



Analysis of Work Related Vehicle Fatalities 2013

This report is based on information gathered by HSA inspectors for work-related vehicle fatality investigations in 2013¹. By law, employers are required to report work related deaths to the Authority².

Summary

There were a total of **47** work related deaths reported to the HSA in 2013¹. **20** of these deaths involved work related vehicles (WRV) (42%*). **15** of these deaths were workplace transport deaths (80%+) and **5** (25%+) 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 twenty people killed:

- **1** was Female.
- **17** were Irish, **2** were 'Other EU'. **1** was 'Outside EU'
- **5** people were in the 55 – 64 age category.
- **3** people were in the 0 – 17 age category.
- **4** people were killed using Tractors.
- **6** people were killed using trailers of varying types
- The month of **March** recorded the highest number of WRV deaths with **5** people killed.
- **Wednesday** and **Saturday** were the worst days for WRV deaths, each with **6** people being killed on respective days.
- County **Cork** had the highest number of Work Related Vehicle deaths at six (**6**) during 2013

The top two causes of the 20 work related vehicle deaths identified, were (1) being crushed by a vehicle followed by (2) being hit or run over by a

vehicle (see Figure 1). **4** (20%+) deaths occurred during loading/unloading operations, and **3** (15%+) deaths during reversing operations. Tractors were the main type of vehicle involved in vehicle related deaths in 2013, accounting for 20%+ of deaths (Figure 3)

The **55-64** year age category was the main group affected by work related vehicle deaths, accounting for 5 (25%+) of the deaths (Figure 4). **Self-employed** people accounted for 10 (50%+) of the deaths. Non-workers accounted for 3 (15%+) of the deaths. (Figure 5). One **child** died as a result of a fall from a loaded trailer. A tractor was towing the trailer at the time of the incident.

Cork had the highest number of work related vehicle deaths (Figure 6). Wednesday and Saturday were the worst days for work related vehicle deaths (Figure 7). March was the month with the most work related transport deaths (Figure 8).

Most of the deaths occurred in small & micro businesses (80%+ - see Figure 9).

Seven of the victims had over 10 years' experience working in their sector. Nine of the victims had over 1 years' experience in their role at time of incident. The **Agriculture sector** accounted for the highest number of Work Related Vehicle deaths at **10** (50%+).

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 2013

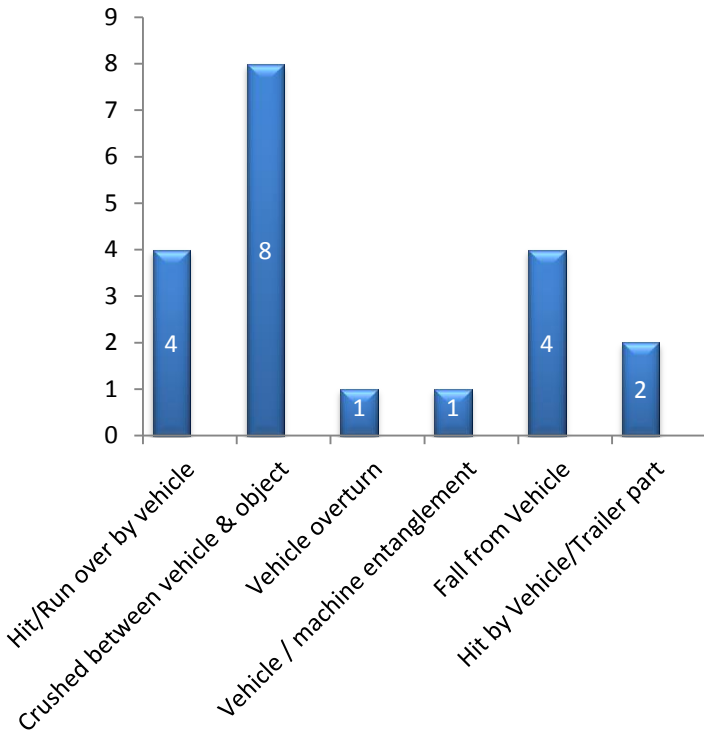


Figure 3: Work Related Transport Deaths 2013, Main Vehicle/Machine Types involved in Deaths

