

Dog Population Survey Results Summary

Conducted by MAC, June 2018

Methodology

- 10 minute MAC sponsored web-based survey conducted in June 2018
- Email invite sent to one individual at approximately 350 MA-based organizations
 - ~ 50 shelters or foster-based rescues
 - ~ 300 animal control facilities
- Respondents assured anonymity and offered a summary of results for participation
- Target respondent is someone involved in operations and familiar with details regarding the dog population
- A total of 50 organizations responded
- Caveat: Use caution when interpreting results due to small sample size

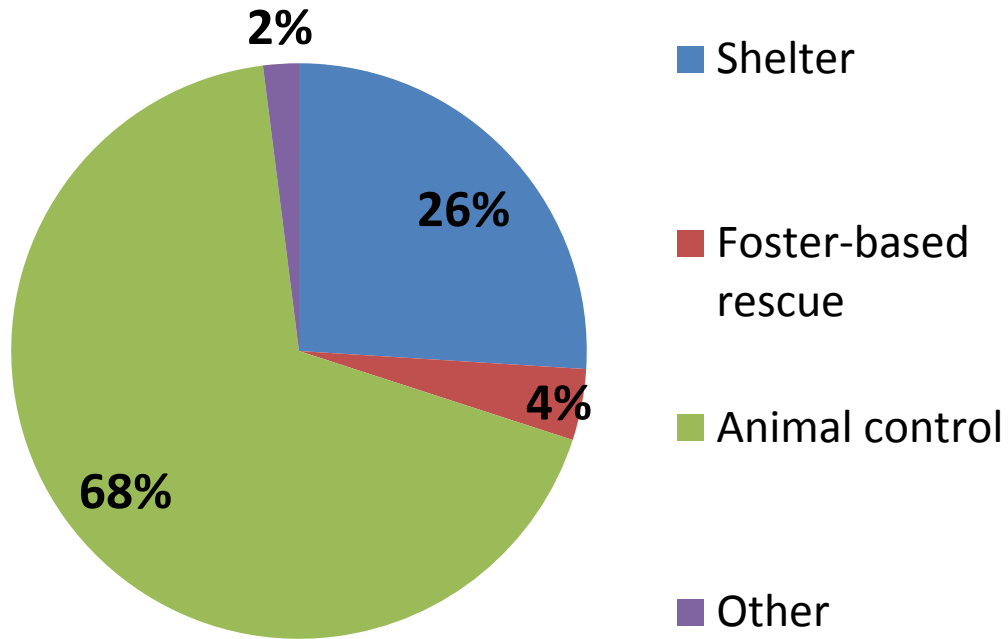
Summary

- The majority of participants are animal control facilities
- The shelters/foster-based rescues that participated are primarily medium and large organizations
- As many as 42% of dogs adopted thru shelters/rescues come from out-of-state
- Many of the animals at in-take have medical issues—twice as many do among in-state dogs (35%) vs. out-of-state dogs (16%)
 - The majority agree that they are seeing more medical issues than in the past
- Behavior issues are also common, 30% among in-state and 25% among out-of-state dogs
 - As many as 38% agree that they are seeing more behavior issues than in the past

Summary (continued)

- Among the top “behavior” issues in the dog population are jumpy/mouthy (25%), generalized fear/extremely shy (18%), and leash/dog reactivity (17%)
 - And about one-quarter of respondents suggest these behaviors have increased over the last few years
 - A much higher proportion of shelters/rescues report an increase in these behaviors compared to animal control facilities

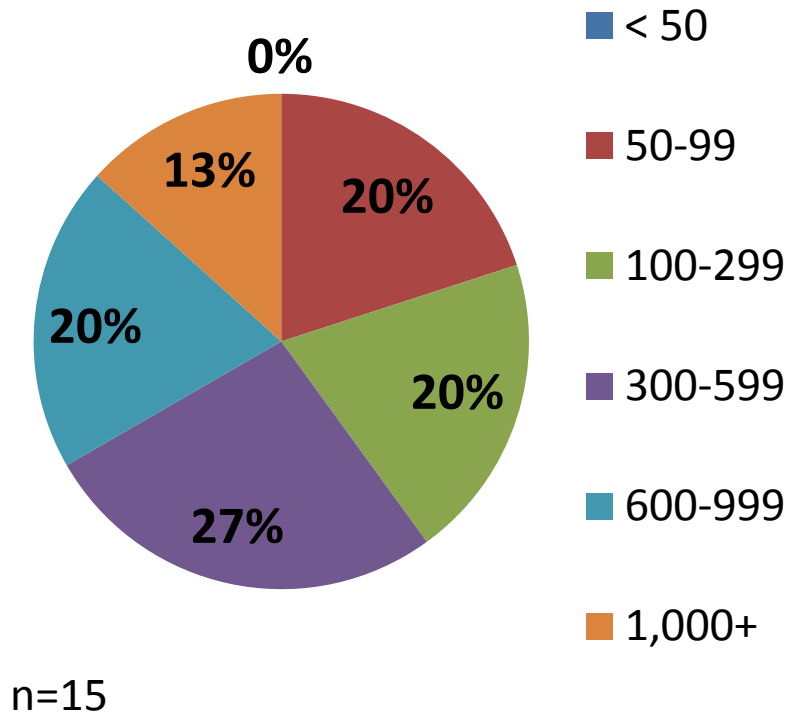
Type of Organization



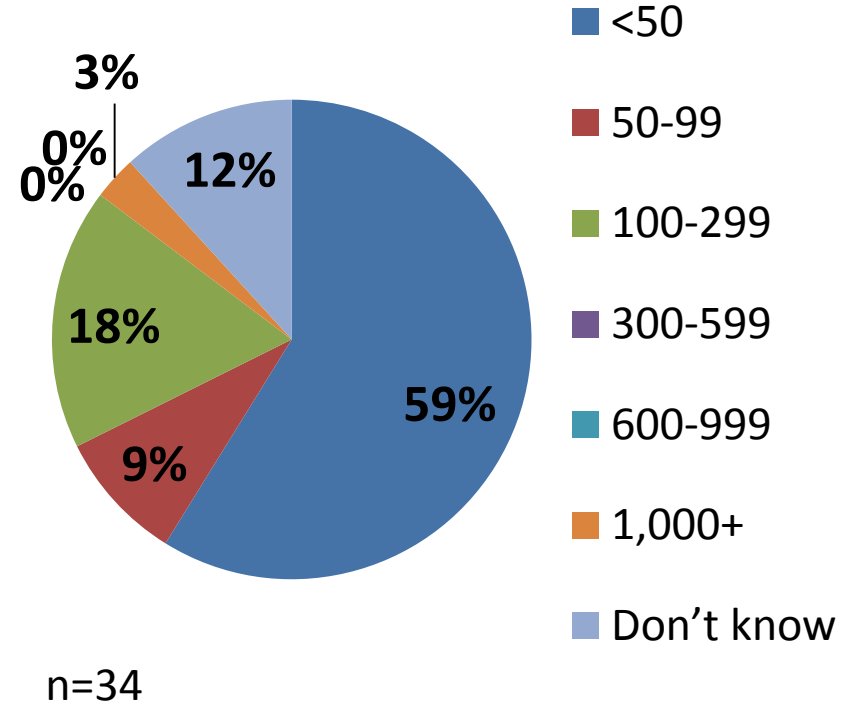
Type of org	Number
Shelter	13
Foster-based rescue	2
Animal Control	34
Other	1
Total	50

Annual Adoptions

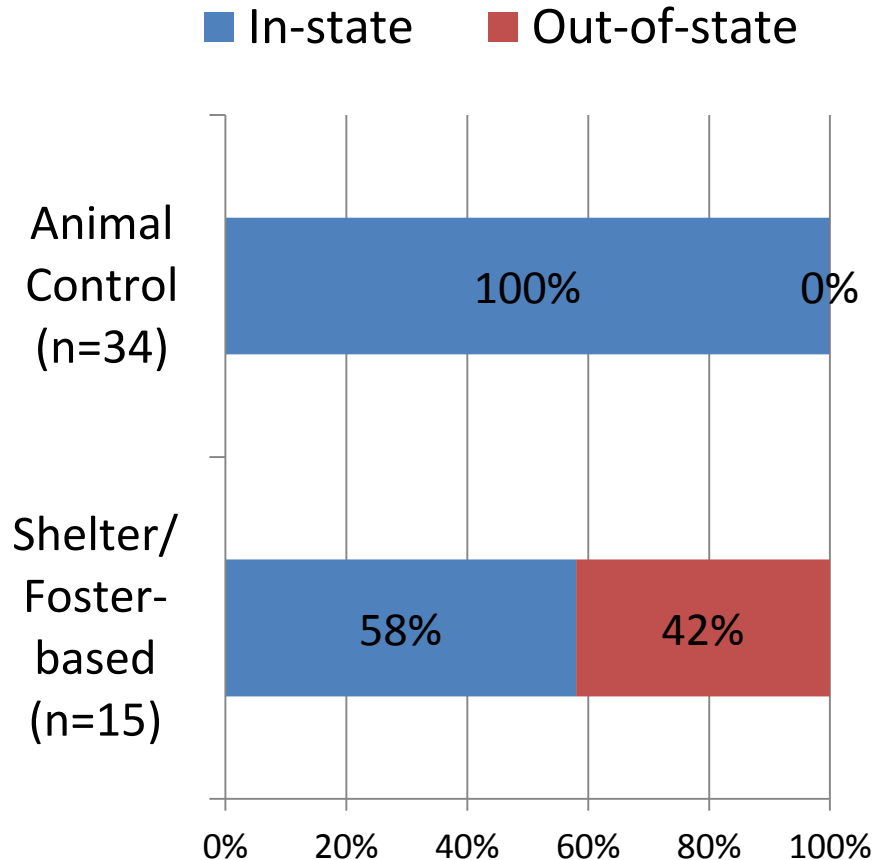
Shelters/Foster Rescues



Animal Control



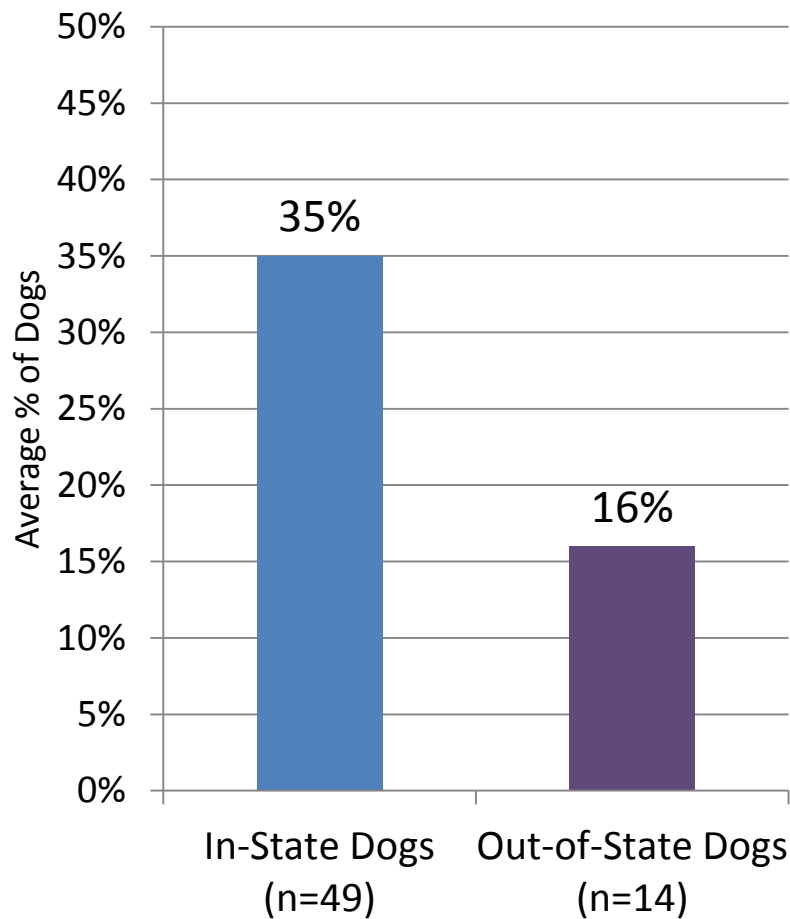
Sources



- *Rescues report the majority of their dogs come from in-state*
- *Of the 15 shelters/rescues two-thirds transport dogs from out-of-state and represent 42% of the dogs they intake*

What was the source of your dogs?

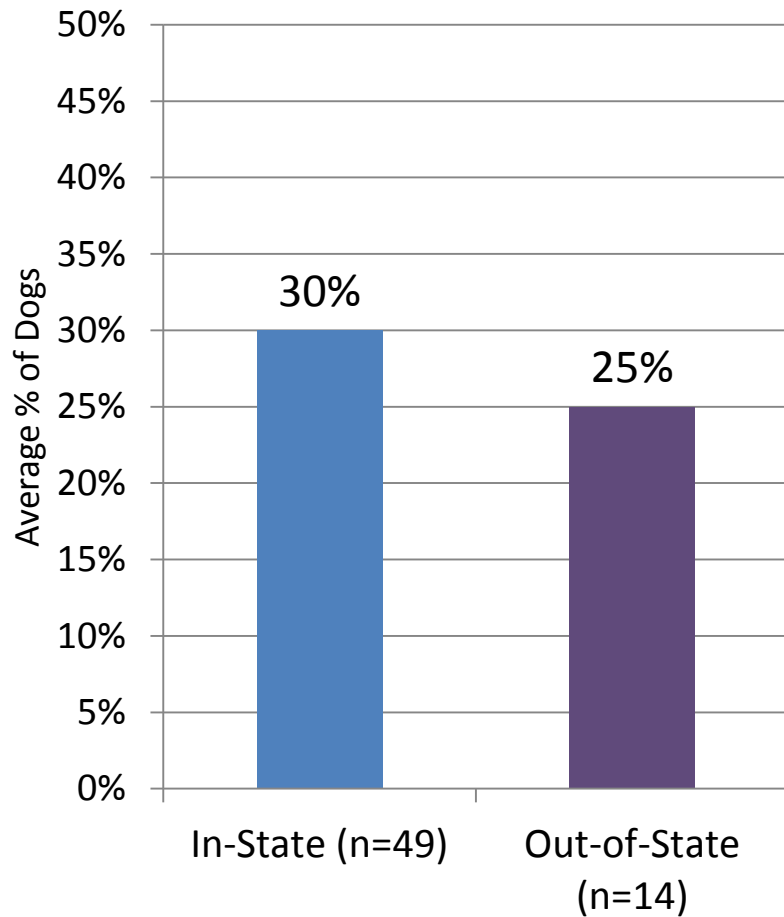
% With Medical Issues Pre-Adoption



- *Over 1/3 of dogs have medical issues upon intake*
- *Out-of-state dogs are much less likely to arrive with medical problems*

About what % of the [IN-STATE/OUT-OF-STATE] dogs came in with medical issues (excluding the need to spay/neuter)?

