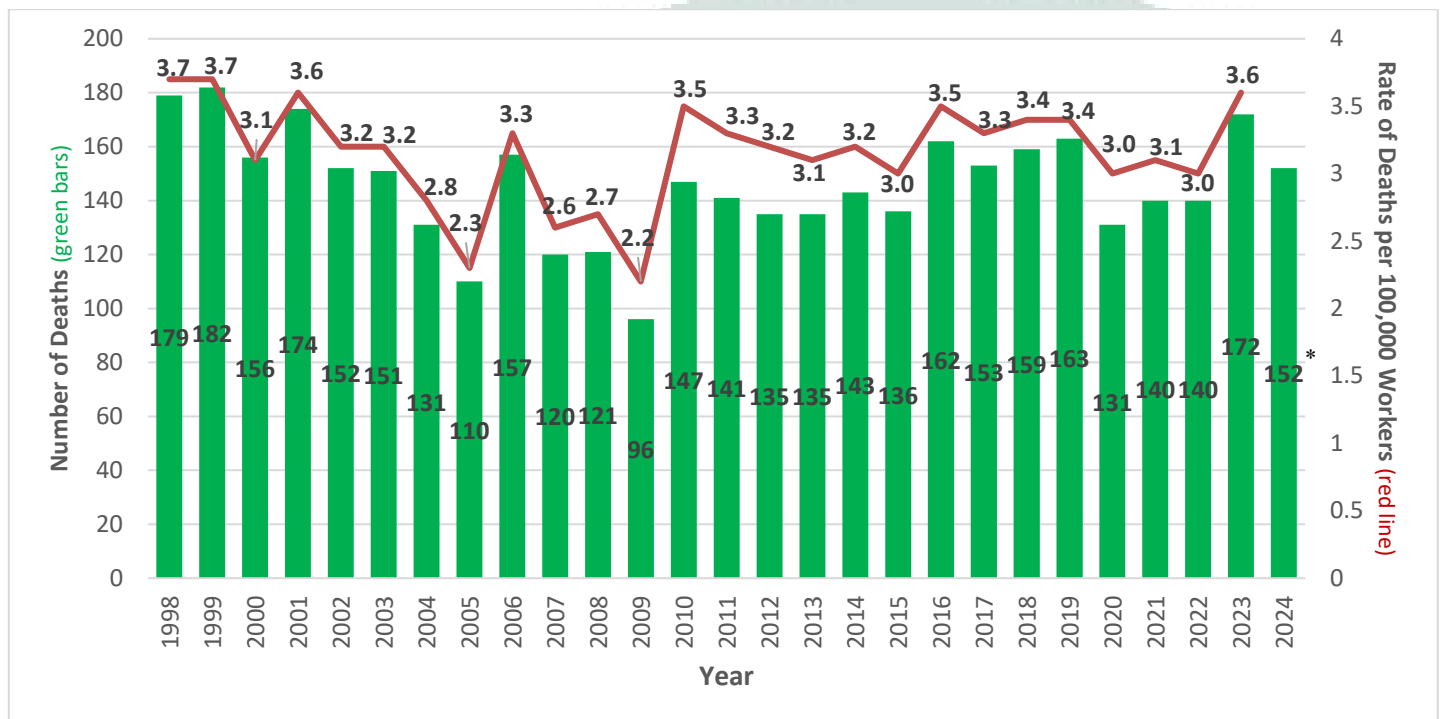


Tracking Acute Traumatic Work-Related Deaths in Michigan

Additional information available at www.oem.msu.edu

Summary Statistics



*2024 data are incomplete and preliminary as of 9/29/2026.

**An additional 70 work-related deaths in 2020, 53 in 2021, and 8 in 2022 due to COVID-19 identified via employer reporting were not included.

Summary of 2023 Fatalities

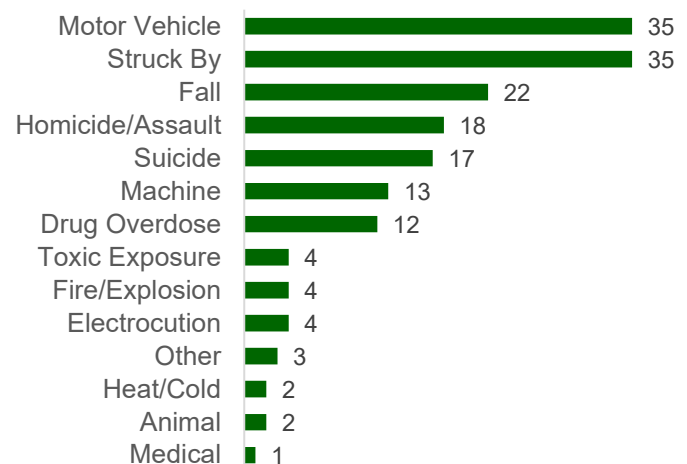
In 2023, Construction (40, 23.3% of all fatalities) had the largest number of work-related deaths followed by Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (21, 12.2% of all fatalities). Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting had the highest fatality rate at 23.5 deaths/100,000 workers, with Construction second at 21.2 deaths/100,000 workers. Individuals who died were men (90.7%), white (76.2%), and predominantly high school graduates (37.8%). The average age was 49.1 years and ranged from 17 to 90 years of age.

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.

Number of Fatalities by Means of Death, Michigan, 2023



Work-Related Fatality Narratives, Michigan 2023

- A male farmer in his 70s died due to blunt force trauma to his head and chest when he was run over by his tractor and planter in his farm field. It appeared that the decedent was performing repairs on the tractor; responding police found him lying on top of a crushed step stool with numerous miscellaneous tools near him.
- A male wind turbine technician in his 30s died due to blunt impact injuries in a motor vehicle crash. The crash occurred within an intersection. Both vehicles involved were pickup trucks. The decedent, traveling approximately 55 mph did not stop at the intersection's Stop sign and was struck on the driver's side by a pickup having the right of way. The decedent was wearing his seatbelt/shoulder harness, but his passenger was not and was thrown from truck.
- A male construction laborer in his 50s died due to multiple injuries when he fell approximately 18 feet to concrete during fire-proofing activities to structural steel. He was wearing fall protection but was not physically tied off to an anchorage point.
- A male pipefitter in his 40s died due to craniocerebral trauma when an end cap came off a pipe while releasing pressure and struck his head.
- A male production technician employed by a temporary agency in his 20s died due to blunt force trauma when he was pinned between a stationary vacuum thermoforming mold and an extended conveyor.
- A male weld tech in his 40s died due to an asthma attack at work. He was performing routine work tasks in support of operations at a robotic welding cell when he experienced breathing difficulty and collapsed to the ground. His inhaler was lying nearby.
- A female cashier in her 40s died due to a saddle pulmonary embolism due to a deep vein thrombosis sustained in a slip and fall on snow and slush on the sidewalk at her workplace. She sustained multiple leg injuries and was treated but died several weeks later when a blood clot broke loose.
- A male freight inspector in his 50s died due to multiple blunt force injuries and complications thereof when he was pinned between two pickup trucks in a railroad car. He died in the hospital four days later.

Highlights by Select Industries and Means of Death (2001–2023)

- Homicides accounted for 46.1% of all Retail Trade deaths identified. This sector accounted for 23.0% of all work-related homicides.
- Motor vehicle collisions at 39.5% were the most common means of death in Transportation and Warehousing. This sector accounted for 24.5% of all work-related motor vehicle deaths.
- Falls at 34.0% were the most common means of death in Construction. This sector accounted for 47.2% of all work-related falls.
- The average age of death for agriculture fatalities was 55.7 years, with 27.0% aged 70 years and older. The average age for non-agriculture deaths was 45.9 years, with 5.7% aged 70 years and older.

