Across the country, dog tracks are closing

Since GREY2K USA began its national campaign in 2001, thirty-three dog tracks have closed or ceased live racing operations. Currently, there are only 15 dog tracks remaining in six states. A pending prohibition in Florida will reduce this number to six. Read more on our state-by-state information page.

Greyhound racing is a dying industry. This decline is due to increased public awareness that dog racing is cruel and inhumane, in addition to competition from other forms of gambling.

Gambling on dog racing continues to decline

Between 2001 and 2014, the total amount gambled on greyhound racing nationwide declined by 70%. This includes gambling on live dog racing and simulcast gambling, where bettors wager remotely on races that take place elsewhere.

At the same time that overall gambling on dog racing is declining, a trend toward simulcast gambling continues. In 2014, three-quarters (75%) of all wagers on dog races were made by simulcast or advance-deposit wagering.

Similarly, state tax revenue from greyhound racing continues to drop. Between 2001 and 2014, state dog race revenue declined by more than 82%, and by the end of this period represented only $13 million nationwide. This does not account for regulatory costs. When these costs are taken into consideration, it is likely that states are losing money on greyhound racing.

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2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.

Last Updated on February 28, 2019