

# HAVE THE CONVERSATION ABOUT INJURIES ON THE FARM

In Iowa, between 2017-2023, traumatic farm-related injuries resulted in 3753 emergency room (ER) visits. (1.5 farmer ER visits / day)



**Falls** caused **1** in **4** injuries

949 Falls (22%)	Injuries
One level to another	273
Same level	258
Ladders, scaffolding	121

## FALLS

- 136 farmers/year go to the ER because of a fall
- $\geq 55$  years old go to the ER over twice as often compared to younger farmers
- Farmers who fall most often result in fracture (71%) or internal organ damage (29%)



**Transportation** was involved in **1** in **4** injuries

903 Transportation	Injuries
Animal Riders	170
Off-road Vehicles	134
Roadway Collisions	208
Ag Vehicle Off Road	146

## TRANSPORTATION

- Of *all ER visits with farmer injuries*: transportation events **on the road** account for **7%**, **non-roadway** events account for **11%**
- Of all injuries, 4% involve ATVs, 5% involve ag vehicles, and 10% involve non-ag vehicles

## ANIMAL INJURIES

- Injuries from **riding animals** account for 4.5% of ER trips
- Over *all ER trips* by farmers, animal contact injuries are caused by:
  - Contact with **Cow** (10%)
  - Contact with **Horse** (1.5%)



**Machine Interactions** caused **1** in **4** injuries

939 Interactions were:	Injuries
Contact with	491
Struck by/against	285
Cut/Pierce	163

## AMPUTATIONS

Geeting caught in/between moving equipment accounted for 54% of all on-farm amputations.

# MOST PROMINENT FARMER INJURIES

2017-2023

## OUTCOMES



Fractures: 56%



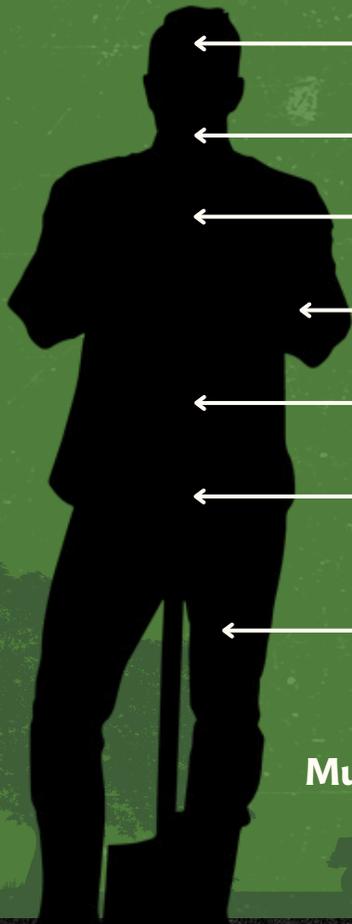
Lacerations/  
Open Wounds: 28%



Internal Organs: 23%



Amputations: 4%



← **Head/TBI**  
1710, 46%

← **Neck**  
1132, 31%

← **Spinal Cord/Vertebral Column**  
552, 15%

← **Upper Limbs**  
1301, 35%

← **Chest/Abdomen/Trunk**  
1033, 28%

← **Pelvis**  
309, 8%

← **Lower Limbs**  
1261, 34%

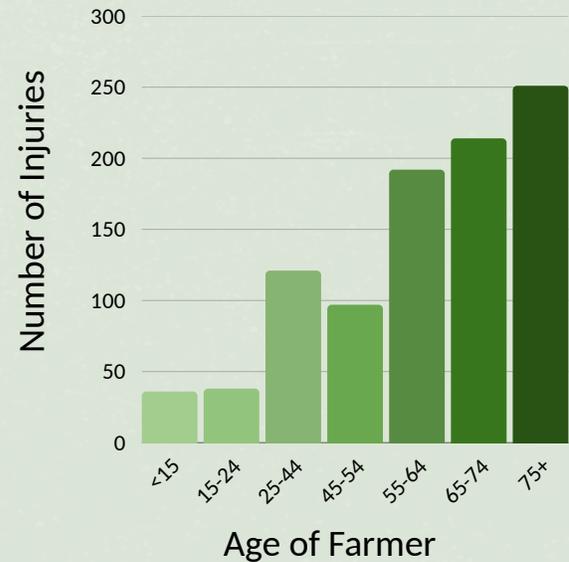
**Multiple Systems:** 3%

**Other:** 125

## AGE-RELATED INJURIES

69% of all falls resulting in ER trips are for those >55 years old

ER Visits for Farmer Falls, 2017-23



## MULTIPLE DIAGNOSES

46% of injured farmers had more than one injury diagnosis

e.g., with fracture, common to also have superficial (bruise, 489) and open wound (laceration, 438)

Injury data are from the Iowa Trauma Registry under an agreement with the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (#588DSA2023-36)

**IOWA**

College of Public Health

