

Dane County Humane Society
Madison, Wisconsin
Animal Population Overview
January – December 2015

Intakes

2015 intake for dogs and cats was at a 5 year low for DCHS. Intake numbers below include all in and out of county animals. Our dog intake was at a 5 year low even though our transfers in were at a 5 year high. In 2015 we transferred in 473 dogs, primarily through PetSmart Charities Rescue Waggin. In 2011, we transferred in less than 150 total. Dog transfers are the second most common intake for dogs with stray being the number one reason.

- cat intake 5 year average = 3,111
- cat intake 2015 = 2,895
- dog intake 5 year average = 1,757
- dog intake 2015 = 1,634

Adoptions and other live outcomes

- 1,908 total -- 154 fewer cat adoptions than in 2014
- 869 total -- 119 more dog adoptions than in 2014, this is due to a significant increase in transfers from other organizations during 2015
- 3,353 total adoptions (including all species) -- 21 adoptions fewer than in 2014
- 273 cat and 550 dog redemptions (returned to owner), this is an increase for cats and a decrease for dog redemptions compared to 2014
- 343 cats and 63 dogs were transferred to other shelters/rescues, this was 16 fewer cats and 26 fewer dogs than in 2014

Behavior Modification Program for Canines (all designated Treatable/Manageable or Unhealthy/Untreatable):

- 143 dogs were assigned to the program
 - 120 of these dogs were made available and adopted
 - 7 were returned to their owner
 - 6 were transferred to other rescues
 - 6 were untreatable/manageable and euthanized
 - 4 are currently in foster

Euthanasia

- 2015 Feline and Canine Euthanasia Rates were at a 5 year low. Feline euthanasia rate dropped to 14.59% while canine euthanasia was only 10.13%.
- Of 493 total feline euthanasia

- 61 were owner requested euthanasia
- 352 had multiple medical conditions that were beyond our ability to treat or manage given our resources
- 39 were active/multiple bite cases (unapproachable or unmanageable with intervention)
- 41 had a long history of litter box use issues and general medical issues as well
- Of 215 total Canine euthanasia
 - 44 were owner requested euthanasia
 - 45 were active bite cases or showed active aggressive during behavior examination and/or were surrendered with noted history of aggression. We have increased our ability to modify the behavior of many animals through our behavior modification program. However, some animals do not qualify for the program if they do not pass certain behavior evaluation milestones.
 - 126 had major medical issues that were beyond our ability to treat or manage given our resources

Our Asilomar Accords live release and save rates for cats and dogs was at a 5 year high in 2015.

Live Release rate for cats was 83.55%

Live Release rate for dogs was 88.58%

The Asilomar Accords live release rate does not include 44 dog and 61 cat owner requested euthanasia which were unhealthy and untreatable. It also does not include 18 cats that died or were lost in shelter care.

Save Rate for cats was 87%

Save Rate for dogs was 91%

Save Rate total animals was 90%

Save Rate— The percentage of live animals released by means of adoption, redemption and transfer during a given time period. Save Rate is an older and previously widely used formula for calculating a shelter's success but does not include the starting animal inventory for the given time period. This results in a less accurate reflection of live release versus population and could even generate percentages above 100% (for example if during a given time period 10 animals were adopted but only 5 were admitted, the Save Rate would equal 200% because the existing inventory of 5+ animals are not taken into consideration).

Save Rate is still commonly used by shelters and is still calculated at DCHS for the purpose of comparisons to other shelter that still use Save Rate and for comparison to past years before the Asilomar Accords Live Release Rate started to be calculated in 2008.

Save Rate = (Adoption + Redemptions + Transfers) / Intake