# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF HUMANE SOCIETIES
## BASIC ANIMAL STATS MATRIX
### (vrs 9-2012)

**IMPORTANT NOTES FOR THE BASIC DATA MATRIX**

**Introduction to the Basic Matrix:**

This basic matrix was designed to serve as a tool for basic data collection. It is a simple matrix containing what many (including Asilomar, ASPCA, National Federation, American Humane, UC Davis, Maddies Fund, PetSmart Charities and HSUS) have agreed are the minimum data points (along with definitions) an organization should gather. Whether organizations already gather a great deal of data or have only gathered the basics, this matrix should facilitate the roll up or merging of data at the local, regional or national level by providing a common framework. This matrix does not reflect any preference in data analysis or the calculation of rates but is rather simply a tool for data collection.

**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 will vary a great deal. To help shelters assess and understand the differing risks for these populations of animals, this basic animal stats matrix includes a break out by species and age. 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). Again – given the differing level of risk – breaking age down further to include a neonate category for both dogs and cats can also be very informative.

**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). Source: "How to . . . series" from Animal Sheltering, http://www.animalsheltering.org/resources/magazine/may_jun_1996/how-to-determine-a-dog-or.pdf or contact the National Federation of Humane Societies for a copy of the document.

**Beginning and Ending Shelter Counts:**

These numbers help frame the population of the animals sheltered and cared for by the organization. We are recommending that a shelter do a 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).

**Defining Owner Requested 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.

**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 in to an agency's possession may be a data point to track, but that information is not tracked by this matrix.

**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.

**Where are the "Others"?**

This basic data matrix focuses on canines and felines. Many organizations also provide extraordinary services for other pets (pocket pets, rabbits, ferrets) and animals (wildlife), and that good work is not captured here.

**Why a Basic Matrix?**

This basic matrix was designed to serve as a tool for data collection. It is a simple matrix containing what many have agreed are the minimum data points an organization should consider gathering. By agreeing to this basic matrix - we hope organizations will gather AT LEAST this data, or if an organization all ready gathers a great deal of data, that they will consider rolling up their data into this format to help facilitate (if individual agencies are interested) data collection at a local, regional or national level, which would allow participating agencies to benchmark their work against similar agencies around their region or the nation. This matrix does not reflect any preference for the variety of live release rates used in animal sheltering and welfare. Most rates, other than full Asilomar which requires a conditions matrix, should be able to be calculated from the data points included.

# MACC Basic Data Matrix

## 02/01/2022 and 02/28/2022

| | | Species | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Canine | | | Canine Totals | Feline | | | Feline Totals | Totals |
| | | Adult | Up to 5 Months | Unknown Age | | Adult | Up to 5 Months | Unknown Age | | |
| | Beginning Animal Count as of 02/01/2022 | 99 | 2 | 0 | **101** | 21 | 4 | 0 | **25** | 126 |
| **I N T A K E S** | Stray/At Large | 192 | 21 | 2 | **215** | 26 | 10 | 0 | **36** | 251 |
| | Transferred in from Municipal Shelter | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 |
| | Transferred in from Other Rescue Group | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 1 | 0 | 0 | **1** | 1 |
| | Owner Requested Euthanasia | 3 | 0 | 0 | **3** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 3 |
| | Relinquished by Owner | 28 | 10 | 0 | **38** | 30 | 5 | 0 | **35** | 73 |
| | Other Intakes | 12 | 0 | 0 | **12** | 6 | 0 | 0 | **6** | 18 |
| | **Total Intakes** | **235** | **31** | **2** | **268** | **63** | **15** | **0** | **78** | **346** |
| **O U T C O M E S** | Adoptions | 48 | 9 | 0 | **57** | 27 | 0 | 0 | **27** | 84 |
| | Returned to Home | 85 | 6 | 1 | **92** | 2 | 0 | 0 | **2** | 94 |
| | Transferred to Rescue Group | 69 | 9 | 0 | **78** | 25 | 7 | 0 | **32** | 110 |
| | Other Live Outcomes | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 |
| | **Total Live Outcomes** | **202** | **24** | **1** | **227** | **54** | **7** | **0** | **61** | **288** |
| | Died in Care | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 |
| | Lost in Care | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 0 |
| | Euthanasia | 29 | 0 | 1 | **30** | 3 | 0 | 0 | **3** | 33 |
| | Owner Requested Euthanasia | 3 | 0 | 0 | **3** | 0 | 0 | 0 | **0** | 3 |
| | **Total Other Outcomes** | **32** | **0** | **1** | **33** | **3** | **0** | **0** | **3** | **36** |
| | **Total Outcomes** | **234** | **24** | **2** | **260** | **57** | **7** | **0** | **64** | **324** |
| | Ending Animal Count as of 02/28/2022 | 101 | 8 | 0 | **109** | 29 | 10 | 0 | **39** | 148 |
| | Save Rate | 87.50% | 100.00% | 50.00% | 88.68% | 95.24% | 100.00% | 0.00% | 96.15% | 90.38% |