WHAT ANIMALS ARE COUNTED?
The 2021 update to the Intake & Outcome Database 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 in this database.

Equine: Horses, donkeys, mules, and other equines
Small Mammals: small domestic mammals such as guinea pigs, hamsters, rats
Farm Animals: Non-equine, hooved farm animals like pigs, llamas, and cows
Birds: Domestic birds like chickens, pigeons and parrots
Reptiles and Amphibians: Pet reptiles and amphibians like turtles, snakes, iguanas

LIVE ADMISSIONS ONLY
For the purposes of this database, 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 database.

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, the Intake & Outcome Database 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
The Intake & Outcome Database 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). Source: Animal Sheltering.

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.

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 Database.

DEFINING OWNER INTENDED EUTHANASIA
Beginning July 1, 2022 all Owner Intended Euthanasia (OIE) numbers will be represented as a Community Service in SAC’ reporting. This change reflects the most accurate intent of this service to the community.

Since the roll-out of our Community Services Database in 2021, shelters/rescues have had the opportunity to enter OIE as either an intake/outcome or as a community service, and that hasn't changed. You still have the choice of which database to enter your OIE data – if you enter it as an intake/outcome it will feed to our Intake/Outcome dashboards and if you enter your OIE data as a service it will automatically feed to our Community Services dashboard. Regardless of which dashboard best fits your organization’s needs, all of the OIE data will be combined and reported only as a service in SAC published reports.

This will apply to all future as well as historical data used for reporting. You can change which dashboard your historical OIE data is reported to by logging into your SAC portal.

NOTE: An Owner Intended Euthanasia is defined as a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter/community service clinic with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia due to a medical or behavior condition or the owner selects euthanasia as the best treatment option after consultation with a veterinarian. It is NOT defined as a euthanasia that takes place after an owner surrenders a pet WITHOUT the intent to euthanize and the shelter/rescue then determines the euthanasia outcome.

WHAT IS POSSESSION?
“Adoption” and “Transferred to another agency” both make reference to possession. The primary concept here is one of ownership. For example, in foster care, the agency still has possession or ownership. If adopted or transferred to another agency, possession is now with the new owner, or with another agency.
| INTAKE & OUTCOME DATABASE™: COMPANION ANIMAL INTAKE & OUTCOME (VRS 1.2021) |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| **ANIMAL COUNTS** | **TOTAL IN CARE** | **IN FOSTER CARE** | **TOTAL** |
| Beginning Count   |                   |                   |         |
| Ending Count      |                   |                   |         |

## Definitions

**Total Intakes**

- **Stray/At Large**: Stated to be unowned or free-roaming.
- **Relinquished by Owner**: Admitted by owner, including adoption returns. All returns should be tracked as owner relinquishment.
- **Owner Intended Euthanasia**: An Owner Intended Euthanasia is defined as a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter/community service clinic with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia due to a medical or behavior condition or the owner selects euthanasia as the best treatment option after consultation with a veterinarian. It is NOT defined as a euthanasia that takes place after an owner surrenders a pet WITHOUT the intent to euthanize and the shelter/rescue then determines the euthanasia outcome. (See page 2)
- **Transferred in from agency (in state)**: Admission from another agency within the same state, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
- **Transferred in from agency (out of state)**: Admission from another agency in a different state, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
- **Transferred in from agency (international)**: Admission from another agency outside the US, for adoption, large scale seizure support, etc.
- **Impound/Seizure**: Impounds for pets seized during cruelty cases or for protective custody. This does not include pets relinquished by their owners.
- **Other Intakes**: Pets born while in care and other types of admission not captured above.

**Total Live Intakes**

- **Adoption**: Final adoptions, having permanently left the agency's possession, including barn cat programs resulting in adoption. It does NOT include animals in foster care or 'trial' stays.
- **Returned to Owner (RTO)**: Stray or Owner Relinquished animals returned to their owner.
- **Transferred out to agency (in state)**: Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity within the same state or territory.
- **Transferred out to agency (out of state)**: Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity in a different state or territory.
- **Transferred out to agency (international)**: Transferred out of the agency's possession to another entity outside the US.
- **Returned to Field (RTF)**: Animals included in intake, already altered or altered after intake, and returned to stray capture location to be released (often referred to as SNR). This is not TNR, see definitions.
- **Other live outcomes**: Other types of live outcome not captured above.

**Total Live Outcomes**

- **Died in Care**: Animals who die, unassisted, while sheltered or fostered.
- **Lost in Care**: Animals outcome is unknown (escaped the shelter, outcome not recorded and unknown).
- **Shelter Euthanasia**: All euthanasia other than that performed by the definition below as owner intended euthanasia.
- **Owner Intended Euthanasia**: An Owner Intended Euthanasia is defined as a pet whose owner brought the pet to the shelter/community service clinic with the INTENT of requesting euthanasia due to a medical or behavior condition or the owner selects euthanasia as the best treatment option after consultation with a veterinarian. (See page 2)

**Total Other Outcomes**

- **Total Live**
- **Total Other**
- **Total Outcomes**