

# Pet Overpopulation Fact Sheet



## Canada<sup>1</sup>

- Every day 941 people are born in Canada.
- The average female cat can produce three litters every year. The average number of kittens in each litter is between 4 and 6. In 7 years one female cat and her offspring theoretically can produce 420,000 cats.
- The average female dog can produce two litters every year. The average number of puppies in each litter is between 6 and 10. In 6 years one female dog and her offspring theoretically can produce 67,000 dogs.
- Approximately 220,000 cats and dogs enter shelters each year.
- Approximately 80,000 cats and dogs are euthanized by shelters each year.

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## Nova Scotia<sup>2</sup>

In 2006:

- Animal shelters of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) across Nova Scotia accepted 7,576 cats and dogs.
- 4,318 cats and dogs were adopted from these animal shelters.
- 3,161 cats and dogs were euthanized in these animal shelters.
  - There were 3,717 cats and dogs sheltered at the Cape Breton SPCA Animal Shelter.
  - 2,032 cats and dogs were euthanized at this shelter.

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Statistics Canada & Canadian Federation of Humane Societies

<sup>2</sup> Source: Nova Scotia SPCA