

Executive Summary

The Queensland Racing Integrity Commission (the Commission) publishes quarterly reports of injuries in greyhounds that occur during racing at all TAB and non-TAB races in Queensland. The Commission's Animal Welfare and Veterinary Services unit prepare these reports from OzChase data, on-track race day veterinarians' reports and race day Stewards' reports.

The quarterly reports also include data for -

- Greyhounds whelped and named as reported by owners, compared with the previous year.
- Retirement, death and euthanasia as reported by owners during the reporting periods.

Greyhounds are generally named for racing at between 12 and 18 months of age, creating a time lag between whelping and naming.

Greyhound retirements are self-reported by owners and the data are reliant on information being provided in the appropriate format. Reports of retirements from OzChase may vary slightly over time for the same data set due to late lodgement of retirement notifications and/or edits to data or categories to correct errors. The data are extracted at a point in time and may require updating over time due to late lodgement of notifications.

Injury Data

All greyhounds that are injured at Queensland racetracks receive immediate veterinary examination and treatment. On-track veterinarians, greyhound owners or trainers, or Stewards may request additional veterinary examinations for any reason.

Injuries and incidents are included in the publicly available Stewards' reports for each race meeting.

Injured greyhounds receive mandatory "stand-down" periods that ensure that they cannot be nominated to race for a minimum period to allow for injury recovery.

The causes of injuries in racing greyhounds are complex and varied. Injuries are due to one, or a combination of the following factors:

- Greyhound fitness, conformation, nutrition and development, race preparation and previous injuries.
- Track design and surface.
- Race distance, incidents and collisions, and the number of greyhounds in a race.

Injury Severity Categories

Injuries vary from minor incidents that require no stand-down period or treatment to severe injuries that result in the death or euthanasia of the greyhound. Injuries are categorised by type, severity and mandatory stand-down periods. Injury rates are standardised as injuries per 1000 starts.

Every greyhound is counted each time it races in the reporting period to standardise injuries per 1000 starts.

If a greyhound sustains injuries that fall into multiple categories, only the most severe injury is included.

For the purposes of quarterly reporting, and to allow comparison between states, the categories used in Queensland are standardised as below.

Qld Category	Typical Injuries	Stand-Down Period	Standardised Category
Minor (i)	Mild skin abrasions or grazes Mild laceration	Nil	Minor (i) – Nil
Minor (ii)	Grade 1 muscle injury	1 to 10 days	Minor (ii) - 1 to 10 days
Minor (iii)	Joint or ligament sprain Skin laceration	11 to 14 days	Medium - 11 to 21 days
Medium	Grade 2 muscle injury	15 to 21 days	
Major (i)	Bone fractures Grade 3 muscle injury	22 to 28 days	Major - more than 21 days
Major (ii)		More than 28 days	
Catastrophic	Severe skull or spinal trauma complex/open /joint fractures	Deceased or immediately euthanased	

