# Analysis of Council Data Collection for Seizures of Cats and Dogs 2011/2012 

Division of Local Government,<br>NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet

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## Introduction

Councils are required, under Section 67A of the Companion Animals Act 1998 (hereafter referred to as the Act), to report on activities relating to animal pounds under the responsibility of the council.

The Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet has developed a system for the collection of animal pound data. The primary purpose of the data collection system is to provide a management tool for councils to inform the design and implementation of operations to meet their responsibilities under the Act. The data has a variety of purposes, such as:

- assessment of resource needs including staffing
- provision of information to the community about pound activities
- preparation of submissions for new or upgraded facilities and equipment or additional staff
- allocation of resources to account for seasonal fluctuations in activity identified in the monthly data
- evaluation of existing strategies in regard to council responsibilities under the Act
- strategic planning for companion animal services.

In addition, the data collected by each council is provided to the Division annually and held on a central database.

A number of improvements have been made to the pound data collection system over time, in particular to the instrument used for collecting the data to increase its accuracy. Providing the data to the Division was made mandatory from the 2006/2007 reporting period to increase the response rate.

Despite these improvements, the data in this report needs to be interpreted with some caution. Inspection of the data indicates that there are some errors by councils in recording data. However, these are considered not to be to an extent that would invalidate overall findings.

The data in the report is presented on a regional basis. The councils which comprise each region are listed in Appendix 1.

## Summary

## Results for 2011/2012

This report relates to the analysis of data collected by NSW local councils regarding seized cats and dogs, and cats and dogs taken to a pound, for the period from July 2011 to June 2012.

Overall, for all regions, the number of dogs seized by councils under the authority of the Companion Animals Act $1998(34,328)$ was more than three times the number of cats seized $(10,580)$. The number of dogs surrendered $(5,091)$ was also well in excess of twice the number of cats surrendered $(2,082)$. The number of dogs dumped at a pound by an unknown person $(13,884)$ was only slightly higher than the number of dumped cats $(12,410)$.

There were also considerable differences in the outcomes for dogs and cats arriving at a pound. Only $3 \%$ of cats arriving at a pound were released to their owner, compared to a figure of $43 \%$ for dogs. In contrast, $26 \%$ of dogs arriving at a pound were euthanased compared with 65\% of cats. Of the remaining animals arriving at a pound, approximately 2.1 times as many cats were released to an organisation for re-homing than were sold, while the corresponding ratio for dogs was closer to 1.9 times. These numbers exclude small numbers of cats and dogs that died at the pound (other than those euthanased), were stolen or escaped.

The percentage of animals arriving at a pound that were sold and released for re-homing (the two outcomes that councils would appear to have the greatest influence over), show substantial variation across regions. In the case of dogs, nine regions (out of fifteen) sold no more than $10 \%$ of dogs arriving at a pound, while the highest proportion of dogs sold was $37 \%$ in the Sydney Inner region. In four regions, the proportion of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing was $10 \%$ or less, well below the maximum of $34 \%$ achieved by the Hunter region.

A similar pattern is observed in the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were sold or released for re-homing. The percentage of cats sold was less than $10 \%$ in nine regions, compared to a maximum of $42 \%$ in the Central Coast region. In two regions, the proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were released for re-homing was $10 \%$ or less, with a maximum of $36 \%$ in the lllawarra region.

When the data is normalised by the numbers of identified companion animals in each region, the variation in the summary statistics due to 'size' of region (as measured by numbers of companion animals) is largely removed, but some significant differences remain across regions.

In 2011/2012, 23 dogs were seized for every 1,000 identified dogs in NSW (down from 26 in 2010/2011), and of these 19 were taken to the pound and the remainder were returned to their owner. The overall rate of dogs arriving at a pound was 31 per 1,000 identified dogs, which is a decrease of $8 \%$ since 2010/2011.

The rates per thousand identified dogs varied considerably between regions: in the case of seized dogs the rate ranged from 10 to 51 per 1,000, and in the case of seized dogs arriving at a pound the rate ranged from 8 to 79 per 1,000 . In general, there appears to be corresponding trends across regions with high rates for seized dogs and high rates for dogs arriving at a pound.

In 2011/2012, 23 cats were seized for every 1,000 identified cats in NSW (down from 26 in 2010/2011), and of these 0.4 per 1,000 were returned to their owner with the remainder taken to the pound. The overall rate of cats arriving at a pound was 54 per 1,000 identified cats, which is a decrease of 11\% since 2010/2011.

The rate per thousand identified cats varied considerably across regions: in the case of seized cats the rate ranged from 0 (rounded) to 89 per 1,000 and in the case of seized cats arriving at a pound the rate ranged from 6 to 239 per 1,000.

Since 2010/2011 there have been decreases of approximately 16\% and 10\% respectively in the numbers of cats and dogs seized when expressed as a ratio per thousand identified animals. The numbers of cats and dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified animals have also decreased by approximately $11 \%$ and $8 \%$ respectively.

Since 2010/2011, the proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were reported to be dumped has increased by 4 percentage points (from $26 \%$ to $30 \%)$. The proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were seized has decreased by 4 percentage points (from $63 \%$ to $59 \%$ ). The proportion of dumped cats arriving at a pound has increased by 3 percentage points (from $47 \%$ to $50 \%$ ). The proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were seized has decreased by 2 percentage points (from $44 \%$ to $42 \%$ ).

The proportion of dogs reported to be surrendered to the pound by their owners has remained constant between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 (at 11\%), and the proportion of cats surrendered to the pounds by their owners has decreased by 1 percentage point (from $9 \%$ to $8 \%$ ) over the same period.

The total number of dogs and cats surrendered at the pound has decreased between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 by 8\% (from 5,543 to 5,091) for dogs and by $12 \%$ (from 2,365 to 2,082 ) for cats.

With regard to animals leaving impounding facilities, since 2010/2011 the proportion of impounded cats that were released to their owner has remained unchanged at $3 \%$. However, the proportion of impounded dogs released to their owner has increased from 41\% to 43\%.

Improvements have been achieved in outcomes for dogs arriving at a pound, continuing trends from the previous year. The proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased has fallen from $28 \%$ to $26 \%$. This may be accounted for by a corresponding increase in the proportion of dogs released to their owner (see above), as well as dogs released to an organisation for re-
homing from $19 \%$ to $20 \%$. However, the proportion of dogs sold remained unchanged at $10 \%$.

The proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased has also decreased from 68\% to 65\%, more than reversing the change observed between 2009/10 and 2010/11. The proportion of cats released to an organisation for re-homing has increased from $18 \%$ to $21 \%$ continuing the trend in the previous twelve months, and there was a small increase in the proportion of cats sold from $9 \%$ to $10 \%$ over the same period.

A significant fall of $22 \%$ was observed in the number of cats euthanased at their owner's request since 2010/2011, but the number of dogs euthanased at their owner's request fell by only $1 \%$ over the same period.

It is evident that the improvements in the quality of data entered observed in 2010/2011 have continued. These can be attributed to modifications to the reporting system and greater familiarity on the part of councils with the definitions of the various data categories.

There have been decreases of approximately 8\% since 2010/2011 in the numbers of cats and dogs seized when expressed as a ratio per thousand identified animals. The numbers of cats and dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified animals have also decreased by approximately $10 \%$.

Changes have occurred since 2010/2011 in the reasons for dogs and cats arriving at a pound. In general the changes have been smaller in magnitude than those observed in earlier years and there are no obvious patterns in the changes. The proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were seized has increased from $62 \%$ to $63 \%$. The proportion of dogs reported to be dumped at a pound has increased from $25 \%$ to $26 \%$. The proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were seized has remained constant at 44\%. For dumped cats arriving at a pound the proportion has increased from 46\% to 47\%.

Since 2010/2011, the proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were released to their owner has remained unchanged, and the proportion of dogs released to their owner has increased from $39 \%$ to $41 \%$. Improvements have been achieved in the outcomes for dogs and cats arriving at a pound, continuing trends from the previous 12 months, though of smaller magnitudes.

In comparing the results in 2011/2012 with earlier years it is evident that the improvements in the quality of data entered observed in 2010/2011 have continued. These improvements are due to modifications to the reporting system and greater familiarity on the part of councils with the definitions of the various data categories. Nevertheless, a number of data inconsistencies have been detected. These have all involved small numbers (none are above ten animals) and are not expected to affect the findings in this report.

The data in the report is presented on a regional basis. The councils which comprise each region are listed in Appendix 1.

## Trend analysis

This report presents trend analysis of council data collected for seizures of cats and dogs for the period from 2006/2007 to 2011/2012.

The results for NSW as a whole are presented in the corresponding sections in the main body of the report. The summary provided below is restricted to NSW data in aggregate. Appendix 3 contains the trend analysis results for dogs at the regional level and appendix 4 contains the trend analysis results for cats at the regional level.

Over the analysis period, the number of dogs seized has decreased by 19\% from 42,151 since 2006/2007, and there has been a reduction of $35 \%$ from 36 in the number of dogs seized per thousand identified dogs. The drop in the number of seized dogs taken to a pound $(24 \%$ from 35,998$)$ has been even more marked. The difference is accounted for by an increase of $11 \%$ in the number of seized dogs returned to owner.

The number of cats seized has increased by 7\% from 9,884 in 2006/2007 but has come down from a peak of 13,452 recorded in 2007/2008. Expressed in terms of per thousand identified cats, the number of cats seized has reduced by $27 \%$ from 31 in 2006/2007. Over this period, the percentage of seized cats taken to a pound has varied in the range $98 \%$ to $99 \%$, and the number of cats returned to owner has grown by $37 \%$ from 142 cats.

Since 2006/2007, the number of dogs reported surrendered has decreased by $20 \%$ while the number of dogs dumped has increased by $54 \%$. The changes subsequent to an initial counter-trend move in 2007/2008 have been even more substantial.

The number of cats reported surrendered has increased by 19\% since 2006/2007 but subsequent to a peak in 2007/2008, there has been a fall of almost half. The number of cats dumped has more than doubled since 2006/2007 (an increase of 134\%).

The number of dogs arriving at a pound has decreased by $9 \%$ from 51,348 since 2006/2007, but expressed in terms of per thousand identified dogs, the decrease is much larger at $27 \%$.

The number of cats arriving at a pound has increased by $48 \%$ from 16,787 in 2006/2007 while the number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats has increased by $2 \%$. The rising trend in the first years of the analysis period appears to have been reversed in more recent years.
The broad trends since 2006/2007 for outcomes for dogs arriving at a pound include a substantial decrease in the number of dogs euthanased ( $41 \%$ from 20,058 ), and increases in the number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing $(43 \%$ from 6,451$)$ and dogs released to owner $(14 \%$ from 17,404$)$.

The trends have not been so clear in the outcomes for cats arriving at a pound since 2006/2007. Overall there has been an increase in the number of cats euthanased (35\% from 12,002), but the percentage of cats arriving at a pound
that are euthanased has fallen from $71 \%$ to $65 \%$. The number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing has increased by a factor of more than 2.5 from 2,002 in 2006/2007.

## 1. Seized animals

### 1.1 Dogs

Table 1: Number of dogs seized by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 96 | 110 | 96 | 105 | 87 | 86 | 98 | 88 | 91 | 103 | 83 | 92 | 1,135 |
| Hunter | 287 | 336 | 296 | 275 | 311 | 303 | 318 | 282 | 274 | 291 | 277 | 307 | 3,557 |
| Illawarra | 165 | 170 | 156 | 148 | 167 | 163 | 218 | 174 | 186 | 168 | 191 | 183 | 2,089 |
| Mid North Coast | 211 | 249 | 242 | 184 | 184 | 185 | 199 | 226 | 227 | 167 | 211 | 152 | 2,437 |
| Murray | 130 | 164 | 179 | 132 | 134 | 125 | 144 | 175 | 174 | 138 | 157 | 147 | 1,799 |
| Murrumbidgee | 170 | 172 | 159 | 129 | 171 | 152 | 153 | 161 | 201 | 155 | 155 | 141 | 1,919 |
| Northern | 173 | 209 | 203 | 183 | 180 | 217 | 227 | 215 | 226 | 204 | 219 | 206 | 2,462 |
| North Western | 166 | 192 | 151 | 144 | 182 | 175 | 175 | 218 | 208 | 180 | 194 | 194 | 2,179 |
| Richmond Tweed | 63 | 41 | 42 | 41 | 45 | 43 | 44 | 57 | 50 | 54 | 59 | 54 | 593 |
| South Eastern | 165 | 206 | 184 | 181 | 188 | 176 | 162 | 188 | 185 | 148 | 161 | 174 | 2,118 |
| Western | 205 | 263 | 280 | 263 | 287 | 229 | 255 | 240 | 226 | 191 | 213 | 232 | 2,884 |
| Sydney North | 104 | 107 | 92 | 96 | 83 | 95 | 116 | 82 | 100 | 83 | 102 | 98 | 1,158 |
| Sydney South | 204 | 224 | 232 | 221 | 224 | 230 | 238 | 220 | 224 | 231 | 222 | 223 | 2,693 |
| Sydney Inner | 59 | 53 | 61 | 47 | 57 | 44 | 59 | 52 | 44 | 54 | 30 | 52 | 612 |
| Sydney West | 546 | 551 | 518 | 469 | 629 | 569 | 582 | 633 | 569 | 536 | 545 | 546 | 6,693 |
| Total | 2,744 | 3,047 | 2,891 | 2,618 | 2,929 | 2,792 | 2,988 | 3,011 | 2,985 | 2,703 | 2,819 | 2,801 | 34,328 |

Table 1 shows that:

- the total number of dogs seized in 2011/2012 was 34,328 .
- the number of dogs seized varied considerably across regions, ranging from 593 in the Richmond Tweed region to 6,693 in the Sydney West region.
- the total number of dogs seized in each month varied by some $15 \%$, with the highest number seized occurring in August at 3,047 , and the lowest number in October at 2,618.
- the monthly numbers varied more in relative terms within each region, but no patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs seized has decreased by $7 \%$ from the 36,768 dogs seized in 2010/2011.

Table 2: Number of dogs seized per thousand identified dogs ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> dogs |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 1,135 | 14 |
| Hunter | 3,557 | 19 |
| Illawarra | 2,089 | 20 |
| Mid North Coast | 2,437 | 28 |
| Murray | 1,799 | 51 |
| Murrumbidgee | 1,919 | 38 |
| Northern | 2,462 | 37 |
| North Western | 2,179 | 51 |
| Richmond Tweed | 593 | 11 |
| South Eastern | 2,118 | 32 |
| Western | 2,884 | 42 |
| Sydney North | 1,158 | 10 |
| Sydney South | 2,693 | 22 |
| Sydney Inner | 612 | 12 |
| Sydney West | 6,693 | 19 |
| Total | $\mathbf{3 4 , 3 2 8}$ | $\mathbf{2 3}$ |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified dogs in each region
Table 2 shows that:

- 23 dogs were seized for every 1,000 identified dogs in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate dogs were seized per thousand identified dogs, ranging from 10 in the Sydney North region to 51 in the North Western and Murray regions.
- there is a suggestion that the less densely populated regions (such as North Western and Murray) exhibit higher rates of seized dogs per thousand identified dogs than more densely populated regions (such as Sydney North and Sydney Inner).
- the number of dogs seized per thousand identified dogs has decreased from 28 since 2010/2011.


Figure 1: Number of dogs seized in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs seized is graphed in Figure 1 and shows that:

- the number of dogs seized in NSW has trended downward from 42,151 dogs in 2006/2007 to 34,328 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $19 \%$ over five years.
- the number of dogs seized in NSW per thousand identified dogs has decreased from 36 to 23 in the same period, or a fall of 35\%.

Table 3: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of seized dogs taken to the pound by region and month for 2011/2012


Table 3 shows that:

- the total number of seized dogs taken to the pound was 27,511 , which represented $80 \%$ of all dogs seized.
- there was considerable variation across regions in the number of seized dogs taken to the pound from 385 in the Sydney Inner region to 5,628 in the Sydney West region.
- there was considerable variation across regions in the percentage of seized dogs taken to the pound, ranging from $46 \%$ in the Sydney North region to $95 \%$ in the Murrumbidgee and North Western regions.
- the percentage of seized dogs taken to the pound for all regions each month was quite constant over the year, ranging from 79\% in July, September, October and April to 82\% in November.
- there was considerably more variation in the monthly percentages for individual regions but no patterns are apparent.
- there has been a $10 \%$ decrease from the 30,519 seized dogs taken to the pound in $2010 / 2011$, and the percentage of all seized dogs taken to the pound has decreased from $83 \%$.

Table 4: Number of seized dogs taken to the pound per thousand identified dogs ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Number | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> dogs |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 1,070 | 13 |  |
| Hunter | 2,542 | 13 |  |
| Illawarra | 1,810 | 17 |  |
| Mid North Coast | 2,064 | 24 |  |
| Murray | 1,217 | 35 |  |
| Murrumbidgee | 1,823 | 36 |  |
| Northern | 1,863 | 28 |  |
| North Western | 2,080 | 49 |  |
| Richmond Tweed | 414 | 7 |  |
| South Eastern | 1,863 | 29 |  |
| Western | 2,392 | 35 |  |
| Sydney North | 537 | 5 |  |
| Sydney South | 1,823 | 15 |  |
| Sydney Inner | 385 | 8 |  |
| Sydney West | 5,628 | 16 |  |
| Total | 27,511 | 19 |  |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified dogs in each region
Table 4 shows that:

- 19 seized dogs were taken to the pound for every 1,000 identified dogs in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate seized dogs were taken to the pound per thousand identified dogs, ranging from 5 in the Sydney North region to 49 in the North Western region.
- the general pattern in Table 4 follows that in Table 2 (though the rates were lower for each region) due to the high percentage of seized dogs that were taken to the pound.
- the number of seized dogs taken to the pound per thousand identified dogs has decreased from 21 since 2010/2011.


