

The goal of this analysis is to understand the sustainability of no-kill status over time (2017–2020).

Only shelters that have reported data for all four calendar years (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020) are included in this analysis. No-kill status is based on a save rate of 90% or more; exemptions are not recognized.

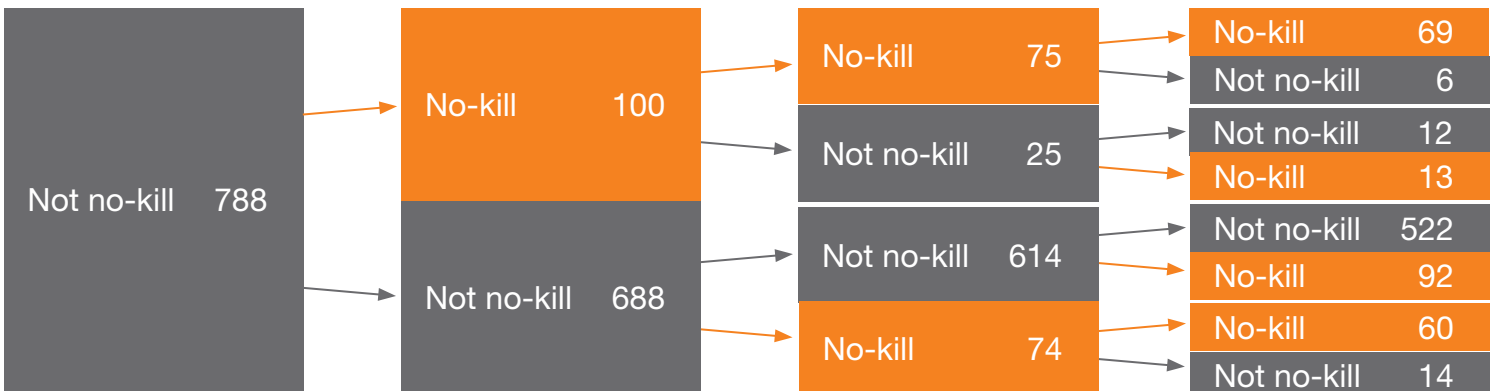
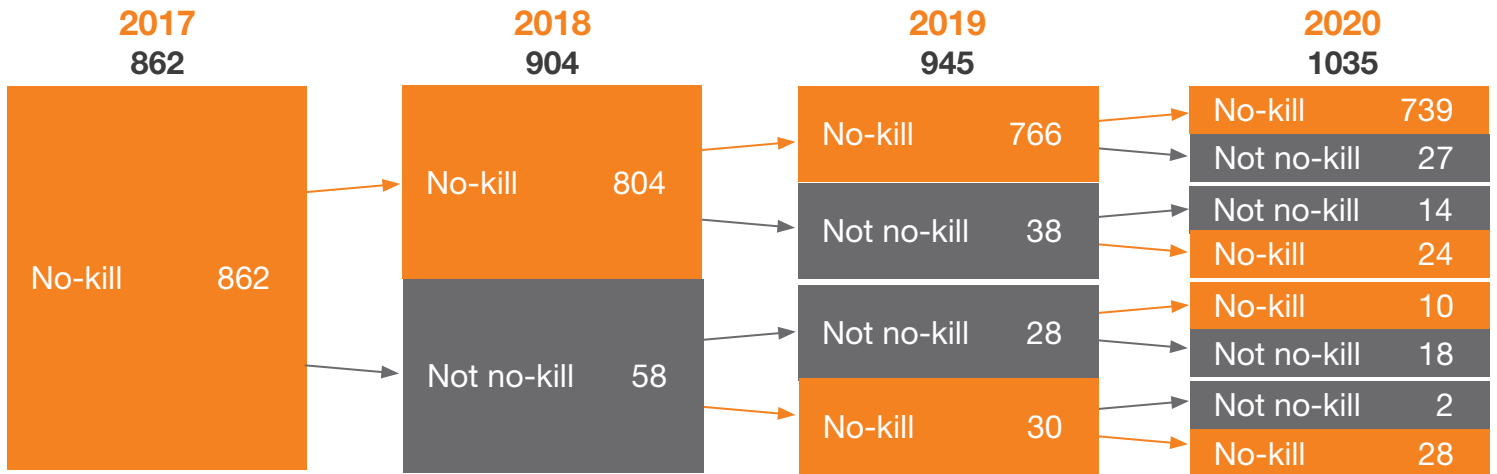
No-Kill Sustainability Summary

- The longer an organization is no-kill, the more likely it is to remain no-kill. An average of 93.7% of organizations that are no-kill remain no-kill the following year.
 - 85.7% of organizations have remained no-kill for all four years (2017–2020).
 - Overall, 92.9% of organizations that were no-kill in 2017 returned to or remained no-kill in 2020.
 - On average, 51.7% of organizations that lose no-kill status in one year regain the status in the following year.
- Out of the original 1,650 organizations that have year-over-year data 2017–2020, 62.7% were no-kill in 2020 (a 20.1% increase of no-kill organizations overall, from 862 in 2017 to 1,035 in 2020).

“Not No-Kill” Changes

- On average, 15.4% of organizations that were not no-kill became no-kill the following year.
- 66.2% of “not no-kill” organizations remained “not no-kill” during the entire four-year period.
- 29.7% of “not no-kill” organizations in 2017 were no-kill in 2020.

NUMBER OF NO-KILL ORGANIZATIONS



Understanding No-Kill Sustainability by Organization Type

Increase in No-Kill Organizations

All organization types saw the greatest increase in number of no-kill organizations from 2019 to 2020.

Increase in no-kill organizations			
	2017 – 2018	2018 – 2019	2019 – 2020
Government animal services	6.9%	8.5%	16.0% (51)
Shelter with Government contract	8.3%	3.3%	11.1% (24)
Shelter without Government contract	1.8%	2.2%	3.7% (15)

Overall, government animal services organizations that are no-kill have increased by 34.7% from 2017 to 2020. This is higher than shelters with a government contract (24.4%) and shelters without a government contract (7.9%).

Percentage of No-Kill

Government animal services organizations account for 826 (50.1%) of the total number of organizations that have a full four years of data (2017–2020). However, government animal services organizations only account for an average of 33.4% of no-kill organizations each year. A lower percentage of government animal services organizations are no-kill compared to other organization types (chart below).

Percentage of organization types that were no-kill each year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020
Government animal services	33.2%	35.5%	38.5%	44.7%
Shelter with Government contract	53.6%	58.1%	60.0%	66.7%
Shelter without Government contract	85.1%	86.6%	88.6%	91.8%

Save Rate

No-kill government animal services organizations have a higher average save rate than shelters with a government contract, but it has decreased over the four-year period by 0.3 percentage points (95.7% in 2017 to 95.4% in 2020) while the average save rate for shelters with a government contract has increased by the same 0.3 percentage points (95.0% in 2017 to 95.3% in 2020).

No-Kill Sustainability

Government animal services organizations are less likely to remain no-kill year over year than shelters with a government contract and shelters without a government contract.

Government animal services organizations have a lower average for organizations that remain no-kill year over year (89.3%) compared to shelters with a government contract (93.8%) and shelters without a government contract (96.9%).

Government animal services organizations that lose their no-kill status are less likely to return to no-kill in the following year compared to shelters with a government contract and shelters without a government contract.

Regarding organizations that lose their no-kill status and return to it the following year, government animal services organizations have a lower average (41.8%) than shelters with a government contract (53.9%) and shelters without a government contract (72.0%).