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Backyard Animal Keeping, 2024

**A National Study of Poultry, Pig, Goat, and
Rabbit Health and Management**



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Items of Note

The Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 study was a national study surveying adults over 18 years old in U.S. households. The survey asked if they kept any poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits. For participants that kept any of these species, there were additional questions regarding health and management practices. All adults had the opportunity to respond to opinion questions about poultry and questions on food security and composting. This study used a survey panel and opt-in panel for data collection and occurred from May 20, 2024, through June 28, 2024. Many of the estimates in this report refer to the last 12 months or are more general. If a table pertains to a specific time period, it will be noted in the title of the table.

The following items describe specific data from the study to present a general overview of select results. For more information on each topic, please see the indicated page.

Percentage of adults who kept animals

Adults were asked if they kept any poultry at their home, property, or at a community coop. Adults were also asked if they kept any pigs, goats, or rabbits at their home or property. Overall, 6.7 percent of U.S. adults reported keeping any poultry, 1.5 percent kept pigs, 1.3 percent kept goats, and 2.8 percent kept rabbits, and 9.6 percent of adults kept any of these four animal types. [page 5]

Length of ownership

Respondents were asked how long they or their family had kept animals (poultry, pigs, goats or rabbits). For adults who kept any of the four animal types, around one-half of adults had kept them for 1 to 5 years. Approximately one-quarter of adults who kept poultry had kept poultry for less than one year (25.1 percent) or for 6 or more years (24.1 percent). Slightly more than two-fifths of adults who kept pigs had kept pigs for less than one year (40.5 percent) while 8.7 percent had kept them for 6 years or more. [page 48]

Number of animals kept

For adults who kept poultry, the average number of poultry kept was 14.0 birds. Among owners of the other three animal types, the average number of pigs kept was 2.9, the average number of goats kept was 6.1, and the average number of rabbits kept was 2.5. [page 58]

Reasons for keeping animals

For adults who kept poultry, pigs, or goats for agricultural production (eggs, meat, or milk, depending on the species), food source and food quality were considered as very important reasons for keeping the animals by at least 30 percent of these adults (ranging from 38.7 percent to 69.5 percent of adults for food source and from 31.9 percent to 57.1 percent of adults for food quality). For adults who kept rabbits for agricultural production (meat), approximately 30 percent reported food source as a very important reason for keeping rabbits. Among adults who kept poultry, pigs, or goats, fun/hobby and learning experience for kids were ranked as the top two very important reasons for keeping the animal type. For adults who kept rabbits, companionship or pet (52.5 percent) and fun/hobby (34.0 percent) were ranked as the top two very important reasons to keep rabbits. [page 52]

Veterinary care

Overall, 25.7 percent of adults who kept poultry, 57.4 percent of adults who kept pigs, 44.2 percent of adults who kept goats, and 41.5 percent of adults who kept rabbits used the services of a veterinarian for their animals in the last 12 months. For animal keepers who did not use the services of a veterinarian in the last 12 months, the most common reason for not using a veterinarian was no need for a veterinarian (no illness or injury). The next most frequently given reason was that the respondent or a member of their household managed the animals' health (20.7 percent for adults who kept poultry, 31.1 percent for adults who kept pigs, and 24.6 percent for adults who kept goats). For adults who kept rabbits, cost was the second most common reason for not using a veterinarian (reported by 22.5 percent of adults who kept rabbits). [page 75]

Awareness of diseases and disease education resources

For each animal type of interest, a question was asked about awareness of a disease or a disease education resource relevant to that animal type. For adults who kept poultry, approximately 28 percent had some familiarity about USDA's Defend the Flock program (recognized the name, knew some basics or were very knowledgeable). For adults who kept pigs, almost 75 percent of adults had some familiarity with the disease African swine fever. For adults who kept goats, slightly more than 60 percent of adults had some familiarity with scrapie. For adults who kept rabbits, 64.3 percent of adults had never heard of rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD or RHD2). [page 87]

Biosecurity

Biosecurity practices are used to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases. Adults who kept poultry, pigs, or goats were asked about several biosecurity practices such as hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, and use of dedicated shoes or shoe covers. At least 65 percent of adults sometimes or always required these biosecurity practices for people who were in the animal area. For the following practices, adults always reported requiring people to wash hands before entering the animal area or handling the animals (poultry 47.4 percent; pigs 43.2 percent; goats 46.7 percent), wash hands after leaving the animal area or handling the animals (poultry 80.1 percent; pigs 65.6 percent; goats 64.9 percent), use of hand sanitizer before or after entering the animal area or handling animals (poultry 41.1 percent; pigs 36.5 percent; goats 47.0 percent), change into dedicated shoes or wearing shoe covers before entering the animal area (poultry 43.9 percent; pigs 42.0 percent; goats 48.4 percent), and change out of dedicated shoes or disposing of shoe covers after leaving the animal area (poultry 47.5 percent; pigs 39.5 percent; goats 46.0 percent). [page 97]

Contact with wild animals

Almost one-third of adults who kept poultry had seen wild birds other than waterfowl, or evidence of them, within 10 feet of the poultry area during the last 12 months (31.9 percent), and 18.9 percent of adults who kept poultry had seen wild waterfowl, or evidence of them, within 10 feet of the poultry area in the same timeframe. Around one-quarter of adults who kept pigs had seen feral swine (24.2 percent) or wild birds, including waterfowl (26.2 percent), or evidence of them within 10 feet of the pig area. Almost one-sixth of adults who kept rabbits (15.3 percent) had seen wild rabbits or evidence of them around the rabbit area during the last 12 months. [page 102]

Addition of new animals

Overall, 50.4 percent of adults who kept poultry had acquired new poultry in the last 12 months. Similarly, 56.6 percent of adults who kept pigs, 52.2 percent of adults who kept goats and 38.5 percent of adults who kept rabbits had acquired new pigs, goats or rabbits, respectively. The percentage of adults who always isolated new animals prior to introduction to established animals ranged from 19.2 percent of adults who kept pigs to 56.3 percent of adults who kept poultry. However, for pig owners, 19.4 percent did not have any pigs when they acquired the new pigs. [page 93]

Contact with live poultry

Poultry, such as chickens, ducks, or turkeys, can carry strains of *Salmonella* that are pathogenic in people even when the poultry look healthy and clean. *Salmonella* can spread to surfaces and objects in areas where poultry live and roam. For adults who did not keep poultry, almost one-fifth (17.5 percent) indicated that they or children in their household had contact with live domestic poultry in the past month. [page 19]

Children under 5 years of age are at higher risk of contracting *Salmonella* from poultry and having more serious illness. For adults who kept backyard poultry, almost 60 percent felt that our survey questions about practices for young children in the poultry area were applicable to them. For this group, 65.3 percent reported always and 21.4 percent reported sometimes supervising children under 5 years old in handwashing after the children leave the poultry area; in addition, 45.7 percent of adults in this group always and 35.0 percent sometimes prevented children younger than 5 years old from handling poultry. [page 101]

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Acknowledgements

The Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 study was a cooperative effort among animal and human health officials, university researchers, extension personnel, and animal owners across the United States. We want to thank the individuals who helped determine the direction and objectives of this study. Recognition also goes to the personnel at the Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health for their efforts in generating reports from Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 and to our reviewers, who provided valuable expertise and guidance through their comments.

All participants are to be commended, particularly the poultry, pig, goat, and rabbit owners whose voluntary efforts made this component of the Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 study possible.



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Introduction

Previous studies

NAHMS carried out an Urban Chicken Study in 2010, which was conducted in two phases in four cities: Denver, Colorado; Miami, Florida; New York City, New York; and Los Angeles, California. In Phase I, urban chicken owners purchasing chicken feed in feed stores in Denver, Miami, and Los Angeles completed a questionnaire addressing bird health, movement, and biosecurity practices in their flocks and the results are found in the [Reference of Health and Management of Chicken Flocks in Urban Settings in Four U.S. Cities, 2010](#) report. Due to the lack of feed stores in New York City, the questionnaire was administered to members of a web-based chicken club.

[Urban Chicken Ownership in Four U.S. Cities](#) reports information from Phase II of the Urban Chicken Study. Due to funding limitations, only one city (Los Angeles) was initially selected for Phase II during 2010. The other three cities (Denver, Miami, and New York City) were surveyed in 2012. A questionnaire was administered to determine the percentage of households that owned chickens and to ascertain the residents' opinions about raising chickens in urban settings. At the time of this study, 0.8 percent of all responding households in the four cities reported owning chickens.

Current study

The NAHMS Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 Study has two parts:

- Part 1 is a National Survey to estimate ownership of poultry, pigs, goats, and rabbits and describe baseline information on ownership practices.
- Part 2 is a City Survey to estimate ownership of chickens, pigs, goats, and rabbits in two of the four cities previously studied in 2012 (Denver and Miami) and to describe respondents' beliefs about chicken ownership. The City Survey results are found in a separate [report](#).

Understanding backyard animal ownership in the two cities and nationally will help support preparedness for disease prevention and control. Data on characteristics of backyard animal owners, the flocks and herds they own, and behavioral or management factors that may increase the risk of spreading diseases among and between animals and people are critical for the development of effective prevention resources. For poultry, this data will support prevention and control of avian influenza and Newcastle disease (ND) and assist with investigating outbreaks of human *Salmonella* illnesses linked to contact with backyard poultry.

For pigs, these results provide useful information about backyard ownership and management practices that can aid in disease preparedness in case of introduction of African swine fever (ASF), a foreign animal disease that has the potential to enter the United States. Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral disease that affects cloven-hoof animals including pigs and goats. While FMD has not been detected in livestock in the United States since 1929, introduction of this disease into the United States would be devastating to the livestock industry. Rabbit hemorrhagic disease virus serotype 2 (RHDV2) is a highly contagious and fatal viral disease affecting rabbits that was first detected in the United States in 2018. The results of this study could help guide educational efforts for rabbit owners, as these multistate outbreaks are ongoing.

The following study objectives were based on a needs assessment done in collaboration with researchers, extension veterinarians, government personnel, and poultry veterinarians. Results of the needs assessment also helped with the design and development of the study questionnaires.

Study Objectives

1. Obtain national estimates of the percentage of adults who own poultry, pigs, goats, and rabbits in urban and non-urban areas of the United States.
2. For each species included in the Study, describe animal management practices such as information sources owners use to learn about animal health, access to veterinary care, length of ownership, and biosecurity practices, including those relevant to antimicrobial stewardship.

3. For adults who both own and do not own poultry, pigs, goats, and rabbits, describe opinions of backyard and urban ownership of chickens, and for non-owners only, describe any contact with live poultry and intention to own any one of these species of interest in the future.
4. Estimate the prevalence of chicken, pig, rabbit, and goat ownership in two of the cities surveyed on urban chicken ownership in 2012 (Denver and Miami) and describe respondents' beliefs about chicken ownership to determine changes in prevalence and beliefs between 2012 and 2024.
5. Conduct a preliminary evaluation of the relationship between food security status and backyard animal keeping.

This report addresses Study Objectives 1 through 3 and Study Objective 5. The fourth study objective is addressed in a separate report.

Detailed information about the methods used and the number of respondents in the study can be found at the end of this report.

Terms Used in This Report

Biosecurity: A set of practices and/or procedures used to prevent introduction of infectious diseases into the flock or herd and to minimize further transmission among animals, if a disease is introduced. Biosecurity practices reduce the risk of infectious diseases being carried onto the property by people, animals, equipment, or vehicles. Examples include handwashing before and after leaving the animal area and isolating new animals before introduction to existing animals.

Community Coop: A location where multiple people keep their chickens, similar to a community garden but oriented toward chickens.

Composting: Composting is the managed biological decomposition of organic material by microorganisms. Materials that are commonly composted and which the survey asked about include food scraps, plant material, paper products, and animal manure. Composting is usually done locally at home or through a municipal program.

Contact: For the questionnaire, contact with poultry was defined as physically touching the birds or being in the environment where they live and roam.

Gamebirds: Bird species typically hunted for sport or food, such as quail, pheasant, or partridge.

Housing types: Housing type options included a single family house detached from any other house, a single family house attached to one or more houses, a multi-family dwelling, a mobile home or trailer, or other (including boat, RV, van, etc.). Due to a small sample size, mobile home or trailer and “other” were combined for reporting. The housing type gives an idea of the size of the property and where people keep the different animal types.

Metropolitan (metro) county: See *Urban* definition.

Non-metropolitan (non-metro) county: See *Urban* definition.

Opt-in panel: The study sample was supplemented by an opt-in panel. An opt-in panel consists of individuals who have chosen to participate in a survey through a website or platform, and is non-probability based. The opt-in panel was used to increase the number of surveys from adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits.

Population estimates: Point estimates in this report (weighted percentages or averages) are provided with a measure of precision called the standard error. The confidence intervals used to make comparisons in the text of this report were computed using the methods described in Section II.C.2 (p 107). These confidence intervals require more information than is published in the report to compute, but an approximate 95-percent confidence interval can be computed with bounds equal to the estimate, plus or minus two standard errors. If the only error is sampling error, the confidence intervals created in this manner will contain the true population value about 95 out of 100 times. For example, an estimated proportion of 7.5 with a standard error of 1.0 results in limits of 5.5 and 9.5 (two times the standard error above and below the estimate). When estimates are reported as being “higher” or “lower” than other estimates, a statistical difference is implied by the absence of overlap between 95-percent confidence intervals for the estimates being compared but was not directly tested. Not all statistically different estimates are mentioned in the text of this report. Occasionally, the word “numerically” is used to describe estimates that appear to be different but are actually not statistically different based on the overlap of the 95-percent confidence intervals (this can occur, for example, when standard errors are very large, perhaps because of a large estimate distribution or small sample size). Most estimates in this report are rounded to the nearest tenth. If the estimate is rounded to 0.0 or 100.0, the standard error was reported (0.0). If there were no reports of the event (0.0 percent) or if all operations reported the event (100.0 percent), no standard error was reported (—).

Pigs: For the purpose of this study, the definition of pigs is domestic pigs, including pot-bellied and pet pigs kept at the home or property. There was no distinction made between pet pigs from pigs used for food production, or other purposes. Note that animal management practices may differ based on the reason(s) that pigs were kept.

Poultry: For the purpose of this study, the definition of poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, and gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges). Respondents were to count poultry if they were kept at their home or property, or at a community coop.

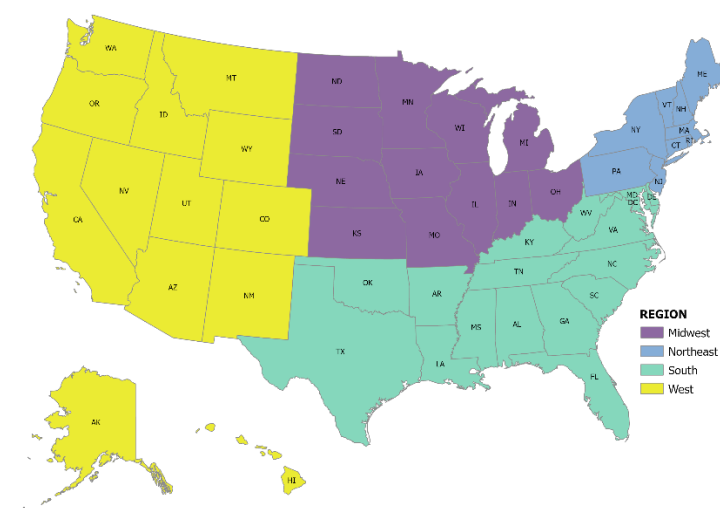
Regions: For this report, four regions are reported based on the U.S. Census:

Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont

Midwest: Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia

West: Arizona, Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming



Salmonella: *Salmonella* is a bacterium that has been frequently associated with foodborne illnesses, and some strains may inhabit the poultry intestinal tract. Backyard poultry can carry *Salmonella* bacteria even if they appear healthy. The bacteria can easily spread to anything in the areas where poultry live and roam. People can become sick by handling backyard poultry or anything in their environment and then touching their face or food and ingesting *Salmonella* germs. While the focus of the *Salmonella* questions in this study is related to poultry, other species can also carry *Salmonella*.

Survey panel: A survey panel consists of a pre-recruited group of people who have been selected to participate in surveys. This study used the AmeriSpeak® survey panel, consisting of a nationally-representative, probability-based sample of survey respondents from households across the United States.

Urban: Urbanicity was determined using the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) rural urban continuum codes (RUCC), which are updated every 10 years. The 2023 RUCC codes distinguish U.S. metropolitan (metro) counties by the population size of their metro area and nonmetropolitan (nonmetro) counties by their degree of urbanization and adjacency to a metro area. For more information, see <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes/documentation>. For the purpose of this report, urban refers to a location within a metro county, and non-urban refers to a location with a non-metro county.

Section I: Population Estimates

Note: Where applicable, column or row totals are shown as 100.0 to aid in interpretation; however, estimates may not sum to 100.0, due to rounding.

Note: Because of the small sample size of people who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits, and some of the demographic categories, selected results may have larger standard errors and greater uncertainty in the estimates. This means that in some cases, results that seem as though they should be considered statistically different from those for other categories cannot be considered different because of the large standard errors.

A. Backyard Animal Keeping

1. Backyard animal keeping at home or property

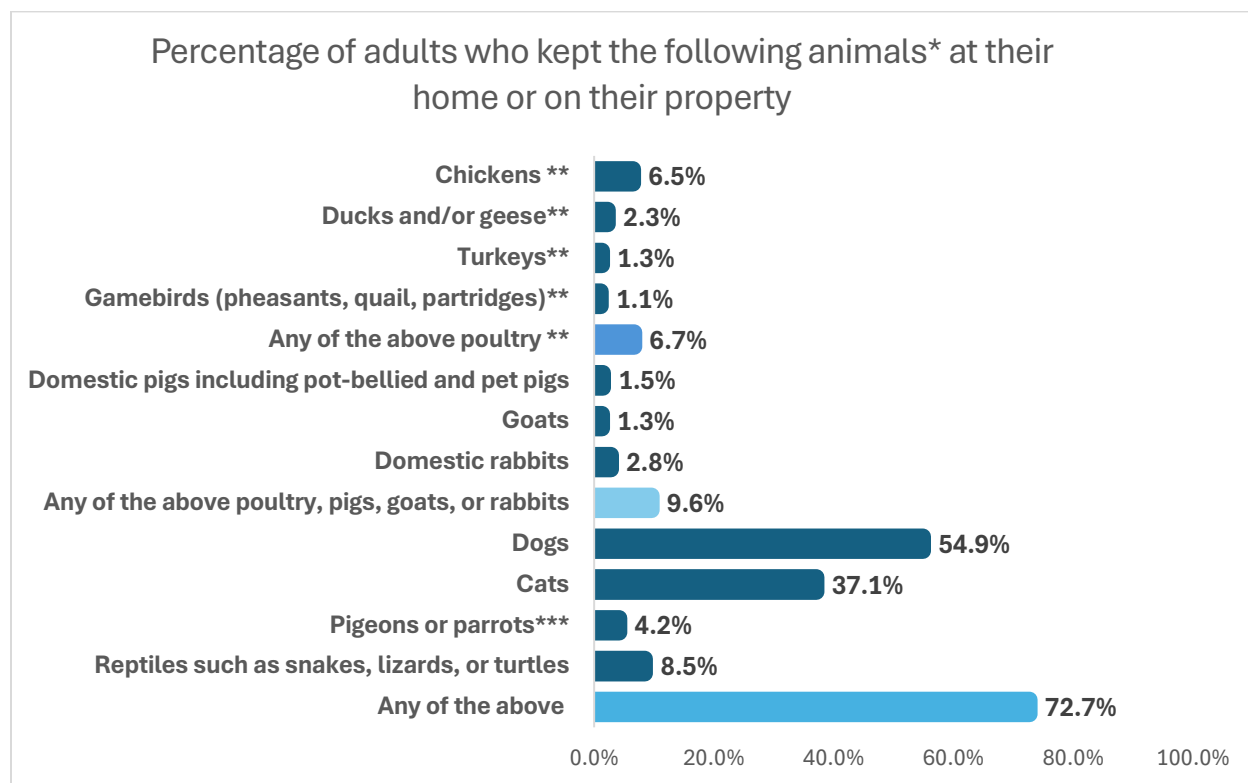
Adults were asked if they kept any poultry at their home, property or at a community coop, and/or if they kept any pigs, goats, or rabbits at their home or property.

Overall, 6.7 percent of adults reported keeping any poultry, 1.5 percent kept pigs, 1.3 percent kept goats, 2.8 percent kept rabbits, and 9.6 percent of adults kept any of the four animal types at their home or property. Regardless of region, a higher percentage of adults reported keeping dogs or cats compared to the other animal types and for poultry, numerically a lower percentage of adults reported keeping gamebirds compared to the other poultry types.

A.1.a. Percentage of adults who kept the following animals¹ at their home or on their property, by region:

Animal type	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens ²	6.7	(2.0)	5.8	(1.4)	7.5	(0.9)	5.5	(1.4)	6.5	(0.7)
Ducks and/or geese ²	2.5	(1.6)	2.4	(1.1)	2.0	(0.5)	2.6	(1.3)	2.3	(0.5)
Turkeys ²	2.4	(1.6)	0.8	(0.4)	0.6	(0.2)	2.1	(1.3)	1.3	(0.4)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) ²	1.9	(1.5)	0.1	(0.1)	0.6	(0.2)	2.0	(1.3)	1.1	(0.4)
Any of the above poultry ²	6.8	(2.0)	5.9	(1.4)	7.8	(1.0)	5.5	(1.4)	6.7	(0.7)
Domestic pigs including pot-bellied and pet pigs	0.7	(0.4)	0.4	(0.1)	1.3	(0.4)	3.2	(1.5)	1.5	(0.4)
Goats	0.7	(0.4)	0.8	(0.3)	2.0	(0.4)	1.2	(0.4)	1.3	(0.2)
Domestic rabbits	4.4	(1.7)	2.6	(0.6)	2.5	(0.5)	2.3	(0.6)	2.8	(0.4)
Any of the above poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits	9.5	(2.1)	8.7	(1.5)	10.5	(1.1)	8.9	(1.7)	9.6	(0.8)
Dogs	49.4	(2.8)	57.1	(2.3)	56.4	(1.9)	54.6	(3.5)	54.9	(1.3)
Cats	36.1	(2.7)	40.7	(2.5)	33.5	(1.7)	40.5	(4.0)	37.1	(1.4)
Pigeons or parrots such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws	2.1	(0.6)	3.3	(0.8)	4.5	(0.9)	5.8	(1.5)	4.2	(0.5)
Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, or turtles	8.3	(2.2)	5.3	(1.3)	7.3	(0.9)	13.3	(4.9)	8.5	(1.3)
Any of the above	71.0	(2.4)	74.6	(1.8)	71.2	(1.9)	74.7	(2.5)	72.7	(1.1)

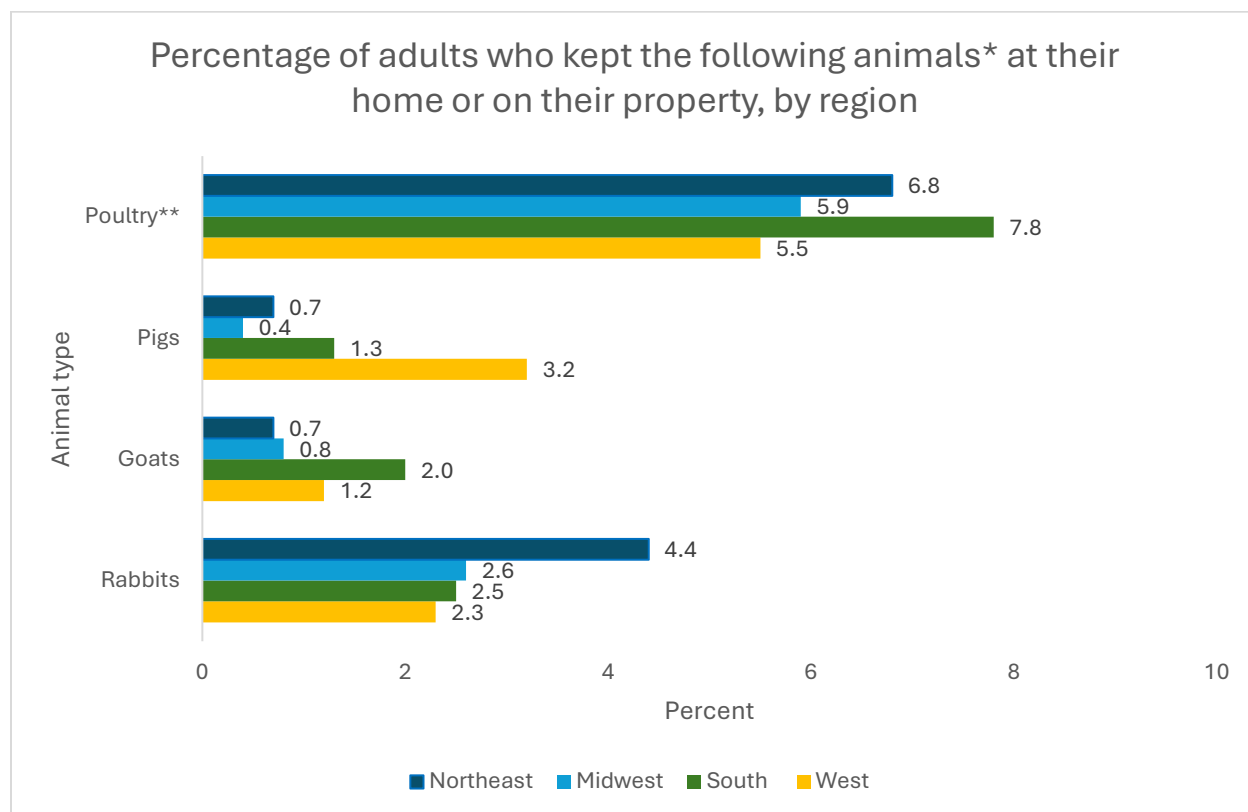
¹ Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds² Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop



*Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

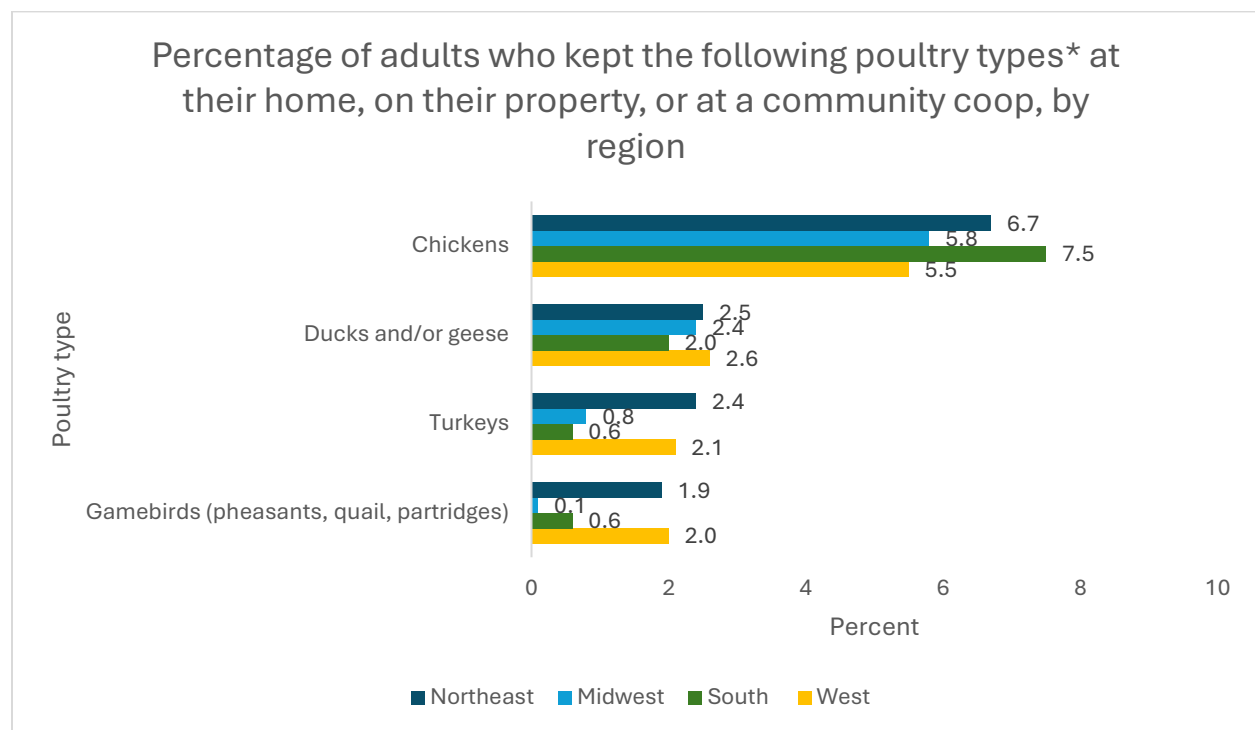
**Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

***Such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws



*Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

**Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop



*Respondents were instructed to exclude wild birds

A higher percentage of adults with a non-urban designation (15.6 percent) than adults with an urban designation (5.2 percent) kept chickens. In general, a higher percentage of adults in a non-urban area (81.9 percent) than in an urban area (71.3 percent) kept any of the animal types listed at their home or on their property.

