

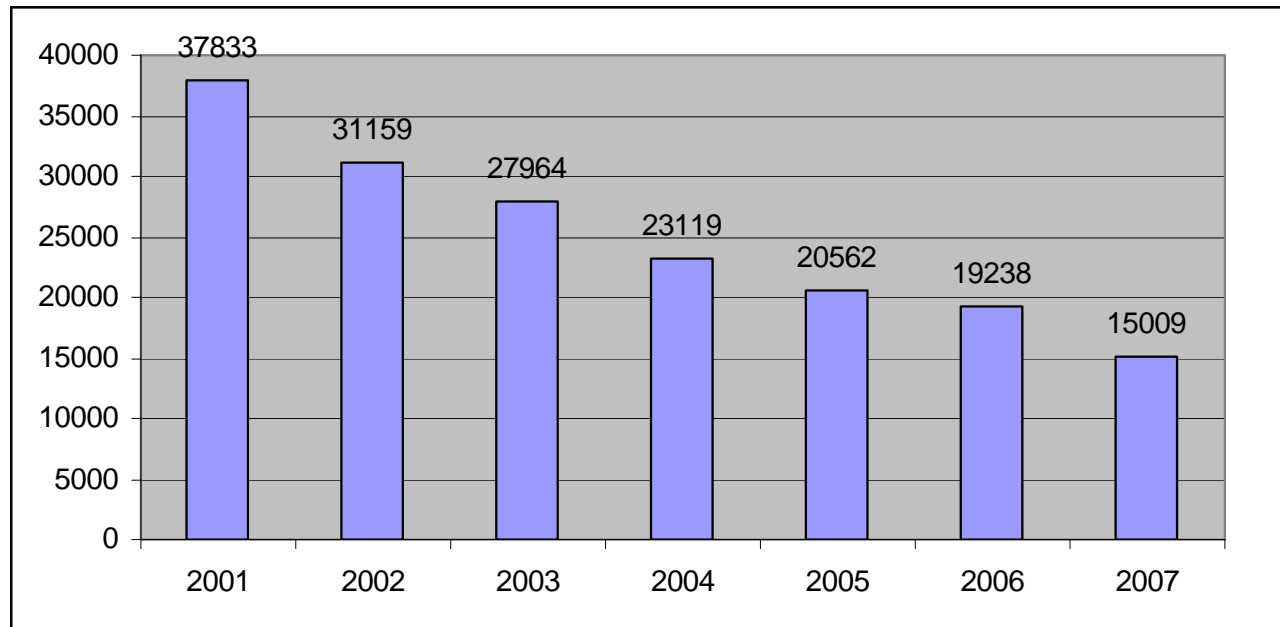
LA Animal Services

2007 Statistical Report

LA Animal Services continues to make progress towards its “No-Kill” Goal. *(No-Kill is achieved when LA Animal Services is able to use the same criteria a compassionate private veterinarian or a loving pet guardian uses to determine if/when a dog or cat is euthanized. That is, LA will have achieved “No-Kill” when no healthy or treatable dog or cat is euthanized because of a lack of space, time, or resources.)*

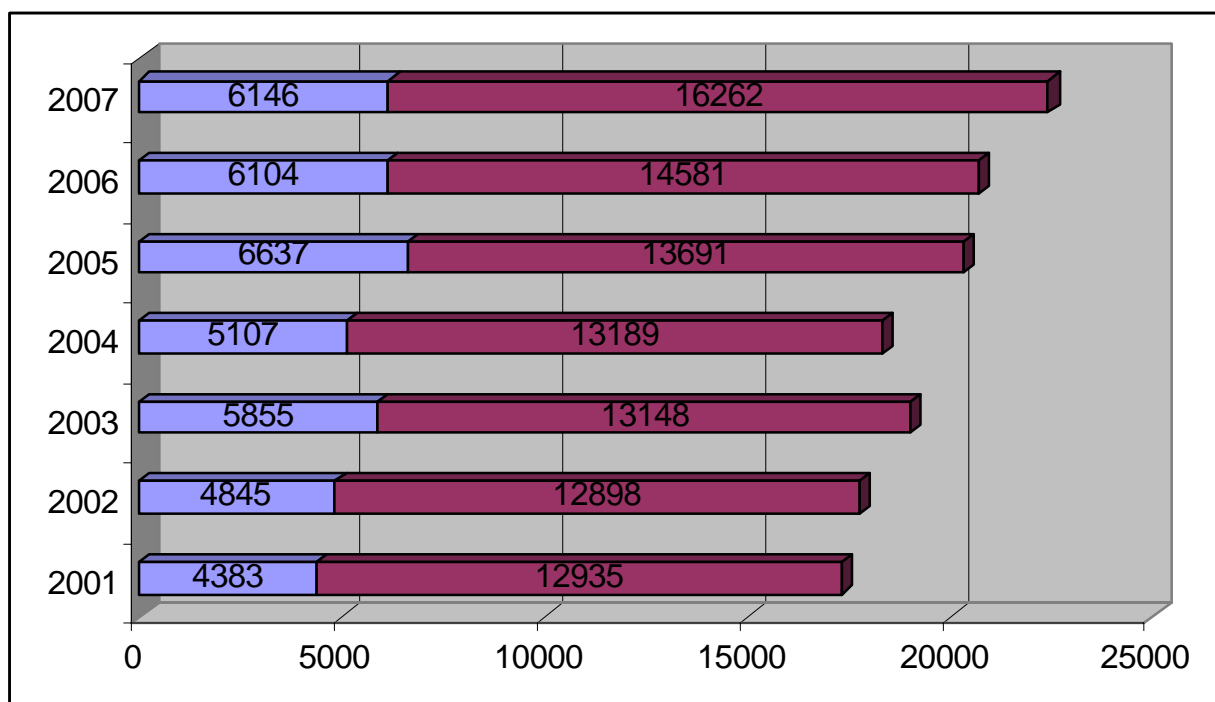
2007 Euthanasia Rate: Cats and Dogs Combined

