

This report is based on information gathered by HSA inspectors for work-related vehicle fatality investigations in 2012¹. By law, employers are required to report work related deaths to the Authority².

Summary

There were a total of **49** work related deaths reported to the HSA in 2012¹. **19** of these deaths involved work related vehicles (WRV) (39%*). **15** of these deaths were workplace transport deaths (79%+) and **4** (21%+) were work related road safety incidents, including driving for work and working on or near the road.

*= Percentage based on total deaths.

+ = Percentage based on Work Related Vehicle Deaths only.

Of the nineteen people killed:

- **1** was Female.
- **18** were Irish, **1** was 'Other EU'.
- **5** people were in the 65 – 99 age category.
- **5** people were in the 45 – 54 age category.
- **4** people were killed using Tractors.
- **4** people were killed by trailers of varying types
- June & October had the highest number of WRV deaths with **3** people killed in each month.
- Wednesday was the worst day for WRV deaths with **6** of the 19 people being killed on this day.
- The Munster region had the highest incidence of WRV deaths (**8**) during 2011. Three (**3**) of which occurred in Cork.

The top two causes of the 19 work related vehicle deaths identified, were (1) being hit or run over by a vehicle, followed by (2) being crushed by a

vehicle (see Figure 1). **12** people (48%+) died on the day of the incident. **4** (21%+) deaths can be attributed to loss of vehicle control, and **3** (16%+) deaths to maintenance operations. Tractors were the main type of vehicle involved in vehicle related deaths in 2012, accounting for 21%+ of deaths (Figure 3

The 45 – 54 & 65 – 99 year age categories were the two main groups affected by work related vehicle deaths, accounting for 10 (53%+) of the deaths (Figure 4). Employees accounted for 9 (47%+) of the deaths. Self-employed people accounted for 7 (37%+) of the deaths (Figure 5). One child aged 12 died as a result of a Work Related Vehicle incident involving an overturned tractor. The victim was driving the tractor at the time of the incident.

Tipperary had the highest number of work related vehicle deaths (Figure 6). Wednesday was the worst day for work related vehicle deaths (Figure 7). June & October were the months with the most work related transport deaths (Figure 8).

Most of the deaths occurred in small & micro businesses 89%+ (Figure 9).

In the majority of cases the victim had more than 1 year experience in their work role (Figures 10, 11 and 12). but in 28%+ of the cases the victim was only working at the accident location less than a month. Two victims had less than 1 weeks experience in their work role

¹ Official recorded Health and Safety Authority fatality figure

² Safety Health & Welfare at Work (General Applications) Regulations, 1993: Part X: Notification of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 58-63

Figure 1: Work Related Vehicle Death Causal Factors 2012

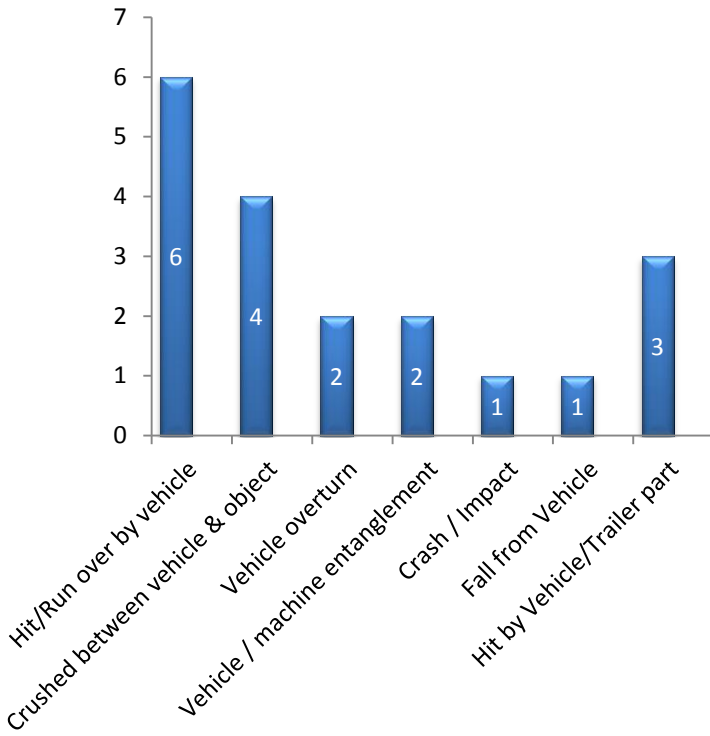


Figure 3: Work Related Transport Deaths 2012, Main Vehicle/Machine Types involved in Deaths

