

Agricultural Safety

A SUMMARY OF OUR WORK



March, 2019



Agricultural workers experience high rates of injury on the job; agricultural injuries have a high fatality rate; and tractor-related fatalities are the leading cause of agricultural deaths. Farmers face stresses such as isolation, financial worries, and lack of access to quality healthcare which can put them at risk for suicide.

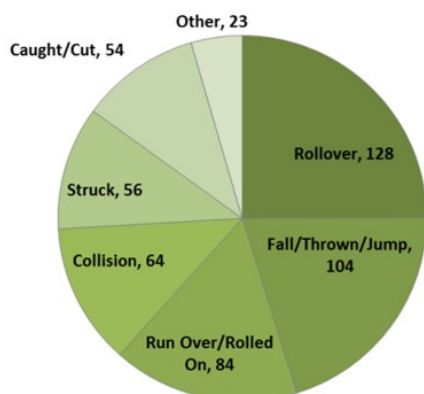
The University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center (UI IPRC) engages with state agencies, stakeholders, and agricultural centers to help understand the causes of agricultural injuries and to provide safety information to local and national agricultural partners.

Here is how the UI IPRC is part of the solution:

Visit our website at www.uiiprc.org

RURAL ROADWAY SAFETY

- ⇒ We partner with the **Great Plains Center for Agricultural Safety & Health** on the *SaferTrek* project. We study vehicle interactions around farm equipment on the roadway and promote safer driving in rural areas through an educational community campaign.
- ⇒ We found that crashes between farm equipment and motor vehicles are often not the fault of the farm equipment driver.
- ⇒ We collaborated with the **Iowa Center for Agricultural Safety** to create two PSAs to reduce crashes between motor vehicles and farm equipment.
- ⇒ We found that lighting and marking of farm equipment could decrease crashes with farm vehicles by over 50%.
- ⇒ We found that non-fatal tractor injuries are a burden in Iowa, with rollover the most common and causing the most severe injuries.



FARMER SUICIDE

- ⇒ Our national study found that the number of suicides among farmers and farm workers in the U.S. remains higher than workers from many other industries. Our finding resulted in the prioritization of mental health in farm safety pilot project funding in Iowa.



OLDER FARMERS

- ⇒ We are using a new desktop tractor simulator to study how risk factors related to age (like certain medical conditions and medication use) may increase the risk of crashes while operating farm equipment.

