

Introduction

Well, we had 112 responses. That's huge, a lot bigger than the AHWV Census of '97—we had exactly twice the number of results the AHWV Census of '97. Whether or not I got a larger percentage of therians... well, in terms of ones online, I probably didn't, but that's another matter from total therians. So this survey may or may not give a better view of the community than the AHWV Census of '97. I was also able, through Tornir's help, to obtain access to a copy of the AHWV Census of '95.

It should be noted that we did have some troll responses, including one person who put their marital status and sexual orientation as "shark." While it is possible that they somehow got married to a shark, I sincerely doubt it, and they also claimed that they got hairier under the full moon and have yellow eyes. These responses have not yet been discarded, but they are relatively few and therefore should not throw things off too much.

Quite a few people stated that they were fine with me sharing their responses to the paragraph questions. My thanks to all of them; they'll be added to an attached document at a later date.

I do ultimately plan on doing this again, in the future. Maybe in four to five years? Of course, in that time, who knows what websites will even be around? Also, next time I'll probably see if I can rope Merticus into helping me, because he got far more results, even discounting vampires, for his map of the geographical distribution of the therian, otherkin, and vampire communities.

I know the formatting of this document sucks, and if anyone feels like fixing it, then they're more than welcome to. Hopefully the content more than makes up for it; I've attempted to provide analysis of answers, to think about what they mean, and to compare the data with data from previous surveys and that of total Internet users. There are lots of interesting demographics to be found within.

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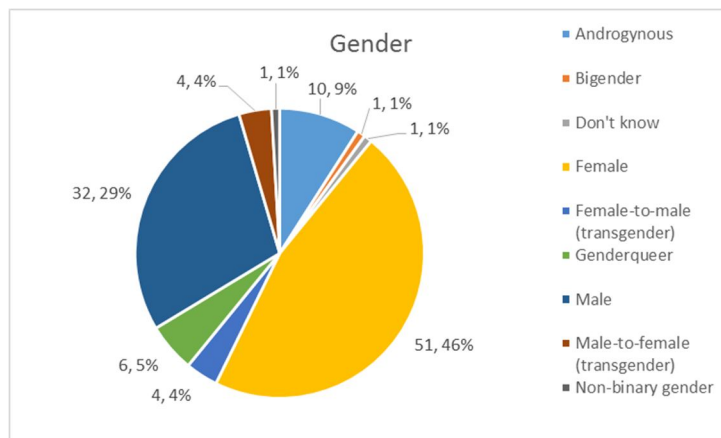
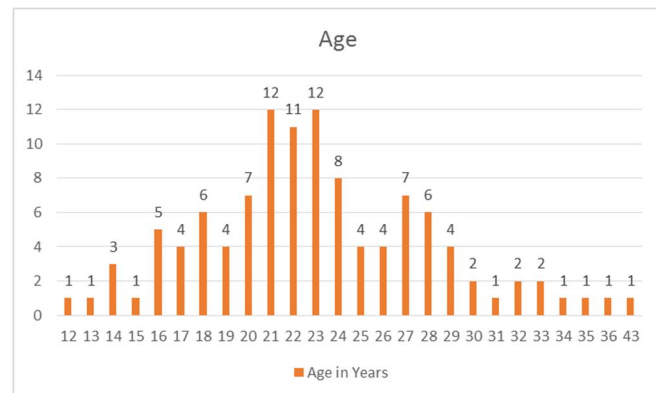
General Information

In itself, this was pretty basic demographic information—for the most part, at least; there were some rather unusual results, such as in gender. By comparing average age, gender, nationality, and other groups with average populations, we can get an idea of how we differ from the average person, in the demographic sense, and speculate on why those differences are. Furthermore, the demographic information is useful when comparing statistics for which we have information on subsections of the general populace. I've made use of that several times in this document.

Age

As you can see from the chart, most of us are in our late teens and early twenties. The oldest of us is 43, and the youngest is 12. The average age is 23.08, rounded to two decimal places.

The stats for the AHWW Census of '97 are an average of 23.4 years, the oldest 52 years, and the youngest 13 years. So, while we've grown slightly younger over the years, we've also lost our oldest members (whether to death, inactivity, or dementia), or they simply didn't take the poll.



Gender

Interesting results. Very clearly the community is biased towards those of the female sex and identification. Exactly why I don't know, but *Why People Believe Weird Things: Pseudoscience, Superstition, and Other Confusions of Our Time* Michael Shermer that I read stated that, while belief in things not generally accepted by the mainstream is evenly split, women are more likely to believe in things like psychic powers and

reincarnation and what-not. With the definite strands of spiritual thought in the therian and otherkin communities, a similar phenomenon might be responsible.

Also, there's an unusual number of transgender/non-traditional gender people in the community. I wouldn't be surprised to see a scientifically verified link between therianthropy and transgender identities. The Williams Institute of the UCLA School of Law puts the number of Americans who are trans* at .3%.¹ If we include people who are bigender, genderfluid, et cetera as trans*, then about a

¹ Gates, Gary J. (April 2011). *How Many People are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender?* Retrieved from <http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/research/census-lgbt-demographics-studies/how-many-people-are-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender/>



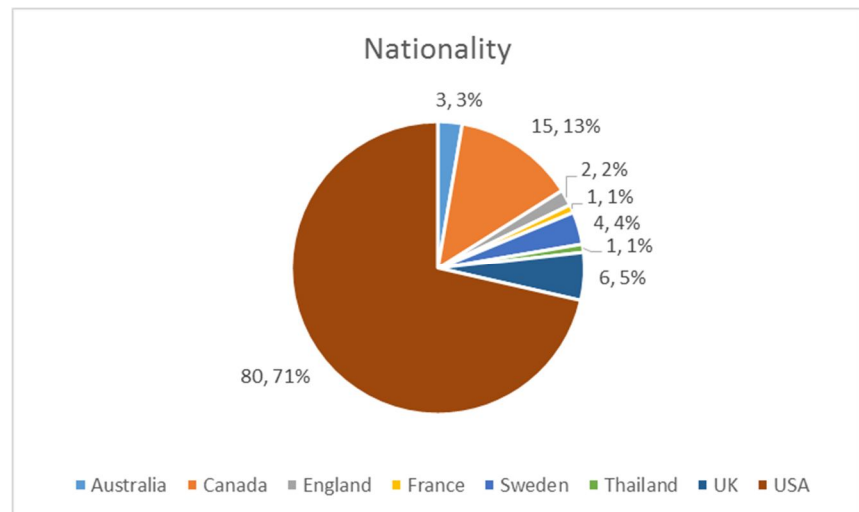
quarter of us are trans*. Again, it's hard to know for sure, but this would seem to be, from a statistical point of view, incredibly unlikely to be due to coincidence.

It should be noted that both original AHHW surveys only had male/female as options. Due to that, it's hard to tell how many people answered biological sex as opposed to gender, which screws things up a bit. But the stats in the 1995 poll were 72% male and 28% female and the ones in the 1997 poll were 75% male and 25% female. So we used to be heavily male dominated and now have female as the largest option, though it still isn't a majority. Why?

I might point out that, interestingly, more people on social networking sites are *female*,² which is the opposite of the popular stereotype.

Nationality

Most of us are in the U.S.A. Sweden occupies a much more prominent place that it used to. Of course, I know for a fact that we have a greater distribution than that, I remember people from China, Indonesia, South Africa, etc. But many countries don't have the same level of access to the Internet that we do, and the Werelist is in English.



The Weremap, which I consider to be more useful in terms of finding people's physical location, was unfortunately down when I first tried to access it, but the 'Kin Map of Wulf Howl' showed 101 in the USA (not including one in Hawaii), six in the UK, four in Australia, two each in Finland and Norway, and one each in Mexico, Panama, South Africa, New Zealand Belgium, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland. I distinctly remember the Weremap as being even more varied. Accessing the Weremap at a later point, I found, among others, three Russians, one person from China,³ another person from Kuwait, a bunch of Swedes, and two people from Malayasia. I could go on, but I'll just recommend that the reader looks at it themselves; it's pretty interesting and you can sometimes find someone in your town.

² comScore. (July 28, 2010). *Social Networking Sites Reach a Higher Percentage of Women than Men Worldwide*. Retrieved from

http://www.comscore.com/Insights/Press_Releases/2010/7/Social_Networking_Sites_Reach_a_Higher_Percentage_of_Women_than_Men_Worldwide/.

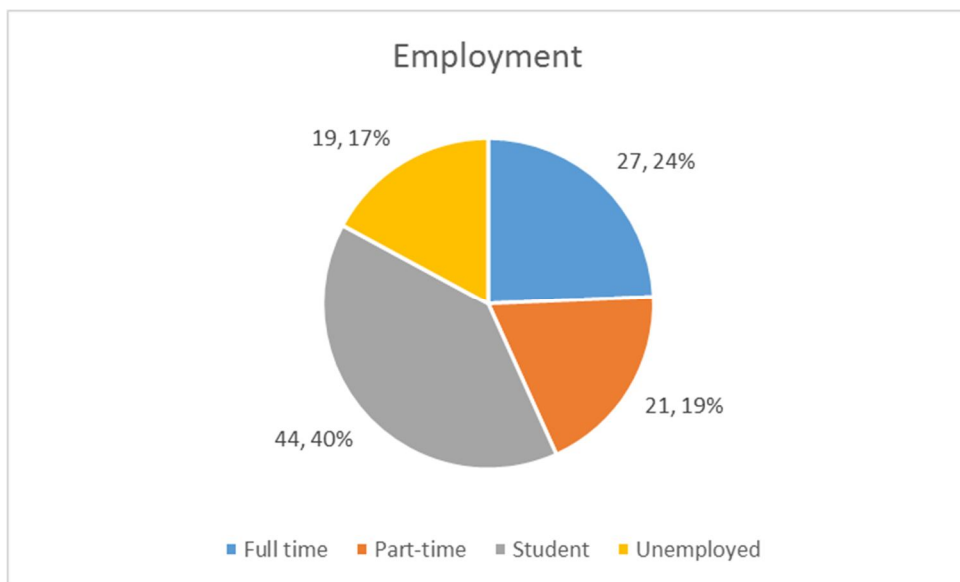
³ Which, upon closer inspection, turned out to be my marker, somehow moved from Carbondale, Illinois to the middle of the Gobi Desert. Nevertheless, I know for a fact that we have Chinese people on the Werelist, because I spoke to one of them—a kitsune therian—last week.



In terms of total Internet users, the top five are, in order, China (22.4% of world users), the United States of America (10.2%), India (5.7%), Japan (4.2%), and Brazil (3.7%). Of these, Japan has the greatest Internet penetration, followed closely by the United States of America.⁴

Occupation

Most of us are students. While students were the most common occupation in the 1997 survey, the percentage has decreased by 3%. It's impossible to know my standard error, though, so I would consider this to probably be within the realm of error.



The '95 poll had 48% students; interestingly it didn't have anything for unemployed, or part-time workers, with full-time making up the remaining answers.

Part-time and full-time employment are the only ones that have really changed (unemployment dropped a percentage point, which is interesting, because isn't unemployment higher?). Full-time employment decreased by 6%, and part-time increased by 10%. Again, it's hard to know my standard error, but I would hesitantly say that the total number of people in part time employment has grown over the years.

Theriotype/Phenotype

As one can see, the stereotype that all therians are wolves isn't true in the least. Indeed, wolves were listed in the minority of responses; about a third. For those with multiple theriotypes, I counted each as a separate one unless I specifically knew that they were a composite creature.

We're also much more diverse than we used to be. Information from the 1997 Census showed:

Wolf	- 38	68%
Fox	- 9	16%
Coyote	- 3	5%
Dragon	- 3	5%
Tiger	- 3	5%
Cat	- 2	4%

(continued on next page)

⁴ Internet World Stats. (2012). *Internet Users – Top 20 Countries – Internet Usage*. Retrieved from <http://www.internetworldstats.com/top20.htm>.

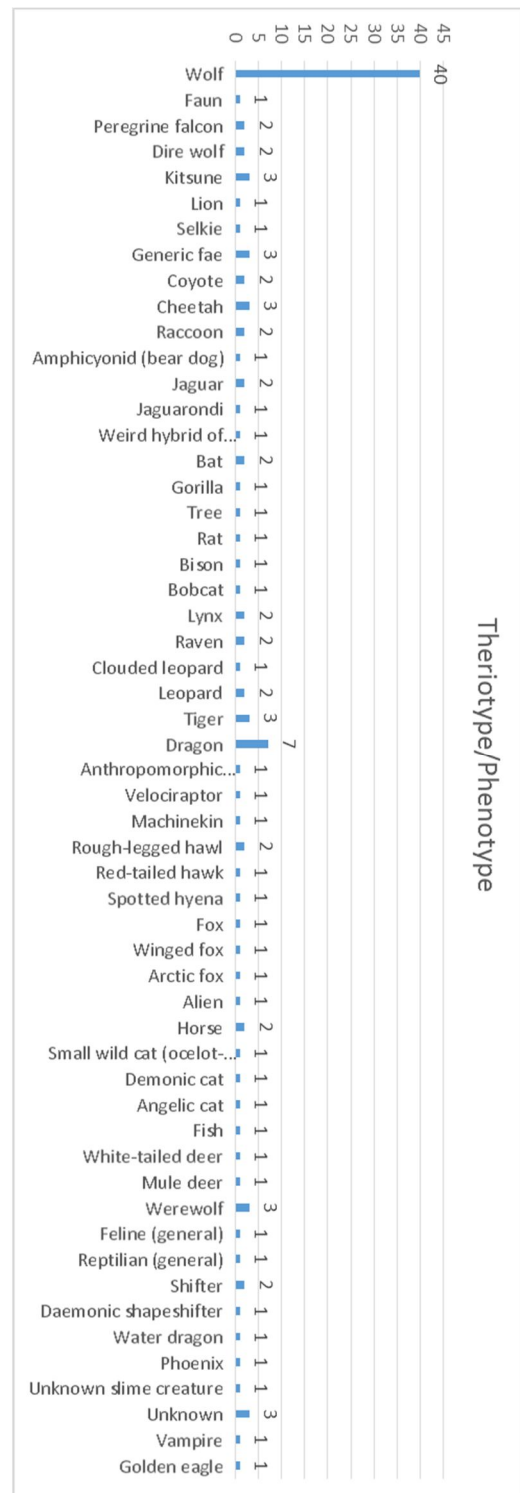


Jaguar	- 2	4%
Lion	- 2	4%
Panther	- 2	4%
Dog	- 2	4%
Bear(Grizzly)	- 2	4%
Bear(Polar)	- 1	2%
Raven	- 1	2%
Crow	- 1	2%
Cougar	- 1	2%
Dolphin	- 1	2%
Phoenix	- 1	2%
Centaur	- 1	2%
Ferret	- 1	2%
Falcon	- 1	2%
Lynx	- 1	2%
Eagle	- 1	2%
Psion/Caveperson	- 1	2%
Polymorph	- 1	2%
Gecko	- 1	2%

In the '95 Poll, the data was:

Wolf	56 %
Bear	8 %
Cat	8 %
Dog	8 %
Lynx	4 %
Panther	4 %
Windigo	4 %
Fox	4 %
Not were	4 %

The total number of types has increased. We no longer have, among the people who replied, ferret, psion/caveperson, gecko, dolphin, dog, or cougar; however, I distinctly remember many of those theriotypes.⁵ The labels with the periods were cut off due to space. They are, in order, "Weird hybrid of amphyconid⁶ and simian," "Anthropomorphic wolf/snake hybrid," and "small wild cat (ocelot-ish)."



⁵ These are, specifically, dolphin, dog, and cougar. There are several primitive human types that I've seen around, though I have no idea what a psion theriotype is.

⁶ Also known as a bear dog.



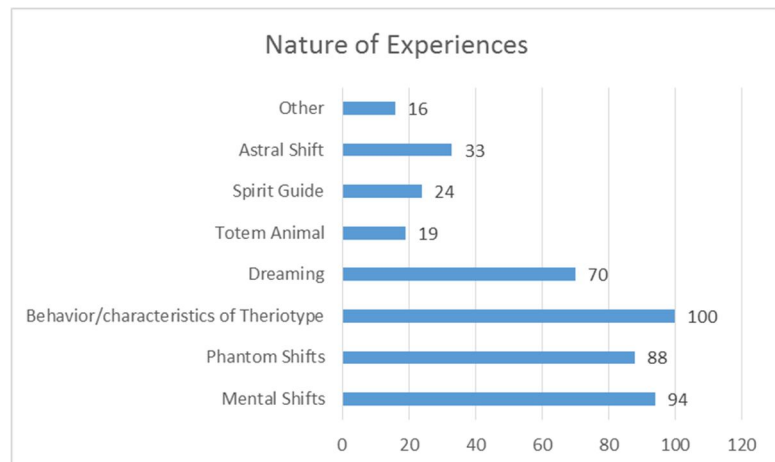
White Wolf's 2012 survey (which had slightly more responses than mine did, at 134), while it doesn't go into as much detail as mine on theriotypes, shows similar results. 36.2% of therians were some sort of canine.

Otherkin were definitely more present than they've been in the past surveys, depending on your definition of otherkin. Dragons are sort of on the edge, I suppose, depending on the exact nature of one's experiences.

Nature of Experiences

Behavior and/or characteristics of theriotypes was the most frequently listed, which I am not surprised by. For reference, the 1997 statistics (there weren't any for 1995) were:

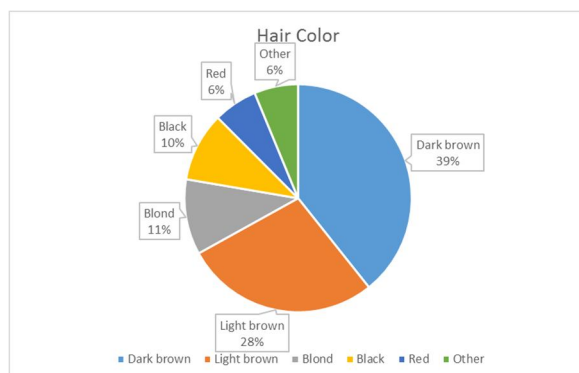
Mental Shift - 45 - 80%
Behaviour / Characteristics - 44 - 79%
Dreaming / Autohypnosis - 34 - 61%
Totem Animal - 34 - 61%
Spirit Guide - 25 - 45%
Astral Shift - 17 - 30%
Physical Shift - 4 - 7%
Others- 5 - 9%



One person claimed physical shifting; this of course was the same person who put their marital status as 'shark.' Other people (one each) reported, sensory shifts, and rage shifts. Two people mentioned self-identity as an experience, in the sense of identifying with their theriotype/s, and three people mentioned bilocation shifting, though one of those people only mentioned it tentatively.

Physical Attributes

For the most part, these weren't too interesting. Hair color, hair length, and eye color are generally considered not to be related to therianthropy, and there wasn't much in the way of unusual variation from the norm. The only difference that stood out was that quite a few people had dyed their hair red.



Hair Color

Quite a few people had dyed their hair red—only two of the 'other' answers had anything else; one auburn and the other copper/dark brown. Since black is supposed to be the most common hair color in the world, it's interest that it's so uncommon. On the other hand, the exact boundaries between black and dark brown will change depending on the person making the judgment call.

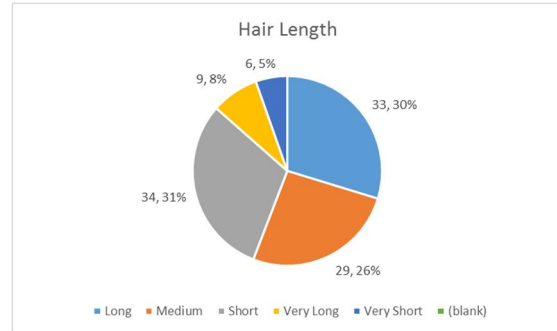


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Hair Length

No real comments here. I don't know the percentages for each hair length; they're subjective anyway. How long is 'very long?' How short is 'very short?' Is very short a buzz cut? Is very long hair hippie-style?

Also it's completely irrelevant to therianthropy, anyway.



Facial Hair

Again, no analysis or commentary. Actually, that's not completely true. I do wonder how many people answered 'none' when it was really 'none except when I forget to shave.'

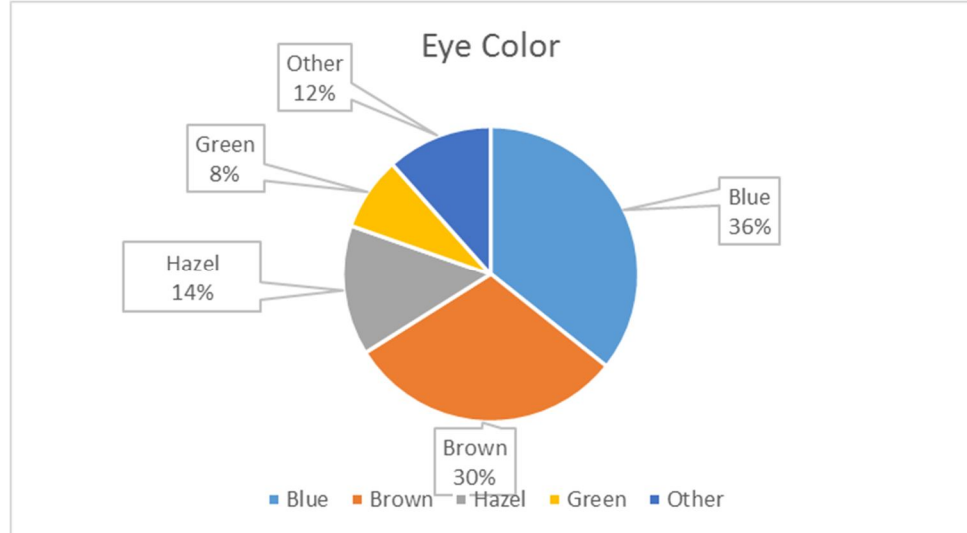
Probably more than a few, given that most people have some form of facial hair. Given the gender statistics, though, there's no telling how

skewed that might be.

I still have a fairly hard time believing that twelve percent of males have no facial hair, and no one else does either, though.

