

Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 - December 31, 2016

Background

Australian print media provides an avenue to highlight the prevalence of farm related deaths and injuries. The process of media monitoring has been used by the National Farm Injury Data Centre (NFIDC) since 2005 to assist in the collection of information on farm injury events (fatal and non-fatal). This report focuses predominantly on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1st to December 31st 2016. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

Deaths

There were approximately 2,500 print media articles received by the NFIDC from iSENTIA during the period. A total of 63 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=63) is slightly lower than the corresponding period in 2015 (n=69).
- Nine (11.1%) of the 63 deaths involved a child aged under 15 years.
- Tractors (n=9), mobile-plant/machinery (n=9) and quads (n=6), were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad related fatality. There were four additional fatal injury events that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 10 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).

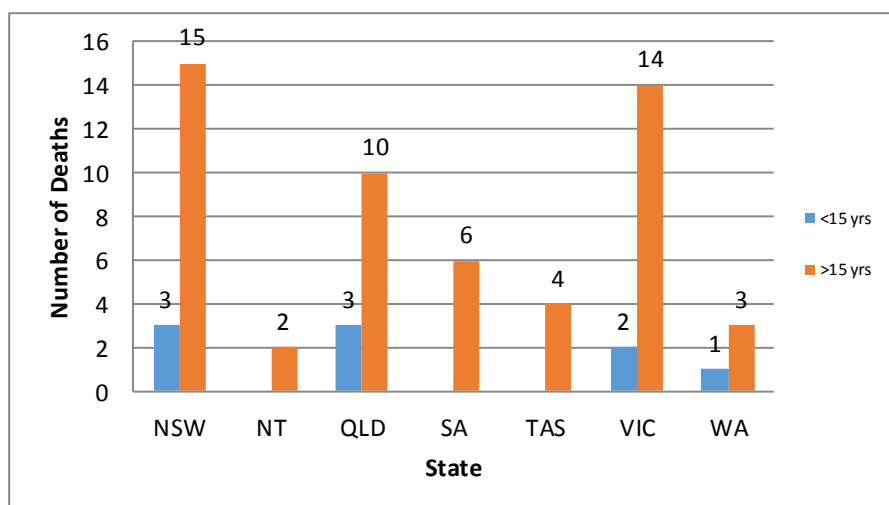


Figure 1: On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2016).

Table 1: Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian print media by age, 2015 and 2016.

| Category | Agent | 2015 | | | 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | <15yrs | ≥15yrs | Total | <15yrs | ≥15yrs | Total |
| Animal | Cattle | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | 2 |
| | Horse | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 2 |
| Farm Structure | Dam | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| | Roof/Shed/Door/ Water tank | | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | Well | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 |
| | Silo | | | | | 3 | 3 |
| Farm Vehicle | Aircraft | | 4 | 4 | | 2 | 2 |
| | Car | | | | | 4 | 4 |
| | Helicopter | | 3 | 3 | | 1 | 1 |
| | Motorcycle | | 3 | 3 | | 1 | 1 |
| | Quad | 2 | 13 | 15 | | 6 | 6 |
| | Side By Side Vehicle | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| | Truck/4WD | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| | Utility | | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | Farm Vehicle NEC* | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Materials | Hay Bale | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | Impaled | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | Materials Other NEC* | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant | Forklift | 1 | 2 | 3 | | 1 | 1 |
| | Earth Moving Equipment | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | Tractor | 1 | 12 | 13 | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| | Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC* | 1 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 9 |
| Other | Fire | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| | Firearm | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| | Lightning | | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 3 |
| Working Environment | Trees being felled | | 4 | 4 | | 4 | 4 |
| | Water | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Workshop Equipment | Grinder | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | | 6 | 63 | 69 | 9 | 54 | 63 |

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 85 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period 1st Jan- 31st Dec 2016.

- 15 (17.6%) of the 85 injury events involved children aged under 15 years.
- Quad related injury (n=43) accounted for more than **half** of all incidents. This was followed by cattle (n=9) and tractors (n=8).
- For quads, there were twenty-six additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 69 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).

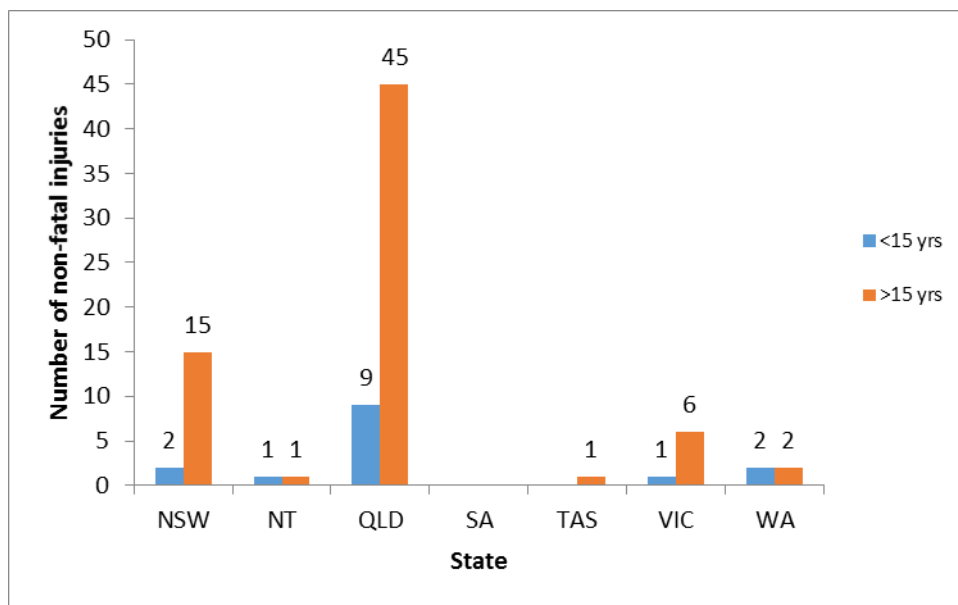


Figure 2: On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2016).

Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media (Jan 1-Dec 31, 2016).

| Category | Agent | 2016 | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | <15yrs | ≥15yrs | Total |
| Animal | Cattle | | 9 | 9 |
| | Horse | | 1 | 1 |
| | Snake | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Farm Structure | Fence | | 1 | 1 |
| Farm Vehicle | Aircraft | | 2 | 2 |
| | Car | 1 | | 1 |
| | Helicopter | | 1 | 1 |
| | Motorcycle | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| | Quad | 10 | 33 | 43 |
| | Side By Side Vehicle | | | |
| | Trailer | | 1 | 1 |
| | Farm Vehicle NEC* | | | |
| Materials | Materials Other NEC* | | 2 | 2 |
| Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant | Harvesting Machine | | 2 | 2 |
| | Tractor | | 8 | 8 |
| | Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC* | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Other | Fire | | 1 | 1 |
| | Firearm | | 1 | 1 |
| | Lightning | | | |
| TOTAL | | 15 | 70 | 85 |

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified