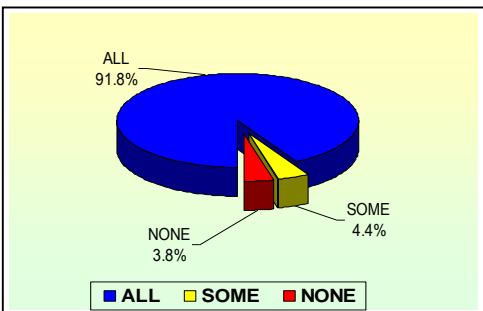
[Base=All who own a dog]



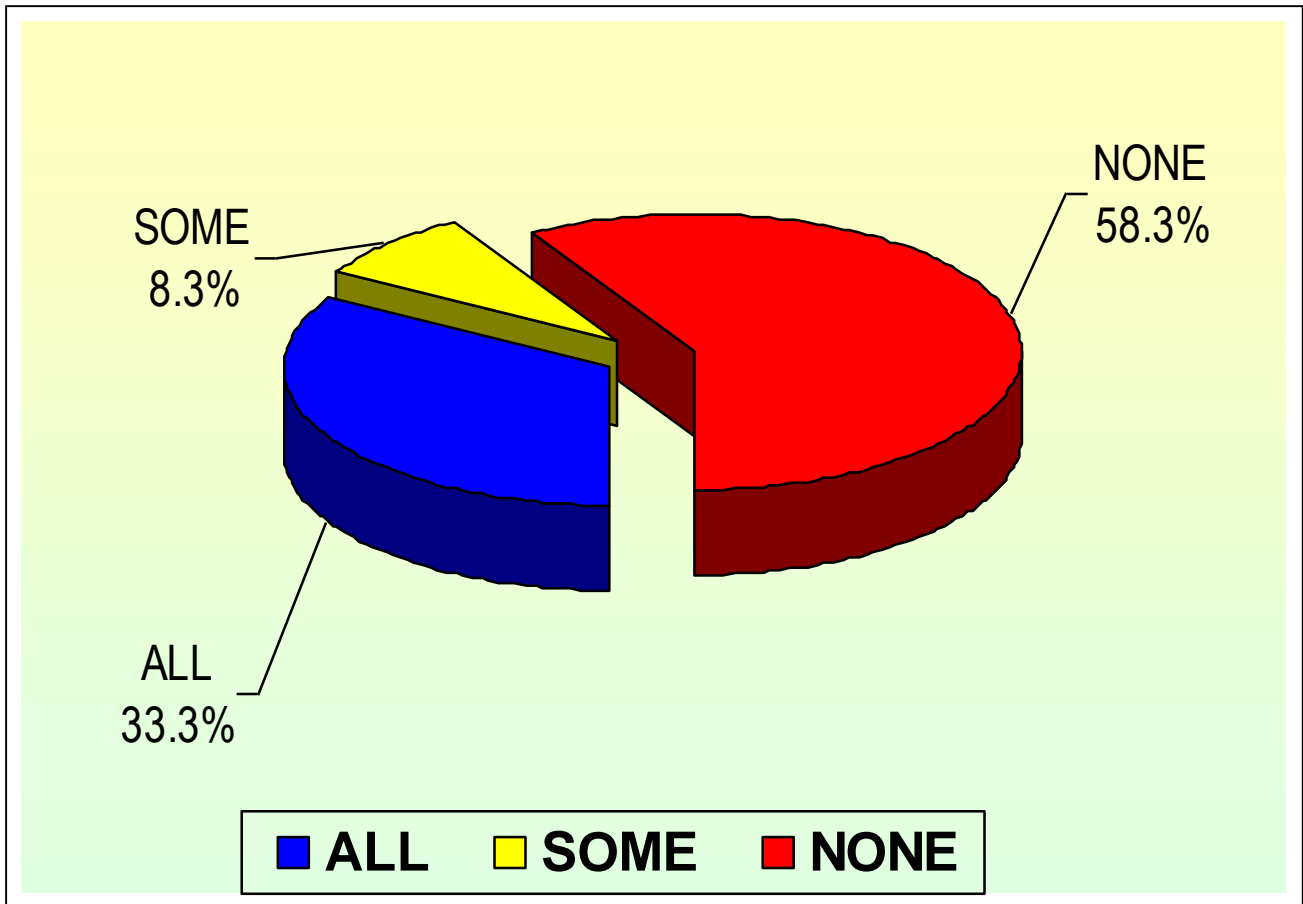
2013



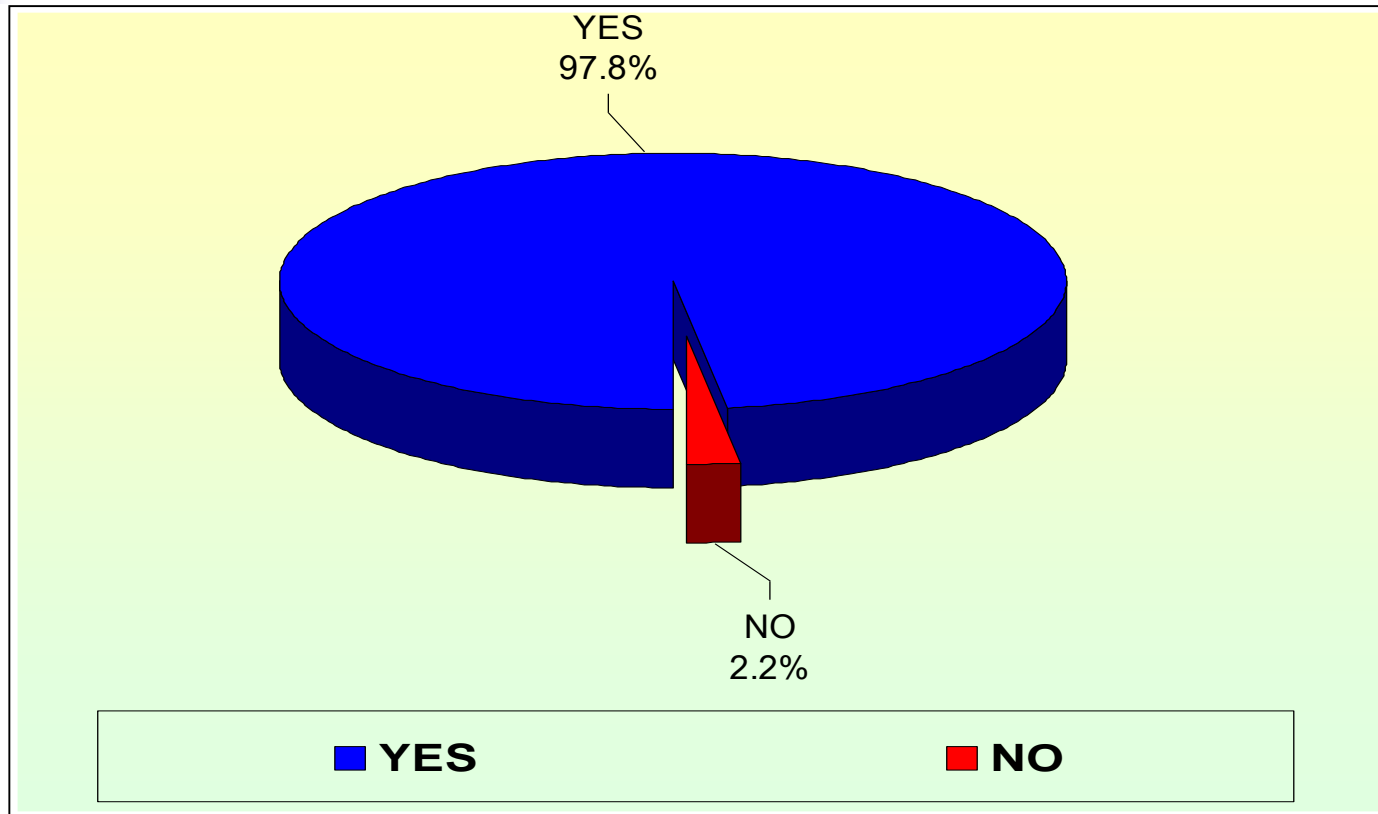
2015



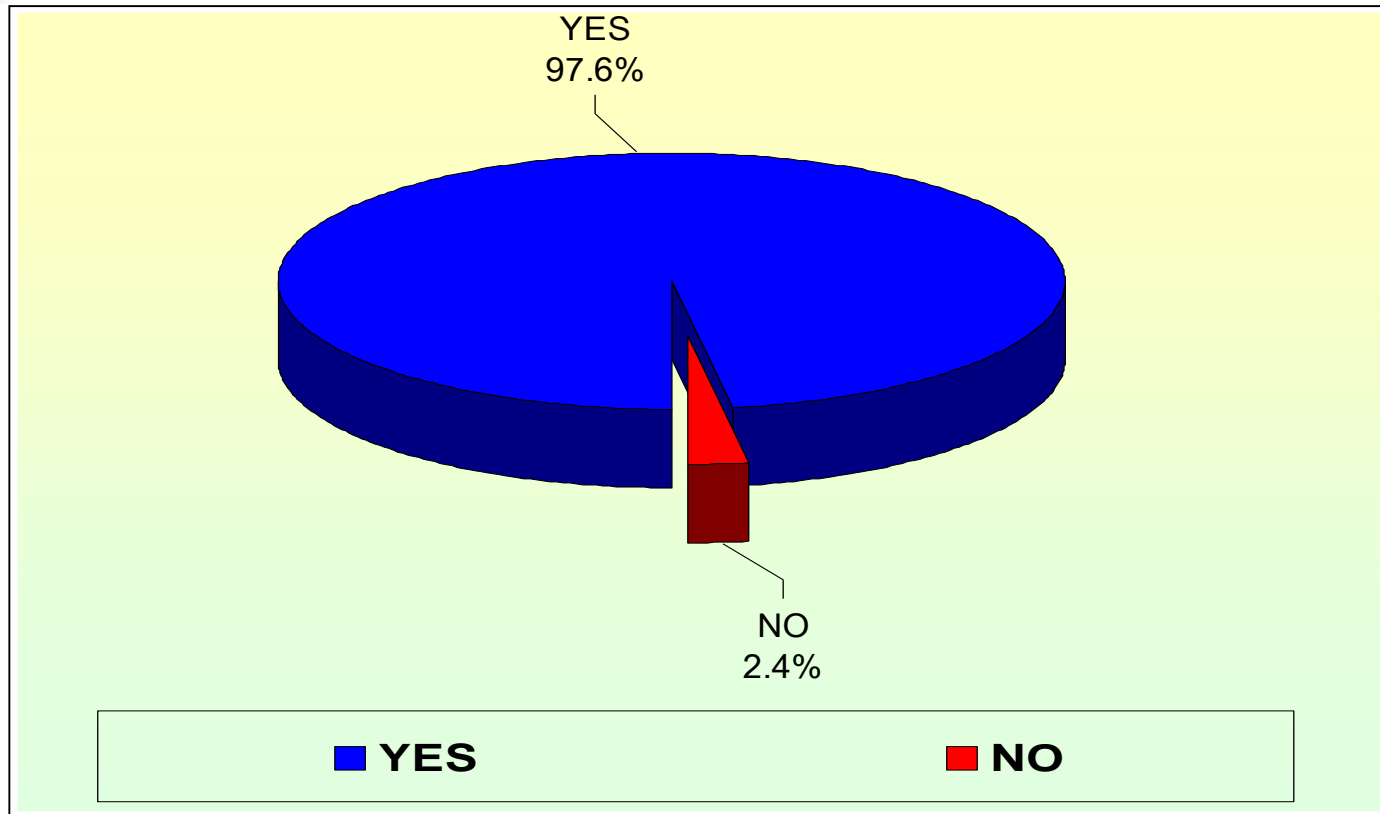
2016



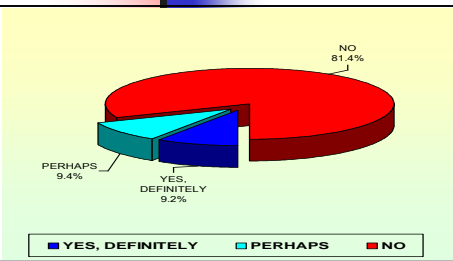
Have you noticed a decline in stray dogs over the last FIVE years? [Base=All]



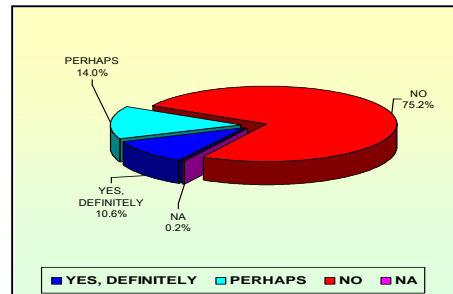
Have you noticed a decline in stray cats over the last FIVE years? [Base=All]



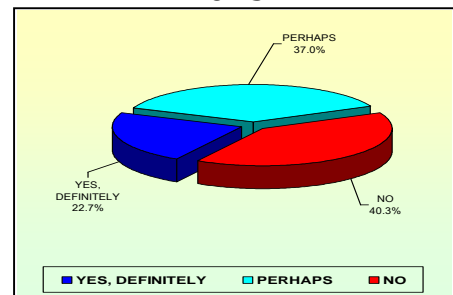
Would you consider re-homing a dog from an animal shelter like MSPCA? [Base=All]



2014

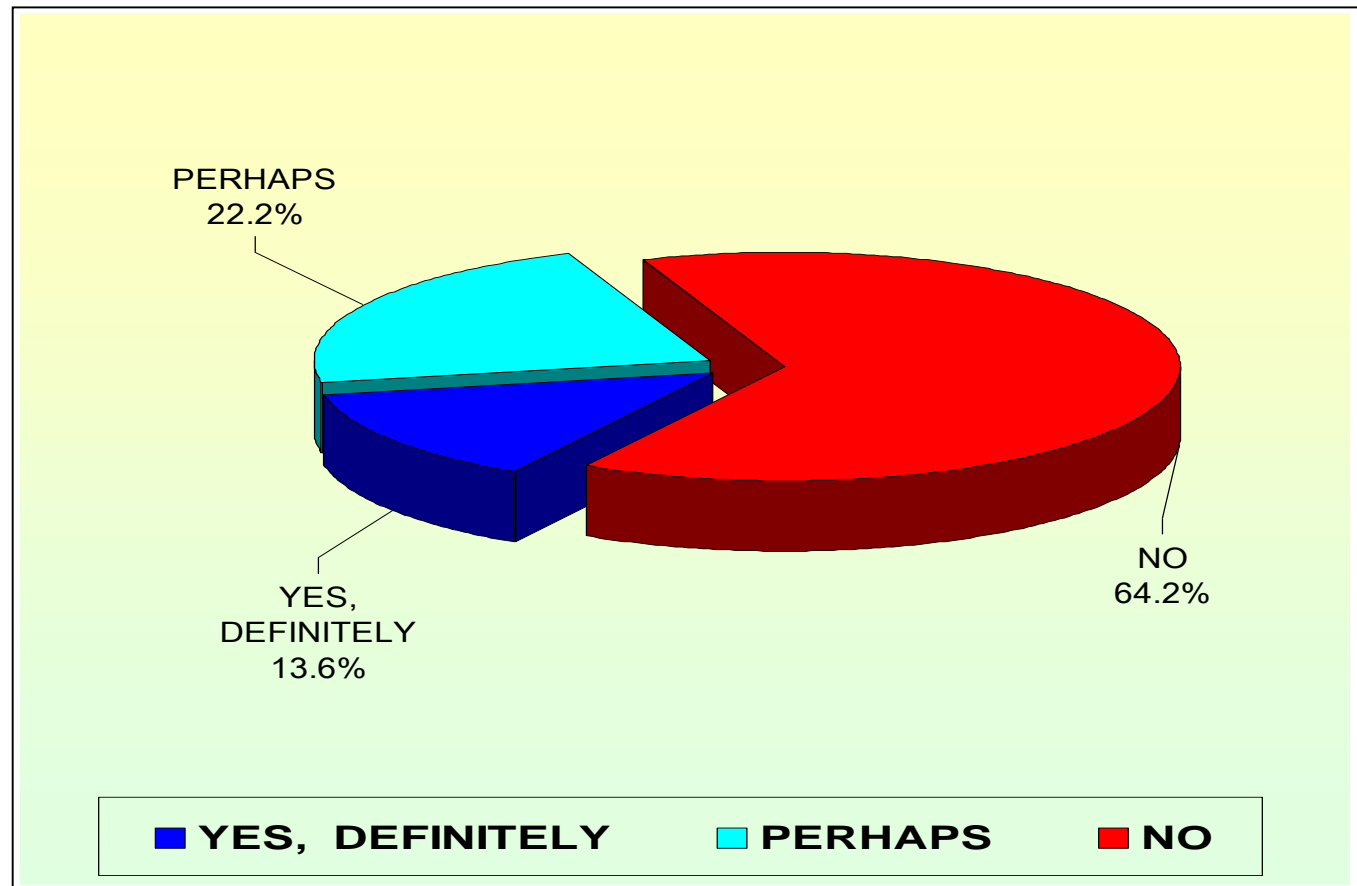


2015

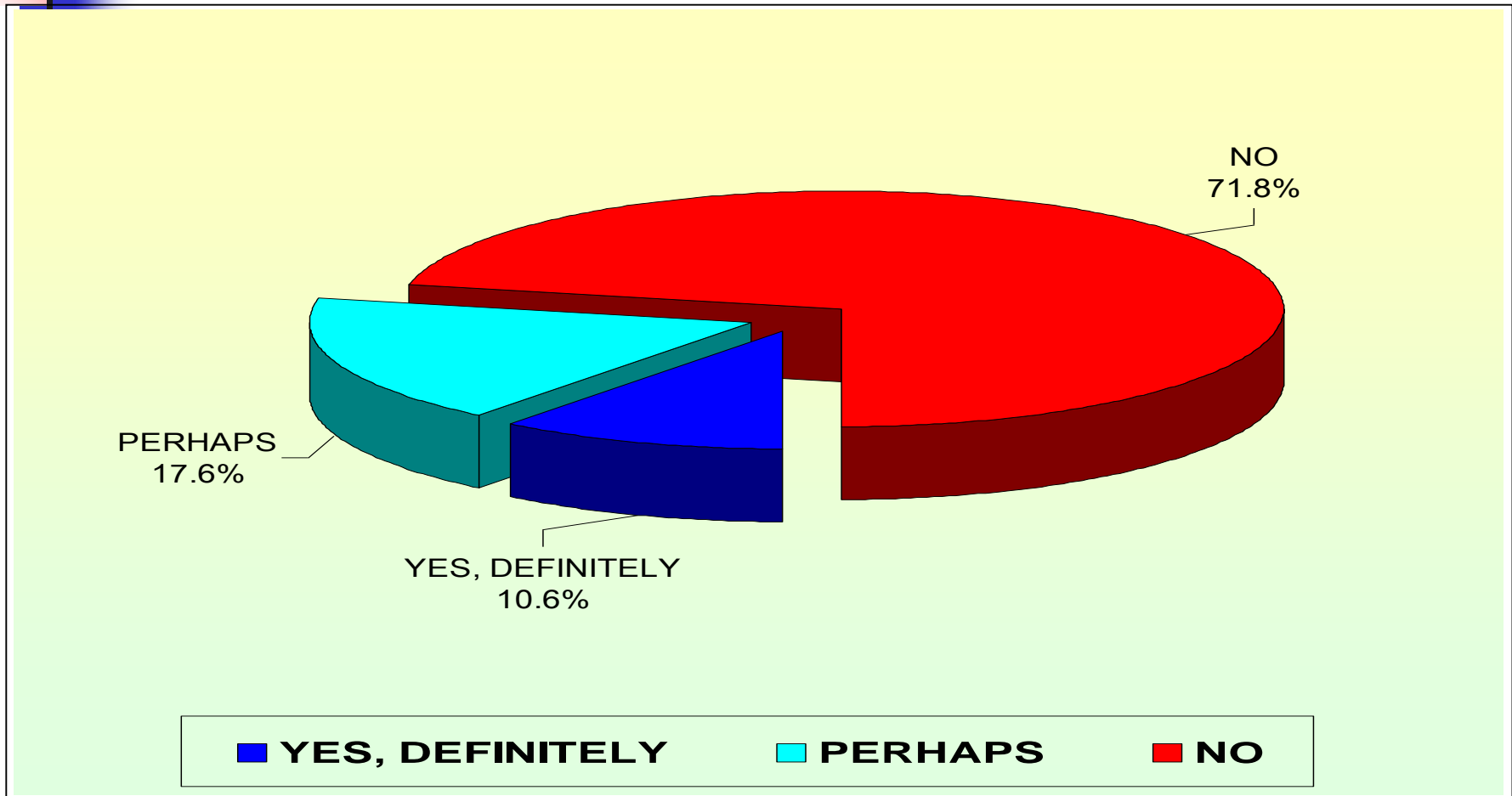


201

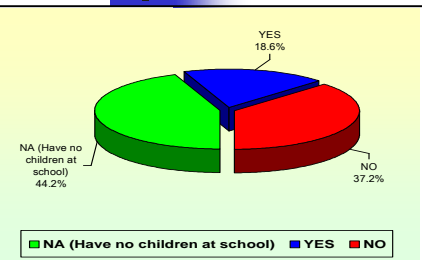
M. VASSALLO



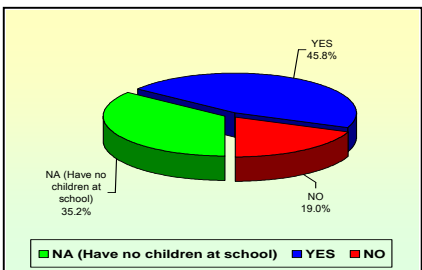
Would you consider re-homing a cat from an animal shelter like MSPCA? [Base=All]



