## HEALTHY PAWS

How the Pet Industry Is Expanding into Health and Wellness A September 2022 Report


## INTRODUCTION

The pet industry dramatically expanded with the spike of pet adoptions during the pandemic. Pets provided a sense of comfort in this time of uncertainty. Post-pandemic, consumers set a greater focus on their health and wellness, and it's no surprise that pet industry trends are following these shifts in pet owners' lifestyles. As consumers search for products that are healthy, sustainable, and packed with functional ingredients, they progressively do the same when shopping for their companions.

This upward trend of pet health and wellness, along with pet humanization, has led to pet product premiumization and new pet care product innovations. Consumers are choosing brands that offer products they feel will support their pets' needs in maintaining a happy and healthy life.

As the leader in Connected Sampling ${ }^{\text {TM }}$, our omnichannel brand experiences deliver surprise and delight moments that increase both brand and product awareness. Brandshare's solutions can be leveraged to convert shoppers into lifelong buyers as product discovery within this emerging category reaches an all-time high.


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## THE PET INDUSTRY

PET INDUSTRY

Pet owners love their pets and will do anything to keep them happy and healthy. Purchasing behavior within the pet industry shows that pets are treated as part of the family.

Because pets are like family, pet health and wellness has risen as a top priority. Just like their owners, pets are consuming healthier, organic and vegan foods that are boosting the premium, high-quality pet food category.

The rise of health-conscious lifestyles has expanded the pet health and wellness category as consumers shop for this emerging category of products.

The pet industry is expected to reach \$358.62 billion by 2027

## PETS IN THE HOUSEHOLD

## Nearly $70 \%$ of U.S. households have at least one pet.

|  | Number of U.S. Households <br> (millions) |
| :--- | :---: |
| Dog | 69 |
| Cat | 45.3 |
| Fish | 14.7 |
| Bird | 9.9 |
| Small Animal | 6.2 |
| Reptile | 5.7 |
| Horse | 3.5 |



## PET OWNERSHIP BY GENERATION

Nearly $1 / 3$ of pet owners are Millennials. Pet ownership is expected to grow up to $14 \%$ by 2030.


## MILLENNIAL PET OWNERS

92\% of Millennials who own pets buy their pets gifts, while $51 \%$ do so on a monthly basis

- Needing more space for a pet is the biggest influence driving first-home purchases among Millennials
- Millennials are 3X more likely to be pet owners than they are to be parents
- Buying pet supplies online is a preferred shopping method for $77 \%$ of Millennials





## PET <br> HUMANIZATION

The rising consumer interest in treating pets as part of their family has continued to drive innovation and sales gains in the pet industry. "Humanization" of pet products is leading pet owners to seek more human-style foods for their pets.

42\% of pet owners are interested in refrigerated and human-grade pet food


## PET HEALTH \& WELLNESS

As consumers adapt to a more health-conscious lifestyle and spend more time at home with their pets, they are becoming more aware of their animals' needs. From food to supplements, pet owners want nothing but the best to provide a happy and healthy life for their fur babies.

Nearly $44 \%$ of pet owners prioritize the health of their pet's foods over their own

BETTER-FOR-YOU PET FOOD

The premiumization of pet food is leading owners to search for products that have factors they tend to look for in their own food, like organic ingredients and omega-3 content.
$42 \%$ of dog and cat owners will spend more on premium pet food.

The organic pet food industry is worth \$22.8 billion

## PREMIUM PET CARE PRODUCTS BECOME MAINSTREAM

- Fresh and frozen pet foods have seen the highest percentage growth YOY
- Pet wipes used on pets after going to the bathroom
" Specialty dog "pastries" designed to be aesthetically pleasing to both humans and dogs
- Kitty litter that changes color based on a cat's urine pH levels

More than $50 \%$ of pet owners are willing to pay more for eco-friendly pet care products

## PET SUPPLEMENTS

The pet supplements industry is set to hit \$1 billion by 2027. More pet owners are using supplements to help support their pet's immune system and digestive system. Dog vitamins, fish oil for cats, and dog probiotics are some of the popular supplements that consumers buy for their pets.

## CBD FOR PETS

- Searches for "CBD for dogs" are +300\%
- 1/3 of pet owners have purchased a CBD product for their pets



## HOW CAN BRANDS CONNECT WITH PET OWNERS AS THEY SEARCH FOR HEALTHIER PET PRODUCTS?



## CONNECTED SAMPLING

Sampling via e-commerce packages or in person at relevant venues engages consumers when they least expect it. Digital integrations streamline the consumer journey to hold 1:1 conversations, gain valuable information, and drive sales.

Stand out in this emerging market with a custom brand experience


## PET PARENTS LOVE E-COMMERCE

The top motives for online pet purchases include convenience, good value, product selection, and the ability to easily compare prices. In-home sampling provides consumers with a brand experience in the comfort and safety of their homes-where product trial is at its highest.

## 86\% of pet owners shop for their pet online



## MEET PET OWNERS WHERE THEY ARE

Venue-based sampling at pet-related locations provide pet owners with the approval they're looking for via implied endorsement


20\%
of pet owners said vet recommendations were the most important factor in their food and treat purchases

50\%
would change brands following a vet's recommendation


## CASE STUDIES

Connect to Convert: Moving Consumers Down the Purchase Funnel Faster

## PET FOOD BRAND

A leading pet food brand distributed samples and branded inserts to a targeted audience of dog and cat owners through e-commerce packages. $85 \%$ of survey respondents had never heard of the brand prior to receiving the sample. Results included increased brand awareness, trial, and purchase intent.

## RESULTS


$98 \%$
Product
Trial
 Intent



We have 4 dogs and 2 cats. They went crazy over the samples! Looking to purchase more.

- JENNIFER A.
- JNARAR


## CAT TREAT BRAND

A leading cat food brand distributed coupons for its new cat treat product to a targeted audience of pet owners through e-commerce packages. The campaign resulted in increased brand awareness, product trial, and purchase intent along with glowing consumer feedback on both the product and campaign.

## RESULTS



## 

Thanks for the coupon! We have nine cats and buy lots of cat treats. They really like them... We call them cat locators!

- TRISDIANE E.


## PET FOOD SAMPLING DRIVES TRIAL AND CONVERSION

OVERALL CATEGORY | PRODUCT TRIAL

## 99\% <br> Tried the <br> Product

OVERALL CATEGORY
PURCHASE INTENT

## 49\%

Likely To Purchase Product Before Receiving the Sample

## 64\%

Likely to Purchase Product Since Receiving the Sample

## +31\%

Increase In
Purchase Intent

OVERALL CATEGORY PURCHASE CONVERSION

## 62\%

Have Already Purchased the Product Since Receiving the Sample

## 84\%

Of Those Who Did Not
Purchase The Product Since Receiving the Sample

Plan to Purchase Within
10 To 30 Days


## TURN INSIGHTS INTO ACTION

## Connect to Convert

As consumers continue to shop online for products that meet their pets' health and wellness needs, sampling new products from home becomes an easy way to convert shoppers into buyers.

Go Where Pet Owners Are
Growing focus in pet health results in more wellness visits to vets, groomers, and pet daycares. Earn implied endorsement from these trusted pet locations with venue-based sampling.

## Influence Educated Purchases

Digital integrations like conversational commerce and add-to-cart connectivity allows brands to inform consumers of product benefits and purchase with one click. Increase purchase conversion by fostering confident purchase decisions.


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To learn how your brand can activate a Connected Sampling ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ campaign, contact:
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