## Horse Racing in New Mexico: Economic Trends

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15 September 2022



The horse racing industry (excluding gaming) in New Mexico

Economic impact of \$677.5 million in 2016 Declining 24% between 2006 and 2016 Nationwide decline of 12% since 2006

Horse breeding in New Mexico peaked in 2007/2008
 Foals bred declined 51% between 2008 and 2016
 Further decline of 31% since 2016



# U.S. household spending on entertainment

 $5\frac{1}{2}$  percent of household income

It was 5.4% during the Great Depression (1929-1939)

- After the Great Recession (2008-2009) it declined
  - falling to 4.9% by 2013
  - rising slowly to 5.3% by 2021

Data from Bureau of Labor Statistics http://bls.gov



#### New Mexico median household income adjusted for inflation





Gambling is a common measure of economic activity in horse racing, but doesn't produce anything

- Money comes in from gambling tourists
- Money also goes out
  - ▶ Gambling tourism (what stays in Las Vegas, Nevada...)
  - Out-of-state owners (horses, tracks, casinos)

In any case, it's hard to know, but most gambling in New Mexico is transfer of wealth from one household to another



## The productive economics of horse racing - part 2

How we measure economic activity from horse racing:

Breeders, Owners, Boarders, Tracks

- Value added from horses
- Value added from goods
  - ▶ feed, supplies, equipment, some infrastructure, etc.
  - whatever goods tracks and racinos buy
- Value added from services
  - ▶ veterinarians, trainers, handlers, etc.
  - whatever services tracks and racinos buy
- Value added from labor
  - workers at horse farms
  - workers at tracks and racinos



The productive economics of horse racing - part 3

#### New Mexico economic impact of breeding and racing

	2006 (a)		2016 (b)
Economic Innut	Unadjusted \$217,755,152	2016 dollars \$259,240,965	2016 dollars \$198,091,887
Economic Input	\$217,755,152	\$259,240,905	\$190,091,007
Economic Impact			
Output	\$386,019,959	\$482,577,056	\$368,748,048
Earnings	\$90,996,303	\$112,562,427	\$86,011,497
Employment		5235	5436
<ul> <li>(a) Lillywhite &amp; Wise (2009)</li> <li>(b) Rubalcaba, Dixon, van der Goes (2017)</li> </ul>			



## Trends since 2006

#### National trend in horse racing



North American Races

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Number of Races

Steady annual decline since 2011, 12% decline since 2006

Plot from Jockey Club 2022 Fact Book



### Trends since 2006 - part 2

New Mexico horse breeding is declining







### Trends since 2006 - part 3

New Mexico horse racing is declining



Plot from Jockey Club 2022 New Mexico Fact Book