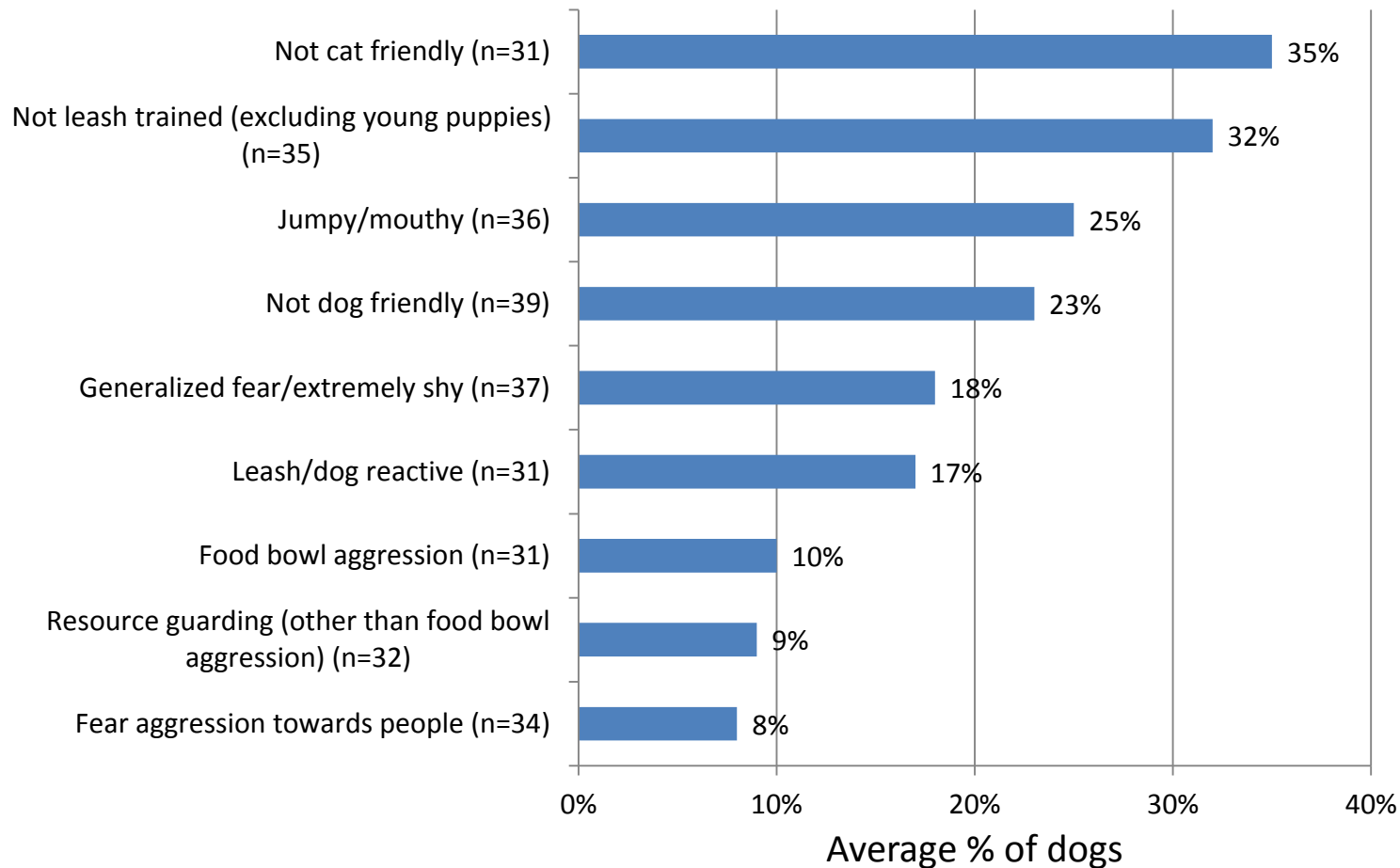
% With Behavior Issues Pre-Adoption



- *Out-of-state dogs are slightly less likely to have behavior issues*
- *Shelters report a higher proportion of out-of-state dogs have behavior issues versus medical issues (25% vs. 16%)*

