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# **Farm Related Injuries Reported in the Australian Print Media 2014**

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**January 2015**

## 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 nonfatal). This report focuses specifically on data involving on-farm injury events reported in Australian print media for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

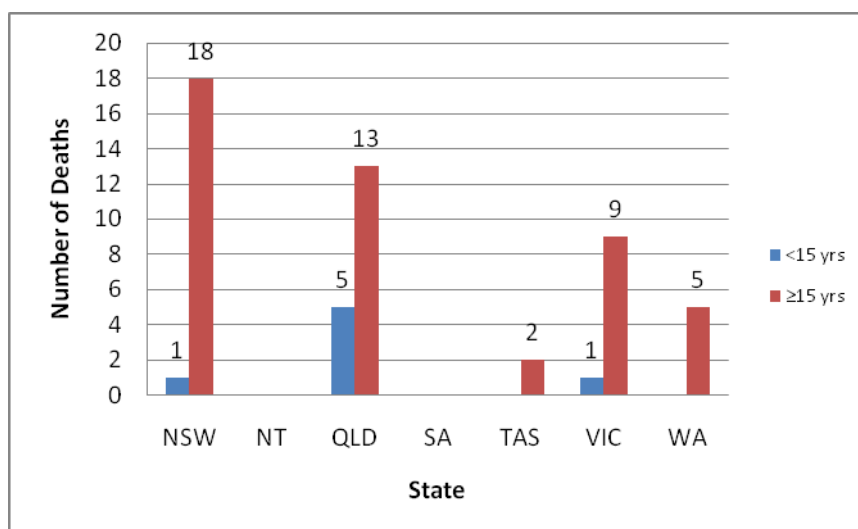
## Method

iSENTIA (formerly Media Monitors Australia) is a privately owned company contracted by the NFIDC to scan approximately 2,500 daily, weekly and monthly publications Australia wide. Publications are scanned for various search terms nominated by the NFIDC. The Access Liaison Officer at the National Coroners' Information System (NCIS) is notified of the fatal injury event and the NFIDC is then informed of the matching NCIS case number. This process allows for timely reporting of fatality cases in Australia, as cases are added to the register regardless of their closure status i.e. open cases are included within the register. Once sufficient information is available from NCIS so that cause of death, mechanism of injury and intent can be accurately defined, these events can then be reported on more comprehensively.

## Deaths

A total of 54 on-farm deaths were reported for this period:

- Seven (12.9%) of the 54 reported on-farm deaths were children less than 15 years of age.
- Quad related deaths (n=12) were reported most frequently, followed by tractor incidents (n=10).
- Media monitoring also captures all non-farm quad related fatality. There were an additional three fatal injury events that occurred off-farm that were reported in media for this period. The total number of on- and off-farm deaths involving quads was 15.



**Figure 1:** On-farm deaths reported in Australian print media by age and state, 2014.

**Table 1:** Agents of on-farm injury causing death as reported in Australian print media by age, 2014.

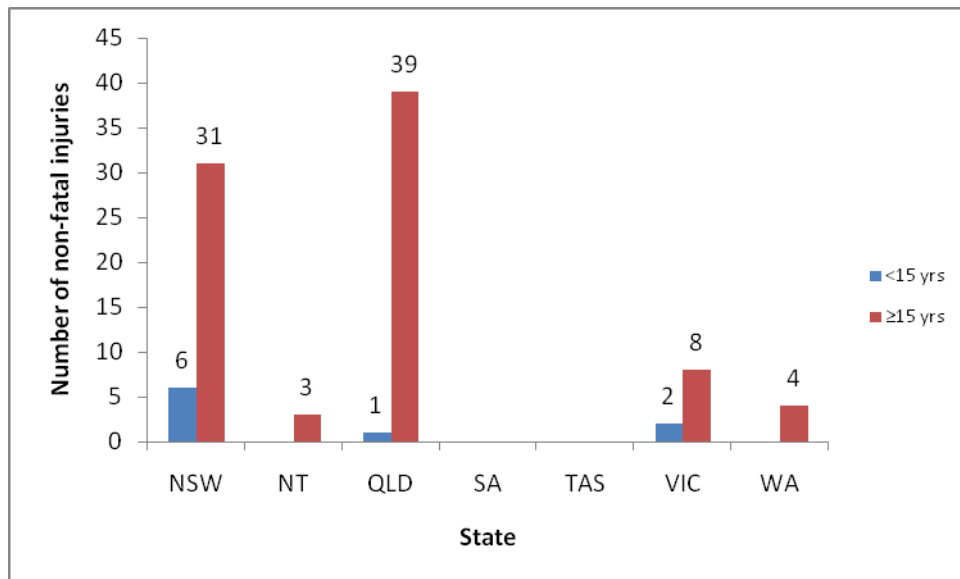
Category	Agent	< 15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
<b>Farm Vehicle</b>	Quad	3	9	<b>12</b>
	Side by Side Vehicle (SSV)		1	<b>1</b>
	Motorcycle 2 wheel		2	<b>2</b>
	Utility		5	<b>5</b>
	Truck		3	<b>3</b>
	Materials Other NEC		2	<b>2</b>
<b>Materials</b>	Tractor		10	<b>10</b>
<b>Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant</b>	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC		4	<b>4</b>
	Earth moving equipment		1	<b>1</b>
	Forklift	1	1	<b>2</b>
	Dam	2		<b>2</b>
	Silo		1	<b>1</b>
	Roof		2	<b>2</b>
<b>Farm Structure</b>	Cattle dip	1		<b>1</b>
<b>Animal</b>	Horse		1	<b>1</b>
<b>Working Environment</b>	Trees being felled		1	<b>1</b>
<b>Aircraft</b>	Aircraft		1	<b>1</b>
	Helicopter		2	<b>2</b>
<b>Electricity</b>	Powerlines		1	<b>1</b>
		<b>7</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>54</b>

*\*NEC: Not Elsewhere Classified*

### ***Non-fatal Injury***

There were an additional 94 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print media for the period January 1 to December 31, 2014.

- Nine (9.5%) of the 94 injured persons were children less than 15 years of age.
- Quad related injury (n=49) was most frequently reported, followed by mobile farm machinery (n=9) and tractors (n=8).



**Figure 2:** On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, 2014

**Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, 2014.**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Agent</b>	<b>&lt;15yrs</b>	<b>≥15yrs</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Animal</b>	Cattle		6	<b>6</b>
	Horse	1	1	<b>2</b>
	Snake		1	<b>1</b>
<b>Farm Chemicals</b>	Pesticide NEC*		1	<b>1</b>
	Fuel		3	<b>3</b>
<b>Farm Vehicle</b>	Quad	2	47	<b>49</b>
	Motorcycle 2 wheel	1	2	<b>3</b>
	Utility	1	1	<b>2</b>
	Farm vehicle NEC*	1	2	<b>3</b>
	Truck		1	<b>1</b>
	Side by Side Vehicle (SSV)		1	<b>1</b>
<b>Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant</b>	Tractor		8	<b>8</b>
	Mobile Farm Machinery/ Plant other NEC	2	7	<b>9</b>
	Auger		1	<b>1</b>
<b>Other</b>	Helicopter		1	<b>1</b>
	Tree	1		<b>1</b>
	Firearm		1	<b>1</b>
	Lightning		1	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>94</b>

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