



Cats in Los Angeles

Aimee Gilbreath

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About Found Animals Foundation

Mission: Minimize Shelter Euthanasia

Sterilization



Adoption



Owner Support



More information at www.foundanimals.org

Contents

- **Cat Population Estimates**
 - Shelter Cat Data
 - Implications



Los Angeles County Overview



Los Angeles County consists of:

- 88 Incorporated Cities
- 125 Unincorporated Communities

Population:

- Los Angeles County: 9.81 million
- City of Los Angeles: 3.79 million

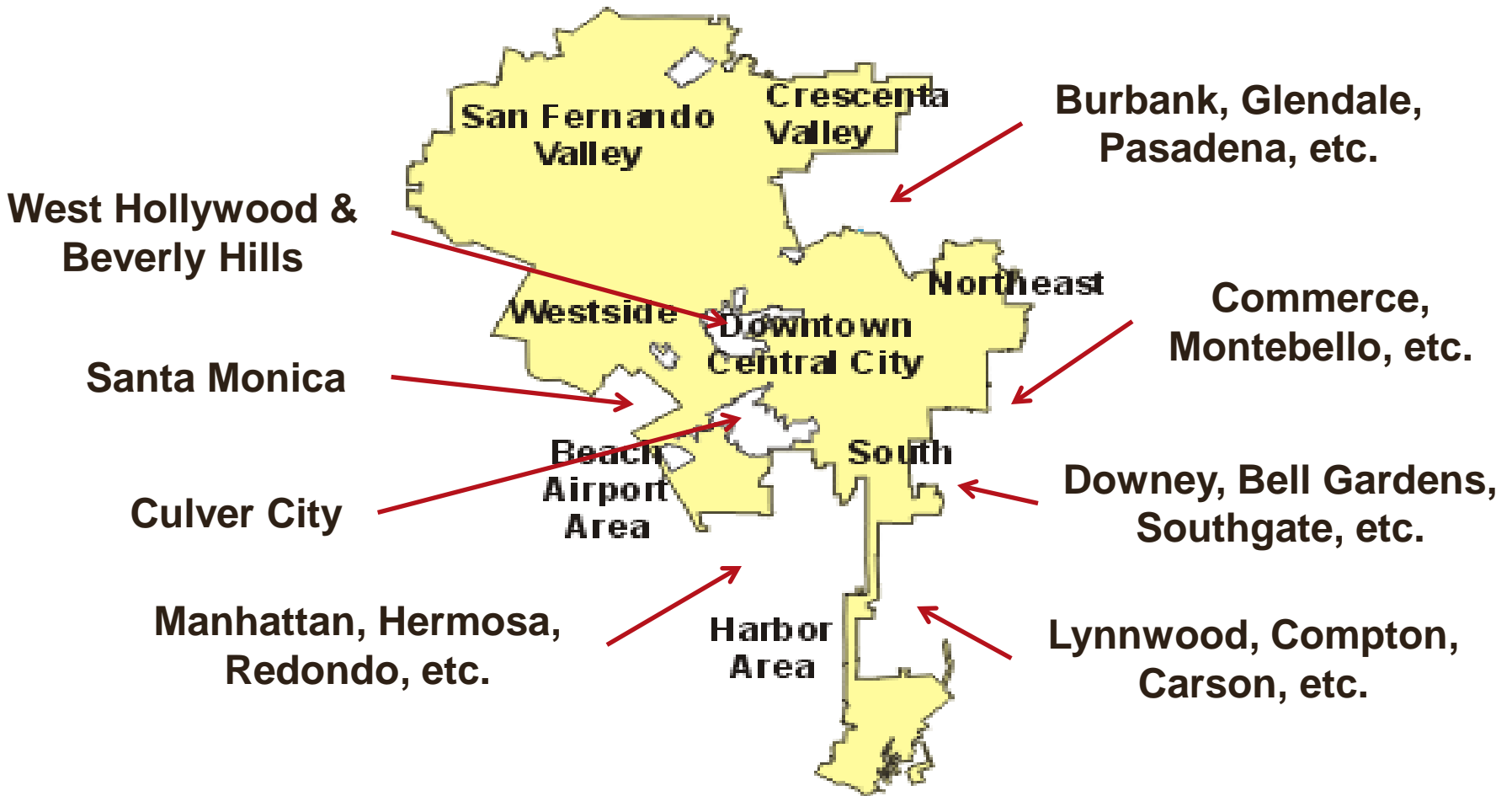
Economic Characteristics:

- Median Household Income: \$54,635
- Families Below Poverty Level: 13.7%

Demographics:

- Hispanic/Latino: 48%
- White: 28%
- Asian: 13%
- African-American: 8%
- 57% speak a language other than English at Home
- 76% have a high school diploma
- 29% have a Bachelor's Degree