Eye Color

The most common eye color among Americans is blue/gray irises.⁷ I should have put it as a sentence answer rather than multiple choice, or as a checklist, but I didn't, and most people probably would have to check in a mirror anyway; I know I



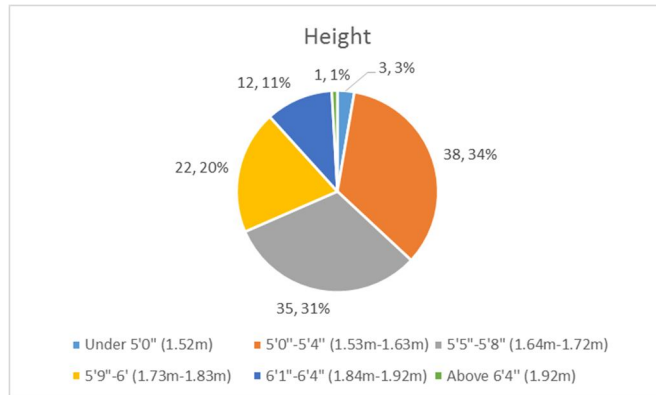
would. Using statistics of people with green eyes, rather than eyes that are partly green, we have... well, it's hard to tell. Statistics for whites have 13.14% of males and 17.47% of females with green eyes, but the numbers for blacks and Hispanics are much lower.⁸

⁷ Statistics Brain. (July 5, 2013). *Eye Color Distribution Percentages*. Retrieved from <http://www.statisticbrain.com/eye-color-distribution-percentages/>

⁸ Gene Expression. (December 13, 2008). *NLSY blogging: Eye and hair color of Americans*. Retrieved from <http://www.gnpx.com/blog/2008/12/nlsy-blogging-eye-and-hair-color-of.php>



Answers in the other category were mostly non-notable combinations of color, sometimes including yellow. One person claimed their eyes were yellow, period. While amber eyes are known,⁹ the fact that the same person claimed, among other things, that they grew hairy under the full moon and had a marital status of 'shark,' makes me somewhat suspicious.¹⁰



Height

To use the average US height (since most of us are from there), the average male (aged 20+) height is 5' 9.5" and the average female (again, aged 20+) height is 5' 4". In meters, this is 1.763 and 1.622, respectively.

Problem is, I didn't measure height by actual height, I measured it by height groups, and the Department of Health most certainly did *not* use that technique.¹¹

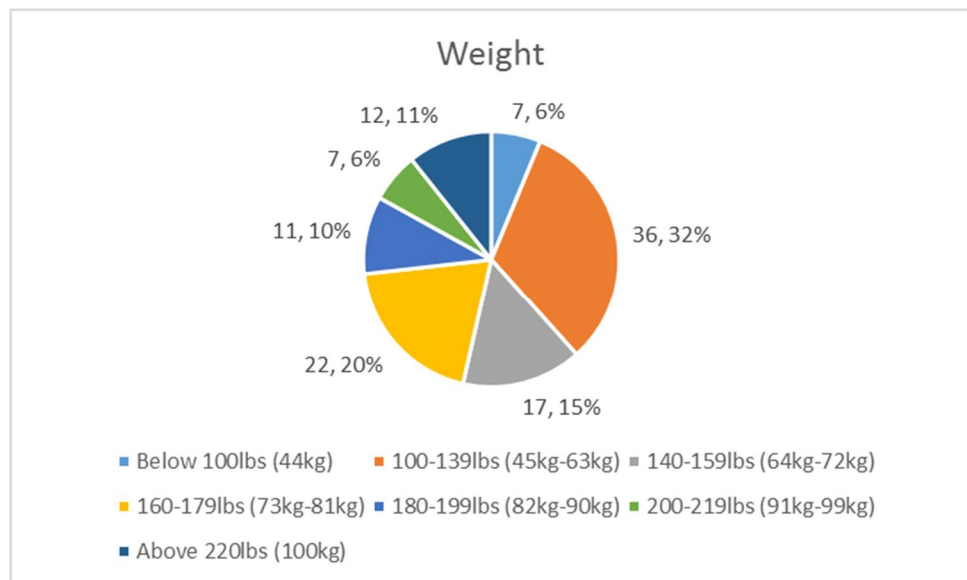
Unlike the AHWW Census of '97 and the AHWW Census of '95, I did not run separate stats for males and females, in part because the section on gender wasn't so split; there were more than two categories, rendering division by gender a rather futile effort.

Judging from the data, without the aid of people saying what their specific height was, I would say we look about average to me. Story of my life, it's hard to know for sure, but it's a reasonable assumption based on the chart sectors.

Weight

It would appear that we are healthier than the average American, though, these days, that is not saying very much at all.

We're lighter than we used to be; about 18% of people in '95 were over 220 pounds. Given that the weight of Americans has



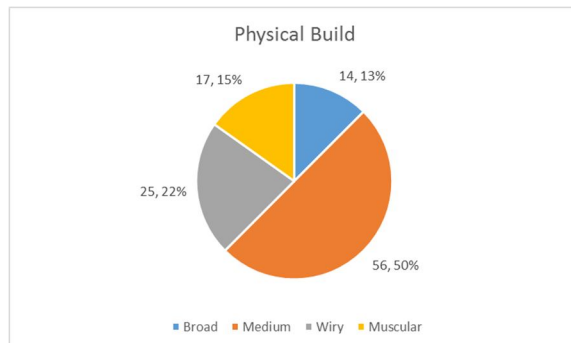
⁹ Wikipedia. (Accessed July 18, 2013). *Eye color*. Retrieved from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eye_color#Amber

¹⁰ At the rate I keep mentioning this person, they shall be famous. I am not done yet.

¹¹ McDowell, Margaret A., Fryar, Cheryl D., Ogden, Cynthia L., & Flegal, Katherine M. (October 22, 2008). *Anthropometric Reference Data for Children and Adults: United States, 2003–2006*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhsr/nhsr010.pdf>



increased overall, that's an interesting statistic. I would attribute this to the fact that a lot of our instincts and behaviors involve physically demanding activity—pursuing prey, for instance, or play-fighting.



Physical Build

The number of people reporting a muscular build has jumped eleven percentage points, and that's mostly from the category 'broad' which had a drop of seventeen percentage points. Since physical build is based on self-perception, though, it's difficult to say to what degree things have changed.

Looking at the data, though, a lot of people would have to be mistaken for such a change to be, in reality,

insignificant.

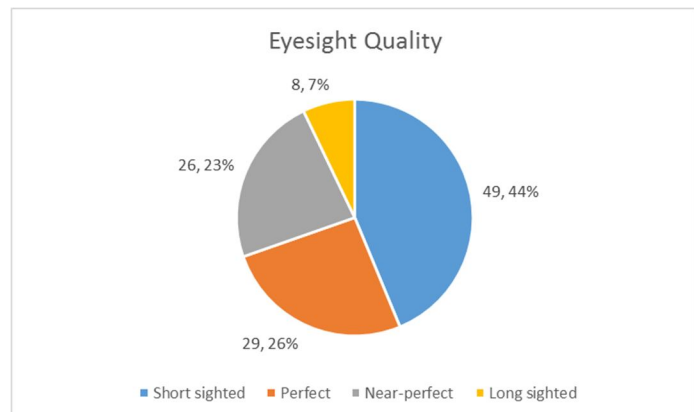
Finding data on build, stated in a similar way to the questionnaire, is difficult. While there has been some research on somatotypes,¹² matching up the terms used is difficult.

Several categories used in the AHWV Census of '95 were eliminated in the AHWV Census of '97, so a true comparison is more or less impossible for me to do.

Eyesight Quality

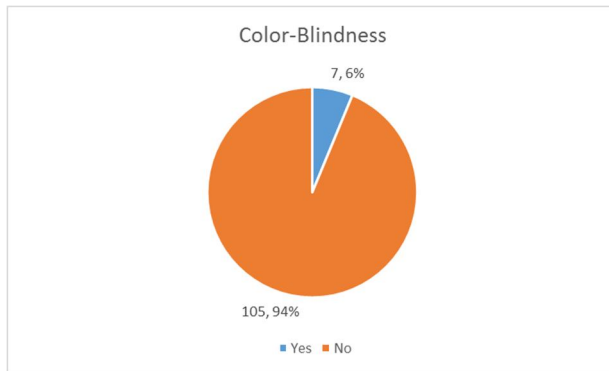
Eyesight quality is better than it used to be, with an 11% drop (55% to 44%) in nearsightedness. Without knowledge of the age makeup of the past survey, the drop might be due to fewer older members, since eyesight tends to fail in old age.

Regardless, the trend is the same as it was from 1995 to 1997, where the percentage of people who were near-sighted dropped 13%. Perhaps people's standards of what qualifies as near-sightedness have increased, a product of increased prevalence of myopia?



¹² I am aware of William Herbert Sherman's quackery concerning the concept. Nevertheless, looking at academic sites and articles, the concept of somatotypes seems to still be used not in connection to psychology, but as a heuristic for describing general body type in relation to risk for certain diseases, such as diabetes. This impression was created by searching PubMed for articles containing the word 'somatotype' and examining selected articles for how the concept was mentioned.



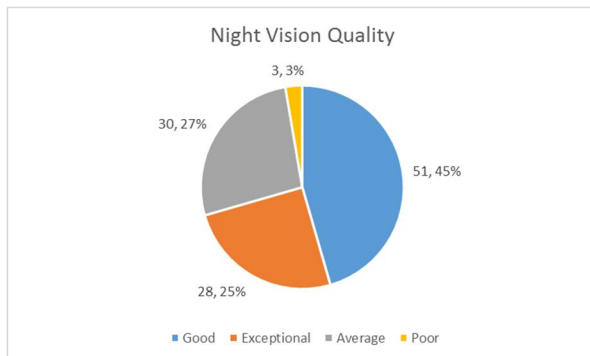


Color-Blindness

The percentage of people who suffer from color-blindness has halved from what it was in 1997. Interestingly enough, nobody in 1995 had it.

Red-green color vision deficiency is fairly common, as these things go, with about 8% of men and .5% of females having it.¹³ Given that I didn't collect data on biological sex, though, I can't calculate to what extent we would expect color-blindness,

based on sex ratios.



Night Vision Quality

Most of us report superior night vision, with the minority having average or poor. To some degree cognitive biases play a role; night vision quality isn't easily defined and most people would prefer to think of theirs as not sucking.

Then again, therians might simply use their night vision more, and thus, even if biologically it's the same, be better at picking out shapes due to

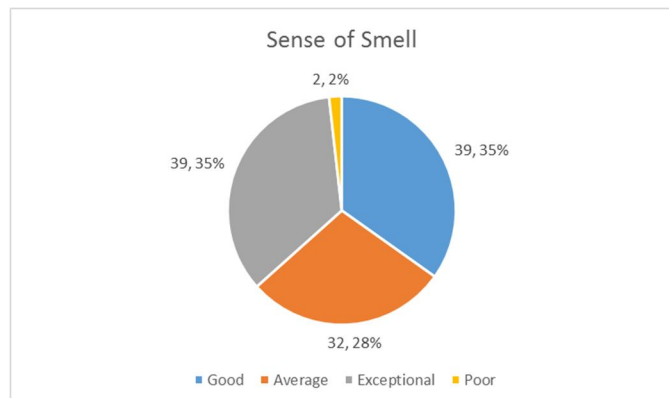
practice. Such a possibility would certainly fit with what I've read other therians talk about regarding nocturnal habits, and it makes intuitive sense.

Sense of Smell

Again, we have better than the average sense of smell. The number of people claiming 'average' has gone up since 1995 (where it was 8%) and 1997 (where it was 27%). The option 'poor' was not on the AHWW Census of '95, and had 4% on the AHWW Census of '97.

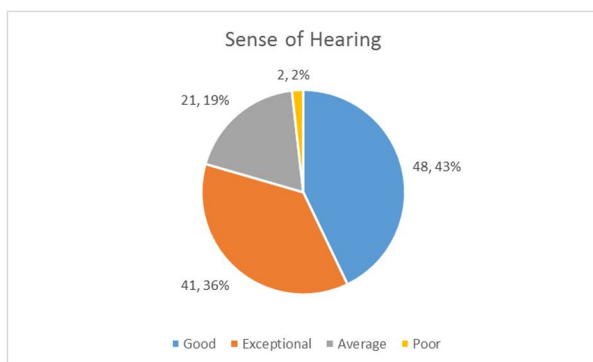
Sense of Hearing

People with an average sense of hearing have gone up from the 1995 days, but not as much as from the 1997 days (respectively, the increases were 11% and 5%).



¹³ Genetics Home Reference. (March 2006). *Color vision deficiency*. Retrieved from <http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/color-vision-deficiency>





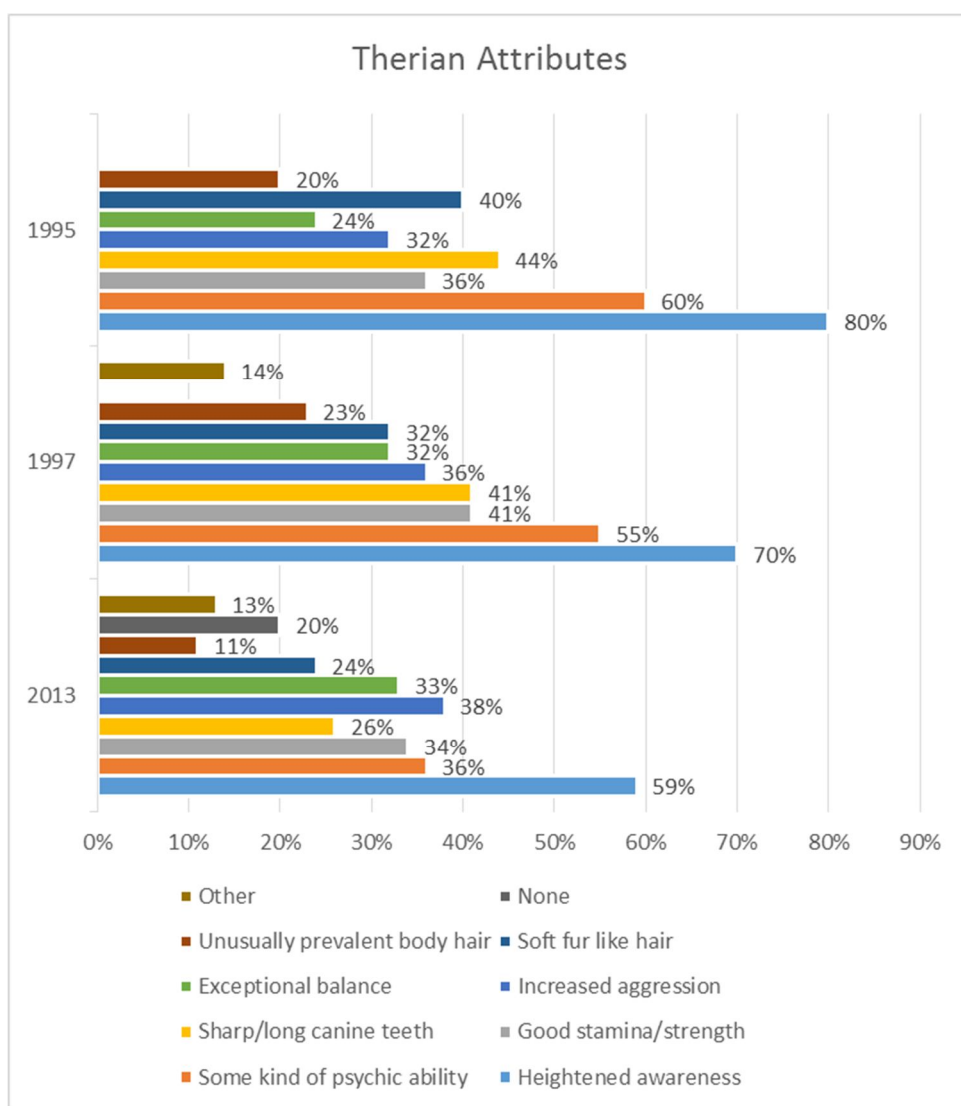
So on average, we appear to have better senses, which, depending on the person theorizing, could be due to anything from autism-like disorders (since they can magnify existing sensory input to make it more obvious; I for instance have a hard time tuning out some noises and have texture problems) to some sort of genetic linkage (I find this more unlikely) to cognitive biases (very likely that at least part of the difference is due to this).¹⁴

Therian Attributes

Lots of information to talk about here. But first, I think it's more important to do a comparison.

The stats on how many people answered yes to each item is on the next page. I've put the information from 1997 and 1995 on the same graph as the information from this survey to make things easier. Two of the categories I had the 1995 census did not, and I had one additional group, none, that the 1997 census did not.

Overall, far fewer attributes were reported across the board. Note, for instance, how



¹⁴ I'm sure that someone, somewhere, would try to use this to advance some pseudoscientific claim about therians being superior or something. I would like them to explain why, if we're superior, small dogs manage to terrify me.



heightened awareness, by far the most reported, has steadily dropped from 80%, to 70%, and finally to 59%.

Indeed, since 1995, all except exceptional balance and increased aggression have decreased (though not necessarily steadily), and what I find interesting is that both these things are associated with the *mind*, and, unlike 'some sort of psychic ability,' they do not depend on unproven phenomena. We know that people have aggression and can balance themselves; ESP is not proven. Heightened awareness, though, has also decreased significantly. Perhaps the definition of 'heightened awareness' is in doubt? Or perhaps my hypothesis is wrong.

Are physical differences vanishing, at least when looked at as a percentage? Are they being seen as less important, or irrelevant, as psychological ideas become more accepted?¹⁵ Note also that 20% said that they had none. It's hard to tell if anybody said that they had none on the previous polls, since they didn't record it, and it's impossible to determine if under 100% selected an option because of the way the poll was constructed.

The category of 'other' was, in 1997, composed of physical appearance, movement, and increased animal empathy. My survey included one each for the ability to communicate well with carnivores, fast reaction times, long neck and legs, analytical nature, nails, overprotectiveness, discomfort with heights/bad balance, diet, the ability to smell blood from miles away underwater (this was the same person who put his marital status as 'sharks'), keen vision, the ability to be inconspicuous, and 'form-type movement.'

Period in Sync With The Full Moon

This question did not work out, and it was entirely my fault. I did not clarify that males should not answer the question, so pretty much everyone answered it, and due to the fact that I did not record biological sex, the results are rather meaningless.

That being said... 20% answered yes, which in my book is a pretty high number. On the other hand, menstrual periods are about as long as the lunar cycle, and it has to fall *somewhere* (or, more accurately, *somewhen*¹⁶). To make any judgment would require a true representative sample of females as a whole.

¹⁵ To elaborate, it may be that, rather than the physical differences disappearing, people no longer report them as *therian* attributes, and instead think of them as perfectly normal divergences from the norm—little different, at least in fundamental essence, than having unusually colored hair or an odd birthmark. Keep in mind that these differences are known of among the general populace, and are not thought of very much. A lot of people are unusually hairy, are aggressive, or have good stamina/strength (especially if they exercise a lot). And canine teeth length or sharpness is pretty subjective; most people don't have a good representative sample of other people's canine teeth, because most people don't try to look at other people's teeth.

¹⁶ 'Somewhen,' before someone gets on my case, is actually a word, albeit a rare one and a word that one is more likely to find in archaic texts.



Lucid Dream Frequency

The largest slice reported only having them rarely, but I was, frankly, surprised by the fact that a whopping 42% reported having them fairly often!

Initially, I thought such numbers to surely be unusual. I didn't have any proof, of course, it was just my own incredulity.

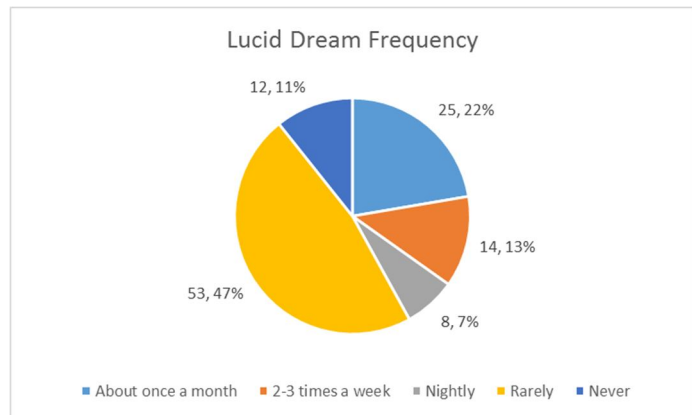
How wrong I was.

In 2011, two scientists did a study of Germans, determining the frequency of lucid dreaming. 51% reported having one at least once¹⁷—and who knows how many people simply forgot their dreams upon awakening? Of course such tests are vulnerable to false memories, but that's a risk in any social science.

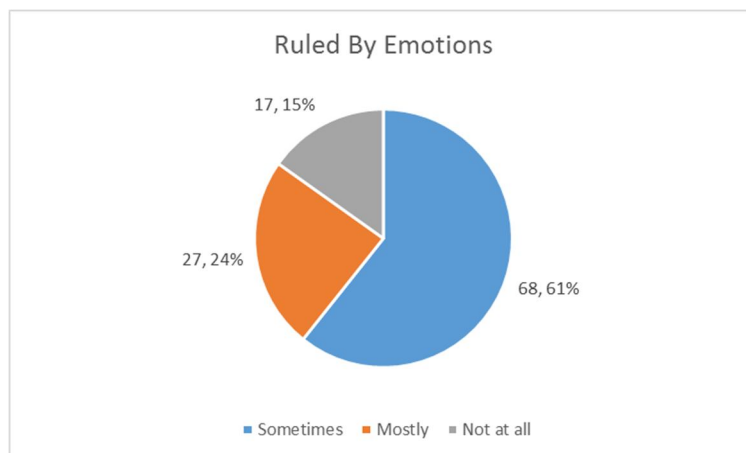
An older study was conducted in 2008 at a Japanese university. 47% had at least one lucid dream. 19% had lucid dreams at *least* once a month.¹⁸

Of those of us surveyed, 89% had a lucid dream at least once, compared to, at maximum, 51%. 42% had lucid dreams at least once a month, as opposed to 19% in the Japanese survey. That's high, and unusually so. But it doesn't look like it is ridiculously high any more, and the German study showed more women having lucid dreams.

Compared to the data of 1997, though, the number of people who have had lucid dreams has *shrunk*. Used to be that 97% reported having had at least one. 20% reported them nightly. And only 20% reported them rarely.



Psychological Profile



Ruled By Emotions

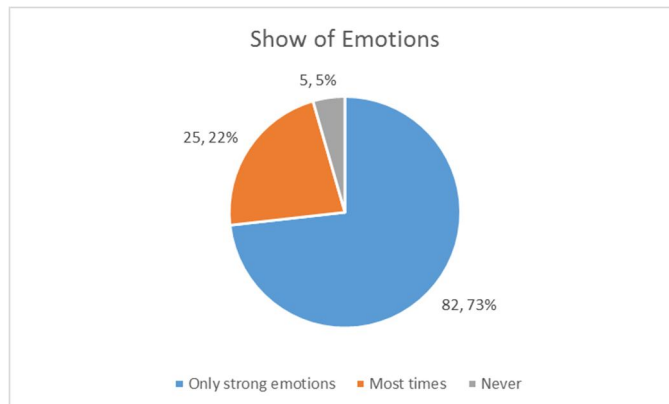
After decreasing from 12% to 10% from 1995 to 1997, those of us who aren't ruled by our emotions experienced a comeback—to a mere 15%. Honestly, given some of the stuff I've read on therian boards, I would have thought that the number would be slightly larger. Then again, people have better control online.

¹⁷ Schredl M., Erlacher D. (2011). Frequency of lucid dreaming in a representative German sample. *Perceptual & Motor Skills*, 112(1):104-8.

¹⁸ Erlacher, D., Schredl, M., Watanabe, T., Yamana, J. & Gantzert, F. (2008) The Incidence of Lucid Dreaming within a Japanese University Student Sample. *International Journal of Dream Research*, 1(2):39-43.



The number of people who say 'mostly,' though, has been steadily dropping. In 1995 it was 40%. In 1997 it was 29%. Now it's 24%. 'Sometimes,' has remained just where it was in 1997.



Show of Emotions

This doesn't surprise me.

Therians have to learn self-control if we want to live in the human world. It's an unfortunate fact. I won't defend the system that regards people in a worse light for growling as opposed to being generally irritable. But it's still a fact.

Part of that is emotional control. That's what I learned to do, to never let a single thing slip. I

controlled my impulses. To do that builds up one's ability to not show their emotions. And I'm autistic, which is another reason I don't show them very easily.

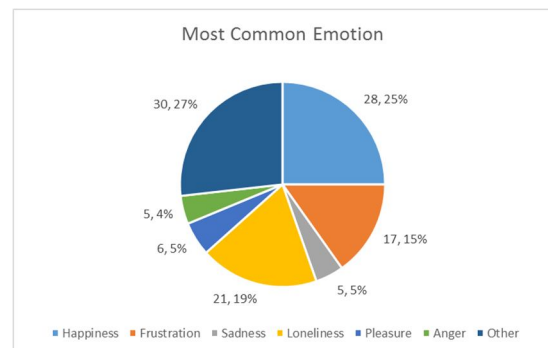
The percentage of us who put 'never' has steadily declined. In 1995 it was 12%, in 1997 9%. Maybe this is a good thing. Perhaps society is starting to accept us, or we're creating our own spaces where we can be ourselves without fear of people judging us.

At the same time, though, the percentage of people putting 'most times' has decreased too, from 44% to 38% to the current value of 22%.

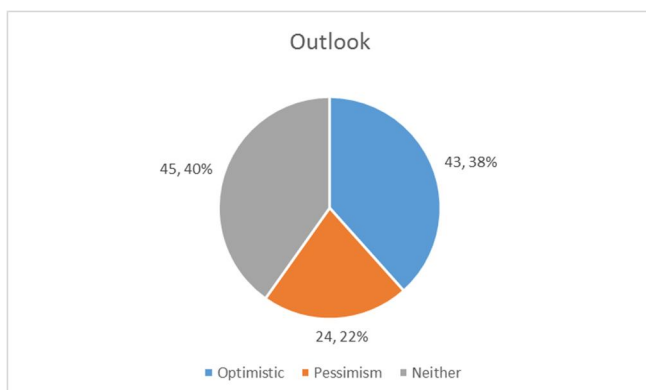
Most Common Emotion

Most commonly, we experience happiness. Which is nice, though it's not a change since 1997 (though it's decreased 15% since 1995). Of course, more negative emotions are represented as well. Sadness, loneliness, anger, and frustration are far more represented than most of the positive emotions.

'Other' includes anxiety (4), apathy (1), bipolar (1), bliss (1), calm (2), confusion (1), contentment (2), curiosity (2), depression (1), detached (1), disdain (1), fascination (1), neutral (4), none (3), serene (1), stress (1), and yearning (1).



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General Outlook

Pessimism was, surprisingly, rather rare. Optimism—which I expected to be as rare as hen’s teeth—was actually rather common, and I expected ‘neither’ to make up the bulk of responses.

The number of optimists has grown. It used to be 34%, though before that, in 1995, it was 56%.

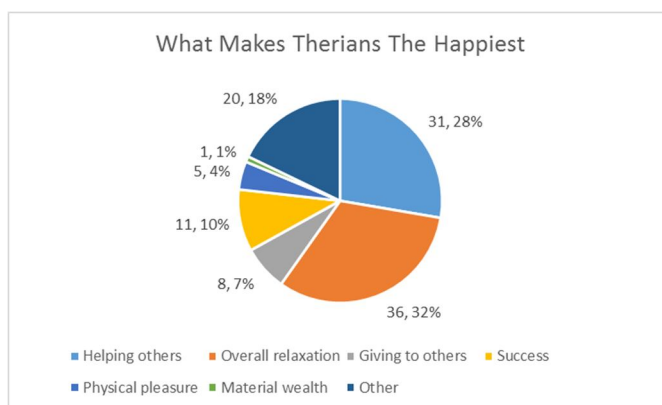
Over all three surveys, pessimism has been a

small minority. In 1995, it was 12%. In 1997, it was 18%. From that perspective, it’s actually growing. Perhaps the world is growing grimmer. Or, maybe, it’s just us.

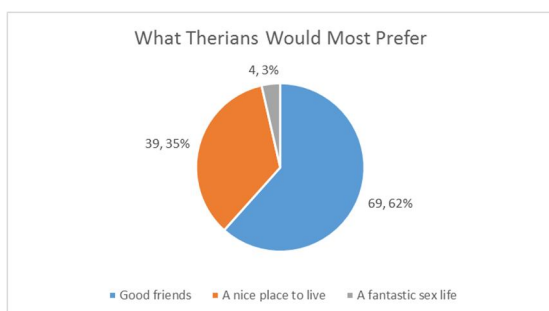
What Makes Therians The Happiest?

This didn’t surprise me. Seeing that so few of us favored material wealth is, to me, utterly unsurprising.

Compared to previous survey results, ‘helping others’ has actually decreased, from 48% to 36% to 28%. Giving to others also fell, from 16% to 11% to 7%. Does that mean we’re more selfish? I think not, at least not necessarily..



Firstly, some people put multiple items as an answer when they selected ‘other,’ or had an answer filed under ‘other’ that involved elements of helping others. While it’s true that other people put being alone (1), being with close friends (7), or creativity (2), as a second point, it is also worth noting that these things are not a zero sum game.



What Therians Would Most Prefer

Over time, people selecting ‘a nice place to live’ has steadily increased. However, while this is probably partially due to the fact that many of us are looking to get a home, many of us find the idea of living in a nice place and having—living with, more accurately—good friends as inseparable. I would not consider a mansion with a beautiful garden to be a nice place to live if I

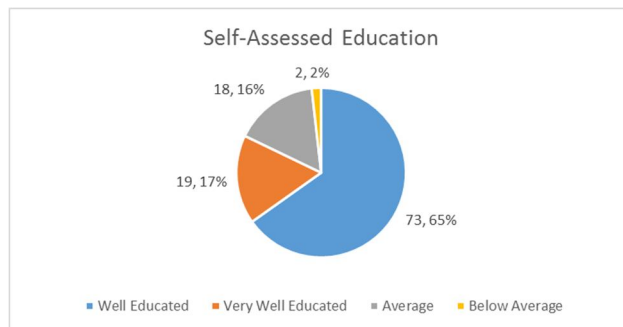
never had contact with my friends.

Also, four more people wanted a fantastic sex life than in 1997, and honestly I would think that a fantastic sex life and good friends (or at least one good friend) usually go together...



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Education



Self-Assessed Education

For the first time, we had people reporting their self-assessed education as below average. Indeed, self-assessed education has decreased all around since 1997. The question is, then, 'why?'

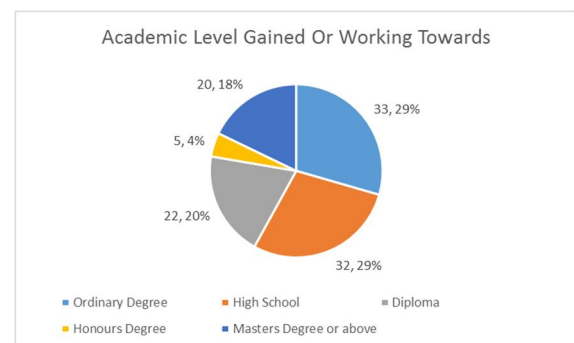
Perhaps it is due to the decreased cost of a computer. Moore's Law isn't perfectly true, but the cost has decreased over time. As higher

education correlates with higher income, an expensive computer will be easier to get for people with higher incomes.

Academic Level

Now *this* is interesting, because it's more objective. Remember how I said that self-assessed education had decreased all around? Well, let's look at the past data.

The percentage of people with a master's has increased from 8% to 13% to 18%. Meanwhile, the percentage of people with an honor's degree fell from 16% to 14% to 4%, the number of people with a diploma decreased from 24% to 22% to 20%, and the number of people with an 'ordinary degree' decreased from 36% to 27%, but increased during the 1997-2013 period to 29%.



This suggests, to me, that education is becoming more all-or-nothing. More of us have a master's or above, but fewer of us are in the middle.

Feedback, I might add, also suggests that people had trouble with the question.



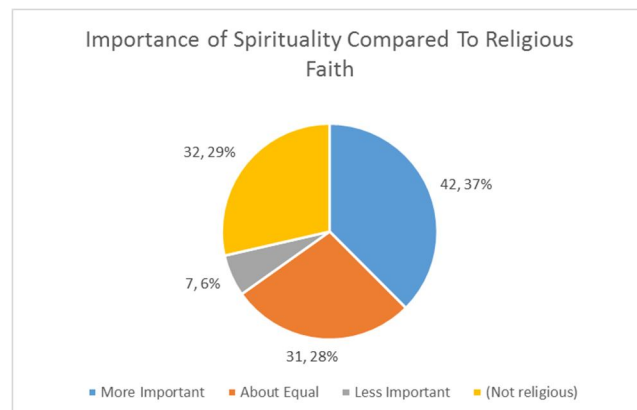
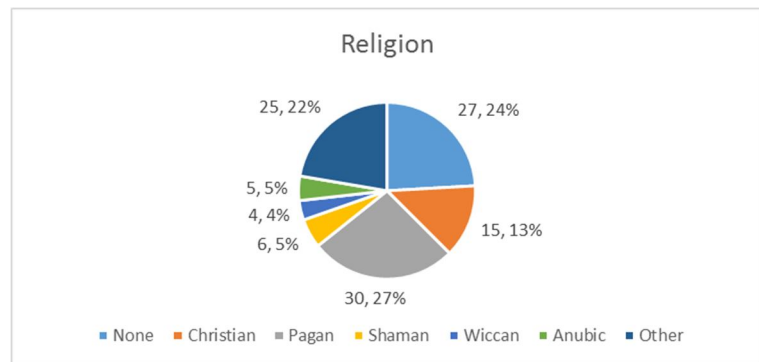
Religion and Spirituality

Religion

Firstly, and most importantly, I strongly dislike the structure of the question, because, among other reasons, it forces me to go through and check dozens of people who answered 'other.'

Going through the others, I find one each of Judaism, apathism, the Church of Emacs,¹⁹ pantheism, Shinto/Taoism, Bastesian²⁰, Buddhism, New Age, spiritual humanism, and universalism.

There were two people each who put Kemeticism²¹ and nature.

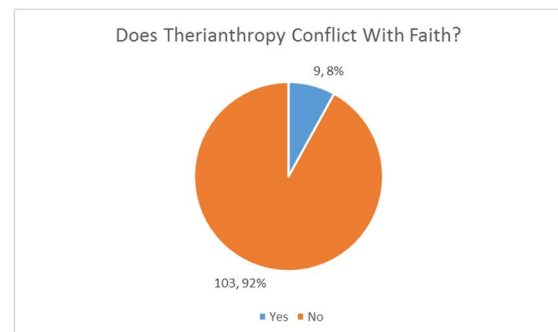


Importance of Spirituality Compared To Religious Faith

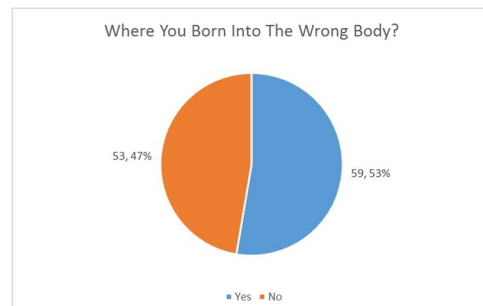
The change over time in this question has been interesting. In 1995, it was 82% about equal with an even 9% split favoring each. Since 1997, though, there hasn't been much change. "Less important" increased (+4%), "(not religious)" dropped (-1%), "more important" dropped (-8%), and about equal grew (+5%). Really, not all that dramatic.

