

PetPoint Report: May 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 May PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1124 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 May 2020 and May 2021 have been included.

The report includes data on 143,468 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 116,821 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 82,409 during May 2021, which represents a 27.3% increase from May 2020.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 23,296, an increase of 30.1% from May 2020.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,029, an increase of 45.0% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 39,856, which represents a 22.8% increase from May 2020.
- In May 2021, 12,182 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, an increase of 31.3% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 37.0% during May 2021 to 5,046.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 61,059 during May 2021, an increase of 25.9% from May 2020.
- Owner surrenders totaled 15,420, an increase of 23.9% from May 2020.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,612, an increase of 31.5% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 20,282, an increase of 18.9% from May 2020.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 14,208 in May 2021, an increase of 36.2% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 29.5% during May 2021 to 7,537.

Outcomes

Cats

- In May 2021, 57,492 cats left AWOs, which represents a 33.1% increase from May 2020.
- 34,641 cats were adopted in May 2021, which represents a 28.1% increase year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 8,311, an increase of 35.0% from May of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 38.9% to 10,184.
- 1,909 cats were returned to their owners, an increase of 68.2% compared to May 2020.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 2,447 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 60.8% increase from May 2020 to May 2021.

Dogs

- In May 2021, 59,329 dogs left AWOs, increase of 19.9% from May 2020.
- 32,951 dogs were adopted in May 2021, which represents a 16.7% increase from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 5,135, an increase of 26.0% from May of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 20.7% to 9,740.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 10,972, which represents a 26.1% increase compared to May 2020.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 531 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 38.3% increase from May 2020 to May 2021.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$89 in May 2021, which represents an 11.3% increase from May 2020.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$57, which represents an 11.8% increase compared to May of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$211, which represents a 21.3% increase from May 2020.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$120, which represents a 16.5% increase compared to May 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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