Q1 2023 ANALYSIS

SHELTER ANIMALS COUNT
THE NATIONAL DATABASE

MOST TRUSTED ANIMAL WELFARE 2023
Total community intakes increased 3%. Outcomes, on the other hand, did not keep up — seeing only a 2% increase.

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Compared to Q1 last year, there was a 2% decrease in dogs who were surrendered by their owners and a 14% increase in dogs who arrived as strays (while cats saw a 4% decrease in stray intakes). Over the past three years, as the owner surrender rate has decreased for dogs, the stray rate has increased significantly.

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Animals moving between organizations through transfers continues to decrease from a rate of 15% in Q1 2021 to 12% in Q1 2023. When looking at PBC by organization type, there is a hopeful trend that the bottleneck for foster-based rescues is easing, which could indicate a future increase in transfers.

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Non-live outcomes for dogs nearly doubled in Q1 2023 compared to 2021, while cats remained largely unchanged. That said, however, 90% of dogs and cats had live outcomes in Q1 2023.

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Early forecast models predict 2023 will have a population balance close to pre-pandemic levels (99% in 2023 vs 100% in 2019).

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INTAKES

SHELTER ANIMALS COUNT 2023 Q1 REPORT
COMMUNITY INTAKES

TOTALS
DOGS AND CATS

3.1% CHANGE
2022 to 2023
Jan - Mar

13.6% CHANGE
2021 to 2023
Jan - Mar

SPECIES BREAKDOWN

- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2023 FORECAST

FROM 2022

7%
FROM 2022

1.6%
FROM 2022

January
February
March

2021
2022
2023

40,000

30,000

20,000

Jan - Mar

CHANGE
2022 to 2023
Jan - Mar

Jan - Mar
Compared to 2022, 2% fewer dogs were surrendered in Q1 2023, while 14% more were taken in as strays.
7% more cats were transferred in compared to 2022, and 4% less were brought in as strays.
Owner relinquishment rates remained consistent compared to Q1 of the last three years (~28%). Q1 generally sees lower rates of stray intake than other quarters throughout the year, however thus far in 2023 this rate has increased for dogs (but decreased for cats).
For dogs and cats combined, comparing 2023 to 2022

Community intakes

Transfers in

+5.7%
-13%

Transfers in are typically a higher percentage of intakes in Q1, however in 2023, transfers in have decreased their percentage of total intake.

Community intakes

Transfers in

-9.8%
-16%

Community intakes

Transfers in

-1.3%
+6%

Transfer in % total intakes

Government funded agencies

47% 47% 47%

Rescues w/o government contract

40% 39% 39%

Shelters w/o government contract

12% 10% 9%

2021 2022 2023
OUTCOME TOTALS

JANUARY - MARCH 2021 - 2023

1.7% OVER 2022
9.4% OVER 2021

COMMUNITY LIVE OUTCOMES
LIVE OUTCOMES ARE UP ACROSS THE BOARD IN Q1 COMPARED TO Q1 IN BOTH 2021 AND 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CATS</th>
<th>DOGS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMPARSED TO 2022</td>
<td>+0.5%</td>
<td>+1.4%</td>
<td>+1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPARSED TO 2021</td>
<td>+10.5%</td>
<td>+11.2%</td>
<td>+10.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NON-LIVE OUTCOMES
NON-LIVE OUTCOMES HAVE SEEN A DRASTIC INCREASE IN Q1 COMPARED TO Q1 IN BOTH 2021 AND 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CATS</th>
<th>DOGS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMPARSED TO 2022</td>
<td>+2.5%</td>
<td>+43%</td>
<td>+24.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPARSED TO 2021</td>
<td>+0.8%</td>
<td>+97%</td>
<td>+44.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOTAL OUTCOME TYPES AS A % OF TOTAL INTAKES IN Q1

- **ADOPTED**
- **RETURNED TO FIELD**
- **RETURNED TO OWNER**
- **OTHER LIVE OUTCOME**
- **TRANSFERRED OUT**
- **SHELTER EUTHANIZED**
- **WAITING IN SHELTER**
- **DIED IN CARE**
- **LOST IN CARE**

**RETURN TO FIELD**
- CATS: 7.4%, 6.6%, 6.6%

**RETURN TO OWNER**
- CATS: 3.2%, 3.1%, 3.3%

**RETURN TO OWNER**
- DOGS: 17.3%, 17.1%, 16.9%
Cats have the same adoption rate as 2022 (72%), which is three percentage points higher than 2021. Dog adoption rates for Q1 were highest in 2022 (56%), and have dropped down to 55%.
The percentage of animals entering organizations and leaving through Transfers Out continues to decrease from 15% in 2021 to 12% in 2023.