The 2007 Euthanasia Rate for dogs and cats fell nearly 22% to 15,009 compared to 19,238 in 2006. *This is the steepest decline in dog and cat euthanasia since the department started collecting this data.* The Dog and Cat Euthanasia Rate fell over 17% in 2002, over 10% in 2003, over 17% again in 2004, over 11% in 2005, over 6% in 2006, and an unprecedented 22% in 2007.



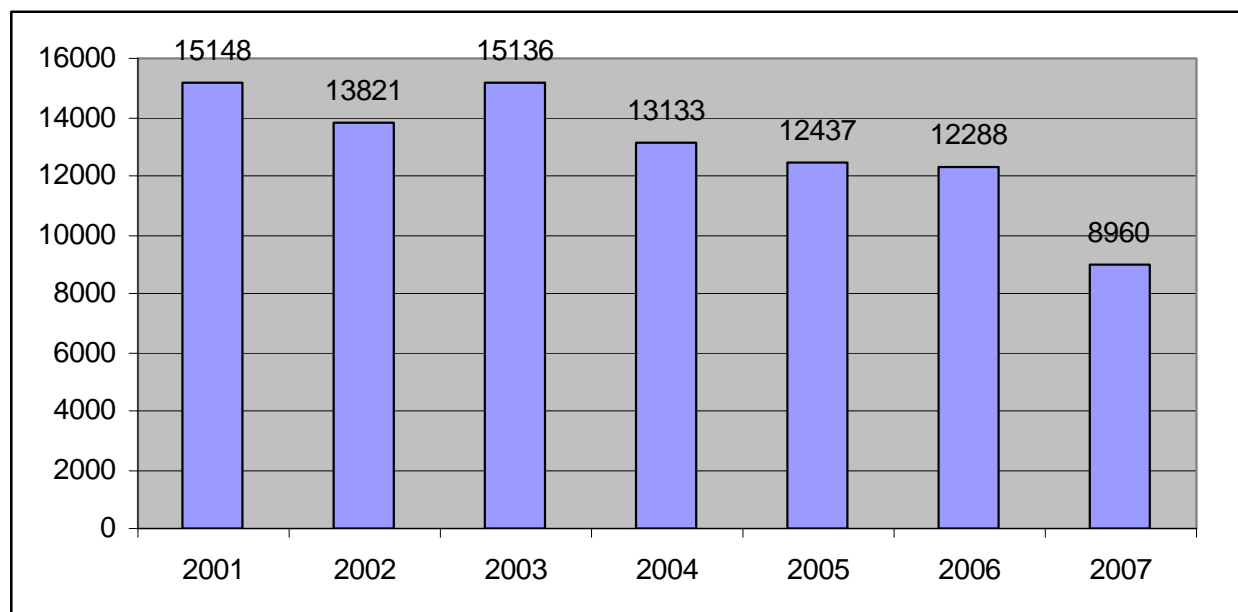
2007 Adoption Rate: Cats and Dogs Combined

LA Animal Services adopted out 16,262 dogs and cats in 2007. That is an 11.5% increase over 14,581 in 2006. LA Animal Services placed 6,145 dogs and cats through its New Hope Program. New Hope is a partnership with 119 animal welfare organizations. Through the department's Adoption and New Hope programs combined 22,407 dogs and cats were placed into loving homes in 2007, making LA Animal Services one of the highest, if not the highest, volume pet adoption agency in the world. In the chart below, Blue represents the New Hope placements, Red represents Adoptions.



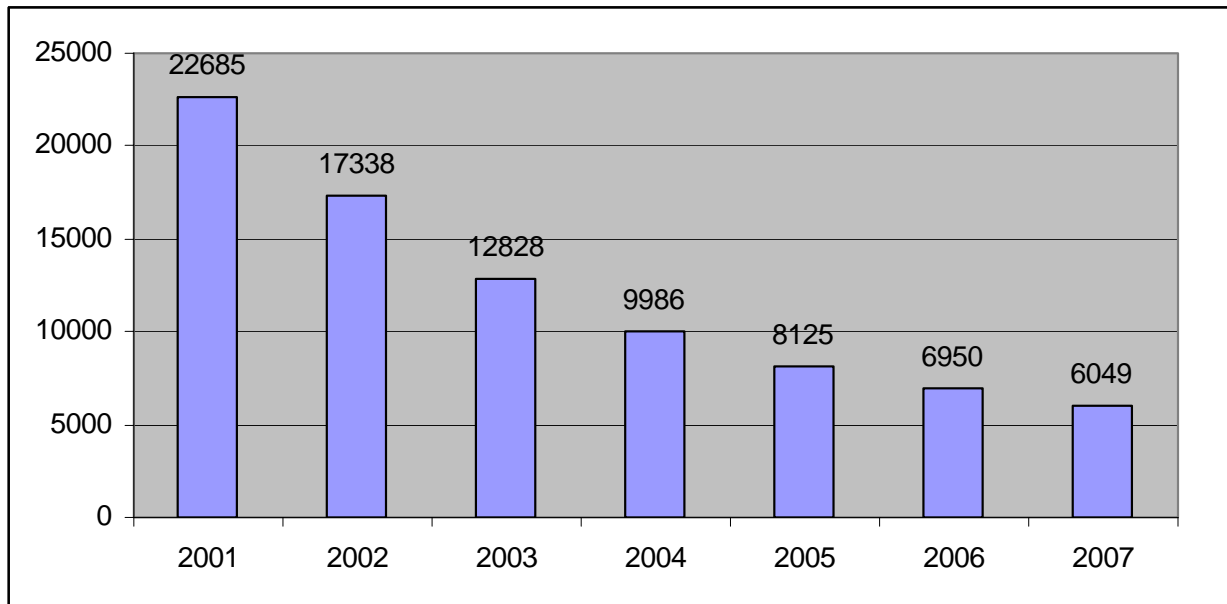
2007 Cat Euthanasia Rate

The 2007 Cat Euthanasia Rate fell over 27%, representing the steepest decline in cat euthanasia since the department began collecting this data. The Cat Euthanasia Rate fell nearly 9% in 2002, but rose over 9% in 2003, but then began a steady multi-year decline beginning in 2004 with over a 13% decrease, followed by over a 5% decrease in 2005, a very modest 1.1% decrease in 2006, and over a 27% decrease in 2007.



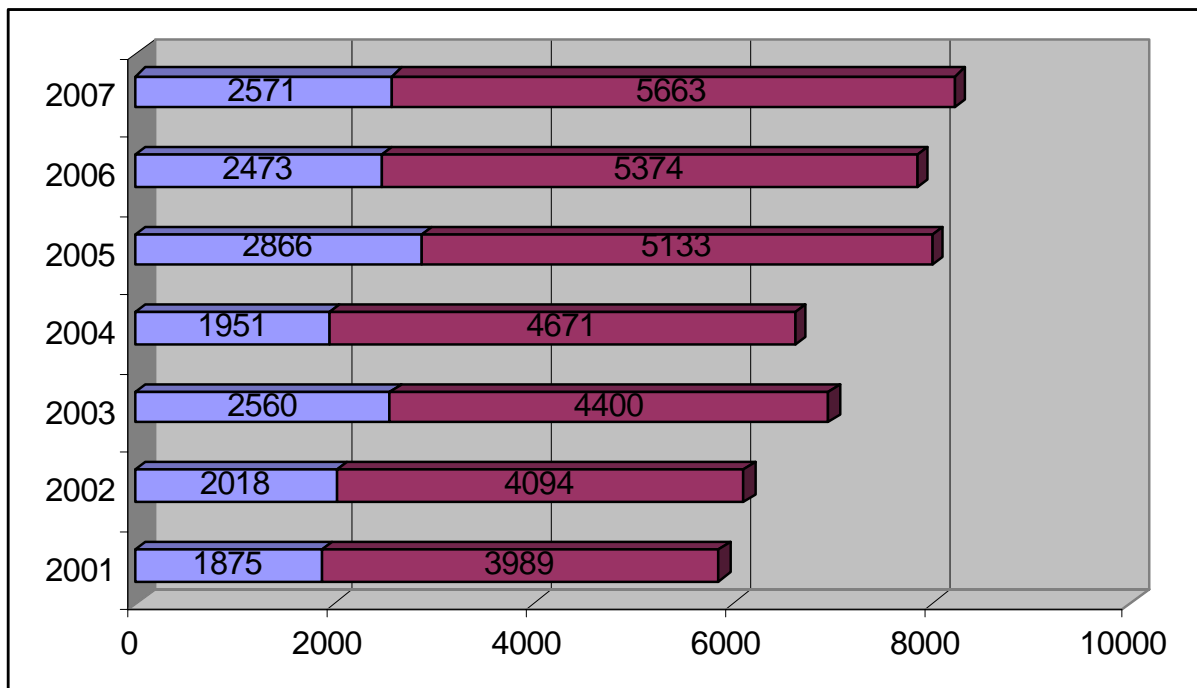
2007 Dog Euthanasia Rate

Euthanasia Rate fell over 21% continuing a long standing trend of impressive annual double digit decreases. The Dog Euthanasia Rate fell over 23% in 2002, over 26% in 2003, over 22% in 2004, over 18% in 2005, over 14% in 2006, and 21% in 2007.



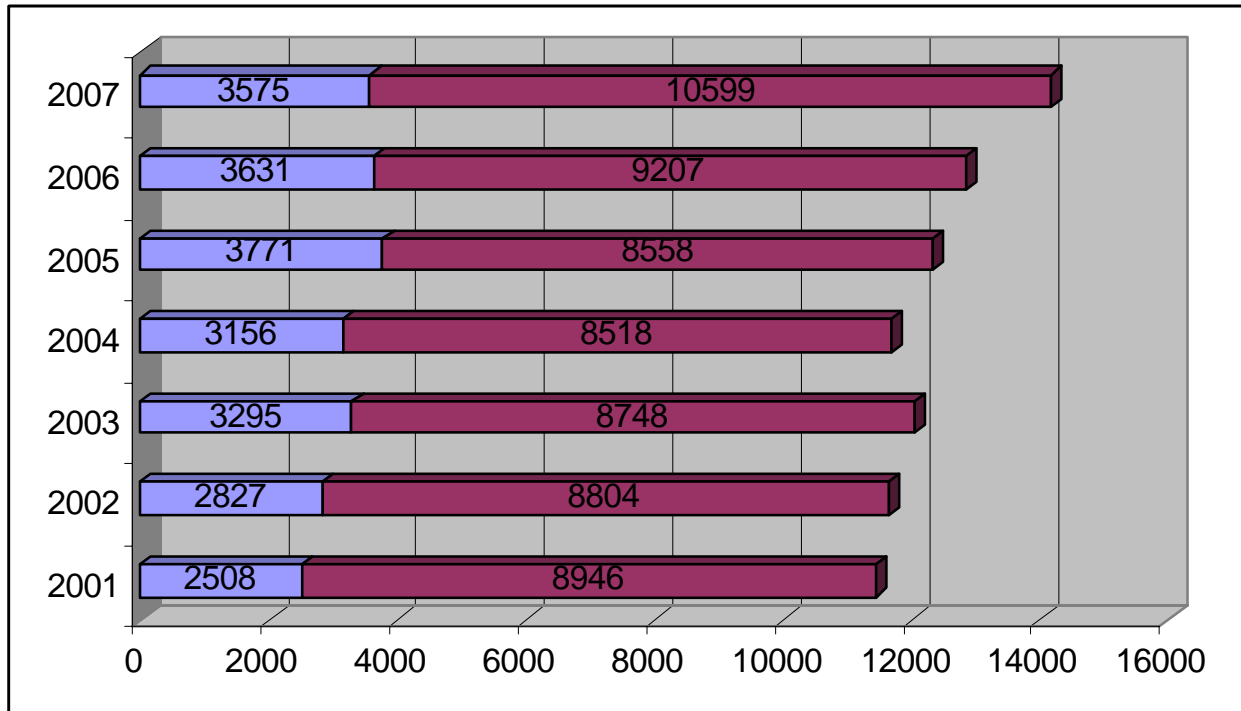
2007 Cat Adoption Rate

LA Animal Services adopted out 5,663 cats in 2007. That is more than a 5% increase over the 5,374 cat adoptions in 2006. LA Animal Services placed 2,571 cats through its New Hope Program in 2007. Through the department's Adoption and New Hope programs combined 8,234 cats were placed into loving homes in 2007. In the chart below, Blue represents New Hope placements, Red represents Adoptions.



