

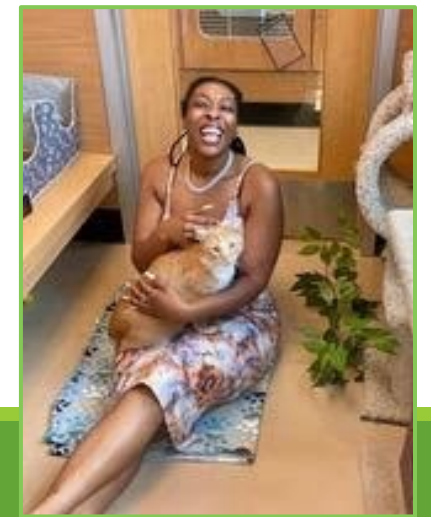
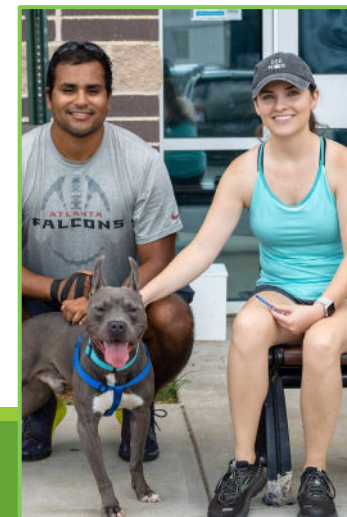
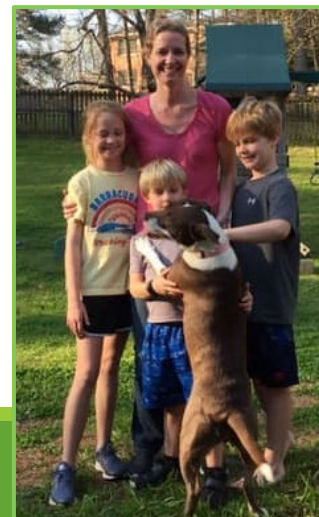


DeKalb County
ANIMAL SERVICES
ADVISORY BOARD



DEKALB ANIMAL SERVICES

FIVE-YEAR REVIEW (2018-2022) FIVE-YEAR PLAN (2023-2028)



Dekalb County Advisory Board

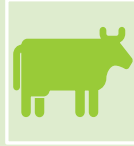


Sonali Saindane- CEO
Catharine Tipton- CEO
Susan Neugent- CEO
Sonja Williams- CEO
Dana Gaines- District 1
Wardell Castles- District 2
David Kipp- District 3
Normal Powell- District 4
Tammy Archie- District 5
Kate Donovan- District 6
Robert Dennis- District 7

DCAS Advisory Board Responsibilities



Advance humane and healthy treatment of animals.



Advise Dekalb, the Governing Authority and Animal Services on the welfare of animals.



Assist Animal Services with implementation of a long-term plan that improves practices, service delivery, efficiency, and facilities.



Identify strategies to improve the lives of animals.



Assist in securing grants and funding.



Advance cooperation and communication to create a comprehensive safety net of services, lifesaving measures, and animal population management activities.

Recommendations



BUILD MORE SPACE



INCREASE STAFFING
AND TRAINING



SUPPORT FAMILIES
AND THEIR PETS IN
NEED



PREVENT MORE
HOMELESS PETS



REDUCE LENGTH OF
STAY FOR COURT-
HELD DOGS

Contributors to Strain on Shelter Operations

Consistently high intake of animals
and reduced number of adoptions
and rescue transfers

Increase in the number and duration
of stay of court-held animals

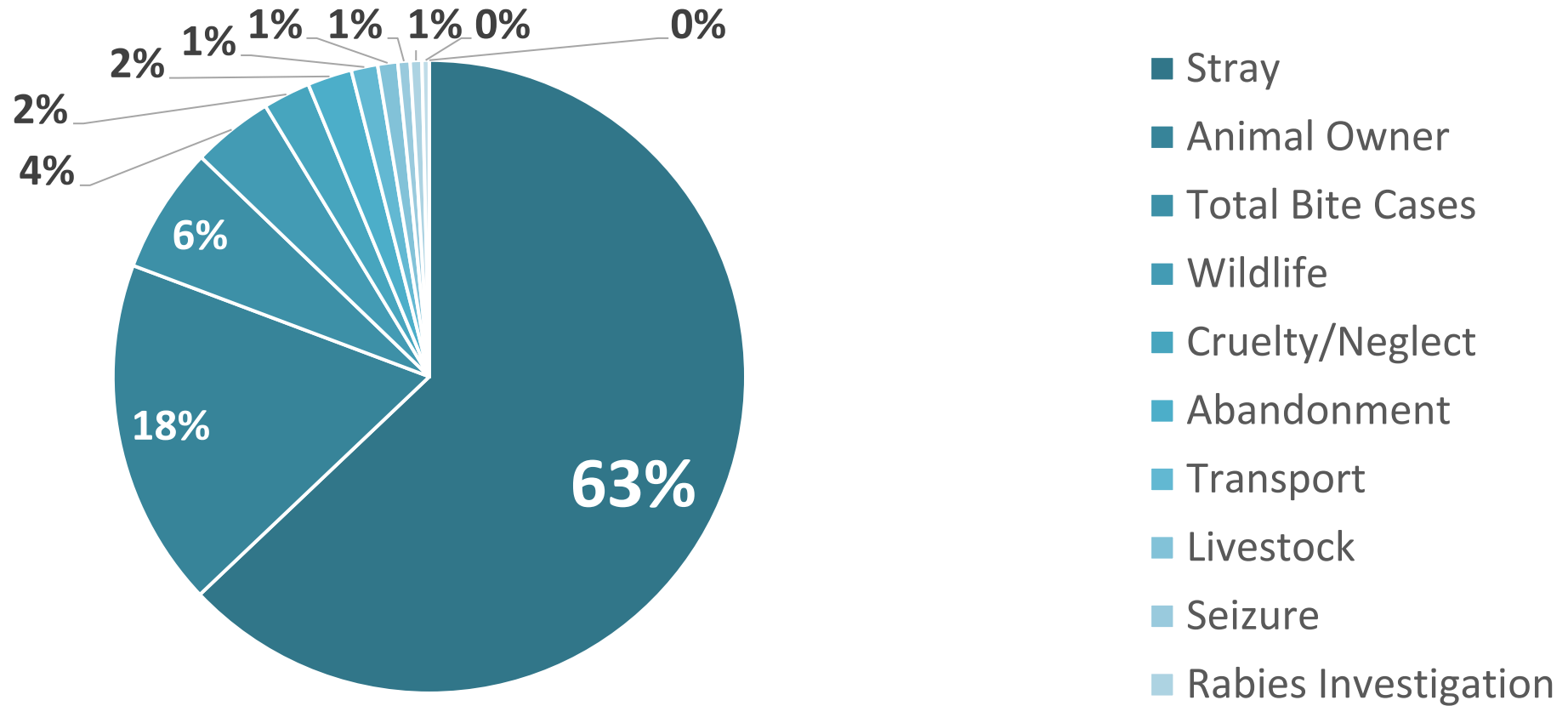
Current shelter space does not
support county population



