BRITISH HORSERACING

EQUINE SAFETY REPORT 2025

RACING FOUNDATION

BHA BRITISH HORSERACING AUTHORITY

HORSERACE BETTING HBLB LEVY BOARD

HORSE WELFARE BOARD BRITISH RACING

DELIVERING WORLD-LEADING STANDARDS



OF HORSE WELFARE

British racing has a clear commitment to reducing avoidable risk for horses within our sport. In 2020, best possible safety was identified as one of the four core outcomes of the sport's A Life Well Lived strategy (2020-2025) to continuously improve our standards of horse welfare.

This report outlines progress achieved as a result of projects, research and ongoing investments by the sport in 2025.

IMPROVING SAFETY FOR HORSES

British racing's dedicated equine welfare team works hand-in-hand with the industry, including racecourses, trainers and jockeys, to continuously identify and reduce avoidable risk for horses competing in the sport. There are four core drivers of this work.

Much of the safety work featured in this report has been funded by the Racing Foundation and Horserace Betting Levy Board, which have supported the Horse Welfare Board since its inception. To date, the Racing Foundation has invested over £4.5 million into welfare-focused projects across focus areas of safety, traceability, data, education and training.

WORLD-LEADING EXPERTISE

An established long-term partnership between British racing and the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) provides specialist expertise in epidemiology, data analysis and risk modelling.

STRI, experts in ground and surface-management, provide strategic advice and consultancy to deliver the best possible ground for horses.

World-leading equine behaviourists, ethical advisors and animal-welfare specialists partner with experts from within the industry to support safety-related projects.

CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

British racing's 30 Veterinary Officers and approximately 230 Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons are equipped with cutting-edge technology to assess horses before and after races and provide the best outcomes.

Development of on, and off-course, technology including new approaches to ground management to improve consistency of surfaces.

Pilot projects continuously assess the viability, and effectiveness of new, emerging technologies that may improve safety.

DATA & EPIDEMIOLOGY

As part of its partnership with British Racing, the Royal Veterinary College (RVC) analyses the Racing Risk Models (RRM) which helps identify areas where risk may be reduced.

The Welfare Data Unit, established within the BHA, oversees data flows, requests and dashboards across the industry.

The collection of clinical and medical records for major Festivals supports veterinarians in assessing suitability to race.

CROSS-INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

Racing's Equine Safety Group (ESG), comprised of experts from across the sport, is responsible for overseeing and driving progress in safety in racing.

A unified approach led by and delivered by professionals from across the sport including racecourses, trainers and jockeys.

Working hand-in-hand with licensed racehorse trainers in Britain to enhance and support efforts to create the safest environment for horses in training.

FOCUS AREAS

01
REDUCING AND PREVENTING RISK

02
TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH & EDUCATION

03
SAFE & CONSISTENT GROUND

04
OBSTACLE AND FACILITIES DESIGN & IMPROVEMENT



FOCUS AREA
01 REDUCING AND PREVENTING RISK

2025 PROGRESS

The Racing Risk Models (RRM), overseen by epidemiologists at the RVC, are a complex risk management tool.

To date, British Racing's Risk Models have analysed over 1.2m individual races by horses between 2010-2024 to pinpoint factors that contribute to increased risk for horses.

The output from the RRM is independently validated by the RVC and delivered quarterly to British racing for consideration by the cross-industry Equine Safety Group.

The sport's central risk modelling is complemented by the Jockey Club's detailed racecourse analysis spanning multiple years. These new and emerging datasets continue to be evaluated, including academic validation to determine its potential to identify areas of potential risk.

- **New iterations of hurdle and steeplechase risk** incorporating data from 2024 finalised
- **Continued roll out of padded-style hurdles** to replace traditional birch hurdles to reduce the risk of falling by a predicted 11%
- **New data incorporated into the risk models** including temperature, humidity and rainfall to assess potential effect
- **Data used to support decision making across the sport** including a rule change to prevent horses running more than 15lbs out of handicap
- **Expansion of the BHA's Pre Race Examinations to encompass all horses at potential increased risk.** More than 12,000 individual horses received an enhanced check in 2025 (+40% y-o-y)
- **Opportunities to gain low-pressure raceday experience** for less-experienced horses and jockeys identified at increased risk rolled out at 12 schooling trials days, with 750 horses taking part



5000 HORSES WERE RECORDED AT MORE THAN 100 RACE MEETINGS

CASE STUDY

USING AI TO ENHANCE PRE-RACE CHECKS

In 2025, British horseracing trialled utilising a ground-breaking equine gait analysis software called Sleip. The software, developed in Sweden, allows vets to keep a digital record and objective assessment of a horse's movement, to help identify subtle signs of lameness, or gait asymmetry.

