

PetPoint Report: January 2021

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 January PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1144 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from the same month in 2020. 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 January 2020 and January 2021 have been included.

The report includes data on 101,353 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 108,182 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 43,924 during January 2021, which represents a 15.6% decrease from January 2020.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 14,211, a decrease of 16.0% from January 2020.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 1,929, a decrease of 18.5% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 16,525, which represents a 17.6% decrease from January 2020.
- In January 2021, 8,503 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 9.0% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 18.5% during January 2021 to 2,756.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 57,429 during January 2021, a decrease of 26.5% from January 2020.
- Owner surrenders totaled 14,874, a decrease of 23.6% from January 2020.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,168, a decrease of 24.7% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 18,391, a decrease of 29.3% from January 2020.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 14,387 in January 2021, a decrease of 24.3% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 30.2% during January 2021 to 6,609.

Outcomes

Cats

- In January 2021, 51,943 cats left AWOs, which represents a 11.7% decrease from January 2020.
- 38,561 cats were adopted in January 2021, which represents a 7.0% decrease year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 4,310, a decline of 40.2% from January of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 8.5% to 6,897.
- 1,520 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 17.8% compared to January 2020.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 655 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 14.9% decrease from January 2020 to January 2021.

Dogs

- In January 2021, 56,239 dogs left AWOs, a decrease of 24.4% from January 2020.
- 31,662 dogs were adopted in January 2021, which represents a 22.3% decrease from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 4,272, a decline of 43.4% from January of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 20.6% to 10,774.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 9,054, which represents a 23.8% decrease compared to January 2020.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 477 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 26.6% decrease from January 2020 to January 2021.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$86 in January 2021, which represents an 11.7% increase from January 2020.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$57, which represents an 11.8% increase compared to January of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$201, which represents an 11.7% increase from January 2020.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$120, which represents a 15.4% increase compared to January 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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