

NOTIFIABLE FATALITIES

DECEMBER 2015 MONTHLY REPORT

Work health and safety legislation in each Australian state and territory requires work-related fatalities to be notified to the relevant state or territory work health and safety authority. As work-related fatalities due to traffic incidents on public roads are generally investigated by the police and those relating to aircraft and trains are generally investigated by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau they are not always notified to work health and safety authorities. However, work health and safety authorities have agreed to notify Safe Work Australia of these types of fatalities if they become aware of them.

This report is restricted to workers (both employees and self-employed) who suffered a fatal injury at work and bystanders who suffered a fatal injury as a consequence of work activity. Worker fatalities that occurred while commuting or resulted from suicide or natural causes (e.g. stroke or heart attack) are not included in this

report. Bystander fatalities are not included if the bystander was considered to be at fault.

Work health and safety authorities agreed that Safe Work Australia can include in this report un-notified work-related fatalities that occur on public roads where there is sufficient evidence to show they were work-related from 1 January 2013. This report should be considered a preliminary estimate of work-related fatalities since it is based on initial reports from authority inspectors. The number of notifiable fatalities and/or the circumstances involved may change at a later date after further investigation.

Because of this broadening of the scope of the Notifiable Fatalities collection, comparison with Notified Fatalities reports published before January 2013 should not be made.

Table 1 Number of notifiable fatalities by month, 2015

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Worker	13	14	12	9	9	12	13	11	22	15	26	7	163
Public road & air	4	2	6	0	1	4	4	4	8	5	5	1	44
Other	9	12	6	9	8	8	9	7	14	10	21	6	119
Bystander	5	5	2	1	2	3	4	3	4	6	3	4	42
Public road & air	4	4	0	0	0	2	4	1	4	3	1	2	25
Other	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	2	0	3	2	2	17
Total	18	19	14	10	11	15	17	14	26	21	29	11	205

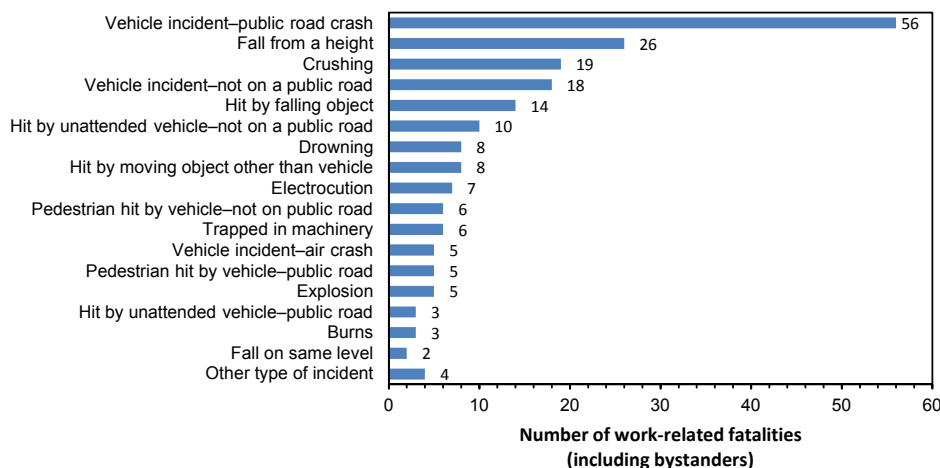
There were 11 work-related notifiable fatalities during December 2015—seven male workers, three male bystanders and one female bystander. Of these fatalities, one worker and two bystanders died as a result of an incident on a public road.

Of the 11 fatalities, three fatalities each resulted from a *fall from a height* and *vehicle accident—public road crash* and two fatalities resulted from *electrocution*. The remaining three fatalities were all different types of incidents, including *pedestrian hit by vehicle—other, hit by moving object (unattended vehicle)—not on a public road* and being *hit by falling object*.

Five fatalities occurred in agriculture, forestry & fishing workplaces, four in transport, postal & warehousing workplaces and two construction workplaces.

Information on the total number of notifiable fatalities for the year to date is shown in Figures 1 and 2 and Tables 1, 2 and 3. Figure 1 shows the types of fatal incidents that have occurred over the year to date; Figure 2 shows fatalities by sex and age of the deceased; Table 2 shows reporting jurisdictions for workers and bystanders; and Table 3 shows counts based on both the industry of workplace at which the fatality occurred and the industry of the decedent's employer.

Figure 1 Number of notifiable fatalities by type of incident, 1 January — 31 December 2015



**Table 2 Notifiable fatalities by jurisdiction^a,
1 January — 31 December 2015**

Jurisdiction	Worker	Bystander	Total
New South Wales	33	2	35
Queensland	30	7	37
Western Australia	26	1	27
Victoria	18	2	20
South Australia	7	2	9
Tasmania	4	0	4
Commonwealth	1	1	2
Northern Territory	0	2	2
Australian Capital Territory	0	0	0
Public road incidents ^b	39	25	64
Air incidents ^c	5	0	5
Total	163	42	205

a Jurisdictions are ranked on worker fatalities.

b Public road fatalities are a national count and may be revised if further information becomes available. Counts are based on jurisdiction notifications and media reports supported by National Coronial Information System records.

c Counts based on jurisdiction notifications or Australian Transport & Safety Bureau public domain reports.

**Figure 2 Notifiable fatalities by age group and sex,
1 January — 31 December 2015**

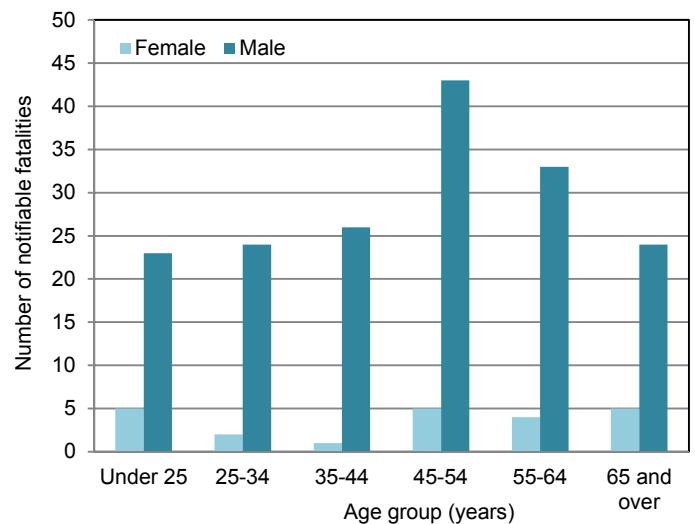


Table 3 Notifiable work-related fatalities by industry^a, December 2015 and 2015 total

Industry ^b	Industry of workplace						Industry of employer	
	Worker		Bystander		Total		Worker	
	Dec 2015	Total 2015	Dec 2015	Total 2015	Dec 2015	Total 2015	Dec 2015	Total 2015
Transport, postal & warehousing	1	38	3	24	4	62	1	36
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	4	39	1	3	5	42	4	38
Construction	2	26	0	1	2	27	1	27
Manufacturing	0	14	0	1	0	15	0	13
Mining ^c	0	11	0	0	0	11	0	11
Arts & recreation services	0	4	0	3	0	7	0	2
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	0	6	0	1	0	7	0	6
Administrative & support services	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	5
Other services	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	5
Health care & social assistance	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	2
Public administration & safety	0	2	0	2	0	4	0	4
Retail trade	0	3	0	1	0	4	0	3
Education & training	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	2
Wholesale trade	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	3
Accommodation & food services	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Professional, scientific & technical services	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
Rental, hiring & real estate services	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Financial & insurance services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Information media & telecommunications	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private residence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industry unknown or not applicable ^d	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total	7	163	4	42	11	205	7	160

a Fatalities of workers are coded to both the industry of their employer and the industry of the workplace at which the fatality occurred: these two classifications are different ways of looking at the incident and are not necessarily related. The industry of employer is not applicable to bystanders.

b Ranked in descending order based on the total workplace year-to-date column and then alphabetically.

c Mining fatalities include fatalities that occur in the coal mining, oil and gas extraction, metal ore mining, gravel and sand quarrying, and services to mining sectors.

d Includes notifiable fatalities that occurred overseas.

Data sources:

The work-related fatalities data presented in this report derive from notifications provided by the work health and safety authorities in each state and territory. In addition, Safe Work Australia receives notifications from the New South Wales Department of Industry and Investment; the Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum; the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation – Mines and Energy; and the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority. Counts of work-related deaths involving aircraft or trains are supplemented by publicly available reports on the Australian Transport & Safety Bureau website. Counts of work-related deaths on public roads are supplemented by media reports and National Coronial Information System records.