

Year	Deaths	Source	Notes
Before 1997	107	"WANTED: HEALTHY, HAPPY DOGS. FROM THE BEGINNING, ANIMAL-RIGHTS GROUPS HAVE PRESSURED RACE OFFICIALS ABOUT DOG CARE" Doug O'harra And Natalie Phillips Daily News Reporters, <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , February 23, 1997	Before the start of the 1997 race, <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> reported that "at least 107 have died, according to newspaper accounts."
1997	5	Craig Medred, <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , April 19, 1997	Nip, Beege, Scrub, Al Gore, and Teller. Three of the five dogs suffered from vitamin E deficiencies that probably contributed to their deaths.
1998	1	"PLUS: SLED DOG RACING -- IDITAROD; One Dog Died In This Year's Race" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 20, 1998 http://www.nytimes.com/1998/03/20/sports/plus-sled-dog-racing-itarod-one-dog-died-in-this-year-s-race.html	Five-year-old Trim collapsed and died during the Shaktoolik to Koyuk run.
1999	1	"Iditarod Sled Dog Race -- Swingley Victory Almost On Ice" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 15, 1999 http://community.seattletimes.nwsouce.com/archive/?date=19990315&slug=2949533	Three-year-old Rodman died in harness less than a mile outside Anvik.
2001	1	Craig Medred, <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 10, 2001	Carhartt was left in the care of Iditarod handlers because they weren't eating well on Tuesday. Friday morning the dog was found dead.
2002	2	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 12, 2002 and Iditarod Race Advisory, Iditarod website, March 15, 2002	Goro suffered a spinal injury in the neck area as a result of a tangle in the gangline. Mark died during surgery to repair a stomach ulcer.
2003	1	"Iditarod Briefs" <i>Wire Reports</i> , March 18, 2003 https://web.archive.org/web/20151026080702/https://www.juneauempire.com/stories/031803/spo_iditarod.shtml#.WTBq3evyviU	Seven-year-old Joker died between White Mountain and Safety.
2004	2	<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>	Five-year-old Wolf died between Rohn and Nikolai. Seven-year-old Takk sat down and died right before the Unalakleet checkpoint.
2005	4	Iditarod advisory, 2005, Iditarod website Iditarod advisory, March 17, 2005, Iditarod website Craig Medred, <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 12, 2005	Three-year-old Tyson ran out onto the Bering Sea Ice and drowned. Nellie was dropped in Elim and transported to Nome for treatment related to acute pneumonia. Four-year-old Oakley died eleven miles from Safety. Rita dropped on the trail just outside of Anvik.
2006	4	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006_Iditarod	Four-year-old Yellowknife died from pneumonia. Three-year-old Bear died between Cripple and Ruby. Four-year-old Cupid died likely because of regurgitation and aspiration, as well as gastric ulcers. Five-year-old Jack died of unknown causes.
2007	3	"Musher disqualified from Iditarod for abusing dogs" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 18, 2007. http://www.espn.com/sports/news/story?id=2803778 and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_Iditarod	Three-year-old Kate died between White Mountain and Safety, the day after being hit with a trail marking lathe. Six-year-old Snickers died at Grayling, likely from acute hemorrhage due to a gastric ulcer. Three-year-old Thong died between Koyuk and Elim, likely due to acute pneumonia.
2008	3	"Sled Dogs' Lives, and Deaths, Raise Questions" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 23, 2008 https://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/23/sports/othersports/23iditarod.html	Three-year-old Lorne was struck by a snowmobile, another probably died of aspiration pneumonia, and the third death could not be confirmed.
2009	6	"Criminal charges sought in Iditarod dog death" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 20, 2013 https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/2013/03/20/criminal-charges-sought-in-iditarod-dog-death/2001827/	AP reported that six dogs died in the 2009 Iditarod. Dizzy and Grasshopper reportedly die of hypothermia after they were stuck outside in temperatures that plummeted to minus 45 degrees.
2013	1	"Criminal charges sought in Iditarod dog death" <i>Associated Press</i> , March 20, 2013 https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/2013/03/20/criminal-charges-sought-in-iditarod-dog-death/2001827/ and Emily Schwing, <i>Alaska Public Radio</i> , KUAC website, March 20, 2013	After being dropped from the race, five-year-old Dorado was reportedly buried in snow in an area set up to care for dogs and he asphyxiated.

2015	3	Iditarod advisory, March 7, 2015, https://cloud.iditarod.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Media-Advisory-3-7-15.pdf?7dde9ca9 Iditarod advisory, March 12, 2015, https://cloud.iditarod.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/lance-mackey-expired-dog-thursday-march-12-2015-2.pdf?7dde9ca9 Iditarod advisory, March 20, 2015, https://cloud.iditarod.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Lance-Mackey-Expired-Dog-Friday-March-20-2015.pdf?7dde9ca9	Three-year-old Stuart was killed by a car after breaking away from his team during the Ceremonial Start. Three-year-old Wyatt died suddenly between Tanana and Ruby. Three-year-old Stiffy died suddenly between Elim and White Mountain.
2016	1	"Snowmobile strikes Iditarod teams, kills dog, injures others" <i>USA Today</i> , March 12, 2016, https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2016/03/12/snowmobile-strikes-iditarod-teams-kills-dog-injures-others/81687188/	Three-year-old Nash died after being hit by a snowmobile.
2017	5	"Iditarod live blog for Thursday, March 9: Dog dies on trail near Galena" <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 9, 2017 https://www.adn.com/outdoors-adventure/iditarod/2017/03/09/iditarod-live-blog-mitch-seavey-in-the-lead-dozing-musher-falls-off-sled/ "Iditarod live blog for Saturday, March 11: Dog that died in plane may have overheated" <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 11, 2017 https://www.adn.com/outdoors-adventure/iditarod/2017/03/11/iditarod-live-blog-for-saturday-march-11-a-dropped-dog-dies-in-transit/ "The Latest: 3rd dog associated with Iditarod dies" <i>Sports Illustrated</i> , March 14, 2017 https://www.si.com/uncategorized/2017/03/14/ap-us-iditarod-latest-0 "Another Iditarod dog death reported as 4-year-old Flash dies on the trail" <i>Alaska's News Source</i> , March 14, 2017 https://www.alaskasnewssource.com/content/news/Another-Iditarod-dog-death-reported-as-4-year-old-Flash-dies-on-the-trail-416151943.html Iditarod advisory, March 15, 2017, https://cloud.iditarod.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/3.15.17 Iditarod Dog-dies-unexpectedly-outside-of-Unalakleet-checkpoint-FINAL.pdf?7dde9ca9	Two-year-old Deacon reportedly died while running the Iditarod. Two-year-old Smoke died of hyperthermia. Three-year-old Groovey was reportedly struck by a car and killed. Four-year-old Flash died of acute aspiration pneumonia. Three-year-old Shilling died of abnormalities that included extensive pulmonary edema, also caused by fluid in the lungs.
2018	1	"Necropsy shows pneumonia was cause of death for Iditarod dog" <i>Anchorage Daily News</i> , March 15, 2018 https://www.adn.com/outdoors-adventure/iditarod/2018/03/15/iditarod-dog-dies-after-being-dropped-at-koyuk-checkpoint/	Five-year-old Blondie's cause of death was consistent with aspiration pneumonia.
2019	1	"5-year-old dog named Oshi dies of pneumonia after finishing Iditarod sled race" <i>KSBW Action News</i> , March 18, 2019 https://www.ksbw.com/article/5-year-old-dog-named-oshi-dies-of-pneumonia-after-finishing-iditarod-sled-race/26851036	Five-year-old Oshi died of aspiration pneumonia shortly after crossing the finish line.
2024	3	"Seavey now has the most Iditarod wins, but Alaska's historic race is marred by 3 sled dog deaths" Associated Press, March 13, 2024 https://apnews.com/article/iditarod-winner-dog-deaths-1dd4d6ee87d9b0e90acc639921035ce3	Two-year-old Bog, four-year-old George, and three-year-old Henry all collapsed and died on the trail.
2025	1	"4-year-old Iditarod dog dies outside of Galena", <i>Alaska Public Media</i> , March 7, 2025 https://alaskapublic.org/news/iditarod/2025-03-07/4-year-old-iditarod-dog-dies-outside-of-galena	Ventana was pregnant when she collapsed and died on the trail.
Total	156	This conservative number does not include all the others who died during the off-season while kept chained up outside in all weather extremes, those who died during training, or those who were killed because they weren't considered fast or fit enough.	