Community Needs

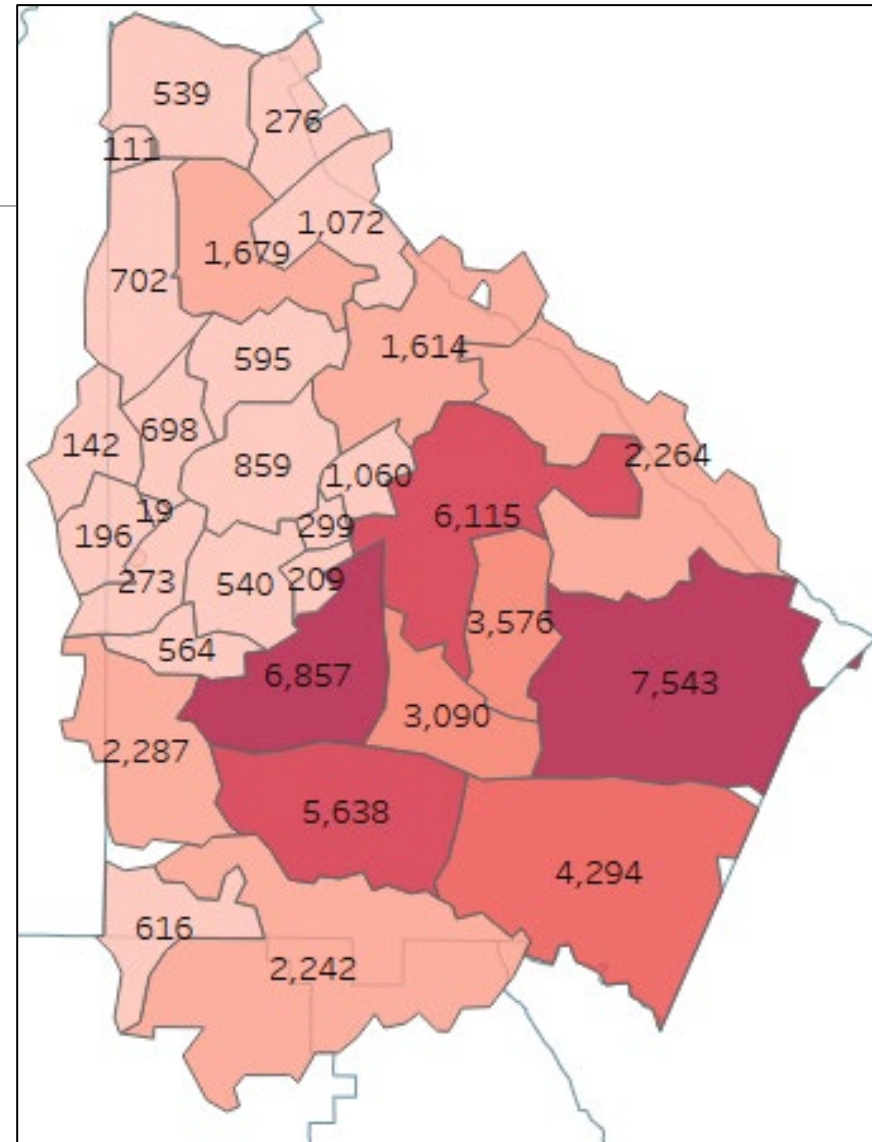
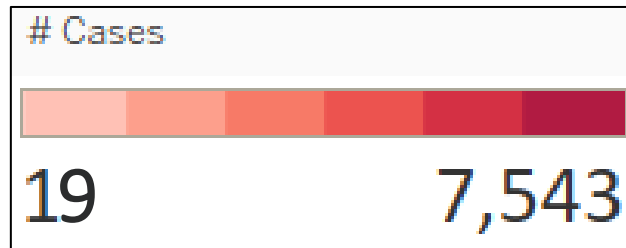


Stray Animals Account for Most Calls for Service 2019-2022



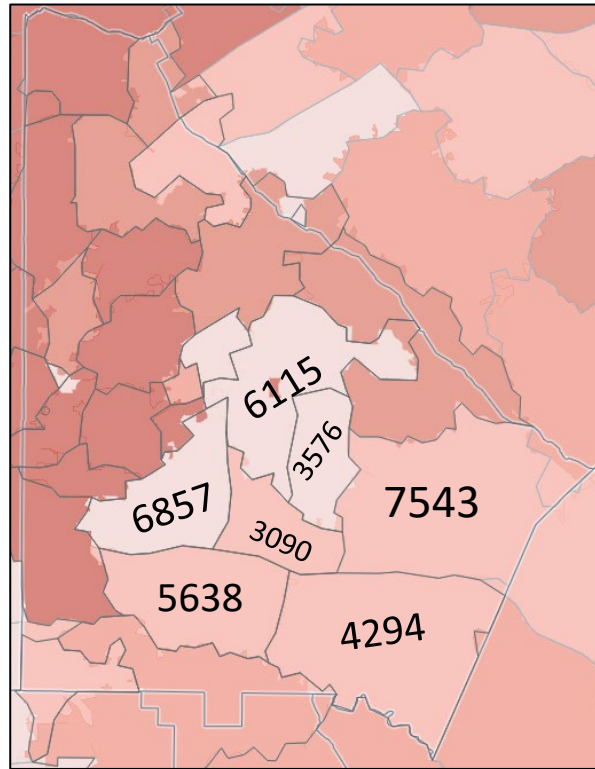
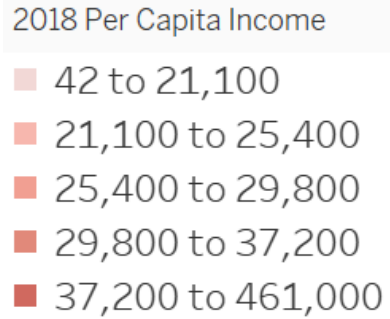
Highest Concentration of Enforcement Cases 2017-2022

NUMBER OF
ENFORCEMENT CASES BY
ZIP CODE

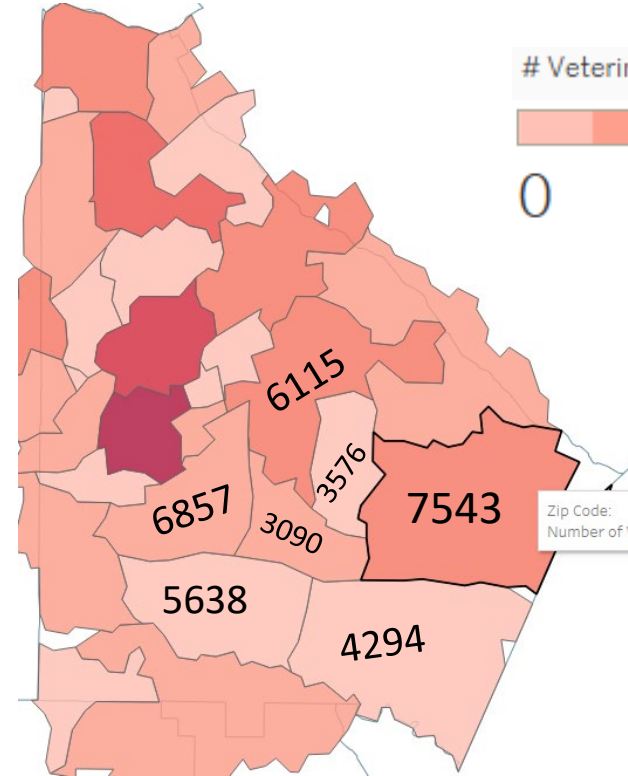
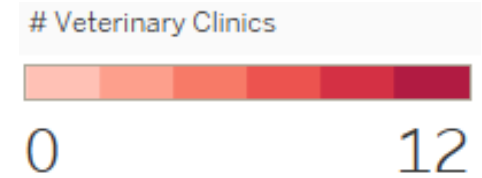