A.1.b. Percentage of adults who kept the following animals¹ at their home or on their property, by urban designation:

Animal type	Percent Adults			
	Urbanicity			
	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens ²	5.2	(0.7)	15.6	(2.1)
Ducks and/or geese ²	2.1	(0.6)	3.8	(0.8)
Turkeys ²	1.1	(0.5)	2.4	(0.7)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) ²	1.1	(0.5)	0.8	(0.3)
Any of the above poultry ²	5.4	(0.7)	15.8	(2.1)
Domestic pigs including pot-bellied and pet pigs	1.4	(0.5)	1.7	(0.6)
Goats	1.0	(0.2)	3.3	(0.9)
Domestic rabbits	2.7	(0.4)	3.5	(1.1)
Any of the above poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits	8.3	(0.8)	18.8	(2.2)
Dogs	53.5	(1.5)	64.7	(2.3)
Cats	35.8	(1.6)	45.8	(2.6)
Pigeons or parrots such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws	4.4	(0.6)	2.5	(0.6)
Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, or turtles	8.8	(1.5)	6.5	(1.4)
Any of the above	71.3	(1.2)	81.9	(1.6)

¹ Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

² Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

Overall, there were few differences in the percentage of adults who kept any of the listed animals by housing type. There was some variation in estimates within the mobile home, trailer, or other housing category due to a smaller sample size and corresponding larger standard errors.

A.1.c. Percentage of adults who kept the following animals¹ at their home or on their property, by housing type:

Animal type	Percent Adults							
	Housing type							
	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens ²	6.2	(0.7)	7.2	(3.1)	4.4	(1.8)	14.7	(4.7)
Ducks and/or geese ²	2.0	(0.6)	2.6	(1.2)	2.9	(1.8)	3.7	(1.6)
Turkeys ²	0.9	(0.4)	2.1	(1.1)	2.6	(1.8)	1.1	(0.7)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) ²	0.7	(0.4)	1.7	(0.8)	2.5	(1.8)	0.8	(0.6)
Any of the above poultry ²	6.5	(0.7)	7.5	(3.1)	4.5	(1.8)	14.8	(4.7)
Domestic pigs including pot-bellied and pet pigs	1.3	(0.5)	3.8	(2.7)	0.8	(0.5)	2.0	(1.2)
Goats	1.2	(0.2)	0.5	(0.4)	1.5	(0.7)	3.5	(1.6)
Domestic rabbits	2.6	(0.4)	2.0	(0.8)	3.8	(1.8)	3.2	(1.2)
Any of the above poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits	9.1	(0.8)	12.0	(3.9)	6.9	(1.9)	18.9	(5.4)
Dogs	57.1	(1.4)	52.7	(4.5)	40.4	(2.6)	69.6	(7.2)
Cats	35.3	(1.4)	34.4	(4.1)	37.2	(2.6)	60.4	(9.1)
Pigeons or parrots such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws	4.2	(0.7)	2.6	(0.9)	3.3	(0.9)	7.7	(2.7)
Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, or turtles	6.0	(0.8)	12.3	(3.3)	9.8	(2.2)	29.0	(15.0)
Any of the above	73.5	(1.3)	73.9	(3.0)	61.8	(2.5)	89.7	(3.2)

¹ Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

² Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

A higher percentage of Hispanic adults (9.8 percent) than Black, Non-Hispanic adults (2.6 percent) kept chickens. A higher percentage of Hispanic adults than White, Non-Hispanic adults kept gamebirds (2.7 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively) or any of the animal types listed (83.6 percent and 73.7 percent, respectively). A lower percentage of Black, Non-Hispanic adults (57.1 percent) and Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic adults (55.8 percent) kept any of the animal types listed compared to the other race/ethnicities.

A.1.d. Percentage of adults who kept the following animals¹ at their home or on their property, by race/ethnicity of respondent:

Animal type	Percent Adults									
	Race/ethnicity									
	White, Non-Hispanic		Black, Non-Hispanic		Hispanic		Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens ²	6.4	(0.7)	2.6	(0.9)	9.8	(2.4)	5.1	(2.2)	6.1	(4.5)
Ducks and/or geese ²	1.8	(0.5)	1.2	(0.6)	3.5	(1.6)	2.3	(1.4)	5.6	(4.5)
Turkeys ²	0.7	(0.2)	0.7	(0.4)	2.3	(1.6)	0.9	(0.8)	5.6	(4.5)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) ²	0.2	(0.1)	0.6	(0.4)	2.7	(1.6)	1.8	(1.3)	5.4	(4.5)
Any of the above poultry ²	6.7	(0.7)	2.7	(0.9)	10.0	(2.4)	5.1	(2.2)	6.4	(4.5)
Domestic pigs including pot-bellied and pet pigs	1.0	(0.3)	1.2	(0.6)	2.0	(1.2)	1.5	(1.0)	4.9	(4.5)
Goats	1.3	(0.2)	2.0	(0.9)	1.1	(0.6)	1.4	(1.0)	0.6	(0.4)
Domestic rabbits	2.4	(0.3)	2.0	(0.7)	5.3	(1.9)	3.0	(1.6)	1.2	(0.7)
Any of the above poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits	9.3	(0.8)	5.1	(1.3)	14.5	(2.9)	8.3	(2.8)	8.1	(4.5)
Dogs	53.6	(1.2)	46.5	(4.0)	66.5	(4.1)	68.9	(6.7)	43.9	(5.5)
Cats	39.6	(1.2)	20.4	(2.6)	45.3	(5.3)	34.0	(7.2)	22.7	(3.9)
Pigeons or parrots such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws	2.7	(0.3)	4.3	(1.4)	7.2	(1.9)	7.6	(3.1)	7.8	(4.6)
Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, or turtles	5.7	(0.6)	8.5	(1.8)	17.6	(6.3)	9.6	(3.8)	8.3	(4.6)
Any of the above	73.7	(1.0)	57.1	(4.3)	83.6	(2.6)	83.6	(4.1)	55.8	(5.1)

¹ Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

² Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

A lower percentage of adults 60 years of age or older (58.6 percent) kept any animal types compared to the other three age categories. A higher percentage of adults aged 30 to 44 years old (13.6 percent) than adults 60 years or older (6.0 percent) kept any poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits.

A.1.e. Percentage of adults who kept the following animals¹ at their home or on their property, by age of respondent:

Animal type	Percent Adults							
	Age							
	18 to 29		30 to 44		45 to 59		60 or older	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens ²	7.7	(2.2)	9.4	(1.6)	6.2	(1.1)	3.7	(0.7)
Ducks and/or geese ²	4.7	(1.9)	3.4	(1.2)	1.0	(0.4)	0.8	(0.3)
Turkeys ²	2.2	(1.5)	2.3	(1.1)	0.4	(0.1)	0.6	(0.3)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) ²	1.9	(1.5)	2.0	(1.1)	0.5	(0.2)	0.2	(0.1)
Any of the above poultry ²	7.7	(2.2)	9.5	(1.6)	6.8	(1.1)	3.8	(0.7)
Domestic pigs including pot-bellied and pet pigs	3.1	(1.6)	2.3	(0.9)	0.7	(0.3)	0.4	(0.1)
Goats	1.9	(0.6)	2.0	(0.6)	1.0	(0.3)	0.7	(0.2)
Domestic rabbits	2.4	(0.7)	4.0	(1.2)	3.0	(0.6)	1.9	(0.6)
Any of the above poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits	10.3	(2.3)	13.6	(1.8)	9.3	(1.2)	6.0	(0.9)
Dogs	63.6	(4.0)	62.5	(2.2)	57.0	(2.1)	41.6	(1.8)
Cats	44.9	(4.9)	38.3	(2.2)	40.6	(2.2)	28.4	(1.5)
Pigeons or parrots such as budgies, parakeets, cockatiels, African Grays, or macaws	4.0	(1.6)	6.4	(1.3)	2.8	(0.6)	3.5	(0.7)
Reptiles such as snakes, lizards, or turtles	17.1	(5.7)	10.9	(1.7)	6.2	(1.1)	2.8	(0.6)
Any of the above	80.7	(2.8)	80.6	(1.7)	75.9	(1.8)	58.6	(1.9)

¹ Respondents were instructed to exclude feral animals, such as feral cats or pigs, or wild animals, such as wild rabbits or birds

² Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

2. Backyard animal keeping at a community coop

Overall, about one-tenth of adults who kept poultry (10.4 percent) kept them in a community coop. No responding adults in the Midwest region kept ducks and/or geese in a community coop.

A.2.a. For adults who kept each type of poultry, percentage who kept them at a community coop, by region:

Percent Adults										
Region										
Poultry type	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens	7.9	(3.7)	3.7	(2.8)	8.9	(2.7)	10.5	(4.0)	8.2	(1.7)
Ducks and/or geese	7.5	(7.3)	0.0	(—)	11.3	(5.7)	7.6	(3.8)	7.6	(2.8)
Turkeys	28.2	(17.2)	17.0	(14.4)	19.1	(9.6)	0.4	(0.4)	15.0	(5.7)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)	12.1	(11.6)	3.6	(3.7)	9.6	(5.8)	30.9	(17.3)	16.5	(7.1)
Any of the above poultry	12.1	(5.3)	3.7	(2.6)	10.3	(2.7)	15.4	(5.1)	10.4	(1.9)

Overall, for adults who kept any poultry, numerically a higher percentage of adults in urban areas (11.7 percent) than adults in non-urban areas (2.1 percent) kept them in a community coop. No responding adults in non-urban areas kept turkeys or gamebirds in a community coop.

A.2.b. For adults who kept each type of poultry, percentage who kept them at a community coop, by urban designation:

Percent Adults				
Urbanicity				
Poultry type	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Chickens	10.1	(2.7)	2.1	(1.5)
Ducks and/or geese	9.9	(4.6)	2.9	(2.8)
Turkeys	13.6	(8.6)	0.0	(—)
Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)	14.5	(8.4)	0.0	(—)
Any of the above poultry	11.7	(2.8)	2.1	(1.5)

B. Future Plans to Keep Poultry, Pigs, Goats, or Rabbits

For adults who did not currently keep the listed animal types, overall, one in eight adults (12.4 percent) planned to keep any of the animal types at their home or property in the next 2 years. A higher percentage of adults planned to keep live poultry (8.4 percent) than any of the other animal types listed at their home or property in the next 2 years.

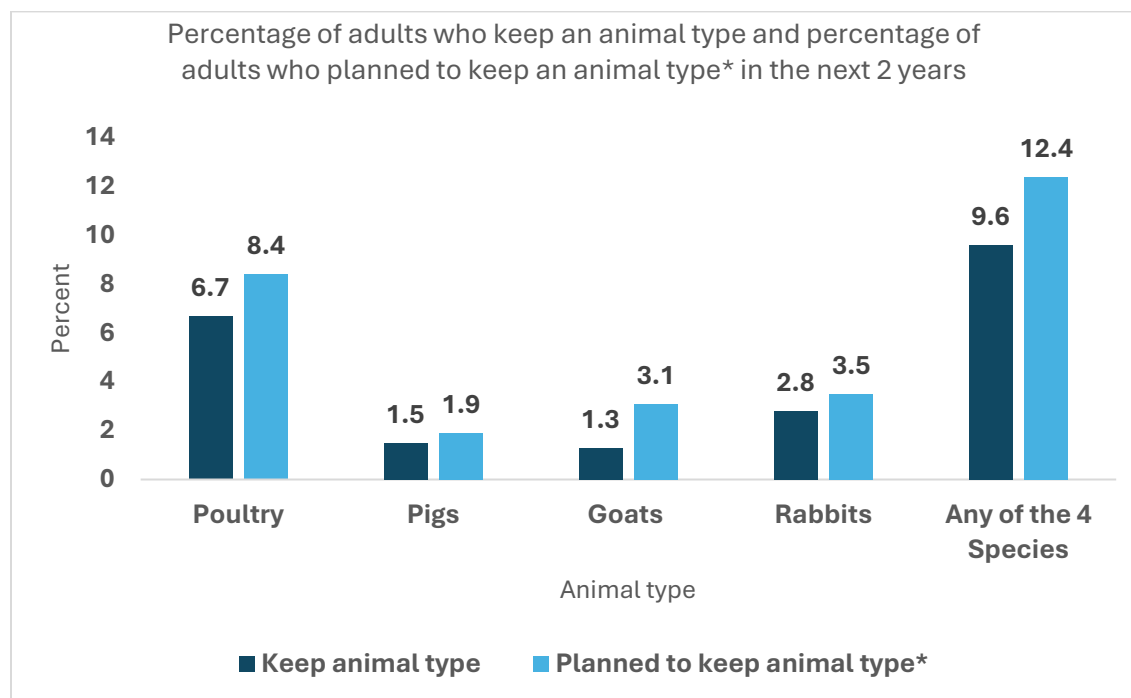
A higher percentage of adults in the South region (17.1 percent) than in the Northeast region (5.7 percent) planned to keep any of the listed animal types at their home or property in the next 2 years, with a higher percentage of adults in the South region than the Northeast region who planned to keep domestic rabbits at their home or property in the next 2 years (6.0 percent and 1.1 percent, respectively). There were no regional differences in the percentage of adults who planned to keep pigs or goats at their home or property in the next 2 years.

B.1. For adults who did not currently keep the following animal types, percentage who planned to keep them at the home/property in the next 2 years, by region:

Percent Adults										
Region										
Animal type	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Live poultry such as chickens, ducks or turkeys	3.9	(2.0)	7.2	(2.6)	11.1	(2.5)	8.7	(2.2)	8.4	(1.3)
Domestic pigs ¹	1.3	(0.5)	1.5	(0.9)	2.8	(1.2)	1.1	(0.4)	1.9	(0.5)
Goats	1.2	(0.5)	2.5	(1.0)	4.9	(1.6)	2.1	(0.6)	3.1	(0.7)
Domestic rabbits ²	1.1	(0.5)	1.8	(0.9)	6.0	(2.0)	3.0	(0.9)	3.5	(0.8)
Any of the above	5.7	(2.2)	10.3	(2.8)	17.1	(2.9)	11.8	(2.3)	12.4	(1.4)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Not including wild rabbits



*For adults who did not currently keep the animal type

For adults who did not currently keep the listed animal types, there were no differences by urban designation in the percentage of adults who planned to keep any of the listed animal types at their home or property in the next 2 years.

B.2. For adults who did not currently keep the following animal types, percentage who planned to keep them at the home/property in the next 2 years, by urban designation:

Percent Adults				
Urbanicity				
Animal type	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Live poultry such as chickens, ducks or turkeys	7.7	(1.3)	10.3	(4.0)
Domestic pigs ¹	1.6	(0.6)	1.6	(0.6)
Goats	2.9	(0.8)	1.5	(0.4)
Domestic rabbits ²	3.4	(0.9)	1.8	(0.9)
Any of the above	11.0	(1.5)	14.7	(4.2)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Not including wild rabbits

For adults who did not currently keep the listed animal types, no responding adults living in a single family attached home planned to keep pigs. There were minimal differences in the percentage of adults who planned to keep any of the animal types by housing type. For adults living in a detached single family home, a higher percentage of adults indicated plans to own poultry in the next 2 years (8.8 percent) compared to plans to own the other three species.

B.3. For adults who did not currently keep the following animal types, percentage who planned to keep them at the home/property in the next 2 years, by housing type:

Percent Adults								
Housing type								
Animal type	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Live poultry such as chickens, ducks or turkeys	8.8	(1.7)	9.4	(4.3)	5.5	(2.1)	5.8	(3.3)
Domestic pigs ¹	1.0	(0.3)	0.0	(—)	1.5	(0.9)	9.9	(6.0)
Goats	2.5	(0.8)	1.7	(1.3)	1.1	(0.5)	10.5	(6.0)
Domestic rabbits ²	2.8	(0.9)	1.9	(1.4)	3.4	(1.7)	8.6	(6.0)
Any of the above	11.8	(1.8)	10.6	(4.4)	8.6	(2.5)	16.9	(7.1)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Not including wild rabbits

For adults who did not currently keep the listed animal types, a higher percentage of Hispanic adults (9.2 percent) than White, Non-Hispanic adults (2.1 percent) planned to keep domestic rabbits at their home or property in the next 2 years. Otherwise, there were no differences by race/ethnicity in the percentage of adults who planned to keep any of the animal types.

B.4. For adults who did not currently keep the following animal types, percentage who planned to keep them at the home/property in the next 2 years, by race/ethnicity:

Animal type	Percent Adults									
	Race/ethnicity									
	White, Non-Hispanic		Black, Non-Hispanic		Hispanic		Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Live poultry such as chickens, ducks or turkeys	6.5	(1.3)	8.8	(3.8)	13.1	(4.1)	11.9	(8.9)	13.5	(6.8)
Domestic pigs ¹	2.1	(0.8)	0.4	(0.2)	2.8	(1.1)	1.4	(0.9)	0.1	(0.1)
Goats	2.7	(0.8)	6.3	(3.5)	2.9	(1.0)	0.4	(0.4)	2.7	(1.8)
Domestic rabbits ²	2.1	(0.7)	3.9	(2.9)	9.2	(3.2)	1.3	(1.1)	3.6	(2.5)
Any of the above	9.6	(1.5)	12.2	(4.3)	20.5	(4.5)	14.3	(8.8)	18.6	(7.2)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Not including wild rabbits

Numerically, the percentage of adults who did not currently keep any of the listed animal types but planned to keep any of the listed animal types at their home or property in the next 2 years decreased as age increased, ranging from 21.3 percent for adults aged 18 to 29 years old to 2.9 percent for 60 years or older. A lower percentage of adults 60 years or older planned to keep live poultry (2.3 percent) or any of the four animal types (2.9 percent) compared to the other age categories.

B.5. For adults who did not currently keep the following animal types, percentage who planned to keep them at the home/property in the next 2 years, by age:

Animal type	Percent Adults							
	Age							
	18 to 29		30 to 44		45 to 59		60 or older	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Live poultry such as chickens, ducks or turkeys	12.4	(4.2)	12.9	(2.9)	9.5	(2.7)	2.3	(0.8)
Domestic pigs ¹	4.1	(2.4)	1.9	(0.7)	2.0	(0.8)	0.6	(0.3)
Goats	4.2	(2.5)	4.0	(1.2)	4.7	(1.7)	0.6	(0.3)
Domestic rabbits ²	9.2	(3.7)	2.5	(0.9)	4.3	(1.7)	0.8	(0.3)
Any of the above	21.3	(5.2)	17.4	(3.1)	13.8	(2.9)	2.9	(0.8)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Not including wild rabbits

C. Contact with Live Poultry

Adults who did not report keeping any poultry answered a question about contact with live domestic poultry in the past month. Poultry, such as chickens, ducks, or turkeys, can carry strains of *Salmonella* that are pathogenic in people even when the poultry appears healthy and clean, and *Salmonella* can spread to areas where poultry live and roam. Handwashing before and after handling poultry, and supervising children around poultry, are important measures to protect the health of people and animals.

Overall, almost one fifth of adults (17.5 percent) indicated that they or children in their household had contact with live domestic poultry in the past month. Over 5 percent of adults indicated they or children in their household had contact with poultry at a private residence (8.6 percent) or at a farm or petting zoo (5.2 percent).

There were no regional differences in having any contact with poultry and few regional differences in location of contact.

C.1. Percentage of adults who did not keep backyard poultry and who indicated they or children in their household had contact¹ with live domestic poultry, such as chickens, ducks or turkeys, in the past month, by location of contact and by region:

Location of contact	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Private residence ²	13.0	(3.9)	9.2	(1.9)	7.0	(2.2)	7.4	(2.0)	8.6	(1.2)
School or daycare	0.6	(0.6)	2.1	(1.0)	0.6	(0.5)	0.4	(0.2)	0.9	(0.3)
Farm or petting zoo	3.4	(2.0)	6.1	(2.5)	6.3	(2.1)	4.1	(1.4)	5.2	(1.1)
Farmer's market	0.1	(0.1)	1.0	(0.6)	4.0	(1.7)	3.6	(1.5)	2.6	(0.8)
Retail store	0.1	(0.1)	4.3	(2.2)	2.1	(0.9)	2.8	(1.2)	2.4	(0.6)
Other	1.0	(0.9)	2.3	(2.0)	1.0	(0.7)	1.6	(0.8)	1.4	(0.6)
Any	16.8	(4.3)	20.9	(3.6)	18.1	(3.2)	14.4	(2.6)	17.5	(1.7)

¹ Contact refers to physically touching the birds or being in the environment where they live and roam. Adults who reported keeping poultry (Table A.1.a.) were assumed to have had contact with poultry in the last month and are excluded from this table.

² Such as the residence of a neighbor, friend, or family member

No responding adults in non-urban areas reported “other” locations of contact with live poultry. Otherwise, there were no differences by urban designation in the percentage of adults who indicated they or children in their household had contact with live domestic poultry in the past month.

C.2. Percentage of adults who did not keep backyard poultry and who indicated they or children in their household had contact¹ with live domestic poultry, such as chickens, ducks or turkeys, in the past month, by location of contact and by urban designation:

Percent Adults				
Urbanicity				
Location of contact	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Private residence ²	8.5	(1.4)	7.6	(2.9)
School or daycare	0.7	(0.3)	1.7	(1.2)
Farm or petting zoo	5.1	(1.2)	4.8	(2.5)
Farmer's market	2.8	(0.9)	1.2	(1.0)
Retail store	2.1	(0.7)	3.3	(1.6)
Other	1.7	(0.7)	0.0	(—)
Any	17.3	(1.9)	15.9	(4.0)

¹ Contact refers to physically touching the birds or being in the environment where they live and roam. Adults who reported keeping poultry (Table A.1.a.) were assumed to have had contact with poultry in the last month and are excluded from this table.

² Such as the residence of a neighbor, friend, or family member

There were no differences by housing type in the percentage of adults who indicated they or children in their household had any contact with live domestic poultry in the past month.

C.3. Percentage of adults who did not keep backyard poultry and who indicated they or children in their household had contact¹ with live domestic poultry, such as chickens, ducks or turkeys, in the past month, by location of contact and by housing type:

Percent Adults								
Housing type								
Location of contact	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Private residence ²	8.0	(1.4)	2.8	(1.8)	11.7	(3.6)	10.1	(5.8)
School or daycare	1.0	(0.4)	1.1	(0.8)	0.1	(0.1)	0.5	(0.5)
Farm or petting zoo	4.9	(1.3)	3.5	(2.8)	4.5	(2.0)	9.7	(6.9)
Farmer's market	3.0	(1.1)	0.0	(—)	2.8	(1.4)	0.2	(0.2)
Retail store	2.7	(0.9)	3.1	(2.2)	1.0	(0.8)	0.0	(—)
Other	1.9	(0.8)	0.5	(0.5)	0.8	(0.6)	0.0	(—)
Any	17.8	(2.1)	11.0	(4.0)	16.3	(3.9)	20.4	(8.4)

¹ Contact refers to physically touching the birds or being in the environment where they live and roam. Adults who reported keeping poultry (Table A.1.a.) were assumed to have had contact with poultry in the last month and are excluded from this table.

² Such as the residence of a neighbor, friend, or family member

Less than 5 percent of Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic adults (3.4 percent) indicated that they or children in their household had any contact with live domestic poultry in the last month.

C.4. Percentage of adults who did not keep backyard poultry and who indicated they or children in their household had contact¹ with live domestic poultry, such as chickens, ducks or turkeys, in the past month, by location of contact and by race/ethnicity:

Location of contact	Percent Adults									
	Race/ethnicity									
	White, Non-Hispanic		Black, Non-Hispanic		Hispanic		Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Private residence ²	10.7	(1.7)	7.7	(4.1)	4.1	(1.9)	2.4	(1.4)	5.4	(3.4)
School or daycare	1.2	(0.5)	0.1	(0.1)	0.5	(0.4)	0.2	(0.2)	0.5	(0.5)
Farm or petting zoo	4.1	(1.2)	10.1	(4.6)	4.3	(2.1)	0.5	(0.4)	12.7	(6.3)
Farmer's market	1.4	(0.6)	4.3	(2.9)	6.5	(3.1)	0.9	(0.6)	2.7	(2.3)
Retail store	2.4	(0.9)	0.3	(0.2)	4.3	(1.9)	1.1	(1.1)	2.5	(2.3)
Other	0.8	(0.5)	3.8	(3.3)	1.2	(0.7)	0.0	(—)	5.1	(3.6)
Any	18.6	(2.2)	19.5	(5.8)	14.2	(3.8)	3.4	(1.6)	22.8	(7.5)

¹ Contact refers to physically touching the birds or being in the environment where they live and roam. Adults who reported keeping poultry (Table A.1.a.) were assumed to have had contact with poultry in the last month and are excluded from this table.

² Such as the residence of a neighbor, friend, or family member

D. Respondents' Opinions About Chickens and Other Poultry

Note: Opinions reported in this section are those of respondents, not of USDA.

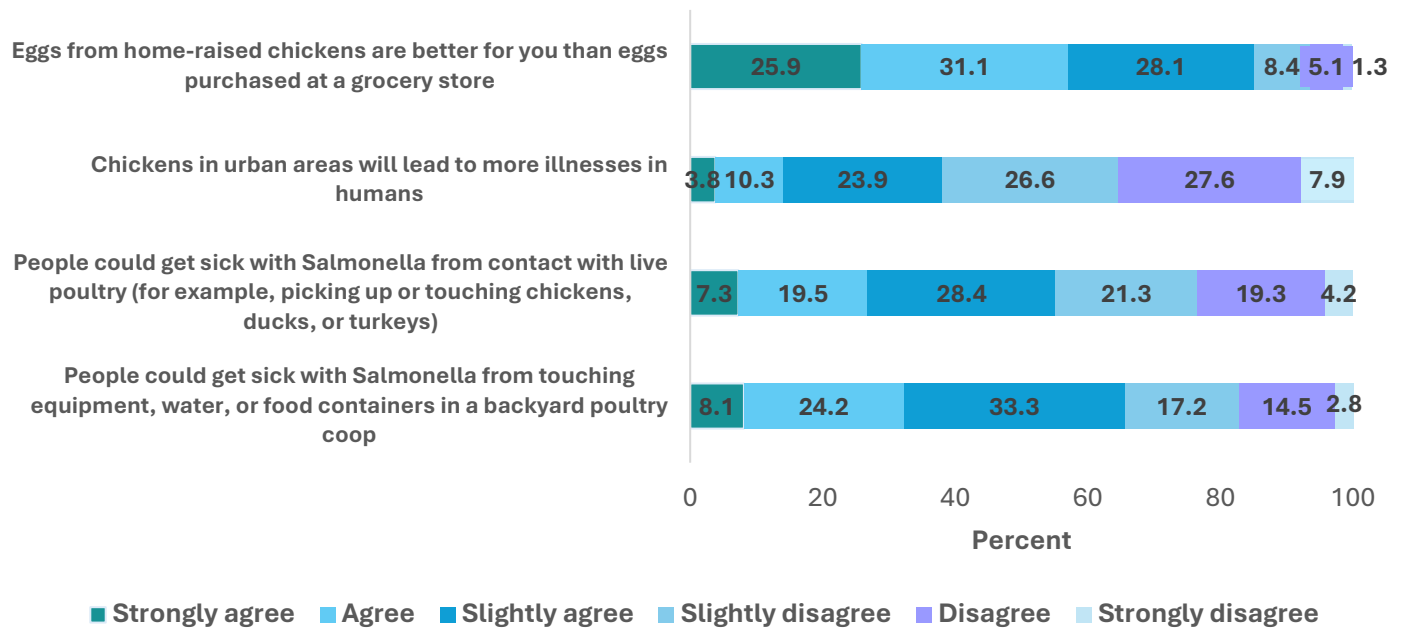
Four opinion questions were asked of all adults, whether or not they kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits to examine opinions and beliefs about health benefits and risks associated with chickens and poultry. The questions were asked as a six-point Likert scale with response options ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree.

For the four statements listed below, the highest percentage of adults strongly agreed (25.9 percent) with the statement "Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store."

