

Kentucky FACE Program Annual Report

2007



KENTUCKY INJURY PREVENTION AND RESEARCH CENTER

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The Kentucky Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (KY FACE) Program is an occupational fatality surveillance project of the Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC)*. The goal of KY FACE is to prevent fatal work injuries by studying the worker, the work environment, the tools used, the energy exchange resulting in fatal injury, and the role of management in controlling the interaction of these factors. KY FACE investigators evaluate information from multiple sources including interviews of employers, coworkers, witnesses and other investigators; examination of the fatality site and equipment; and review of records such as Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), police, and medical examiner reports; and employer safety procedures. The FACE program does not seek to determine fault or place blame on companies or individual workers. Findings are summarized in narrative reports that include recommendations for preventing similar events in the future.

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*Organizationally, KIPRC is part of the University of Kentucky, College of Public Health and is a designated bona fide agent of the Kentucky Department for Public Health (KDPH). Funding for the KY FACE Project is from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KY FACE staff recorded 112 occupational fatalities for 2007. The following criteria were established by NIOSH in order for a 2007 fatal work-related incident to be eligible for a field investigation. The criteria were: youth fatalities (<18 years of age), highway work zone deaths, fatal machinery-related incidents, and fatalities of immigrant workers. Kentucky-specific criteria include fatal logging and motor vehicle collision (MVC) injuries. Three on-site investigations were conducted, published and disseminated to employers, safety managers, and others in a position to effect change in work, training, and teaching practices.

The following are significant findings of this annual report:

- 1. Kentucky's occupational fatality rate is 57% above the national rate (5.8 Kentucky worker deaths/100,000 workers compared to 3.7 US worker deaths/100,000 workers).**
- 2. Kentucky FACE recorded 112 work-related fatalities in 2007 and 20 of those decedents were self-employed.**
- 3. The most frequent fatal occupational incidents occurred in the Transportation and Warehousing industry sector (28 %). The decedents were killed more frequently between the hours of 2:00 and 3:59 pm, were most often between 50 and 54 years of age, and approximately were Kentucky residents.**
- 4. One- third (33%) of all work-related deaths were due to motor vehicle collisions. Forty-seven percent of all occupational drivers were NOT wearing their seat belts when the fatal injury occurred. Semi/tractor-trailers accounted for 30% of the occupational MVCs.**
- 5. There were seven occupational suicides in 2007 and three were in the management occupation. Six of the seven worker suicides involved firearms.**
- 6. There were four occupational fatalities in the Logging industry in Kentucky in 2007 and the most frequent external cause of death was due to being "struck by" an object (75%).**
- 7. More workers in the Transportation and Materials Moving occupations (30%) died in fatal work-related incidents than in any other individual occupations.**
- 8. In 2007 there was a sum of 1883 Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) due to occupational fatalities in the state of Kentucky.**
- 9. Farming, Fishing, Forestry occupations had the highest fatality rate (177 deaths/ 100,000 workers in Kentucky compared to the US rate of 25 deaths/ per 100,000 workers).**

INVESTIGATION PROGRAM

The KY FACE Program completed three on-site investigations of selected occupational fatalities. In order for an incident to be eligible for an investigation: criteria established by NIOSH were met; the incident was a KY FACE state target; or the case was determined by the KY FACE Program to be an investigative case in order to address important safety issues.

The reports that were released in 2007 included three motor vehicle collision (MVC) related incidents:

Case 1: In the fall of year 2005, at 12:40 AM, a 47-year-old male semi-truck driver began his delivery route hauling a refrigerated trailer loaded with 23,000 pounds of produce. His first delivery was approximately 265 miles away. After two hours and twenty minutes, he exited the interstate 23 miles from the start of his route. At the end of the exit ramp he attempted to turn right onto a 4-lane highway. He missed the turn and drove straight across the highway through a guardrail; the truck became airborne, and crashed into an embankment exploding into flames. An unidentified motorist driving behind the semi called emergency response services. Local police and fire departments arrived at the scene and discovered the cab and trailer burning. The coroner arrived while the firefighters extinguished the blaze. After extinguishing the fire, emergency personnel removed the driver's body and the coroner declared the driver dead at the scene. The death certificate stated the cause of death was multiple blunt force trauma/motor vehicle accident, and that carbon monoxide possibly contributed to death. Toxicology test results showed the driver had a 0.6% blood level of cocaine, a presumptive presence of benzodiazepine, and a carbon monoxide level of 38% at the time of the crash.

Case 2: In the winter of 2005 a 52-year-old male emergency roadside technician (ERT), (providing traffic control support for police), died when he fell approximately 75 – 80 feet from a bridge after being struck by a single-unit truck. A policeman had responded to a call from a semi-truck driver on the interstate who had blown a tire while driving on an interstate. After the tire blew, the driver immediately pulled the semi onto the right shoulder and called police for assistance. This section of the shoulder was on a bridge on the blind side of a hill, and was too narrow to accommodate the width of the semi. The back left corner of the semi extended out into the right-hand travel lane of the interstate. A police officer arrived and with emergency lights flashing, parked his cruiser on the shoulder at the top of the hill behind the semi. The officer requested assistance with traffic control. An employee of a company contracted by the local police to provide roadside assistance arrived in a panel truck. Upon arrival, he was instructed by the police officer to park his vehicle with yellow emergency lights flashing at the bottom of the hill, approximately 100 yards behind the police cruiser. After parking his vehicle on the shoulder as instructed, the contractor then exited the vehicle from the driver's side and proceeded to walk up the hill toward the police cruiser. A single-unit truck approached from behind in the right hand travel lane and tried to switch lanes when he observed the yellow emergency lights on the panel truck. When the driver of the single-unit truck switched to the middle lane, the driver struck the right-rear end of a semi trailer in the middle lane, lost control, swerved back into the right lane, sideswiped the ERT's panel truck, then struck the ERT. Upon being struck, the ERT was thrown over the side of the bridge 75 – 80 feet to the ground below. The police officer called emergency medical services to the scene. They arrived and detected no

vital signs in the ERT. The coroner was called and upon arrival, declared the ERT dead at the scene of “multiple blunt force injuries secondary to motor vehicle versus pedestrian”.

Case 3: On a late summer morning, at approximately 6:10 AM, a 63-year-old, self-employed male dump truck driver left his home hauling a load of dry septic waste. He was hauling the septic waste to a nearby town for disposal. His home was located at the end of a dead-end street, parallel to the nearby railroad tracks. After the driver exited his driveway, he drove down the street parallel to the tracks which ran north and south. There was a train on the tracks traveling approximately 33 miles per hour. The train engineer, after clearing some trees located between the railroad tracks and the dump truck driver’s house, observed the dump truck driver approach the railroad crossing, applied the train brakes and shut down power to the engine. The train struck the dump truck on its passenger side, pushing it over onto its right side. The driver, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was ejected from the truck and pinned underneath the front right tire. The train engineer called emergency medical services who was dispatched immediately. Emergency medical services arrived and transported the driver to a nearby trauma hospital where he arrived at approximately 7:07 AM. He died 5 ½ hours later due to multiple blunt force injuries sustained in the crash.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

The KY FACE Program identified 112 fatal occupational injuries that occurred during 2007, compared to 138 recorded in 2006. The following section provides a descriptive analysis of the 2007 KY FACE data.

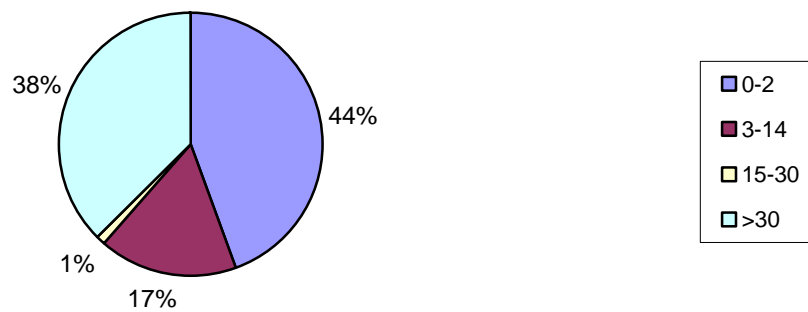
Identification of Cases

The primary source of identification for 2007 cases was newspapers (38%) (Figure 1). Other media, which is defined as radio or television, was the notification source for 7% of the cases. Vital Statistics (death certificates) was the initial source of notification for 29% of the cases, respectively. The KY FACE Program was informed of 44% of the occupational fatality cases within two days of the fatality and was notified regarding 62% of the cases within 30 days or less of the fatality (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Sources of Notification – 2007.



Figure 2. Time (Days) between Occupational Fatality and Initial Notification – 2007.



The month in which the most work-related fatalities occurred was August (n = 16). The lowest number of occupational fatalities during 2007 occurred during the months of January (n = 5), November (n=5), and December (n = 5). The day of the week in which the most fatal occupational incidents occurred in 2007 was Monday (n = 28) and the fewest work-related fatal incidents occurred on Sunday (n = 7). The day of incident was unknown for one occupational fatality in 2007.

Figure 3. Kentucky Occupational Fatalities by Month of Death – 2007.