Does Therianthropy Conflict With Faith?

The answer was, overwhelmingly, no. Unfortunately, I also managed to screw up this question, because originally it had the options 'opposes faith/supports faith/neither/not religious.' Nevertheless, I can compare the number of people who put yes, and that's actually



risen from zero in 1997. In 1995 it was about the same, at 9%.



Were You Born Into The Wrong Body?

The answers to this question were split about evenly, much like they were in 1997. In 1995, 72% answered no.

¹⁹ A parody religion, apparently relating to an obscure piece of highly technical humor related to software.

²⁰ I believe this refers to the worship of Bast.

²¹ As the note accompanying the question explained, near as I could tell Anubic meant Kemetic.

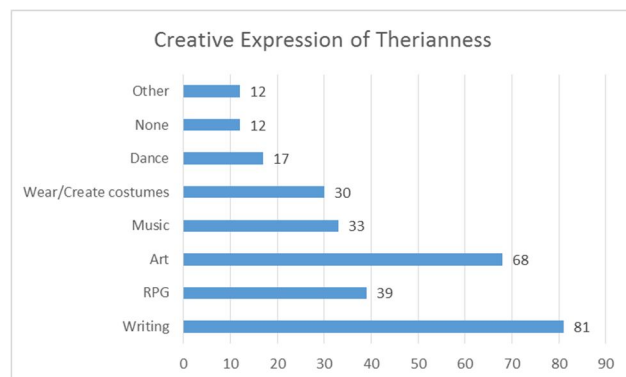
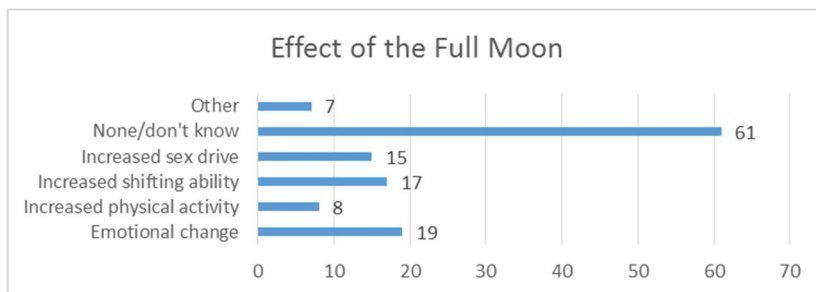


Effects of the Full Moon

Well, it would appear that it does, though of course there's a pretty good chance that the effects are merely psychosomatic rather than a result of an actual, direct influence of the gravity of the full moon. Changes in light

levels, though, might well have something to do with the effects. However, it's worth noting that I was recently informed via a Werelist thread that there does appear to be a relationship between sleep patterns and the lunar phase.

Since 1997, the percentage of people reporting a lack of any effects has spiked dramatically! Meanwhile, the others have steadily decreased. When there were half as many answers to the survey in 1997, there were slightly less than twice as many people putting down an emotional change. That right there is pretty dramatic.



Creative Expression of Therianness

Other was pretty mundane for the most part. One person put make-up, another person put glamourbombs and decorating their room, and another person put down that the like biting people.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the human mouth is one of the filthiest places imaginable, biting people is a

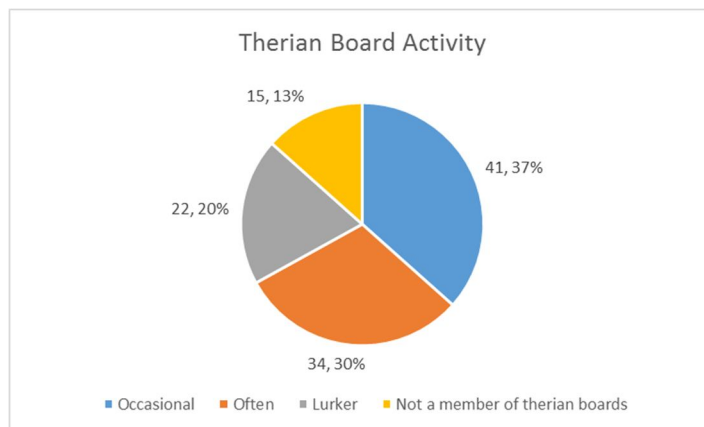
serious legal offense, and that biting people is usually not considered a creative exercise.

Therian Board Activity

Far more people weren't members than I expected, I must admit. I attribute this to the fact that some people were kind enough to help advertise it!

More people are posting frequently, though, than in 1997. There are a higher percentage of lurkers as well, though.

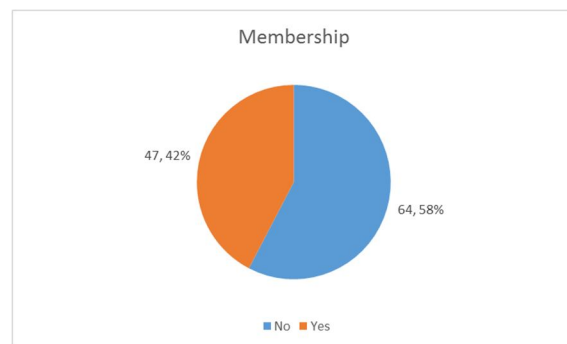
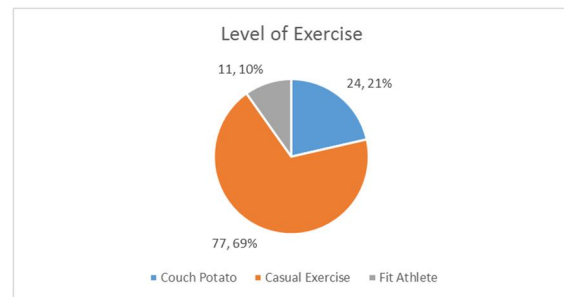
For comparison, in 1997 'occasional' was 64% of the total. This year it was 34% of the total.



Activities and Interests

Level of Exercise

We're getting more exercise than we used to—in 1997, 34% of people described themselves as couch potatoes, though then again standards may very well have fallen since 1997. More of us are fit athletes, too.

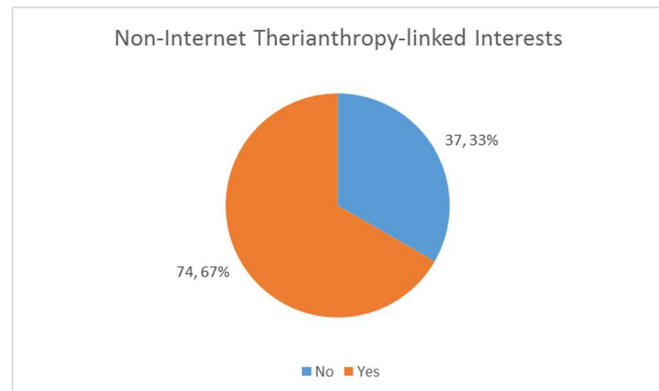


Member of a Non-Internet Interest Group/Society

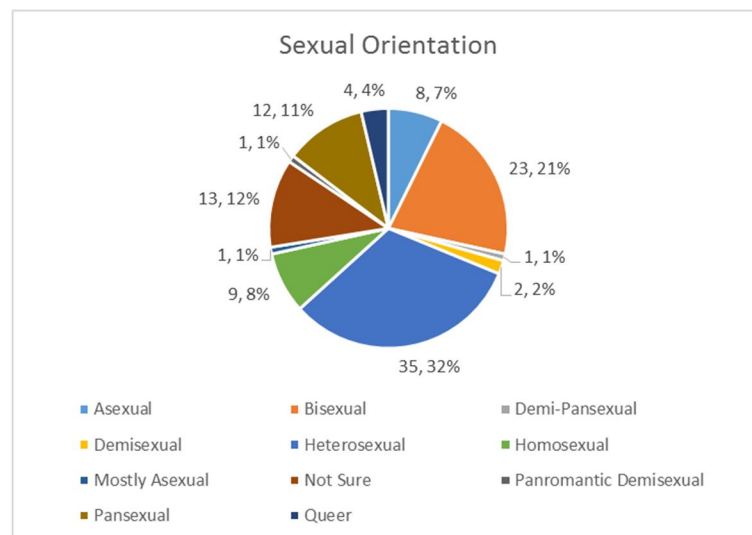
This is the first time ever that the majority has answered no. Since 1995, the rate has steadily decreased, and this time it decreased below 50%.

Non-Internet Therianthropy-linked Interests

The ratio has tilted towards no over the years. Not surprising, in my opinion. The advent of the Internet means it is more possible to communicate via it rather than offline—or, more accurately, more possible than it used to. Of course, other factors could be at play. For instance, the 1995 phrasing merely said 'therianthropy-linked interests.'



Relationships and Sex



Sexual Orientation

I had to discard answers here. Some people put things that simply didn't answer the question or were irrelevant.

That being said, this is a pretty interesting chart. You'll notice that there are almost as many bisexual people as heterosexual people.

Not nearly as many as in 1995, though, where 52% were bisexual (which makes the past chart of attitudes towards bisexuality all the more unusual). However, it's important to keep in



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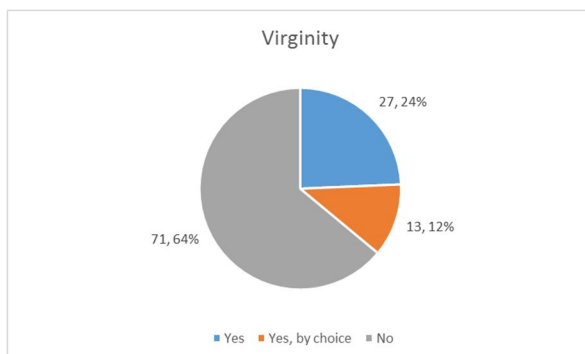
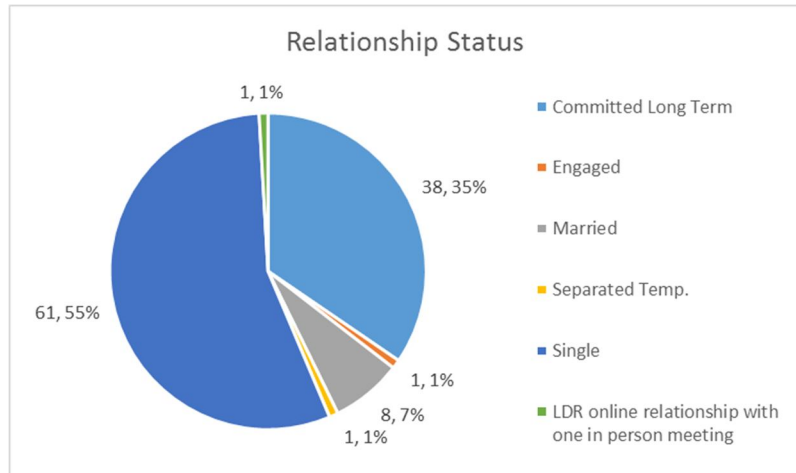
mind that the term 'pansexual' is fairly new, as far as I know, so in 1995 the two may have basically been the same.

