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# PUBLIC HEALTH PERSPECTIVE ON FARM INJURIES : YOUNG WORKERS AND MIGRANT WORKERS

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Québec 



# Plan

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## Context

- The farm: a place where people live as well as work
- General content
- The public health approach
- Methodology

## Scope of farm injuries of young workers and migrant workers

- Young workers
- Migrant workers

## Solutions

- Young workers
- Migrant workers

## Recommendations

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# Context

# Farm as both workplace and home

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- Farming is among the most hazardous occupations
- Prevention Strategies implemented largely focus on workers (CSST)
- Farm is a place where people live as well as work

# Context

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- **Section 54 of the Public Health Act**

**«Section 54 of the Public Health Act assigns the Minister of Health and Social Services the role of advisor to the government on public health issues »**

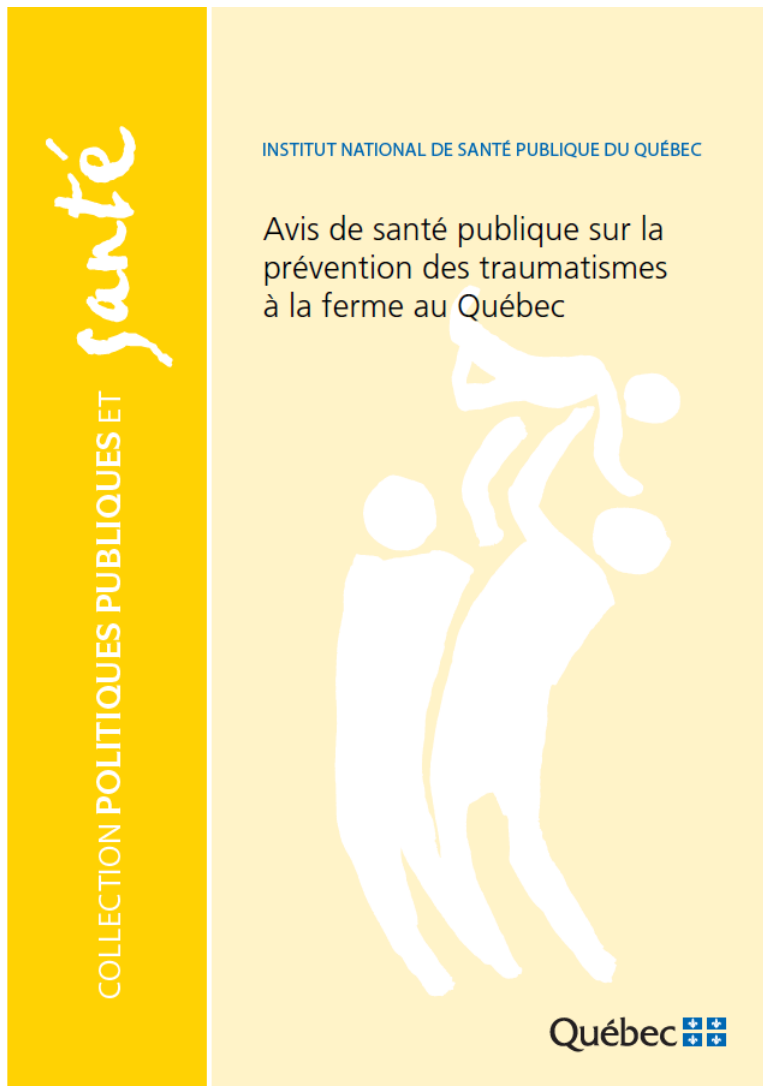
- **Revision of agro-food policy : an opportunity to contribute to the health of the population**

- **Part of a series of reports on Public Policy**

(<http://www.inspq.qc.ca/politiquespubliques/page/Collection-politiques-publiques-et-sante.aspx>)

- **Brief submitted for public consultations on The green paper for a Québec agri-food policy**

# General content



- Social, economic and legal environments
- Scope and evolution of injuries
- Major risk factors and vulnerable groups
- Effective interventions and programs
- Recommendations to improve farm safety: target groups and specific problems



**Avis de santé publique sur la prévention des traumatismes à la ferme au Québec**  
| Guillaume Burigusa | Serge-André Girard | Mathieu Gagné | Pierre Maurice |

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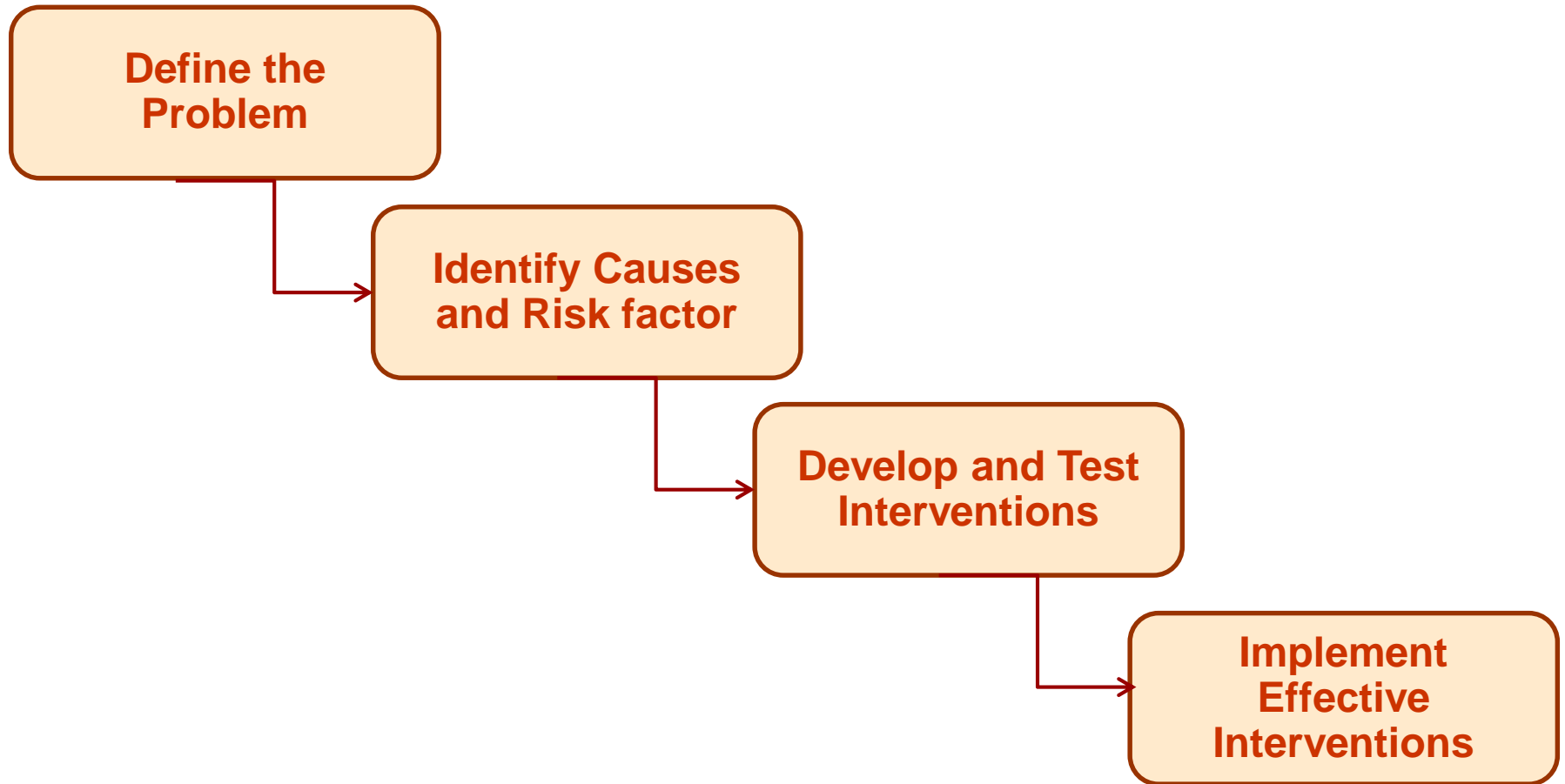
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# Public Health Approach to Injury Prevention

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# Public health approach(principles)

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- **#1 Actions targeting various factors: human factors, technological factors, environmental factors (physical, economical and socio-legal)**
- **#2 Mixed strategies: Education, Engineering and Public Policy (laws and regulations)**
- **#3 Supports measures affecting the environment and technology rather than individual behavior**
  - Difficulty in changing behavior, often temporary effect
  - Permanent solution that is on every one
  - Education is necessary but insufficient



# Methodology

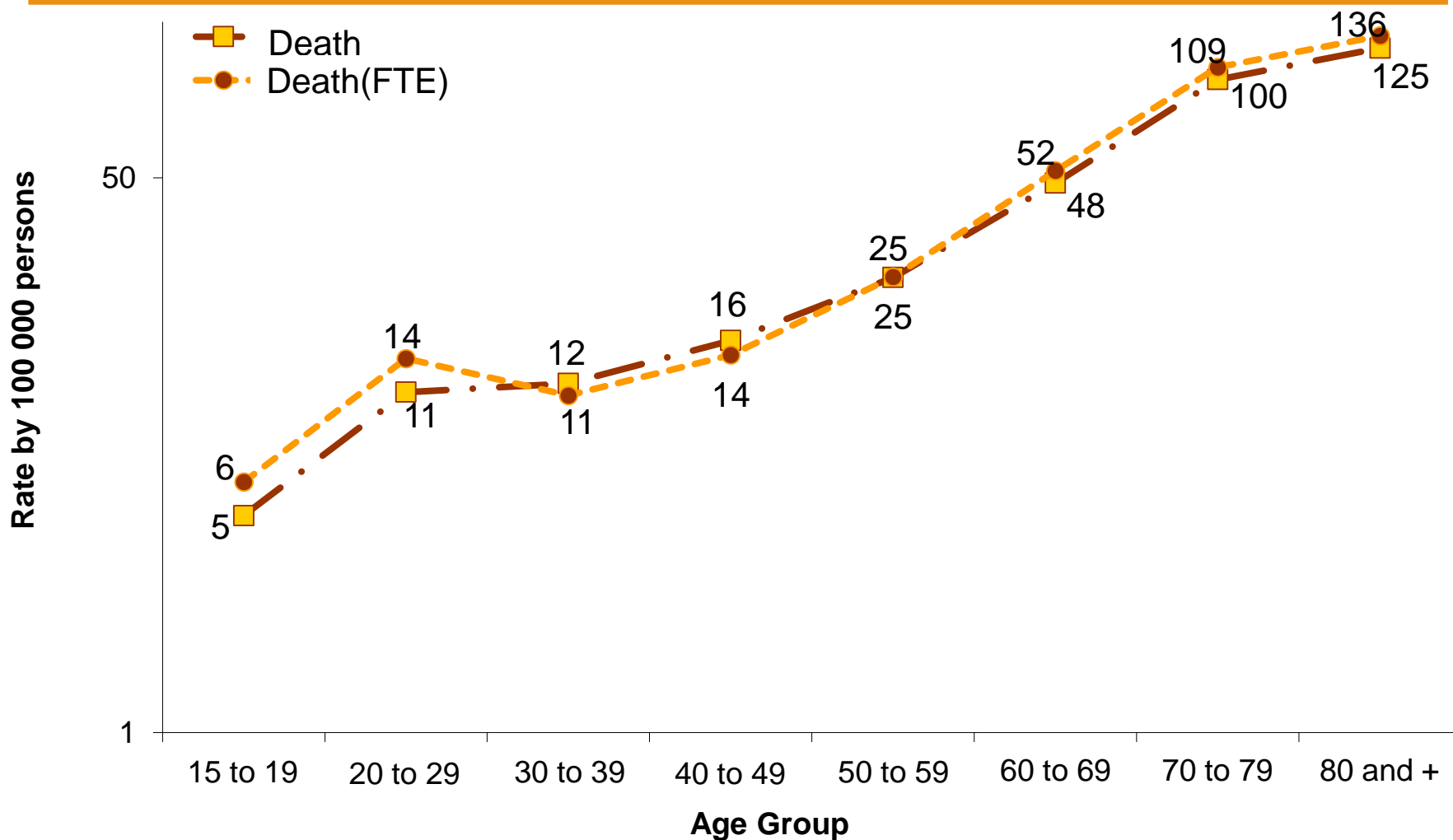
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- **Data Analysis**
- **Literature review**
- **Validation by a support committee**

