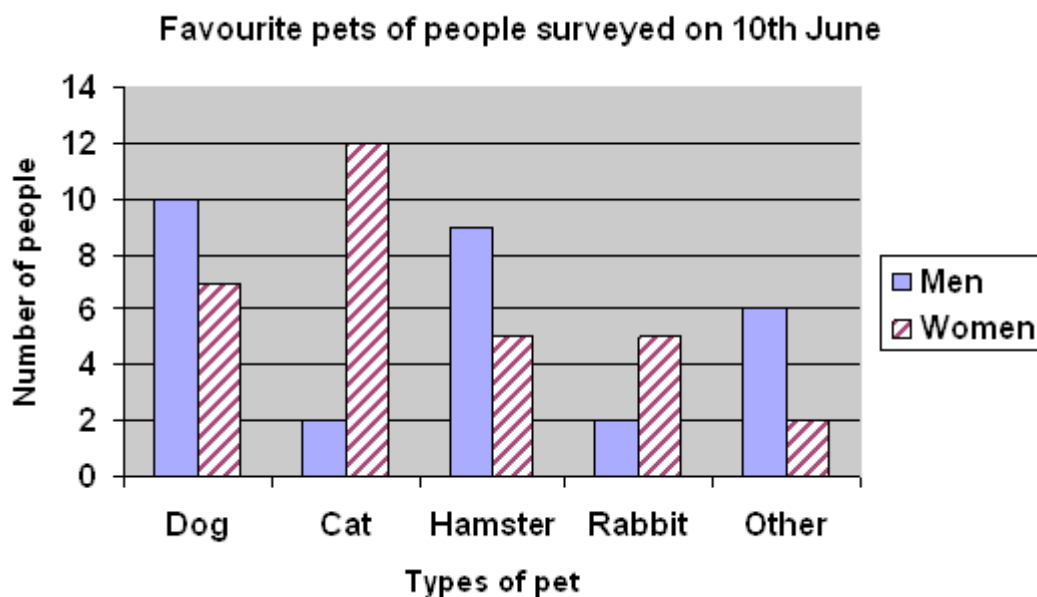


Comparing data using bar charts

A bar chart can be used to compare figures. In the example below, the bars show the result of asking 30 men and 30 women about their favourite pets.

Below is a bar chart with two bars or columns for each category (type of pet). This type of bar chart is known as a dual bar chart.

The **key** on the right hand side of the bar chart shows that the blue (shaded) bars represent the men's answers and the red (lined) bars show the women's answers.



Just by looking at how tall the bars are, you can immediately see that more women than men chose cats as their favourite pet.

You can also find numerical information from the chart. For example, you can work out how many men chose dogs as their favourite by looking at the top of the blue column for dogs and going across to where it comes to on the scale at the side. Ten men chose dogs as their favourite pet.

Important

When a bar chart has more than one type of bar it must always have a **key telling you what each bar represents**.