

1992
Wisconsin Farm-Related Fatalities
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Fifty Fatalities related to farm work activities occurred in Wisconsin during 1992 (**Figure 1**). Wisconsin Averaged 42.0 farm-related fatalities over the past five years. The 1992 **rate of farm fatalities** is 45.0 per 100,000 workers and the five year average is 38.1.

Figure 1. Fatality Incidents in Past Five Years

Year	Number of Fatalities	Rate Per 100,000 Workers
1988	43	39
1989	37	33
1990	42	35
1991	38	34
1992	50	45
Average	42.0	38.1

According to the National Safety Council, agriculture is one of the most hazardous occupations in the nation. The National Safety Council estimates that 1,300 deaths occurred during agricultural work activities in the U.S. in 1992.

Farm-Related Fatality Definition

Farm-related fatalities were defined as unintentional injury deaths that took place during or associated with work related to production agriculture. For children under 16 years of age, farm related fatalities were defined as deaths that took place either while engaged in farm work or when the injury was due to an agricultural work hazard. Fatalities resulting from recreational, home or most motor vehicle injuries were not included.

Type of Farm-Related Fatalities

Farm tractors accounted for 32.0 percent and **farm machinery** was involved in 30.0 percent of the fatalities in 1992 (**Figure 2**). **Animals** caused 12.0 percent of the fatalities. This excludes fatalities associated with animals during recreational use. Tractors and machinery have been responsible for 63.3 percent and animals 20.0 percent of the 210 farm fatalities in the past five years.

Figure 2. Type of Farm-Related Fatalities

Incident	Number of Fatalities
Tractor	16
Machinery	15
Animal	6
Fall	3
Other	10
Total	50

Falls (excluding falls from tractors, equipment, and animals) represented 6.0 percent of the farm fatalities. Falls occurred from silos and in barns.

Other types of farm fatalities included incidents involving an electrocution (2), silo gas (2), falling tree, struck by a jack, run over by a truck, entanglement in a hand grinder, a gunshot wound, and a grain bin asphyxiation.

Farm Tractor-Related Fatalities

Farm tractors were involved in 16 farm fatalities with 68.8 percent being the result of **tractor rollovers (Figure 3)**. Tractor rollovers accounted for 60.6 percent of the tractor fatalities and 20.5 percent of the total fatalities during the past five years. Studies of tractor rollovers suggest that these fatalities occur on tractors not equipped with rollover protective structures (ROPS).

Figure 3. Farm Tractor-Related Fatalities

Incident	Number of Fatalities
Rollover	11
Fall or Run over	4
Other	1
Total	16

Tractor Fatalities were also caused by **run over or falls**, 25.0 percent, in 1992. Run over or a fall off a tractor represented 31.0 percent of the total tractor fatalities over the past five years. One farmer was pinned by a round bale that fell off a front-end loader in 1992.

Farm Machinery-Related Fatalities

Farm machinery was involved in 15 farm fatalities during 1992. These were the result of a **machinery run over** (40 percent), **machinery entanglements** (26.7 percent) and **pinned between machinery** (20 percent) (**figure 4**). Two of the machinery entanglements were caused by the power take-off and two of the pinned between machinery were caused by skid steer loaders. Other machinery fatalities included a rollover, a fall off a wagon and an individual being struck by a machine.

Figure 4. Farm Machinery Related Fatalities

Incident	Number of Fatalities
Run over	6
Entanglement	4
Pinned Between	3
Other	2
Total	15

Age and Gender of Victims

Males were involved in 96.0 percent and **females** in 4.0 percent of the farm fatalities.

Victims **65 years of age and older** represented 34.0 percent of the fatalities reported during 1992 (**Figure 5**). Victims in the age group of “55 to 64: and “25 to 34” were second most commonly involved in the farm fatality incidents. **Youth** under the age of 16 represented 6.0 percent of the fatalities reported.

Figure 5. Age Distribution of Victims

Age	Under 5	5-15	16-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-Over
Number	1	2	6	8	2	3	11	17

During the past five year, people 65 and over were involved in 30.0 percent and youth under the age of 16 were in 7.1 percent of the total farm fatalities.

Month of Fatality Occurrence

During 1992, 36.0 percent of the farm fatalities occurred in the months of **June through August**. Over the past five years farm fatalities most commonly occurred during the months of June through August (34.3 percent) The 1992 distribution in other months were September through November (24.0 percent), March through May (24.0 percent) and December through February (20.0 percent).

Time of Fatal Incident Occurrence

Farm fatalities commonly occurred during the **afternoon and early evening hours (Figure 6)**. Early morning hours were also a common time for fatalities to occur.

Figure 6. Time of Fatal Incident

Time of Day	Number of Fatalities	4:00pm	6
9:00am	3	5:00pm	4
10:00am	6	6:00pm	4
11:00am	2	7:00pm	4
12:00pm	5	8:00pm	0
1:00pm	7	9:00pm	0
2:00pm	3	10:00pm	1
3:00pm	4	Unknown	1

County of Fatality Occurrence

In 1992, **four fatalities** were reported in Iowa and Oconto County. **Three fatalities** were reported in Green, Crawford and Taylor. **Two fatalities** were reported in Dane, Grant, Marinette, Monroe, Polk, Rock, Vernon, and Washington County. **One Fatality** was reported in each of the following: Barron, Bayfield, Chippewa, Columbia, Dodge, Door, Dunn, Jefferson, Langlade, Lincoln, Outagamie, Pepin, Price, Racine, Shawano, St. Croix and Walworth.

References:

- State daily and weekly newspaper clippings.
 - Center for Health Statistics Death Certificate Registry.
 - Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries from Worker’s Compensation Division.
 - Division of Health’s Fatal Assessment and Control Evaluation project.
- (August 1993)**