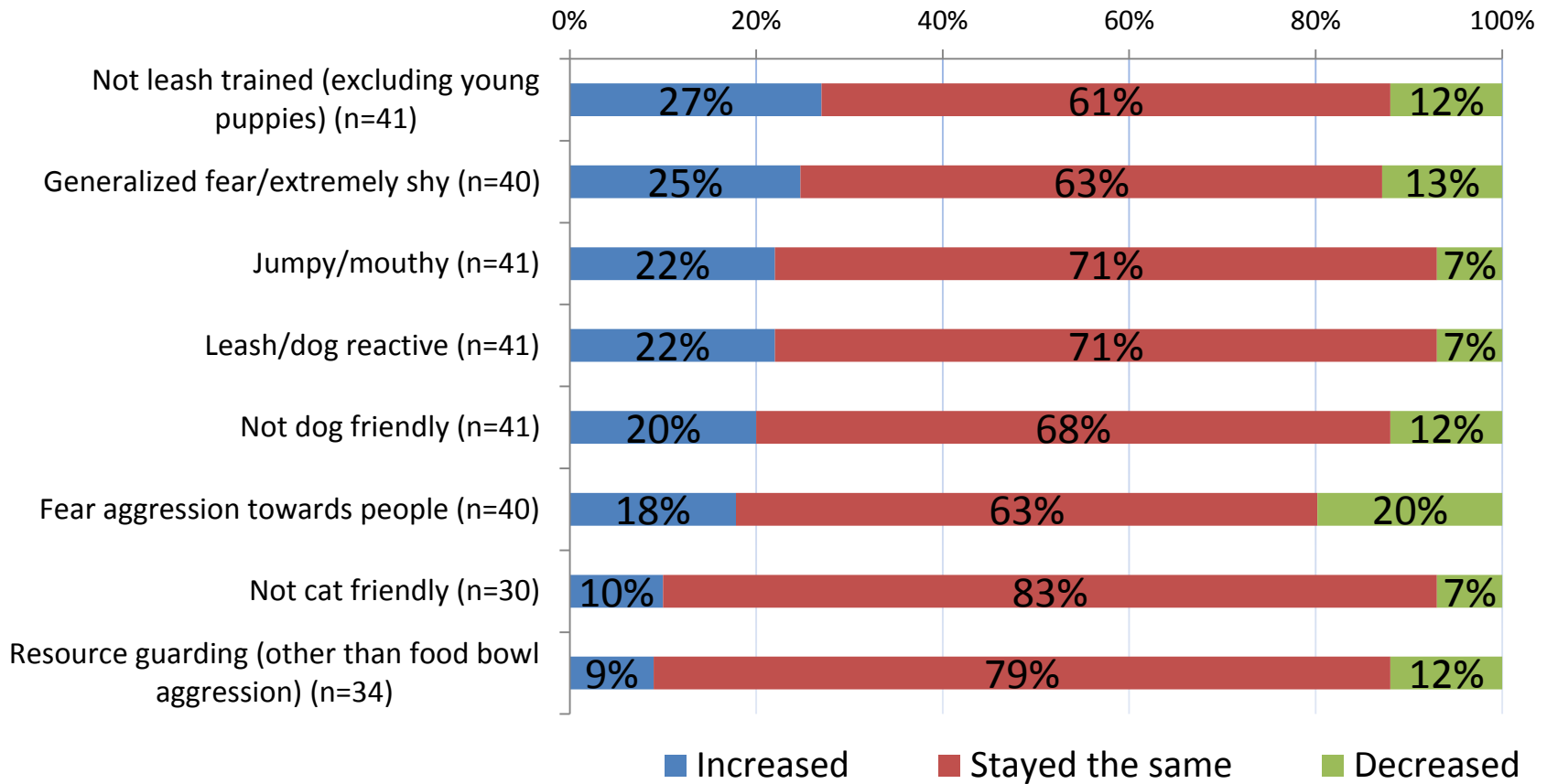
About what % of the [IN-STATE/OUT-OF-STATE] dogs came in with medical issues (excluding the need to spay/neuter)?

% of Dogs Showing Behavior Pre-Adoption



Over the last year or so, what percent of the dogs in your shelter/rescue have shown the following behaviors?

Behavior Trends



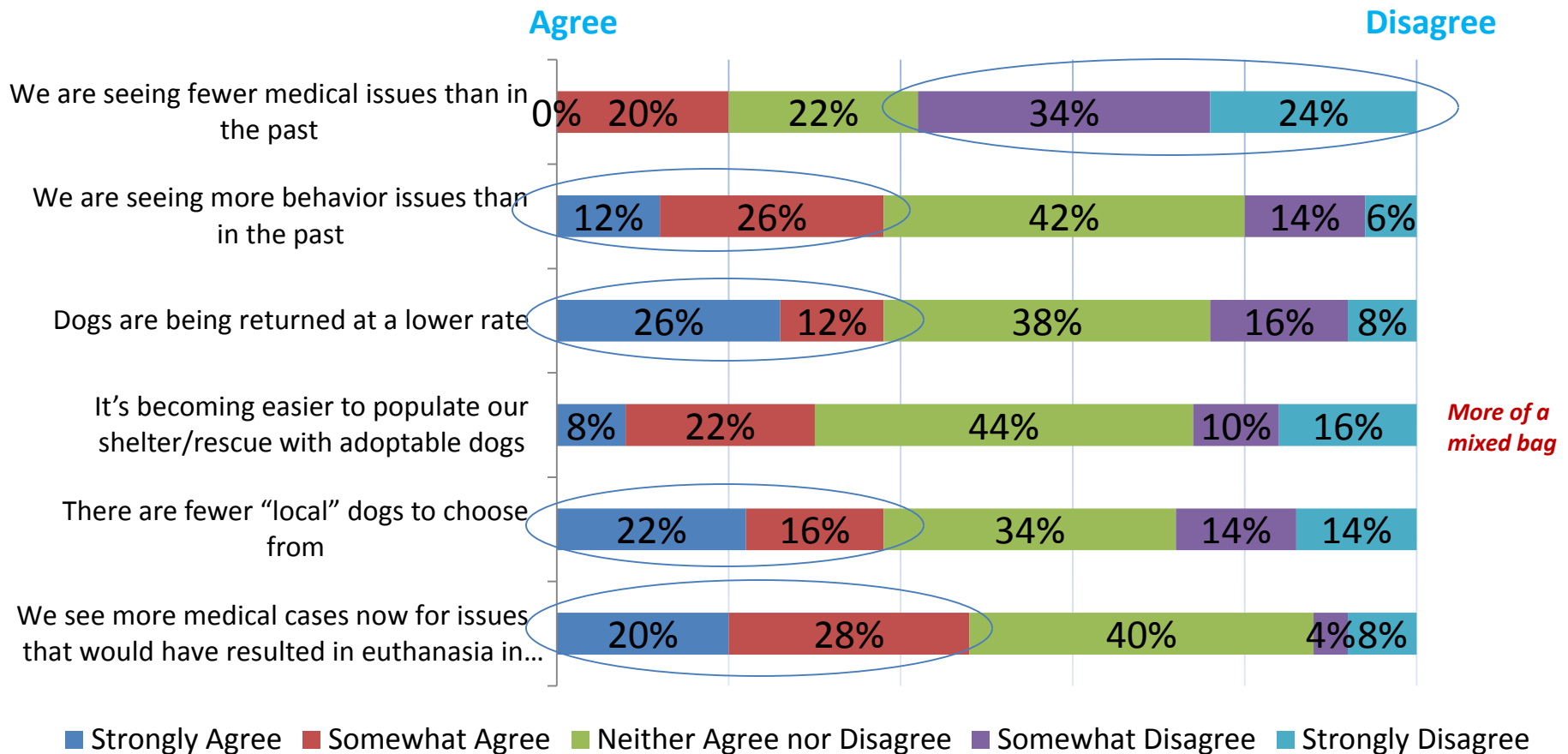
- The population of dogs seems to be changing.*

Over the last few years, would you say the number of dogs showing these behaviors has increased, decreased or stayed about the same?



Working together to decrease the number of neglected, displaced & abused animals in Massachusetts

Shelter Trends



To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your dogs?