



Shelter Animals Count

1/1/2022-12/31/2022

BASIC ANIMAL DATA MATRIX (VRS 1.2021)

What Animals are Counted?

The 2021 update to the basic data matrix expands beyond canines and felines to include other companion animal categories: rabbits, equines, small mammals, farm animals, birds, and reptiles + amphibians. Many organizations also provide extraordinary services for other animals such as wildlife, not captured here.

Tracking by Species and Age:

The risks associated with being an adult dog, puppy, adult cat, or kitten (or neonate of any kind) in a shelter environment vary a great deal. To help shelters assess and understand the differing risks for these populations of animals, this basic data matrix includes a break out by species and age for intake and outcome categories. The age tracked within intake categories is the age at intake, and the age tracked within outcome categories is the age at outcome. Age is not necessary to track for beginning and ending counts. If tracking statistics broken out by species and age is beyond the capacity of an agency, simply tracking statistics by species would be a place to begin. This document defines puppy and kitten as under 5 months of age (see below: Determining Age).

Determining Age:

This basic matrix utilizes 5 months as the break point between puppy/kitten and adult. At or near 5 months of age there are changes in the teeth which can help guide trained staff regarding proper categorization of the animal. For cats, at 4-5 months of age permanent canines, premolars and molars are coming in (all in by 6 months of age). For dogs, at 5-7 months of age permanent canines, premolars and molars are coming in (all in by 7 months of age).

Beginning and Ending Shelter Counts:

These numbers help frame the population of the animals sheltered and cared for by the organization. We recommend a shelter walk through - physically counting the animals sheltered within the organization, and not forgetting to count those animals who have been admitted but who are not currently within the shelter (foster care, in the care of a veterinary hospital, etc.). Beginning and ending counts aren't broken down by age, since the age of animals will change while at the shelter.

Live Admissions Only:

For the purposes of this matrix, we are tracking LIVE admissions only, i.e. animals who are alive when they come into an agency's possession. Animals who are dead when taken into an agency's possession may be a data point to track, but that information is not tracked by this matrix.

Defining Owner Intended Euthanasia:

Some shelters offer pet euthanasia to the public as a service whose cost may be subsidized and therefore more affordable than local veterinary clinics, thus ensuring access to this service. Defining when euthanasia should be recorded as "at the request of the owner", or not, is the subject of much discussion. For the purposes of this document, we are choosing to define owner INTENDED euthanasia as the euthanasia of a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter for that service. In other words, the owner brought the pet in specifically for that service - it was their intent before arriving. Any other definition of "owner requested" euthanasia leaves much up to interpretation and therefore a great deal of variation among organizations and their reporting. We believe the simplicity of this definition helps to ensure consistent application and record keeping. Owner-Intended Euthanasia provided as a service outside of intake is not counted in this Basic Data Matrix but is counted in Community Services Matrix.

RTF vs TNR

Return to Field (RTF) programs involve community cats who have been admitted to an animal shelter, brought in by animal control personnel or by members of the public. Trap Neuter Return (TNR) programs involve the management of community cats by trapping, sterilizing and returning cats to where they originated. While the programs function in similar ways, the key difference is that RTF cats are admitted for sheltering and are therefore part of the animal sheltering function. TNR cats are NOT admitted for sheltering, only for a service or services (sterilization and/or vaccination). Both programs are lifesaving, but the admission for sheltering, or not, is an important distinction. TNR cats can be counted using the Community Services Matrix.

Canines

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 67	In Foster: 4	Total: 71
Live Intake	Adult	3,450	
	Stray/At Large	1,899	
	Relinquished by Owner	471	
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	4	
	Transferred in from agency (out of state)	1	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	402	
	Impound/Seizure	673	
	Up to 5 Months	277	
	Stray/At Large	162	
	Relinquished by Owner	54	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1	
	Impound/Seizure	60	
	Total Live Intake	3,727	
Live Outcomes	Adult	2,025	
	Adoption	482	
	Returned to Owner	1,410	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	78	
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)	9	
	Other Live Outcome	46	
	Up to 5 Months	220	
	Adoption	124	
	Returned to Owner	53	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	38	
	Other Live Outcome	5	
	Total Live Outcomes	2,245	
Other Outcomes	Adult	1,450	
	Died in Care	2	
	Shelter Euthanasia	1,047	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	401	
	Up to 5 Months	28	
	Shelter Euthanasia	27	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1	
	Total Other Outcomes	1,478	
	Total Outcomes	3,723	
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 68	In Foster: 2	Total: 70