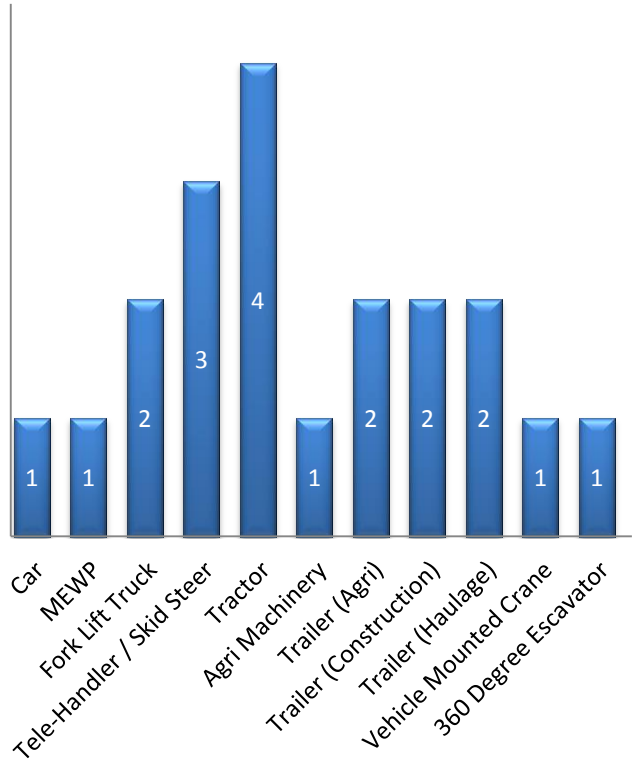


Figure 2: Workplace Related Transport Deaths 2013, Vehicle Activity at Time of the Incident

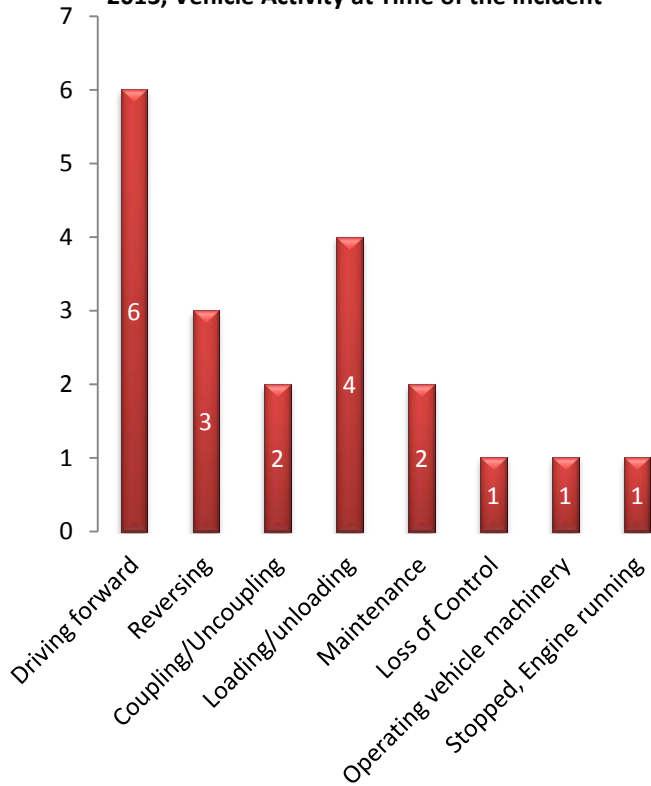
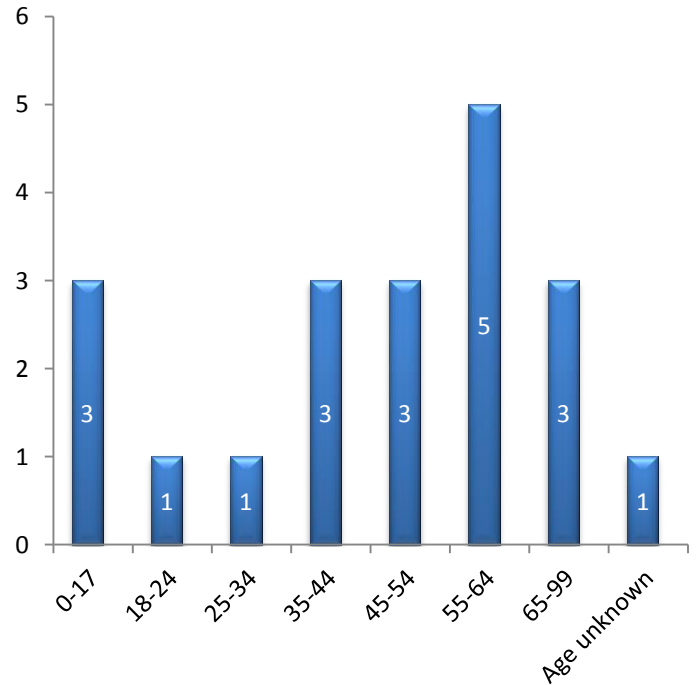


Figure 4: Age Category of People killed by Workplace Transport in 2013



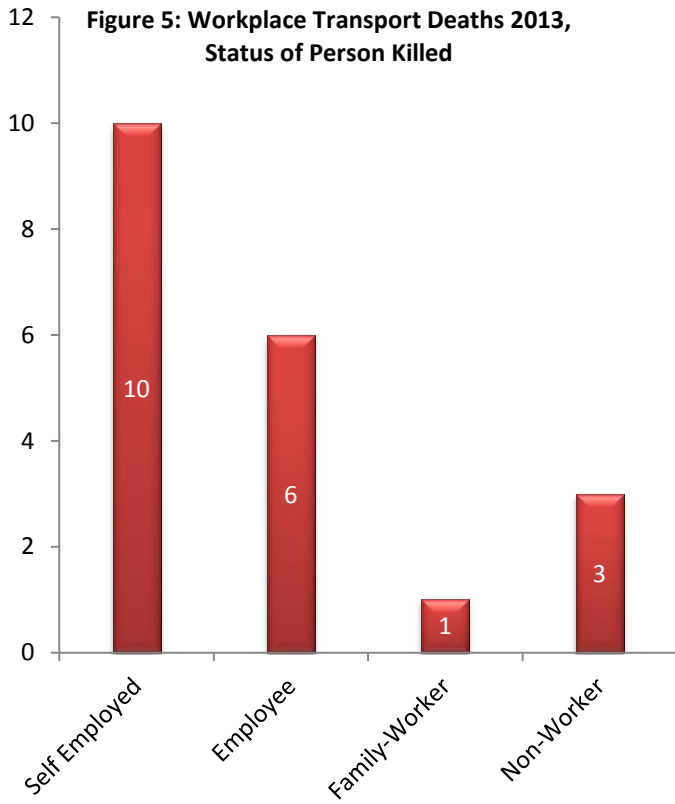


Figure 7: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013 per Day of the Week

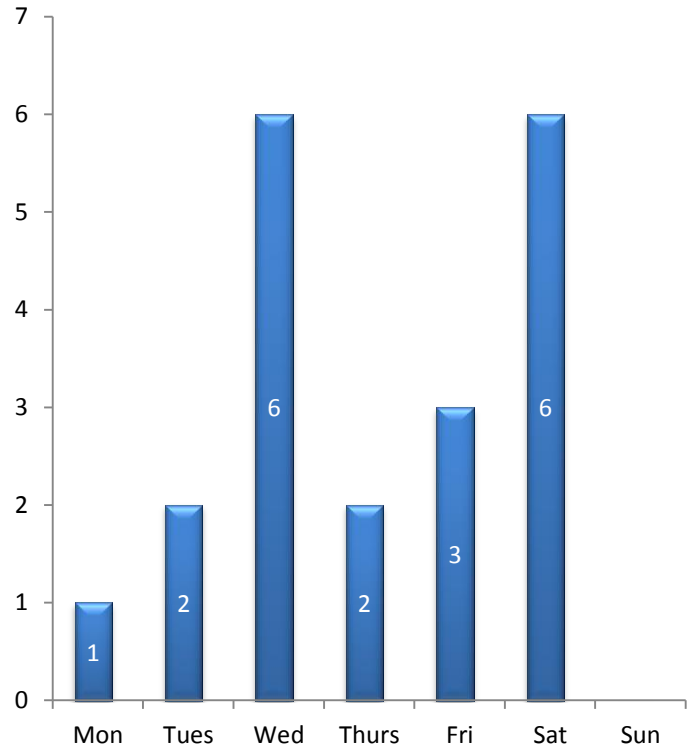


Figure 6: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013 per County

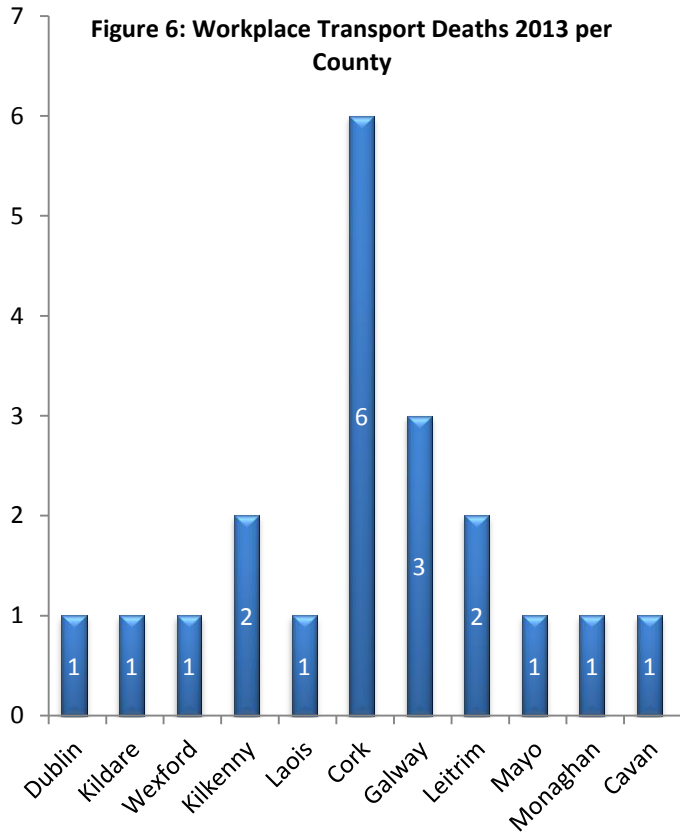


Figure 8: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013 per Month

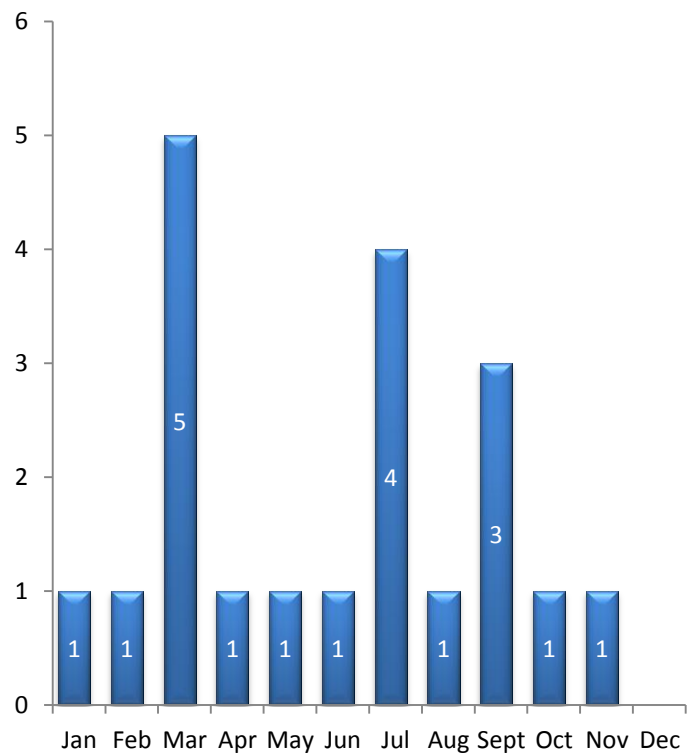


Figure 9: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013, deaths per organisation size

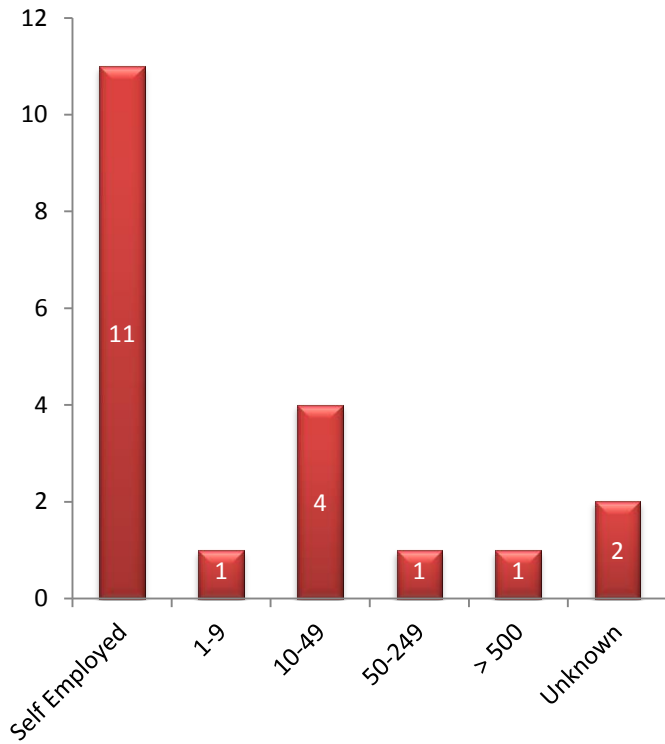


Figure 11: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013, Victim work experience in Role

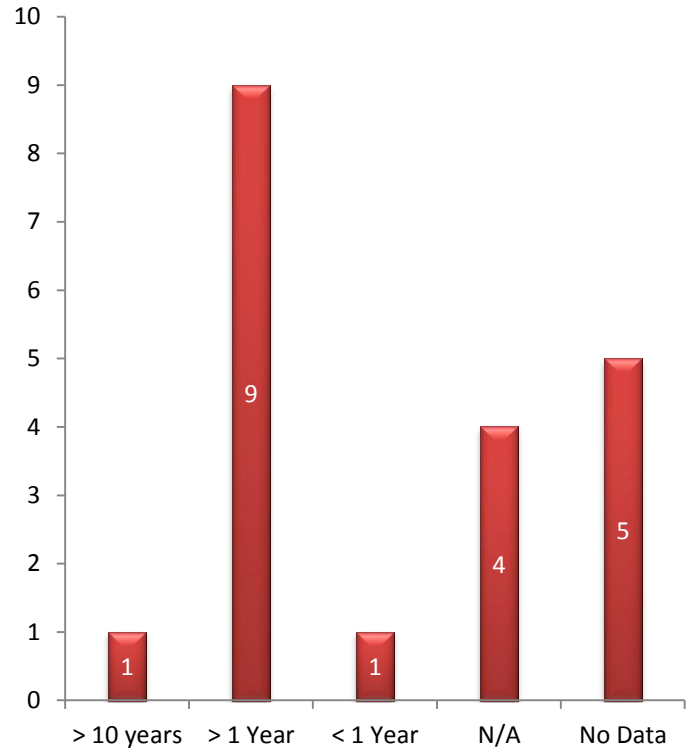


Figure 10: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013, Victim work experience in Sector

