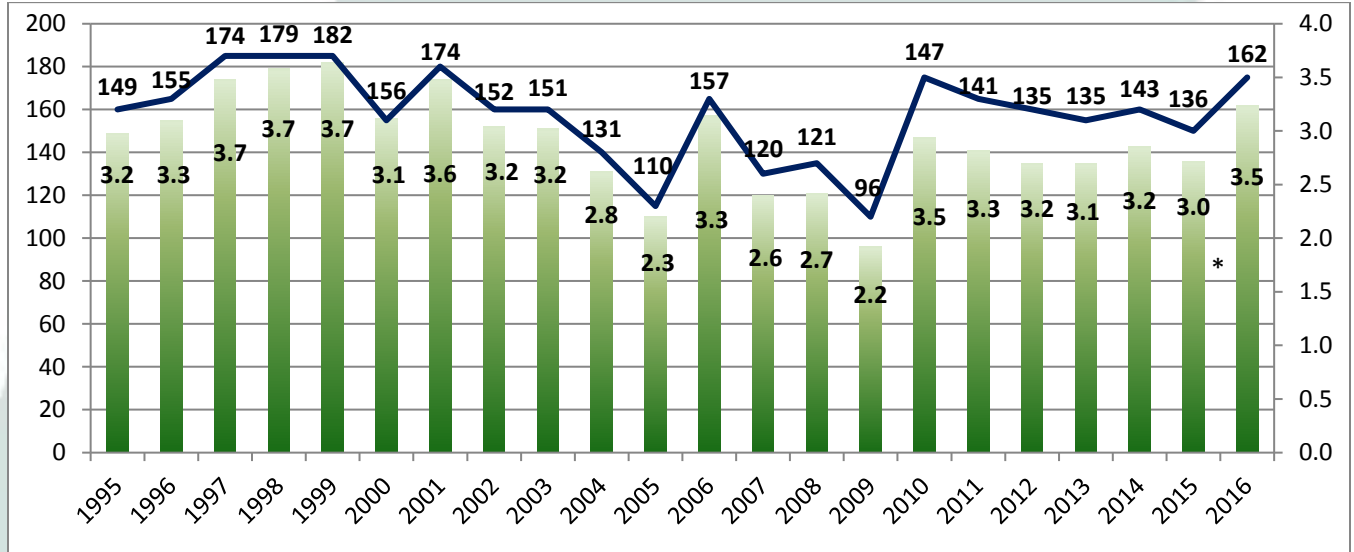


Tracking Acute Traumatic Work-Related Deaths in Michigan

Additional Information Available at: www.oem.msu.edu

Summary Statistics

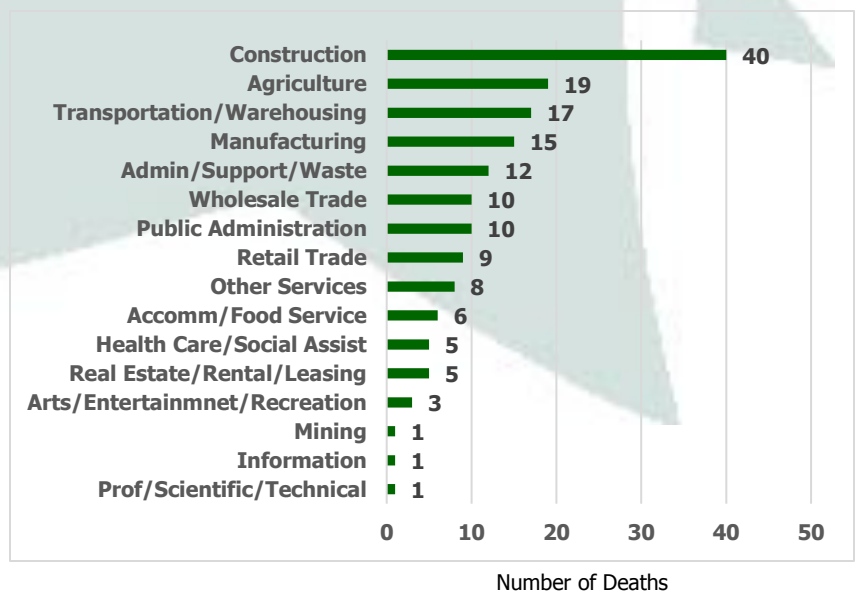


The rate and the number of acute traumatic work-related (WR) deaths in Michigan ticked upward 16% in 2016. Rates of death per 100,000 workers are shown by the blue line and the number of deaths by the green columns. Construction (40, 24.7%) had the largest number of work-related deaths and the highest risk of death (25.7 deaths/100,000 workers). Individuals who died were most likely to be men (93.8%) and Caucasian (77.0%). The average age was 47.0 years and ranged from ages 15 (Construction) to 92 (Agriculture). African American male workers had the highest fatality rate (9.5 deaths per 100,000 individuals).

Industry Sector, Michigan, 2016



A male pipe layer in his 40s died in a trench wall collapse while installing drain tile pipe. The trench had a 1½-foot seam of wet sand at its base and then 5 feet of wet clay. Falling clay forced a shovel to strike his right side, pinning him against the opposite side of the excavation.



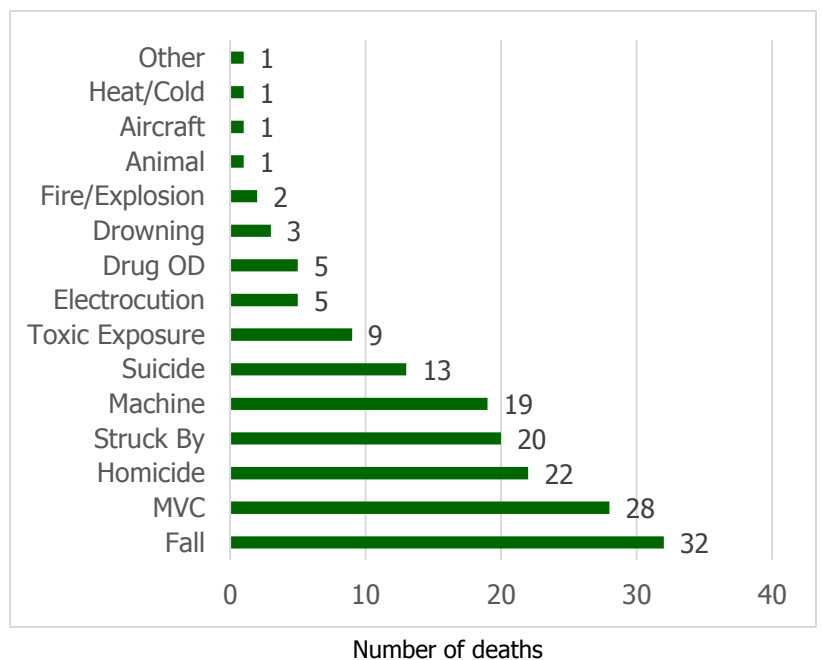
Background

The Michigan Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (MIFACE) research program began on January 1, 2001. The goals are to: 1) identify types of industries and work situations where workers are dying from acute traumatic incidents, 2) identify the underlying cause(s) of the fatality and 3) formulate and disseminate prevention strategies. MIFACE is funded under a cooperative agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). A **traumatic injury** is any unintentional or intentional wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy or from the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event, incident, or series of events within a single workday or shift. **Work** is defined as legal duties, activities, or tasks that produce a product as a result and that are done in exchange for money, goods, services, profit, or benefit. Volunteers who are exposed to the same work hazards and perform the same duties or functions as paid employees are included in the MIFACE program.

2016 Results

- Falls: 7 falls of less than 10 feet (5 falls were ground level falls), 8 falls were 10-19 feet, 9 falls were 20-29 feet and 8 falls were 30 or more feet.
- Of the 28 motor vehicle (MVC) related deaths, 10 were in Construction, 6 were in Transportation and 5 were in Wholesale Trade.
- Homicides/Suicides: Guns were involved in 95% of all homicides and 54% of all suicides.
- Struck By: 7 deaths involved trees/tree limbs and 7 deaths involved a motor vehicle.
- Machine: 8 of 19 deaths occurred in Agriculture.
- Of the 16 individuals who were 65+ years of age, 7 (44%) worked in Agriculture.

Cause of Death, Michigan, 2016



Work-Related Fatality Narratives

- A male self-employed construction worker in his 50s was replacing floodlights on a home when he fell 13 feet to a concrete surface.
- A journeyman tree trimmer in his 40s died from a 35-foot fall when the knot used to attach his climbing rope to his climbing saddle untied.
- A male farmer in his 50s died when the AWD four-wheeler he was driving collided with a pickup truck as the decedent and pickup truck driver were racing home on a dirt path between two dark, unlit farm fields.
- A male truck semi-truck driver in his 40s died when the semi he was driving crossed the centerline, left the roadway, struck trees and then entered a steep embankment.
- A male police officer in his 20s died from a gunshot wound.
- A male real estate professional in his 30s died due to overexposure to carbon monoxide.
- A male concrete finisher in his 30s was electrocuted when the handle of the 29-foot-long metal bull float he was using contacted an energized 7,200-volt power line.
- A male campground worker in his 20s drowned while retrieving a paddle boat.