

Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 – June 30, 2019

Background

Australian print and online media provide 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 and online media for the period January 1st to June 30th, 2019. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

Deaths

There were approximately 38,100 print and media articles received by the NFIDC from Meltwater during the period. A total of 34 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=34) is higher than the corresponding period in 2018 (n=30).
- Six of the 34 deaths involved a child aged under 15 years.
- Quads (n=7) were reported most frequently.

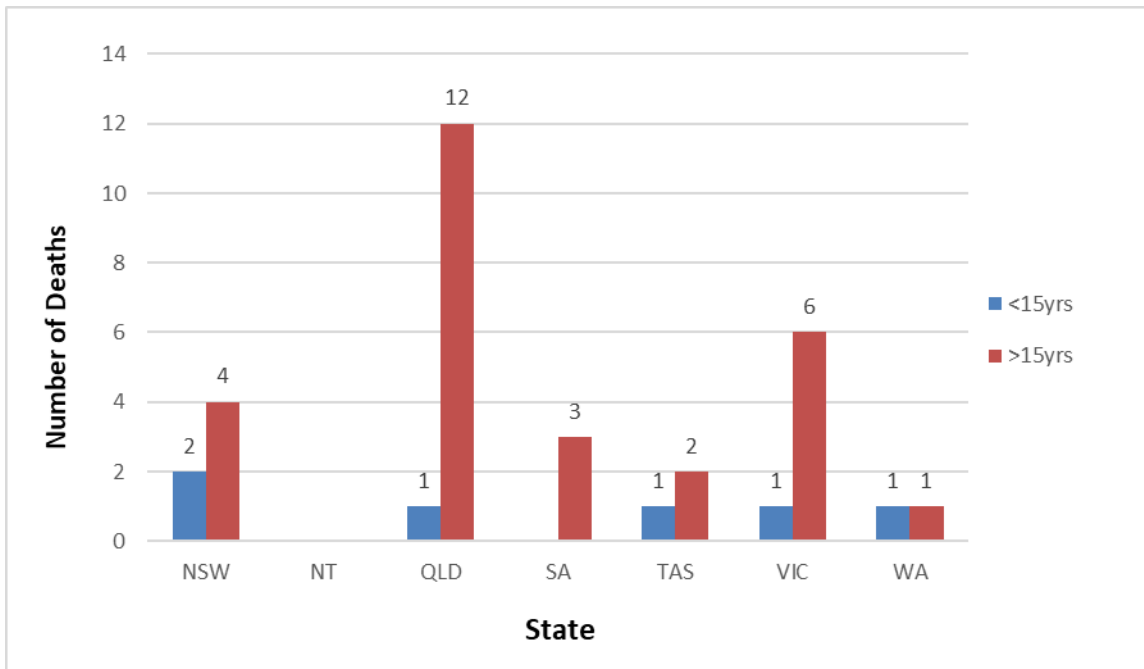


Figure 1: On-farm deaths reported in Australian media by age and state, 1st Jan- 30th Jun 2019.

Table 1: Agents of injury, by age group causing on-farm deaths, Jan 1 – Jun 30, 2019.

Category	Agent	2018			2019		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		1	1			
	Deer					1	1
	Dog					1	1
	Horse		1	1			
	Animal NEC*		1	1			
Farm Structure	Dam		2	2	1	1	2
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft					2	2
	Car	1	1	2		2	2
	Motorbike		1	1		3	3
	Quad		3	3	2	5	7
	Side By Side		1	1	2		2
	Trailer		1	1			
	Truck		3	3			
	Utility		3	3		1	1
Materials	Hay Bale		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery	Field Bin					1	1
	Fertiliser Spreader				1		1
	Grader					1	1
	Seeder/Planter					1	1
	Tractor		4	4		3	3
	Mobile Farm Machinery NEC*					2	2
Other	Powerline		1	1			
	Other NEC*					1	1
Working Environment	Fire/smoke/flame		2	2			
	Log		1	1		1	1
	Trees being felled		2	2		2	2
TOTAL		1	29	30	6	28	34

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 67 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian media for the period 1st January – 30th June 2019.

- Nine (13.4%) of the 67 injury events involved children aged under 15 years.
- Quad related injury (n=14) accounted for over 20% of all incidents. This was followed by horse related incidents (n=10), ute related incidents (n=7) and tractor related incidents (n=6).
- For quads, there were twenty-one additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 35 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).

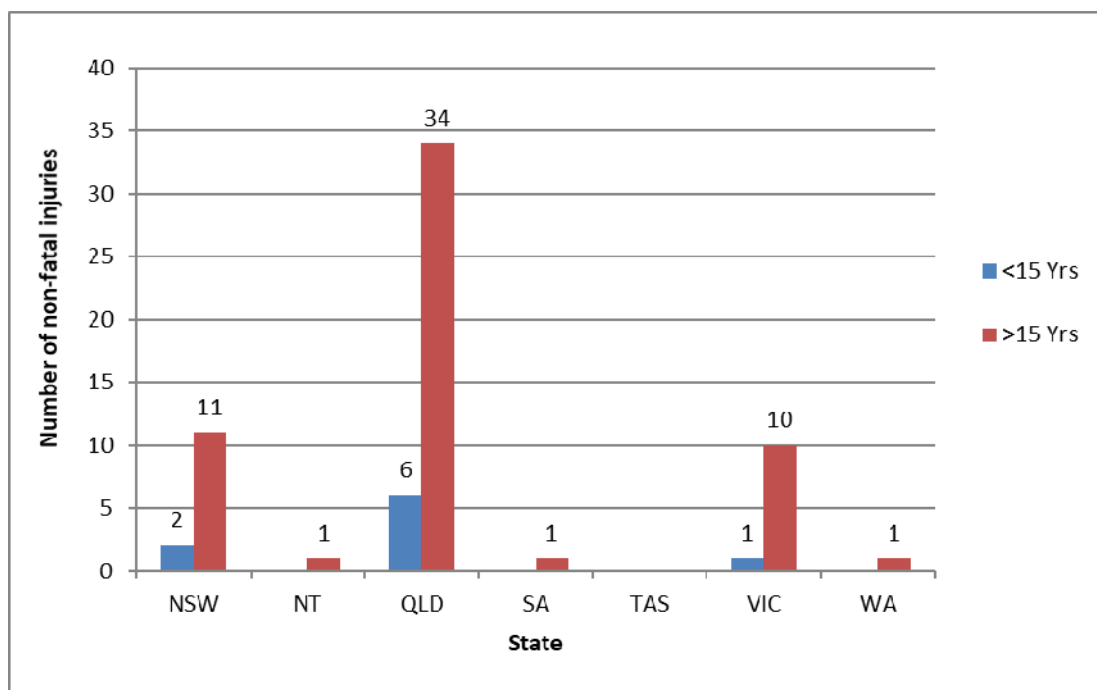


Figure 2: On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, 1st Jan- 30th Jun 2019.

Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, 1st Jan- 30th Jun 2019.

Category	Agent	2019		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		5	5
	Deer		1	1
	Horse	2	8	10
	Goat		1	1
Farm Vehicle	Car	1	2	3
	Motorbike		3	3
	Quad	2	12	14
	Side By Side Vehicle	1	1	2
	Truck		1	1
	Utility	1	6	7
	Farm Vehicles NEC	1		1
Fixed Plant Equipment	Pump		1	1
	Fixed Plant Equipment NEC		1	1
Materials	Steel		2	2
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Earth Moving Equipment		2	2
	Field Bin		1	1
	Slasher/Mower/Conditioner		1	1
	Tractor		6	6
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC	1	1	2
Other	Firearms		1	1
Powered Equipment	Chainsaw		1	1
Workshop Equipment	Ladder		1	1
TOTAL		9	58	67

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified