

# Austin Animal Shelter Adoption

## Popularity Among Breeds

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# Understanding the Shelter System

- **Public shelters:** Government-funded, must accept all animals
- **Private shelters:** Donation-funded, set their own policies
- **Independent shelters:** Donation-funded, not government-regulated

## Major Problems

- Overcrowding → lack of resources, unsanitary conditions
- Euthanasia used to end suffering due to poor conditions

## AAC Mission & Goals

- Safety net for lost/homeless pets
- 90% of 20,000+ animals saved
- 1,000+ foster families
- Supports spay/neuter + vaccination programs
- “No Kill” plan approved by Austin, TX

# Data Cleaning & Summary Stats

## Data Preparation

- Removed **277 incomplete records**
- Converted age to days (days/weeks/months/years → unified numeric)
- Encoded *Sex Upon Outcome*:
  - Neutered/Spayed = 1
  - Intact = 0
  - Unknown = "Unknown"

## Texas (2023) Overview

- **568,325** animals entered shelters
- **433,034** saved | **82,681** killed
- Save rate: **76.2%**
- No-kill shelters: **142 / 378**

## AAC Key Stats

**Dogs:** 91,553 total | 45,606 adopted | 2,130 euthanized

**Cats:** 66,350 total | 33,778 adopted | 2,444 euthanized



# Questions

- What are the most popular dog/cat breeds for adoption?
- What do people look for when adopting?
- Who is more likely to be adopted? Cats or Dogs?
- Why is this important?



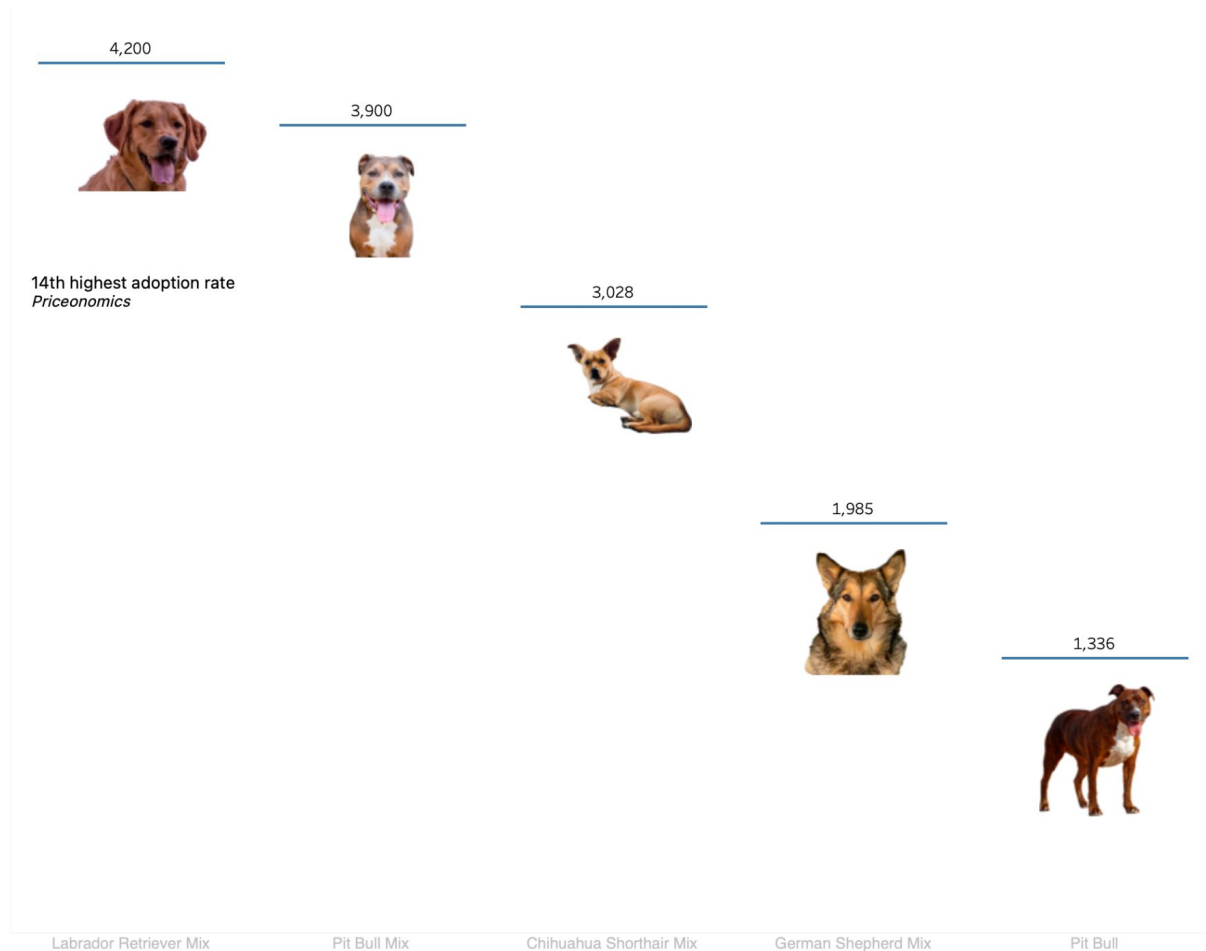
# Cats vs Dogs



- ❑ For Dogs, out of the 91,553 Dogs, around **49%** were adopted.
- ❑ For Cats, out of the 66,352 Cats, almost **51%** were adopted.
- ❑ From this, we can conclude that cats have a **slightly higher** chances of being adopted.
- ❑ Moreover, I've worked with the **top 5** breeds of cats and dogs who are more likely to be adopted.

# Visualization For Dogs

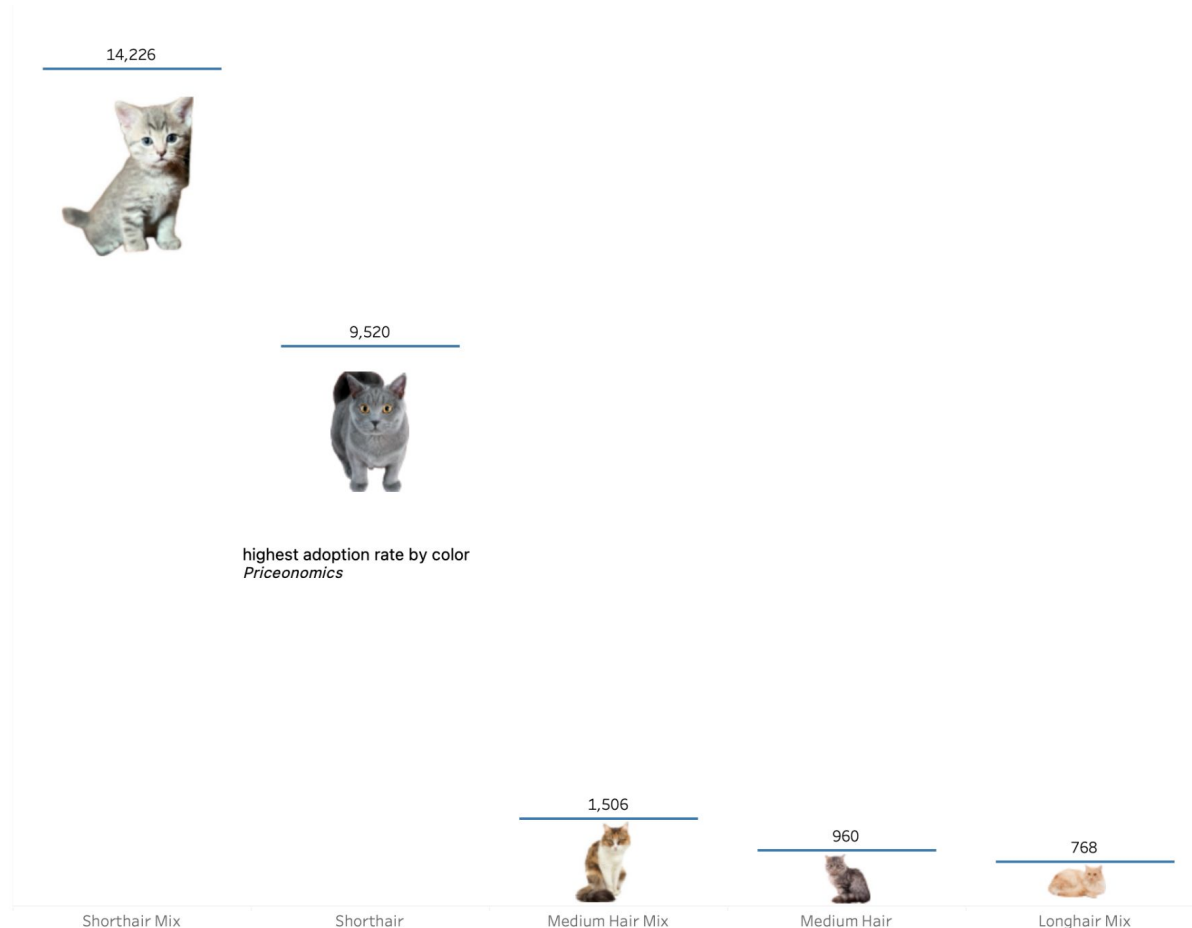
Figure 1: Top adopted dog breeds in Austin from 2014-2023



Sources: Austin Animal Center <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/about-austin-animal-center>, Priceonomics <https://priceonomics.com/what-kinds-of-pets-get-adopted/>

# Visualization For Cats

Figure 2: Top adopted cat breeds in Austin from 2014-2023



Sources: Austin Animal Center <https://www.austintexas.gov/department/about-austin-animal-center> , Priceonomics <https://priceonomics.com/what-kinds-of-pets-get-adopted/>  
(Did not have data on breed of cat)

# Conclusions

- The No Kill Plan increased Austin's animal adoption rate above **90%**.
- Cats have a higher adoption rate (**51%**) than dogs (**49%**) in Austin.
- **Labrador Retriever Mix** and **Short Haired Cats** are the most adopted cats and dogs respectively.
- Sterility impacts adoption rates, with most adopted dogs and cats being sterile.
- The Austin Animal Shelter aims to boost adoption percentages through targeted breed awareness.

# Sources

- Austin Animal Center  
<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/about-austin-animal-center>
- Priceonomics  
<https://priceonomics.com/what-kinds-of-pets-get-adopted/>