

EC SPCA	2007			2008			2009			2010			2011			2012			2013		
	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All	Dog	Cat	All
Live outcomes																					
Adoptions	2745	4206	6951	3140	4475	7615	2677	5121	7798	2565	4745	7310	2522	4055	6577	2619	4368	6987	2359	4173	6532
Return to owner	751	231	982	664	215	879	686	236	922	603	215	818	472	510	982	357	343	700	321	308	629
Return to habitat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Transfers-partners	0	104	104	12	70	82	1	154	155	8	112	120	3	133	136	15	81	96	10	20	30
Transfers-non-Erie Co	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Transfers-non-partners	103	29	132	72	59	131	67	52	119	48	91	139	6	166	202	46	36	82	49	41	90
Total live outcomes	3599	4570	8169	3888	4819	8707	3431	5563	8994	3224	5163	8387	3003	4864	7897	3037	4830	7867	2739	4542	7281
Deaths																					
Euthanasia	2162	3346	5508	1888	2639	4527	2109	2500	4609	2051	2522	4573	1918	2349	4267	1663	1939	3602	1345	1580	2925
Died/lost-in-care	34	187	221	28	255	283	30	272	302	21	256	277	26	196	222	27	166	193	24	207	231
Total died/lost	2196	3533	5729	1916	2894	4810	2139	2772	4911	2072	2778	4850	1944	2545	4489	1690	2105	3795	1369	1787	3156
All outcomes	5795	8103	13898	5804	7713	13517	5570	8335	13905	5296	7941	13237	4947	7409	12386	4727	6935	11662	4108	6329	10437
Raw Live Save %	62.1%	56.4%	58.8%	67.0%	62.5%	64.4%	61.6%	66.7%	64.7%	60.9%	65.0%	63.4%	60.7%	65.6%	63.8%	64.2%	69.6%	67.5%	66.7%	71.8%	69.8%

**Methodological notes:** All statistics are taken obtained from annual reports submitted by the shelters themselves to the Maddie’s Foundation as required under the grant for the Maddie’s Erie County Project. Those reports (in pdf format) are archived and can be downloaded individually at: <http://www.NoKillBuffaloNiagara.org/statistics.html>. The 2007 numbers are taken from the latest annual report (2012), which also reports the 2007 base year statistics. The numbers for 2010 come from an updated statistical report after inaccuracies were brought to light involving the transfer of animals from Erie County SPCA to Niagara County SPCA at the height of the scandal at the latter Winter 2010-2011.

There are a number of methods for computing the Raw Live Save %. In this case, all case outcomes (live and dead) were tallied; then the number of live outcomes was divided by the tally of all outcomes combined and the resulting proportion multiplied by 100 to yield a percentage. Ideally, the total case outcomes would be computed as: Starting shelter count plus total intakes minus ending shelter count. However, some case outcomes were “lost” and are unaccounted for. In fairness, rather than assuming those “lost” cases are all deaths or all live releases, they are simply excluded from the computation, instead treated as errors in record-keeping.

Some shelters report an inflated live release rate, called the “Asilomar LRR%.” However, No Kill supporters object to this because it excludes two large classes of deaths from the equation: died/lost-in-care and owner-requested euthanasia. No Kill supporters suggest that such exclusions encourage shelters to allow animals to die in their cages rather than receive medical attention so they won’t count toward their “death” numbers. Also, owners may be “counseled” to elect euthanasia, even though the animal is never seen by a vet to verify that the condition is terminal, unmanageable, with grave prognosis, and poor quality of life.

Other times, shelters will ignore total outcomes and only focus on self-defined “adoptable” or “treatable” animals. Since there is no national standard for classifying animals into the various Asilomar categories, and since, nationally, successful No Kill shelters are saving upwards of 92-98% of all animals, the 90% benchmark level for No Kill status provides sufficient room for euthanizing for health and public safety.