D.1. Percentage of adults by respondent's level of agreement with the given statement:

Statement	Percent Adults													
	Level of agreement													
	Strongly agree		Agree		Slightly agree		Slightly disagree		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	25.9	(1.7)	31.1	(1.9)	28.1	(1.8)	8.4	(1.2)	5.1	(0.9)	1.3	(0.4)	100.0	(—)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	3.8	(0.8)	10.3	(1.3)	23.9	(1.7)	26.6	(1.8)	27.6	(1.8)	7.9	(1.0)	100.0	(—)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	7.3	(1.1)	19.5	(1.7)	28.4	(1.9)	21.3	(1.6)	19.3	(1.6)	4.2	(0.6)	100.0	(—)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	8.1	(1.1)	24.2	(1.7)	33.3	(1.9)	17.2	(1.5)	14.5	(1.4)	2.8	(0.5)	100.0	(—)

Percentage of adults by respondent's level of agreement with the given statement



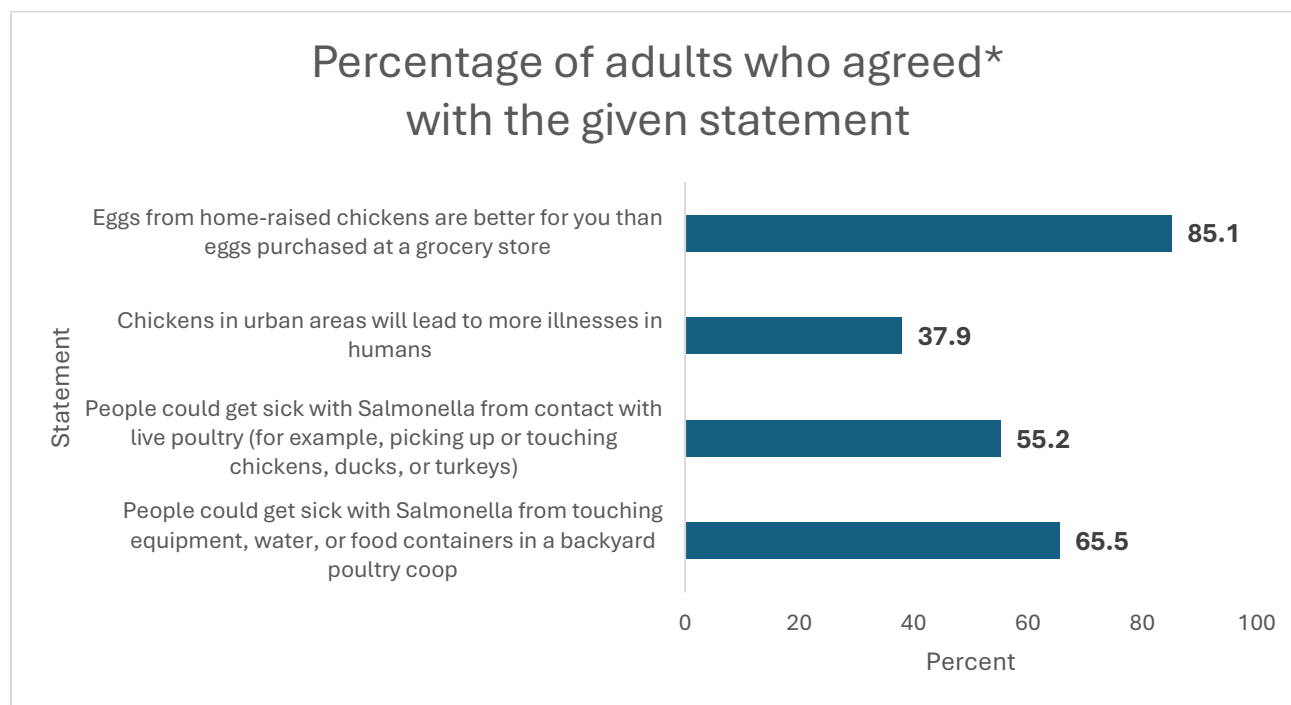
Regardless of region, the majority of adults (85.1 percent) believed that eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store. Less than two-fifths of adults (37.9 percent) believed that chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans. A little more than half of adults (55.2 percent) believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from contact with live poultry and almost two-thirds of adults (65.5 percent) believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop.

Numerically, a lower percentage of adults in the Midwest region compared to the other three regions believed that chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans and that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from contact with live poultry and equipment.

D.2. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by region:

Statement	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	85.2	(3.6)	86.2	(3.0)	84.2	(2.6)	85.5	(2.5)	85.1	(1.4)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	41.4	(5.0)	25.5	(3.5)	41.8	(3.6)	39.6	(3.6)	37.9	(2.0)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	58.5	(4.9)	48.8	(4.1)	58.2	(3.4)	53.7	(3.7)	55.2	(2.0)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	68.6	(4.6)	56.1	(4.1)	69.0	(3.2)	65.9	(3.4)	65.5	(1.9)

*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed



*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

There were no differences by urban designation in the percentage of adults who agreed with the following statements; however, numerically, a higher percentage of adults with an urban designation agreed with all the listed statements.

D.3. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by urban designation:

Statement	Percent Adults			
	Urbanicity			
	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	85.0	(1.6)	83.4	(4.1)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	39.7	(2.2)	26.6	(4.4)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	57.0	(2.2)	45.1	(5.1)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	66.6	(2.1)	59.1	(5.1)

*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

A higher percentage of adults living in a multi-family dwelling (52.7 percent) than in a detached single family home (32.1 percent) believed that chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans. Perhaps this is due to the closer living proximity with other families in a multi-unit dwelling compared to a standalone single family home.

D.4. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by housing type:

Statement	Percent Adults							
	Housing type							
	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	85.7	(1.8)	71.7	(6.6)	83.8	(3.6)	93.9	(3.3)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	32.1	(2.4)	48.1	(7.2)	52.7	(4.8)	43.1	(9.2)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	53.8	(2.5)	48.4	(7.0)	58.7	(4.7)	69.4	(7.5)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	62.9	(2.4)	72.1	(6.1)	69.1	(4.5)	74.9	(6.9)

*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

A higher percentage of adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (95.0 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (84.1 percent) believed that eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store. A higher percentage of adults who did not keep any of the four species of interest (66.9 percent) than adults who kept any of the four species (52.9 percent) believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop. A similar percentage of adults agreed with the other two statements.

D.5. Percentage of adults who agreed¹ with the given statement, by whether animals were kept:

Statement	Percent Adults			
	Animals kept			
	Kept any of the four species ²		Did not keep any of the four species	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	95.0	(1.0)	84.1	(1.6)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	30.2	(2.3)	38.7	(2.2)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	49.1	(2.4)	55.9	(2.2)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	52.9	(2.4)	66.9	(2.1)

¹ Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

² Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)

The percentage of adults who believed that eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store was over 75 percent for all race/ethnicities. The percentage of adults who believed that chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans ranged from 30.3 percent for White, Non-Hispanic adults to 55.5 percent for Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic adults. Less than half of White, Non-Hispanic adults (49.6 percent) and Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic adults (45.8 percent) believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from contact with live poultry; however, over 60 percent of adults in all race/ethnicity categories believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from touching equipment or other items.

D.6. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by race/ethnicity:

Statement	Percent Adults									
	Race/ethnicity									
	White, Non-Hispanic		Black, Non-Hispanic		Hispanic		Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	85.1	(1.6)	76.9	(5.9)	90.6	(3.3)	79.8	(8.5)	91.6	(3.9)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	30.3	(2.2)	49.0	(6.5)	49.4	(5.5)	50.7	(10.0)	55.5	(9.0)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	49.6	(2.4)	68.9	(5.9)	67.5	(4.8)	45.8	(9.8)	59.3	(8.8)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	61.1	(2.3)	74.5	(5.7)	75.9	(4.4)	64.8	(10.9)	64.5	(8.7)

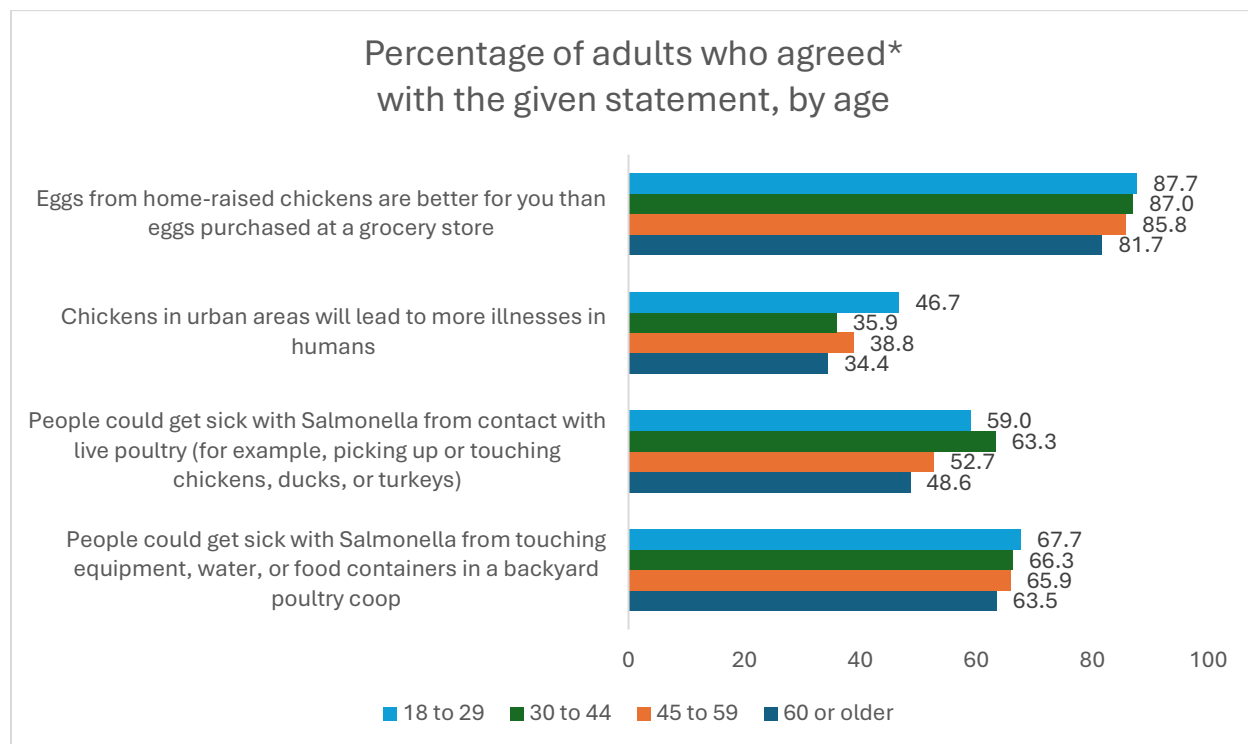
*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

A higher percentage of adults 30 to 44 years old (63.3 percent) than adults 60 years or older (48.6 percent) believed that people could get sick with *Salmonella* from contact with live poultry.

D.7. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by age:

Statement	Percent Adults							
	Age							
	18 to 29		30 to 44		45 to 59		60 or older	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	87.7	(4.4)	87.0	(2.7)	85.8	(2.9)	81.7	(2.2)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	46.7	(6.7)	35.9	(3.9)	38.8	(3.7)	34.4	(2.8)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	59.0	(6.4)	63.3	(3.8)	52.7	(3.8)	48.6	(2.9)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	67.7	(6.1)	66.3	(3.8)	65.9	(3.7)	63.5	(2.6)

*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed



*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

There were no differences by sex in the percentage of adults who agreed with any of the statements.

D.8. Percentage of adults who agreed* with the given statement, by sex:

Statement	Percent Adults			
	Sex			
	Male		Female	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Eggs from home-raised chickens are better for you than eggs purchased at a grocery store	83.3	(2.2)	86.8	(1.9)
Chickens in urban areas will lead to more illnesses in humans	38.2	(2.9)	37.6	(2.7)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from contact with live poultry (for example, picking up or touching chickens, ducks, or turkeys)	56.3	(3.0)	54.3	(2.7)
People could get sick with <i>Salmonella</i> from touching equipment, water, or food containers in a backyard poultry coop	67.7	(2.8)	63.6	(2.6)

*Slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed

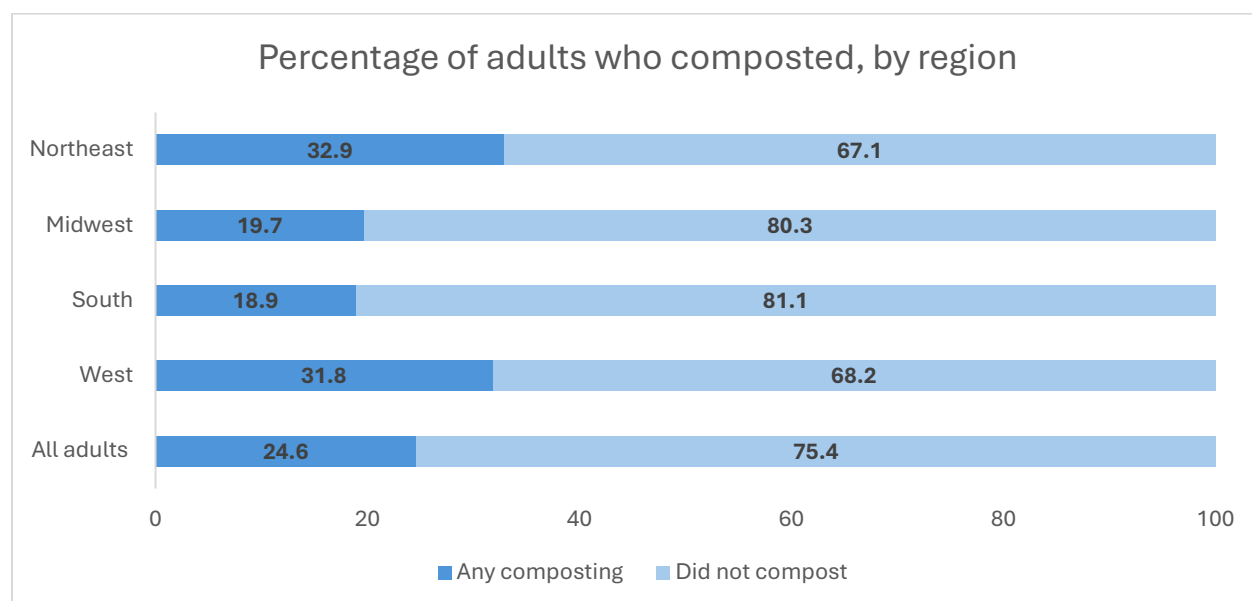
E. Composting

An objective of this study was to examine if backyard animal keepers differed from non-animal keepers in their use of composting. Questions about composting were asked of all adults, whether or not they kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits at their home or property.

Approximately one-quarter (24.6 percent) of adults did any composting. A higher percentage of adults composted at their home or property (17.5 percent) than through a municipal program (7.9 percent). The percentage of adults who did any composting was similar between the Northeast region (32.9 percent) and West region (31.8 percent). A higher percentage of adults in the West region did any composting (31.8 percent) than adults in the Midwest region (19.7 percent) or South region (18.9 percent).

E.1.a. Percentage of adults who composted, by region:

Composting method	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Any composting	32.9	(4.8)	19.7	(2.6)	18.9	(2.5)	31.8	(3.3)	24.6	(1.6)
At home or property	24.6	(4.4)	13.4	(2.0)	16.4	(2.3)	17.2	(2.4)	17.5	(1.4)
Through a municipal program	8.3	(3.0)	6.7	(1.8)	2.6	(1.2)	17.0	(2.8)	7.9	(1.1)
Did not compost	67.1	(4.8)	80.3	(2.6)	81.1	(2.5)	68.2	(3.3)	75.4	(1.6)



There were no differences by urban designation in the percentage of adults who did any composting, and whether they elected to compost at home or through a municipal program.

E.1.b. Percentage of adults who composted, by urban designation:

Composting method	Percent Adults			
	Urbanicity			
	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Any composting	24.9	(1.9)	19.5	(3.3)
At home or property	17.2	(1.6)	15.9	(2.8)
Through a municipal program	8.4	(1.2)	4.1	(1.9)
Did not compost	75.1	(1.9)	80.5	(3.3)

Not surprisingly, a higher percentage of adults living in a detached single family home (20.6 percent) composted at their home or property compared to adults living in a multi-family dwelling (6.3 percent). Numerically, a higher percentage of adults living in a detached single family home (26.5 percent) did any composting compared to adults living in the other housing types.

E.1.c. Percentage of adults who composted, by housing type:

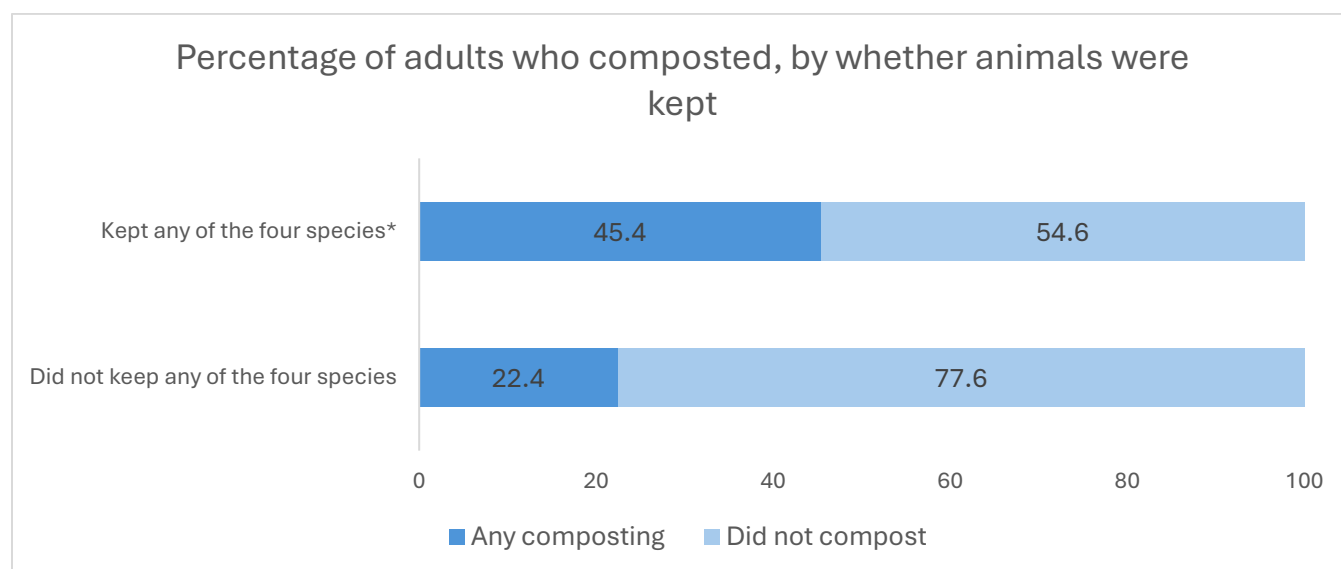
Composting method	Percent Adults							
	Housing type							
	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Any composting	26.5	(2.1)	22.2	(6.1)	19.4	(3.7)	15.3	(6.4)
At home or property	20.6	(1.8)	14.6	(5.5)	6.3	(1.8)	13.5	(6.4)
Through a municipal program	6.8	(1.2)	8.2	(3.5)	13.1	(3.3)	1.7	(1.1)
Did not compost	73.5	(2.1)	77.8	(6.1)	80.6	(3.7)	84.7	(6.4)

A higher percentage of adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (45.4 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (22.4 percent) did any composting. A higher percentage of adults who kept any of the four species (36.9 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (15.4 percent) composted at their home or property.

E.1.d. Percentage of adults who composted, by whether animals were kept:

Composting method	Percent Adults			
	Animals kept			
	Kept any of the four species*		Did not keep any of the four species	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Any composting	45.4	(2.4)	22.4	(1.8)
At home or property	36.9	(2.3)	15.4	(1.5)
Through a municipal program	10.2	(1.7)	7.7	(1.1)
Did not compost	54.6	(2.4)	77.6	(1.8)

*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)



*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

Among adults who composted, a higher percentage composted food scraps (76.3 percent) or plant material (79.1 percent) compared to paper products (39.3 percent) or animal manure (11.8 percent). A higher percentage of adults in the Midwest region (20.2 percent) than adults in the Northeast region (5.3 percent) composted animal manure.

E.1.e. For the 24.6 percent of adults who composted (Table E.1.a.), percentage who composted the following products, by region:

Products composted	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Food scraps (for example, eggshells, coffee grounds, meat products)	70.1	(8.9)	64.5	(6.8)	78.1	(4.9)	85.6	(3.4)	76.3	(3.1)
Plant material (for example, lawn clippings, leaves, woody debris)	78.5	(6.2)	91.0	(2.6)	75.2	(7.2)	76.8	(5.2)	79.1	(3.1)
Paper products (for example, newspaper, compostable packaging, paper straws)	38.1	(9.0)	33.2	(6.2)	28.6	(6.2)	53.5	(6.0)	39.3	(3.7)
Animal manure	5.3	(2.0)	20.2	(5.2)	14.5	(3.2)	9.9	(2.6)	11.8	(1.6)

For adults who composted, numerically a higher percentage of adults in non-urban areas (17.9 percent) than in urban areas (10.2 percent) composted animal manure.

E.1.f. For the 24.6 percent of adults who composted (Table E.1.a.), percentage who composted the following products, by urban designation:

Products composted	Percent Adults			
	Urbanicity			
	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Food scraps (for example, eggshells, coffee grounds, meat products)	77.3	(3.4)	68.0	(8.7)
Plant material (for example, lawn clippings, leaves, woody debris)	78.1	(3.6)	87.3	(4.1)
Paper products (for example, newspaper, compostable packaging, paper straws)	39.5	(4.2)	37.3	(8.3)
Animal manure	10.2	(1.7)	17.9	(4.7)

A higher percentage of adults living in a detached single family home (85.7 percent) than a multi-family dwelling (56.1 percent) composted plant material.

E.1.g. For the 24.6 percent of adults who composted (Table E.1.a.), percentage who composted the following products, by housing type:

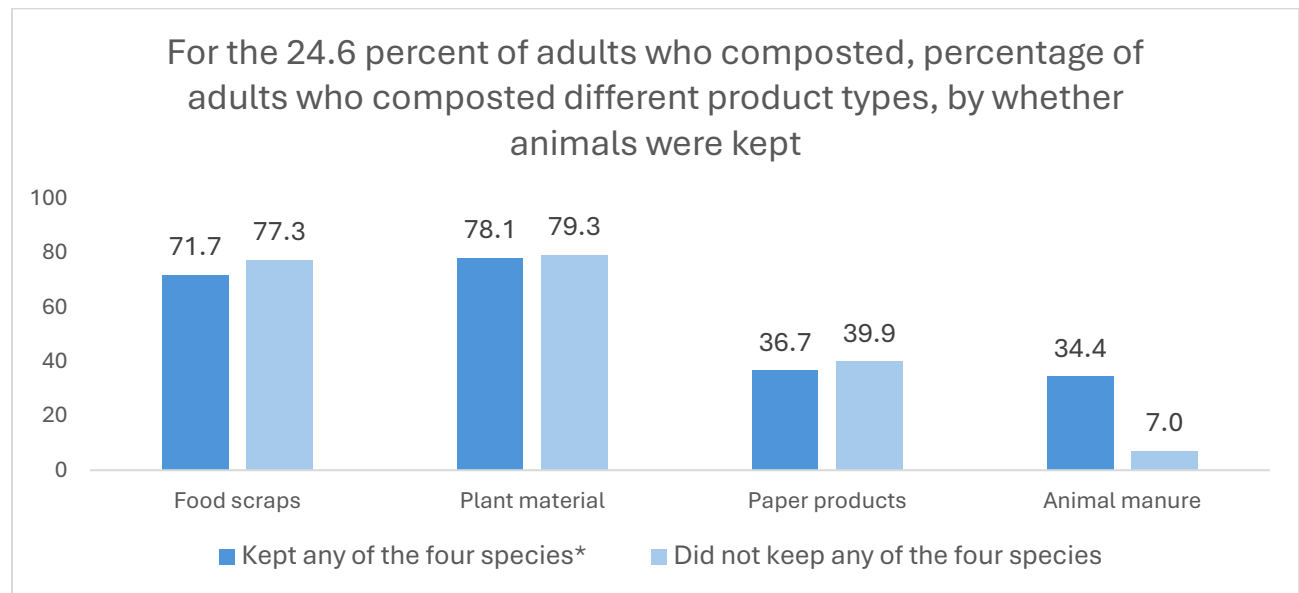
Products composted	Percent Adults							
	Housing type							
	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Food scraps (for example, eggshells, coffee grounds, meat products)	76.5	(3.8)	62.7	(14.0)	78.3	(7.9)	86.4	(8.7)
Plant material (for example, lawn clippings, leaves, woody debris)	85.7	(2.6)	78.3	(10.6)	56.1	(10.6)	47.9	(22.1)
Paper products (for example, newspaper, compostable packaging, paper straws)	38.4	(4.3)	10.4	(6.6)	59.9	(9.5)	28.2	(14.3)
Animal manure	11.6	(1.9)	11.0	(7.7)	6.3	(3.1)	19.5	(10.6)

For adults who composted, a higher percentage of adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (34.4 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (7.0 percent) composted animal manure.

E.1.h. For the 24.6 percent of adults who composted (Table E.1.a.), percentage who composted the following products, by whether animals were kept:

Products composted	Percent Adults			
	Animals kept			
	Kept any of the four species*		Did not keep any of the four species	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Food scraps (for example, eggshells, coffee grounds, meat products)	71.7	(3.3)	77.3	(3.7)
Plant material (for example, lawn clippings, leaves, woody debris)	78.1	(3.0)	79.3	(3.7)
Paper products (for example, newspaper, compostable packaging, paper straws)	36.7	(3.4)	39.9	(4.4)
Animal manure	34.4	(3.3)	7.0	(1.7)

*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)



*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)

F. Food Security

An objective of this study was to examine if backyard animal keepers differed from non-animal keepers in their experience with food security. Questions measuring the food security of U.S. households were asked of all adults, whether or not they kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits at their home or property. The questions used to construct these tables were developed by the USDA Economic Research Service.

The next table is about the food eaten in the respondents' household in the last 12 months and whether they were able to afford the food needed for the household.

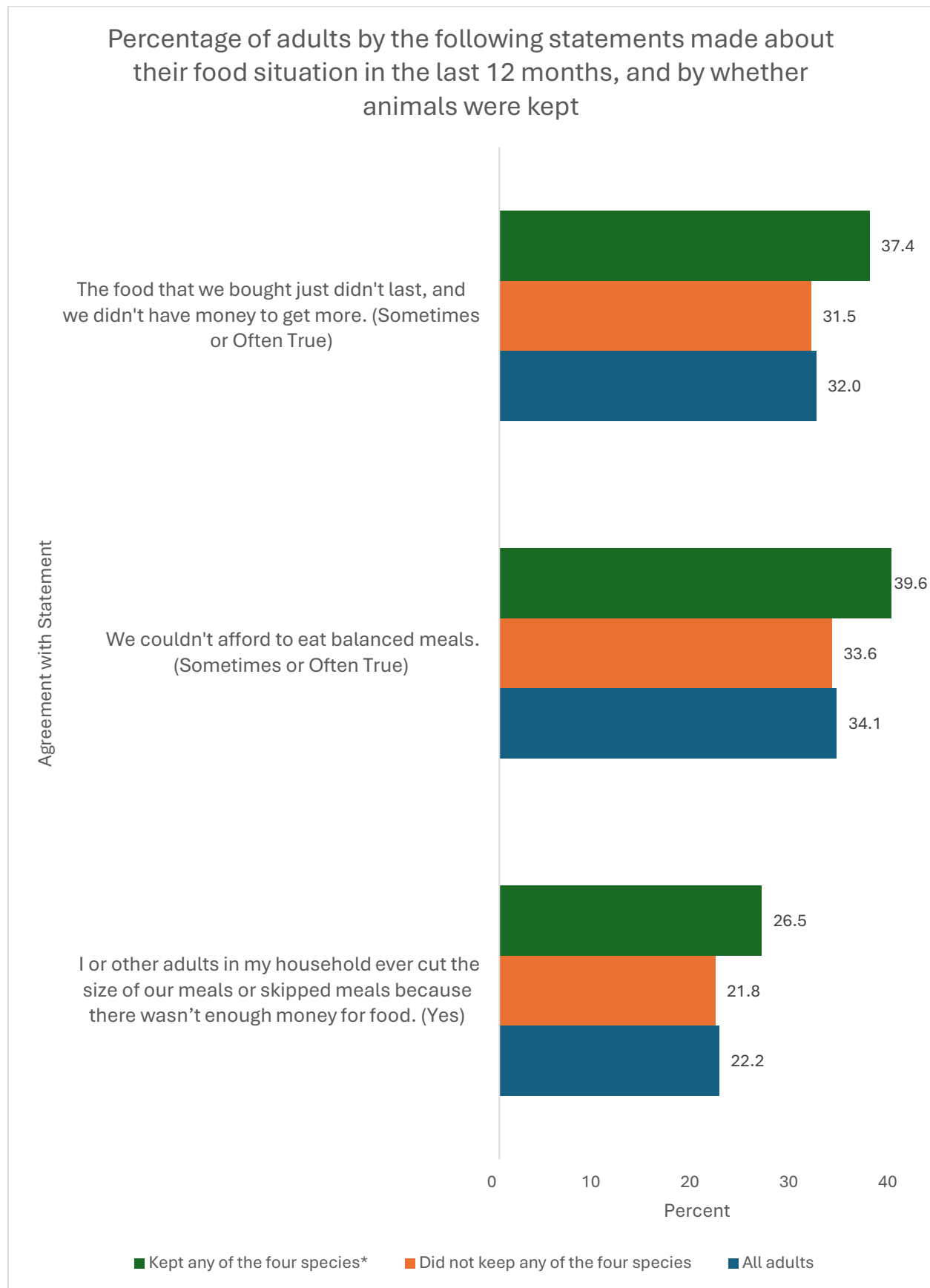
Numerically, a higher percentage of adults who kept any of the four species of interest than adults who did not keep any of the four species reported that it was often or sometimes true that “the food we bought just didn’t last, and we didn’t have money to get more” (37.4 percent and 31.5 percent, respectively) or that they “couldn’t afford to eat balanced meals” (39.6 percent and 33.6 percent, respectively) in the last 12 months.

Numerically, a higher percentage of adults who kept any poultry, pigs, rabbits, or goats (26.5 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (21.8 percent) belonged to households in which adults ever cut the size of their meals or skipped meals because there wasn’t enough money to buy food in the last 12 months.

