# Numerator 

NEW FRONTIERS
Our Pet Project

## U.S. animal shelters reported a rise in foster applications as people seek companionship during COVID



Volunteer staff cheer at empty Florida dog kennel thanks to adoptions The volunteers at Friends of Palm Beach County Animal Care are cheering after every dog was adopted and the kennel was
empty for the first time ever. USA TODAY, Storyful


A dog that has been adopted but not yet taken to its new home remained in one of the few occupied pens at the Humane
Society of Westchester in New Rochelle, New York, on March 26, 2020. SETH HARRISONTHE JOURNAL NEWS

## Despite the pandemic surge, America's pet obsession has been growing every year



Pet Products: Average HH Spend

| 2017 | $\$ 363.52$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2018 |  |
| 2019 | $\$ 401.28$ |

2020 (Estimated) $\square$ $\$ 458.95$

Total Number of Trips
2017 2.6B


## So...what do we know about the Pet market?

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## 6 in 10 U.S. HHs own a pet, with dogs by far the most popular pet

of total US HHs, $63 \%$ own at least one dog or cat

Exclusive Dog Owners


Exclusive Cat Owners


Dog \& Cat Owners


## Pet owners are more likely to be Gen X, higher income and Caucasian HHs with kids compared with non-pet owners

Dog owners tend to have children in the HHs. Younger generation are more likely to have multiple species
Comparing to non-Dog/Cat owners, over-indexed (higher than 110) in...


Exclusive Dog Owners
\% Gen X
\% Over \$100K
¿ Caucasian; Hispanic
$\%$ Rural
\% HHs with children


Exclusive Cat Owners
$\%$ Gen X
\% \$100K -125K
\% Caucasian
$\%$ Rural
\% HHs w/o children


Dog \& Cat Owners
\% Gen Z or Gen X
¿ \$80K -125K
¿ Caucasian
\% Rural
\% HHs with children

## The everyday cost of having a cat is more expensive than having a dog

Average Annual HH Spend on Pet Products

Total Pet Products*
Exclusive Dog Owners:
$\$ 498.06$
Exclusive Cat Owners:
$\$ 561.69$


## Zooming in on pet food, fresh food is gaining traction as shoppers looking for a healthier option for their pet

\% HH Penetration by Pet Food Type


Fresh Food Category Awareness: 69\%*

Drivers of fresh pet food purchase*


## Rescue remains the most popular source for adopting a

 pet
## Source of the Pet: \% HHs






Pet store

# First time pet owners often turn to rescue or breeder for information before they adopt the pet 

Source of Information prior to adopting/fostering your pet


## Pet owners are brand loyal: engaging them at early touchpoints to win their $1^{\text {st }}$ purchase is key

\% Repeat Rate 52W Post the Entry Trip Among New Buyers in Each Category
Average of top 5 brands (based on brand \$ share of the entry trip) in each category


Dry Cat Food


Infant Formula


## How to Read:

- Of shoppers who purchased Blue Buffalo for the first time during 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2019, 43\% purchased the brand again within 52 W post their first purchase
- The repeat rate post $1^{\text {st }}$ purchase for Dog/Cat food category is comparable to Infant Formula, which is a category with high brand loyalty


## It's worth the effort - majority of pet owners feed the same brand of pet food to all their dogs or cats

\% Pet Owners Using the Same Brand of Pet Food to All of their Pets

Multi-Dog Owners*


Multi-Cat Owners*


Dog \& Cat Owners**


## Pet specialty stores are an important channel to capture the new pet owners' first trips

Channel SOW: Pet Product Entry Trips


## During entry trips in Pet stores, shoppers are more likely to purchase pet supplies and wellness products

\% Dollars by Pet Category: Pet Channel Entry Trips Index to All Entry Trips across all channels


## The Pet channel may serve as a driver of product trial since it has a broad assortment

However, shoppers who started at Pet channel are less likely to make repeat purchases after their first trip
\% Repeat Rate 52W post the Entry Trip Among New Buyers by Channel
■Mass ■Online

- Pet


[^0]
## Price is the most prominent barrier that prevents shoppers from purchasing at pet specialty stores



## How has COVID shifted Pet Owners' behavior?



# Comparing to YAG, penetration of Dog/Cat food shot up in mid-March 

Weekly HH Penetration: Dog/Cat Food


The average HH spend on pet food spiked during the initial COVID outbreak, indicating shoppers are stockpiling

Weekly Buy Rate: Dog/Cat Food


## While pet adoption rates increased as a result of COVID, it might not be fully driven by the influx of new pet owners

\% New vs. \% Existing

■ \% Existing Shoppers (Bought the category during COVID and 52W prior)

- \% New Shoppers (Bought the category during COVID but not 52W prior)



## Pet owners are not cutting "extra" expenses for their pets during COVID. In fact, they spend more on treats or toys!



Buy Rate: COVID vs. YAG


Dog Treats \& Toys
Total: \$57.43 (Index to YAG: 106)
By Numerator Dynamic Recession
Segmentation*

|  | COVID | Index vs. YAG |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Scared \& Struggling | $\$ 54.06$ | 100 |
| Glass Half Full | $\$ 57.90$ | 107 |
| Life on Pause | $\$ 63.73$ | 100 |
| Pushing Forward | $\$ 60.62$ | 107 |
| Living My Frugal Life | $\$ 56.05$ | 108 |
| Full Speed Ahead | $\$ 65.84$ | 107 |



Cat Treats \& Toys
Total: \$28.17 (Index to YAG: 113)
By Numerator Dynamic Recession Segmentation*

|  | COVID | Index vs. YAG |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Scared \& Struggling | $\$ 29.76$ | 107 |
| Glass Half Full | $\$ 29.17$ | 108 |
| Life on Pause | $\$ 33.57$ | 133 |
| Pushing Forward | $\$ 30.31$ | 120 |
| Living My Frugal Life | $\$ 25.28$ | 112 |
| Full Speed Ahead | $\$ 26.83$ | 110 |

This is likely because shoppers are staying home with their pets more and want to spoil them

Reasons for Purchasing More Treats/Toys

More people in my home than usual There was a promotion/sale Home with my pet more

Spoil my pet
Distraction tactic Training


## Shoppers shifted their pet spend online during the COVID period and away from Mass, Pet and Club channels

Channel Share of Wallet: Total Pet Products
COVID Period: 3/1/20-8/2/20 vs Pre COVID: L52W ending 2/29/2020


Pet


Food


Mass


Online

Index to Channel SOW in L52W ending 2/29/2020


Club


Dollar


Home Improvement

## Total Pet Food \& Treats is growing at the fastest speed online during COVID



## eCom SOW has grown across all Pet Food \& Treats categories during COVID particularly for Cat and Dog Food

|  | \% HH Penetration During COVID (3/1/20-8/2/20) | Channel Share of Spend During COVID: B\&M vs. eComm |  | eComm Share of Spend during COVID: Index to Pre-COVID |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Pet Food \& Treats | 75.5\% | 75\% | 25\% | 132 |
| Total Dog \& Cat Treats | 51.6\% | 80\% | 20\% | 125 |
| Total Dog Food | 44.2\% | 67\% | 33\% | $132$ |
| Total Cat Food | 33.0\% | 70\% | 30\% |  |
| All Other Pet Food \& Treats | 13.8\% | 79\% | 21\% | 128 |

## Shoppers online Pet Food \& Treats dollars are shifting from Chewy and Amazon to retailer.coms...

eComm Retailer SOW: Pet Food \& Treats


Index vs. YAG

$\frac{\text { Kroger.com }}{\text { 0.4\% 0.7\% }}$

> Petsmart.com

210 162

## .which is likely because shoppers consolidated purchases during COVID to avoid multiple trips

## Change in Pet Shopping Behaviors since COVID Period



## What we are seeing

\% Adoption rates reportedly increasing as a result of COVID and has been driven by both new and existing pet owners.
\% In addition to the pandemic surge, America's pet obsession has been growing every year and HH spend on pets continues to grow, even among financiallyconstrained households.
\% Along with household essentials, shoppers also stockpiled pet products at the beginning of the pandemic

* Like many others, COVID accelerated the movement to online for pet categories. Shoppers are now spending more of their pet food dollars at grocery.com sites to avoid multiple trips.
\% Pet owners are brand loyal: engaging them at early touchpoints to win their $1^{\text {st }}$ purchase is key.


## Why it matters to you

* COVID may have brought an unexpected number of new pet owners, which pose a profitable opportunity for brands and retailers.
* Rising pet adoption rates may also be driven by existing pet owners, which presents opportunities to attract nonbrand buyers as they look to find the right products for new pets.
* To capture new pet owners' first trip, consider building brand exposure through early touchpoints, such as rescue centers, breeders, vet or popular online pet communities.
* Brands must secure a solid online presence, but pet specialty stores also present unique opportunities since they capture a disproportionate amount of new owners spend.
* Price point might prevent some experienced owners from continuing shopping at pet retailers, so build awareness of price guarantee programs to help with retention.


## Appendix



## Work with your Numerator consultant to find out more about your most important customers



DOGGO-GRAPHICS

- Profile households by number
of dogs, their age, and size
- Categories, brands, and retailers they're considering and why
- How loyalty patterns change over time


CATTO-GRAPHICS

- Profile households by number of cats, their age, and indoor / outdoor status
- Categories, brands, and retailers they're considering and why
- How loyalty patterns change over time



## OTHER PETS

- Profile households by other types of pets in the family
- Categories, brands, and retailers they're considering and why


# Numerator 

NEW FRONTIERS
Learn how your customer's behavior is shifting
hello@numerator.com


[^0]:    How to Read:

    - Of shoppers who purchased Dog/Cat Food in Pet channel for the first time during 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2019, 52\% purchased the category again from Pet channel within 52 W post their first purchase

