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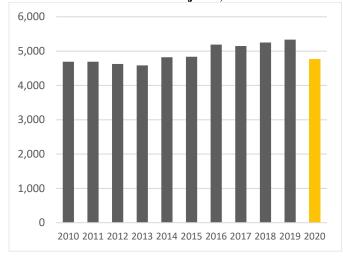
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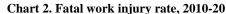
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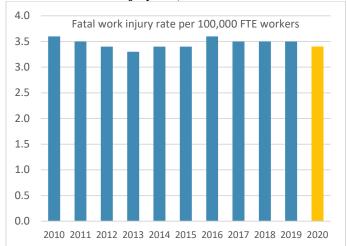
NATIONAL CENSUS OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN 2020

There were 4,764 fatal work injuries recorded in the United States in 2020, a 10.7-percent decrease from 5,333 in 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See chart 1 and table 1.) The fatal work injury rate was 3.4 fatalities per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers, down from 3.5 per 100,000 FTE in 2019. (See chart 2.) These data are from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

Chart 1. Number of fatal work injuries, 2010-20







Key findings from the 2020 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

- The 4,764 fatal occupational injuries in 2020 represents the lowest annual number since 2013.
- A worker died every 111 minutes from a work-related injury in 2020.
- Transportation incidents remained the most frequent type of fatal event with 1,778 fatal injuries, accounting for 37.3 percent of all work-related fatalities.
- The share of Hispanic or Latino workers fatally injured on the job continued to grow, increasing to 22.5 percent (1,072 fatalities) from 20.4 percent (1,088 fatalities) in 2019.
- Suicides decreased 15.6 percent from 307 in 2019 to 259 in 2020, representing the lowest count for occupational suicides since 2015.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

CFOI reports fatal workplace injuries only. These may include fatal workplace injuries complicated by an illness such as COVID-19. Fatal workplace illnesses not precipitated by an injury are not in scope for CFOI. CFOI does not report any illness related information, including COVID-19. Additional information is available at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-on-workplace-injuries-and-illnesses-compensation-and-occupational-requirements.htm.

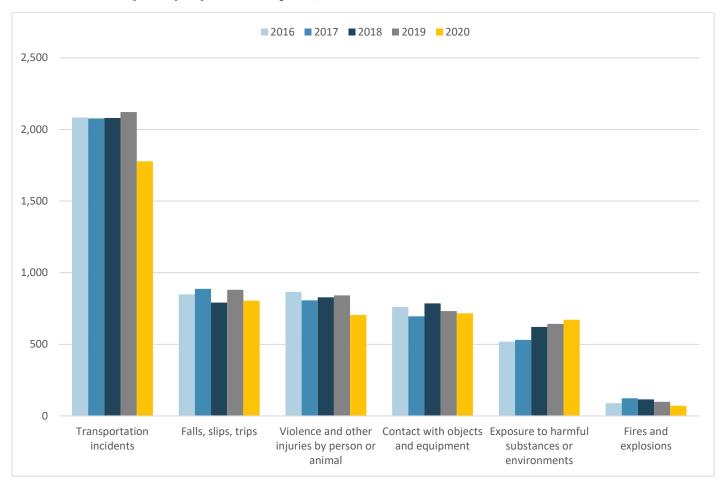
Worker characteristics

- Women made up 8.1 percent of all fatalities but represented 16.3 percent of workplace homicides in 2020.
- In 2020, workers between the ages of 45 and 54 suffered 954 workplace fatalities, the lowest count for this age group since 1992.
- The fatality rate for Hispanic or Latino workers was 4.5 deaths per 100,000 FTE workers in 2020, up from 4.2 in 2019.
- Black or African American workers had a 14.7-percent decrease in occupational fatalities in 2020, falling from 634 in 2019 to 541 in 2020.

Fatal event or exposure

- Fatal transportation incidents fell 16.2 percent to 1,778 in 2020 from 2,122 in 2019.
- Fatalities due to violence and other injuries by persons or animals decreased from 841 fatalities in 2019 to 705 fatalities in 2020 (-16.2 percent). The largest subcategory, intentional injuries by person, decreased 14.5 percent to 651 in 2020.
- Exposure to harmful substances or environments led to 672 worker fatalities in 2020, the highest figure since the series began in 2011. Within this category, unintentional overdose from nonmedical use of drugs accounted for 57.7 percent of fatalities (388 deaths), up from 48.8 percent in 2019.

Chart 3. Fatal work injuries by major event or exposure, 2016-20

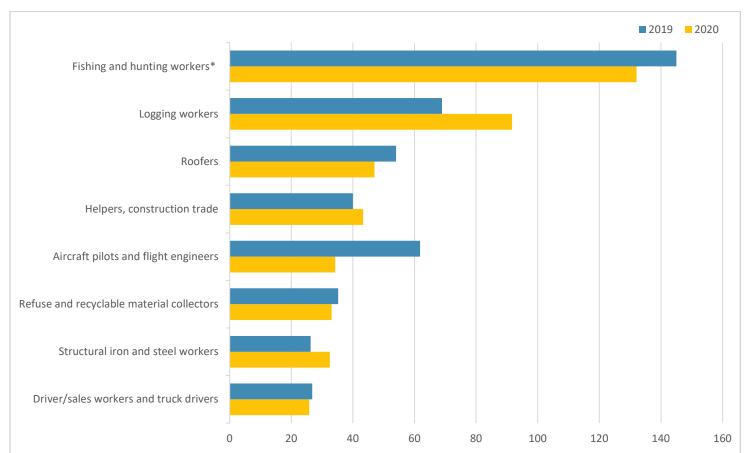


Occupation

- Workers in transportation and material moving occupations and construction and extraction occupations accounted for nearly half of all fatal occupational injuries (47.4 percent), representing 1,282 and 976 workplace deaths, respectively.
- Sales occupations and office and administrative support occupations had a 19.0-percent decrease in fatal occupational injuries between 2019 (332 deaths) and 2020 (269 deaths).
- Fatalities in healthcare support occupations increased 15.8 percent to 44 fatalities, up from 38 in 2019.
- Fatal occupational injuries among law enforcement workers increased 18.6 percent between 2019 and 2020, from 97 to 115.
- The fatal injury rate for aircraft pilots and flight engineers decreased from 61.8 per 100,000 FTEs in 2019 to 34.3 in 2020. (See table 5 and chart 4.)
- Fishing and hunting workers had a fatal injury rate of 132.1 fatal work injuries per 100,000 FTEs in 2020. Transportation incidents accounted for 71.4 percent of fishing and hunting workers' deaths.

Fatal injury counts by occupation will be available at www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm. Fatality rates by occupation, industry, and worker demographics will be available at www.bls.gov/iif/oshwc/cfoi/cfoi rates 2020hb.xlsx.

Chart 4. Fatal work injury rates per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers by selected occupations, 2019-20



^{*}Fatal work injury rates incorporate revisions to the Current Population Survey's (CPS) occupation classification codes, implemented in 2020. CPS data are used to determine total working hours for each occupation. Comparison of data for 2020 to year 2019 and prior should be done with caution due to these changes.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Background

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) program, is a count of all fatalities resulting from workplace injuries occurring in the U.S. during the calendar year. The CFOI uses a variety of state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This ensures counts are as complete and accurate as possible. For the 2020 data, over 21,600 unique source documents were reviewed as part of the data collection process. For technical information and definitions for the CFOI, see the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cfoi/home.htm and the CFOI definitions at www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm. Fatal injury rates are subject to sampling error as they are calculated using employment data from the Current Population Survey, a sample of households, and the BLS Local Area Unemployment Statistics. For more information on sampling error, see www.bls.gov/iif/osh_rse.htm.

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), another component of the OSHS program, presents frequency counts and incidence rates by industry, detailed case circumstances, and worker characteristics for nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses for cases that result in days away from work. For these data, access the BLS website: www.bls.gov/iif.

Identification and verification of work-related fatalities

In 2020, work relationship could not be independently verified by multiple source documents for 18 fatal work injuries. However, the information on the initiating source document for these cases was sufficient to determine that the incident was likely to be job-related. Data for these fatalities are included.

Federal/State agency coverage

The CFOI includes data for all fatal work injuries, some of which may be outside the scope of other agencies or regulatory coverage. Comparisons between CFOI counts and those released by other agencies should account for the different coverage requirements and definitions used by each agency. For more information on the scope of CFOI, see www.bls.gov/iif/cfoiscope.htm and www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cfoi/concepts.htm.

Latency Cases

Latent fatal occupational injury cases occur when the date of injury differs from the date of death. In some cases, the death occurs in a different year than the occupational injury and are known as cross-year latent cases. In 2020, there were 194 cases where this occurred, and 173 of these latent cases occurred more than 30 days prior to the start of 2020. For more information on latent cases, see www.bls.gov/opub/btn/volume-10/latency-in-fatal-occupational-injuries.htm.

CFOI Methodology

Starting with the reference year 2019, CFOI modernized its disclosure methodology further strengthening its protection of confidential data. Individually identifiable data collected by the CFOI are used exclusively for statistical purposes and are protected under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA). These data are collected under a pledge of confidentiality and therefore require BLS to prevent disclosure of identifying information of decedents. For more information see www.bls.gov/iif/oshfaq1.htm.

Acknowledgements

BLS thanks the participating states, New York City, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam for their efforts in collecting accurate, comprehensive, and useful data on fatal work injuries. Although data for Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam are not included in the national totals, results for these jurisdictions are available. Participating agencies may be contacted to request more detailed state results. Contact information is available at www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm.

BLS also appreciates the efforts of all federal, state, local, and private sector entities that provided source documents used to identify fatal work injuries. Among these agencies are the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; the National Transportation Safety Board; the U.S. Coast Guard; the Mine Safety and Health Administration; the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (Federal Employees' Compensation and Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation divisions); the Federal Railroad Administration; the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; state vital statistics registrars, coroners, and medical examiners; state departments of health, labor, and industrial relations and workers' compensation agencies; state and local police departments; and state farm bureaus.

Information in this release is available to sensory-impaired individuals. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by selected demographic characteristics, 2016-20

Characteristic	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total ¹	5,190	5,147	5,250	5,333	4,764
Employee status					
Wage and salary workers ²	4,098	4,069	4,178	4,240	3,864
Self-employed ³	1,092	1,078	1,072	1,093	900
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Gender					
Women	387	386	413	437	387
Men	4,803	4,761	4,837	4,896	4,377
Age					
Under 16 years	13	15	13	17	14
16 to 17 years	17	7	9	17	12
18 to 19 years	43	62	56	50	66
20 to 24 years	310	293	282	325	260
25 to 34 years	834	872	946	866	833
35 to 44 years	979	907	966	967	898
45 to 54 years	1,145	1,059	1,114	1,082	954
55 to 64 years	1,160	1,155	1,104	1,212	1,051
65 years and over	688	775	759	793	676
Race or ethnic origin ⁴					
White (non-Hispanic)	3,481	3,449	3,405	3,297	2,898
Black or African-American (non-Hispanic)	587	530	615	634	541
Hispanic or Latino	879	903	961	1,088	1,072
American Indian or Alaskan Native (non-Hispanic)	38	38	42	30	32
Asian (non-Hispanic)	160	144	153	181	150
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)	7	17	10	14	8
Multiple races (non-Hispanic)	15	9	14	22	14
Other races or not reported (non-Hispanic)	23	57	50	67	49

¹The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the United States since 1992. During this time, the classification systems and definitions of many data elements have changed. See the CFOI Definitions page (www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm) for a more detailed description of each data element.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. N.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

² May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation. Cases where employment status is unknown are included in the counts of wage and salary workers.

³ Includes self-employed workers, owners of unincorporated businesses and farms, paid and unpaid family workers, and may include some owners of incorporated businesses or members of partnerships.

⁴ Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude data for Hispanics and Latinos. Cases where ethnicity is unknown are included in counts of non-Hispanic workers.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries for selected events or exposures, 2016-20

