



ANIMAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION
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Voorhees, NJ 08043

AWANJ.ORG

Shelter Animal Handling Report
2008

**Animal Welfare Association
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We are pleased to present the Animal Welfare Association's (AWA) Shelter Animal Handling Report for 2008. AWA operates an animal shelter and low-cost spay & neuter clinic in Voorhees, New Jersey, a regional suburb of metropolitan Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Animals arrive at AWA primarily as surrenders from the public and as transfers from overcrowded shelters that perform animal control services. AWA's shelter does not hold any contracts for animal control services. While this means that we must strive to fund our operations without funds otherwise provided by municipal contracts, it also means that all of our physical and financial resources can be directed at lifesaving activities and adoption rather than serving as a holding facility for stray animals during the state mandated stray hold period of seven days. This is of significant importance because with only 28 dog kennels, confining animals for their stray period at our facility (for which we are not funded) would severely tax our resources and hinder our ability to save lives.

There are three other shelters located within Camden County that *do* provide contracted animal control services. AWA has a relationship with all three, providing spay and neuter services or accepting transferred animals in a concerted effort to ultimately eliminate the need for the euthanasia of savable animals in our home county.

In 2008 AWA worked closely with the Camden County Animal Shelter (CCAS) transferring in both dogs and cats. We actively targeted innocent kittens for lifesaving by pledging to transfer in any healthy kitten and as many savable (sick or injured) kittens as we could possibly accept. Additionally AWA helped CCAS with vaccination protocols to reduce disease that always threatens the lives of these young kittens who lack fully developed immune system. The goal for this targeted project was assisting that heavily burdened shelter in reducing total cat euthanasia, saving lives within our community.

Our rescue/transfer program is not limited to shelters in Camden County or even just in New Jersey. Through the years we have developed strong relationships with other shelters and rescues across the state and the region. Our out of state partners are as close as Philadelphia (only eighteen miles away) and as far as Mississippi. Working cooperatively we have helped save many amazingly wonderful animals.

AWA's targeted rescue programs have saved many lives and our shelter and rehabilitation efforts have resulted in AWA becoming one of the leading adoption shelters in the entire State of New Jersey. Thank you for being our lifesaving partner in 2008. We look forward to great success in 2009!



Susan Cosby
Executive Director

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Report period: January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

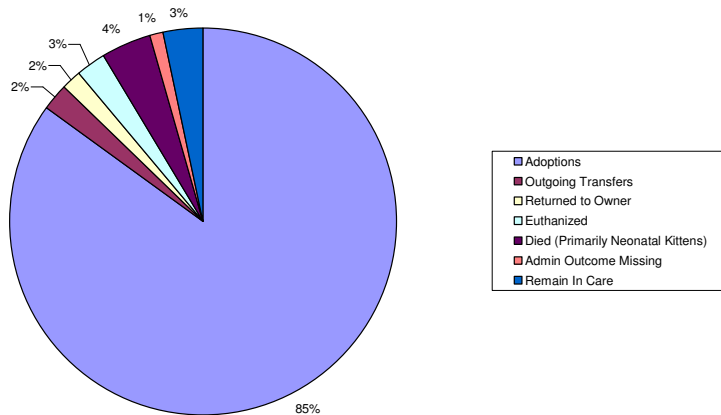
	Dog	Cat	Other	Total
Beginning Shelter Count	56	130	18	186
Intake				
Public Surrender	437	1228	116	1781
Stray	25	131	17	173
Incoming transfers from other shelters/rescues	827	695	9	1531
Total Intake	1289	2054	142	3485
Non-Savable surrenders*	76	49	2	127
Adjusted Intake - Shelter Animals	1213	2005	140	3358
Outcomes				
Adoptions	1066	1669	116	2851
Outgoing transfers to other shelters/rescues	42	12	20	74
Return to Owner/Guardian	30	27	0	57
<i>Total Euthanasia</i>	104	110	4	218
<i>Non-Savable surrenders*</i>	76	49	2	127
<i>Shelter Animal Euthanasia</i>	28	61	2	91
Subtotal Outcomes	1242	1818	140	3200
Died	13	116	6	135
Admin Outcome Missing**	2	35	0	37
Total Outcomes	1257	1969	146	3372
Adjusted Outcomes (Excludes Non-Savable Surrenders)	1181	1920	144	3245
Ending Shelter Count	88	215	14	299

