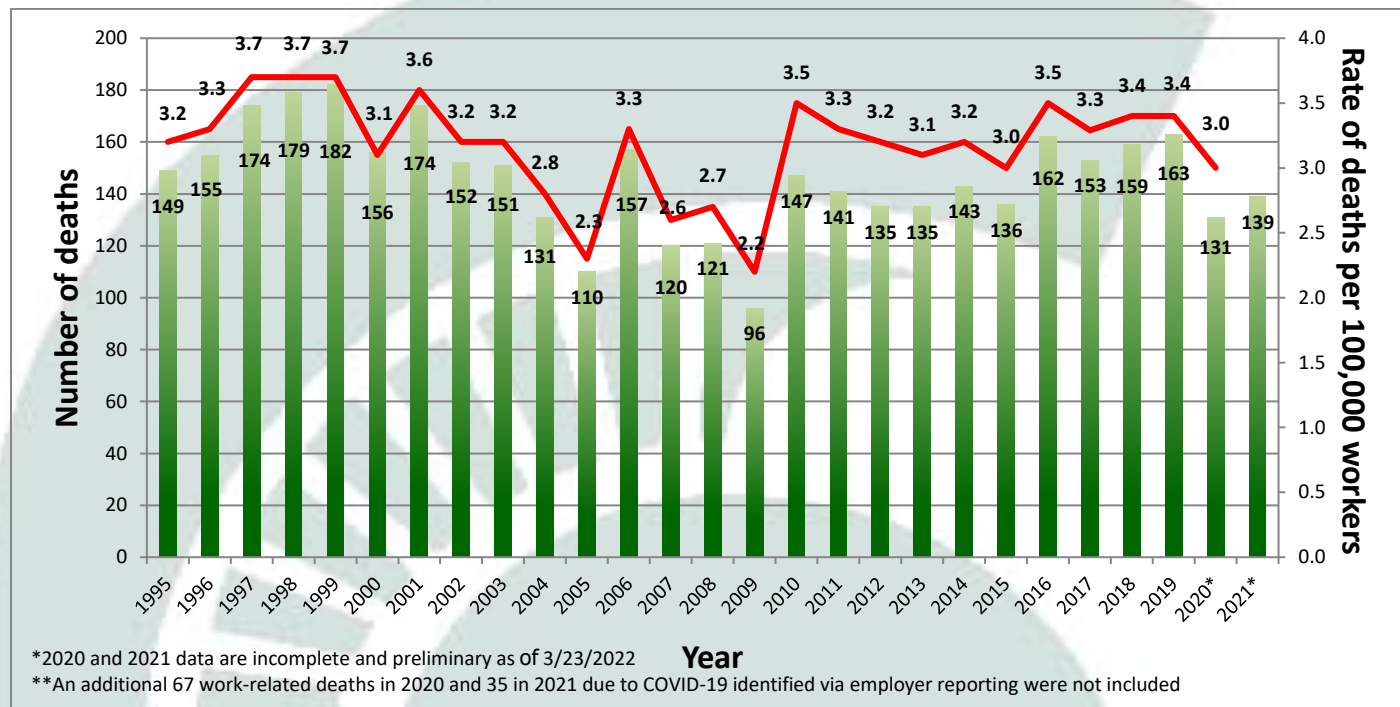


# Tracking Acute Traumatic Work-Related Deaths in Michigan

Additional Information Available at: [www.oem.msu.edu](http://www.oem.msu.edu)

## Summary Statistics



**There were four more acute traumatic work-related (WR) deaths in Michigan in 2019 compared to 2018 while the rate stayed constant.** The annual number and rate of deaths per 100,000 workers are shown by the **green columns** (left axis) and the **red line** (right axis), respectively.

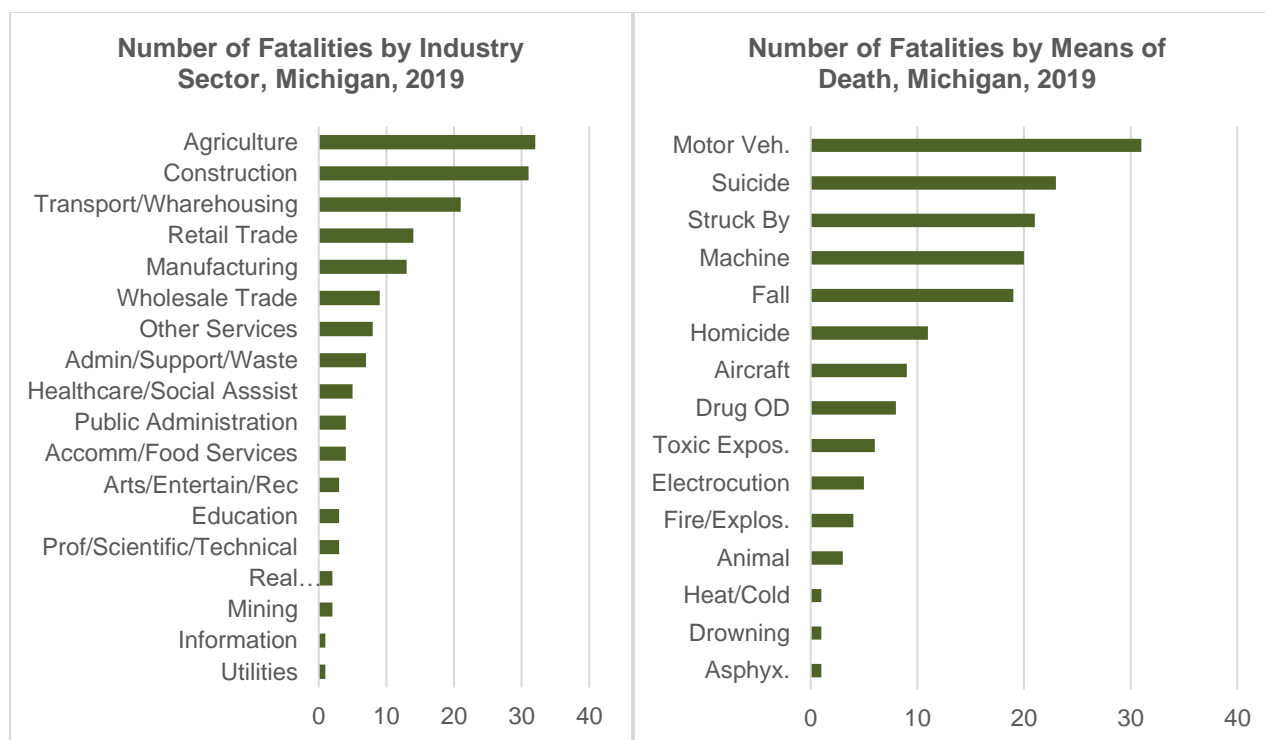
## Background

The Michigan Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (MIFACE) 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.

## Results from the 2019 Annual Report

In 2019, Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting (32 deaths, 19.6% of all fatalities) had the largest number of work-related deaths followed by Construction, which had the second highest number of deaths (31, 19.0%). The highest risk of death occurred in the Agriculture industry (38.8 deaths/100,000 workers), with Construction again the second-highest (17.9). Individuals who died

were most likely to be men (92.0%) and Caucasian (83.4%). The average age was 48.7 years and ranged from ages 15 to 89.



## Highlights by Select Industries and Means of Death

- There were 8 work-related drug overdoses in 2019, less than the 10 identified in 2017.
- Homicides account for 53.8% of all Retail Trade deaths identified from 2001-2019.
- Motor vehicle collisions were the most common means of death in Transportation and Warehousing. This sector accounts for a quarter (25.6%) of all work-related motor vehicle deaths from 2001-2019.
- The average age at time of death for agriculture fatalities was 58.5 years. In 15 of the previous 18 years, this average age has been in the 50s or 60s.

## Work-Related Fatality Narratives

- A male dairy farmhand in his teens guiding steel trusses for a hoop barn was electrocuted when a telehandler and the trusses contacted an energized 7,000-volt overhead power line.
- A male construction laborer in his 40's was pinned between a skid steer frame and the bucket while attempting to clear snow from the skid steer pedals.
- A male electric company foreman in his 60's died when he was struck by a vehicle in a construction zone.
- A female store clerk in her 60's died when she fell approximately six feet from an 8-foot step ladder in a storage room.
- A male commercial pilot in his 60's and a male pilot-rated passenger/mechanic in his 60's died when the single-engine aircraft crashed during a maintenance test flight.
- A male crane service technician in his 30's died when struck by and caught in between a steel girder and the motor housing/brake conveyor of an overhead crane.
- A male police officer in his 40's died from a gunshot wound while responding to a domestic violence call.