Even City of LA not Contiguous



Los Angeles County Municipalities



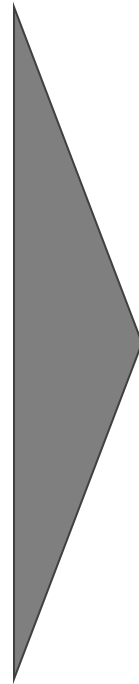
Owned Cat Population Estimates

Los Angeles County



APPATM

American Pet Products Association



2.84 Million Households

*

30% Cat Ownership Rate

*

1.75 – 2.0 Cats Per Household

=

1,493,000 – 1,706,000 Owned Cats

Or roughly 1 owned cat per 6 people

<http://www.foundanimals.org/docs/pdfs/la-dog-cat-population.pdf>

“Feral” Cat Population Estimates

Based on PetSmart Charities Grant Guidelines

Began with assumption:
1 feral cat per 6 humans



1,635,000 feral cats

Later changed to:
1 feral cat per 15 humans



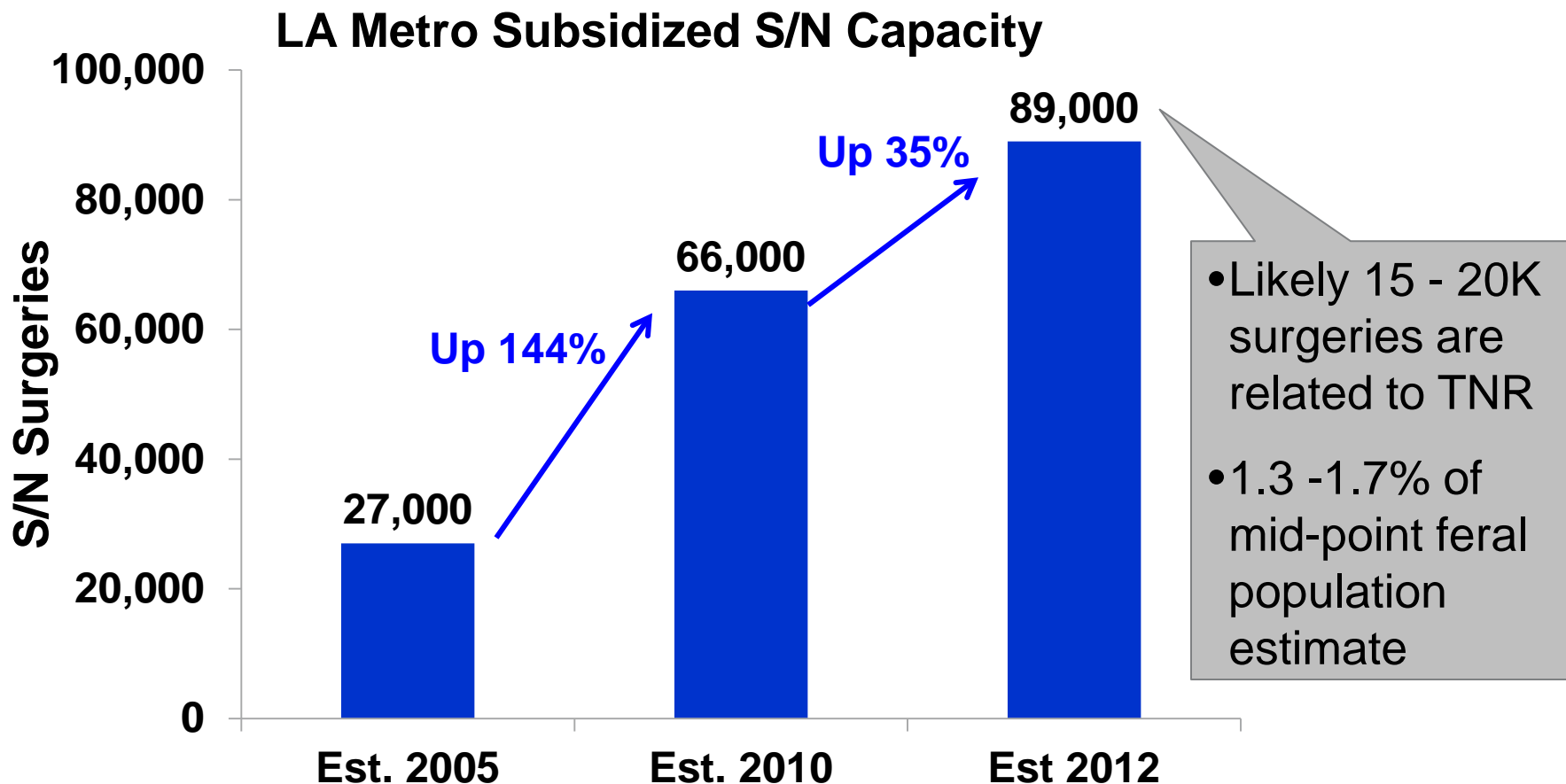
654,000 feral cats

Total LA County Cat Pop. Estimates

Midpoint estimate 2.7 M Cats, or roughly 1 per 3.5 humans

	Low Estimate		High Estimate
Owned Cats	1,493,000	1,599,500	1,706,000
“Feral” Cats	654,000	1,144,500	1,635,000
Total Cats	2,147,000	2,744,000	3,341,000

Subsidized S/N Capacity Has Grown Dramatically



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Complicated Animal Services Landscape

City, County, and SEAACA Serve 89% of Population

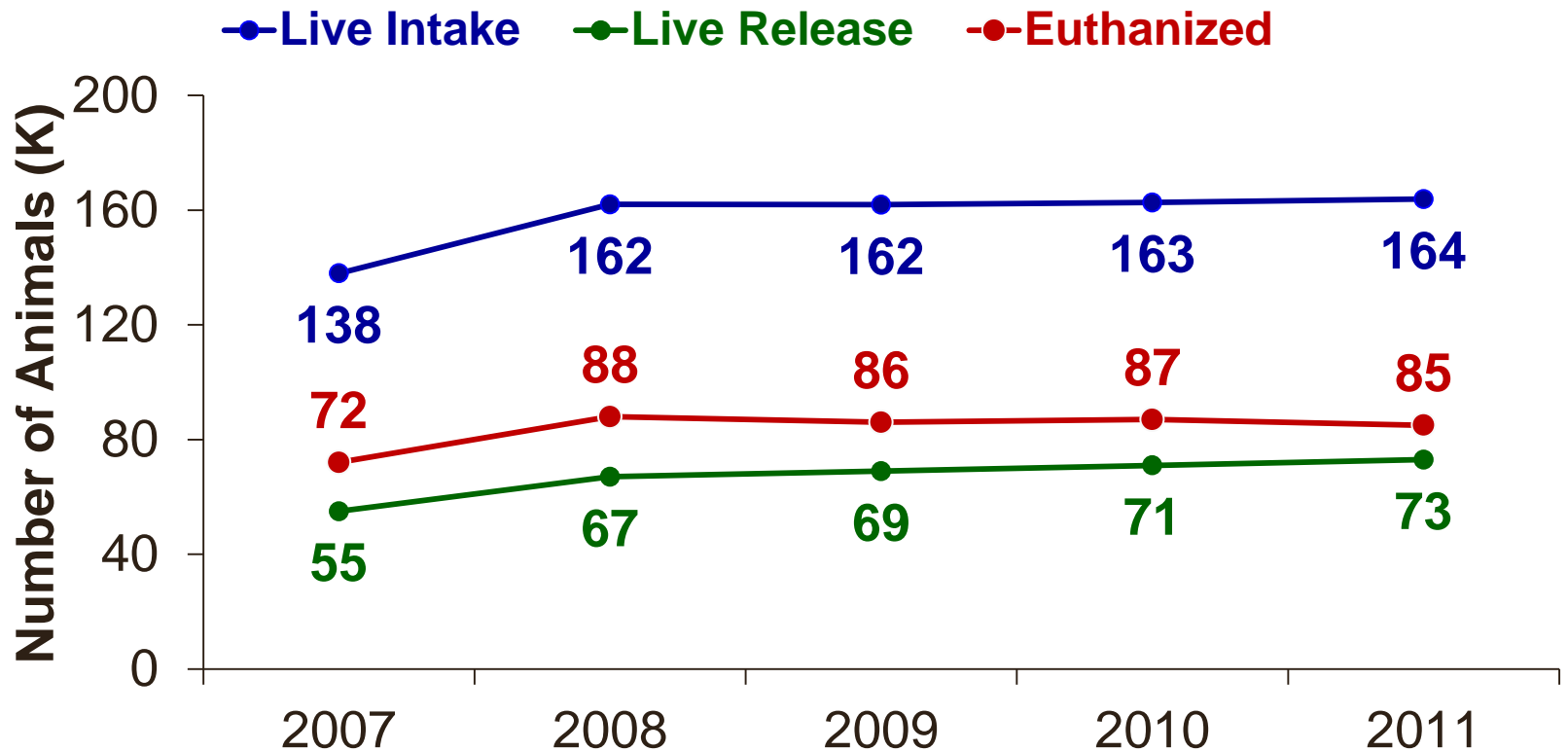
A total of 9 agencies with 20 shelter locations provide municipal animal services within Los Angeles County

