



Surging City Rat Populations Amid Climate Change

Description

ESL-NEWS.COM





Rat sightings are on the rise in New York City

Fatih Aktas/Anadolu/Getty Images

A recent study conducted in 16 major cities revealed that rat populations are increasing in areas where temperatures are rising rapidly. The research, led by [Jonathan Richardson](#) from the University of Richmond, focused on analyzing rat complaint data to understand population trends.

The team collected data from 13 U.S. cities along with Tokyo, Amsterdam, and Toronto. While rat numbers are decreasing in some cities like New Orleans and Tokyo, they are on the rise in cities such as Washington DC, New York, and Amsterdam. Factors like temperature increase, urbanization, and human population density were identified as key influencers of rat population growth.

Rising temperatures contribute to higher rat populations, posing a health risk for residents due to rat-borne diseases. To address this issue, cities are advised to tackle the root cause by managing food waste effectively. Implementing measures to restrict rat access to food sources has shown promise, as seen in initiatives in New York City.

The findings emphasize the need for cities to take proactive steps in controlling rat populations as climate change progresses.

Topics: Climate Change, Urbanization, Pest Control

Vocabulary List:

1. **Population** /ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃən/ (noun): The number of inhabitants in a particular area or region.
2. **Urbanization** /ˌɜːrbənəɪˈzeɪʃən/ (noun): The process of making an area more urban typically by building and development.
3. **Influencers** /ˈɪnfluənsəz/ (noun): Factors that have an effect on the growth or behavior of something.
4. **Borne** /bɔːrn/ (verb (past participle)): Carried or transported by (used in context of diseases).
5. **Proactive** /ˌprɒʊˈæktɪv/ (adjective): Creating or controlling a situation rather than just responding to it after it has happened.
6. **Managing** /ˈmænɪdʒɪŋ/ (verb (present participle)): The process of dealing with or controlling things or people.

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. Who led the recent study on rat populations in 16 major cities?
Option: Jonathan Richardson
Option: Emily Thompson
Option: David Smith
Option: Sarah Johnson
2. Which of the following cities had a decreasing rat population according to the study?
Option: New Orleans
Option: Washington DC
Option: Toronto
Option: Amsterdam
3. Which factor was NOT identified as an influencer of rat population growth in cities?
Option: Temperature increase
Option: Urbanization
Option: Human population density
Option: Economic development
4. What is one of the suggested measures to address the increasing rat populations due to rising temperatures?
Option: Plant more trees
Option: Implementing food waste management
Option: Encouraging rat breeding
Option: Building more skyscrapers
5. Which city was NOT mentioned in the text as having a rising rat population?
Option: New York
Option: Washington DC
Option: Amsterdam
Option: Tokyo
6. What do the findings of the study emphasize the need for cities to do?
Option: Increase rat population
Option: Take proactive steps in controlling rat populations
Option: Encourage rat migration
Option: Ignore the issue of rat sightings



True-False

7. Rat populations are increasing in areas where temperatures are rising rapidly.
8. New Orleans and Tokyo saw a rise in rat populations according to the study.
9. Managing food waste effectively is not a suggested solution to address rising rat populations.
10. Urbanization was identified as a key influencer of rat population growth.
11. Rat-borne diseases are not a health risk for residents due to higher rat populations.
12. The study focused on analyzing bird complaint data to understand population trends.

Gap-Fill

13. According to the study, rat numbers are decreasing in some cities like New Orleans and _____.
14. One of the key influencers of rat population growth identified in the study was human population _____.
15. To address the health risk posed by higher rat populations, cities are advised to manage food waste _____.
16. Implementing measures to restrict rat access to food sources has shown _____.
17. The findings emphasize the need for cities to take proactive steps in controlling rat populations as _____ progresses.
18. The team collected data from 13 U.S. cities along with _____ and Toronto.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Jonathan Richardson 2. New Orleans 3. Economic development 4. Implementing food waste management



5. Tokyo 6. Take proactive steps in controlling rat populations

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. Tokyo 14. density 15. effectively 16. promise 17. climate change

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term is used to describe the practice of giving money and time to help make life better for others?

Option: Philanthropy

Option: Urbanization

Option: Prowess

Option: Compliance

2. Which word means important or impactful?

Option: Acceleration

Option: Significant

Option: Predictions

Option: Imbalance

3. Who are individuals who have the power to affect purchase decisions of others?

Option: Managing

Option: Trends

Option: Influencers

Option: Proactive

4. Which word describes something deep or intense?

Option: Profound

Option: Mitigating

Option: Geoblock

Option: Territory

5. What term is used to refer to things that involve more than one country?

Option: Unprecedented

Option: Balancing

Option: Regulator

Option: International

6. Which term refers to conforming to a rule such as a law or regulation?

Option: Territory

Option: Violent



Option: Compliance

Option: Proactive

7. What term is used to describe the process of dealing with or controlling things or people?

Option: Reconsider

Option: Executive

Option: Managing

Option: Displaying

8. What term is used to describe something that involves or is characterized by physical force intended to hurt damage or kill someone or something?

Option: Predictions

Option: Trends

Option: Violent

Option: Imbalance

9. Which term is synonymous with "unprecedented"?

Option: Unexpected

Option: Acceleration

Option: Profound

Option: Philanthropy

10. What term describes the act of making an educated guess about what will happen in the future?

Option: Balancing

Option: Predicting

Option: Trends

Option: Regulator

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Being _____ in addressing potential issues can prevent problems from occurring in the first place.

12. Rapid _____ can lead to overcrowding and strain on infrastructure.

13. The company expanded its operations into new _____ to reach a wider market.

14. The new policy was widely _____ for its lack of clarity and fairness.

15. Technological _____ has transformed the way we live and work in recent years.

16. Effective leadership involves _____ resources and people to achieve organizational



goals.

17. Some websites use _____ to prevent access from certain regions.
18. Data analysis plays a crucial role in _____ market trends and consumer behavior.
19. Proactive measures are essential for _____ risks and minimizing potential damages.
20. Companies must ensure strict _____ with data protection regulations.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Technology has been in improving communication and efficiency in the workplace.
22. She the family business from her parents and continues to run it successfully.
23. The government implemented policies to control the growth of the country's .
24. The consequences of climate change are by vulnerable communities around the world.
25. It is wise to your options before making a decision.
26. The top of the company are responsible for setting the organization's strategic direction.
27. She exceptional leadership skills during the crisis.
28. Successful companies often have competitors who act as copying their strategies.
29. The growing wealth gap has created an in society.
30. The government agency acts as the to ensure compliance with industry standards.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Philanthropy 2. Significant 3. Influencers 4. Profound 5. International 6. Compliance
7. Managing 8. Violent 9. Unexpected 10. Predicting

Gap-Fill: 11. proactive 12. urbanization 13. territory 14. criticized 15. acceleration 16. managing 17.
geoblock 18. predicting 19. mitigating 20. compliance

Matching sentence: 1. instrumental 2. inherited 3. population 4. borne 5. reconsider 6. executive 7. displayed
8. imitators 9. imbalance 10. regulator



CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL3

Date Created

2025/02/02

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM