

2001 Adult Agricultural-Related Injuries

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There were an estimated 74,824 work-related agricultural injuries which occurred to adults who worked on a farm operation in 2001. The injuries occurred at a rate of 4.5 injuries per 100 farms or 13.1 injuries per 1,000 adults. The findings are based on a random telephone survey of 25,000 farm operations conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), an agency of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Farm operators were asked questions about work-related injuries to adults that occurred on their farm during 2001. An adult is defined as a person 20 or more years of age. An injury was defined as any condition occurring on the farm operation resulting in at least 4 hours of restricted activity or professional medical attention.

The majority of the work-related farm injuries happened to male adults. Almost 58,000 injuries occurred to male adults compared to about 14,000 injuries to female adults. For the remaining 3,000 injuries, the gender of the injured person was not specified. Approximately 9 percent of all adult work injuries happened to adults age 20-24; 13 percent to adults age 25-34; 23 percent to adults age 35-44; 23 percent to

adults age 45-54; 16 percent to adults age 55-64; and 12 percent to adults age 65 and above. For the remaining 4 percent, the age group of the injured person was not specified.

Most work-related injuries during 2001 occurred to adults who were part of the farm household. Survey results showed that an estimated 45,212 injuries happened to adults who were part of the farm household, for an injury rate of about 12.8 percent for every 1,000 adults. Of these injuries, 78 percent happened to adult males and 22 percent to adult females. Additionally, 6 percent of these adult injuries occurred to adults age 20-24; 9 percent to adults age 25-34; 23 percent to adults age 35-44; 27 percent to adults age 45-54; 18 percent to adults age 55-64; and 17 percent to adults age 65 and above.

NIOSH sponsored this survey to better understand the magnitude and scope of adult agricultural injuries. The survey was conducted as part of the NIOSH Agricultural Injury and Health Initiative. For further information, contact John Meyers, NIOSH, at (304) 285-6005 or Liana Cuffman, NASS, at (202) 690-0392.

Adult Agricultural-Related Injuries by U.S. and Region, 2001

Region ⁴	Total Injuries	Injuries per 100 Farms ²	Household and Hired Adults		
			Adult Population ³	Total Injuries ³	Injuries per 1000 Adults ³
Northeast	4,288	4.7	285,462	3,431	12.0
South	26,306	3.8	1,974,032	23,773	12.0
Midwest	26,827	4.1	1,759,304	23,056	13.1
West	17,403	7.8	870,264	13,941	16.0
U.S. ¹	74,824	4.5	4,889,062	64,201	13.1

¹ Estimates may not add due to rounding.

² Injury ratios based on adjusted farm counts from 1997 Census of Agriculture.

³ Statistics are based on combining population and household and hired adult injury estimates.

⁴ **Northeast:** CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, PA, RI and VT.

South: AL, AR, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA and WV.

Midwest: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD and WI.

West: AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA and WY.

