

2024 WEATHERBYS Fact Book



Fact Book 2024

Executive Summary

The latest edition of the annual Weatherbys Fact Book provides key breeding statistics for foals, mares, stallions as well as international movements, age profiles, gestation periods, breeders by county and other information across Britain and Ireland.

2024 saw one of the lowest combined British-Irish foal crops since the aftermath of the financial crisis.

With the exception of the financial crisis, when the foal crop declined from a high of 18,472 in 2007 to 11,912 in 2012, the two countries have enjoyed steady growth since records were first kept.

In 1959, 65 years ago, the combined foal crop for Britain and Ireland was a little over 4,000; and 20 years later in 1979 it had doubled to 8,621. This continued to grow over the following 20 years and by 1999 our total combined foal crop stood at 13,115, before peaking in 2007 and 2008 at over 18,000, a 435% increase in 50 years.

That steady recovery since the financial crisis appears to have stalled, at least for now.

Of additional concern, there has been a disproportionate reduction in stallions compared to broodmares in the last 15 years: in round numbers stallion numbers have halved in that short period compared to a 25% reduction in broodmares, resulting in us having the highest ratio of stallions to broodmares in the world at 1:60.

The impact of these lower numbers is smaller field sizes. The optimum field size for maximising turnover is 11 or 12 runners. Declining foal crops on both sides of the Irish Sea and, recognising that 60% of the Irish foal crop is exported to Britain to race, potential average field sizes of 6-8 will have an enormous impact on the health and sustainability of our combined racing industries.

This trend is worldwide, except for a handful of Thoroughbred breeding countries. These exceptions have one factor in common; their breeding industries all receive support either directly from Government as part of a wider agricultural and employment policy, or indirectly through tote turnover.

Simon Cooper
Director, Weatherbys General Stud Book



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PRODUCED BY

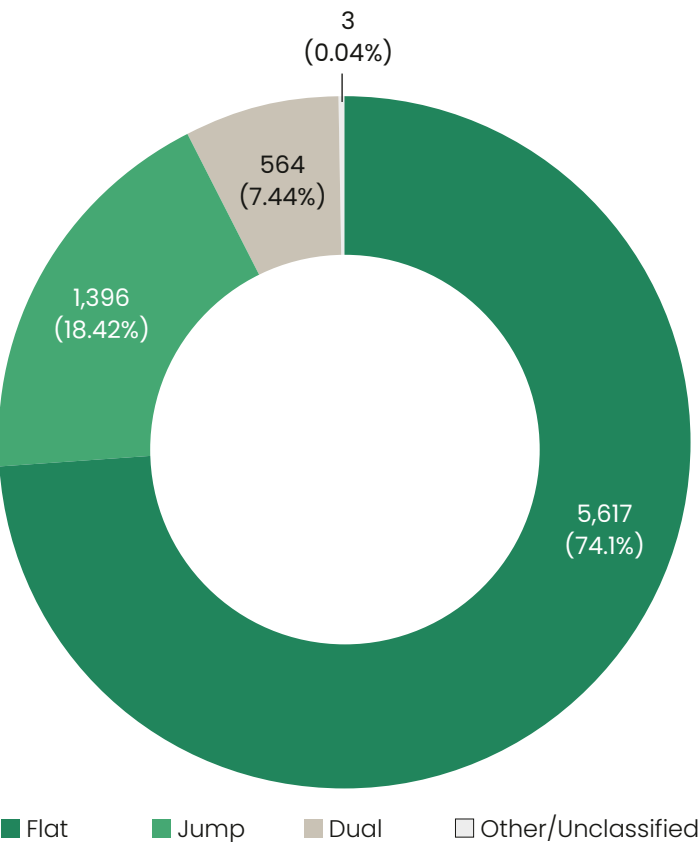
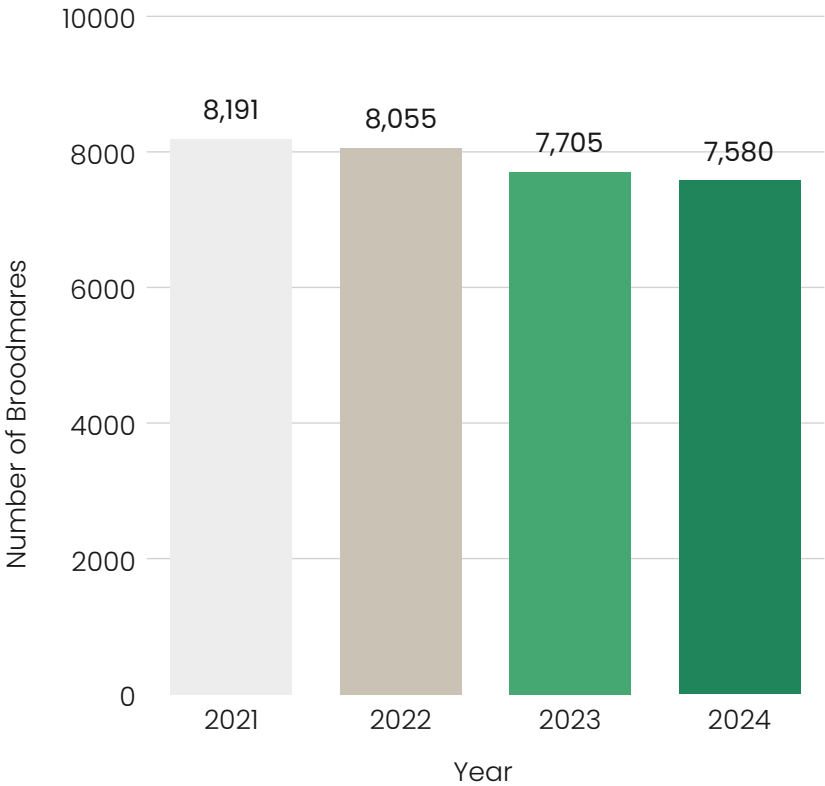
Broodmares - British



GB Active Broodmares
2021 - 2024

The chart shows all registered broodmares, in known ownership, that have either produced a foal, been covered and/or for which a result has been received in the last two breeding seasons. These figures exclude those which are known to have been retired, died or permanently exported.

The active broodmare population has decreased by 7% over the last four years.



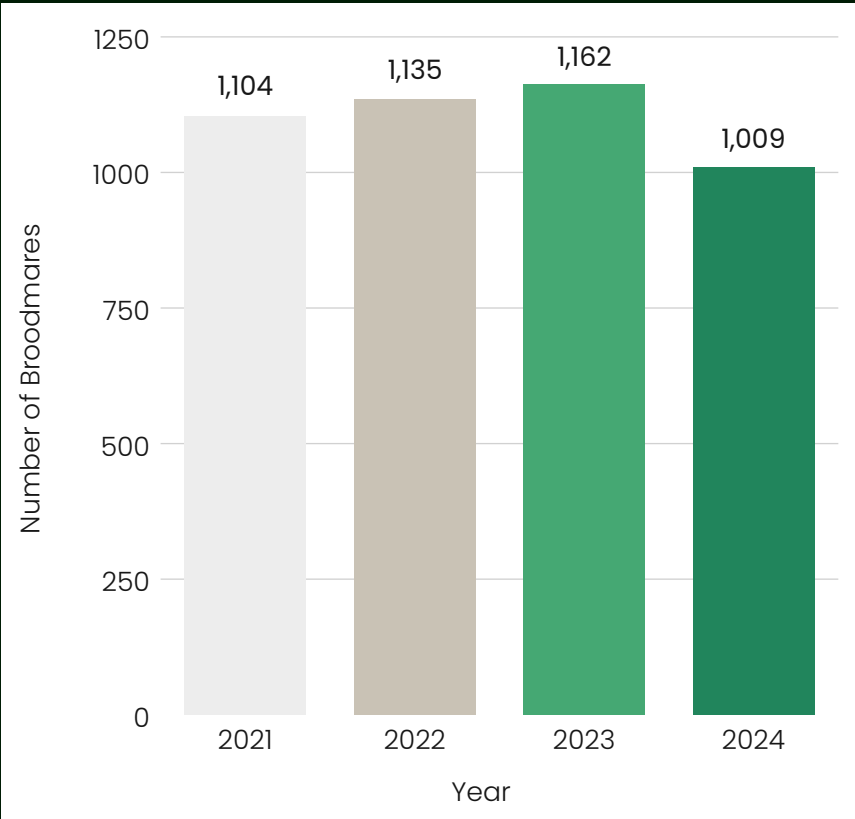
GB Broodmares
Classification

(As Indicated By Foal Intended
Career Types)

Assessing the types of broodmares actively breeding in Great Britain has been achieved by using the foal career information provided in 2024 (for foals out of GB domiciled mares) and applying relative percentages across the total broodmare population.

N.B: This can only be an estimate as mares are not classified as part of the broodmare registration process.

Initial Broodmare Registrations 2021 - 2024/ Retired/Deceased



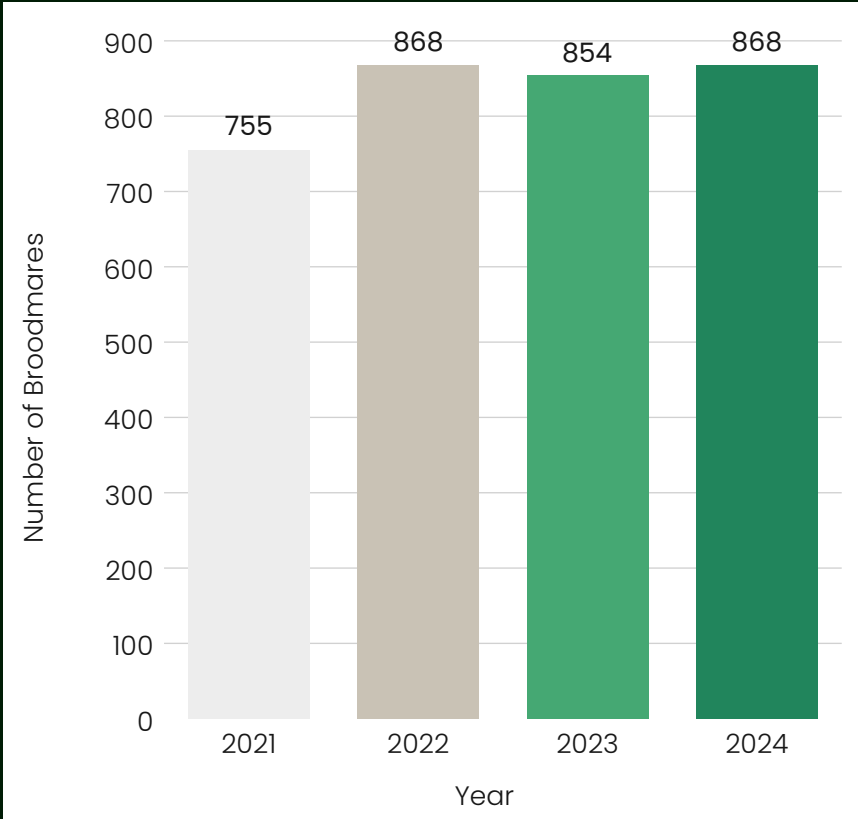
GB Initial Broodmare Registrations 2021-2024

Each year, new fillies enter the breeding population and this is reflected in the number of Initial Broodmare registrations processed.

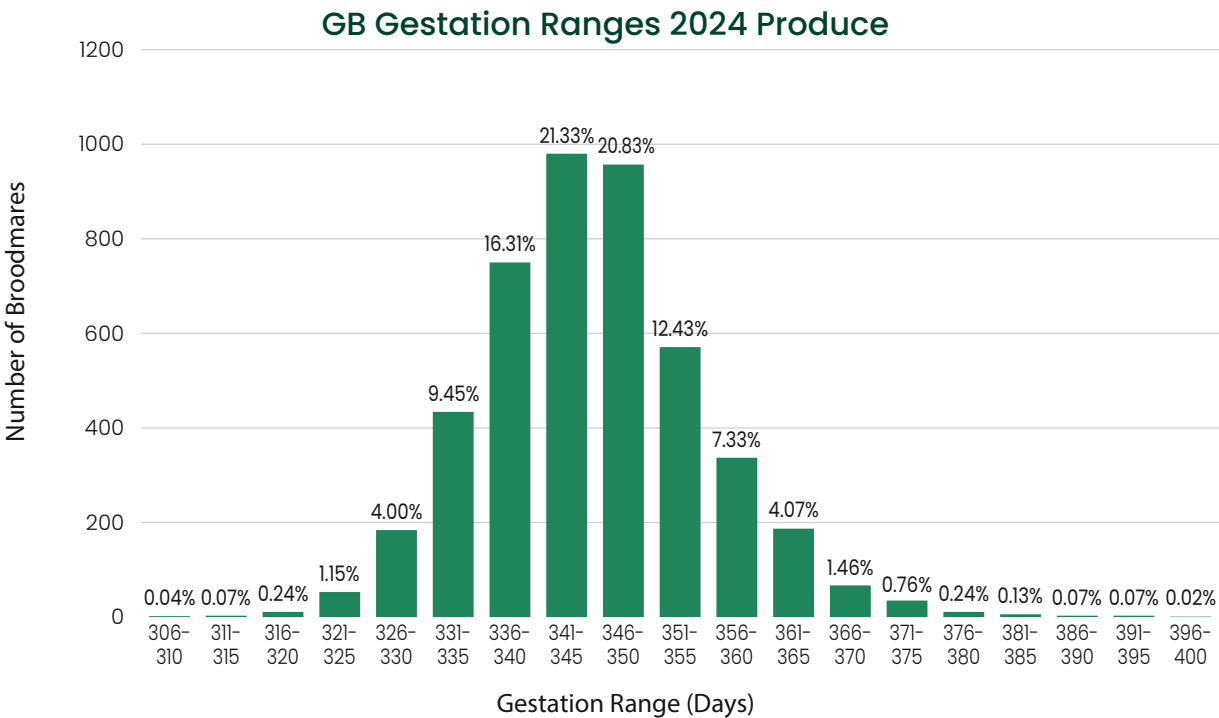
The number of new fillies entering the breeding population has decreased by 9% over the last 4 years.

GB Retired/ Deceased

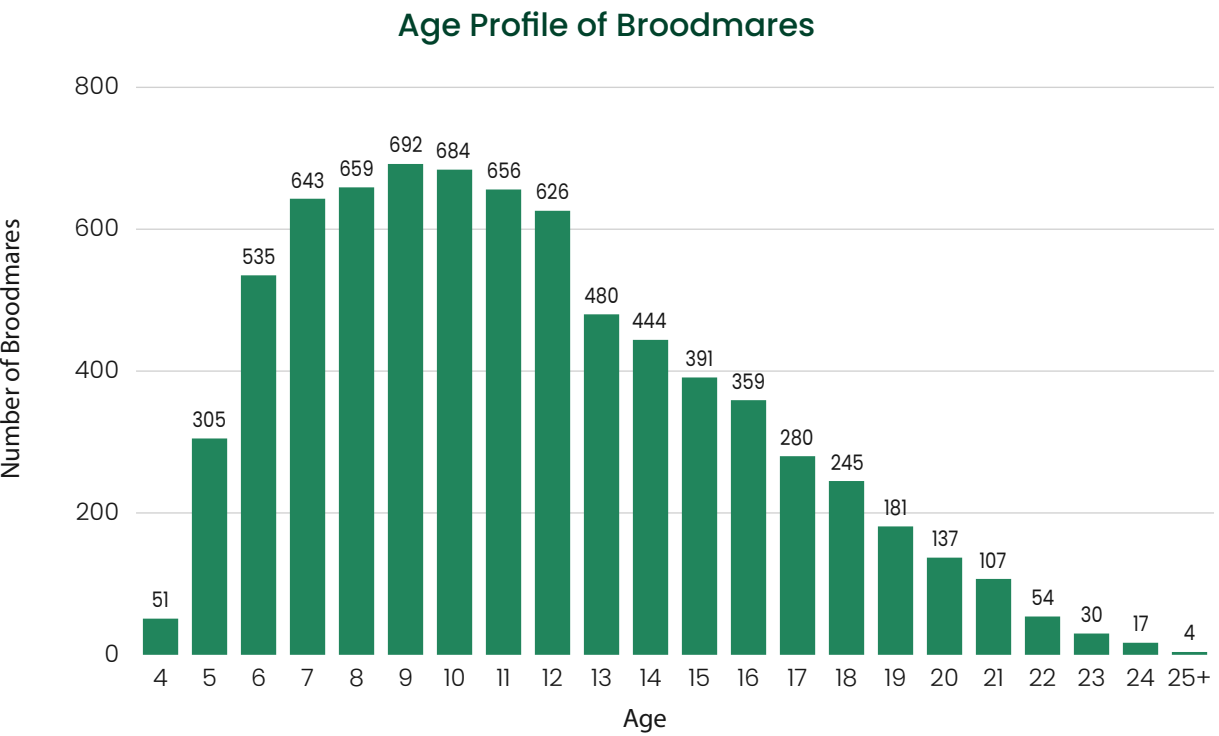
Retirement and death naturally impact the broodmare population each year



Gestation Ranges - 2024 Produce / Age Profile of Broodmares



Broodmares can vary greatly in the length of time they carry their foal. This graph reflects the spread of the gestation dates of British domiciled broodmares based on reported 2023 coverings for 2024 foals. From the standard 11 month (330-350 days) gestation period, Thoroughbred mares carried successfully for a range of between 10 to over 13 months.

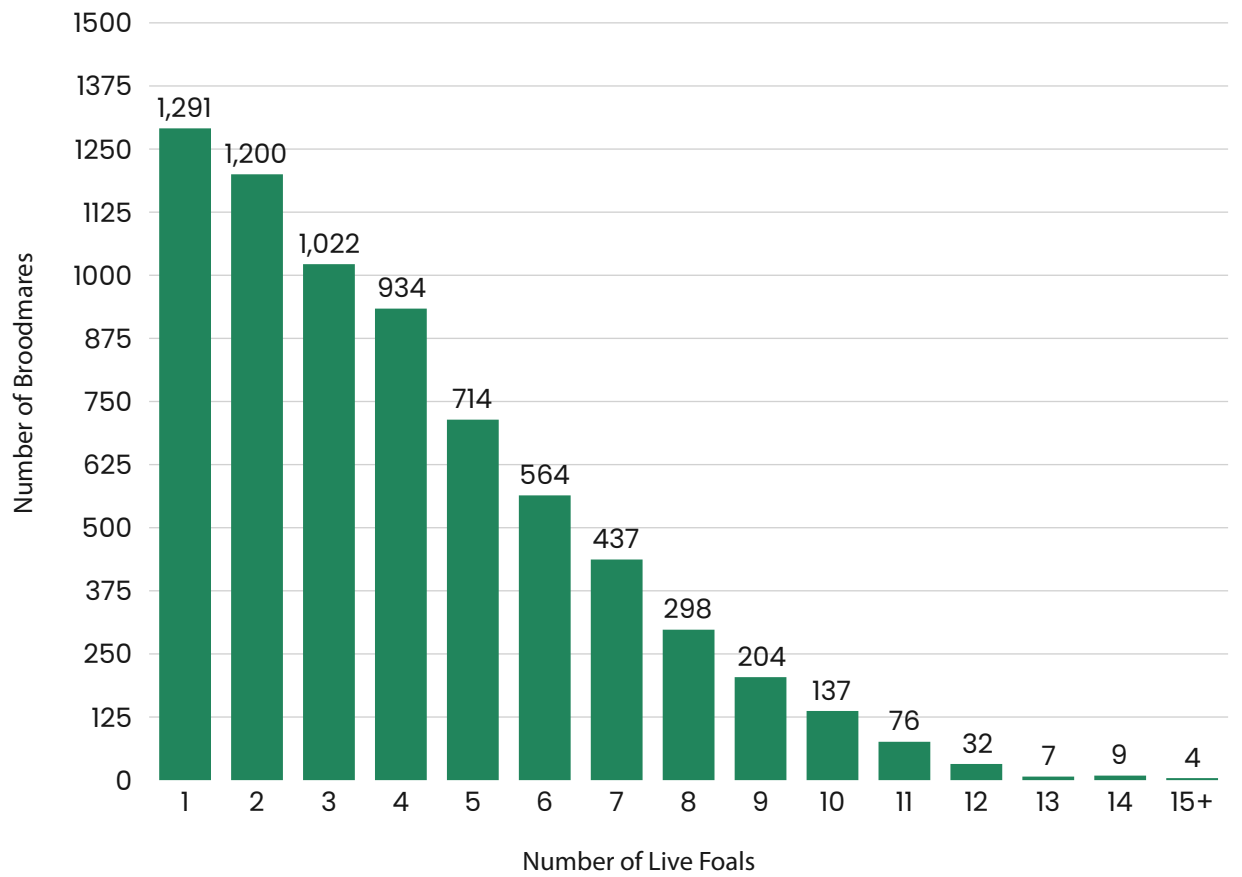


In 2024, British mares aged from 4 to over 25 years of age formed the breeding population. Of the active broodmare population, 66% were aged 6 – 13 years (65% in 2023).

Live Produce per Active Broodmare / Country of Birth

Live Produce per Active Broodmare (As at end of 2024)

The number of live foals produced by a broodmare over her career can vary significantly. This graph shows the number of live produce per broodmare currently breeding in Great Britain. Only 16% (16% in 2023) of the current population has produced more than 6 live foals.



Country of Birth of GB Based Broodmares

Of the British broodmare population, 54% (54% in 2023) were foaled in Great Britain. The chart shows the origins of the total current population.

Country of Birth	No. of Broodmares
Great Britain	4,074
Ireland	2,589
France	479
USA	294
Germany	89
Japan	16
Australia	11
Italy	4
South Africa	4
Argentina	3
Brazil	3

Country of Birth	No. of Broodmares
Canada	2
Chile	2
Poland	2
Qatar	2
Sweden	2
Morocco	1
Spain	1
Turkey	1
Uruguay	1
Total	7,580

Permanent Exports

Permanent Exports

India was the top importer of British broodmares in 2024, with France and Australia second and third respectively; the 2024 figure will increase as export applications are frequently received in the following year. (Movement of mares between Great Britain and Ireland is not recorded as such movements are within the General Stud Book area).

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024
India	16	38	66	61
France	75	78	86	53
Australia	29	49	90	46
Japan	39	44	59	37
Turkey	13	17	16	37
USA	22	28	25	33
Bahrain	12	10	6	9
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	9	15	8	7
Qatar	13	11	18	7
Libya	20	9	3	6
Germany	7	10	24	5
Italy	3	2	5	5
Cyprus		1	2	1
Oman				1
Pakistan	7		3	1
South Africa	2			1
Sweden	5	1	1	1
Argentina		1		
Czech Republic			1	
Denmark	3		3	
Hungary	4			
Kuwait	4			
New Zealand			1	
Norway			1	
Spain	4			
Switzerland			1	
United Arab Emirates	1	10	3	
Uruguay		1		
Total	288	325	422	311

GB Broodmare Production Summary

In preparation for covering, many Thoroughbred broodmares travel, before foaling, to the stud where the stallion of choice resides – this can often be in another country. This therefore masks the full productivity of British mares, as foals out of those mares would not be born in Great Britain.

This table shows the total number of foals produced by British domiciled mares, as well as the number of GB born foals out of non-GB domiciled mares.

Number of GB mares at stud	7,580
Total number of known 2023 coverings of GB mares	6,586
Total number of GB born foals	4,198
Number of foals born in GB and abroad from GB domiciled mares	4,476
Number of GB foals born to GB domiciled mares	3,851
Number of foals born in GB to mares domiciled outside GB	347

Stallions - British



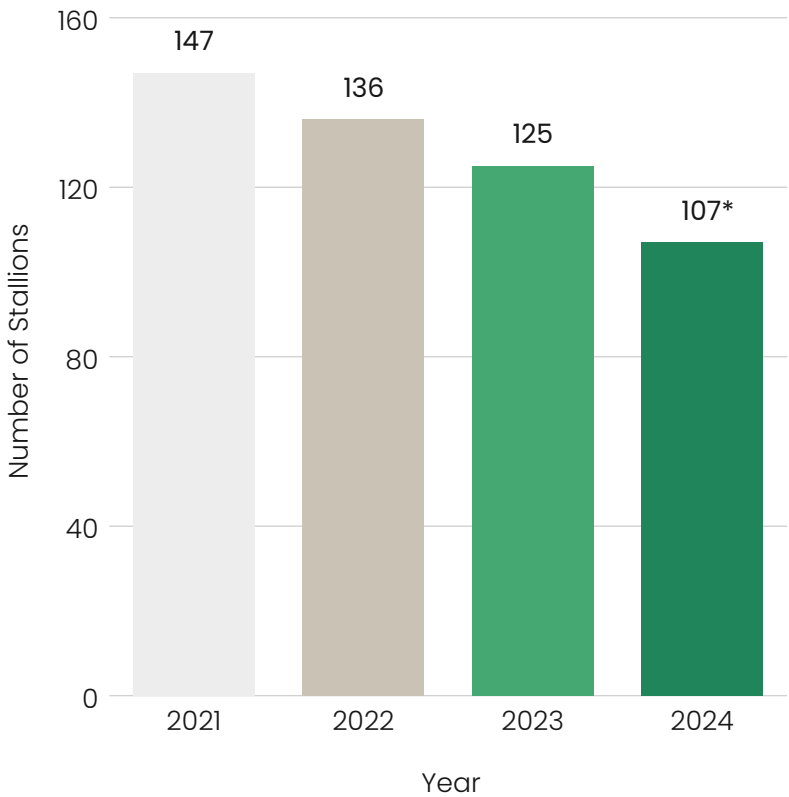
Registered Stallions / Standing Purpose

GB Stallions Registered for Coverings

This graph shows all stallions registered for coverings standing in Great Britain.

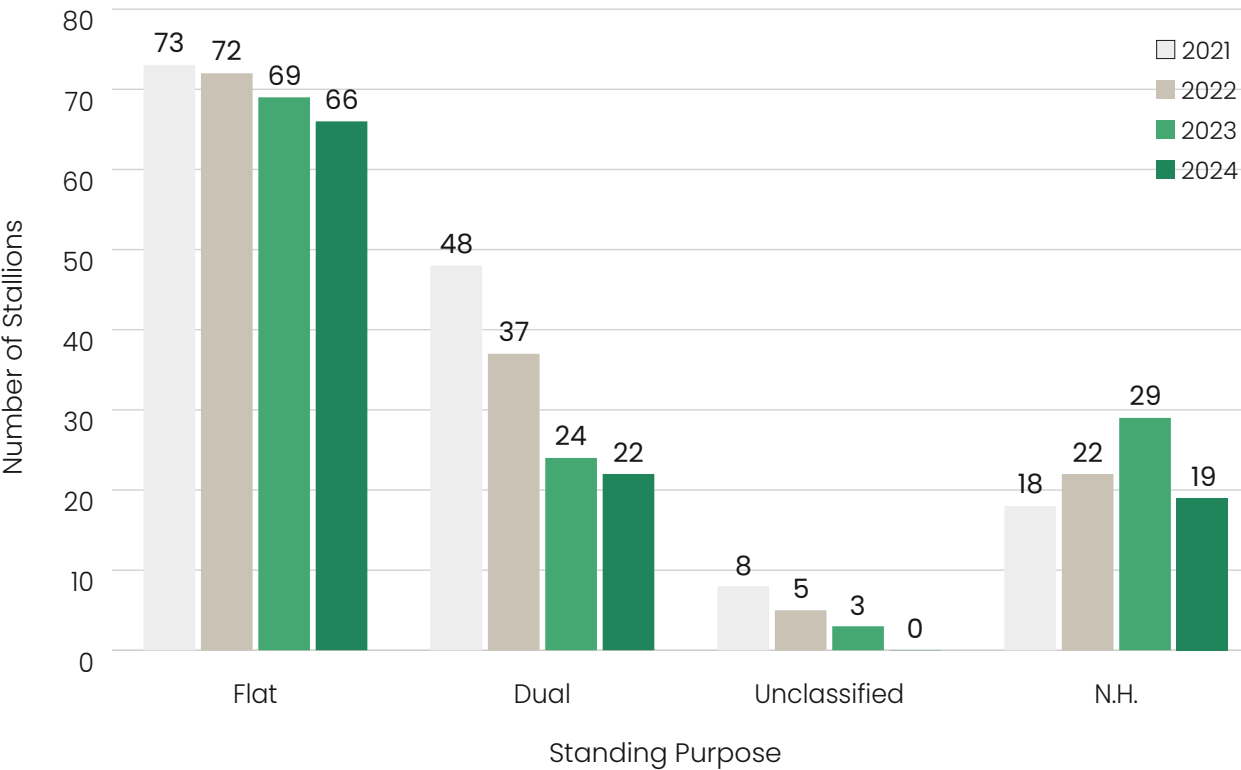
*N.B: The 2024 figure will increase as stallion notifications are frequently received in the following year and the figures here are as at 31/12/24.

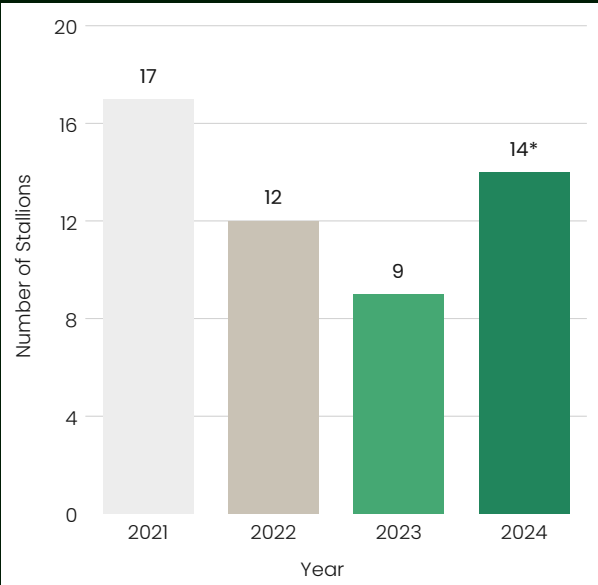
*as at 31/12/24



GB Stallions Standing Purpose

The percentage of stallions standing for Flat racing purposes has increased by 12% over the last 4 years. Conversely, the percentage of Dual purpose stallions has decreased by the same amount. We expect further stallion registrations for 2024 as noted above.

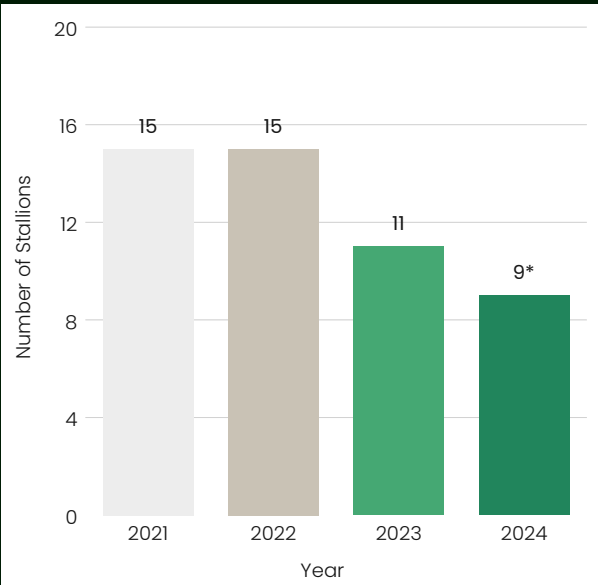




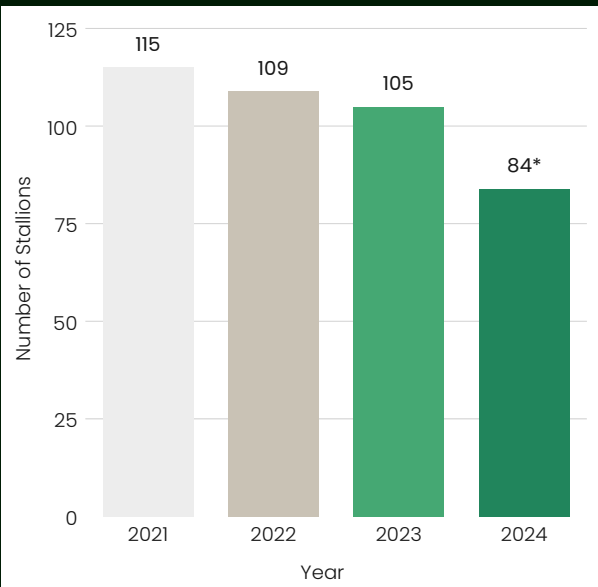
GB 1st Season Sires

The proportion of first season sires has increased from 7% in 2023 to 13% of the stallion population in 2024.

*N.B: The 2024 figure will increase as stallion notifications are frequently received in the following year and the figures here are as at 31/12/24.



GB 2nd Season Sires



GB Established Sires

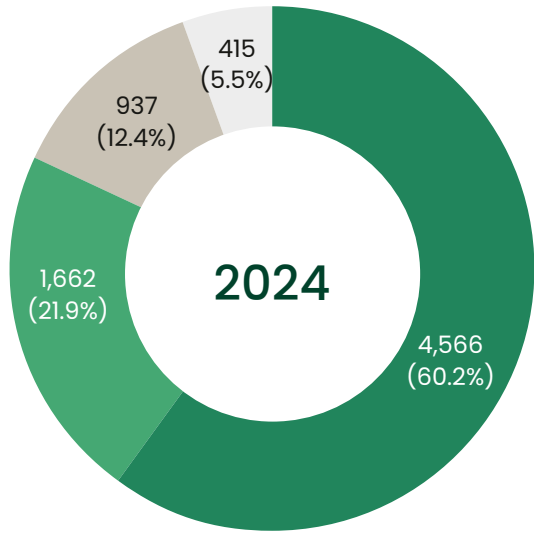
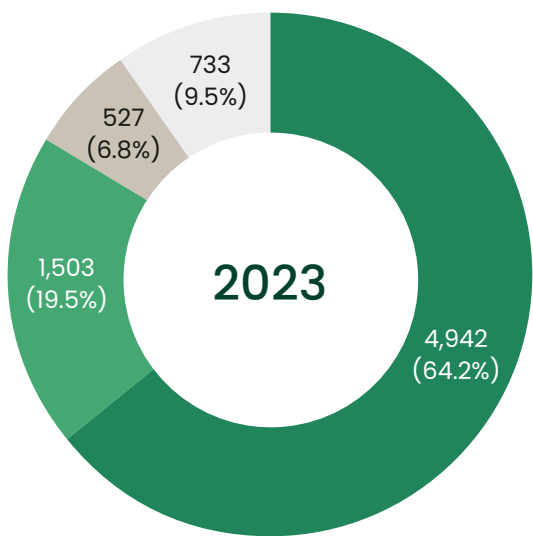
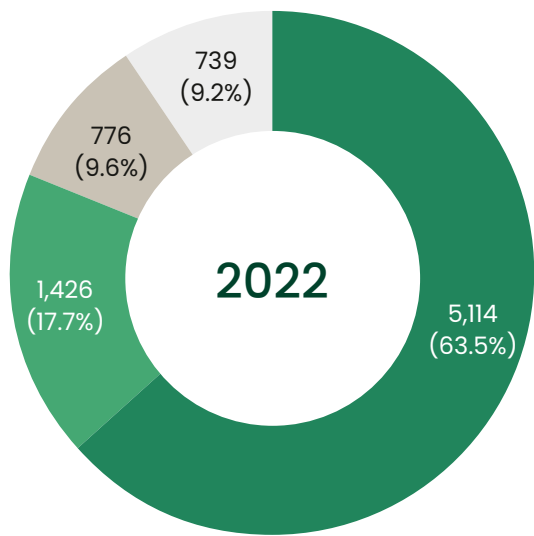
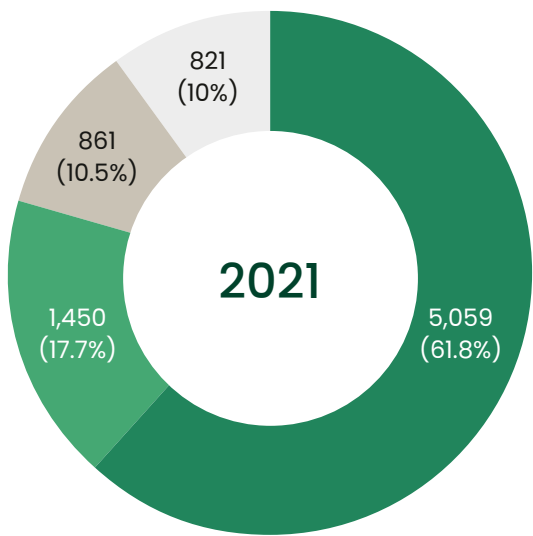
Established sires, i.e. those in their 3rd covering season or more, account for 79% (84% in 2023) of the British based stallion population.

*as at 31/12/24

GB Domiciled Mares Visiting Stallions

These charts show the percentages of mares visiting stallions in their first covering season, second covering season and established stallions.

N.B: Not covered includes mares where no result has been made available.



In line with an increase in the proportion of first season sires, the percentage of mares visiting first season sires has increased by 5.6%.

Country of Birth / Mares Covered per Stallion

Country of Birth – GB based stallions 2024

Stallions standing in Great Britain originate from throughout the world. Of the stallions standing in Great Britain over three quarters are British or Irish bred.

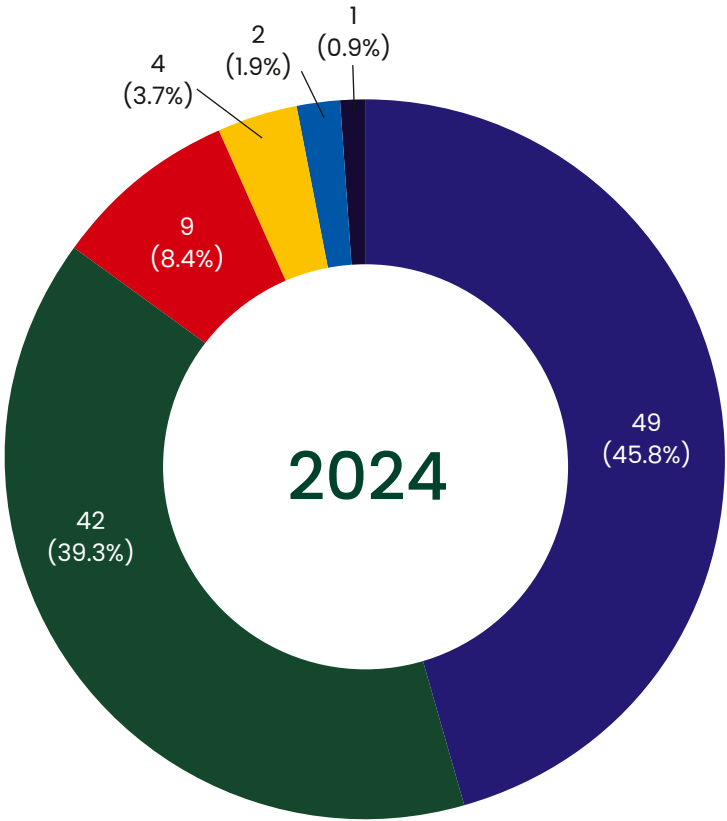
- Great Britain

Ireland

USA
- Germany

France

Canada

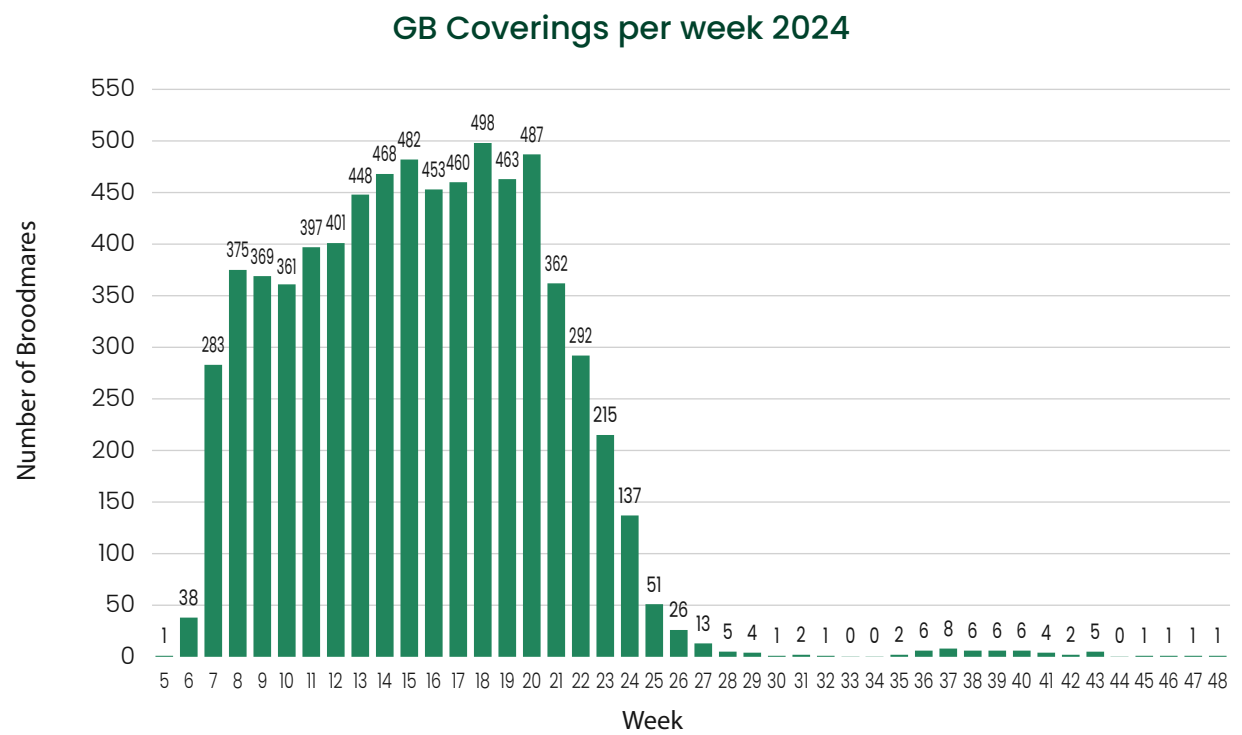


No. Mares Covered	2021	2022	2023	2024
Coverings not returned	14	10	8	7
0	3	0	0	0
1-5	36	27	26	18
6-10	10	14	14	10
11-20	13	18	13	12
21-30	11	11	8	10
31-40	10	5	10	4
41-50	4	4	5	3
51-60	1	3	2	4
61-70	9	7	3	4
71-80	6	7	5	4
81-90	4	2	4	5
91-100	4	5	3	6
101 - 150	13	14	15	16
151 - 200	9	9	8	4
201 - 250	0	0	1	0
Total	147	136	125	107

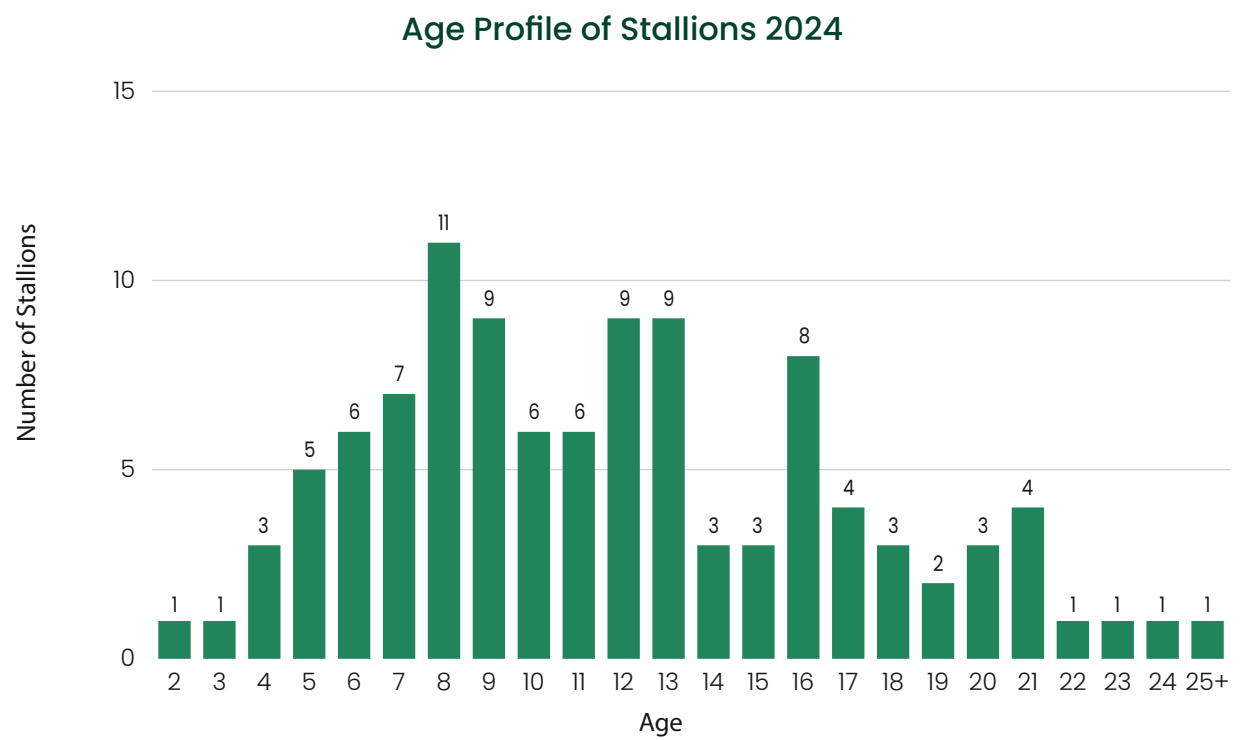
Mares Covered per GB Stallion

This table reviews the trends in stallion book size over the last four breeding seasons. The proportion of stallions covering books of over a hundred mares has remained constant since last year, at 19%.

GB Coverings per Week - 2024 / Age Profile of Stallions



This shows the 2024 covering season and the range, in weeks, from late January during which mares were covered. Most coverings occurred between weeks 7 and 23 (February to late May). Some mares have been covered for Southern Hemisphere foalings, which explains the later covering dates. This data refers to the last covering date for each mare.



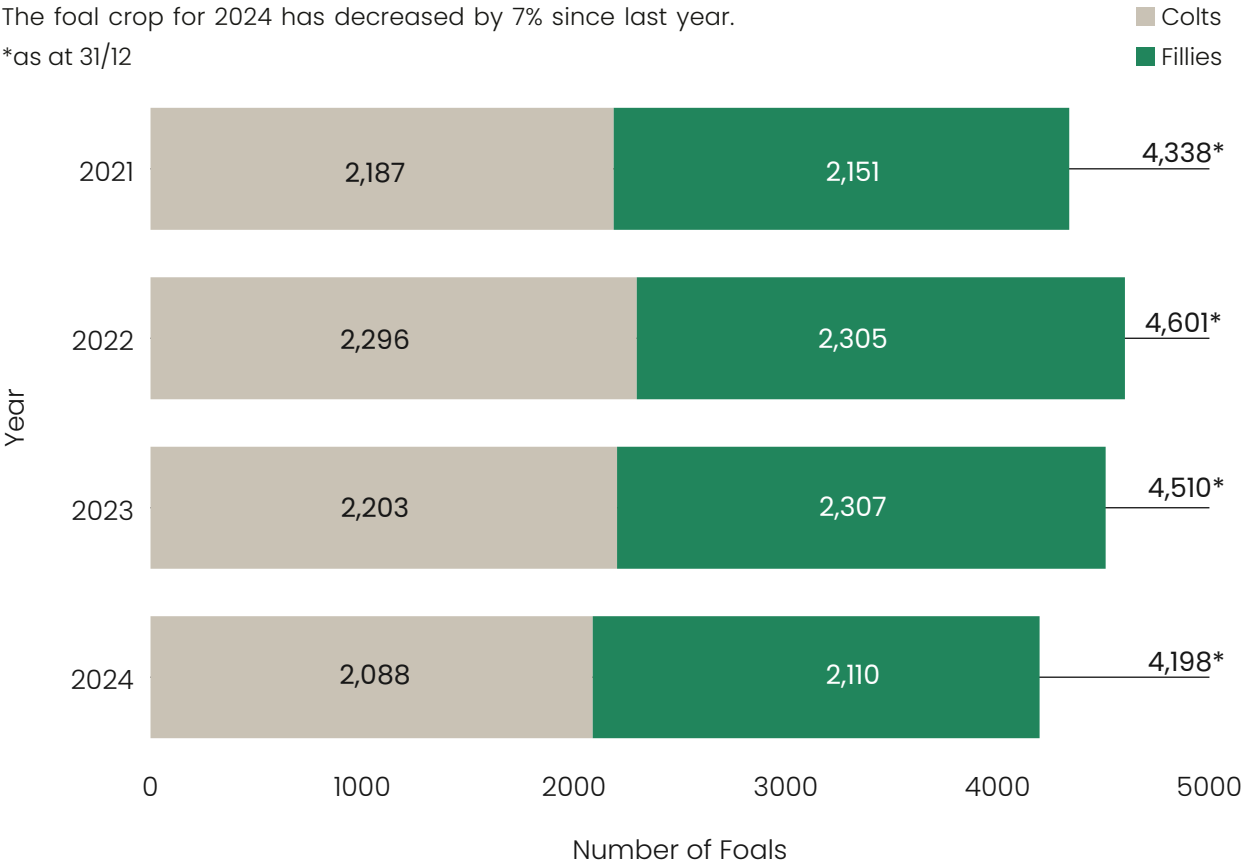
The age range of British based stallions has a wide span, from 2 years to 25+ years, with 26% of stallions aged over 15 years old (24% in 2023).

Foals - British



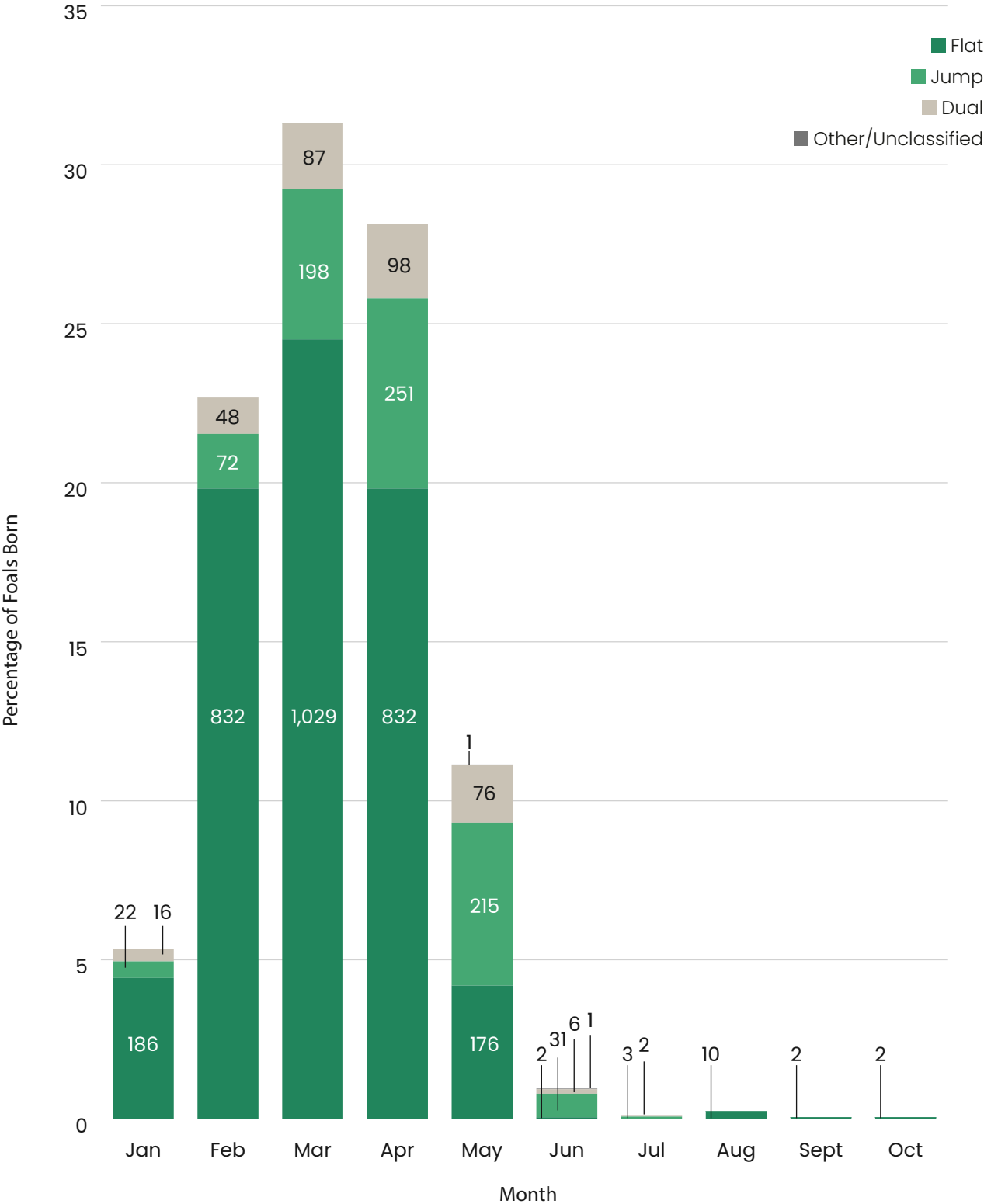
Foals Born 2021-2024

The foal crop for 2024 has decreased by 7% since last year.
*as at 31/12



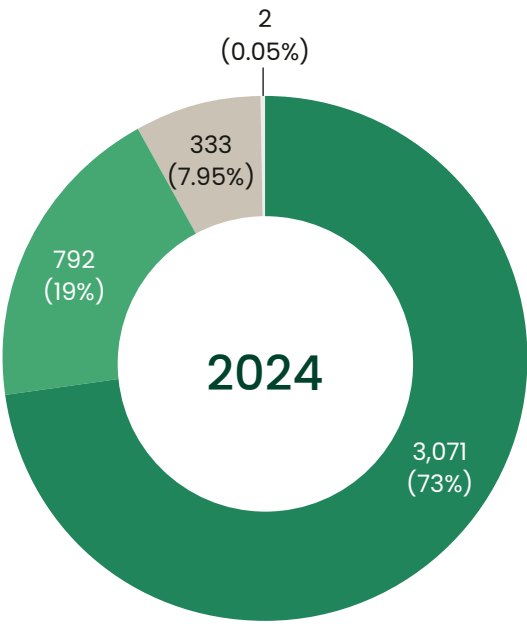
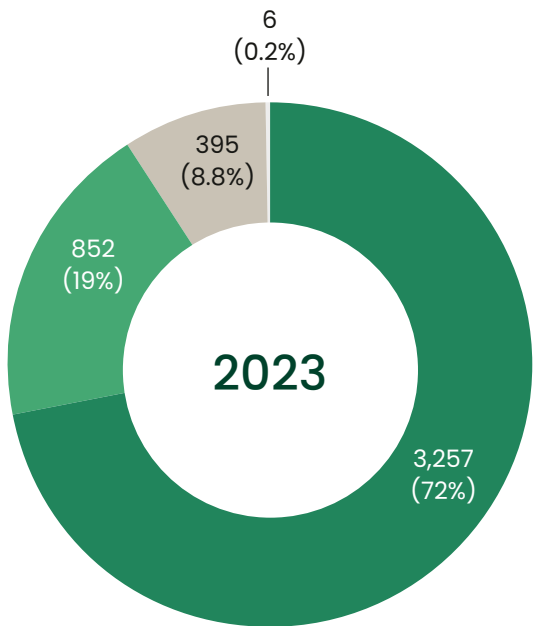
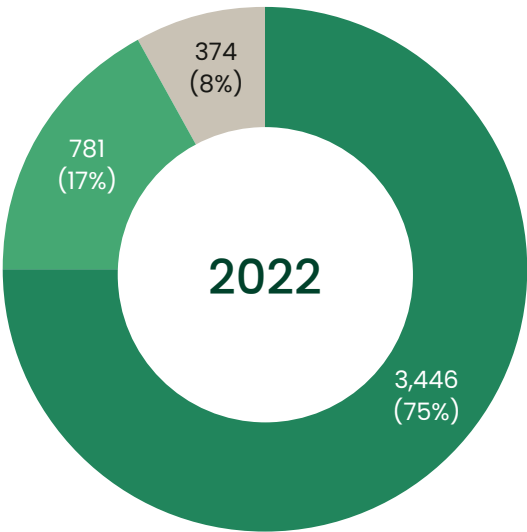
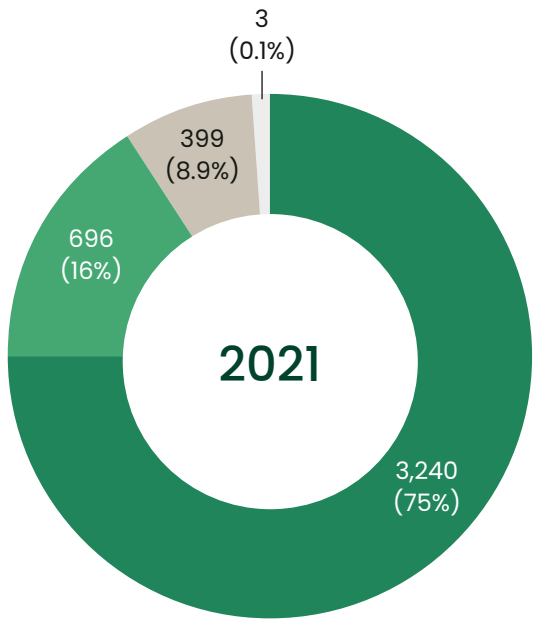
Foaling Dates and Intended Career

The foaling dates for the 2024 foal crop in Great Britain are presented by month of foaling, combined with their intended future career. This demonstrates that 88% of Flat bred foals are born between February and April, compared to foals bred for Jump racing, where 84% are born between March and May.



Intended Career Statistics 2021 - 2024

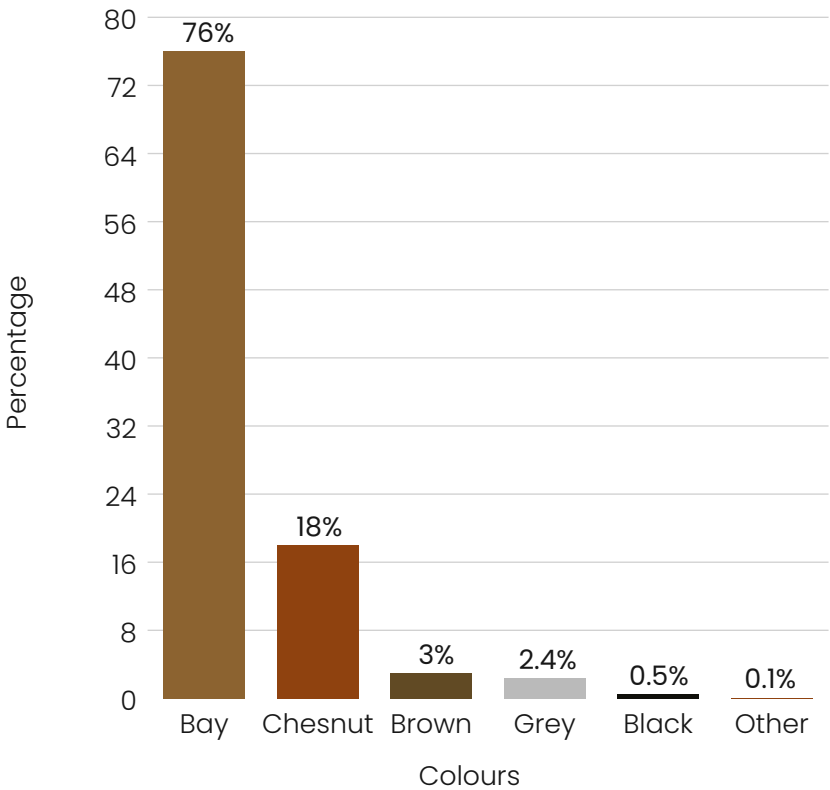
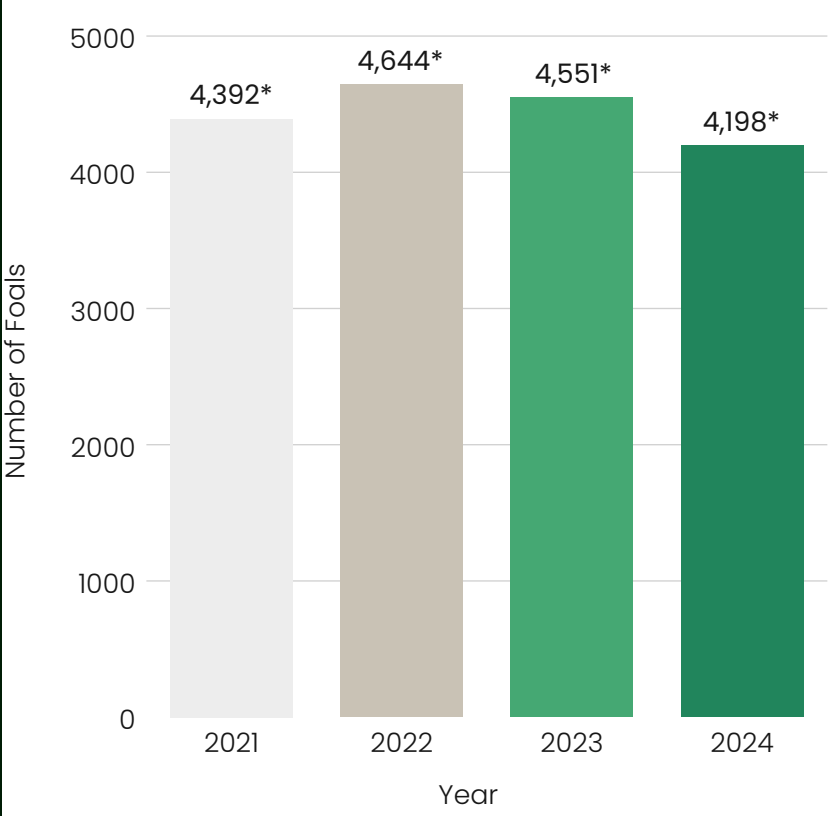
This data is taken from the foal registration applications, which are completed by the breeder, for foals born in Great Britain. The proportion of foals bred for each intended career has remained relatively stable since last year.



GB Foal Crop incl. Late Returns 2021 - 2024

Young stock registered outside their year of foaling are termed "late returns". When these figures are added into the relevant year, a more complete total is achieved for that year's foal crop. Therefore, more progeny may be registered in the future for any foaling year and hence the figures shown here may be subject to further adjustment.

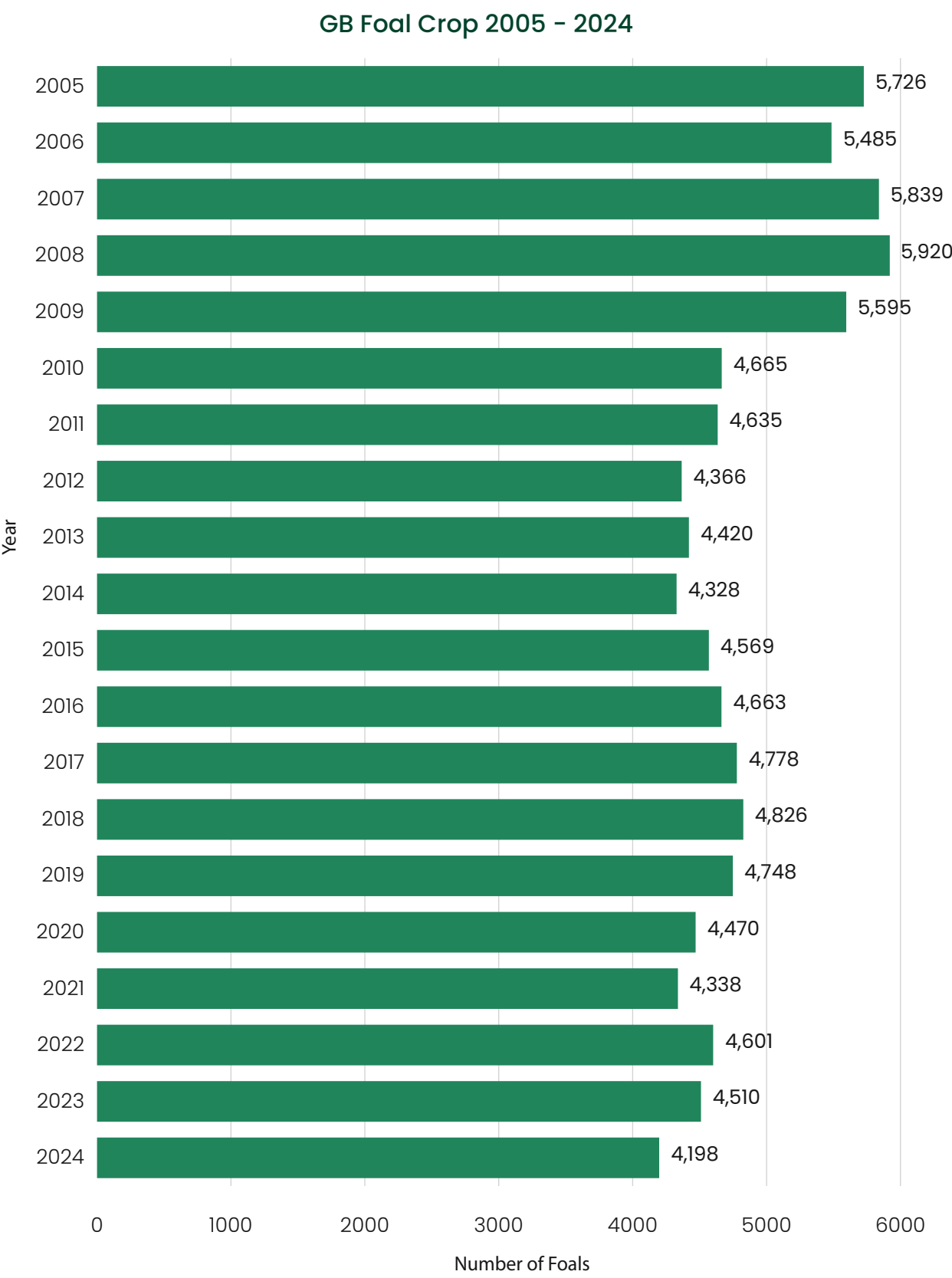
*As at 31/12/24



GB Foal Colours 2024 Crop

The range of colours for Thoroughbred foals confirms that bay is the most prevalent colour. Of these reported foal coat colours, subsequent changes may be received when the horse matures. For example, a brown foal may mature to grey if the sire and/or dam is grey. When advised of a colour change, the information is updated in the passport and on the database.

Historical Foal Crops



The number of foals born in Great Britain is at its lowest level for the last 20 years, with the figures showing a 27% drop in foals born since 2005. These figures are as at the 31st December.

General - British



Permanent Exports of GB Bred Horses

This table shows the 51 countries (50 in 2023) to which horses bred in Great Britain have been permanently exported over the last 4 years (i.e. for a period longer than 9 months). Movement of horses between Great Britain and Ireland is not recorded as such movements remain within the General Stud Book. The 2024 figure will increase as export applications are frequently received in the following year.

Country	2021				2022				2023				2024			
	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total
France	70	264	104	438	91	250	50	391	110	263	46	419	123	236	31	390
USA	26	57	25	108	20	56	21	97	30	68	22	120	27	75	15	117
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	22	17	28	67	24	35	61	120	44	43	44	131	29	30	33	92
Italy	53	48	13	114	48	76	12	136	53	54	14	121	27	45	18	90
United Arab Emirates	24	8	90	122	24	13	80	117	15	10	54	79	18	9	62	89
Kuwait	3	4	24	31									6	3	64	73
Australia	15	36	27	78	13	48	30	91	17	72	19	108	16	35	18	69
Germany	17	33	17	67	10	38	13	61	14	34	14	62	18	31	8	57
Qatar	14	10	16	40	16	4	16	36	15	23	23	61	15	10	24	49
India	1	8		9	3	8		11	1	31		32	1	29		30
Japan	8	31		39	18	27		45	13	24		37	4	25		29
Spain	10	15	5	30	17	9	12	38	18	13	4	35	7	10	11	28
Hong Kong	4		13	17	5		13	18	4		12	16	5		17	22
Libya	1	19		20		6		6	3	6		9	1	16	2	19
Turkey	2	6		8		10		10		12		12		18		18
Poland	2	3		5	8	2		10	8	6		14	9	6	2	17
Bahrain	9	7	12	28	6	5	13	24	6	5	22	33	1	5	7	13
Denmark	2	1	1	4	3	5		8	1	4		5	5	4	3	12
Sweden	12	19	6	37	4	4	4	12	2	12	4	18	4	6	2	12
Czech Republic	7	4	1	12	8	5	1	14	11	9	2	22	7	2		9
Netherlands		1		1		2	2	4	2	4	4	10		1	6	7
Malaysia	1	1		2									2		3	5
Serbia	2	2	2	6	3		1	4	3	5	4	12	2	2	1	5
South Africa		2		2	3			3					1	4		5
Philippines														4		4
Norway	5	8		13	2	3	3	8		3	1	4	1	1	1	3
Argentina						1		1		1		1	1	1		2
Hungary	8	13		21		3		3	4	1		5			2	2
Kazakhstan					1			1	1	2		3	1	1		2
New Zealand									1	3		4		1	1	2
Pakistan	4	7		11						2		2	1	1		2
Iran						2		2						1		1
Kenya													1			1
Algeria						1		1								
Austria		2		2	1	3		4								
Belgium		3	3	6		3	2	5		3	6	9				
Brazil	2			2												
Bulgaria	3	1	1	5		2		2	1	2		3				
Chile					1			1								
China					1	2		3	4	2		6				
Cyprus										1		1				
Greece	1			1	3	8	6	17	8	5	5	18				
Lithuania	1			1												
Morocco		1		1												
Oman					1			1			1	1				
Portugal		1		1		2		2			1	1				
Russia		1		1												
Singapore			1	1	1		3	4								
Slovakia		4	1	5						2		2				
Switzerland	1		2	3	1		1	2		3	1	4				
Uruguay					1			1								
Total	330	637	392	1,359	337	633	344	1,314	337	728	303	1,420	333	612	331	1,276

Permanent Imports into GB

This table shows the 27 countries (27 in 2023) from which horses have been permanently imported into Great Britain over the last 4 years (i.e. where an Export Certificate has been received). The 2024 figure will increase as export certificates are frequently received in the following year.

Country	2021				2022				2023				2024			
	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total
France	60	391	441	892	62	388	423	873	124	335	287	746	131	267	160	558
United Arab Emirates	14	36	97	147	10	32	91	133	12	32	69	113	9	22	60	91
USA	25	87	38	150	23	97	45	165	25	44	23	92	27	48	15	90
Germany	12	41	35	88	11	46	31	88	20	25	27	72	20	30	6	56
Australia		12	1	13	2	14	1	17		12		12		25	1	26
Hong Kong			11	11			11	11			21	21	2		20	22
Italy	2	3	7	12	3	13		16	3	4	2	9	3	7	1	11
Qatar	5	12	1	18	1	5		6	2			2	4	1	6	11
Bahrain	9	11	2	22		2		2	8	3	2	13			5	5
New Zealand		1		1											3	3
Slovakia														2		2
Denmark														1		1
Hungary														1		1
Macau															1	1
South Africa		3	4	7						2	2	4			1	1
Sweden		1		1		1	1	2		4	1	5		1		1
Argentina					3			3								
Belgium						1		1								
Chile									1	1		2				
Czech Republic						1		1								
Japan		4		4		2		2								
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia						1		1			1	1				
Netherlands						1		1								
Norway			1	1			1	1								
Poland		1	1	2		1		1								
Spain			1	1		3		3		3		3				
Turkey					1	1		2								
Total	127	603	640	1,370	116	609	604	1,329	116	465	435	1,095	196	405	279	880

Breeders by County

This table shows the distribution of the 2,951 breeders of Thoroughbreds between 76 British Counties and 2 Crown Dependencies. It also highlights the number of mares owned and number of foals produced by those mares.

Included in this data is a figure for breeders not resident in a British county but which have breeding stock permanently domiciled in Britain. This has been categorised as “Other”.

County	Breeders	Mares	Foals
Suffolk	299	1,638	1,004
Yorkshire	217	435	264
Gloucestershire	145	319	213
Wiltshire	141	270	158
Shropshire	132	315	203
Berkshire	128	330	212
Somerset	93	213	124
Oxfordshire	84	178	102
Hampshire	78	320	196
Lincolnshire	76	128	82
London	72	157	89
Cheshire	62	147	93
Sussex	62	143	86
Warwickshire	61	162	111
Cambridgeshire	60	131	83
Dorset	59	117	79
Devon	58	101	62
Worcestershire	57	114	71
Surrey	53	117	75
Essex	52	126	81
Nottinghamshire	44	123	79
Hertfordshire	43	132	84
Northamptonshire	42	69	41
Herefordshire	41	72	50
Leicestershire	41	91	52
Lancashire	38	74	46
Buckinghamshire	37	73	44
Kent	36	56	35
Norfolk	35	119	71
County Durham	27	99	68
Powys	26	128	85
Staffordshire	26	40	28
Glamorgan	21	34	17
Middlesex	21	29	18
Roxburghshire	21	36	23
Northumberland	20	30	22
Derbyshire	19	42	32
Dyfed	16	25	11
Carmarthenshire	15	40	27
Cornwall	15	25	16
Cumbria	15	44	35
Lanarkshire	15	23	10

County	Breeders	Mares	Foals
West Midlands	15	24	16
Gwent	12	65	25
Bedfordshire	10	15	7
Pembrokeshire	8	9	4
Clwyd	7	12	6
Guernsey	7	11	8
Monmouthshire	7	31	17
Avon	6	8	6
Ayrshire	6	23	18
Cleveland	6	10	3
Fife	6	12	5
Flintshire	6	13	9
Midlothian	6	11	5
Perthshire	6	6	3
Tyne and Wear	6	10	7
Isle of Man	4	7	7
Rutland	4	18	12
Aberdeenshire	3	8	4
Angus	3	4	1
Greater Manchester	3	3	1
Isle of Wight	3	4	3
Renfrewshire	3	4	3
Ross-shire	3	4	3
Berwickshire	2	4	1
Denbighshire	2	2	1
Dumfriesshire	2	10	7
Kinross-shire	2	2	
Peeblesshire	2	3	2
Selkirkshire	2	3	1
Anglesey	1	1	1
Ceredigion	1	3	2
Dunbartonshire	1	2	
East Lothian	1	2	1
Gwynedd	1	1	1
Lothian	1	2	2
Stirlingshire	1	2	2
Sub Total	2,762	7,214	4,476
Other	189	366	206
Total	2,951	7,580	4,682

Number of GB Broodmares Owned per Breeder

This table shows the distribution of British broodmares between breeders by county, with 91% of breeders owning fewer than 5 broodmares.

Included in this data is a figure for breeders not resident in a British county but which have breeding stock permanently domiciled in Britain. This has been categorised as “Other”.

County	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-30	31+	Total
Suffolk	225	30	22	8	4	10	299
Yorkshire	179	24	10	3	0	1	217
Gloucestershire	119	13	8	4	1	0	145
Wiltshire	117	12	11	1	0	0	141
Shropshire	110	9	6	6	0	1	132
Berkshire	99	12	10	7	0	0	128
Somerset	72	11	7	3	0	0	93
Oxfordshire	67	10	5	2	0	0	84
Hampshire	66	6	3	0	1	2	78
Lincolnshire	70	0	5	1	0	0	76
London	56	9	5	2	0	0	72
Cheshire	51	4	5	1	1	0	62
Sussex	48	7	6	0	1	0	62
Warwickshire	46	5	8	2	0	0	61
Cambridgeshire	44	9	6	1	0	0	60
Dorset	48	3	8	0	0	0	59
Devon	49	8	0	1	0	0	58
Worcestershire	45	6	6	0	0	0	57
Surrey	41	8	3	0	1	0	53
Essex	37	10	3	2	0	0	52
Nottinghamshire	33	5	3	2	1	0	44
Hertfordshire	34	5	2	1	0	1	43
Northamptonshire	35	5	2	0	0	0	42
Herefordshire	35	1	5	0	0	0	41
Leicestershire	37	0	3	0	1	0	41
Lancashire	34	0	2	2	0	0	38
Buckinghamshire	29	6	1	1	0	0	37
Kent	30	6	0	0	0	0	36
Norfolk	24	5	4	1	0	1	35
County Durham	21	2	2	0	1	1	27
Powys	20	1	2	1	0	2	26
Staffordshire	21	5	0	0	0	0	26
Glamorgan	18	2	1	0	0	0	21
Middlesex	19	2	0	0	0	0	21
Roxburghshire	17	3	1	0	0	0	21
Northumberland	18	2	0	0	0	0	20
Derbyshire	13	5	1	0	0	0	19
Dyfed	13	3	0	0	0	0	16
Carmarthenshire	13	0	1	1	0	0	15
Cornwall	11	4	0	0	0	0	15
Cumbria	12	2	0	0	1	0	15
Lanarkshire	13	2	0	0	0	0	15

County	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-30	31+	Total
West Midlands	12	2	1	0	0	0	15
Gwent	8	1	1	1	0	1	12
Bedfordshire	9	1	0	0	0	0	10
Pembrokeshire	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
Clwyd	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
Guernsey	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
Monmouthshire	5	1	0	0	1	0	7
Avon	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
Ayrshire	4	1	0	1	0	0	6
Cleveland	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
Fife	5	0	1	0	0	0	6
Flintshire	5	0	1	0	0	0	6
Midlothian	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
Perthshire	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Tyne and Wear	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
Isle of Man	3	1	0	0	0	0	4
Rutland	2	1	0	1	0	0	4
Aberdeenshire	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Angus	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Greater Manchester	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Isle of Wight	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Renfrewshire	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Ross-shire	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Berwickshire	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Denbighshire	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dumfriesshire	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Kinross-shire	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Peeblesshire	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Selkirkshire	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Anglesey	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ceredigion	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dunbartonshire	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
East Lothian	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gwynedd	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lothian	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stirlingshire	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sub Total	2,219	280	173	56	14	20	2,762
Other	160	16	9	3	1	0	189
Total	2,379	296	182	59	15	20	2,951



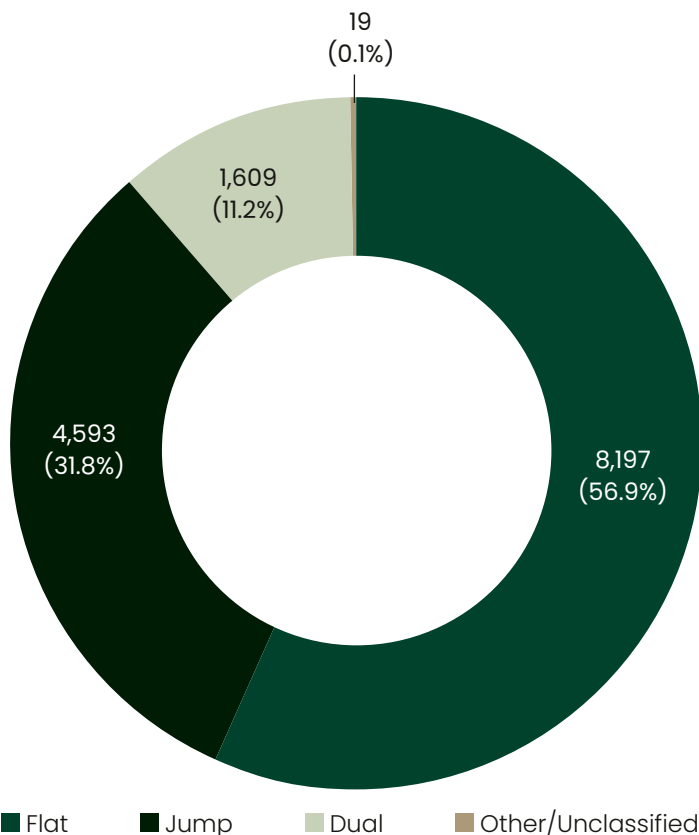
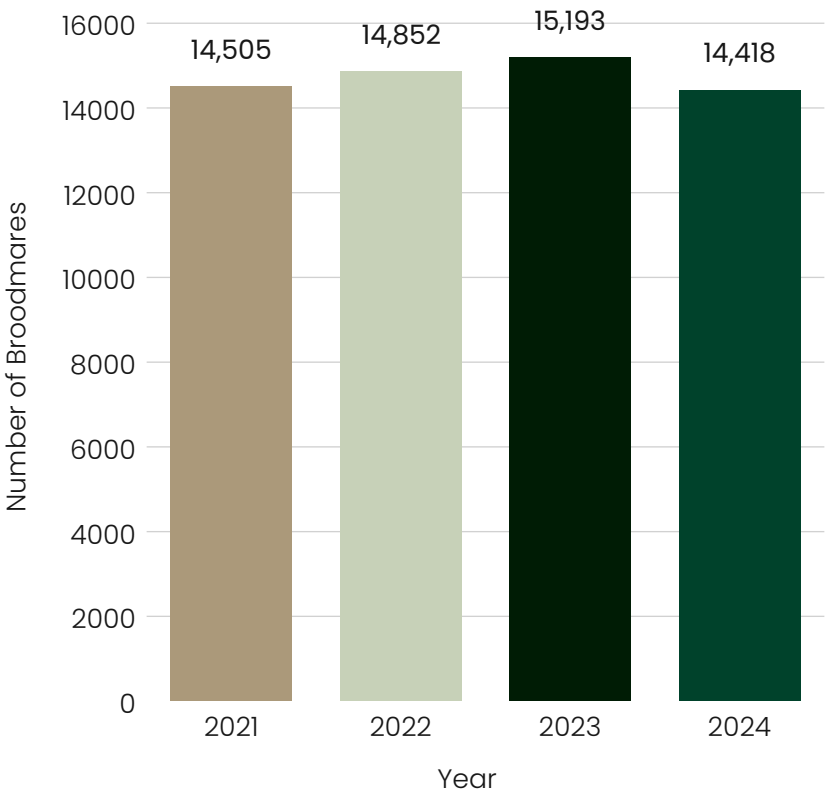
Broodmares - Irish



IRE Active Broodmares
2021 - 2024

The chart shows all registered broodmares, in known ownership, that have either produced a foal, been covered and/or for which a result has been received in the last two breeding seasons. These figures exclude those which are known to have been retired, died or permanently exported.

The active broodmare population has decreased by 5% over the last year, to a level just below the 2021 figure.



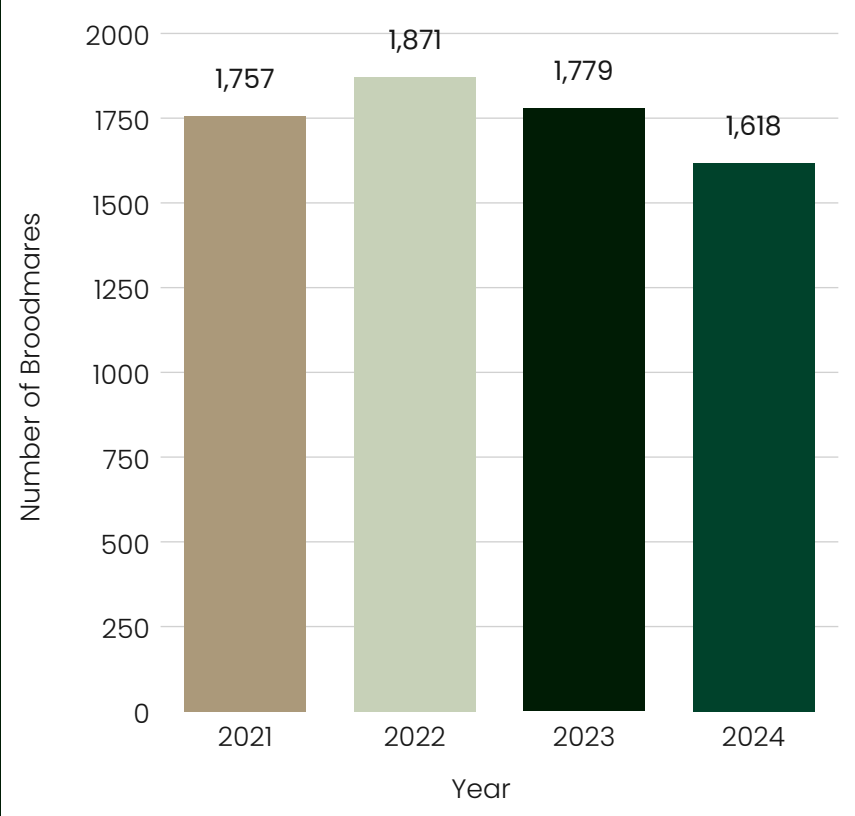
IRE Broodmares
Classification

(As Indicated By Foal Intended
Career Types)

Assessing the type of broodmares actively breeding in Ireland has been achieved by using the foal career information provided in 2024 (for foals out of IRE domiciled mares) and applying relative percentages across the total broodmare population.

N.B: This can only be an estimate as mares are not classified as part of the broodmare registration process.

Initial Broodmare Registrations 2021 - 2024/ Retired/Deceased



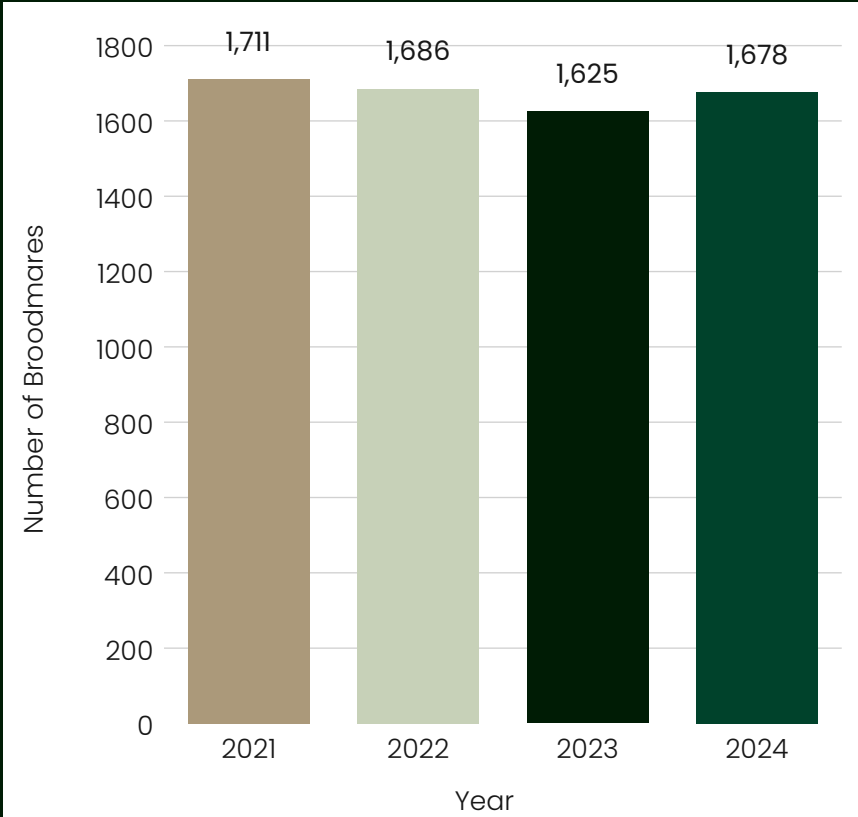
IRE Initial Broodmare Registrations 2021-2024

Each year, new fillies enter the breeding population and this is reflected in the number of Initial Broodmare registrations processed.

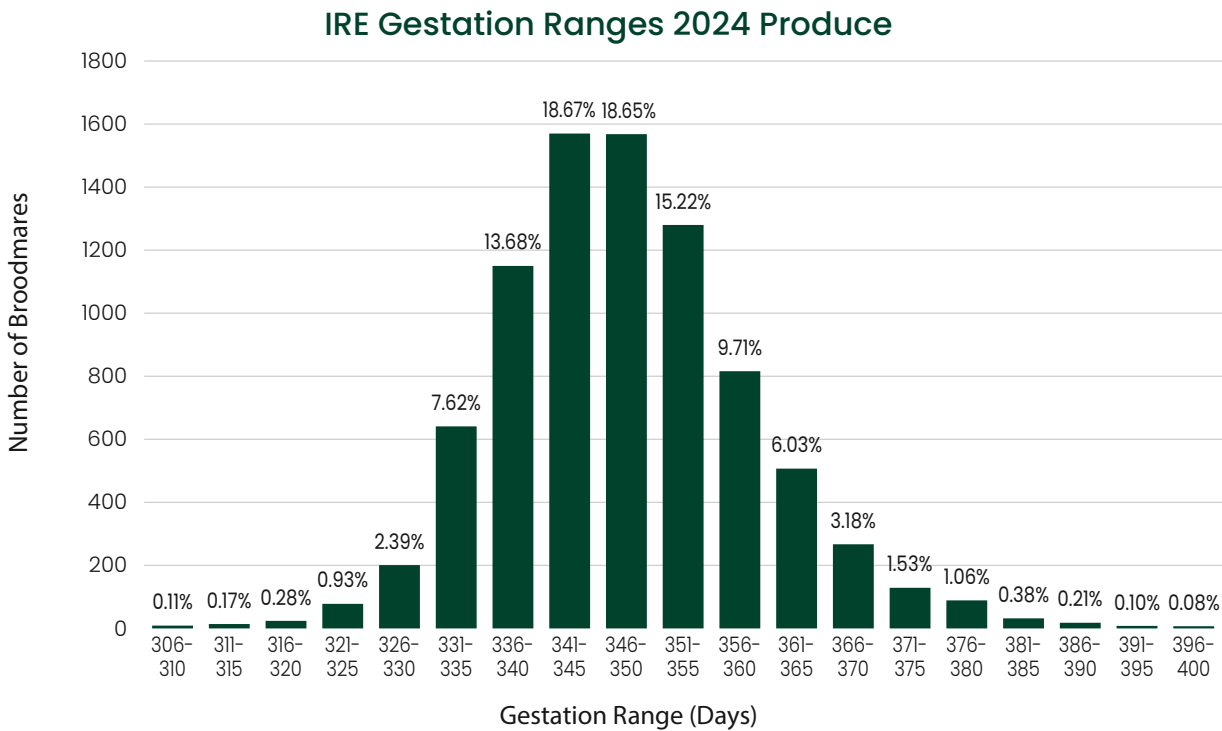
Following a decrease in new fillies entering the breeding population in 2023, the number of new broodmares has fallen by a further 9% over the last year.

IRE Retired/ Deceased

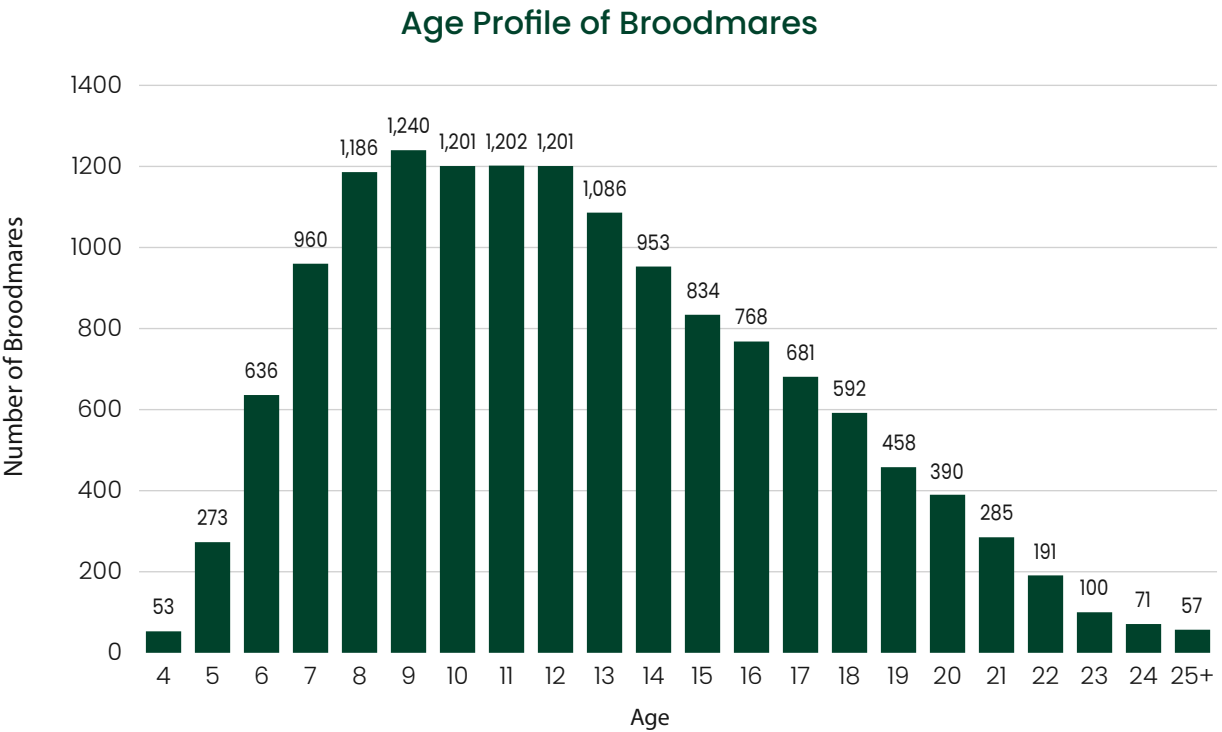
Retirement and death naturally impact the broodmare population each year



Gestation Ranges - 2024 Produce / Age Profile of Broodmares



Broodmares can vary greatly in the length of time they carry their foal. This graph reflects the spread of the gestation dates of Irish domiciled broodmares based on reported 2023 coverings for 2024 foals. From the standard 11 month (330-350 days) gestation period, Thoroughbred mares carried successfully for a range of between 10 to over 13 months.

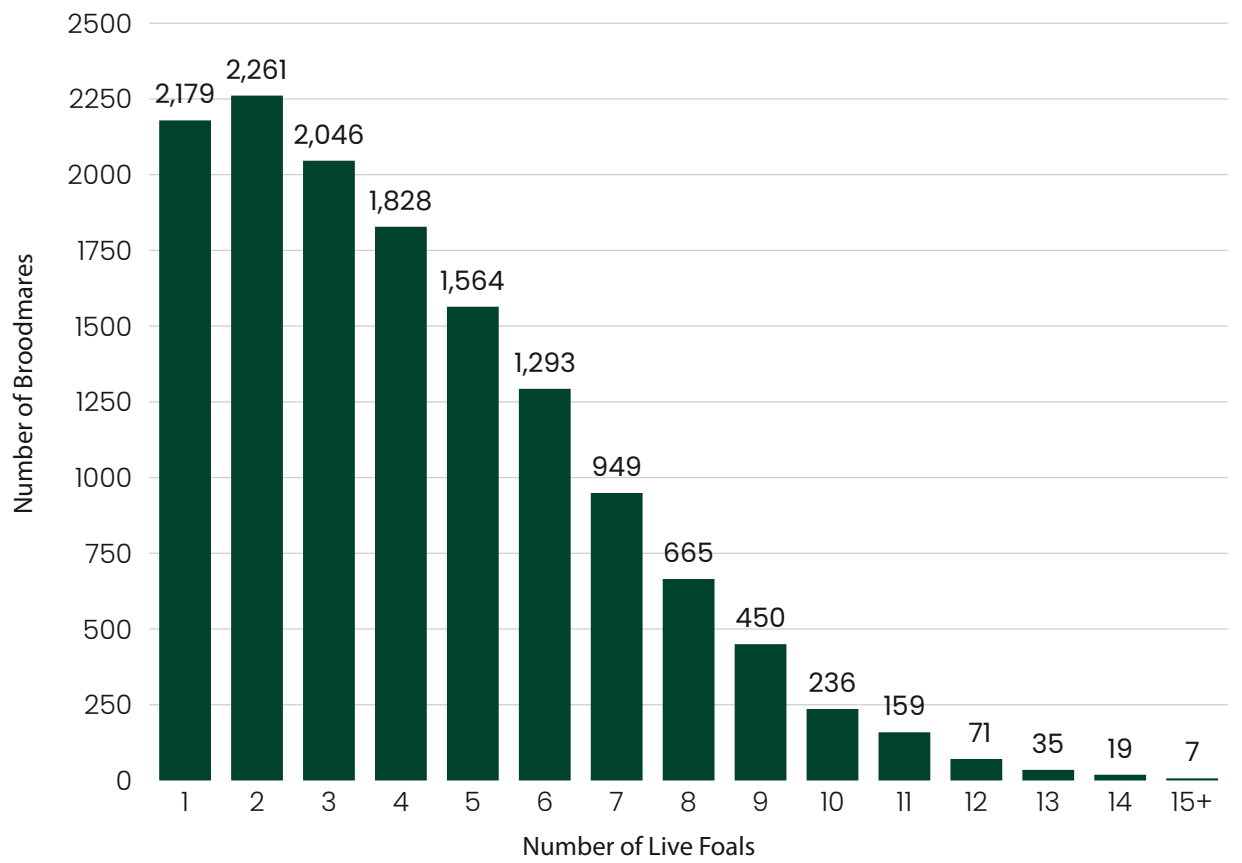


In 2024, Irish mares aged 4 to over 25 years of age were part of the breeding population. Of the active breeding broodmare population, 68% (68% in 2023) were aged 7-15 years.

Live Produce per Active Broodmare / Country of Birth

Live Produce per Active Broodmare (As at end of 2024)

The number of live foals produced by a broodmare over her career can vary significantly. This graph shows the number of live produce per broodmare currently breeding in Ireland. Of the current population, 18% (17% in 2023) have produced more than 6 live foals.



Country of Birth of IRE Based Broodmares

Of the Irish broodmare population 70% (69% in 2023) were foaled in Ireland. The chart shows the origins of the total current population.

Country of Birth	No. of Broodmares
Ireland	10,026
Great Britain	2,464
France	1,027
USA	570
Germany	252
Italy	18
Australia	17
Canada	13
United Arab Emirates	5
Japan	4
South Africa	4

Country of Birth	No. of Broodmares
Spain	4
Argentina	2
Brazil	2
Denmark	2
Tunisia	2
Bahrain	1
Hungary	1
New Zealand	1
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Turkey	1
Total	14,418

Permanent Exports

Permanent Exports

This chart shows the destination of any Irish broodmares which have been permanently exported in 2024. France remains the top importer of Irish broodmares, with the USA in second place; importing more mares in 2024 than they have in the last 3 years combined. (Movement of mares from Ireland to Great Britain is not recorded as such movements are within the General Stud Book area).

Country	2021	2022	2023	2024
France	101	107	124	117
USA	11	26	28	75
Italy	24	34	31	22
Germany	20	22	11	10
Libya	8	5	1	2
Australia	1	2	5	1
Czech Republic	2	1		1
Netherlands	1			1
Spain	2	1	2	1
China		1	2	
Denmark	1	2		
Iran		1		
Japan	1		5	
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia			2	
Norway	2	1		
Poland	1			
Qatar	4			
Russia	3			
Slovakia			1	
South Africa		2		
Sweden	7	5	4	
Turkey	2	5	7	
United Arab Emirates		1		
Total	191	216	223	230

IRE Broodmare Production Summary

In preparation for covering, many Thoroughbred broodmares travel, before foaling, to the stud where the stallion of choice resides – this can often be in another country. This therefore masks the full productivity of Irish mares, as foals out of those mares would not be born in Ireland.

This table shows the total number of foals produced by Irish domiciled mares, as well as the number of IRE born foals out of non-IRE domiciled mares.

Total number of IRE mares at stud	14,418
Total number of known 2023 coverings of IRE mares	12,894
Total number of IRE born foals	8,887
Number of foals born in IRE and abroad from IRE domiciled mares	7,978
Number of IRE foals born to IRE domiciled mares	7,830
Number of foals born in IRE to mares domiciled outside IRE	1,057



Stallions - Irish

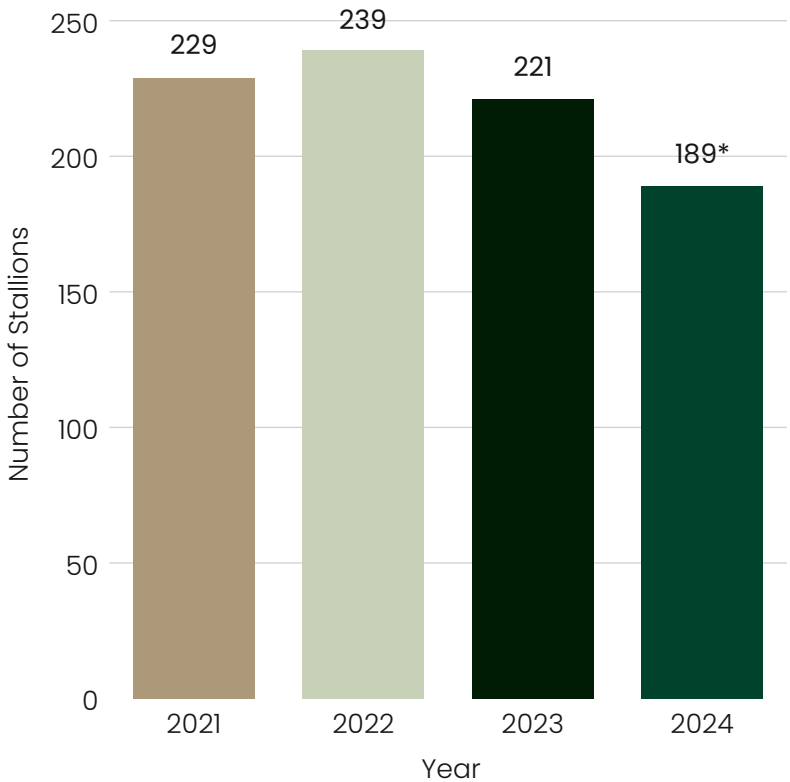
Registered Stallions / Standing Purpose

IRE Stallions Registered for Coverings

This chart shows all stallions registered for coverings standing in Ireland.

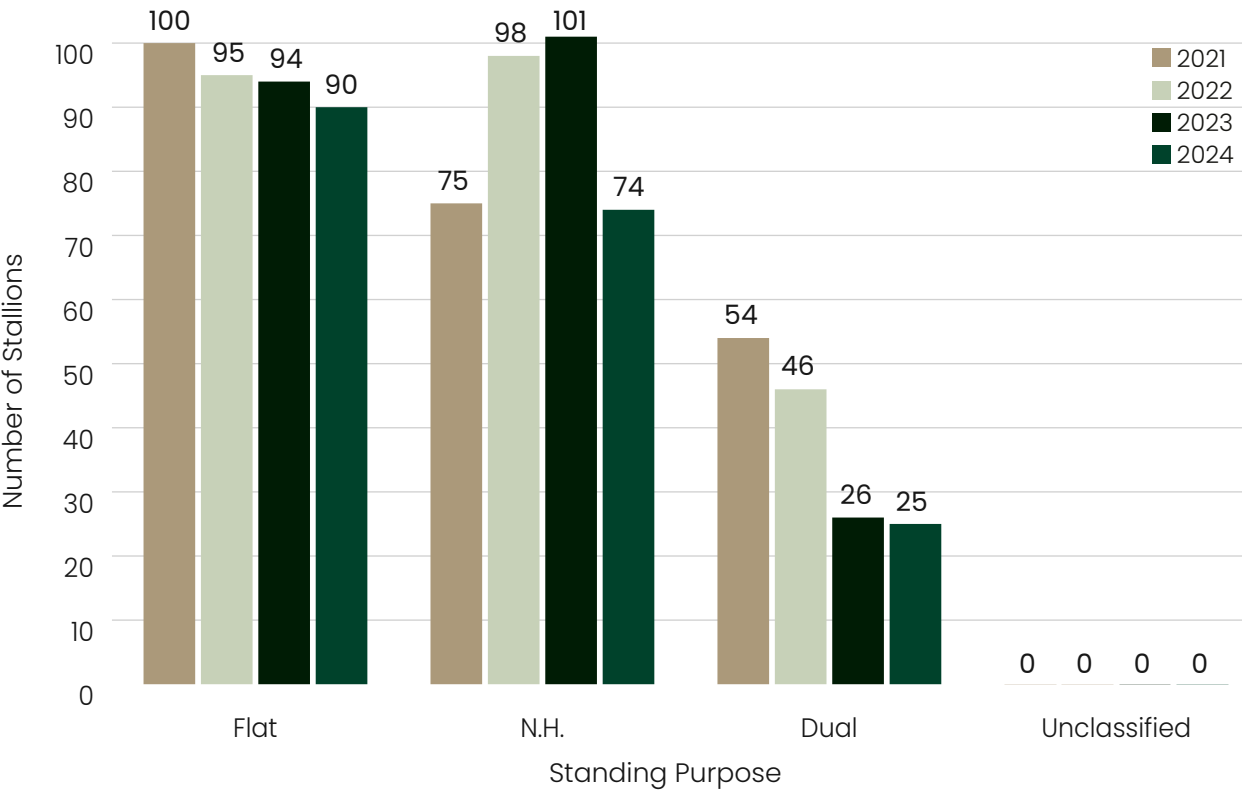
*N.B: The 2024 figure will increase as stallion notifications are frequently received in the following year and the figures here are as at 31/12/24.

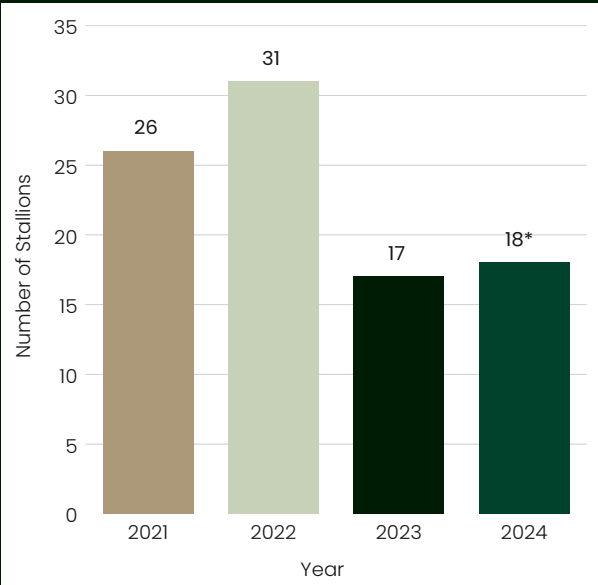
*as at 31/12/24



IRE Stallions Standing Purpose

The proportion of stallions standing for National Hunt purposes was higher than those standing for Flat purposes in 2022 and 2023, compared to 2021 when there were 11% less stallions standing for National Hunt purposes than for the Flat. We expect further stallion registrations for 2024 as noted above.

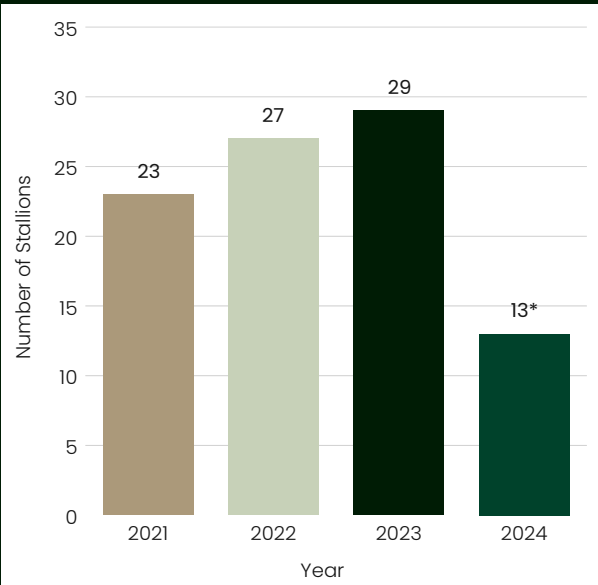




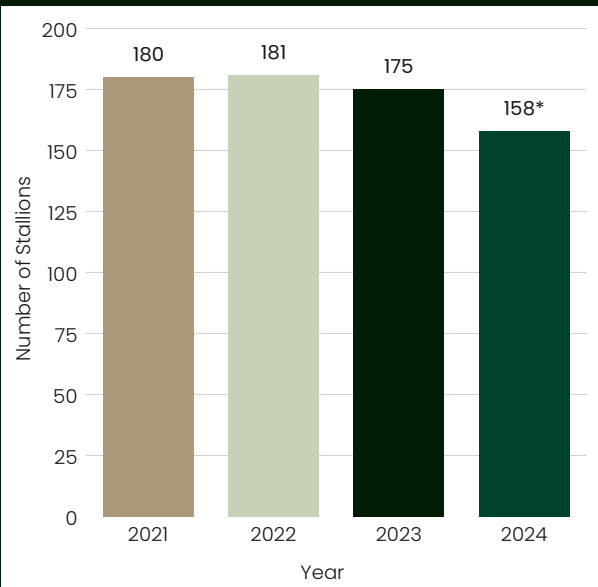
IRE 1st Season Sires

The percentage of first season sires is around the same as it was 4 years ago.

The 2024 figure will increase as stallion notifications are frequently received in the following year and the figures here are as at 31/12/24.



IRE 2nd Season Sires



IRE Established Sires

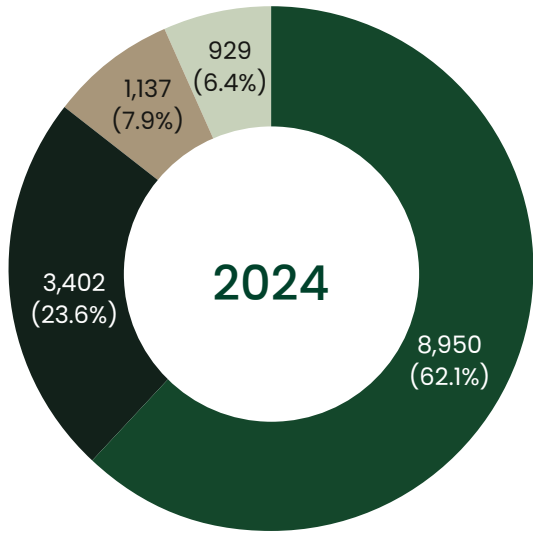
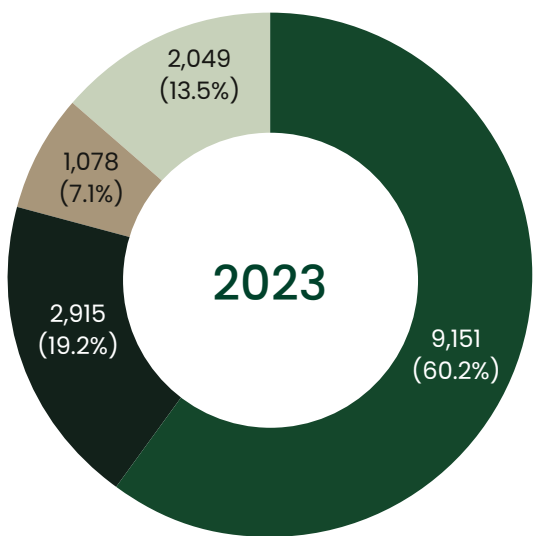
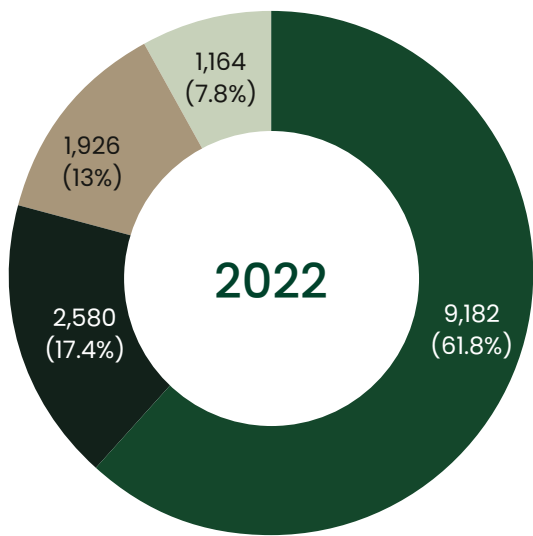
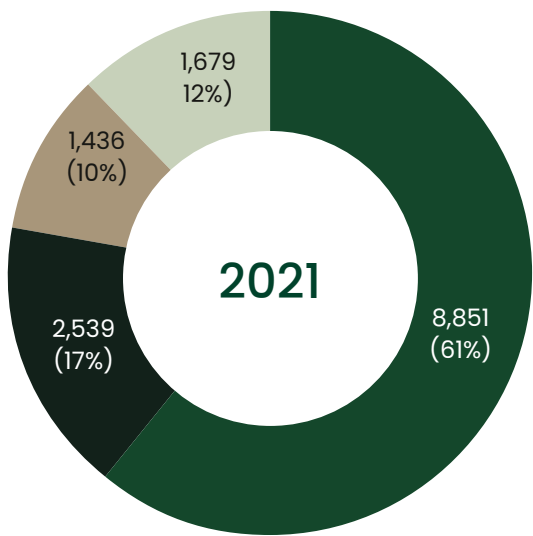
Established sires, i.e. those in their 3rd covering season or more, account for 84% (78% in 2023) of the Irish based stallion population.

*as at 31/12/24

IRE Domiciled Mares Visiting Stallions

These charts show the percentages of mares visiting stallions in their first covering season, second covering season and established stallions.

N.B: Not covered includes mares where no result has been made available.



The proportion of mares who have not been covered has increased by over 6% in the last 4 years.

Country of Birth / Mares Covered per Stallion

Country of Birth – IRE based stallions 2024

Stallions standing in Ireland originate from all over the world. Of the stallions standing in Ireland, over three quarters were Irish or British bred.

- Ireland

Germany

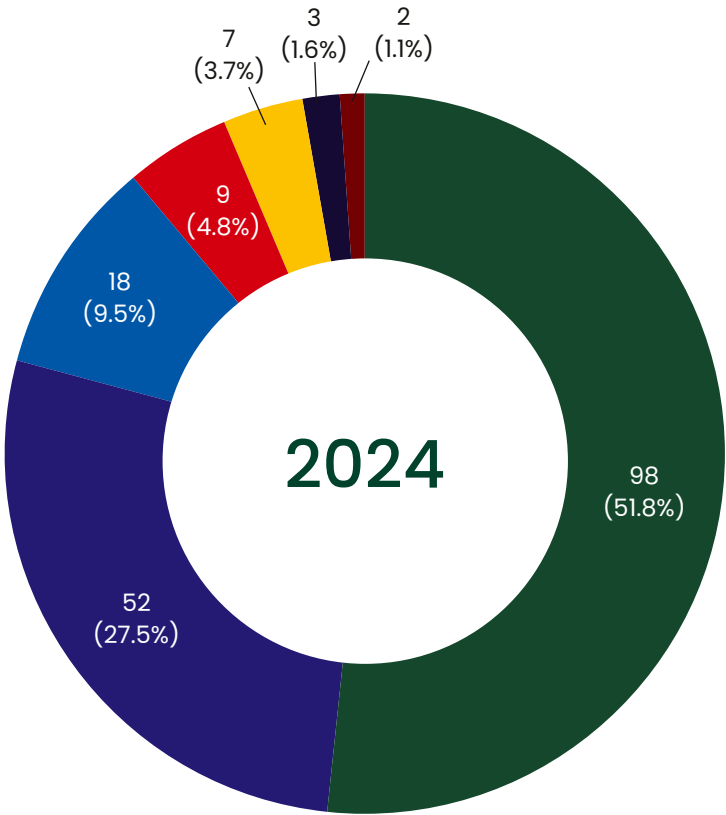
Great Britain

Japan

France

Australia

USA

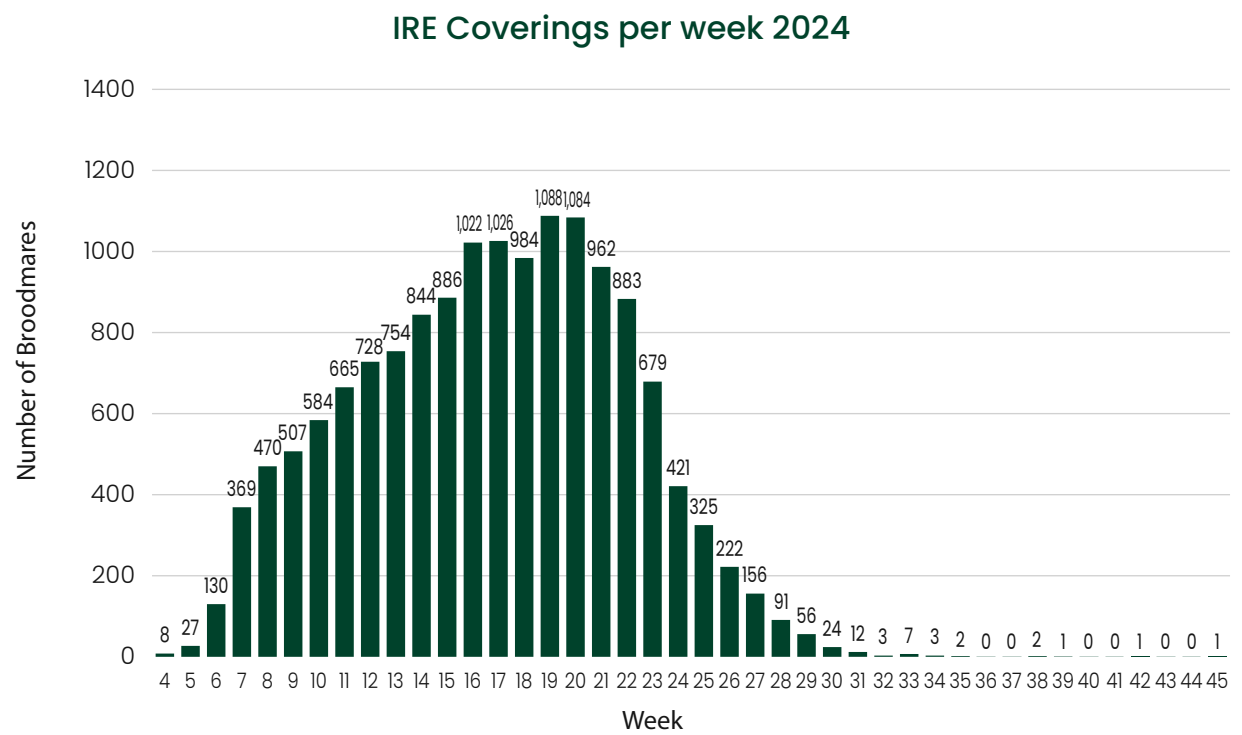


No. Mares Covered	2021	2022	2023	2024
Coverings not returned	9	5	9	17
0	0	0	0	0
1-5	30	50	35	21
6-10	24	20	23	13
11-20	23	26	22	24
21-30	15	15	14	11
31-40	15	18	14	6
41-50	16	6	10	9
51-60	9	9	7	9
61-70	6	9	7	10
71-80	5	6	6	7
81-90	5	3	8	6
91-100	5	7	2	4
101 - 150	28	27	21	27
151 - 200	27	23	26	15
201 - 250	6	9	12	9
251 - 300	4	4	4	1
300 +	2	2	1	0
Total	229	239	221	189*

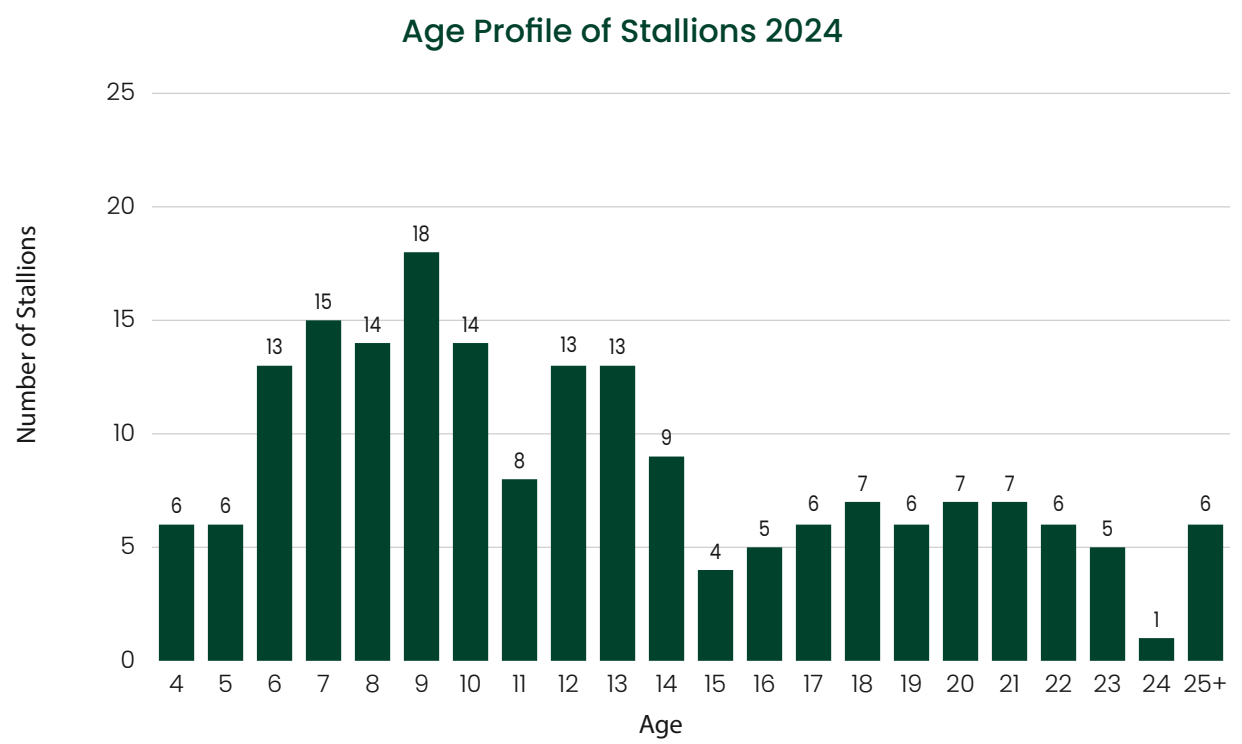
Mares Covered per IRE Stallion

This table reviews the trends in stallion book size over the last four breeding seasons. The percentage of the stallion population covering over 100 mares has remained fairly stable over the last 4 years, at an average of 28%.

*as at 31/12/24



This graph shows the 2024 covering season and the range, from late January during which mares were covered. 88% of the coverings occurred between weeks 8 and 23 (late February to early June). This data refers to the last covering date for each mare.



The age range of Irish based stallions is from 4 years to over 25 years old. Of the total stallion population, 27% were aged over 16 years old (25% in 2023).

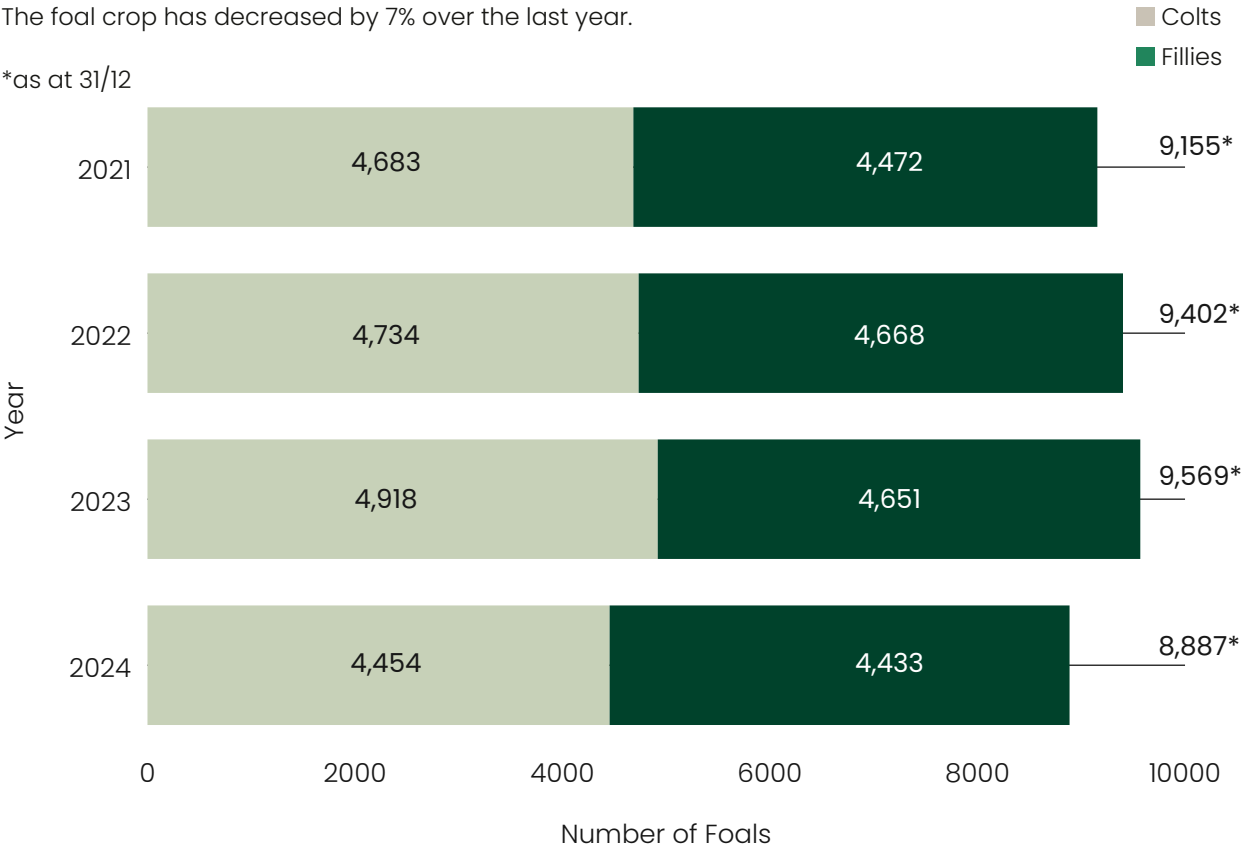
Foals - Irish



IRE Foals Born 2021-2024

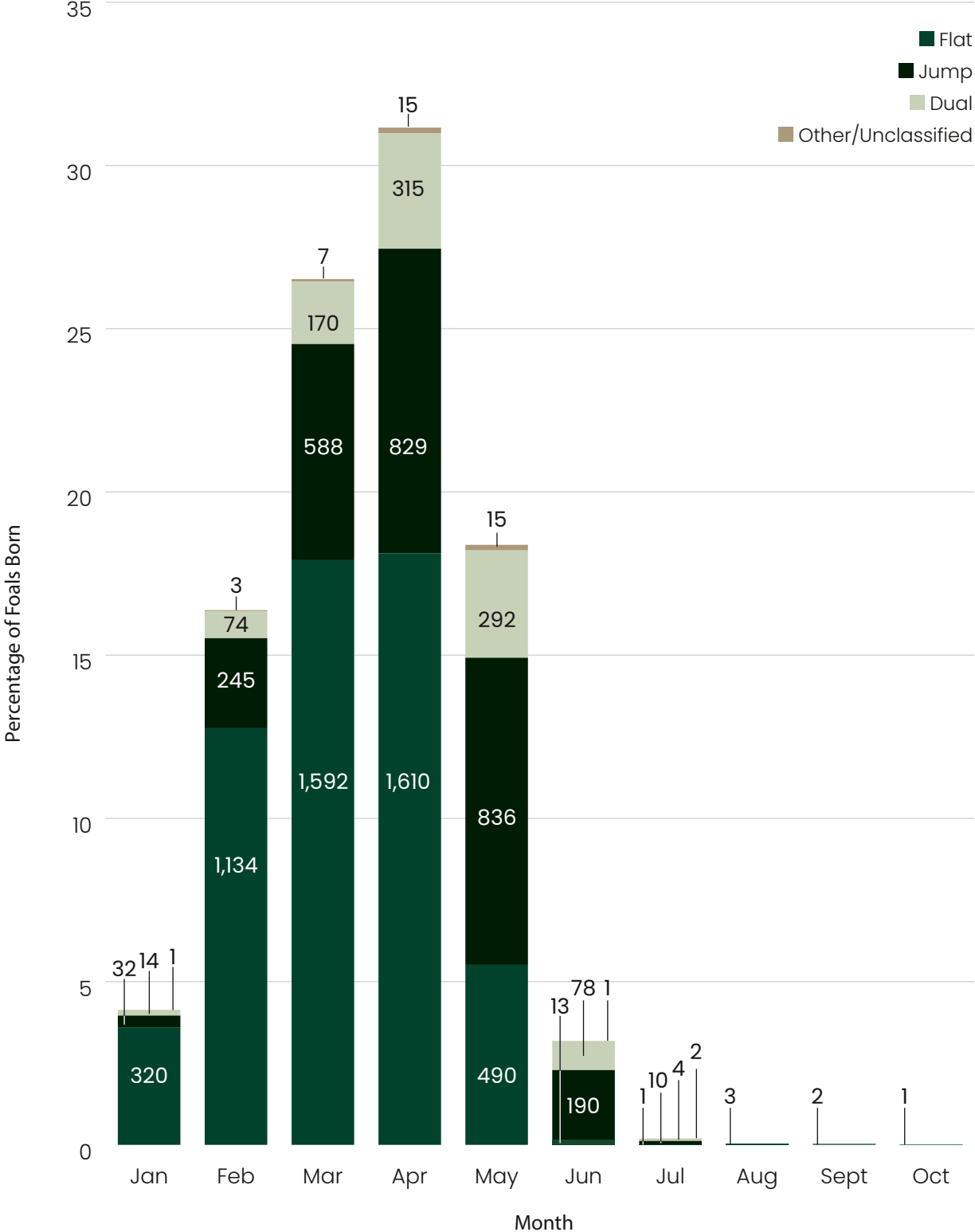
The foal crop has decreased by 7% over the last year.

*as at 31/12



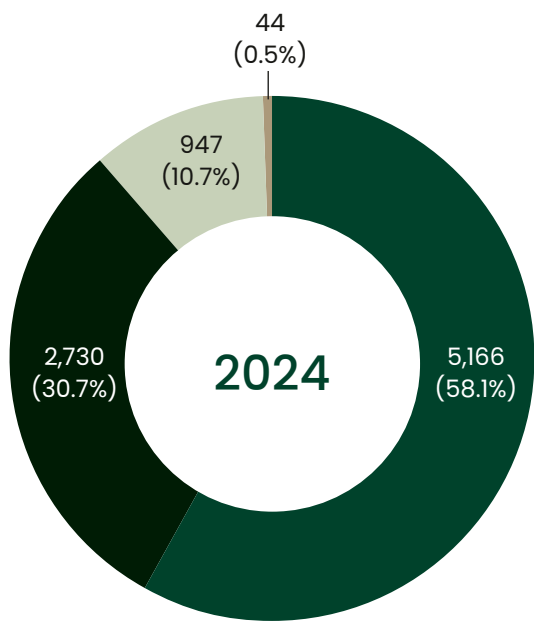
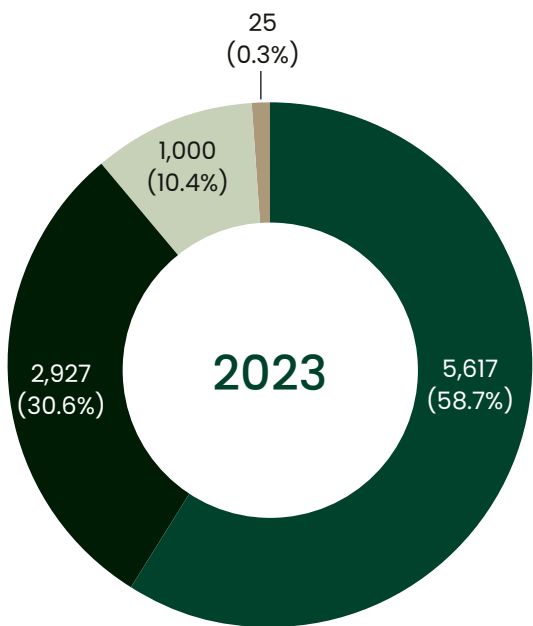
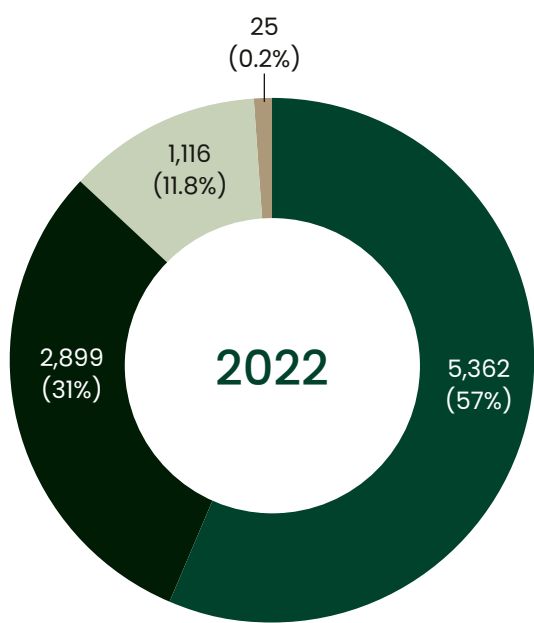
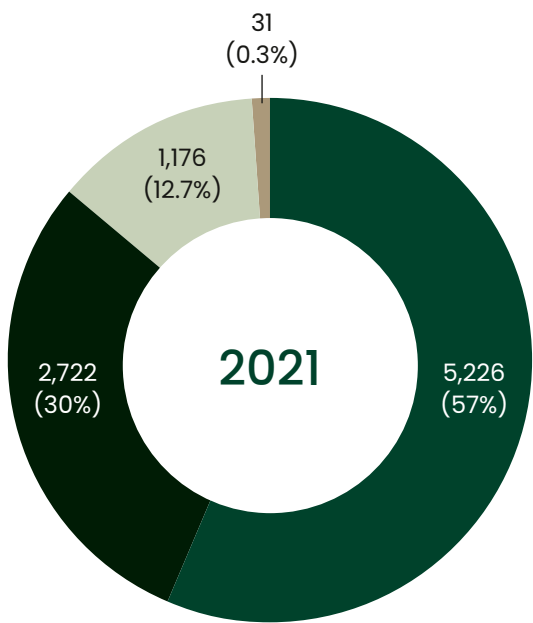
Foaling Dates and Intended Career

The foaling dates for the 2024 foal crop in Ireland are presented by month of foaling, combined with their intended future career. This demonstrates that 85% of Flat bred foals are born between February and April, compared to foals bred for Jump racing, where 83% are born between March and May.



Intended Career Statistics 2021 - 2024

This data is taken from the foal registration forms, which are completed by the breeder, for foals born in Ireland. The proportion of foals bred for Flat, Jump and Dual Purpose racing has remained virtually constant over the last four years.



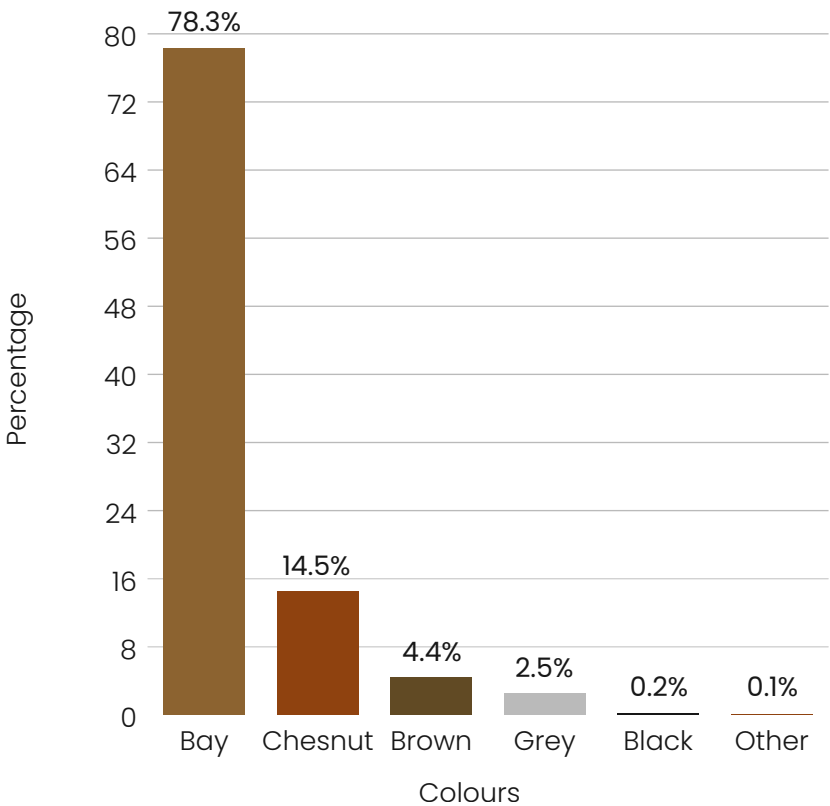
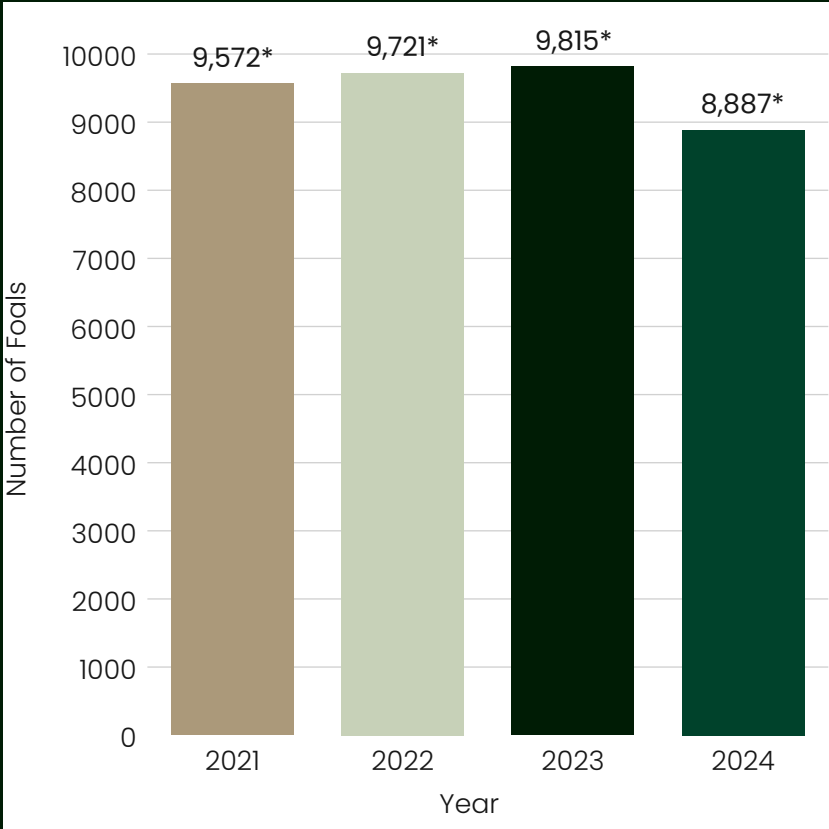
Flat Jump Dual Other/Unclassified

Foal Crop incl. Late Returns 2021 - 2024 / Foal Colours

IRE Foal Crop incl. Late Returns 2021 - 2024

Young stock registered outside their year of foaling are termed "late returns". When these figures are added into the relevant year, a more complete total is achieved for that year's foal crop. Therefore, more progeny may be registered in the future for any foaling year and hence the figures shown here may be subject to further adjustment.

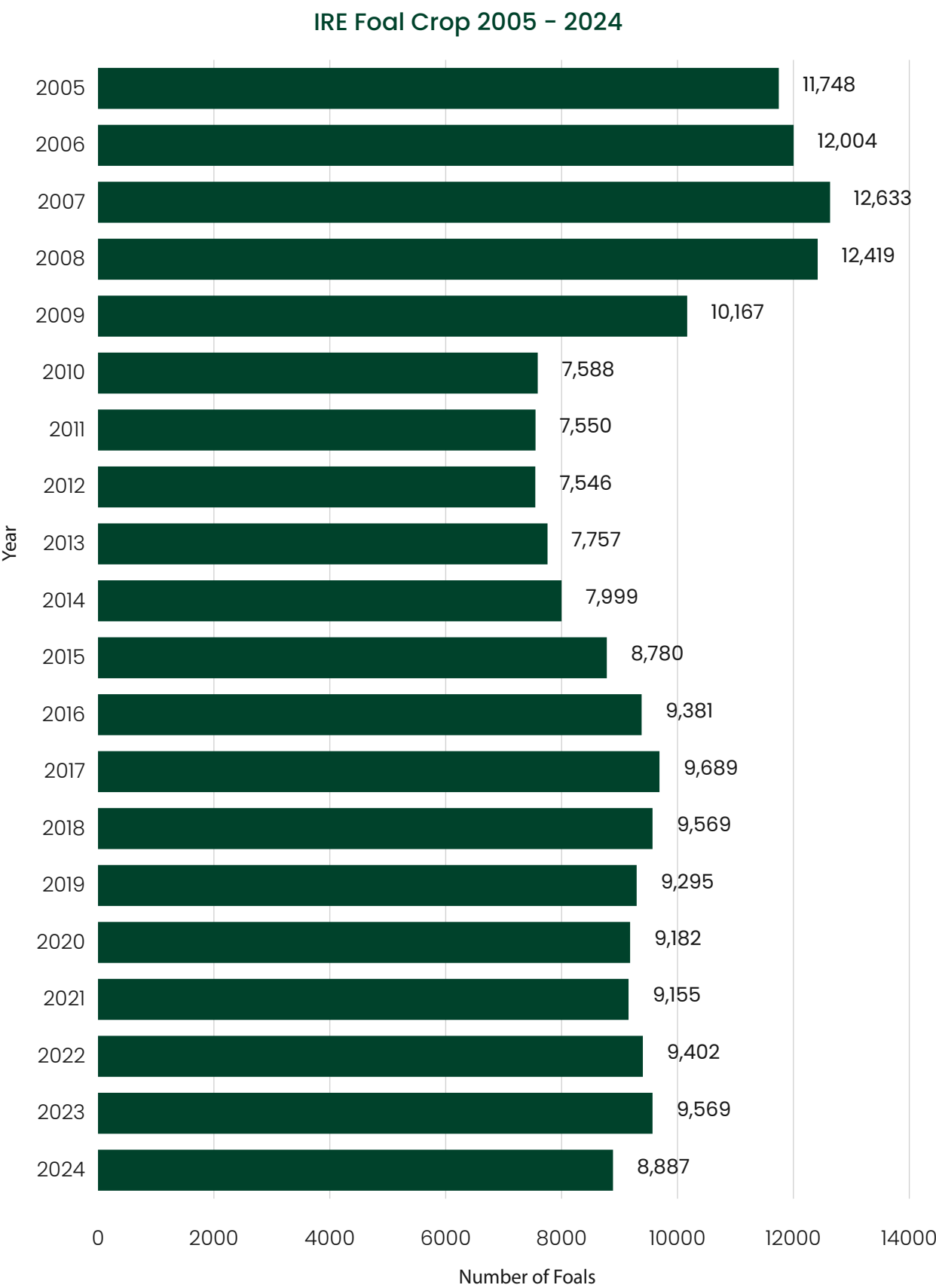
*As at 31/12/24



IRE Foal Colours 2024 Crop

The range of colours for Thoroughbred foals confirms that bay is the most prevalent colour. Of these reported foal coat colours, subsequent changes may be received when the horse matures. For example, a brown foal may mature to grey if the sire and/or dam is grey. When advised of a colour change, the information is updated in the passport and on the database.

Historical Foal Crops



The number of foals born in Ireland is at its lowest level since 2015. These figures are as at the 31st December.

General - Irish



Permanent Exports of IRE Bred Horses

This table shows the 50 countries (52 in 2023) to which horses bred in Ireland have been permanently exported over the last 4 years (i.e. for a period longer than 9 months). Movement of horses between Ireland and Great Britain is not recorded as such movements remain within the General Stud Book. The 2024 figure will increase as export applications are frequently received in the following year.

Country	2021				2022				2023				2024			
	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total
France	127	398	157	682	179	432	77	688	253	530	66	849	217	433	34	684
USA	73	179	84	336	71	148	59	278	61	150	58	269	59	202	43	304
Italy	176	190	25	391	189	214	24	427	200	234	40	474	100	129	30	259
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	31	21	36	88	33	47	72	152	53	53	68	174	44	47	47	138
Australia	44	37	63	144	25	76	41	142	32	81	49	162	28	50	35	113
Poland	21	30		51	33	41	2	76	30	34	2	66	58	46	1	105
Germany	45	83	23	151	27	76	23	126	33	76	26	135	25	60	14	99
Kuwait	2	5	18	25			1	1			2	2	5	11	79	95
United Arab Emirates	22	21	89	132	35	33	91	159	22	12	63	97	16	8	68	92
Qatar	19	23	23	65	24	21	42	87	42	16	35	93	26	12	38	76
Hong Kong	16		34	50	10		38	48	18		24	42	13		39	52
Spain	16	18	2	36	26	22	12	60	30	21	17	68	22	19	10	51
Czech Republic	24	38	10	72	20	35	2	57	22	28	1	51	13	18	4	35
Bahrain	5	9	21	35	10	11	34	55	8	14	20	42	6	9	17	32
Japan	16	21		37	11	47		58	15	56		71	14	18		32
Libya	3	18		21	4	15		19	9	7		16	8	21	3	32
Sweden	30	25	9	64	14	19	5	38	18	8	9	35	13	11	6	30
India		7		7	2	21		23	6	28		34	1	26		27
Hungary	21	20	1	42	16	14	1	31	23	13		36	18	6	1	25
Turkey	1	10		11		9		9		13		13	5	18		23
Netherlands		4	2	6		4		4	1	2	4	7	1	6	10	17
Norway	5	9	3	17	4	15	3	22	3	6	2	11	6	9	2	17
Denmark	10	9	3	22	8	6	2	16	10	3	1	14	10	4		14
Switzerland	4	1	2	7	3	1		4	6	2	4	12	3	3	2	8
Serbia	5	9		14	3		4	7	4	1	1	6	2	2	3	7
Iran		1		1		3		3						6		6
Pakistan	1	4		5					2	2		4	1	5		6
Belgium		5	4	9		6	3	9	2	3	5	10	2	1	2	5
Slovakia	6	7	3	16	12	6	1	19	6	5	1	12	2	3		5
Cyprus	2			2		1		1	3	2		5	1	2		3
Kazakhstan					1			1	2	3	1	6	1	1	1	3
Argentina													2			2
Malaysia		1		1	1			1							2	2
Philippines														2		2
South Africa	2	4		6	1	1		2	4	4		8		2		2
Finland										1	1	2		1		1
Austria	2	1	2	5		2	3	5								
Bosnia and Herzegovina			1	1												
Bulgaria		1		1		1		1	1	1		2				
Canada									1			1				
China					42	27		69	50	24		74				
Greece	3	1	1	5	6	5	2	13	5	8	6	19				
Jordan		1		1												
Morocco	5	2		7												
New Zealand	1	1		2						1		1				
Portugal		1		1		1	1	2		1	2	3				
Romania											1	1				
Russia	2	3		5												
Singapore	1		2	3	1		8	9	1		2	3				
Uruguay						2		2								
Total	949	1,902	1,060	3,911	1,092	2,108	933	4,133	1,092	2,089	739	4,151	965	1,506	601	3,072

Permanent Imports into IRE

This table shows the 27 countries (28 in 2023) from which horses have been permanently imported into Ireland over the last 4 years (i.e. where an Export Certificate has been received). The 2024 figure will increase as export certificates are frequently received in the following year.

Country	2021				2022				2023				2024			
	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total	Colt	Filly	Gelding	Total
France	71	422	376	869	133	489	316	938	199	392	205	796	99	160	103	362
USA	100	124	39	263	107	114	44	265	113	127	20	260	116	101	1	218
Bahrain	26	27	1	54	25	19	1	45	23	18		41	16	18		34
Italy	3	47	2	52	1	32	2	35		28		28	1	17		18
Germany	2	26	17	45	6	49	11	66	11	50	3	64	6	9	1	16
Poland		1		1		4		4		4		4	3		2	5
Australia	4	2		6	1	2	1	4		3		3	1	2	1	4
Denmark		1		1		2		2		2		2		1	1	2
Qatar	2	9	1	12	1	2	1	4		1		1		2		2
Czech Republic		2		2		1		1		5		5		1		1
Greece														1		1
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia														1		1
New Zealand														1		1
Sweden		4		4	1	2	3	6	1	3		4		1		1
Turkey		1		1	3	5	2	10		1		1	1			1
United Arab Emirates		4	2	6		1		1							1	1
Argentina		4		4		1		1								
Austria										1		1				
Belgium		1		1												
Hong Kong			2	2												
Hungary						3		3		1		1				
Japan		1		1		12		12		1		1				
Netherlands		1		1												
Norway						1		1		3		3				
South Africa		3		3												
Spain		2	2	4	3	7	1	11		3		3				
Switzerland		2		2						1		1				
Ukraine										2		2				
Total	208	684	442	1,334	281	746	382	1,409	281	646	228	1,221	243	315	110	668

Breeders by County

This table shows the distribution of the 6,354 breeders of Thoroughbreds between 32 Irish Counties. It also highlights the number of mares owned and number of foals produced by those mares. The largest number of individual breeders are found in County Cork, but the largest concentration of mares are in County Kildare.

Included in this data is a figure for breeders not resident in an Irish county, but which have breeding stock permanently domiciled in Ireland. This has been categorised as “Other”.

County	Breeders	Mares	Foals
Co. Cork	810	1,611	1,021
Co. Tipperary	799	1,783	1,088
Co. Kildare	707	1,936	1,170
Co. Wexford	555	1,040	601
Co. Meath	440	1,033	575
Co. Kilkenney	425	1,080	662
Co. Waterford	254	609	340
Co. Limerick	242	574	343
Co. Galway	203	368	187
Co. Down	181	367	220
Co. Westmeath	180	713	479
Co. Wicklow	148	351	192
Co. Laois	145	251	138
Co. Carlow	137	414	252
Co. Offaly	117	289	165
Co. Dublin	105	182	112
Co. Clare	82	152	82
Co. Roscommon	60	115	59

County	Breeders	Mares	Foals
Co. Armagh	46	68	33
Co. Antrim	44	97	44
Co. Mayo	39	60	27
Co. Kerry	37	64	43
Co. Louth	35	68	37
Co. Tyrone	33	53	25
Co. Longford	23	38	19
Co. Monaghan	22	28	16
Co. Cavan	19	27	13
Co. Sligo	11	17	9
Co. Fermanagh	9	15	6
Co. Donegal	8	11	7
Co. Leitrim	8	12	5
Co. Londonderry	8	20	8
Sub Total	5,932	13,446	7,978
Other	422	972	565
Total	6,354	14,418	8,543

Number of IRE Broodmares Owned per Breeder

This table shows the distribution of Irish broodmares between breeders by county, with 92% of breeders owning fewer than 5 broodmares.

Included in this data is a figure for breeders not resident in an Irish county, but which have breeding stock permanently domiciled in Ireland. This has been categorised as "Other".

County	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-30	31+	Total
Co. Cork	669	84	46	7	3	1	810
Co. Tipperary	654	82	42	15	3	3	799
Co. Kildare	556	78	48	16	2	7	707
Co. Wexford	453	68	29	5	0	0	555
Co. Meath	352	48	32	4	2	2	440
Co. Kilkenny	339	47	26	10	1	2	425
Co. Waterford	201	31	16	2	1	3	254
Co. Limerick	193	28	14	5	0	2	242
Co. Galway	173	22	5	3	0	0	203
Co. Down	142	27	10	2	0	0	181
Co. Westmeath	131	24	18	3	0	4	180
Co. Wicklow	120	13	12	2	0	1	148
Co. Laois	125	9	10	1	0	0	145
Co. Carlow	113	15	3	2	0	4	137
Co. Offaly	85	21	8	2	1	0	117
Co. Dublin	92	9	3	0	1	0	105
Co. Clare	65	11	6	0	0	0	82
Co. Roscommon	46	10	4	0	0	0	60

County	1-2	3-4	5-10	11-20	21-30	31+	Total
Co. Armagh	41	3	2	0	0	0	46
Co. Antrim	35	3	4	2	0	0	44
Co. Mayo	36	2	1	0	0	0	39
Co. Kerry	31	4	2	0	0	0	37
Co. Louth	28	3	4	0	0	0	35
Co. Tyrone	29	2	2	0	0	0	33
Co. Longford	21	1	1	0	0	0	23
Co. Monaghan	21	1	0	0	0	0	22
Co. Cavan	16	3	0	0	0	0	19
Co. Sligo	9	1	1	0	0	0	11
Co. Fermanagh	8	0	1	0	0	0	9
Co. Donegal	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
Co. Leitrim	7	1	0	0	0	0	8
Co. Londonderry	6	0	2	0	0	0	8
Sub Total	4,805	651	352	81	14	29	5,932
Other	333	43	36	8	1	1	422
Total	5,138	694	388	89	15	30	6,354



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