

PetPoint Report: December 2017

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 1259 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from the same month in 2016. 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 2016 and December 2017 have been included.

The report includes data on 137,720 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 164,415 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 57,003 during December 2017, which represents a 4.6% decrease from December 2016.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 17,808, a decrease of 6.2% from December 2016.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,888, an increase of 4.6% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 24,111, which represents a 5.2% decrease from December 2016.
- In December 2017, 8,927 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 2.6% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 4.8% during December 2017 to 3,269.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 80,717 during December 2017, a decrease of 4.7% from December 2016.
- Owner surrenders totaled 19,197, a decrease of 9.9% from December 2016.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 4,899, a decrease of 1.0% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 26,238, a decrease of 4.7% from December 2016.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 21,316 in December 2017, an increase of 0.6% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 7.2% during December 2017 to 9,067.

Outcomes

Cats

- In December 2017, 78,352 cats left AWOs, which represents a 0.8% increase from December 2016.
- 57,333 cats were adopted in December 2017, which represents a 6.0% increase year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 11,296, a decline of 14.1% from December of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 9.4% to 6,462.
- 1,963 cats were returned to their owners, an increase of 6.9% compared to December 2016.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 1,298 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 12.9% decrease from December 2016 to December 2017.

Dogs

- In December 2017, 86,063 dogs left AWOs, a decrease of 3.6% from December 2016.
- 50,892 dogs were adopted in December 2017, which represents a 1.0% decrease from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 9,697, a decline of 14.0% from December of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 5.0% to 13,368.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 11,362, which represents a 3.1% decrease compared to December 2016.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 744 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 7.3% decrease from December 2016 to December 2017.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$74 in December 2017, which represents a 5.7% increase from December 2016.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$45, which represents a 7.1% increase compared to December of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$165, which represents an 8.6% increase from December 2016.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$99, which represents a 7.6% 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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