- **Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control**
 - Agoura, Baldwin Park, Carson, Castaic, Downey, and Lancaster
- **City of Los Angeles Animal Services**
 - East Valley, Harbor, North Central, South Los Angeles, West Los Angeles, West Valley, and Northeast Valley
- **Other City operated shelters**
 - City of Santa Monica, City of Burbank, and City of Long Beach
- **Private organizations holding municipal contracts**
 - **SEAACA**, Pasadena Humane Society, SPCA LA, San Gabriel Valley Humane Society, Inland Valley Humane Society

Shelter Intake is 164,000 Pets Annually

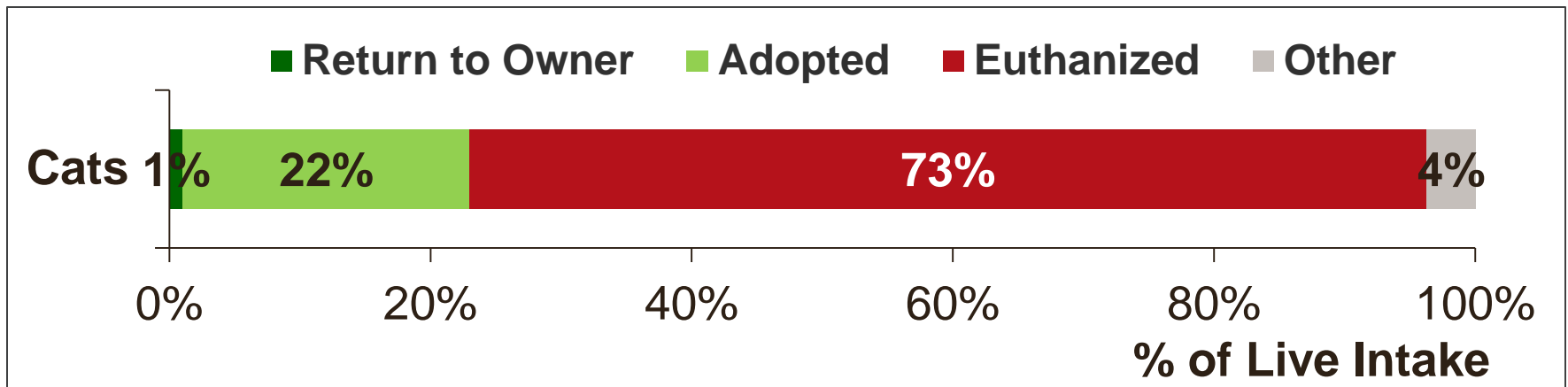
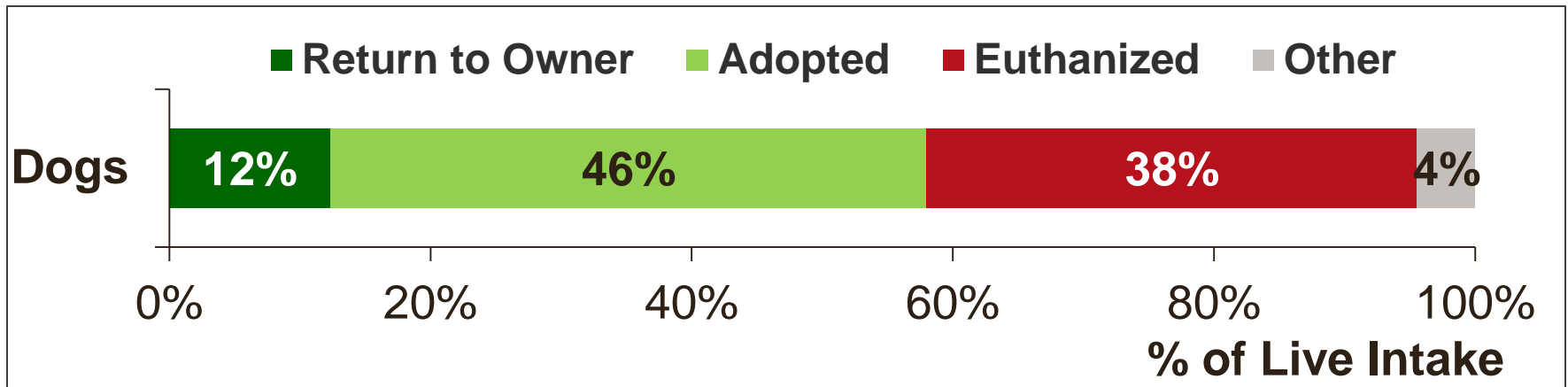
85,000 Killed, 52% Euthanasia Rate

