

PetPoint Report: December 2013

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 1,165 animal welfare organizations (“AWOs”) in the United States and compares it to data from 2012. 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 2012 and December 2013 have been included.

The report includes data on 125,133 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 144,860 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, Washington D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands are represented in this report; AWOs from North Dakota are excluded.

Intakes

Cats

- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 16,674, a decrease of 10% from December 2012.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,312, which represents no change from the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 6% during December 2013 to 3,305.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 21,593, which represents a 4% decrease from December 2012.
- In December 2013, 6,672 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, an increase of 6% over the previous year.
- Total intakes of all cats into AWOs equaled 50,556 during December 2013, which represents a 5% decrease from December 2012.

Dogs

- Owner surrenders totaled 20,168, a decrease of 7% from December 2012.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,919, a decrease of 4% from the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies decreased 2% during December 2013 to 7,673.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 25,727, a decrease of 8% from December 2012.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 17,090 in December 2013, a decrease of 1% over the previous year.
- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 74,577 during December 2013, a decrease of 5% from December 2012.

Outcomes

Cats

- 43,046 cats were adopted in December 2013, which represents a 1% increase year over year.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 1,396 (excluding euthanasia), which represents an 18% increase from December 2012 to December 2013.
- Euthanasia totaled 17,259, a decline of 10% from December of last year.
- 1,294 cats were returned to their owners, a decrease of 13% compared to December 2012.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 1% to 4,351.
- In December 2013, 67,346 cats left AWOs, a 2% decrease from December 2012.

Dogs

- 42,576 dogs were adopted in December 2013, which represents a 5% decrease from the previous year.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 865 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 3% increase year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 16,220, a decrease of 5% from December of last year.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 8,484, which represents an 8% decrease compared to December 2012.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations totaled 9,369, which represents no change from the previous year.
- In December 2013, 77,514 dogs left AWOs, a decrease of 5% from December 2012.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$63 in December 2013, which represents a 2% decrease from December 2012.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$39, which represents a 5% decrease compared to December of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$123, a 3% increase from December 2012.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$87, an increase of 4% compared to December of last year.

Third-Party Adoptions

569 AWOs conducted third-party adoptions at PetSmart, Petco, or other offsite events or facilities during December 2012 and December 2013.

- Overall third-party adoptions, which represented 12.0% of the total adoptions in December 2012 and 11.7% of the total adoptions in December 2013, decreased 4.7% year over year.
- 233 or 40.9% of the AWOs conducting third-party adoptions did so at PetSmart in December 2013. Their 5,257 adoptions represent 52.5% of third-party adoptions for December 2013.

- 141 or 24.8% of the AWOs conducting third-party adoptions did so at Petco in December 2013. Their 1,908 adoptions represent 19.0% of third-party adoptions for December 2013.
- 195 or 34.3% of the AWOs conducting third-party adoptions did so at other offsite events or facilities in December 2013. Their 2,853 adoptions represent 28.5% of third-party adoptions for December 2013.

PetPoint reports are published monthly on the third Monday of each month, excluding holidays, in which case they are published the following business day. The PetPoint Year-End report will be published on Wednesday, January 22, 2014.

For more information, or to find out how you can subscribe for regional, state, quarterly or annual data, please contact:

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