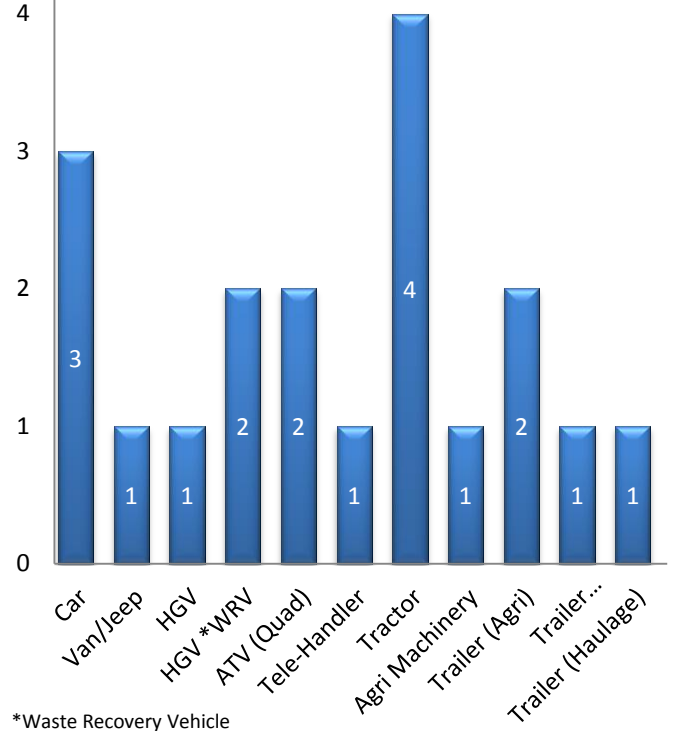


Figure 2: Workplace Related Transport Deaths 2012, Vehicle Activity at Time of the Incident

