

## Do dogs or cats love their owners more? Study offers answer



(Matt Cardy / Getty)

A BBC study indicates your cats don't love you very much.

At least, they don't love you as much as your dogs do.

[Today.com reported](#) that dogs are five times more loving of their owners than cats.

The study comes from a [BBC documentary show](#) called "Cats Vs. Dogs."

Researchers studied the chemical oxytocin, which signals bonding with offspring and deep pleasure for humans.

Ten cats and 10 dogs were swabbed for saliva before playing with their owners for 10 minutes.

When they were tested afterward, oxytocin levels were higher in both animals, but the difference is in the amount the chemical increased.

There was a 12 percent increase in the cats tested , with more than a 57 percent spike in dogs.

Dr. Paul Zak, a neuroscientist, worked with the documentary's results and was surprised that dogs produced so much oxytocin.

"It was also a nice surprise to discover that cats produce any at all," he said. "At least some of the time, cats seem to bond with their owners."

