



THE EVOLVING GLOBAL RACING AND SPORTING LANDSCAPE

ARF CHAIR'S OPENING ADDRESS

WINFRIED ENGELBRECHT-BRESGES

CHAIR, ASIAN RACING FEDERATION
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

10 February 2026



نادى سباقات الخيل
JOCKEY CLUB OF SAUDI ARABIA



HONOURING TRADITION SHAPING THE FUTURE

Key racing, breeding, and wagering trends

Key challenges – guiding principles and potential strategies to overcome

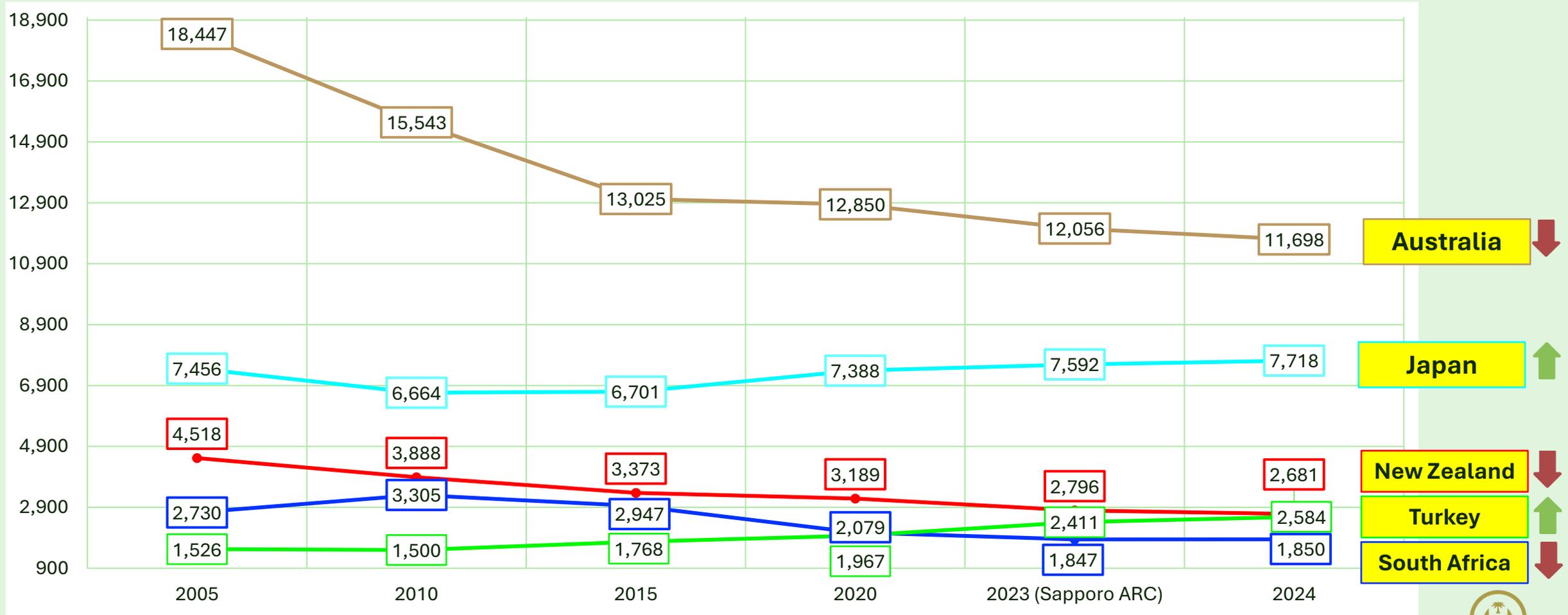


BREEDING TRENDS

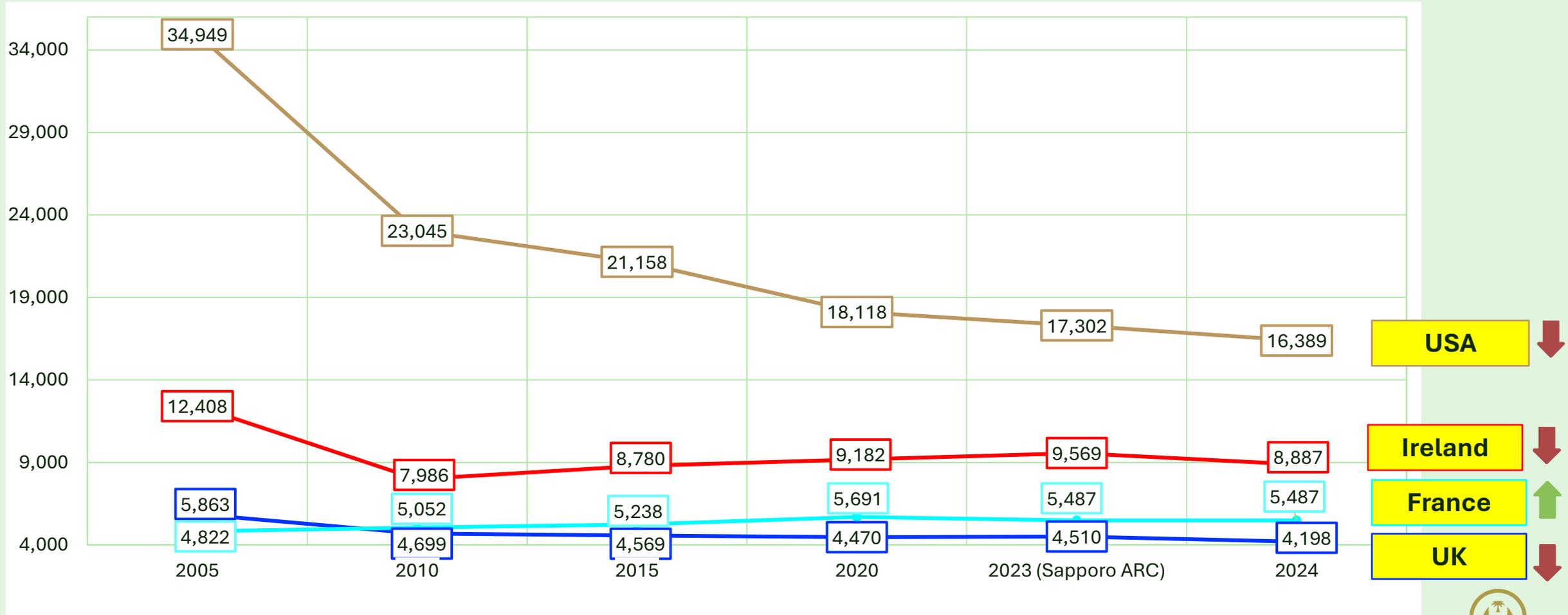
GLOBAL FOAL CROP HAS DECLINED SINCE 2005



FOAL CROPS IN MAJOR ARF BREEDING COUNTRIES



FOAL CROPS IN OTHER MAJOR BREEDING COUNTRIES





BLOODSTOCK MARKET TRENDS

YEARLING SALES – ARF REGION

Average Price	2023	2024	2025	% Change, 2024 vs 2025
Japan: JHRA Select (JPY)	61,875,000	64,718,750	69,093,333	+7%
Australia: Inglis Melbourne Premier (AUD)	134,770	127,632	134,939	+6%
Australia: Inglis Easter (AUD)	386,917	426,447	447,832	+5%
Australia: Inglis Classic (AUD)	102,640	92,556	92,514	0%
Korea: KTBA March Sale (KRW)	37,306,667	39,500,000	39,022,222	-1%
Australia: Magic Millions Book 1 (AUD)	291,343	275,675	269,363	-2%
New Zealand: Karaka Book 1 (NZD)	151,980	168,257	164,819	-3%
South Africa: BSA National Sale (R)	442,672	581,948	563,852	-3%

Median Price	2023	2024	2025	% Change, 2024 vs 2025
Australia: Inglis Easter (AUD)	280,000	300,000	360,000	+20%
Australia: Inglis Melbourne Premier (AUD)	100,000	90,000	100,000	+11%
Japan: JHRA Select (JPY)	45,000,000	41,000,000	44,000,000	+7%
South Africa: BSA National Sale (R)	300,000	400,000	400,000	0%
Korea: KTBA March Sale (KRW)	32,000,000	35,000,000	35,000,000	0%
Australia: Magic Millions Book 1 (AUD)	210,000	200,000	200,000	0%
Australia: Inglis Classic (AUD)	80,000	70,000	70,000	0%
New Zealand: Karaka Book 1 (NZD)	130,000	120,000	110,000	-8%

YEARLING SALES – EUROPE & USA

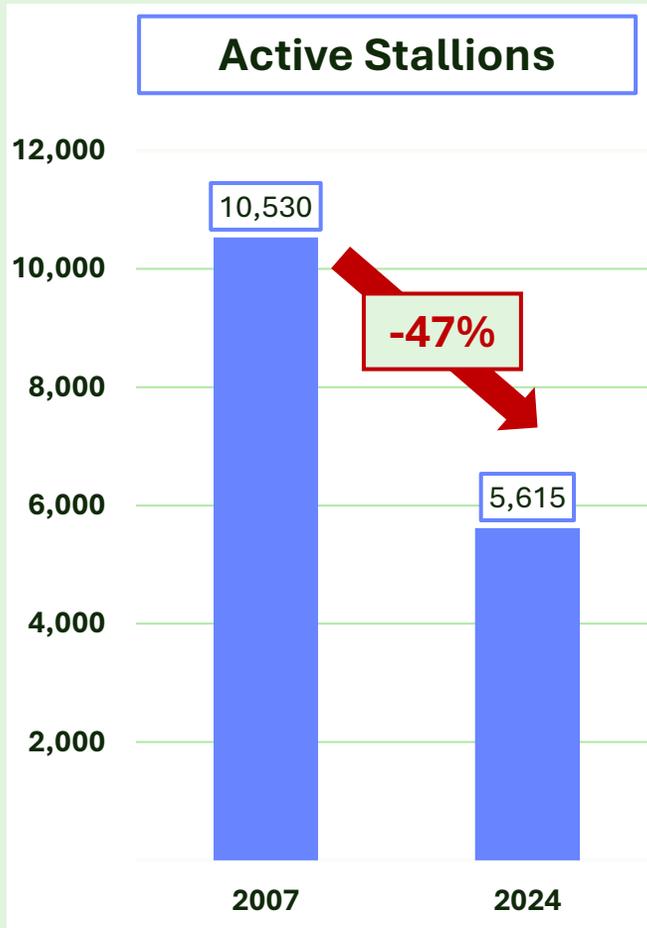
Average Price	2023	2024	2025	% Change, 2024 vs 2025
France: Arqana Select (EUR)	233,470	216,881	266,884	+23%
USA: Keeneland Book 1 (USD)	485,042	564,257	647,522	+15%
Ireland: Goffs Orby (EUR)	122,764	128,027	133,569	+4%
UK: Tattersalls Book 1 (GNS)	243,977	370,501	322,091	-13%

Median Price	2023	2024	2025	% Change, 2024 vs 2025
Ireland: Goffs Orby (EUR)	85,000	80,000	95,000	+19%
France: Arqana Select (EUR)	170,000	140,000	165,000	+18%
USA: Keeneland Book 1 (USD)	400,000	450,000	525,000	+17%
UK: Tattersalls Book 1 (GNS)	180,000	250,000	210,000	-16%



SHRINKING GENE POOL AND DECLINING DIVERSITY

GLOBAL ACTIVE STALLIONS & BROODMARES



[Home](#) > [Bloodstock](#) > [News](#)

