

PetPoint Report: September 2020

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 September PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1151 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from the same month in 2019. 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 September 2019 and September 2020 have been included.

The report includes data on 136,582 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 128,072 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 77,304 during September 2020, which represents a 7.3% decrease from September 2019.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 21,117, a decrease of 8.8% from September 2019.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,071, a decrease of 20.8% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 38,614, which represents an 8.3% decrease from September 2019.
- In September 2020, 10,795 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, an increase of 1.9% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 5.1% during September 2020 to 4,707.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 59,278 during September 2020, a decrease of 20.4% from September 2019.
- Owner surrenders totaled 13,764, a decrease of 19.0% from September 2019.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,173, a decrease of 22.2% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 20,284, a decrease of 22.9% from September 2019.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 14,571 in September 2020, a decrease of 14.1% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 25.9% during September 2020 to 7,486.

Outcomes

Cats

- In September 2020, 70,514 cats left AWOs, which represents a 10.8% decrease from September 2019.
- 46,525 cats were adopted in September 2020, which represents a 4.0% decrease year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 9,709, a decline of 37.3% from September of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 2.7% to 9,693.
- 2,013 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 14.6% compared to September 2019.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 2,574 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 22.6% decrease from September 2019 to September 2020.

Dogs

- In September 2020, 57,558 dogs left AWOs, a decrease of 22.0% from September 2019.
- 31,812 dogs were adopted in September 2020, which represents a 20.5% decrease from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 4,686, a decline of 41.8% from September of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 17.8% to 10,272.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 10,396, which represents a 17.7% decrease compared to September 2019.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 392 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 28.7% decrease from September 2019 to September 2020.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$86 in September 2020, which represents a 4.9% increase from September 2019.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$54, which represents a 10.2% increase compared to September of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$201, which represents a 15.5% increase from September 2019.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$116, which represents a 9.4% increase compared to September 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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