Higher Number of Cases Related to Lower-Resourced Areas

IN RELATION TO INCOME



IN RELATION TO VETERINARY CARE

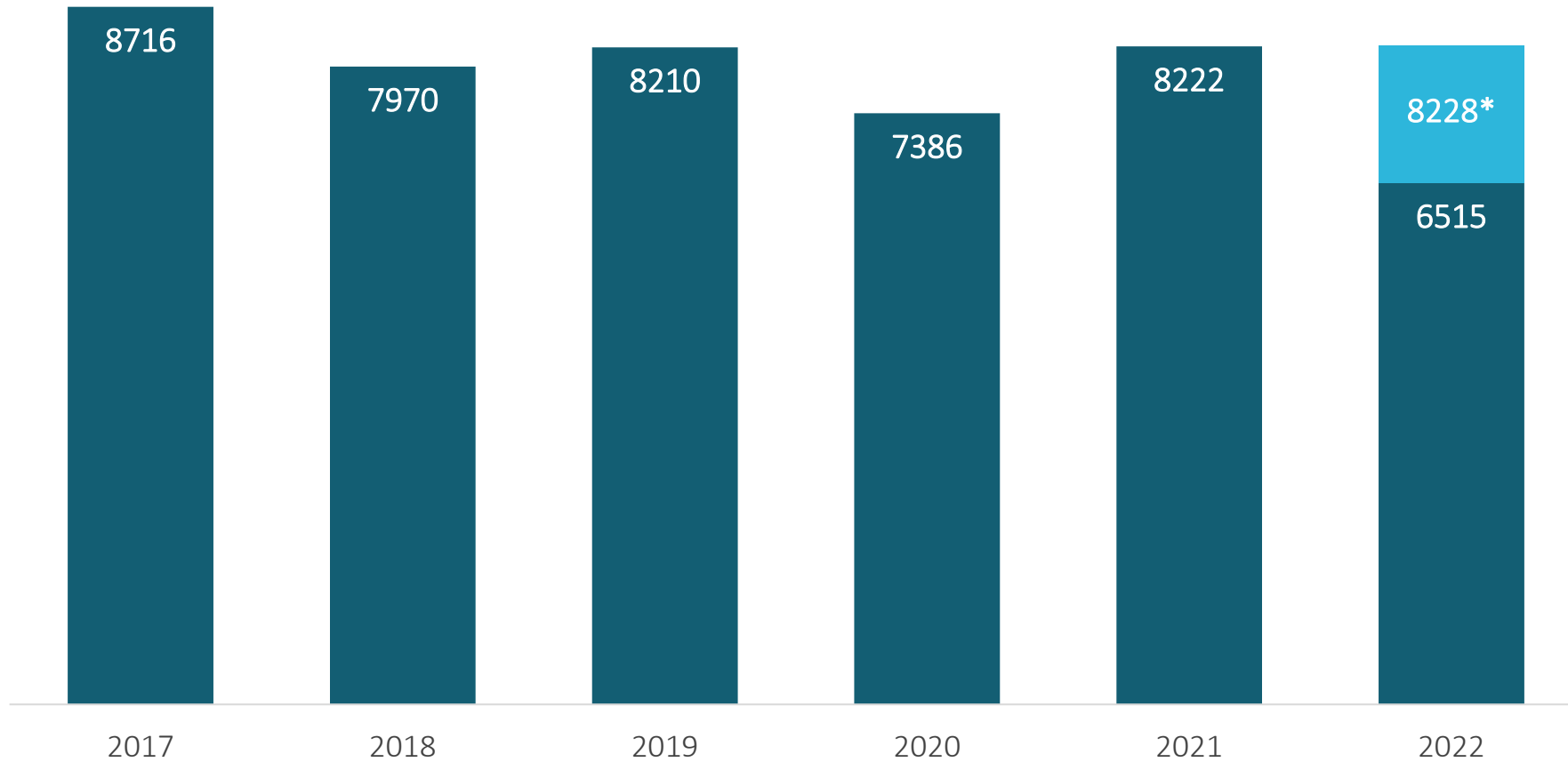




State of the Shelter

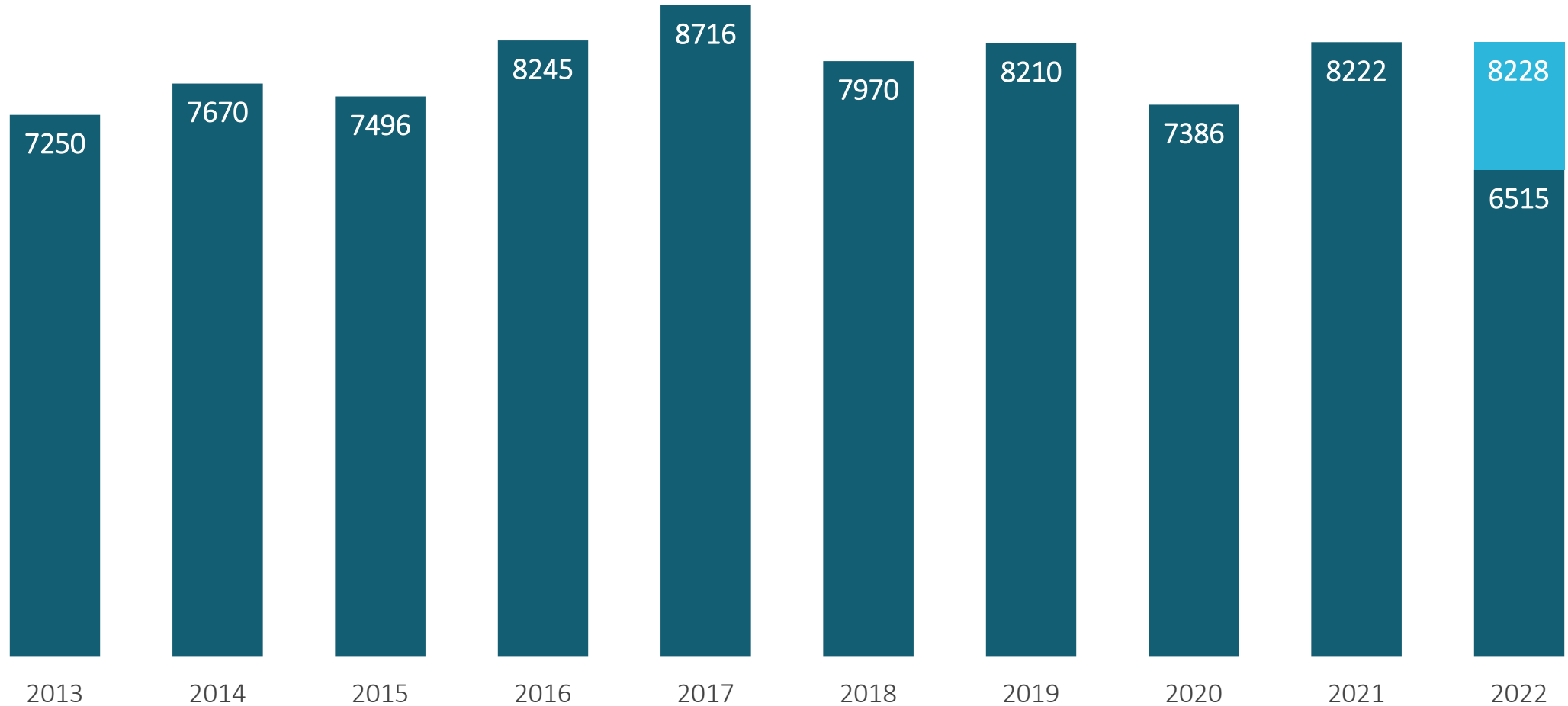


Consistently High Shelter Intake (2017-2022)