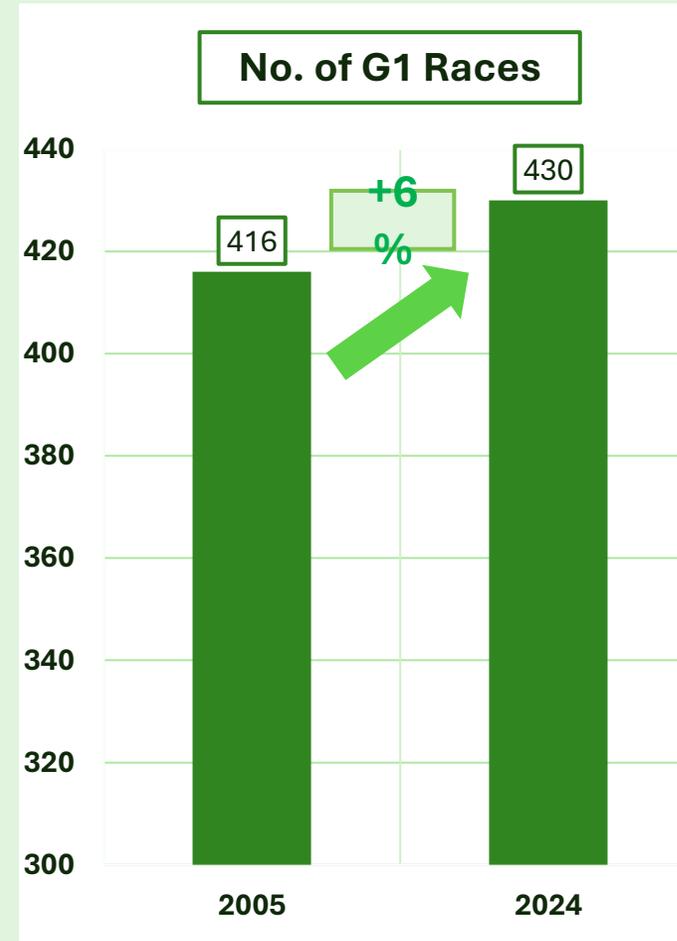
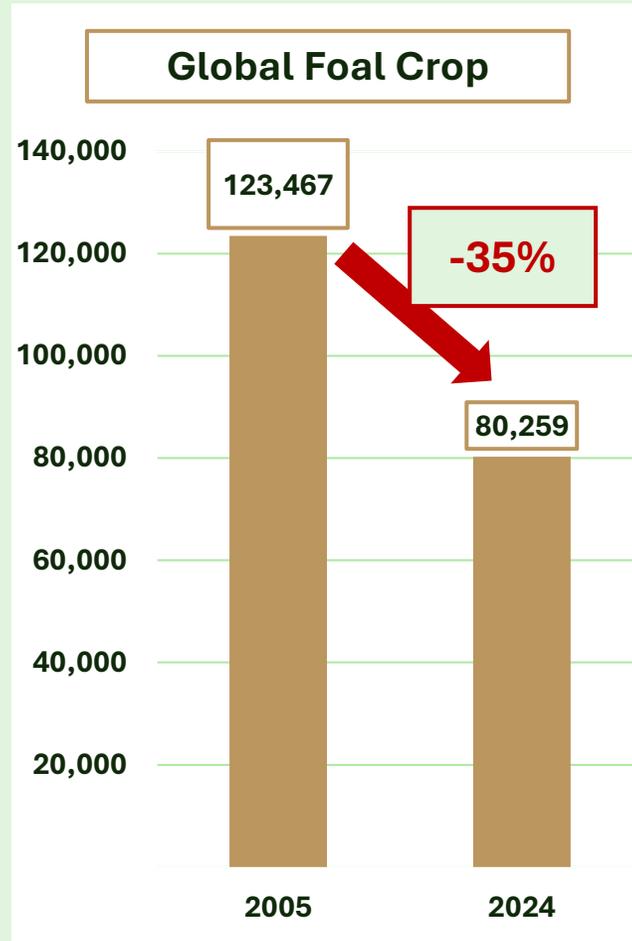
'There is a serious concern for the narrowing genetic diversity of the breed'

Mare cap rule shelved but inbreeding still a concern among bloodstock community

The Jockey Club has reported that by 2019, 7,415 mares (27 per cent of all mares bred) were covered by stations with books of more than 140, a threefold increase from 2007

Credit: Edward Whitt

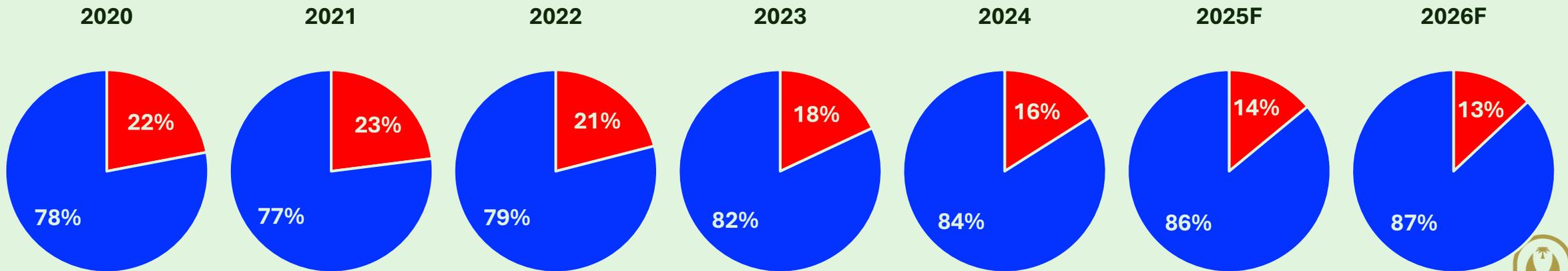
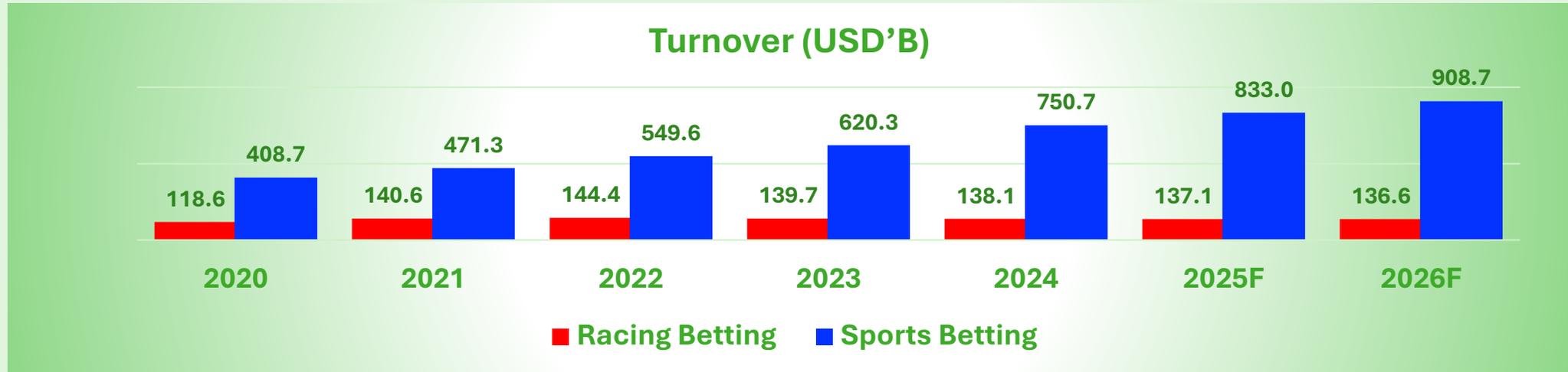
QUALITY CONTROL OF GROUP 1 RACES





WAGERING TRENDS

RACING'S SHARE OF THE SPORTS BETTING PIE CONTINUES TO SHRINK

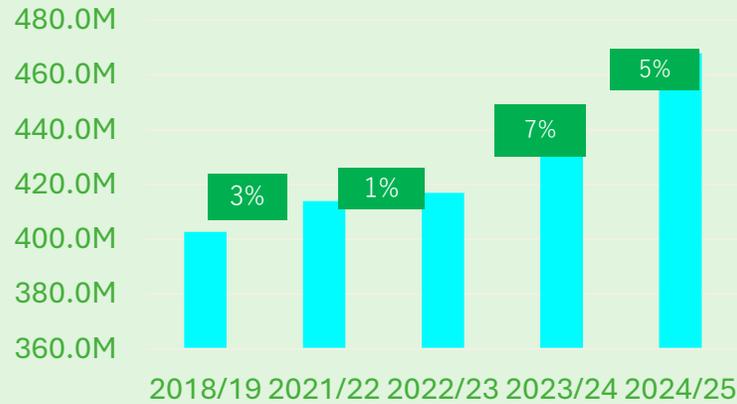


WAGERING CHALLENGES REMAIN, BUT POSITIVE RESULTS SEEN

Japan (JPY)



New Zealand (NZD)



Korea (KRW)



Australia (AUD)



Hong Kong (HKD)



AUS: 24/25 NSW and Victoria Turnover further dropped vs 23/24



WAGERING CHALLENGES REMAIN, BUT POSITIVE RESULTS SEEN



New Wagering Records Set On Kentucky Derby, Derby Day Card Despite Wet Conditions

\$349 million was wagered on the 14-race program, with \$234.4 million bet on the Run for the Roses



Ka Ying Rising's Everest Smashes Turnover Record in World Pool

netkeiba

Home News Racing Database Horse Tracker Library

G1 Arima Kinen turnover tops 71 billion JPY (approx. 456 million USD), first 70 billion JPY mark of the 21st Century

Sunday, 28 December, 2025 18:22



Record Melbourne Cup wagering fuels VRC carnival growth

Betting on the Melbourne Cup hit a record \$247.4 million, up 16.4 per cent, to be a key driver in Melbourne Cup carnival performance metrics in recent years.

BY WARWICK BARR • RACING INDUSTRY • NOVEMBER 12, 2025



WORLD POOL EXPANDED

Season	Races	Host Track Country	Total Turnover		% of IFHA Top 100 G1 Races
			HK\$	% growth	
2018/19	30	1	\$1,085.1m	-	7%
2019/20	43	2	\$1,630.8m	+50%	5%
2020/21	87	3	\$3,402.1m	+109%	16%
2021/22	153	5	\$6,179.3m	+82%	16%
2022/23	175	7	\$7,324.5m	+19%	19%
2023/24	258	8	\$9,311.1m	+27%	33%
2024/25	284	9	\$9,985.7m	+7%	31%
2025/26 (Planned)	380 (Planned)	9	\$12,691.6m (Projected)	+27%	54%

World Pool Strategies

- Establish a wagering and racing brand
- Fight the illegal market
- Promote parimutuel wagering
- Sustain the racing industry
- Focus on the World's best races
- Partner reciprocation



TACKLING INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

Recap of 9 major industry challenges



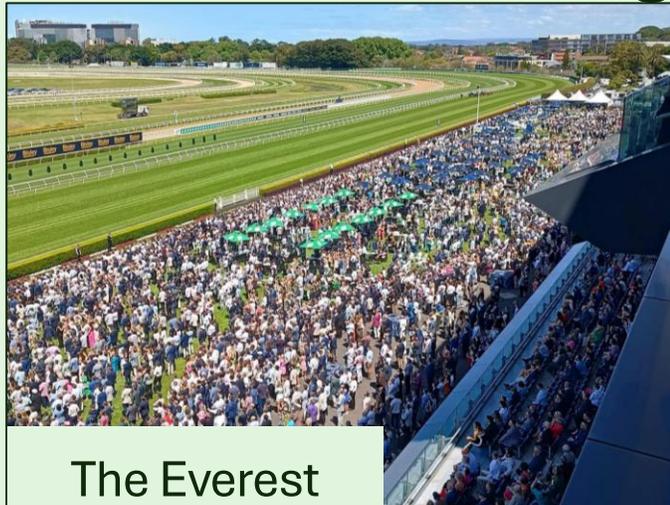
FOCUS ON THREE MAJOR CHALLENGES

Illegal and unlicensed operators



Competition

Widening Fan Base



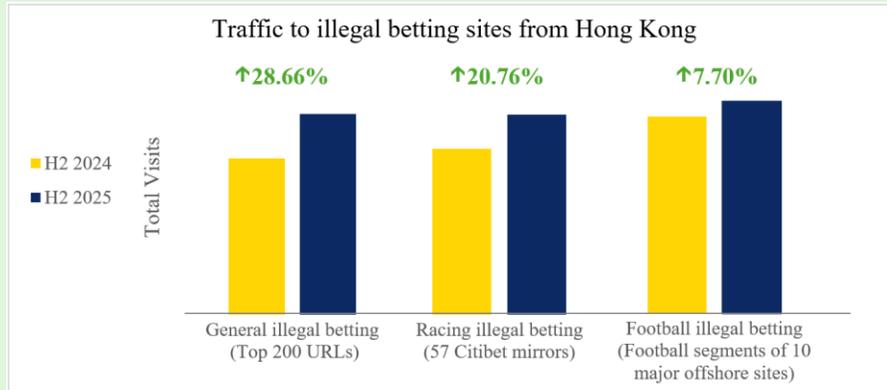
The Everest



HKJC Happy Wednesday

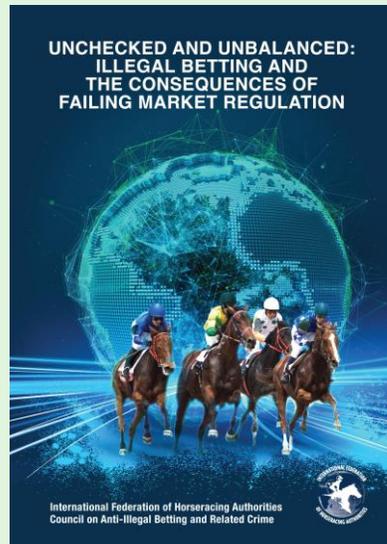


ILLEGAL AND UNLICENSED OPERATORS REMAIN AS THE BIGGEST WAGERING THREAT



73 investigated for suspected involvement in illegal horse betting activities

Sign up now: Get ST's newsletters delivered to your inbox



Annual Global Cost of Illegal Betting

\$3.7 Trillion (USD)

Authorities warned of 'red flag' flying over growth of illegal betting market in the United Kingdom



ILLEGAL BETTING FUELLED BY CRYPTO, BIG TECH & OVER-REGULATION OF LEGAL MARKETS

A REUTERS SPECIAL REPORT

Meta tolerates rampant ad fraud from China to safeguard billions in revenue

REUTERS/Illustration/Catherine Tai

A Reuters investigation reveals the owner of Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp decided to accept high levels of fraudulent advertisements from China. Internal company documents show Meta wanted to minimize "revenue impact" caused by cracking down on the scams.

By **Jeff Horwitz** and **Engen Tham**

December 15, 2025 8:00 PM GMT+8 · Updated January 2, 2026

TAX FOUNDATION

Exorbitant Sports Betting Taxes Could Kill the Legal Market

RACING POST

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Opinion](#) > [Comment](#) > [On The Money](#)

The threat posed by cryptocurrency as the gambling black market grows

[Bill Barber](#)
Industry editor



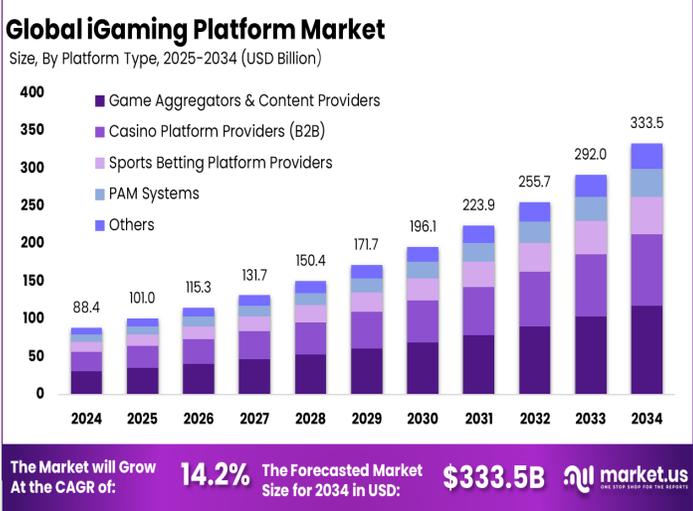
COMPETITION FOR WAGERING DOLLAR



PREDICTION MARKETS

YES

NO



PREDICTION MARKETS EXPAND TO SPORTS EVENTS

An advertisement for crypto.com's sports prediction market. At the top center is the crypto.com logo (a white hexagon with a stylized 'C') followed by the text "crypto.com" in a white sans-serif font. Below this, the word "SPORTS" is written in very large, bold, white, all-caps sans-serif letters. In the foreground, two football helmets are shown: a green one on the left and a red one on the right, both facing each other. The background is a blurred image of a stadium at night with bright lights. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text "Trade your predictions. Profit when you're right." is written in a white sans-serif font.

crypto.com

SPORTS

Trade your predictions.
Profit when you're right.



WIDENING OUR FAN BASE

TOTALLY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE ZONES FOR NEW CUSTOMER SEGMENTS



GAMIFICATION AND TV SERIES TO BUILD AWARENESS AND FAN BASE



CREATION OF RACING EVENTS WHICH ARE A COMBINATION OF WORLD-CLASS SPORT AND ENTERTAINMENT TO ATTRACT NEW DEMOGRAPHICS



TAB EVEREST HITS
NEW HEIGHTS
WITH YOUNGEST
EVER CROWD



MCC attracts 286,000 attendees with spectacular racing and growth surging across all event metrics

12 November 2025 • Written by VRC

The 2025 Melbourne Cup Carnival has solidified its position as Australia's most celebrated sporting and entertainment event, attracting over 286,000 racegoers to Flemington across four spectacular days, while achieving increased broadcast figures that reinforced the Lexus Melbourne Cup's status as the race that truly stops a nation.



This season total racecourse attendance was over 1.7 million, including a record 195,786 Mainland tourists, plus international visitors. This was a significant 110% increase on the 93,000 Mainland tourists who visited last season. In particular, major racedays set new records for tourist attendance, with the Chinese New Year Raceday, BMW Hong Kong Derby and FWD Champions Day meetings each attracting 9,000 tourists. These included high-end international tourists for our flagship LONGINES Hong Kong International Races and FWD Champions Day.



BRANDING RACING AS A GLOBAL SPORT



RACING IS GLOBAL IN HISTORY, REACH & PARTICIPATION



Racing already has all the ingredients to brand itself as a global sport

- Elite athletes with extraordinary stories
- International breeders, owners & trainers
- Global bloodstock markets
- Iconic events watched across time zones
- Deep heritage & authenticity



RACING & WAGERING CONSTRAINED BY OVER-REGULATION

The Telegraph Your Say News Sport Business Money Opinion Ukraine Travel Health Life

Football Rugby Union Cricket F1 Golf Tennis Women's Sport Racing Cycl

Charlie Brooks

Gambling's affordability checks are a disaster – no wonder the black market is thriving

NEWS

Log in

Gambling ad ban would pass parliament with a conscience vote, Labor MP says

By chief digital political correspondent Clare Armstrong

Gambling



We live in one of the most disruptive times in modern history, where we have geopolitical tension and technology innovation disrupting and significantly changing classical behaviour patterns:

- Traditional platforms will not help us to connect with younger generations or compete with other product and wagering offerings
- Racing and wagering organisers who are constrained by a very strict regulatory framework, and cannot match disruptive innovations
- We have to convince our regulators to reduce the regulatory burden and lower taxes on racing betting





Call for global collaboration



نادي سباقات الخيل
JOCKEY CLUB OF SAUDI ARABIA



Building a global alliance in the Year of The Horse