If this was the case, then, by 1995 standards, then there's been less of a drop. Regardless, it's risen since 1997, where

Relationship Status

The percentage of people who are single has actually shrunk significantly. It used to be 68%. The percentage of people in a committed long term relationship has increased, and the percentage of people who were married has decreased.

The fact that so few of us are married doesn't surprise me terribly. Most of us are fairly young, and gay marriage has yet to be legalized in many areas.

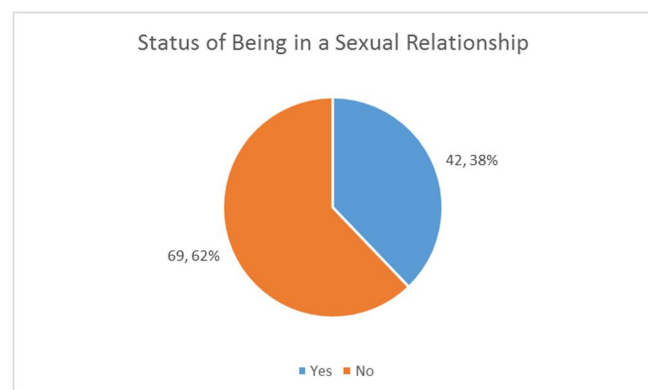


Virginity

There are both slightly fewer virgins and slightly fewer people who are being virgins deliberately than there used to be.

Status of Being in a Sexual Relationship

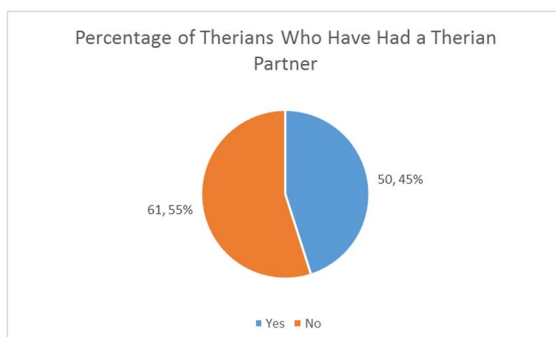
Slightly more of us are in a sexual relationship than in



1997, but slightly less than in 1995.

Therian Partners

The change here was pretty dramatic; an increase of 9%.



The other two surveys stated, around this point, something along the lines of 'lucky thirty percent.' I'm not going to, for the simple reason that it isn't the status of being therian or not that matters in a relationship. It is love, acceptance, and tolerance. And those virtues are not only present in therians.

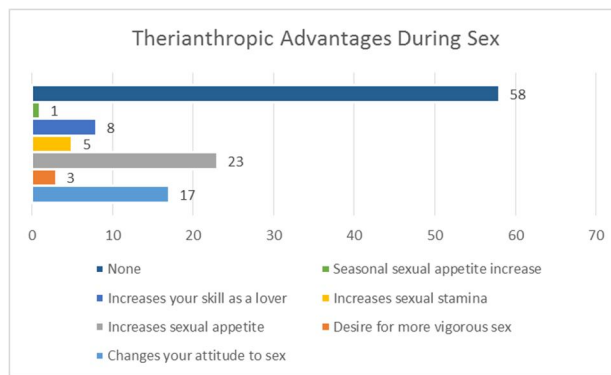
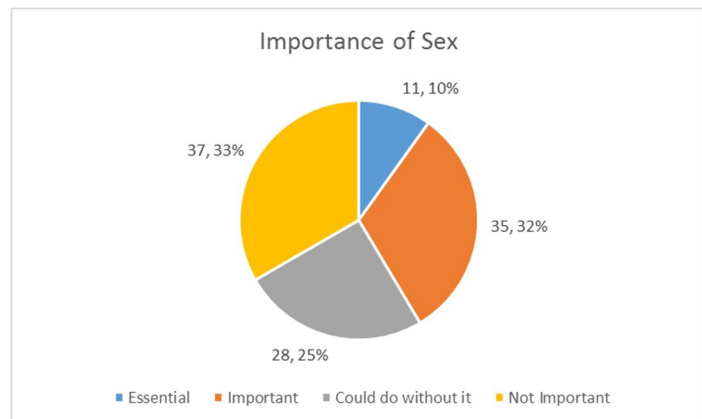


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Importance of Sex

A substantially greater (+10%) number of people say that sex is unimportant for them. However, the number that say it is essential is also up, from 2% in 1997, and the percentage of people who put 'could do without it' dropped by 16%.

Another example where two extremes within the community are growing at the expense of the middle ground.

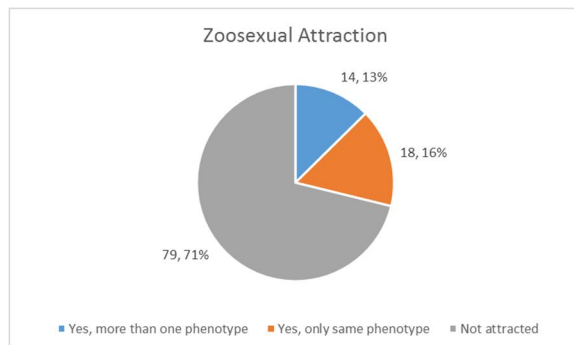
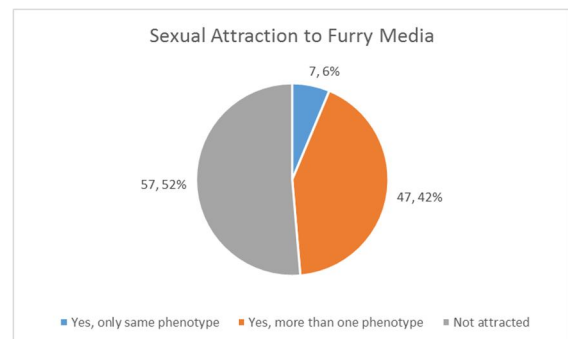


Therianthrop Advantages During Sex

Overall decrease in percentages. I would theorize that the cause is the same as the overall decrease in reports of therian attributes: People don't consider them therianthrop anymore. You'll notice that 'none' went from 34% to about 50%. And in 1995 it appears to have been 0%, though as there was no option for "none," verifying that is impossible. At least 80%, however, did report a therianthrop advantage during sex.

Sexual Attraction to Furry Media

Interesting results. In 1997, 39% were not attracted, and 20% were only attracted to their theriotypes. Given that there's been such a massive increase in the percentage that are not attracted, what could be the cause? An increase in the number of people who are asexual is probably responsible for at least part of it.



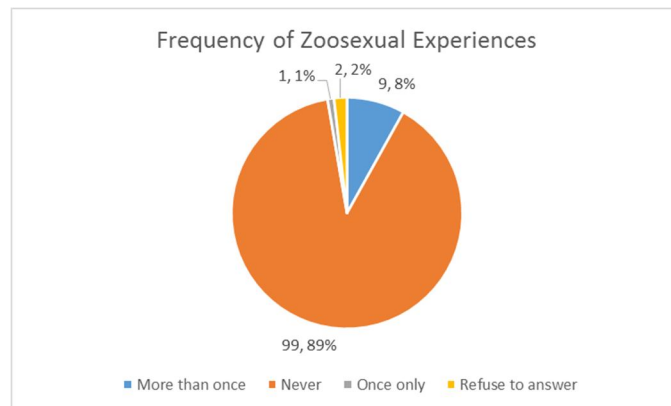
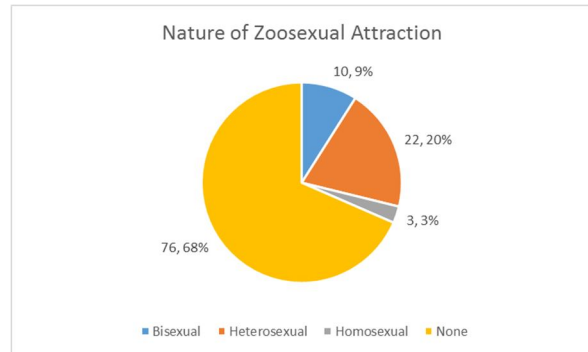
Zoosexual Attraction

More interesting results here. In 1995 72% of respondents were attracted to some form of animal, and in 1997 48% were. The number has continued to decrease, though it has been slowing down.



Nature of Zoosexual Attraction

I find these statistics rather interesting. The majority of answers that weren't 'none' were 'heterosexual,' which is at odds with sexual orientation statistics, where bisexual (pansexual would most fit under bisexual, and I doubt that anyone who was pansexual and didn't answer "none" would put "heterosexual" or "homosexual") was about equal to heterosexuality. Since there's such a gigantic bias towards heterosexuality



zoosexual experiences (+9%).

Frequency of Zoosexual Experiences

It should be noted that I instructed those who lived in areas where zoophilia was illegal to select "refuse to answer," on the grounds that being part of a criminal investigation is not very fun. Obviously, everybody did this, and no one shall say that they did not, because that would make me an accessory.

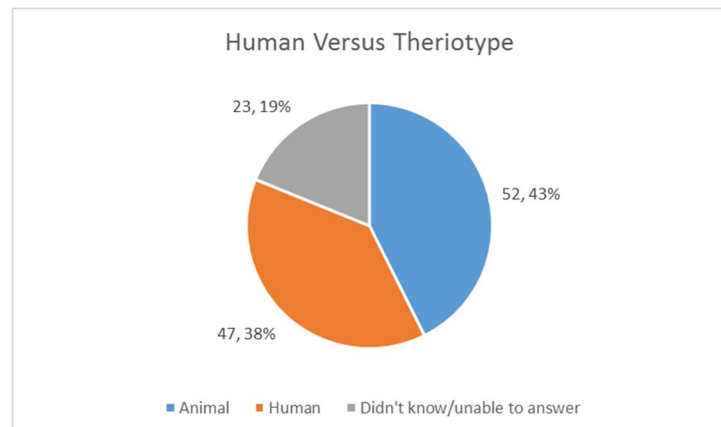
No one reported continually this year (-2%), and more people reported never having

Moral Issues

These were some of the more complicated, thought-provoking questions, and I was pleased by the level of thought many people had put into their responses. I've attached some of the answers that people stated could be shared that I thought were most thoughtful and interesting as a separate document alongside this one.

Saving a Human Versus One's Theriotype

Far more people were unable to answer this year, or didn't know (+10%). Of course, it's worth noting that I marked many who qualified their answers so that it was entirely dependent on factors not stated in the scenario as unable to answer or not knowing. Really, this makes a fair amount of sense, at least from certain points of view. Slightly more people putting down human (+6%), and significantly less people putting down animal (-16%).



The reasoning for answers... now, that was interesting. Most answers in favor of the animal were appeals to ecology. A valid argument. Many of us have endangered theriotypes, so the ripple effects of



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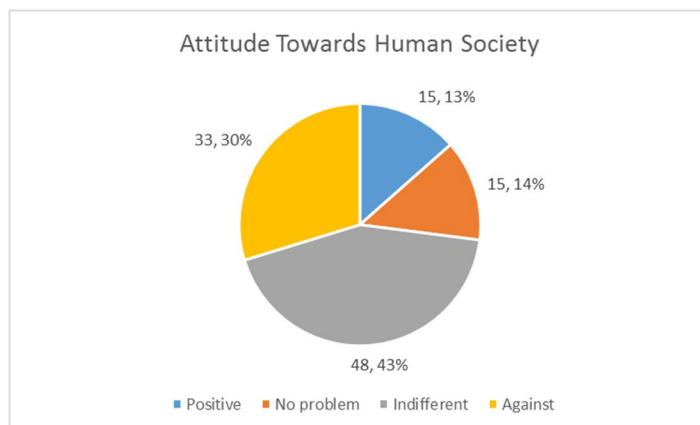
the loss of a single specimen could be very significant. Those who had extinct or otherworldly theriotypes also pointed out the effects on scientific research. Given some of the popular depictions of dragons, a live dragon could help a lot with many problems of the world. After all, they do apparently live for centuries, and dragon tissue cultures would be fascinating to the researcher.