Figure 2: Number of seized dogs taken to the pound in NSW


Figure 3: Number of seized dogs taken to the pound per thousand identified dogs in NSW
The trend analysis for number of seized dogs taken to the pound shows that:

- the number of seized dogs taken to the pound in NSW has trended downward from 35,988 dogs in 2006/2007 to 27,511 dogs in $2011 / 2012$, representing a fall of $24 \%$ over five years (Figure 2).
- the percentage of seized dogs that were taken to the pound has also trended downwards but at a more moderate rate, decreasing from $85 \%$ to $80 \%$ with most of the decrease occurring in the last two years (Figure 2).
- the number of dogs seized that were taken to the pound per thousand identified dogs in NSW has decreased from 30 to 19 in the same period, equivalent to a fall of 39\% (Figure 3).

Table 5: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of seized dogs returned to owner by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 7 | 7\% | 9 | 8\% | 6 | 6\% | 10 | 10\% | 8 | 9\% | 1 | 1\% | 4 | 4\% | 8 | 9\% | 2 | 2\% | 4 | 4\% | 2 | 2\% | 4 | 4\% | 65 | 6\% |
| Hunter | 66 | 23\% | 85 | 25\% | 93 | 31\% | 61 | 22\% | 82 | 26\% | 67 | 22\% | 108 | 34\% | 93 | 33\% | 76 | 28\% | 90 | 31\% | 85 | 31\% | 109 | 36\% 1 | 1,015 | 29\% |
| Illawarra | 31 | 19\% | 19 | 11\% | 24 | 15\% | 26 | 18\% | 33 | 20\% | 18 | 11\% | 36 | 17\% | 18 | 10\% | 19 | 10\% | 20 | 12\% | 22 | 12\% | 13 | 7\% | 279 | 13\% |
| Mid North Coast | 32 | 15\% | 37 | 15\% | 34 | 14\% | 34 | 18\% | 18 | 10\% | 35 | 19\% | 26 | 13\% | 35 | 15\% | 26 | 11\% | 33 | 20\% | 40 | 19\% | 23 | 15\% | 373 | 15\% |
| Murray | 50 | 38\% | 51 | 31\% | 53 | 30\% | 42 | 32\% | 37 | 28\% | 32 | 26\% | 50 | 35\% | 52 | 30\% | 62 | 36\% | 48 | 35\% | 48 | 31\% | 57 | 39\% | 582 | 32\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 8 | 5\% | 10 | 6\% | 4 | 3\% | 13 | 10\% | 12 | 7\% | 4 | 3\% | 5 | 3\% | 8 | 5\% | 12 | 6\% | 3 | 2\% | 12 | 8\% | 5 | 4\% | 96 | 5\% |
| Northern | 40 | 23\% | 38 | 18\% | 52 | 26\% | 61 | 33\% | 40 | 22\% | 36 | 17\% | 44 | 19\% | 73 | 34\% | 63 | 28\% | 46 | 23\% | 52 | 24\% | 54 | 26\% | 599 | 24\% |
| North Western | 3 | 2\% | 10 | 5\% | 12 | 8\% | 3 | 2\% | 14 | 8\% | 11 | 6\% | 9 | 5\% | 8 | 4\% | 7 | 3\% | 6 | 3\% | 10 | 5\% | 6 | 3\% | 99 | 5\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 16 | 25\% | 11 | 27\% | 14 | 33\% | 9 | 22\% | 7 | 16\% | 15 | 35\% | 13 | 30\% | 14 | 25\% | 22 | 44\% | 20 | 37\% | 19 | 32\% | 19 | 35\% | 179 | 30\% |
| South Eastern | 24 | 15\% | 36 | 17\% | 26 | 14\% | 23 | 13\% | 19 | 10\% | 22 | 13\% | 14 | 9\% | 17 | 9\% | 24 | 13\% | 13 | 9\% | 19 | 12\% | 18 | 10\% | 255 | 12\% |
| Western | 49 | 24\% | 47 | 18\% | 51 | 18\% | 31 | 12\% | 48 | 17\% | 41 | 18\% | 41 | 16\% | 41 | 17\% | 46 | 20\% | 30 | 16\% | 30 | 14\% | 37 | 16\% | 492 | 17\% |
| Sydney North | 57 | 55\% | 52 | 49\% | 56 | 61\% | 71 | 74\% | 43 | 52\% | 65 | 68\% | 70 | 60\% | 34 | 41\% | 54 | 54\% | 41 | 49\% | 57 | 56\% | 21 | 21\% | 621 | 54\% |
| Sydney South | 75 | 37\% | 101 | 45\% | 78 | 34\% | 58 | 26\% | 73 | 33\% | 65 | 28\% | 64 | 27\% | 52 | 24\% | 67 | 30\% | 79 | 34\% | 80 | 36\% | 78 | 35\% | 870 | 32\% |
| Sydney Inner | 23 | 39\% | 20 | 38\% | 23 | 38\% | 16 | 34\% | 24 | 42\% | 13 | 30\% | 22 | 37\% | 17 | 33\% | 16 | 36\% | 17 | 31\% | 14 | 47\% | 22 | 42\% | 227 | 37\% |
| Sydney West | 83 | 15\% | 88 | 16\% | 71 | 14\% | 80 | 17\% | 79 | 13\% | 109 | 19\% | 102 | 18\% | 105 | 17\% | 66 | 12\% | 109 | 20\% | 75 | 14\% | 98 | 18\% 1 | 1,065 | 16\% |
| Total | 564 | 21\% | 614 | 20\% | 597 | 21\% | 538 | 21\% | 537 | 18\% | 534 | 19\% | 608 | 20\% | 575 | 19\% | 562 | 19\% | 559 | 21\% | 565 | 20\% | 564 | 20\% | 6,817 | 20\% |

Table 5 shows that:

- the total number of seized dogs returned to their owner was 6,817 , which represented $20 \%$ of all seized dogs.
- the number of seized dogs returned to their owner varied substantially between regions from a low of 65 in the Central Coast region to a high of 1,065 in the Sydney West region.
- the percentage of seized dogs returned to their owner varied substantially between regions from $5 \%$ in the Murrumbidgee and North Western regions to $54 \%$ in the Sydney North region.
- the percentage of seized dogs returned to their owner for all regions each month was quite constant through the year, varying from $18 \%$ in November to $21 \%$ in July, September, October and April.
- there was considerably more variation in the monthly percentage of seized dogs returned to their owner for individual regions but no patterns are apparent.
- there has been a $1 \%$ decrease from the 6,249 seized dogs returned to their owner in 2010/2011, and the percentage of all seized dogs returned to their owner has increased from $17 \%$.

Table 6: Number of seized dogs not taken to pound and returned to owner per thousand identified dogs ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012
Ratel'000

| Region | Number | identified <br> dogs |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 65 | 0.8 |  |
| Hunter | 1,015 | 5.3 |  |
| Illawarra | 279 | 2.6 |  |
| Mid North Coast | 373 | 4.3 |  |
| Murray | 582 | 16.6 |  |
| Murrumbidgee | 96 | 1.9 |  |
| Northern | 599 | 9.1 |  |
| North Western | 99 | 2.3 |  |
| Richmond Tweed | 179 | 3.2 |  |
| South Eastern | 255 | 3.9 |  |
| Western | 492 | 7.1 |  |
| Sydney North | 621 | 5.4 |  |
| Sydney South | 870 | 7.2 |  |
| Sydney Inner | 227 | 4.5 |  |
| Sydney West | 1,065 | 3.1 |  |
| Total | $\mathbf{6 , 8 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{4 . 6}$ |  |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified dogs in each region
Table 6 shows that:

- 4.6 seized dogs were returned to their owner for every 1,000 identified dogs in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate dogs were seized and returned to their owner per thousand identified dogs, ranging from 0.8 in the Central Coast region to 16.6 in the Murray region.
- in general, the numbers are too small to be able to identify any other patterns.
- the number of seized dogs returned to their owner per thousand identified dogs has increased from 4.4 since 2010/2011.


Figure 4: Number of seized dogs returned to owner in NSW


Figure 5: Number of seized dogs returned to owner per thousand identified dogs in NSW
The trend analysis for number of seized dogs not taken to the pound but returned to owner shows that:

- the number of seized dogs returned to owner in NSW trended downward from 6,163 dogs in 2006/2007 to 5,498 dogs in 2009/2010 but then grew to 6,817 in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $11 \%$ over five years (Figure 4).
- the percentage of seized dogs that were returned to owner has trended upwards from $15 \%$ to $20 \%$ with most of the increase occurring in the last two years (Figure 4).
- the number of seized dogs returned to their owner per thousand identified dogs in NSW has decreased from 5.2 to 4.6 in the same period, equivalent to a fall of 11\%, but no clear trend is evident (Figure 5).

Table 7: Number and percentage of seized dogs taken to the pound and returned to owner by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Total taken to <br> pound |  | Total returned to <br> owner |  | Total <br> seized |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | No. | $\%$ | No. | $\%$ |  |
| Central Coast | 1,070 | $94 \%$ | 65 | $6 \%$ | 1,135 |
| Hunter | 2,542 | $71 \%$ | 1,015 | $29 \%$ | 3,557 |
| Illawarra | 1,810 | $87 \%$ | 279 | $13 \%$ | 2,089 |
| Mid North Coast | 2,064 | $85 \%$ | 373 | $15 \%$ | 2,437 |
| Murray | 1,217 | $68 \%$ | 582 | $32 \%$ | 1,799 |
| Murrumbidgee | 1,823 | $95 \%$ | 96 | $5 \%$ | 1,919 |
| Northern | 1,863 | $76 \%$ | 599 | $24 \%$ | 2,462 |
| North Western | 2,080 | $95 \%$ | 99 | $5 \%$ | 2,179 |
| Richmond Tweed | 414 | $70 \%$ | 179 | $30 \%$ | 593 |
| South Eastern | 1,863 | $88 \%$ | 255 | $12 \%$ | 2,118 |
| Western | 2,392 | $83 \%$ | 492 | $17 \%$ | 2,884 |
| Sydney North | 537 | $46 \%$ | 621 | $54 \%$ | 1,158 |
| Sydney South | 1,823 | $68 \%$ | 870 | $32 \%$ | 2,693 |
| Sydney Inner | 385 | $63 \%$ | 227 | $37 \%$ | 612 |
| Sydney West | 5,628 | $84 \%$ | 1,065 | $16 \%$ | 6,693 |
| Total | $\mathbf{2 7 , 5 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{8 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{6 , 8 1 7}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 \%}$ | $\mathbf{3 4 , 3 2 8}$ |

Table 7 summarises Tables 3 and 5. It shows that the number of seized dogs taken to the pound was far greater than the number of seized dogs returned to their owner (by a factor of 4).

There has been a decrease from 4.9 in the ratio of seized dogs taken to the pound in relation to seized dogs returned to their owner since 2010/2011.

### 1.2 Cats

Table 8: Number of cats seized by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Hunter | 51 | 43 | 56 | 59 | 93 | 100 | 62 | 77 | 89 | 69 | 64 | 40 | 803 |
| Illawarra | 18 | 21 | 17 | 20 | 54 | 23 | 26 | 34 | 49 | 24 | 24 | 12 | 322 |
| Mid North Coast | 29 | 28 | 18 | 57 | 31 | 40 | 20 | 39 | 33 | 14 | 24 | 18 | 351 |
| Murray | 22 | 30 | 33 | 33 | 28 | 42 | 23 | 51 | 50 | 43 | 55 | 29 | 439 |
| Murrumbidgee | 23 | 56 | 32 | 29 | 41 | 36 | 33 | 21 | 71 | 52 | 27 | 33 | 454 |
| Northern | 28 | 23 | 17 | 31 | 33 | 40 | 50 | 47 | 50 | 25 | 71 | 37 | 452 |
| North Western | 40 | 36 | 39 | 28 | 28 | 44 | 45 | 69 | 62 | 46 | 64 | 37 | 538 |
| Richmond Tweed | 9 | 12 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 5 | 12 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 9 | 112 |
| South Eastern | 32 | 20 | 24 | 29 | 46 | 36 | 39 | 37 | 53 | 41 | 33 | 38 | 428 |
| Western | 31 | 41 | 35 | 30 | 40 | 39 | 31 | 38 | 48 | 66 | 46 | 31 | 476 |
| Sydney North | 13 | 19 | 22 | 16 | 38 | 47 | 28 | 34 | 40 | 31 | 19 | 20 | 327 |
| Sydney South | 225 | 207 | 183 | 276 | 376 | 366 | 429 | 384 | 366 | 278 | 322 | 188 | 3,600 |
| Sydney Inner | 22 | 29 | 15 | 32 | 23 | 30 | 20 | 12 | 18 | 9 | 12 | 14 | 236 |
| Sydney West | 100 | 116 | 139 | 109 | 192 | 198 | 188 | 218 | 243 | 167 | 232 | 138 | 2,040 |
| Total | 643 | 681 | 636 | 758 | 1,033 | 1,046 | 1,006 | 1,068 | 1,182 | 875 | 1,008 | 644 | 10,580 |

Table 8 shows that:

- the total number of cats seized was 10,580 .
- the number of cats seized varied substantially across regions, ranging from 2 in the Central Coast region to 3,600 in the Sydney South region.
- there was considerable variation in the number of cats seized during the year; from November to April the monthly average was 1,031 cats seized, more than $50 \%$ greater than the average of 672 cats seized in the remaining five months. A broadly similar pattern of much higher numbers of cats seized in the warmer months than in the cooler months was reported in 2010/11.
- the over-representation of the warmer months in the number of cats seized occurred in most regions, though the pattern varied.
- there has been a $12 \%$ decrease from the 11,959 cats seized in 2010/2011.

Table 9: Number of cats seized per thousand identified cats ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Number | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> cats |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 2 | 0.1 |
| Hunter | 803 | 16 |
| Illawarra | 322 | 11 |
| Mid North Coast | 351 | 18 |
| Murray | 439 | 56 |
| Murrumbidgee | 454 | 45 |
| Northern | 452 | 37 |
| North Western | 538 | 89 |
| Richmond Tweed | 112 | 8 |
| South Eastern | 428 | 33 |
| Western | 476 | 31 |
| Sydney North | 327 | 6 |
| Sydney South | 3,600 | 64 |
| Sydney Inner | 236 | 6 |
| Sydney West | 2,040 | 20 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 0 , 5 8 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 3}$ |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified cats in each region
Table 9 shows that:

- 23 cats were seized for every 1,000 identified cats in NSW.
- there is a substantial variation across regions in the rate cats were seized per thousand identified cats, ranging from 0.1 in the Central Coast region to 89 in the North Western region.
- the rates for 7 of the 15 regions lie in the range 10 to 40 seized cats taken to the pound per 1,000 identified cats.
- the number of cats seized per thousand identified cats has decreased from 27 in 2010/2011.


Figure 6: Number of cats seized in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs seized is graphed in Figure 6 and shows that:

- the number of cats seized in NSW has increased from 9,884 cats in 2006/2007 to 10,580 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $7 \%$ over five years.
- the number of cats seized in NSW per thousand identified cats has decreased from 31 to 23 in the same period or a fall of $27 \%$.
- the two graphs have a similar shape with an initial rise from 2006/2007 to 2007/2008 followed by a substantial declining trend in subsequent years. There has a been a reduction of 2,872 (21\%) in the number of cats seized since 2007/2008, and there was little change from 2008/2009 to 2010/2011.

