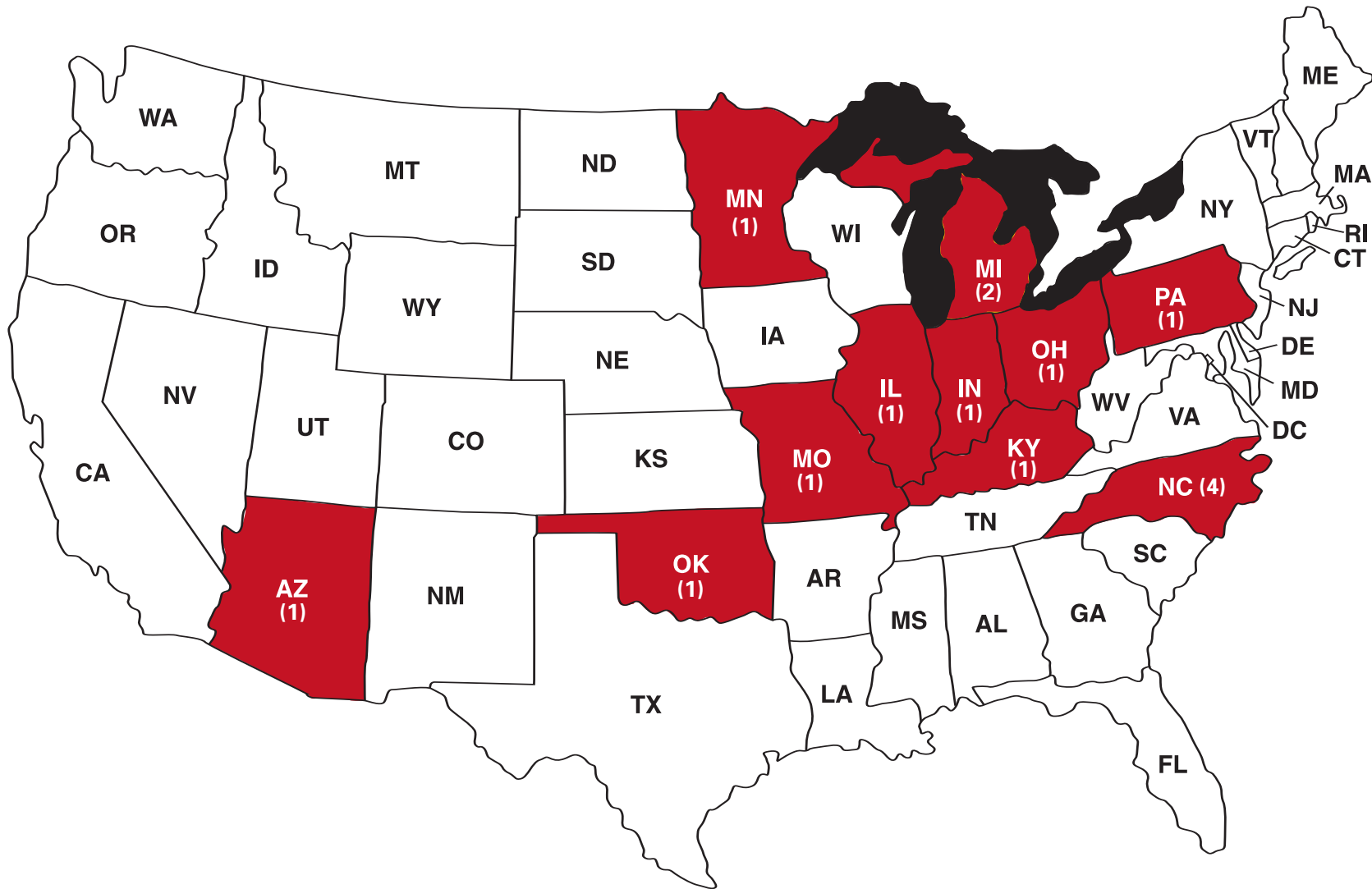


CLASS B DEALERS OF RANDOM SOURCE DOGS AND CATS



Class B dealers are licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to buy animals from “random sources”—the animals are not bred or raised on the dealers’ property but are acquired from sources including auctions, flea markets, and animal shelters—and to sell them to research facilities for biomedical research, testing, or educational purposes. Class B dealers also buy animals from “bunchers,” unlicensed dealers who have been known to acquire lost, stray, and “free to good home” dogs and cats—and even pets stolen from their owners’ backyards.

In addition to concerns about sources of animals that enter the Class B dealer pipeline, there are also questions about the treatment of the animals while they are being held at dealer facilities awaiting sale for research. Numerous documented cases of Animal Welfare Act violations have occurred at Class B facilities.

Of the 15 Class B dealers of random source dogs and cats who sell to research facilities, the USDA is investigating four. The locations of the 15 dealers are depicted in the accompanying map.