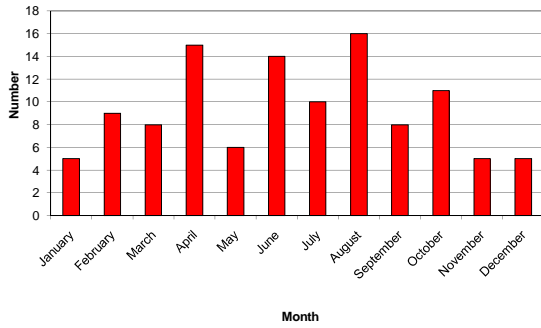
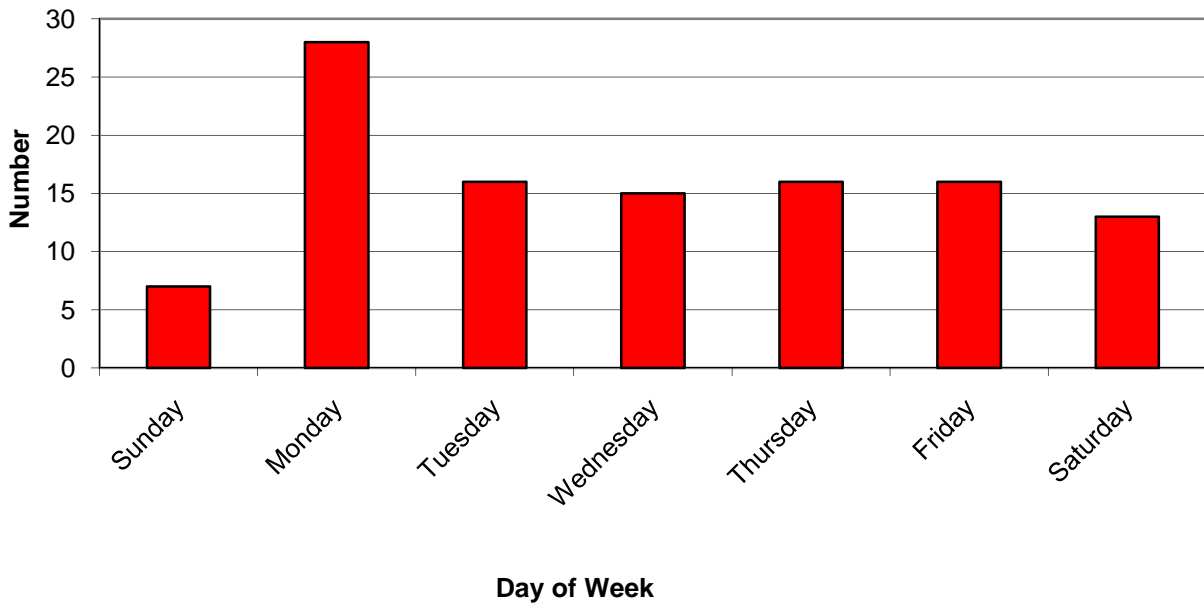


Figure 4. Occupational Fatality Incidents by Day of Week – 2007.



The most occupational fatalities occurred between the hours of 2:00 pm and 5:59 pm (n=32) and the fewest number of fatalities were recorded between 12:00 am to 5:59 am (n=5). The KY FACE Program could not confirm the time of incident for 16 of the 112 occupational fatalities in 2007.

Figure 5. Fatal Occupational Incidents by Time of Day – 2007.

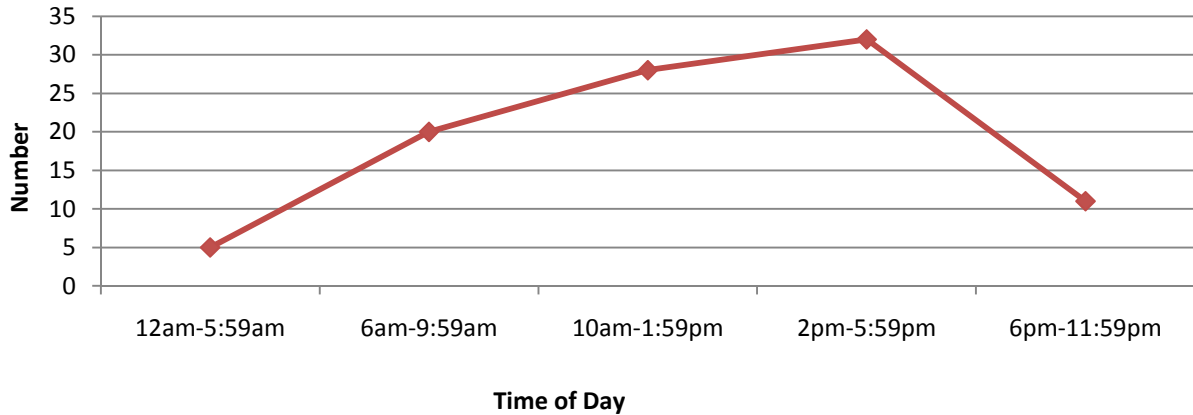
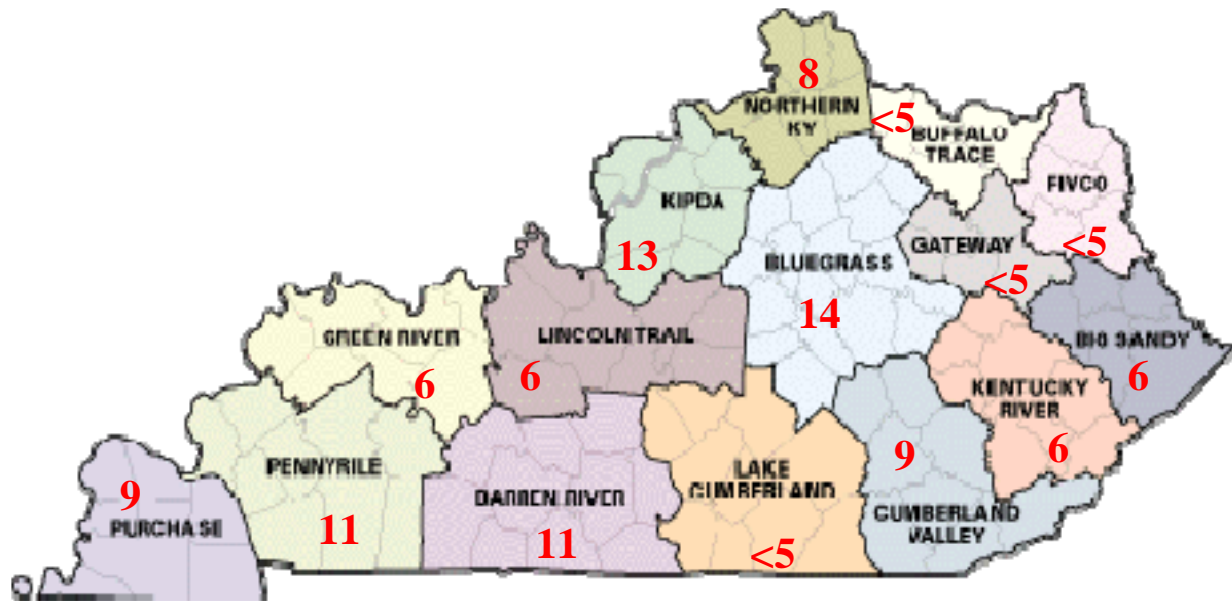


Figure 6 depicts the Commonwealth of Kentucky as Area Development Districts (ADD). ADD's are defined as partnerships of local governments and these partnerships provide for planned growth within the area. KY FACE recorded the most 2007 occupational fatalities within the Bluegrass District (n=14), closely followed by the KIPDA District (n = 13). The fewest number of work-related fatal incidents occurred in the Buffalo Trace District.

Figure 6. Occupational Fatality Incidents per Area Development District (ADD) – 2007.



Sixty of Kentucky's 120 counties had at least one fatal occupational incident occur within its borders in 2007. The county with the highest number fatal work-related incidents was Jefferson County (n = 10), followed by Christian County (n = 6). Table 1 shows the fatality rate per 100,000 workers for the two counties with the highest number of fatalities (employment estimates are used).

Table 1. Fatality Rates for Counties with the Greatest Frequency of Fatal Occupational Incidents – 2007.

County	Fatalities	Employment ^a	Fatality Rate per 100,000 Workers
Jefferson	10	340,011	2.9
Christian	6	23,833	25.2
Total KY	112	1,932,028	5.8

^aState and county employment estimates are from the 2007 Kentucky Deskbook of Economic Statistics. Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, Division of Research; Frankfort, KY.

Demographics

Table 2 depicts the demographic characteristics of workers who were fatally injured on the job in 2007. Male workers accounted for 94% of all recorded work-related fatalities in Kentucky in 2007 and 94% of the fatally injured workers were white (when race was known). The ages of the workers involved in occupational fatalities ranged from 19 years of age to 84 years of age. Seventy percent of the decedents whose marital status could be confirmed were married and 14% of the decedents were never married. When education level was known, 69% of workers involved in occupational fatalities were high school graduates. The majority of those fatally injured at work were born in the United States, although 6 decedents were known born in other countries. Nearly all of the decedents (at least 91%) spoke English.

When in-state (KY) vs. out-of-state deaths were examined, 18% of the fatal incidents involved out-of-state residents (when state of residence was known) who were fatally injured while working in Kentucky.

Table 2. Demographic Characteristics of Fatally Injured Workers – 2007.

Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total Fatalities	112	100
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	105	94
Female	7	6
<u>Race</u>		
White	87	94
Black	3	3
Other	3	3
<u>Age</u>		
<20	1	<1
20-29	12	11
30-39	18	16
40-49	30	27
50-59	26	23
60-69	16	14
70-79	6	5
80-89	3	3
<u>Marital Status</u>		
Married	67	70
Never Married	13	14
Widowed	2	2
Divorced	13	14
<u>Education</u>		
Less than High School	11	12
Some High School	17	19
Finished High School	49	54
Some College	12	13
College Graduate	2	2
<u>Country of Origin</u>		
United States	91	81
Mexico	4	4
Other	2	2
Unknown	15	13
<u>Primary Language</u>		
English	90	80
Spanish	6	5
Unknown	16	14
<u>State of Residence</u>		
Kentucky	82	82
Alabama	2	2
Indiana	2	2
Mississippi	2	2
Ohio	2	2
Tennessee	2	2
Other	7	7

Industry

Figure 7 and Table 3 depict the number of workers that were fatally injured in each industry (as classified by the *North American Industry Classification System* (NAICS)). Table 3 also shows a comparison of state and national occupational fatality rates. The Transportation and Warehousing industry sector recorded the most work-related deaths in Kentucky in 2007 (n = 31, 28% of total fatalities). The occupational fatality rate for this industry was 35 worker deaths per 100,000 employed. The highest fatality rates were in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting industry (39.7 deaths /100,000 employees), the Transportation and Warehousing industry (35.0/100,000), and in the Utilities industry (30.3/100,000).

Figure 7. Occupational Fatalities by Industry (NAICS code) – 2007.