LA Metro Intake and Outcomes



Source: Shelter intake and outcome data from LA City, LA County, and SEAACA

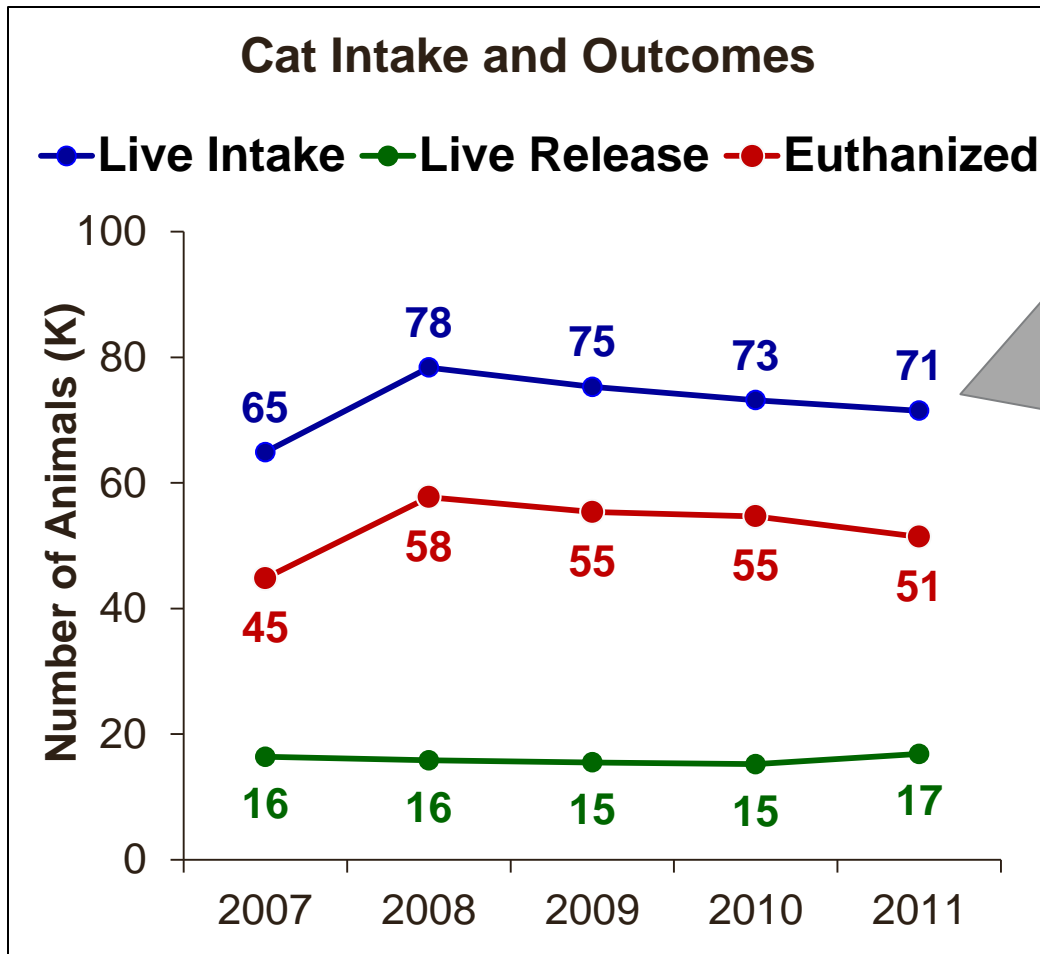
Dogs Twice as Likely to be Adopted, Cats Twice as Likely to be Euthanized



Source: 2011 Shelter intake and outcome data from LA City, LA County, and SEAACA

2.9% of Cat Pop. Handled Annually

71,000 Cats Handled, 73% Euthanized



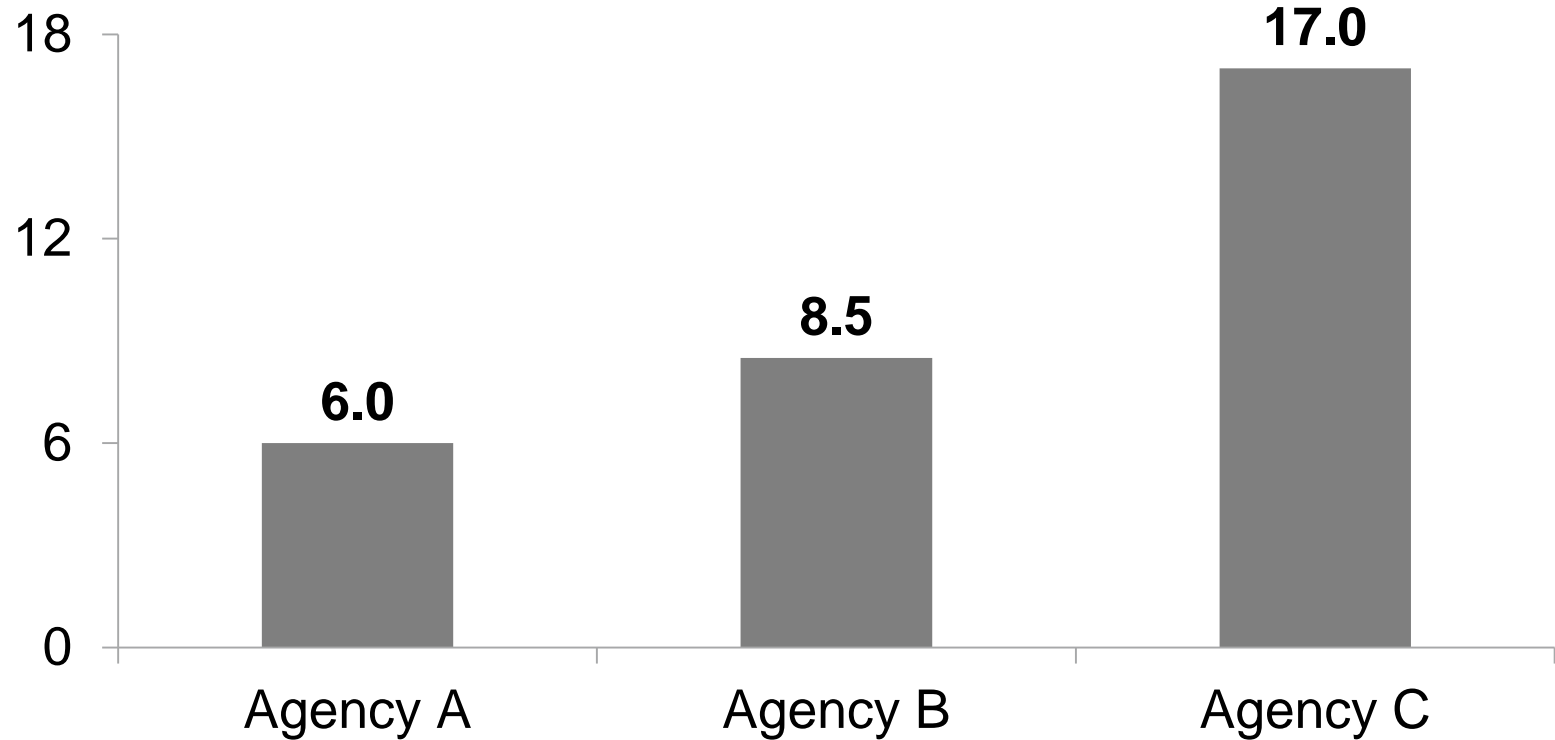
71,000 cats handled by shelters per year:

- 7.8 cats/1,000 humans
- 2.9% of midpoint cat population estimate
- 1 out of every 34 cats each year

Source: Shelter intake and outcome data from LA City, LA County, and SEAACA

Normalized Intake Varies By Agency

2011 Cat Intake per 1,000 Human Population



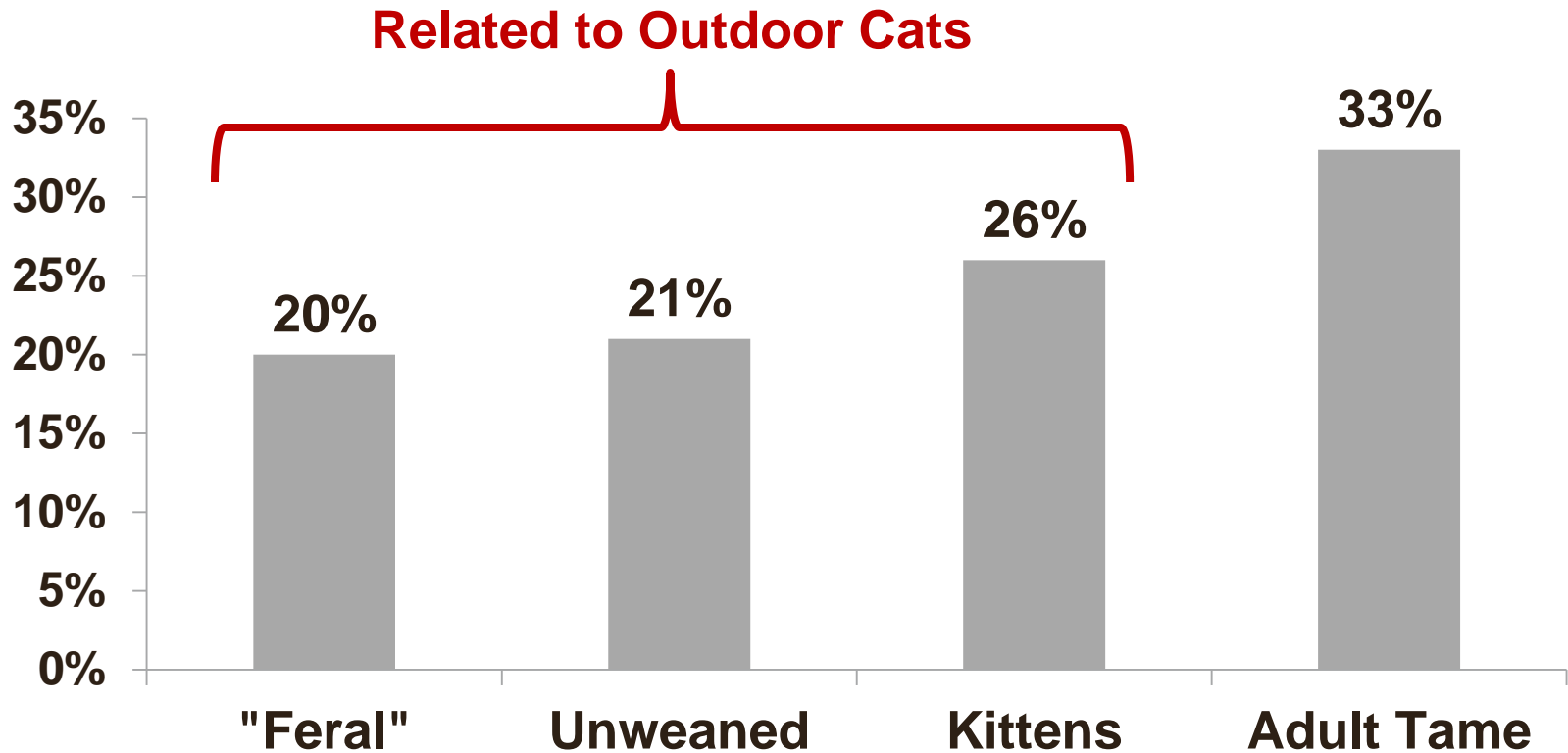
What Could Explain Variance?

	Agency A	Agency B	Agency C
Cat Intake/1,000 Pop	6.0	8.5	17.0
Med. HH Income	\$54,108	\$60,606	\$56,169
Bachelor's or higher (%)	30	29	17
Race (%)			
• White	33	26	16
• Asian	12	15	10
• Black	9	10	5
• Hispanic	43	44	68
Cat Policy			
• Can Trap?	Y	Y	Y
• Rent Traps?	Y	Y	Y
• Intake Trapped?	Y	Y	Y
• Pickup Trapped?	N	N	Y
• Cat Dispatch?	N	N	Y
% of Cat Pop Handled*	1.7	3.0	5.9

* Assumes even distribution of cats across agencies at 1 per 3.5 humans

2/3 of Intake Related to Outdoor Cats

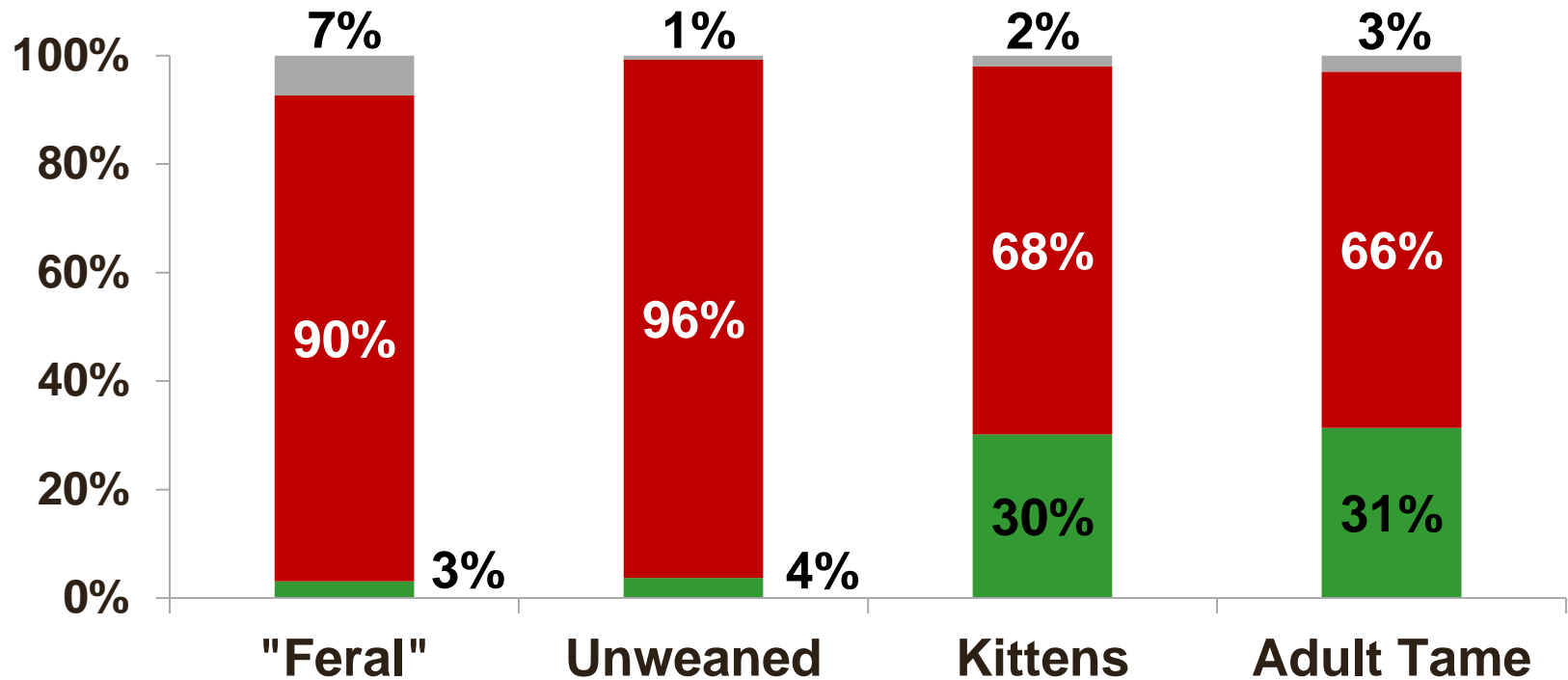
Agency B Cat Intake by Category – 2011



Vast Majority of Outdoor Cat Related Intake is Euthanized

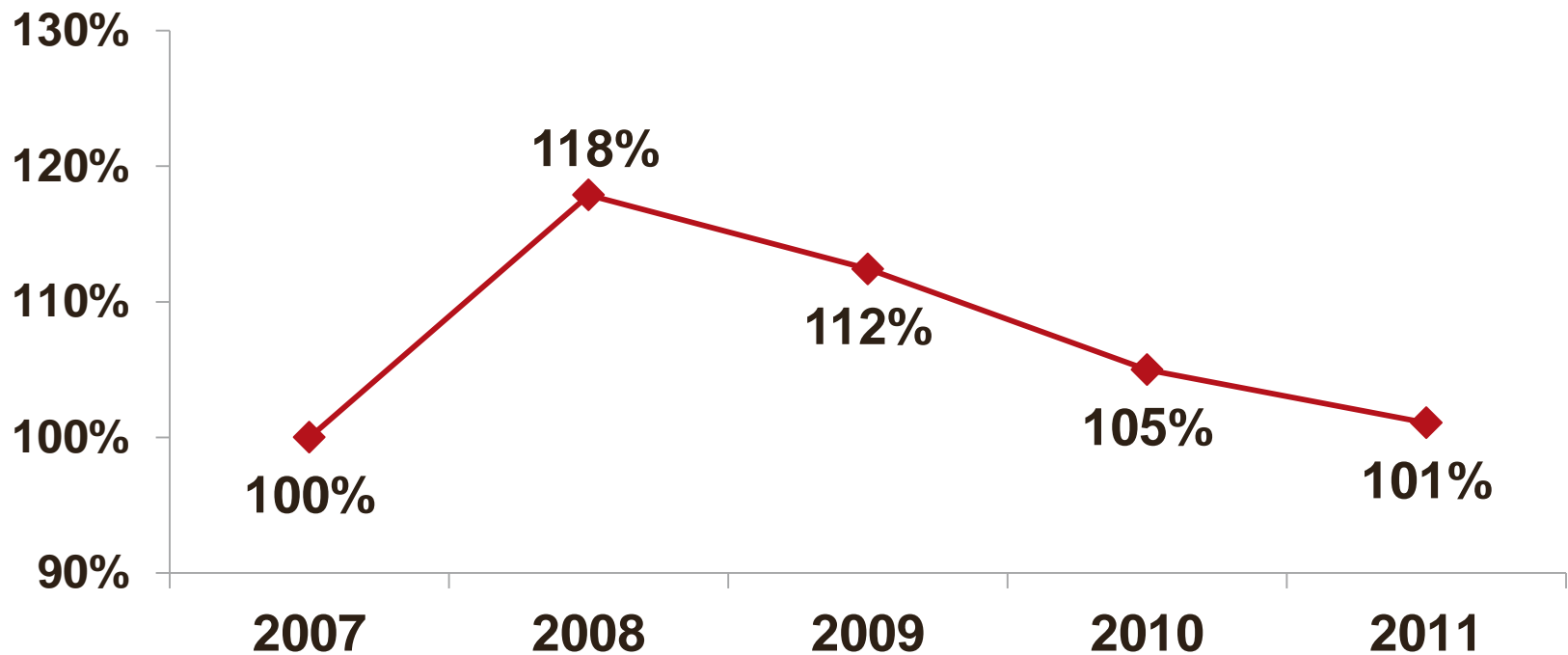
Agency B Cat Outcomes— 2011

■ Live Release ■ Euthanized ■ Other



High Per Capita Intake and Euthanasia Not Producing Significant Impact

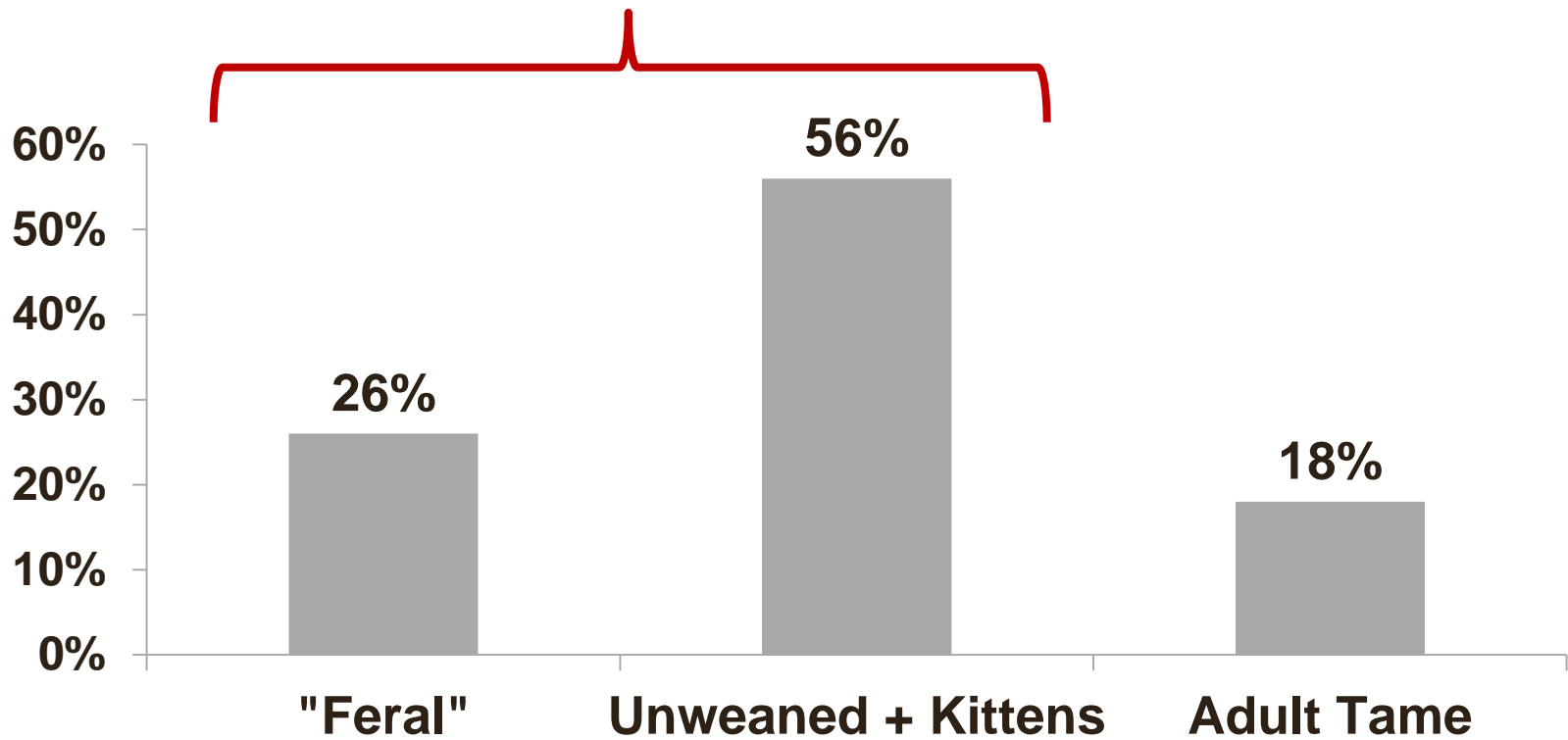
Agency B Indexed Cat Intake 2007 – 2011



>80% Intake Related to Outdoor Cats

Agency C Cat Intake by Category – 2011

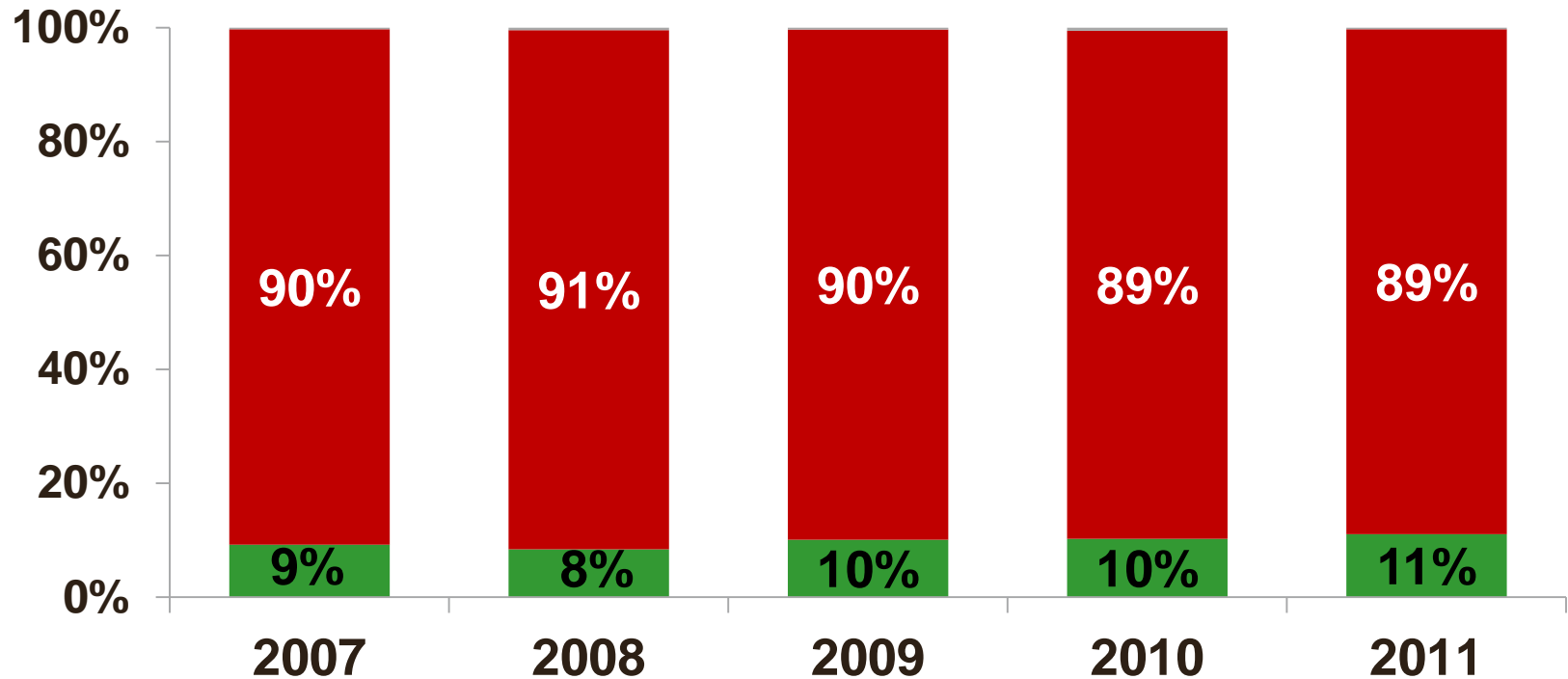
Related to Outdoor Cats



Nearly All Cat Intake Euthanized

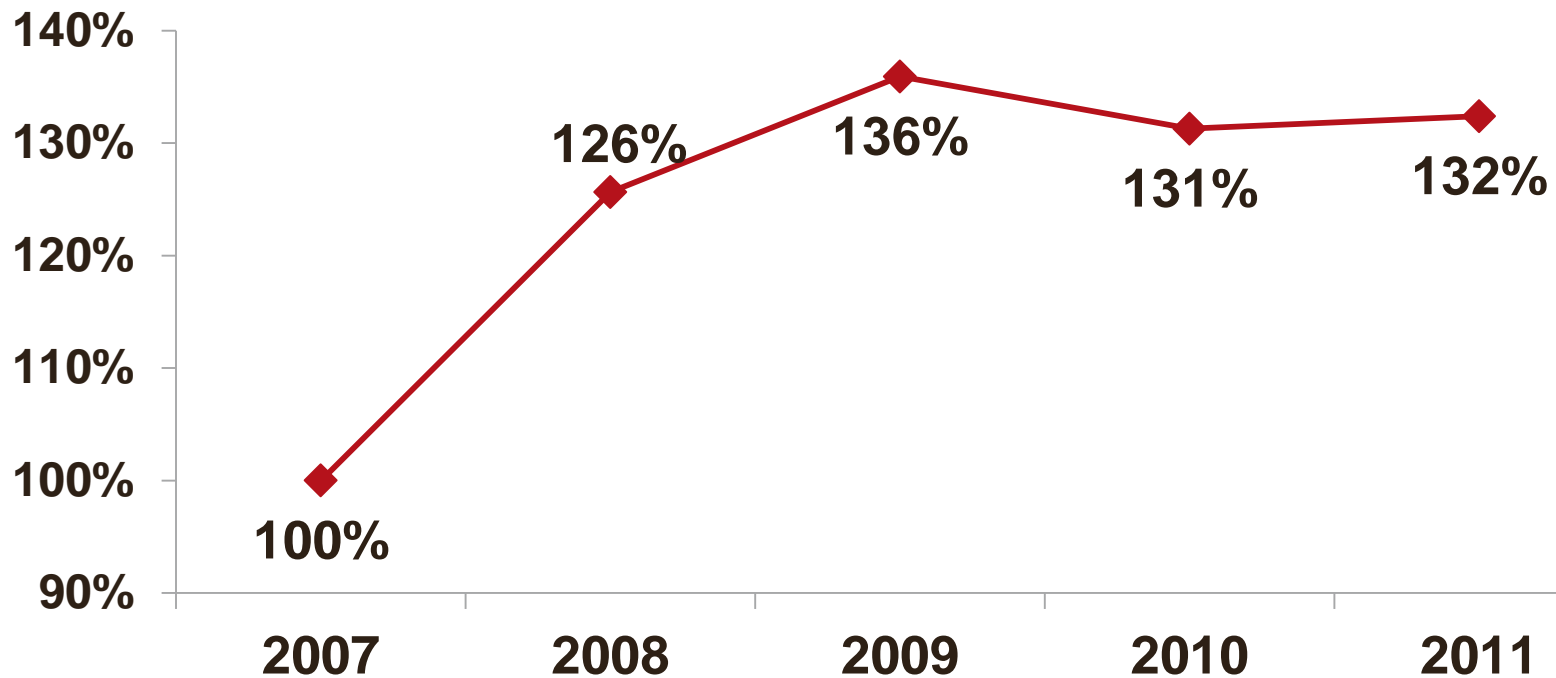
Agency C Cat Outcomes 2007 – 2011