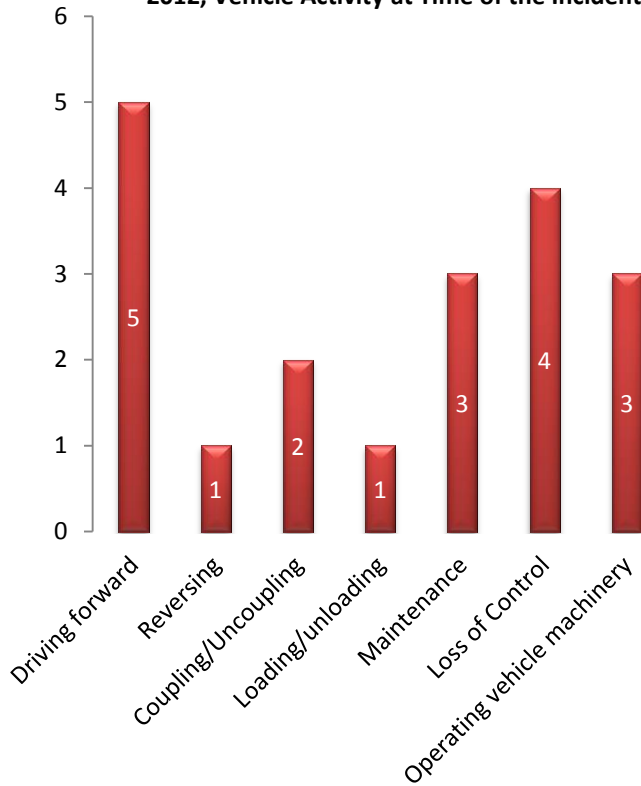


Figure 4: Age Category of People killed by Workplace Transport in 2012

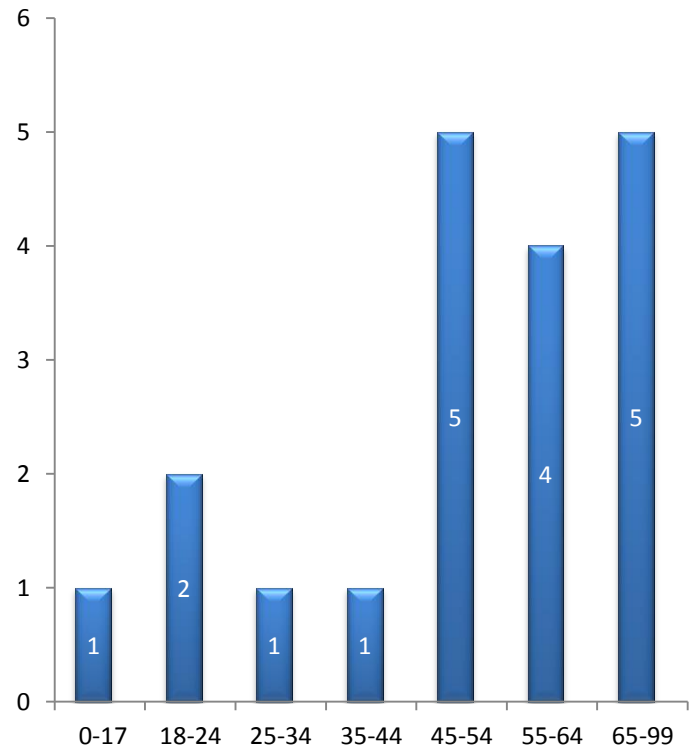


Figure 5: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012, Status of Person Killed

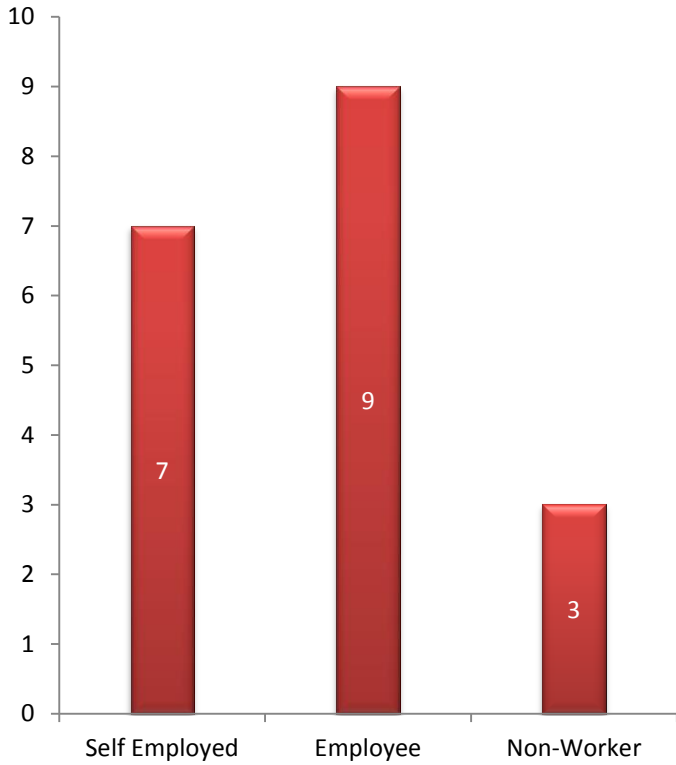


Figure 7: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012 per Day of the Week

