

AUSTRALIAN

GREYHOUND RACING

F Y 2 0 2 4

An industry in decline

Australian greyhound racing is poorly managed, financially unsustainable and plagued by animal welfare issues.

Collated from industry reports
by Coalition for the Protection
of Greyhounds





Unsustainable

-\$16.8M

Record financial loss

\$30.6M

Taxpayer subsidy

-22.5%

Drop in wagering
revenue

Total number of
greyhound deaths
rose by **38%** in FY24



Welfare failures FY24

- **36% increase in total injuries** and **40% increase in serious injuries** between FY20 and FY24.
- **33 greyhounds killed racing** in NSW with 17 killed by on-track industry vets and 16 removed with serious injuries and killed later.
- **1,046 greyhounds died from all causes**, with 334 killed by “injuries and accidents”.
- **1,695 greyhounds** who retired in FY24 **required essential vet care**.+ GRNSW counts these dogs as part of the 2,794 greyhounds they “assisted to pet life”.

Declining employment numbers

The number of roles in the NSW greyhound racing industry fell 11% between FY22 and FY23.

Of the 10,900 roles in FY23, 1,885 or 17% were paid employees of the industry. This represents 0.04% of the NSW workforce.^ The remainder were participants or volunteers

Like other state racing bodies, Greyhound Racing NSW is now including racing industry-commissioned, unaudited economic and employment data in its Annual Report.

+ GRNSW’s [Homing Assistance Scheme](#) provides participants with financial support to ensure retiring greyhounds are desexed and receive dental care, vaccinations and heartworm prevention

^ [ABS Labour Force, Australia, Latest Release](#)



Welfare failures FY24

- **27% increase** in total number of greyhound **euthanasias and deaths**.
- **205 greyhounds killed** by their owners as “*unrehomable*”.
- **108 greyhounds sent to research** agencies including University of Queensland with around 75% killed within weeks.+
- **No tracking of 209 greyhounds** given away or sold to third parties.

Inflated employment numbers

Racing Queensland claims it has 15,800 full time equivalent employees (FTEs) across horse and dog racing. According to the latest ABS census there were 1,317 FTEs in the Queensland racing industry.^ This is an exaggeration by a factor of 12.

Like other state racing bodies, Racing Queensland is now including racing industry-commissioned, unaudited economic and employment data in its Annual Report.

+ Information provided by Director, Research Ethics and Integrity, University of Queensland

^ ABS. Census. Employment, income and education by Labour Force Status (LFSP) and 4-digit level INDP Industry of Employment (9020, 9021 & 9029) and STATE (UR)

Unsustainable

-\$11M

26% drop in wagering revenue

\$51M

Taxpayer subsidy

\$21M

Taxpayer funding for Ipswich track (total \$41m)

Cost of greyhound racing track ‘The Q’ blows out from **\$39m** to **\$86m** with **\$41m** provided by Qld taxpayers





Unsustainable

-\$1.1M

5.5% drop in
online betting revenue

-\$1.8M

154% drop in
GRSA operating profit

+\$1.8M

240% increase in
taxpayer funding

GRSA reports profit of \$1.9M
after **\$2.6M of taxpayer
funding**

Welfare failures FY24

- **29% increase** in total number of greyhound **ethanasias and deaths**.
- GRSA rehoming program **GAP killed 10 greyhounds** due to "behaviour/temperament" compared to one in FY23.
- **16 greyhounds killed** on SA racetracks, an **increase of 33%**.
- **No reporting** of number of **racing injuries**.

Failure to implement reforms

In August 2023, following two significant animal cruelty breaches, the SA Government established an Independent Inquiry into the Governance of the Greyhound Racing Industry.

The continuation of greyhound racing in SA is conditional on the implementation of 87 recommendations included in the review.

In the first six months of the two-year implementation period, 12 of the 87 recommendations have been implemented.+

Greyhound Racing SA has failed to implement an immediate ban on Surgical Artificial Insemination as specified in Recommendation 47 of the review.

Welfare failures FY24

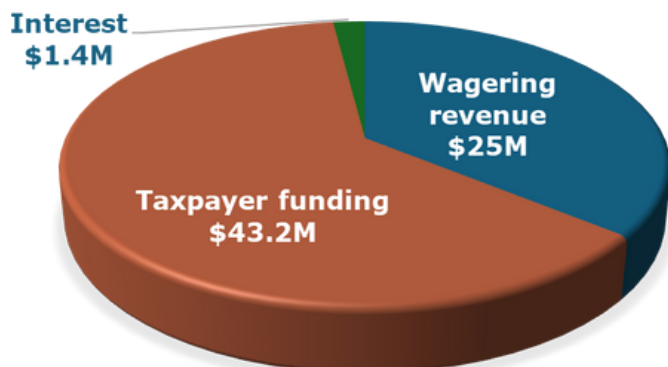
- **43 greyhounds killed**, more than three times as many as FY23.
- **72 fewer** greyhounds **rehomed** overall.
- **83 greyhounds rehomed** by industry adoption program GAP against a **target of 150**.

Misleading economic data

Of the 915 people involved in the Tasmanian greyhound racing industry, 75 are employees. This is 0.02% of the Tasmanian workforce. The remainder are participants or volunteers.

15% of spending generated by Tasmanian greyhound racing involves the "production" and "preparation" of greyhounds. The remainder is wagering/racing expenditure.

Revenue FY24 (Tasracing)*



* Tasracing is the official governing body of Tasmanian Thoroughbred, Harness and Greyhound Racing.



Unsustainable

-\$53M

20% drop in
wagering turnover

\$7.3M

Record taxpayer
funding

Tasracing reports a **loss of \$1.2M** after receiving **taxpayer funding of \$43.2M**.*



GREYHOUND RACING

An industry in decline FY24

VICTORIA



Unsustainable

-\$22.7M

Record financial loss

\$16.3M

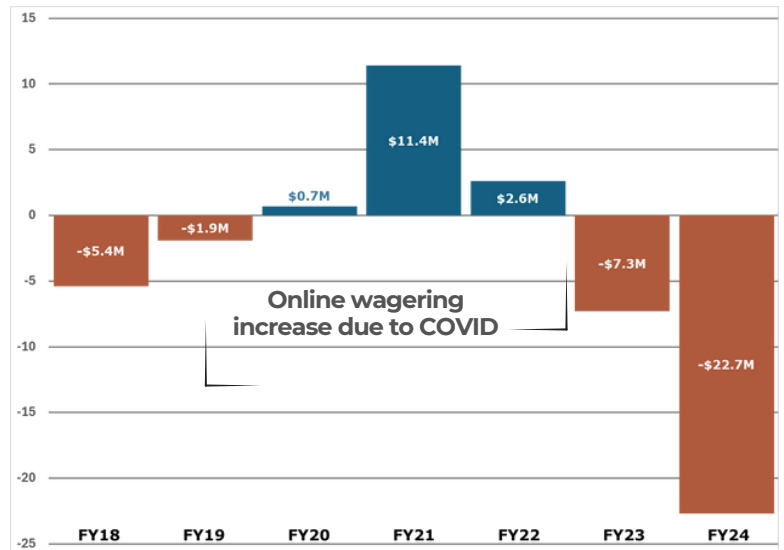
Taxpayer subsidy

\$3M

Emergency government loan

Welfare failures

- **Highest total number** of greyhound euthanasias and deaths in four years.
- **43 greyhounds killed** at Victorian racetracks, three more than FY23.
- Increase in racing injury rate.
- **52 greyhounds killed** due to "temperament".
- **131 less greyhounds rehomed** by industry adoption program.



GRV net result, FY18-FY24

Misleading economic information

Like other state racing bodies, GRV is now including racing industry-commissioned, unaudited economic and employment data in its Annual Report.

The methodology used by IER Pty Ltd to produce this data is considered unreliable and misleading by the Australian Productivity Commission, state treasuries and economists.

Financial assets down from **\$37M** to **\$22.5M**

-39%

Total liabilities up from **\$15.1M** to **\$19.5M**

+29%

Welfare failures FY24

- **27 greyhounds killed** at WA racetracks, an **increase of 200%**.
- **16 greyhounds killed** by WA industry rehomer GAP, an **increase of 440%**.
- **15% less greyhounds** accepted by WA GAP and other rehoming organisations.
- **57% more greyhounds** rehomed privately by industry participants with **no tracking** of their whereabouts.

Misleading economic data

Racing and Wagering Western Australia claims that the WA racing industry employs 7,273 people.

According to the latest census there are 844 people employed in the WA racing industry.* This is an exaggeration by a factor of 8.

8% of spending generated by WA greyhound racing involves the “*production*” and “*preparation*” of greyhounds. The remainder is wagering/racing expenditure.

* ABS. Census. Employment, income and education by Labour Force Status (LFSP) and 4-digit level INDP Industry of Employment (9020, 9021 & 9029) and STATE (UR)



Unsustainable

-\$40M

Loss posted
by RWWA+

\$471K

Profit posted by
WAGRA after \$33.4M
of taxpayer funding^

+ WA is the last state to still own a gambling agency. The WA TAB is managed by Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA) which is also responsible for animal welfare and integrity.

^ The Western Australian Greyhound Racing Association (WAGRA) manages racing at the three greyhound tracks in WA.

This Report consolidates publicly available data from:

- Annual reports produced by state racing bodies,
- Annual and quarterly reports produced by racing industry regulators, and
- Racing industry-commissioned reports produced by IER Pty Ltd.

Source links for each state are provided below. Where required, links are also provided on specific pages.

NOTE:

1. There is no information regarding the **NT greyhound racing industry** included in this Report due to the lack of transparency regarding financial operation, governance and animal welfare.

NSW

Greyhound Racing NSW

Annual Reports: <https://www.grnsw.com.au/about-us/reporting/annual-report>

Greyhound Welfare and Integrity Commission

Greyhound Lifecycle Reports: <https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/news/industry-data-reports/greyhound-lifecycle-report>

Greyhound Injury Reports: <https://www.gwic.nsw.gov.au/news/industry-data-reports/injury-report>

QLD

Racing Queensland

Annual Reports: <https://www.racingqueensland.com.au/about/reports-and-data/annual-reports>

Queensland Racing Integrity Commission

Greyhound breeding, race injury and retirement quarterly reports: <https://qric.qld.gov.au/veterinary-services-animal-welfare/greyhound/greyhound-breeding-race-injury-and-retirement-quarterly-reports/>

SA

Greyhound Racing SA

Annual Reports: <https://www.racingqueensland.com.au/about/reports-and-data/annual-reports>

TASMANIA

TasRacing

Annual Reports: <https://tasracing.com.au/documents/annual-reports>

Racing-commissioned reports produced by IER Pty Ltd

TasRacing Size and Scope of the Tasmanian racing industry:
https://issuu.com/tasracingaus/docs/tasracing_report_2023_compressed_

VICTORIA

Greyhound Racing Victoria

Annual Reports: <https://www.grv.org.au/about-grv/resources/annual-report/>

WA

Racing and Wagering Western Australia

Annual Reports: <https://www.rwwa.com.au/about/annual-reports>

Western Australia Greyhound Racing Association

Annual Reports: <https://www.greyhoundswa.com.au/annual-reports/>

Racing-commissioned reports produced by IER Pty Ltd

Size and Scope of the Western Australia racing industry: <https://www.rwwa.com.au/about/economic-and-social-impact-report>