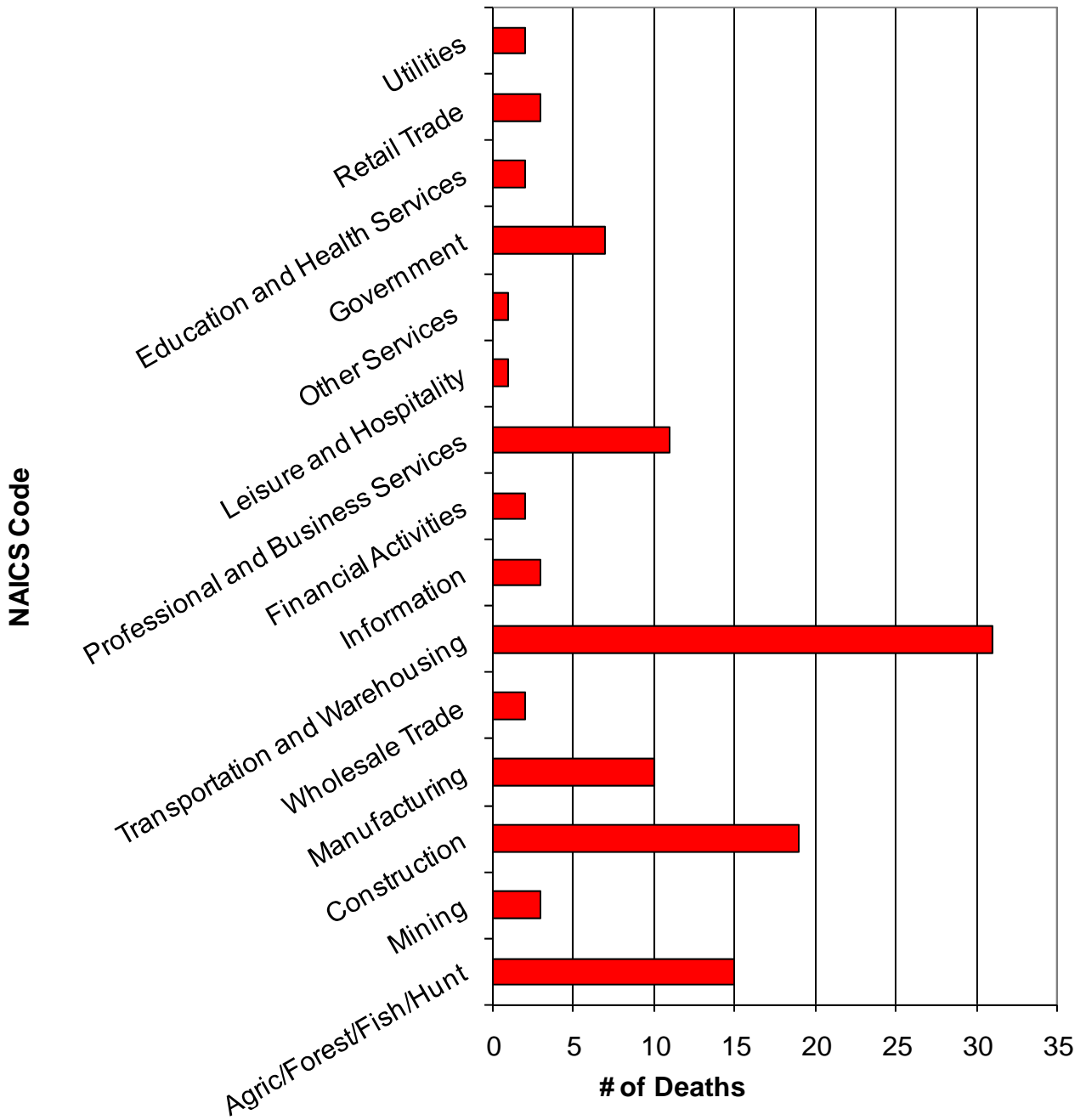


Table 3. Occupational Fatalities by Major Industry Sectors (NAICS code) – 2007.*(Rates calculated per 100,000 workers^a).*

Industry ^b	# of KY Deaths In 2007	2007 KY Employment	2007 KY Fatality Rate	2007 US Fatality Rate ^c
Transportation and Warehousing	31	88,500	35.0	15.9
Retail Trade	3	214,100	1.4	2.0
Wholesale Trade	2	77,500	2.6	4.5
Information	3	30,400	9.9	2.3
Utilities	2	6,600	30.3	3.9
Professional and Business Services	11	181,500	6.1	3.1
Financial Activities	2	94,200	2.1	1.1
Education and Health Services	2	241,400	0.8	0.7
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	15	37,756	39.7	27.3
Construction	19	86,400	22.0	10.3
Manufacturing	10	253,100	4.0	2.4
Mining	3	22,200	13.5	24.8
Other Services	1	76,500	1.3	2.5
Government	7	328,700	2.1	2.4
Leisure and Hospitality	1	175,300	0.6	2.1
Total	112	1,932,028	5.8	3.7

^aNumber of employed persons obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Kentucky Deskbook of Economic Statistics.

^bOffice of Management and Budget. North America Industry Classification System. 2002. Bernam Press. Lanham, MD.

^cCensus of Fatal Occupational Injuries Summary. US Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2007.

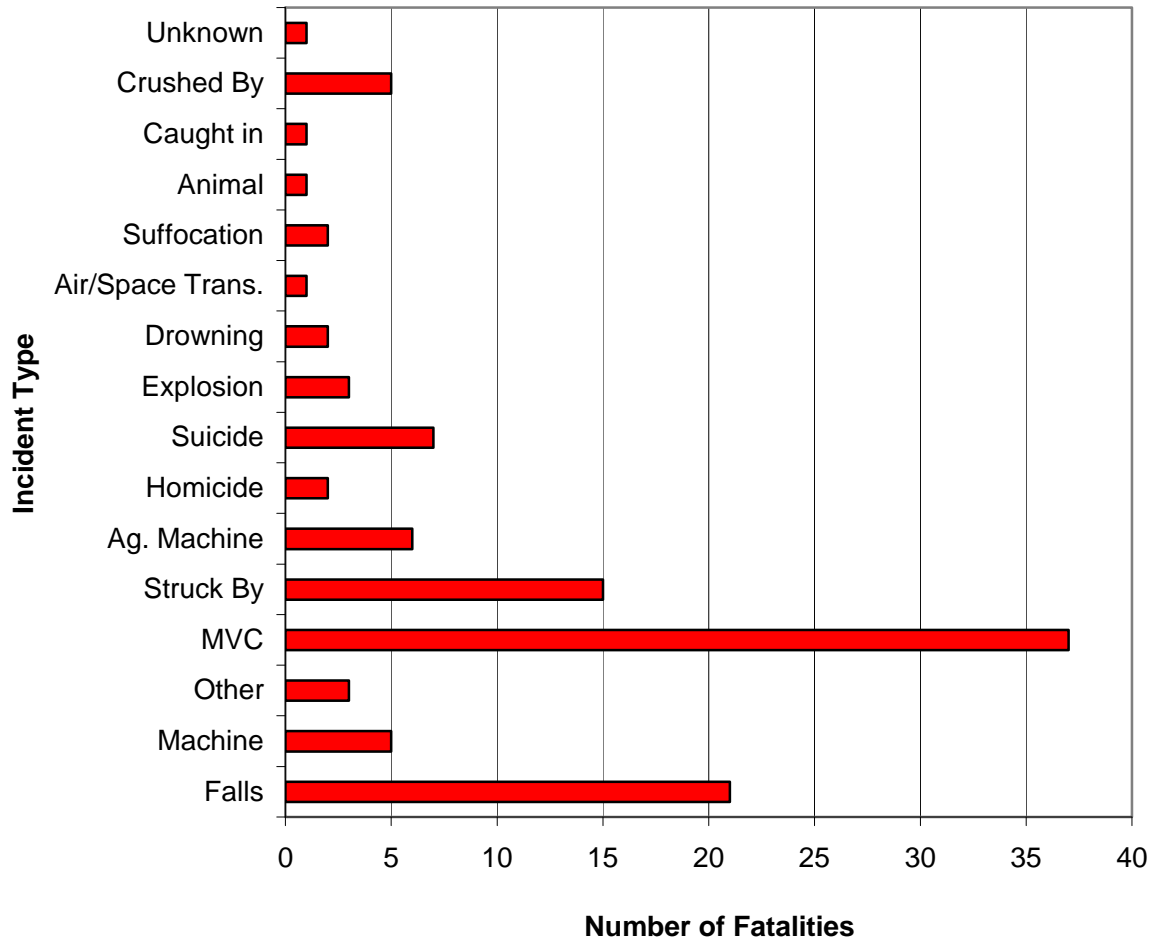
External Cause of Death

Figure 8 shows the incident type(s) for occupational fatalities. Motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) were the leading cause of occupational fatalities (n = 37, 33%) in 2007. The second leading cause of worker death was falls (n = 21, 19%), and workers being struck by an object were the third major cause of fatal occupational incidents (n=15, 13%). Ag machine-related fatalities (n = 6) accounted for 5% of the worker deaths.

The majority of the deaths that occurred in the Transportation and Warehousing industry were attributed to MVCs (71%) while most deaths in the Construction industry were caused by falls (58%). In the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting industry, the most common incident types were: being struck by an object (33%), and incidents involving agricultural machinery (33%).

Kentucky continues to have one of the highest worker fatality rates in the nation and increased prevention efforts are necessary for educational and training purposes. Areas of concentration for 2008 are MVC incidents, particularly in the Transportation and Warehousing industry.

Figure 8. Occupational Fatalities by Incident Type – 2007.



Occupation

Figure 9 represents Kentucky work-related fatalities classified by occupation, and coded according to the *Standard Occupation Classification Manual, 2000*. The Transportation and Material Moving occupations accounted for 34 of the 112 occupational deaths in 2007 (30%). Seventeen percent of the decedents were employed in Construction and Extraction occupations. The Kentucky and United States fatality rates are shown in Table 4. The highest fatality rates were in the Farming/Fishing/Forestry (177.4), Construction/Extraction (23.6), Transportation/Material Moving (21.5), and Management (18.1) occupations.