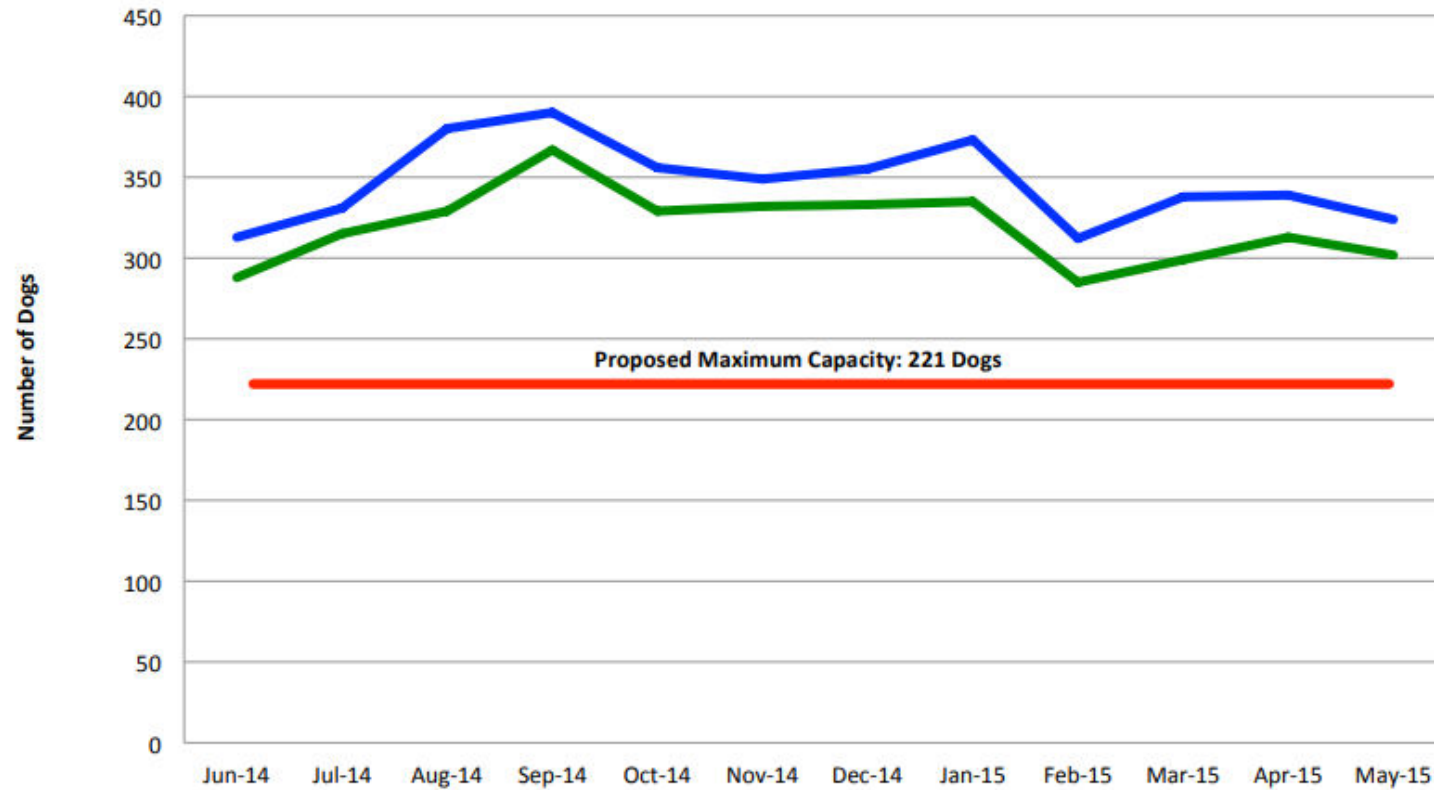


*Projected total for 2022 had the 10-week emergency shutdown not occurred

Consistently High Shelter Intake for 10 Years

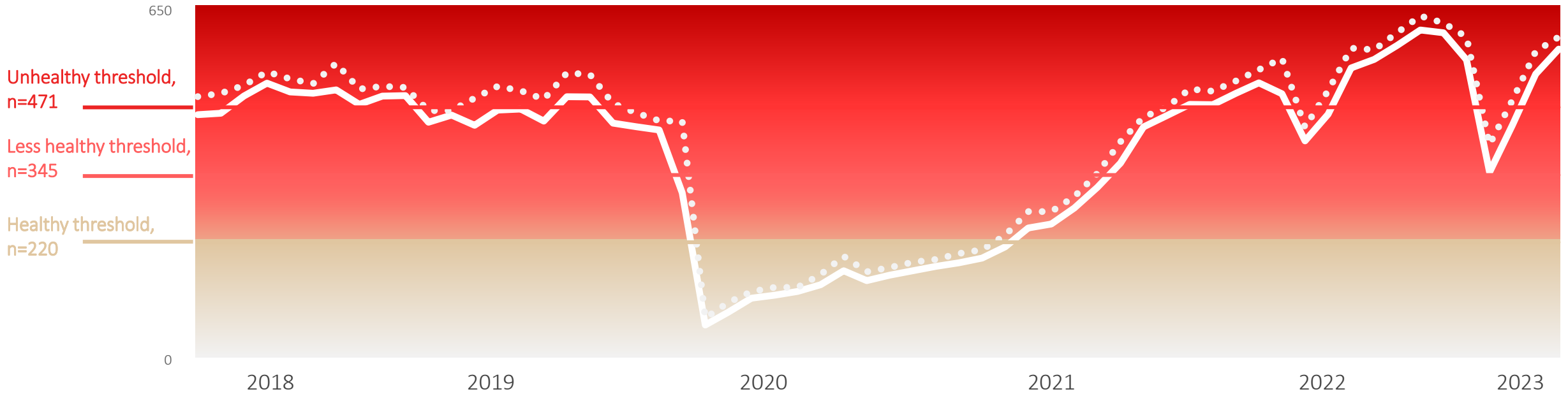


DeKalb County Animal Services Actual Dog Population vs. Proposed New Shelter Capacity June 2014 - May 2015



	Jun-14	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15
— Avg Daily Population	288	315	329	367	329	332	333	335	285	299	313	302
— Peak Population	313	331	380	390	356	349	355	373	312	338	339	324

Shelter Consistently Under-serves Dekalb County Needs



Legend

— Average daily count by month

..... Max count by month

Unhealthy threshold – capacity added using temporary crates and cages in non-housing areas

Less healthy threshold – capacity as adapted by splitting original kennels

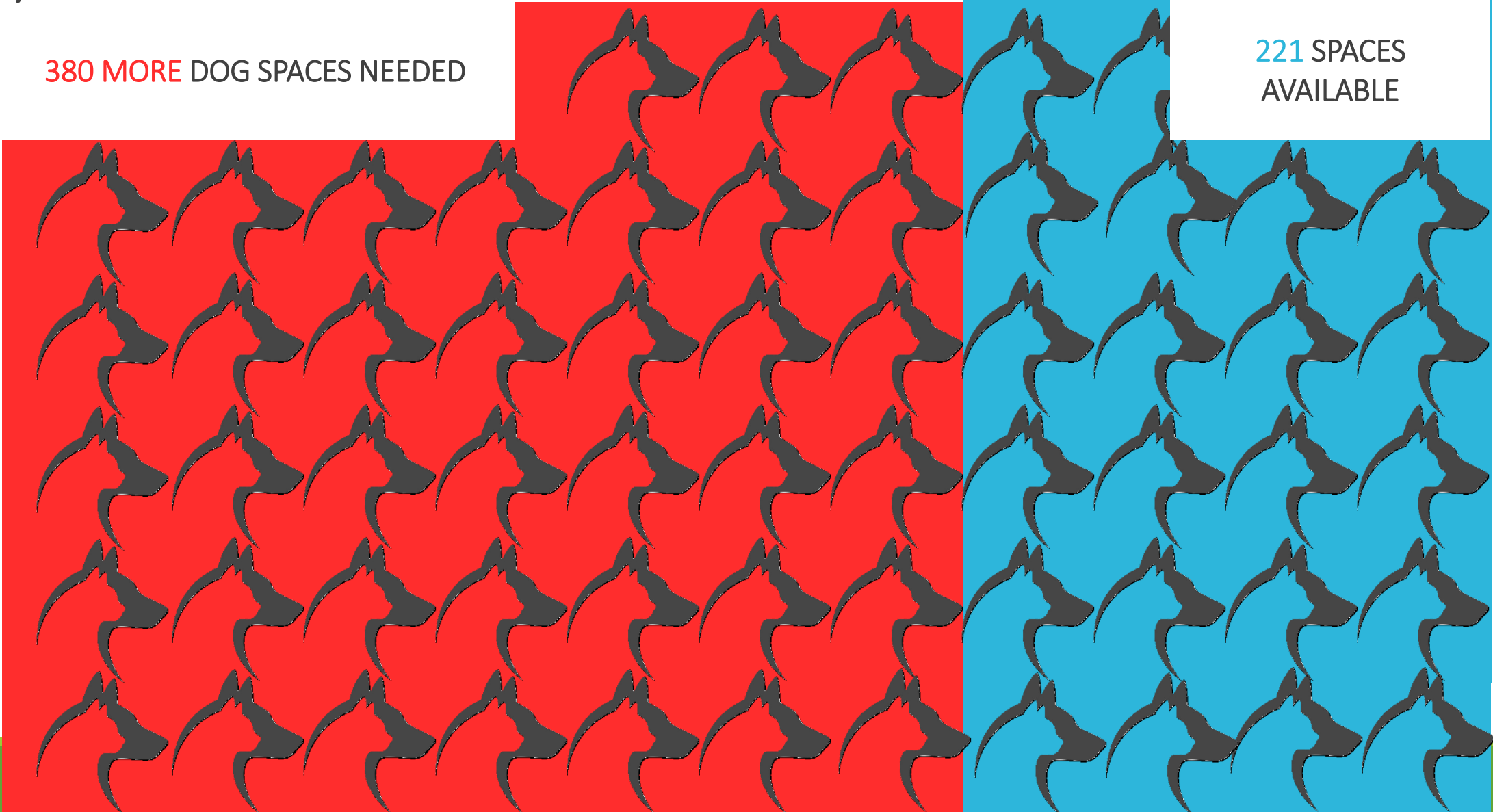
Healthy threshold – capacity as designed and constructed according to national standard of care guidelines