Characteristic	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total ¹	5,190	5,147	5,250	5,333	4,764
Event or exposure ²					
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	866	807	828	841	705
Intentional injury by person	792	733	757	761	651
Homicides	500	458	453	454	392
Shooting by other person—intentional	394	351	351	363	304
Stabbing, cutting, slashing, piercing	38	47	44	42	50
Suicides	291	275	304	307	259
Transportation incidents	2,083	2,077	2,080	2,122	1,778
Aircraft incidents	130	126	133	152	80
Rail vehicle incidents	50	48	48	47	32
Pedestrian vehicular incident	342	313	325	341	330
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in work zone	58	56	58	56	57
Water vehicle incident	48	68	58	63	74
Roadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	1,252	1,299	1,276	1,270	1,038
Roadway collision with other vehicle	628	663	677	729	537
Roadway collision moving in same direction	168	189	183	194	142
Roadway collision moving in opposite directions, oncoming	199	214	243	258	198
Roadway collision moving perpendicularly	150	149	141	153	106
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle	342	377	373	325	302
Vehicle struck object or animal on side of roadway	321	348	345	301	275
Roadway noncollision incident	278	252	222	212	196
Jack-knifed or overturned, roadway	238	197	170	164	155
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	245	209	225	236	206
Nonroadway noncollision incident	182	166	164	193	167
Jack-knifed or overturned, nonroadway	120	111	105	128	101
Fire or explosion	88	123	115	99	71
Fall, slip, trip	849	887	791	880	805
Fall on same level	134	151	154	146	136
Fall to lower level	697	713	615	711	645
Fall from collapsing structure or equipment	65	48	50	37	36
Fall through surface or existing opening	87	85	83	95	63
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	518	531	621	642	672
Exposure to electricity	154	136	160	166	126
Exposure to temperature extremes	48	38	60	53	62
Exposure to other harmful substances	268	317	355	379	448
Inhalation of harmful substance	39	43	42	59	50
Contact with objects and equipment	761	695	786	732	716
Struck by object or equipment	553	503	566	518	468
Struck by powered vehicle nontransport	232	197	215	205	174
Struck by falling object or equipment	255	237	278	241	217
Struck by discharged or flying object	15	28	32	26	37
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	117	108	137	120	142
Caught in running equipment or machinery	103	76	106	93	89
Struck, caught, or crushed in collapsing structure, equipment, or material	82	70	73	83	93
¹ The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the		-	_		

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Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

² Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries for selected occupations, 2016-20

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¹ The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the United States since 1992. During this time, the classification systems and definitions of many data elements have changed. See the CFOI Definitions page (www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm) for a more detailed description of each data element.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. N.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

² CFOI has used several versions of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system since 2003 to define occupation. For complete information on the version of SOC used in these years, see our definitions page at https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm. Cases where occupation is unknown are included in the total.

³ Includes fatal injuries to persons identified as resident armed forces regardless of individual occupation listed.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries for selected industries, 2016-20

Characteristic	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total ¹	5,190	5,147	5,250	5,333	4,764
Industry (NAICS) ²					
Private industry ³	4,693	4,674	4,779	4,907	4,349
Goods producing	1,991	1,967	2,055	-	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	593	581	574	573	511
Crop production	261	263	250	221	248
Animal production and aquaculture	151	152	161	189	117
Forestry and logging	106	76	84	59	63
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction ⁴	89	112	130	127	78
Mining (except oil and gas)	22	31	34	23	32
Support activities for mining	56	73	83	82	39
Construction	991	971	1,008	1,061	1,008
Construction of buildings	182	196	200	-	192
Heavy and civil engineering construction	159	152	180	156	194
Specialty trade contractors	631	610	609	-	576
Manufacturing	318	303	343	-	340
Food manufacturing	40	51	41	-	53
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	41	50	56	-	53
Service providing	2,702	2,707	2,724	-	-
Wholesale trade	179	174	202	178	155
Retail trade	282	287	274	291	275
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	42	54	68	58	50
Food and beverage stores	71	60	42	54	72
Transportation and warehousing	825	882	874	913	805
Truck transportation	570	599	607	617	556
Utilities	30	28	29	22	19
Information	46	43	31	-	31
Finance and insurance	26	32	30	21	20
Real estate and rental and leasing	91	69	78	87	73
Professional, scientific, and technical services	100	69	87	86	62
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	439	460	497	498	413
Educational services	42	43	30	45	26
Health care and social assistance	117	146	138	152	119
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	96	91	78	83	59
Accommodation and food services	202	171	175	188	160
Other services, except public administration	223	205	195	210	188
Government ⁵	497	473	471	426	415
Federal government ³	107	116	124	111	95
State government ³	97	91	69	75	67
Local government ³	291	265	276	240	251
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The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the United States since 1992. During this time, the classification systems and definitions of many data elements have changed. See the CFOI Definitions page (www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm) for a more detailed description of each data element.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. N.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

² CFOI has used several versions of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) since 2003 to define industry. For complete information on the version of NAICS used in these years, see our definitions page at https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm.