**TRANSFER OUT % TOTAL INTAKES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Type</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Funded Agencies</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescues w/o Government Contract</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelters w/o Government Contract</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
While intakes are higher in 2023 than 2021, outcomes are also higher, keeping the PBC at 99% for all 3 years.

**Yearly Comparison and 2023 Forecast**

- **Live Outcome**: 89.8%
- **Non-Live Outcome**: 9.2%
- **GAP**: 1%

**PBC in Q1 of 2021, 2022 and 2023**

- Government Funded Agencies: 99%
- Rescues w/o Government Contract: 101%
- Shelters w/o Government Contract: 97%

- In 2023
- In 2022
- In 2021

Calculate your organization’s population changes using the Population Balance Calculation at: [www.ShelterAnimalsCount.org/PBC](http://www.ShelterAnimalsCount.org/PBC)
Cats have experienced a 102% PBC in Q1 for the last three years, indicating their population is decreasing in organizations — a positive trend to assist organizations in their preparation for kitten season in Q2. Dogs are still seeing increasing populations in organizations, with a Q1 PBC around 97% each year.

More felines left than entered the shelter in Q1 2023.

More canines entered the shelter than left in Q1 2023.
By using full-year data for 2019-2022 and the first 1/4 of 2023, we can forecast the population balance through the end of 2023. This forecast is an estimate based on past data and assumes no changes occur in the industry. The aggregated PBC from January 2021 through March 2023 is 97%.
This report shows comparative data on sheltered animals from January - March 2023. Only organizations that reported complete data for the time period are included in the analysis. Most data in the report is comparing January - March 2023 unless otherwise noted.

Since there is no national requirement for reporting, all data is self-reported and contains natural under and over sampling biases in both the geographic and organization type dimensions.

Based on full-year 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and the first 1/4 of 2023, a forecast for Community intakes, adoptions and the population balance calculation was developed for the remainder of 2023. This forecast is an estimate only.
GROSS INTAKES
Stray, relinquished by owner, transfers in, other intakes (born in care, seized, etc.)

COMMUNITY (NET) INTAKES
Total intakes, but does not include transfers-in as an effort to show actual community intakes and to avoid double counting intakes when aggregating.

INTAKE TYPES % OF INTAKE
The percentage of total intakes that were a certain intake type.

TOTAL OUTCOMES
Includes all live outcomes and non-live outcomes.

LIVE OUTCOMES
Adoption, return to owner (RTO), return to field, transfer, and other live outcomes.

COMMUNITY (NET) LIVE OUTCOMES
Total outcomes excluding transfers out.

OTHER OUTCOMES/NON-LIVE OUTCOMES
Died in care, lost in care, and shelter euthanasia.

OUTCOME TYPES % OF INTAKE
The percentage of total intakes that resulted in certain outcome.

POPULATION BALANCE CALCULATION
The formula SAC uses to determine if a shelter’s population is increasing, decreasing, or staying the same. It simply takes the total outcomes divided by the total intakes for a time period.

DEFINITIONS

100% EQUILIBRIUM
100% means that animals are leaving at the exact same rate that they’re coming in, so the total number of animals is unchanged (equilibrium).

ABOVE 100%
Over 100% means the population is decreasing (i.e. 107% means 7% more animals left than entered the shelter).

BELOW 100%
Under 100% means the population is increasing (i.e. 97% means 3% of animals that entered stayed in the shelter).
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AND SO MUCH MORE!

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OUR INTERACTIVE DASHBOARDS AND ADDITIONAL REPORTS