



National Children's Center  
for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

# 2017 Fact Sheet

## Childhood Agricultural Injuries in the U.S.

### Population at Risk

Farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2016, there were approximately 2.06 million farms in the United States.<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>About 893,000 youth lived on farms in 2014 and more than half (51%) worked on their farm.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>More than 265,600 non-resident youth were hired in agriculture in 2014.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Approximately 23,883,000 youth visited farms in 2014.<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>

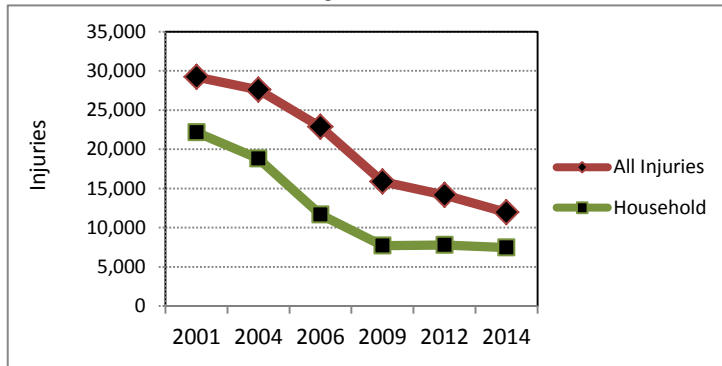
### Toll of Childhood Agricultural Injuries

Deaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every three days, a child dies in an agriculture-related incident.*</li> <li>Of the leading sources of fatalities among all youth, 25% involved machinery, 17% involved motor vehicles (includes ATVs), and 16% were drownings.<sup>3</sup></li> <li>For working youth, tractors were the leading source of fatalities followed by ATVs.<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>	<p>There is no central database on childhood agricultural injuries. This fact sheet draws from the best available data.</p>
Nonfatal Injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every day, about 33 children are injured in agriculture-related incidents.**</li> <li>In 2014, an estimated 7,469 household<sup>†</sup> youth were injured on a farm and 60% of them were <u>not</u> working when the injury occurred.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>An estimated 738 hired youth were injured on farms in 2014.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Approximately 3,735 visiting youth were injured on farms in 2014.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Vehicles were the leading source of injury for household working youth.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Animals were the leading source of injury for both household non-working youth and visitors.<sup>5</sup></li> </ul>	

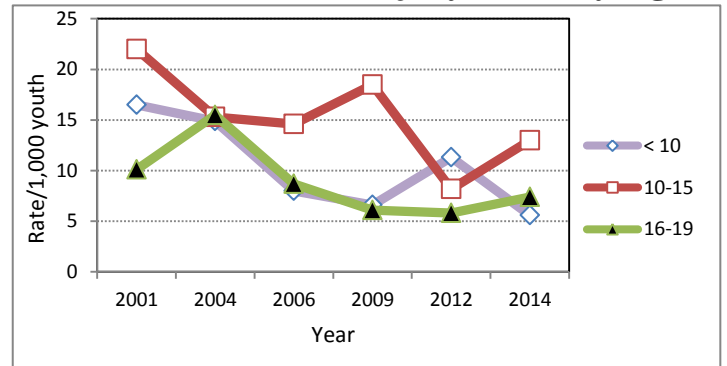
### Injury Trends

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While overall numbers of farm injuries are declining, injuries to household youth have held steady.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>Among household youth on farms, injury rates increased in 2014 for youth 10-19 years.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>From 2003 to 2010, among workers younger than 16 years, the number of worker fatalities in agriculture was consistently higher than in all non-agricultural industries combined.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
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Nonfatal Injuries – All Youth



Household Youth Injury Rates by Age

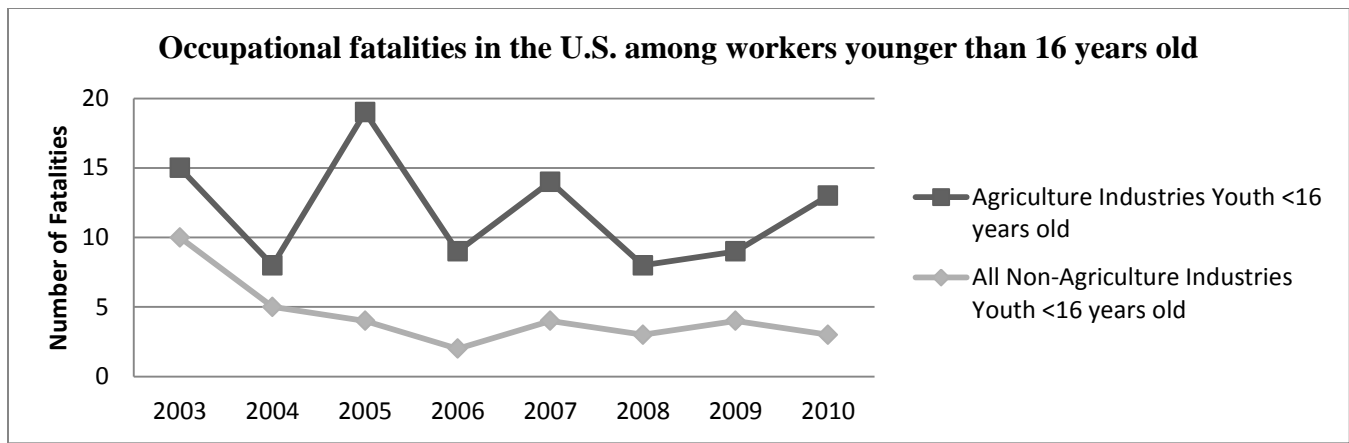


**Note:** Data from the Childhood Agricultural Injury Survey (CAIS) does not include injuries to contract laborers. For more detailed child agricultural injury data, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/childag/>.

\*From reported 115 agriculture-related deaths annually from 1995 to 2000.<sup>3</sup>

\*\*From estimated 11,942 injuries in 2014.<sup>5</sup>

† Household youth are youth who live on a farm


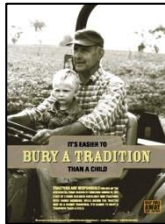






Reprinted with permission from Wright et al (2013).<sup>6</sup>

## Economic Data

Nonfatal Injuries	Youth agricultural injuries cost society an estimated \$1 billion per year (in 2005 dollars). <sup>7</sup>
Fatalities	Youth agricultural deaths cost society an estimated \$420 million per year (in 2005 dollars). <sup>7</sup>

## Injury Prevention Strategies and Resources

<p><b>Read About Injuries</b></p>  <p><a href="#">News Clippings on Ag Injuries &amp; Fatalities</a></p>	<p><b>Keep Kids Away from Tractors</b></p>  <p><a href="#">Tractor Safety</a></p>	<p><b>Keep Young Children out of Worksite</b></p>  <p><a href="#">Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms</a></p>	<p><b>Assign Age-Appropriate Work, Provide Training and Supervision, Provide a Safe Environment and Equipment</b></p>  <p><a href="#">Guidelines for Youth Working in Agriculture</a></p>  <p><a href="#">ATV Safety</a></p>  <p><a href="#">Integrating Safety into Agritourism</a></p>
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## References

1. USDA, NASS publications: Farms and Land in Farms, 2016 Summary, February 2017. Available at: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/FarmLandIn/FarmLandIn-02-17-2017.pdf>
2. Childhood Agricultural Injury Survey (CAIS) Results. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/childag/cais/demotables.html>
3. Goldcamp M, Hendricks KJ, Meyers JR. (2004). Farm Fatalities to youth 1995-2000: A comparison by age groups. *Journal of Safety Research*. Vol. 35(2): 151-157.
4. Hendricks KJ, Hard DJ. (2014). Working youth on farms. Unpublished presentation at the National Youth Farm and Ranch Symposium, Louisville, KY, October 27-28.
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6. Wright S, Marlena B, Lee BC (2013). Childhood agricultural injuries: An update for clinicians. *Curr Probl Pediatr Adolesc Health Care*. Vol. 43(2): 20-44.
7. Zaloshnja E, Miller TR, Lawrence BA (2012). Incidence and Cost of Injury Among Youths in Agricultural Settings, United States, 2001-2006 *Pediatrics*. Vol. 129(4): 728-734.

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