PetPoint Report: August 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 August PetPoint Report aggregates data from 1136 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 August 2020 and August 2021 have been included.

The report includes data on 136,877 cats and dogs that entered AWOs during the month (referred to as Intakes) and 136,771 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 75,140 during August 2021, which represents a 1.7% decrease from August 2020.
- Owner surrenders of cats totaled 20,398, a decrease of 4.8% from August 2020.
- Cats returned by owners previously adopting from the same organization totaled 2,300, an increase of 8.8% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray cats totaled 37,574, which represents a 0.6% decrease from August 2020.
- In August 2021, 9,815 cats were transferred in from other AWOs, a decrease of 10.9% over the previous year.
- Seizures of cats conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 22.9% during August 2021 to 5,053.

Dogs

- Total intakes of all dogs equaled 61,737 during August 2021, an increase of 4.4% from August 2020.
- Owner surrenders totaled 14,188, an increase of 0.8% from August 2020.
- Returns of dogs previously adopted from the same organizations totaled 3,556, an increase of 11.2% from the previous year.
- Intakes of stray dogs totaled 22,894, an increase of 17.4% from August 2020.
- Transfers of dogs into AWOs totaled 13,142 in August 2021, a decrease of 12.0% over the previous year.
- Seizures of dogs conducted by law enforcement agencies increased 6.5% during August 2021 to 7,957.

Outcomes

Cats

- In August 2021, 74,988 cats left AWOs, which represents a 1.7% increase from August 2020.
- 51,052 cats were adopted in August 2021, which represents a 2.9% increase year over year.
- Euthanasia totaled 10,682, an increase of 13.1% from August of last year.
- Transfers of cats out of reporting AWOs to other organizations decreased 15.4% to 8,646.
- 2,003 cats were returned to their owners, an increase of 2.5% compared to August 2020.
- The number of cats that died while in AWOs totaled 2,605 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 4.1% increase from August 2020 to August 2021.

Dogs

- In August 2021, 61,783 dogs left AWOs, increase of 5.6% from August 2020.
- 33,194 dogs were adopted in August 2021, which represents a 1.4% increase from the previous year.
- Euthanasia totaled 6,544, an increase of 32.0% from August of last year.
- Transfers of dogs from reporting AWOs to other organizations increased 0.4% to 10,304.
- Dogs returned to owners totaled 11,197, which represents a 10.3% increase compared to August 2020.
- The number of dogs that died while in AWOs totaled 544 (excluding euthanasia), which represents a 36.3% increase from August 2020 to August 2021.

Adoption Fees

- Adoption fees for cats younger than 1 year of age averaged \$86 in August 2021, which represents a 2.4% increase from August 2020.
- Adoption fees for cats older than 1 year of age averaged \$55, which represents a 3.8% increase compared to August of last year.
- For dogs less than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$186, which represents a 7.5% decrease from August 2020.
- For dogs older than 1 year of age, adoption fees averaged \$111, which represents a 5.1% decrease compared to August 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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