



## **Some quick facts for your media release or soundbites**

Current figures show approximately 13,500 foals are born into the racing industry each year. Approximately the same number of horses (failed and former racehorses) end up being sent to slaughter.

Estimates are that only 300 of every 1,000 foals born into the industry each year ever start a race.

In the past racing year (2016-17), 137 horses died while racing meaning one horse dies on Australian race tracks every 2.6 days. These are just the deaths that are reported - many more happen in trials and trackwork. Thousands more end up as wastage. More key findings from this year's deathwatch report here <https://www.horseracingkills.com/issues/deathwatch/>

In Australia, a study of two and three-year-old thoroughbred horses used for racing reported that 85 percent suffered from at least one episode of illness or injury. Another study of two-year-old thoroughbreds indicated that 40 percent of horses were unsound at the end of the season.

Researchers at the University of Melbourne have shown that 56 percent of racehorses have blood in their windpipe, and **90 percent have blood deeper in their lungs.**

Melbourne Cup deaths

In 2013, Verema died.

In 2014, Admire Rakti & Araldo died.

In 2015, Red Cadeaux died.

In 2017 Regal Monarch died.

While no horses died in the Melbourne Cup in 2016, industry documents from Flemington (where the cup is run) showed that across the whole day:

- 3 horses pulled up lame
- 2 horses bled from the nostrils
- 3 horses bled in the lungs

- 6 horses were over-whipped

In 2017, along with the death of Regal Monarch (killed after a broken leg) there were

- 2 jockeys charged with careless riding
- 2 cases of exercise-induced pulmonary haemorrhage (bleeding in the lungs)
- 1 horse with abrasions to the hocks
- 1 horse with a laceration to the off fore tendon
- 2 lame horses
- 3 jockeys fined or reprimanded for overwhipping
- 1 case of the thumps (usually caused by dehydration)

It is important to note that these are the Melbourne Cup Day industry reports JUST from Flemington, where the Melbourne Cup is held. There are dozens of race days held around the country on the same day.

CPR has a retirement plan the racing industry could adopt that would ensure no horse be sent to slaughter once they are no longer wanted, funded by just 1% of all betting turnover.

Please visit <https://www.horseracingkills.com/> for more helpful facts.