

WHY SHOULDN'T WE LET OUR CATS OUTSIDE

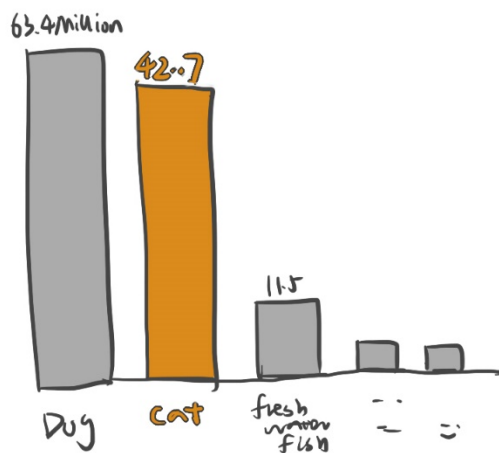
[Cats photo here]

Cats is one of the most popular pets in the state.

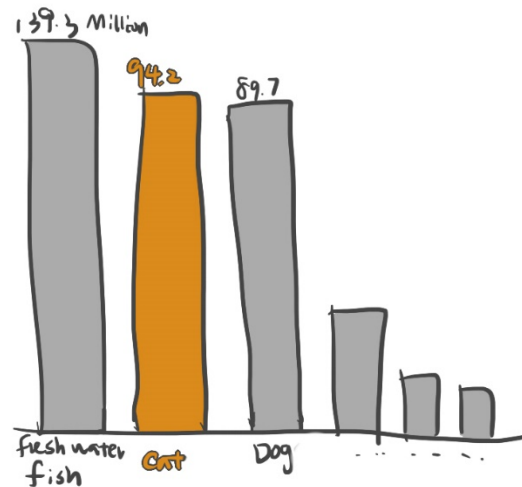
76% of U.S. household (85 million families) own a pet.

42.7 million U.S. households own, in total, **94.2 million** cats.¹

Number of U.S. Households That Own a Pet,
by Type of Animal



Total Number Of Pets Owned In The United States,
By Type Of Animal



It is estimated that **50 million** of those owned cats are allowed outside. Combined with **70 million** feral cats, there are **120 million outdoor cats** in the state.

[chart here?]

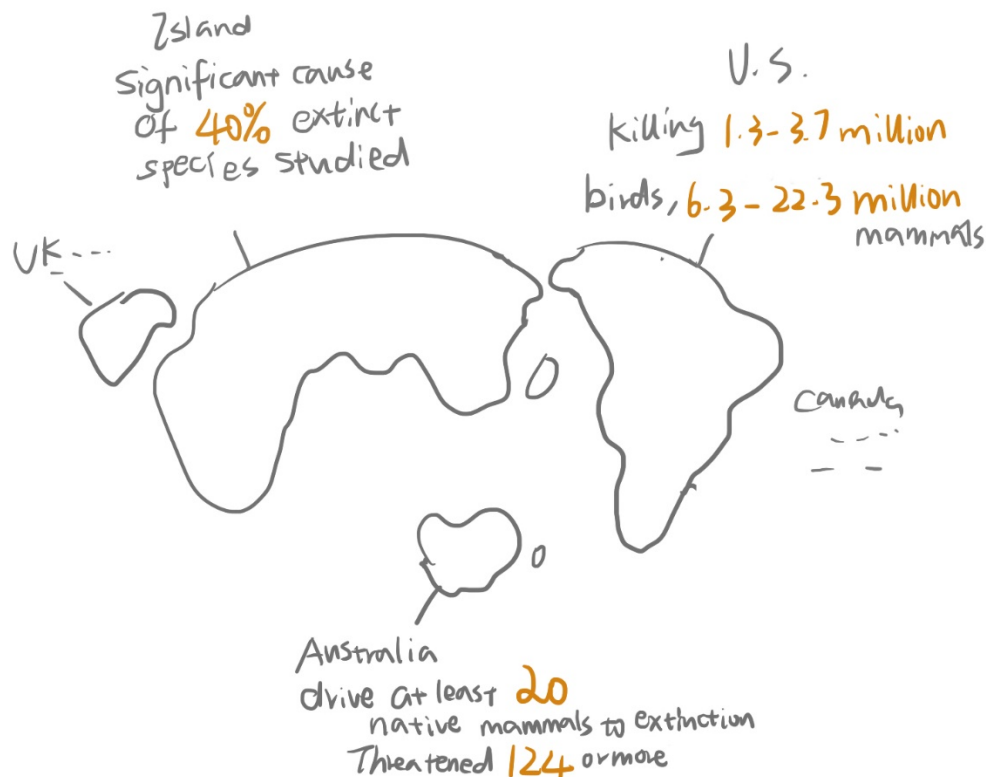
As non-native predators, free-ranging and unowned cats raise a problem that they are killing billions of birds and

¹ <https://www.iii.org/fact-statistic/facts-statistics-pet-statistics>

mammals per year, taking a tremendous toll on the native wildlife in North America

Cats is known for its ability to hunt mice and rat and can help control their population. However, cats also hunt small prey, including wildlife, due to their natural instincts.

