Summary of BCS Scales and Their Relationship with BF and BW

9-Point Scale	5-Point Scale	% BF*	% Overweight
4	2.5	15–19	Ideal
5	3	20–24	_
6	3.5	25–29	10%
7	4	30–34	20%
8	4.5	35–39	30%
9	5	40-45+	40%
>9	>5	_	>40%

 * Current BW \times (100 – % BF) \div 0.8. Lean mass is 80% of ideal weight, assuming 20% BF.

-, not applicable; BCS, body condition score; BF, body fat; BW, body weight.



The 2021 AAHA Nutrition and Weight Management Guidelines for Dogs and Cats are available at aaha.org/nutrition.