* *Non-Savable surrender refers to animals whose owners have requested the veterinary service of euthanasia due to serious medical or behavioral conditions for which there is a poor or grave prognosis for recovery. This condition is verified by AWA veterinary staff prior to euthanasia.*

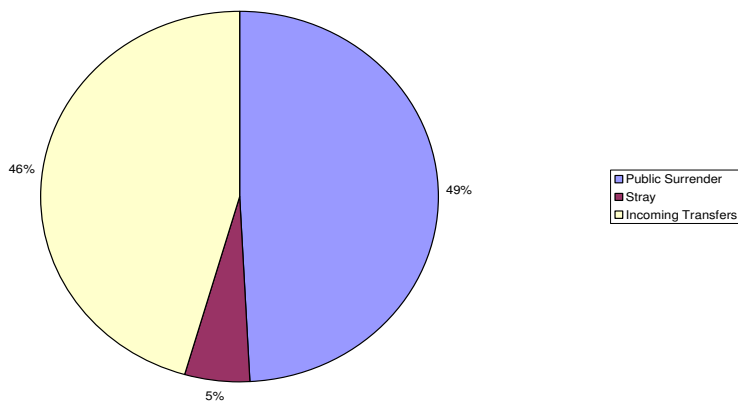
** *Lost in Care refers to animals that might have escaped, been stolen, not returned from foster care or otherwise unaccounted for via a normal outcome such as a data entry error or possible duplicate entry.*

Dispositions of Shelter Animal Intakes

The chart *Dispositions of Shelter Animals* (right) represents the dispositions or “end result” for animals that arrived at AWA’s shelter for the purposes of adoption in 2008. This excludes animals with non-savable conditions who were surrendered by their owners for the purposes of euthanasia.



