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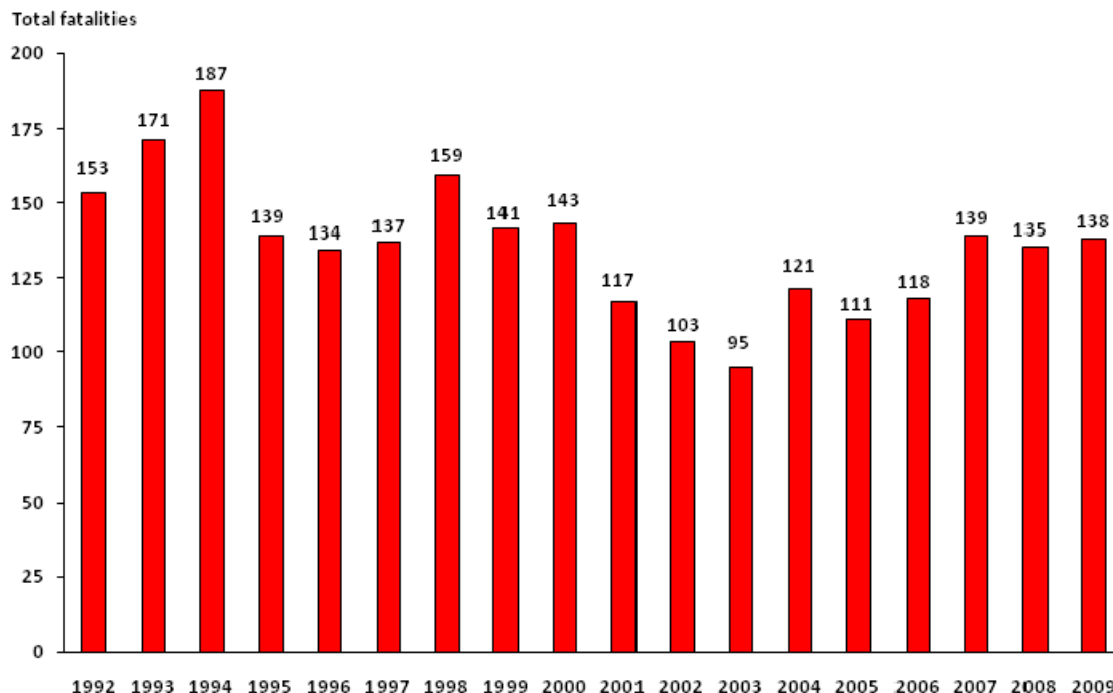
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LOUISIANA WORKPLACE FATALITIES IN 2009 (PDF)

There were 138 fatal work injuries recorded in Louisiana during 2009, an increase of 3 cases from 2008, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that while these results are preliminary, the State's number of work-related fatalities in 2009 was well below the series high of 187 registered in 1994. (See chart 1.) Final 2009 national and State results will be released in April 2011.

CHART 1. TOTAL WORK-RELATED FATALITIES IN LOUISIANA BY YEAR, 1992-2009



Note: Totals for 2009 are preliminary.

In 2009, the most frequent workplace fatality in Louisiana involved water vehicle accidents (20). Other types of fatal events included highway incidents (18), being struck by an object or equipment (17), falls to a lower level (14), and homicides (12). (See chart 2.) Combined, these five events accounted for 59 percent of all work-related fatalities in the State.