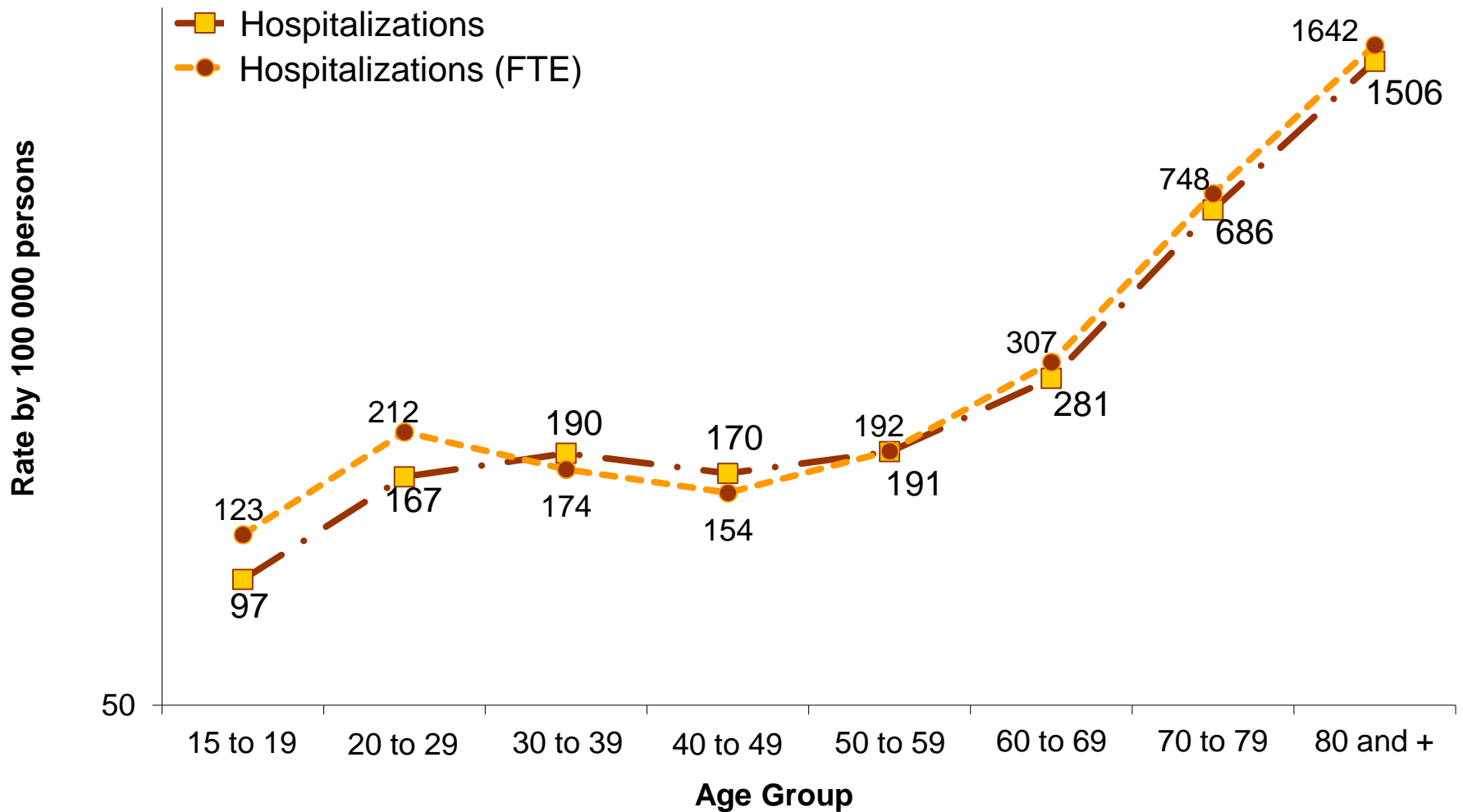
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# Scope of the problem

