

## NEARLY ONE OUT OF FOUR DOGS IN CALIFORNIA IS ULTIMATELY EUTHANIZED IN OUR SHELTERS



Nearly one out of every four dogs who died in California in 2006 was euthanized in our shelters.

Here's how we know:

Statistic	Number	Source
2006 US Population	~300,000,000	US Census Bureau <a href="http://www.census.gov">www.census.gov</a>
2006 CA Population	~36,500,000	
Number of dogs in the United States	~75,000,000	American Pet Products Manufacturers Association, Inc. <a href="http://www.appa.org">www.appa.org</a>
The average life span of the North American dog	~12.8 years	Pet information center <a href="http://www.pets.ca/pettips/tips-6.htm">www.pets.ca/pettips/tips-6.htm</a>
Dogs euthanized in CA in 2006	~160,305	CDHS*

How the calculation was done (2006 figures):

1. California has approximately 12.2 % of the US Population (300,000,000 / 36,500,000 people)
2. California therefore has approximately 9,150,000 dogs (12.2% \* 75,000,000 dogs)
3. Approximately 714,834 dogs die each year in California (9,150,000 dogs / 12.8 year lifespan)
4. Therefore approximately 22.4% of dogs who died in California in 2006 was euthanized (160,305 out of 714,834)

**22.4 % is 1 out of every 4.46 dogs.<sup>1</sup>**

***Nearly one out of every four dogs in California is ultimately euthanized in our shelters.***

This is a moral tragedy and a fiscal disaster for California. Please support AB 1634, the California Healthy Pets Act. Visit [www.CAHealthyPets.com](http://www.CAHealthyPets.com) for more information.

<sup>1</sup> Please note - These numbers are *approximate*, because the CA population of dogs, their lifespan and euthanasia numbers are all approximate. But, the approximation is powerful enough to provide a picture of how large this problem is.

\* According to the CDHS (California Department of Health Services), based on reports received in 2006, 44 out of 61 possible jurisdictions reported that 115,630 dogs were euthanized in CA shelters. Extrapolating 44/61 = 72.1% reporting = approximately 160,305 dogs euthanized in 2006.



## OPPOSITION GROUP FIGURES

The same basic calculations can be made using statistics from groups opposed to the bill.

For example, *Dog Gone California*, a group opposed to AB 1634, provides the following information on their website (October 2006):

- Dog Population in California:  
"an estimate of nearly 8 million dogs may be made"
- Yearly Euthanasia Rate:  
"The euthanasia rate then is about 2% of the total dog population"

Based on these figures, 160,000 dogs are euthanized each year in California.

The average lifespan of a dog is widely referenced as 11 to 12 years; this figure is (likely) not disputed.

So splitting the age difference and using the opposition figures with an average age of 11.5 years, results in 8 million dogs / 11.5 year lifespan = 696,000 animals dying per year.

Therefore, approximately 22.9% of dogs who died in California in 2006 were euthanized (160,000 out of 696,000).

**22.9 % is 1 out of every 4.37 dogs.<sup>1</sup>**

***Even using opposition figures, nearly one out of every four dogs in California is ultimately euthanized in our shelters.***

Please contact your State Senator and voice your support for AB 1634, the California Healthy Pets Act. Visit [www.CAHealthyPets.com](http://www.CAHealthyPets.com) for more information.

<sup>1</sup> Please note - These numbers are *approximate*, because the CA population of dogs, their lifespan and euthanasia numbers are all approximate. But, the approximation is powerful enough to provide a picture of how large this problem is.