■ Live Release ■ Euthanized



Again. . High Per Capita Intake and Euthanasia Not Producing Results

Agency C Indexed Cat Intake 2007 – 2011



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A Different Approach is Needed

Current Activities Do Not Have Desired Impact

- **Majority of LA metro shelter intake of cats is already related to outdoor cats**
 - $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of total cat intake depending on agency
- **Existing “catch and kill” shelter policies are not decreasing intake**
 - >70% euthanasia rate for all cats, often >90% of intake related to outdoor cats
- **Spending \$10’s of millions of tax dollars annually**
 - Three major agencies have total annual budget of \$55M, cats account for 43% of intake and 59% of euthanasia

Better Results Will Require Handling Many, Many More Cats

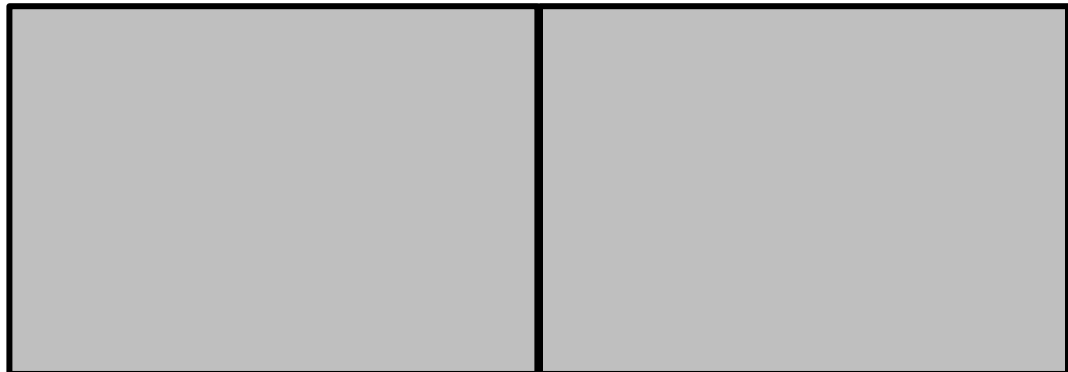
- **Currently activities only handle 5-7% of feral cat population each year**
 - 60K annual “feral” intakes \div 1.1 M midpoint of “feral” population = 5%
 - If you add 20K TNRs, 7.3% of population handled annually
- **To “solve” the challenge, would likely need to handle more like 80% of population over 3-5 year period**
 - 80% X 1.1M cats = 880K cats \div 3-5 years = 180 - 290K cats per year
 - 2 - 4 times the current handling capacity of public + private system
- **Handling up to 4x as many cats (that don't want to be handled) will require massive resources, mostly human**

Portfolio Approach Needed

Lethal Methods

Non-Lethal Methods

Public Agencies



Private Organizations