Average Population Exceeds Available Space

2022-May 2023

380 MORE DOG SPACES NEEDED

221 SPACES AVAILABLE

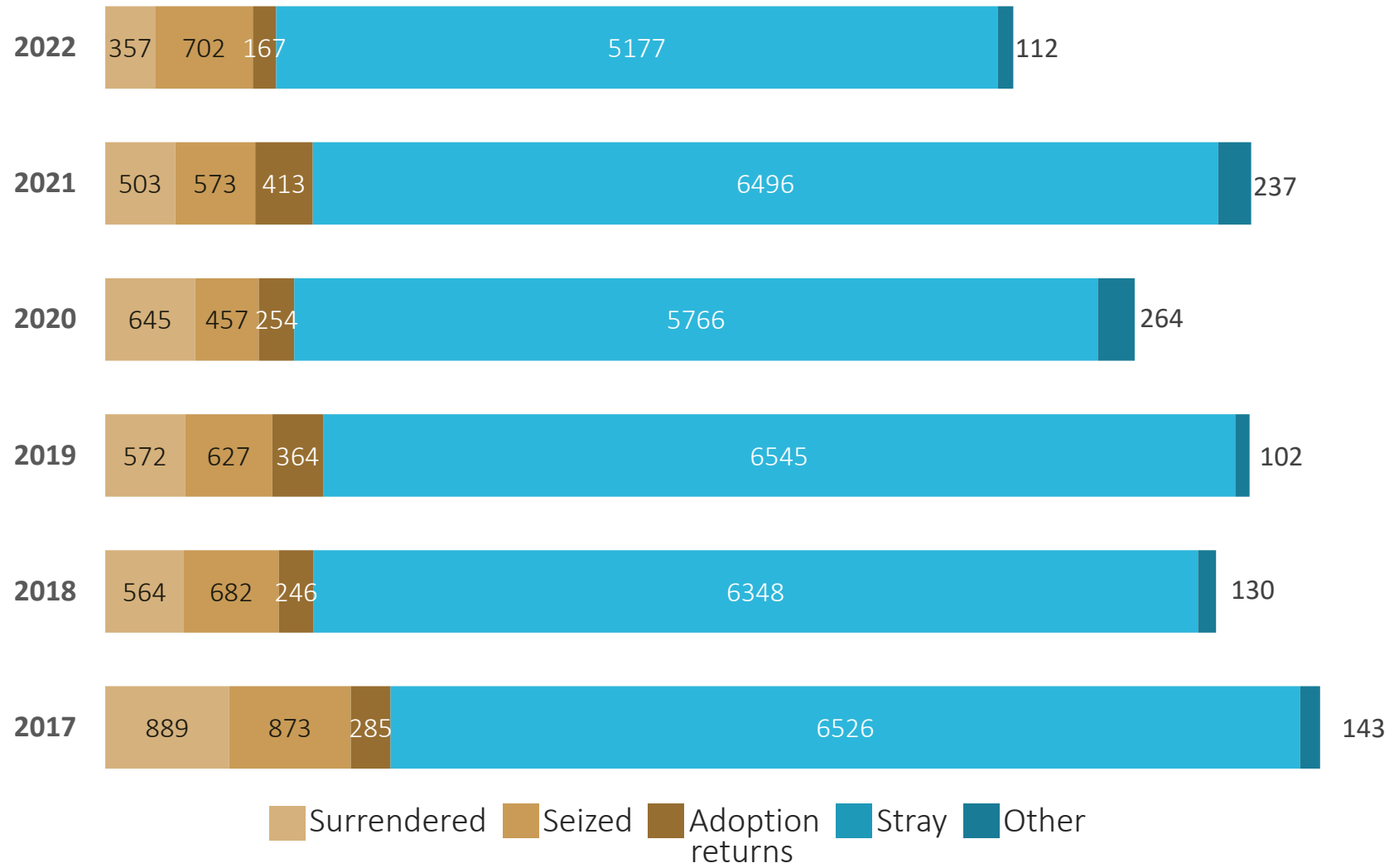


Legend

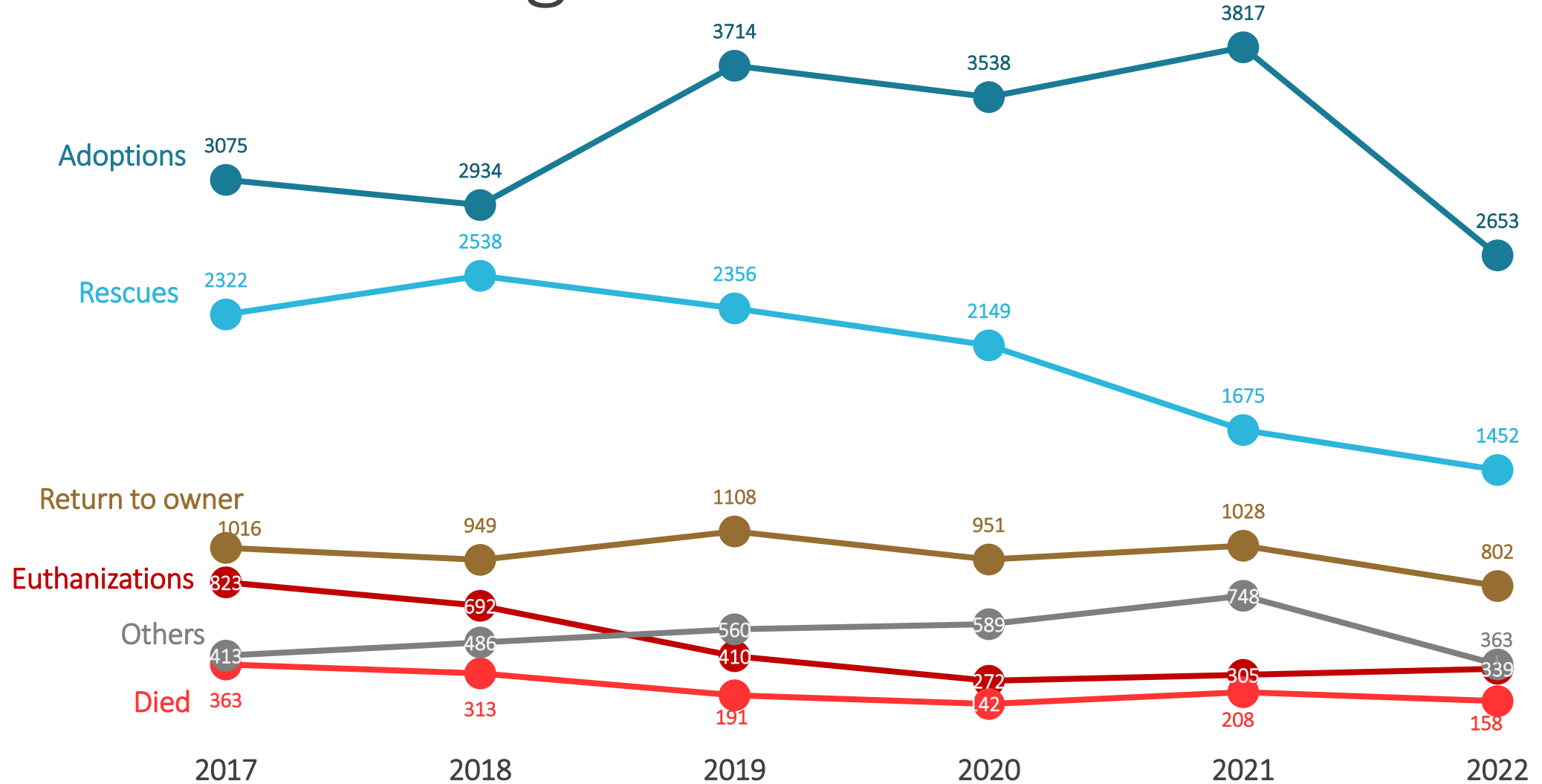


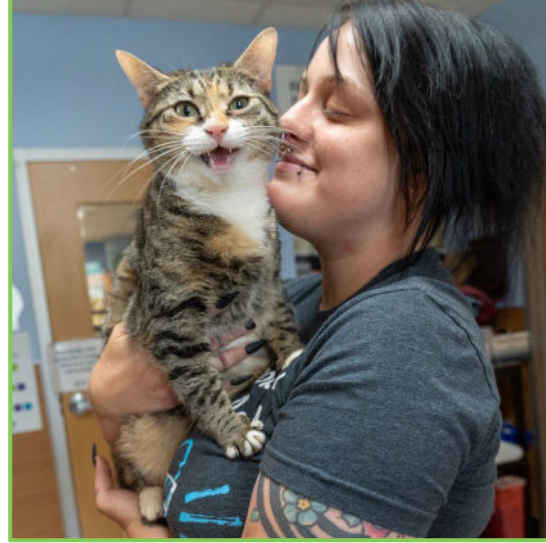
=10 dogs