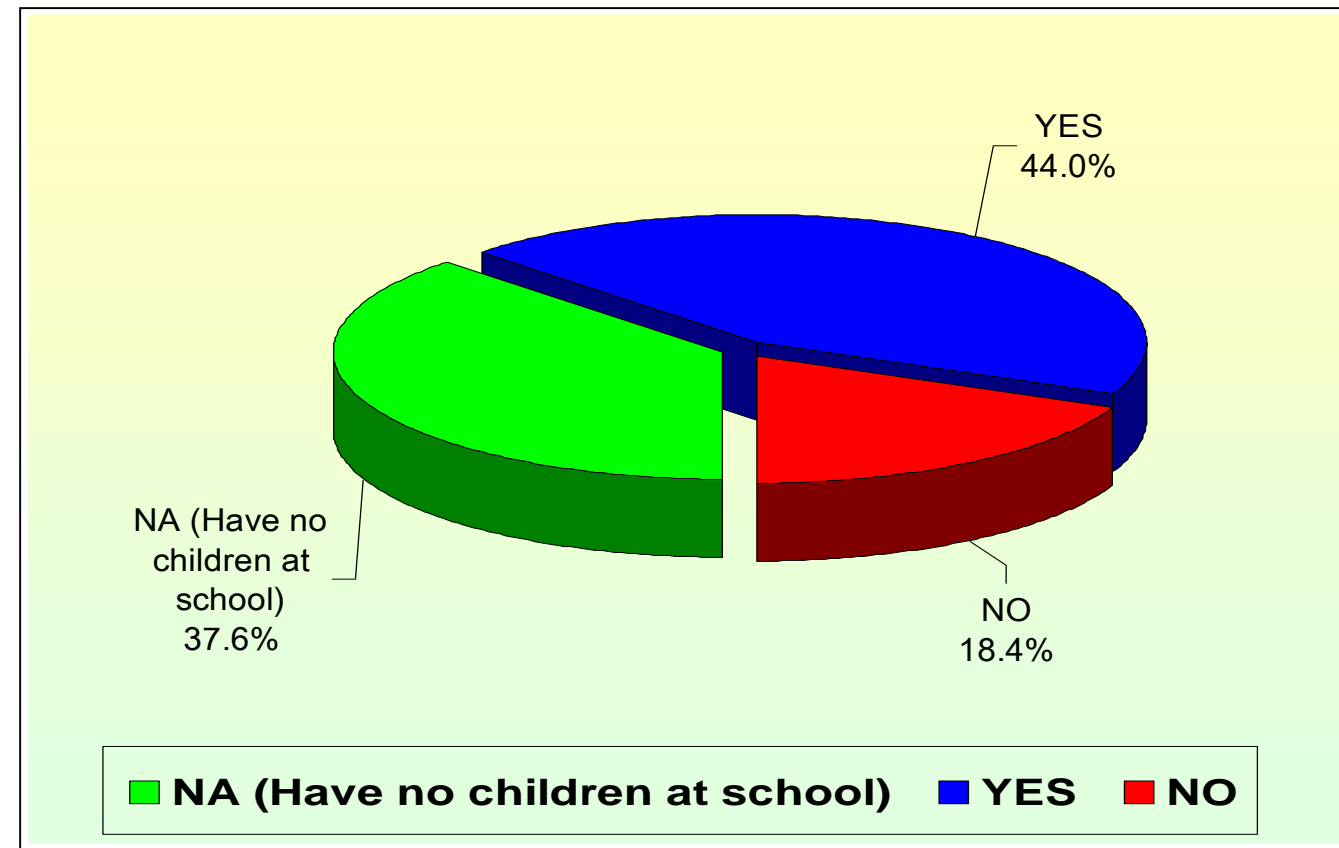
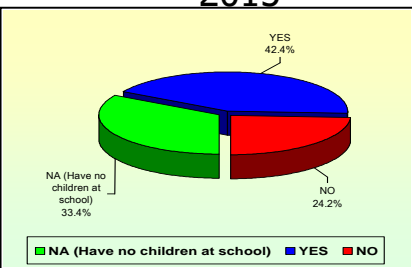
If you have children, have they been mentioning seeing an MSPCA workshop at school? [Base=All]



2014



2015



2015



Who, do you think **IS CURRENTLY FINANCIALLY & PHYSICALLY RESPONSIBLE** not to allow stray dogs in Malta? [Base=All]

- Nobody 2.6%
- Foreign NGOs 15.8%
- Animal Shelter NGO 16.2%
- Local Councils 21.0%
- Individuals 21.2%
- Police 39.8%
- Govt. Animal Welfare Dept. 42.4%

Who, do you think **SHOULD BE FINANCIALLY & PHYSICALLY RESPONSIBLE** not to allow stray dogs in Malta? [Base=All]

- Nobody 1.8%
- Foreign NGOs 10.0%
- Local Councils 15.8%
- Animal Shelter NGO 18.8%
- Individuals 22.4%
- Police 36.6%
- Govt. Animal Welfare Dept. 40.2%