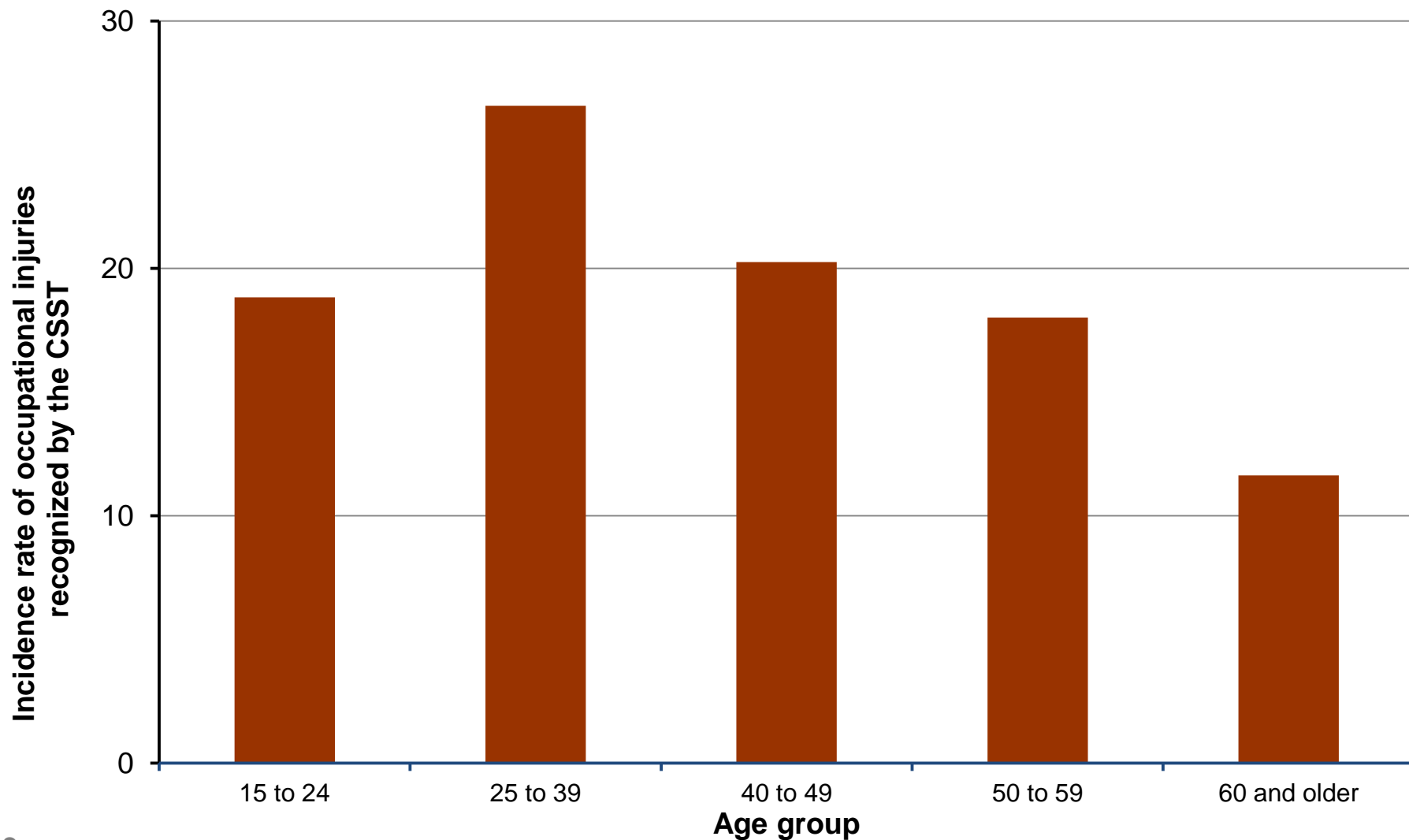
# Death rates due to farm-related injuries, by age groups, with and without FTE Correction, Québec, 1994-2007



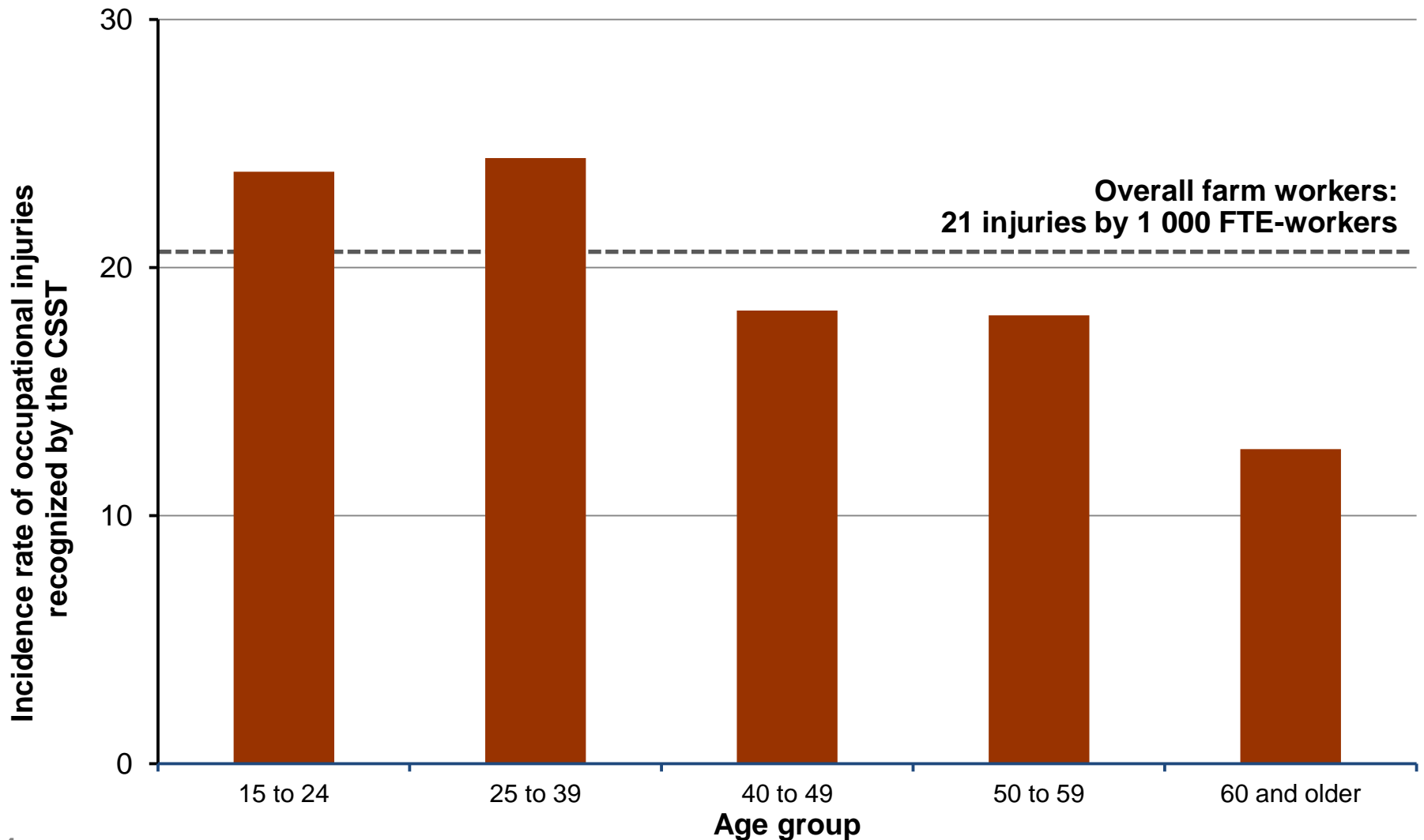
# Hospitalization rates due to farm-related injuries, by age groups, with and without FTE correction, Québec, 1994-2008



