



# National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

## National Facts

A child is killed in an agricultural worksite every 3.5 days and 63 young people suffer serious farm injuries each day, according to the latest federal data.

- Number of Children who Died on Farms between 1995 and 2002: 907
- Leading Sources of Fatal Injury: *machinery (includes tractors); motor vehicles (includes ATVs); drowning*
- Number of Children Injured on Farms in 2006: 23,100 (5,800 while working)
- Leading Sources of Nonfatal Injury: *structures and surfaces, animals, and vehicles (predominately off-road vehicles)*
- Number of Farms: 2.2 million
- Number of Children living on Farms: 1.12 million
- Number of Children working on Family Farms: 590,000
- Number of Children hired to work on Farms: 307,000

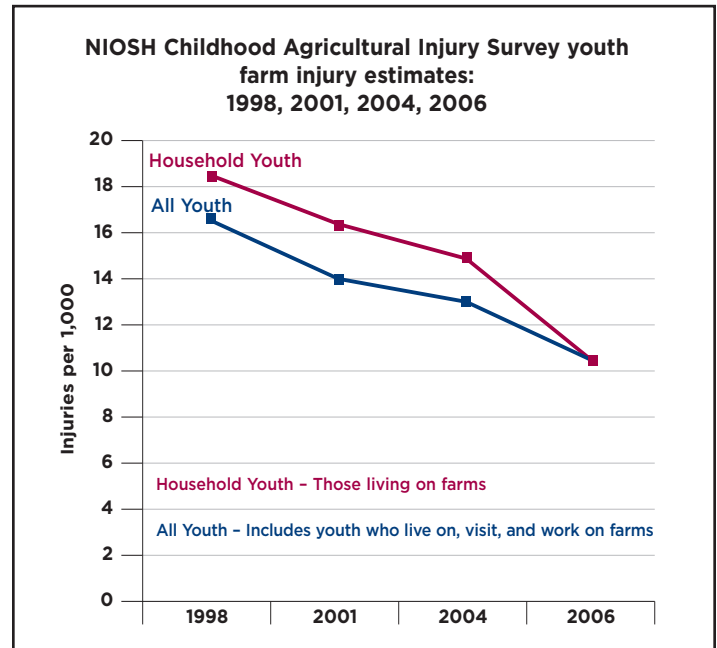
Additional data available at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) web site, [www.cdc.gov/niosh/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/).

## About Us

The National Children's Center is funded by the **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** to "enhance the health and safety of all children exposed to hazards associated with agricultural work and rural environments." It is located in the National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, WI.

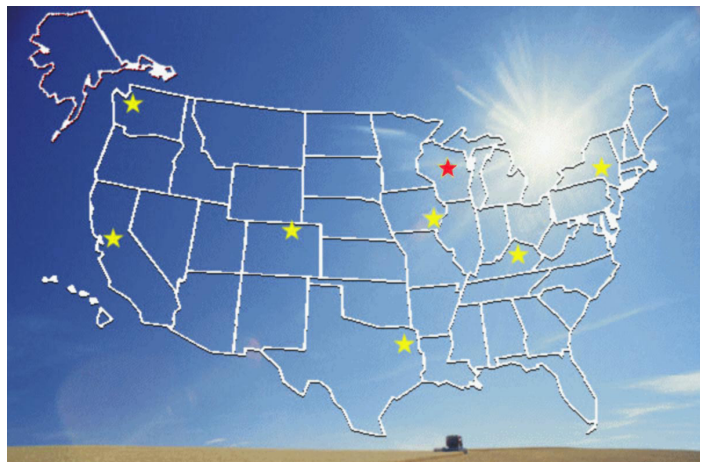
The National Children's Center traces its roots to the 1992 **Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Symposium**, from which formed the **National Committee for Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention**. Committee members finalized a **National Action Plan** for addressing the childhood agricultural injury problem. The plan was endorsed by the U.S. Congress in October 1996. In late 1996, NIOSH rolled out its **National Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention Initiative**, which included funding of a national center to bridge private and public sector efforts. That center

## Injury Rates



**NOTE:** The rate of childhood agricultural injuries per 1,000 household youth (those living on farms) declined by 44% from 1998 to 2006. The rate of injuries per 1,000 farms (includes all youth who live on, visit, and are hired to work on farms) declined by 37% during that same period.

became the **National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety (NCCRAHS)**, formally established in 1997.



*NIOSH-funded agricultural centers.*

## Current Projects

### Blueprint for Knowledge Translation

The goal of this project is to move state-of-the-art knowledge on childhood agricultural injury prevention into practice by gathering and synthesizing findings from childhood agricultural injury research and interventions that have been conducted since the 2001 Summit on Childhood Agricultural Injury Prevention. Recommendations will serve as the foundation upon which strategies and priorities are set for the next decade. *PI - Susan Gallagher, M.S., Tufts University.*

### Motivating Farm Parents to Create Safe Play Areas on Farms: A Randomized Control Trial

Based on Canadian experiences, researchers will test the impact of \$500 incentives for motivating farm families to build Safe Play Areas. This project will not only garner quantifiable data, but also will build a unique partnership with American Family Insurance.

*PI - Eileen Fisher, Ph.D., University of Iowa.*



### Economics of Youth Farm Labor and Farm Injuries

The goal of this project is to explore the economics of youth working on family farms and the economic consequences of farm youth injury. Illumination of the short- and long-term economic impacts of injuries to children on farms will be useful to public- and private-sector groups as a financial motive to encourage behavior change among adults. *PI - Eduard Zaloshnja, Ph.D., Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation.*

## Center Staff

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### Childhood Agricultural Safety Network (CASN)

The overall goal is to strengthen partnerships and collaborative initiatives involving the agricultural community, child injury prevention organizations and minority-serving associations. This project creates an effective Network that serves as a single, united voice empowered to advocate for major changes on behalf of children who live and/or work on farms. The CASN project has a dedicated Web site: [www.childagsafety.org](http://www.childagsafety.org). *PI - Barbara Lee, Ph.D., National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety.*



### Integrating Safety Guidelines for Hired Adolescent Farm Workers into Field Supervisors' Practices



## Safety Guidelines Hired Adolescent Farm Workers

The long-term goal is to improve agricultural supervisors' practices related to training and supervision of adolescent farm workers. This project uses newly developed Safety Guidelines for Hired Adolescent Farm Workers resources and currently existing training venues to test a new method for training production agriculture field supervisors. *PI - Barbara Lee, Ph.D., National Children's Center.*

### Stakeholder Communications/Digital Dissemination

The goal is to facilitate dissemination of outreach, intervention, education, and research outputs to a diverse, inclusive group of stakeholders. This project features new Web-based options for current and proposed National Children's Center projects in partnership with the Biomedical Informatics Research Center (BIRC) at Marshfield Clinic. *PI - Scott Heiberger; Co-PI - Marcy Fitz Randolph, D.O., Ph.D.-C., National Children's Center.*

## Enduring Programs

- North American Guidelines for Children's Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT), 1999.
- Creating Safe Play Areas on Farms, 2003.
- Agritourism: Health and Safety Guidelines for Children, 2006.
- Agricultural Safety and Health Workshops for Journalists: Strategies that Work, 2008.

NORTH AMERICAN  
GUIDELINES FOR



children's  
AGRICULTURAL TASKS