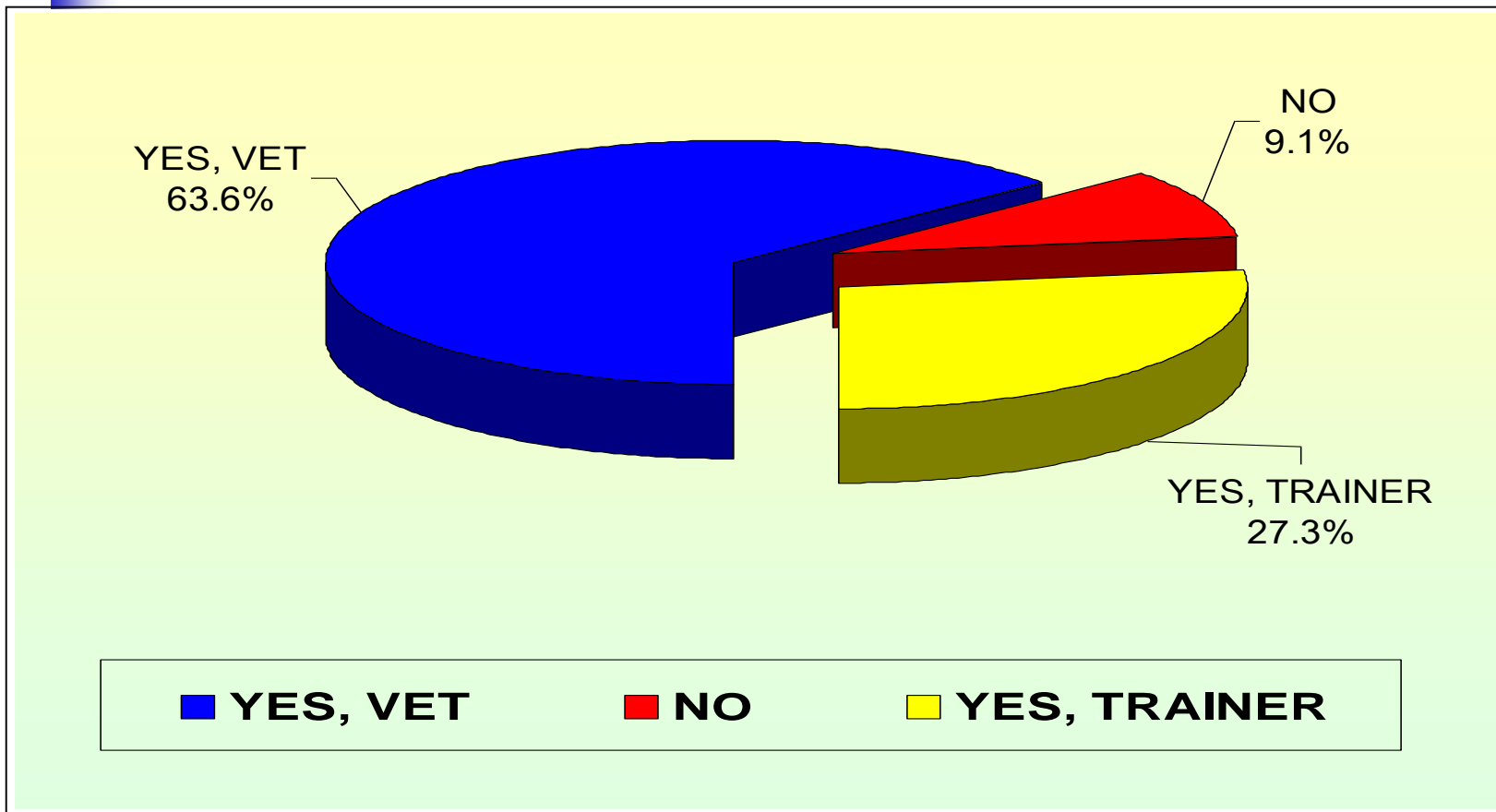
If you ever had problems which upset with your our dogs, what were they?

[Base=All dog owners]

- NA 92.3%
- Too much pulling of the lead 3.5%
- Too much barking 1.4%
- Fear of everyday things 1.4%
- Inappropriate toileting 1.4%

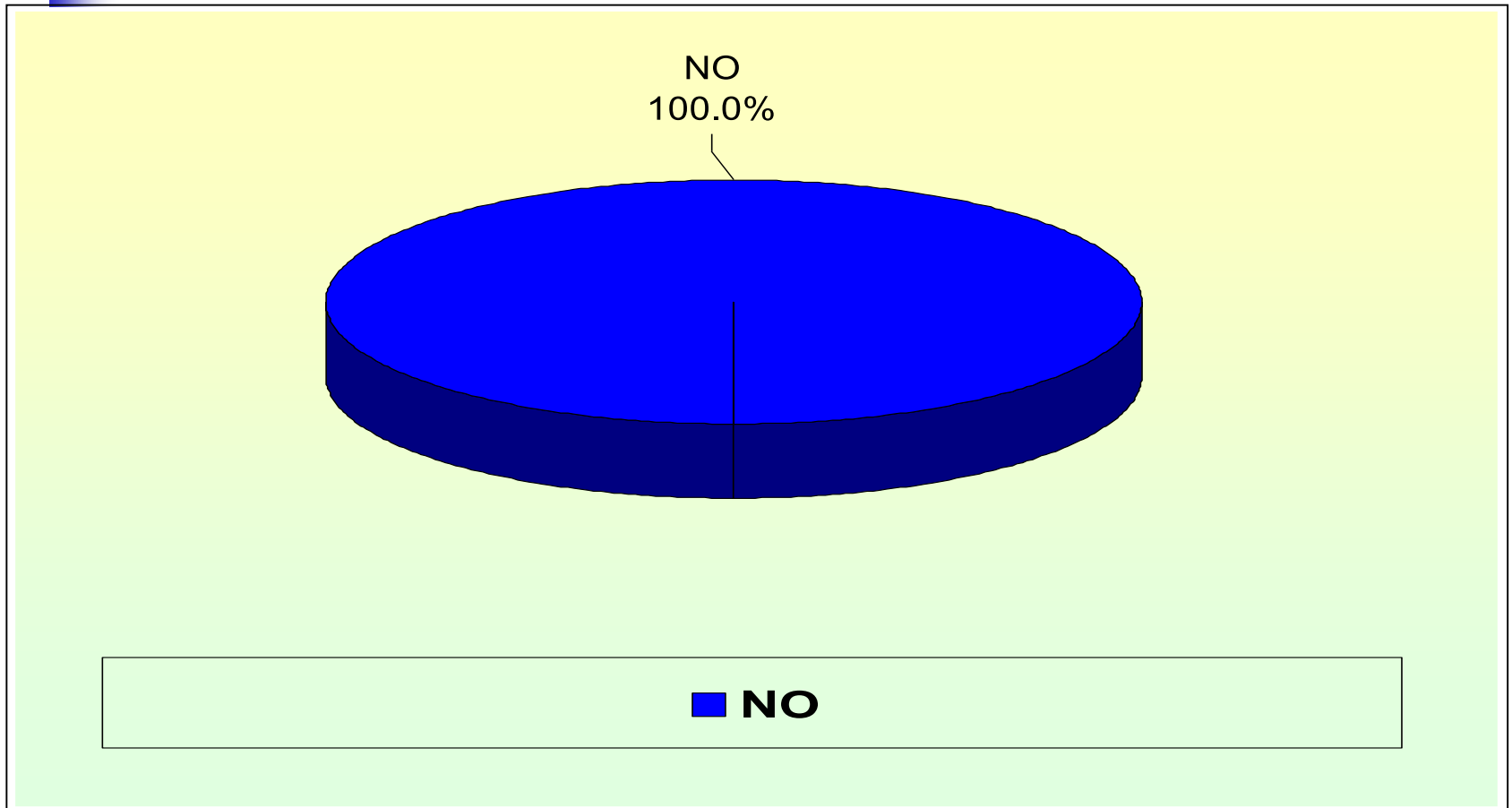
Did you seek professional help from a vet or a trainer?

