



Shelter Animals Count

1/1/2021-12/31/2021

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: 28	In Foster: 7	Total: 35
Live Intake	Adult		3,236
	Stray/At Large		1,825
	Relinquished by Owner		447
	Transferred in from agency (in state)		31
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		357
	Impound/Seizure		576
	Up to 5 Months		209
	Stray/At Large		95
	Relinquished by Owner		48
	Transferred in from agency (in state)		18
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		3
	Impound/Seizure		45
	Total Live Intake		3,445
Live Outcomes	Adult		2,260
	Adoption		583
	Returned to Owner		1,469
	Transferred out to agency (in state)		196
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)		3
	Other Live Outcome		9
	Up to 5 Months		177
	Adoption		129
	Returned to Owner		35
	Transferred out to agency (in state)		13
	Total Live Outcomes		2,437
Other Outcomes	Adult		963
	Died in Care		2
	Shelter Euthanasia		607
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		354
	Up to 5 Months		16
	Died in Care		2
	Shelter Euthanasia		11
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		3
	Total Other Outcomes		979
	Total Outcomes		3,416
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 59	In Foster: 4	Total: 63

Felines

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 46	In Foster: 56	Total: 102
Live Intake	Adult		3,232
	Stray/At Large		1,963
	Relinquished by Owner		639
	Transferred in from agency (in state)		95
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		156
	Impound/Seizure		379
	Up to 5 Months		2,115
	Stray/At Large		1,669
	Relinquished by Owner		309
	Transferred in from agency (in state)		70
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		3
	Impound/Seizure		64
	Total Live Intake		5,347
Live Outcomes	Adult		2,507
	Adoption		904
	Returned to Owner		321
	Transferred out to agency (in state)		412
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)		11
	Returned to Field		853
	Other Live Outcome		6
	Up to 5 Months		1,592
	Adoption		1,306
	Returned to Owner		17
	Transferred out to agency (in state)		167
	Returned to Field		101
	Other Live Outcome		1
	Total Live Outcomes		4,099
Other Outcomes	Adult		776
	Died in Care		18
	Shelter Euthanasia		602
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		156
	Up to 5 Months		439
	Died in Care		55
	Shelter Euthanasia		372
	Owner Intended Euthanasia		3
	DISPOSAL		9
	Total Other Outcomes		1,215
	Total Outcomes		5,314
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 86	In Foster: 54	Total: 140

Rabbits

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **8** In Foster: **2** Total: **10**

Live Intake	Adult	134
	Stray/At Large	53
	Relinquished by Owner	46
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	4
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	4
	Impound/Seizure	27
	Up to 5 Months	13
	Stray/At Large	6
	Relinquished by Owner	5
	Impound/Seizure	2
	Total Live Intake	147

Live Outcomes	Adult	81
	Adoption	69
	Returned to Owner	11
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1
	Up to 5 Months	13
	Adoption	13
	Total Live Outcomes	94

Other Outcomes	Adult	56
	Died in Care	2
	Shelter Euthanasia	50
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	4
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Shelter Euthanasia	1
	Total Other Outcomes	57
	Total Outcomes	151

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

Equines

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

Live Intake **Adult** **1**
Relinquished by Owner 1
Total Live Intake **1**

Total

Total Outcomes

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

Small Mammals

Beginning Animal Count In Shelter: **6** In Foster: **1** Total: **7**

Live Intake	Adult	116
	Stray/At Large	10
	Relinquished by Owner	72
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	3
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	10
	Impound/Seizure	21
	Up to 5 Months	39
	Relinquished by Owner	26
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	4
	Impound/Seizure	9
	Total Live Intake	155

Live Outcomes	Adult	86
	Adoption	72
	Returned to Owner	6
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	8
	Up to 5 Months	42
	Adoption	42
	Total Live Outcomes	128

Other Outcomes	Adult	29
	Died in Care	1
	Shelter Euthanasia	18
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	10
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Shelter Euthanasia	1
	Total Other Outcomes	30
	Total Outcomes	158

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

Farm Animals

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

Live Intake	Adult	6
	Stray/At Large	4
	Relinquished by Owner	1
	Impound/Seizure	1
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Relinquished by Owner	1
Total Live Intake		7

Live Outcomes	Adult	6
	Adoption	2
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	4
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1
Total Live Outcomes		7
Total Outcomes		7

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

Birds

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

Live Intake	Adult	83
	Stray/At Large	48
	Relinquished by Owner	24
	Transferred in from agency (in state)	1
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1
	Impound/Seizure	9
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Stray/At Large	1
Total Live Intake		84

Live Outcomes	Adult	48
	Adoption	40
	Returned to Owner	2
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	3
	Other Live Outcome	3
Total Live Outcomes		48

Other Outcomes	Adult	34
	Died in Care	5
	Shelter Euthanasia	28
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1
	Up to 5 Months	1
	Died in Care	1
Total Other Outcomes		35
Total Outcomes		83

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

Reptiles + Amphibians

Beginning Animal Count	In Shelter: 1	In Foster: 0	Total: 1
Live Intake	Adult	23	
	Stray/At Large	7	
	Relinquished by Owner	8	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1	
	Impound/Seizure	7	
	Total Live Intake	23	
Live Outcomes	Adult	19	
	Adoption	1	
	Returned to Owner	2	
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	10	
	Transferred out to agency (out of state)	4	
	Other Live Outcome	2	
	Total Live Outcomes	19	
Other Outcomes	Adult	4	
	Died in Care	1	
	Shelter Euthanasia	2	
	Owner Intended Euthanasia	1	
	Total Other Outcomes	4	
	Total Outcomes	23	
Ending Animal Count	In Shelter: 0	In Foster: 1	Total: 1

Other

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

Live Intake	Adult	61
	Relinquished by Owner	60
	Impound/Seizure	1
	Total Live Intake	61

Live Outcomes	Adult	61
	Adoption	60
	Transferred out to agency (in state)	1
	Total Live Outcomes	61
	Total Outcomes	61

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