### Are Librarians Cat People?

**Questioning the stereotype of the cat librarian among the French librarian population**

![Top 3 Most Common Names](image)

#### FRENCH LIBRARIANS

- **71%** are cat people (whether exclusively or not)
- **53%** have a cat
- **79%** are women
- **56%** have a cat

#### How to Engage Librarians In Your Research

- **Wondering how many people had a cat?**
- **Inviting you to continue to spread the survey**
- **Evaluating a possible introduction of the survey in your country’s library**
- **Having fun with research**

#### Method

- **Collect the data.** We conducted and shared a survey on professional mailing lists and among our networks. The survey was open between May 2nd and June 9th, 2022 and we gathered 1179 answers.
- **Anonymize.** We didn’t ask or collect any personal information of any kind. We only asked for categorical data.

#### What impact do clichés have on being wanted to enter the library sector?

- **What impact do clichés have on your willingness to enter the library sector?**

#### What do you think we are doing?

- **Improving care for cats:**
- **Linking the ‘guide’ cats to libraries:**
- **Questioning library work/career options:**
- **Asking ourselves about the psychological and sociological reasons for the over-representation of librarians as cat people:**

#### Librarians Are Lazy

- 10% decided to go for a cat because they are autonomous, independent and self-sufficient. 4% ‘hired’ a cat to do their routine work.

#### Cat Wealth Distribution

- 4% of librarians own 35% of the represented cats (133458 cats in total).

#### Librarians Can’t Fight Fate

- In 20% of cases, French librarians had cats before they started working in libraries. In 10% of cases, librarians just adopted a cat and then started working in libraries, believing that they were predestined for the job.

#### Librarians Lack The Right Words

- The top three reasons are: special relationship (43%), having companionship (34%), and cuteness (24%). But mostly, librarians wouldn’t always explain why they like cats, often it’s just ‘the way it is’.

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**References**

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**Images and Diagrams**

- [Image 1](image)
- [Image 2](image)
- [Image 3](image)