[Base=All who stated that they had been upset by a dog's problems]



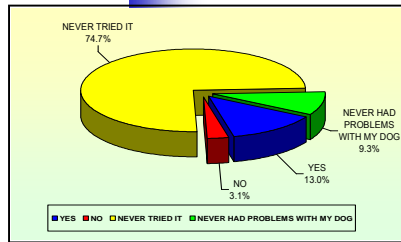
Was the problem so big that you had to re-home the dog?

[Base=All who stated that they had been upset by a dog's problems]

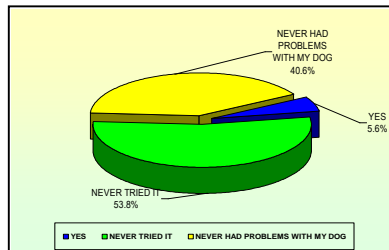


If you ever tried 'clicker training', did you find it useful?

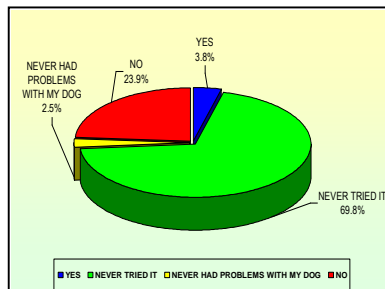
[Base=All who stated that they own a dog]