F.1. Percentage of adults by level of agreement with the following statements made about their food situation in the last 12 months, and by whether animals were kept:

Statement	Percent Adults					
	Animals kept					
	Kept any of the four species*		Did not keep any of the four species		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
The food that we bought just didn't last, and we didn't have money to get more.						
Often true	12.8	(1.8)	7.8	(1.4)	8.3	(1.3)
Sometimes true	24.6	(2.1)	23.6	(2.0)	23.7	(1.9)
Never true	62.6	(2.4)	68.5	(2.2)	68.0	(2.0)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)
We couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.						
Often true	12.1	(1.7)	8.9	(1.5)	9.2	(1.3)
Sometimes true	27.5	(2.2)	24.7	(2.1)	24.9	(1.9)
Never true	60.4	(2.4)	66.4	(2.3)	65.9	(2.1)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)
I or other adults in my household ever cut the size of our meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food.						
Yes	26.5	(2.3)	21.8	(2.1)	22.2	(1.9)
No	73.5	(2.3)	78.2	(2.1)	77.8	(1.9)

*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)



*Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)

G. Other Livestock

All adults were asked if they kept any other livestock. This question refers to livestock other than poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits.

Overall, most adults (95.8 percent) did not keep any other livestock. Numerically, a higher percentage of adults kept horses or donkeys (1.6 percent) or cows (1.3 percent) than other types of livestock. Adults in the South region kept each livestock type described in the table below. Only 0.1 percent of responding adults kept livestock other than poultry, pigs, goats, rabbits, or those listed in the table below. These “other” types included bees and peacocks.

G.1. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock* at their home or property, by region:

Livestock	Percent Adults									
	Region									
	Northeast		Midwest		South		West		All adults	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	0.0	(—)	0.0	(0.0)	1.2	(0.9)	0.7	(0.5)	0.6	(0.4)
Horses or donkeys	0.6	(0.5)	0.7	(0.3)	2.4	(1.1)	1.8	(0.9)	1.6	(0.5)
Cows	0.6	(0.3)	2.1	(1.1)	1.1	(0.3)	1.3	(0.7)	1.3	(0.3)
Llamas	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	1.9	(1.2)	0.7	(0.6)	0.9	(0.5)
Emus or ostriches	1.0	(0.9)	0.0	(0.0)	1.0	(0.9)	0.0	(—)	0.6	(0.4)
Other livestock	0.0	(—)	0.2	(0.2)	0.1	(0.1)	0.1	(0.1)	0.1	(0.0)
None of the above	97.8	(1.1)	96.7	(1.2)	94.5	(1.6)	95.5	(1.3)	95.8	(0.8)

*Other than poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

A higher percentage of adults in non-urban areas (4.8 percent) than adults in urban areas (0.6 percent) kept cows. Otherwise, there were no differences by urban designation in the percentage of adults who kept any other livestock.

G.2. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock* at their home or property, by urban designation:

Percent Adults				
Urbanicity				
Livestock	Urban		Non-urban	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	0.7	(0.4)	0.0	(0.0)
Horses or donkeys	1.5	(0.5)	1.2	(0.5)
Cows	0.6	(0.1)	4.8	(1.9)
Llamas	1.0	(0.6)	0.2	(0.2)
Emus or ostriches	0.6	(0.5)	0.1	(0.1)
Other livestock	0.1	(0.0)	0.1	(0.1)
None of the above	96.3	(0.8)	94.0	(2.0)

*Other than poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

Less than 1 percent of adults living in a detached single family home (0.8 percent) kept emus or ostriches.

G.3. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock* at their home or property, by housing type:

Percent Adults								
Housing type								
Livestock	Single family home detached		Single family home attached		Multi-family dwelling		Mobile home, trailer, or other	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	0.2	(0.2)	0.2	(0.2)	0.0	(—)	6.4	(5.4)
Horses or donkeys	1.9	(0.7)	1.2	(1.2)	0.3	(0.2)	0.3	(0.2)
Cows	1.1	(0.3)	3.8	(2.7)	0.7	(0.4)	0.3	(0.2)
Llamas	0.8	(0.6)	0.5	(0.5)	1.5	(1.5)	0.0	(—)
Emus or ostriches	0.8	(0.6)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)
Other livestock	0.1	(0.1)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.1	(0.1)
None of the above	96.2	(0.8)	93.6	(3.0)	97.5	(1.6)	92.5	(5.4)

*Other than poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

Adults who kept any of the four species of interest (poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits) were more likely to also keep other livestock at their home or property (15.6 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (3.0 percent). A higher percentage of adults who kept any of the four species also kept horses or donkeys (6.5 percent) or cows (7.5 percent) than adults who did not keep any of the four species (1.1 percent and 0.6 percent, respectively). Adults who reported that they did not keep any of the four species also reported that they did not keep any “other” livestock.

G.4. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock¹ at their home or property, by whether animals were kept:

Percent Adults				
Animals kept				
Livestock	Kept any of the four species²		Did not keep any of the four species	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	1.9	(0.8)	0.5	(0.4)
Horses or donkeys	6.5	(1.1)	1.1	(0.5)
Cows	7.5	(1.3)	0.6	(0.3)
Llamas	1.3	(0.7)	0.8	(0.5)
Emus or ostriches	0.7	(0.5)	0.6	(0.4)
Other livestock	1.1	(0.4)	0.0	(—)
None of the above	84.4	(1.8)	97.0	(0.8)

¹ Other than poultry, pigs, goats or rabbits

² Species refers to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits (Table A.1.a.)

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

Not all responding adults kept each category of other livestock included in the study questionnaire. Otherwise, there were no differences by race/ethnicity in the percentage of adults who reported keeping other livestock at their home or property.

G.5. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock* at their home or property, by race/ethnicity:

Livestock	Percent Adults									
	Race/ethnicity									
	White, Non-Hispanic		Black, Non-Hispanic		Hispanic		Multiracial or Other, Non-Hispanic		Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	0.2	(0.1)	3.1	(2.9)	0.3	(0.3)	0.1	(0.1)	2.1	(2.0)
Horses or donkeys	1.0	(0.2)	3.2	(2.8)	3.4	(1.7)	1.7	(1.5)	0.0	(—)
Cows	1.6	(0.5)	0.6	(0.3)	1.2	(0.5)	0.2	(0.2)	0.0	(—)
Llamas	0.5	(0.5)	2.9	(2.8)	0.0	(—)	3.6	(3.0)	0.8	(0.8)
Emus or ostriches	0.4	(0.3)	3.0	(2.8)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)
Other livestock	0.1	(0.0)	0.1	(0.1)	0.2	(0.2)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)
None of the above	96.7	(0.7)	93.0	(3.9)	94.3	(1.9)	94.4	(3.4)	96.9	(2.2)

*Other than poultry, pigs, goats or rabbits

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

Overall, there were few differences by age in the percentage of adults who kept other livestock at their home or property. For adults 60 years of age or older, 1.1 percent kept horses or donkeys, and 1.3 percent kept cows. The percentage of adults who did not keep any other livestock increased as age increased.

G.6. Percentage of adults who kept other livestock* at their home or property, by age:

Livestock	Percent Adults							
	Age							
	18 to 29		30 to 44		45 to 59		60 or older	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Sheep	0.5	(0.3)	1.9	(1.4)	0.1	(0.1)	0.1	(0.1)
Horses or donkeys	2.1	(1.2)	0.3	(0.1)	3.3	(1.6)	1.1	(0.4)
Cows	2.4	(1.3)	1.1	(0.4)	0.7	(0.3)	1.3	(0.6)
Llamas	2.0	(1.7)	0.8	(0.5)	1.4	(1.4)	0.0	(—)
Emus or ostriches	0.4	(0.3)	0.7	(0.6)	1.4	(1.4)	0.0	(—)
Other livestock	0.0	(—)	0.0	(0.0)	0.1	(0.1)	0.2	(0.1)
None of the above	94.1	(2.4)	94.8	(1.7)	96.0	(1.7)	97.3	(0.7)

*Other than poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

Note: For each column, the total may not sum to 100.0% because some adults reported other livestock without specifying the livestock type(s).

H. Characteristics of Adults who Keep Backyard Animals

Note: Estimates in sections H through K are limited to adults who kept each animal type (poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits).

1. Combinations of animals

Some adults kept multiple species at their home or property. For adults who kept poultry, 11.7 percent also kept pigs. Over half of adults who kept pigs also kept poultry (56.4 percent). For adults who kept goats, 63.3 percent also kept poultry, 35.6 percent kept pigs, and 16.9 percent kept rabbits.

H.1. For adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits, percentage who also kept the following animals:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Additional animals	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Poultry ¹	NA	NA	56.4	(6.9)	63.3	(5.6)	23.9	(3.7)
Pigs ²	11.7	(2.2)	NA	NA	35.6	(6.4)	7.7	(2.4)
Goats	14.3	(2.2)	38.8	(7.2)	NA	NA	9.0	(2.3)
Rabbits	10.1	(1.7)	15.6	(4.9)	16.9	(4.2)	NA	NA
Dogs	76.1	(2.5)	69.2	(6.6)	74.0	(5.2)	65.0	(4.0)
Cats	58.2	(2.9)	59.2	(7.0)	71.5	(5.5)	61.0	(4.1)

¹ For example, chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, gamebirds, pheasants, quail, or partridges. Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop.

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

NA values denote those that were equal to 100.0% by definition.

2. Years of animal ownership

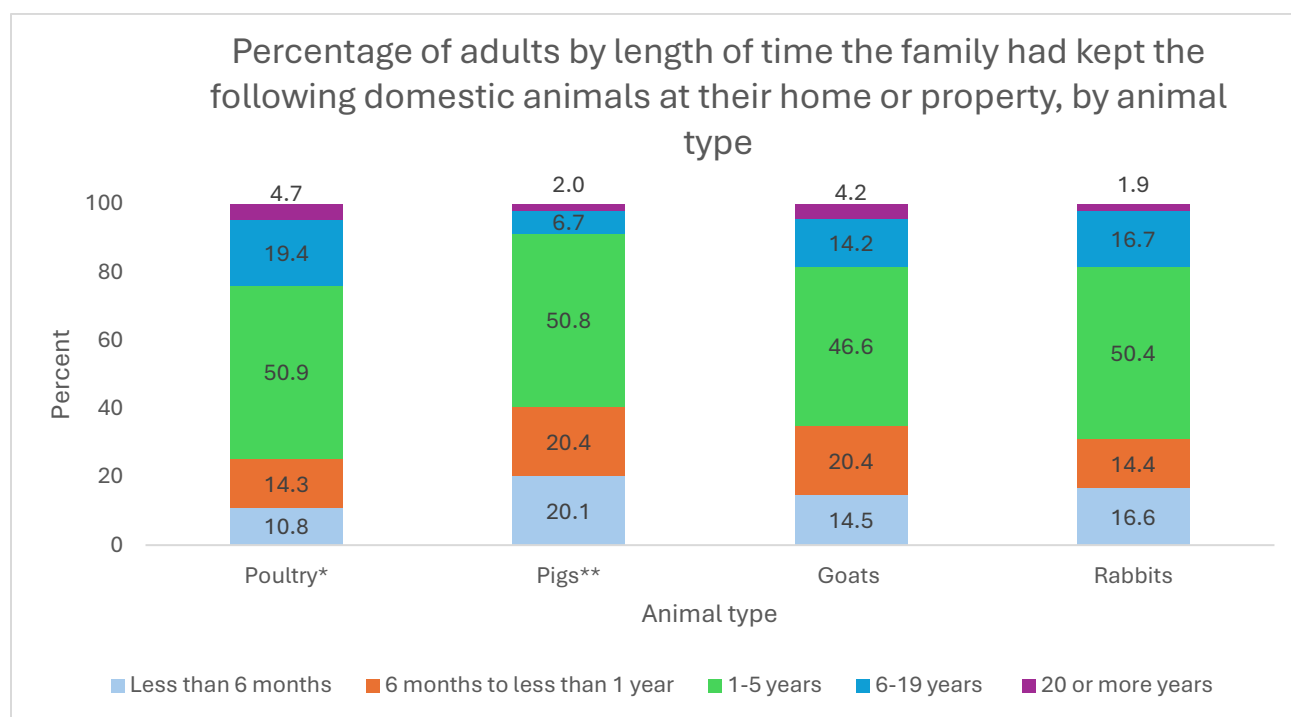
The length of ownership was 1 to 5 years for about one-half of adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits. Approximately one-quarter of adults who kept poultry had kept poultry for 6 or more years (24.1 percent) or for less than 1 year (25.1 percent). Slightly more than two-fifths of adults who kept pigs had kept pigs for less than 1 year (40.5 percent), while 8.7 percent had kept them for 6 years or more.

H.2. Percentage of adults by length of time the family had kept the following domestic animals at the home or property, by animal type:

Percent Adults												
Animal type	Length of ownership											
	Less than 6 months		6 months to less than 1 year		1 to 5 years		6 to 19 years		20 or more years		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Poultry ¹	10.8	(2.0)	14.3	(2.2)	50.9	(2.9)	19.4	(2.1)	4.7	(1.0)	100.0	(—)
Pigs ²	20.1	(5.7)	20.4	(5.6)	50.8	(7.2)	6.7	(2.3)	2.0	(1.4)	100.0	(—)
Goats	14.5	(4.6)	20.4	(5.3)	46.6	(6.1)	14.2	(3.6)	4.2	(1.7)	100.0	(—)
Rabbits	16.6	(2.9)	14.4	(2.9)	50.4	(4.3)	16.7	(2.9)	1.9	(1.0)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

3. Use of animals for agricultural production

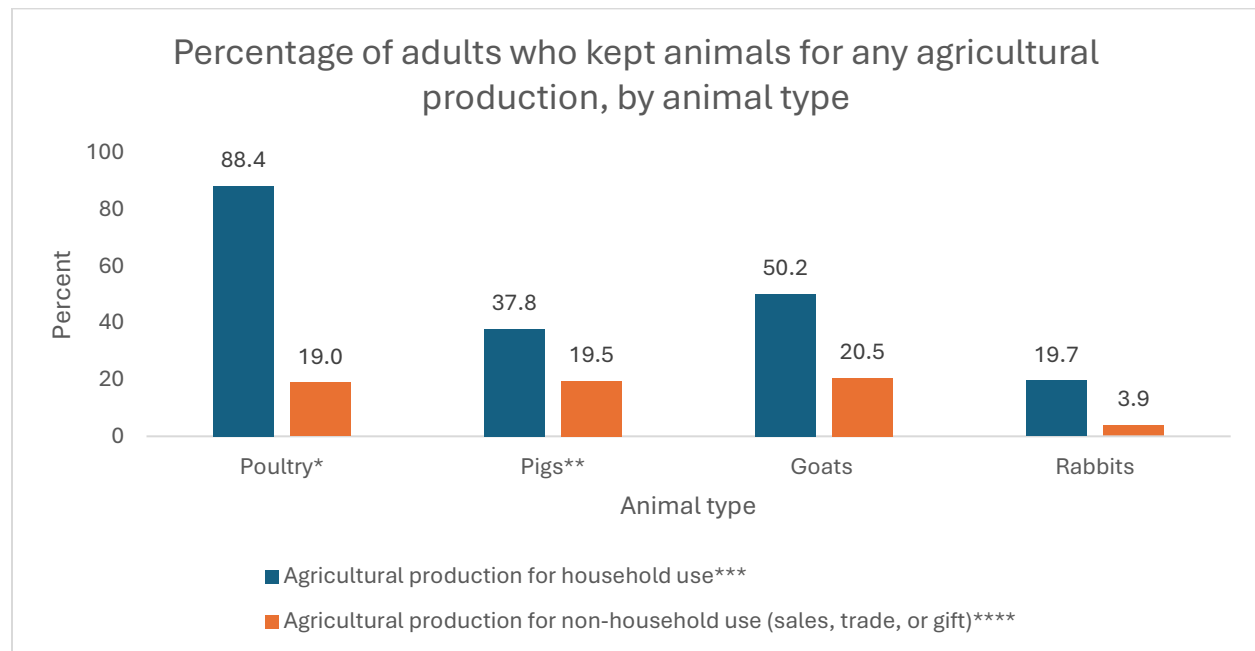
Adults who kept any of the four animal types of interest were asked if they kept the animals for agricultural production. The survey asked about household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) for food (eggs, meat, milk) or use for fiber/fur/pelt/wool, about breeding for sales, trade, or gift, and any other agricultural production not already asked about.

A higher percentage of adults who kept poultry cited use for household or non-household (sales, trade, or gift) agricultural production (92.3 percent) than did adults who kept the other three animal types. About half of adults who had pigs (51.0 percent) or goats (45.5 percent) kept them for household or non-household agricultural production of meat for pigs and meat or milk for goats. For all animal types, household use of agricultural products was more common than non-household use (this finding was not significant for pigs). A higher percentage of adults who kept pigs (27.2 percent) or goats (24.9 percent) than adults who kept poultry (8.9 percent) or rabbits (3.7 percent) bred animals for sales, trade, or gifts. “Other” types of agricultural production included clearing the pasture or weed control (goats), insect control (poultry), and more generally, compost or fertilizer production.

H.3. Percentage of adults who kept animals for any of the following types of agricultural production, by animal type:

Agricultural production type	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Any household use ³	88.4	(2.1)	37.8	(7.2)	50.2	(6.2)	19.7	(3.7)
Household use — eggs	85.6	(2.3)						
Household use — fiber/fur/pelt/wool					20.2	(5.8)	8.1	(2.2)
Household use — meat	20.7	(2.4)	37.8	(7.2)	21.2	(5.3)	12.3	(3.2)
Household use — milk					33.4	(6.1)		
Any non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) ⁴	19.0	(2.4)	19.5	(6.1)	20.5	(5.2)	3.9	(1.2)
Non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) — eggs	18.3	(2.3)						
Non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) — fiber/fur/pelt/wool					8.8	(4.6)	2.1	(0.9)
Non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) — meat	5.1	(1.5)	19.5	(6.1)	10.7	(4.0)	2.0	(0.9)
Non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) — milk					15.7	(5.0)		
Breeding for sales, trade, or gift	8.9	(1.8)	27.2	(6.9)	24.9	(5.4)	3.7	(1.3)
Other agricultural production	0.7	(0.3)	0.6	(0.6)	7.9	(2.9)	0.0	(0.0)
Any household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) of eggs, meat, or milk (not including fiber/fur/pelt/wool)	92.3	(1.6)	51.0	(7.5)	45.5	(6.2)	13.8	(3.3)
Did not keep animals for agricultural production	6.2	(1.4)	31.6	(6.7)	32.6	(5.8)	74.0	(3.9)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs³ Any household use includes eggs, meat, fiber/fur/pelt/wool, or milk depending on the species⁴ Any non-household use includes eggs, meat, fiber/fur/pelt/wool, or milk depending on the species



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

***Household use includes eggs, meat, fiber/fur/pelt/wool, or milk depending on the species

****Non-household use includes eggs, meat, fiber/fur/pelt/wool, or milk depending on the species

4. Reasons for having animals

For adults who kept poultry for agricultural production (eggs or meat), over one-half of adults assigned food source (56.0 percent) or food quality (53.2 percent) as very important reasons to have poultry. Over one-third of adults who kept poultry assigned fun/hobby (36.1 percent) or learning experience for kids (34.0 percent) as very important reasons to keep poultry. “Other” reasons for keeping poultry included fertilizer production, reducing insects and pests, and self-sufficiency.

H.4.a. For adults who kept poultry,¹ percentage by reasons for having poultry and by level of importance of those reasons:

Reason	Percent Adults Who Kept Poultry							
	Level of importance							
	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Family tradition	51.4	(2.9)	28.2	(2.6)	20.3	(2.5)	100.0	(—)
Fun/hobby	15.9	(2.1)	48.0	(2.9)	36.1	(2.8)	100.0	(—)
Income	69.4	(2.8)	20.6	(2.5)	10.0	(1.9)	100.0	(—)
Food source (eggs, meat) ²	7.7	(1.7)	36.2	(3.0)	56.0	(3.1)	100.0	(—)
Food quality (for example, freshness, health) ²	13.2	(2.2)	33.6	(2.9)	53.2	(3.1)	100.0	(—)
Fair, show, or exhibition (for example, 4-H, clubs)	79.2	(2.6)	14.3	(2.3)	6.5	(1.5)	100.0	(—)
Learning experience for kids	26.7	(2.6)	39.3	(2.9)	34.0	(2.8)	100.0	(—)
Companionship or pet	39.0	(2.8)	39.8	(2.9)	21.2	(2.4)	100.0	(—)
Other	85.9	(2.1)	9.3	(1.8)	4.8	(1.3)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² For the 92.3 percent of adults who kept poultry and who kept them for household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) of eggs or meat (Table H.3)

For adults who kept pigs for agricultural production (meat), over one-half of adults assigned food source (69.5 percent) or food quality (57.1 percent) as very important reasons to have pigs. Less than one-quarter of adults who kept pigs assigned income (16.2 percent) or fair, show, or exhibition (22.0 percent) as very important reasons to keep pigs.

H.4.b. For adults who kept pigs,¹ percentage by reasons for having pigs and by level of importance of those reasons:

Percent Adults Who Kept Pigs								
Reason	Level of importance							
	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Family tradition	31.4	(6.0)	37.1	(7.2)	31.5	(7.2)	100.0	(—)
Fun/hobby	17.2	(4.9)	46.7	(7.2)	36.1	(6.9)	100.0	(—)
Income	45.5	(7.0)	38.3	(7.3)	16.2	(5.1)	100.0	(—)
Food source (meat) ²	7.4	(3.6)	23.2	(9.2)	69.5	(9.5)	100.0	(—)
Food quality (for example, freshness, health) ²	9.7	(6.8)	33.2	(10.2)	57.1	(10.5)	100.0	(—)
Fair, show, or exhibition (for example, 4-H, clubs)	46.7	(7.1)	31.3	(6.8)	22.0	(6.7)	100.0	(—)
Learning experience for kids	18.2	(4.7)	47.1	(7.2)	34.7	(7.1)	100.0	(—)
Companionship or pet	20.9	(5.1)	45.0	(7.3)	34.1	(6.7)	100.0	(—)
Other	88.6	(4.5)	6.5	(3.1)	4.9	(3.4)	100.0	(—)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² For the 51.0 percent of adults who kept pigs and who kept them for household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) of meat (Table H.3)

For adults who kept goats for agricultural production (milk or meat), over three-tenths of adults assigned food source (38.7 percent) or food quality (31.9 percent) as very important reasons to have goats. Over three-tenths of adults who kept goats assigned fun/hobby (38.1 percent), learning experience for kids (38.8 percent), or companionship or pet (32.9 percent) as very important reasons to have goats. “Other” reasons for keeping goats included clearing the area of brush, weeds, or other overgrowth.

H.4.c. For adults who kept goats, percentage by reasons for having goats and by level of importance of those reasons:

Percent Adults Who Kept Goats								
Reason	Level of importance							
	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Family tradition	44.3	(6.1)	37.1	(6.0)	18.7	(4.8)	100.0	(—)
Fun/hobby	18.2	(4.6)	43.7	(6.1)	38.1	(5.8)	100.0	(—)
Income	51.3	(6.2)	37.3	(6.2)	11.5	(4.2)	100.0	(—)
Food source (milk, meat)*	11.6	(4.3)	49.7	(9.3)	38.7	(8.6)	100.0	(—)
Food quality (for example, freshness, health)*	31.9	(8.7)	36.2	(9.3)	31.9	(8.1)	100.0	(—)
Fair, show, or exhibition (for example, 4-H, clubs)	56.3	(6.2)	24.9	(5.6)	18.8	(5.2)	100.0	(—)
Learning experience for kids	28.1	(5.6)	33.1	(5.8)	38.8	(6.0)	100.0	(—)
Companionship or pet	18.3	(4.5)	48.8	(6.1)	32.9	(5.6)	100.0	(—)
Other	71.7	(5.9)	21.3	(5.7)	7.1	(2.8)	100.0	(—)

*For the 45.5 percent of adults who kept goats and who kept them for household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) of milk or meat (Table H.3)

For adults who kept rabbits for agricultural production (meat), slightly less than three-tenths of adults assigned food source (29.7 percent) as a very important reason to have rabbits. Over one-half of adults who kept rabbits (52.5 percent) assigned companionship or pet as a very important reason to keep rabbits and slightly more than one-third of adults (34.0 percent) assigned fun/hobby as a very important reason to keep rabbits. “Other” reasons for keeping rabbits included fertilizer production and emotional support.

H.4.d. For adults who kept rabbits, percentage by reasons for having rabbits and by level of importance of those reasons:

Percent Adults Who Kept Rabbits								
Reason	Level of importance							
	Not important		Somewhat important		Very important		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Family tradition	63.6	(4.1)	23.7	(3.6)	12.7	(3.0)	100.0	(—)
Fun/hobby	22.2	(3.6)	43.7	(4.3)	34.0	(4.0)	100.0	(—)
Income	77.7	(3.7)	15.1	(3.2)	7.2	(2.3)	100.0	(—)
Food source (meat)*	18.1	(11.4)	52.2	(13.0)	29.7	(10.4)	100.0	(—)
Fair, show, or exhibition (for example, 4-H, clubs)	81.9	(3.4)	12.8	(3.0)	5.3	(2.0)	100.0	(—)
Learning experience for kids	38.6	(4.2)	37.9	(4.1)	23.4	(3.6)	100.0	(—)
Companionship or pet	18.7	(3.2)	28.8	(3.8)	52.5	(4.3)	100.0	(—)
Other	85.2	(3.2)	6.8	(2.2)	8.1	(2.6)	100.0	(—)

*For the 13.8 percent of adults who kept rabbits and who kept them for household use or non-household use (sales, trade, or gift) of meat (Table H.3)

A higher percentage of adults assigned family tradition as a very or somewhat important reason for keeping pigs (68.6 percent) compared to poultry (48.6 percent) or rabbits (36.4 percent). A higher percentage of adults who kept pigs (54.5 percent) or goats (48.7 percent) than poultry (30.6 percent) or rabbits (22.3 percent) assigned income as a very or somewhat important reason for keeping the animal type. A higher percentage of adults who kept pigs (53.3 percent) or goats (43.7 percent) than poultry (20.8 percent) or rabbits (18.1 percent) also assigned fair, show, or exhibition as a very or somewhat important reason for keeping the animal type. A lower percentage of adults assigned companionship or pet as a very or somewhat important reason for keeping poultry (61.0 percent) compared to the other three animal types.

H.4.e. Percentage of adults who rated the following reasons for having animals as very or somewhat important, by animal type:

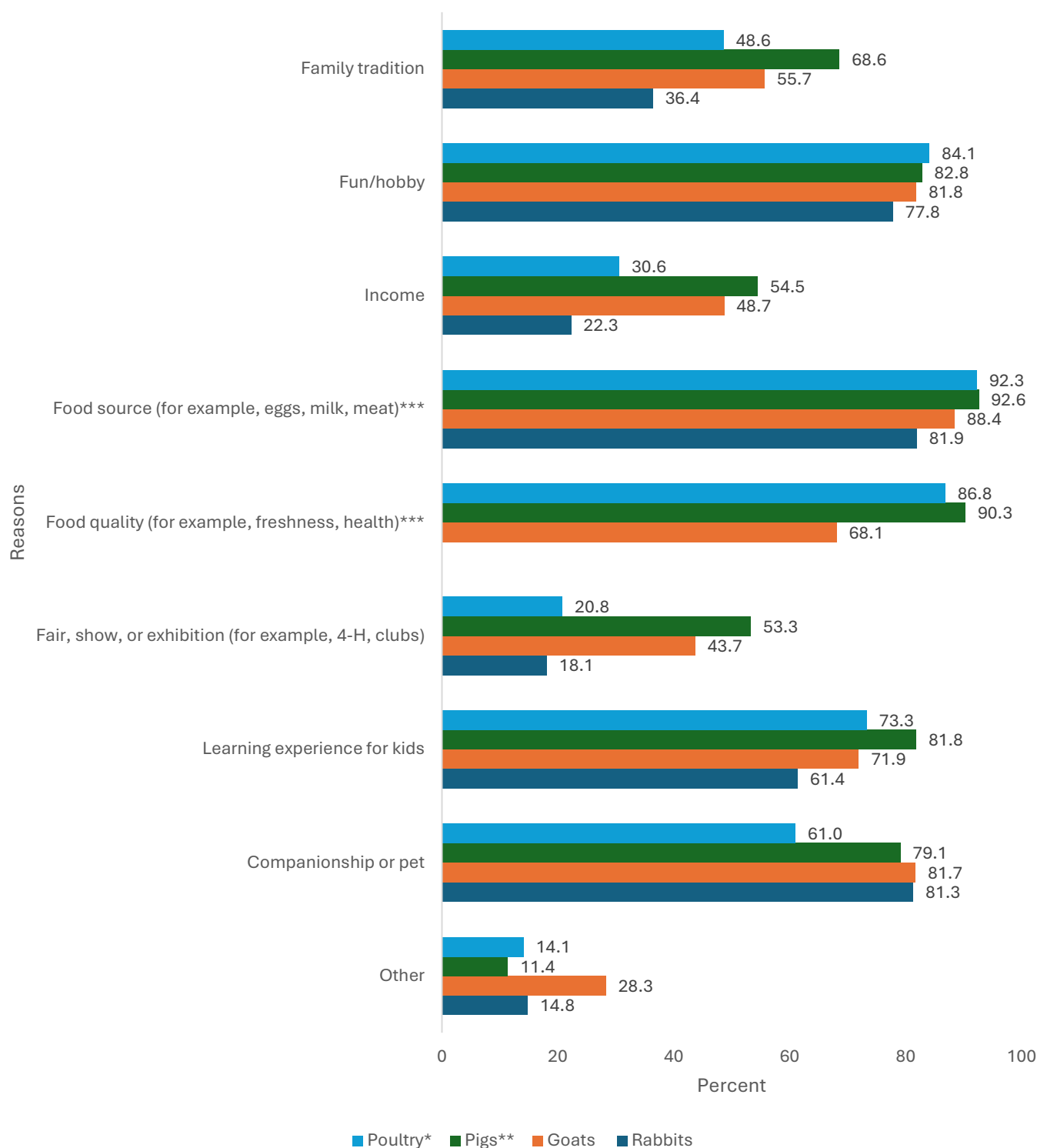
Reason	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Family tradition	48.6	(2.9)	68.6	(6.0)	55.7	(6.1)	36.4	(4.1)
Fun/hobby	84.1	(2.1)	82.8	(4.9)	81.8	(4.6)	77.8	(3.6)
Income	30.6	(2.8)	54.5	(7.0)	48.7	(6.2)	22.3	(3.7)
Food source (for example, eggs, milk, meat) ³	92.3	(1.7)	92.6	(3.6)	88.4	(4.3)	81.9	(11.4)
Food quality (for example, freshness, health) ³	86.8	(2.2)	90.3	(6.8)	68.1	(8.7)		
Fair, show, or exhibition (for example, 4-H, clubs)	20.8	(2.6)	53.3	(7.1)	43.7	(6.2)	18.1	(3.4)
Learning experience for kids	73.3	(2.6)	81.8	(4.7)	71.9	(5.6)	61.4	(4.2)
Companionship or pet	61.0	(2.8)	79.1	(5.1)	81.7	(4.5)	81.3	(3.2)
Other	14.1	(2.1)	11.4	(4.5)	28.3	(5.9)	14.8	(3.2)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

³ For adults who kept animals for the sales, trade, or gift and/or personal use of agricultural products (for example, eggs, meat, milk) (Table H.3)

Percentage of adults who rated the following reasons for having animals as very or somewhat important, by animal type



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

***For adults who kept animals for the sales, trade, or gift and/or personal use of agricultural products (for example, eggs, milk, meat) (Table H.3)

I. Management

Note: Estimates in sections H through K are limited to adults who kept each animal type (poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits).

