

COMPANION ANIMAL

FACT SHEET

The fact that there is no national organization monitoring our country's 13,000+ animal shelters makes the following data approximations culled from various resources.

SHELTERS ARE OVERWHELMED

- Around 5 to 7 million companion animals enter shelters every year.
- Of these, around 3 million dogs and cats are terminated every year. 8200 are killed each day, 342 each hour, and almost 6 per minute.
- 50% of all dogs and 70% of all cats entering shelters are destroyed.

ADOPT! DON'T SHOP!

- There are over 86 million cats and 78 million dogs owned in the U.S., most obtained from friends and family.
- Only 29% of dogs and cats were adopted from shelters and rescues.
- Around 36% were purchased from breeders, puppy mills and pet stores.
- If only 20% of those purchased were adopted from shelters, the number of shelter killings would almost be 0.

SPAY AND NEUTER

- While it impossible to determine the number of stray dogs and cats, some estimates have the number of feral felines pushing 70 million.
- A fertile cat produces one to two litters a year with four to six kittens per litter.
- A fertile dog produces about one litter a year with four to six puppies per litter.

For more information, please visit:

- www.animalrescuecorps.org
- www.humanesociety.org
- www.asPCA.org
- www.nhes.org
- www.sawanetwork.org
- bissellpetfoundation.org