



# INAUGURAL REPORT

ANALYSIS OF DATA  
REPORTED FOR:

January 1st, 2018 - June 30th, 2018

## EQUINE WELFARE DATA COLLECTIVE



The results in this report have been audited by **Prospect Analytics** (<https://www.prospectanalytics.com>) and peer reviewed by **Dr. Monique Udell - Associate Professor at Oregon State University**.

*The Equine Welfare Data Collective is not making recommendations based on this inaugural data analysis.*

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## A LETTER FROM THE UNITED HORSE COALITION:

THE UNITED HORSE COALITION (UHC) is honored to have played a role in the creation of the Equine Welfare Data Collective Inaugural Report. As a collaboration of many different organizations within the equine industry, with as many different backgrounds, the United Horse Coalition has one goal of working together to help equines who are at-risk or in transition. The EWDC mirrors that goal – as it is a collection of input from many different organizations who all have a stake in helping the equines in their care and have recognized the need for solid data to help further that mission.

It is our sincere hope that in the EWDC we will have created something which has been in place for several years in the dog and cat welfare scene, but lacking in the equine welfare community. Our partners and contributors have recognized a need for this data and answered the call through the creation of and their contributions towards the Equine Welfare Data Collective. We thank you for the time you have dedicated to the Collective and the survey.

This data is what you, our contributors and readers, make of it. Though we may be in uncharted territory, it is certainly an exciting time to be involved in this program. This data can be used to both identify areas in which we are excelling, and to recognize our opportunities for growth in the industry. By bringing to light any areas in which we are surpassing expectations, we can look to replicate those programs and increase their availability. For those areas that are deficient, we can identify where new programs and changes are needed to improve humane outcomes. This data has immense potential to help our at-risk and transitioning equines and we look forward to seeing the wonderful potential and change for good that it will bring about.

*Ashley Harkins*  
Director  
United Horse Coalition  
[UHC@HorseCouncil.org](mailto:UHC@HorseCouncil.org)



## A LETTER FROM THE EQUINE WELFARE DATA COLLECTIVE:

The **EQUINE WELFARE DATA COLLECTIVE (EWDC)** is a collaboration to accumulate, analyze, and report data to enhance programming for transitioning and at-risk equines. The EWDC was created by the United Horse Coalition (UHC), a program of the American Horse Council (AHC), with funding partners being The Right Horse Initiative (TRH), The American Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), and The American Association of Equine Practitioners Foundation (AAEPF).

Our data analysis has been verified by Prospect Analytics (San Francisco, CA) and this report has been peer reviewed by Dr. Monique Udell, associate professor with Oregon State University.

We understand the power of data and how it can vastly shift the dialogue around an issue and drive positive change. Our plan is to release reports every 6 months. We see data collection and analysis as a strictly objective endeavor and do not attempt to make suggestions on how you should use this report.

The EWDC greatly values the privacy of our members. We understand the data they've chosen to share with us contains sensitive information. Raw data is never shared without the contributing organization's explicit permission. All data is aggregated with identifying information removed once authentication is complete.

The EWDC launched its first survey in November 2018 and updated that survey in February 2019. The data analyzed in this report is a snapshot of time as told by 253 individual organizations across 46 states and Puerto Rico – representing an estimated 27.59% of the total population of 501(c)(3), nonprofit, and municipal organizations that take custody of at-risk equines and those in transition. The reported analysis is conducted on a national and regional level.

We are excited to present the analysis but caution readers to avoid drawing inferences at this early stage of our data collection. Remember – correlation does not equal causation. Longer term data collection will allow us to explore and understand trends and relationships on a deeper level.

## A LETTER FROM THE EQUINE WELFARE DATA COLLECTIVE (CONT.):

The equine welfare community is fantastically varied among the great work it does. As we approached all organizations within the population and not a random sample, reporting may be skewed to overrepresent specific programs and equine demographics. Furthermore, “survivor bias” suggests that an overrepresented demographic appearing in the results may simply mean that subsection of at-risk equines has a robust set of options available to them, not that they are at greater risk.

Data collection is a journey, and this analysis has opened our eyes to the needs of the community and further data points to explore. We are excited to present the inaugural EWDC Report and see how data science can improve the welfare of all equines.

*Emily Stearns*

Program Manager

Equine Welfare Data Collective

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## METHODS:

**The EWDC compiled a database of all 501(c)(3), nonprofit, and municipal organizations within the United States and Puerto Rico that take custody of at-risk equines and those in transition.** This list was created using publicly available information within the IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search,<sup>11</sup> individual state tax exempt databases,<sup>10</sup> nonprofit auditing companies, web searches for publicly available lists of “equine/horse/pony rescues,” “equine/horse/pony sanctuaries,” “equine/horse/pony shelters,” social media groups, and direct leads from partner organizations.

Organizations’ 501(c)(3), nonprofit, or municipal status were verified using Forms 990, EIN numbers, and Letters of Determination. The EWDC initially targeted this population for data collection as they are eligible to receive grant and public funding, as well as donations, and are often the “first line of defense” to assist local law enforcement with animal confiscations.

**A survey was built using Survey Monkey® to collect summary data for 2017 and aggregate data for January 1, 2018-June 30, 2018.**

## METHODS:


The survey link was sent via email to all organizations in the database in November 2018. All non-responsive organizations were contacted via phone and email every 2 weeks until the end of the collection period (July 2019). A link to the survey was also posted on the United Horse Coalition website. The survey was updated in February 2019 to include data collection for July 1, 2018-December 31, 2018.

**Organizations with duplicate submissions and response outliers were contacted via phone and email to confirm the data submitted.** Employer Identification Numbers (EIN) were used as the main identification number of an organization to recognize duplicate submissions.

**All identifying information such as name, phone number, and email address were removed from the dataset before analysis.** Region designations were assigned based on Federal Census Regions (Appendix A). Maximum capacity was used to designate organization size. Microsoft Excel 2018® was used to calculate discrete statistics and Minitab® 2018 was used for corollary analysis.


*This population is the starting point to identifying and understanding the needs and trends of at-risk equines and those in transition within the community.*

POPULATION:



**917**

501(c)(3), nonprofit, and municipal organizations within the United States (including Puerto Rico) that take custody of at-risk equines and those in transition



**253**

The responding sample size of the collection period was 253 individual organizations representing 27.59% of the total population.

Region 4 is the largest with a total of 185 organizations, with Region 7 being the smallest (32 organizations)(Figure 1). Region 8 had the highest percentage responding sample size (40.63%) (Figure 2).

California has the largest state population of organizations (108 organizations) and Wyoming and Puerto Rico are the smallest (1 organization each). A complete table of state organization populations can be found in Appendix B.

The organization density was found to be correlated with both the equine population within each region (Pearson 0.68, P<0.05) as well as the human population (Pearson 0.93, P<0.05), but was not found to be correlated with regional human population density.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Figure 1: Region Organization Population

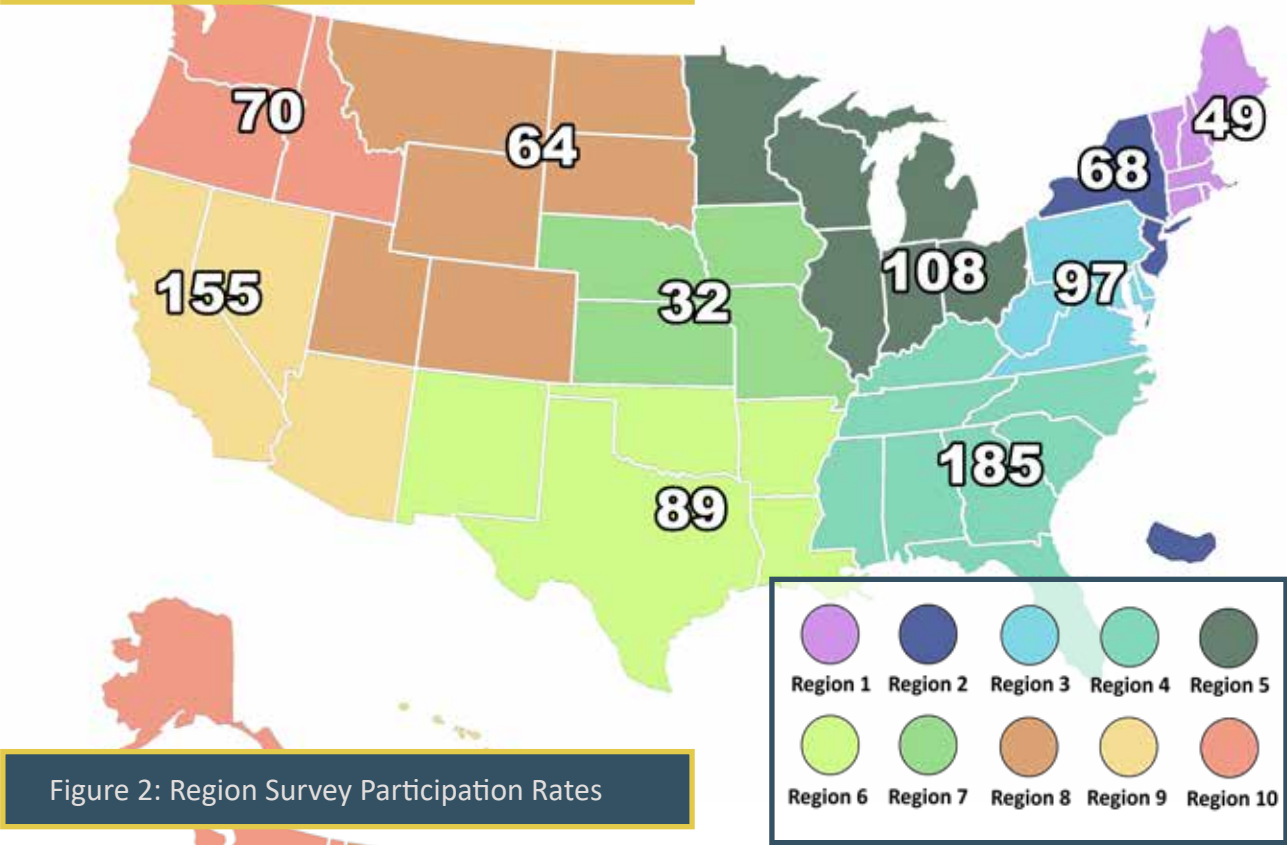
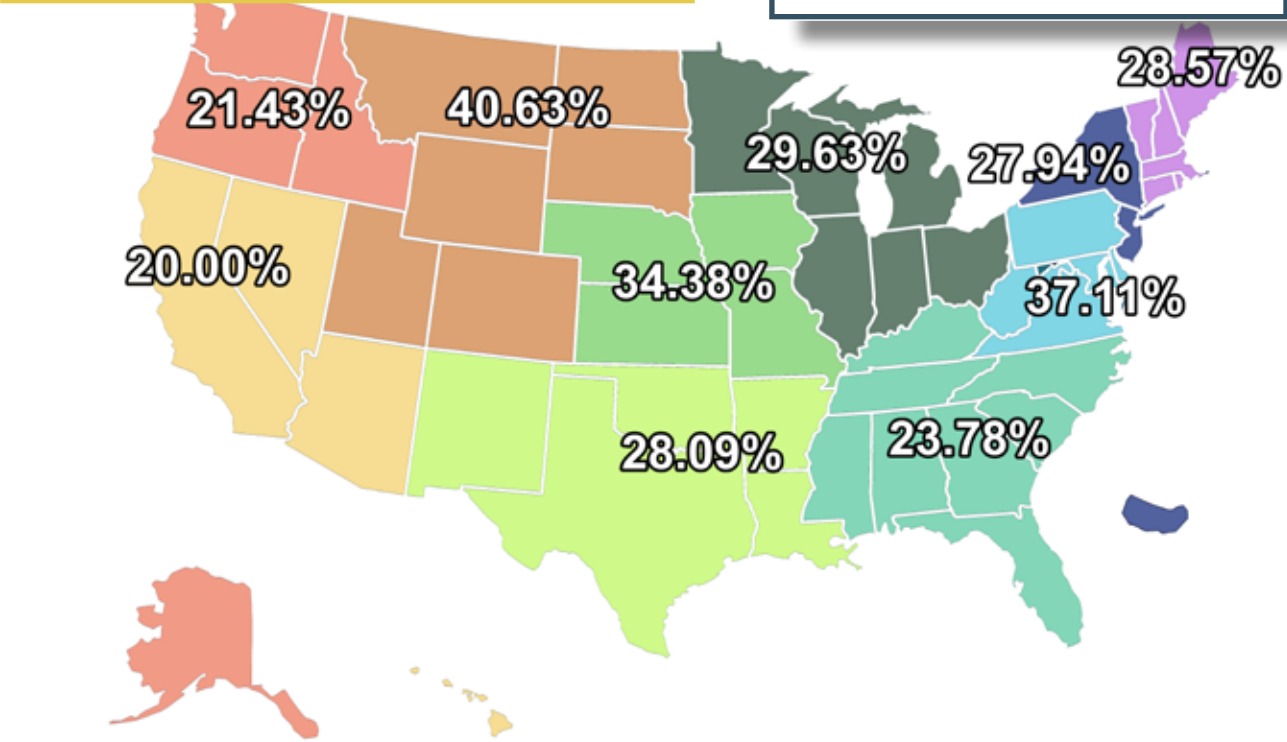


Figure 2: Region Survey Participation Rates





PROGRAM DETAILS:

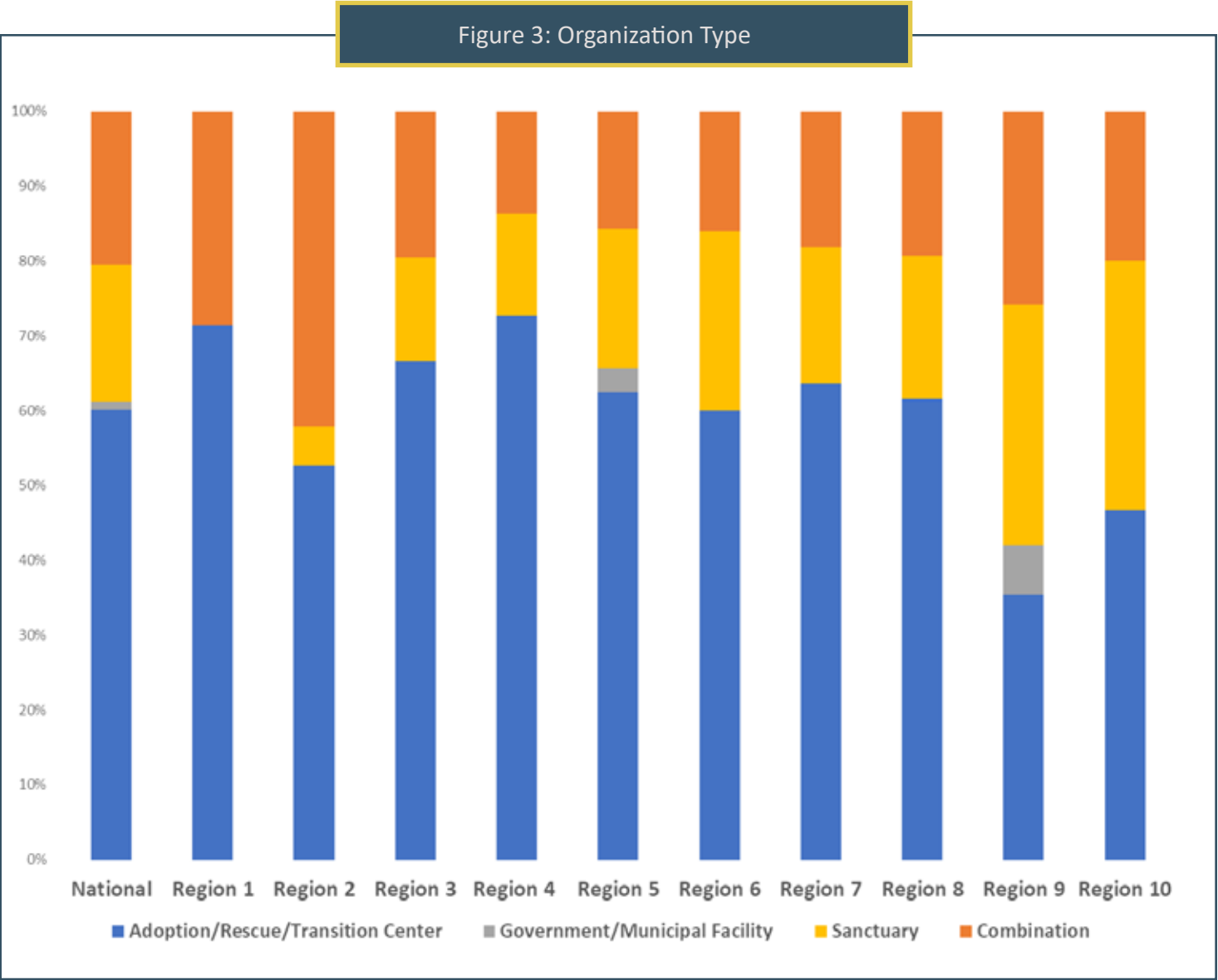
Organization Type:

Nationally (n=253) 60.08% of organizations identified as Adoption/Rescue/Transition Centers, 20.55% identified as a combination of an Adoption/Rescue/Transition Center and Sanctuary, 18.18% identified solely as a Sanctuary, and 1.19% identified as a Municipal Facility. Adoption/Rescue/Transition Centers had the greatest response rate among all regions (Table 1, Figure 3).

	National (n=253)	Region 1 (n=11)	Region 2 (n=19)	Region 3 (n=36)	Region 4 (n=44)	Region 5 (n=32)	Region 6 (n=25)	Region 7 (n=11)	Region 8 (n=26)	Region 9 (n=31)	Region 10 (n=15)
Adoption/ Rescue/ Transition Center	60.08%	71.43%	52.63%	66.67%	72.73%	62.50%	60.00%	63.64%	61.54%	35.48%	46.67%
Government/ Municipal Facility	1.19%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.13%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6.45%	0.00%
Sanctuary	18.18%	0.00%	5.26%	13.89%	13.64%	18.75%	24.00%	18.18%	19.23%	32.26%	33.33%
Combination	20.55%	28.57%	42.11%	19.44%	13.64%	15.63%	16.00%	18.18%	19.23%	25.81%	20.00%

Table 1: Organization Type

PROGRAM DETAILS:



Organizations that responded as “Sanctuary” were asked if they would be willing to adopt out a resident equine if “the right home” was available. Nationally (n=46) 29.17% said “No” and 66.67% said “Yes.”



PROGRAM DETAILS:

How Organizations House Equines:

Organizations were asked to report their primary method of housing equines in their custody. An organization’s technique for housing animals is dependent upon many factors.

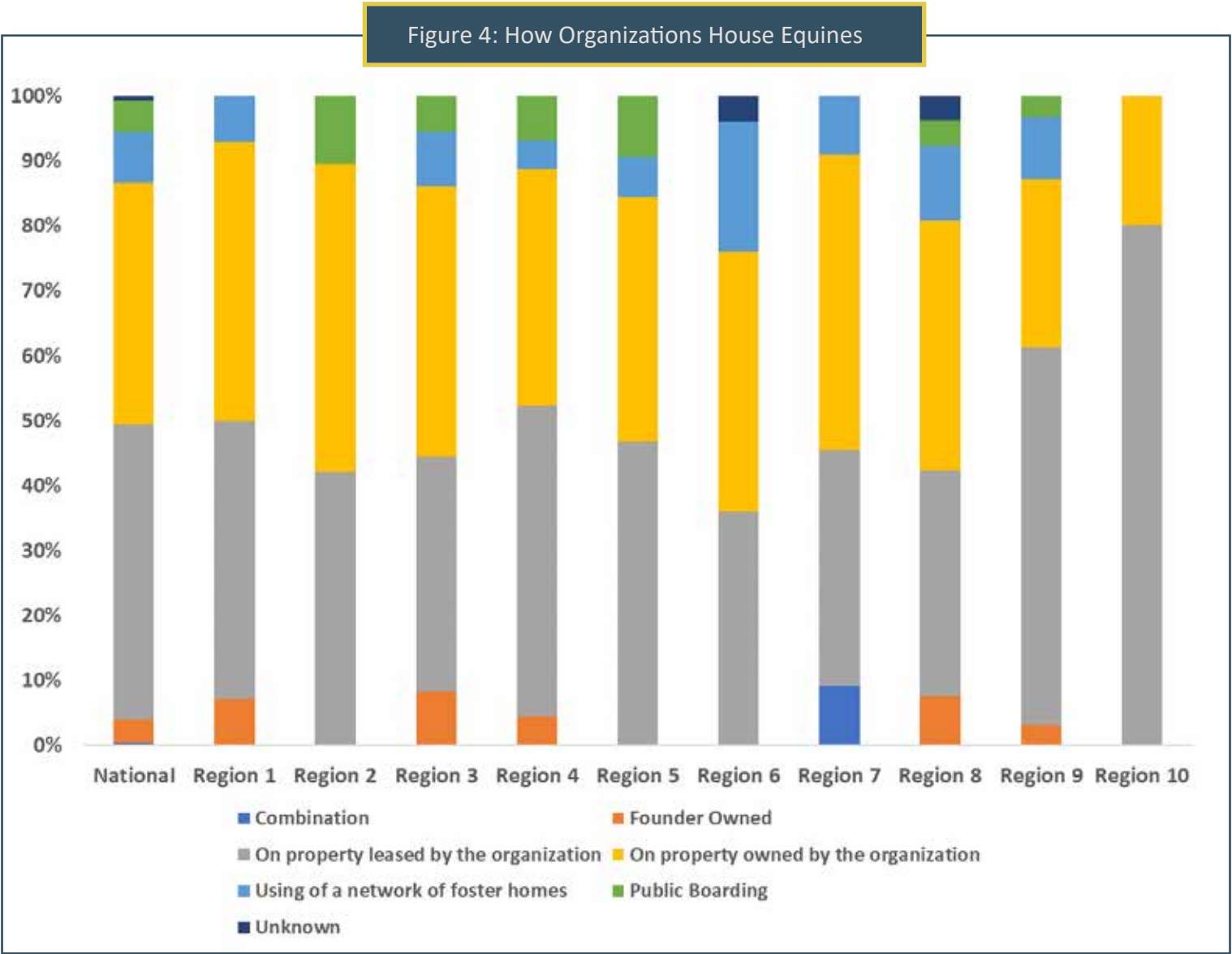
We considered that methods of housing might differ based on the availability of open land in a region. Areas of greater population density are more prone to loss of open land and agriculture activity.<sup>6</sup>

	National (n=253)	Region 1 (n=14)	Region 2 (n=19)	Region 3 (n=36)	Region 4 (n=44)	Region 5 (n=32)	Region 6 (n=25)	Region 7 (n=11)	Region 8 (n=26)	Region 9 (n=31)	Region 10 (n=15)
Combination	0.40%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
On property owned by the organization founder	3.56%	7.14%	0.00%	8.33%	4.55%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	7.69%	3.23%	0.00%
On property leased by the organization	45.45%	42.86%	42.11%	36.11%	47.73%	46.88%	36.00%	36.36%	34.62%	58.06%	80.00%
On property owned by the organization	37.15%	42.86%	47.37%	41.67%	36.36%	37.50%	40.00%	45.45%	38.46%	25.81%	20.00%
Using a network of foster homes	7.91%	7.14%	0.00%	8.33%	4.55%	6.25%	20.00%	9.09%	11.54%	9.68%	0.00%
Public Boarding Farms	4.74%	0.00%	10.53%	5.56%	6.82%	9.38%	0.00%	0.00%	3.85%	3.23%	0.00%
Unknown (Respondent was unsure)	0.79%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.00%	0.00%	3.85%	0.00%	0.00%

Table 2: How Organizations House Equines

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Less available open land resulting in smaller farms creates potential for a greater reliance on foster homes and private boarding as primary housing. Regional population density (open land ratio) was determined by 2010 US Federal Census Data.<sup>8</sup> Testing for bivariate correlation, no correlations were found between the methods of housing animals and regional human population density.







PROGRAM DETAILS:

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Organization Size:

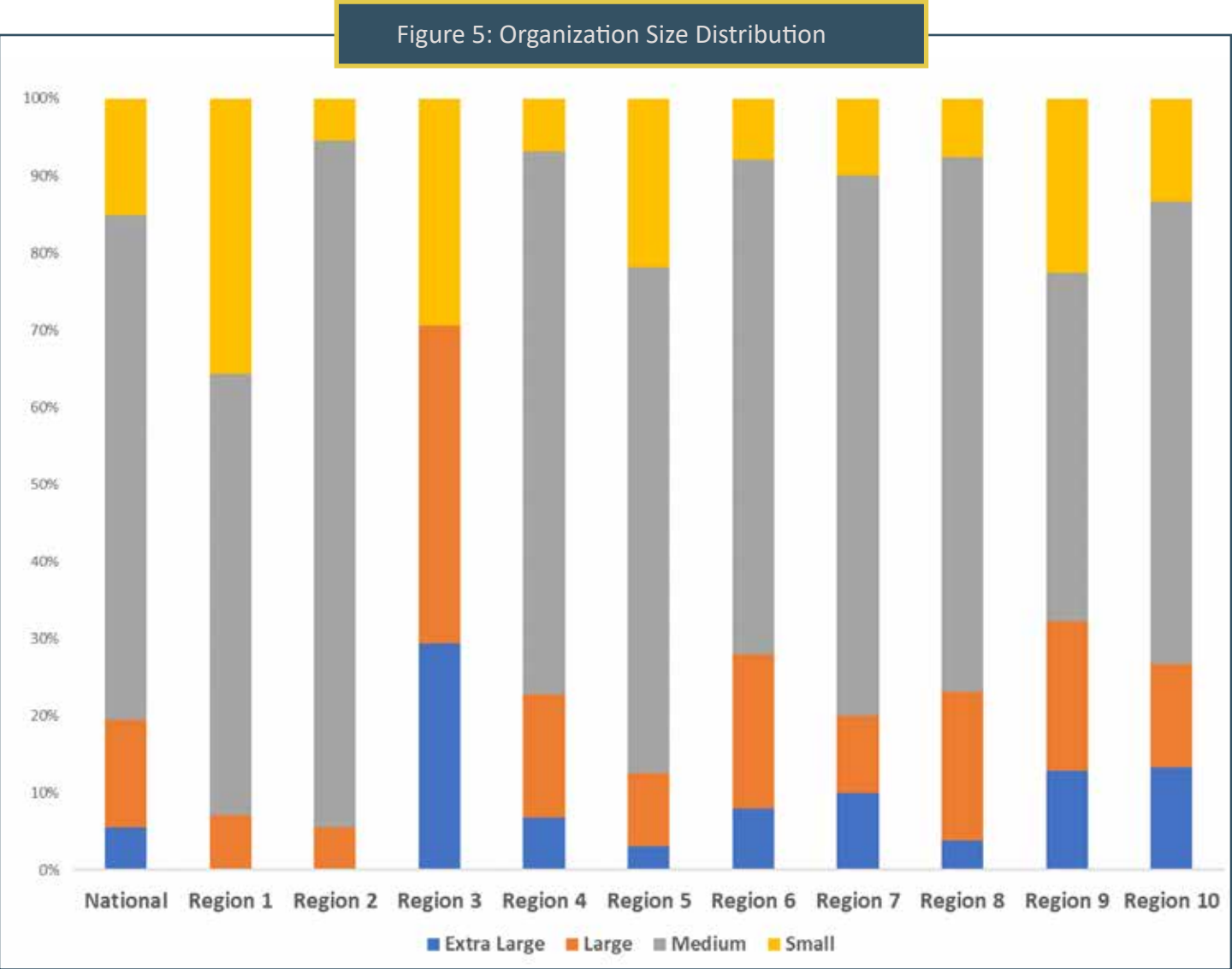
Organization size was determined using the organization’s reported maximum daily capacity (Table 3), i.e. the number of equines in legal custody the organization could care for at any one time.

Maximum Capacity	Category
0-10	Small
11-50	Medium
51-100	Large
>101	Extra Large

Table 3: Size Designation

	National (n=251)	Region 1 (n=14)	Region 2 (n=18)	Region 3 (n=34)	Region 4 (n=44)	Region 5 (n=32)	Region 6 (n=25)	Region 7 (n=10)	Region 8 (n=26)	Region 9 (n=31)	Region 10 (n=15)
Extra Large	5.6%	0.00%	0.00%	29.41%	6.82%	3.13%	8.00%	10.00%	3.85%	12.90%	13.33%
Large	13.9%	7.14%	5.56%	41.18%	15.91%	9.38%	20.00%	10.00%	19.23%	19.35%	13.33%
Medium	65.3%	57.14%	88.89%	0.00%	70.45%	65.63%	64.00%	70.00%	69.23%	45.16%	60.00%
Small	15.1%	35.71%	5.56%	29.41%	6.82%	21.88%	8.00%	10.00%	7.69%	22.58%	13.33%

Table 4: Organization Size Distribution





Record Keeping Methods:

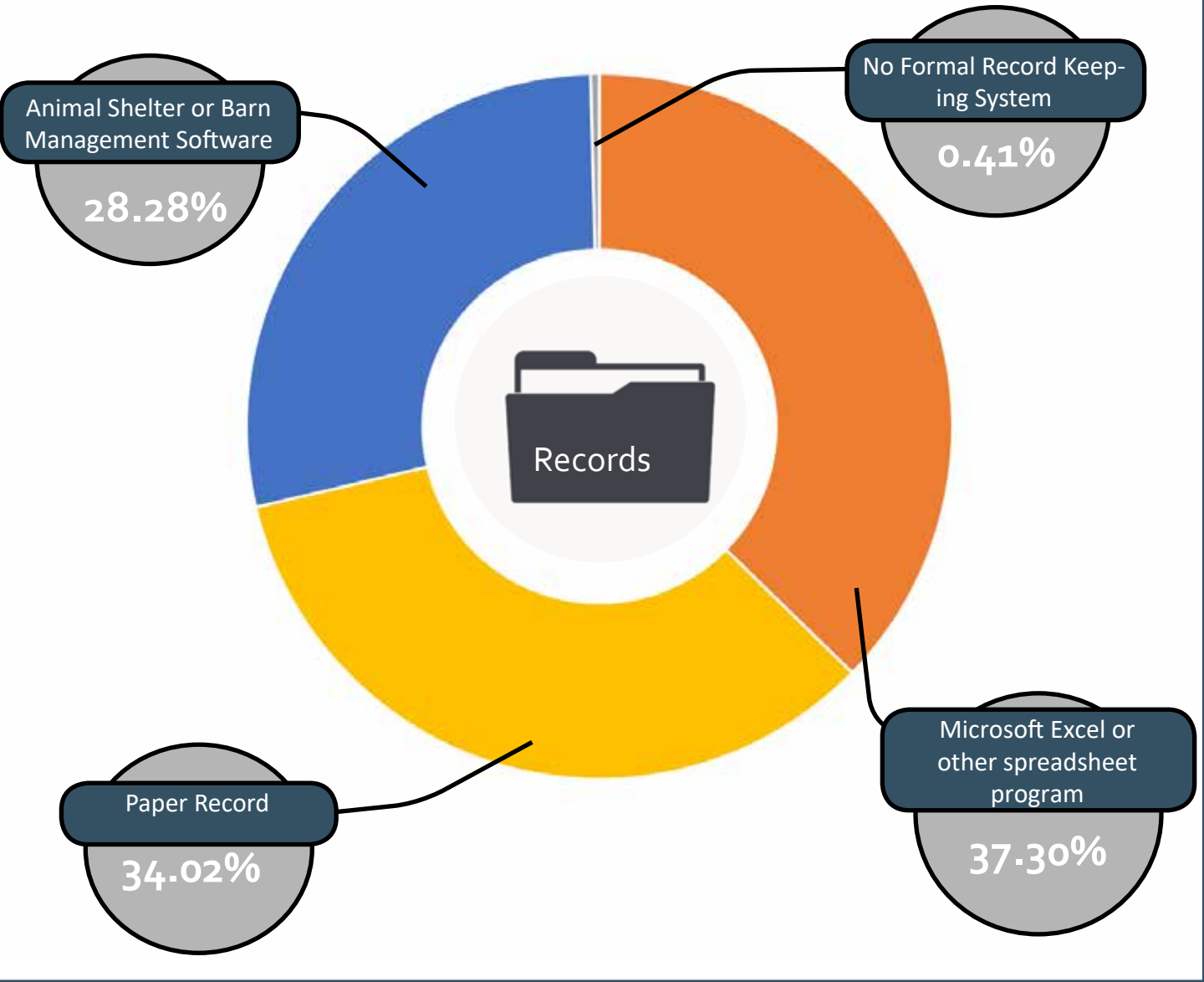
Standardized record keeping is “central to the scientific process.”<sup>7</sup> As aiding at-risk equines and those in transition often requires an organization to operate in a rural location with potentially limited utility access, it is key to understand how respondents keep records of the animals they’re assisting. Computer based record keeping systems, and paper-computer hybrid systems, have been shown to increase efficiency in human medical care.<sup>5,7</sup>

Nationally (n=244) 37.30% of organizations use Microsoft Excel® or a similar spreadsheet-based program, 34.02% use a paper record keeping system, 28.28% use an animal shelter specific software program, and 0.41% use no formal record keeping system (Figure 6). The animal shelter software systems used varied widely among groups, with many groups reported to be using multiple programs. Software programs used by respondents are listed below alphabetically.

Software used by Organizations (listed alphabetically):

- Animal Shelter Manager
- Barn Manager
- Chameleon
- Horse Notes
- IShelters
- Shelter Luv
- Pet Point
- Petstablished.com
- Rescue Connection
- Salesforce
- Shelter Buddy

Figure 6: Record Keeping Methods







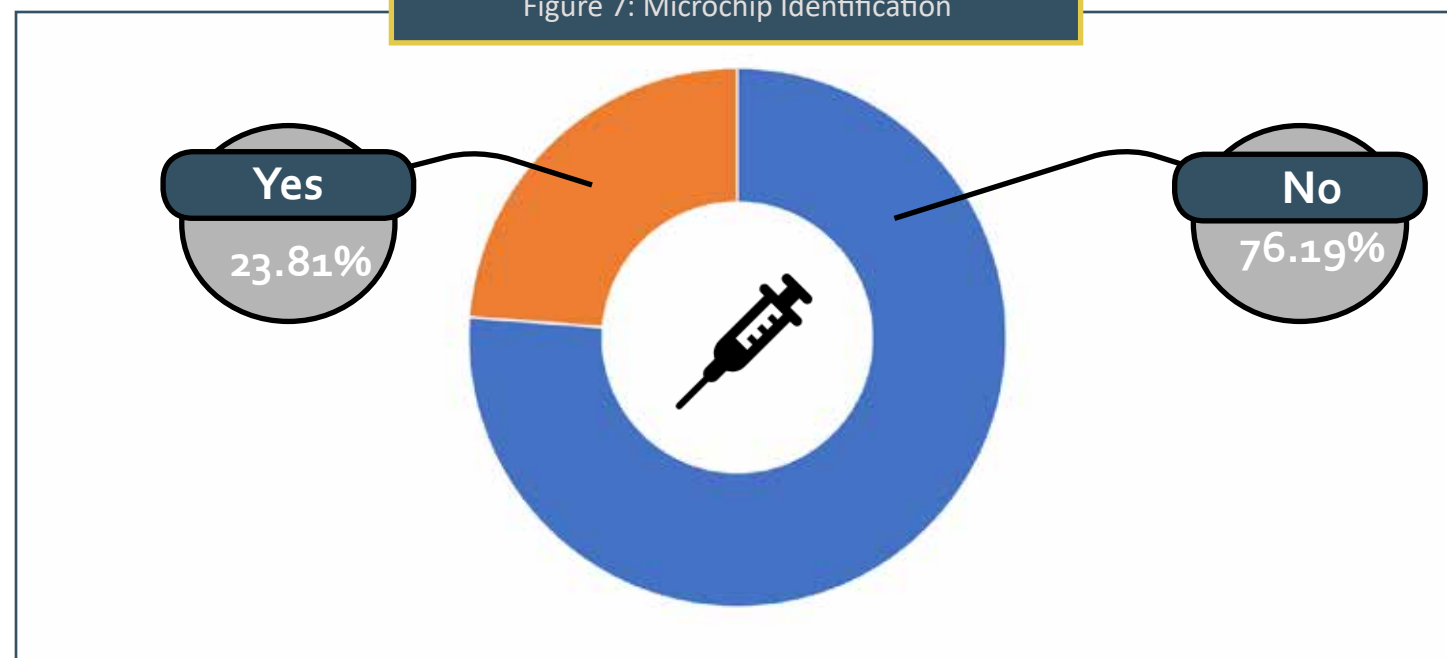
## PROGRAM DETAILS:

### Microchip Identification

RFID microchip technology is used to provide animals with a personal ID number and allows for positive identification and tracking across different registry and safety net programs. The United Kingdom recently enacted a requirement for all equines within the UK to be microchipped by October 2020.<sup>3</sup> This was a direct result of over 1000 equines being abandoned in the UK in 2017. The United Kingdom hopes this requirement will improve accountability of owners across the country.

Microchipping programs in the United States are in early stages of outreach. Louisiana currently requires all equines to be identified via microchip or other permanent method such as a brand or lip tattoo. **Nationally (n=252) 76.19% of respondents do not microchip equines in their custody; 23.81% do microchip equines in their custody (Figure 7).**

Figure 7: Microchip Identification



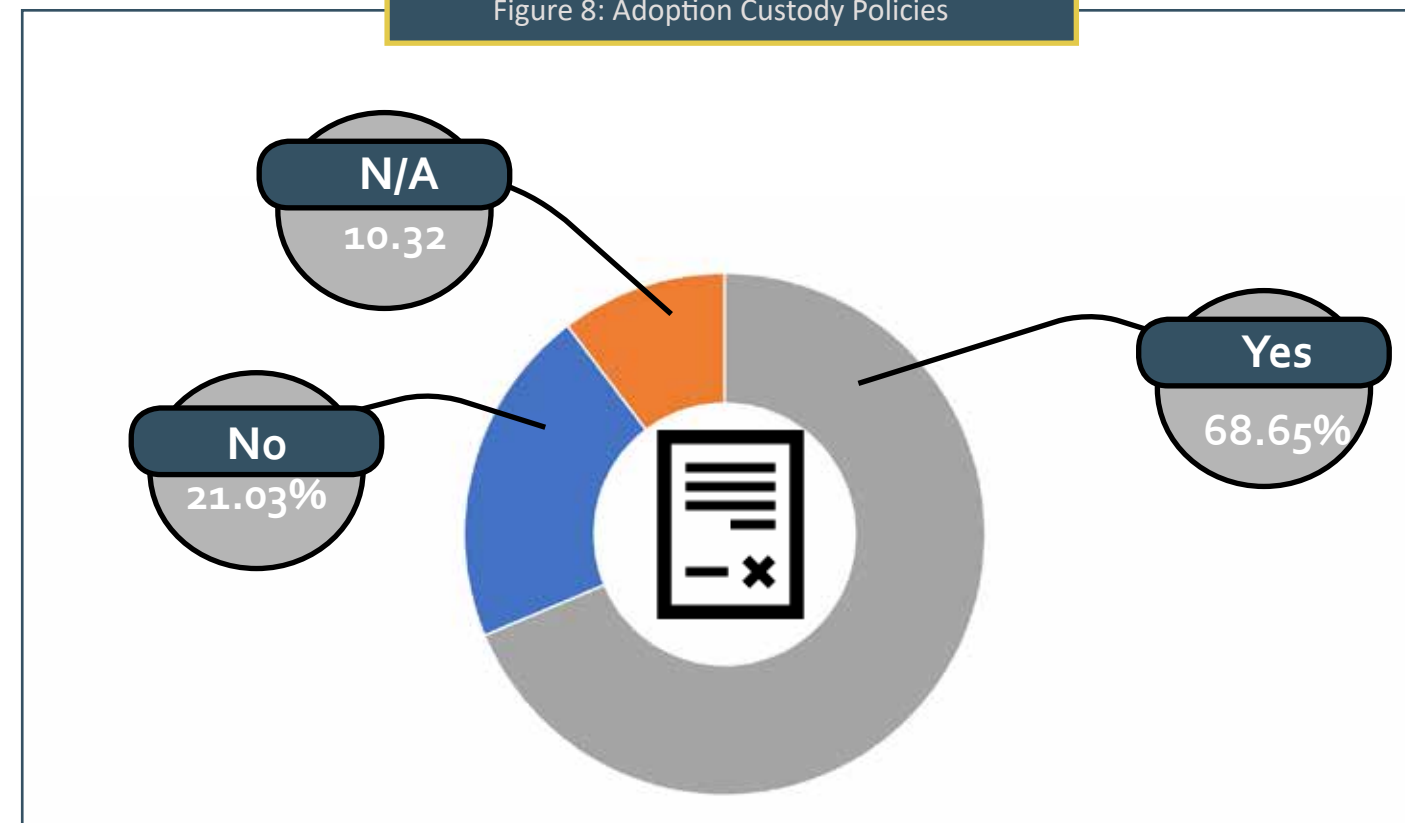
## PROGRAM DETAILS:

### Transfer of Custody during the Adoption Process

To better understand adoption policies and aspects of legal custody of newly adopted equines, the EWDC asked if organizations transferred legal custody of equines in their care to that of a new owner/adopter during the adoption process.

**Nationally (n=252) 68.65% responded “Yes”, 21.03% responded “No”, and 10.32% responded that they do not facilitate adoptions (N/A) (Figure 8).**

Figure 8: Adoption Custody Policies





MAXIMUM DAILY CAPACITY:

The maximum daily capacity is defined as “the maximum number of equines your organization is able to care for at any one time, this includes any equines in your organization’s custody in foster care, training facilities, and private boarding facilities.”

	National (n=251)	Region 1 (n=14)	Region 2 (n=18)	Region 3 (n=36)	Region 4 (n=44)	Region 5 (n=32)	Region 6 (n=25)	Region 7 (n=10)	Region 8 (n=26)	Region 9 (n=31)	Region 10 (n=15)
Maximum	3000	100	90	85	225	300	400	140	200	3000	699
Minimum	3	5	5	6	5	4	10	10	3	4	10
Median	30	15	25	19	32.5	25.5	35	25	30	35	25
Average	54.25	21.93	30.72	26.33	45.02	36.72	58.32	43.10	42.81	143.81	79.60
Sum of Maximum Holding Capacity	13618	307	553	948	1981	1175	1458	431	1113	4458	1194
Percent of total capacity	--	2.25%	4.06%	6.96%	14.55%	8.63%	10.71%	3.16%	8.17%	32.74%	8.77%

Table 5: Maximum Daily Capacity

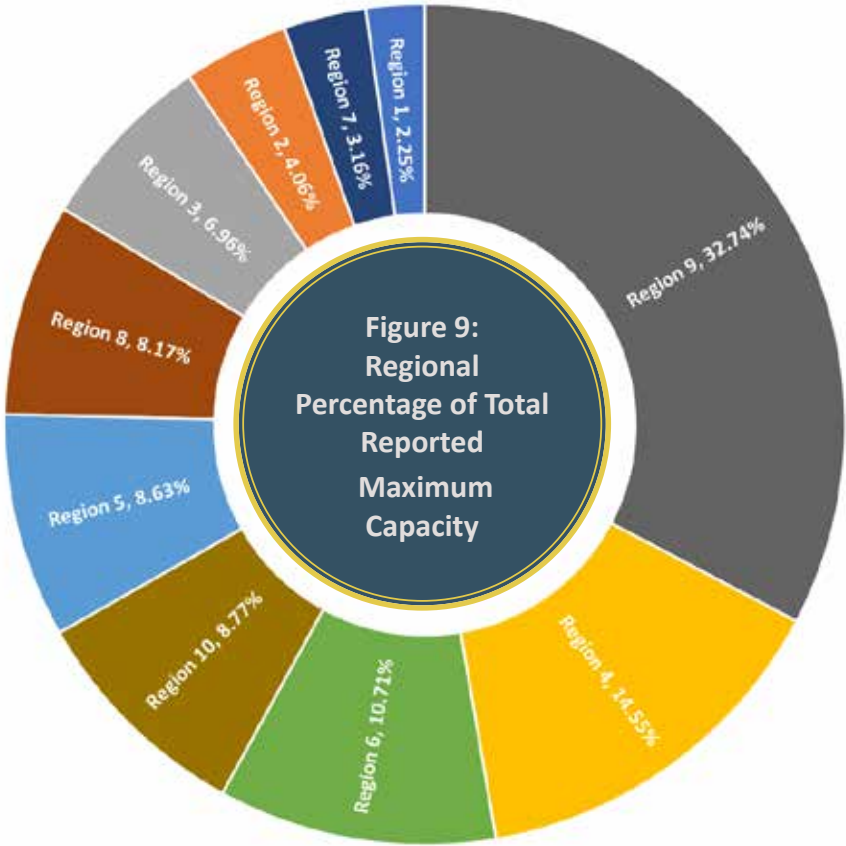
The reported maximum capacity of all respondents (n=251) is 13,618 equines. The largest reported maximum capacity is 3,000 equines, the smallest capacity 3 equines and the average 54.25 equines (Table 5).No bivariate correlations were found between a region’s percent of the total reported capacity and the regional density.



MAXIMUM DAILY CAPACITY:

Organizations were also asked in an open-ended question what they considered to be the “limiting factors” to determining their maximum daily capacity.

These responses were further broken down and categorized into physical space (i.e. number of stalls or acres of pasture), financial resources (i.e. grants, donations, and general funds), foster network (i.e. volunteer housing for animals), volunteers (i.e. volunteer labor and assistance), staffing (i.e. availability of paid employees and the funds to procure paid labor), regulations (i.e. local zoning laws, BLM mandates of animals per acre, and permitting requirements), or other (Table 6, Figure 10).







MAXIMUM DAILY CAPACITY:

Nationally the most commonly reported limited factor (n=250) was physical space (71.20%), followed by financial resources (50.00%), foster network (10.80%), volunteers (10.4%), staffing (9.20%), regulations (5.2%), and other (5.2%) (Table 6, Figure 10).

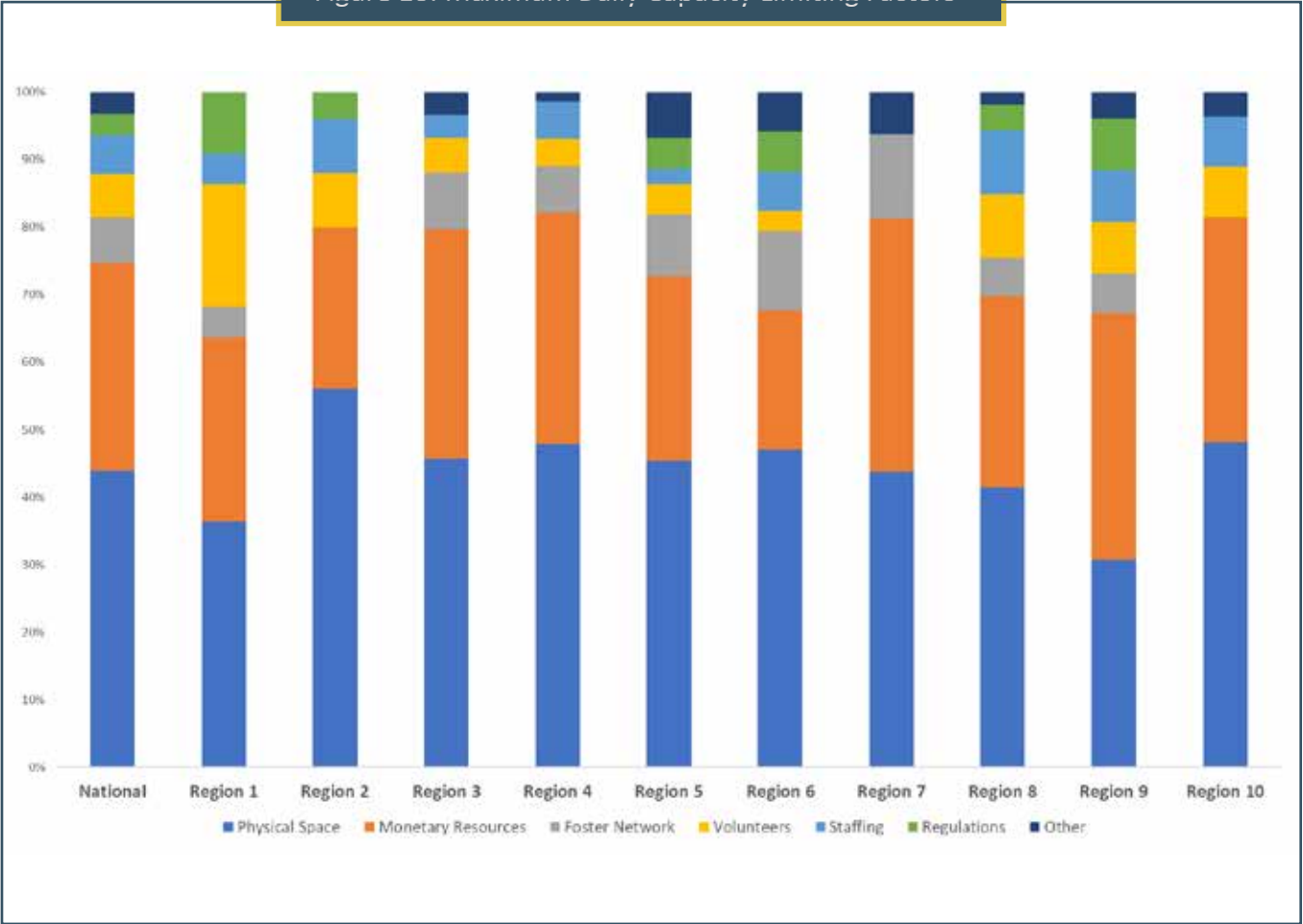
	National (n=251)	Region 1 (n=14)	Region 2 (n=18)	Region 3 (n=36)	Region 4 (n=44)	Region 5 (n=32)	Region 6 (n=25)	Region 7 (n=10)	Region 8 (n=26)	Region 9 (n=31)	Region 10 (n=15)
Physical Space	71.20%	57.1%	77.8%	75.0%	79.5%	62.5%	64.0%	70.0%	84.62%	51.6%	86.7%
Monetary Resources	50.00%	42.9%	33.3%	55.6%	56.8%	37.5%	28.0%	60.0%	57.69%	61.3%	60.0%
Foster Network	10.80%	7.1%	0.0%	13.9%	11.4%	12.5%	16.0%	20.0%	11.54%	9.7%	0.0%
Volunteers	10.40%	28.6%	11.1%	8.3%	6.8%	6.3%	4.0%	0.0%	19.23%	12.9%	13.3%
Staffing	9.20%	7.1%	11.1%	5.6%	9.1%	3.1%	8.0%	0.0%	19.23%	12.9%	13.3%
Regulations	5.20%	14.3%	5.6%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	8.0%	0.0%	7.69%	12.9%	0.0%
Other	5.20%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	2.3%	9.4%	8.0%	10.0%	3.85%	6.5%	6.7%

Table 6: Maximum Daily Capacity Limiting Factors



MAXIMUM DAILY CAPACITY:

Figure 10: Maximum Daily Capacity Limiting Factors



A region’s average per capita median income<sup>8</sup> was found to be inversely correlated with “foster network” being selected as a limiting factor on an organization’s daily maximum capacity (Pearson correlation -0.71, p<0.05). No other correlations were found between the limiting factors to maximum capacity and regional density, human population, or median income.



## BREED DEMOGRAPHICS:

The EWDC asked organizations to report the percentage of specific breeds that entered their custody during the collection period. According to the American Horse Council “Power of Horses”<sup>1</sup> the most popular breeds in the United States listed in order are Quarter Horses, Thoroughbreds, and Standardbreds.

Nationally (n=211) the most commonly reported breeds were Thoroughbred (21.21%), Quarter Horse (15.26%), and Grade Horse (10.67%) (Table 7). Most common breed reported differed greatly by region, as can be seen in Figure 11.

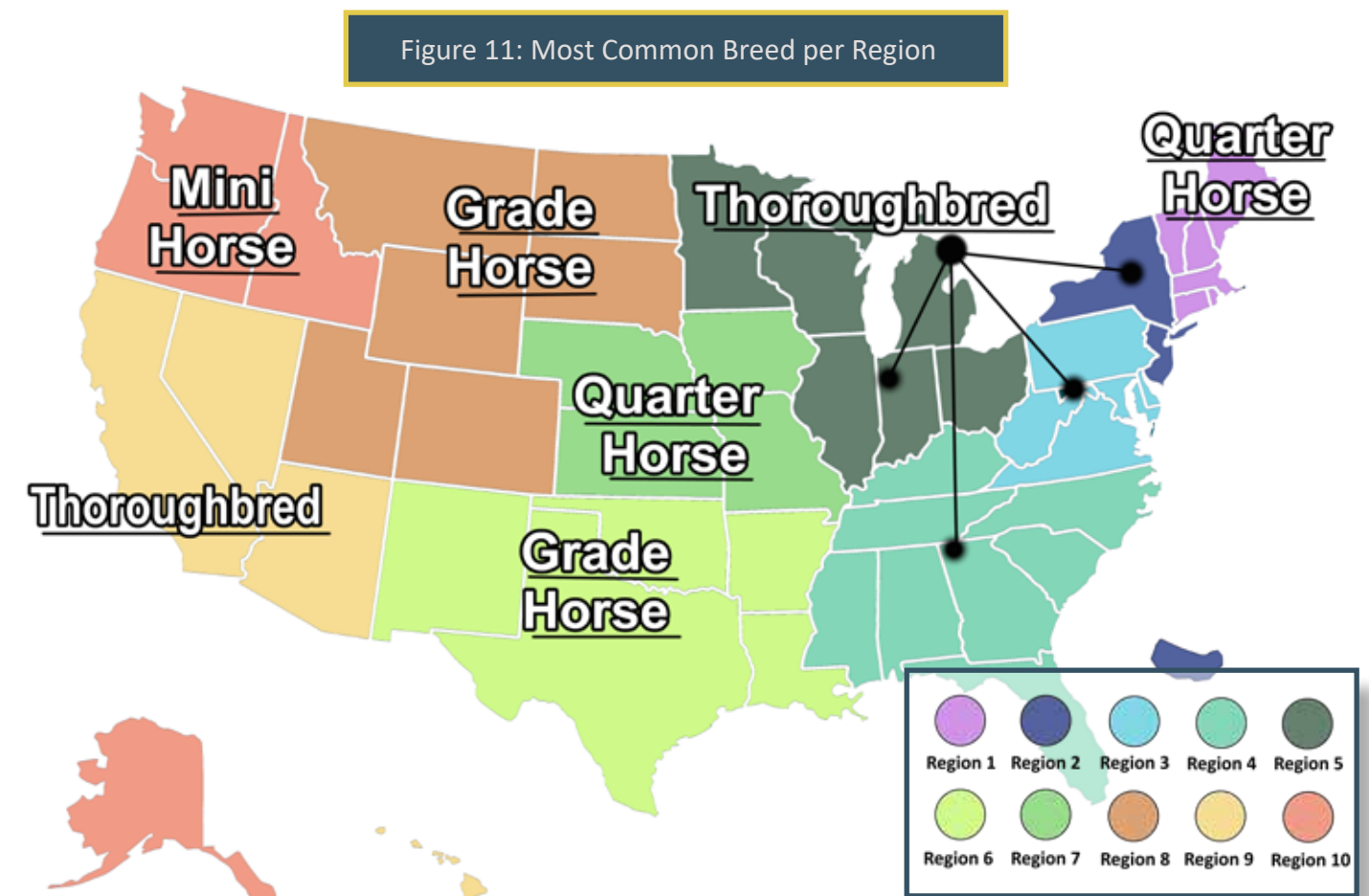
It should be noted that because the respondents were not part of a random sample, the listed breeds within this dataset may simply mean there was a high ratio of “breed specific” organizations that responded, and/or that safety net programs have been successful in assisting these animals, and not necessarily that any one particular breed is more “at-risk.” Further data collection is necessary to understand the full impacts of the results of this question.

It should also be noted that multiple organizations commented that they do not note breed as part of their routine record keeping system (n=5) and do not track the datapoint within their organization. Other organizations also reported they often “guess based on animal appearance” (n=13) and may accidentally misclassify equines as the wrong breed. Lastly, many organizations chose to skip completing the question all together (n=17) and thus resulted in a high level of attrition during the initial stages of data collection. This question was then made optional to encourage survey completion.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

	National Average (% of all equines, n=211)		National Average (% of all equines, n=211)
Thoroughbred	21.21	Draft/Draft Cross	3.01
Quarter Horse	15.26	Saddlebred	2.43
Grade Horse	10.67	Tennessee	2.41
Other	8.78	Unknown	1.50
Miniature Horse	7.25	Morgan	1.32
Donkey/Mule	5.82	Shetland	1.12
Mustang	5.51	Warmblood/Cross	1.02
Arabian	4.73	Welsh Pony	0.79
Standardbred	3.23	Pony of the Americas	0.57
Grade Pony	3.02	Connemara	0.34

Table 7: National Average Breed Demographics, % of all Intakes







## SUMMARY 2017 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

	National (n=233)			Region 1 (n=12)			Region 2 (n=15)			Region 3 (n=32)		
	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE
Maximum	428	360	50	59	48	11	428	344	15	66	53	19
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Average	32	24	4	12.83	10.08	1.83	50.07	37.53	2.80	19.38	14.53	2.81
Total	7379	5551	825	154	121	22	751	563	42	620	465	90

Table 8: Summary 2017 Intakes and Outcomes

Summary data points collected for 2017 were limited to total intakes, total adoptions, and total humane euthanasias (HE). Nationally respondents (n=233) reported a total of 7,379 intakes, 5,551 adoptions, and 825 humane euthanasias for January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017 (Table 8). Nationally, of the combined summary outcomes (sum of adoptions and humane euthanasia), 87.06% were adoptions and 12.94% were humane euthanasia.



## SUMMARY 2017 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

	Region 4 (n=42)			Region 5 (n=30)			Region 6 (n=24)			Region 7 (n=10)		
	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE
Maximum	398	360	27	109	104	17	259	271	50	75	69	15
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0
Average	38.02	30.74	3.14	30.77	22.17	2.93	46.13	36.83	5.25	31.40	23.70	4.40
Total	1597	1291	132	923	665	88	1107	884	126	314	237	44

Table 8: Summary 2017 Intakes and Outcomes

	Region 8 (n=26)			Region 9 (n=29)			Region 10 (n=13)		
	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE	Intakes	Adop- tions	HE
Maximum	354	317	48	258	227	21	35	43	29
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average	41.58	28.96	5.58	22.48	14.93	2.72	13.85	10.69	4.38
Total	1081	753	145	652	433	79	180	139	57

Table 8: Summary 2017 Intakes and Outcomes

**Aggregate data reported by organizations for January 1, 2018-June 30, 2018 specified intake and outcome categories in more detail.**

Definitions of these categories can be seen in Appendix C. Nationally (n=224) total intakes was 4,726, adoptions 4,120, and humane euthanasias 518 (Table 9). Comparable to 2017 summary outcomes, adoptions represented 88.83% of the combined total adoptions and humane euthanasias, and humane euthanasias represented 11.16%.

Other categories of intakes include Stray/At Large, Relinquished by Owner, Adoption return (each organization defined this category based on their own protocol), Law Enforcement Confiscation (animals removed from the owners custody and transferred to the organization's custody by law enforcement), Transferred in from Another Agency, Purchased at Public Auction, Purchased from Kill Pen/Kill Buyer (a third party or "middle man" that brokers the sale of equines to feedlots or processing plants), Born in Shelter, and Other Intakes.

Other categories of outcomes include Return to Owner (transferred from the custody of the organization back to the original owner), Transferred to Another Agency, Euthanized (this does not include equines euthanized as part of a community humane euthanasia service), Died in Care (equines that died of causes other than humane euthanasia), and Other Outcomes.

Nationally (n=224) there were 10,899 equines in the custody of respondents on January 1, 2018. There was a total of 4,726 intakes and 5,153 outcomes resulting in 10,472 equines in custody of respondents on June 30, 2018.

**This represents 81.41% of the reported total maximum daily capacity for those respondents that supplied data for intake and outcomes (n=224).**

No bivariate correlations were found between types of intakes or outcomes and regional density,<sup>8</sup> regional equine population<sup>1</sup>, regional human population,<sup>8</sup> or regional median income.<sup>8</sup>







## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

NATIONAL (n=244)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	2722	0	48.66	10899	--
<b>INTAKES</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	47	0	0.84	187	3.96%
B. Relinquished by Owner	127	0	8.89	1992	42.15%
C. Adoption Return	25	0	1.45	324	6.86%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	202	0	3.35	750	15.87%
E. Transferred in from another agency	85	0	2.29	510	10.79%
F. Purchased at public auction	54	0	1.21	269	5.69%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	40	0	1.74	389	8.23%
H. Born in shelter	38	0	0.43	96	2.03%
I. Other Intakes	31	0	0.94	209	4.42%

Total Intakes:	4726
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OUTCOMES	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	500	0	18.39	4120	79.95%
K. Return to Owner	10	0	0.25	55	1.07%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	37	0	1.18	265	5.14%
M. Euthanized	46	0	2.32	518	10.05%
N. Died in care	12	0	0.50	112	2.17%
O. Other Outcomes	24	0	0.37	83	1.61%

Total Outcomes:	5153
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	10472
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	12863
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	81.41%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 1 (n=11)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	52	1	13.55	149	--
<b>INTAKES</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	2	0	0.18	2	1.53%
B. Relinquished by Owner	6	0	2.64	29	22.14%
C. Adoption Return	5	0	1.00	11	8.40%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	6	0	0.82	9	6.87%
E. Transferred in from another agency	1	0	0.09	1	0.76%
F. Purchased at public auction	4	0	0.64	7	5.34%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	30	0	6.00	66	50.38%
H. Born in shelter	1	0	0.18	2	1.53%
I. Other Intakes	4	0	0.36	4	3.05%

Total Intakes	131
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OUTCOMES	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	29	0	8.64	95	77.87%
K. Return to Owner	1	0	0.09	1	0.82%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
M. Euthanized	10	0	1.18	13	10.66%
N. Died in care	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
O. Other Outcomes	11	0	1.18	13	10.66%

Total Outcomes	122
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	158
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	260
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	60.77%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 2 (n=15)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	401	1	54.33	815	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
B. Relinquished by Owner	47	0	8.13	122	58.37%
C. Adoption Return	4	0	0.86	12	5.74%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	3	0	0.20	3	1.44%
E. Transferred in from another agency	1	0	0.07	1	0.48%
F. Purchased at public auction	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	22	0	2.57	36	17.22%
H. Born in shelter	3	0	0.27	4	1.91%
I. Other Intakes	31	0	2.21	31	14.83%

Total Intakes	209
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	465	0	42.67	640	85.33%
K. Return to Owner	2	0	0.20	3	0.40%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	37	0	5.27	79	10.53%
M. Euthanized	7	0	1.64	23	3.07%
N. Died in care	2	0	0.36	5	0.67%
O. Other Outcomes	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%

Total Outcomes	750
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	274
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	443
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	61.85%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 3 (n=31)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	83	0	21.42	664	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	10	0	0.32	10	2.02%
B. Relinquished by Owner	27	0	5.32	165	33.40%
C. Adoption Return	5	0	0.90	28	5.67%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	40	0	3.71	115	23.28%
E. Transferred in from another agency	43	0	2.06	64	12.96%
F. Purchased at public auction	12	0	0.94	29	5.87%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	28	0	2.10	65	13.16%
H. Born in shelter	3	0	0.32	10	2.02%
I. Other Intakes	4	0	0.26	8	1.62%

Total Intakes	494
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	40	0	9.97	309	76.87%
K. Return to Owner	1	0	0.03	1	0.25%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	2	0	0.23	7	1.74%
M. Euthanized	15	0	1.84	57	14.18%
N. Died in care	3	0	0.32	10	2.49%
O. Other Outcomes	7	0	0.58	18	4.48%

Total Outcomes	402
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	756
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	887
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	85.23%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 4 (n=40)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	207	6	37.40	1496	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	12	0	0.98	39	3.74%
B. Relinquished by Owner	127	0	14.48	579	55.51%
C. Adoption Return	25	0	2.20	88	8.44%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	18	0	1.63	65	6.23%
E. Transferred in from another agency	28	0	2.93	117	11.22%
F. Purchased at public auction	26	0	1.30	52	4.99%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	23	0	1.18	47	4.51%
H. Born in shelter	2	0	0.15	6	0.58%
I. Other Intakes	27	0	1.25	50	4.79%

Total Intakes	1043
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	144	0	19.03	761	76.95%
K. Return to Owner	7	0	0.40	16	1.62%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	36	0	1.40	56	5.66%
M. Euthanized	17	0	3.05	122	12.34%
N. Died in care	2	0	0.48	19	1.92%
O. Other Outcomes	9	0	0.38	15	1.52%

Total Outcomes	989
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	1550
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	1881
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	82.40%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 5 (n=29)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	179	2	30.17	875	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	3	0	0.28	8	1.19%
B. Relinquished by Owner	105	0	12.72	369	55.07%
C. Adoption Return	10	0	1.31	38	5.67%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	25	0	2.28	66	9.85%
E. Transferred in from another agency	13	0	1.03	30	4.48%
F. Purchased at public auction	42	0	1.72	50	7.46%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	40	0	2.90	84	12.54%
H. Born in shelter	2	0	0.24	7	1.04%
I. Other Intakes	8	0	0.62	18	2.69%

Total Intakes	670
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	102	0	14.52	421	84.03%
K. Return to Owner	4	0	0.28	8	1.60%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	8	0	0.31	9	1.80%
M. Euthanized	11	0	1.28	37	7.39%
N. Died in care	12	0	0.90	26	5.19%
O. Other Outcomes	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%

Total Outcomes	501
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	1044
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	1143
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	91.34
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 6 (n=23)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	357	7	52.26	1202	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	30	0	1.91	44	6.23%
B. Relinquished by Owner	30	0	8.30	191	27.05%
C. Adoption Return	21	0	2.26	52	7.37%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	202	0	13.04	300	42.49%
E. Transferred in from another agency	24	0	2.30	53	7.51%
F. Purchased at public auction	13	0	0.74	17	2.41%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	8	0	0.78	18	2.55%
H. Born in shelter	3	0	0.35	8	1.13%
I. Other Intakes	15	0	1.00	23	3.26%

Total Intakes	706
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	500	0	43.78	1007	85.92%
K. Return to Owner	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	23	0	2.61	60	5.12%
M. Euthanized	25	0	3.78	87	7.42%
N. Died in care	3	0	0.61	14	1.19%
O. Other Outcomes	3	0	0.17	4	0.34%

Total Outcomes	1172
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	736
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	1393
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	52.84%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 7 (n=10)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	139	6	36.30	363	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	6	0	0.90	9	6.34%
B. Relinquished by Owner	18	0	6.70	67	47.18%
C. Adoption Return	5	0	0.90	9	6.34%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	9	0	1.90	19	13.38%
E. Transferred in from another agency	5	0	0.60	6	4.23%
F. Purchased at public auction	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	22	0	2.60	26	18.31%
H. Born in shelter	2	0	0.30	3	2.11%
I. Other Intakes	3	0	0.30	3	2.11%

Total Intakes	142
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	35	0	9.50	95	69.85%
K. Return to Owner	9	0	0.90	9	6.62%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
M. Euthanized	6	0	1.90	19	13.97%
N. Died in care	4	0	0.70	7	5.15%
O. Other Outcomes	6	0	0.60	6	4.41%

Total Outcomes	136
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	369
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	431
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	85.61%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 8 (n=26)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	94	0	31.42	817	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	4	0	0.23	6	0.82%
B. Relinquished by Owner	119	0	11.88	309	42.27%
C. Adoption Return	22	0	1.96	51	6.98%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	59	0	2.46	64	8.76%
E. Transferred in from another agency	85	0	5.58	145	19.84%
F. Purchased at public auction	54	0	3.38	88	12.04%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	22	0	1.31	34	4.65%
H. Born in shelter	4	0	0.42	11	1.50%
I. Other Intakes	6	0	0.88	23	3.15%

Total Intakes	731
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	113	0	17.19	447	78.42%
K. Return to Owner	5	0	0.23	6	1.05%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	23	0	1.12	29	5.09%
M. Euthanized	31	0	2.96	77	13.51%
N. Died in care	4	0	0.42	11	1.93%
O. Other Outcomes	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%

Total Outcomes	570
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	978
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	1113
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	87.87%
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## JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

REGION 9 (n=27)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	2722	0	131.07	3539	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	47	0	2.48	67	14.41%
B. Relinquished by Owner	22	0	3.59	97	20.86%
C. Adoption Return	17	0	0.96	26	5.59%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	67	0	3.37	91	19.57%
E. Transferred in from another agency	26	0	2.78	75	16.13%
F. Purchased at public auction	21	0	0.89	24	5.16%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	7	0	0.48	13	2.80%
H. Born in shelter	38	0	1.63	44	9.46%
I. Other Intakes	17	0	1.04	28	6.02%

Total Intakes	465
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	122	0	9.96	269	77.75%
K. Return to Owner	10	0	0.41	11	3.18%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	14	0	0.89	24	6.94%
M. Euthanized	5	0	1.11	30	8.67%
N. Died in care	3	0	0.33	9	2.60%
O. Other Outcomes	3	0	0.11	3	0.87%

Total Outcomes	346
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	3658
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	4293
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	85.21%
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JANUARY 2018 - JUNE 2018 INTAKES AND OUTCOMES:

Region 10 (n=12)	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Intakes
Number of equines in your organization's care on January 1, 2018.	721	4	81.58	979	--
<b>Intakes</b>					
A. Stray/At Large	2	0	0.17	2	1.48%
B. Relinquished by Owner	23	0	5.33	64	47.41%
C. Adoption Return	3	0	0.75	9	6.67%
D. Law Enforcement Confiscation	12	0	1.50	18	13.33%
E. Transferred in from another agency	10	0	1.50	18	13.33%
F. Purchased at public auction	2	0	0.17	2	1.48%
G. Purchased from kill pen/kill buyer	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
H. Born in shelter	1	0	0.08	1	0.74%
I. Other Intakes	21	0	1.75	21	15.56%

Total Intakes	135
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Outcomes	Maximum	Minimum	Average	Total	% of Total Outcomes
J. Adoption	34	0	6.33	76	46.06%
K. Return to Owner	0	0	0.00	0	0.00%
L. Transferred to Another Agency	1	0	0.08	1	0.61%
M. Euthanized	46	0	4.42	53	32.12%
N. Died in care	9	0	0.92	11	6.67%
O. Other Outcomes	24	0	2.00	24	14.55%

Total Outcomes	165
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Total In Custody June 30 2018	949
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Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	1019
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% Maximum Capacity of Intake/Outcome Sample	93.13%
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CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS:

Organizations assisting at-risk equines and those in transition across the nation vary in program offerings, size, and intake/outcome demographics.

Improved record keeping will relay into improved data collection and allow for the EWDC to collect more accurate data on breed intakes, as well as expand future questions to possibly include age, sex, and discipline demographics.

Through user feedback the EWDC revises and updates the survey every 6 months. As we dive deeper into the world of equine welfare data collection, we hope to continue tracking trends within the organizations and the programs they offer, educate the community on the positive impact these programs have on at-risk equines, and aid in data driven decision making. We hope this data can help increase and improve the resources available to at-risk equines and those in transition, the organizations assisting them, and the new owners waiting to welcome them home.

If you would like to learn more about the Equine Welfare Data Collective, view the survey in its entirety, or submit data, check us out at:

[www.unitedhorsecoalition.org/EWDC](http://www.unitedhorsecoalition.org/EWDC)



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APPENDIX A:

US Federal Census Region Designation

State	Region	State	Region
AK	10	NC	4
AL	4	ND	8
AR	6	NE	7
AZ	9	NH	1
CA	9	NJ	2
CO	8	NM	6
CT	1	NV	9
DE	3	NY	2
FL	4	OH	5
GA	4	OK	6
HI	9	OR	10
IA	7	PA	3
ID	10	PR	2
IL	5	RI	1
IN	5	SC	4
KS	7	SD	8
KY	4	TN	4
LA	6	TX	6
MA	1	UT	8
MD	3	VA	3
ME	1	VT	1
MI	5	WA	10
MN	5	WI	5
MO	7	WV	3
MS	4	WY	8
MT	8		

State Organization Total Population

State	Total Population	State	Total Population
AK	13	NC	30
AL	14	ND	2
AR	6	NE	5
AZ	33	NH	9
CA	108	NJ	21
CO	44	NM	9
CT	12	NV	9
DE	2	NY	46
FL	63	OH	27
GA	16	OK	18
HI	5	OR	25
IA	9	PA	38
ID	4	PR	1
IL	17	RI	3
IN	14	SC	14
KS	6	SD	4
KY	21	TN	20
LA	8	TX	48
MA	11	UT	5
MD	25	VA	29
ME	7	VT	7
MI	19	WA	28
MN	11	WI	20
MO	12	WV	3
MS	7	WY	1
MT	8	Grand Total	917

Glossary of Terms:

- Adoption:**  
Transferring a horse into a new home or vocation, most often involving the transfer of legal custody from the current caretaker to the new caretaker.
- Adoption/Rescue/Transition Center:**  
An organization that facilitates placements of equines in adoptive homes and new vocations through traditional and non-traditional approaches to finding the right matches and opportunities for the equines in their care.
- Adoption Return:**  
An equine that was placed into a new home but was later returned to the Adoption/Rescue/Transition Center.
- At-Risk:**  
An equine that has an increased possibility of experiencing a situation of neglect, abuse, or general poor welfare.
- Born in Shelter:**  
An equine that was born while the mare was in the legal custody of an organization.
- Died in Care:**  
An equine that perished while in the care and legal custody of an organization that was not the result of humane euthanasia.
- Equine:**  
Any animal within the horse family including but not limited to donkeys, mules, horses, ponies, zebras, and miniature horses.
- Humane euthanasia:**  
Termination of life in an animal for medical, behavioral, or otherwise humane reasons.
- In-Transition:**  
An equine that is currently in need of a new home or vocation.
- Kill Pen/Kill Buyer:**  
A third party or “middle man” that holds equines on feedlots or otherwise enables the sale of equines to slaughter facilities.

Glossary of Terms Continued:

- Law Enforcement Confiscation:**  
Equines that have been forcibly removed from the custody of their current owner by law enforcement.
- Municipal Facility:**  
An organization owned, operated, or otherwise contracted by a government (taxpayer funded) entity that provides a combination of animal related services to the community.
- Public Auction:**  
A sale that is able to be attended by users of the general public.
- Relinquished by Owner:**  
Equines that have been voluntarily transferred to the custody of an organization by their current owner (this does not include animals that were previously adopted from the organization, see Adoption Return above).
- Return to Owner:**  
Equines that have been returned to the legal custody of the caretaker that originally transferred them to the custody of the organization (this does not include transfer of ownership from another agency, see Transfer to/From Agency below).
- Sanctuary:**  
Equine facilities that provide lifetime care for equines. Unlike adoption organizations, sanctuaries typically do not focus on rehoming the equines in their care.
- Stray/At-Large:**  
Equines that have been found loose or otherwise uncontained.
- Transfer in/out from Another Agency:**  
An equine that has been transferred from the legal custody of one 501(c)(3), nonprofit, or municipal organization to the custody of another 501(c)(3) or municipal organization.