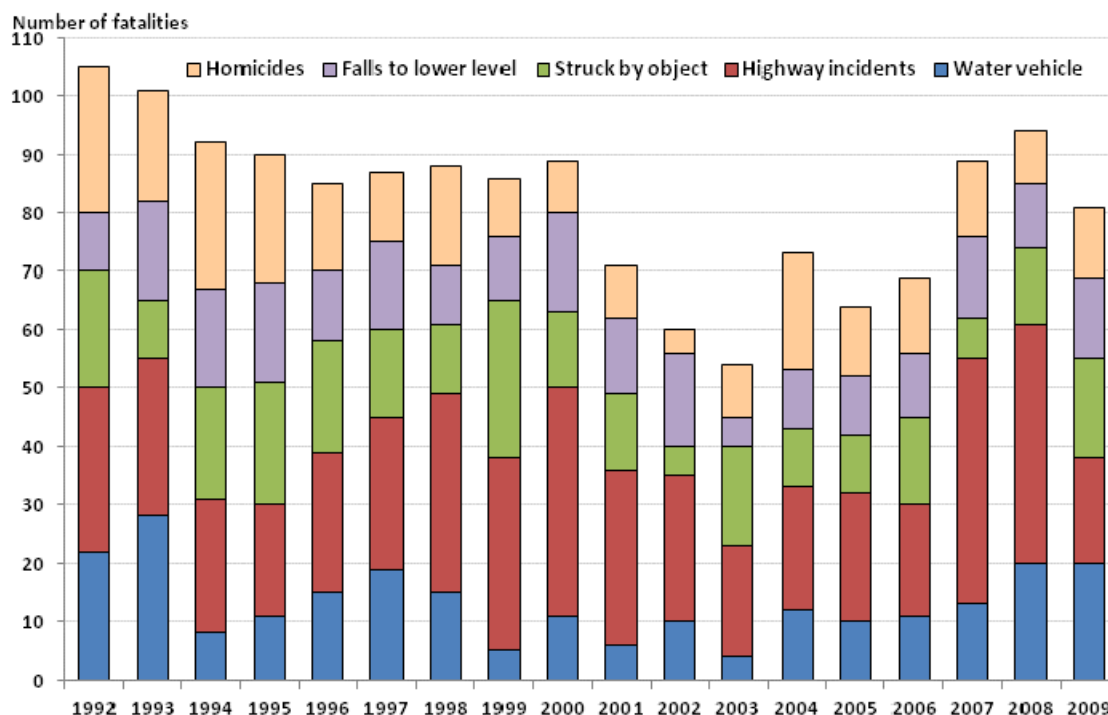
This marked the first year since 1993 in which water vehicle accidents resulted in the most frequent workplace fatalities in the State. In 2009, this event accounted for 20 deaths, the same count reported in 2008. The series high for this fatality event occurred in 1993 when 28 worker deaths were recorded. Water vehicle accidents accounted for 14 percent of all the State's job-related fatalities, but only 2 percent nationally. Louisiana accounted for

nearly one-fifth of the nation's 82 deaths from water vehicle accidents in 2009. (See tables [A](#) and [B](#).)

Occupational fatalities resulting from highway incidents declined from 41 in 2008 to 18 in 2009. Until this year, highway incidents had resulted in the largest number of work-related fatalities in the State since 1996. The 18 fatalities occurring in 2009 accounted for 13 percent of job-related deaths in the State. Nationally, highway incidents accounted for 20 percent of on-the-job fatalities and continued to lead all other events, as it has since the fatality census was first conducted in 1992.

Louisiana work-related fatalities resulting from being struck by an object or equipment rose to 17 in 2009, up from 13 in 2008. Being struck by an object or equipment accounted for 12 percent of all workplace fatalities in the State compared to 10 percent nationwide.

CHART 2. FATALITIES RESULTING FROM SELECTED WORK-RELATED FATAL EVENTS IN LOUISIANA, 1992-2009



Note: Totals for 2009 are preliminary.

Falls to a lower level were responsible for 14 worker fatalities in the State in 2009, up from 11 in 2008. This fatal work injury accounted for 10 percent of on-the-job fatalities in the State and 12 percent in the nation.

Work-related homicides in Louisiana were responsible for 12 fatalities in 2009, compared to 9 reported in 2008. The series high of 25 workplace homicides was recorded in 1994 and 1992. Work-related homicides accounted for 9 percent of on-the-job deaths statewide and 12 percent nationwide in 2009.

Other Louisiana fatal workplace events resulting in more than five fatalities included electrocutions (11), aircraft incidents (10), and being caught in or compressed by equipment or objects (8). (See table [1](#).)