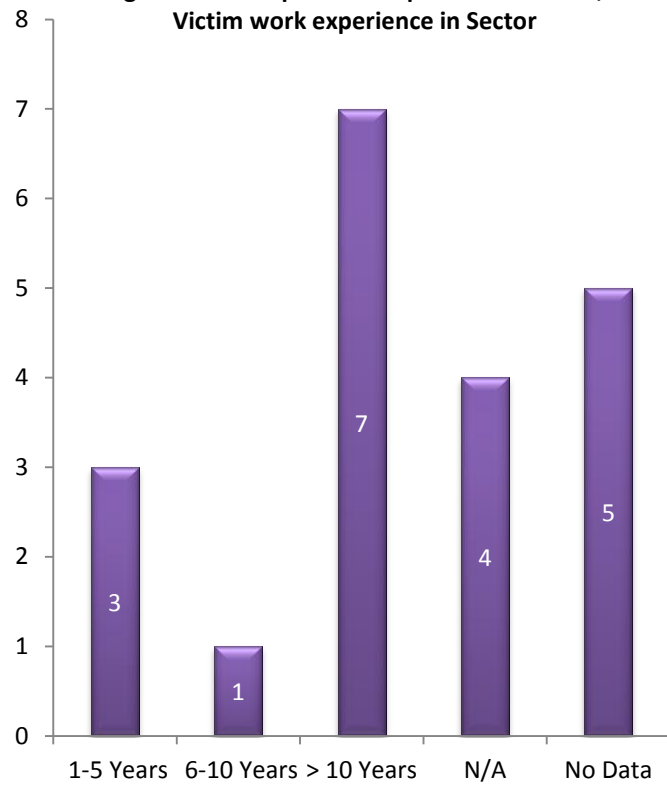
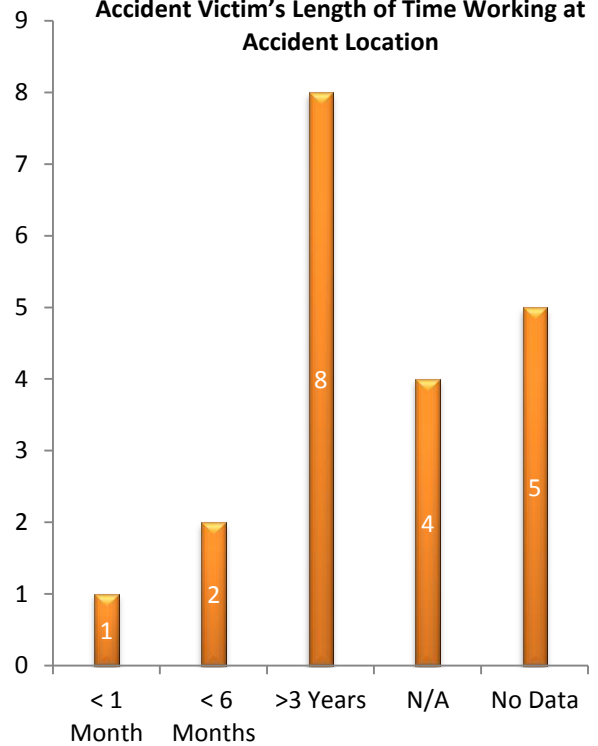


Figure 12: Workplace Transport Deaths 2013, Accident Victim's Length of Time Working at Accident Location



Work Related Road Deaths

There were 5 work related road deaths reported in 2013, involving 3 Self Employed Farmers, 1 construction worker and 1 Child under 17 (non-worker). The vehicles involved were:

- Car
- Tele-Handler
- Tractor
- Tractor/Trailer combination

The fatal incident causes were; 1 case of being hit or run over by a vehicle, 1 case of being crushed between a vehicle and an object, and 3 cases of falling from vehicle / trailer.

Figure 13: Work Related Vehicle Deaths 2013 by Sector