All 301 horses that competed at the Grand National Festival in 2025 were filmed as part of the pilot during routine veterinary pre-race examinations. Across the course of the trial, 5000 horses were recorded at more than 100 race meetings across Britain.

In 2026, Sleip technology is available to support Veterinary Officers' clinical decision-making when assessing a horse's suitability to race. Horses identified by a veterinarian as having minor gait asymmetry or lameness can then be tracked throughout the season using the software, to monitor and flag any subtle changes that may occur.

In the future, data recorded by Sleip will be incorporated into data modelling to potentially identify risk factors for horses, as well as further analysis as to what we can learn from this new technology.

FOCUS AREA

02 TECHNOLOGY, RESEARCH & EDUCATION

2025 PROGRESS

British racing is the biggest investor into equine health in the country, contributing more than £60m into advancing equine health, veterinary science and research since 2000.

- Cutting-edge AI gait analysis app Sleip piloted to help veterinarians monitor **subtle signs of lameness** in horses
- Wearable **heart-rate monitors** used in regulated races across Britain for the first time to provide vital cardiac data
- Trial to better understand potential tendon temperature increases and impact of **protective equipment** using thermister technology
- **Specialist equipment and training purchased by the Jockey Club** to support enhanced emergency training protocols at JC racecourses
- **Online medication records collected for all runners** at the Cheltenham and Aintree Festivals 2025
- **Ongoing work into epistaxsis** (bleeding from nose), **cardiac arrythmia and genetic factors** influencing bone density and remodelling
- **11 state-of-the-art horse mannequins purchased** to deliver enhanced practical training on racecourses
- **Anti-Doping programme expanded** to include testing for evidence of gene doping, following extensive research into detection methods
- **100 Equi-Ed training courses funded by Jockey Club** to enhance scientific and physiological knowledge of Thoroughbreds to ensure welfare on course

CASE STUDY

IMPROVING OUTCOMES THROUGH ENHANCED TRAINING

In 2025, 11 state of the art horse mannequins were developed and purchased by specialist manufacturers Resquip, to enhance practical veterinary and medical training at British racecourses.

The investment facilitates better understanding, safety and welfare in the rare, but often complex scenarios that involve the need to move a horse on the racecourse.

An enhanced training plan was rolled out by the Racecourse Association (RCA) in which 500 vets and medical personnel including doctors and nurses will now receive specialised training, known as 'moulages' practicing different scenarios with the mannequins every 12 months.

Meticulously designed to match the weight distribution and joint articulation of a horse, which can be as heavy as 600kg, British racing is now the largest sole owner of the equipment in the country.



11 STATE OF THE ART HORSE MANNEQUINS WERE DEVELOPED AND PURCHASED

CASE STUDY

EMBEDDING SAFETY AND EQUINE WELFARE THROUGH EDUCATION



The Jockey Club's partnership with independent training provider Equi-Ed marks an important step in its ongoing commitment to improving equine welfare through education, evidence and practical action.

Launched in 2025, the partnership funded 100 places for racing staff across Britain to undertake enhanced racehorse welfare training, building on a successful pilot with local yards at Cheltenham Racecourse. The bespoke programme provides those caring for racehorses with greater scientific and physiological understanding, including practical skills in physical assessment, stride analysis and skeletal knowledge.

The training forms part of The Jockey Club's Equine Welfare Strategy for 2026–28 and reflects the importance of extending welfare education beyond the race day environment and embedding it within the everyday care and preparation of racehorses within the sport.

Operating 15 of the country's racecourses, including world-famous festivals at Cheltenham and Aintree, safety remains a fundamental focus for The Jockey Club. Continued investment in racecourse facilities, surfaces, veterinary provision, course design and operational practices contribute to ongoing work in this area. Alongside these measures, the Equi-Ed partnership strengthens the knowledge of those responsible for horses at home, helping them identify potential issues earlier and make better-informed decisions about individual horses. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive in supporting their ambition to ensure racehorses receive the best possible care.

FOCUS AREA
03 SAFE & CONSISTENT GROUND

2025 PROGRESS

Providing a safe and consistent surface on which to train and compete. British racing works in partnership with world-leading surface management experts STRI, to conduct in-depth analysis, training and continuously improve standards of ground within the sport.

Significant investment has also taken place by racecourses into track improvement projects to continuously improve the consistency and quality of ground. These include major drainage works, all-weather track replenishments and improvements to watering systems.

- **A 'gold standard' of ground (known as a Performance Quality Standard) developed and delivered to turf (grass-based) racecourses** to enhance consistency of ground and going across British racecourses
- **Free assessments of home gallops at racing trainers made available,** with expert advice and tips to ensure the safest training surfaces
- **Free workshops held** to support information sharing for racecourses and access to expert knowledge
- **Free-to-access training for all yard-based staff** to maintain surfaces in the best possible condition for horses to train on at home
- **Synthetic Racecourse data collection workshop** took place to review existing and emerging surface assessment tools and future standard operating procedures.
- **Work commenced on a Performance Quality Standard** for racecourses with synthetic tracks
- **18 turf surface measures and target ranges shared with racecourses** as part of PQS to optimise conditions and standardise measurement across the sport
- **Water management and training surfaces best practice booklets created** to support racecourses and trainers

CASE STUDY

UTILISING NEW TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT PREPARATION OF GROUND



Maintaining a consistent racing surface and providing suitable conditions for horses and jockeys is a vital part of racecourse management and safety. Building on work beginning in 2017, Newmarket Racecourse trialled Hydrosight wireless soil-monitoring technology to support ground preparation for the 2025 Betfred Guineas Festival.

The innovative monitors were buried approximately 100mm deep at key distances across the race track, providing real-time information on moisture, soil temperature and salinity. The objective data helped to reduce uncertainty around changing conditions and inform decisions on irrigation and surface management. In turn, this helps the racecourse team create conditions that are appropriate for racing, with horse and jockey safety at the forefront of decision-making.

The build-up to the Festival was particularly challenging, with a hot, dry spring followed by changeable conditions predicted during the week of racing.

Rapidly changing conditions made accurate assessment of soil moisture particularly important when determining how and when to irrigate the track. Following positive feedback, the trial was expanded for the 2025 Debenhams July Festival, and the technology continues to be used by the racecourse in 2026.

The trial demonstrates how new technologies can complement established surface management expertise and support a proactive approach to improving safety and horse welfare.

FOCUS AREA

04 OBSTACLE AND FACILITIES DESIGN & IMPROVEMENT

2025 PROGRESS

We continue to assess and analyse the effect of obstacle-related factors to identify opportunities to reduce risk of adverse outcomes in jump racing.

Improvements include changing the colour of obstacle markers from orange to white to aid clarity, and mandating of padded style hurdles. These changes continue to be monitored and evaluated for impact.

In addition, racecourses have continued to invest into welfare-focused facility improvement in 2025. Examples include upgrading equine surfaces and walkways, crossings and wash down areas, installing new cooling systems and improvements to veterinary treatment areas, to continuously improve welfare provision for horses on race day.

- **A new hurdle technical specification to improve safety of obstacle design** is now mandatory across the sport
- **78% of British racecourses** had installed padded-style hurdles to reduce the risk of falling by the end of 2025, ahead of the October 2026 deadline
- **Data collection and ongoing evaluation** in relation to safety related interventions including changing of obstacle markers from orange to white and padded hurdles
- **Improvements continue to be explored to improve the profile of fences** including padding of all toe boards development and testing of new prototypes
- **Widening of loading/unloading spaces and installation of new trot-up strips** to support veterinary examinations at racecourses
- **Precise obstacle-level reporting and analysis established for all fences** across British racing to inform targeted safety interventions and improvements
- **Reduction in horse falls y-o-y (24/25) across the sport** supported by targeted data-led obstacle management
- **Targeted obstacle improvement at Sandown Racecourse** included widening of first and second fence bases to improve their jumping


CORAL
1
8

A YEAR IN FIGURES

1.2m
Individual race records analysed by experts at the RVC to identify potential risk factors


12,099
Individual horses given enhanced pre-race veterinary checks to screen out additional risk

140%
Increase in all-card trot ups compared with 2024

78%
of racecourses had installed padded-style hurdles by the end of 2025, ahead of the October 2026 deadline

11
State of the art mannequins purchased to support the training of racecourse staff for rare events

18
Surface measures and targets defined to optimise and improve consistency of ground across all courses

5,000
Horses recorded as part of Sleip app gait analysis pilot using AI to monitor subtle signs of lameness

20
Horses took part in a wearable technology pre-pilot trial to examine the viability of taking ECGs during live racing

12
Schooling trials took place to build race experience and provide horses and jockeys with low-pressure race experience

69
Licensed trainers used the schooling trials days in 2025


750
Horses took part in a schooling trial day

64K+
Data collection points contributed to review consistency of ground and going for safety


11,172
Number of anti-doping samples taken for testing in 2025

988
Horses' medical records analysed ahead of major jump festivals


142
Risk factors analysed within the Jump Racing Risk Model

28
Training yards sent staff to free gallops maintenance courses to enhance their knowledge of surface management at home

86,281
Total runners at British racecourses in 2025


7
Research papers citing data from British horseracing

01
LONG-TERM
INJURIES

02
FATALITIES

03
FALLS

STATISTICS

2004-2025



STATISTICS
MEASUREMENT & METHODOLOGY

Since 2000, British horseracing has measured adverse outcomes for racehorses on the racecourse against three key metrics; fatalities, long-term injuries, and falls.

British racing is committed to openness and transparency of the risk within racing. Since 2000, and particularly in the last five years, the way we have measured and recorded fatalities as a result of a race has evolved. This accounts for some fluctuations in single-year figures (as marked on tables) and affects the comparability of five-year trends, as reporting methods have changed within these periods.



2000

Fatalities as a result of a race defined as **'any horse fatally injury on a raceday as a direct result of their injuries'.**

2021

Definition of a racecourse fatality was widened to **'any horse fatally injured or euthanised on welfare grounds as a direct result of their injuries on raceday or within 48 hours of raceday".**

New veterinary system launched to improve accuracy of reporting.

2023

The sport's first Welfare Data Unit was established to drive world-class measurement and analysis of adverse outcomes.

2024

Fatality recording extended further to include any horse who is fatally injured within 48 hours of a raceday incident. This includes, therefore, horses who are euthanised but not as a direct result of their injuries. This is sometimes referred to as 'elective euthanasia'.

2025

Continual monitoring and reviewing of data and methodology for improved accuracy and transparency, including ongoing work to capture full visibility on horses who sustain long-term or fatal injuries away from the racecourse.



LONG TERM INJURIES

2004-2025

LONG TERM INJURIES
JUMP RACING - HURDLES

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	LONG TERM INJURIES	LTI % OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	19,562	6,052	131	0.67%	0.74%
2005	19,857	6,280	164	0.83%	0.76%
2006	20,095	6,577	193	0.96%	0.82%
2007	19,158	6,683	178	0.93%	0.86%
2008	20,352	6,786	145	0.71%	0.82%
2009	19,144	6,566	150	0.78%	0.84%
2010	17,547	6,049	150	0.85%	0.85%
2011	20,013	6,408	129	0.64%	0.78%
2012	17,814	5,913	115	0.65%	0.73%
2013	18,514	5,964	107	0.58%	0.70%
2014	17,436	5,640	101	0.58%	0.66%
2015	18,115	5,812	98	0.54%	0.60%
2016	18,493	5,841	79	0.43%	0.55%
2017	18,420	5,803	97	0.53%	0.53%
2018	18,844	5,961	99	0.53%	0.52%
2019	18,496	6,081	65	0.35%	0.47%
2020	14,853	5,565	41	0.28%	0.42%
2021	18,713	6,255	93	0.50%	0.44%
2022	17,590	5,977	115	0.65%	0.46%
2023	17,748	5,931	96	0.54%	0.46%
2024	18,094	5,862	112	0.62%	0.52%
2025	16,961	5,586	124	0.73%	0.61%

LONG TERM INJURIES
JUMP RACING - STEEPLECHASE

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	LONG TERM INJURIES	LTI % OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	11,557	3,453	109	0.94%	0.96%
2005	11,753	3,535	110	0.94%	0.93%
2006	12,251	3,750	111	0.91%	0.94%
2007	11,392	3,676	97	0.85%	0.94%
2008	12,461	3,840	104	0.83%	0.89%
2009	11,699	3,703	113	0.97%	0.90%
2010	10,542	3,411	98	0.93%	0.90%
2011	11,481	3,563	100	0.87%	0.89%
2012	10,690	3,392	76	0.71%	0.86%
2013	11,360	3,372	77	0.68%	0.83%
2014	10,696	3,239	67	0.63%	0.76%
2015	10,796	3,348	88	0.82%	0.74%
2016	10,933	3,307	52	0.48%	0.66%
2017	10,877	3,279	76	0.70%	0.66%
2018	10,774	3,291	67	0.62%	0.65%
2019	10,429	3,240	51	0.49%	0.62%
2020	8,197	2,896	24	0.29%	0.52%
2021	10,801	3,455	56	0.52%	0.52%
2022	9,964	3,153	83	0.83%	0.55%
2023	9,747	3,098	69	0.71%	0.57%
2024	9,600	2,996	58	0.60%	0.59%
2025	9,049	2,925	85	0.94%	0.72%

LONG TERM INJURIES
NATIONAL HUNT FLAT

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	LONG TERM INJURIES	LTI % OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	2,864	1,711	10	0.35%	0.36%
2005	2,961	1,755	8	0.27%	0.37%
2006	3,022	1,842	12	0.40%	0.40%
2007	3,086	1,871	6	0.19%	0.35%
2008	3,203	1,961	11	0.34%	0.31%
2009	3,184	1,966	11	0.35%	0.31%
2010	3,120	1,971	11	0.35%	0.33%
2011	3,290	2,000	10	0.30%	0.31%
2012	3,077	1,939	1	0.03%	0.28%
2013	3,436	2,165	9	0.26%	0.26%
2014	3,090	1,962	10	0.32%	0.25%
2015	2,703	1,704	3	0.11%	0.21%
2016	2,584	1,657	5	0.19%	0.18%
2017	2,672	1,696	2	0.07%	0.19%
2018	2,744	1,762	4	0.15%	0.17%
2019	2,517	1,649	4	0.16%	0.14%
2020	2,138	1,545	3	0.14%	0.14%
2021	3,385	2,290	8	0.24%	0.15%
2022	2,422	1,634	6	0.25%	0.19%
2023	2,444	1,628	4	0.16%	0.19%
2024	2,181	1,475	1	0.05%	0.17%
2025	2,106	1,442	6	0.28%	0.20%

LONG TERM INJURIES
FLAT RACING - TURF

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	LONG TERM INJURIES	LTI % OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	41931	9251	36	0.09%	0.09%
2005	42371	9571	36	0.08%	0.09%
2006	37123	9066	52	0.14%	0.10%
2007	38080	9524	50	0.13%	0.11%
2008	38468	9879	51	0.13%	0.11%
2009	39670	9845	54	0.14%	0.13%
2010	39611	9696	58	0.15%	0.14%
2011	39237	9527	50	0.13%	0.13%
2012	36501	9122	34	0.09%	0.13%
2013	36704	9070	44	0.12%	0.12%
2014	36079	8952	52	0.14%	0.13%
2015	36136	9026	44	0.12%	0.12%
2016	35914	9211	31	0.09%	0.11%
2017	36604	9397	35	0.10%	0.11%
2018	35769	9399	31	0.09%	0.11%
2019	35238	9317	32	0.09%	0.10%
2020	24841	8242	23	0.09%	0.09%
2021	34152	9002	49	0.14%	0.10%
2022	32714	8731	44	0.13%	0.11%
2023	32921	8833	45	0.14%	0.12%
2024	33189	8878	41	0.12%	0.13%
2025	33004	8754	50	0.15%	0.14%

LONG TERM INJURIES

FLAT RACING - AWT* *ALL WEATHER TURF

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	LONG TERM INJURIES	LTI % OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	16847	5496	18	0.11%	0.10%
2005	17719	5796	17	0.10%	0.10%
2006	22119	6925	31	0.14%	0.11%
2007	22001	7059	34	0.15%	0.12%
2008	23531	7577	42	0.18%	0.14%
2009	22299	7534	30	0.13%	0.14%
2010	21205	7116	30	0.14%	0.15%
2011	20355	6681	27	0.13%	0.15%
2012	22092	7183	45	0.20%	0.16%
2013	20822	6842	43	0.21%	0.16%
2014	20229	6669	42	0.21%	0.18%
2015	20327	6746	36	0.18%	0.19%
2016	21692	7485	34	0.16%	0.19%
2017	22427	7788	23	0.10%	0.17%
2018	24896	8359	31	0.12%	0.15%
2019	24729	8263	18	0.07%	0.13%
2020	23842	8192	29	0.12%	0.12%
2021	24234	7951	34	0.14%	0.11%
2022	23723	7738	36	0.15%	0.12%
2023	24744	7889	35	0.14%	0.13%
2024	25954	7996	43	0.17%	0.14%
2025	25161	7837	51	0.20%	0.16%

LONG TERM INJURIES KEY FACTS

LTI figures are based on horses reported as

SUSTAINING A LONG-TERM INJURY ON RACE DAY

that do not return to racing within 90 days

The five year-average of long-term injuries per runner currently sits at

0.63% FOR JUMP RACING AND 0.14% FOR FLAT RACING

A minimum of three vets are on-hand at every flat race meeting, four for jumps race meetings, and

MANY MORE AT LARGER FIXTURES AND FESTIVALS

Latest research from our partnership with the RVC found tendon and ligament injuries were the most common type of LTI

ACCOUNTING FOR 72%

Horses sustaining long-term injuries are

SUPPORTED IN THEIR RETURN TO RACING WITH ENHANCED PROTOCOLS

to ensure they are fit and safe to compete

Recent falling fatality rates may have contributed to an increase in LTIs as incidents which would previously have been fatal are

NOW BEING TREATED.

Improved follow up of horses injured on race-day is also attributed to the rise

FATALITIES

2004-2025



FATALITIES
JUMP RACING - STEEPLECHASE

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	FATALITIES	FATALITY RATE	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
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2024	9,600	2,996	59	0.61%	0.55%
2025	9,049	2,925	47	0.52%	0.56%

*Data capture enhanced to include any horse fatally injured or euthanised on welfare grounds as a direct result of their injuries on raceday or within 48hrs.

*Data capture further enhanced to include any horse fatally injured with 48hrs of a raceday, including elective euthanasia.

FATALITIES
JUMP RACING - HURDLES

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2007	19,158	6,683	72	0.38%	0.44%
2008	20,352	6,786	100	0.49%	0.42%
2009	19,144	6,566	98	0.51%	0.45%
2010	17,547	6,049	90	0.51%	0.46%
2011	20,013	6,408	66	0.33%	0.44%
2012	17,814	5,913	79	0.44%	0.46%
2013	18,514	5,964	89	0.48%	0.46%
2014	17,436	5,640	82	0.47%	0.45%
2015	18,115	5,812	64	0.35%	0.42%
2016	18,493	5,841	67	0.36%	0.42%
2017	18,420	5,803	65	0.35%	0.40%
2018	18,844	5,961	74	0.39%	0.39%
2019	18,496	6,081	76	0.41%	0.37%
2020	14,853	5,565	47	0.32%	0.37%
2021	18,713	6,255	80	0.43%	0.38%
2022	17,590	5,977	65	0.37%	0.38%
2023	17,748	5,931	58	0.33%	0.37%
2024	18,094	5,862	101	0.56%	0.40%
2025	16,961	5,586	76	0.45%	0.43%

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*Data capture further enhanced to include any horse fatally injured with 48hrs of a raceday, including elective euthanasia.

FATALITIES

JUMP RACING - NATIONAL HUNT FLAT

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	FATALITIES	FATALITY RATE	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	2,864	1,711	6	0.21%	0.31%
2005	2,961	1,755	5	0.17%	0.28%
2006	3,022	1,842	6	0.20%	0.26%
2007	3,086	1,871	10	0.32%	0.27%
2008	3,203	1,961	10	0.31%	0.24%
2009	3,184	1,966	7	0.22%	0.24%
2010	3,120	1,971	11	0.35%	0.28%
2011	3,290	2,000	8	0.24%	0.29%
2012	3,077	1,939	8	0.26%	0.28%
2013	3,436	2,165	12	0.35%	0.28%
2014	3,090	1,962	8	0.26%	0.29%
2015	2,703	1,704	8	0.30%	0.28%
2016	2,584	1,657	5	0.19%	0.27%
2017	2,672	1,696	11	0.41%	0.30%
2018	2,744	1,762	6	0.22%	0.28%
2019	2,517	1,649	6	0.24%	0.27%
2020	2,138	1,545	7	0.33%	0.28%
2021	3,385	2,290	10	0.30%	0.30%
2022	2,422	1,634	8	0.33%	0.28%
2023	2,444	1,628	3	0.12%	0.26%
2024	2,181	1,475	6	0.28%	0.27%
2025	2,106	1,442	9	0.43%	0.29%

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FATALITIES
FLAT RACING - TURF

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	FATALITIES IN FLAT RACING	% OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	41931	9251	30	0.07%	0.06%
2005	42371	9571	26	0.06%	0.06%
2006	37123	9066	22	0.06%	0.06%
2007	38080	9524	24	0.06%	0.06%
2008	38468	9879	24	0.06%	0.06%
2009	39670	9845	32	0.08%	0.06%
2010	39611	9696	33	0.08%	0.07%
2011	39237	9527	24	0.06%	0.07%
2012	36501	9122	35	0.10%	0.08%
2013	36704	9070	31	0.08%	0.08%
2014	36079	8952	39	0.11%	0.09%
2015	36136	9026	20	0.06%	0.08%
2016	35914	9211	31	0.09%	0.09%
2017	36604	9397	24	0.07%	0.08%
2018	35769	9399	32	0.09%	0.08%
2019	35238	9317	20	0.06%	0.07%
2020	24841	8242	21	0.08%	0.08%
2021	34152	9002	24	0.07%	0.07%
2022	32714	8731	23	0.07%	0.07%
2023	32921	8833	26	0.08%	0.07%
2024	33189	8878	31	0.09%	0.08%
2025	33004	8754	33	0.10%	0.08%

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FATALITIES
FLAT RACING - AWT

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	FATALITIES IN AWT RACING	% OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	16847	5496	16	0.09%	0.08%
2005	17719	5796	13	0.07%	0.08%
2006	22119	6925	12	0.05%	0.07%
2007	22001	7059	18	0.08%	0.07%
2008	23531	7577	21	0.09%	0.08%
2009	22299	7534	20	0.09%	0.08%
2010	21205	7116	27	0.13%	0.09%
2011	20355	6681	15	0.07%	0.09%
2012	22092	7183	21	0.10%	0.10%
2013	20822	6842	23	0.11%	0.10%
2014	20229	6669	27	0.13%	0.11%
2015	20327	6746	20	0.10%	0.10%
2016	21692	7485	22	0.10%	0.11%
2017	22427	7788	25	0.11%	0.11%
2018	24896	8359	37	0.15%	0.12%
2019	24729	8263	17	0.07%	0.11%
2020	23842	8192	29	0.12%	0.11%
2021	24234	7951	34	0.14%	0.12%
2022	23723	7738	23	0.10%	0.12%
2023	24744	7889	20	0.08%	0.10%
2024	25954	7996	24	0.09%	0.11%
2025	25161	7837	26	0.10%	0.10%

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*Data capture further enhanced to include any horse fatally injured with 48hrs of a raceday, including elective euthanasia.

FATALITIES
KEY FACTS

THE OVERALL FATALITY RATE IN 2025 ACROSS RACING WAS 0.22%.

This is a reduction from 2024 when the rate was 0.25%

The most significant contribution to this was

THE REDUCTION IN FATALITIES IN JUMP RACING WHICH SAW A RATE OF 0.47% IN 2025

which is reduced from 0.56% in 2024

The five-year fatality rate

REMAINS RELATIVELY STABLE

at 0.46% in jump racing and 0.09% in flat racing

THE FATALITY REVIEW PROCESS HOLISTICALLY REVIEWED EVERY RACECOURSE FATALITY

by gathering, detailed information from jockey, trainer, racecourse staff and vets to identify contributing factors that may reduce avoidable risk in the future

The majority of fatalities that occur in British racing are due to

MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURY

37% OF FATALITIES

in jump racing are associated with a fall

FALLS

2004-2025

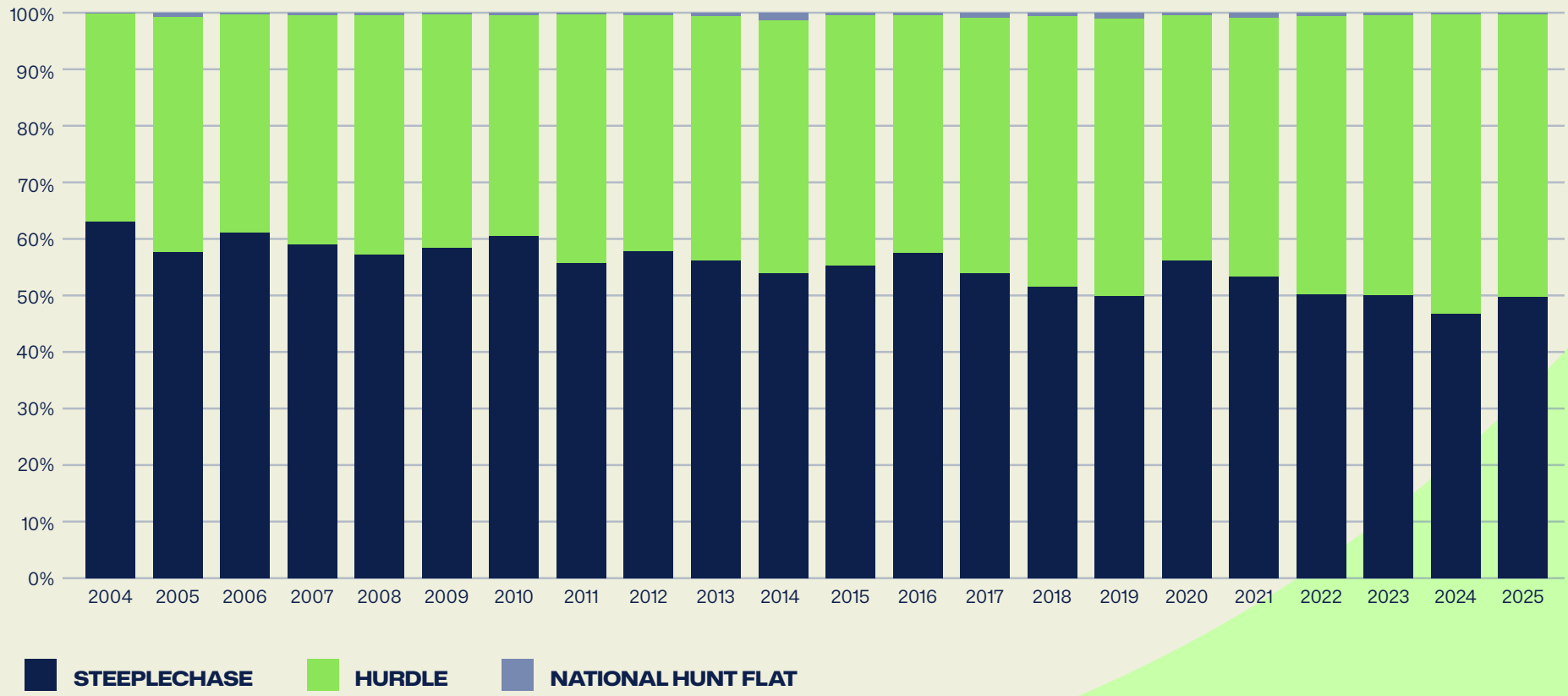


FALLS
STATISTICS 2004-2025

YEAR	RUNNERS	INDIVIDUAL HORSES RAN	FALLS	% OF RUNNERS	% OF RUNNERS – 5 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE
2004	33983	9080	1179	3.62%	3.58%
2005	34571	9297	1018	3.09%	3.41%
2006	35368	9783	1137	3.38%	3.38%
2007	33636	9896	916	2.88%	3.26%
2008	36016	10050	1047	3.06%	3.18%
2009	34027	9920	958	2.95%	3.05%
2010	31209	9212	874	2.92%	3.02%
2011	34784	9523	939	2.82%	2.91%
2012	31581	8936	795	2.63%	2.87%
2013	33310	8918	824	2.56%	2.77%
2014	31222	8497	811	2.68%	2.71%
2015	31614	8592	782	2.52%	2.63%
2016	32010	8566	784	2.49%	2.56%
2017	31969	8570	789	2.51%	2.55%
2018	32362	8620	754	2.36%	2.51%
2019	31446	8743	698	2.22%	2.42%
2020	25188	8047	601	2.39%	2.40%
2021	32901	9154	728	2.21%	2.34%
2022	29977	8568	625	2.09%	2.25%
2023	29947	8486	541	1.81%	2.14%
2024	29875	8237	570	1.91%	2.08%
2025	28116	8020	528	1.88%	1.98%

FALLS

FALLS BY JUMP RACE TYPE



FALLS
KEY FACTS

There is an

11% LOWER RISK OF FALLING

when racing over padded hurdles vs traditional birch hurdles

The five-year average faller rate continues to

TREND DOWNWARDS, NOW SITTING AT 1.98% (2025)

from 2.08% (2024) and 2.40% (2020)

APPROXIMATELY 7% OF ALL FALLS

were associated with a fatality, and 2% with a long-term injury (2011-2024)

VIDEOS OF ALL FALLS BETWEEN JULY 2024 AND JUNE 2025

were reviewed and the details surrounding each fall analysed by the RVC to inform future work and prevention strategies

The risk of fall in jump racing has

DECREASED BY 45%

since 2003 from 3.39% to 1.88% in 2025

Vets follow races as they happen and must be able to attend to any horse

WITHIN 60 SECONDS

if needed

REFERENCES /APPENDIX

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