Stray Animals Contribute the Most to Intake



Adoptions and Rescue Transfers are Declining



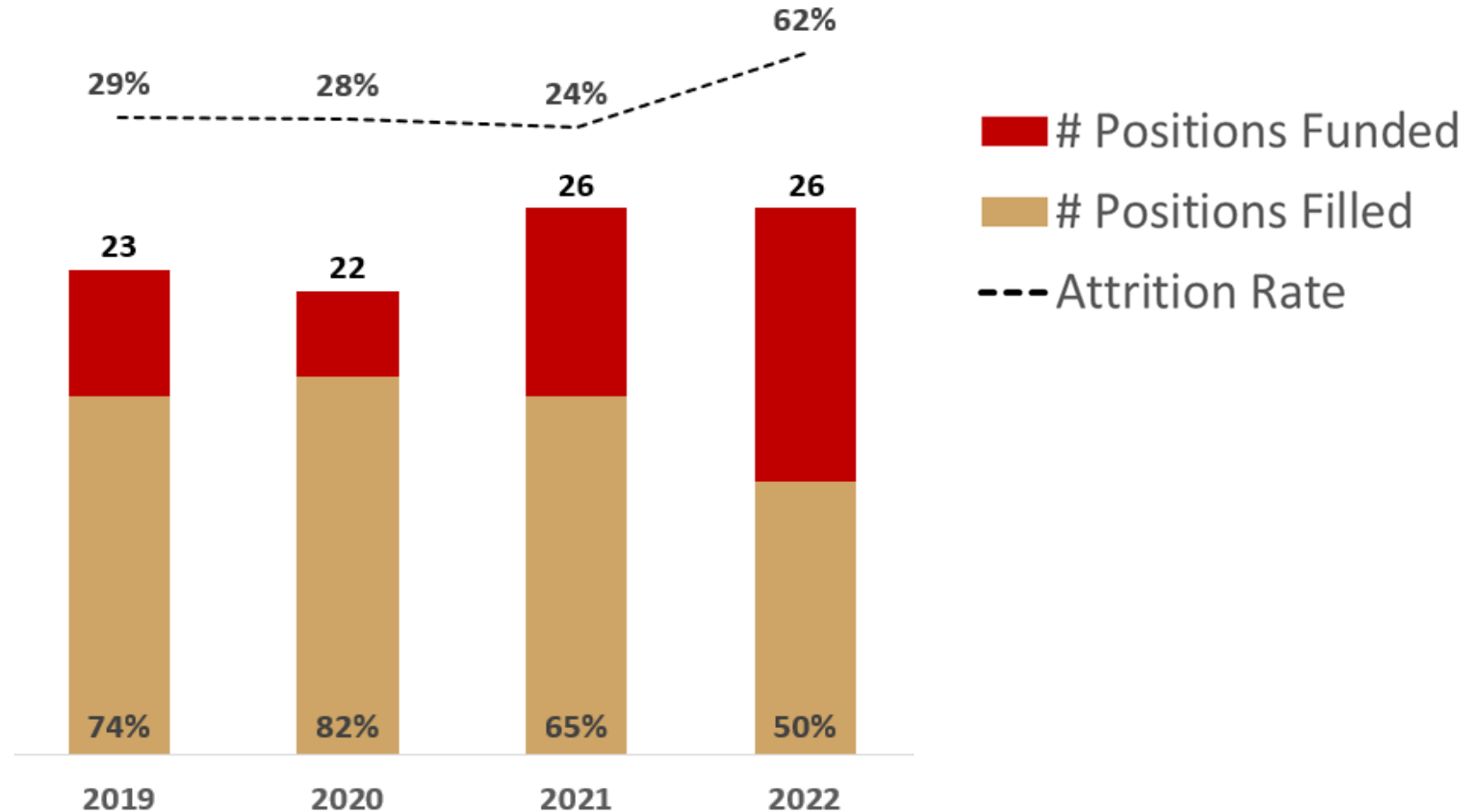


Staffing Needs



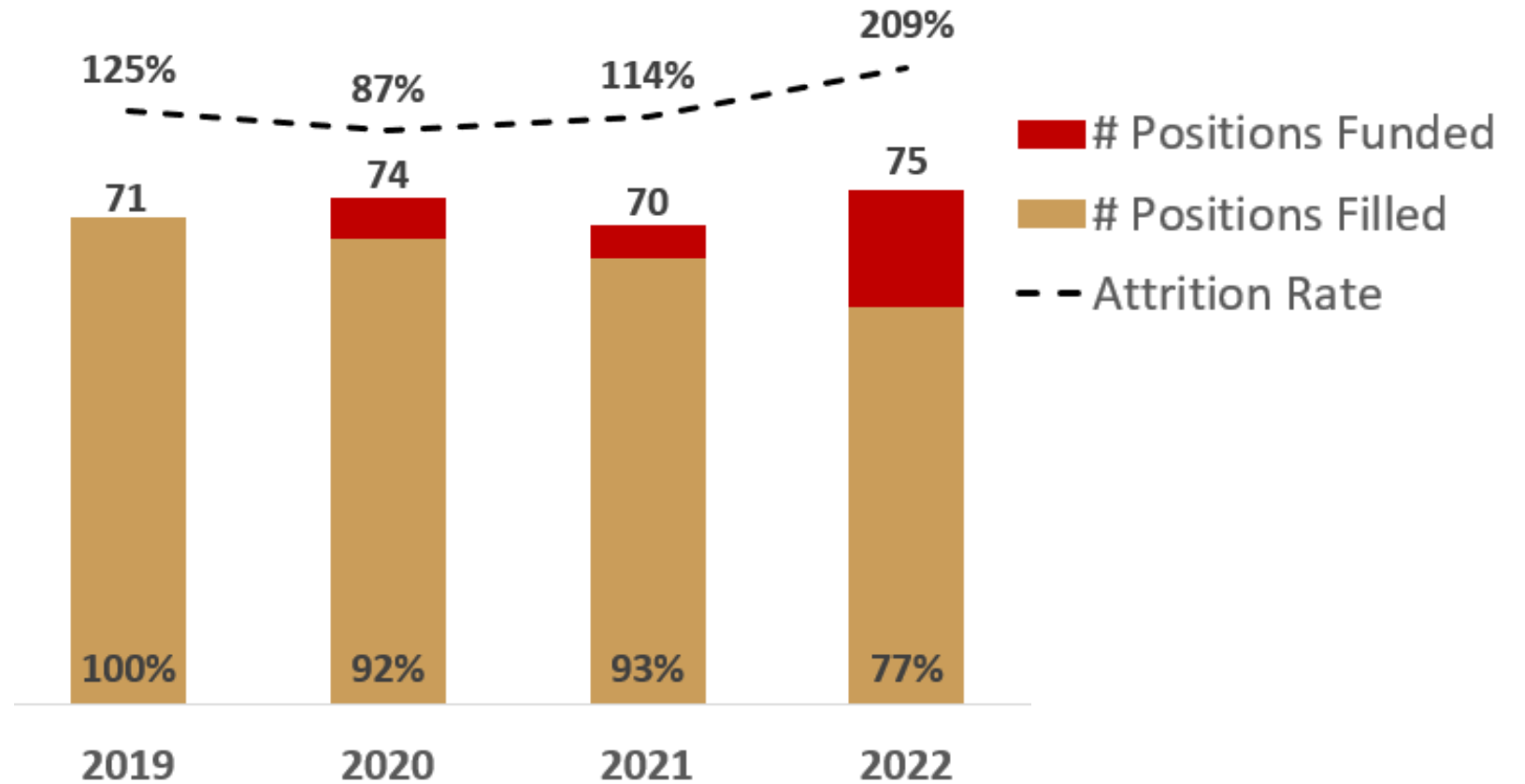
Enforcement Understaffed and High Rates of Turnover 2019 – 2022

Staff support average
of 24 calls per day



