

PetPoint Report: December 2012

The PetPoint Report is a monthly gauge of U.S. pet owner demand for cats and dogs available for adoption. Data is aggregated via the PetPoint Animal Management Software, a cloud-based application developed and launched in 2005. PetPoint is the most widely used animal management application in North American animal welfare.

The December PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1073 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from 2011. For the purposes here, AWOs are defined as animal control agencies, SPCAs, humane societies and rescue groups. Only data from AWOs operating PetPoint during both December 2011 and December 2012 have been included.

The report includes data on 122,524 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 140,329 cats and dogs that left AWOs over the same period (referred to as Outcomes). Only data for cats and dogs is reported here. AWOs from 47 states (excluding Alaska, Delaware, and Hawaii), Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands are represented in this report.

Intakes

Cats

- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 17,705, a decline of 9% from December 2011.
- Cats returned to shelters from owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,199, an increase of 5% from the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 14% to 2,983.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 20,842, a decline of 9%.
- 6,026 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 2%.
- Total intakes of all cats into AWOs equaled 49,755 during December 2012, a decline of 8% from December 2011.

Dogs

- Owner surrenders totaled 20,377, a decline of 13% from December 2011.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,939, an increase of 3% from the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 16% to 6,557.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 25,665, a decline of 8%.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 16,231, a decrease of 5%.
- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 72,769 during December 2012, a decline of 9% from December 2011.

Outcomes

Cats

- 40,637 cats were adopted in December 2012, an increase of 3% year over year.
- A total of 1,078 cats died (excluding euthanasia) while in AWOs during December 2012, which represents no change compared to December of last year.
- Euthanasia totaled 17,668, a decline of 21% from December last year.
- 1,407 cats were returned to their owners, an increase of 9% compared to December 2011.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 5% to 3,986.
- In December 2012, a total of 64,776 cats left AWOs during December 2012, a decline of 5% from December 2011.

Dogs

- 42,576 dogs were adopted in December 2012, an increase of 1% year over year.
- The number of dogs that died while in shelters totaled 680 (excluding euthanasia), a decline of 38% over 2011.
- Euthanasia totaled 15,357, a decline of 25% from December last year.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 8,498, a decline of 2% compared to December 2011.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 8% to 8,442.
- In December 2012, a total of 75,553 dogs left AWOs during December 2012, a decline of 8% from December 2011.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$64 in December 2012, which represents an increase of 3% from December 2011.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$41, which represents a 5% increase compared to December of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$121, a 5% increase over December 2011.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$85, a decrease of 2% compared to December of last year.

PetPoint reports are published monthly on the third Monday of each month, excluding holidays, in which case they are published the following business day.

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