Table A. Fatal occupational injuries in Louisiana by selected event, 1992-2009

Year	Total fatalities	Water vehicle accidents		Highway incidents		Struck by object or equipment		Falls to lower level		Homicides	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	153	22	14	28	18	20	13	10	7	25	16
1993	171	28	16	27	16	10	6	17	10	19	11
1994	187	8	4	23	12	19	10	17	9	25	13
1995	139	11	8	19	14	21	15	17	12	22	16
1996	134	15	11	24	18	19	14	12	9	15	11
1997	137	19	14	26	19	15	11	15	11	12	9
1998	159	15	9	34	21	12	8	10	6	17	11
2009	141	5	4	33	23	27	19	11	8	10	7

1999												
2000	143	11	8	39	27	13	9	17	12	9	6	
2001	117	6	5	30	26	13	11	13	11	9	8	
2002	103	10	10	25	24	5	5	16	16	4	4	
2003	95	4	4	19	20	17	18	5	5	9	9	
2004	121	12	10	21	17	10	8	10	8	20	17	
2005	111	10	9	22	20	10	9	10	9	12	11	
2006	118	11	9	19	16	15	13	11	9	13	11	
2007	139	13	9	42	30	7	5	14	10	13	9	
2008 (1)	135	20	15	41	30	13	10	11	8	9	7	
2009 (2)	138	20	14	18	13	17	12	14	10	12	9	

Footnotes:

(1) Since the initial release of 2008 data, 1 additional job-related fatality was identified in Louisiana bringing the 2008 total job-related fatality count to 135.

(2) Totals for 2009 are preliminary.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF FATAL WORK INJURIES IN LOUISIANA:

- Men accounted for 97 percent (134) of the work-related fatalities in the State in 2009. Transportation incidents, which include highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle, accounted for 44 percent of deaths among male workers. Deaths resulting from contact with objects and equipment made up 22 percent of male work-related fatalities. Four women were fatally injured on-the-job in Louisiana, the lowest count since 2003. (See table [2](#).)
- Sixty-nine percent of those who died from a workplace injury in Louisiana were white, non-Hispanic (95); 19 percent were black, non-Hispanic (26); 8 percent were Hispanic or Latino (11); and 3 percent were Asian (4). (Some worker fatalities were not identified by race or ethnic origin.) The most frequent cause of death was transportation incidents for both white and black non-Hispanic workers. Among Hispanic workers, the leading cause of work-related fatalities was contact with objects and equipment. (See table [2](#).)
- Workers 25-54 years old – the prime working age group – made up more than two-thirds (95) of the State's on-the-job fatalities in 2009. Workers ages 18 to 24 who died on the job accounted for 12 percent of the fatally injured in the State, while, those ages 55 and older accounted for 19 percent. (See table [2](#).)
- Eighty-eight percent of workers killed on-the-job worked for wages and salaries and the remaining 12 percent were self-employed. Transportation incidents were responsible for 42 percent of wage and salary workers' deaths compared to 56 percent of work-related deaths among the self-employed. (See table [2](#).)
- Two industry sectors accounted for 46 percent of workplace fatalities in the State—construction (39) and transportation and warehousing (25). In the construction industry, transportation incidents were responsible for 33 percent of fatal injuries, followed by contact with objects and equipment at 26 percent. In the transportation and warehousing industry, transportation incidents were also the most prevalent cause of workplace deaths, accounting for 60 percent of all fatal injuries.. (See table [3](#).)
- From an occupational perspective, construction and extraction jobs had the highest number of workplace fatalities (42), followed by transportation and material moving jobs (36). Combined, these two occupational groups accounted for more than one-half of all fatal work injuries in Louisiana. Among construction and extraction workers, transportation incidents and contact with objects and equipment each accounted for 29 percent of work-related deaths. For transportation and material moving occupations, the most frequent cause of on-the-job fatalities was transportation incidents. (See table [4](#).)

U.S. WORKPLACE FATALITIES

Nationwide, 4,340 fatal work injuries were reported in 2009, a decrease of 17 percent from the revised total of 5,214 recorded in 2008. While the 2009 results are preliminary, this figure represents the smallest annual total since the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program was first conducted in 1992. (See table [B](#).) Economic factors played a major role in the national fatal work injury decrease as total hours worked declined during the year. Similarly, some industries that historically have accounted for a significant share of fatal work injuries, such as construction, experienced even larger declines in employment or hours worked.