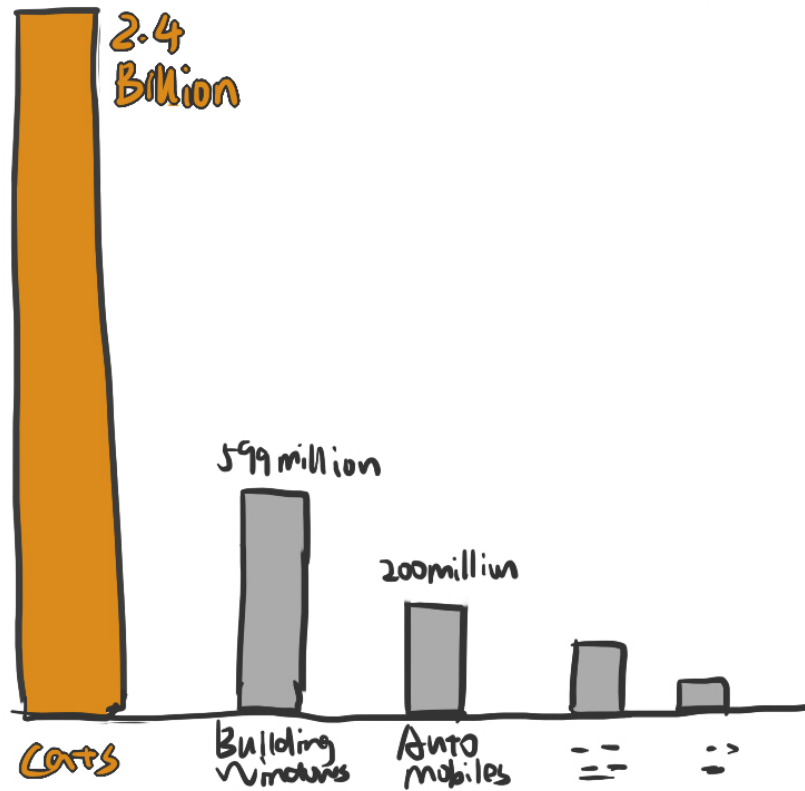
Global Effect of Cat Predation



Specifically, the combination of cat and bird is a disaster. Cats is by far the greatest cause of bird population declines in addition to habitat loss

Drivers of Bird Declines Other than Habitat Loss

(Estimated Number of Birds Killed per Year)



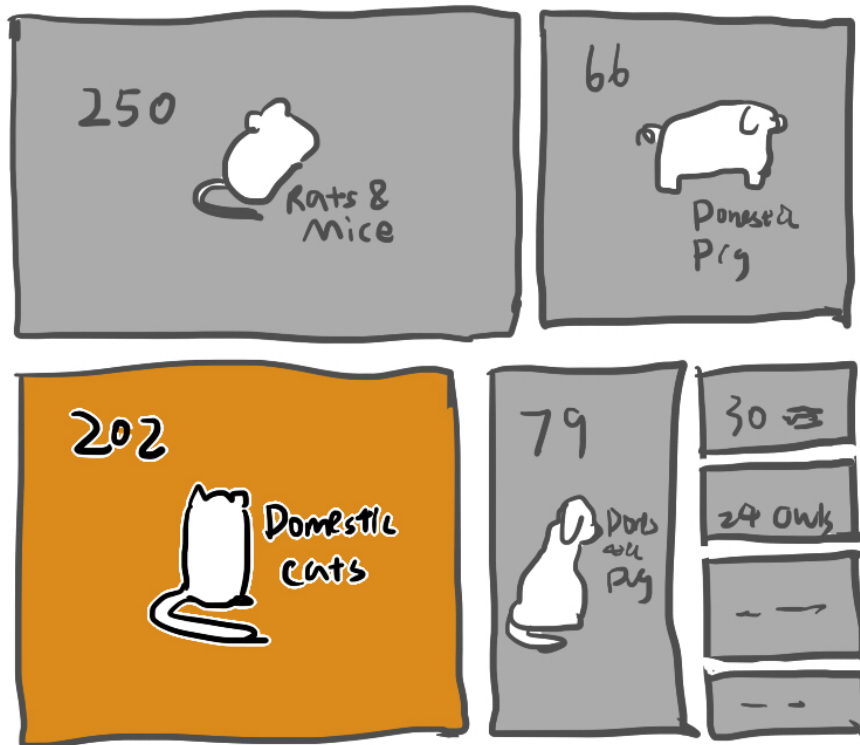
In the U.S., **2.4 Billion** of birds are killed annually by cats as estimated in the state of the birds 2014 report.²

Globally, cat threatened **202** bird species, ranked 2nd.³

² <https://archive.stateofthebirds.org/state-of-the-birds-2014-report/>

³ https://www.birdlife.org/sites/default/files/attachments/BL_ReportENG_V11_spreads.pdf

Number of Globally Threatened Bird Species Affected by Invasive Species



Currently, species such as Piping Plover is at risk of extinction. If the problem of outdoor cats is not solved, they may finally extinct and disappear from the plant forever.

[piping plover photo]

Cats have contributed to **the extinction of 63** species of birds, mammals, and reptiles in the wild. Cats would continue to adversely impact a wide variety of other species if we cannot solve this problem

Solution:

1. Build Catos

Catos are cat-patios that are enclosed outdoor space that indoor cats have access to as an alternative.

No devices cats wear such as bell, collar, and bib can 100% limit their ability to hunt outside. By simply keeping cats indoors, we could prevent them from predating and killing birds or mammals living around the community.

2. Trap-Neuter-Return

Refrain from feeding feral or stray cats and get involved into Trap-Neuter-Return program.

A study of 2332 female cats revealed an average of **1.4 litters/year** with litters averaging **three kittens/litter**.

During an 11-year study of TNR at the University of Florida done by Julie Levy in 2003, the number of cats on campus declined by **66%**, with no new kittens being born after the first four years of operation

Call to Action:

1. Volunteer at/ donation to local shelters
2. Keep your cats indoor

Cats become a problem because humans brought them onto the continent. They are not a natural part of any ecosystem on the planet, and people have caused them to spread by failing to sterilize their pets or abandoning them into the wild.

The damage those cats do to native birds and other wildlife are our responsibility, and we should take actions and help save animal lives, by keeping our cat indoor.