

# CETACEANS SHOWS: THE PUBLIC'S PERSPECTIVE

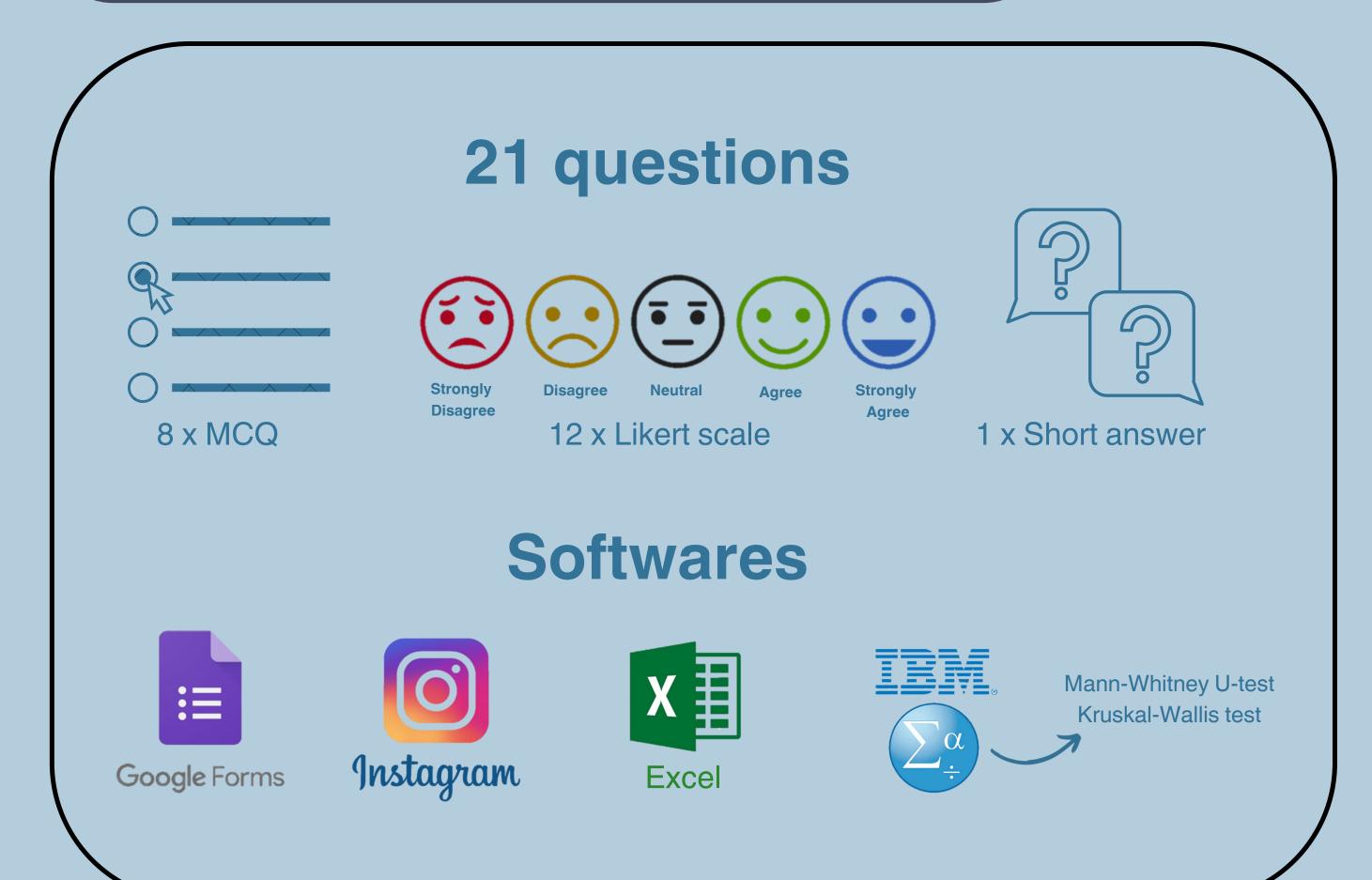
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#### Introduction

Cetaceans shows have grown in popularity on social media, provoking a wide range of emotions. In this study the opinion and perception of the Portuguese population about these shows and the psychological and physical well-being of these animals were analysed.

#### Materials and Methods



## Objectives

- Frequency of people going to cetaceans shows depending on where they live.
- General public opinion on cetaceans shows according to the different demographic contexts.
- Opinion if the shows influence the physical and psychological welfare of the cetaceans in the zoo acording to the education level.





