

Multnomah County Animal Services Fee Study 2025

September 30, 2025

I. Executive Summary

This fee study assesses the current fee structure of the Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS) Division, determining the percentage of operational costs recovered through fees. It also compares some of the MCAS fees to other jurisdictions. The study was initiated based on Budget Note #8 from the Board of County Commissioners, which requested a fee assessment by September 30, 2025.

Background

MCAS has a wide range of pet licensing fees and other types of fees, ranging from the commonly-known dog license to the lesser-known, and lesser used fees regarding exotic animal permits. Some of the fees are required by state statute, others are in county code and some are set by MCAS. This is covered in the legal and policy section. See **Appendix A** for a full list of MCAS-related fees.

This report only addresses MCAS fees - not fines. A fine and a fee are distinct monetary charges, differentiated by their underlying purpose: a fine is a sum of money levied as a punishment for violating a law, rule, or regulation; conversely, a fee is a charge for an administrative service, privilege, or cost recovery, and is not punitive. An example of a fine would be charged to a person for violating state law relating to dangerous dogs. An example of a fee is a pet license. This report only examines fees.

The study utilized financial data and operational data from FY 2021 to FY 2025 to calculate cost recovery and analyze fee collection. Comparative data was gathered through online searches of fee schedules from other Oregon counties and comparable metropolitan jurisdictions across the United States. Additionally, stakeholder engagement with MCAS employees provided insights into operational challenges, and a review of relevant state statutes, county codes, and policies informed legal and policy considerations.

Key Findings

Revenue

Most of the MCAS revenue, about 97%, comes from dog and cat licenses and adoption fees. The other 3% comes from various small charges like facility licenses, vet fees and other fees.

- **Cost Recovery:** Over the last five years, MCAS has recovered an average of \$1,166,000 annually from these fees. The percentage of total costs covered by these fees has also varied, from a high of 19.2% in 2021 to a low of 10.5% in 2025. This is because the overall expenses for MCAS have been going up due to hiring more staff, rising costs of services and general inflation.

Pet Licensing

Pet Licensing is important for public health and for reunification of pets and owners.

- **Dog Licenses:** When compared to other jurisdictions, the MCAS dog license fee for altered dogs is on the higher side compared to other counties in Oregon, and also higher on average when compared to other large cities and counties of comparable size across the country.
- **Cat Licenses:** Cat licenses are not required in Oregon, but it is not common in big cities. That said, MCAS cat license fees are lower than what many other big cities charge.
- **Variation in Costs:** In the course of our research, we found that some places charge more for animals that are not spayed or neutered to encourage people to get the procedure done. Our fee for an unaltered animal is 1.56 times higher than for an altered one, but some cities charge as much as 10 times more.
- **Discounts:** Like most other places, MCAS offers lower fees for senior citizens. Some other cities also offer discounts for people with disabilities or low income, and no charge for service animals.
- **Legal Considerations:** Oregon state law mandates minimum dog licensing and impoundment fees, and requires a separate Dog License Fund. Counties have discretion in setting final amounts, as well as fees for cats and other animals.
- **Compliance:** Accessibility and incentivization of licensing are important for maximizing compliance. Multnomah County has a relatively low compliance

rate when compared to other jurisdictions. While there have been recent modest increases in licensing, as of September 2025, there were 38,200 active licenses for the estimated 242,045 owned dogs in Multnomah County (15.8% compliance), and 21,974 active licenses for the estimated 204,914 owned cats in the county (10.7% compliance).¹ This compared to 2009 rough estimates of 25% compliance for dogs, and 7% compliance for cats.² There are ample opportunities to raise license compliance to a healthy rate by industry standards (>20%) and increase revenue by volume in the process.

Recommendation for Pet Licensing: We recommend no change in fees for pet licensing. Given the relatively low compliance rate for licensing in Multnomah County, the recommendation is to keep dog and cat licensing fees at the same rate and focus on strategies to increase accessibility, outreach, and enforcement to improve compliance and increase revenue.

Adoption Fees

Adoption fees help cover the costs of caring and feeding of the animals. At the same time, MCAS encourages and promotes adoptions; therefore the ability to discount or waive the cost of adoption fees must be considered from a policy perspective.

- **Adoption Fees:** Animal Services offers lower adoption fees for adult and senior animals compared to other Oregon counties, but fees for puppies and kittens are generally higher. Specifically, fees for senior and young adult dogs and cats are between 9% and 38% lower than the state average for other counties, while puppy and kitten adoption fees are 7% and 15% higher than other counties, respectively.
- **Legal Considerations:** Current county code sets a minimum amount for dog fee adoptions, and according to county code, adoption fees can be waived by the MCAS Director.
- **Policy Considerations:** High adoption fees can create a disincentive for adoption, and potentially result in increased length of stay for animals and limited kennel capacity to serve other animals in need at MCAS. Some jurisdictions use variable adoption fees and/or specialty fees to encourage adoption of certain animals.

¹ Estimated per the 2024 AVMA Pet Ownership and Demographic Sourcebook, and the 2023 Multnomah County Household Census

² Willamette Week, Pet Offenders, May 19, 2009.

- **Discounts and Waivers:** Animal Services holds periodic adoption specials to reduce fees. Fees should be balanced for revenue and to reduce barriers to adoption, giving the Director discretion to reduce or waive adoption fees as appropriate per industry recommendations. MCAS will write a formal policy with criteria to document when the MCAS Director can waive fees or hold an adoption sale.

Recommendation for Adoption Fees: The recommendation is to keep the current fee structure while exploring a variable adoption fee schedule and/or speciality fees. MCAS will also develop an operational policy for how and when discounts and waivers are given by the MCAS Director.

Other Fees

MCAS also examined the utility and application of other existing fees and identified the need to update the county code to better align with the MCAS's current practices and jurisdictional authority.

- **Impound Fees:** We recommend eliminating impound fees. This is a move toward more progressive animal welfare policies and helps prevent unnecessary hardship for pet owners, and an administrative burden to MCAS. MCAS will consider a donation structure. MCAS will retain the authority to fine owners if they violate county code in a matter related to impoundment.
- **Other Fees:** We recommend eliminating fees for things that are no longer in MCAS's jurisdiction or no longer applicable, such as certain facility licenses relating to exotic, wild and dangerous animals. We also suggest removing the fee for cremation services.

Summary: We recommend focusing on compliance of pet owners with pet licensing to maximize revenue to the County. This will have no fiscal impact to pet owners who are compliant, while increasing overall revenue. We also recommended administrative changes to the county code to best align with current and best practices.

II. Purpose of the Fee Study

In the adoption for the FY 2026 Budget, DCS was directed by the Board of Commissioners in Budget Note #8 as follows:

Budget Note #8

Animal Services Fee Study:

Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS) collects a number of fees, including pet and facility licensing fees and boarding and adoption fees. MCAS has not increased any fees since 2019 after analysis of neighboring counties. This budget note requests the Chair direct the Department of Community Services (DCS), of which MCAS is a division of, to conduct an Animal Services fees assessment study work plan distributed to the Board of County Commissioners (Board of County Commissioners) by July 30, 2025 and provide a comprehensive Animal Services fee assessment with recommendations distributed to the Board of County Commissioners by September 30, 2025.

This study assesses the current fee structure at MCAS; compares it to other relevant jurisdictions; determines the percentage of operational costs recovered through fees; and ultimately provides data-driven recommendations for potential fee adjustments or policy changes. This assessment will also include legal and policy considerations that reflect the goals and values of MCAS.

Since pet licenses and adoption fees together make up almost 97% of the fee revenue, the majority of this report focuses on pet licensing and adoption fees. For the purpose of the comparative analysis study, this report focuses on these two types of fees for our comparative study across jurisdictions.

III. Data and Methodology

The data that was used for the purpose of this study are as follows:

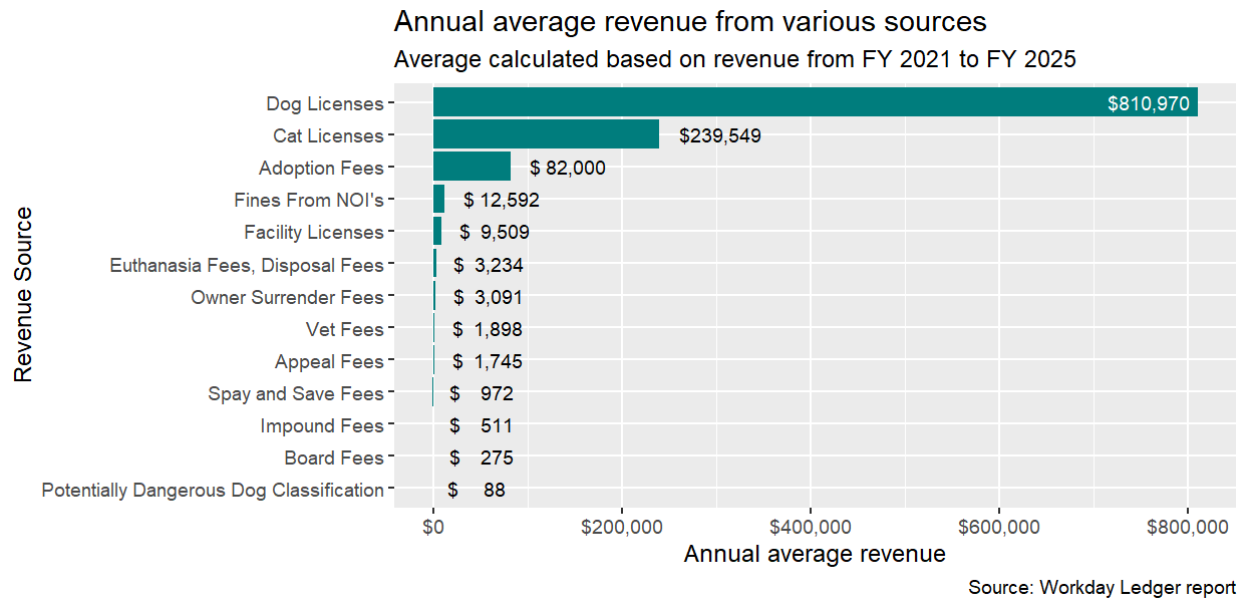
- **Financial Data:** MCAS financial data on operating costs and revenue (from Workday Ledger) for the past five fiscal years (FY 2021 to FY 2025). The dollar amounts of revenue collected was grouped by revenue category and fiscal year. The expenditures were also grouped by different cost categories and fiscal year. This was used to calculate the annual cost recovery percentage through fees. Cost recovery for a fiscal year was calculated as the aggregated revenue of MCAS from different fees for that fiscal year divided by the total cost (personnel, internal services, professional services and other costs) for all four cost centers of MCAS for the fiscal year. This number was expressed as a percentage.

- **Operational Data:** MCAS operational data on the number of pet licenses and adoption fees collected (from the ShelterBuddy system - a database used by MCAS, see **Appendix B**) over the past five fiscal years was also acquired. This provided a more granular view of the number of pet licenses and adoption fees processed; broken down by whether they were for altered or unaltered animals and whether senior citizen discount was claimed for each of those fee events.
- **Comparative Data:** Animal Services fees of other jurisdictions were collected and compared through an online search of fee schedules for other counties in Oregon and some comparable cities and counties in the United States. This was for benchmarking of MCAS fees with peer agencies in Oregon and beyond.
- **Qualitative Information:** We gathered information regarding MCAS operations from both managers and employees to better understand how pet licenses are processed and fees collected and recorded. This also involved gathering information on challenges faced by MCAS in collecting some types of fees and ways MCAS staff address those challenges.
- **Legal and Policy Information:** This report includes a review of relevant regulations, State statute, County Code, and policies that guide MCAS fee structure.

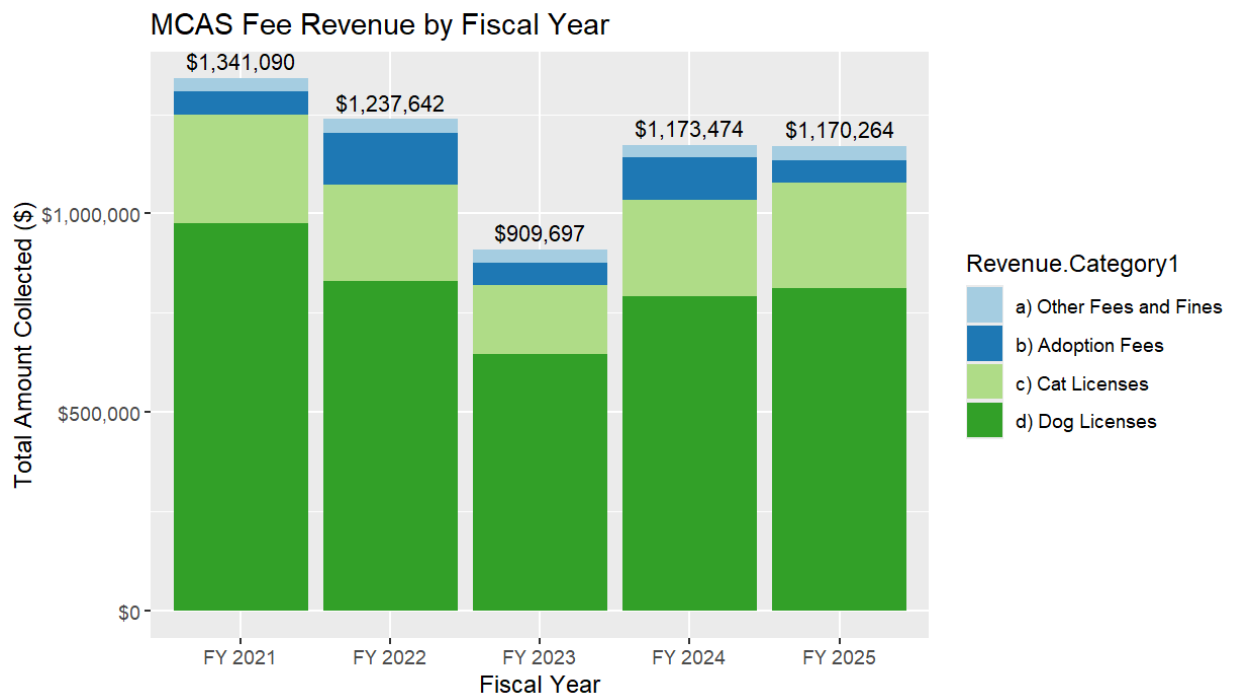
IV. Current Fee Analysis and Cost Recovery

Fee Analysis

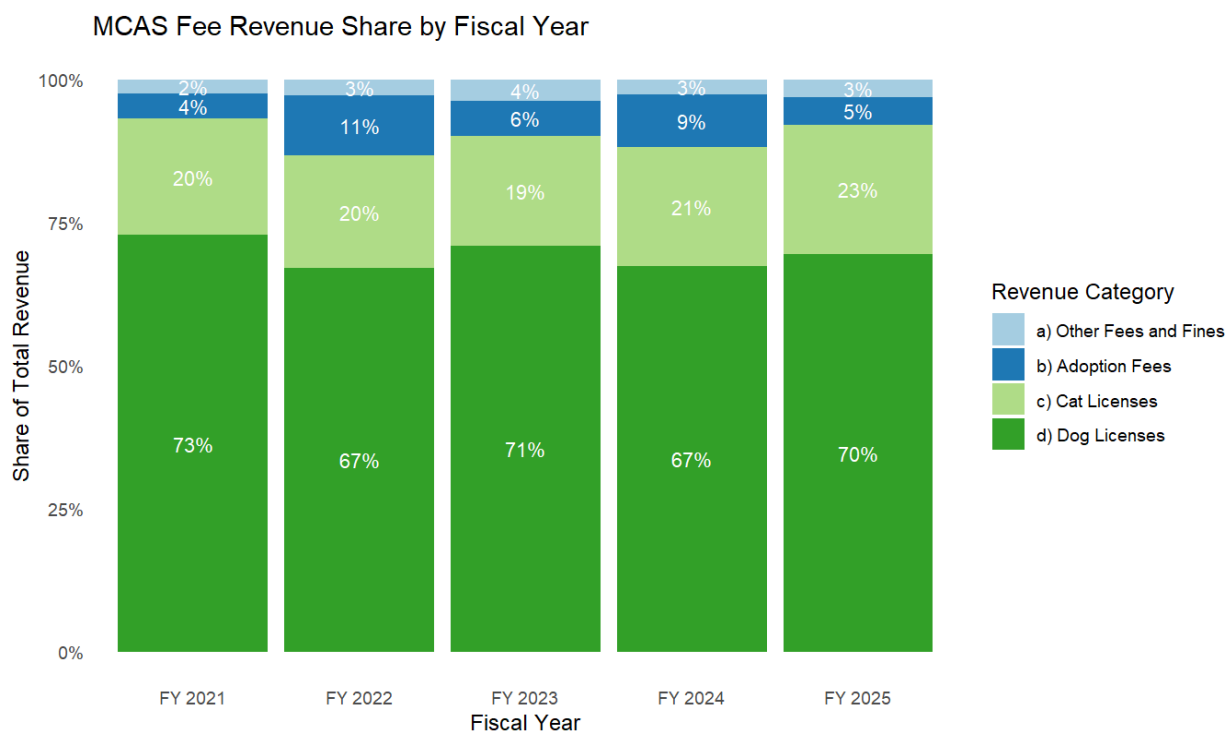
Based on the analysis of the fee revenue data from MCAS, below is the calculated annual average fee revenue for each of the revenue categories across the 5 fiscal years. The annual average was calculated by adding all fees collected under a particular revenue category in the 5-year period and dividing it by 5.



On average, dog licenses generate about \$800,000 annually and cat licenses bring in about \$240,000 annually. Annual adoption fee revenue averages about \$80,000. These three revenue sources bring in a total of 97% of all MCAS revenues. Fines, facility licenses and other fees bring in the remaining 3% of total revenue for MCAS.



The graph above also shows significant variation in fee collection across the five years with a maximum of \$1.34 million in FY 2021 and minimum of \$910,000 in FY 2023. On average, over the past five fiscal years, MCAS has collected \$1,166,000 annually through fees.



The share of revenue from dog and cat license fees has been in the range of 87% (in FY 2022) and 93% (FY 2021 and FY 2025). Share of Adoption fees within MCAS Fee Revenue has been in the range of 4% (in FY 2021) and 11% (in FY 2022). The share of all other fees have been within 2% and 4% of the total MCAS fee revenue.

Expenditure Analysis

MCAS costs have been rising steadily (except for a brief and modest fall in FY 2022) mainly due to two factors:

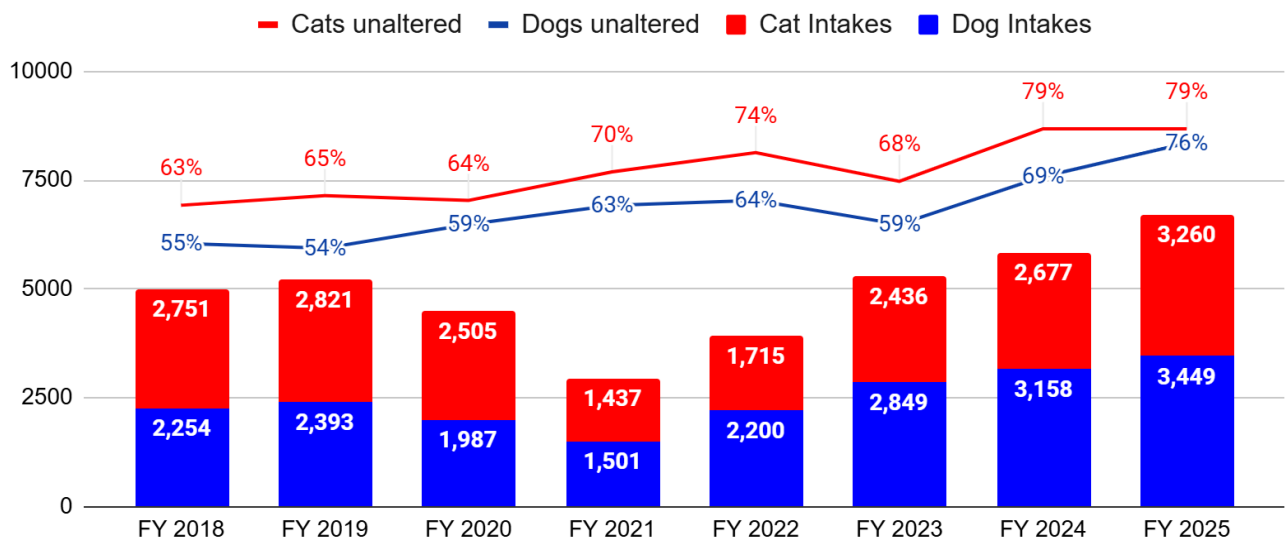
1. Additional FTEs that were added in FY 2024 and FY 2025, and general wage increases and benefits - overall costs are rising per employee.
2. MCAS annual cost of professional services rose from \$173,000 in FY 2021 to \$1,378,000 in FY 2025 (an increase of nearly 700%). Professional services in animal welfare have risen significantly since COVID 19 and

MCAS has had to use more professional services in the last 3 years due to staffing constraints in Animal Health.

During this same time period, MCAS experienced a shortage of in house surgical capacity for spay and neuter surgery, related to two factors:

1. Under staffing in Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT) classifications.
2. Significant increase in animals entering the shelter, that were unaltered at the time of intake, highly increasing the surgical demand.

Intakes and Unaltered Animals

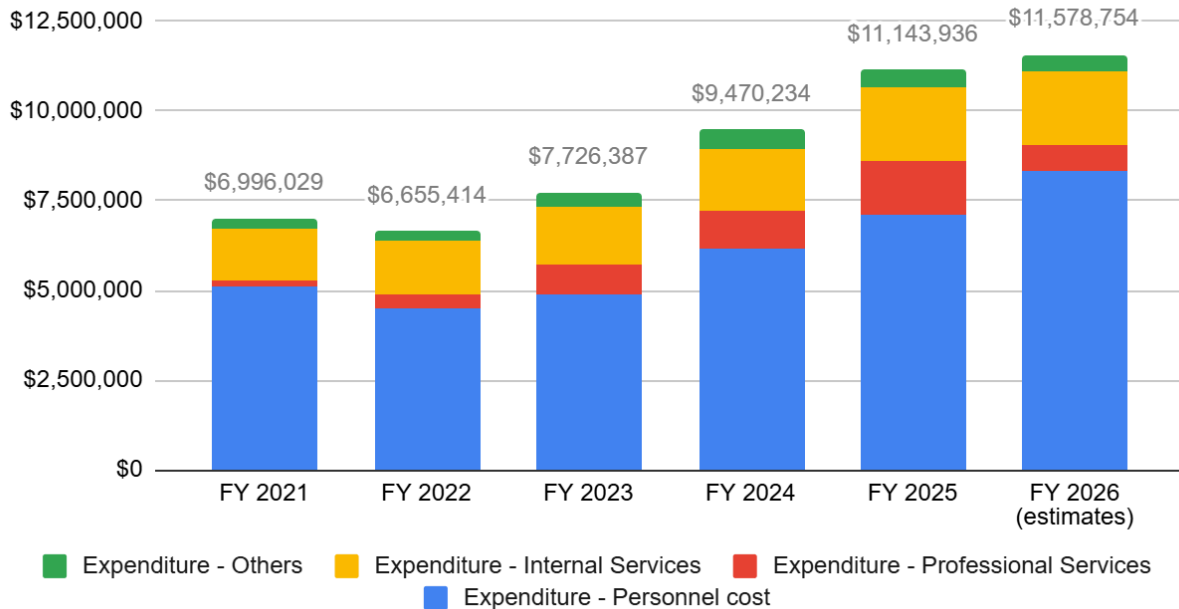


The second major expense increases for professional services are related to spay & neuter vouchers issued to adopters due to a lack of capacity to alter animals prior to adoption at the shelter. In 2023 and 2024, vouchers are redeemed at contracted veterinary clinics in the community. Costs per surgery range from \$200 to \$1,000 depending on provider, animal type, sex, and they average \$642 per surgery.

In FY 2025, MCAS issued 2,109 vouchers, of which 962 have been redeemed, and 321 have been cancelled due to adoption returns or other arrangements. 710 vouchers are still valid and unredeemed as of September 2025. Expenses are highly variable based on redemption rates, and depending on which contractor

adopters visit. To address these expenses, additional staff positions were added to Animal Health in FY 2026, and vouchers are no longer issued.

MCAS Expenditure by Fiscal Year



Cost Recovery

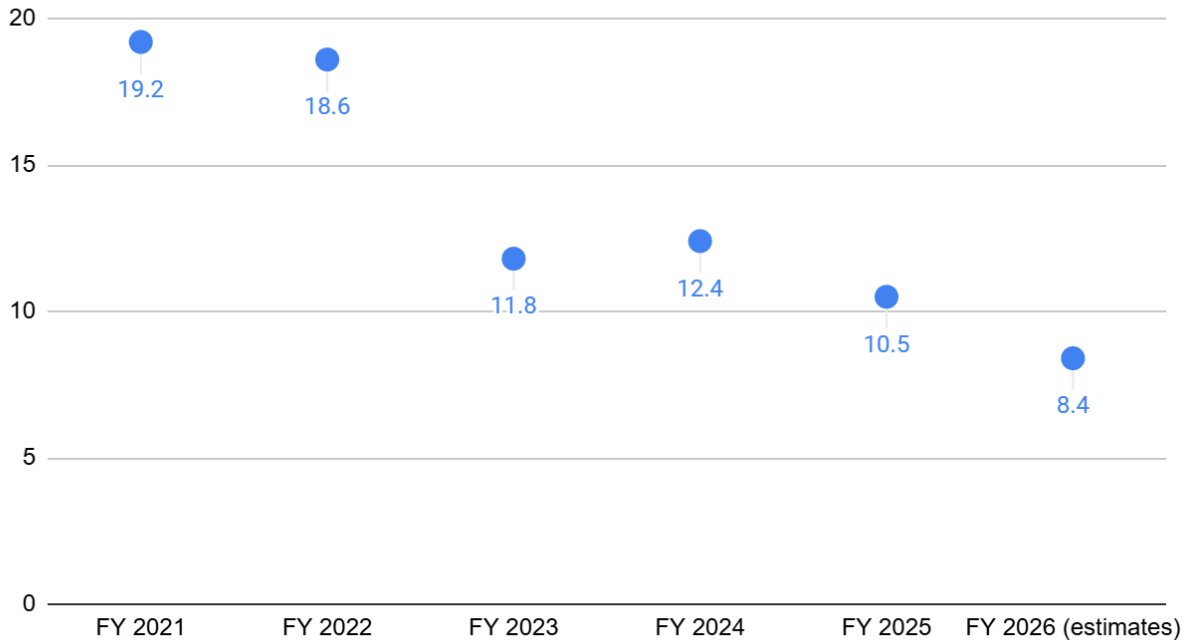
The yearly cost recovery percentages were calculated by dividing the total MCAS revenue from fees and fines by the total MCAS cost for each fiscal year. These are shown in the graph below. FY 2021 and FY 2022 had nearly 19% cost recovery which dropped to nearly 12% in FY 2023 and FY 2024 and 10.5% for FY 2025 due to increasing costs and somewhat fluctuating fee revenue. Based on projections for FY 2026, MCAS is estimated to have a cost recovery of 8.4%.

Table 1: MCAS Revenues, Costs and Cost Recovery by Fiscal Year:

Fiscal Year	Revenue from fees, licenses, and fines	Number of FTEs	Expenditure - Personnel cost	Expenditure - Professional Services	Expenditure - Internal Services	Expenditure - Others	Total Expenditure	Cost Recovery %
FY 2021	\$1,341,090	53.00	\$5,113,357	\$182,378	\$1,416,114	\$284,180	\$6,996,029	19.2
FY 2022	\$1,237,642	53.00	\$4,520,016	\$348,270	\$1,494,891	\$292,237	\$6,655,414	18.6
FY 2023	\$909,697	55.00	\$4,911,726	\$831,972	\$1,586,690	\$395,999	\$7,726,387	11.8
FY 2024	\$1,173,474	65.00	\$6,149,407	\$1,072,576	\$1,738,952	\$509,299	\$9,470,234	12.4
FY 2025	\$1,170,264	69.00	\$7,105,774	\$1,528,232	\$2,015,717	\$494,213	\$11,143,936	10.5

FY 2026 (estimates)	\$973,000	72.50	\$8,351,356	\$729,300	\$2,049,198	\$448,900	\$11,578,754	8.4
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Cost Recovery %



V. Benchmarking Findings

Comparison with Other Jurisdictions

This section presents a comparative analysis of the MCAS fee structure relative to that of other jurisdictions. The comparison is conducted on two distinct levels. First, the analysis benchmarks MCAS fees against those of other Oregon counties, as these entities are governed by the same state statutes. Second, recognizing that MCAS serves a large metropolitan area—unlike most counties in Oregon—the study also incorporates a comparison with peer jurisdictions that serve municipalities or urban counties of a similar scale across the United States.

Portland is known for being a pet-friendly city with a high rate of pet ownership. This strong demand can influence pricing of veterinary services as well as shelter operational cost. In general, costs for veterinary care are high in the Portland region when compared to other places in the United States. Seattle has comparable vet costs and cost of living as Portland. For instance, a pet insurance

company's data shows that the average vet bill for a dog in Portland is around \$474, while in Seattle it is slightly higher at approximately \$498. For cats, the average bill in Portland is about \$502, slightly higher than Seattle's average of \$468. These figures suggest a similar cost of living and operational expenses for veterinary practices in the two cities.³ Therefore the City of Seattle is a good comparator to have in this study. We included 11 other jurisdictions outside Oregon in this study.

Comparison of Licenses and Fees

Pet Licenses

The table below includes a list of fees charged to pet owners to license dogs and cats in a few metropolitan cities and urban counties in the United States with the most recent cost of 1-year dog license for these jurisdictions. Most of these jurisdictions have a lower fee to register spayed/neutered animals than non-spayed/neutered animals. The table below is sorted in ascending order of license fee for spayed/neutered dogs. Multnomah County license fee for an altered dog is \$27 which is higher than the median 1-year license fee for an altered dog in our sample of comparable jurisdictions nationwide that we studied.

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<https://spotpet.com/blog/local-insurance-insights/how-much-does-an-average-vet-visit-cost-in-portland> and <https://spotpet.com/blog/local-insurance-insights/how-much-does-an-average-vet-visit-cost-in-seattle> as accessed on 08/05/2025.