1. Number of animals kept

Among poultry owners, over three-fifths of adults (63.3 percent) kept six or more poultry on the day the questionnaire was completed. Only poultry owners (1.0 percent) reported keeping 101 or more animals. For pig owners, almost nine-tenths of adults (88.3 percent) kept five pigs or less. For goat owners, approximately three-fourths of adults (76.4 percent) kept five goats or less. For rabbit owners, 81.0 percent of adults kept 1 to 2 rabbits.

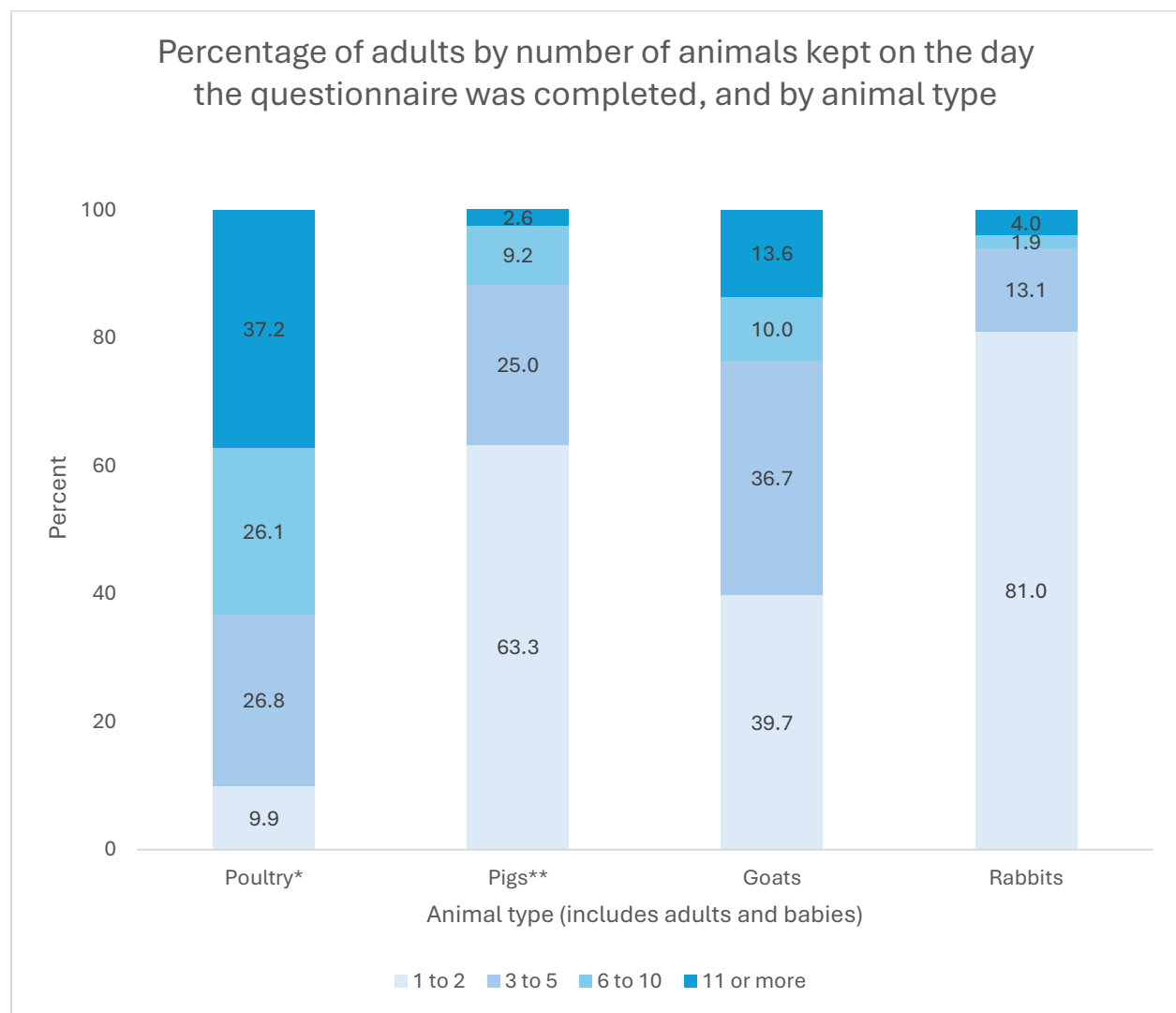
I.1.a. Percentage of adults by number of animals kept on the day the questionnaire was completed, and by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Number of animals ³	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
1 to 2	9.9	(1.7)	63.3	(7.2)	39.7	(6.1)	81.0	(3.5)
3 to 5	26.8	(2.6)	25.0	(6.5)	36.7	(6.6)	13.1	(2.9)
6 to 10	26.1	(2.5)	9.2	(4.7)	10.0	(2.8)	1.9	(1.3)
11 to 25	24.1	(2.5)	2.6	(1.6)	8.1	(2.8)	3.5	(1.9)
26 to 100	12.1	(1.8)	0.0	(—)	5.5	(3.6)	0.5	(0.5)
101 or more	1.0	(0.4)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

³ Includes adults and babies



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

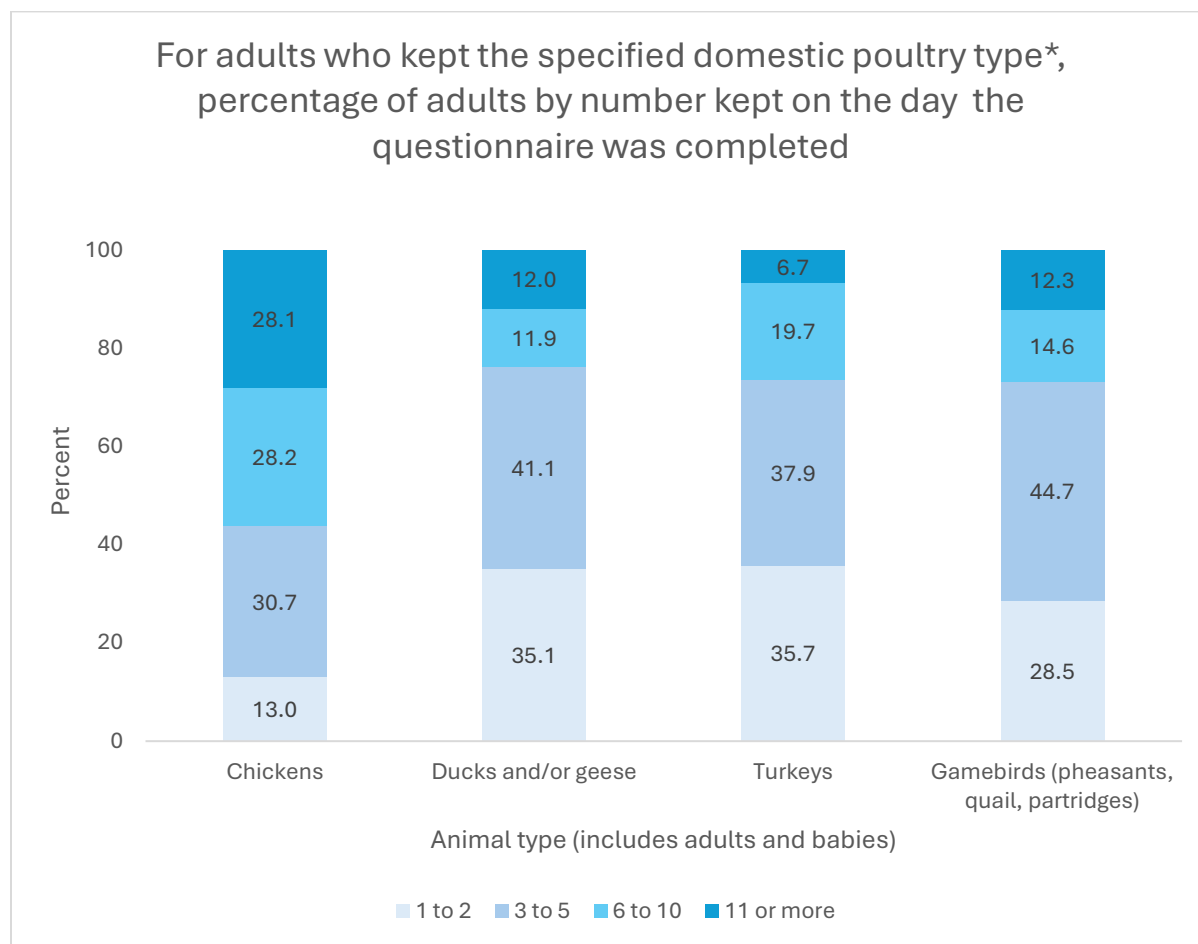
On the day the questionnaire was completed, over 90 percent of adults who kept chickens (92.7 percent) kept less than 26 chickens. Nearly 90 percent of adults kept less than 11 ducks or geese (88.1 percent) or gamebirds (87.8 percent), and over 90 percent of adults who kept turkeys (93.3 percent) kept less than 11 turkeys.

I.1.b. For adults who kept the specified domestic poultry type,¹ percentage of adults by number kept on the day the questionnaire was completed:

Percent Adults								
Poultry type								
Number of animals ²	Chickens		Ducks and/or geese		Turkeys		Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
1 to 2	13.0	(2.1)	35.1	(5.5)	35.7	(7.7)	28.5	(8.1)
3 to 5	30.7	(2.9)	41.1	(5.9)	37.9	(8.6)	44.7	(9.4)
6 to 10	28.2	(2.7)	11.9	(3.6)	19.7	(7.1)	14.6	(5.2)
11 to 25	20.8	(2.3)	10.5	(3.2)	5.0	(3.3)	8.6	(3.6)
26 to 100	6.2	(1.2)	1.5	(1.1)	1.7	(1.7)	3.7	(2.4)
101 or more	1.1	(0.4)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Includes adults and babies



*Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

Adults who kept poultry had an average number of 14.0 birds on the day the questionnaire was completed.

I.1.c. Average number of animals¹ kept on the day the questionnaire was completed, by animal type:

Average Number of Animals							
Animal type							
Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error
14.0	(0.9)	2.9	(0.3)	6.1	(1.3)	2.5	(0.4)

¹ Includes adults and babies

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

On the day the questionnaire was completed, adults who kept chickens had a higher average number of chickens (11.2) compared to the average number of birds for adults who kept the other three poultry types.

I.1.d. For adults who kept the specified domestic poultry type,¹ average number of poultry² kept on the day the questionnaire was completed:

Average Number of Poultry							
Poultry type							
Chickens		Ducks and/or geese		Turkeys		Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)	
No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error
11.2	(0.8)	5.6	(0.7)	5.2	(0.8)	7.4	(1.5)

¹ Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Includes adults and babies

Slightly over seven-tenths of adults who kept poultry (71.4 percent) reported having a maximum number of six or more poultry during the past 12 months. For adults who kept pigs, almost nine-tenths of adults (87.1 percent) kept a maximum number of five pigs or less. For adults who kept goats, almost three-fourths of adults (73.1 percent) kept a maximum of five goats or less. For adults who kept rabbits, about nine-tenths of adults (90.9 percent) kept a maximum of five rabbits or less. A small percentage of adults who kept poultry (2.2 percent) and adults who kept goats (0.9 percent) reported keeping a maximum of 101 or more animals during the past 12 months.

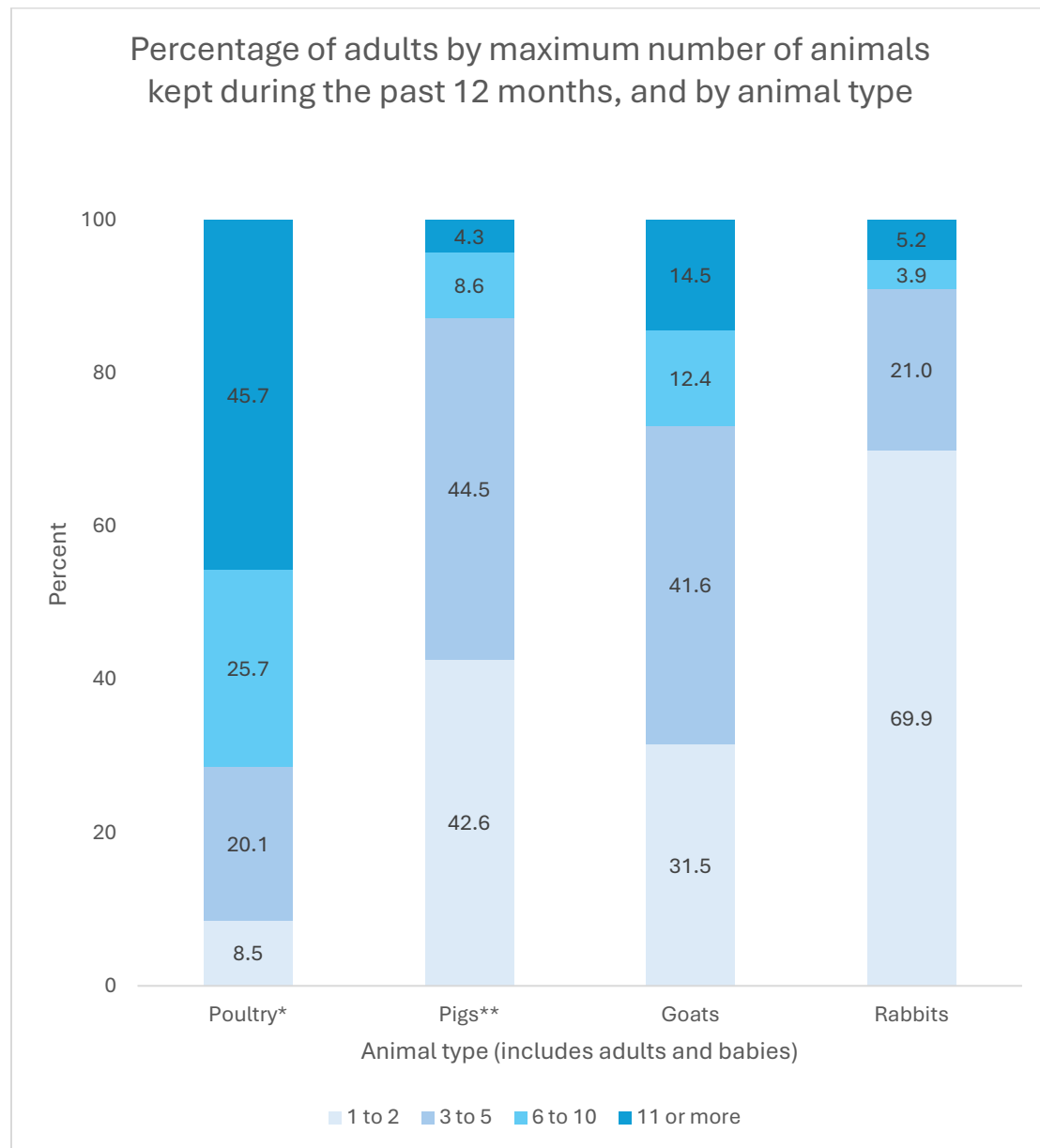
I.1.e. Percentage of adults by maximum number of animals kept during the past 12 months, and by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Number of animals ³ (maximum number in past 12 months)	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
1 to 2	8.5	(1.7)	42.6	(7.4)	31.5	(5.7)	69.9	(4.2)
3 to 5	20.1	(2.3)	44.5	(7.7)	41.6	(6.7)	21.0	(3.8)
6 to 10	25.7	(2.5)	8.6	(4.0)	12.4	(4.0)	3.9	(1.5)
11 to 25	24.7	(2.6)	2.8	(1.7)	8.2	(2.7)	3.5	(1.9)
26 to 100	18.8	(2.3)	1.5	(1.1)	5.4	(3.7)	1.7	(0.9)
101 or more	2.2	(0.9)	0.0	(—)	0.9	(0.7)	0.0	(—)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

³ Includes adults and babies



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

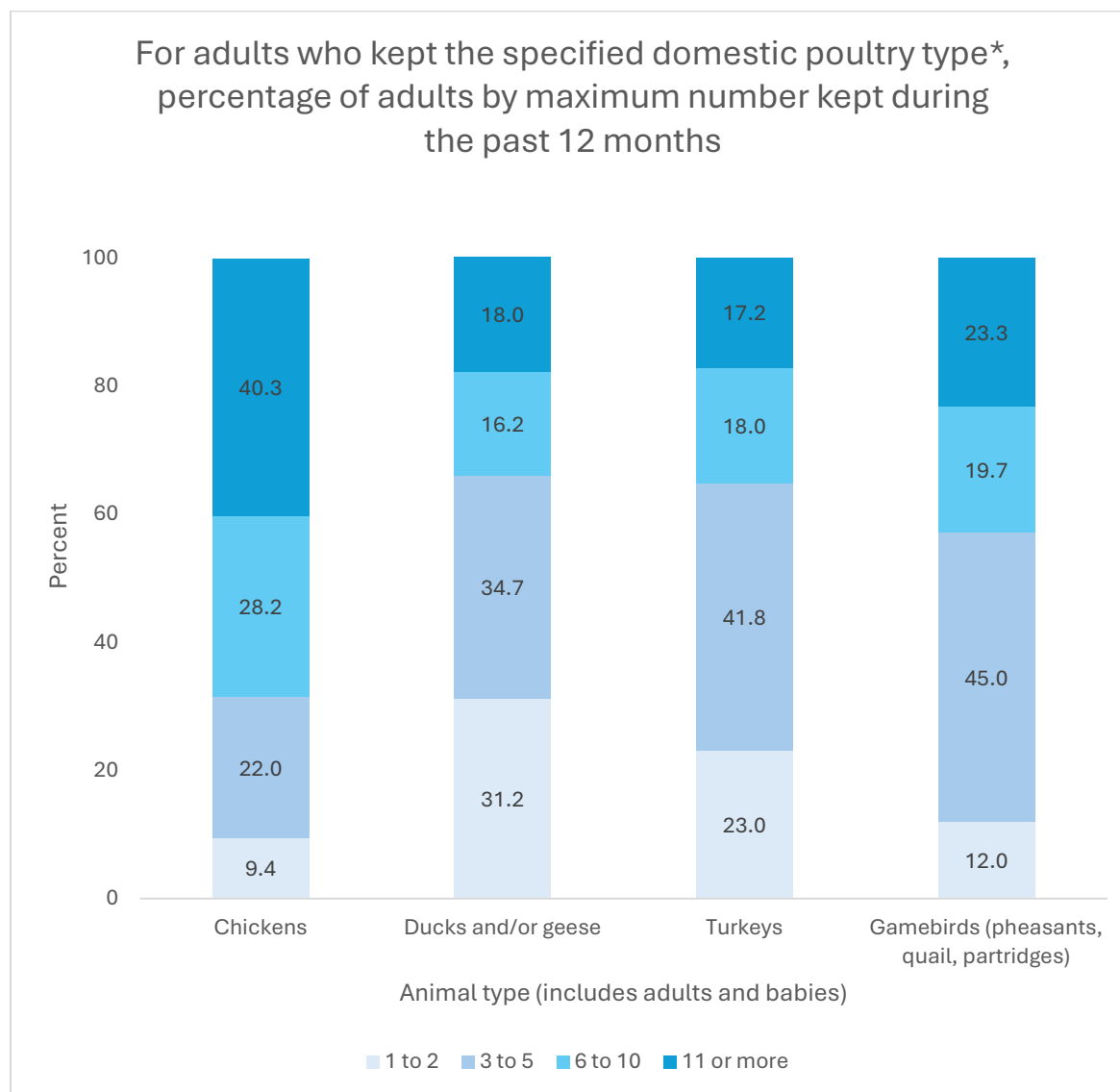
A higher percentage of adults who kept chickens (68.5 percent) than adults who kept the other three poultry types kept a maximum of six or more birds during the past 12 months.

I.1.f. For adults who kept the specified domestic poultry type,¹ percentage of adults by maximum number kept during the past 12 months:

Number of animals ² (maximum number in past 12 months)	Percent Adults							
	Poultry type							
	Chickens		Ducks and/or geese		Turkeys		Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
1 to 2	9.4	(1.8)	31.2	(5.7)	23.0	(6.3)	12.0	(5.9)
3 to 5	22.0	(2.6)	34.7	(6.1)	41.8	(8.7)	45.0	(9.6)
6 to 10	28.2	(2.7)	16.2	(4.3)	18.0	(6.3)	19.7	(7.2)
11 to 25	25.7	(2.6)	11.3	(3.0)	14.2	(6.3)	13.5	(4.6)
26 to 100	13.3	(2.0)	6.7	(3.7)	3.0	(2.1)	7.6	(4.0)
101 or more	1.3	(0.4)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	2.2	(2.2)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Includes adults and babies



*Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

Adults who kept poultry had an average maximum number of 19.5 birds during the past 12 months.

I.1.g. Average maximum number of animals¹ kept during the past 12 months, by animal type:

Average Number of Animals							
Animal type							
Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error
19.5	(1.5)	4.0	(0.5)	8.3	(1.8)	3.2	(0.4)

¹ Includes adults and babies

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

Adults who kept chickens had a higher average maximum number of chickens (15.9) than adults who had ducks and/or geese (7.6) or turkeys (7.8) during the past 12 months.

I.1.h. For adults who kept the specified domestic poultry type,¹ average maximum number² kept during the past 12 months:

Average number of poultry						
Poultry type						
Chickens		Ducks and/or geese		Turkeys		Gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges)
No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No.	Std. Error	No. Std. Error
15.9	(1.2)	7.6	(1.2)	7.8	(1.3)	12.8 (3.6)

¹ Kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Includes adults and babies

2. Housing for animals

For adults who kept poultry, almost three-fourths of adults kept poultry in an outdoor poultry pen or poultry coop/barn (74.2 percent) and slightly over one-half of adults allowed poultry to roam outdoors (52.2 percent). Approximately one-fifth of adults (20.6 percent) ever kept poultry inside the house/living space during the last 12 months. Keeping birds inside could increase the risk of transmission of *Salmonella* and other diseases to people and pets in the household. Respondents were able to select more than one housing type.

I.2.a. For adults who kept poultry, percentage who ever kept poultry* in the following types of housing during the last 12 months:

Housing type	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Inside house/living space, including a bathroom or basement	20.6	(2.3)
In garage	11.2	(2.0)
In an outdoor poultry pen or poultry coop/barn	74.2	(2.7)
Allowed to roam outdoors (outside of a pen or fence around the poultry area)	52.2	(2.9)
In a community coop	10.6	(1.9)
Somewhere else	0.0	(—)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop. Includes adults and babies.

For adults who kept their poultry inside at any point during the last 12 months, a higher percentage of adults kept poultry inside because the birds were young (88.7 percent) than the other reasons listed. Less than one-quarter of adults kept poultry inside because birds were sick or injured, due to bad weather, or for an “other” reason. An “other” reason included that birds were kept inside as pets.

I.2.b. For the 20.6 percent of adults who kept poultry* inside the house/living space during the last 12 months (Table I.2.a.), percentage of adults who kept the poultry inside the house/living space for the following reasons:

Reason	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Birds were young	88.7	(3.8)
Birds were sick or injured	20.8	(5.7)
Due to bad weather	24.1	(5.7)
Other	1.9	(1.1)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) including adults and babies.

For adults who kept their poultry inside at any point during the last 12 months, about one-third kept the birds inside most or all days (33.7 percent) and about two-thirds kept the birds inside occasionally (66.3 percent).

I.2.c. For the 20.6 percent of adults who kept poultry* inside the house/living space during the last 12 months (Table I.2.a.), percentage by how often the poultry were kept inside the house/living space:

Frequency	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Birds were inside most or all days	33.7	(6.4)
Birds were inside occasionally	66.3	(6.4)
Total	100.0	(—)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) including adults and babies.

For adults who kept pigs, over half of adults (55.0 percent) kept pigs in a barn or building with outside access at least some time during the last 12 months. This was followed in frequency by pigs allowed to roam outside the pig enclosure (43.8 percent) or those kept in a barn or building with no outside access (33.5 percent). Respondents were able to select more than one housing type.

I.2.d. For adults who kept pigs, percentage who ever kept pigs* in the following types of housing during the last 12 months:

Housing type	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Inside house/living space	27.7	(6.4)
In a barn or building with no outside access	33.5	(7.4)
In a barn or building with outside access	55.0	(7.2)
Allowed to roam outside the pig enclosure	43.8	(7.2)
Somewhere else	3.1	(2.1)

*Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

For adults who kept goats, a higher percentage of adults kept goats in a barn or building with outside access (50.0 percent) or in a fenced pasture or rangeland (48.7 percent) than inside a house/living space/garage (11.7 percent), in a barn or building with no outside access (19.8 percent), or allowed to roam in an unfenced area (20.0 percent). No responding adults kept goats somewhere else. Respondents were able to select more than one housing type.

I.2.e. For adults who kept goats, percentage who ever kept goats in the following types of housing during the last 12 months:

Housing type	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Inside house/living space/garage	11.7	(4.7)
In a barn or building with no outside access	19.8	(5.4)
In a barn or building with outside access	50.0	(6.1)
In a fenced pasture or rangeland	48.7	(6.1)
Allowed to roam in an unfenced area	20.0	(5.5)
Somewhere else	0.0	(—)

For adults who kept rabbits, a higher percentage of adults kept rabbits inside a house/living space/garage, including a rabbit hutch (59.5 percent) or in an outdoor rabbit hutch (41.4 percent) than adults who allowed rabbits outside the rabbit hutch in the yard (20.6 percent) or somewhere else (1.6 percent). "Somewhere else" included a classroom, penned grassy area, or on a farm. Respondents were able to select more than one housing type.

I.2.f. For adults who kept rabbits, percentage who ever kept rabbits in the following types of housing during the last 12 months:

Housing type	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Inside house/living space/garage, including in a rabbit hutch	59.5	(4.4)
In an outdoor rabbit hutch	41.4	(4.4)
Allowed outside the rabbit hutch in the yard	20.6	(3.4)
Somewhere else	1.6	(0.8)

3. Sources of animals

A higher percentage of adults sourced the poultry they had on the day the questionnaire was completed from a feed or farm store (50.4 percent) than from the other sources listed. Slightly over one-quarter (26.5 percent) got their poultry from a private individual such as a friend or neighbor. Less than 5 percent of adults (4.1 percent) got their poultry from a fair or show. “Other” sources included poultry already on the property and hatched onsite.

I.3.a. Percentage of adults who kept poultry,* by sources of poultry present on the day the questionnaire was completed:

Source	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Local hatchery	9.6	(1.7)
Local farm	17.8	(2.2)
Private individual (for example, friend, neighbor)	26.5	(2.6)
Fair or show	4.1	(1.3)
Feed or farm store	50.4	(2.9)
Mail order or internet purchase	11.5	(1.6)
Poultry wholesaler or dealer	11.9	(2.1)
Other	5.0	(1.2)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

Over one-quarter of adults who kept goats obtained the goats present on the day the questionnaire was completed directly from another farm or household with primarily dairy goats (34.6 percent) or with primarily meat or other non-dairy goats (27.5 percent). “Other” sources included from a rescue and bred onsite.

