

Puppy Mills: Facts and Figures

January 2021

10,000	Estimated number of puppy mills in the U.S. (both licensed and unlicensed)
2,460	Number of USDA Class A and B licensed facilities that breed dogs for the pet trade
213,978	Estimated number of dogs kept solely for breeding purposes in USDA licensed facilities
139,086	Estimated number of female dogs kept for breeding at USDA licensed facilities
9.4	Estimated number of puppies per breeding female per year
1,307,407	Estimated number of puppies produced by USDA licensed facilities each year
2.6 million	Estimated number of puppies sold annually who originated from puppy mills – USDA licensed and non-USDA licensed (not all breeders require a USDA license).
25%	Estimated percentage of dogs in animal shelters who are purebred
1.5 million	Estimated number of dogs and cats euthanized by shelters every year in the U.S.
\$4.00 - \$7.00	International City/County Management Association budgeting recommendation, per capita, for animal control programs.
\$500,000	Estimated cost of a puppy mill bust involving 250 animals.



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