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In the period from 1995 to 2002, a worker in a farming occupation aged 55 years and older was over 10 times more likely to be fatally injured at work than an employed person in the general population. Although both the nature of farm work and age contributed to the high risk, it was more related to the types of exposures in farm work rather than age.

While States in the Midwest reported the highest frequencies of fatal injuries, States in the Great Plains region reported the highest mortality ratios.

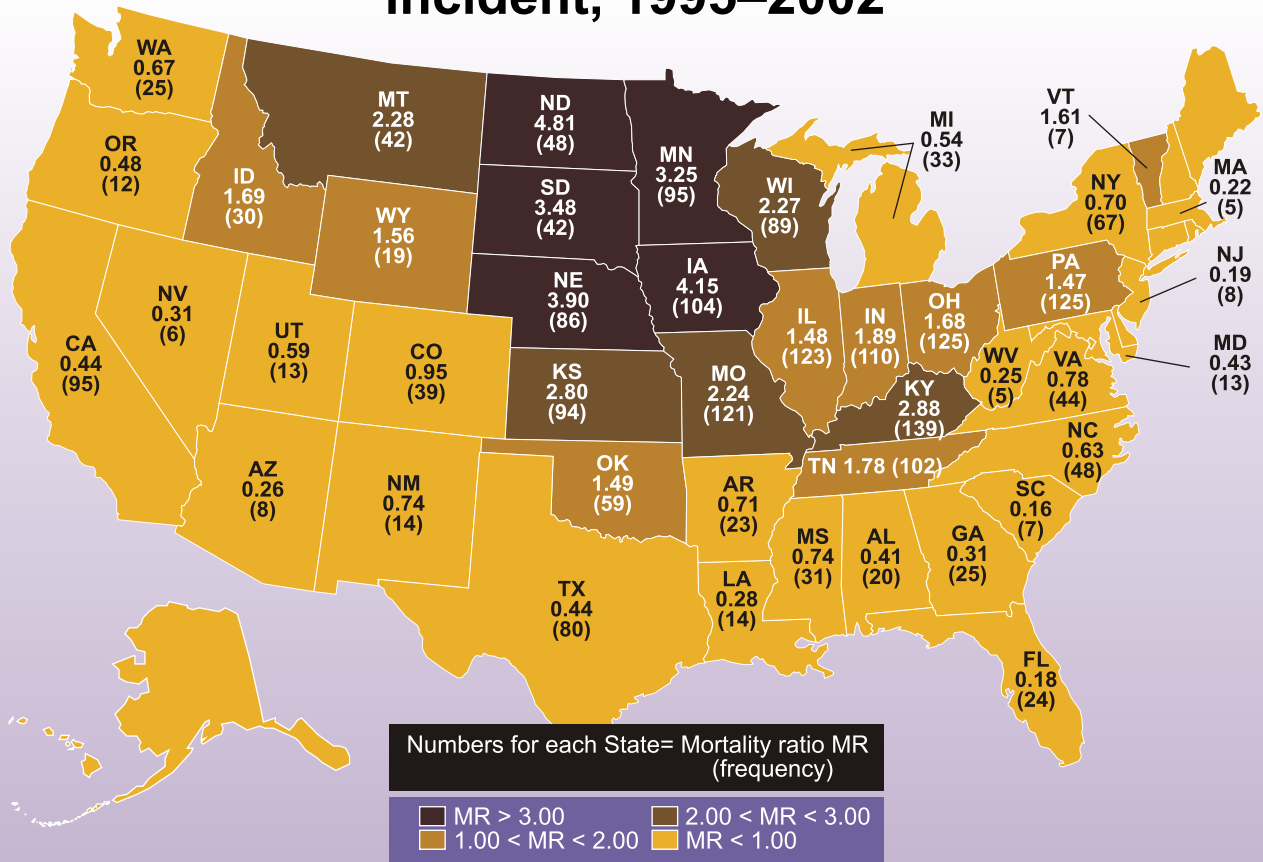
The mortality ratio (MR) was calculated with the formula

$$MR = PGROUP / PALL,$$

where PGROUP denotes the number of fatalities to a worker group in the State in question, divided by the number of fatalities to that group in the Nation, and PALL designates the number of fatalities to all workers in State in question, divided by the number of fatalities to all workers in the Nation.



Mortality ratios and frequencies of fatal occupational injuries to workers aged 55 years and older in farming occupations, by State of incident, 1995–2002



NOTE: Frequencies are not reported for selected States because they do not meet BLS publication criteria.
 SOURCE: Meyer, Samuel, "Fatal Occupational Injuries to Older Workers in Farming, 1995–2002", *Monthly Labor Review*, October 2005, pp. 38–46.