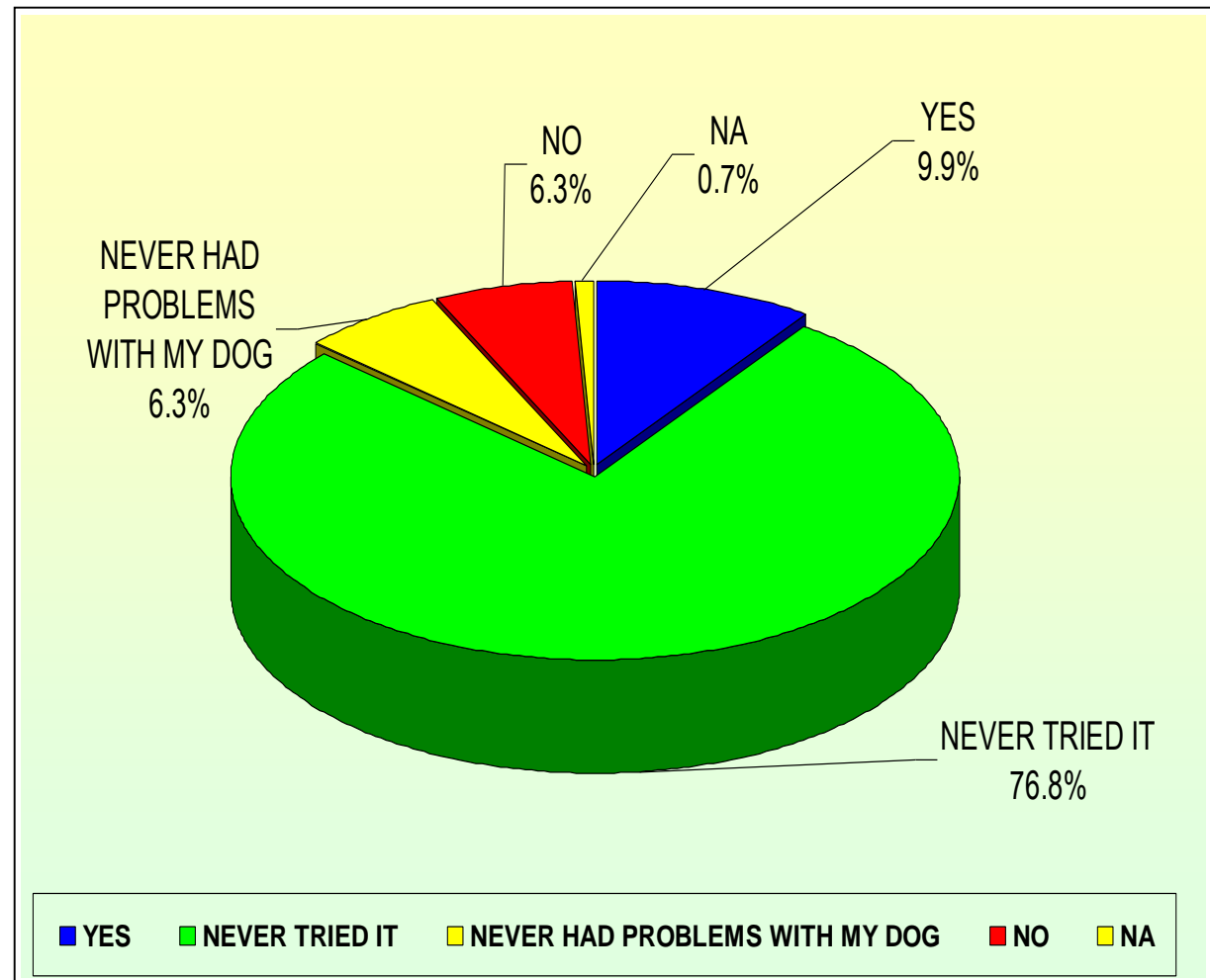
2014



2015

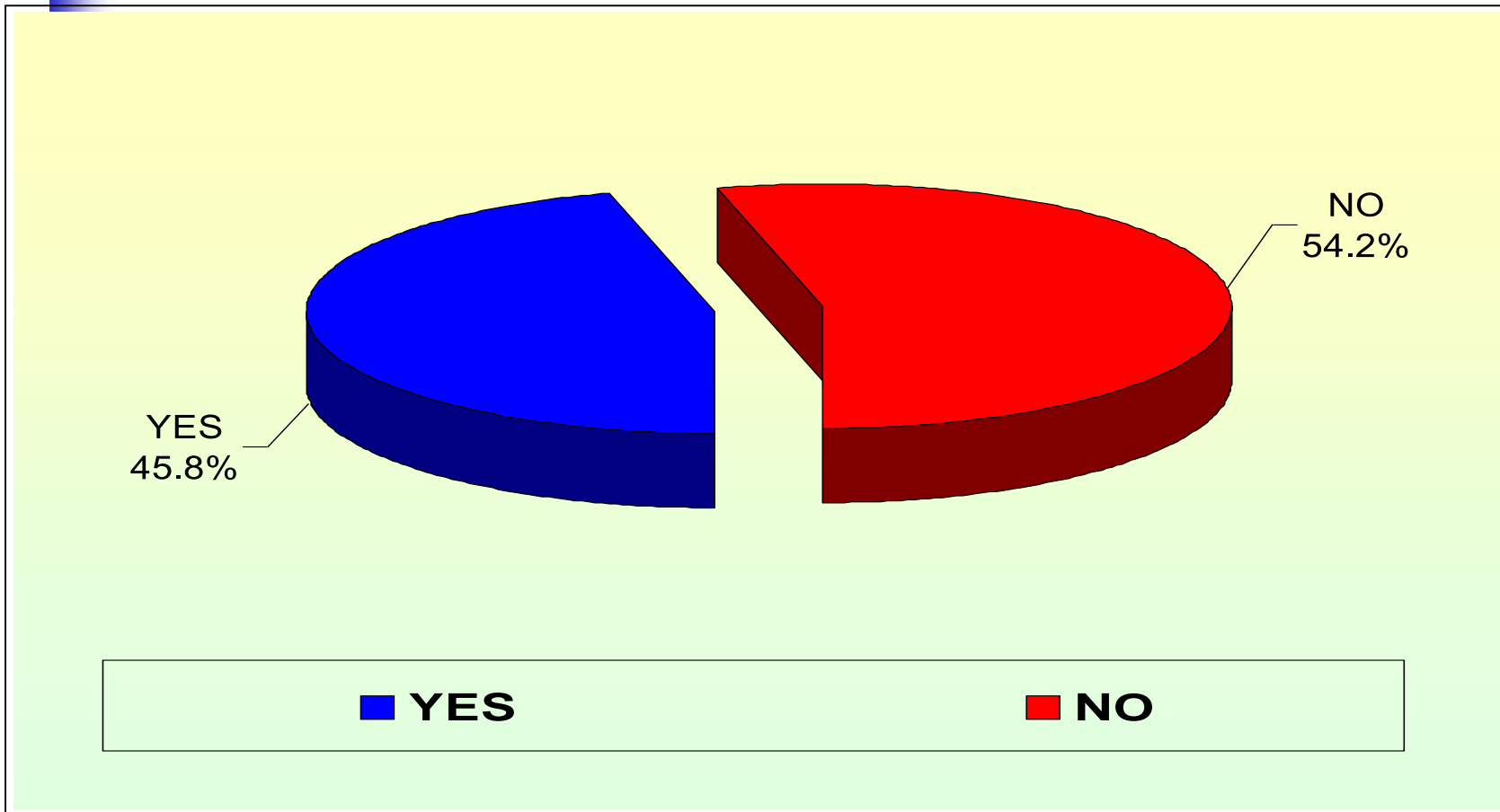


2016



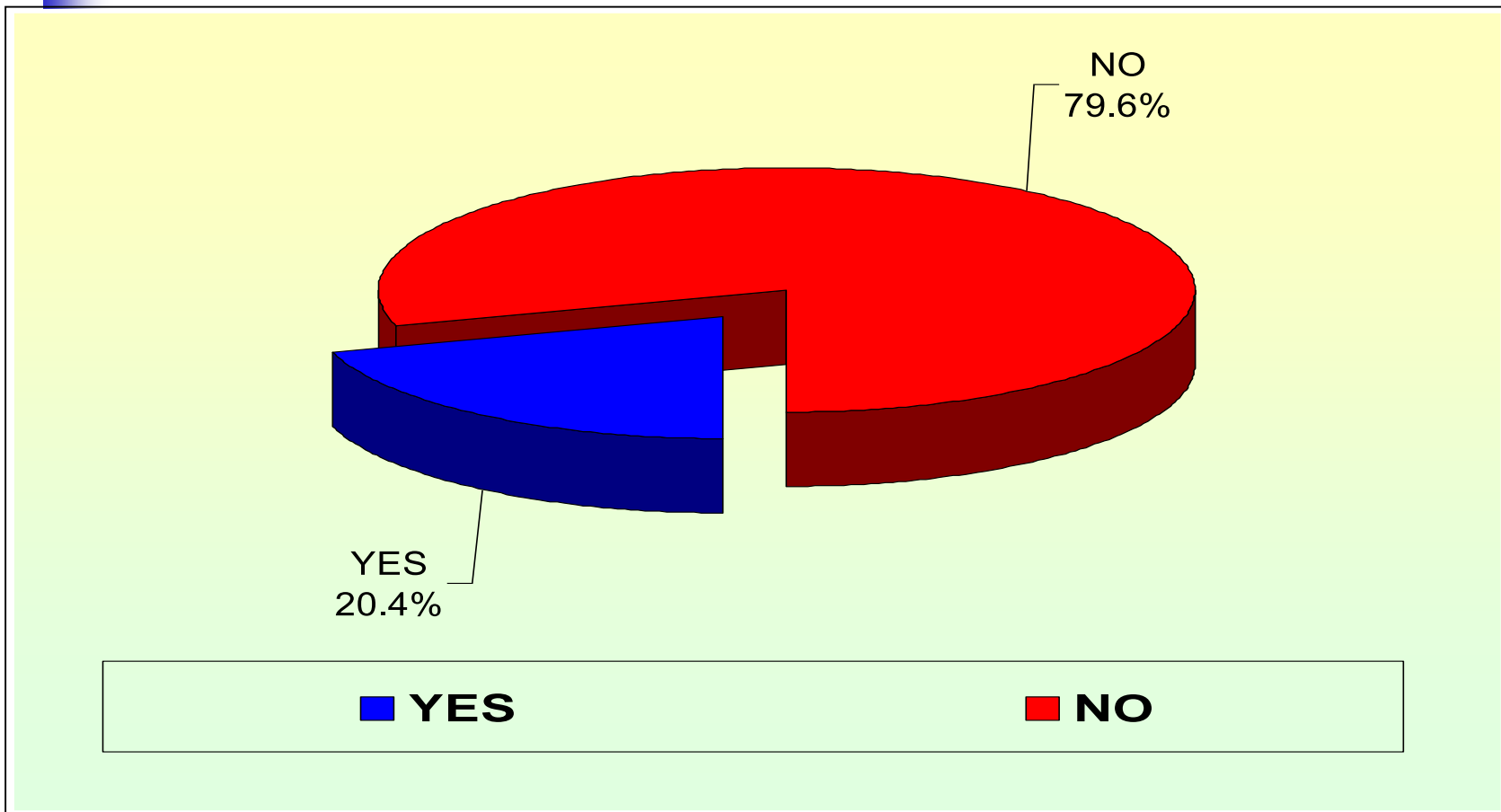
Have you ever heard about the Puppy Plan?

[Base=All]



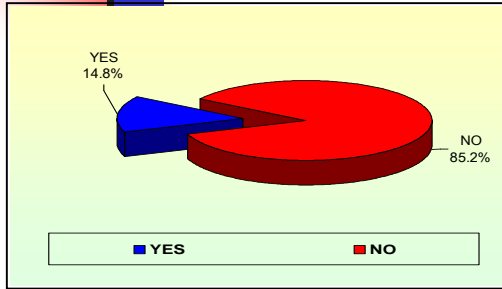
Would you be interested to buy a dog who has been through the Puppy Plan?

[Base=All]

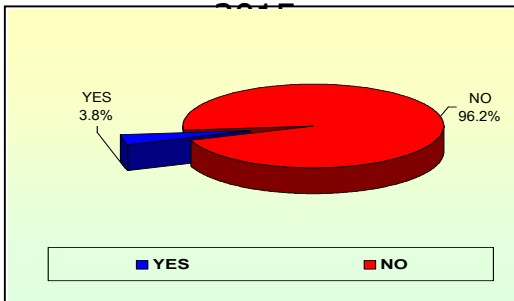
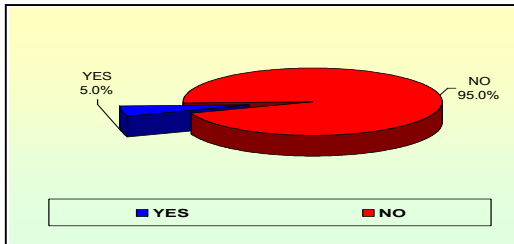


Do you breed from your dogs?

