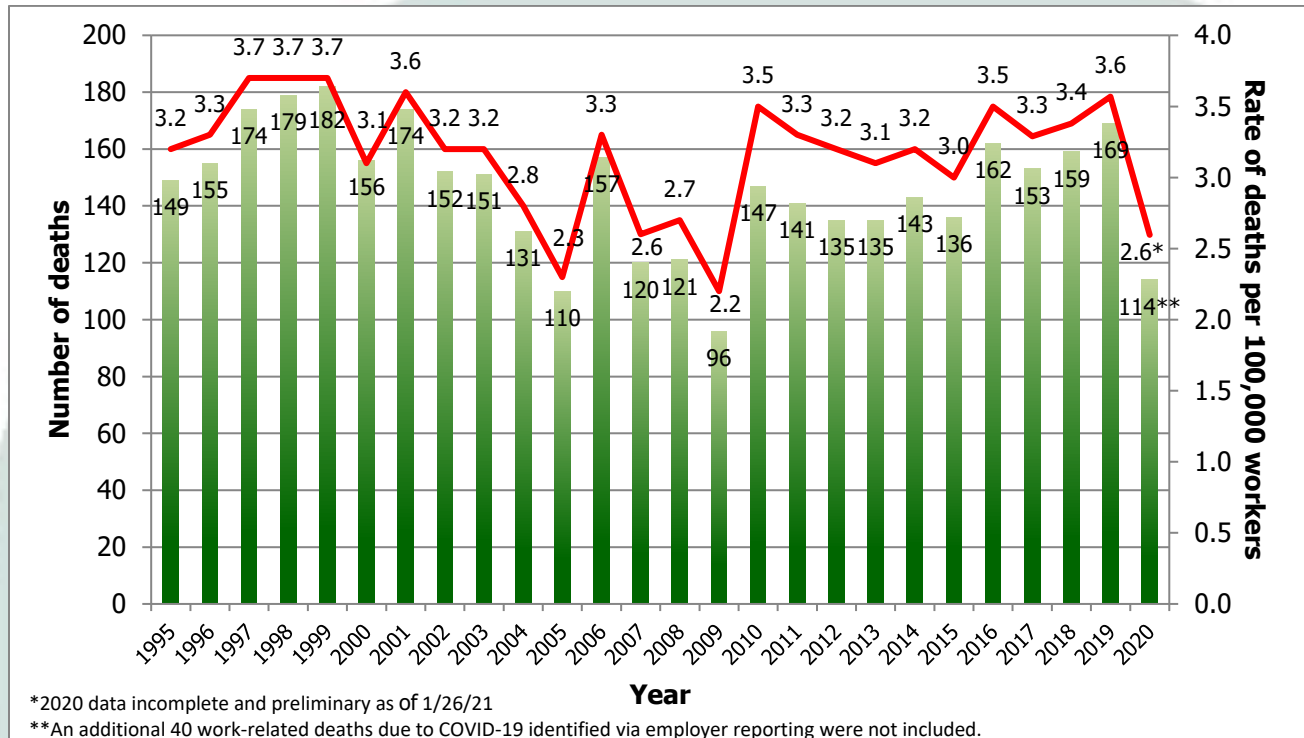


Tracking Acute Traumatic Work-Related Deaths in Michigan

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

Summary Statistics



The number and rate of acute traumatic work-related (WR) deaths in Michigan increased 6% from 2018 to 2019. 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.

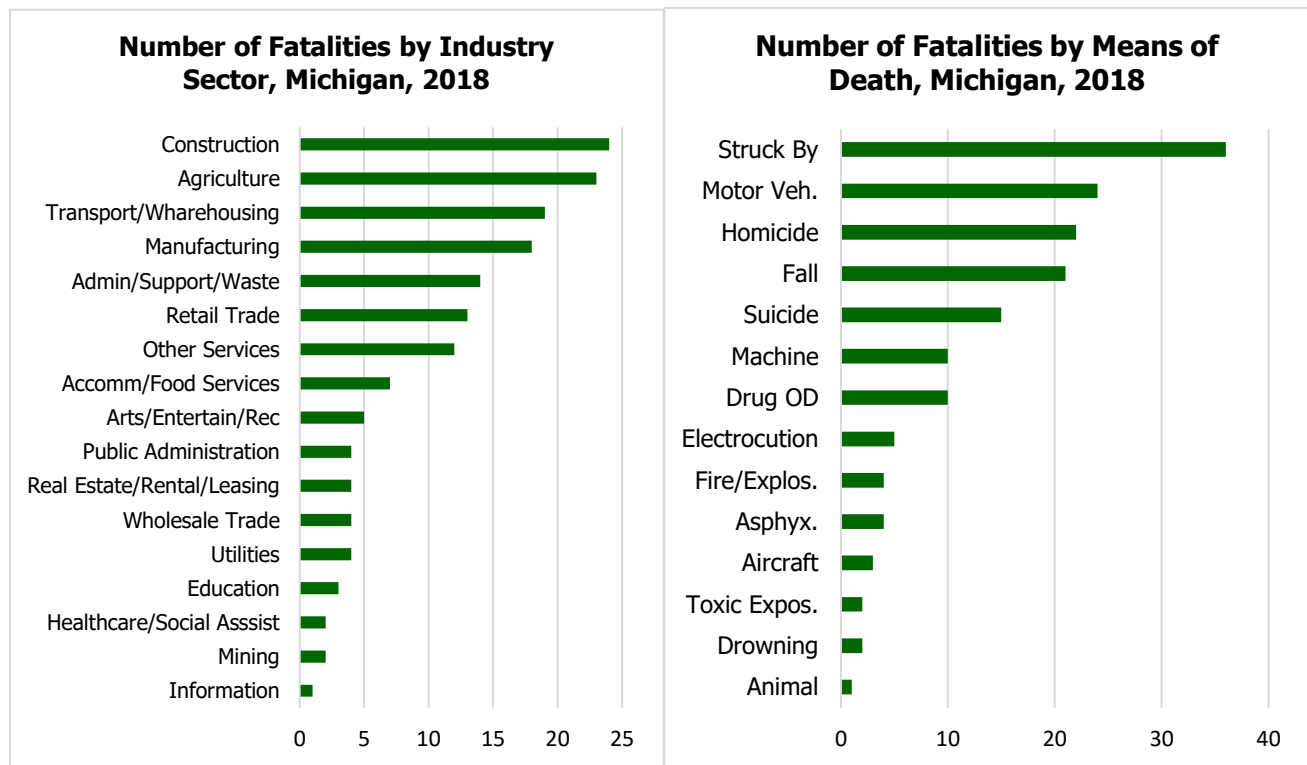
Background

The Michigan Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (MIFACE) 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.

Results from the 2018 Annual Report

In 2018, Construction (29 deaths, 19.0% of all fatalities) had the largest number of work-related deaths followed by Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting had the second highest number of deaths (23, 14.5%). The highest risk of death occurred in the Mining industry (36.6 deaths/100,000 workers), with Agriculture again the second-highest (26.9). Individuals who died were most likely to

be men (91.2%) and Caucasian (88.0%). The average age was 49.2 years and ranged from ages 20 to 89.



Highlights by Select Industries and Means of Death

- There were 10 work-related drug overdoses in 2018, more than double the 4 identified in 2017 and nearly 20% of the 51 identified since 2001.
- Homicides account for 51% of all Retail Trade deaths identified from 2001-2018.
- Motor vehicle collisions were the most common means of death in Transportation and Warehousing. This sector accounts for nearly a quarter of all work-related motor vehicle deaths from 2001-2018.
- The average age at time of death for agriculture fatalities was 58.4 years. In 14 of the previous 18 years, this average age has been in the 50s or 60s.

Work-Related Fatality Narratives

- A veterinarian in his 30s died when he was buried under corn silage from an outdoor horizontal bunker silo at a dairy farm.
- A mining shift supervisor in her 40s was run over by a loaded Caterpillar 785B haul truck while sitting in a pickup truck at the crusher site.
- A journeyman lineman in his 50s was electrocuted when the boom of a digger derrick contacted an energized 7200-volt power line.
- A school bus driver in his 50s slipped and fell on ice/snow while walking through a parking lot.
- The owner/operator of an excavating firm in his 70s died when his vehicle was rear-ended and overturned.
- An automotive mechanic in his 60s died from severe burns after his clothes caught fire while using an acetylene torch.
- A volunteer maintenance worker for a church in his 60s died after becoming trapped in a drain manhole.
- The owner/operator of a landscaping firm in his 50s drowned after the skid-steer loader he was operating fell through the ice on a lake.