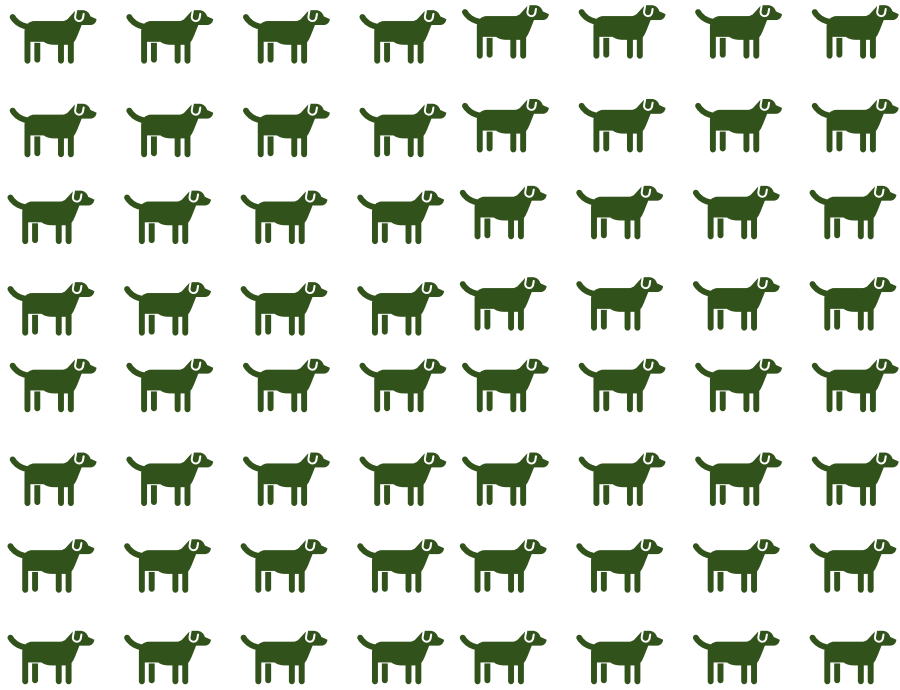
Shelter Understaffed and High Rates of Turnover 2019 - 2022

Staff support up to
700 animals per day





Court-Held Animals



159 court-held animals from...

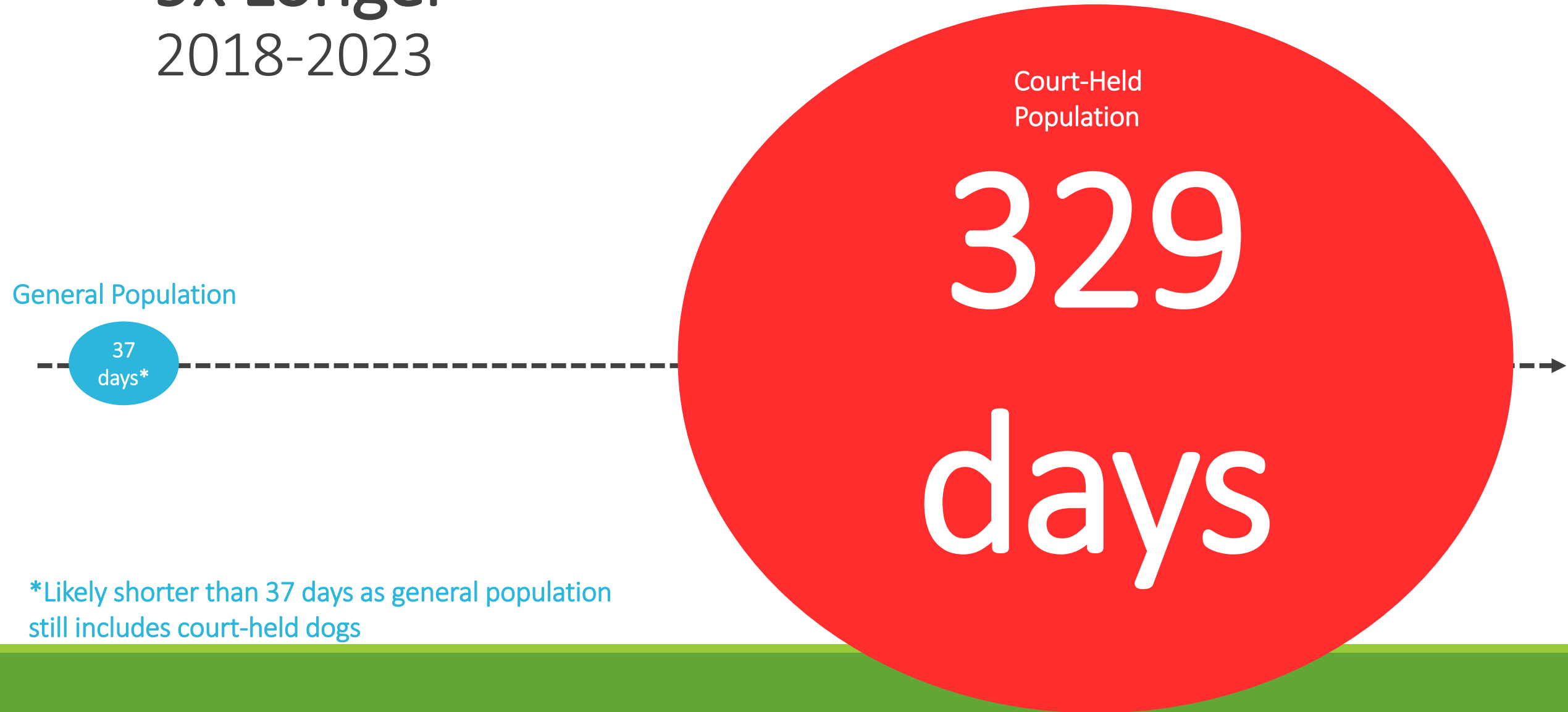


32 cases, of which...



