# Dane County Humane Society Rolling Release Rate \& Save Rate Overview 

## October 2023

Report prepared by:
Doug Brown
Assistant Executive Director
Dane County Humane Society













Incoming Transfers
October











## Outgoing Transfers

October





Euthanasia October









## Terms and Definitions:

Adoption - The placement of an animal with a new owner/family.
Euthanasia - The act of putting an animal to death painlessly.
Euthanasia Rate - The percentage of animals euthanized during a given time period. For statistical purposes, this number does not include animals admitted specifically for euthanasia.

$$
\text { Euthanasia Rate }=\text { Euthanasia } /(\text { Intake }+ \text { Inventory })
$$

Intake - The number of live animals admitted. For statistical purposes, this number does not include animals admitted specifically for euthanasia.

Live Release Rate - The percentage of live animals released by means of adoption, redemption and transfer during a given time period. The difference between Live Release Rate and Save Rate (see Save Rate) is that Live Release Rate takes into account the starting animal inventory for the given time period. This results in a more accurate reflection of live release versus population. DCHS started using Live Release Rate in 2008.

$$
\text { Live Release Rate }=(\text { Adoptions }+ \text { Redemptions }+ \text { Transfers }) /(\text { Intake }+ \text { Inventory })
$$

Redemption - The reclaiming of an animal by an existing or previous owner.
Rolling Release Rate - A compilation of Live Release Rate, Euthanasia Rate and Sanctuary Rate.
Sanctuary Rate - The percentage of animals remaining in the shelter's care at the end of a given time period.

> Sanctuary Rate $=$
> $(($ Inventory + Intake $)-($ Adoptions + Redemptions + Transfers + Euthanasia $)) /($ Intake + Inventory $)$

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 Live Release Rate started to be calculated in 2008.

$$
\text { Save Rate }=(\text { Adoption }+ \text { Redemptions }+ \text { Transfers }) / \text { Intake }
$$

Transfer - The placement of an animal with another animal welfare organization.