County	Dog License (1 Year, Altered)	Dog License (1 Year, Unaltered)	Notes & Key Details
Dallas, TX	\$0	\$0	Mandatory microchipping has replaced animal registration/pet licensing in the City of Dallas
Chicago, IL	\$5	\$50	Seniors (65+): 5 dollar discount for unaltered and 2.50 dollar discount for altered dog.
New York, NY	\$8.50	\$34	Seniors (65+): Discount.
Las Vegas, NV	\$10	\$25	\$5 (altered) and \$15 (unaltered) for 1-year license for those above 65 years of age and for those with a disability.
City and County of Denver, CO	\$15	\$15	No charge for senior citizens 65+.
Philadelphia, PA	\$16	\$40	Seniors (65+): 50% discount for spayed/neutered pets.
Houston, TX	\$20	\$60	Seniors (65+): \$2 for altered animals for a 1-year license.
Los Angeles, CA	\$20	(Altering required)	Seniors (62+ with qualifying income) & Disabled Individuals: 50% off
Maricopa County (home to Phoenix, Arizona)	\$22	\$55	Seniors (65+) & Disabled Citizens: Reduced fee of \$10 for a spayed/neutered dog.
Multnomah County, OR	\$27	\$42	Seniors (65+): 50% discount on all rates for up to 2 pets per household. Cats are licensed - \$30 altered / \$15 unaltered. Fees effective June 27, 2019.
Minneapolis, MN	\$30	\$40	Low income or 65+: \$15 and \$35 for altered and unaltered 1-year license
King County, WA (unincorporated areas)	\$30	\$60	Seniors (65+): \$15 for 1-year license for an altered animal
Seattle, WA	\$45	\$105	A 50% discount on altered license fees is available for senior citizens (over 60 years) and people with disabilities

Below is the same set of jurisdictions ordered by the ratio of animal license fee for unaltered to altered dog. Chicago charges 10 times more to license an animal that is not altered compared to one that is altered. Multnomah County currently charges only 1.56 times more to license unaltered animals than altered animals. A higher cost to license an unaltered animal relative to what it costs to license an

altered animal provides a strong incentive for pet owners to get their animal spayed/neutered.

County	Dog License (1 Year, Spayed/Neutered)	Dog License (1 Year, Unaltered)	License Fee for Unaltered Dog divided by License Fee for Altered Dog
City and County of Denver, CO	\$15	\$15	1
Minneapolis, MN	\$30	\$40	1.33
Multnomah County, OR	\$27	\$42	1.56
King county, WA(unincorporated areas)	\$30	\$60	2
Seattle, WA	\$45	\$105	2.33
Las Vegas, NV	\$10	\$25	2.5
Philadelphia, PA	\$16	\$40	2.5
Maricopa County, AZ	\$22	\$55	2.5
Houston, TX	\$20	\$60	3
New York, NY	\$8.50	\$34	4
Chicago, IL	\$5	\$50	10
Dallas, TX	\$0	\$0	-
Los Angeles, CA	\$20	(Altering required)	-

Below is a table that shows Multnomah County dog license fees compared with those of 25 other Oregon counties for which data was available (sorted by fees for altered dogs). Within Oregon counties, we find that the Multnomah County 1-year license fee for an altered dog is above the median 1-year license fee for altered dogs.

County	Dog License (1 Year, Altered)	Dog License (1 Year, Unaltered)
Crook	\$3	\$25
Lincoln	\$5	\$35
Coos	\$10	\$45
Douglas	\$10	\$40
Lake	\$10	\$15
Jefferson	\$12	\$28
Clatsop	\$15	\$30
Hood River	\$15	\$30
Linn	\$15	\$25
Polk	\$15	\$30
Union	\$15	\$25
Lane	\$18	\$42
Benton	\$20	\$25
Columbia	\$20	\$35
Klamath	\$20	\$30
Tillamook	\$20	\$35
Marion	\$20	\$37
Josephine	\$21	\$41
Deschutes	\$22	\$36
Yamhill	\$25	\$35
Multnomah	\$27	\$42
Clackamas	\$32	\$52
Washington	\$34	\$56
Jackson	\$35	\$35
Curry	\$40	\$60

Most counties in Oregon do not offer cat licenses. The handful of counties that do process cat licenses also do not mandate residents to license their cats. For the jurisdictions outside Oregon that do require cat licenses, the table shows the cat license fees ordered by their cost of licensing an unaltered cat for a year.

Multnomah County fees are on the lower side of the range of fees that jurisdictions charge for cat licenses.

Jurisdiction	Cat License (1 Year, Altered)	Cat License (1 year, Unaltered)
Las Vegas, NV	\$10	\$25
Multnomah County, OR	\$15	\$30
City and County of Denver, CO	\$15	\$15 (requires animal to be altered within 6 months)
Houston, TX	\$20	\$60
King county, WAn	\$30	\$60
Seattle, WA	\$30	\$80
Minneapolis, MN	\$30	\$40

Summary of Findings:

- Most jurisdictions charge higher license fees for unaltered animals than altered animals. This encourages pet owners to pay for the additional cost to spay or neuter their pets. Only one county (out of the 25 counties in Oregon) charge the same fees for altered dogs as unaltered dogs. Among jurisdictions outside Oregon that we included in this study, only one - the City and County of Denver, had the same fees for altered and unaltered animals but the City requires pet owners to alter the animal within six months of registering. One jurisdiction (the City of Chicago) charges 10 times the fee to license an unaltered dog as it charges for an altered dog.
- Many jurisdictions charge lower fees for certain categories of applicants. This relates to both pet license fees and adoption fees. The most common category eligible for a discounted license fee are senior citizens. This is an easy discount to administer since the only requirement to verify eligibility is a government issued ID. Applicants with disabilities are also offered discounted license fees for pets in some jurisdictions. Many jurisdictions also offer zero license fees for service animals. Minneapolis and Los Angeles also offer discounted fees for those with lower than a certain income. Our research finds some cases where veterans also qualify for discounted pet license fees.
- Cat licenses are not required in most Oregon counties. Only a few of the 25 Oregon counties offer cat licenses but they are voluntary. When cat

licenses do appear in the fee schedule, they usually have a lower fee than dogs. Most of the 12 cities/counties outside Oregon that were part of this study, which were selected in this study because they are large urban areas similar to Portland (unlike most counties in Oregon, which are mostly rural), did require cat licenses. 7 out of those 12 jurisdictions charge the same license fees for cats as dogs.

- Some counties in Oregon have clear language around who has the right to waive or reduce fees when it has a community benefit. For example, Washington County fee schedule includes the following language that allow the Department Director or their designee to waive or reduce fee.

"Fee Waivers: Fees may be reduced or waived due to financial hardship at the discretion of the Department Director or designee. The Director of Health & Human Services, or designee, may reduce or waive fees for special events or promotions of limited duration to encourage adoptions, spaying and neutering or other programs benefiting animals. Fees can also be reduced or waived for animals with special needs. Animals that are highly adoptable or are not common in the shelter and therefore not on the fee schedule may be assigned a different fee prior to being placed up for adoption."⁴

Summary of Findings regarding pet licensing:

- MCAS dog licenses are somewhat on the higher side when compared to other counties in Oregon as well as when compared to other metropolitan jurisdictions around the country.
- Many jurisdictions charge significantly more for unaltered animal licenses than altered animals to incentivize spaying/neutering. This approach could be explored by MCAS.
- In addition, MCAS should focus on compliance (discussed in more detail below) rather than increasing fees.

Adoption Fees

Adoption fees vary greatly depending on the age of the animal, breed, and other factors. In addition, not all jurisdictions run their own shelter facilities and adoption programs. Many nonprofit animal shelters operate with a government contract to

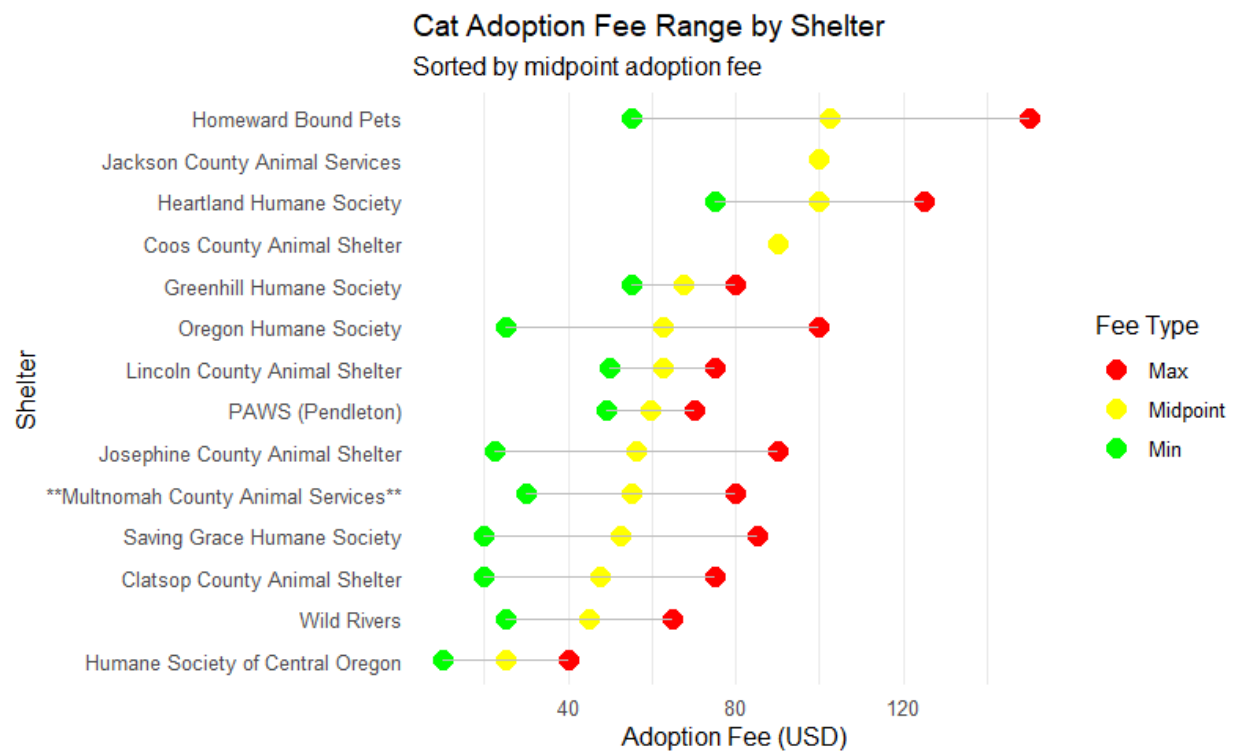
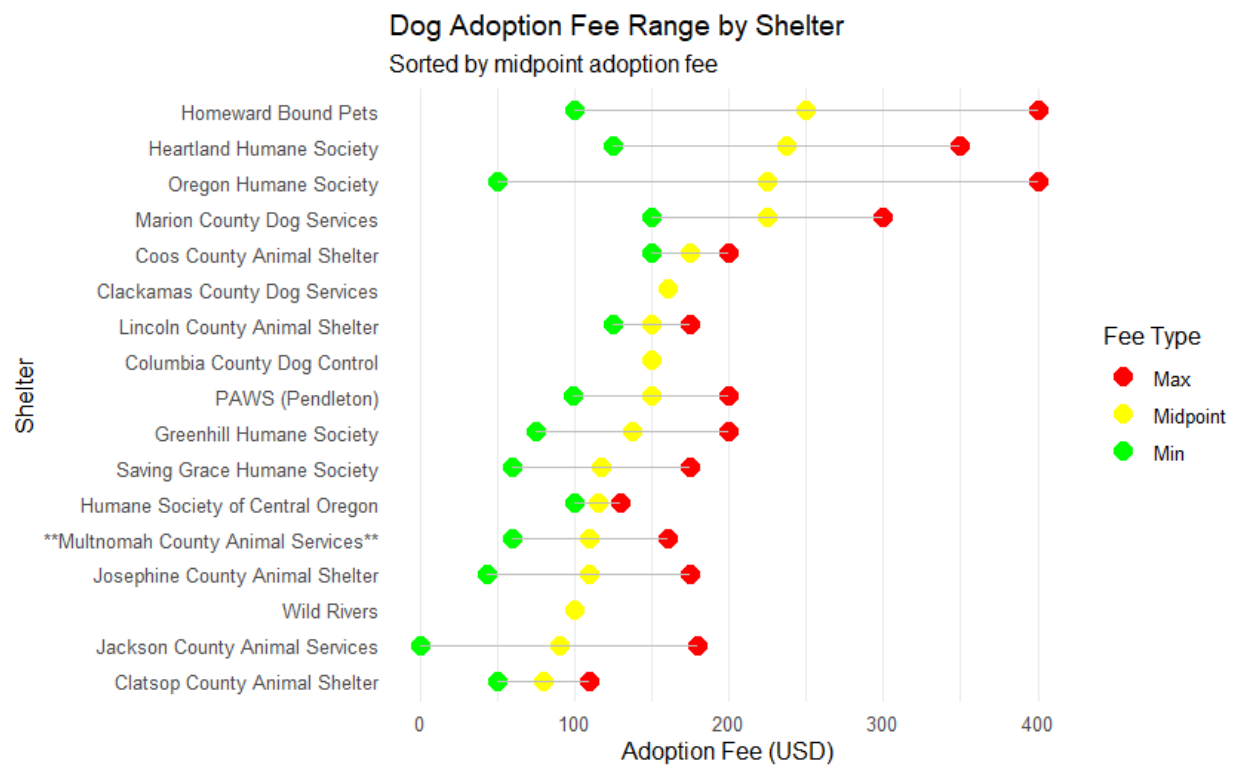
⁴ Washington County Fee Schedule
<https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/finance/documents/fiscal-year-2025-26-fee-schedule-effective-8-1-25/download?inline> accessed on 9/4/2025.

accept found animals within their jurisdictions. Also, many shelters offer additional discounts, including discounts for seniors, and veterans.

Adoption Fees at Oregon County Shelters

County	Shelter Name	Dog Adoption Fees	Puppy Adoption Fees	Cat Adoption Fees	Kitten Adoption Fees
Benton	Heartland Humane Society	\$125 - \$350		\$75 - \$125	
Clackamas	Clackamas County Dog Services	\$160	\$210	n/a	n/a
Clatsop	Clatsop County Animal Shelter	\$50 - \$110	\$110	\$20 - \$75	\$75
Columbia	Columbia County Dog Control	\$150	\$250	n/a	n/a
Coos	Coos County Animal Shelter	\$150 - \$200	\$300	\$90	\$100
Curry	Wild Rivers	\$100	\$100	\$25 - \$65	\$100
Deschutes	Humane Society of Central Oregon	\$100 - \$130	\$350	\$10 - \$40	\$125
Douglas	Saving Grace Humane Society	\$60 - \$175	\$225	\$20 - \$85	\$110
Jackson	Jackson County Animal Services	\$0 - \$180	\$250	\$100	\$150
Josephine	Josephine County Animal Shelter	\$43.75 - \$175	\$112.50 - \$225	\$22.50 - \$90	\$60 - \$120
Lane	Greenhill Humane Society	75 - \$200	\$250	\$55 - \$80	\$175
Lincoln	Lincoln County Animal Shelter	\$125 - \$175	\$250	\$50 - \$75	\$100
Marion	Marion County Dog Services	\$150 - \$300	\$300	n/a	n/a
Marion / Multnomah	Oregon Humane Society	\$50 - \$400	\$500	\$25 - \$100	\$100 - \$200
Multnomah	Multnomah County Animal Services	\$60 - \$160	\$300	\$30 - \$80	\$150
Umatilla	PAWS (Pendleton)	\$99 - \$200	\$300	\$49 - \$70	\$120
Yamhill	Homeward Bound Pets	\$100 - \$400	\$400 -	\$55 - \$150	\$125 -

			\$600		\$200
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Comparative Analysis of Adoption Fees Relative to Other Oregon Shelters

While not all animal shelters have set the same age criteria as MCAS for their pricing structure, and many shelters make additional adjustments for breed or length of stay, we can compare against the average low and high range of adoption fees set per adult species at each shelter. For shelters with only one standard adult fee per species, this value is included for both sets of averages.

Dog Adoption Fees

- **Senior Dogs (6+ years):** Multnomah County's adoption fee is 38% lower than the average low-range fees at other Oregon shelters.
- **Young Dogs (7 months to 5 years):** The MCAS adoption fee is 25% lower than the average high-range fees for adult dogs at Oregon shelters.
- **Puppies (under 7 months):** The MCAS adoption fee is 7% higher than the average fee for puppies at other Oregon shelters.

Cat Adoption Fees:

- **Senior Cats (6+ years):** The MCAS adoption fee is 35% lower than the average low-range fees at other Oregon shelters.
- **Young Cats (7 months to 5 years):** The MCAS adoption fee is 9% lower than the average high-range fees at other Oregon shelters.
- **Kitten Adoption Fees (under 7 months):** The MCAS adoption fee is 15% higher than the average set fees at other Oregon shelters; however, Multnomah County offers an incentive to adopt two kittens for the price of one (BOGO).

In summary, MCAS generally has lower dog and cat adoption fees compared to other counties, but higher puppy and kitten adoption fees. As you can see from the chart above, MCAS has a narrower range of adoption fees. The other shelters have a wider range of adoption fees than MCAS offer special pricing based on factors such as age and breed. This is an approach that MCAS may want to take into consideration in the future.

Seasonal Adoption Sales

Multnomah County Animal Services runs seasonal adoption specials to drive traffic throughout the year. If the shelter becomes too full—with the dog or cat population averaging 80% capacity or more for two straight weeks—the Division Director may start or extend a special.

- Dogs & Puppies: \$25
- Cats & Kittens: \$15
- Rabbits & Pocket Pets: \$5

Adoption sales are an important tool to incentivise adoptions. The MCAS Director has the authority to waive or discount fees, as a way to encourage adoptions when needed.

VI. Policy Considerations

Policy Considerations

This section addresses policy considerations when analysing if and when to increase fees. For legal considerations, please see **Appendix C** for policy considerations.

Equity

Applying the County's values, particularly as they relate to equity, to fees in the context of an animal shelter involves moving beyond a single, fixed price to address potential financial barriers for underserved communities, thus promoting access to pet ownership. The goal isn't to devalue the animal or the adoption process, but rather to ensure that the cost of adoption doesn't unfairly exclude responsible, loving individuals from low-income or marginalized groups. MCAS is considering variable pricing for adoption fees which would strategically adjust fees for high-demand pets and/or high-income earners to help maintain financial sustainability. This requires implementing a tiered or sliding-scale fee structure based on adopter income, offering waivers or reduced fees for specific animals (like senior pets or those with special needs) that are often harder to place, or developing targeted fee subsidies for individuals receiving public assistance.

Reunification

Nationally, the ASPCA supports licensing programs for dogs and cats as a "means of ensuring that guardians are reunited with their pets should they become lost." The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) primarily focuses on microchips, but also reinforces the importance of visual identifiers that a pet license provides as an immediate tool to help reunite lost animals with their people. Reunification is the best outcome possible. In brief, a sheltering model that

prioritizes accessible licensing practices can improve its performance outcomes, reduce its shelter capacity, and reduce overhead costs as a result. See **Appendix D** for additional information on reunification.

Public Health

The state and county requirements to license pets are deeply connected to issues of public health, namely rabies vaccination compliance. Oregon State Law (ORS 433.365) couples the requirement to vaccinate dogs for rabies with the requirement to license dogs. While there are no similar state mandates for cats, rabies vaccination is recommended by the Oregon State Vet, and county code requires licensing and rabies vaccination for cats.

Pet Licensing Accessibility and Compliance

Accessibility to pet licensing increases compliance. Because of the important associations of pet licensing with public health and pet reunification efforts, pet license fees and the process to license animals should be as accessible and as incentivized as possible in order to maximize compliance. A significant Increase in license compliance may also have subsequent positive impacts on total revenue due to volume.

- **License compliance rates:** While there have been recent modest increases in licensing, as of September 2025, there were 38,200 active licenses for the estimated 242,045 owned dogs in Multnomah County (15.8% compliance), and 21,974 active licenses for the estimated 204,914 owned cats in the county (10.7% compliance).⁵ This compared to 2009 rough estimates of 25% compliance for dogs, and 7% compliance for cats.⁶ There are ample opportunities to raise license compliance to a healthy rate by industry standards (>20%) and increase revenue by volume in the process.
- **Comparative analysis of compliance rates:** While there isn't a centralized dataset of municipal pet licensing compliance, a national pet licensing and management platform, DocuPet, estimates that the majority of jurisdictions in North America have unhealthy compliance levels of less than 20% in a [2018 Annual Research Report](#). An outstanding model for municipal pet licensing is Calgary, Alberta, which maintains an impressive 90% license compliance rate. Rather than focusing on pet licensing as a means to an end for revenue, the city focuses on licensing as a component of

⁵ Estimated per the 2024 AVMA Pet Ownership and Demographic Sourcebook, and the 2023 Multnomah County Household Census

⁶ Willamette Week, Pet Offenders, May 19, 2009.

responsible pet ownership, and its association with pet reunification as a pet's "ticket home" if they're ever lost. The city also conducts extensive community outreach campaigns to promote licensing, and partners closely with community veterinary clinics. Animals that are spayed or neutered or adopted from shelters also receive reduced license fees.

- **Estimated revenue if compliance was increased:** Raising pet license compliance rates to the minimum industry-standard recommendation of 20% for dogs and cats would result in over \$330K of additional revenue per year. At 25% compliance, additional revenue would exceed \$630k per year.
- **Barriers to Online Licensing:** The online licensing process was revised to require the submission of a rabies vaccine certificate, which created a significant barrier for community members. This change was particularly inconvenient for those attempting to purchase a license online, and internet license sales dropped by 19% in fiscal year 2019. The audit noted that internet sales account for a significant portion of total license sales (about 57% at the time).

We recommend that MCAS investigate other ways to process pet licenses and improve efficiency, as well as ensure the accuracy of its licensing database. It also noted that the County supported a bill to change the state law to decouple proof of rabies vaccination from the license, which would address the barrier for online sales.

Strategies that could improve pet licensing:

- **Partnering with Veterinary Clinics:** All veterinary clinics in Multnomah County are required to submit documentation of administered rabies vaccinations to Multnomah County Animal Services, which the county uses to follow-up with pet owners for license compliance. While many veterinary clinics formerly offered license sales in-clinic, most have ceased this practice due to the cumbersome administrative burdens involved. Additionally, the nominal fee set by the county to be paid to veterinary clinics per license sale (\$2 for a new license and \$1 for a renewed license) have not been adjusted since the early 1990s. However, modernizing and streamlining this rabies vaccine certificate submission process for veterinary clinics, and providing more accessible opportunities for clients to obtain a license in-clinic and for clinics to partner with the county for license sales may be a key component to revitalizing license compliance while also serving the interests of pet owners and veterinary providers.

- Improve efficiency of the licensing process: The County should continue to advocate changes in state law to decouple proof of rabies vaccination from the license, which would address the barrier for online sales. This would also allow the county to explore auto-renewal of licenses and/or a longer timeline for licenses.
- Advertising and Outreach: Other opportunities exist through advertising and outreach campaigns to promote the importance of licensing and rabies vaccination, the importance of pet identification for reuniting with lost pets, along with raising awareness of services provided by Multnomah County Animal Services.

In summary, any consideration of increasing pet licensing fees to raise revenue should also take into account strategies for increasing accessibility and compliance as the central interest.

Adoption Fees

Multnomah County's adoption fees for dogs (\$300 for puppies) and cats (\$150 for kittens) are among the highest compared to other Oregon counties.

Non-governmental agencies like the Oregon Humane Society have a wider range of fees. On a regular basis, MCAS regularly promotes adoption specials, as low as \$25 per adoption.

Incentives for Adoption: Through advertising, promotions and sales, MCAS tries to incentivize pet adoptions to minimize the time that pets are at the shelter. In addition, MCAS faces space constraints. One of the ongoing challenges that MCAS faces is managing the shelter population in the midst of rising intakes from year to year in a physically constrained environment. MCAS continues to develop strategies to increase the percentage of return-to-owner outcomes, but transfers and adoptions will likely always play a significant role in better outcomes for the pets in Animal Services' care. Advertising and adoption specials provide a tool to immediately and humanely manage shelter population levels to achieve live-outcomes.

Variable Adoption Fees: MCAS should also explore variable adoption fees. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) believes that flexible adoption fees are a powerful tool for animal shelters to find homes for as many animals as possible, as soon as possible, and to leverage the fees for animals in higher-demand to subsidize adoption fees of animals in need of greater

interventions to find an adoptive home. The core of a variable pricing strategy is to set a range of adoption fees based on an animal's demand from adopters, not its intrinsic value. Shelters charge higher fees for pets including puppies, kittens, or in-demand breeds—that are likely to be adopted quickly. This generates additional revenue to subsidize the care and lower adoption fees of animals who may be harder to place. These are often adult or senior animals, large breed dogs, those with medical needs, or those who have been in the shelter for an extended period. While MCAS has a structure in place for adoption fees by age, adding a discretionary fee structure set by potential adoption demand would support this model.

VI. Other Fees

Impounding and Boarding Fees

Multnomah County code sets the fee schedule for impounding and boarding fees. Currently, the code requires \$50 for the first impoundment, \$100 for the second, and \$200 for the third. In addition the boarding fees are \$25 per day. While an existing fee structure in county code establishes impound and boarding fees, these fees disproportionately impact pet owners who lack the resources to comply with the set requirements. With the set structure, fees compound each day, resulting in consistently higher totals for community members who are incarcerated, homeless, without transportation, or facing other hardships delaying their arrival to the shelter. Whether voluntarily or involuntarily, an inability to pay the resulting fees may prevent an owner from reclaiming their animal, resulting in family separation from a companion animal, and the unfortunate and wasteful need for the shelter to find an alternative placement for the animal. Operationally, it's in the mutual interest of Multnomah County and animal owners to facilitate the reclamation process by officially and permanently removing these barriers.

In a growing trend aimed at reuniting lost pets with their families and alleviating financial burdens on pet owners, a number of jurisdictions across the United States are eliminating or waiving animal impoundment and boarding fees. This shift in policy is often championed by animal welfare organizations as a way to increase the number of animals returned to their homes and reduce shelter populations and is considered a progressive best practice.

We recommend removing impounding fees for impoundments related to stray or lost animals. However, MCAS will retain the authority to issue *fin*es in relation to violation of code, which may include impoundment.

Other Fees

- **Animal Rescue Entity Licenses:** In 2019, Oregon Senate Bill (SB) 883 moved enforcement and licensing of animal rescue entities to the state veterinarian's office. This can be removed from the fee schedule.
- **Domestic Animal Facility Licenses:** Animal Services currently inspects and licenses commercial facilities that board, breed, or sell domestic animals. There are approximately 80 domestic animal facilities that are licensed and inspected annually.
- **Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facilities:** Animal Services does not currently have jurisdiction over the inspection or licensing of exotic or wild animal facilities, as this would be under the jurisdiction of the USDA and ODFW, respectively.

In the event that there were any facilities for dangerous dogs in Multnomah County, this inspection and licensing responsibility would fall to MCAS. However, no such facility has ever been established. We recommend removing these fees from the schedule. See **Appendix A** for a chart of fees which includes a column of recommendations for each fee

Cremation: MCAS doesn't currently offer cremation as a public service. The onsite cremation incinerator was decommissioned and removed in 2015, and this service is contracted to a third-party provider. However, due to barriers to access humane euthanasia services in the community, MCAS may begin to offer this service on a case-by-case basis when no other resources are available. We recommend adjusting the fee for euthanasia to \$100 with the option to waive, and remove the set fee for cremation.

VI. Recommendations

Based on data collection, comparative analysis, legal assessment and policy considerations, we recommend to the Multnomah County Board of the Commissioners the following:

1. **Pet Licensing:** Dog licensing fees are currently high when compared to other Oregon jurisdictions and comparable metropolitan areas in the U.S., therefore we recommend to the Board to keep dog and cat licensing fees the same. Based on what data is available, cat licensing fees are comparably lower. Given that the compliance rate for licensing in Multnomah County is relatively low, we recommend raising compliance and revenue by pursuing strategies to increase accessibility, outreach and enforcement.
2. **Adoption Fees:** MCAS adoption fees are comparable with other jurisdictions. For policy reasons, we recommend keeping the current fee structure, utilizing discount fees when applicable, while exploring a variable adoption fee schedule. MCAS will develop a proposal for variable adoption fees. Last, current code gives the MCAS Director the authority to waive and discount fees. MCAS will develop a policy with criteria for when fees can be waived.
3. **Impounding and Boarding Fees:** We recommend eliminating impounding and boarding fees to avoid unnecessary hardship and deter reunification. If fees are not eliminated, we recommend updating the code to allow for a fee waiver at the discretion of the MCAS Director based on criteria.
4. **Other Fees:** Eliminate unused or irrelevant fees, such as Animal Rescue Entity Licenses, Domestic Animal Facility Licenses, and Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facilities fees. Additionally, the fee for cremation should be removed to align with current practices.

VII. Appendices

A. Current MCAS Fee Schedule

Multnomah County Animal Services Fees (FY 2025)				
Fee Category / Description	Fee Amount	Fees set by State/County code	Notes	Recommendation
Pet Licenses				
Dog - Unaltered (1 Year)	\$42	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		
Dog - Unaltered (2 Years)	\$77	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		

Multnomah County Animal Services Fees (FY 2025)

Fee Category / Description	Fee Amount	Fees set by State/County code	Notes	Recommendation
Dog - Unaltered (3 Years)	\$107	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		
Dog - Altered (1 Year)	\$27	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		
Dog - Altered (2 Years)	\$47	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		
Dog - Altered (3 Years)	\$62	ORS 609.100 sets the minimum		
Cat - Unaltered (1 Year)	\$30	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - Unaltered (2 Years)	\$60	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - Unaltered (3 Years)	\$90	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - Altered (1 Year)	\$15	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - Altered (2 Years)	\$25	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - Altered (3 Years)	\$35	MCC § 13.512		
Late Fee	\$10	MCC § 13.512		
License Replacement	\$5	MCC § 13.512		
County Shelter Rates - Impoundment Fees			Plus daily care fee	
Dog - first impoundment	\$50	ORS 609.090 / MCC § 13.512(C)		
Dog - second impoundment (same dog within 12 months)	\$100	ORS 609.090 / MCC § 13.512(C)		
Dog - third impoundment (same dog within 12 months)	\$200	ORS 609.090 / MCC § 13.512(C)		
Cats and Other Animals - impoundment	\$30	MCC § 13.512		
Daily care for Dogs (any portion of a 24-hour period from time of impoundment)	\$25	MCC § 13.512(C)		
Daily care for Cats and Other Animals (any portion of a 24-hour period from time of impoundment)	\$18	MCC § 13.512		
Daily care for Livestock (any portion of a 24-hour period from time of impoundment)	\$25	MCC § 13.512		
Facilities Licenses				
Animal Rescue Entity License (1-10 Animals, solicits and accepts donations)	\$105	MCC § 13.151, MCC § 13.512	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code and fee schedule
Animal Rescue Entity License (11 or more)	\$145	MCC § 13.151,	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code