Felines

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 85	In Foster: 54	Total: 139
Live Intake	Adult	3,440	
	Stray/At Large	2,275	
	Relinquished by Owner	524	
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	29	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	184	
	Impound/Seizure	428	
	Up to 5 Months	2,226	
	Stray/At Large	1,803	
	Relinquished by Owner	280	
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	23	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	6	
	Impound/Seizure	114	
	Total Live Intake	5,666	
Live Outcomes	Adult	2,572	
	Adoption	943	
	Returned to Owner	367	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	235	
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)	1	
	Returned to Field	1,008	
	Other Live Outcome	18	
	Up to 5 Months	1,648	
	Adoption	1,370	
	Returned to Owner	34	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	103	
	Returned to Field	133	
	Other Live Outcome	8	
	Total Live Outcomes	4,220	
Other Outcomes	Adult	922	
	Died in Care	13	
	Shelter Euthanasia	726	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	183	
	Up to 5 Months	503	
	Died in Care	47	
	Shelter Euthanasia	450	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	6	
	Total Other Outcomes	1,425	
	Total Outcomes	5,645	
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 69	In Foster: 94	Total: 163

Rabbits

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **5** In Foster: **1** Total: **6**

Live Intake	Adult	127
	Stray/At Large	59
	Relinquished by Owner	42
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	1
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	4
	Impound/Seizure	21
	Up to 5 Months	45
	Stray/At Large	29
	Relinquished by Owner	15
	Impound/Seizure	1
	Total Live Intake	172

Live Outcomes	Adult	58
	Adoption	53
	Returned to Owner	4
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1
	Up to 5 Months	11
	Adoption	9
	Returned to Owner	1
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1
	Total Live Outcomes	69

Other Outcomes	Adult	77
	Died in Care	2
	Shelter Euthanasia	71
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	4
	Up to 5 Months	29
	Shelter Euthanasia	29
	Total Other Outcomes	106
	Total Outcomes	175

Ending Animal Count In Shelter: **3** In Foster: **0** Total: **3**

Small Mammals

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **3** In Foster: **1** Total: **4**

Live Intake	Adult	114
	Stray/At Large	24
	Relinquished by Owner	61
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	2
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	13
	Impound/Seizure	14
	Up to 5 Months	32
	Stray/At Large	15
	Relinquished by Owner	17
	Total Live Intake	146

Live Outcomes	Adult	90
	Adoption	69
	Returned to Owner	2
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	19
	Up to 5 Months	14
	Adoption	11
	Returned to Owner	1
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	2
	Total Live Outcomes	104

Other Outcomes	Adult	29
	Died in Care	1
	Shelter Euthanasia	15
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	13
	Up to 5 Months	15
	Shelter Euthanasia	15
	Total Other Outcomes	44
	Total Outcomes	148

Ending Animal Count In Shelter: **1** In Foster: **1** Total: **2**

Farm Animals

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 0	In Foster: 0	Total: 0
Live Intake	Adult	2	
	Stray/At Large	2	
	Total Live Intake	2	
Live Outcomes	Adult	2	
	Adoption	1	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1	
	Total Live Outcomes	2	
	Total Outcomes	2	
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 0	In Foster: 0	Total: 0

Birds

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **1** In Foster: **1** Total: **2**

Live Intake	Adult	61
	Stray/At Large	30
	Relinquished by Owner	16
	Impound/Seizure	15
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Stray/At Large	1
	Total Live Intake	62

Live Outcomes	Adult	49
	Adoption	40
	Returned to Owner	1
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	7
	Other Live Outcome	1
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Adoption	1
	Total Live Outcomes	50

Other Outcomes	Adult	14
	Died in Care	3
	Shelter Euthanasia	11
	Total Other Outcomes	14
	Total Outcomes	64

Ending Animal Count In Shelter: **0** In Foster: **0** Total: **0**

Reptiles + Amphibians

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **0** In Foster: **1** Total: **1**

Live Intake	Adult	19
	Stray/At Large	7
	Relinquished by Owner	2
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1
	Impound/Seizure	9
Total Live Intake		19

Live Outcomes	Adult	15
	Adoption	2
	Returned to Owner	3
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	6
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)	3
	Other Live Outcome	1
Total Live Outcomes		15

Other Outcomes	Adult	2
	Shelter Euthanasia	1
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1
	Total Other Outcomes	2
Total Outcomes		17

Ending Animal Count In Shelter: **0** In Foster: **3** Total: **3**

Other

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 0	In Foster: 0	Total: 0
Live Intake	Adult	14	
	Impound/Seizure	14	
	Total Live Intake	14	
Live Outcomes	Adult	13	
	Adoption	9	
	Returned to Owner	3	
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)	1	
	Total Live Outcomes	13	
Other Outcomes	Adult	1	
	Shelter Euthanasia	1	
	Total Other Outcomes	1	
	Total Outcomes	14	
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 0	In Foster: 0	Total: 0