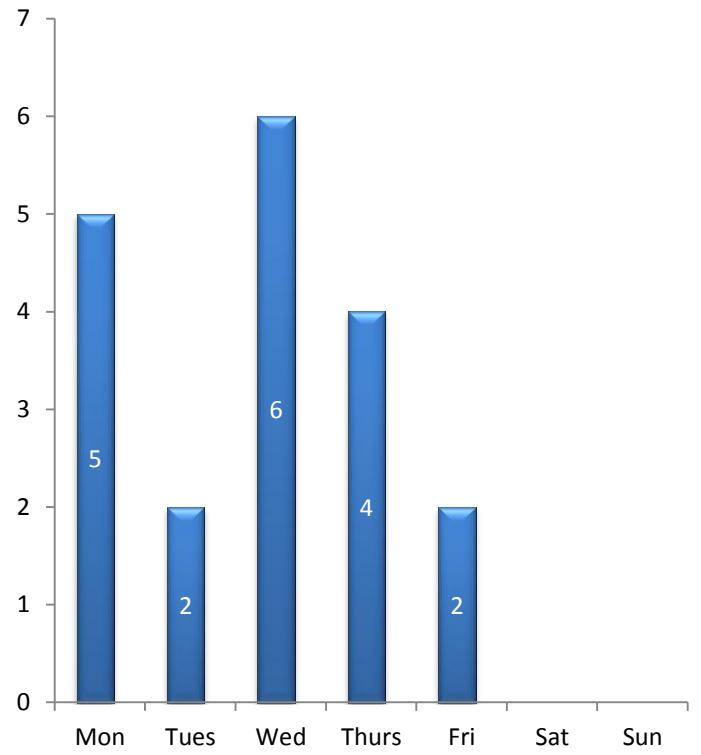


Figure 6: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012 per County

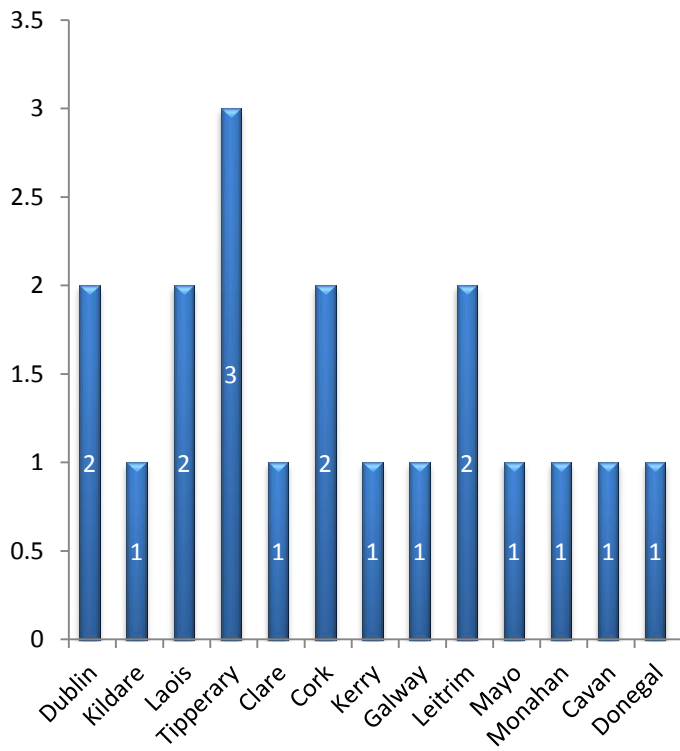


Figure 8: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012 per Month

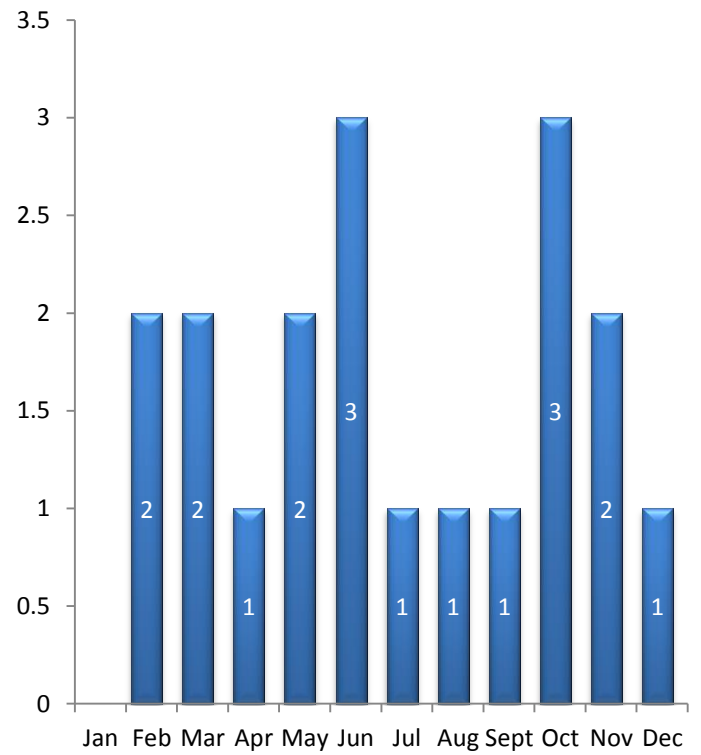


Figure 9: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012, deaths per organisation size