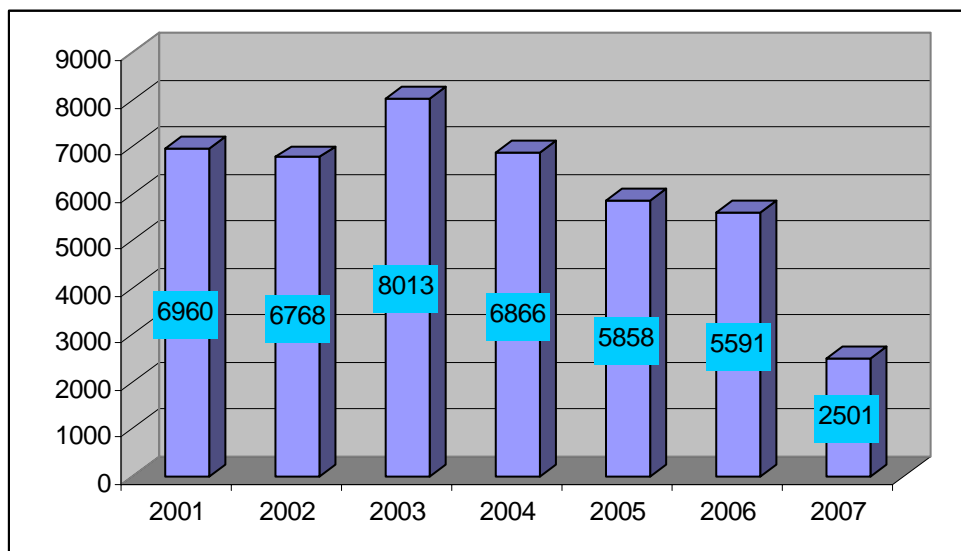
2007 Dog Adoption Rate

LA Animal Services adopted out 10,599 dogs in 2007. That is more than a 15% increase over the 9,207 dog adoptions in 2006. LA Animal Services placed 3,575 dogs through its New Hope Program in 2007. New Hope is a partnership with 119 animal welfare organizations. Through the department's Adoption and New Hope programs combined 14,174 dogs were placed into loving homes in 2007. The 1 through 7 in the left side of the chart represents the years 2001 through 2007.



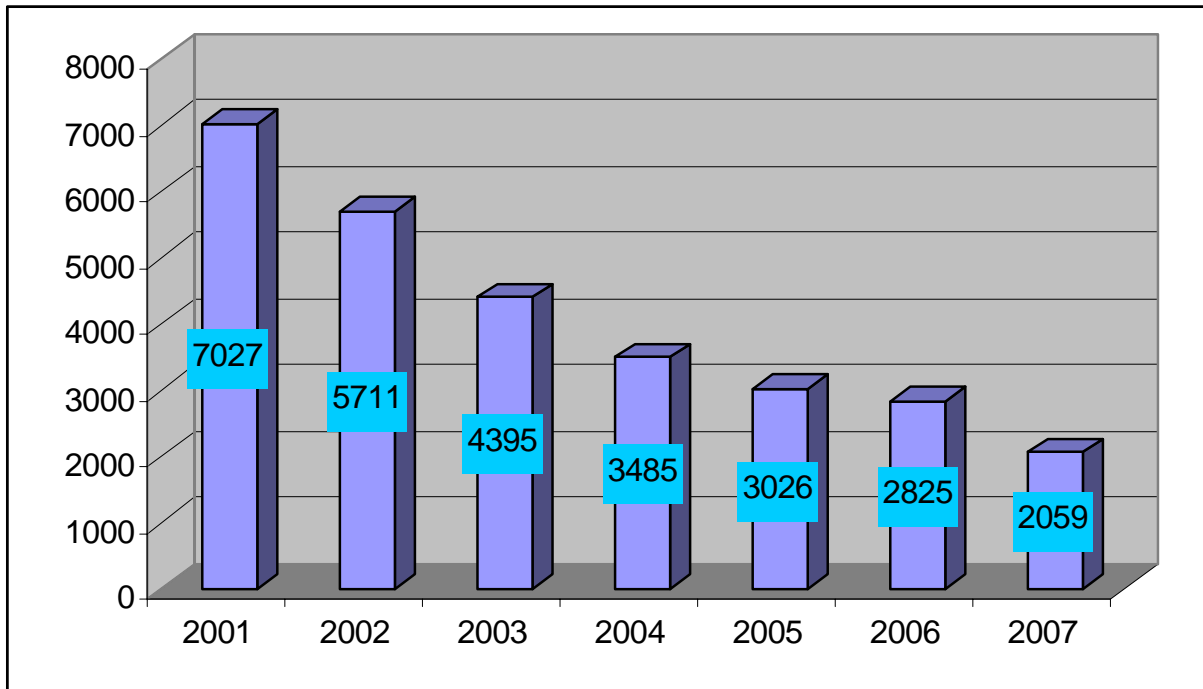
2007 Euthanasia Rate for Neonate Kittens