I.3.b. Percentage of adults who kept goats, by sources of goats present on the day the questionnaire was completed:

Source	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Goat wholesaler or dealer	16.7	(5.0)
Directly from another farm or household with primarily dairy goats	34.6	(6.0)
Directly from another farm or household with primarily meat or other non-dairy goats	27.5	(5.8)
Livestock market or auction (not online)	14.0	(4.3)
Online sales (Craigslist, Facebook marketplace, eBay, online auctions, etc.)	18.5	(5.5)
Fair or show	15.8	(5.0)
Other	9.7	(3.3)

4. Feeding animals

Almost three-fifths of adults who kept poultry (59.8 percent) fed their poultry commercial pelleted feed and almost one-half (48.4 percent) fed commercial scratch feed or mash in the last 12 months. Almost two-fifths of adults who kept poultry fed their poultry any table scraps (39.0 percent) or fresh produce purchased for the poultry (37.4 percent). For adults who kept pigs, over one-half fed commercial feed or hay (57.3 percent), any table scraps (50.7 percent), or fresh produce purchased for the pigs (55.4 percent). For adults who kept pigs, about two-fifths (40.3 percent) fed table scraps with meat products.

I.4.a. Percentage of adults who kept poultry or pigs and who fed their animals the following types of animal feed in the last 12 months:

Feed type	Percent Adults			
	Animal type			
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Commercial pelleted feed	59.8	(2.9)		
Commercial scratch feed or mash ³	48.4	(2.9)	57.3	(7.4)
Any table scraps (food originally purchased for human consumption) ⁴	39.0	(2.8)	50.7	(7.2)
Table scraps with meat products (food originally purchased for human consumption)	19.8	(2.4)	40.3	(7.3)
Table scraps without meat products (food originally purchased for human consumption)	29.0	(2.5)	28.7	(6.1)
Make own feed	9.2	(1.7)	19.1	(5.8)
Fresh produce purchased for the poultry or pigs (for example, fruits or vegetables)	37.4	(2.9)	55.4	(7.0)
Feed supplements	17.8	(2.2)	29.1	(6.9)
Commercial treats	11.6	(1.8)	8.4	(3.8)
Other	6.1	(1.4)	1.4	(1.0)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

³ Question variation – for pigs, this category was commercial feed or hay

⁴ Includes table scraps with meat products and table scraps without meat products

Feeding table scraps to pigs creates benefits like minimizing nutritional waste, decreasing the amount of garbage that goes into landfills, and providing a low cost or free source of nutrition to pigs. However, this feeding practice can spread diseases if contaminated meat products are fed to pigs. Several serious diseases can be transmitted through feeding raw or undercooked meat products to pigs. African swine fever (ASF) and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) are economically devastating and highly contagious viral diseases that do not exist in the United States but can be transmitted to pigs by feeding undercooked meat products. It is okay to feed scraps including fruit, vegetables, bread, and bakery waste that have not come in contact with meat or meat products. For additional information, see www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/shpa-human-food-waste-and-swine.pdf.

For adults with pigs who fed any table scraps or made their own pig feed, slightly less than one-quarter of adults (23.0 percent) always cooked table scraps and slightly more than one-quarter of adults (27.4 percent) always cooked homemade feed. As long as there is no contact with meat or meat products, some fresh produce does not need to be cooked. A local extension office or veterinarian can provide further guidance on recommended food preparation.

I.4.b. For the 50.7 percent of adults who kept pigs¹ and fed table scraps to their pigs in the last 12 months and for the 19.1 percent of adults who kept pigs and made their own pig feed in the last 12 months (Table I.4.a.), percentage by frequency of cooking the feed and by type of feed:

Percent Adults Who Kept Pigs				
Frequency cooked	Type of feed			
	Table scraps²		Homemade feed	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Always	23.0	(7.9)	27.4	(15.7)
Sometimes	66.3	(9.1)	55.9	(17.0)
Never	10.7	(5.6)	16.6	(11.9)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

² Food originally purchased for human consumption

J. Health and Health Care

Note: Estimates in sections H through K are limited to adults who kept each animal type (poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits).

1. Animal health

Less than 10 percent of adults observed each of the health problems listed in their poultry during the last 12 months, and overall, 26.0 percent of adults observed any health problems in their poultry. Approximately two-fifths of adults who kept pigs (43.1 percent) and adults who kept goats (37.6 percent) observed any health problems in their animals during the last 12 months. A higher percentage of adults who kept rabbits observed diarrhea or other digestive issues (8.5 percent) than respiratory problems (1.6 percent) during the last 12 months.

J.1. Percentage of adults who observed the following health problems in their animals during the last 12 months, by animal type:

Problem	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Respiratory (runny nose or eyes, cough, sneeze)	5.4	(1.5)	13.1	(5.5)	12.2	(4.7)	1.6	(0.7)
Diarrhea or other digestive issues	7.1	(1.6)	15.6	(5.7)	18.3	(5.4)	8.5	(2.4)
Lethargy or not eating	5.9	(1.5)	13.1	(5.6)	10.2	(4.4)	10.4	(2.9)
Limping or other leg problems	7.7	(1.6)	11.9	(5.0)	12.1	(4.6)	3.0	(1.5)
Unexplained death loss	8.8	(1.5)	13.9	(5.6)	8.0	(3.7)	12.7	(3.5)
Other	1.3	(0.6)	0.0	(—)	1.1	(0.7)	1.7	(0.7)
None of the above	74.0	(2.6)	56.9	(7.3)	62.4	(6.1)	70.5	(4.2)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

2. Health care

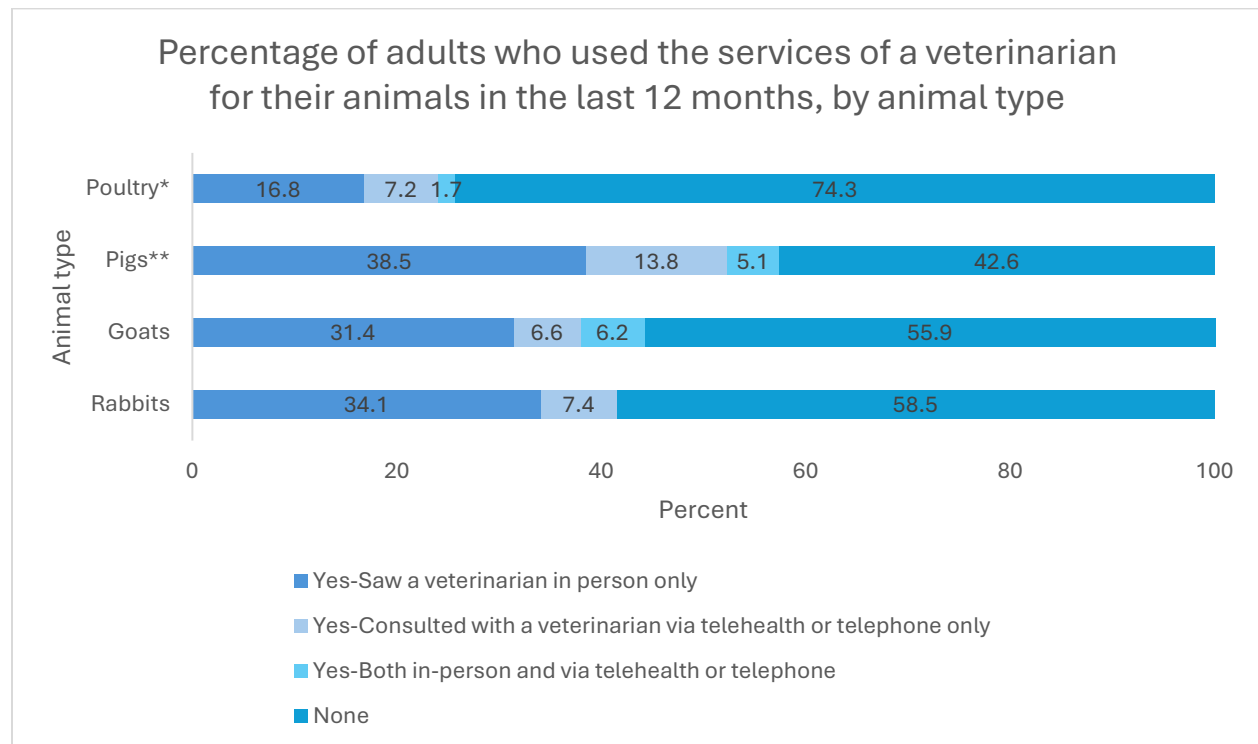
Overall, 25.7 percent of adults who kept poultry, 57.4 percent of adults who kept pigs, 44.2 percent of adults who kept goats, and 41.5 percent of adults who kept rabbits used the services of a veterinarian for their animals in the last 12 months.

J.2.a. Percentage of adults who used the services of a veterinarian for their animals in the last 12 months, by animal type:

Type of veterinary service used	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Saw a veterinarian in person only	16.8	(2.5)	38.5	(7.2)	31.4	(5.9)	34.1	(4.2)
Consulted with a veterinarian via telehealth or telephone only	7.2	(1.4)	13.8	(5.8)	6.6	(3.5)	7.4	(2.4)
Both in-person and via telehealth or telephone	1.7	(0.8)	5.1	(3.6)	6.2	(3.7)	0.0	(—)
None	74.3	(2.7)	42.6	(7.0)	55.9	(6.3)	58.5	(4.3)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

For adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits and did not use the services of a veterinarian in the last 12 months, the highest percentage of adults for each animal type reported no need for a veterinarian (no illness or injury), which was statistically significant for all animal types except for pigs. Numerically, this was followed by the respondent or a member of their household managing the animals' health for adults who kept poultry (20.7 percent), pigs (31.1 percent), or goats (24.6 percent). For adults who kept rabbits and did not use the services of a veterinarian, cost was a reason for 22.5 percent of adults.

J.2.b. For adults who did not use the services of a veterinarian for their animals in the last 12 months (Table J.2.a.), percentage by reasons for not using a veterinarian, and by animal type:

Reason	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Cost	16.7	(2.4)	21.7	(8.5)	11.3	(4.6)	22.5	(4.7)
Veterinarian too busy to provide services	4.0	(1.4)	16.6	(9.1)	7.5	(5.8)	0.4	(0.3)
Not locally available	11.1	(2.1)	8.6	(4.7)	4.9	(2.3)	4.9	(1.8)
Veterinarian not knowledgeable about the animal type	4.1	(1.3)	4.0	(3.0)	0.0	(—)	1.6	(0.9)
Not trusted to have good recommendations	1.6	(1.0)	5.8	(5.6)	3.8	(3.7)	3.4	(1.7)
The respondent or a member of their household manages the animals' health	20.7	(2.7)	31.1	(9.5)	24.6	(7.0)	6.2	(1.9)
No need for a veterinarian (no illness or injury)	66.2	(3.2)	55.6	(10.0)	73.0	(6.7)	70.1	(4.9)
Other	0.3	(0.2)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.8	(0.8)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

For adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits, over one-fifth of adults had animals that received treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots in the last 12 months. Almost one-half of adults who kept pigs (47.7 percent) had pigs that received treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots in the last 12 months.

J.2.c. Percentage of adults whose animal(s) received treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots¹ during the last 12 months, by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Response	Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Yes	22.6	(2.6)	47.7	(7.2)	33.6	(5.7)	30.8	(4.1)
No	71.8	(2.8)	43.8	(7.1)	53.1	(6.1)	66.6	(4.2)
Not sure	5.6	(1.3)	8.5	(3.9)	13.3	(4.9)	2.6	(1.0)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Respondents were asked to include over the counter medications and those prescribed by a veterinarian

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

Antibiotics are an important tool to combat bacterial infections. Many classes of antibiotics are important for treatment of disease in humans. These classes of antibiotics are also referred to as “medically important” antibiotics. Other classes of antibiotics are not used in human medicine. Veterinary oversight is required whenever medically important antibiotics are administered to animals, even if the animals are not intended for food production. This practice ensures that these treatments will only be used when medically necessary to protect the health of an animal.

This study requested information about **any** antibiotic use in poultry, pigs, goats and rabbits. Antibiotic use can contribute to antibiotic resistance, making infections harder to treat. Informed antibiotic stewardship includes principles such as biosecurity and infection control, working with a veterinarian for informed decision-making about animal health practices and using antibiotics when necessary. For adults whose animal(s) received treatments, medications, or vaccinations/shots during the last 12 months, at least 40 percent thought that their animal(s) did not receive any antibiotics during that timeframe.

Survey respondents were provided open-ended fields to capture any details about their response to the antibiotic use question. “Yes” responses with clear supporting write-in information are reported in the table below as “Yes.” Examples of clear supporting write-in information included “bacterial infection,” the specific type of infection, and the name of the antibiotic given. “Yes” responses with unclear supporting write-in information are reported in the table below as “Yes, verification details lacking or unclear.” Examples of such write-in responses include “to improve health,” or “in feed.” Of adults whose animal(s) received treatments, medications, or vaccinations/shots during the last 12 months, roughly one-tenth (ranging from 7.4 percent for goats to 13.9 percent for poultry) thought their animal(s) received antibiotics during the last 12 months and were able to provide clear supporting write-in information.

J.2.d. For adults whose animal(s) received treatments, medications, or vaccinations/shots during the last 12 months (Table J.2.c.), percentage who thought their animal(s) received any antibiotics¹ during the last 12 months, by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Response	Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Yes	13.9	(4.8)	11.1	(8.0)	7.4	(4.0)	10.4	(3.7)
Yes, verification details lacking or unclear	12.7	(4.2)	36.2	(11.3)	23.2	(9.8)	19.7	(7.7)
Not sure	18.1	(5.9)	7.9	(3.8)	20.2	(9.1)	19.8	(7.2)
No	55.3	(6.8)	44.8	(10.9)	49.2	(10.5)	50.2	(8.5)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Respondents were asked not to include over-the-counter sprays

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

NAHMS usually collects information on antibiotic use during surveys administered by veterinarians and other animal health professionals. The individuals administering surveys are able to help respondents categorize treatments, antibiotics and other medications, vaccines, or shots that their animals received. Since the NAHMS Backyard Animal Keeping survey was self-administered, it was important to capture verification details and provide options for respondents who were not sure what kinds of treatments their animals received. Less than five percent of adults treated their animals with antibiotics during the last 12 months and provided details to assist in verifying their responses. When including “Yes” responses where verification information was not provided, for poultry, goats, and rabbits, less than 10 percent of adults treated their animals with antibiotics during the last 12 months. This percentage was numerically higher (20.8 percent) for adults who kept pigs.

J.2.e. Percentage of adults who thought their animal(s) received any antibiotics¹ during the last 12 months, by animal type and by whether treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots were received²:

Response	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ³		Pigs ⁴		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Yes, treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots received								
Yes, antibiotics received	3.1	(1.1)	4.9	(3.6)	2.4	(1.3)	3.0	(1.1)
Yes, antibiotic verification details lacking or unclear	2.9	(1.0)	15.9	(5.9)	7.5	(6.6)	5.7	(2.5)
Not sure if antibiotics received	4.1	(1.5)	3.5	(1.6)	6.6	(3.3)	5.8	(2.3)
Antibiotics not received	12.1	(2.0)	19.6	(5.4)	16.0	(4.2)	14.6	(3.0)
No, or not sure if treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots received								
No treatments, medications, or vaccines/shots received	72.2	(2.7)	47.0	(7.3)	54.0	(6.2)	68.2	(4.1)
Not sure if treatments, medications, or vaccine/shots received	5.6	(1.3)	9.1	(4.2)	13.5	(5.0)	2.7	(1.0)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ For the question on if animals received any antibiotics, respondents were asked not to include over the counter sprays

² For the question on treatments, medications, or vaccine/shots (Table J.2.c.), respondents were asked to include over the counter medications and those prescribed by a veterinarian

³ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

⁴ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

Note that the results are slightly different than what is reported in Table J.2.c. due to some item non-response to the antibiotic question.

A veterinary-client-patient-relationship (VCPR) allows a veterinarian to diagnose, treat, and prescribe medications to animals. Having a relationship with a veterinarian is the best way to receive treatment for sick animals, including prescriptions for antibiotics when needed. Veterinary oversight is required whenever medically important antibiotics are administered to animals, even if the animals are not intended for food production. This practice ensures that these treatments will only be used when medically necessary to protect the health of an animal.

The Veterinary Feed Directive (VFD) is a Federal and State requirement for veterinary oversight of medically important in-feed and in-water antibiotics. Some feed and farm stores may fill veterinary prescriptions, including those for medicated feed. Feed and farm stores are also sources of medicated feed that does not require a veterinary prescription.

Over half of adults who kept pigs (50.5 percent) or goats (59.8 percent) would seek help getting antibiotics from a veterinarian. A higher percentage of adults reported they would seek help getting antibiotics for their rabbits from a veterinarian (79.0 percent) than from the other sources listed. Help may include advice from a family, friend, or neighbor on how to get antibiotics. Please note that respondents could select more than one source of help to obtain antibiotics.

J.2.f. Percentage of adults by where they would seek help getting antibiotics if they thought their animal(s) needed antibiotics, by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Who would be contacted for help	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Internet supplier	12.5	(2.0)	10.1	(4.5)	14.1	(4.7)	6.7	(2.3)
Feed or farm store	59.7	(2.9)	38.2	(7.1)	46.6	(6.2)	25.0	(3.8)
Veterinarian	43.5	(2.9)	50.5	(7.3)	59.8	(6.2)	79.0	(3.7)
Family, friend, or neighbor	13.3	(2.1)	27.0	(7.1)	14.8	(5.4)	6.8	(2.0)
Other	1.6	(0.6)	1.7	(1.2)	1.4	(1.4)	0.7	(0.5)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

3. Health resources

To best reach backyard animal keepers with educational materials or resources for preventative health information or in case of a disease outbreak, it is useful to know which animal information sources owners are most likely to use.

For adults who kept poultry, a higher percentage of adults used internet search (42.6 percent) or the feed store (40.6 percent) than the other sources listed for health information for their poultry during the last 12 months. For adults who kept pigs, numerically a higher percentage of adults used a veterinarian (32.9 percent) than the other sources listed for health information for their pigs during the last 12 months. For adults who kept goats, more than one-quarter used internet search (29.5 percent), veterinarian (25.1 percent), other goat owners (29.4 percent), or friends or family (26.3 percent) for health information for their goats. For adults who kept rabbits, a higher percentage of adults used internet search (45.3 percent) or a veterinarian (38.0 percent) than the other sources listed for health information. About one-tenth of adults who kept rabbits (12.0 percent) used rabbit organizations as a health information source. Respondents could select more than one source of animal health information.

J.3.a. Percentage of adults by sources used for animal health information during the last 12 months, and by animal type:

Sources	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Internet search (for example, Google, Siri, Alexa)	42.6	(2.8)	24.1	(6.0)	29.5	(5.6)	45.3	(4.3)
Veterinarian	16.3	(2.1)	32.9	(6.6)	25.1	(5.1)	38.0	(4.2)
Books, magazines and/or journals	16.1	(2.1)	11.1	(4.8)	8.6	(2.5)	7.6	(2.0)
Online forums	20.3	(2.2)	21.2	(5.9)	15.3	(4.3)	15.4	(3.3)
Social media (for example, Facebook, Nextdoor, YouTube, blogs)	17.4	(2.1)	24.2	(6.5)	20.8	(5.4)	14.8	(3.2)
Government (for example, USDA, CDC, state, local), including websites and publications	12.1	(1.7)	20.1	(6.3)	12.8	(4.0)	4.6	(1.5)
Extension service, including University and Extension websites and publications	8.0	(1.3)	18.2	(6.2)	12.0	(4.5)	2.9	(1.2)
Feed store	40.6	(2.9)	23.4	(6.0)	20.5	(4.5)	12.0	(2.7)
Other owners of the same animal type	28.2	(2.4)	31.0	(6.7)	29.4	(5.4)	19.6	(3.3)
Rabbit organizations (for example, American Rabbit Breeders Association, House Rabbit Society)							12.0	(2.2)
Friends or family	29.4	(2.6)	19.6	(5.9)	26.3	(5.5)	14.6	(3.2)
Other	0.6	(0.3)	1.1	(1.1)	0.0	(—)	2.7	(1.8)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

Respondents were asked to indicate the main source they used for animal health information during the past 12 months. The top three main sources of health information used by adults who kept poultry were internet search (29.0 percent of adults), feed store (18.7 percent), or other poultry owners (12.0 percent). The top three main sources of health information used by adults who kept pigs were veterinarian (23.9 percent of adults), internet search (19.4 percent), or other pig owners (13.8 percent). The top three main sources of health information used by adults who kept goats were internet search (25.1 percent of adults), veterinarian (16.0 percent), or other goat owners (15.7 percent). For rabbits, a higher percentage of adults used internet search (39.2 percent) or a veterinarian (24.2 percent) than the other sources listed as their main source of health information.

“Other” sources primarily included prior experience with the animal type, as well as other types of people, such as a professor or veterinary technician.

J.3.b. Percentage of adults by the main source used for animal health information during the past 12 months, and by animal type:

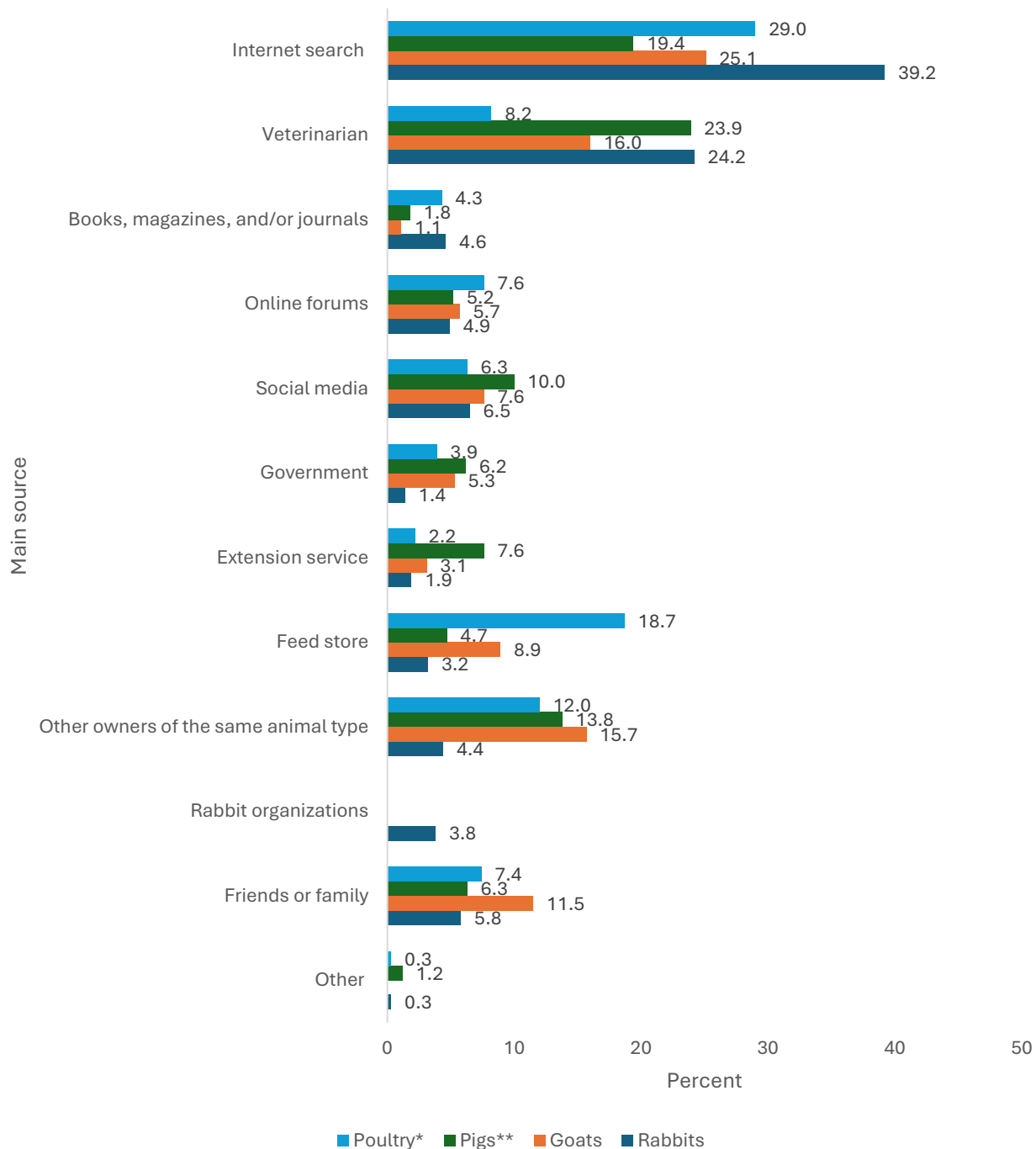
Main source	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Internet search (for example, Google, Siri, Alexa)	29.0	(2.7)	19.4	(6.1)	25.1	(5.9)	39.2	(4.7)
Veterinarian	8.2	(1.7)	23.9	(5.8)	16.0	(4.3)	24.2	(3.9)
Books, magazines and/or journals	4.3	(1.2)	1.8	(1.3)	1.1	(1.1)	4.6	(1.8)
Online forums	7.6	(1.8)	5.2	(3.6)	5.7	(2.4)	4.9	(2.2)
Social media (for example, Facebook, Nextdoor, YouTube, blogs)	6.3	(1.6)	10.0	(4.6)	7.6	(3.5)	6.5	(2.5)
Government (for example, USDA, CDC, state, local), including websites and publications	3.9	(1.2)	6.2	(3.9)	5.3	(2.3)	1.4	(0.8)
Extension service, including University and Extension websites and publications	2.2	(0.6)	7.6	(4.9)	3.1	(1.6)	1.9	(1.1)
Feed store	18.7	(2.5)	4.7	(2.6)	8.9	(3.2)	3.2	(1.4)
Other owners of the same animal type	12.0	(2.0)	13.8	(4.9)	15.7	(4.9)	4.4	(1.8)
Rabbit organizations (for example, American Rabbit Breeders Association, House Rabbit Society)							3.8	(1.3)
Friends or family	7.4	(1.5)	6.3	(3.9)	11.5	(4.7)	5.8	(2.3)
Other	0.3	(0.2)	1.2	(1.2)	NA	NA	0.3	(0.3)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

NA indicates that no adults selected this as a source used in Table J.3.a.

Percentage of adults by the main source used for animal health information during the past 12 months, and by animal type



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

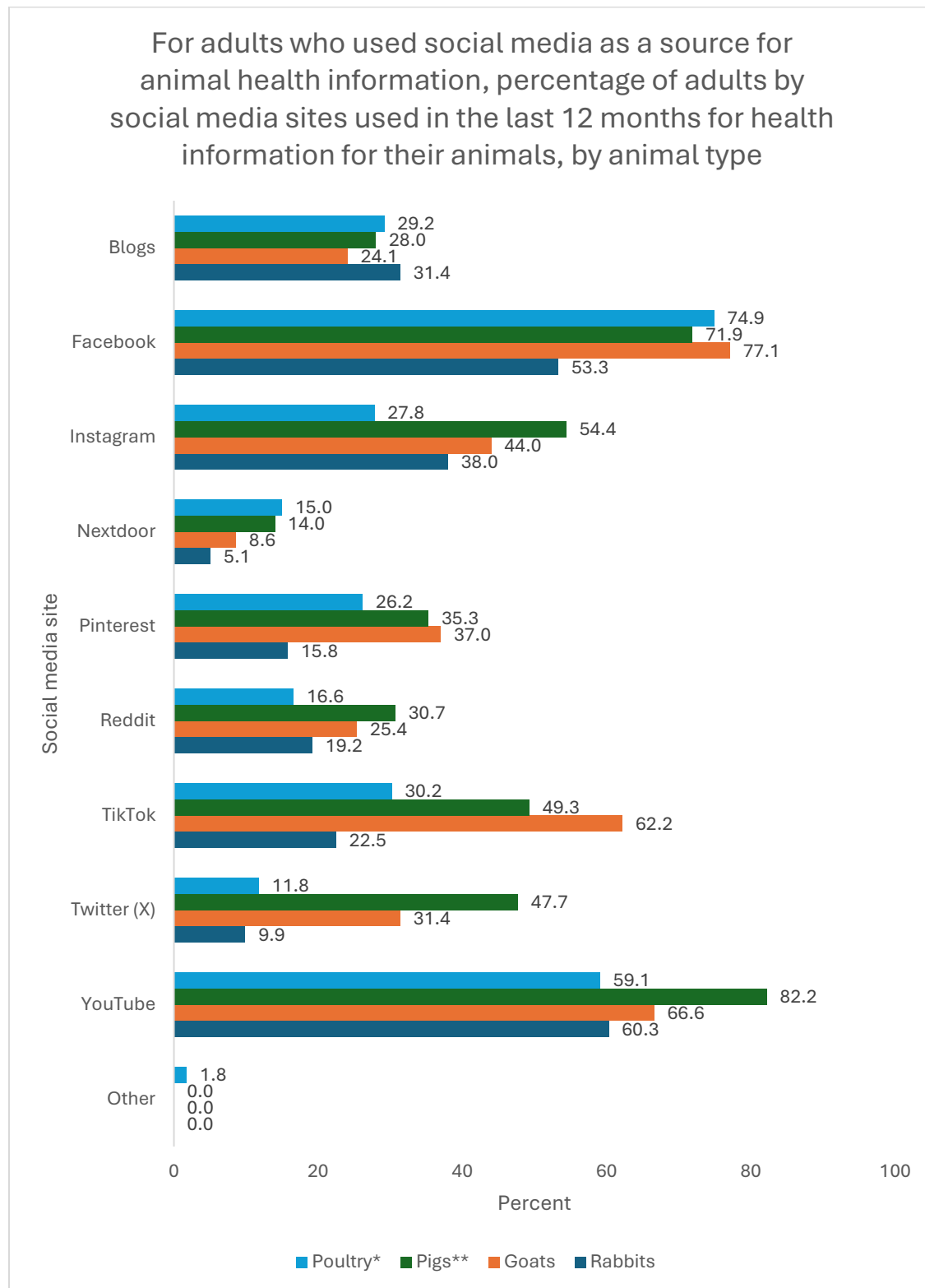
For adults who kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits and used social media for animal health information, numerically the highest percentage of adults used Facebook or YouTube as a source of health information for their animals. For poultry, a higher percentage of adults used Facebook (74.9 percent) or YouTube (59.1 percent) for health information than the other social media sites listed. For adults who kept pigs, the top three social media sites used for health information were YouTube (82.2 percent of adults), Facebook (71.9 percent), and Instagram (54.4 percent). For adults who kept goats, the top three social media sites used for health information were Facebook (77.1 percent of adults), YouTube (66.6 percent), and TikTok (62.2 percent). For adults who kept rabbits, the top three social media sites used for health information were YouTube (60.3 percent of adults), Facebook (53.3 percent), and Instagram (38.0 percent).

