



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

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Our Ref: ATIC2575

[REDACTED]  
{By Email}

05 November 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

## PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information about dog import statistics which APHA received on 28 October 2021. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

The information you requested and the response is detailed below:

“I am gathering statistics relating to the numbers of dogs that were imported to the UK between 2019-2021 for my research.

I was hoping that you would be able to provide me with the statistics I am investigating or be able to point me in the direction of how I can go about obtaining them.”

The information that we have provided is a true reflection of the information that we have access to. We can't guarantee the accuracy of this data, as we can only rely on the information that has been input into TRACES by a third party. The data was extracted from TRACES for the year 2019 and 2020.

TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System) is a European Commission system employed by EU member states to facilitate and record animal/animal product movements into and throughout the EU.

The data for commercial dog imports was extracted from TRACES through the data warehouse facility by searching for imports of *canis familiaris*. These figures cover all commercially imported dogs including commercial puppies, rescue dogs, research dogs and unaccompanied pets.

Since our departure from the EU on 1 January 2021, Import Notification Forms are no longer used to notify APHA about imports of live animals from EU countries. Notifications

regarding these imports must now be submitted using the Import of products, animals, food and feed system (IPAFFS) from which this data was extracted.

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Number of dogs imported from EU</b>
2019	39,562
2020	60,190
2021 (January 2021 to 31 October 2021)	65,706

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

An Annex is attached which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

**ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM**

Email: [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk)

## Annex

### Copyright

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### Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request, you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 11 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to the Access to Information Manager at the address at the top of this letter or email [enquiries@apha.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@apha.gov.uk) and the team will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Please note that generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

### Coronavirus

If you need to contact the ICO during the Coronavirus pandemic, it's best to do so online. Please click [here](#) for contact details. You can also call them on 0303 123 1113.