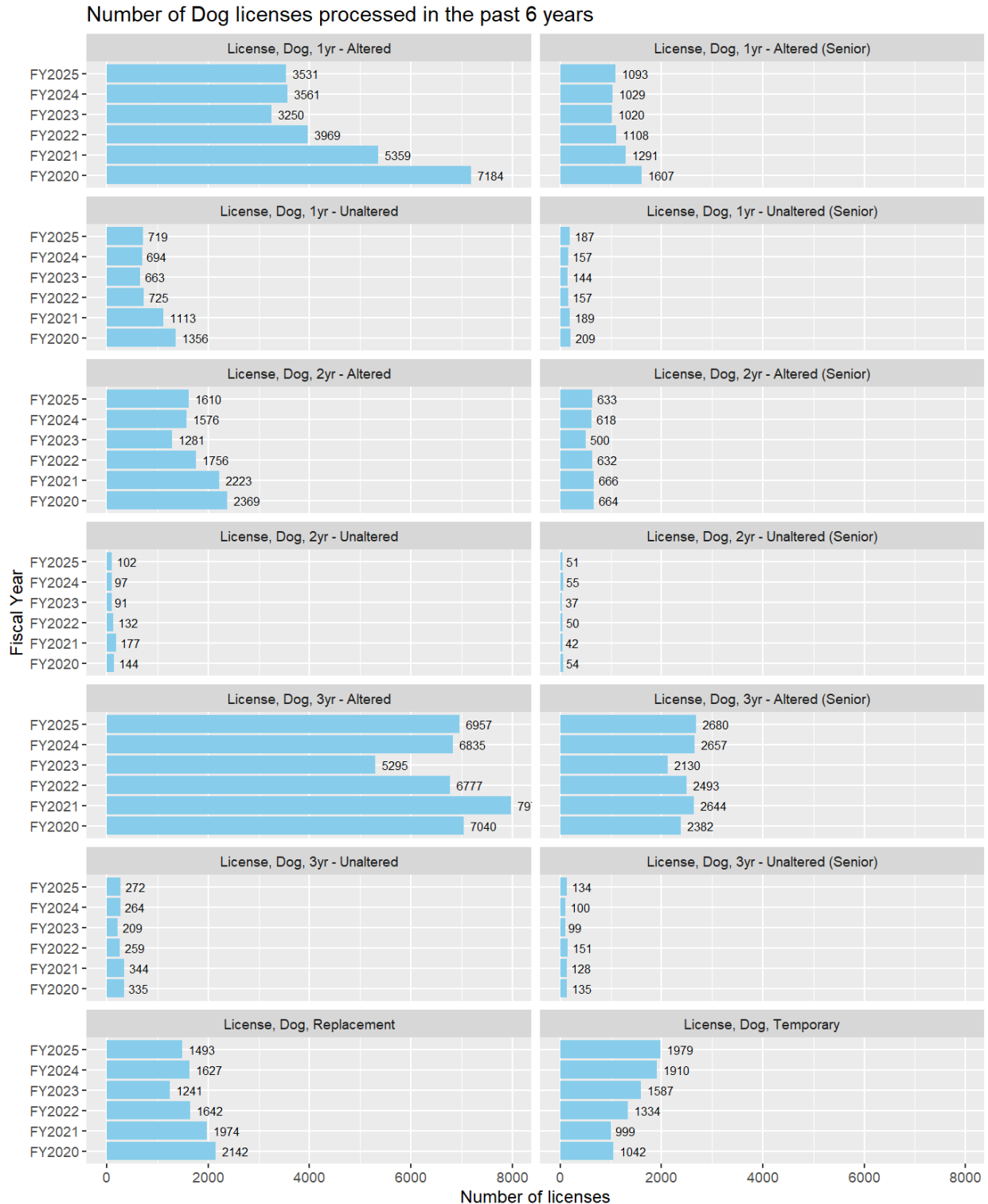
Multnomah County Animal Services Fees (FY 2025)

Fee Category / Description	Fee Amount	Fees set by State/County code	Notes	Recommendation
Animals, solicits and accepts donations)		MCC § 13.512		and fee schedule
Domestic Animal Facility License (1-10 Animals)	\$180	MCC § 13.150, MCC § 13.512	For dogs, cats, rabbits/rodents, birds, fish, reptiles, etc.	
Domestic Animal Facility License (11 or more Animals)	\$210	MCC § 13.150, MCC § 13.512	For dogs, cats, rabbits/rodents, birds, fish, reptiles, etc.	
Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facility (1-10 Animals)	\$220	MCC § 13.154, MCC § 13.512	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code and fee schedule
Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facility (11 or more Animals)	\$260	MCC § 13.154, MCC § 13.512	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code and fee schedule
Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Permit (1-10 Animals, exemption permit)	\$90	MCC § 13.154, MCC § 13.512	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code and fee schedule
Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Permit (11 or more Animals, exemption permit)	\$130	MCC § 13.154, MCC § 13.512	No jurisdictional authority	Remove from code and fee schedule
County Shelter Rates - Veterinary Fees		MCC § 13.512	Actual fee incurred if > \$50	Remove from fee schedule
Veterinary Fees - Minimum Charge	\$50	MCC § 13.512		
County Shelter Rates - Disposal Fees		MCC § 13.512		
Euthanasia	\$25	MCC § 13.512		\$100 (with the ability to waive)
Cremation	\$50	MCC § 13.512	Services from contracted third-party provider	Remove from fee schedule
County Shelter Rates - Owner Surrender		MCC § 13.512		
Owner Surrender Dogs	\$50	MCC § 13.512		
Owner Surrender Cats	\$25	MCC § 13.512		
Owner Surrender Other Animals	\$15	MCC § 13.512		
County Shelter Rates - Adoption Fees		MCC 13.512		
Puppies under seven months of age	\$300	MCC § 13.512		
Dog - special consideration	\$300	n/a		Add to fee schedule
Dogs between 7 months and 6 years of age	\$160	MCC § 13.512		
Dogs 6 years and older	\$60	MCC § 13.512		
Kittens under 7 months of age	\$150	MCC § 13.512		
Cat - special consideration	\$150	n/a		Add to fee schedule
Cats between 7 months and 6 years of age	\$80	MCC § 13.512		
Cats 6 years and older	\$30	MCC § 13.512		

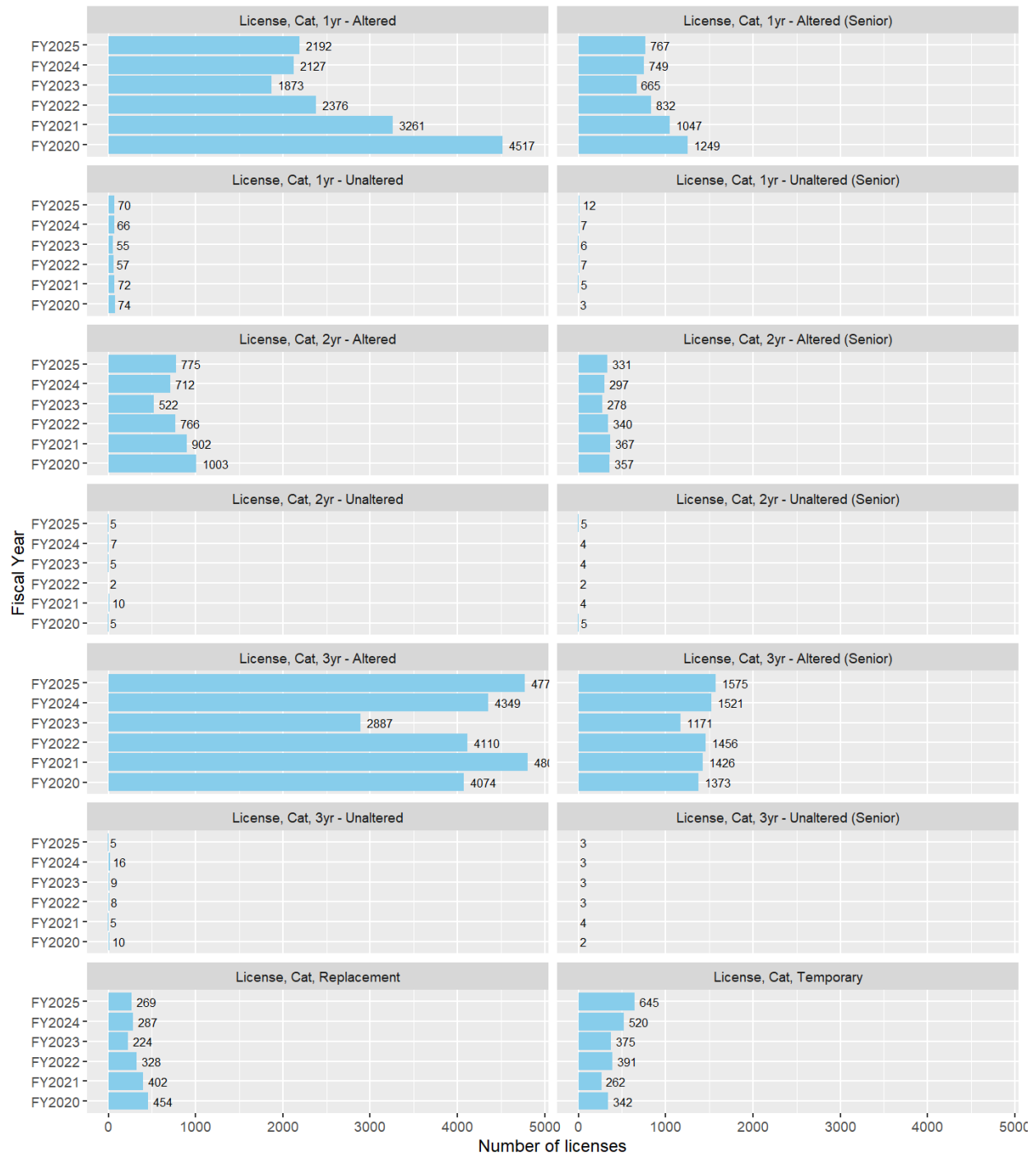
Multnomah County Animal Services Fees (FY 2025)

Fee Category / Description	Fee Amount	Fees set by State/County code	Notes	Recommendation
Cats of any age adopted as a pair	50% off adoption fee for second cat	MCC § 13.512	Equal or lesser value	
Rabbits/Ferrets	\$30	MCC § 13.512		
Pocket Pets (Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Rats, etc.)	\$10	MCC § 13.512		
Reptiles/Amphibians	\$15	MCC § 13.512		
Birds	\$15	MCC § 13.512		
Exotic Birds	\$125	MCC § 13.512		
Special consideration animal	\$125	n/a		Add to fee schedule
Live Trap Rental				
Cat trap deposit fee (per trap)	\$35	MCC § 13.512		
Cat trap weekly rental fee	\$5	MCC § 13.512		
Stray Livestock				
Boarding deposit	\$100	MCC § 13.308, MCC § 13.512		
Boarding deposit for an animal being held pending Writ of Review or Court Appeal	\$500	MCC § 13.512		
Hourly fee (per person)	\$45	MCC § 13.512		Remove from fee schedule
Mileage fee (per mile, per vehicle)	\$0.32	MCC § 13.512		Remove from fee schedule

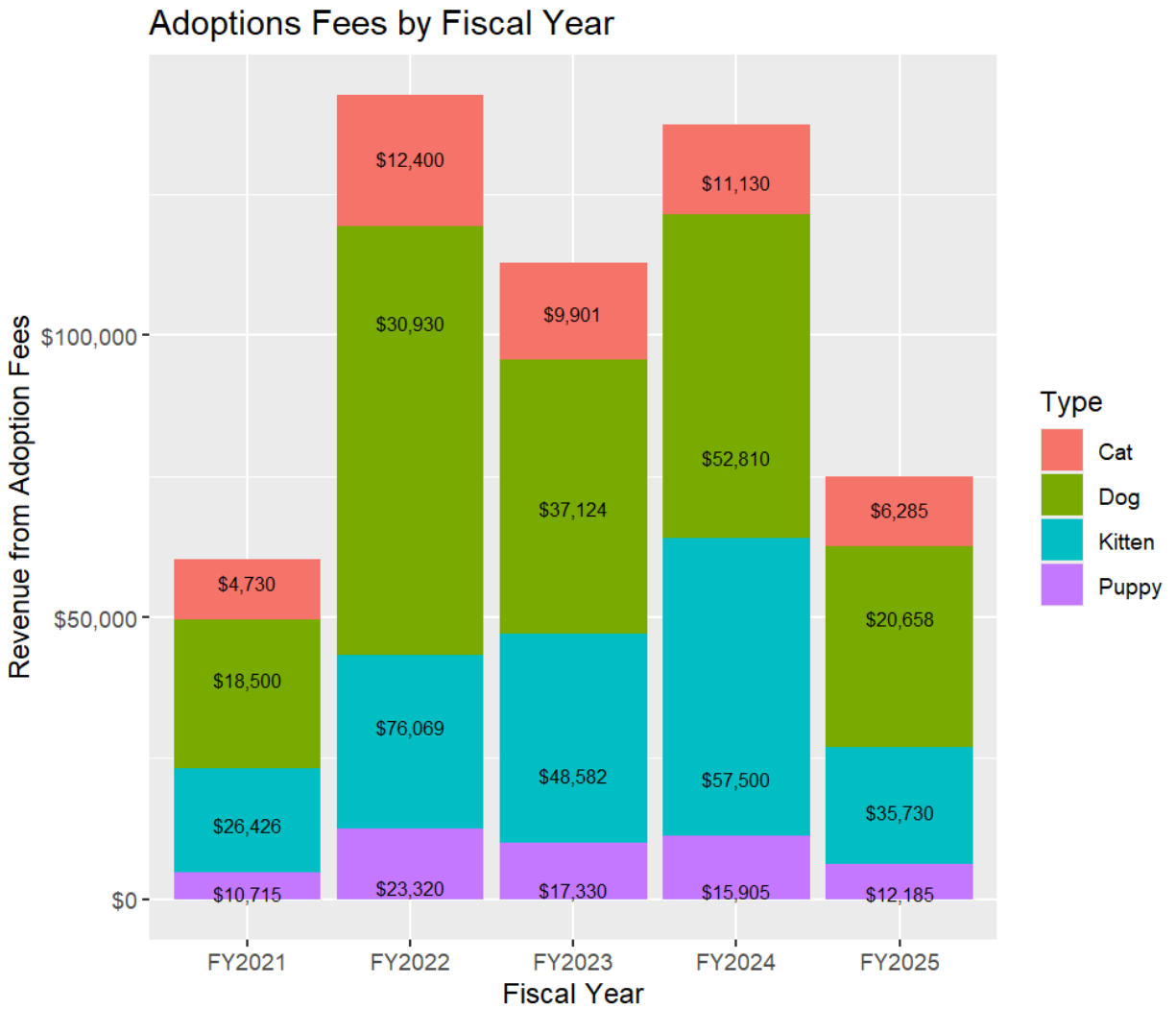
B. Data on Number of Licenses and Fees Collected by Year (from ShelterBuddy)



Number of Cat licenses processed in the past 6 years



Most dog and cat licenses are for altered animals and they are for a 3-year period.



Dogs and kittens generate the bulk of the adoption fee revenue at MCAS.

C. Legal Considerations

Multnomah County Animal Services is required to assess certain fees as defined by Oregon State Law and Multnomah County Code.

Oregon State Law - Dog Licensing Fees

[Oregon State Law \(ORS 609.100\)](#) requires counties to charge a minimum fee for dog licenses. The county, as a governing body, has the authority to set the final amounts, which must meet or exceed the state minimums.

State Minimums:

- The fee shall not be less than \$25 for each dog.
- The fee shall not be less than \$3 for each spayed or neutered dog.

Exemptions: State law (ORS 609.105) mandates that a county shall not charge a fee to license a dog used as an assistance animal.

MCAS meets these state law requirements, which were intended to be a floor, and not a ceiling, in terms of fee rate setting. Multnomah County's current fees for dog licenses are as follows:

- **Unaltered Dogs:** Fees are currently set at \$42 (1 year), \$77 (2 years), or \$107 (3 years).
- **Altered Dogs:** Fees are set at \$27 (1 year), \$47 (2 years), or \$62 (3 years).

Oregon State Law - Dog Impoundment Fees

[Oregon State Law \(ORS 609.090\)](#) provides default impoundment fees, but gives the county discretion to set its own amounts. If a dog keeper redeems an impounded dog, they are required to pay the set impoundment fee and the cost of keeping the dog during its impoundment.

State Default Minimums (if the county does not set its own):

- **First Impoundment:** Not less than \$10.
- **Subsequent Impoundments:** Not less than \$20.

MCAS and County code comply with state law. The state law sets the minimum and the County has the authority to set higher fees. Multnomah County code sets impoundment fees as follows:

Multnomah County Fees (MCC § 13.512 (C)):

- **Impoundment Fee:** \$50 for the first impoundment.
- **Repeat Impoundments (within 12 months):** \$100 for the second, and \$200 for the third.
- **Boarding Fees:** The keeper must pay the expense of keeping the dog, which the county has set at \$25 per day.
- **Licensing:** If an impounded dog is unlicensed, the keeper is also required to purchase a license and pay any applicable penalties.
- **Impoundment Appeal Deposit:** The county requires a \$100 deposit.

Multnomah County Code - Discretionary Fees (MCC § 13.512)

Fees for Cats and Other Animals: The majority of state laws pertain specifically to dogs. Therefore, all fees related to cats, livestock, and other animals are set at the county's discretion by county code.

Facility Licensing and Classification Fees

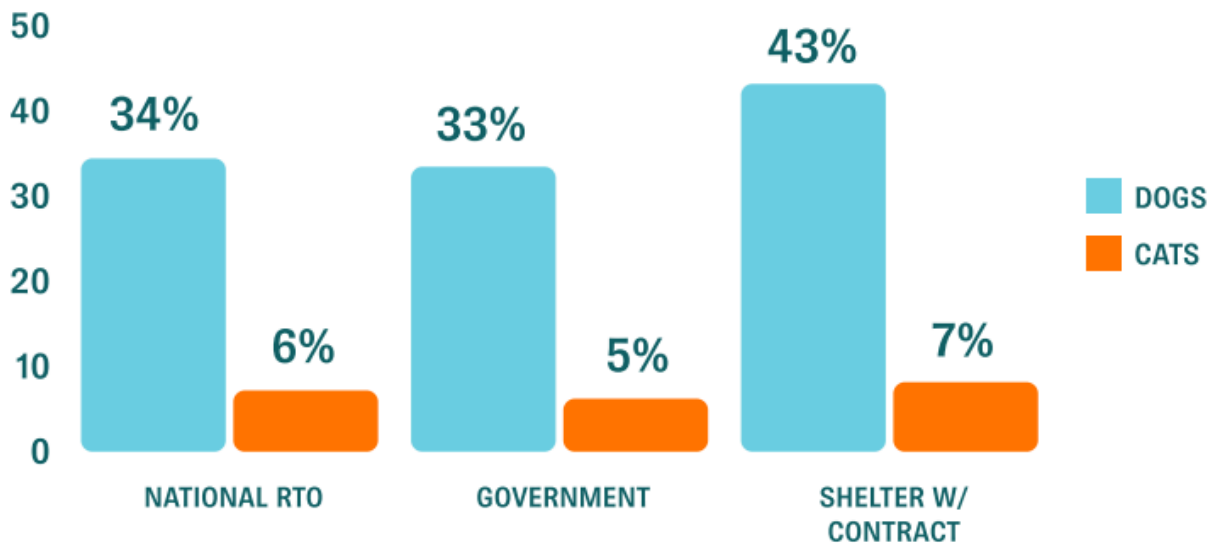
These annual fees are for entities that house or manage animals and for dogs with a specific behavioral classification. While inspection requirements and fee schedules for animal rescue entities (MCC § 13.151) and exotic, wild, or dangerous animal facilities (MCC § 13.154) are established in [Multnomah County Code](#), only Domestic Animal Facilities are currently within the inspection and licensing purview of Multnomah County Animal Services. *All other categories are now managed at the state or federal level.*

- **Facility Licenses (Annual):**
 - Animal Rescue Entity: \$105 (1-10 animals) or \$145 (11+ animals).
 - Domestic Animal Facility: \$180 (1-10 animals) or \$210 (11+ animals).
 - Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facility: \$220 (1-10 animals) or \$260 (11+ animals).
 - Exotic, Wild, or Dangerous Animal Facility Permit (Exemption): \$90 (1-10 animals) or \$130 (11+ animals).

D. Reunification

According to the 2025 Shelter Animals Count Mid-Year Report, government-run shelters across the country have a current Return to Owner Rate (RTO) of 33% for found dogs, and 5% for found cats. *In FY 2025, MCAS maintained a 47% RTO for found dogs and puppies, and 7% RTO for found cats and kittens.*

National Return to Owner Rates (RTO) of Found Animals in 2025



[Source: Shelter Animals Count - 2025 Mid Year Report](#)

Return to Owner Rates at Multnomah County Animal Services in FY 2025

Found Animal Return to Owner Rates:

Circumstance	Dogs & Puppies		Cats & Kittens		Other Domestic		Total RTO	
Stray (No ID)	671	37%	75	3%	9	6%	755	17%
Stray (With ID)	582	67%	116	30%	33	48%	731	56%
RTO	1253	47%	191	7%	42	19%	1486	26%
Share of RTO	84%		13%		3%			

Found animals at MCAS are currently 3.3 times more likely to be reunited with their owners if they have a license or a microchip than if they do not have a form of identification. In FY 2025, 56% of found animals with identification were reunited with their owners, compared to 17% of animals without identification. However, only 32% of found dogs and 14% of found cats had a form of identification enabling shelter staff to contact their owners when they arrived at the shelter.