

Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 – June 30, 2018

Background

Australian print and online media provides an avenue to highlight the prevalence of farm related deaths and injuries. The process of media monitoring has been used by the National Farm Injury Data Centre (NFIDC) since 2005 to assist in the collection of information on farm injury events (fatal and non-fatal). This report focuses predominantly on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print and online media for the period January 1st to June 30th 2018. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

Deaths

There were approximately 50,200 print and media articles received by the NFIDC from Meltwater during the period. A total of 30 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=30) is slightly lower than the corresponding period in 2017 (n=32).
- Tractors (n=4), quads (n=3), trucks (n=3) and utilities (n=3) were reported most frequently.

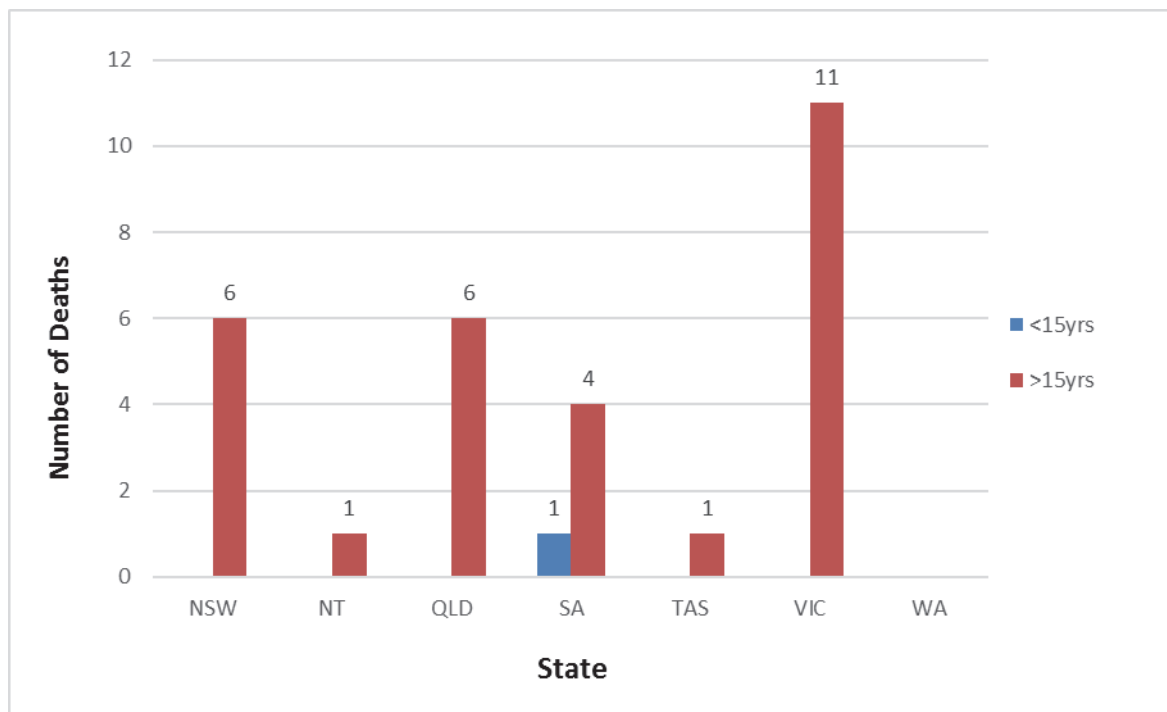


Figure 1: On-farm deaths reported in Australian media by age group and state, Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2018.

Table 1: Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian media by age group, Jan 1 – Jun 30, 2018.

Category	Agent	2017			2018		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		1	1		1	1
	Horse					1	1
	Animal NEC*					1	1
Farm Structure	Dam		1	1		2	2
	Water Storage		3	3			
Farm Vehicle	Car				1	1	2
	Motorbike					1	1
	Quad	2	7	9		3	3
	Side By Side					1	1
	Trailer					1	1
	Truck		3	3		3	3
	Utility		1	1		3	3
Materials	Hay Bale					1	1
	Rope		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery	Fertiliser Spreader		1	1			
	Tractor		4	4		4	4
	Mobile Farm Machinery NEC*	1	3	4			
Other	Powerline					1	1
Working Environment	Fire/Flame/Smoke		2	2		2	2
	Lightning/storm		1	1			
	Log					1	1
	Trees being felled		1	1		2	2
TOTAL		3	29	32	1	29	30

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 76 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian media for the period January 1 - June 30, 2018.

- Twelve (15.8%) of the 76 injury events involved children aged under 15 years.
- Tractor related incidents (n=12) and motorbike related incidents (n=12) accounted for over 30% of all incidents. These incidents were closely followed by quad related injury (n=10) and horse related injury (n=10).
- For quads, there were seventeen additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 27 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).

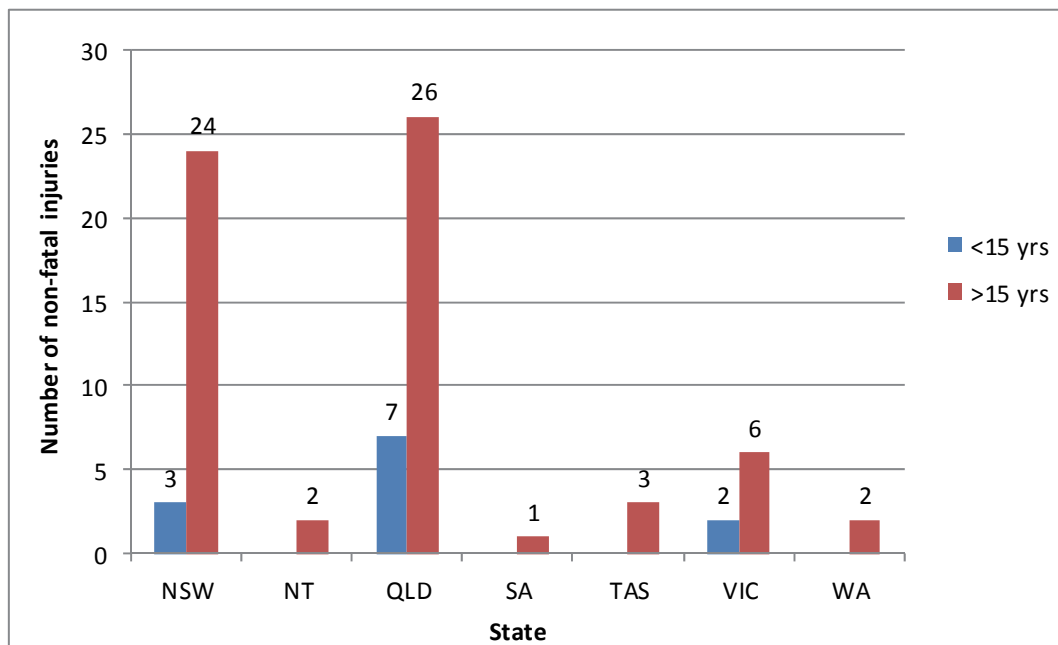


Figure 2: On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, Jan 1 – Jun 30, 2018.

Table 2: Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2018.

		2018		
Category	Agent	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		4	4
	Horse	3	7	10
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft		1	1
	Car		2	2
	Motorbike	5	7	12
	Quad		10	10
	Side By Side Vehicle		2	2
	Truck		1	1
	Utility		2	2
Fixed Plant/Equipment	Fixed Plant/Equipment NEC*		1	1
Materials	Pipe		1	1
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Auger		1	1
	Forklift		1	1
	Harvesting Machine		2	2
	Mobile Stock Feeding Equipment	1	1	2
	Tractor	1	11	12
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		1	1
Other	Firearms	2	2	4
	Other NEC*		2	2
Powered Equipment	Chainsaw		2	2
Working Environment	Branch/Stick/Twig		1	1
	Fire/Flame/Smoke		1	1
	Tree/Tree being Felled		1	1
TOTAL		12	64	76

*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

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