As The National Database grows, so do the possibilities. Just a few years ago, there was no centralized data collection on a large scale – and the data that were collected were not publicly available beyond a national estimate.

Today, we’ve produced annual white papers to track trends, published a robust set of interactive dashboards available to animal welfare professionals and community members alike, and provided the full dataset to researchers nationwide to expand knowledge in the field.

Shelter Animals Count has been so successful in its data collection that the demand for data has grown. Looking ahead to 2020 and beyond, we will present a more holistic view of animal welfare through the creation of a new standardized data matrix for tracking community services. Access to such services can have a direct impact on whether a pet may need sheltering.

Data transparency and availability are always important and become critical in times of uncertainty. Shelter Animals Count provides access to actionable statistics, thanks to the shelters and rescues sharing data with us monthly and the sponsors that support The National Database.

With thanks,

Sara Kent
Chief Executive Officer
Participation in Shelter Animals Count is open to animal shelters and rescue operations taking in and sending out cats and dogs. Membership, the data platform and all associated data tools and resources are free for participating shelters and rescues.

5,457 participants total by the end of 2019

Shelters in the 100 Most Populous U.S. Counties

- 2016-2018 Participation: 38%
- 2019 New Participation: 38%
- Total Potential: 24%

Composition

- Shelter: 36%
- Rescue: 58%
- Unspecified: 6%
THE DATABASE AT A GLANCE

Data from municipal and private shelters grew, while some rescues became inactive or closed. Most animals are received by shelters. As shelter participation grows, The National Database becomes more accurate and representative of animal sheltering nationwide.

151,430 data records through 2019

Animals Entering Shelters & Rescues

Annual Data Records
Shelter Animals Count hosted four Data Drives in 2019 to incentivize data submission, an increase from the usual biannual campaigns. As a result, there was a significant gain in shelter data records overall and as a per-campaign average.

$50,000 in grants awarded to 54 qualifying shelters and rescues

Thank you Data Drive Sponsors!
To keep data flowing into The National Database, the Shelter Animals Count team stays in regular contact with current and prospective members. Membership growth, industry awareness and new tools and resources led to increased website use.

"Shelter Animals Count has made the management of intake/outcomes so efficient. The results at our fingertips for each month and each year make for easier and more accurate reporting."

- SAC Member

**Website Traffic 2019 vs. 2018**

- Site Users ↑ 31%
- Page Views ↑ 16%
- White Paper Views ↑ 126%
- Timeline Dashboard Views ↑ 89%
Shelter Animals Count is governed by a Board of Directors from associations, academic institutions and national, regional and local animal welfare organizations. A minimum of 40% of the board is comprised of shelter executive leadership.
Shelter Animals Count is a 501(c)(3) organization funded through grants, sponsorships and donations. We are thankful for the sponsors that make The National Database possible.

**Platinum Sponsors**
- Spring Point Partners
- Maddie’s Fund
- ASPCA
- Petco Foundation
- PetSmart Charities

**Gold Sponsors**
- Best Friends Animal Society
- Humane Society of the United States

**Bronze Sponsors**
- The Association for Animal Welfare Advancement
- GS Humane Corporation

*includes $50,000 in Data Drive Grants

Financial Support at Work in 2019

- **50%** General Operations
- **33%** Database
- **4%** Marketing & Communications*
- **13%** Fund Development

*includes $50,000 in Data Drive Grants
COMING IN 2020

- Updated Branding
- Mobile-Responsive Website
- Expanded Data Collection
- Updated Data Dashboards
- More Frequent Data Publishes
- Topic-Specific Data Dashboards
- New Annual White Paper
- New Reports and Blogs
- Social Media Presence
- Webinar Series