The 2007 Neonate Kitten Euthanasia Rate fell over 55%, representing the steepest decline in neonate kitten euthanasia since the department began collecting this data. The Neonate Kitten Euthanasia Rate fell nearly 3% in 2002, but rose over 18% in 2003, but then began a steady multi-year decline beginning in 2004 with over a 14% decrease, followed by over another 14% decrease in 2005, a modest 4.5% decrease in 2006, and over a 55% decrease in 2007.



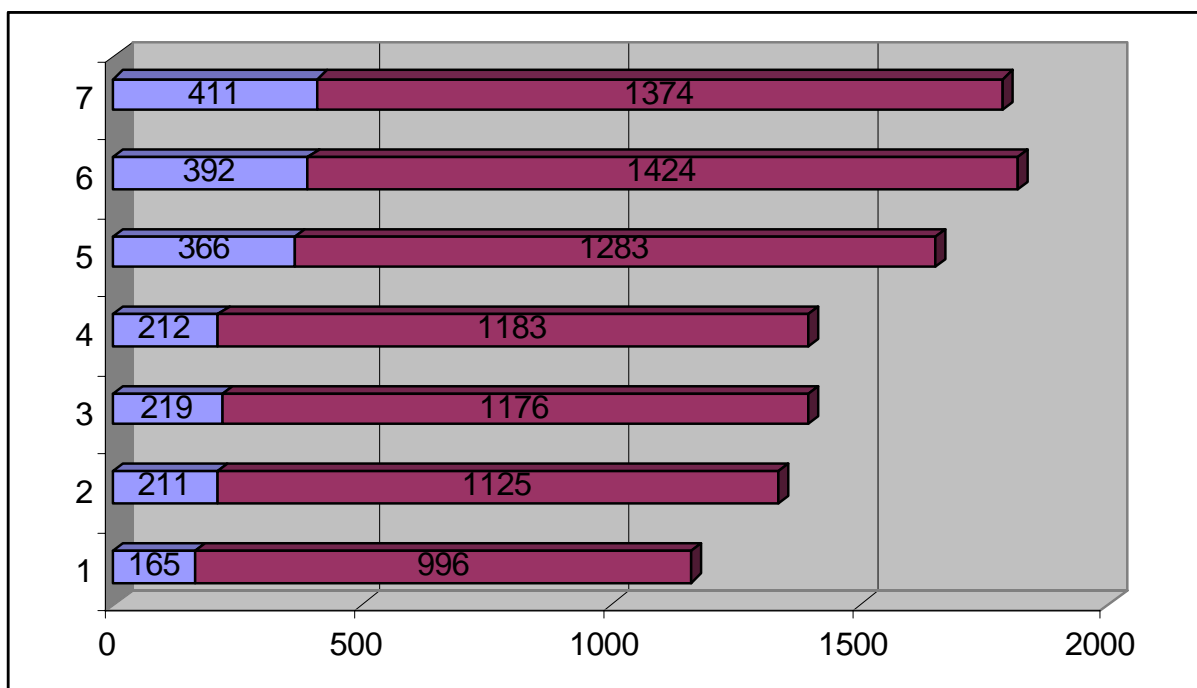
2007 Euthanasia Rate for Pit Bulls

The 2007 Pit Bull Euthanasia rate fell over 27% compared to 2006. The Pit Bull Euthanasia Rate fell over 18% in 2002, over 23% in 2003, over 20% in 2004, over 13% in 2005, over 6% in 2006, and over 27% in 2007.



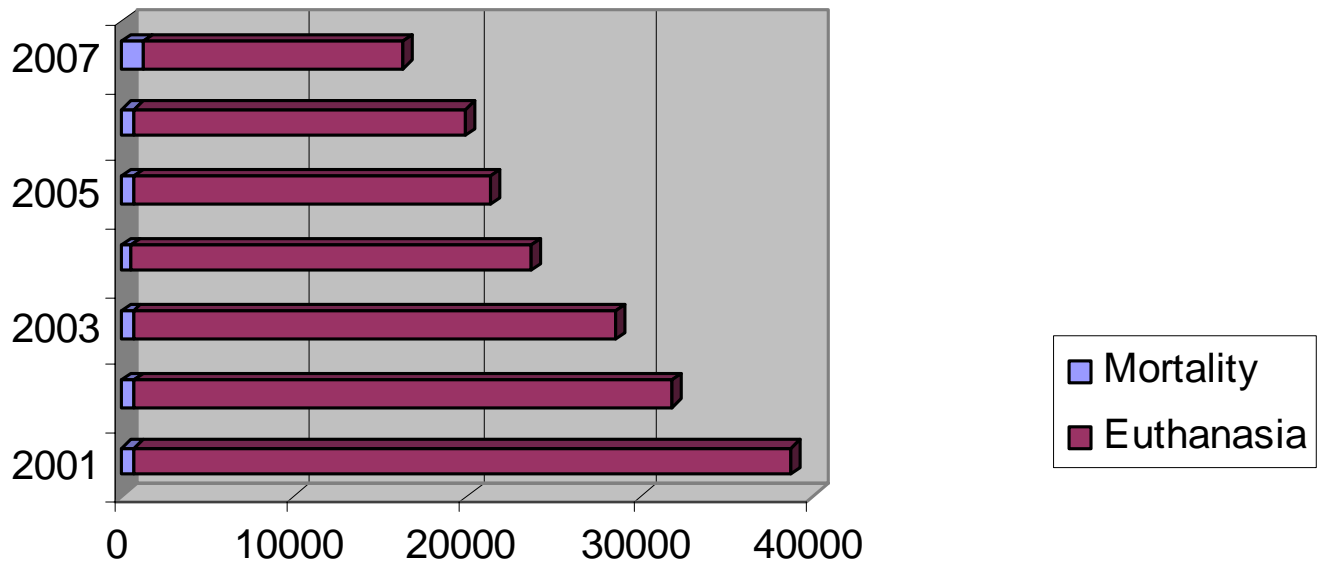
2007 Adoption Rate for Pit Bulls

The 2007 Pit Bull Adoption Rate decreased 3.5% in 2007. However, Pit Bulls placements through our New Hope program rose 4.86% in 2007. Despite this gallant effort on the part of our New Hope partners, the total number of pit bulls placed in 2007 declined 1.7%



Dogs/Cats Died – Not Euthanized

A recent article in a local newspaper caused significant concern regarding the number of animals dying in the care of LA Animal Services for reasons other than euthanasia. In fact, in 2007 the department experienced a 95% increase in the number of dogs and cats who died while in the care of LA Animal Services, a Foster Care Giver, or a private veterinarian. That is an increase from 691 to 1,349. It is important to put these deaths into perspective. It is truly regrettable that we cannot save all the animals. However, in 2007 we were able to begin a valiant effort to do so. We were able to make this effort thanks to over 100 volunteer Foster Care Givers, our new veterinary team, and our dedicated staff.



	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Euthanasia	37833	31159	27964	23119	20562	19238	15009
Mortality	812	656	637	555	757	691	1349

Thanks to our newly assembled, highly competent and compassionate medical team, LA Animal Services for the first time ever has the capacity to treat many animals that historically would have been euthanized or outsourced to private veterinarians. Today our staff veterinarians remove tumors, treat pyometra, repair hernias, perform dentistry, treat animals with intravenous fluids, non-narcotic, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), and narcotic pain-relieving drugs, and through the use of our state of the art digital X-ray machines, they are able to successfully mend fractures, and so much more.

As is the case in any hospital, attempts at life saving treatments are not always successful. These efforts have predictably resulted in a higher mortality rate than occurred when we did little to nothing to help these animals before euthanizing them. But to focus on the Department's mortality rate alone is to miss the larger point that not only is our euthanasia rate at an all time low but the overall death rate is down nearly 22% in 2007 compared to 2006 and down over 60% compared to 2001.

In Summary: The Challenges in 2008

According to the industry standard for calculating a community's euthanasia rate, in the year 2007 the City of Los Angeles euthanized 4 dogs or cats for every 1,000 residents. This is one of the lowest euthanasia rates of any community in the United States with the exception of San Francisco, New York City, and a couple of smaller communities. LA Animal Services is clearly on track to achieving its No-Kill Goal.

As you can see from the regular monthly reports generated by LA Animal Services, we are a data-driven department. Data creates the link between assessment, planning, and results. Data-driven animal care and control agencies design targeted programs based on their shelter intake data. For example, in LA, data is used to develop and implement a multi-pronged sterilization program to ensure adopted shelter animals are sterilized prior to release, free or low-cost spay/neutering services are available for the pets of our needy, senior and disabled populations, and that cat specific sterilization programs are accessible.

In the drive to achieve No-Kill there are two commonly recognized hurdles to clear. A community's progress towards No-Kill will usually stall at the first hurdle which is typically found when its pet euthanasia rate is reduced to between 12 and 10 shelter killings per 1,000 human residents annually (12.5 is the current national average). Once a community achieves this rate, further significant reductions are stalled and require the implementation of aggressive spay/neuter programs to achieve further euthanasia reduction goals. With effective, targeted spay/neuter programs progress to the second hurdle can be fairly quick, as it has been in the City of Los Angeles.

The first hurdle becomes apparent after a community has successfully persuaded all the people who are likely to fix their pets to do so. The challenge then is to persuade the more difficult populations, which include the poor, the elderly on fixed income, individuals with negative attitudes about spay/neuter, people who speak languages other than English, and those who live in relatively remote areas.

To break through the first barrier, LA Animal Services developed free and low-cost spay/neuter programs for our community's needy pet guardians, and free spay/neuter for the pets of our low income senior citizens and disabled residents, as well as cat specific spay/neuter programs. These programs account for well over 40,000 spay/neuter surgeries annually.

Animal People magazine conducted a survey in 1994 that found transportation problems represent 40% of the total reasons why pets are not fixed, equal to monetary considerations. This data suggests that providing spay/neuter transportation is an often overlooked strategy to a community's breaking through the 10 shelter killings per 1,000 humans barrier. LA Animal Services has used this data to provide over 12,000 mobile spay/neuter surgeries annually throughout the City's underserved areas by partnering with the *Amanda* and *Sam Simon Foundations*.

The second hurdle in the drive to achieve No-Kill has been characterized as "the wall". Few communities have been able to break through "the wall". A community hits "the wall" when it reduces its pet euthanasia rate to between five and 2.5 shelter killings per 1,000 human residents annually (LA City is at 4.0 as December 31, 2007). Hitting "the wall" tells a community that it has come to the point where most of the animals dying in its shelters are irremediably suffering due to sickness or injury, demonstrate dangerously aggressive behavior, or are feral or neonate cats, or pit bulls. Hitting "the wall" reveals the success of an earlier generation of effectively targeted

programs.

To break through “the wall” requires a new generation of programs to address the needs of special populations not met by earlier programs. The paradigm remains the same: comprehensive data collection, assessment, and implementation of programs targeted to meet the special needs of residual populations. Breaking through “the wall” requires taking the information-based targeting approach to the next level.

As a result, LA Animal Services is focusing its efforts on saving at-risk animal populations. The feral cat/neonate kitten side of the equation is fairly straight forward and can often be handled through volunteer programs. However, to be successful, it does require a significant amount of volunteer time and dedication coupled with meaningful animal care and control support. LA Animal Services is fortunate to have such an army of life saving volunteers and employees staffing robust neonate/foster care programs. We are also working hard to make Trap/Neuter/Return (TNR) a mainstream methodology for controlling feral cat populations in LA.

The pit bull side of the equation is more difficult. According to *Animal People* magazine, San Francisco is currently the only major city in the U.S. experiencing a decline in pit bulls. San Francisco credits local pit bull-targeted spay/neuter legislation for this decline, which may largely be the case. However, other factors may also contribute to this decline. For instance, it is much more difficult for dogfighters and backyard breeders to go underground in San Francisco compared to most other cities. It has been said that a dog can't bark in San Francisco without 100 neighbors complaining, while a hundred dogs can bark in parts of Los Angeles and not be heard above the noise of the freeways.

This provides a bit of a snap shot of our current situation in Los Angeles and the programs we are looking to in our effort to further reduce our community's euthanasia rate. I want to thank all of LA Animal Services employees, volunteers, partners, as well as the Mayor and the City Council for their continued support in achieving the remarkable results reported above.

LA Animal Services is committed to continuing these positive trends and doing even better in 2008, but we recognize we need everyone's help to do that. Thank you all!

For all the numbers of 2007 visit our website at www.laanimalservices.com, click on *About Us* and go to *Statistics*.