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#### Results and Discussion



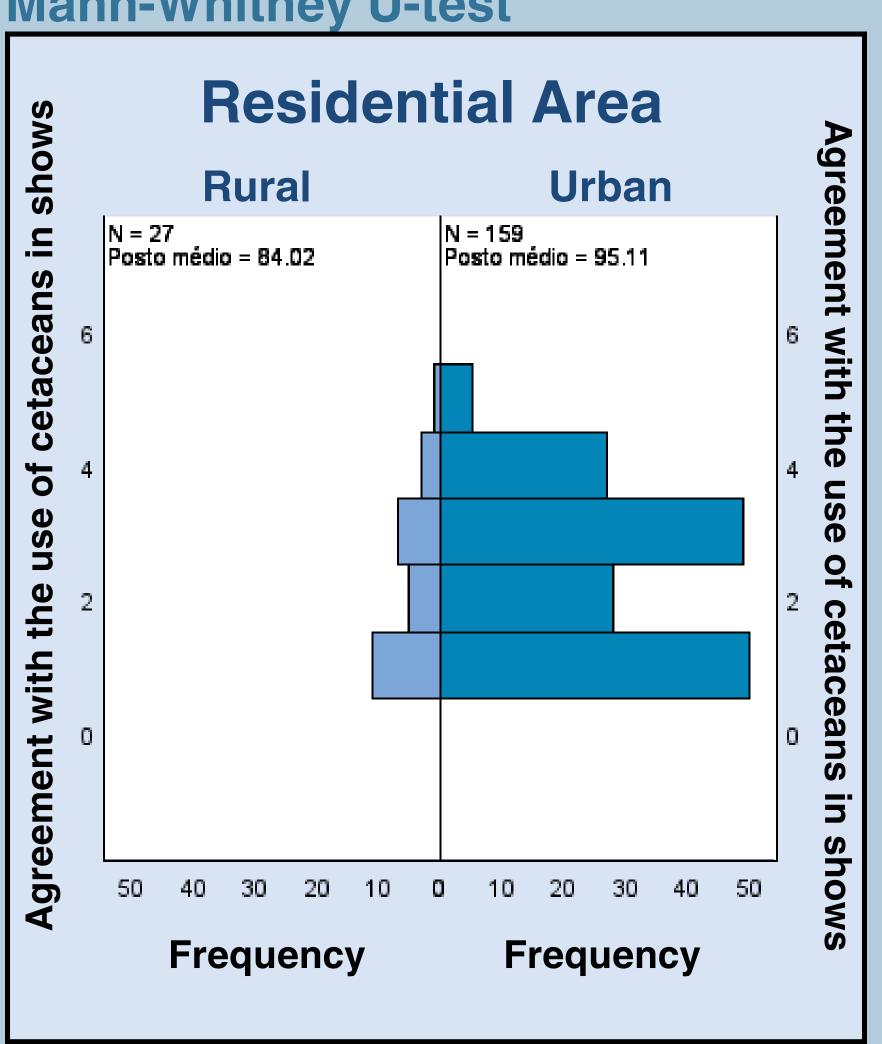
### 186 surveyed people 11 - 62 years old

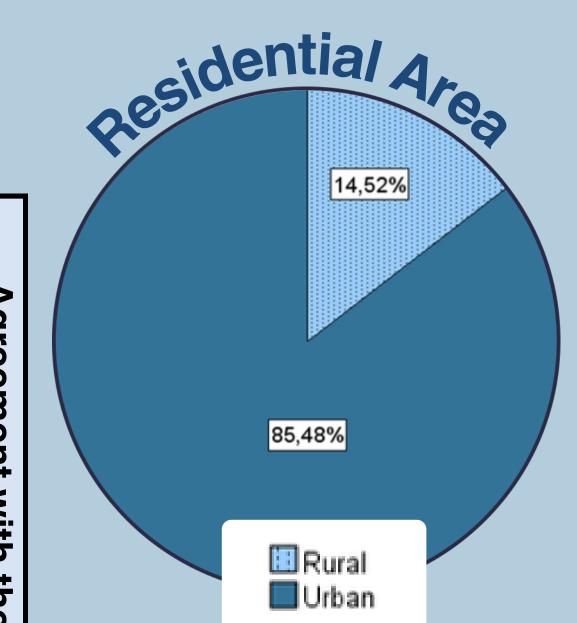
Compared to the population of the rural area, the population living in an urban area assists significantly more shows with cetaceans (p=0.035).

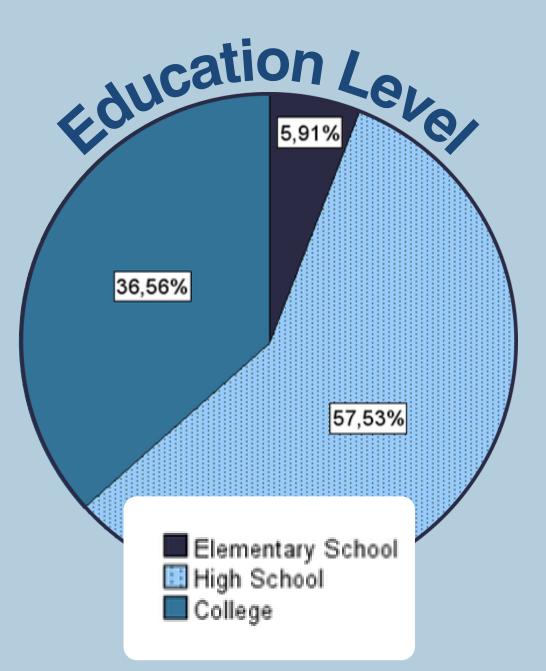
There was also a significant correlation between the education level of the population and their perception of natural behavior of the species (p=0.017).

When asked about the alternative solution to increase the welfare of cetaceans, most inquired people mentioned the release of the animals to their natural habitat. Nevertheless, this solution could lead to the death of these animals due to their adaptability to life in captivity.

#### **Mann-Whitney U-test**







#### Conclusion

Considering the obtained answers, it can be concluded that people are aware of the importance of the welfare of cetaceans in zoological parks, which is strongly related to their education level and living area.