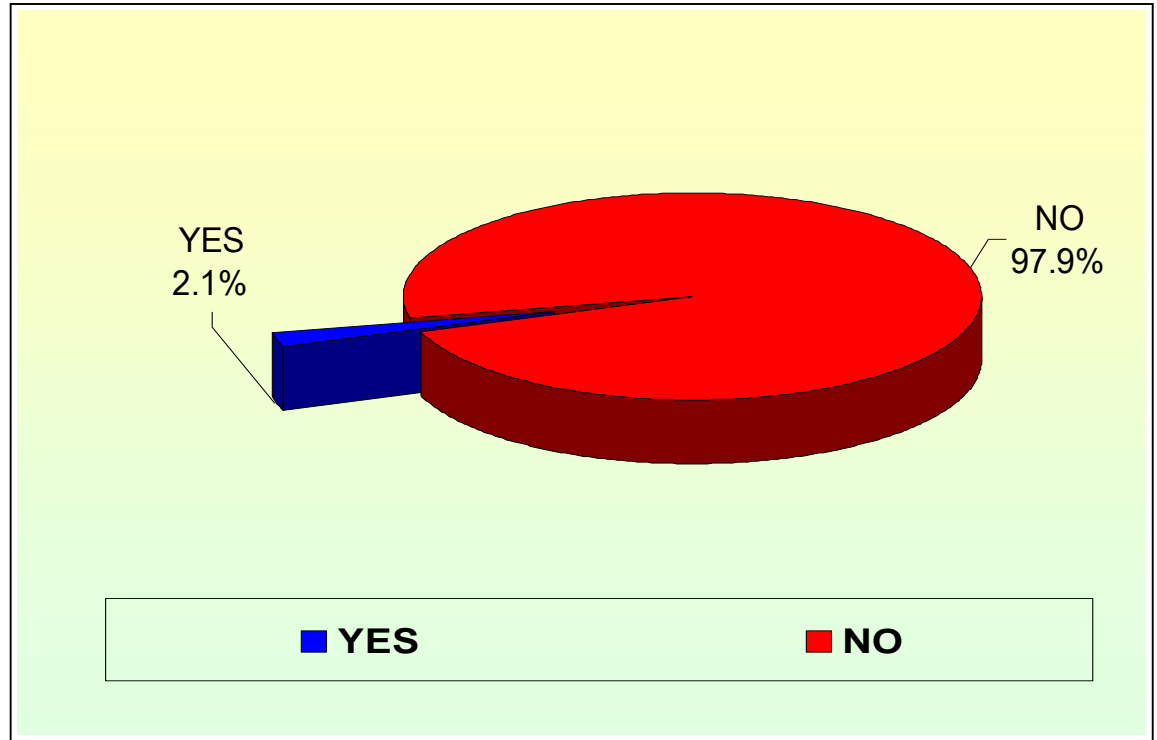
[Base=All who own a dog]



2014



2016



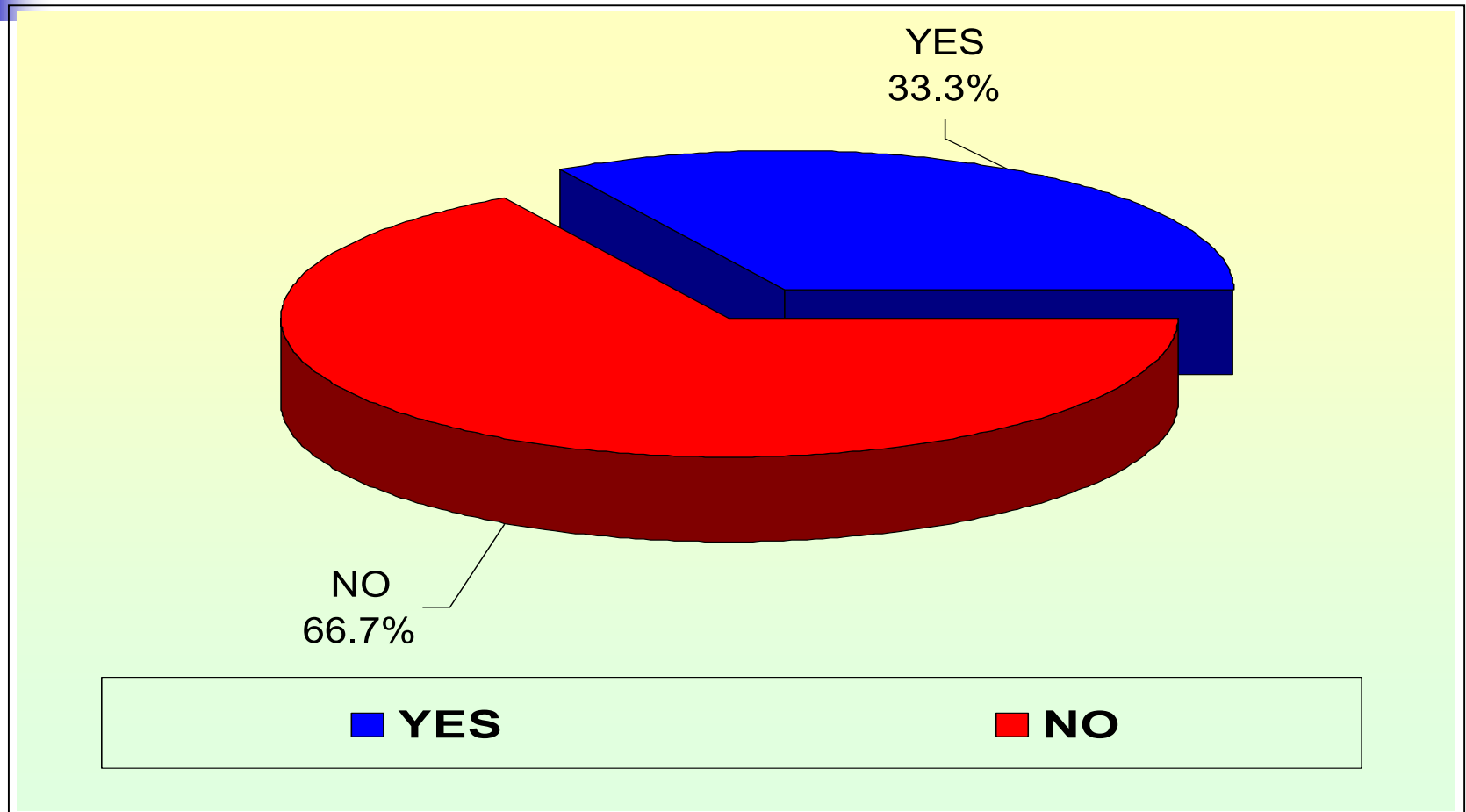
Why do you breed from your dogs?

[Base=All who breed]

- To sell 100.0%

If you breed, would you be interested to train them through the Puppy Plan?

[Base=All who breed]





Thank you for your kind attention.
