



Maddie's Fund

Maddie's® Comparative Database Frequently Asked Questions

Why isn't my area's shelter data included on Maddie's Comparative Database?

All data presented in the Comparative Database was provided to Maddie's Fund voluntarily by organizations in each community using Maddie's Fund's version of the Asilomar Accords Animal Statistics Table. The majority of these coalitions received funding through Maddie's Shelter Data grant and Maddie's Community Collaborative Project grant, which are no longer available.

Can I send you my local shelter's data?

While you are more than welcome to send us your local shelter's data, Maddie's Fund may not be able to include individual organizations' data on the Comparative Database. Maddie's Fund generally collects data for the entire community, so our Comparative Database was created from a community perspective as opposed to an individual organization level.

You have three types of shelters listed. How do you define each of them?

- **Animal Control (AC):** Municipal agencies or animal organizations that contract with local governments to provide animal control services.
- **Traditional (TR):** Animal organizations that manage shelter populations by euthanizing pets that are considered to be healthy or treatable in addition to unhealthy & untreatable animals. If a traditional shelter has a contract with local government to provide animal control services, please include this organization in the Animal Control category.
- **Adoption Guarantee (AG):** Animal organizations that save all the healthy and treatable animals under their care, with euthanasia reserved only for unhealthy & untreatable animals. An adoption guarantee organization could be an animal shelter, rescue group, foster care organization, or sanctuary.

When will 2015 data be posted?

Maddie's Fund is in the process of collecting and finalizing 2015 data from all of the coalitions. We anticipate all data will be posted later in 2016.

Why doesn't the human population on the comparative database match the human population of my local Animal Control agency's jurisdiction?

Organizations submit their data to Maddie's Fund as part of a coalition. All of the data Maddie's Fund collects is community-based. The human population listed represents the area the coalition covers. Sometimes this reaches beyond one particular city or county and represents a targeted area of several contiguous counties.

I've noticed some communities are showing a "50%" next their community name. What does this mean?

The 50% next to the community's name means not all shelters reported data. The shelter data we have represents approximately 50% of that community's population.

Does the Comparative Database represent the majority of the shelters in the United States?

In total, Maddie's Comparative Database contains data from more than 500 shelters throughout the United States. However, this represents less than 5% of all physical shelters and all foster based animal welfare organizations in the U.S.