## Incidence rate of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, Quebec, 2006

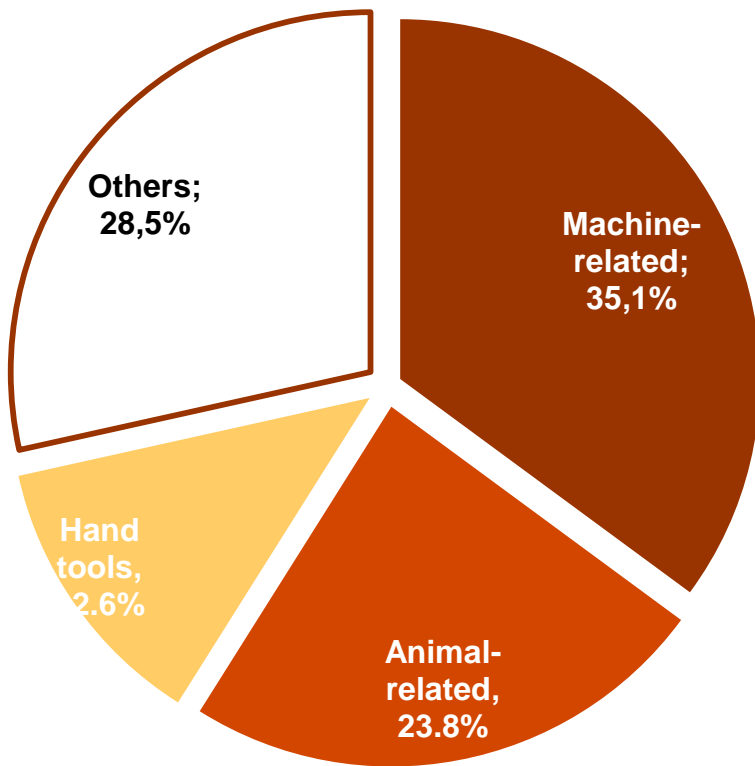


# Incidence rate of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, FTE correction, Quebec, 2006

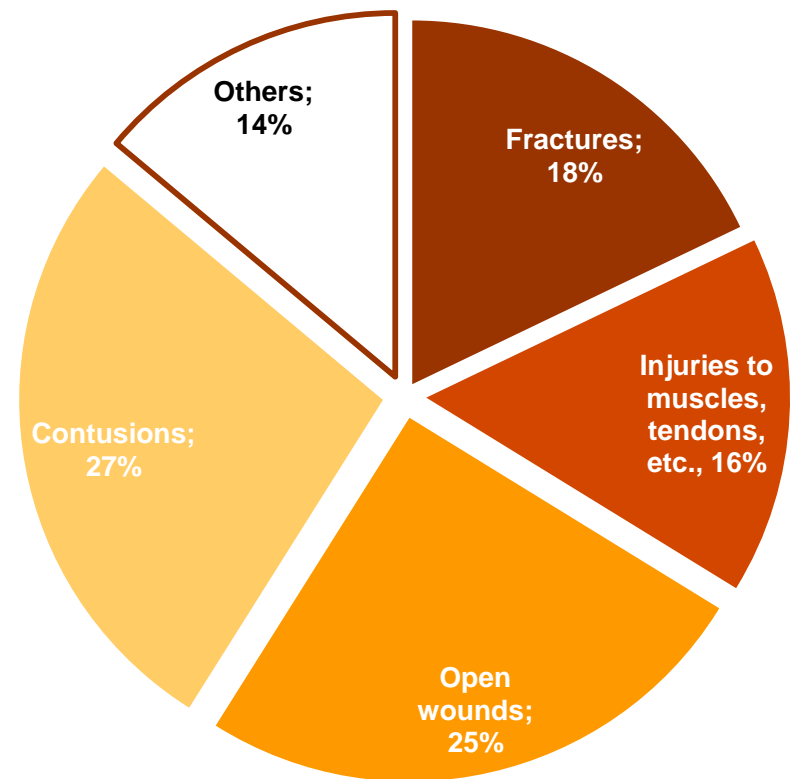


# Distribution of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, aged 15 to 24 years, Quebec, 2006

Cause of the injury

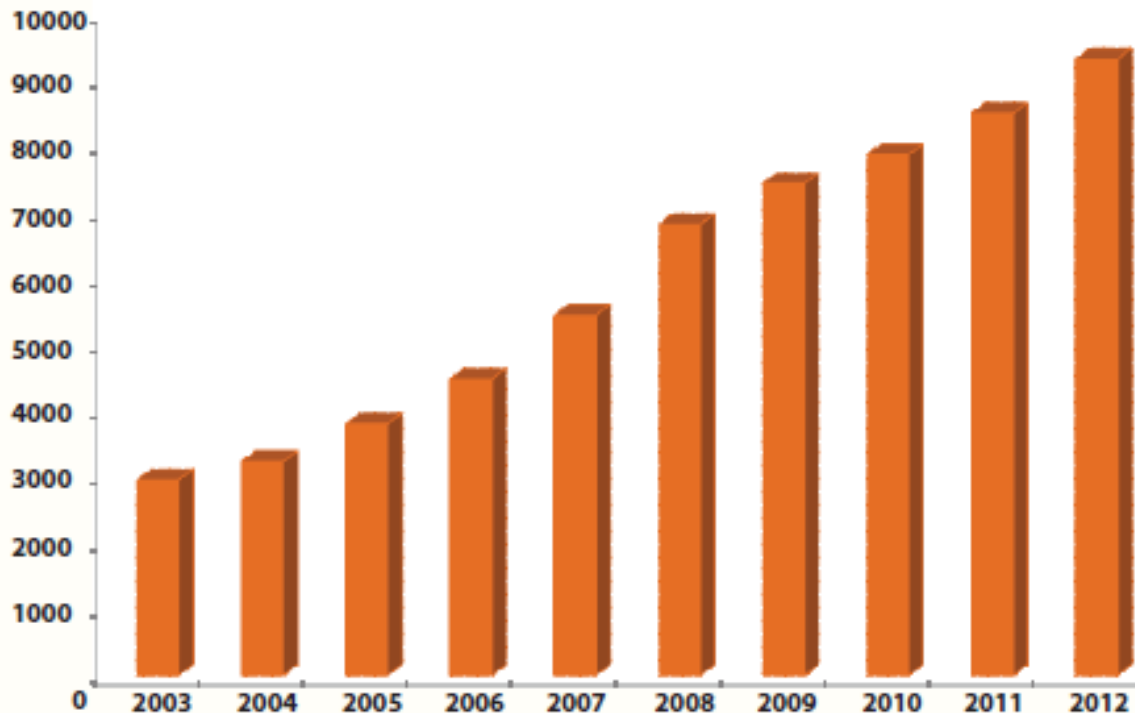


Nature of Injury



# Number of positions filled by temporary foreign workers in agriculture, Quebec, 2003-2012

Positions filled by FERME



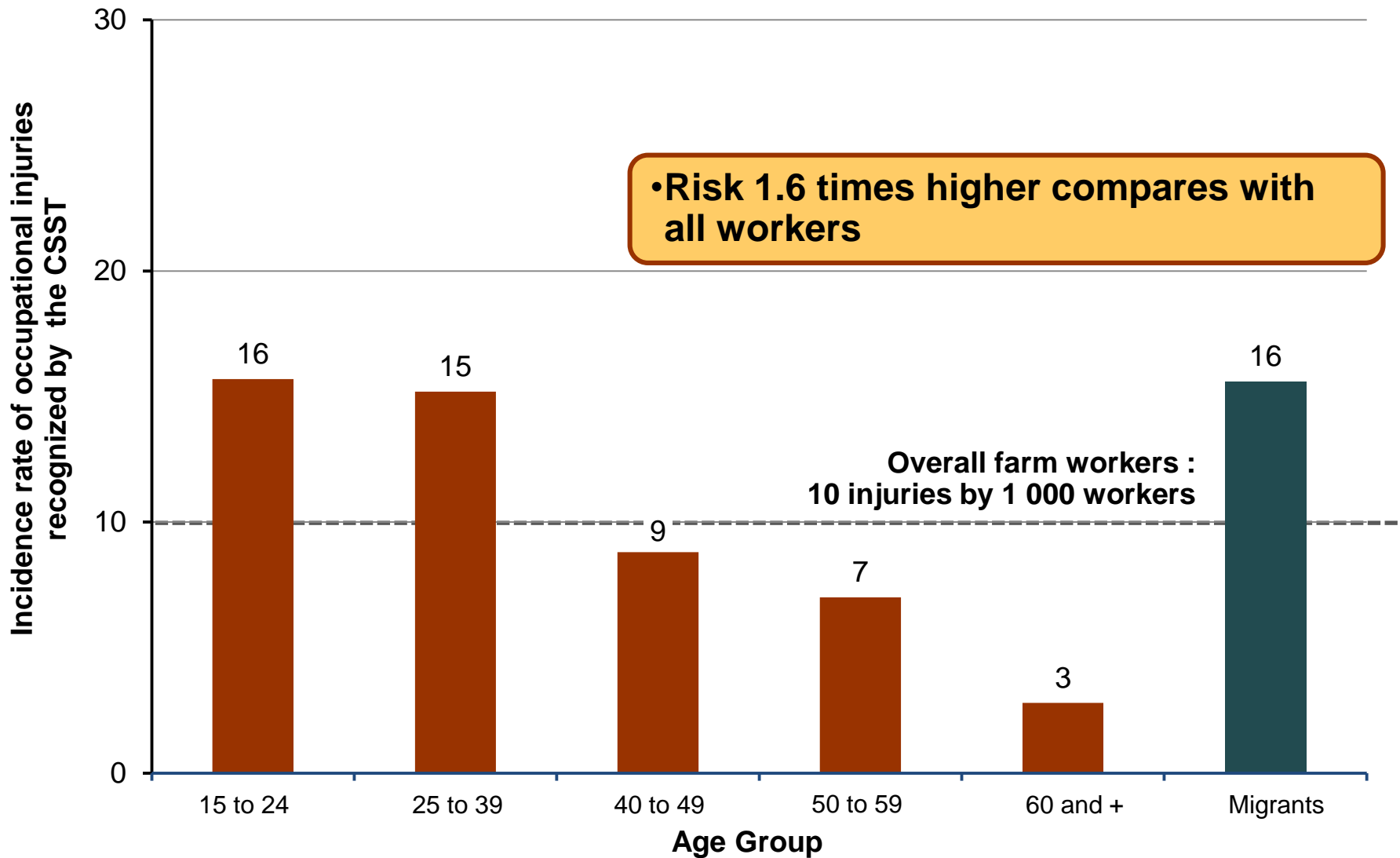
Rapport d'ACTIVITÉS 2012

Fondation des Entreprises en Recrutement de Main-d'œuvre agricole Étrangère

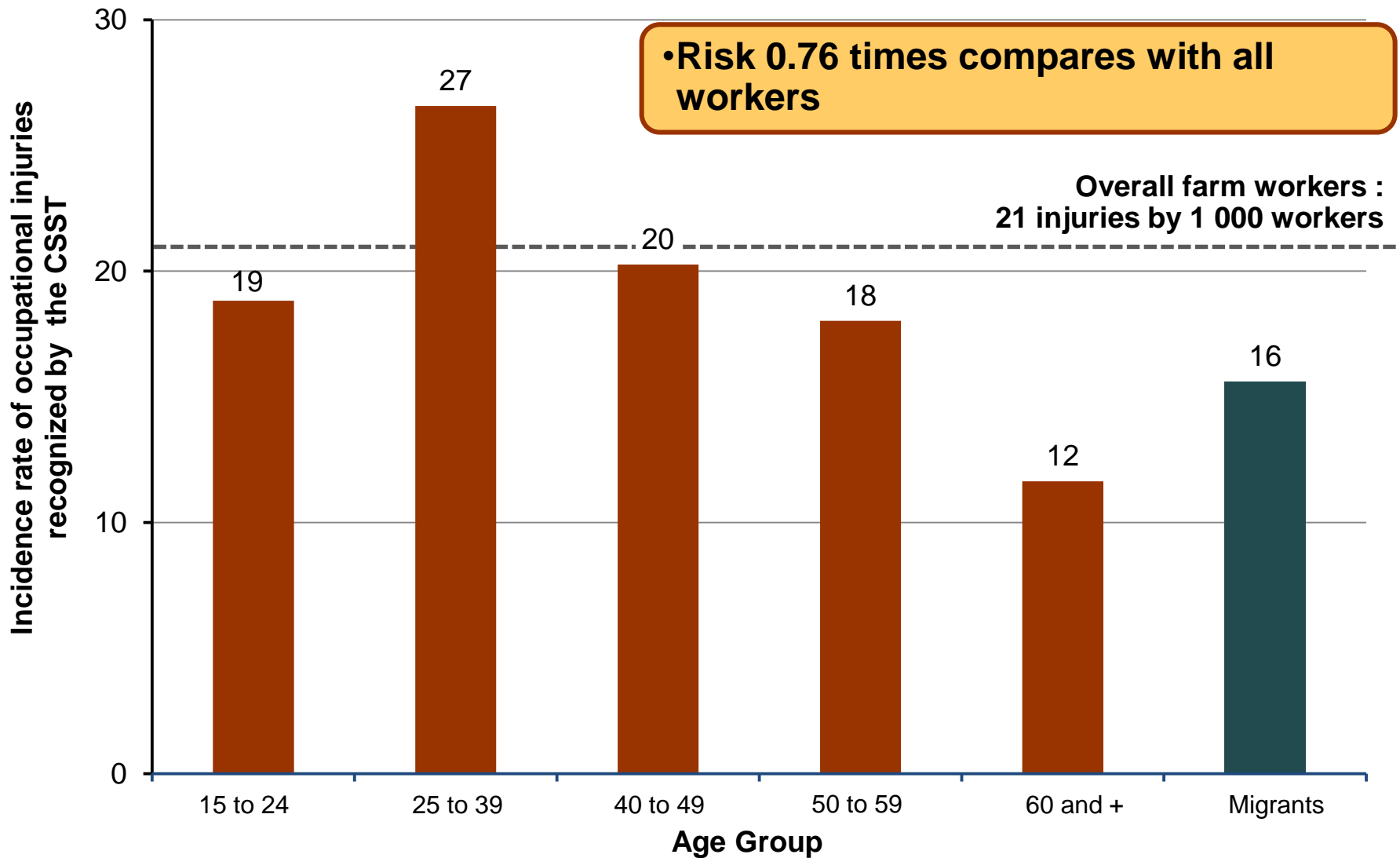




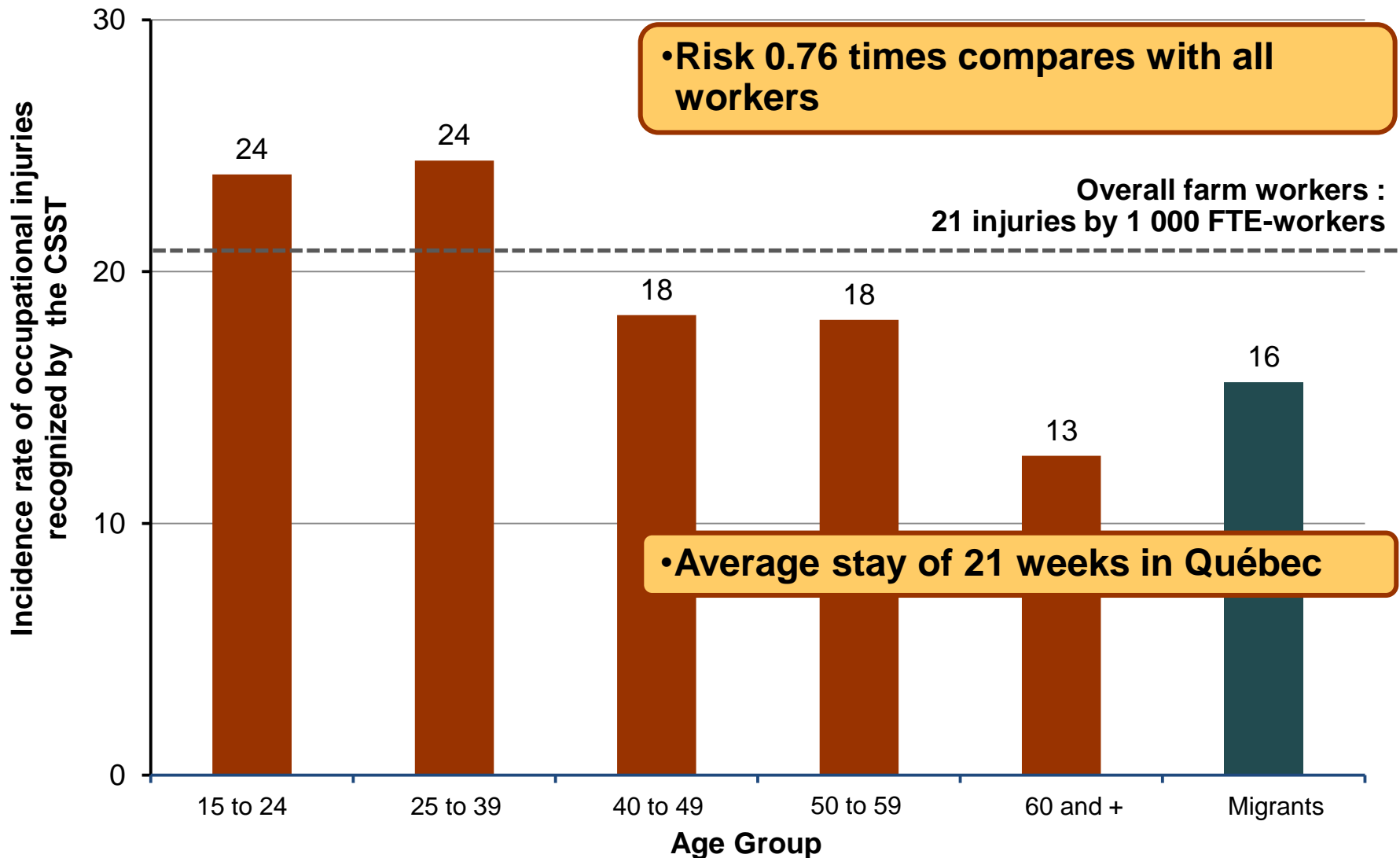
# Incidence rate of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, Québec, 2006 (2010 estimation)



# Incidence rate of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, Québec, 2006 (2013 estimation)



