

PetPoint Report: Year-End 2012

This special edition PetPoint Report for the Year-End 2012 offers a complete year over year comparison of U.S. pet owner demand for dogs and cats 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 Year-End PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1212 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 2011 and 2012 have been included.

The report includes data on 1,802,710 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the year (referred to as Intakes) and 1,753,027 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 283,232, a decline of 6% from 2011.
- Cats returned to shelters from owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 25,514, an increase of 7% from the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 5% to 54,596.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 404,828, which represents a decrease of 3% over the previous year.
- 91,163 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, an increase of 9%.
- Total intakes of all cats into AWOs equaled 859,333 during 2012, a decrease of 2% from 2011.

Dogs

- Owner surrenders totaled 270,257, a decline of 6% from 2011.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 46,613, an increase of 7% from the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 5% to 89,578.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 336,550, a decline of 5%.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 200,379, an increase of 6%.
- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 943,377 during 2012, a decrease of 3% from 2011.

Outcomes

Cats

- 379,850 cats were adopted in 2012, an increase of 5% year over year.
- A total of 22,559 cats died (excluding euthanasia) while in AWOs during 2012, which represents an increase of 1% compared to last year.
- Euthanasia totaled 355,669, a decline of 12% from last year.
- 18,145 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 1% compared to 2011.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 8% to 55,176.
- In 2012, a total of 831,399 cats left AWOs during 2012, a decrease of 3% from 2011.

Dogs

- 453,074 dogs were adopted in 2012, an increase of 5% year over year.
- The number of dogs that died while in shelters totaled 9,858 (excluding euthanasia), a decline of 28% over 2011.
- Euthanasia totaled 241,487, a decline of 14% from last year.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 112,724, a decrease of 3% compared to 2011.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 1% to 104,485.
- In 2012, a total of 921,628 dogs left AWOs during 2012, a decrease of 3% from 2011.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$65 in 2012, which represents no change from 2011.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$42, which represents no change compared to last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$121, a 3% increase over 2011.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$90, a decrease of 1% compared to 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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