In Figures 10-12, the primary cause of death is listed for the three occupational classes with the highest frequency of deaths. Within the Transportation and Material Moving occupations, motor vehicle collisions were the most frequently occurring incident type (62%). Within the Management occupational classification, the leading cause of death was suicide (29%). Falls

were the most frequent cause of death in the Construction and Extraction occupations (56%).

Figure 9. Work-Related Fatalities by Occupation (SOC) – 2007.

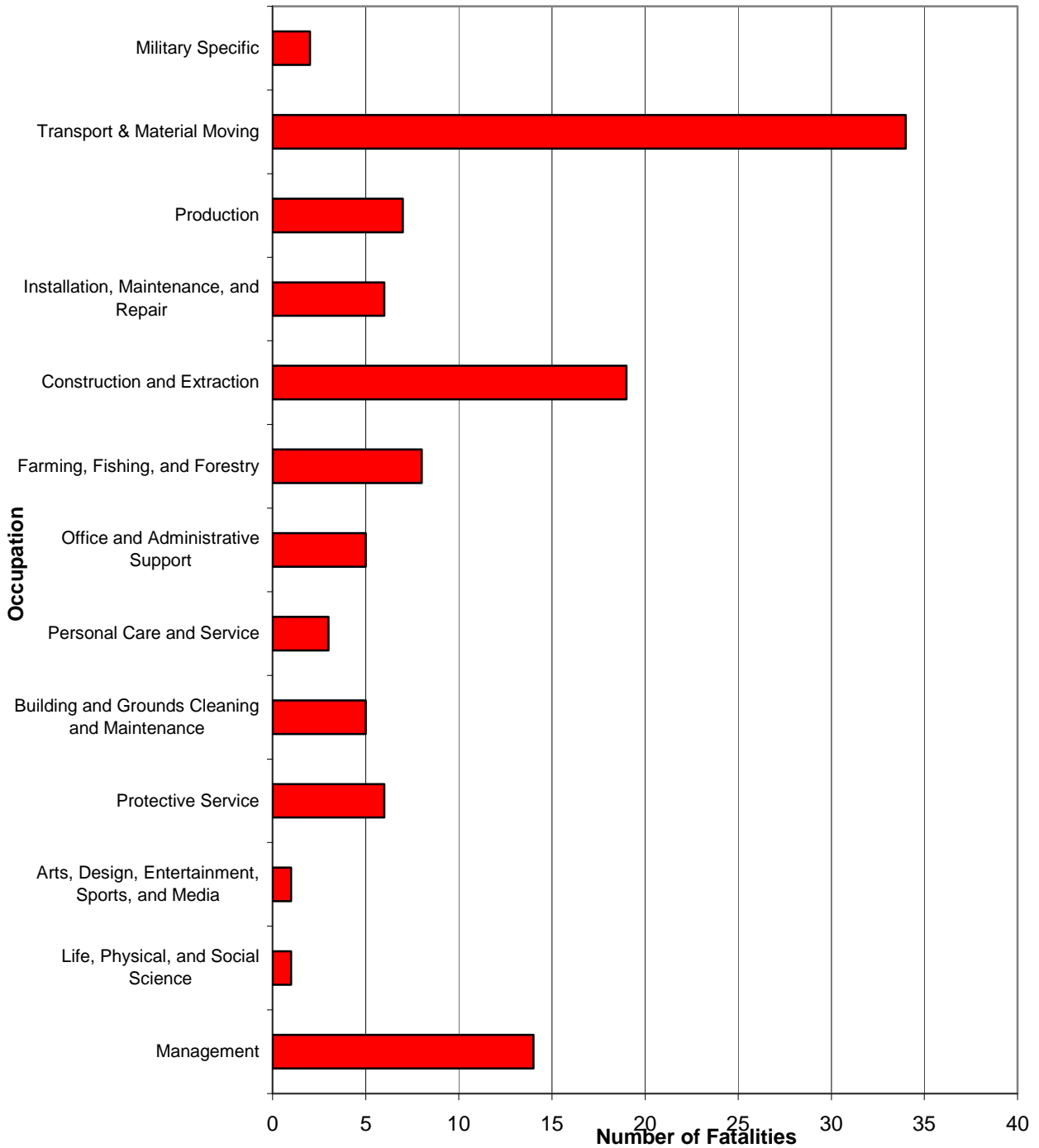


Table 4. Work-Related Fatalities by Major Occupational Classification – 2007.

Occupational Classification	Number (%)	# Employed in KY	2007 KY Rate	2007 US Rate ^a
Building, Grounds Cleaning	5 (5%)	52,760	9.4	4.6
Construction, Extraction	20 (18%)	84,710	23.6	12.1
Farming, Fishing, Forestry	8 (7%)	4,510	177.4	25.2
Installation, Maintenance	6 (5%)	79,610	7.5	7.1
Management	14 (13%)	77,480	18.1	3.3
Military	2 (2%)	n/a	n/a	5.3
Office & Administrative Support	5 (5%)	292,820	1.7	0.7
Personal Care & Service	3 (3%)	37,090	8.1	1.3
Production	6 (5%)	209,360	2.9	2.8
Protective Service	6 (5%)	35,590	16.9	11.0
Transportation, Material Moving	34 (30%)	158,120	21.5	16.2
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media	1 (1%)	16,350	6.1	1.8
Life, Physical, Social Science	1 (1%)	10,350	9.7	n/a

^aKentucky employment figures obtained from *Kentucky Office of Employment and Training*. Rates were calculated as the number of occupational fatalities per 100,000 workers.

Figure 10. External Causes of Death for Transportation and Material Moving Occupations (SOC) – 2007.

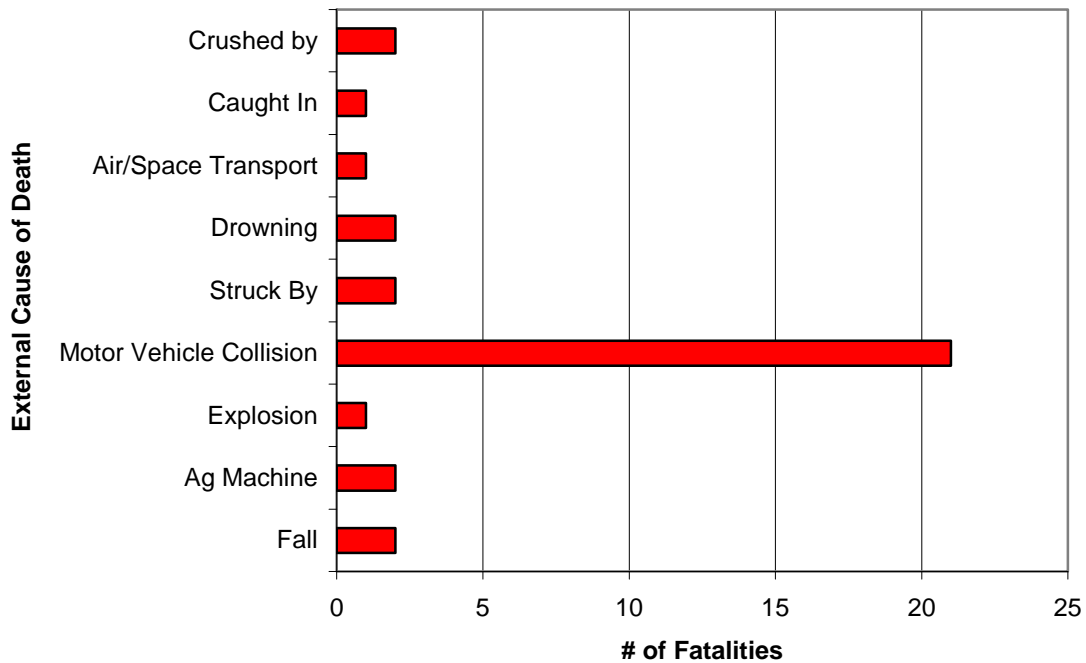


Figure 11. External Causes of Death for Management Occupations (SOC) – 2007

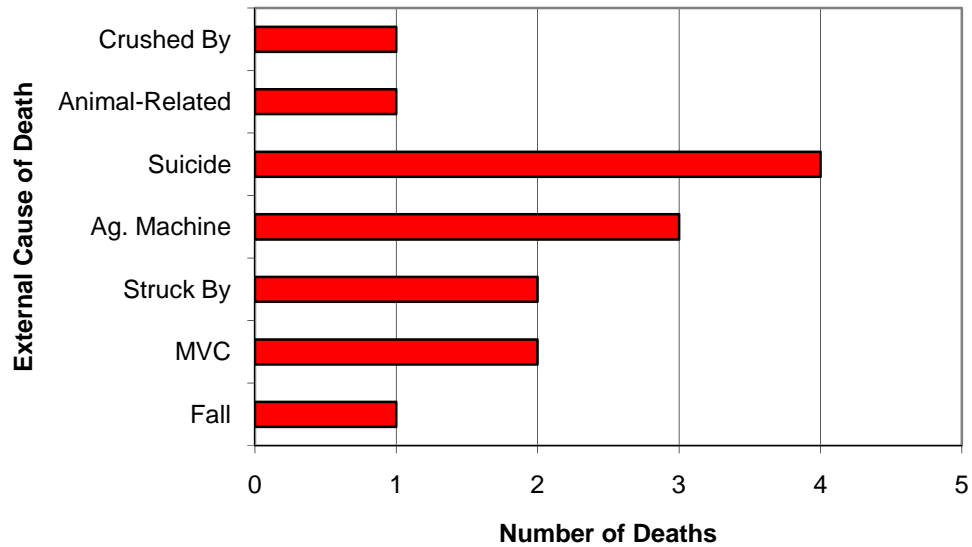
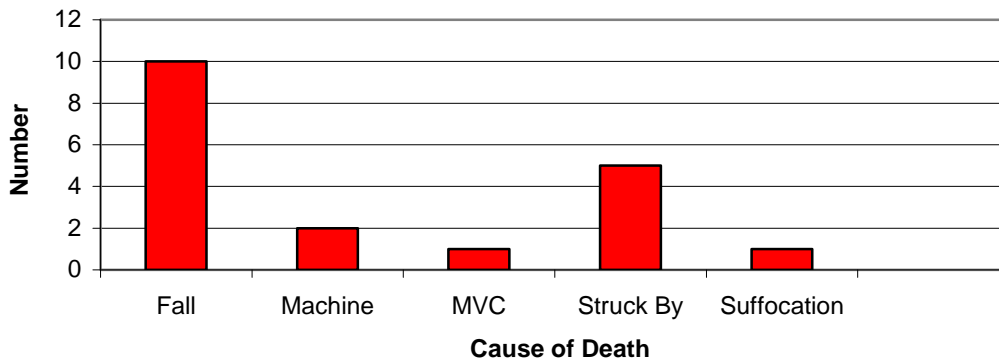


Figure 12. External Causes of Death for Construction and Extraction Occupations (SOC) 2007.



Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL)

Figure 13 represents the total YPLL for the years 1997 – 2007. In 2007, the total YPLL of the 112 workers who were fatally injured was 1883 (YPLL is based on the age of 65). YPLL is calculated as the age of the worker at the time of death, subtracted from the average lifespan.

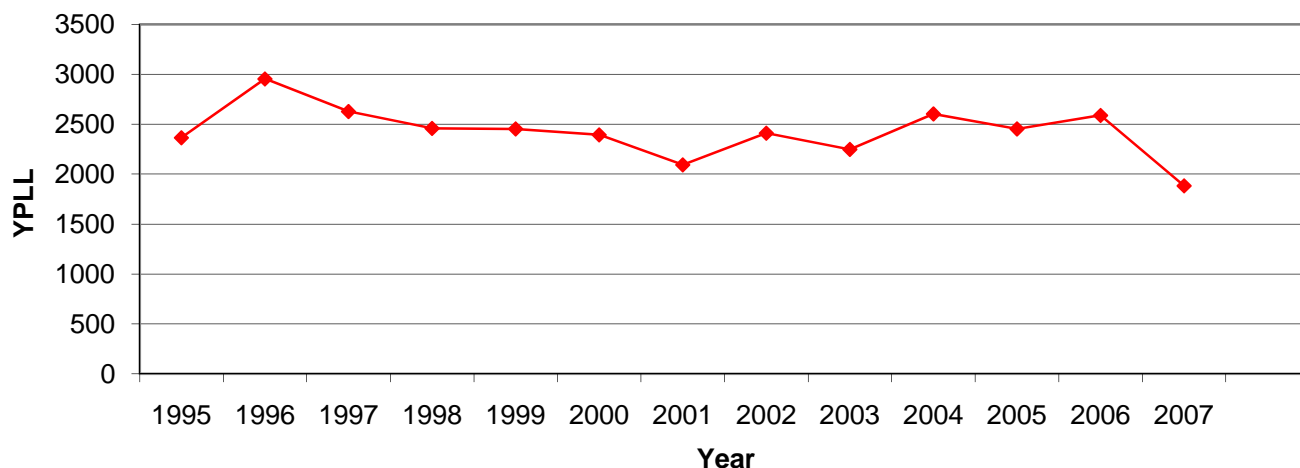
Figure 13. Total Years of Potential Life Lost (YPLL) in Kentucky, 1995-2007.

Table 5 represents the YPLL calculation for each major industry classification (NAICS). The industries with the highest average YPLL were in the Government, and the Mining industries. These results indicate that workers in these industries are being fatally injured at a younger age. The Transportation and Warehousing sector had the highest total YPLL, which indicates the loss of potential employment and future lost productivity was highest for this industrial group (\$24.4 million dollars). Table 6 shows that future lost earnings could total as much \$71 million dollars due to these work-related fatalities. Those industries with future losses of greater than \$10 million dollars are the Transportation and Warehousing, and the Construction industries.

Table 5. Total and Average YPLL by Industry Classification – 2007.

Industry Classification	Total Fatalities	2007 Total YPLL	Average YPLL per Fatality
Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting	15	162	10.8
Mining	3	67	22.3
Transportation and Warehousing	31	543	17.5
Construction	19	319	16.8
Manufacturing	10	172	17.2
Financial Activities	2	-18	-9
Professional and Business Services	11	225	20.5
Education and Health Services	2	38	19
Leisure and Hospitality	1	42	42
Other Services (except Public Administration)	1	0	0
Government	7	177	25.3
Retail Trade	3	57	19
Wholesale Trade	2	30	15
Information	3	36	12
Utilities	2	33	16.5

Table 6. Future Lost Wages (by Industry) Due to Work-Related Fatalities – 2007.

Industry Classification	Average Salary^a	Total Earnings Lost (in millions)	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	\$28,839	\$4.7	7%
Mining	\$56,936	\$3.8	5%
Transportation and Warehousing	\$44,922	\$24.4	34%
Construction	\$39,590	\$12.6	18%
Manufacturing	\$46,868	\$8.1	11%
Financial Activities	\$48,111	\$-0.9	-1%
Professional and Business Services	\$38,349	\$8.6	12%
Education and Health Services	\$37,322	\$1.4	2%
Leisure and Hospitality	\$13,501	\$0.6	1%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	\$25,837	\$0	0%
Government	\$35,551	\$6.3	9%
Information	\$40,264	\$1.4	2%
Total		\$71	100%

^aAverage Salaries from 2007 *National Industry-Specific Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates*. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

SPECIAL TOPICS

Fatal Transportation and Warehousing Injuries

The Transportation and Warehousing industry accounted for 31 of the 112 (28%) total work-related fatalities in 2007. Fatal incidents in this industry sector most frequently occurred in the month of April (Figure 14). The day of the week in which the most fatalities occurred in this industry was Monday (Figure 15).

Figure 14. Transportation and Warehousing Deaths by Month of Death– 2007.

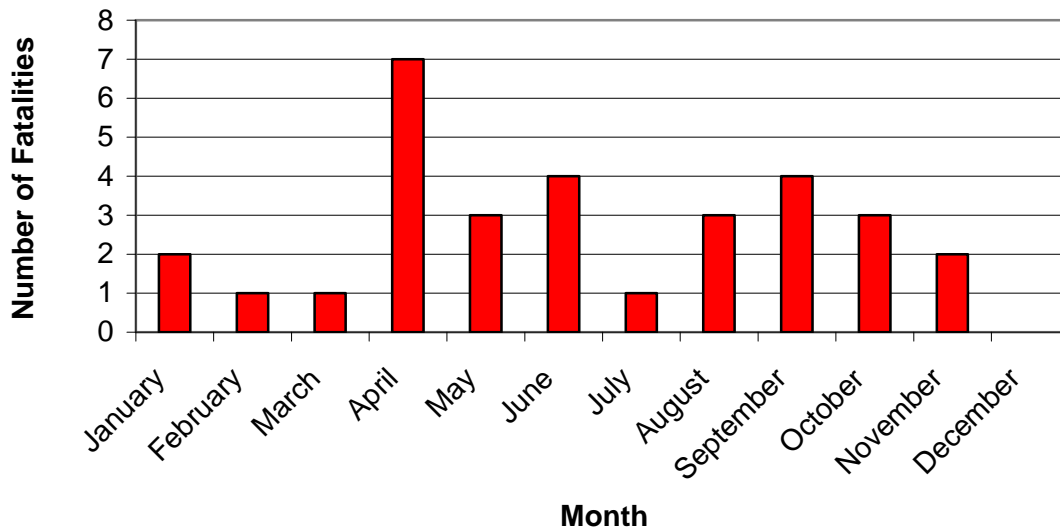
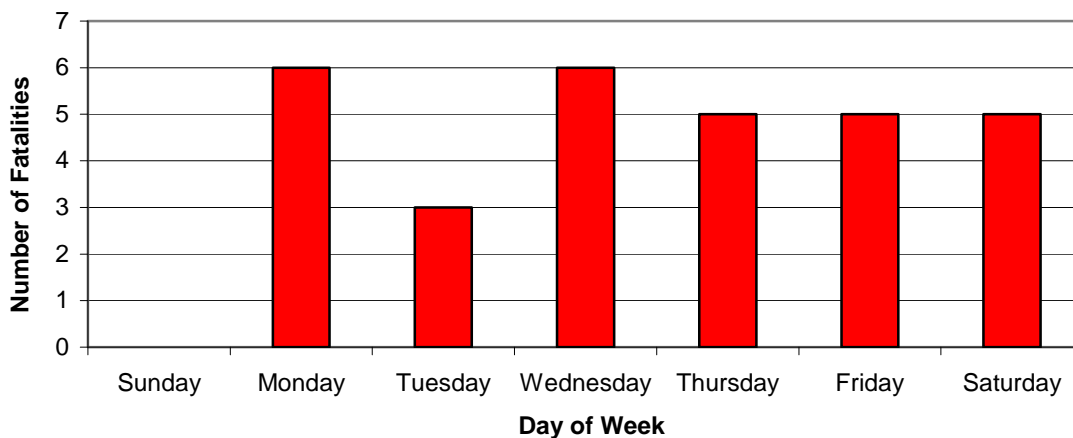


Figure 15. Transportation and Warehousing Deaths by Day of Injury – 2007.



The time in which the most Transportation industry fatalities occurred was between 2:00 pm and 3:59 pm (Figure 16). The ADD districts where most of this industry’s fatalities occurred were the Barren River District. The age range of 50-54 had the highest frequency of decedents (Figure 17).

Figure 16. Transportation and Warehousing Industry Fatalities by Time of Death– 2007.

