

Many older adults find that pets can provide the companionship and love they desire as they age, reducing feelings of isolation and loneliness. Can we receive these benefits even without owning a pet? Yes! Research conducted by Home Instead, Inc. confirms the advantages of both pet ownership and interaction:

The Benefits of Pet Ownership

82% The company

77%The comfort

76% Unconditional love

66% Entertainment and improved mood 86% lonelier and less happy without pets

58%
not as
physically healthy
without pets

Home is Where Your Pet Is



say their pet is a factor in deciding where they will live as they age.



will not consider moving to a senior living community without their pet.

You Don't Need to Own a Pet

Seniors who interact with, but don't own, pets do so:

55% At a family member's home
42% At a friend/neighbor's home
26% In their own home
15% Outside or at a park

The Benefits of Pet Ownership

Pet owners who live alone are significantly more likely to report increased benefits of pet ownership:

Unconditional Love

Gives a Sense of Purpose

Makes Me Feel Loved

75% 59%

Gives Me Someone to Talk To

61% 42

å lives alone 💮 👸 lives with other

Fun facts

Of seniors who own pets, dogs rule:







2% have a small mammal, such as a gerbil

1% own a lizard, turtle or other reptile

Visit PetsandSeniors.com for more information.

Home Instead, Inc., franchisor of the Home Instead Senior Care[®] network, fielded an online survey among 1,000 North American seniors aged 65+. Of these 1,000 respondents, 400 are pet owners, 300 are non-owners, but interact with a pet regularly, and 300 are non-owners and do not interact with a pet regularly. Ninety percent of the sample live in the U.S., with 10 percent living in Canada. The survey was fielded between April 1-8, 2019.