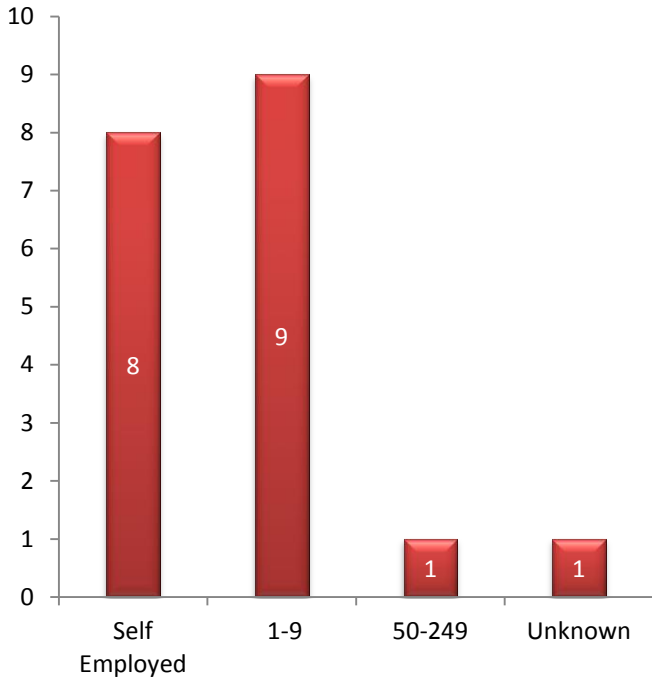


Figure 11: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012, Victim work experience in Role

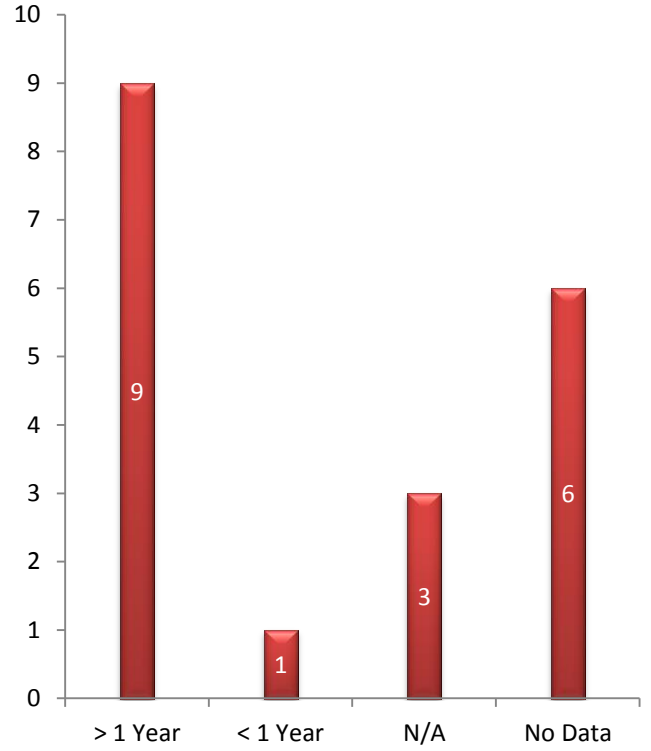


Figure 10: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012, Victim work experience in Sector

