



for all creatures **great & small**

RSPCA Australia National Statistics 2014-2015

The RSPCA receives thousands of animals every year in every state and territory in Australia. Annual statistics on the numbers of animals received, reclaimed or rehomed are compiled on a national basis by RSPCA Australia. The following statistics cover the 2014 to 2015 financial year and give details on the receipt and placement of animals by each state and territory RSPCA during that period. The statistics also include the number of cruelty complaints received by the RSPCA Inspectorate and prosecutions undertaken.

Detailed information is provided in the following tables:

- Table 1 Animals received nationally by the RSPCA for the 2014-2015 financial year
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Table 1: Animals received¹ nationally by the RSPCA for the 2014-2015 financial year

	Number of animals	Percentage of total
Total animals received: 133,495		
Dogs		
Reclaimed	19,057	40.90% of total dogs
Rehomed	15,647	33.58% of total dogs
Currently in Care ²	2,925	6.28% of total dogs
Transferred ³	1,871	4.02% of total dogs
Euthanased	6,765	14.52% of total dogs
Other	330	0.70% of total dogs
Total dogs	46,595	34.90% of total animals
Cats		
Reclaimed	2,426	4.59% of total cats
Rehomed	26,542	50.27% of total cats
Currently in Care ²	4,521	8.56% of total cats
Transferred ³	1,134	2.15% of total cats
Euthanased	17,398	32.95% of total cats
Other	783	1.48% of total cats
Total cats	52,804	39.56% of total animals
Other animals⁴		
Reclaimed	3,004	8.81% of other animals
Rehomed	6,107	17.91% of other animals
Currently in Care ²	1,684	4.94% of other animals
Transferred ³	5,363	15.73% of other animals
Euthanased	16,133	47.32% of other animals
Other	1,805	5.29% of other animals
Total other animals	34,096	25.54% of total animals

¹ Received refers to all animals in RSPCA facilities during the 2014-2015 financial year

² Currently in Care: animals remaining in shelter at end of financial year including foster care

³ Transferred: animals transferred to another RSPCA facility or non-RSPCA facility such as pound, welfare or rescue group

⁴ Including: horses, small animals, livestock, and wildlife

Table 2: Comparison of animals received nationally by the RSPCA over the past 5 years

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Change from previous year
Dogs						
Reclaimed/rehomed/other	47,990	41,352	38,834	38,641	39,830	Up 3.08%
Euthanased	19,583	14,211	10,355	7,313	6,765	Down 7.49%
Total dogs	67,633	55,563	49,189	45,954	46,595	Up 1.39%
Cats						
Reclaimed/rehomed/other	27,440	27,686	29,772	33,675	35,406	Up 5.14%
Euthanased	37,177	24,651	19,464	15,491	17,398	Up 12.31%
Total cats	64,617	52,337	49,236	49,166	52,804	Up 7.40%
Other Animals						
Reclaimed/rehomed/other	13,414	12,799	14,811	17,021	17,963	Up 5.53%
Euthanased	11,490	10,826	13,437	15,163	16,133	Up 6.40%
Total other animals	24,904	23,625	28,248	32,184	34,096	Up 5.94%
Total animals	157,094	131,525	126,673	127,304	133,495	Up 4.86%

Table 3: Reasons for euthanasia of dogs and cats by each RSPCA Society for the 2014-2015 financial year

	State/Territory RSPCA								Total
	ACT	NSW ¹	Darwin ²	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Dogs									
Infectious	4	85	5	110	13	19	16	1	253
Medical	39	611	19	298	133	18	271	71	1,460
Behavioural	44	2,565	37	932	186	141	757	38	4,700
Legal	0	158	0	23	13	0	103	0	297
Other	0	16	0	18	0	11	10	0	55
Total dogs euthanased	87	3,435	61	1,381	345	189	1,157	110	6,765
Cats									
Infectious	109	2,511	34	349	438	202	919	65	4,627
Medical	106	1,075	4	582	441	133	527	85	2,953
Behavioural	41	1,413	6	312	70	197	758	50	2,847
Legal ³	348	1	0	178	498	272	1	0	1,298
Other	3	4,148	0	70	0	30	1,394	28	5,673
Total cats euthanased	607	9,148	44	1,491	1,447	834	3,599	228	17,398

¹ RSPCA NSW includes Council animals this year.

² Data not available for NT - data from Darwin Regional Branch only.

³ ACT, SA, QLD and TAS - Feral cats euthanased are recorded in Legal.

Table 4: Animals received¹ by each RSPCA Society for the 2014-2015 financial year

	State/Territory RSPCA								Total
	ACT	NSW ⁵	Darwin	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Dogs									
Reclaimed	671	5,204	54	4,457	1,504	637	6,216	314	19,057
Rehomed	388	3,713	315	6,306	878	746	3,181	120	15,647
Currently in Care ²	54	946	67	718	270	107	691	72	2,925
Transferred ³	168	903	0	477	72	14	234	3	1,871
Euthanased	87	3,435	61	1,381	345	189	1,157	110	6,765
Other	8	51	1	156	15	2	91	6	330
Total dogs	1,376	14,252	498	13,495	3,084	1,695	11,570	625	46,595
Last year's total	1,645	9,869	576	15,328	3,770	1,596	12,461	709	45,954
Percent change ⁴	-16.35%	44.41%	-13.54%	-11.96%	-18.2%	6.20%	-7.15%	-11.85%	1.39%
Cats									
Reclaimed	165	648	5	558	177	90	769	14	2,426
Rehomed	1,376	7,338	219	7,874	2,481	1,136	5,893	225	26,542
Currently in Care ²	134	1,206	40	1,288	424	240	1,110	79	4,521
Transferred ³	0	326	0	334	267	36	126	45	1,134
Euthanased	607	9,148	44	1,491	1,447	834	3,599	228	17,398
Other	32	126	3	340	78	19	176	9	783
Total cats	2,314	18,792	311	11,885	4,874	2,355	11,673	600	52,804
Last year's total	2,265	14,098	370	12,709	5,281	2,389	11,454	600	49,166
Percent change ⁴	2.16%	33.3%	-15.95%	-6.48%	-7.71%	-1.42%	1.91%	0.0%	7.40%
Horses									
Reclaimed	0	16	0	9	2	0	0	0	27
Rehomed	0	38	0	10	4	19	31	1	103
Currently in Care ²	0	81	0	6	0	11	16	1	115
Transferred ³	0	0	0	3	3	0	1	0	7
Euthanased	0	14	0	3	3	14	3	0	37
Other	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	6
Total horses	0	152	0	32	12	46	51	2	295
Last year's total	0	117	0	27	22	62	85	17	330
Percent change ⁴	0	29.91%	0	18.52%	-45.45%	-25.81%	-40%	-88.24%	-10.61%

Table 4: Animals received¹ by each RSPCA Society for the 2014-2015 financial year (cont)

	State/Territory RSPCA								Total
	ACT	NSW ⁵	Darwin	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Livestock									
Reclaimed	2	27	0	27	4	1	29	0	90
Rehomed	239	577	2	362	106	116	190	36	1,628
Currently in Care ²	43	75	0	41	27	114	23	0	323
Transferred ³	0	19	0	21	14	0	64	0	118
Euthanased	40	356	0	228	28	58	72	2	784
Other	4	30	0	29	3	19	16	0	101
Total livestock	328	1,084	2	708	182	308	394	38	3,044
Last year's total	143	988	1	969	126	943	477	62	3,709
Percent change ⁴	129.37%	9.72%	100%	-26.93%	44.44%	-67.34%	-17.4%	-38.71%	-17.93%
Wildlife									
Released	256	21	0	1,513	110	11	680	0	2,591
Currently in Care ²	7	3	0	384	10	9	21	0	434
Transferred ³	158	265	0	4,393	82	21	4	0	4,923
Euthanased	872	339	1	11,317	90	21	654	0	13,294
Other	243	47	0	852	18	26	141	0	1,327
Total wildlife	1,536	675	1	18,459	310	88	1,500	0	22,569
Last year's total	2,839	751	0	14,093	525	90	1,738	0	20,036
Percent change ⁴	-45.90%	-10.12%	100%	30.98%	-40.95%	-2.22%	-13.69%	0	12.64%
Other animals									
Reclaimed	37	122	0	64	23	16	34	0	296
Rehomed	735	1,386	40	966	326	132	752	39	4,376
Currently in Care ²	103	168	0	146	209	35	146	5	812
Transferred ³	0	40	0	174	30	8	63	0	315
Euthanased	89	1,210	1	397	133	38	141	9	2,018
Other	47	101	0	104	31	41	42	5	371
Total other animals	1,011	3,027	41	1,851	752	270	1,178	58	8,188
Last year's total	625	3,053	33	2,247	558	240	1,226	127	8,109
Percent change ⁴	61.8%	-0.9%	24.2%	-17.6%	34.8%	12.5%	-3.9%	-54.3%	1.0%

Table 4: Animals received¹ by each RSPCA Society for the 2014-2015 financial year (cont)

	State/Territory RSPCA								Total
	ACT	NSW ⁵	Darwin	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Total animals received	6,565	37,982	853	46,430	9,214	4,762	26,366	1,323	133,495
Total 2013-14	7,517	28,876	980	45,373	10,282	5,320	27,441	1,515	127,304
Percent change ⁴	-12.66%	31.53%	-12.96%	2.33%	-10.39%	-10.49%	-3.59%	-12.67%	4.86%

¹ Received refers to all animals in RSPCA facilities during the 2014-2015 financial year.

² Currently in Care: animals remaining in shelter at end of financial year including foster care.

³ Transferred: animals transferred to another RSPCA facility or non-RSPCA facility such as pound, welfare or rescue group.

⁴ Percentage change in 2014-15 from previous year.

⁵ RSPCA NSW includes Council animals this year.

Examples of livestock, wildlife and other animals received

Livestock

- Cattle
- Chickens
- Ducks
- Geese
- Goats
- Bantam Hens
- Pigs
- Roosters
- Sheep
- Donkeys
- Turkey

Wildlife

- A wide variety of native birds
- Magpies
- Galahs
- Lizards
- Possums
- Kookaburras
- Water birds
- Turtles
- Koalas
- Kangaroos and Wallabies

Other animals

- Budgerigars
- Doves
- Ferrets
- Guinea pigs
- Mice
- Pigeons
- Rabbits
- Rats
- Tame ducks and chickens

Table 5: Cruelty complaints and prosecutions by state/territory RSPCA for the 2014-2015 financial year

	State/Territory RSPCA ¹							Total
	ACT	NSW	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA	
Cruelty complaints								
Investigated	2,235	15,012	18,499	4,953	3,017	10,740	6,353	60,809
Cruelty prosecutions								
Prosecutions finalised	9	67	20	53	29	69	27	274
Successful prosecutions ²	9	62	20	51	28	66	27	263
Charges laid	31	323	174	134	123	494	72	1,351
People charged	9	71	70	62	35	69	31	347
Cases pending	28	36	36	48	31	27	31	237
Routine inspections	0	117	0	27	22	2	48	216

¹ RSPCA Darwin does not enforce animal welfare legislation in NT

² Facts proved in relation to principal charges

Examples of the types of establishments routinely inspected by the RSPCA:

- Abattoirs
- Aquariums
- Breeding establishments
- Circuses
- Feedlots
- Guard dog firms
- Hobby farms
- Intensive farms
- Kennels
- Livestock vessels
- Markets
- Pet shops
- Poultry farms
- Pounds
- Riding schools
- Rodeos
- Saleyards
- Scientific establishments
- Shelters
- Shows
- Tourist parks
- Zoos

Table 6: Cruelty complaints and prosecutions nationally over the past 6 years

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Complaints	53,544	54,398	45,717	49,861	58,591	60, 809
Prosecutions¹	247	275	206	358	236	274

¹ Finalised prosecutions

END OF REPORT