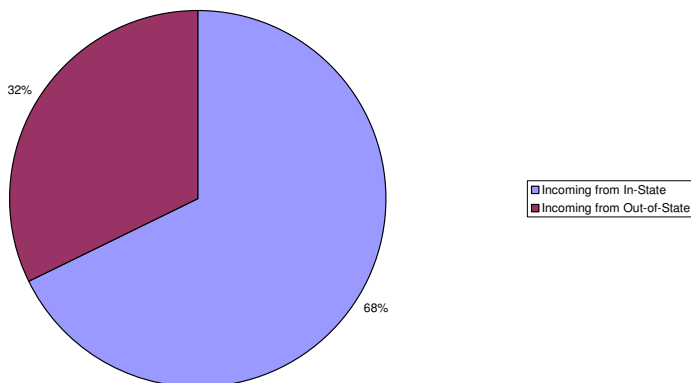
Shelter Animal Intakes



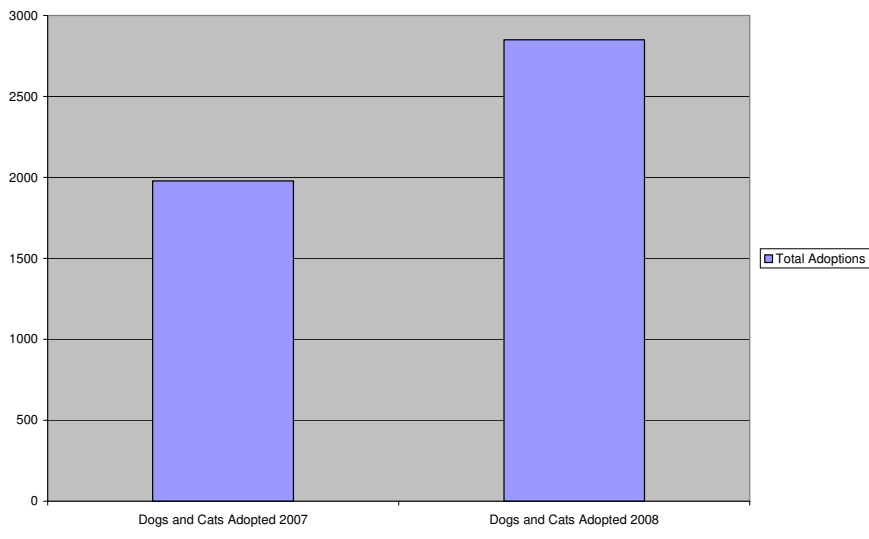
The chart *Shelter Animal Intakes* represents the source types of animals entering AWA for the purposes of adoption in 2008. Public Surrender refers to an owner surrendering their pet to the shelter. Incoming transfers are animals transferred in from other shelters and rescues. While AWA is not contracted by any municipality to perform animal control, our kitten rescue project for Camden County results in a small percentage of stray animal intakes.

Intake Source In-State Compared to Out-of-State

The chart *Intake Source In-State Compared to Out-of-State* represents the source location of incoming animals. The majority of the animals handled by AWA come from within our home state of New Jersey but our assistance extends to animals in need from across a wide region, including Philadelphia, the largest metropolitan area near our shelter in Voorhees, NJ.

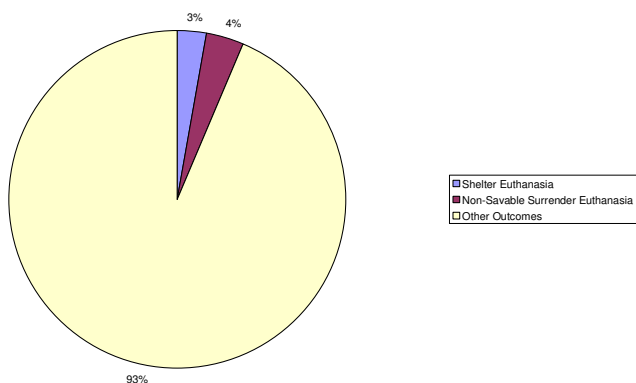


Adoptions 2007 - 2008 Comparison

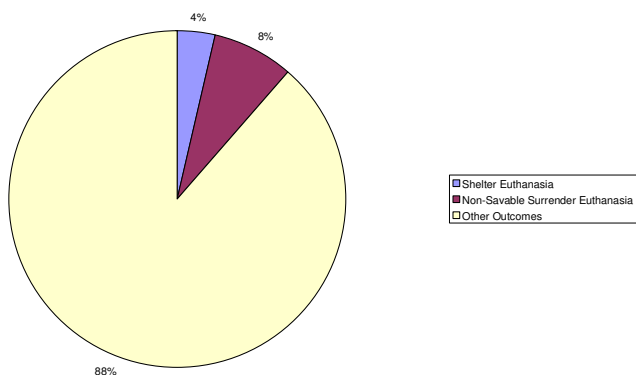


The chart *Adoptions 2007-2008 Comparison* illustrates the significant increase in lifesaving activities AWA performed in 2008 as compared to 2007. A large portion of the increase is due to AWA's rehabilitation and foster care program.

2008



2007



The following two charts (left: 2008 at top, 2007 below) illustrate how, although AWA's total animal handling went up in 2008, the euthanasia in both real numbers and percentages, went down. We credit this in large part to AWA's hiring a full-time shelter veterinarian. A position made possible by the generosity of the Gwyneth and Norman Staats Foundation.

A note about 2007: Prior to November 2007 AWA had a policy of accepting "request for euthanasia" animals whereby an owner would contact AWA and pay a fee to have their animal euthanized. As of November 2007 AWA's policy changed so that no euthanasia would be performed without verification that euthanasia was recommended and necessary. Thus the category is now termed *Non-Savable Surrenders*.