The most interesting reason for saving humans was that it was societally expected—this didn't seem to be a more argument from popularity so much as a healthy desire to avoid getting slapped with criminal charges or ostracized. Indeed, some people said that they would help their theriotypes if no one else was around. The fact that that was the reasoning is kind of disturbing to me. I'm not taking a side either way as to absolute ethics here, but society should not harass people who make such a gut, subjective, painful choice.

Attitudes Towards Others

This section of the survey provided some interesting information. Opinion polls similar to some of the question have been asked of the general populace, which enables me to compare us to Americans, Europeans, and other nationalities and population groups.

It should be noted that the 1995 poll did *not* have this section. Therefore, you will see no comparison between 1995 results and 2013 results.



Attitude Towards Human Society

An interesting question. It can be taken different ways. Does denouncing human society mean that one is against humanity as a whole, or merely its current expression? Which society is one against? Different cultures mean different societies. Can one really make sweeping generalizations as to the worth of human society as a whole when there are so many different versions?

Furthermore, is not the therian subculture a society of humans? Humans who identify as, or with, animals, and have the behavior of animals in some aspects, but nevertheless human in our genes, and human in many if not most of our environmental influences? What makes a society human? Without a doubt, human society has done many awful things, but one can also attribute many *good* things to it.

Moving away from philosophical ponderings, the number of people reporting a positive feeling towards human society has increased by over threefold, with that being taken out of "against" (-4%) and "no problem" (-6%). Perhaps society has grown in the direction we wish it to more over the past few years.

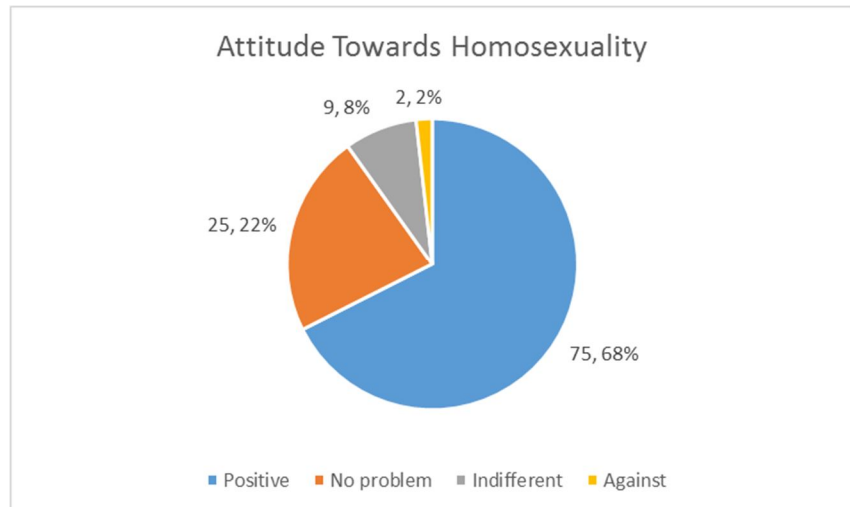


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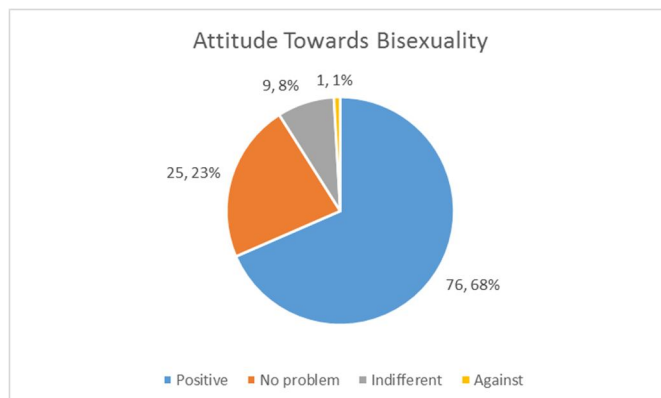
Attitude Towards Homosexuality

Unsurprisingly, especially given that the poll was promoted in very LGBT+ friendly areas, the vast, vast majority did *not* answer “against.”

Proportionally, the same percentage answered “against” as in 1997, though, which means that either A) there are so few people against homosexuality that they are reduced to statistical noise or B) the numbers have stayed exactly the same.



On the other hand, the number of people putting down “positive” has gone from about a third (36%) to about two thirds, which is a pretty dramatic change. Perhaps we are growing more activist about these things?



Attitude Towards Bisexuality

This one surprised me. A lot. Not that one person put that they were against bisexuality, but that one of the people who put that they were against homosexuality did *not* put that they were against bisexuality! Makes me wonder if someone checked the wrong option, though I might just be naïve.

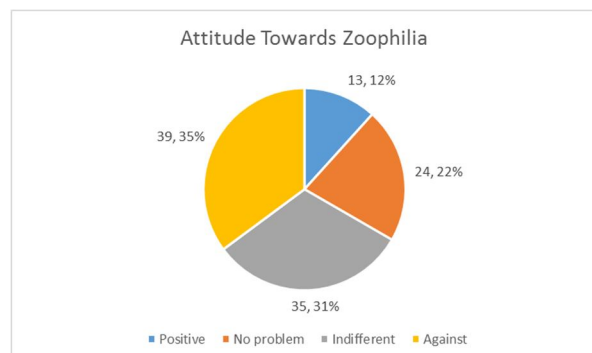
Far more people are supportive of bisexuality than in the past. Only 32% were supportive in

1997, and 6% were against bisexuality.

Attitude Towards Zoophilia

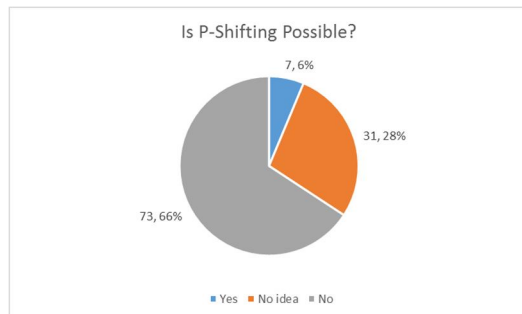
Unsurprisingly, we were far more divided on this issue—though we are, of course, far more accepting of it than the general population, whose reaction to the notion that someone might be sexually attracted to (for example) a duck would be to immediately and loudly label that person a “sicko.”

This is, interestingly, one of the few areas where the rate of acceptance has actually gone *down*. In 1997, 27% were supportive of zoophilia, and a mere 13% were against it. Those percentages have shifted a great deal in favor of “against,” which is unusual. The therian community is a great deal more socially liberal than the general populace, and I think most would consider it to be progressive, but on this matter we seem to have been regressive. I’ve argued in the past for why zoophilia in itself (as opposed



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to actually having sex with animals) is morally neutral, and I haven't come across very good arguments for why zoophilia (again, the attraction, not the sex itself) is morally negative. Given that my experiences with the therian community have shown a strong tendency for rationally-derived ethics, and most opposition to zoophilia (*again, the attraction, not the act of sex*) is derived from gut emotional reactions... why has this happened? I think that the perspective of someone with more experience than myself is required here.



Is P-Shifting Possible?

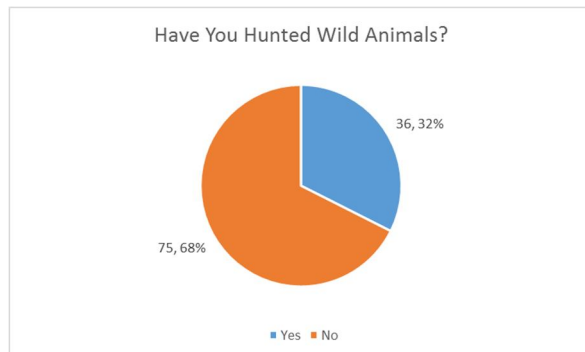
The overwhelming answer is "no," which, given the cultural environment of many of the places where the poll was advertised (emphasis on logical thinking even in spiritual matters), as well as the cultural bias against p-shifting, is not surprising.

Interestingly, in 1997 54% of people put yes. We're a lot more skeptical on the subject than we used to be, that's

for sure.

Attitudes Towards Animals

Therian attitudes towards animals tend to be heavily biased towards animal rights/welfare, in my experience.



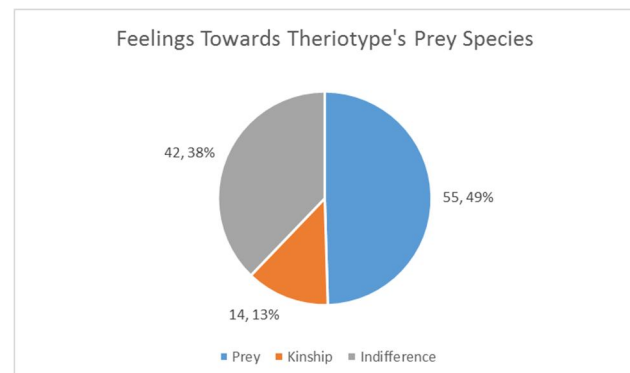
Have You Hunted Wild Animals?

The numbers here have remained exactly what they were in the past. Given that hunting has declined overall in the United States, that's rather surprising.²² However, the wording of the question might be taken to be asking if someone has *ever* hunted, rather than whether or not they are a regular hunter.

Feelings Towards Theriotype's Prey Species

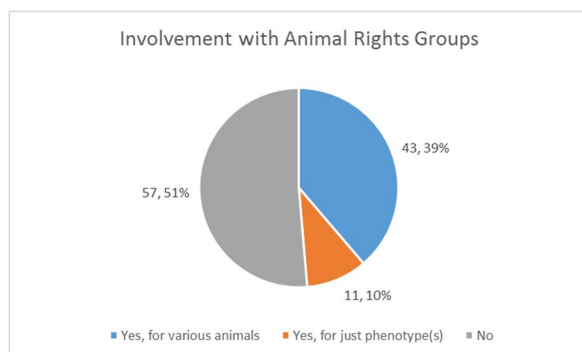
This is a question that I feel would better be served by multiple choice, rather than a question that demands that one only choose one answer (also, I made it required, which puts those who have herbivorous theriotypes in a questionable position). After all, one could theoretically see one's kin as prey.

In any event, fewer people (~8%) report feeling kinship towards prey species.



²² AP. (2010, December 12). As Hunting Declines, Conservation Efforts Suffer. *The New York Times*, pp. D7.





Involvement with Animal Rights Groups

Far more people not involved with animal rights groups (+13%) than before, and the number of people only involved in animal rights for their theriotype has declined (-9%).

Coupled with the rest of the information, I would hypothesize that this is due to therians no longer believing that they have a direct connection in the form of familial kinship to the species—people who

don't believe they have the soul of a wolf, for instance, will take the fight for wolf conservation less personally, though I hasten to point out that those of us who are rationalists are still perfectly capable of taking it as seriously as anyone else.

Diet

More vegetarians (+4%), but the fact that there's a fair bit of question over what, exactly, a vegetarian is adds complexities to the issue at hand. Increasingly, people who eat poultry or fish call themselves vegetarians in common usage of the term, and publicly identify as vegetarians, which could potentially account for the fact that actual vegetarians are usually 1-2% of the populace (if that), with a margin of error of $\pm 5\%$.

