

ANIMAL PEOPLE July/August 2008

The information contained in this report is from the 16th annual ANIMAL PEOPLE evaluation of the most recent available shelter data. The rate of shelter killing per 1,000 Americans is now at 13.8. The ANIMAL PEOPLE projection each year is based on compilations of the tolls from every open admission shelter handling significant numbers of animals in specific cities, counties, or states.

The basic question LA City critics keep asking is, "Why can't Los Angeles be like San Francisco?"

To answer that question it is important to compare like-to-like demographic units in terms of the number of dogs and cats killed per 1,000 humans. This report compares the most recently released data from the San Francisco Bay area to the entire LA County (LA County Animal Care & Control, LA Animal Services and all the smaller animal control programs combined).

U.S animal shelter data broken down by city, county, state, and region

	Animals killed per 1,000 people	YEAR	1,000s of people	Animals killed

New York City	2.0	2007	8,143	16,489
CONNECTICUT	0.6	2007	3,502	2,282
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2.3	2007	1,316	2,696

NORTHEAST (39%)	1.6		33,562	54,972
NEW JERSEY	4.4	2007	8,866	38,742
Pr. George Cty, MD	7.1	2007	841	6,000
DELAWARE	15.8	2005	854	13,500
Philadelphia	19.9	2006	1,448	28,774

MID-ATLANTIC (40%)	7.8		27,782	217,540
Mission Viejo, CA	1.0	2005	166	113
San Juan Capistrano	1.3	2007	37	48
San Francisco	1.6	2007	744	1,411
Huntington Beach	2.5	2006	194	485
Los Angeles City	3.7	2007	4,018	15,009
Orange County, CA	4.3	2007	3,002	13,000
San Diego	4.0	2007	2,942	11,700
WASHINGTON	6.6	2006	6,132	40,722
Los Angeles total	6.8	2007	9,503	64,457
Tehama County, CA	6.8	2006	62	421

San Francisco Bay area	7.1	2003	7,039	50,000
Portland/Multnomah	7.8	2007	682	5,332
OREGON	8.4	2006	3,641	30,528
Los Angeles County	8.5	2007	5,082	43,373
Santa Clara County	8.5	2005	1,668	14,097
Anchorage	9.1	2007	275	2,490
San Bernardino Cty	11.3	2007	2,028	22,900
Merced Cty, CA	12.2	2006	246	3,011
Long Beach	13.0	2007	469	6,075
Lodi, CA	13.9	2005	57	788
Monterey County, CA	14.4	2006	412	5,912
Lindsay/Porterville	14.6	2005	56	817
Visalia, CA	16.4	2006	420	6,896
Santa Cruz Cty, CA	20.0	2005	251	5,000
Kern County, CA	23.3	2006	802	18,669
Spokane	22.1	2006	447	8,991
Stanislaus Cty, CA	23.4	2007	512	12,000
Douglas County	24.0	2005	104	2,519
Valley Oak, CA	25.4	2005	210	5,336
Bakersfield, CA	26.2	2005	644	16,904
Clovis, CA	28.0	2006	90	2,524
Madera County, CA	35.2	2005	144	5,071
Kings County, CA	27.2	2005	147	4,013
Tulare Cty, CA	40.3	2005	154	6,203
Fresno, CA	40.9	2006	787	32,147

PACIFIC (73%)	9.3		48,736	453,340
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Broward County	7.3	2006	1,788	13,000
Richmond, VA	7.9	2007	193	1,516
West Palm Beach	9.5	2007	1,351	12,820
VIRGINIA	12.7	2007	7,643	97,011
St. Johns Cnty, FL	13.0	2007	169	2,201
Atlanta area	16.9	2005	5,138	87,000
Alachua Cty, FL	18.2	2006	224	4,071
Orlando/Orange Cty	18.6	2005	1,023	19,000
Lee County, FL	19.1	2007	571	10,907
Tampa area	19.9	2006	2,489	49,557
Buncombe Cnty, NC	21.6	2007	222	4,800
Duval County, FL	23.5	2007	838	19,662
Columbia, SC	23.5	2007	468	11,000
Charleston, SC	24.1	2007	332	8,000
NORTH CAROLINA	25.5	2006	8,856	226,000
York county, SC	37.7	2006	199	7,500
Polk County, FL	40.3	2005	511	20,566

Indianapolis	16.7	2007	866	14,470
Oklahoma City	28.0	2007	691	19,365
Independence, MO	29.7	2006	113	3,361
Tulsa	39.2	2006	383	15,000
River Rouge, MI	129.4	2007	9	1,165

MIDWEST (41%)	13.0		70,006	910,078
Salt Lake City	6.0	2005	1,016	6,094
Reno	6.6	2007	396	2,622
COLORADO	9.1	2007	4,753	43,000
UTAH	14.4	2005	2,352	33,854
Phoenix/Maricopa	15.5	2007	3,768	58,531
Cascade County, MT	18.3	2005	79	1,446
Las Vegas/Clark Cty	22.1	2007	1,997	26,500
Albuquerque	23.8	2007	505	12,029
NEW MEXICO	33.7	2007	1,978	66,709
Santa Fe, NM	38.2	2005	130	5,000

WEST (72%)	16.0		21,361	341,111
TENNESSEE (prjctd)	25.1	2006	6,039	151,329
Knoxville	29.9	2006	405	12,090
Kanawha/Charleston	34.1	2007	192	6,553
Louisville	42.9	2005	700	30,000

APPALACHIA (46%)	27.1		15,045	408,439
U.S. TOTAL	13.8		301,212	4,165,340

The regional and national totals appearing in bold are not tallies of the data used to produce them, but are rather estimates proportionately weighted to reflect demography. The percentage figure in parenthesis is the percentage of the regional human population encompassed within the shelter service areas from which the totals were derived.

U.S. progress vs. shelter killing

Year	Millions of dogs & cats killed	Killed per 1,000 Americans

1950	2.0	13.5
1970	23.4	115.0
1985	17.8	74.8

1997	4.9	21.1
1998	4.9	19.4
1999	4.5	16.6
2000	4.5	16.8
2001	4.4	15.7
2002	4.2	15.3
2003	4.5	14.8
2004	4.9	17.4
2005	4.4	14.8
2006	4.0	13.6
2007	4.2	13.8

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