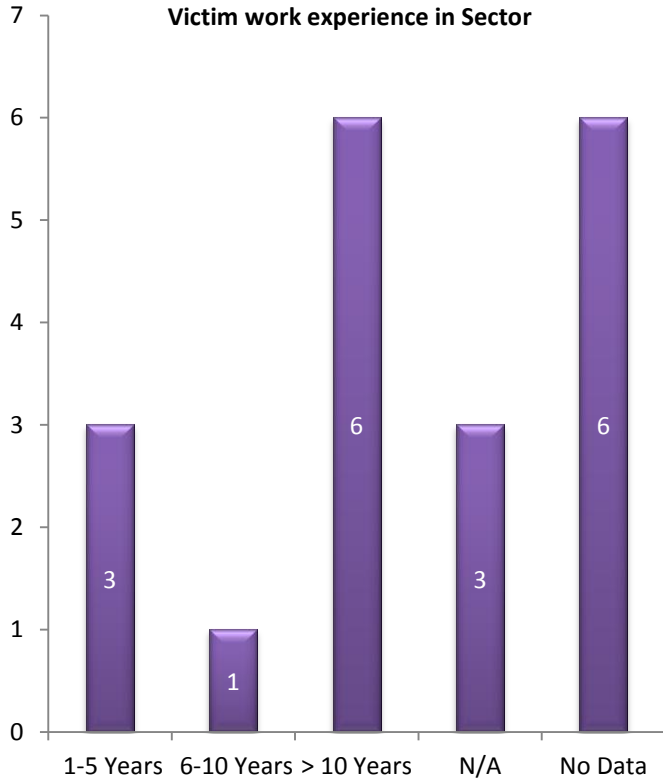
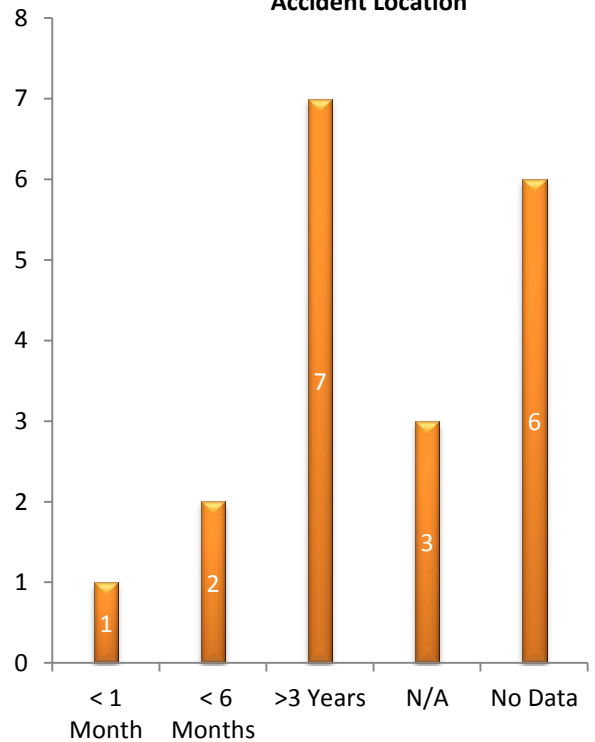


Figure 12: Workplace Transport Deaths 2012, Accident Victim's Length of Time Working at Accident Location



Work Related Road Deaths

There were 4 work related road deaths reported in 2012, involving 1 professional driver, 1 construction worker and two general operatives in the waste recovery sector. The vehicles involved were:

- Car
- Heavy goods vehicle
- Waste Recovery Vehicle (HGV)

The fatal incident causes were; 2 cases of being hit or run over by a vehicle or part of a vehicle, and 2 cases of entanglement in vehicle mounted and operated machinery.

Figure 13: Work Related Vehicle Deaths 2012 by Sector

