Children’s safety in the workplace

Safe Work Australia statistics show just how vulnerable children and young people are in the workplace. Regardless of whether they are bystanders or working, a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is responsible for children’s health and safety.

Over the last 14 years (2003-2016)

160 children have died in work-related incidents

= 4% of the total number of work-related fatalities

46% 31% 23%

0-5 years 5-9 years 10-14 years

2/3 were boys

51 children have died on farms

primarily as a result of:

- drowning
- falling from a height
- vehicle collision

71% of workplace fatalities occurred in the following industries:

- transport, postal and warehousing
- agriculture, forestry and fishing

Each year on average 11 children die in work-related incidents

Source: This infographic uses data collated by Safe Work Australia’s Traumatic injury fatalities database.
- This includes fatalities resulting from an injury sustained during work activity, as a result of someone else’s work activity and includes unpaid volunteers and family workers.
- This infographic defines children as those aged 0-14 years.