³ Includes all fatal occupational injuries meeting this ownership criterion across all specified years, regardless of industry classification system. Cases where ownership is unknown are included in private industry counts.

⁴ Includes fatal injuries at all establishments categorized as Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

⁵ Includes fatal injuries to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry. Cases classified as foreign government and other government are included in all government counts, but not displayed separately.

Table 5. Fatal work injury rates¹ per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers by selected occupations, 2019-20

Characteristic	2019	2020
All workers ²	3.5	3.4
Occupation (SOC) ³		
Fishing and hunting workers	145.0	132.1
Logging workers	68.9	91.7
Roofers	54.0	47.0
Helpers, construction trades	40.0	43.3
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	61.8	34.3
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	35.2	33.1
Structural iron and steel workers	26.3	32.5
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	26.8	25.8

¹ Fatal injury rates are per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers. Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. Complete national rates can be found at www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm#rates. Complete state rates can be found at www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm. National and state rates are calculated using different methodology and cannot be directly compared. See

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. N.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cfoi/calculation.htm#comparisons-of-national-and-state-rates for more information on how rates are calculated and caveats for comparison. N/A means a rate was not published for this group.

² The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the United States since 1992. During this time, the classification systems and definitions of many data elements have changed. See the CFOI Definitions page (www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm) for a more detailed description of each data element.

³ CFOI has used several versions of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system since 2003 to define occupation. For complete information on the version of SOC used in these years, see our definitions page at https://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm. Cases where occupation is unknown are included in the total.

Table 6. Fatal occupational injuries by state of incident, 2016-20

Characteristic	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total ¹	5,190	5,147	5,250	5,333	4,764
State of incident					
Alabama	100	83	89	89	85
Alaska	35	33	32	51	31
Arizona	77	90	82	94	97
Arkansas	68	76	76	62	64
California	376	376	422	451	463
Colorado	81	77	72	84	78
Connecticut	28	35	48	26	29
Delaware	12	10	7	18	7
District of Columbia	5	13	10	10	13
Florida	309	299	332	306	275
Georgia	171	194	186	207	193
Hawaii	29	20	22	26	16
Idaho	30	37	45	36	32
Illinois	171	163	184	158	135
Indiana	137	138	173	146	158
Iowa	76	72	77	76	58
Kansas	74	72	61	83	55
Kentucky	92	70	83	78	92
, Louisiana	95	117	98	119	103
Maine	18	18	17	20	20
Maryland	92	87	97	78	59
Massachusetts	109	108	97	86	69
Michigan	162	153	155	164	131
Minnesota	92	101	75	80	67
Mississippi	71	90	78	59	44
Missouri	124	125	145	106	105
Montana	38	32	28	38	29
Nebraska	60	35	44	53	48
Nevada	54	32	39	40	37
New Hampshire	22	11	20	11	14
New Jersey	101	69	83	74	82
New Mexico	41	44	43	55	37
New York (including N.Y.C.)	272	313	271	273	223
New York City	56	87	73	91	59
North Carolina	174	183	178	186	189
North Dakota	28	38	35	37	26
Ohio	164	174	158	166	117
Oklahoma	92	91	91	73	75
Oregon	72	60	62	69	60
Pennsylvania	163	172	177	154	148
Rhode Island	9	8	9	10	5
South Carolina	96	88	98	108	102
South Dakota	31	30	32	20	32
Tennessee	122	128	122	124	142
Texas	545	534	488	608	469
Utah	44	43	49	51	48
Vermont	10	22	11	10	8
Virginia	153	118	157	180	118
Washington	78	84	86	84	83
West Virginia	47	51	57	46	47
Wisconsin	105	106	114	113	108
Wyoming	34	20	31	32	35

¹ The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has published data on fatal occupational injuries for the United States since 1992. During this time, the classification systems and definitions of many data elements have changed. See the CFOI Definitions page (www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm) for a more detailed description of each data element.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. N.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries