

2020 Agricultural Fatalities in Florida

Introduction

Agricultural operations are not just hazardous for workers, but also for non-workers such as family members, visitors, and drivers sharing the road with farm equipment.

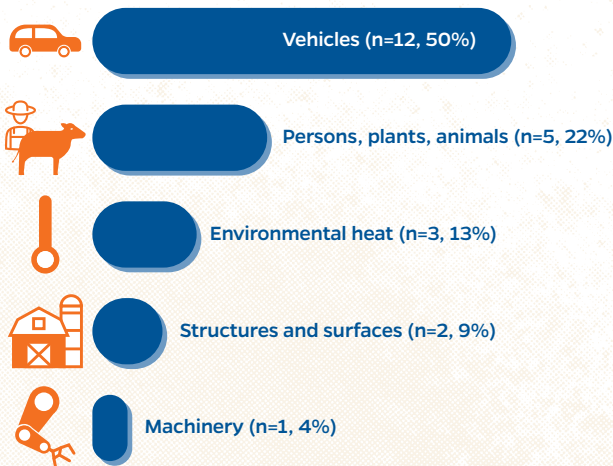
Results

23 fatalities
recorded in
Florida in 2020

Summary characteristics of agriculture-related fatalities in Florida in 2020.

Variables		Agriculture (n=23)
Age	Under 18	4 (17%)
	18–64	10 (43%)
	65 and older	8 (35%)
	Unknown	1 (4%)
Gender	Female	4 (17%)
	Male	19 (83%)
Work relatedness	Occupational work-related	9 (38%)
	Hazards to non-workers	2 (8%)
	Roadway collision	3 (13%)
	Undeterminable	9 (42%)

Fatalities by Injury Source

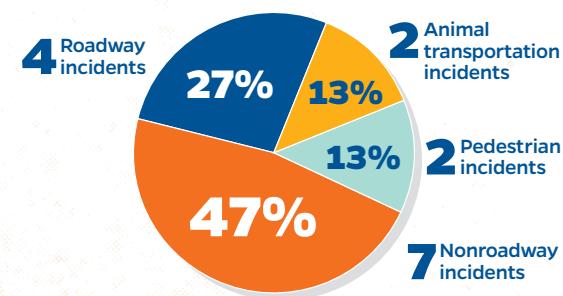


Injury Event/Exposure Categories

- Transportation incidents (n=15, 65%)
- Exposure to harmful substances and environments (i.e., environmental heat) (n=3, 13%)
- Contact with objects and equipment (n=3, 13%)
- Violence and other injuries by persons or animals (n=1, 8%)
- Falls, slips, trips (n=1, 4%)

Almost half of the transportation incidents were non-roadway incidents involving all-terrain vehicles and tractors. Roadway incidents involved highway vehicles and tractors. Two pedestrians (bystanders) and two horse riders died on farms. Other causes of death included a falling tree, a collapsing wall, and being crushed under corn.

Transportation Incidents



Recommendations

- Before using tractors or agricultural vehicles on roadways, check their lighting and marking features and make sure they are working.
- Tractor operators must wear seat belts if tractors are equipped with rollover protective structures (ROPS).
- Follow the ATV safety rules: always wear a helmet and protective safety gear, never ride on paved roads, never ride under the influence of alcohol and drugs. For more ATV safety rules, visit the ATV Safety Institute (<https://atvsafety.org/>).
- Keep children away from worksites (<https://www.marshfieldresearch.org/nccrahs/safe-play>).
- To prevent heat stress-related injuries, employers should follow recommendations from NIOSH (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/heatstress/recommendations.html>) and OSHA (<https://www.osha.gov/heat-exposure/prevention>).
- For additional agricultural safety and health information, please visit the Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (SCCAHS) website (<http://www.sccaahs.org>).