



**American
Kennel Club®**



Economic Impact of AKC Dog Events in Virginia

The American Kennel Club (AKC) was established in 1884 to promote the study, breeding, exhibiting, and advancement of purebred dogs. We now represent more than 5,000 dog clubs nationally, including **108** clubs in the state of Virginia.

The AKC sanctions thousands of dog events each year, which generate significant economic benefits to local communities in addition to the millions of dollars AKC dog owners in Virginia spend annually on their dogs.

Here are the statistics for the State of Virginia over the past three years:

2015: AKC licensed and sanctioned 500 events in the state of Virginia, in which more than 68,400 dogs participated.

2016: AKC licensed and sanctioned 523 events in the state of Virginia, in which more than 69,400 dogs participated.

2017: AKC licensed and sanctioned 560 events in the state of Virginia, in which more than 70,200 dogs participated.

The AKC conducts ongoing research regarding the economic impact of AKC events in localities throughout the state, as well as of AKC registered dogs in the state. Surveys demonstrate that exhibitors at AKC conformation dog shows spend an average of \$685 per show weekend. This means spending by AKC dog show exhibitors for a show weekend could inject more than \$1.7 million into the local economy. And because AKC dog shows are an educational and family-friendly event, large spectator gates can generate additional revenues for cities and towns statewide. For more information or information about the impact of dog shows in other states, visit the AKC Legislative Action Center (www.akcgr.org).