Table 10: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of seized cats taken to the pound by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% |
| Central Coast | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 2 100\% | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 0 NC | 2 100\% |
| Hunter | 50 98\% | 41 95\% | 53 95\% | 57 97\% | 92 99\% | 99 99\% | 62 100\% | 76 99\% | 86 97\% | 67 97\% | 63 98\% | 39 98\% | 785 98\% |
| Illawarra | 18 100\% | 20 95\% | 17 100\% | 20 100\% | 53 98\% | 23 100\% | 26 100\% | 34 100\% | 49 100\% | 23 96\% | 23 96\% | 12 100\% | 318 99\% |
| Mid North Coast | 29 100\% | 28 100\% | 18 100\% | 56 98\% | 30 97\% | 38 95\% | 18 90\% | 39 100\% | 33 100\% | 14 100\% | 24 100\% | 18 100\% | 345 98\% |
| Murray | 21 95\% | 30 100\% | 32 97\% | 30 91\% | 27 96\% | 42 100\% | 23 100\% | 49 96\% | 45 90\% | 41 95\% | 53 96\% | 28 97\% | 421 96\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 23 100\% | 54 96\% | 32 100\% | 26 90\% | 41 100\% | $36100 \%$ | 31 94\% | 21 100\% | 71 100\% | 49 94\% | 26 96\% | 30 91\% | 440 97\% |
| Northern | 28 100\% | 22 96\% | 17 100\% | 31 100\% | 33 100\% | 40 100\% | 50 100\% | 46 98\% | 50 100\% | 25 100\% | 71 100\% | 37 100\% | 450 100\% |
| North Western | 40 100\% | 36 100\% | 39 100\% | 28 100\% | 28 100\% | 44 100\% | 45 100\% | 67 97\% | 62 100\% | 46 100\% | 64 100\% | 37 100\% | 536 100\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 9 100\% | 10 83\% | $6100 \%$ | 8 89\% | 10 100\% | $5100 \%$ | 11 92\% | 4 80\% | $10100 \%$ | 9 90\% | 15 100\% | 9 100\% | 106 95\% |
| South Eastern | 29 91\% | 20 100\% | 24 100\% | 28 97\% | 45 98\% | 33 92\% | 39 100\% | 37 100\% | $53100 \%$ | 41 100\% | $33100 \%$ | $38100 \%$ | 420 98\% |
| Western | 31 100\% | 41 100\% | 32 91\% | 30 100\% | 40 100\% | 39 100\% | 31 100\% | 36 95\% | 48 100\% | 66 100\% | 46 100\% | 31 100\% | 471 99\% |
| Sydney North | 10 77\% | 13 68\% | 19 86\% | 9 56\% | 32 84\% | 44 94\% | 25 89\% | 27 79\% | 33 83\% | 28 90\% | 15 79\% | 16 80\% | 271 83\% |
| Sydney South | 213 95\% | 206 100\% | 180 98\% | 274 99\% | 375 100\% | 359 98\% | 426 99\% | 381 99\% | 363 99\% | 276 99\% | 317 98\% | 187 99\% | 3,557 99\% |
| Sydney Inner | 21 95\% | 29 100\% | 15 100\% | 31 97\% | 23 100\% | $30100 \%$ | 19 95\% | 12 100\% | 17 94\% | $9100 \%$ | 11 92\% | 14 100\% | 231 98\% |
| Sydney West | 100 100\% | 115 99\% | 139 100\% | 109 100\% | 186 97\% | 198 100\% | 188 100\% | 218 100\% | 242 100\% | 167 100\% | 232 100\% | 138 100\% | 2,032 100\% |
| Total | 622 97\% | 665 98\% | 623 98\% | 737 97\% | 1,015 98\% | 1,030 98\% | 994 99\% | 1,049 98\% | 1,162 98\% | 861 98\% | 993 99\% | 634 98\% | 10,385 98\% |
| $\mathrm{NC}=\text { not cal }$ <br> ${ }^{1}$ Calculated | ulated (no from numbe | cats seized of cats se | for region a ized (see T | and month) able 8) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 10 shows that:

- the total number of seized cats taken to the pound was 10,385 , which represented $98 \%$ of the number of cats reported to be seized.
- the variation between regions in the number of seized cats taken to the pound was substantial, ranging from 2 in the Central Coast region to 3,557 in the Sydney South region.
- the percentage of seized cats taken to the pound ranged from $83 \%$ in the Sydney North region to $100 \%$ (rounded) in four regions
- there has been a $12 \%$ decrease from the 11,737 seized cats taken to the pound in 2010/2011, but the proportion of all seized cats has remained the same.

Table 11: Number of seized cats taken to the pound per thousand identified cats ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Number | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> cats |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 2 | 0 |
| Hunter | 785 | 16 |
| Illawarra | 318 | 11 |
| Mid North Coast | 345 | 17 |
| Murray | 421 | 54 |
| Murrumbidgee | 440 | 44 |
| Northern | 450 | 36 |
| North Western | 536 | 88 |
| Richmond Tweed | 106 | 7 |
| South Eastern | 420 | 33 |
| Western | 471 | 30 |
| Sydney North | 271 | 5 |
| Sydney South | 3,557 | 63 |
| Sydney Inner | 231 | 6 |
| Sydney West | 2,032 | 20 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 0 , 3 8 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 3}$ |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified cats in each region
Table 11 shows that:

- 23 seized cats were taken to the pound for every 1,000 identified cats in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate seized cats were taken to the pound per thousand identified cats, ranging from 0 in the Central Coast region to 88 in the North Western region.
- the general pattern in Table 11 follows that in Table 9 (though the rates were lower for each region), due to the high percentage of seized cats that were taken to the pound.
- the number of seized cats taken to the pound per thousand identified cats has decreased from 27 in 2010/2011.


Figure 7: Number of seized cats taken to the pound in NSW


Figure 8: Number of seized cats taken to the pound per thousand identified cats in NSW
The trend analysis for number of seized cats taken to the pound shows that:

- the number of seized cats taken to the pound in NSW has increased from 9,742 cats in 2006/2007 to 10,385 cats in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $7 \%$ over five years (Figure 7).
- the percentage of seized cats that were taken to the pound has varied in the range $98 \%$ to $99 \%$, and was somewhat higher during the intermediate years 2007/2008 to 2009/2010, before dropping to $98 \%$ in the last two years (Figure 7).
- the number of cats seized that were taken to the pound per thousand identified cats in NSW has decreased from 31 to 23 in the same period, equivalent to a fall of $27 \%$ (Figure 8).
- the graph of the number of cats seized that were taken to the pound, and the corresponding graph for the data normalized by the number of identified cats, rose significantly between 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 (by 37\% and 19\% respectively), and then subsequently declined at a constant rate (in Figure 8), but with little change in the period 2008/2009 to 2010/2011 (in Figure 9).

Table 12: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of seized cats returned to owner by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | 0\% | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | NC | 0 | 0\% |
| Hunter | 1 | 2\% | 2 | 5\% | 3 | 5\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 3 | 3\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 3\% | 18 | 2\% |
| Illawarra | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 4\% | 1 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 4 | 1\% |
| Mid North Coast | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 3\% | 2 | 5\% | 2 | 10\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 | 2\% |
| Murray | 1 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% | 3 | 9\% | 1 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 4\% | 5 | 10\% | 2 | 5\% | 2 | 4\% | 1 | 3\% | 18 | 4\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 10\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 6\% | 1 | 4\% | 3 | 9\% | 14 | 3\% |
| Northern | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 0\% |
| North Western | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 0\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 17\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 11\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 8\% | 1 | 20\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 10\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 | 5\% |
| South Eastern | 3 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% | 1 | 2\% | 3 | 8\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 8 | 2\% |
| Western | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 1\% |
| Sydney North | 3 | 23\% | 6 | 32\% | 3 | 14\% | 7 | 44\% | 6 | 16\% | 3 | 6\% | 3 | 11\% | 7 | 21\% | 7 | 18\% | 3 | 10\% | 4 | 21\% | 4 | 20\% | 56 | 17\% |
| Sydney South | 12 | 5\% | 1 | 0\% | 3 | 2\% | 2 | 1\% | 1 | 0\% | 7 | 2\% | 3 | 1\% | 3 | 1\% | 3 | 1\% | 2 | 1\% | 5 | 2\% | 1 | 1\% | 43 | 1\% |
| Sydney Inner | 1 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 8\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 2\% |
| Sydney West | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 8 | 0\% |
| Total | 21 | 3\% | 16 | 2\% | 13 | 2\% | 21 | 3\% | 18 | 2\% | 16 | 2\% | 12 | 1\% | 19 | 2\% | 20 | 2\% | 14 | 2\% | 15 | 1\% | 10 | 2\% | 195 | 2\% |

NC = not calculated (no cats seized for region and month)
${ }^{1}$ Calculated from number of cats seized (see Table 8)
Table 12 shows that:

- the total number of seized cats returned to their owner was very low: only 195 or less than $2 \%$ of seized cats were returned to their owner.
- more than half of all seized cats returned to their owner (99) occurred in the Sydney North and Sydney South regions combined.
- the small numbers mean that the variability across regions in the percentage of seized cats returned to owners is likely to have a large random component.
- similar comments can be made about the variation over the year: even for all of NSW, the monthly numbers are too small for patterns to be apparent.
- the number of seized cats returned to their owner has increased from 222, since 2010/2011 and the proportion of seized cats that were returned to their owner has remained the same.

Table 13: Number of seized cats not taken to pound and returned to owner per thousand identified cats ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> cats |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 0 | 0.0 |
| Hunter | 18 | 0.4 |
| Illawarra | 4 | 0.1 |
| Mid North Coast | 6 | 0.3 |
| Murray | 18 | 2.3 |
| Murrumbidgee | 14 | 1.4 |
| Northern | 2 | 0.2 |
| North Western | 2 | 0.3 |
| Richmond Tweed | 6 | 0.4 |
| South Eastern | 8 | 0.6 |
| Western | 5 | 0.3 |
| Sydney North | 56 | 1.0 |
| Sydney South | 43 | 0.8 |
| Sydney Inner | 5 | 0.1 |
| Sydney West | 8 | 0.1 |
| Total | 195 | $\mathbf{0 . 4}$ |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified cats in each region
Table 13 shows that:

- 0.4 seized cats were returned to their owner for every 1,000 identified cats in NSW.
- in general, the numbers are small and it is not possible to identify any patterns.
- the number of seized cats returned to their owner per thousand identified cats has decreased from 0.5 in 2010/2011, and there has been a steep fall from 119 in the Sydney South region.


Figure 9: Number of seized cats returned to owner in NSW


Figure 10: Number of seized cats returned to owner per thousand identified cats in NSW
The trend analysis for number of seized cats not taken to the pound but returned to owner shows that:

- the number of seized cats returned to owner in NSW has increased from 142 cats in 2006/2007 to 195 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $37 \%$ over five years (Figure 9).
- the percentage of seized cats that were returned to owner has increased from $1.4 \%$ to $1.8 \%$ (Figure 9).
- the number of seized cats returned to their owner per thousand identified cats in NSW has decreased from 0.45 to 0.43 in the same period, equivalent to a fall of $6 \%$ (Figure 10).
- all three graphs show similar characteristic: a steady decline from 2006/2007 to 2009/2010, followed by a sharp increase in 2010/2011, and a much smaller drop in the last year.

Table 14: Number and percentage of seized cats taken to the pound and returned to owner by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Total taken to <br> pound |  | Total returned to <br> owner |  | Total <br> seized |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | No. | $\%$ | No. | $\%$ |  |
| Central Coast | 2 | $100 \%$ | 0 | $0 \%$ | 2 |
| Hunter | 785 | $98 \%$ | 18 | $2 \%$ | 803 |
| Illawarra | 318 | $99 \%$ | 4 | $1 \%$ | 322 |
| Mid North Coast | 345 | $98 \%$ | 6 | $2 \%$ | 351 |
| Murray | 421 | $96 \%$ | 18 | $4 \%$ | 439 |
| Murrumbidgee | 440 | $97 \%$ | 14 | $3 \%$ | 454 |
| Northern | 450 | $100 \%$ | 2 | $0 \%$ | 452 |
| North Western | 536 | $100 \%$ | 2 | $0 \%$ | 538 |
| Richmond Tweed | 106 | $95 \%$ | 6 | $5 \%$ | 112 |
| South Eastern | 420 | $98 \%$ | 8 | $2 \%$ | 428 |
| Western | 471 | $99 \%$ | 5 | $1 \%$ | 476 |
| Sydney North | 271 | $83 \%$ | 56 | $17 \%$ | 327 |
| Sydney South | 3,557 | $99 \%$ | 43 | $1 \%$ | 3,600 |
| Sydney Inner | 231 | $98 \%$ | 5 | $2 \%$ | 236 |
| Sydney West | 2,032 | $100 \%$ | 8 | $0 \%$ | 2,040 |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 0 , 3 8 5}$ | $\mathbf{9 8 \%}$ | 195 | $\mathbf{2 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 , 5 8 0}$ |

Table 14 summarises Tables 10 and 12. It shows that the overwhelming majority of seized cats were taken to the pound rather than returned to their owner (by a factor well in excess of 50).

There has been no significant change in the proportions of seized cats taken to the pound and returned to their owner since 2010/2011.
2. Surrendered animals (ie: animals surrendered to a council pound by their owner/s).

### 2.1 Dogs

Table 15: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of surrendered dogs by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 20 | 11\% | 10 | 5\% | 14 | 8\% | 9 | 5\% | 9 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 1\% | 9 | 5\% | 6 | 3\% | 3 | 2\% | 9 | 6\% | 14 | 8\% | 106 | 5\% |
| Hunter | 19 | 5\% | 18 | 5\% | 26 | 8\% | 23 | 6\% | 31 | 7\% | 29 | 7\% | 25 | 6\% | 56 | 14\% | 28 | 8\% | 19 | 5\% | 29 | 8\% | 39 | 10\% | 342 | 7\% |
| Illawarra | 1 | 0\% | 9 | 4\% | 8 | 3\% | 8 | 4\% | 3 | 1\% | 14 | 5\% | 3 | 1\% | 11 | 4\% | 9 | 3\% | 3 | 1\% | 5 | 2\% | 7 | 3\% | 81 | 3\% |
| Mid North Coast | 13 | 6\% | 27 | 10\% | 6 | 3\% | 17 | 10\% | 12 | 6\% | 8 | 4\% | 6 | 3\% | 9 | 4\% | 15 | 6\% | 19 | 10\% | 12 | 6\% | 8 | 5\% | 152 | 6\% |
| Murray | 8 | 8\% | 8 | 6\% | 10 | 7\% | 13 | 12\% | 11 | 10\% | 5 | 5\% | 8 | 7\% | 3 | 2\% | 7 | 5\% | 10 | 9\% | 4 | 3\% | 13 | 12\% | 100 | 7\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 8 | 4\% | 5 | 2\% | 10 | 4\% | 9 | 4\% | 9 | 4\% | 9 | 3\% | 8 | 3\% | 11 | 4\% | 12 | 4\% | 14 | 5\% | 11 | 4\% | 6 | 3\% | 112 | 4\% |
| Northern | 53 | 22\% | 34 | 14\% | 36 | 14\% | 36 | 17\% | 59 | 23\% | 35 | 14\% | 38 | 14\% | 33 | 14\% | 51 | 18\% | 46 | 19\% | 26 | 13\% | 28 | 13\% | 475 | 16\% |
| North Western | 37 | 13\% | 28 | 10\% | 39 | 16\% | 35 | 13\% | 32 | 11\% | 14 | 6\% | 31 | 10\% | 19 | 6\% | 26 | 9\% | 34 | 13\% | 22 | 8\% |  | 15\% | 365 | 11\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 28 | 19\% | 44 | 42\% | 29 | 25\% | 23 | 18\% | 21 | 19\% | 30 | 30\% | 14 | 15\% | 26 | 21\% | 19 | 20\% | 29 | 25\% | 25 | 21\% | 13 | 4\% | 301 | 22\% |
| South Eastern | 35 | 17\% | 32 | 14\% | 38 | 17\% | 31 | 14\% | 28 | 12\% | 31 | 14\% | 31 | 15\% | 29 | 12\% | 38 | 16\% | 33 | 16\% | 19 | 10\% |  | 10\% | 366 | 14\% |
| Western | 66 | 18\% | 58 | 14\% | 54 | 13\% | 42 | 10\% | 29 | 7\% | 28 | 8\% | 28 | 7\% | 14 | 4\% | 31 | 8\% | 29 | 9\% | 34 | 10\% | 31 | 8\% | 444 | 10\% |
| Sydney North | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 2\% | 7 | 10\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 16 | 2\% |
| Sydney South | 6 | 4\% | 6 | 4\% | 8 | 4\% | 7 | 4\% | 4 | 2\% | 4 | 2\% | 4 | 2\% | 2 | 1\% | 5 | 3\% | 9 | 5\% | 4 | 3\% | 5 | 3\% | 64 | 3\% |
| Sydney Inner | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 12\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 1\% |
| Sydney West | 202 | 21\% | 224 | 22\% | 213 | 23\% | 141 | 18\% | 174 | 17\% | 200 | 19\% | 161 | 15\% | 148 | 14\% | 185 | 19\% | 168 | 19\% | 184 | 20\% | 162 | 18\% | 2,162 | 19\% |
| Total | 496 | 13\% | 503 | 13\% | 492 | 13\% | 395 | 11\% | 429 | 11\% | 408 | 10\% | 361 | 9\% | 370 | 9\% | 432 | 11\% | 424 | 12\% | 385 | 10\% | 396 | 11\% | 5,091 | 11\% |
| ${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of dogs arriving at a pound; that is, seized dogs taken to the pound (see Table 19) and dogs that were surrendered and dogs that were dumped. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 15 shows that:

- the total number of dogs surrendered was 5,091 , which represented $11 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of surrendered dogs varied substantially across regions, ranging from 5 in the Sydney Inner region to 2,162 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation in the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered, ranging from $1 \%$ in the Sydney Inner region to 22\% in the Richmond Tweed region. The percentage exceeded 10\% (rounded) in four other regions.
- for NSW as a whole, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered in each month ranged from 9\% in January and February (summer time, but also possibly associated with dogs given as Christmas gifts) to $13 \%$ in July, August and September (coldest part of the year).
- there has been an $8 \%$ decrease in the number of dogs surrendered from the 5,543 dogs surrendered in 2010/2011, but the proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered has remained unchanged.


Figure 11: Number of dogs surrendered to a pound
The trend analysis for dogs surrendered to a pound is graphed in Figure 11 and shows that:

- the number of dogs surrendered to a pound in NSW has reduced from 6,366 dogs in 2006/2007 to 5,091 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $20 \%$ over five years, but with a noticeable peak of 8,077 dogs in 2007/2008.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered in NSW has decreased from $12.4 \%$ to $11.0 \%$ in the same period, with a peak of $15 \%$ in 2007/2008.


### 2.2 Cats

Table 16: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of surrendered cats by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 3 | 11\% | 1 | 4\% | 1 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 8\% | 4 | 11\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 8\% | 14 | 4\% |
| Hunter | 11 | 14\% | 3 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 3 | 4\% | 10 | 7\% | 11 | 8\% | 1 | 1\% | 5 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 3\% | 3 | 3\% | 0 |  | 51 | 4\% |
| Illawarra | 6 | 6\% | 2 | 2\% | 5 | 4\% | 2 | 1\% | 4 | 1\% | 11 | 6\% | 3 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 |  | 36 | 2\% |
| Mid North Coast | 3 | 4\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 3\% | 4 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 2 | 3\% | 9 | 13\% | 6 | 8\% | 1 | 1\% | 4 | 5\% | 7 | 10\% | 6 | 10\% | 45 | 5\% |
| Murray | 2 | 8\% | 5 | 11\% | 13 | 29\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 12\% | 0 | 0\% | 4 | 8\% | 2 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 7\% | 33 | 6\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 4\% | 0 |  | 7 | 0\% |
| Northern | 9 | 18\% | 7 | 16\% | 2 | 7\% | 16 | 27\% | 13 | 15\% | 13 | 13\% | 12 | 14\% | 11 | 13\% | 40 | 35\% | 15 | 25\% | 11 | 12\% | 5 |  | 154 | 18\% |
| North Western | 1 | 2\% | 2 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 9 | 11\% | 1 | 1\% | 21 | 15\% | 11 | 8\% | 9 | 7\% | 3 | 3\% | 2 | 2\% |  | 15\% |  | 6\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 4 | 13\% | 3 | 12\% | 3 | 10\% | 6 | 15\% | 7 | 25\% | 6 | 24\% | 11 | 25\% | 14 | 33\% | 15 | 37\% | 4 | 11\% | 3 | 5\% | 7 | 15\% |  | 18\% |
| South Eastern | 11 | 22\% | 9 | 23\% | 4 | 12\% | 8 | 22\% | 15 | 20\% | 16 | 29\% | 19 | 33\% | 28 | 38\% | 31 | 33\% | 31 | 38\% | 9 | 18\% | 9 | 18\% | 190 | 27\% |
| Western | 1 | 2\% |  | 26\% | 0 | 0\% | 8 | 14\% | 4 | 5\% | 11 | 15\% | 6 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 16 | 19\% | 5 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 |  | 74 | 9\% |
| Sydney North | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 5\% | 1 | 4\% | 2 | 13\% | 5 | 12\% | 5 | 8\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% | 1 | 3\% | 2 | 5\% | 18 | 4\% |
| Sydney South | 7 | 3\% | 2 | 1\% | 15 | 7\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 7 | 2\% | 3 | 1\% | 4 | 1\% | 4 |  | 3 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 |  | 47 | 1\% |
| Sydney Inner | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 7\% | 2 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 10\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 | 2\% |
| Sydney West | 41 | 9\% |  | 16\% | 41 | 8\% | 73 | 12\% | 156 | 14\% | 175 | 14\% | 152 | 14\% | 119 | 12\% | 115 | 11\% | 102 | 12\% | 112 | 14\% | 80 | 14\% | 1,253 | 13\% |
| Total | 99 | 7\% | 141 | 10\% | 87 | 6\% | 123 | 8\% | 226 | 9\% | 260 | 9\% | 243 | 9\% | 200 | 8\% | 245 | 9\% | 173 | 8\% | 151 | 7\% | 134 | 9\% | 2,082 | 8\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of cats arriving at a pound; that is, seized cats taken to the pound (see Table 21) and cats that were surrendered and dumped
Table 16 shows that:

- the total number of cats surrendered was 2,082 , which represented $8 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of surrendered cats varied substantially across regions, ranging from 6 in the Sydney Inner region to 1,253 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation in the percentage of cats that were surrendered, ranging from $0 \%$ in the Murrumbidgee region to $27 \%$ in the South Eastern region. The percentage exceeded $10 \%$ in three other regions.
- for NSW as a whole, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were surrendered each month ranged from $6 \%$ in September to 10\% in August.
- there has been a $12 \%$ decrease in the number of cats surrendered from the 2,365 cats surrendered in 2010/2011, and the proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were surrendered has decreased from $9 \%$.


Figure 12: Number of cats surrendered to a pound
The trend analysis for cats surrendered to a pound is graphed in Figure 12 and shows that:

- the number of cats surrendered to a pound in NSW has increased from 1,725 cats in 2006/2007 to 2,082 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of 19\% over five years; the number of cats surrendered more than doubled to 4,100 in 2007/2008, but fell quickly in the following year and then declined steadily
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were surrendered in NSW has decreased from $10.4 \%$ to $8.4 \%$ in the same period. The graph is similar in shape to the graph for cats surrendered with a peak of $19 \%$ in 2007/2008.

3. Dumped animals (ie: animals dumped at a council pound by members of the public other than their owner/s).

### 3.1 Dogs

Table 17: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dumped dogs by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 70 | 39\% | 95 | 46\% | 82 | 44\% | 75 | 42\% | 88 | 50\% | 90 | 51\% | 106 | 52\% | 92 | 51\% | 101 | 52\% | 83 | 45\% | 73 | 45\% | 64 | 39\% | 1,019 | 46\% |
| Hunter | 120 | 33\% | 124 | 32\% | 113 | 33\% | 174 | 42\% | 171 | 40\% | 169 | 39\% | 182 | 44\% | 142 | 37\% | 133 | 37\% | 155 | 41\% | 146 | 40\% | 165 | 41\% | 1,794 | 38\% |
| Illawarra | 109 | 45\% | 86 | 35\% | 102 | 42\% | - 92 | 41\% | 104 | 43\% | 114 | 42\% | 155 | 46\% | 126 | 43\% | 90 | 34\% | 98 | 39\% | 92 | 35\% | 100 | 36\% | 1,268 | 40\% |
| Mid North Coast | 9 | 4\% | 19 | 7\% | 10 | 4\% | 10 | 6\% | 13 | 7\% | 21 | 12\% | 22 | 11\% | 32 | 14\% | 21 | 9\% | 28 | 15\% | 21 | 10\% | 38 | 22\% | 244 | 10\% |
| Murray | 17 | 16\% | 8 | 6\% | 4 | 3\% | 4 | 4\% | 4 | 4\% | 11 | 10\% | 15 | 13\% | 7 | 5\% | 16 | 12\% | 8 | 7\% | 14 | 11\% | 2 | 2\% | 110 | 8\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 56 | 25\% | 105 | 39\% | 104 | 39\% | 86 | 41\% | 84 | 33\% | 113 | 42\% | 107 | 41\% | 95 | 37\% | 102 | 34\% | 102 | 38\% | 92 | 37\% | 93 | 40\% | 1,139 | 37\% |
| Northern | 58 | 24\% | 43 | 17\% | 66 | 26\% | 57 | 27\% | 55 | 22\% | 32 | 13\% | 55 | 20\% | 63 | 26\% | 66 | 24\% | 37 | 15\% | 14 | 7\% | 29 | 14\% | 575 | 20\% |
| North Western | 82 | 29\% | 63 | 23\% | 64 | 26\% | - 91 | 34\% | 83 | 29\% | 72 | 29\% | 113 | 36\% | 64 | 22\% | 61 | 21\% | 57 | 22\% | 79 | 28\% | 76 | 24\% | 905 | 27\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 72 | 49\% | 32 | 30\% | 60 | 51\% | 73 | 57\% | 50 | 46\% | 41 | 41\% | 50 | 53\% | 54 | 44\% | 46 | 49\% | 55 | 47\% | 56 | 46\% | 47 | 49\% | 636 | 47\% |
| South Eastern | 29 | 14\% | 26 | 11\% | 29 | 13\% | 38 | 17\% | 30 | 13\% | 32 | 15\% | 26 | 13\% | 35 | 15\% | 32 | 14\% | 33 | 16\% | 26 | 14\% | 30 | 14\% | 366 | 14\% |
| Western | 154 | 41\% | 134 | 33\% | 141 | 33\% | 135 | 33\% | 148 | 36\% | 147 | 40\% | 132 | 35\% | 120 | 36\% | 158 | 43\% | 140 | 42\% | 137 | 39\% | 143 | 39\% | 1,689 | 37\% |
| Sydney North | 36 | 43\% | 25 | 31\% | 20 | 35\% | 24 | 48\% | 22 | 32\% | 46 | 60\% | 41 | 47\% | 23 | 32\% | 26 | 36\% | 19 | $30 \%$ | 32 | 41\% | 22 | 22\% | 336 | 38\% |
| Sydney South | 4 | 3\% | 8 | 6\% | 19 | 10\% | 5 | 3\% | 6 | 4\% | 22 | 12\% | 7 | 4\% | 7 | 4\% | 10 | 6\% | 9 | 5\% | 11 | 7\% | 8 | 5\% | 116 | 6\% |
| Sydney Inner | 1 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 8\% | 3 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 7\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 6\% | 4 | 12\% | 15 | 4\% |
| Sydney West | 296 | 31\% | 313 | 31\% | 267 | 29\% | 270 | 34\% | 274 | 27\% | 397 | 38\% | 400 | 38\% | 352 | 34\% | 300 | 30\% | 268 | 31\% | 249 | 28\% | 286 | 32\% | 3,672 | 32\% |
| Total | 1,113 | 29\% | 1,081 | 27\% | 1,081 | 28\% | 1,134 | 31\% | 1,135 | 29\% 1 | 1,310 | 33\% | 1,411 | 34\% | 1,212 | 30\% | 1,164 | 29\% | 1,093 | 30\% | 1,043 | 28\% 1 | 1,107 | 30\% | 13,884 | 30\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of dogs arriving at a pound; that is, seized dogs taken to the pound, surrendered dogs and dumped dogs (see Table 19)
Table 17 shows that:

- the total number of dogs dumped was 13,884 , which represented $30 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of dumped dogs varied substantially across regions, ranging from 15 in the Sydney Inner region to 3,672 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation in the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were dumped, ranging from $4 \%$ in the Sydney Inner region to $46 \%$ in the Central Coast region. The percentage exceeded $10 \%$ (rounded) in all but four regions.
- for NSW as a whole, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were dumped each month reached the highest level of $34 \%$ in January and the lowest point of 27\% in August.
- there has been a $12 \%$ increase in the number of dogs dumped from the 12,365 dogs dumped in 2010/2011, and the proportion of dogs arriving at a pound that were dumped has increased from 26\% in 2010/2011.


Figure 13: Number of dogs dumped
The trend analysis for dogs dumped is graphed in Figure 13 and shows that:

- the number of dogs dumped in NSW has increased from 8,994 dogs in 2006/2007 to 13,884 in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $54 \%$ over five years, but with a noticeable minimum of 7,107 dogs in 2007/2008.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered in NSW has increased from $18 \%$ to $30 \%$ in the same period, with a minimum of $14 \%$ in 2007/2008.
- it would appear that the shape of Figure 13 is a mirror image of Figure 11 in terms of overall changes, and the appearance of a counter trend extreme point in 2007/2008 may be due to a change in interpretation of the definitions for surrendered dogs and dumped dogs.


### 3.2 Cats

Table 18: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dumped cats by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 100 |  | 100 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Central Coast | 24 | 89\% |  | 96\% | 18 | 95\% |  | 100\% | 25 |  | 27 |  |  | 100\% |  | 85\% |  | 89\% | 40 | 100\% |  | 100\% | 34 | 92\% | 363 | 96\% |
| Hunter | 16 | 21\% |  | 20\% | 22 | 29\% | 13 | 18\% |  | 24\% |  | 20\% |  | 32\% | 58 | 42\% | 33 | 28\% | 28 | 29\% | 30 | 31\% | 22 | $36 \%$ | 322 | 28\% |
| Illawarra | 78 | 76\% | 84 | 79\% | 97 | 82\% | 115 | 84\% |  | 79\% |  | 82\% | 177 | 86\% | 163 | 83\% | 155 | 75\% | 133 | 85\% | 162 | 88\% | 98 | 88\% | 1,637 | 82\% |
| Mid North Coast | 41 | 56\% | 15 | $34 \%$ | 14 | 42\% | 15 | 20\% |  | 56\% |  | 43\% |  | 62\% |  | 43\% | 69 | 67\% | 57 | 76\% | 37 | 54\% | 36 | 60\% | 432 | 53\% |
| Murray | 2 | 8\% | 11 | 24\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% |  | 36\% | 2 | 5\% | 13 | 32\% | 4 | 8\% | 3 | 6\% | 6 | 12\% | 6 | 10\% | 0 | 0\% | 63 | 12\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 82 | 78\% | 74 | 57\% | 88 | 73\% | 62 | 70\% |  | 64\% | 115 | 76\% | 165 | 84\% | 42 | 67\% | 141 | 66\% | 89 | 64\% | 54 | 65\% | 116 | 79\% | 1,102 | 71\% |
| Northern | 13 | 26\% | 15 | $34 \%$ | 11 | 37\% | 13 | 22\% |  | 45\% |  | 48\% | 22 | 26\% | 31 | 35\% |  | 22\% | 19 | $32 \%$ | 10 | 11\% | 23 | 35\% | 269 | 31\% |
| North Western | 24 | 37\% | 45 | 54\% | 27 | 41\% | 52 | 64\% |  | 55\% | 125 | 74\% |  | 53\% | 58 | 43\% |  | 44\% | 66 | 57\% | 51 | 44\% | 23 | 32\% | 645 | 52\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 17 | 57\% | 12 | 48\% | 20 | 69\% | 25 | 64\% |  | 39\% |  | 56\% |  | 50\% | 25 | 58\% | 16 | 39\% | 25 | 66\% | 47 | 72\% | 31 | 66\% | 265 | 58\% |
| South Eastern | 10 | 20\% | 10 | 26\% | 5 | 15\% | 0 | 0\% |  | 20\% |  | 13\% |  | 0\% | 8 | 11\% |  | 12\% | 9 | 11\% | 8 | 16\% | 3 | 6\% | 86 | 12\% |
| Western | 14 | 30\% | 8 | 12\% | 19 | 37\% | 19 | 33\% |  | 44\% |  | 30\% |  | 46\% | 29 | 45\% |  | 26\% | 38 | 35\% | 27 | 37\% | 29 | 44\% | 291 | 35\% |
| Sydney North | 3 | 23\% | 8 | 36\% | 4 | 17\% | 5 | 31\% |  | 10\% |  | 23\% |  | 22\% | 12 | 31\% | 14 | 30\% | 5 | 15\% | 23 | 59\% | 23 | 56\% | 123 | 30\% |
| Sydney South | 9 | 4\% | 18 | 8\% | 9 | 4\% | 10 | 4\% | 15 | 4\% | 24 | 6\% | 42 | 9\% | 16 | 4\% | 77 | 17\% | 39 | 12\% | 21 | 6\% | 9 | 5\% | 289 | 7\% |
| Sydney Inner | 2 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% |  | 7\% | 0 | 0\% |  | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 |  | 0 | 0\% | 0 |  | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 2\% |
| Sydney West | 296 | 68\% | 327 | 62\% | 336 | 65\% | 426 | 70\% |  | 70\% |  | 71\% | 719 | 68\% | 655 | 66\% | 689 | 66\% | 550 | 67\% | 449 | 57\% | 359 | 62\% | 6,518 | 66\% |
| Total | 631 | 47\% | 660 | 45\% | 670 | 49\% | 779 | 48\% | 1,376 | 53\% | 1,517 | 54\% | 1,368 | 53\% | 1,157 | 48\% | 1,345 | 49\% | 1,104 | 52\% | 997 | 47\% | 806 | 51\% | 12,410 | 50\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of cats arriving at a pound; that is, seized cats taken to the pound, surrendered cats and dumped cats (see Table 21)
Table 18 shows that:

- the total number of cats dumped was 12,410 , which represented $50 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of dumped cats varied substantially across regions, ranging from 5 in the Sydney Inner region to 6,518 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial regional variation in the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were dumped, ranging from $2 \%$ (rounded) in the Sydney Inner region to $96 \%$ in the Central Coast region. The percentage exceeded $20 \%$ in eleven regions.
- for NSW as a whole, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were dumped in each month reached the highest level of $54 \%$ in December, and remained above $50 \%$ for the period November to January as well as April and June, and the lowest point of $45 \%$ in August.
- the number of cats dumped has increased by $3 \%$ from the 12,375 cats dumped in 2010/2011, and the proportion of cats arriving at a pound that were dumped has increased from $47 \%$.


Figure 14: Number of cats dumped
The trend analysis for cats dumped is graphed in Figure 14 and shows that:

- the number of cats dumped in NSW has more than doubled from 5,300 cats in 2006/2007 to 12,410 in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $134 \%$ over five years but with a noticeable minimum of 4,716 cats in 2007/2008.
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were surrendered in NSW has increased from $32 \%$ to $50 \%$ in the same period, with a minimum of $21 \%$ in 2007/2008.
- it would appear that the shape of Figure 14 is a mirror image of Figure 12 in terms of overall changes, and the appearance of a counter trend extreme point in 2007/2008 may be due to a change in interpretation of the definitions for surrendered cats and dumped cats.


## 4. Animals arriving at a pound

In this chapter, the number of animals arriving at a pound is the sum of the animals that were seized and taken to a pound, the number of animals surrendered to a pound, and the number of animals dumped at a pound.

### 4.1 Dogs

Table 19: Number of dogs arriving at a pound by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 179 | 206 | 186 | 179 | 176 | 175 | 203 | 181 | 196 | 185 | 163 | 166 | 2,195 |
| Hunter | 360 | 393 | 342 | 411 | 431 | 434 | 417 | 387 | 359 | 375 | 367 | 402 | 4,678 |
| Illawarra | 244 | 246 | 242 | 222 | 241 | 273 | 340 | 293 | 266 | 249 | 266 | 277 | 3,159 |
| Mid North Coast | 201 | 258 | 224 | 177 | 191 | 179 | 201 | 232 | 237 | 181 | 204 | 175 | 2,460 |
| Murray | 105 | 129 | 140 | 107 | 112 | 109 | 117 | 133 | 135 | 108 | 127 | 105 | 1,427 |
| Murrumbidgee | 226 | 272 | 269 | 211 | 252 | 270 | 263 | 259 | 303 | 268 | 246 | 235 | 3,074 |
| Northern | 244 | 248 | 253 | 215 | 254 | 248 | 276 | 238 | 280 | 241 | 207 | 209 | 2,913 |
| North Western | 282 | 273 | 242 | 267 | 283 | 250 | 310 | 293 | 288 | 265 | 285 | 312 | 3,350 |
| Richmond Tweed | 147 | 106 | 117 | 128 | 109 | 99 | 95 | 123 | 93 | 118 | 121 | 95 | 1,351 |
| South Eastern | 205 | 228 | 225 | 227 | 227 | 217 | 205 | 235 | 231 | 201 | 187 | 207 | 2,595 |
| Western | 376 | 408 | 424 | 409 | 416 | 363 | 374 | 333 | 369 | 330 | 354 | 369 | 4,525 |
| Sydney North | 83 | 80 | 57 | 50 | 69 | 77 | 88 | 71 | 72 | 64 | 78 | 100 | 889 |
| Sydney South | 139 | 137 | 181 | 175 | 161 | 191 | 185 | 177 | 172 | 170 | 157 | 158 | 2,003 |
| Sydney Inner | 37 | 33 | 38 | 31 | 36 | 34 | 37 | 35 | 30 | 43 | 17 | 34 | 405 |
| Sydney West | 961 | 1,000 | 927 | 800 | 998 | 1,057 | 1,041 | 1,028 | 988 | 863 | 903 | 896 | 11,462 |
| Total | 3,789 | 4,017 | 3,867 | 3,609 | 3,956 | 3,976 | 4,152 | 4,018 | 4,019 | 3,661 | 3,682 | 3,740 | 46,486 |

Table 19 shows that:

- the total number of dogs arriving at a pound was 46,486.
- the number of dogs arriving at a pound varied substantially across regions, ranging from 405 in the Sydney Inner region to 11,462 in the Sydney West region.
- the number of dogs reported to be arriving at a pound in total (all regions) each month ranged from 3,609 in October to 4,152 in January.
- the monthly variation was greater for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs arriving at a pound has decreased by $4 \%$ from the 48,427 dogs recorded in 2010/2011.

Table 20: Number of dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified dogs ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Number | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> dogs |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 2,195 | 27 |  |
| Hunter | 4,678 | 25 |  |
| Illawarra | 3,159 | 30 |  |
| Mid North Coast | 2,460 | 28 |  |
| Murray | 1,427 | 41 |  |
| Murrumbidgee | 3,074 | 61 |  |
| Northern | 2,913 | 44 |  |
| North Western | 3,350 | 79 |  |
| Richmond Tweed | 1,351 | 24 |  |
| South Eastern | 2,595 | 40 |  |
| Western | 4,525 | 65 |  |
| Sydney North | 889 | 8 |  |
| Sydney South | 2,003 | 17 |  |
| Sydney Inner | 405 | 8 |  |
| Sydney West | 11,462 | 33 |  |
| Total | 46,486 | 31 |  |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified dogs in each region
Table 20 shows that:

- 31 dogs arrived at a pound for every 1,000 identified dogs in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate that dogs arrived at a pound per thousand identified dogs, ranging from 8 in the Sydney North and Sydney Inner regions to 79 in the North Western region.
- the number of dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified dogs has decreased from 34 in 2010/2011.


Figure 15: Number of dogs arriving at a pound in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs arriving at a pound is graphed in Figure 15 and shows that:

- the number of dogs arriving at a pound in NSW has reduced from 51,348 dogs in 2006/2007 to 46,486 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $9 \%$ over five years, with the reduction occurring as an observable trend in the last three years.
- the number of dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified dogs has reduced from 43 to 31 in the same period, which is a fall of $27 \%$
- the two curves are similar in shape but the number of dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified dogs dropped to 40 in 2007/2008.


### 4.2 Cats

Table 21: Number of cats arriving at a pound by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Central Coast | 27 | 23 | 19 | 23 | 25 | 27 | 22 | 26 | 38 | 40 | 72 | 37 | 379 |
| Hunter | 77 | 55 | 76 | 73 | 134 | 137 | 93 | 139 | 119 | 98 | 96 | 61 | 1,158 |
| Illawarra | 102 | 106 | 119 | 137 | 274 | 192 | 206 | 197 | 206 | 156 | 185 | 111 | 1,991 |
| Mid North Coast | 73 | 44 | 33 | 75 | 71 | 70 | 71 | 79 | 103 | 75 | 68 | 60 | 822 |
| Murray | 25 | 46 | 45 | 31 | 42 | 44 | 41 | 53 | 52 | 49 | 59 | 30 | 517 |
| Murrumbidgee | 105 | 129 | 120 | 88 | 115 | 151 | 197 | 63 | 214 | 138 | 83 | 146 | 1,549 |
| Northern | 50 | 44 | 30 | 60 | 84 | 102 | 84 | 88 | 115 | 59 | 92 | 65 | 873 |
| North Western | 65 | 83 | 66 | 81 | 82 | 170 | 140 | 136 | 126 | 115 | 117 | 71 | 1,252 |
| Richmond Tweed | 30 | 25 | 29 | 39 | 28 | 25 | 44 | 43 | 41 | 38 | 65 | 47 | 454 |
| South Eastern | 50 | 39 | 33 | 36 | 75 | 56 | 58 | 73 | 95 | 81 | 50 | 50 | 696 |
| Western | 46 | 66 | 51 | 57 | 78 | 71 | 68 | 65 | 86 | 109 | 73 | 66 | 836 |
| Sydney North | 13 | 22 | 24 | 16 | 41 | 64 | 32 | 39 | 47 | 34 | 39 | 41 | 412 |
| Sydney South | 229 | 226 | 204 | 284 | 390 | 390 | 471 | 401 | 444 | 318 | 338 | 198 | 3,893 |
| Sydney Inner | 23 | 29 | 15 | 31 | 27 | 32 | 19 | 12 | 20 | 9 | 11 | 14 | 242 |
| Sydney West | 437 | 529 | 516 | 608 | 1,151 | 1,276 | 1,059 | 992 | 1,046 | 819 | 793 | 577 | 9,803 |
| Total | 1,352 | 1,466 | 1,380 | 1,639 | 2,617 | 2,807 | 2,605 | 2,406 | 2,752 | 2,138 | 2,141 | 1,574 | 24,877 |

Table 21 shows that:

- the total number of cats arriving at a pound was 24,877 .
- the number of cats arriving at a pound varied substantially across regions, ranging from 242 in the Sydney Inner region to 9,803 in the Sydney West region.
- the number of cats arriving at a pound in total (all regions) in each of the months from November to May exceeded 2,100, with the maximum of 2,807 occurring in December. The average number of cats arriving at a pound in the remaining five months was 1,482 with a minimum of 1,352 in July.
- the monthly variation was greater for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of cats arriving at a pound has decreased by $6 \%$ from the 26,477 cats reported in 2010/2011.

Table 22: Number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats ${ }^{1}$ by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Ratel'000 <br> identified <br> cats |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 379 | 15 |
| Hunter | 1,158 | 23 |
| Illawarra | 1,991 | 67 |
| Mid North Coast | 822 | 41 |
| Murray | 517 | 66 |
| Murrumbidgee | 1,549 | 154 |
| Northern | 873 | 71 |
| North Western | 1,252 | 206 |
| Richmond Tweed | 454 | 32 |
| South Eastern | 696 | 54 |
| Western | 836 | 54 |
| Sydney North | 412 | 7 |
| Sydney South | 3,893 | 69 |
| Sydney Inner | 242 | 7 |
| Sydney West | 9,803 | 94 |
| Total | 24,877 | 54 |
| 1 |  |  |

${ }^{1}$ See Appendix 2 for the number of identified cats in each region
Table 22 shows that:

- 54 cats arrived at a pound for every 1,000 identified cats in NSW.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the rate that cats arrived at a pound per thousand identified cats, ranging from 7 in the Sydney North and Sydney Inner regions to 206 in the North Western region.
- Four of the regions have rates of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats in excess of 70.
- the number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats has decreased from 61 in 2010/2011.


Figure 16: Number of cats arriving at a pound in NSW
The trend analysis for cats arriving at a pound is graphed in Figure 16 and shows that:

- the number of cats arriving at a pound in NSW has increased from 16,787 cats in 2006/2007 to 24,877 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $48 \%$ over five years. The number of cats arriving at a pound rose steadily to reach a maximum of 26,477 in 2010/2011, but has fallen in the last year.
- the number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats has increased from 53.4 to 54.2 in the same period, a rise of $2 \%$. The number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats rose to a maximum value of 68 in 2008/2009, but has been declining since.


## 5. Animals leaving a pound

### 5.1 Dogs

Table 23: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dogs released to owner by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 102 | 57\% | 126 | 61\% | 112 | 60\% | 123 | 69\% | 94 | 53\% | 102 | 58\% | 130 | 64\% | 87 | 48\% | 131 | 67\% | 135 | 73\% | 111 | 68\% | 98 | 59\% | 1,351 | 62\% |
| Hunter | 144 | 40\% | 153 | 39\% | 155 | 45\% | 154 | 37\% | 178 | 41\% | 162 | 37\% | 152 | 36\% | 132 | 34\% | 122 | 34\% | 146 | 39\% | 129 | $35 \%$ | 168 | 42\% | 1,795 | 38\% |
| Illawarra | 141 | 58\% | 125 | 51\% | 125 | 52\% | 128 | 58\% | 135 | 56\% | 140 | 51\% | 218 | 64\% | 168 | 57\% | 150 | 56\% | 166 | 67\% | 149 | 56\% | 157 | 57\% | 1,802 | 57\% |
| Mid North Coast | 82 | 41\% | 111 | 43\% | 111 | 50\% | 74 | 42\% | 87 | 46\% | 73 | 41\% | 98 | 49\% | 115 | 50\% | 98 | 41\% | 80 | 44\% | 95 | 47\% | 82 | 47\% | 1,106 | 45\% |
| Murray | 54 | 51\% | 68 | 53\% | 65 | 46\% | 55 | 51\% | 50 | 45\% | 55 | 50\% | 61 | 52\% | 80 | 60\% | 70 | 52\% | 58 | 54\% | 45 | 35\% | 60 | 57\% | 721 | 51\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 103 | 46\% | 120 | 44\% | 119 | 44\% | 72 | 34\% | 97 | 38\% | 99 | 37\% | 93 | 35\% | 105 | 41\% | 127 | 42\% | 89 | 33\% | 95 | 39\% | 106 | 45\% | 1,225 | 40\% |
| Northern | 44 | 18\% | 66 | 27\% | 72 | 28\% | 66 | 31\% | 77 | 30\% | 93 | 38\% | 86 | 31\% | 80 | 34\% | 88 | 31\% | 71 | 29\% | 85 | 41\% | 75 | 36\% | 903 | 31\% |
| North Western | 99 | 35\% | 112 | 41\% | 90 | 37\% | 93 | 35\% | 92 | 33\% | 87 | 35\% | 122 | 39\% | 104 | 35\% | 99 | 34\% | 78 | 29\% | 101 | 35\% | 92 | 29\% | 1,169 | 35\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 69 | 47\% | 52 | 49\% | 59 | 50\% | 64 | 50\% | 45 | 41\% | 43 | 43\% | 45 | 47\% | 61 | 50\% | 41 | 44\% | 39 | 33\% | 61 | 50\% | 45 | 47\% | 624 | 46\% |
| South Eastern | 108 | 53\% | 117 | 51\% | 126 | 56\% | 128 | 56\% | 132 | 58\% | 118 | 54\% | 104 | 51\% | 146 | 62\% | 124 | 54\% | 88 | 44\% | 94 | 50\% | 98 | 47\% | 1,383 | 53\% |
| Western | 134 | 36\% | 145 | 36\% | 165 | 39\% | 153 | 37\% | 167 | 40\% | 140 | 39\% | 164 | 44\% | 129 | 39\% | 112 | 30\% | 121 | 37\% | 122 | 34\% | 146 | 40\% | 1,698 | 38\% |
| Sydney North | 66 | 80\% | 69 | 86\% | 46 | 81\% | 42 | 84\% | 56 | 81\% | 63 | 82\% | 78 | 89\% | 56 | 79\% | 62 | 86\% | 54 | 84\% | 61 | 78\% | 91 | 91\% | 744 | 84\% |
| Sydney South | 88 | 63\% | 84 | 61\% | 86 | 48\% | 84 | 48\% | 73 | 45\% | 84 | 44\% | 96 | 52\% | 93 | 53\% | 106 | 62\% | 77 | 45\% | 101 | 64\% | 88 | 56\% | 1,060 | 53\% |
| Sydney Inner | 14 | 38\% | 18 | 55\% | 27 | 71\% | 18 | 58\% | 17 | 47\% | 16 | 47\% | 19 | 51\% | 17 | 49\% | 19 | 63\% | 20 | 47\% | 11 | 65\% | 13 | 38\% | 209 | 52\% |
| Sydney West | 364 | 38\% | 350 | 35\% | 321 | 35\% | 295 | 37\% | 366 | 37\% | 337 | 32\% | 397 | 38\% | 378 | 37\% | 343 | 35\% | 310 | 36\% | 292 | 32\% | 324 | 36\% | 4,077 | 36\% |
| Total | 1,612 | 43\% | 1,716 | 43\% 1 | 1,679 | 43\% 1 | 1,549 | 43\% | 1,666 | 42\% | 1,612 | 41\% | 1,863 | 45\% | 1,751 | 44\% 1 | 1,692 | 42\% 1 | 1,532 | 42\% | 1,552 | 42\% 1 | 1,643 | 44\% | 19,867 | 43\% |

Table 23 shows that:

- the total number of dogs released to their owner was 19,867 , which represented $43 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of dogs released to their owner varied substantially between regions, ranging from 209 in the Sydney Inner region to 4,077 in the Sydney West region.
- the percentage of all dogs arriving at a pound that were released to their owner varied substantially between regions, ranging from $31 \%$ in the Northern region to $84 \%$ in the Sydney North region. Seven regions released half or more of the dogs arriving at a pound to their owner.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to their owner each month remained relatively constant: the percentages ranged from 41\% in December to $45 \%$ in January.
- the monthly variation in dogs released to their owner was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs released to their owner has changed little from the 19,929 dogs reported in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all dogs arriving at a pound released to their owner has increased from 41\%.


Figure 17: Number of dogs released to owner in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs released to their owner is graphed in Figure 17 and shows that:

- the number of dogs released to their owner in NSW has increased from 17,404 dogs in 2006/2007 to 19,867 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $14 \%$ over five years, with the increase occurring largely in the first two years.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to owner has increased steadily from $34 \%$ to $43 \%$ in the same period.

Table 24: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dogs euthanased by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 19 | 11\% | 14 | 7\% | 12 | 6\% | 11 | 6\% | 7 | 4\% | 16 | 9\% | 1 | 0\% | 11 | 6\% | 14 | 7\% | 26 | 14\% | 14 | 9\% | 14 | 8\% | 159 | 7\% |
| Hunter | 55 | 15\% | 82 | 21\% | 79 | 23\% | 100 | 24\% | 85 | 20\% | 134 | 31\% | 110 | 26\% | 90 | 23\% | 101 | 28\% | 84 | 22\% | 80 | 22\% | 77 | 19\% | 1,077 | 23\% |
| Illawarra | 31 | 13\% | 46 | 19\% | 51 | 21\% | 49 | 22\% | 39 | 16\% | 57 | 21\% | 43 | 13\% | 37 | 13\% | 50 | 19\% | 37 | 15\% | 44 | 17\% | 56 | 20\% | 540 | 17\% |
| Mid North Coast | 77 | 38\% | 86 | 33\% | 76 | 34\% | 74 | 42\% | 52 | 27\% | 50 | 28\% | 62 | 31\% | 82 | 35\% | 86 | 36\% | 55 | 30\% | 66 | 32\% | 57 | 33\% | 823 | 33\% |
| Murray | 24 | 23\% | 45 | 35\% | 45 | 32\% | 25 | 23\% | 24 | 21\% | 33 | 30\% | 29 | 25\% | 27 | 20\% | 30 | 22\% | 26 | 24\% | 43 | 34\% | 21 | 20\% | 372 | 26\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 54 | 24\% | 89 | 33\% | 75 | 28\% | 56 | 27\% | 92 | 37\% | 60 | 22\% | 60 | 23\% | 67 | 26\% | 85 | 28\% | 68 | 25\% | 61 | 25\% | 41 | 17\% | 808 | 26\% |
| Northern | 113 | 46\% | 116 | 47\% | 112 | 44\% | 94 | 44\% | 118 | 46\% | 128 | 52\% | 101 | 37\% | 127 | 53\% | 133 | 48\% | 120 | 50\% | 88 | 43\% | 106 | 51\% | 1,356 | 47\% |
| North Western | 141 | 50\% | 124 | 45\% | 109 | 45\% | 125 | 47\% | 128 | 45\% | 116 | 46\% | 151 | 49\% | 124 | 42\% | 138 | 48\% | 142 | 54\% | 112 | 39\% | 174 | 56\% | 1,584 | 47\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 24 | 16\% | 18 | 17\% | 29 | 25\% | 17 | 13\% | 28 | 26\% | 27 | 27\% | 17 | 18\% | 27 | 22\% | 14 | 15\% | 19 | 16\% | 24 | 20\% | 17 | 18\% | 261 | 19\% |
| South Eastern | 56 | 27\% | 77 | 34\% | 66 | 29\% | 68 | 30\% | 55 | 24\% | 63 | 29\% | 75 | 37\% | 48 | 20\% | 55 | 24\% | 70 | 35\% | 48 | 26\% | 52 | 25\% | 733 | 28\% |
| Western | 185 | 49\% | 196 | 48\% | 193 | 46\% | 175 | 43\% | 192 | 46\% | 155 | 43\% | 127 | 34\% | 137 | 41\% | 159 | 43\% | 116 | 35\% | 149 | 42\% | 161 | 44\% | 1,945 | 43\% |
| Sydney North | 1 | 1\% | 2 | 3\% | 2 | 4\% | 4 | 8\% | 2 | 3\% | 2 | 3\% | 2 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 5 | 7\% | 2 | 3\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 1\% | 25 | 3\% |
| Sydney South | 9 | 6\% | 9 | 7\% | 20 | 11\% | 14 | 8\% | 9 | 6\% | 25 | 13\% | 16 | 9\% | 12 | 7\% | 7 | 4\% | 14 | 8\% | 11 | 7\% | 12 | 8\% | 158 | 8\% |
| Sydney Inner | 3 | 8\% | 3 | 9\% | 3 | 8\% | 3 | 10\% | 3 | 8\% | 4 | 12\% | 6 | 16\% | 3 | 9\% | 1 | 3\% | 2 | 5\% | 1 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 32 | 8\% |
| Sydney West | 197 | 20\% | 194 | 19\% | 178 | 19\% | 143 | 18\% | 187 | 19\% | 262 | 25\% | 171 | 16\% | 172 | 17\% | 174 | 18\% | 141 | 16\% | 129 | 14\% | 124 | 14\% | 2,072 | 18\% |
| Total | 989 | 26\% | 1,101 | 27\% | 1,050 | 27\% | 958 | 27\% 1 | 1,021 | 26\% | 1,132 | 28\% | 971 | 23\% | 964 | 24\% | 1,052 | 26\% | 922 | 25\% | 872 | 24\% | 913 | 24\% | 11,945 | 26\% |
| ${ }^{1}$ Calculate | m | I | b | d | a | ing | a | und ( | ee | ble |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 24 shows that:

- the total number of dogs euthanased was 11,945 , which represented $26 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of dogs euthanased varied substantially between regions, ranging from 25 in the Sydney North region to 2,072 in the Sydney West region.
- the percentage of all dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased varied substantially between regions, ranging from 3\% in the Sydney North region to $47 \%$ in the Northern and North Western regions. For all regions in total, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased each month ranged from $23 \%$ in January to $28 \%$ in December.
- the monthly variation in dogs euthanased was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs euthanased has decreased by $13 \%$ from the 13,661 dogs reported in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased has decreased from $28 \%$.


## Additional comments:

- 8,851 dogs were euthanased due to inability to re-home, or were deemed to be unsuitable for re-homing, and this represented $74 \%$ of all dogs euthanased. A further 1,284 dogs were euthanased at their owner's request.
- There has been a decrease of $19 \%$ from the 10,975 dogs in $2010 / 2011$ that were euthanased due to inability to re-home or deemed to be unsuitable for re-homing. The percentage of all dogs euthanased has decreased from $80 \%$. The number of dogs euthanased at their owner's request has increased from 1,271 in 2010/2011.


Figure 18: Number of dogs euthanased in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs euthanased is graphed in Figure 18 and shows that:

- the number of dogs euthanased in NSW has decreased from 20,058 dogs in 2006/2007 to 11,945 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $40 \%$ over five years.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased has decreased from $39 \%$ to $26 \%$ in the same period.
- both graphs show an almost linear down trend, indicating that the reductions in numbers of dogs euthanased have been achieved at a constant rate each year.

Table 25: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dogs sold from a pound by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 10 | 6\% | 20 | 10\% | 33 | 18\% | 24 | 13\% | 25 | 14\% | 26 | 15\% | 24 | 12\% | 31 | 17\% | 10 | 5\% | 11 | 6\% | 23 | 14\% | 12 | 7\% | 249 | 11\% |
| Hunter | 6 | 2\% | 23 | 6\% | 10 | 3\% | 9 | 2\% | 9 | 2\% | 13 | 3\% | 11 | 3\% | 13 | 3\% | 10 | 3\% | 9 | 2\% | 10 | 3\% | 9 | 2\% | 132 | 3\% |
| Illawarra | 6 | 2\% | 13 | 5\% | 14 | 6\% | 9 | 4\% | 9 | 4\% | 11 | 4\% | 6 | 2\% | 7 | 2\% | 8 | 3\% | 7 | 3\% | 6 | 2\% | 3 | 1\% | 99 | 3\% |
| Mid North Coast | 22 | 11\% | 16 | 6\% | 22 | 10\% | 17 | 10\% | 28 | 15\% | 34 | 19\% | 20 | 10\% | 23 | 10\% | 20 | 8\% | 19 | 10\% | 22 | 11\% | 11 | 6\% | 254 | 10\% |
| Murray | 9 | 9\% | 6 | 5\% | 7 | 5\% | 12 | 11\% | 8 | 7\% | 9 | 8\% | 10 | 9\% | 9 | 7\% | 13 | 10\% | 8 | 7\% | 12 | 9\% | 7 | 7\% | 110 | 8\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 18 | 8\% | 16 | 6\% | 6 | 2\% | 16 | 8\% | 20 | 8\% | 6 | 2\% | 17 | 6\% | 14 | 5\% | 7 | 2\% | 10 | 4\% | 20 | 8\% | 9 | 4\% | 159 | 5\% |
| Northern | 19 | 8\% | 15 | 6\% | 12 | 5\% | 19 | 9\% | 9 | 4\% | 4 | 2\% | 19 | 7\% | 11 | 5\% | 17 | 6\% | 18 | 7\% | 10 | 5\% | 5 | 2\% | 158 | 5\% |
| North Western | 8 | 3\% | 10 | 4\% | 6 | 2\% | 4 | 1\% | 9 | 3\% | 9 | 4\% | 8 | 3\% | 10 | 3\% | 5 | 2\% | 4 | 2\% | 4 | 1\% | 11 | 4\% | 88 | 3\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 34 | 23\% | 25 | 24\% | 20 | 17\% | 22 | 17\% | 21 | 19\% | 18 | 18\% | 12 | 13\% | 15 | 12\% | 18 | 19\% | 18 | 15\% | 35 | 29\% | 17 | 18\% | 255 | 19\% |
| South Eastern | 21 | 10\% | 16 | 7\% | 11 | 5\% | 14 | 6\% | 17 | 7\% | 18 | 8\% | 17 | 8\% | 15 | 6\% | 19 | 8\% | 24 | 12\% | 29 | 16\% | 28 | 14\% | 229 | 9\% |
| Western | 11 | 3\% | 6 | 1\% | 12 | 3\% | 4 | 1\% | 6 | 1\% | 9 | 2\% | 9 | 2\% | 9 | 3\% | 9 | 2\% | 11 | 3\% | 11 | 3\% | 12 | 3\% | 109 | 2\% |
| Sydney North | 4 | 5\% | 7 | 9\% | 5 | 9\% | 2 | 4\% | 6 | 9\% | 4 | 5\% | 2 | 2\% | 7 | 10\% | 7 | 10\% | 6 | 9\% | 5 | 6\% | 3 | 3\% | 58 | 7\% |
| Sydney South | 38 | 27\% | 34 | 25\% | 32 | 18\% | 43 | 25\% | 32 | 20\% | 27 | 14\% | 38 | 21\% | 23 | 13\% | 29 | 17\% | 35 | 21\% | 23 | 15\% | 24 | 15\% | 378 | 19\% |
| Sydney Inner | 16 | 43\% | 15 | 45\% | 15 | 39\% | 7 | 23\% | 11 | 31\% | 15 | 44\% | 10 | 27\% | 19 | 54\% | 4 | 13\% | 19 | 44\% | 13 | 76\% | 7 | 21\% | 151 | 37\% |
| Sydney West | 176 | 18\% | 218 | 22\% | 212 | 23\% | 178 | 22\% | 165 | 17\% | 231 | 22\% | 210 | 20\% | 199 | 19\% | 197 | 20\% | 193 | 22\% | 198 | 22\% | 175 | 20\% | 2,352 | 21\% |
| Total | 398 | 11\% | 440 | 11\% | 417 | 11\% | 380 | 11\% | 375 | 9\% | 434 | 11\% | 413 | 10\% | 405 | 10\% | 373 | 9\% | 392 | 11\% | 421 | 11\% | 333 | 9\% | 4,781 | 10\% |

Table 25 shows that:

- the total number of dogs sold from a pound was 4,781 , which represented $10 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of dogs sold varied substantially across regions, ranging from 58 in the Sydney North region to 2,352 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the percentage of all dogs arriving at a pound that were sold, ranging from $2 \%$ in the Western region to $37 \%$ in the Sydney Inner region. In nine regions the percentage sold was less than 10\% (rounded).
- for all regions in total, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were sold each month ranged from 9\% in November, March and June to $11 \%$ in July to October, December, April and May.
- the monthly variation in dogs sold was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs sold has decreased by $4 \%$ from 4,968 in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all dogs arriving at a pound that were sold has remained the same.


Figure 19: Number of dogs sold from a pound in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs sold from a pound is graphed in Figure 19 and shows that:

- the number of dogs sold from a pound in NSW has decreased from 5,765 dogs in 2006/2007 to 4,781 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $17 \%$ over five years.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were sold has decreased from $11.2 \%$ to $10.3 \%$ in the same period.
- the two graphs are similar in shape: in the case of number of dogs sold there was an initial rise of some 8\% from 2006/2007 to 2007/2008 followed by a steady decline. For the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were sold, the initial rise was a little smaller (proportionally) and the subsequent decline flattened out somewhat after 2009/2010.

Table 26: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of dogs released to a re-homing organisation by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 41 | 23\% | 33 | 16\% | 31 | 17\% | 27 | 15\% | 38 | 22\% | 38 | 22\% | 44 | 22\% | 41 | 23\% | 35 | 18\% | 31 | 17\% | 28 | 17\% | 33 | 20\% | 420 | 19\% |
| Hunter | 120 | 33\% | 126 | 32\% | 140 | 41\% | 129 | 31\% | 137 | 32\% | 129 | 30\% | 131 | 31\% | 156 | 40\% | 114 | 32\% | 128 | 34\% | 148 | 40\% | 144 | 36\% | 1,602 | 34\% |
| Illawarra | 63 | 26\% | 60 | 24\% | 49 | 20\% | 54 | 24\% | 48 | 20\% | 56 | 21\% | 76 | 22\% | 64 | 22\% | 65 | 24\% | 46 | 18\% | 64 | 24\% | 53 | 19\% | 698 | 22\% |
| Mid North Coast | 26 | 13\% | 18 | 7\% | 26 | 12\% | 15 | 8\% | 13 | 7\% | 17 | 9\% | 12 | 6\% | 17 | 7\% | 27 | 11\% | 19 | 10\% | 26 | 13\% | 29 | 17\% | 245 | 10\% |
| Murray | 21 | 20\% | 9 | 7\% | 17 | 12\% | 16 | 15\% | 24 | 21\% | 20 | 18\% | 14 | 12\% | 15 | 11\% | 9 | 7\% | 24 | 22\% | 21 | 17\% | 15 | 14\% | 205 | 14\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 50 | 22\% | 50 | 18\% | 56 | 21\% | 58 | 27\% | 60 | 24\% | 84 | 31\% | 91 | 35\% | 66 | 25\% | 68 | 22\% | 84 | 31\% | 88 | 36\% | 78 | 33\% | 833 | 27\% |
| Northern | 43 | 18\% | 59 | 24\% | 57 | 23\% | 34 | 16\% | 41 | 16\% | 32 | 13\% | 50 | 18\% | 27 | 11\% | 46 | 16\% | 20 | 8\% | 34 | 16\% | 29 | 14\% | 472 | 16\% |
| North Western | 46 | 16\% | 22 | 8\% | 26 | 11\% | 35 | 13\% | 50 | 18\% | 43 | 17\% | 49 | 16\% | 37 | 13\% | 47 | 16\% | 37 | 14\% | 49 | 17\% | 50 | 16\% | 491 | 15\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 15 | 10\% | 20 | 19\% | 20 | 17\% | 14 | 11\% | 12 | 11\% | 21 | 21\% | 15 | 16\% | 19 | 15\% | 22 | 24\% | 20 | 17\% | 16 | 13\% | 25 | 26\% | 219 | 16\% |
| South Eastern | 18 | 9\% | 22 | 10\% | 17 | 8\% | 18 | 8\% | 17 | 7\% | 24 | 11\% | 9 | 4\% | 17 | 7\% | 29 | 13\% | 15 | 7\% | 18 | 10\% | 25 | 12\% | 229 | 9\% |
| Western | 42 | 11\% | 61 | 15\% | 45 | 11\% | 62 | 15\% | 65 | 16\% | 46 | 13\% | 58 | 16\% | 45 | 14\% | 78 | 21\% | 74 | 22\% | 73 | 21\% | 50 | 14\% | 699 | 15\% |
| Sydney North | 4 | 5\% | 5 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 4 | 8\% | 6 | 9\% | 5 | 6\% | 4 | 5\% | 2 | 3\% | 3 | 4\% | 3 | 5\% | 4 | 5\% | 4 | 4\% | 44 | 5\% |
| Sydney South | 19 | 14\% | 18 | 13\% | 39 | 22\% | 34 | 19\% | 47 | 29\% | 43 | 23\% | 38 | 21\% | 38 | 21\% | 24 | 14\% | 41 | 24\% | 23 | 15\% | 33 | 21\% | 397 | 20\% |
| Sydney Inner | 4 | 11\% | 2 | 6\% | 2 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 9\% | 2 | 7\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 12\% | 3 | 9\% | 20 | 5\% |
| Sydney West | 235 | 24\% | 232 | 23\% | 223 | 24\% | 173 | 22\% | 245 | 25\% | 227 | 21\% | 203 | 20\% | 241 | 23\% | 247 | 25\% | 199 | 23\% | 242 | 27\% | 238 | 27\% | 2,705 | 24\% |
| Total | 747 | 20\% | 737 | 18\% | 748 | 19\% | 673 | 19\% | 805 | 20\% | 785 | 20\% | 794 | 19\% | 788 | 20\% | 816 | 20\% | 741 | 20\% | 836 | 23\% | 809 | 22\% 9 | 9,279 | 20\% |

Table 26 shows that:

- the total number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing was 9,279 , which represented $20 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.
- the number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing varied substantially between regions, ranging from 20 in the Sydney Inner region to 2,705 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the percentage of all dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing, ranging from $5 \%$ in the Sydney North and Sydney Inner regions to $34 \%$ in the Hunter region. In four regions the percentage released to an organisation for re-homing was less than $10 \%$.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing each month ranged from 18\% in August to $23 \%$ in May.
- the monthly variation in dogs released to an organisation for re-homing was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing has increased by 1\% from 9,145 in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing has increased from $19 \%$.


Figure 20: Number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs released to an organisation for re-homing is graphed in Figure 20 and shows that:

- the number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing in NSW has increased from 6,451 dogs in 2006/2007 to 9,279 dogs in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $44 \%$ over five years.
- the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing has increased from $13 \%$ to $20 \%$ in the same period
- the two graphs are similar in shape: in the case of number of dogs released to an organisation for re-homing, there was an initial fall of $3 \%$ from 2006/2007 to 2007/2008 followed by a steady rise. For the percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing, the initial rise was a little larger (proportionally).

Table 27: Number and percentage of dogs in each leaving-pound category by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Euthanased |  | Released to organisation for re-homing |  | Sold |  | Released to owner |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 159 | 7\% | 420 | 19\% | 249 | 11\% | 1,351 | 62\% |
| Hunter | 1,077 | 23\% | 1,602 | 35\% | 132 | 3\% | 1,795 | 39\% |
| Illawarra | 540 | 17\% | 698 | 22\% | 99 | 3\% | 1,802 | 57\% |
| Mid North Coast | 823 | 34\% | 245 | 10\% | 254 | 10\% | 1,106 | 46\% |
| Murray | 372 | 26\% | 205 | 15\% | 110 | 8\% | 721 | 51\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 808 | 27\% | 833 | 28\% | 159 | 5\% | 1,225 | 40\% |
| Northern | 1,356 | 47\% | 472 | 16\% | 158 | 5\% | 903 | 31\% |
| North Western | 1,584 | 48\% | 491 | 15\% | 88 | 3\% | 1,169 | 35\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 261 | 19\% | 219 | 16\% | 255 | 19\% | 624 | 46\% |
| South Eastern | 733 | 28\% | 229 | 9\% | 229 | 9\% | 1,383 | 54\% |
| Western | 1,945 | 44\% | 699 | 16\% | 109 | 2\% | 1,698 | 38\% |
| Sydney North | 25 | 3\% | 44 | 5\% | 58 | 7\% | 744 | 85\% |
| Sydney South | 158 | 8\% | 397 | 20\% | 378 | 19\% | 1,060 | 53\% |
| Sydney Inner | 32 | 8\% | 20 | 5\% | 151 | 37\% | 209 | 51\% |
| Sydney West | 2,072 | 18\% | 2,705 | 24\% | 2,352 | 21\% | 4,077 | 36\% |
| Total | 11,945 | 26\% | 9,279 | 20\% | 4,781 | 10\% | 19,867 | 43\% |

Note to Table 27: The remainder (approximately 1\%) of impounded dogs were reported as having been stolen or died.
Table 27 summarises Tables 23-26. It shows that dogs arriving at a pound were most commonly released to their owner or were euthanased. There were considerably more dogs released to an organisation for re-homing than sold. These two categories together account for approximately $30 \%$ of all dogs arriving at a pound.

In twelve regions, 'released to their owner' was the most common outcome, and in these regions the second most common outcome was 'released to an organisation for re-homing' (in six regions). The most common outcome in the remaining three regions was 'euthanased'. All regions where 'euthanased' was the most common outcome were rural regions. The Murrumbidgee region was the only rural region where 'euthanased' was not one of the top two outcomes.

In comparison to 2010/2011, the percentages for the different outcomes for dogs arriving at a pound have increased from $41 \%$ to $43 \%$ for dogs released to their owner, and from $19 \%$ to $20 \%$ for dogs released to an organisation for re-homing. This has had the most impact on 'euthanased', which has decreased from 28\% to 26\%.


Figure 21: Percentage of dogs in each leaving category in NSW
The trend analysis for dogs in each leaving category is summarised in Figure 21 and shows that:

- after starting as the lead category in 2006/2007, the category 'euthanased' has been overtaken by 'released to owner'.
- the categories 'sold' and 'released to organisation for re-homing' commenced close together in 2006/2007, but 'sold' has decreased slightly in percentage terms, while 'released to organisation for re-homing' has grown substantially.


Alternative Figure 21

### 5.2 Cats

Table 28: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of cats released to owner by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 12 | 44\% | 4 | 17\% | 1 | 5\% | 2 | 9\% | 1 | 4\% | 3 | 11\% | 4 | 18\% | 2 | 8\% | 2 | 5\% | 2 | 5\% | 7 | 10\% | 4 | 11\% | 44 | 12\% |
| Hunter | 5 | 6\% | 7 | 13\% | 6 | 8\% | 5 | 7\% | 2 | 1\% | 2 | 1\% | 3 | 3\% | 4 | 3\% | 7 | 6\% | 2 | 2\% | 7 | 7\% | 1 | 2\% | 51 | 4\% |
| Illawarra | 6 | 6\% | 7 | 7\% | 10 | 8\% | 11 | 8\% | 6 | 2\% | 6 | 3\% | 9 | 4\% | 3 | 2\% | 3 | 1\% | 9 | 6\% | 7 | 4\% | 7 | 6\% | 84 | 4\% |
| Mid North Coast | 2 | 3\% | 4 | 9\% | 1 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 1\% | 2 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 5 | 7\% | 3 | 5\% | 21 | 3\% |
| Murray | 1 | 4\% | 2 | 4\% | 1 | 2\% | 4 | 13\% | 5 | 12\% | 3 | 7\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 2 | 4\% | 2 | 4\% | 1 | 2\% | 5 | 17\% | 27 | 5\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 2 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 6 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 2 | 2\% | 1 | 1\% | 4 | 2\% | 3 | 5\% | 3 | 1\% | 3 | 2\% | 5 | 6\% | 1 | 1\% | 31 | 2\% |
| Northern | 1 | 2\% | 4 | 9\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 1\% | 6 | 6\% | 1 | 1\% | 9 | 10\% | 2 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 3 | 5\% | 30 | 3\% |
| North Western | 2 | 3\% | 3 | 4\% | 2 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 0 | 0\% | 4 | 3\% | 6 | 5\% | 3 | 3\% | 6 | 8\% | 28 | 2\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 2 | 7\% | 5 | 20\% | 2 | 7\% | 2 | 5\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 7\% | 3 | 7\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 3\% | 7 | 11\% | 1 | 2\% | 26 | 6\% |
| South Eastern | 2 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 6\% | 6 | 17\% | 4 | 5\% | 11 | 20\% | 4 | 7\% | 3 | 4\% | 4 | 4\% | 7 | 9\% | 2 | 4\% | 3 | 6\% | 48 | 7\% |
| Western | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 2\% | 2 | 4\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 1\% | 4 | 6\% | 5 | 8\% | 5 | 6\% | 5 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 5 | 8\% | 30 | 4\% |
| Sydney North | 1 | 8\% | 2 | 9\% | 2 | 8\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 5\% | 3 | 5\% | 4 | 13\% | 1 | 3\% | 3 | 6\% | 5 | 15\% | 7 | 18\% | 8 | 20\% | 38 | 9\% |
| Sydney South | 11 | 5\% | 5 | 2\% | 9 | 4\% | 10 | 4\% | 8 | 2\% | 6 | 2\% | 9 | 2\% | 3 | 1\% | 11 | 2\% | 6 | 2\% | 4 | 1\% | 7 | 4\% | 89 | 2\% |
| Sydney Inner | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 7\% | 4 | 13\% | 2 | 7\% | 2 | 6\% | 2 | 11\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 11\% | 2 | 18\% | 0 | 0\% | 14 | 6\% |
| Sydney West | 18 | 4\% | 24 | 5\% | 19 | 4\% | 12 | 2\% | 8 | 1\% | 16 | 1\% | 13 | 1\% | 4 | 0\% | 14 | 1\% | 6 | 1\% | 21 | 3\% | 15 | 3\% | 170 | 2\% |
| Total | 66 | 5\% | 68 | 5\% | 64 | 5\% | 59 | 4\% | 41 | 2\% | 63 | 2\% | 62 | 2\% | 43 | 2\% | 60 | 2\% | 56 | 3\% | 80 | 4\% | 69 | 4\% | 731 | 3\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of cats arriving at a pound (see Table 21)
Table 28 shows that:

- the total number of cats released to their owner was 731 , which represented $3 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of cats released to their owner varied substantially between regions, ranging from 14 in the Sydney Inner region to 170 in the Sydney West region.
- the percentage of all cats arriving at a pound that were released to their owner ranged from 2\% in the Murrumbidgee, North Western, Sydney South and Sydney West regions to $12 \%$ in the Central Coast region.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to their owner each month ranged from a minimum of $2 \%$ in the warmer months (November to March), rising to a maximum of $5 \%$ in the cooler months (July to September). The monthly variation in cats released to their owner was higher in relative terms for individual regions, but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of cats released to their owner has increased by $1 \%$ from 724 in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all cats arriving at a pound that were released to their owner has remained unchanged.


Figure 22: Number of cats released to owner in NSW
The trend analysis for cats released to owner is graphed in Figure 22 and shows that:

- the number of cats released to their owner in NSW has increased from 496 cats in 2006/2007 to 731 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $47 \%$ over five years, with the increase occurring largely in the first two years.
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to their owner has varied in the range $2.5 \%$ to $3 \%$ in the same period, reaching a minimum in 2009/2010.

Table 29: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of cats euthanased by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 7 | 26\% | 7 | 30\% | 3 | 16\% | 8 | 35\% | 3 | 12\% | 5 | 19\% | 7 | 32\% | 9 | 35\% | 8 | 21\% | 15 | 38\% | 20 | 28\% | 12 | 32\% | 104 | 27\% |
| Hunter | 34 | 44\% | 36 | 65\% | 44 | 58\% | 42 | 58\% | 85 | 63\% | 112 | 82\% | 39 | 42\% | 64 | 46\% | 61 | 51\% | 57 | 58\% | 46 | 48\% | 35 | 57\% | 655 | 57\% |
| Illawarra | 38 | 37\% | 45 | 42\% | 60 | 50\% | 75 | 55\% | 145 | 53\% | 81 | 42\% | 95 | 46\% | 98 | 50\% | 102 | 50\% | 107 | 69\% | 80 | 43\% | 78 | 70\% | 1,004 | 50\% |
| Mid North Coast | 54 | 74\% | 28 | 64\% | 21 | 64\% | 44 | 59\% | 49 | 69\% | 56 | 80\% | 43 | 61\% | 69 | 87\% | 68 | 66\% | 46 | 61\% | 49 | 72\% | 27 | 45\% | 554 | 67\% |
| Murray | 23 | 92\% | 28 | 61\% | 26 | 58\% | 18 | 58\% | 10 | 24\% | 27 | 61\% | 21 | 51\% | 32 | 60\% | 32 | 62\% | 27 | 55\% | 26 | 44\% | 10 | 33\% | 280 | 54\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 63 | 60\% | 86 | 67\% | 70 | 58\% | 66 | 75\% | 82 | 71\% | 120 | 79\% | 168 | 85\% | 47 | 75\% | 178 | 83\% | 107 | 78\% | 54 | 65\% | 105 | 72\% | 1,146 | 74\% |
| Northern | 42 | 84\% | 36 | 82\% | 29 | 97\% | 50 | 83\% | 67 | 80\% | 85 | 83\% | 77 | 92\% | 68 | 77\% | 77 | 67\% | 44 | 75\% | 77 | 84\% | 45 | 69\% | 697 | 80\% |
| North Western | 44 | 68\% | 68 | 82\% | 46 | 70\% | 75 | 93\% | 58 | 71\% | 145 | 85\% | 116 | 83\% | 127 | 93\% | 108 | 86\% | 97 | 84\% | 110 | 94\% | 58 | 82\% | 1,052 | 84\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 10 | 33\% | 10 | 40\% | 19 | 66\% | 16 | 41\% | 15 | 54\% | 9 | 36\% | 16 | 36\% | 12 | 28\% | 17 | 41\% | 23 | 61\% | 28 | 43\% | 33 | 70\% | 208 | 46\% |
| South Eastern | 38 | 76\% | 33 | 85\% | 19 | 58\% | 18 | 50\% | 49 | 65\% | 41 | 73\% | 41 | 71\% | 65 | 89\% | 60 | 63\% | 60 | 74\% | 39 | 78\% | 31 | 62\% | 494 | 71\% |
| Western | 45 | 98\% | 61 | 92\% | 50 | 98\% |  | 100\% | 55 | 71\% | 69 | 97\% | 49 | 72\% | 61 | 94\% | 75 | 87\% | 81 | 74\% | 54 | 74\% | 60 | 91\% | 717 | 86\% |
| Sydney North | 12 | 92\% | 6 | 27\% | 16 | 67\% | 14 | 88\% | 26 | 63\% | 36 | 56\% | 23 | 72\% | 17 | 44\% | 42 | 89\% | 18 | 53\% | 24 | 62\% | 24 | 59\% | 258 | 63\% |
| Sydney South | 142 | 62\% | 148 | 65\% | 112 | 55\% | 157 | 55\% | 189 | 48\% | 258 | 66\% | 302 | 64\% | 287 | 72\% | 258 | 58\% | 208 | 65\% | 218 | 64\% | 123 | 62\% | 2,402 | 62\% |
| Sydney Inner | 16 | 70\% | 16 | 55\% | 7 | 47\% | 18 | 58\% | 18 | 67\% | 11 | 34\% |  | 105\% | 7 | 58\% | 17 | 85\% | 7 | 78\% | 5 | 45\% | 12 | 86\% | 154 | 64\% |
| Sydney West | 270 | 62\% | 346 | 65\% | 325 | 63\% | 267 | 44\% | 656 | 57\% | 978 | 77\% | 711 | 67\% | 774 | 78\% | 734 | 70\% | 527 | 64\% | 501 | 63\% | 331 | 57\% | 6,420 | 65\% |
| Total | 838 | 62\% | 954 | 65\% | 847 | 61\% | 925 | 56\% | 1,507 | 58\% | 2,033 | 72\% | 1,728 | 66\% | 1,737 | 72\% | 1,837 | 67\% | 1,424 | 67\% | 1,331 | 62\% | 984 | 63\% | 16,145 | 65\% |
| ${ }^{1}$ Calculated | m | otal | be | f | ar | ng | P | und | e | ble 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 29 shows that:

- the total number of cats euthanased was 16,145 , which represented $65 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of cats euthanased varied substantially between regions, ranging from 104 in the Central Coast region to 6,420 in the Sydney West region.
- the percentage of all cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased varied substantially between regions, ranging from $27 \%$ in the Central Coast region to $86 \%$ in the Western region. In all but five of the regions, more than $60 \%$ of the cats that arrived at a pound were euthanased.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased each month ranged from $56 \%$ in October to $72 \%$ in December and February.
- the monthly variation in cats euthanased was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of cats euthanased has decreased by $10 \%$ from 17,991 in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased has decreased from 68\%.


## Additional comments:

- 8,993 cats were euthanased due to an inability to re-home, or were deemed unsuitable for re-homing, and this represented $56 \%$ of all cats euthanased. A further 416 cats were euthanased at their owner's request.
- There has been a decrease of $41 \%$ from the 15,261 cats in 2010/2011 that were euthanased due to inability to re-home or deemed to be unsuitable for re-homing. This is likely to be as a result of the introduction of a new sub-category of 'euthanased feral/infant animal' in the 2011/12 online pound data collection form. Previously such animals were most likely to have been captured in the 'euthanased - unsuitable for re-homing' sub-category. The percentage of all cats euthanased has decreased from $85 \%$. The number of cats euthanased at their owner's request has decreased from 530 in 2010/2011.


Figure 23: Number of cats euthanased in NSW
The trend analysis for cats euthanased is graphed in Figure 23 and shows that:

- the number of cats euthanased in NSW has increased from 12,002 cats in 2006/2007 to 16,145 cats in 2011/2012, representing a fall of $35 \%$ over five years, reaching a maximum of 17,991 in 2010/2011.
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased has decreased from $71 \%$ to $65 \%$ in the same period, reaching a maximum of $74 \%$ in 2007/2008.

Table 30: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of cats sold by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul |  | Aug |  | Sep |  | Oct |  | Nov |  | Dec |  | Jan |  | Feb |  | Mar |  | Apr |  | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast |  | 44\% |  | 65\% | 12 | 63\% | 12 | 52\% |  | 56\% |  | 59\% | 12 | 55\% |  | 46\% | 15 | 39\% | 10 | 25\% |  | 29\% | 8 | 22\% | 159 | 42\% |
| Hunter | 2 |  | 3 |  | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 |  | 2 |  | 3 | 2\% | 2 |  | 2 | 2\% | 6 | 6\% | 4 | 7\% | 28 | 2\% |
| Illawarra | 13 | 13\% | 16 | 15\% | 7 | 6\% | 6 | 4\% | 18 |  | 15 | 8\% | 25 | 12\% | 11 | 6\% | 14 |  | 18 | 12\% | 12 | 6\% | 22 | 20\% | 177 | 9\% |
| Mid North Coast | 10 | 14\% | 2 | 5\% | 3 | 9\% | 7 | 9\% | 8 | 11\% | 5 |  | 6 | 8\% | 5 | 6\% | 6 | 6\% | 5 | 7\% | 7 | 10\% | 7 | 12\% | 71 | 9\% |
| Murray | 8 | 32\% | 8 | 17\% | 3 | 7\% | 5 | 16\% |  | 40\% | 12 | 27\% | 4 | 10\% | 14 | 26\% |  | 29\% | 12 | 24\% | 11 | 19\% | 7 | 23\% | 116 | 22\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 4 | 4\% | 6 | 5\% | 1 | 1\% | 2 | 2\% | 5 | 4\% | 4 | 3\% | 1 |  | 1 | 2\% | 2 |  | 4 | 3\% | 8 | 10\% | 6 | 4\% | 44 | 3\% |
| Northern | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 3\% | 1 |  | 0 | 0\% | 1 |  | 1 |  | 3 | 3\% | 0 | 0\% | 9 | 1\% |
| North Western | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 1 | 1\% | 5 | 6\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 3 | 2\% | 3 | 2\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 1 | 1\% | 16 | 1\% |
| Richmond Tweed |  | 43\% | 7 | 28\% | 2 | 7\% | 6 | 15\% |  | 54\% |  | 48\% |  | 25\% | 17 | 40\% |  | 34\% |  | 29\% | 8 | 12\% | 8 | 17\% | 124 | 27\% |
| South Eastern | 6 | 12\% | 6 | 15\% | 5 | 15\% | 8 | 22\% | 6 | 8\% | 3 | 5\% | 3 |  | 7 | 10\% | 8 | 8\% | 5 | 6\% | 5 | 10\% | 2 | 4\% | 64 | 9\% |
| Western | 1 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 1 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 2\% | 0 | 0\% | 2 | 3\% | 1 | 2\% | 7 | 1\% |
| Sydney North | 3 | 23\% | 4 | 18\% | 4 | 17\% | 1 | 6\% | 2 | 5\% | 9 | 14\% | 6 | 19\% | 7 | 18\% | 6 | 13\% | 6 | 18\% | 2 | 5\% | 7 | 17\% | 57 | 14\% |
| Sydney South | 39 | 17\% | 26 | 12\% | 35 | 17\% | 44 | 15\% | 26 | 7\% | 44 | 11\% | 55 | 12\% | 43 | 11\% | 46 | 10\% | 54 | 17\% |  | 18\% | 32 | 16\% | 505 | 13\% |
| Sydney Inner | 5 | 22\% | 5 | 17\% | 7 | 47\% | 3 | 10\% |  | 22\% | 5 | 16\% | 12 | 63\% | 6 | 50\% | 7 | 35\% | 5 | 56\% | 0 | 0\% | 4 | 29\% | 65 | 27\% |
| Sydney West | 40 | 9\% | 43 | 8\% | 45 | 9\% | 61 | 10\% | 78 | 7\% | 105 | 8\% | 97 | 9\% | 84 | 8\% | 101 | 10\% | 111 | 14\% | 111 | 14\% | 80 | 14\% | 956 | 10\% |
| Total | 156 | 12\% | 141 | 10\% | 126 | 9\% | 158 | 10\% | 201 | 8\% | 234 | 8\% | 235 | 9\% | 213 | 9\% | 242 | 9\% | 245 | 11\% | 258 | 12\% | 189 | 12\% | 2,398 | 10\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of cats arriving at a pound (see Table 21)
Table 30 shows that:

- the total number of cats sold was 2,398 which represented $10 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of cats sold varied substantially across regions, ranging from 7 in the Western region to 956 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the percentage of all cats arriving at a pound that were sold, ranging from $1 \%$ in the Western and North Western regions to $42 \%$ in the Central Coast region. In eight regions the percentage sold was less than10\%.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were sold each month varied over the year, from $8 \%$ in November and December to a maximum of 12\% in July, May and June.
- the monthly variation in cats sold was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of cats sold has increased by $3 \%$ from 2,324 in 2010/2011, and the proportion of all cats arriving at a pound that were sold has increased from $9 \%$.