J.3.c. For adults who used social media as a source for animal health information during the last 12 months (Table J.3.a.), percentage by social media sites used in the last 12 months for health information for their animals, by animal type:

Social media sites	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Blogs	29.2	(5.5)	28.0	(13.7)	24.1	(13.3)	31.4	(11.2)
Facebook	74.9	(5.3)	71.9	(13.6)	77.1	(10.9)	53.3	(12.0)
Instagram	27.8	(6.0)	54.4	(15.5)	44.0	(15.2)	38.0	(11.8)
Nextdoor	15.0	(5.5)	14.0	(12.7)	8.6	(8.2)	5.1	(3.5)
Pinterest	26.2	(6.4)	35.3	(15.7)	37.0	(15.6)	15.8	(8.1)
Reddit	16.6	(5.4)	30.7	(15.7)	25.4	(13.9)	19.2	(10.4)
TikTok	30.2	(6.3)	49.3	(15.8)	62.2	(12.9)	22.5	(9.2)
Twitter (X)	11.8	(4.5)	47.7	(16.0)	31.4	(16.0)	9.9	(6.5)
YouTube	59.1	(6.2)	82.2	(8.9)	66.6	(13.1)	60.3	(11.4)
Other	1.8	(1.8)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)	0.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

**Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

4. Awareness of diseases and disease education resources

USDA's Defend the Flock education program offers free tools and resources to help everyone who works with or handles poultry follow proper biosecurity practices. These practices will help keep birds healthy and reduce the risk of avian influenza and other infectious diseases. For further information about Defend the Flock and access to resources, use the following link: www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock or QR code below.



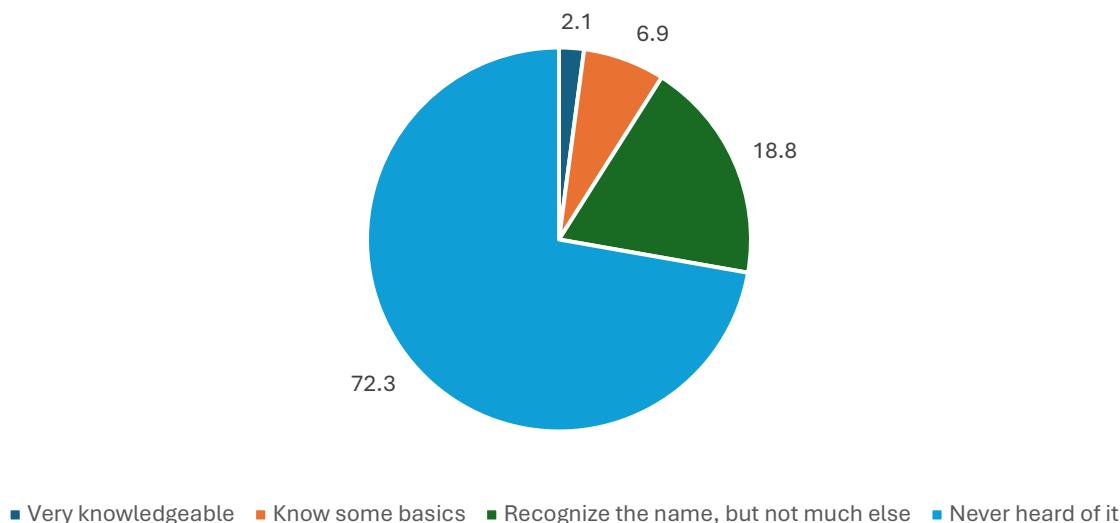
For adults who kept poultry, 27.8 percent recognized the name, knew some basics or were very knowledgeable about USDA's Defend the Flock program. This suggests that while many adults who keep poultry are unfamiliar with the program, slightly more than 1 in 4 have at least some awareness.

J.4.a. For adults who kept poultry,* percentage by level of familiarity with USDA's Defend the Flock program:

Level of familiarity	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Never heard of it	72.3	(2.7)
Recognize the name, but not much else	18.8	(2.5)
Know some basics	6.9	(1.3)
Very knowledgeable	2.1	(1.0)
Total	100.0	(—)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

For adults who kept poultry,* percentage by level of familiarity with USDA's Defend the Flock program



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

African swine fever (ASF) is a deadly disease that affects domestic and wild swine. As of May 2026, it has never been detected in the United States. While not a threat to human health or food safety, the virus could devastate the U.S. swine and pork industry if it enters the country. It is important to practice good biosecurity to protect pigs from illness and keep ASF out of the United States. Good biosecurity practices include limiting on-farm traffic, cleaning and disinfection of vehicles and equipment, handwashing, and not giving pigs food waste contaminated with pork products. For further information, use the following link: www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-disease/swine/protect-pigs/farm-pets.

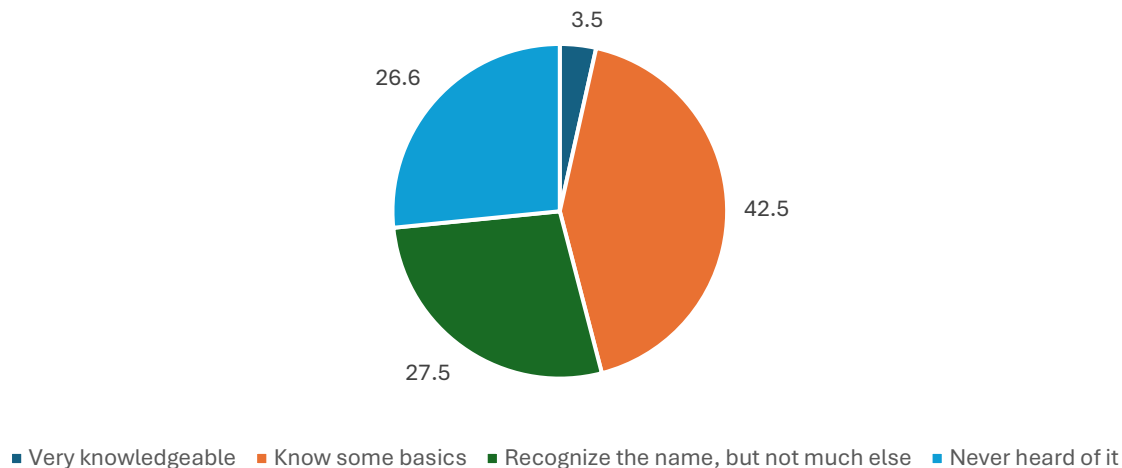
For adults who kept pigs, almost one-half (46.0 percent) either knew some basics (42.5 percent) or were very knowledgeable (3.5 percent) about African swine fever.

J.4.b. For adults who kept pigs,* percentage by level of familiarity with the disease African swine fever:

Level of familiarity	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Never heard of it	26.6	(6.3)
Recognize the name, but not much else	27.5	(6.2)
Know some basics	42.5	(7.2)
Very knowledgeable	3.5	(1.9)
Total	100.0	(—)

*Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

For adults who kept pigs,* percentage by level of familiarity
with the disease African swine fever



*Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

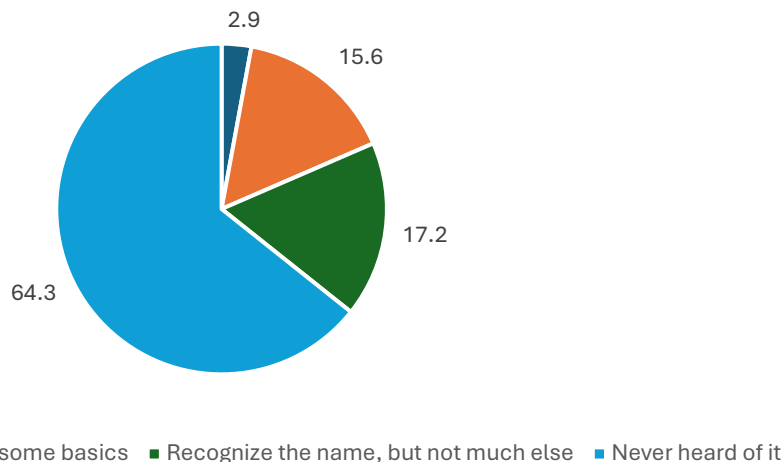
Rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHDV1 or RHDV2) is a highly infectious disease that has a high death rate. It infects domestic, wild, and feral rabbits and hares but does not infect people or other animals. Recommended biosecurity practices to prevent RHDV and keep rabbits healthy include minimizing visitors, practicing good handwashing, frequently cleaning and disinfecting equipment, not allowing wild rabbits to have any contact with domestic rabbits, limiting new animal introductions, separating new additions for at least 30 days prior to allowing contact with rabbits already in the household, and working with a veterinarian who is familiar with rabbit health issues. Currently there is a licensed vaccine for RHDV2 that provides protection against the virus and is available through accredited veterinarians. The following link provides additional information about rabbit hemorrhagic disease and good biosecurity practices: www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/rabbit-hemorrhagic.

For adults who kept rabbits, 81.5 percent had either never heard of rabbit hemorrhagic disease (64.3 percent) or recognized the name, but not much else (17.2 percent).

J.4.c. For adults who kept rabbits, percentage by level of familiarity with rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD or RHD2):

Level of familiarity	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Never heard of it	64.3	(4.1)
Recognize the name, but not much else	17.2	(3.3)
Know some basics	15.6	(3.1)
Very knowledgeable	2.9	(1.2)
Total	100.0	(—)

For adults who kept rabbits, percentage by level of familiarity with rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD or RHD2)



Scrapie is a fatal, degenerative disease that affects the brain and spinal cord of sheep and goats. Scrapie belongs to a group of diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). TSEs are caused by an infectious agent known as a prion. Unlike bacteria and viruses, prions are a misfolding of normal proteins found in the body. They may be infectious when passed to a person or animal. The United States is working to eradicate scrapie through the National Scrapie Eradication Program (NSEP). The following links provide additional information:

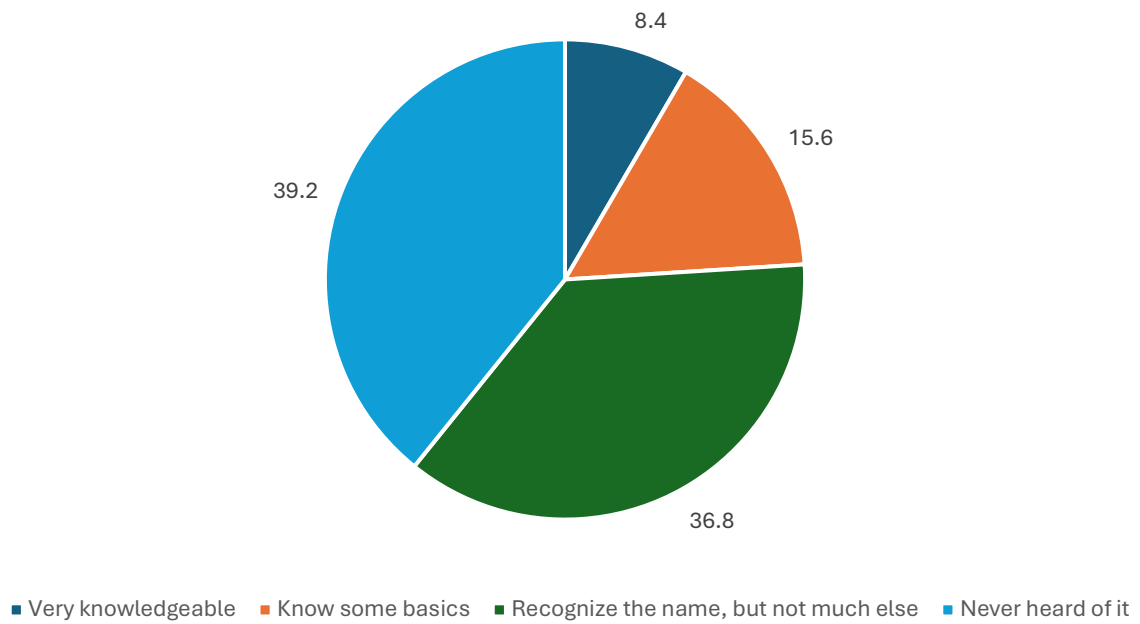
www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/sheep-goat/scrapie and
www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/scrapie-genotyping-brief.pdf.

For adults who kept goats, 76.0 percent had either never heard of scrapie (39.2 percent) or recognized the name, but not much else (36.8 percent).

J.4.d. For adults who kept goats, percentage by level of familiarity with the disease scrapie:

Level of familiarity	Percent Adults	Std. Error
Never heard of it	39.2	(5.8)
Recognize the name, but not much else	36.8	(6.3)
Know some basics	15.6	(3.6)
Very knowledgeable	8.4	(3.8)
Total	100.0	(—)

For adults who kept goats, percentage by level of familiarity with the disease scrapie



Scrapie tags are important for animal identification as part of the National Scrapie Eradication Program. If a goat is diagnosed with scrapie, official identification allows for tracing to find the source of the infection as well as other goats potentially exposed to the disease.

For adults who kept goats, slightly less than one-third of adults (32.3 percent) reported that any of the goats they currently owned had a scrapie tag when they arrived at their home or property.

J.4.e. For adults who kept goats, percentage who reported that any of the goats they currently owned had a scrapie tag when they arrived:

Percent Adults	Standard Error
32.3	(5.8)



Figure 1. Scrapie tag photo provided to respondents in questionnaire

K. Biosecurity

Note: Estimates in sections H through K are limited to adults who kept each animal type (poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits).

1. Addition of new animals

It is important to keep animals separated before they are introduced to other animals in the household. An isolation period of 30 days for new or returning animals is recommended for most livestock species. This serves as a critical barrier against disease transmission. Newly purchased animals or returning animals may carry diseases that can negatively impact the animals already present.

During isolation, animals should be kept separate from the remainder of the herd or flock and be observed regularly for disease symptoms or fever. Separate equipment and clothing should be used when caring for isolated animals. Following strict isolation measures will help minimize risk and can help maintain a healthy environment for all animals at the household.

There were no differences by animal type in the percentage of adults who acquired new animals in the last 12 months. More than one-half of adults who kept poultry (50.4 percent), pigs (56.6 percent), or goats (52.2 percent) acquired new animals of the same animal type in the last 12 months.

K.1.a. Percentage of adults who acquired new poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits¹ in the last 12 months,² by animal type:

Percent Adults							
Animal type							
Poultry ³		Pigs ⁴		Goats		Rabbits	
Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
50.4	(2.9)	56.6	(7.1)	52.2	(6.1)	38.5	(4.2)

¹ Not including animals that were born or hatched on site

² This includes adults who reported keeping any of the animal types for less than one year

³ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

⁴ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

For adults who acquired new animals in the last 12 months, over one-half of adults who kept poultry (56.3 percent) always isolated new animals prior to introduction to established animals.

K.1.b. For adults who acquired new animals in the last 12 months (Table K.1.a.), percentage by frequency of isolating new animals¹ prior to introduction to established animals, and by animal type:

Percent Adults								
Animal type								
Frequency	Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Always	56.3	(5.2)	19.2	(8.5)	23.8	(7.8)	35.9	(13.1)
Sometimes	26.6	(5.0)	45.1	(14.8)	37.6	(11.6)	45.7	(13.7)
Never	12.9	(3.6)	16.4	(12.9)	15.9	(6.9)	4.5	(3.0)
Does not apply—did not have any animals of the same type when household acquired new animals	4.2	(1.4)	19.4	(8.7)	22.8	(9.8)	13.9	(7.2)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ For poultry: isolation meant to prevent contact with other poultry and prevent sharing of feed, drinking water, and equipment. For pigs, goats and rabbits: isolation meant to prevent nose-to-nose contact with other animals of the same species and prevent sharing of feed, drinking water, and equipment

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

2. Animals that left and returned

Slightly more than one-fifth of adults who kept pigs (22.3 percent) or who kept goats (22.2 percent) took their animals to an event where other animals were present and then returned them to the home or property in the last 12 months. About one-tenth of adults who kept poultry (10.1 percent) or who kept rabbits (9.9 percent) took their animals to an event where other animals were present and then returned them to their home or property.

K.2.a. Percentage of adults who took animals to an event where other animals were present (for example, a fair, show, or sale) and then returned them to the home or property in the last 12 months, by animal type:

Percent Adults							
Animal type							
Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Goats		Rabbits	
Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
10.1	(2.0)	22.3	(6.6)	22.2	(5.4)	9.9	(2.8)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

Routine isolation after taking animals to an event where other animals are present is ideal to minimize the chance of introducing disease to the animals that remained home.

For adults who took animals to an event where other animals were present and then returned them home, there were no differences by animal type in frequency of isolation. Within each animal type, numerically the highest percentage of adults only isolated for a specific reason, such as exposure to disease (ranging from 41.0 percent of adults who kept rabbits to 71.1 percent of adults who kept pigs).

K.2.b. For adults who took animals to an event where other animals were present (for example, a fair, show, or sale) and then returned them to the home or property in the last 12 months (Table K.2.a.), percentage by frequency of isolating returning animals¹ for any period of time prior to re-introduction to their other animals, and by animal type:

Frequency	Percent Adults							
	Animal type							
	Poultry ²		Pigs ³		Goats		Rabbits	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Never isolated	34.4	(9.7)	9.8	(9.4)	13.1	(6.6)	12.3	(7.6)
Only isolated for a specific reason such as exposure to disease	47.7	(10.5)	71.1	(14.3)	52.6	(14.4)	41.0	(16.2)
Routinely isolated after returning to home/property	13.4	(5.2)	14.2	(10.7)	29.4	(11.8)	38.7	(16.5)
No need to isolate because all of the animals went to the event, or respondent only had one animal	4.6	(2.8)	4.9	(4.9)	4.9	(4.9)	8.0	(5.9)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

¹ For poultry: isolation meant to prevent contact with other poultry and prevent sharing of feed, drinking water, and equipment. For pigs, goats and rabbits: isolation meant to prevent nose-to-nose contact with other animals of the same species and prevent sharing of feed, drinking water, and equipment

² Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

³ Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

3. Biosecurity practices

Good biosecurity practices help keep animals and people healthy. Such practices include washing hands before and after handling animals, entering animal areas, or touching equipment. Hand sanitizer is not a replacement for hand washing, but it can serve as an extra preventive measure. Ideally, people would wash their hands with soap and water and then apply hand sanitizer to hands that are clean of any visible dirt, grease, or debris. Alternatively, if they are unable to wash their hands first, people could use hand sanitizer followed by hand washing. Changing into dedicated shoes or using shoe covers when in the animal area reduces the chance of carrying pathogens into the home.

For all species and practices, at least 65 percent of adults sometimes or always required the listed practices (hand washing, use of hand sanitizer, and use of dedicated shoes or shoe covers) for people who were in the animal area. Over 75 percent of adults who kept poultry, pigs, or goats sometimes or always required that people wash hands before entering the animal area or handling the animals and over 90 percent of adults sometimes or always required that people wash hands after leaving the animal area or handling the animals. For adults who kept poultry or goats, over 40 percent always required all of the listed practices for people in the animal area.

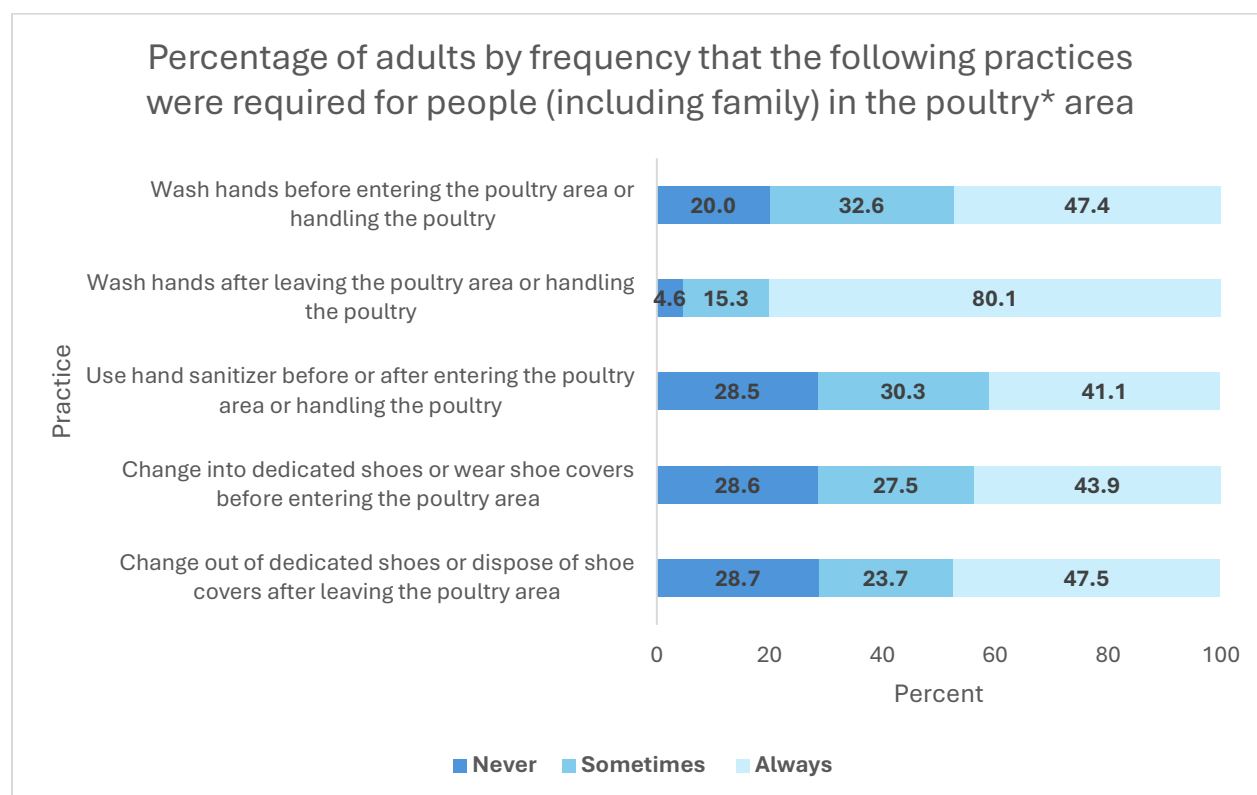
K.3.a. Percentage of adults by frequency that the following practices were required for people (including family) in the poultry, pig, or goat area, and by animal type:

Practice	Percent Adults							
	Frequency							
	Never		Sometimes		Always		Total	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Poultry¹								
Wash hands before entering the poultry area or handling the poultry	20.0	(2.2)	32.6	(2.8)	47.4	(2.9)	100.0	(—)
Wash hands after leaving the poultry area or handling the poultry	4.6	(1.3)	15.3	(2.3)	80.1	(2.5)	100.0	(—)
Use hand sanitizer before or after entering the poultry area or handling the poultry	28.5	(2.4)	30.3	(2.7)	41.1	(2.9)	100.0	(—)
Change into dedicated shoes or wear shoe covers before entering the poultry area	28.6	(2.5)	27.5	(2.6)	43.9	(2.9)	100.0	(—)
Change out of dedicated shoes or dispose of shoe covers after leaving the poultry area	28.7	(2.5)	23.7	(2.5)	47.5	(2.9)	100.0	(—)
Pigs²								
Wash hands before entering the pig area or handling the pigs	14.2	(4.2)	42.6	(7.2)	43.2	(7.1)	100.0	(—)
Wash hands after leaving the pig area or handling the pigs	3.8	(2.6)	30.6	(6.9)	65.6	(7.0)	100.0	(—)
Use hand sanitizer before or after entering the pig area or handling the pigs	14.3	(4.0)	49.2	(7.2)	36.5	(7.0)	100.0	(—)
Change into dedicated shoes or wear shoe covers before entering the pig area	23.6	(5.9)	34.4	(6.8)	42.0	(7.2)	100.0	(—)
Change out of dedicated shoes or dispose of shoe covers after leaving the pig area	20.8	(5.7)	39.7	(7.1)	39.5	(7.0)	100.0	(—)
Goats								
Wash hands before entering the goat area or handling the goats	22.9	(5.1)	30.5	(5.7)	46.7	(6.1)	100.0	(—)
Wash hands after leaving the goat area or handling the goats	8.2	(3.8)	26.9	(5.7)	64.9	(6.2)	100.0	(—)

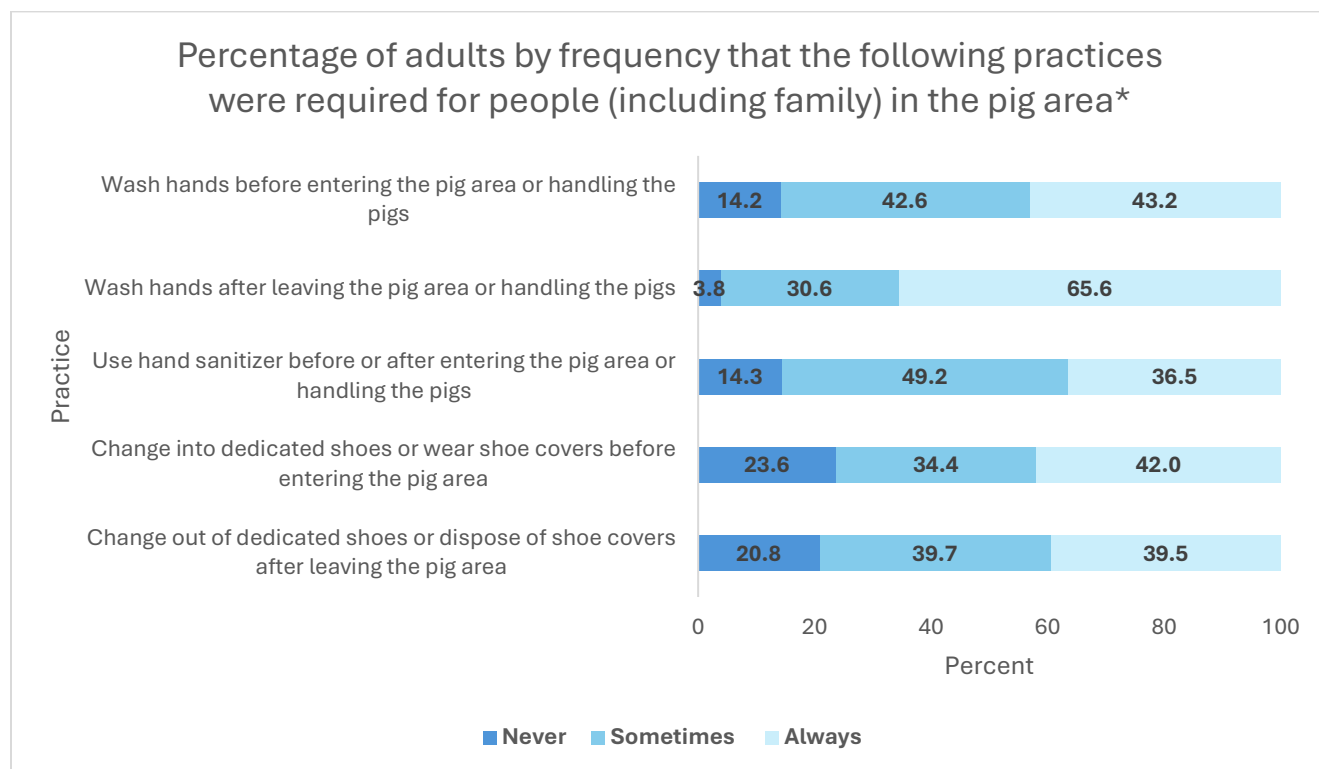
Use hand sanitizer before or after entering the goat area or handling the goats	22.2	(4.7)	30.8	(5.7)	47.0	(6.1)	100.0	(—)
Change into dedicated shoes or wear shoe covers before entering the goat area	30.7	(5.7)	21.0	(4.6)	48.4	(6.2)	100.0	(—)
Change out of dedicated shoes or dispose of shoe covers after leaving the goat area	24.1	(5.0)	30.0	(5.8)	46.0	(6.1)	100.0	(—)

¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

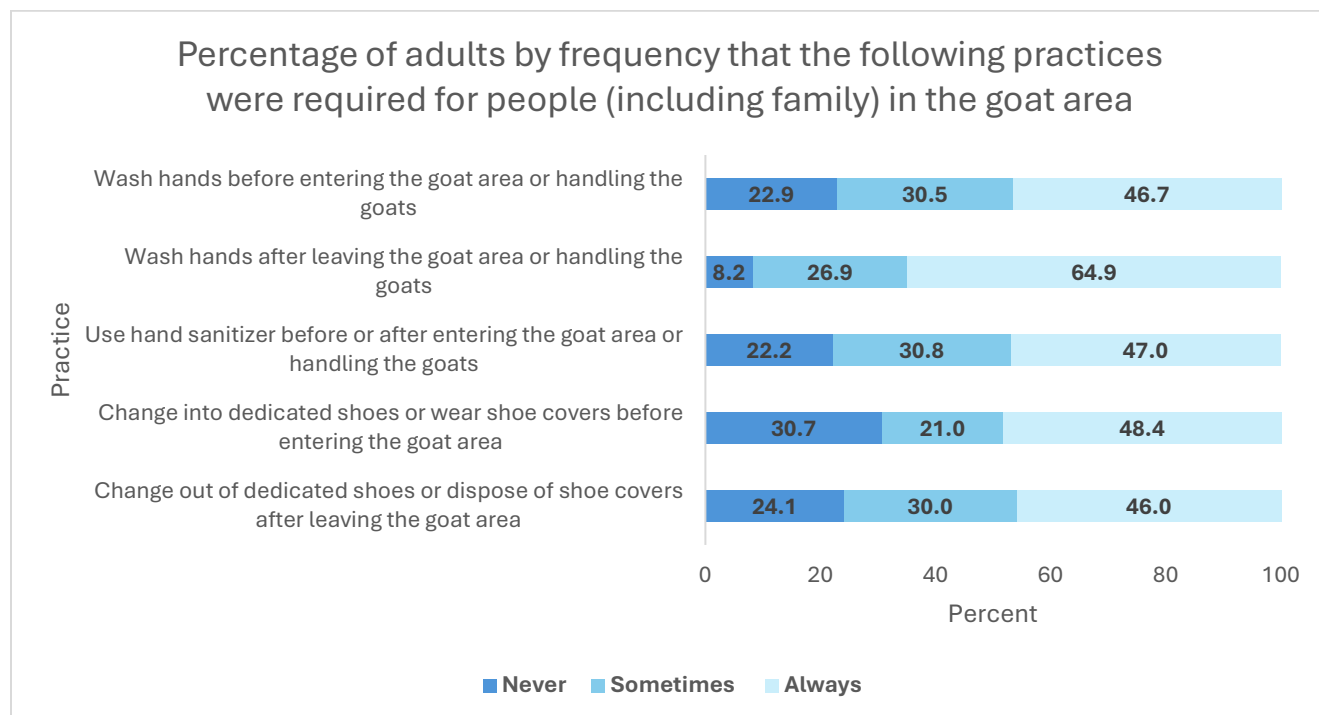
² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop



*Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



Adults should supervise children around poultry and ensure they wash their hands after leaving the poultry area. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer can be used, followed later by soap and water. Children under 5 years old should not handle or touch the poultry. Young children are more likely to get sick from germs, such as *Salmonella*. This is because children's immune systems are still developing. For additional information, use this link: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthy-pets/about/backyard-poultry.html>.

