



Working to end the use of animals in product testing

The good news on animal testing is that thousands of companies around the world have embraced humane methods that don't use animals to test the safety of the products they sell.

The bad news is that despite significant advances in alternative testing methods and vast established knowledge of nontoxic ingredients, animals are still being subjected to excruciating, unnecessary procedures. With your help, the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International have made significant progress toward our goal of ending the use of animals in testing and research. We educate consumers about why and how to buy cruelty-free products, work with the Humane Society Legislative Fund to help pass laws to reduce or ban animal testing and work with corporate leaders to change policies. We achieved critical victories in 2018 that will spare countless animals from needless suffering.

- Our work in California helped lead to the passage of the Cruelty-Free Cosmetics Act, which bans the sale of animal-tested cosmetics as of 2020. Because California has the fifth largest economy in the world, this new law is likely to change how cosmetics companies everywhere test their products.
- Unilever, the world's second largest personal product company, announced its support for our #BeCrueltyFree campaign with HSI to ban cosmetics animal testing globally within five years.
- Virginia prohibited animal testing of cosmetics and other products when an alternative method is available, and banned state funding for painful research on cats and dogs.
- Four more U.S. states—Illinois, Maryland, Rhode Island and Delaware—will now require that dogs and cats used in research be made available for adoption after their time in the lab.
- Japan and South Korea, two of the last countries that still required a cruel yearlong pesticide poisoning test on beagles, officially dropped the test from their regulations in response to pressure from HSI and pesticide companies themselves. HSI's global campaign to abolish this test has also won victories in India, Canada and the European Union.
- South Korea enacted a major revision to a chemical law advanced by HSI that prioritizes animal testing alternatives and establishes a “last resort” principle for new animal testing, potentially sparing hundreds of thousands of animals unnecessary suffering.
- In response to pressure from HSI, a seventh Brazilian state banned cosmetics testing on animals and the state of Rio de Janeiro became the first jurisdiction in the Americas to ban both cosmetics testing on animals and sales of animal-tested cosmetics.