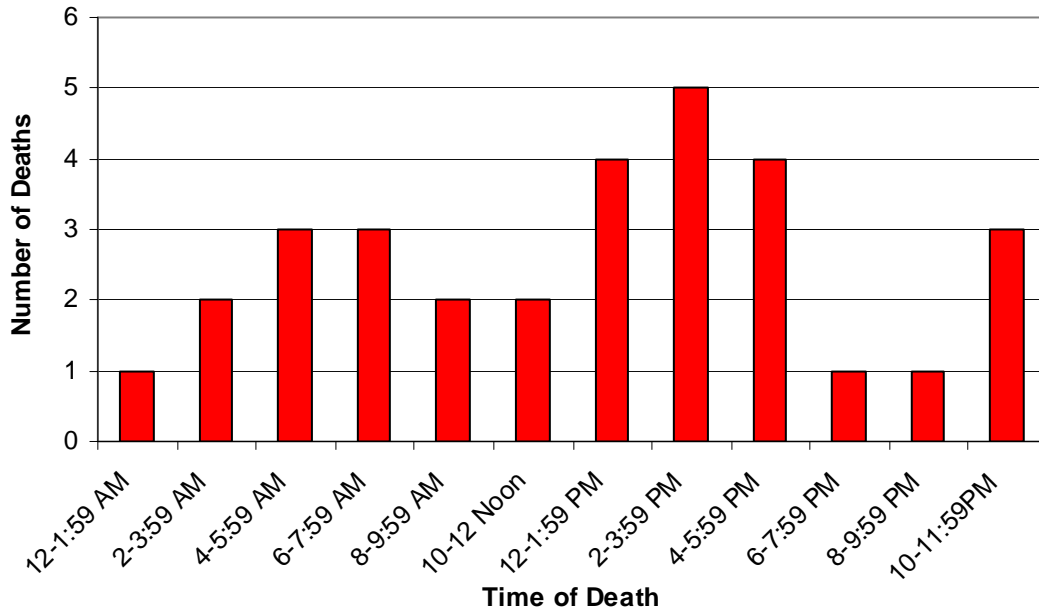
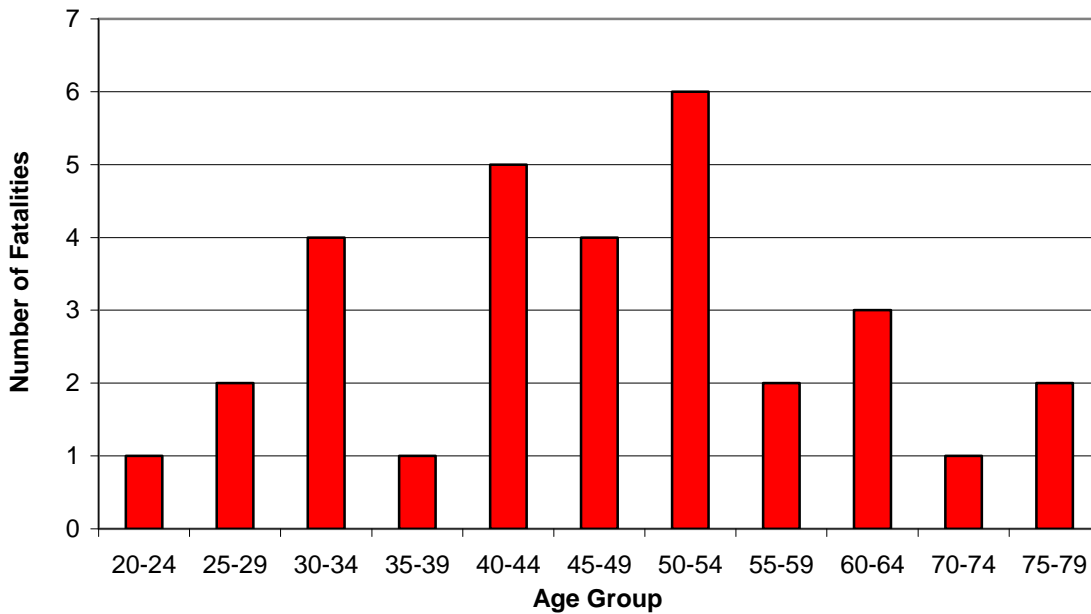


Figure 17. Transportation and Warehousing Industry Fatalities by Age Group– 2007.



The country of origin for at least 28 of the decedents was the United States and 16 of the fatally injured workers were Kentucky residents (when country of origin and state of residence could be confirmed).

Motor Vehicle Collisions

Motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) were the leading cause of occupational fatalities in 2007 (Figures 18-19). Thirty-seven of the 112 work-related deaths in 2007 were due to MVCs (33%). The most common industry in which MVCs occurred was the Transportation and Warehousing industry (n=22). More MVC's occurred on Monday (22%) than any other day of the week and 19% of all occupational MVCs occurred during the month of April. Semi/tractor-trailers accounted for 30% of the occupational MVCs. Thirty-nine percent occurred on interstates. Of note, 47 percent of the occupational drivers who died in a MVC were NOT wearing a seat belt when the fatal incident occurred.

Figure 18. Motor Vehicle Collisions by Vehicle Type – 2007.

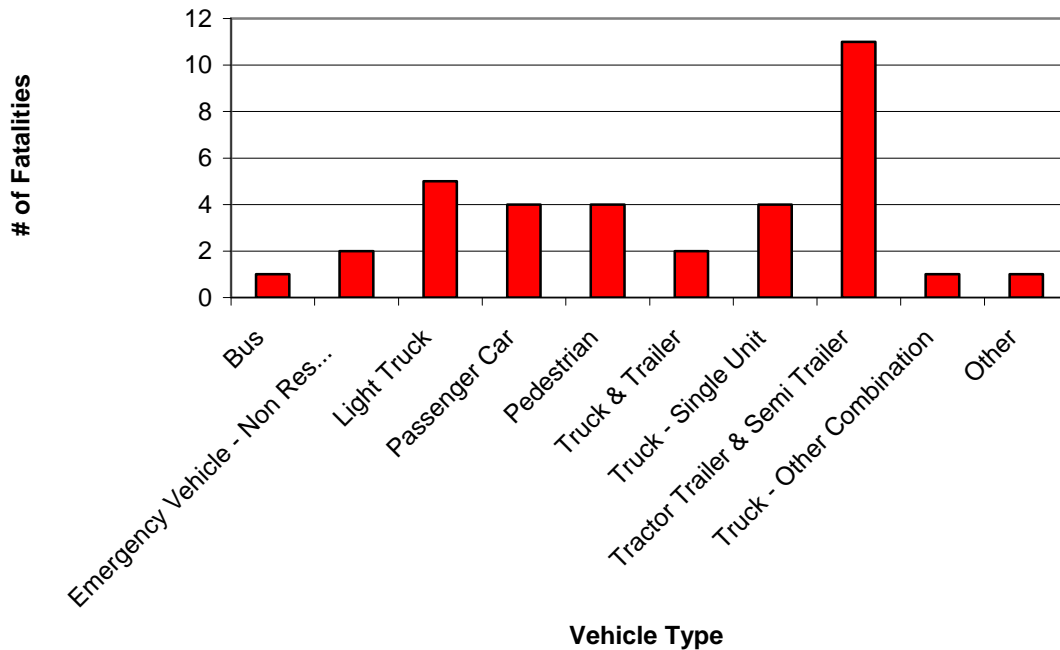
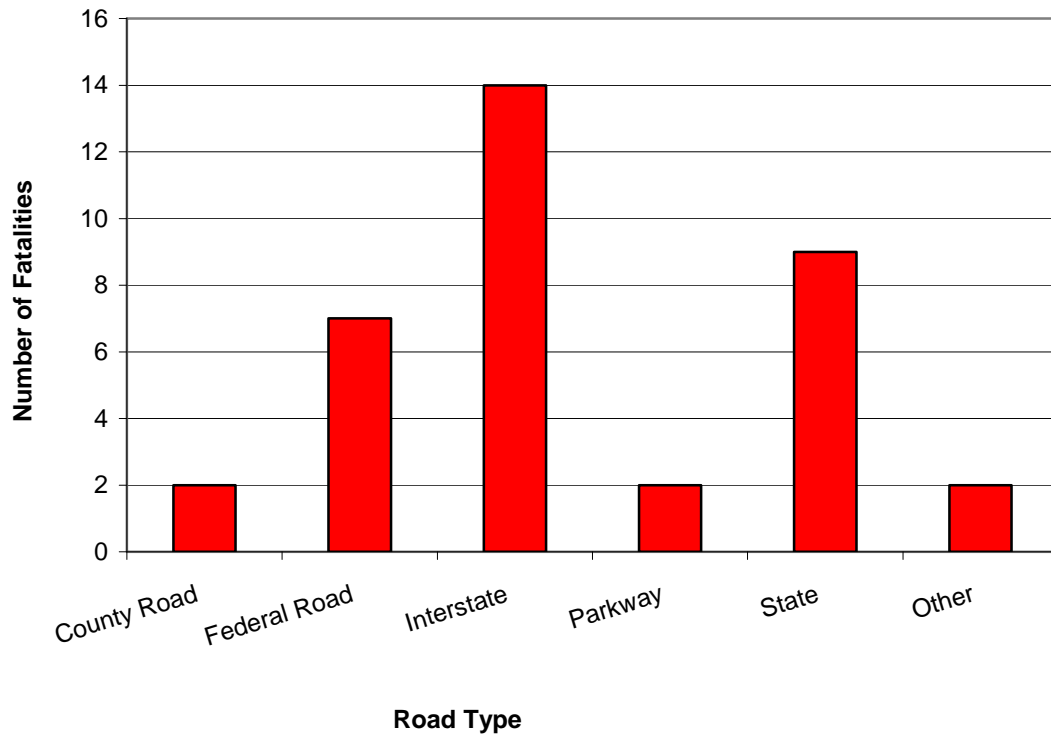


Figure 19. Type of Roadway Where Motor Vehicle Collision Occurred – 2007.



