



UNDERSTANDING THE COMMUNITY CAT CALCULATOR

The purpose of the Community Cat Calculator is to help organizations and individuals understand the volume of spay/neuter of owned cats that need to be offered in the community as well as trap-neuter-return (TNR) cats in order to be successful in reducing the outdoor cat population. This calculation helps you put numbers to the concepts that are shared in the Community Cat Pyramid and will provide you with tangible goals.

This is a quick way of having a needs assessment done for your county with having to do all of the leg work. It is easy to play with numbers to determine what you can do for your area or what numbers a collaborative effort could provide.

Methodology

In developing the Community Cat Calculator we want to provide you with background information about your county. Below are a few more details about our methodology. Sources for this include information from DC Cat Count, 24-7 Animals, AVMA, and tribal knowledge from working with groups over the years.

The bold numbers are the takeaway numbers that are most important. These numbers are based on the geographic region. So you may need to reach out to multiple organizations to determine if you are reaching your S/N and TNR goals.

Category	Description	Example
Total Number of People	General Population From the County	Example: 320,689
All Cat Multiplier	29% of General Population Owns Cats	Example: 0.29
Estimated Number of All Cats (Total People / .29)	General Population x .29	Example: 93,000
Indoor-only (50%)	Assumed Indoor Only	Example: 46,500
Owned Indoor/Outdoor Spayed/Neutered (85%)	Assumed Outdoor, but no Risk of Overpopulation Contribution	Example: 39,525
Owned Spay/Neuter Community Need Annually (15%)	Remaining Number of Cats in Population Estimate	Example: 6,975
Feral Multiplier	.0004 of Population to TNR Cats	0.004
Estimated Number of TNR Cats (Total People / .004)		Example: 1,283
Already Tipped Cats (30%)	Assume a Reduction of 30% if TNR in Place in the Community	Example: 385
Number of Cats That Need TNR Annually		Example: 897

Source listing for .004: DC Cat Count (hub.dccatcount.org), Animals 24-7 (www.animals24-7.org), and tribal knowledge
 Source listing for .415 multiplier: www.thezebra.com/resources/research/pet-ownership-statistics/#cat-ownership-statistics

Conclusions

This calculation is meant to be a general guide post, not fixed in place. Your group can adjust these numbers based on what is happening locally in your area. The purpose is to help show how much more spay/neuter needs to be offered to cat owners in order to impact our numbers of cats needing TNR or rescue.