Almost 40 percent of adults who kept backyard poultry felt that our survey questions about practices for young children in the poultry area were not applicable to them. Roughly one-half of adults sometimes or always supervised children younger than 5 years old in handwashing after the children left the poultry area (54.2 percent) or prevented children younger than 5 years old from handling poultry (48.9 percent).

Note that while the “Does not apply” results were similar between the two columns, there was a slight difference in the way adults responded to these questions, where some respondents felt that only one of the questions was “not applicable” and provided a response for the other question.

K.3.b. For adults who kept poultry, percentage by frequency the following practices were required for family and visitors in the animal area:

Percent Adults Who Kept Poultry*				
Frequency	Practice			
	Supervise children younger than 5 years old in handwashing after the children leave the poultry area		Prevent children younger than 5 years old from handling the poultry	
	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Never	8.3	(1.6)	11.7	(1.7)
Sometimes	13.4	(2.1)	21.2	(2.5)
Always	40.8	(2.9)	27.7	(2.7)
Does not apply—No children under 5 years old	37.5	(2.8)	39.4	(2.8)
Total	100.0	(—)	100.0	(—)

*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

4. Contact with wild animals

Wild animals are known to be carriers of diseases, and these diseases can also be transmitted from domestic animals to wild animals. For example, avian influenza and *Salmonella* are diseases that can affect both domestic poultry and wild birds, as well as other species. Birds, especially waterfowl, are the primary carriers and transmitters of avian influenza. For these reasons, good biosecurity practices are important as some diseases, such as *Salmonella*, can also affect people. Bird-proofing barns and keeping feed stored in a covered bin or container are ways to reduce contact between domestic poultry and wild birds. Feral swine can carry diseases and parasites that can affect domestic pigs or people. Rabbit hemorrhagic disease (RHD) spreads through contact with an infected rabbit's excretions, blood, meat, or fur. The virus can also spread between rabbits via contaminated materials (such as food, water, bedding, or equipment); insects; and people's clothing, shoes, and hands. Use of fencing is one way to keep wild animals out of the animal area. Rodents also carry many diseases, and it is important to use rodent control measures in areas where domestic animals are kept.

For adults who kept poultry, 18.9 percent of adults had seen wild waterfowl and 31.9 percent of adults had seen other wild birds, or evidence of them, within 10 feet of the usual poultry area during the last 12 months. Around one-quarter of adults who kept pigs had seen feral swine (24.2 percent) or waterfowl/wild birds (26.2 percent), or evidence of them, within 10 feet of the usual pig area. For adults who kept rabbits, 15.3 percent of adults had seen wild rabbits, or evidence of them, within 10 feet of the usual rabbit area during the last 12 months.

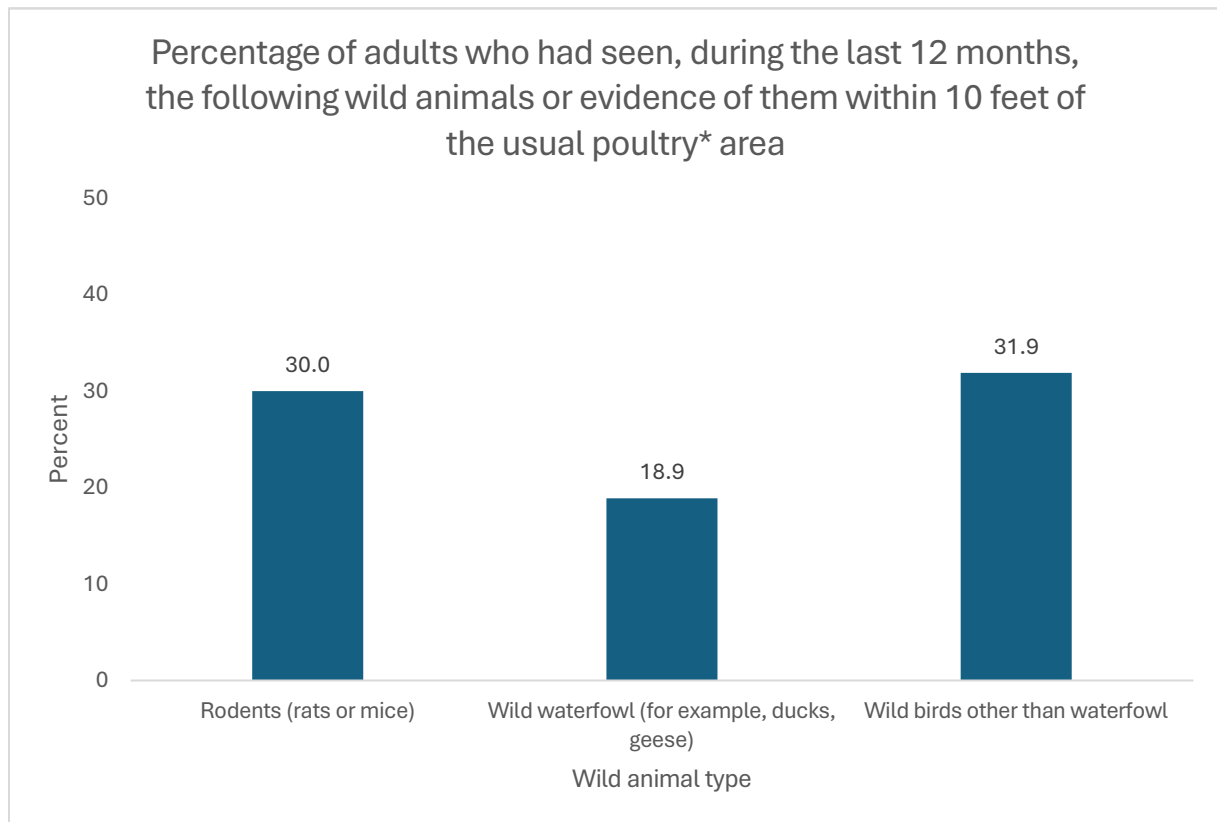
K.4. Percentage of adults who had seen, during the last 12 months, the following wild animals or evidence of them within 10 feet of the usual poultry, pig, or rabbit area, by animal type:

	Percent Adults					
	Animal type					
	Poultry ¹		Pigs ²		Rabbits	
Wild animals	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error	Pct.	Std. Error
Feral swine			24.2	(6.7)		
Deer or elk			34.0	(7.2)		
Rodents (rats or mice)	30.0	(2.7)	30.7	(6.7)	11.0	(2.9)
Wild waterfowl (for example, ducks, geese)	18.9	(2.5)	26.2 ³	(6.3)		
Wild birds other than waterfowl	31.9	(2.7)				
Wild rabbits					15.3	(3.2)

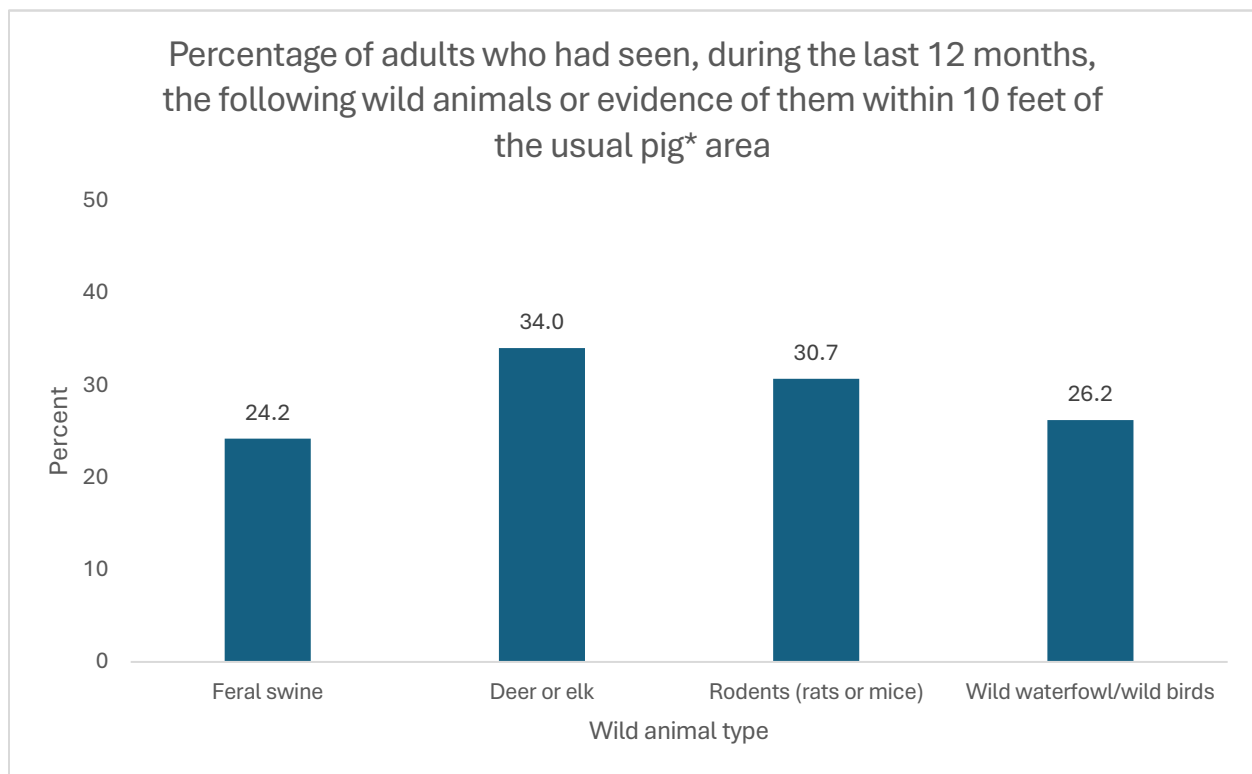
¹ Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop

² Including pot-bellied and pet pigs

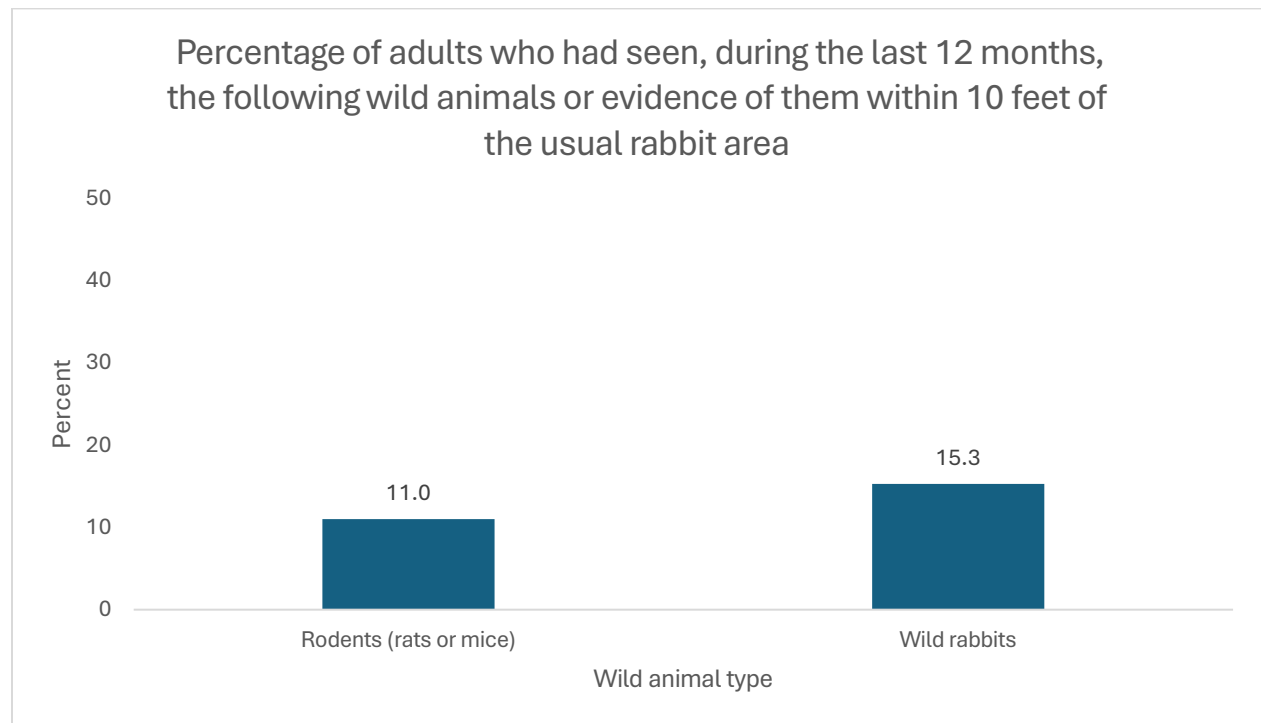
³ For pigs, wild waterfowl and wild birds other than waterfowl was asked as a combined category of waterfowl/wild birds



*Poultry includes chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, or gamebirds (pheasants, quail, partridges) kept at the home, on the property, or at a community coop



*Including pot-bellied and pet pigs



Section II: Methodology

A. Sampling and Estimation

1. Background

NAHMS conducted the Backyard Animal Keeping 2024 study through a cooperative agreement with Colorado State University and sub-contract with a survey company, Corona Insights. The study respondents came from NORC at the University of Chicago's AmeriSpeak® Panel and the Prodege non-probability panel.

Funded and operated by NORC at the University of Chicago, AmeriSpeak is a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. Randomly selected U.S. households are sampled using area probability and address-based sampling, with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame. These sampled households are then contacted by U.S. mail, telephone, and field interviewers (face to face). The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97 percent of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box-only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings. While most AmeriSpeak households participate in surveys by web, non-internet households can participate in AmeriSpeak surveys by telephone. Households without conventional internet access but having web access via smartphones are allowed to participate in AmeriSpeak surveys by web. AmeriSpeak panelists participate in NORC studies or studies conducted by NORC on behalf of governmental agencies, academic researchers, and media and commercial organizations.

AmeriSpeak is the probability sample source for TrueNorth®,¹ the NORC calibration method for combining probability and non-probability samples for estimation that uses data from AmeriSpeak, the American Community Survey, Current Population Survey, and other data sources for improved cost and statistical efficiency.

NAHMS develops study objectives by exploring existing literature and contacting stakeholders about their informational needs and priorities during a needs assessment phase. A driving force of the needs assessment was the desire of NAHMS to receive as much input as possible from a variety of experts and representatives, veterinarians, extension specialists, universities, government personnel, and other stakeholders. Information was collected via an informal needs assessment, where these individuals were contacted to provide input into the study objectives, study design, and questionnaire topics.

2. Sample selection

For this report, participants were recruited to take the survey in two ways: a probability-based survey panel described above (NORC's AmeriSpeak panel) and a nonprobability-based opt-in sample of participants (Prodege non-probability panel). The nonprobability-based opt-in portion was a sample of households that voluntarily completed the survey. These participants were recruited through online outreach. This strategy was used in order to achieve a sufficient sample size because backyard animal keepers are a rare population. All respondents were screened on backyard animal keeping (poultry, pigs, goats, and rabbits) and answered additional questions on animal management and biosecurity practices for each animal type owned. Additionally, the first 900 probability panel respondents who did not keep any of the four species of interest were asked to share their opinions about poultry ownership and *Salmonella*, and information about their experiences with food security and composting. Demographics were available for all probability panel respondents and were collected for all non-probability opt-in respondents.

The probability sample for this study was selected from the AmeriSpeak Panel using sampling strata based on age, race/Hispanic ethnicity, education, and sex (48 sampling strata in total).

Sample selection took into account the expected differential survey completion rates across the sampling strata. The size of the selected sample per stratum was determined such that the distribution of the

¹ More on the TrueNorth Calibration can be found here: <https://truenorth.norc.org/>

completed surveys across the strata matched that of the target population as represented by census data.

When panelists are selected for an AmeriSpeak survey, the selection process, within each sampling strata, favors those who were not selected in the most recent previous AmeriSpeak survey. This selection process is designed to minimize the number of surveys any one panelist is exposed to and maximize the rotation of all panelists across AmeriSpeak surveys. For the non-probability sample, the quota groups for demographic strata were defined to reflect known population distributions and NORC worked with the sample provider to slowly release sample over the field period to collect an adequate set of responses.

3. Population inferences

The target population for the study was adults aged 18 years or older. AmeriSpeak panel weights, including both household level and person level weights, are developed to account for the probabilities of selection of the housing units, adjustments for unknown eligibility of the housing units, nonresponse associated with panel recruitments, panel attrition, nonresponse from secondary panel members, and raking ratio adjustments to external population benchmarks. For this study, person-level weights from the probability panel were used and therefore the estimates apply to the population of adults.

TrueNorth statistical methods were used to combine the probability panel portion of the sample and nonprobability-based opt-in portion of the sample. The methodology uses a sample-matching procedure that assigns weights to nonprobability records using similar records from the probability sample, where similarity is measured on sets of factors known for both probability and nonprobability sample records. A small number of key variables are then used to calibrate the nonprobability sample to the probability sample within 20 to 40 sub-populations using small area models. This information is used with standard Census demographic benchmarks to calibrate the combined dataset.

More specifically, NORC calculated survey weights in three stages. First, probability and nonprobability sample weights were developed separately. Second, small area estimation was used to model core response variables and generate raking benchmarks. Finally, the two samples were combined through TrueNorth calibration to create the final weights. These final two stages make up NORC's TrueNorth® Calibration. The final combined probability and nonprobability sample weights were derived by raking samples together, using the same benchmarks for age, sex, Census division, race/ethnicity, education, housing tenure, household phone status, age x sex, and age x race/ethnicity, plus the predicted totals for each domain for each response variable modeled in the small area modeling process.

SUDAAN software (RTI, version 11.0.4) was used to produce population estimates and their standard errors. The SUDAAN software allows estimation of standard errors for complex sampling designs using Taylor series linearization.

B. Data Collection

A sub-sample of AmeriSpeak web-mode panelists were invited to the survey on May 20, 2024, in a soft-launch. The initial data from the soft launch was reviewed to confirm that there were no processing or programming errors. Once reviewed, the remainder of sampled AmeriSpeak panelists were invited to the survey starting on May 22, 2024. Data collection for the probability panel ended on August 8, 2024. Respondents to the non-probability panel could respond to the survey from June 7, 2024, to June 28, 2024. The survey was available in English.

C. Data Analysis

1. Validation

Initial data validation and data cleaning were done by NORC and Corona Insights, to remove or flag data that had questionable quality. They checked for issues such as speeding (going too fast through the survey based on the number of questions that were asked), straight-lining (selecting all available options), and skipping too many questions.

NORC took additional data quality steps for the non-probability panel, because bots, fabricated profiles, non-invited respondents, or repeat survey takers can all be issues. In addition to the checks mentioned in

the previous paragraph, they included two “attention checks.” For example, they asked a question about both age and birth year, which had to align and make sense. They also used a programmed tool that flagged and blocked suspicious non-probability respondents based on duplicate IP addresses, geo-location, and other suspicious factors.

NAHMS staff independently performed data validation checks on the data set to identify any data quality and statistical consistency issues. One data quality issue was that some respondents said they kept all four species of interest and then put the same number or 0 for each species for number kept today and for maximum number kept in the past 12 months or later put in an open text response that they do not keep the animal type or do not currently keep any of that species. These records were removed from the data set. Consistency issues included logical inconsistencies within a survey and were identified using summaries of responses to check for invalid responses (e.g., a response that was not consistent with a previous answer provided); threshold checks (e.g., identifying responses that stated more animals today than maximum over the last 12 months); and if-then checks (e.g., if a respondent marked that they had a particular species, then they shouldn’t have provided responses only asked of non-animal keepers).

Statistical issues were identified by investigating summary measures of responses for variables; data analysts and subject-matter experts investigated extreme outliers. Inconsistencies were identified using SAS software, and electronic survey data was reviewed by data analysts and subject-matter experts.

2. Estimation and confidence interval calculations

Summarization and estimation were performed using SUDAAN software, which accounts for the survey study design. Confidence intervals were computed for estimated proportions, means, and ratios using the methods described in detail in the SUDAAN Language Manual for SUDAAN version 11² and described briefly here. For percentages, a logit transformation was used to enforce bounding of the confidence interval bounds between 0 and 1. Student’s *t* confidence interval bounds are computed on the logit scale and are then back-transformed to the percentage scale. For means and ratios, standard Student’s *t* confidence intervals are computed directly on the scale of the data.

Estimates were generated by one analyst, and numbers and estimation code were reviewed by a second analyst, to ensure accurate reporting of estimates.

3. Survey Response

Using the AmeriSpeak panel, 32,994 panelists were invited to the survey, and 8,204 completed the screener questions to determine eligibility for the survey (Table 1). The screener questions asked about the types of animals they kept. Tables 1 and 2 below show the initial response rate after NORC completed data quality checks, but prior to NAHMS data cleaning and validation. In total, NORC collected 1,530 surveys through the AmeriSpeak probability panel and 181 surveys through the Prodege non-probability opt-in panel (Table 2). Table 3 shows the final sample after Corona Insights and NAHMS data cleaning and validation. In Table 3, the final number of non-backyard animal keepers from the probability panel was above 900 because one respondent was reclassified from being a backyard animal keeper to a non-backyard animal keeper so that the non-backyard animal keeper question responses could be retained.

² Research Triangle Institute (2012). SUDAAN Language Manual, Volumes 1 and 2, Release 11. Research Triangle Park, NC: Research Triangle Institute.

Table 1: AmeriSpeak Probability Panel Response Rates

Response Category Group	Eligibility ¹	Animal Ownership	Number Panelists	Percent Panelists
Completed screening questions	Eligible	Backyard animal keeper ²	630	1.9%
		Non-backyard animal keeper	900	2.7%
	Not eligible	Backyard animal keeper ²	NA	NA
		Non-backyard animal keeper	6,674	20.2%
Did not respond			24,790	75.1%
AmeriSpeak panel sample			32,994	100.0%

¹ All backyard animal keepers were eligible to continue with the survey. Only the first 900 non-backyard animal keepers were eligible to continue with the survey.

² Kept poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits

NA indicates that all backyard animal keepers were eligible to participate in the survey.

Table 2: Raw Sample Received from NORC – Number Completed Surveys

Demographic	Probability Sample		Nonprobability Sample		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Backyard animal keeper*	630	41.2%	181	100.0%	811	47.4%
Non-backyard animal keeper	900	58.8%	0	0.0%	900	52.6%
Total	1,530	100.0%	181	100.0%	1,711	100.0%

*Kept poultry, pigs, goats or rabbits

Table 3: Number of Useable Surveys following Corona Insights and NAHMS data cleaning and validation

Demographic	Probability Sample	Nonprobability Sample	Total
Backyard animal keeper*	594	166	760
Non-backyard animal keeper	901	0	901
Total (N/ percent)	1495 (90.0%)	166 (10.0%)	1,661 (100.0%)

*Kept poultry, pigs, goats or rabbits

Appendix: Sample Profile

Note: Animals refer to poultry, pigs, goats, or rabbits.

Note: There were 760 respondents who kept any of the 4 species. For some demographics (urban designation, housing type), the demographic responses were not available for respondents of the non-probability panel (n=166). Of the 7,575 respondents who did not keep animals, 901 respondents filled out applicable parts of the survey, and 6,674 respondents only have demographic results. The total number of respondents consists of 760 animal keepers, 901 non-animal keepers who filled out applicable parts of the survey, and 6,674 respondents with only demographic results (n = 8335).

1. Number of Respondents by Region

Region	Keep Animals	Do not keep animals	Total number of respondents
Northeast (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT, NJ, NY, PA)	90 (11.8%)	1060 (14.0%)	1150 (13.8%)
Midwest (IN, IL, MI, OH, WI, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD)	176 (23.2%)	2092 (27.6%)	2268 (27.2%)
South (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, AL, KY, MS, TN, AR, LA, OK, TX)	306 (40.3%)	2391 (31.6%)	2697 (32.4%)
West (AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, NV, WY, AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)	188 (24.7%)	2032 (26.8%)	2220 (26.6%)
Total	760 (100.0%)	7575 (100.0%)	8335 (100.0%)

2. Number of Respondents by Urban Designation*

Urban designation	Keep Animals	Do not keep animals	Total number of respondents
Urban	435 (73.2%)	6537 (86.3%)	6972 (85.3%)
Non-urban	159 (26.8%)	1038 (13.7%)	1197 (14.7%)
Total	594 (100.0%)*	7575 (100.0%)	8169 (100.0%)

*Urban designation not available for the 166 respondents of the non-probability panel

3. Number of Respondents by Housing Type*

Housing Type	Keep Animals	Do not keep animals	Total number of respondents
Single family home detached	437 (73.6%)	5232 (69.0%)	5669 (69.3%)
Single family home attached	30 (5.1%)	599 (7.9%)	629 (7.7%)
Multi-family dwelling	65 (10.9%)	1467 (19.4%)	1532 (18.8%)
Mobile home, trailer or other	62 (10.4%)	277 (3.7%)	339 (4.2%)
Total	594 (100.0%)*	7575 (100.0%)	8169 (100.0%)

*Housing type not available for the 166 respondents of the non-probability panel

4. Number of Respondents by Sex

Sex	Keep Animals	Do not keep animals	Total number of respondents
Male	290 (38.2%)	3128 (41.3%)	3418 (41.0%)
Female	470 (61.8%)	4447 (58.7%)	4917 (59.0%)
Total	760 (100.0%)	7575 (100.0%)	8335 (100.0%)

5. Number of Respondents by Age

Age	Keep Animals	Do not keep animals	Total number of respondents
18 to 29	106 (13.9%)	556 (7.3%)	662 (7.9%)
30 to 44	278 (36.6%)	1705 (22.5%)	1983 (23.8%)
45 to 59	190 (25.0%)	1771 (23.4%)	1961 (23.5%)
60 or older	186 (24.5%)	3543 (46.8%)	3729 (44.7%)
Total	760 (100.0%)	7575 (100.0%)	8335 (100.0%)