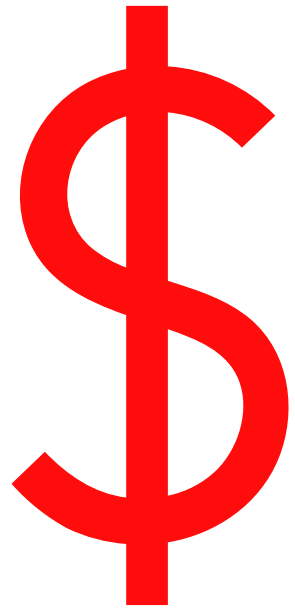
8 filed a motion to dispose

Court-Held Dogs Stay in System Almost 9x Longer 2018-2023



*Likely shorter than 37 days as general population still includes court-held dogs

Running Cost of Care for Active Cases Almost \$2 Million



1.8 million cost of care
for 159 current court-held
dogs at \$35/day*

*Conservative estimate

Solutions to Court-Held Animal Overcrowding

DeKalb County Governing Authority

- Urge surrender in field and shelter for neglect and cruelty cases
- Use State law provisions to help counties
 - Motion to Dispose
 - Cost of Care
- New local legislation requiring owner to post bond to cover cost of care

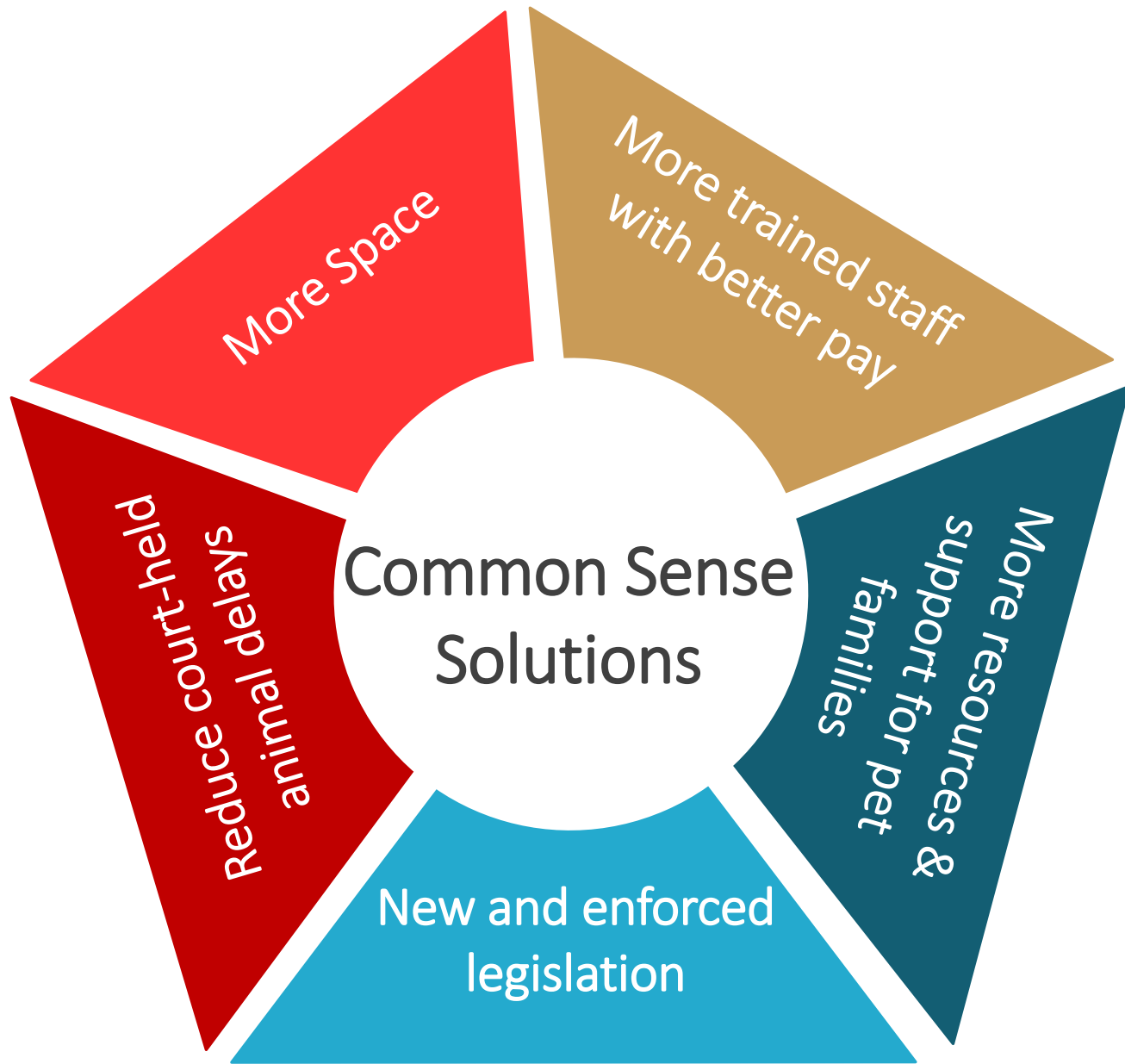
District Attorney and Solicitor General

- Urge surrender at arraignment, subsequent hearings, and trial
- Coordinate with defense counsel to develop consent order
- Support County Attorney in motions to dispose and costs of care

DeKalb County Courts

- Issue bench warrants when defendants first fail to appear for court
- Discourage ongoing efforts to postpone proceedings
- Encourage cooperation between prosecution and defense where the lives of animals are affected

Goals and Recommendations



Common Sense Solutions Plans for a Better Tomorrow

Goal I: Create More
Space to Meet DeKalb
Needs

60% of Dekalb Citizens are Pet Owners

22% wanted but could not afford microchipping of their pets.

20% wanted but could not afford fence repair or placement.

And over the past three years, 72% wanted but could not afford access to things like pet food, veterinary care, microchipping, pet behavior and education training.

Source: Survey Commissioned by Maddie's Fund and conducted by A&K Research, April, 2023

Dekalb Citizens' Opinions on Pet Services

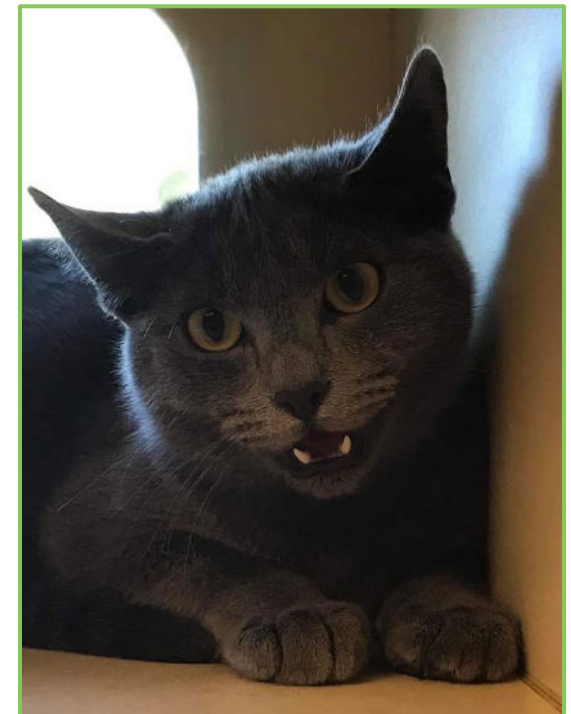
66% believed it was **important** for public officials to **increase the public funding** for the shelter.

92% believed there was a **need for additional funding** for animal services.

69% thought that funding should come from means **other than voluntary contributions**.

People of **all income levels** were supportive of **assistance programs** to support animal services.

Source: Survey Commissioned by Maddie's Fund and conducted by A&K Research, April, 2023



Thank you for your
time and attention!

