



Delaware Animal Services

Performance Report
Fourth Quarter
Oct 2023 – Dec 2023



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health
Office of Animal Welfare

Q4 2023 Calls for Service

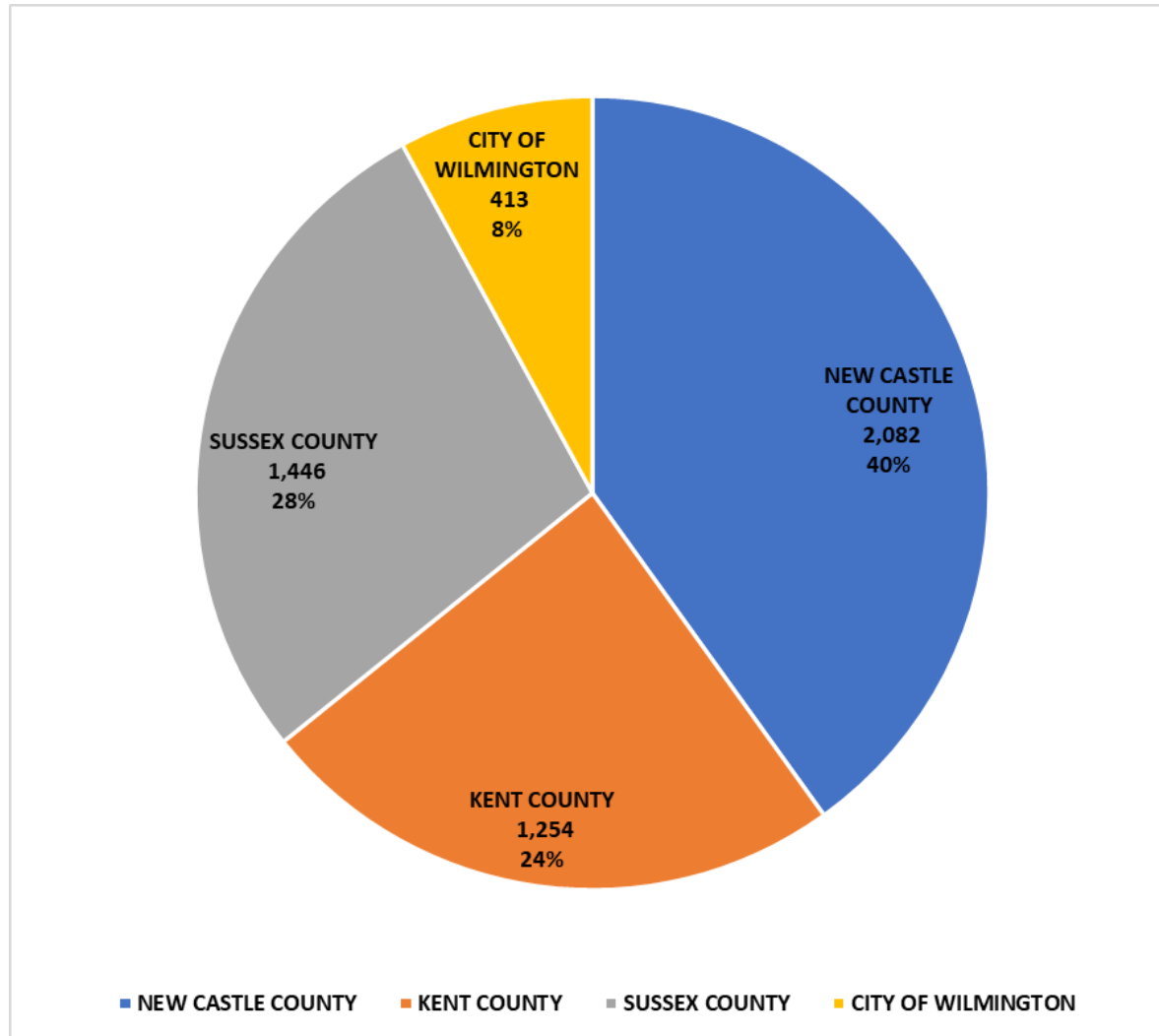
CATEGORY	NEW CASTLE COUNTY	KENT COUNTY	SUSSEX COUNTY	CITY OF WILMINGTON	TOTALS
Admin Activity	115	109	71	6	301
Police/Agency Assist	113	86	60	28	287
Public Assistance/Education	399	176	204	53	832
Animal Cruelty	52	41	44	20	157
Animal Control	1,230	839	940	278	3,287
Case Follow Up	330	340	269	40	979
Proactive Patrol	311	468	319	11	1,109
Rabies Control	288	112	198	34	632
TOTAL ACTIVITY	2,838	2,171	2,105	470	7,584
NEW CALLS FOR SERVICE	2,082	1,254	1,446	413	5,195

Note: Some calls for service may involve more than one category, but only one may be assigned.

Category Definitions

- **Administrative Activity** – Court, arrests, search warrants, reports, and other administrative responsibilities
- **Animal Control** – stray dogs, dangerous dogs, housing and welfare enforcement.
- **Animal Cruelty** – abuse, abandonment, cruel neglect, or animal fighting.
- **Case Follow Up** - Supplemental investigative activities on prior complaints, gathering evidence and information, monitoring animal health and welfare, public safety.
- **Police & Agency Assist** – Calls from police, Fire/EMS, Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, and others that request assistance with animal emergencies.
- **Proactive Patrol** – Aimed at preventing and reducing animal incidents and improving relations between officers and the communities they serve.
- **Public Assistance/Education** – Information, education, resources, and referrals regarding animal-related complaints.
- **Rabies Control** – Investigation and enforcement of potential human exposures to rabies, quarantine of animals, capture and transportation of rabies specimens for testing.

Q4 2023 New Calls for Service by Location



Additional Performance Measures

- **Dogs Returned to Owner (RTO) – 387 or 48%**

- Number of dogs returned to owner in the field: 148
- Number of dogs returned to owner at shelter: 239

Every dog returned to its owner without being impounded reduces stress to the animal, cost to the owner and the state, and frees up shelter space for other animals.

- **Criminal Charges and Citations**

- Animal cruelty and animal fighting criminal charges: 8
- Citations issued for dog control and rabies violations: 491

- **Specimens transported to Public Health Lab for rabies testing: 27**

- **Resources provided to many Delawareans – pet food, dog houses, bedding.**

- **Dog Licensing**

- Dog Licenses Sold: 6,093



Shelter Services

Brandywine Valley SPCA (BVSPCA) is the contracted shelter partner for Delaware Animal Services (DAS) with a save rate at 90% or better.

BVSPCA provides all medical, nutritional, and behavioral care for animals rescued by DAS. They also provide free and low-cost resources to Delaware residents.

In this report, we share statistics for DAS animal intake only. For more information on BVSPCA statistics, including intake and outcomes totals for all Delaware animals, please visit:

<https://bvspca.org/about/by-the-numbers/>

DAS Animal Intake

DOGS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
bite quarantine	43	59	29	33	164
dangerous dog	9	8	12	7	36
safekeeping	58	62	86	55	261
seizure	64	60	113	41	278
Surrender	54	43	34	15	146
Stray	659	656	732	656	2,703
TOTAL DOGS	887	888	1,006	807	3,588
CATS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
bite quarantine	7	8	10	5	30
safekeeping	22	43	32	13	110
seizure	14	27	41	7	89
surrender	56	43	47	2	148
unowned endangered	87	206	216	73	582
TOTAL CATS	186	327	346	100	959
TOTAL LIVE INTAKE	1,073	1,215	1,352	907	4,547