Figure 24: Number of cats sold in NSW
The trend analysis for cats sold is graphed in Figure 24 and shows that:

- the number of cats sold in NSW has increased from 1,783 cats in 2006/2007 to 2,398 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise of $34 \%$ over five years. After an initial sharp increase in 2007/2008, the curve has trended upwards in subsequent years, with a small reversal in 2009/2010.
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were sold has decreased from $10.6 \%$ to $9.6 \%$ in the same period. After declining initially and reaching a minimum of $8.0 \%$ in 2009/2010, the recorded data points have increased in each of the last two years.

Table 31: Number and percentage ${ }^{1}$ of cats released to a re-homing organisation by region and month for 2011/2012

| Region | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May |  | Jun |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | $14 \%$ | 2 9\% | 2 11\% | $14 \%$ | 0 0\% | 4 15\% | $15 \%$ | 4 15\% | 6 16\% | 5 13\% | 18 | 25\% | 10 | 27\% | 54 | 14\% |
| Hunter | 23 30\% | 9 16\% | 18 24\% | 23 32\% | 35 26\% | $3626 \%$ | 30 32\% | 58 42\% | 59 50\% | 44 45\% | 29 | 30\% | 26 | 43\% | 390 | 34\% |
| Illawarra | 50 49\% | 42 40\% | 60 50\% | 27 20\% | 83 30\% | 74 39\% | 96 47\% | 73 37\% | 59 29\% | 51 33\% | 69 | 37\% | 39 | 35\% | 723 | 36\% |
| Mid North Coast | 17 23\% | 17 39\% | 13 39\% | 17 23\% | 3 4\% | 14 20\% | 16 23\% | 6 8\% | 17 17\% | 21 28\% | 15 | 22\% | 17 | 28\% | 173 | 21\% |
| Murray | $14 \%$ | 5 11\% | 15 33\% | 6 19\% | 6 14\% | 10 23\% | 7 17\% | 3 6\% | 9 17\% | 8 16\% | 14 | 24\% | 8 | 27\% | 92 | 18\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 25 24\% | 38 29\% | 37 31\% | 19 22\% | 27 23\% | 26 17\% | 18 9\% | 11 17\% | 31 14\% | 19 14\% | 23 | 28\% | 31 | 21\% | 305 | 20\% |
| Northern | 4 8\% | 8 18\% | 1 3\% | 10 17\% | 9 11\% | 10 10\% | 3 4\% | 15 17\% | 22 19\% | 15 25\% | 14 | 15\% | 15 | 23\% | 126 | 14\% |
| North Western | 4 6\% | 24 29\% | 14 21\% | 10 12\% | 15 18\% | 17 10\% | 32 23\% | 6 4\% | $43 \%$ | $87 \%$ | 11 | 9\% | 6 | 8\% | 151 | 12\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 7 23\% | 5 20\% | $517 \%$ | $13 \%$ | 4 14\% | 5 20\% | 7 16\% | 11 26\% | 9 22\% | 13 34\% | 10 | 15\% | 18 | 38\% | 95 | 21\% |
| South Eastern | 13 26\% | 2 5\% | $13 \%$ | 4 11\% | 7 9\% | 8 14\% | 4 7\% | 7 10\% | 8 8\% | 7 9\% | 7 | 14\% | 13 | 26\% | 81 | 12\% |
| Western | 1 2\% | 2 3\% | 1 2\% | 1 2\% | 11 14\% | 10 14\% | 6 9\% | $58 \%$ | 3 3\% | 14 13\% | 15 | 21\% | 3 | 5\% | 72 | 9\% |
| Sydney North | 2 15\% | 7 32\% | $14 \%$ | 3 19\% | 1 2\% | 18 28\% | 4 13\% | $38 \%$ | 0 0\% | 4 12\% | 5 | 13\% | 8 | 20\% | 56 | 14\% |
| Sydney South | 39 17\% | 34 15\% | 45 22\% | 56 20\% | 164 42\% | 77 20\% | 66 14\% | 66 16\% | 87 20\% | 58 18\% | 58 | 17\% | 31 | 16\% | 781 | 20\% |
| Sydney Inner | 4 17\% | 3 10\% | $17 \%$ | 2 6\% | $14 \%$ | 0 0\% | 0 0\% | 0 0\% | $15 \%$ | 2 22\% | 0 | 0\% | 0 | 0\% | 14 | 6\% |
| Sydney West | 83 19\% | 90 17\% | 101 20\% | 209 34\% | 314 27\% | 213 17\% | 213 20\% | 163 16\% | 142 14\% | 160 20\% | 181 | 23\% | 147 | 25\% | 2,016 | 21\% |
| Total | 274 20\% | 288 20\% | 315 23\% | 389 24\% | 680 26\% | 522 19\% | 503 19\% | 431 18\% | 457 17\% | 429 20\% | 469 | 22\% | 372 | 24\% | 5,129 | 21\% |

${ }^{1}$ Calculated from total number of cats arriving at a pound (see Table 21)
Table 31 shows that:

- the total number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing was 5,129 , which represented $21 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound.
- the number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing varied substantially between regions, ranging from 14 in the Sydney Inner region to 2,016 in the Sydney West region.
- there was substantial variation across regions in the percentage of all cats arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing, ranging from 6\% in the Sydney Inner region to 36\% in the Illawarra region. In two regions, the percentage released to an organisation for re-homing was 10\% or less.
- for all regions in total, the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing each month ranged from a minimum of $17 \%$ in March to a maximum of $26 \%$ in November.
- the monthly variation in cats released to an organisation for re-homing was higher for individual regions (relative to overall monthly totals), but no clear patterns are apparent.
- the number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing increased by $7 \%$ from $4,774 \mathrm{in} 2010 / 2011$, and the proportion of all cats arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing increased from $18 \%$.


Figure 25: Number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing in NSW
The trend analysis for cats released to an organisation for re-homing is graphed in Figure 25 and shows that:

- the number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing in NSW has increased from 2,002 cats in 2006/2007 to 5,129 cats in 2011/2012, representing a rise by a factor of more than 2.5 over five years.
- the percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing has increased from $12 \%$ to $21 \%$ in the same period.
- both curves show a strong upward trend over the period 2007/2008 to 2011/2012, with constant increases each year. Initially, from 2006/2007 to 2007/2008, there was little change in the number of cats released to an organisation for re-homing, but a significant drop to $9 \%$ followed when the recorded data was normalized by the number of identified cats.

Table 32: Number and percentage of cats in each leaving-pound category by region for 2011/2012

| Region | Euthanased |  | Released to organisation for re-homing |  | Sold |  | Released to owner |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% | No. | \% |
| Central Coast | 104 | 29\% | 54 | 15\% | 159 | 44\% | 44 | 12\% |
| Hunter | 655 | 58\% | 390 | 35\% | 28 | 2\% | 51 | 5\% |
| Illawarra | 1,004 | 51\% | 723 | 36\% | 177 | 9\% | 84 | 4\% |
| Mid North Coast | 554 | 68\% | 173 | 21\% | 71 | 9\% | 21 | 3\% |
| Murray | 280 | 54\% | 92 | 18\% | 116 | 23\% | 27 | 5\% |
| Murrumbidgee | 1,146 | 75\% | 305 | 20\% | 44 | 3\% | 31 | 2\% |
| Northern | 697 | 81\% | 126 | 15\% | 9 | 1\% | 30 | 3\% |
| North Western | 1,052 | 84\% | 151 | 12\% | 16 | 1\% | 28 | 2\% |
| Richmond Tweed | 208 | 46\% | 95 | 21\% | 124 | 27\% | 26 | 6\% |
| South Eastern | 494 | 72\% | 81 | 12\% | 64 | 9\% | 48 | 7\% |
| Western | 717 | 87\% | 72 | 9\% | 7 | 1\% | 30 | 4\% |
| Sydney North | 258 | 63\% | 56 | 14\% | 57 | 14\% | 38 | 9\% |
| Sydney South | 2,402 | 64\% | 781 | 21\% | 505 | 13\% | 89 | 2\% |
| Sydney Inner | 154 | 62\% | 14 | 6\% | 65 | 26\% | 14 | 6\% |
| Sydney West | 6,420 | 67\% | 2,016 | 21\% | 956 | 10\% | 170 | 2\% |
| Total | 16,145 | 65\% | 5,129 | 21\% | 2,398 | 10\% | 731 | 3\% |

Note to Table 32: The remainder (approximately 1\%) of impounded cats were reported as having been stolen or died
Table 32 summarises Tables 28 - 31 . It shows that most (approximately two-thirds) cats arriving at a pound were euthanased. There were more than twice as many cats released to an organisation for re-homing as cats sold. These two categories together account for over $30 \%$ of all cats arriving at a pound. Only $3 \%$ of cats arriving at a pound were released to their owner.
'Euthanased' was the most common outcome in all but the Central Coast region (where 'sold' was the largest category for cats leaving a pound), and accounted for more than half the cats leaving a pound in 13 regions. In the 14 regions where 'euthanased' was the largest category, the second most common outcome in ten of the regions was 'released to an organisation for re-homing' and in three regions the second most common outcome was 'sold'.

The changes in the percentages for the different outcomes for cats arriving at a pound since 2010/2011 have been relatively small, the largest being an increase from $18 \%$ to $21 \%$ for 'released to organisation for re-homing'. This has had the most impact on 'euthanased', which has dropped from $68 \%$ to $66 \%$.


Figure 26: Percentage of cats in each leaving category in NSW
The trend analysis for cats in each leaving category is summarised in Figure 26 and shows that:

- the category 'euthanased' remains dominant but has declined as a proportion of all cats arriving at a pound
- there has been a significant increase in the category 'released to an organisation for re-homing', but both 'released to owner' and 'sold' categories have remained reasonably unchanged at a low level in percentage terms.


## Appendix 1: List of councils which comprise each geographic region

Note: all councils responded to the survey of animal pound data.

| Central Coast | Gosford, Wyong |
| :---: | :---: |
| Hunter | Cessnock, Dungog, Gloucester, Great Lakes, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter |
| Illawarra | Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Wingecarribee, Wollongong |
| Mid North Coast | Bellingen, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Greater Taree, Port Macquarie-Hastings, Kempsey, Nambucca |
| Murray | Albury, Balranald, Berrigan, Conargo, Corowa, Deniliquin, Greater Hume, Jerilderie, Murray, Tumbarumba, Urana, Wakool, Wentworth |
| Murrumbidgee | Carrathool, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Griffith, Gundagai, Hay, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Temora, Tumut, Wagga Wagga |
| Northern | Armidale Dumaresq, Glen Innes Severn, Gunnedah, Guyra, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth Regional, Tenterfield, Uralla, Walcha |
| North Western | Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Coonamble, Dubbo, Gilgandra, Mid-Western Regional, Narromine, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle, Wellington |
| Richmond Tweed | Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Tweed |
| South Eastern | Bega Valley, Bombala, Boorowa, Cooma-Monaro, Eurobodalla, Goulburn, Mulwaree, Harden, Palerang, Queanbeyan, Snowy River, Upper Lachlan, Yass Valley, Young |
| Western | Bathurst Regional, Bland, Blayney, Broken Hill, Cabonne, Central Darling, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Weddin |

Sydney North \(\left.$$
\begin{array}{ll}\text { Hornsby, Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, Manly, } \\
\text { Mosman, North Sydney, Pittwater, Ryde, Warringah, } \\
\text { Willoughby }\end{array}
$$, $$
\begin{array}{l}\text { Bankstown, Botany Bay, Canterbury, Hurstville, } \\
\text { Sydney Inner } \\
\text { Kogarah, Randwick, Rockdale, Sutherland, Waverley, } \\
\text { Woollahra }\end{array}
$$ \begin{array}{l}Ashfield, Burwood, Canada Bay, Leichhardt, <br>
Sydney West <br>

Marrickville, Strathfield, Sydney City\end{array}\right\}\)| Auburn, Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Camden, |
| :--- |
| Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, |
| Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, Wollondilly |

## Appendix 2: Number of identified animals as at 30 June

 2012 - allocated to council areas|  | Cats | Dogs |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Central Coast | 25,652 | 81,123 |
| Hunter | 50,408 | 190,124 |
| Illawarra | 29,742 | 107,075 |
| Mid North Coast | 20,002 | 86,956 |
| Murray | 7,810 | 35,150 |
| Murrumbidgee | 10,087 | 50,125 |
| Northern | 12,380 | 66,118 |
| North Western | 6,077 | 42,584 |
| Richmond Tweed | 14,235 | 55,323 |
| South Eastern | 12,894 | 65,265 |
| Western | 15,454 | 69,240 |
| Sydney North | 56,848 | 114,528 |
| Sydney South | 56,526 | 121,059 |
| Sydney Inner | 36,608 | 50,671 |
| Sydney West | 104,099 | 344,308 |
| Total used in analysis | $\mathbf{4 5 8 , 8 2 2}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 4 7 9 , 6 4 9}$ |

Note: the entries in the table exclude companion animals in the unallocated western region of NSW and animals where the Register entry does not record a council area.

## Observations

- approximately $24 \%$ of all identified dogs and of all identified cats were located in the Sydney West region.
- across NSW the ratio of identified dogs to identified cats was approximately 3.2 to 1 , but for the Sydney Inner region the ratio was 1.4 to 1. In the North Western region the ratio was 7.0 to 1.
- the number of identified cats has increased by 5\% from 436,286 at 30 June 2011 and the number of identified dogs has increased by 4\% from 1,424,476.


## Appendix 3: Trend graphs for dogs by region

## A1 - Number of dogs seized:



Figure A1S: Sydney regions


Figure A1NS: non-Sydney regions

## A2 - Percentage of seized dogs taken to pound:



Figure A2S: Sydney regions


Figure A2NS: non-Sydney regions

A3 - Number of seized dogs taken to a pound per thousand identified dogs:


Figure A3S: Sydney regions


Figure A3NS: non-Sydney regions

## A4 - Seized dogs returned to owner:



Figure A4S: Sydney regions


Figure A4NS: non-Sydney regions

A5 - Seized dogs returned to owner per thousand identified dogs:


Figure A5S: Sydney regions


Figure A5NS: non-Sydney regions

A6 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were surrendered:


Figure A6S: Sydney regions


Figure A6NS: non-Sydney regions

## A7 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were dumped:



Figure A7S: Sydney regions


Figure A7NS: non-Sydney regions

A8 - Number of dogs arriving at a pound per thousand identified dogs:


Figure A8S: Sydney regions


Figure A8NS: non-Sydney regions

A9 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to owner:


Figure A9S: Sydney regions


Figure A9NS: non-Sydney regions

A10 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were euthanased:


Figure A10S: Sydney regions


Figure A10NS: non-Sydney regions

## A11 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were sold:



Figure A11S: Sydney regions


Figure A11NS: non-Sydney regions

## A12 - Percentage of dogs arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing:



Figure A12S: Sydney regions


Figure A12NS: non-Sydney regions

## Appendix 4: Trend graphs for cats by region

## B1 - Number of cats seized:



Figure B1S: Sydney regions


Figure B1NS: non-Sydney regions

## B2 - Percentage of seized cats taken to pound:



Figure B2S: Sydney regions


Figure B2NS: non-Sydney regions

## B3 - Number of seized cats taken to a pound per thousand identified cats:



Figure B3S: Sydney regions


Figure B3NS: non-Sydney regions

## B4 - Seized cats returned to owner:



Figure B4S: Sydney regions


Figure B4NS: non-Sydney regions

## B5 - Seized cats returned to owner per thousand identified:



Figure B5S: Sydney regions


Figure B5NS: non-Sydney regions

## B6 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were surrendered:



Figure B6S: Sydney regions


Figure B6NS: non-Sydney regions

## B7 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were dumped:



Figure B7S: Sydney regions


Figure B7NS: non-Sydney regions

## B8 - Number of cats arriving at a pound per thousand identified cats:



Figure B8S: Sydney regions


Figure B8NS: non-Sydney regions

## B9 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to owner:



Figure B9S: Sydney regions


Figure B9NS: non-Sydney regions

B10 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were euthanased:


Figure B10S: Sydney regions


Figure B10NS: non-Sydney regions

## B11 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were sold:



Figure B11S: Sydney regions


Figure B11NS: non-Sydney regions

## B12 - Percentage of cats arriving at a pound that were released to an organisation for re-homing:



Figure B12S: Sydney regions


Figure B12NS: non-Sydney regions