# Incidence rate of occupational injuries recognized by the CSST among farm workers, FTE correction, Québec, 2006 (2013 estimation)



# Risk factors

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## Specific to young workers

- Lack of experience
- Risk taking

## Spécifiques aux travailleurs migrants/immigrants

- Barrière linguistique
- Méconnaissance des droits

# Risk factors

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## Spécifiques aux jeunes travailleurs

- Manque d'expérience
- Prise de risque élevée

## Specific to migrant workers

- Language and cultural barriers
- Lack of knowledge about their legal rights
- Relationship of dependency with respect to employment, and in relation to the employer (high risk taking, under-reporting of injuries)

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# Solutions

# Preventive measures: young workers

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- **No evaluations published in the literature. No specific measures identified.**
- **Measures associated with specific mechanisms (tractor and other machinery, falls ...) apply**
- **Vocational training: an opportunity**

# Preventive measures: migrant workers

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- No evaluations published in the literature. No specific measures identified.
- Measures associated with specific mechanisms (tractor and other machinery, falls ...) apply
- Rights information = promising avenues



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# Recommendations

## Recommendation 10

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- **In the spirit of recommendation 24 in the Pronovost Commission's report (2008) and in cooperation with its partners (UPA, CSSST, FERME, TUAC, AGRICarières), the MAPAQ should enhance intake mechanisms for migrant workers and develop tools to help employers fulfil their responsibilities as outlined in section 51 of the Act respecting occupational health and safety**

## Recommendation 13

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- **The MELS and the CSST and their main partners in vocational and technical education (Fédération des Cégeps, vocational training centers, MAPAQ, UPA, AGRICarières) should ensure that training programs accord a preponderant place to injury prevention.**
  - **These programs should include a practical component, focus on the the development of safe work practices, propose principles of safe management of work and identify the strengths and limitations of various prevention strategies (elimination at source, administrative measures, limiting the access to dangerous areas, use of protective equipment, etc.).**
  - **These programs should include safety considerations of people who live in, or visit the farm.**

# Recommendation 1

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- **Develop a farm-injury prevention program for Québec's agricultural industry under the leadership of a government body.**
  - This recommendation include access to better and valid data

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