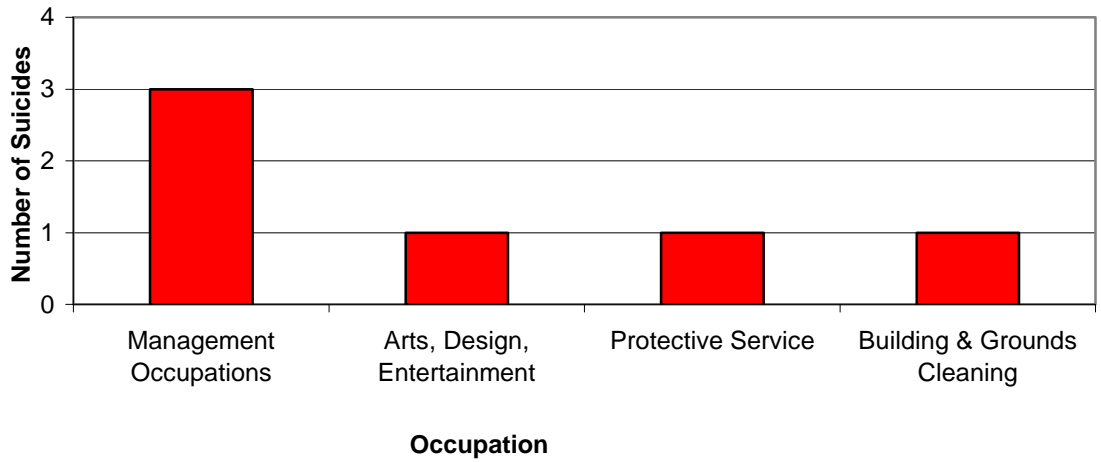
Occupational Suicides

During 2007, 7 of the 112 occupational fatalities were suicides. Six of the suicides (86%) involved the use of firearms. Management occupations accounted for 43% of the occupational suicides in 2007. Suicide was the leading cause of death in the Management occupation category (28%). Occupational suicide victims ranged in age from forty to eighty-four years old.

Figure 20. Work-Related Suicides by Mode of Death – 2007.



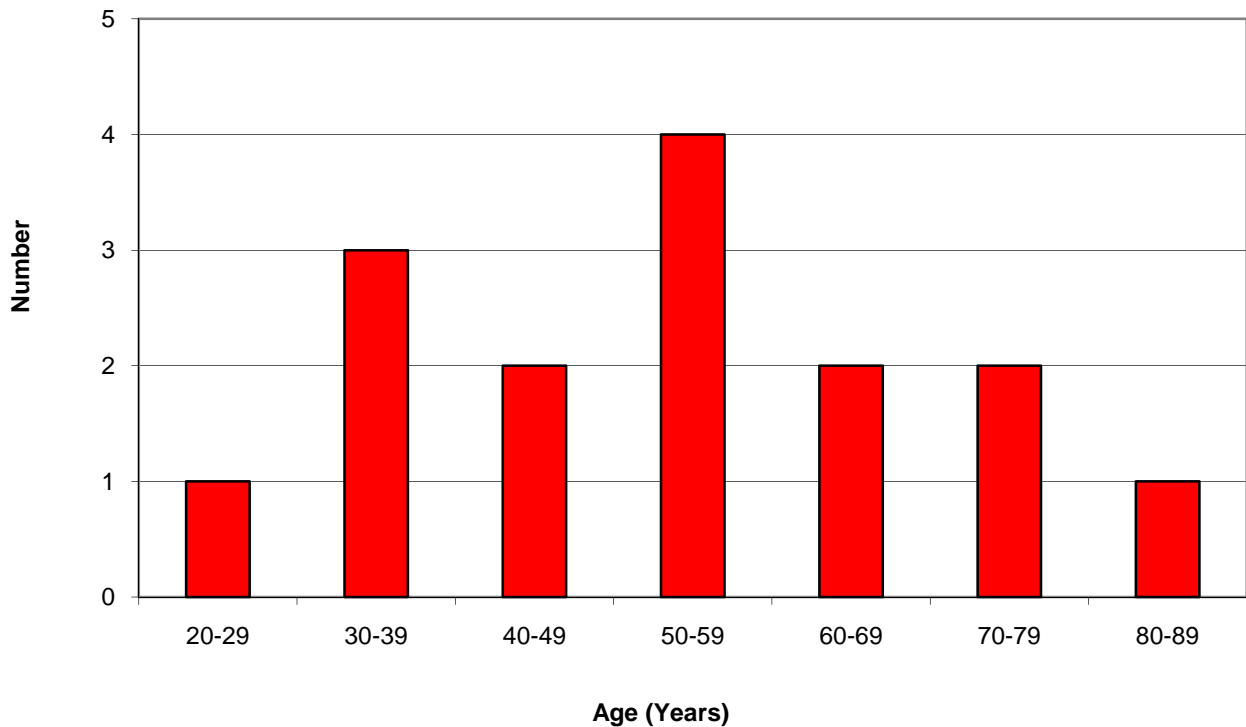
Figure 21. Work-Related Suicides by Occupation (SOC) – 2007.



Agricultural Industry Occupational Fatalities

During 2007, 15 of the 112 occupational fatalities that were recorded by the KY FACE Program occurred within the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting industry (NAICS). The majority of the decedents in this industry were self-employed (60%) at their time of death. Figure 22 represents the ages of the fatally injured workers in this industry at their time of death.

Figure 22. Age of Agricultural Industry Worker at Death – 2007.



In the Agricultural industry, more workers died in the month of August (Figure 23) than in other months, and more workers died on a Monday than any other day of the week (Figure 24).

Figure 23. Month of Agricultural Industry Worker Death – 2007.

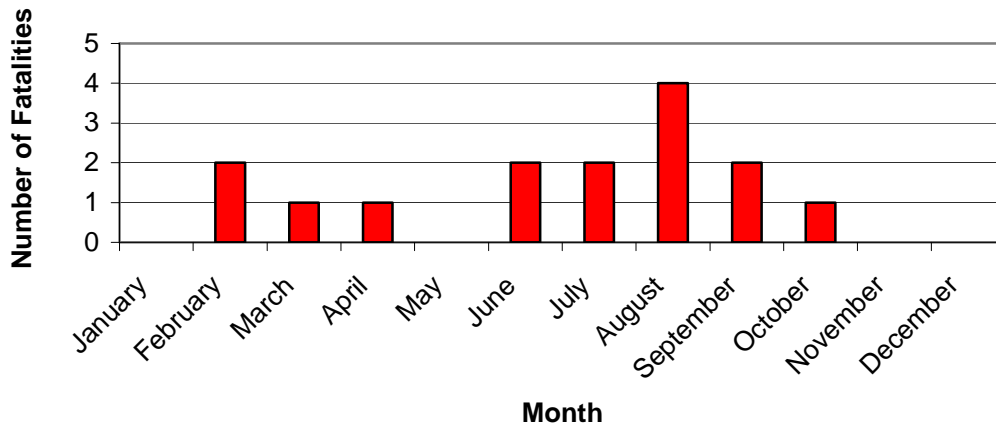


Figure 24. Day of Fatal Incident for Agricultural Industry Workers – 2007.

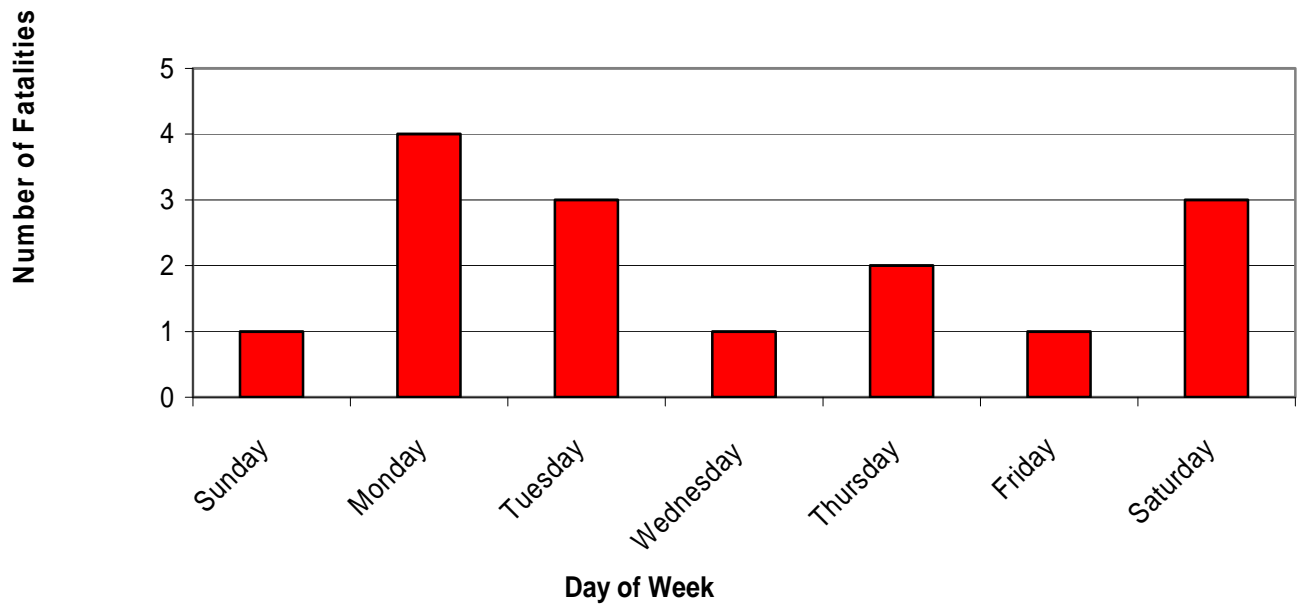
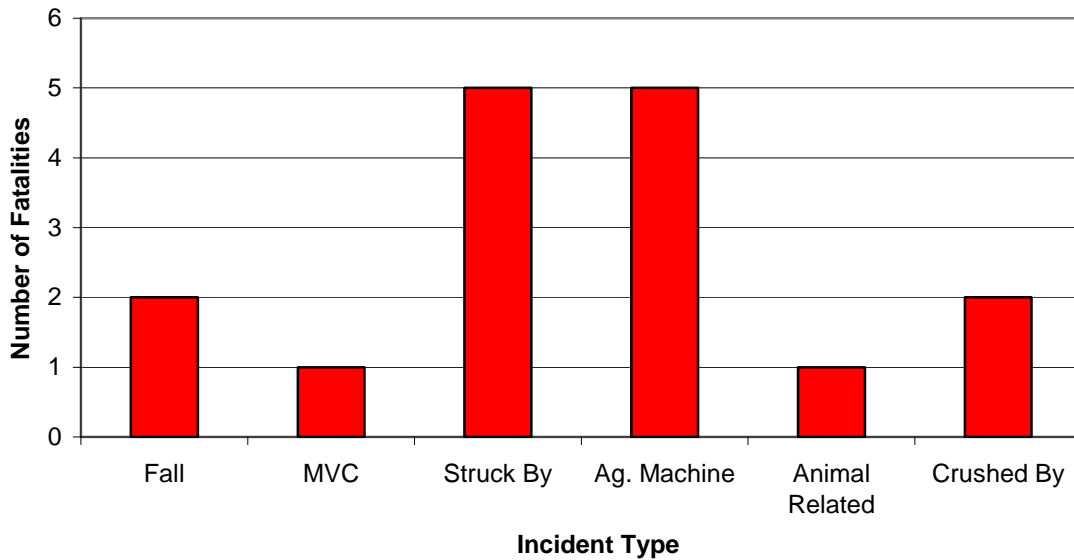


Figure 25 represents the external cause of death for workers in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting industry. The leading causes of death for these workers were incidents involving agricultural machinery (tractors) (n = 5) and being struck by an object (n = 5).

