

PetPoint Report: October 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 October PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1134 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 October 2020 and October 2021 have been included.

The report includes data on 134,529 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 134,294 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 72,369 during October 2021, which represents a 3.2% decrease from October 2020.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 19,347, a decrease of 6.2% from October 2020.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,351, an increase of 7.9% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 36,837, which represents a 1.7% decrease from October 2020.
- In October 2021, 9,076 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 12.3% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 15.3% during October 2021 to 4,758.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 62,160 during October 2021, an increase of 2.9% from October 2020.
- Owner surrenders totaled 13,886, a decrease of 1.5% from October 2020.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,564, an increase of 10.6% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 23,488, an increase of 12.6% from October 2020.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 13,037 in October 2021, a decrease of 13.7% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 15.2% during October 2021 to 8,185.

Outcomes

Cats

- In October 2021, 72,582 cats left AWOs, which represents a 4.0% decrease from October 2020.
- 49,740 cats were adopted in October 2021, which represents a 1.1% decrease year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 10,001, a decline of 4.7% from October of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 18.9% to 8,112.
- 2,231 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 2.5% compared to October 2020.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 2,498 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 1.1% decrease from October 2020 to October 2021.

Dogs

- In October 2021, 61,712 dogs left AWOs, increase of 3.2% from October 2020.
- 33,463 dogs were adopted in October 2021, which represents a 2.3% increase from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 6,332, an increase of 25.3% from October of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 11.3% to 9,545.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 11,923, which represents a 9.6% increase compared to October 2020.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 449 (excluding euthanasia), which represents an 11.4% increase from October 2020 to October 2021.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$87 in October 2021, which represents no change from October 2020.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$56, which represents a 7.7% increase compared to October of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$191, which represents a 6.8% decrease from October 2020.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$115, which represents a 1.7% decrease compared to October 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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