

PetPoint Report: December 2018

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 1200 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from the same month in 2017. 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 2017 and December 2018 have been included.

The report includes data on 128,178 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 158,765 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 49 states, as well as Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands are represented in this report; AWOs from North Dakota are excluded.

Intakes

Cats

- Total intakes of all cats into AWOs equaled 53,292 during December 2018, which represents a 3.9% decrease from December 2017.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 16,931, a decrease of 3.1% from December 2017.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,507, a decrease of 7.8% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 22,667, which represents a 4.0% decrease from December 2017.
- In December 2018, 8,429 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 0.9% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 12.3% during December 2018 to 2,758.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 74,886 during December 2018, a decrease of 4.9% from December 2017.
- Owner surrenders totaled 17,861, a decrease of 6.1% from December 2017.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 4,654, an increase of 1.0% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 26,418, an increase of 1.6% from December 2017.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 17,480 in December 2018, a decrease of 14.0% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 3.8% during December 2018 to 8,473.

Outcomes

Cats

- In December 2018, 76,734 cats left AWOs, which represents a 1.1% increase from December 2017.
- 55,110 cats were adopted in December 2018, which represents a 0.3% increase year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 9,262, a decline of 19.3% from December of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 50.1% to 9,242.
- 1,852 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 5.6% compared to December 2017.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 1,268 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 3.7% decrease from December 2017 to December 2018.

Dogs

- In December 2018, 82,031 dogs left AWOs, a decrease of 0.9% from December 2017.
- 48,411 dogs were adopted in December 2018, which represents a 0.1% decrease from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 8,661, a decline of 10.7% from December of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 0.4% to 12,777.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 11,523, which represents a 3.3% increase compared to December 2017.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 659 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 13.1% decrease from December 2017 to December 2018.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$76 in December 2018, which represents a 2.7% increase from December 2017.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$46, which represents a 2.2% increase compared to December of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$183, which represents an 11.6% increase from December 2017.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$103, which represents a 4.0% increase 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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