Figure 25. Agricultural Industry Worker Deaths by Incident Type – 2007.



Logging Industry Fatalities

The KY FACE Program recorded 4 fatalities in the Logging industry in 2007. Three of these workers were between 47 and 57 years of age and one of them did not complete high school. One of the decedents was self-employed (Figure 26) and the most frequent external cause of death in this industry was being struck by an object (Figure 27).

Figure 26. Employment Status of Decedents in the Logging Industry – 2007.

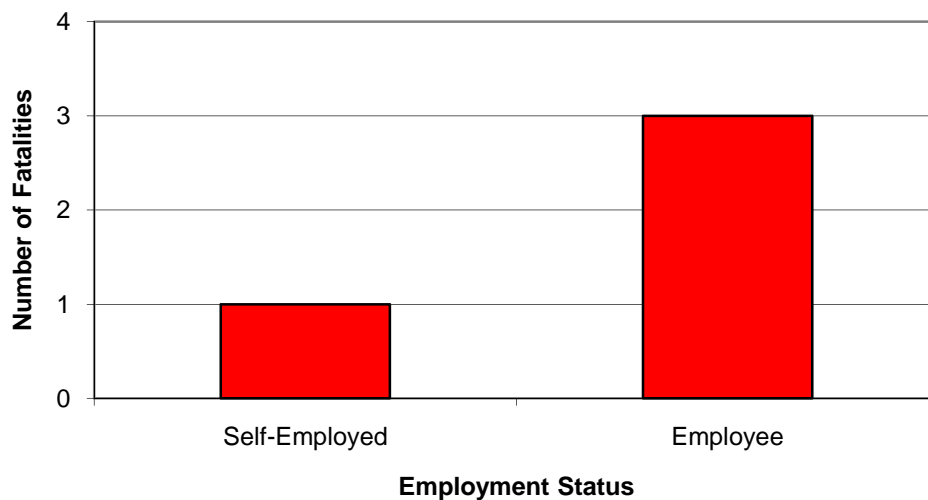
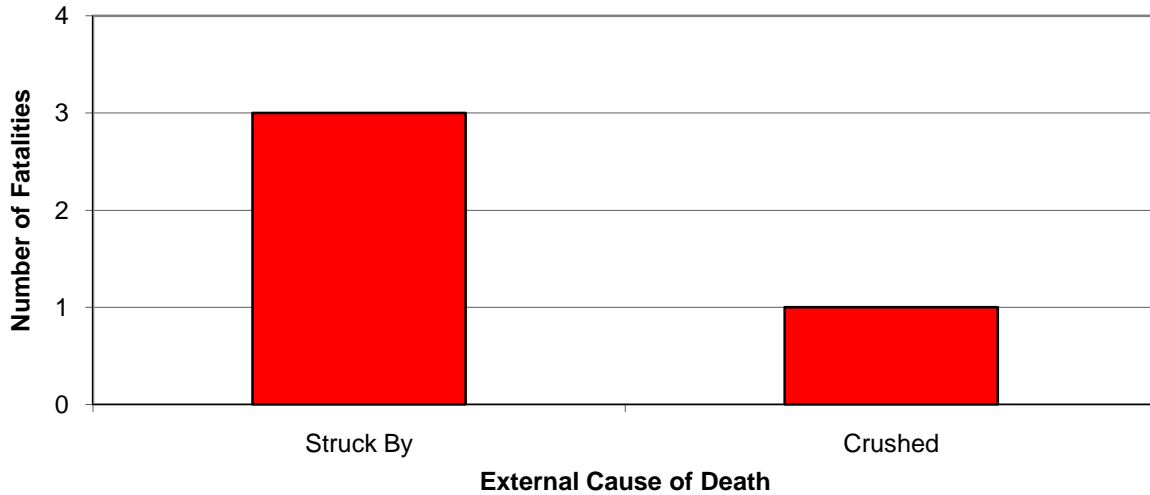


Figure 27. External Cause of Death for Decedents in the Logging Industry – 2007.



Self-Employed Statistics

Twenty-five percent of the decedents who were involved in occupational fatalities during 2007 were self-employed. The average age of fatally injured self-employed workers was 64 years of age; all were males and 95% were Kentucky residents. Nine of the 20 self-employed workers were employed in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting industry (Figure 28). The most common incident types for self-employed workers in 2007 were MVC’s (n=5) and agricultural machines (n=5) (Figure 29).

**Note: All self-employed data is based only upon those occupational fatalities in which the decedent’s employment status could be confirmed.*

Figure 28. Self-Employed Fatalities by Industry – 2007.

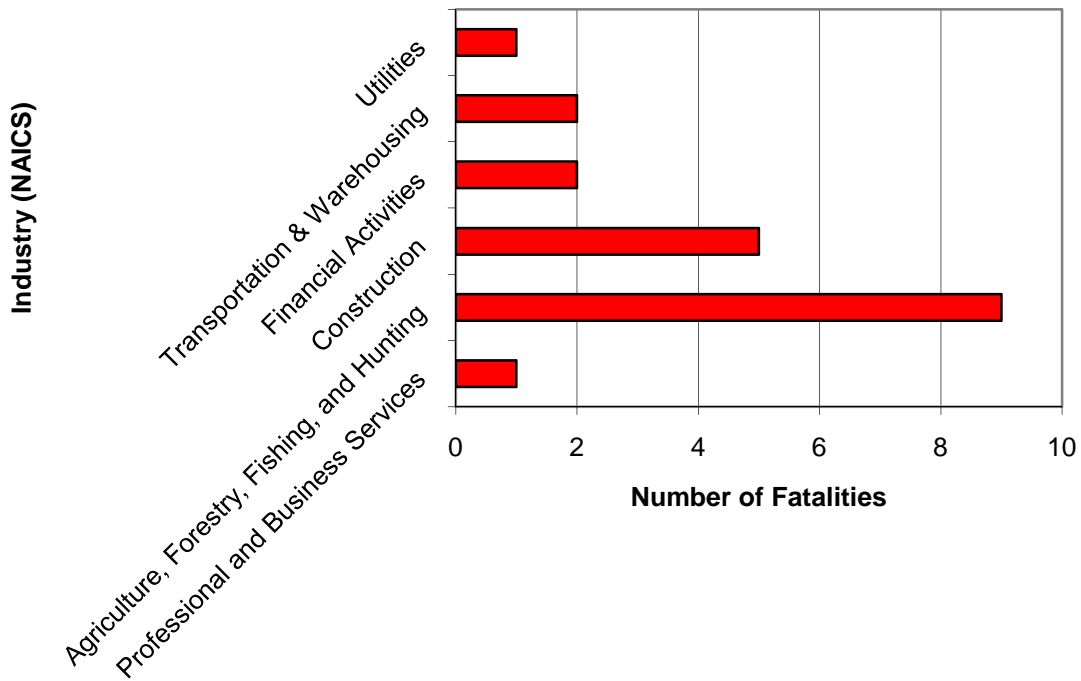
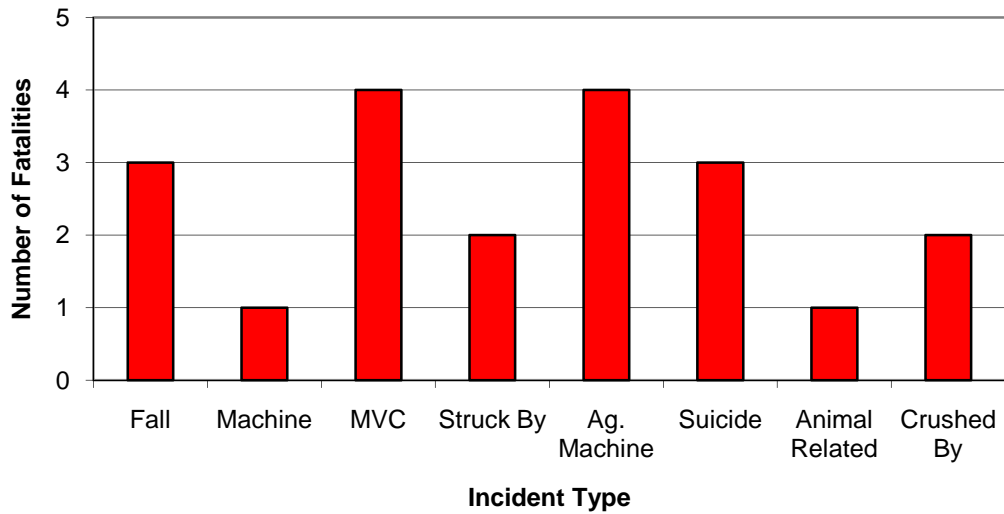


Figure 29. Self-Employed Fatalities by Incident Type – 2007.



CONCLUSION

Although Kentucky's worker fatality rate has decreased from 9 deaths/ 100,000 workers in 1997 to 5.8 worker deaths/ 100,000 workers in 2007, Kentucky's occupational fatality rate is still 57% above the national fatality rate. Further targeted intervention strategies and approaches are needed in high-risk industries and occupations such as Transportation, Construction, and Agriculture to reduce the burden of fatal occupational injuries within these industries.