



Insurance.com Survey: 48% with Pet Insurance Say They've Saved Money

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65% pay \$300 or less per year for coverage

Foster City, CA – Aug. 13, 2020 – Increasingly, pet owners consider their furry friend a member of the family and care for them accordingly. In its new guide, [Insurance.com](#) explains what pet insurance covers, how it works, what it costs and which companies offer it.

North American Pet Health Insurance Association (NAPHIA) reports there were nearly 2.43 million pets insured by the end of 2018, an increase of 17% from 2017. In our recent survey of 800 pet owners, 46% report having pet insurance. Of those respondents, 48% say having that coverage saves money and 32% claim it has been a huge help keeping their pet healthy.

The largest group of respondents, 36% of those with pet insurance, spends between \$201 and \$300 annually on coverage. An annual investment of \$300 or less can provide access to up to \$5,000 in benefits, according to this research.

Insurance.com's team reviews pet insurance options and provides detailed information on the following:

- **What is pet insurance?** Technically, pet insurance operates much like [car or homeowners](#) insurance.
- **What does it cover?** The three main types of coverage include accident, illness and wellness.
- **What doesn't pet insurance cover?** Procedures and care such as cosmetic surgery, supplements and pregnancy-related veterinary costs are typically not covered.
- **A comparison of 16 top pet insurance companies:** This growing list includes detailed information on such companies as Trupanion, Nationwide, PetFirst, Prudent Pet and Healthy Paws.
- **Cost factors:** The number of animals in the home, location and age of the animal all matter.
- **Eligibility:** Pet insurance is harder to secure as the pet ages.
- **How to file a claim:** Some offer the option to pay the veterinary clinic directly; most reimburse after a claim is filed.

Premiums vary, but the average annual cost for accident and illness coverage for a dog is \$566.40, whereas the average annual cost for accident-only coverage for a cat is \$140.88. Much like [health insurance](#) for humans, pet insurance usually establishes a co-pay and deductible amount as part of the package. The most common health issue plaguing the family dog is a skin allergy, and the number one medical condition for a cat is bladder/urinary tract disease, according to statistics.

The top 10 most treated conditions for dogs and cats:

Number	Dogs	Cats
1.	Skin allergies	Bladder/urinary tract disease
2.	Ear infection	Dental disease
3.	Non-cancerous skin mass	Chronic kidney disease
4.	Diarrhea/intestinal upset	Vomiting/upset stomach
5.	Skin infection	Diarrhea/intestinal upset
6.	Vomiting/upset stomach	Excessive thyroid hormone
7.	Arthritis	Upper respiratory infection
8.	Dental disease	Skin allergies
9.	Anal gland inflammation	Diabetes

10.	Bladder/urinary tract disease	Heart valve malfunction
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Dental disease is costliest for canines, with an average treatment expense of \$450. The most expensive medical condition for cats is diabetes, which hisses at about \$871 to treat.

Find the full resource here: [Pet Insurance: What you need to know.](#)

Insurance.com editor Les Masterson is available for commentary.

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