



# Press Release

## Survey: Travelling with pets can cause family strife

### Also, 13% of pet owners admit to faking “service animal” status

**Washington, DC, December 19, 2018** – Holiday time means gathering friends and family and increasingly that includes the family pets. But that can mean drama for both the pet owners and their hosts if rules and responsibilities aren’t clearly laid out. Ipsos polled 1,003 Americans on their attitudes about whether they allow friends and family to bring pets to their homes, how they’ll travel or not with pets and how pet owners accommodate their pet needs in other people’s houses.

Among the top results, nearly two in five pet owners say traveling with their pets sometimes cause conflict with friends or family they’re visiting and 40% of people say if a guest’s pet misbehaves, they will ask them to leave. One in five pet owners will decline an invitation if they can’t bring their pet.

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted December 13 and 14, 2018. For the survey, a sample of 1,003 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English. The sample includes 296 respondents aged 18-34, 346 respondents aged 35-54, 361 respondents aged 55+. 652 respondents have pets.

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1. Do you have any pets?

	<b>Total (N=1,003)</b>
Dog	47%
I do not have any pets	35%
Cat	30%
Fish/Amphibian	7%
Other mammal (gerbil, hamster, etc.)	3%
Other	3%

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### 2. Do you generally let friends and family bring pets to your house...

	Total
Anytime they would like	38%
Only if they prearrange it with me	26%
I do not let friends and family bring pets to my house	26%
Only in an emergency	11%

### 3. Please indicate if each of the following are True or Not true, when friends and family members bring pets to your house:

#### Total true

	Total
My friends or family must take responsibility for their pets' actions	93%
If friends or family bring pets to my house they must follow my rules	84%
If friends or family's pet misbehaves I will ask them to leave	40%
If friends or family bring pets to my house they must stay outside	28%
If friends or family bring pets to my house they must stay crated or caged	25%

#### a. If friends or family bring pets to my house they must stay outside

	Total
True	28%
Not true	72%

#### b. If friends or family bring pets to my house they must stay crated or caged

	Total
True	25%
Not true	75%

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**c. If friends or family bring pets to my house they must follow my rules**

	<b>Total</b>
True	84%
Not true	16

**d. My friends or family must take responsibility for their pets' actions**

	<b>Total</b>
True	93%
Not true	7

**e. If friends or family's pet misbehaves I will ask them to leave**

	<b>Total</b>
True	40%
Not true	60

**4. Please indicate if each of the following are True or Not true, thinking about traveling and pets:**

**Total true**

<b>Base: Respondents who have pets</b>	<b>Total (N=661)</b>
I will board or get a sitter for my pet if it's not welcome or I can't travel with it	77%
I will stay in a hotel to be able to bring my pet	50%
Traveling with my pets sometimes cause conflict with friends or family I'm visiting	39%
I try to always travel with my pets	33%
I will decline an invitation if I can't bring my pet	21%
I have called an animal a support animal to get it on a plane.	13%



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**a. I try to always travel with my pets**

	<b>Total</b>
True	33%
Not true	67

**b. Traveling with my pets sometimes cause conflict with friends or family I'm visiting**

	<b>Total</b>
True	39%
Not true	61

**c. I will stay in a hotel to be able to bring my pet**

	<b>Total</b>
True	50%
Not true	50

**d. I will decline an invitation if I can't bring my pet**

	<b>Total</b>
True	21%
Not true	79

**e. I will board or get a sitter for my pet if it's not welcome or I can't travel with it**

	<b>Total</b>
True	77%
Not true	23



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f. I have called an animal a support animal to get it on a plane.

	Total
True	13%
Not true	87

5. And thinking about taking your pets to other people’s houses, please indicate if each of the following are True or Not true.

Total true

	Total
I make sure my pet gets walked/taken care of	95%
I supervise my pet when it’s around others to make sure it behaves	94%
If my pet breaks something or damages something (chews on, soils) I will fix it or pay for repairs	94%
I always make sure my host is comfortable beforehand if I bring my pet	91%
I bring my own pet food and supplies	91%

a. I always make sure my host is comfortable beforehand if I bring my pet

	Total
True	91%
Not true	9

b. I bring my own pet food and supplies

	Total
True	91%
Not true	9



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**c. I make sure my pet gets walked/taken care of**

	<b>Total</b>
True	95%
Not true	5

**d. I supervise my pet when it's around others to make sure it behaves**

	<b>Total</b>
True	94%
Not true	6

**e. If my pet breaks something or damages something (chews on, soils) I will fix it or pay for repairs**

	<b>Total</b>
True	94%
Not true	6

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### About the Study

These are findings from an Ipsos poll conducted December 13-14, 2018. For the survey, a sample of 1,003 adults 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawaii were interviewed online in English.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos’s online panel (see link below for more info on “Access Panels and Recruitment”), partner online panel sources, and “river” sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos “Ampario Overview” sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Post-hoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online nonprobability sampling polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.4 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=2,010, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=2.5).

For more information about conducting research intended for public release or Ipsos’ online polling methodology, please visit our [Public Opinion Polling and Communication](#) page where you can download our brochure, see our public release protocol, or contact us.

**For more information on this news release, please contact:**

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### About Ipsos

Ipsos is an independent market research company controlled and managed by research professionals. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has grown into a worldwide research group with a strong presence in all key markets. Ipsos ranks fourth in the global research industry.

With offices in 89 countries, Ipsos delivers insightful expertise across five research specializations: brand, advertising and media; customer loyalty; marketing; public affairs research; and survey management.

Ipsos researchers assess market potential and interpret market trends. They develop and build brands. They help clients build long-term relationships with their customers. They test advertising and study audience responses to various media and they measure public opinion around the globe.

#### GAME CHANGERS

« Game Changers » is the Ipsos signature.

At Ipsos we are passionately curious about people, markets, brands and society.  
We make our changing world easier and faster to navigate and inspire clients to make smarter decisions.  
We deliver with security, speed, simplicity and substance. We are Game Changers.

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