Highway incidents in 2009 continued to lead all other events in the frequency of on-the-job fatalities, a position held since the program's inception in 1992. Still, the 2009 count of 882 fatal injuries from highway incidents was down 27 percent from the 2008 count of 1,215 fatal injuries.

Workplace homicides (521) declined 1 percent in 2009. Workplace suicides (237) were down 10 percent nationwide in 2009 from the series high of 263 in 2008. However, the 2009 preliminary count of workplace suicides is the second highest annual total reported by the fatality census.

Thirty-seven states reported lower numbers of fatal work injuries in 2009 than in 2008, while 13 states and the District of Columbia reported higher numbers.

Table B. Fatal occupational injuries in the United States by selected event, 1992-2009

Year	Total fatalities	Highway incidents		Homicides		Falls to lower level		Struck by object or equipment	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	6,217	1,158	19	1,044	17	507	8	557	9
1993	6,331	1,242	20	1,074	17	534	8	565	9
1994	6,632	1,343	20	1,080	16	580	9	591	9
1995	6,275	1,346	21	1,036	17	578	9	547	9
1996	6,202	1,346	22	927	15	610	10	582	9
1997	6,238	1,393	22	860	14	653	10	579	9
1998	6,055	1,442	24	714	12	625	10	520	9
1999	6,054	1,496	25	651	11	634	10	585	10
2000	5,920	1,365	23	677	11	659	11	571	10
2001 ⁽¹⁾	5,915	1,409	24	643	11	700	12	553	9
2002	5,534	1,373	25	609	11	638	12	505	9
2003	5,575	1,353	24	632	11	604	11	531	10
2004	5,764	1,398	24	559	10	738	13	602	10
2005	5,734	1,437	25	567	10	664	12	607	11
2006	5,840	1,356	23	540	9	738	13	589	10
2007	5,657	1,414	25	628	11	746	13	504	9
2008 ⁽²⁾	5,214	1,215	23	526	10	593	11	520	10
2009 ⁽³⁾	4,340	882	20	521	12	518	12	414	10

Footnotes:

(1) Totals for 2001 exclude fatalities due to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

(2) Totals for 2008 are revised and final. The BLS national news release issued August 20, 2009, reported a total of 5,071 fatal work injuries for calendar year 2008. Since then, an additional 143 job-related fatalities were identified bringing the total job-related fatality count for 2008 total to 5,214.

(3) Data for 2009 are preliminary. Revised and final 2009 data are scheduled to be released in April 2011.

Additional Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data are available on the BLS Website at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf. Selected current and historical information is available in PDF format. Detailed data may be accessed from the query system at data.bls.gov/PDO/outside.jsp?survey=fi or via an extensive collection of flat text files. For further information on the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, contact the Southwest Economic Analysis and Information Office at 972-850-8500 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CT).

Technical Note

BACKGROUND OF THE PROGRAM

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), part of the BLS occupational safety and health statistics program, compiles a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. in each calendar year. The program uses diverse State, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

For technical information about the CFOI program, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS web site at

www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf. The technical information and definitions for the CFOI Program are in Chapter 9, Part III of the BLS Handbook of Methods.

FEDERAL/STATE AGENCY COVERAGE

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether the decedent was working in a job covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other federal or State agencies or was outside the scope of regulatory coverage. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and those released by other agencies should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions being used by each agency.

Several Federal and State agencies have jurisdiction over workplace safety and health. OSHA and affiliated agencies in States with approved safety programs cover the largest portion of the nation's workers. However, injuries and illnesses occurring in certain industries or activities, such as coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and highway, water, rail, and air transportation, are excluded from OSHA coverage because they are covered by other federal agencies, such as the Mine Safety and Health Administration and various agencies within the Department of Transportation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BLS thanks the Louisiana Workforce Commission's Office of Workers' Compensation Administration for their efforts in collecting accurate, comprehensive, and useful data on fatal work injuries. BLS also appreciates the efforts of all Federal, State, local, and private sector entities that submitted 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 Employment Standards Administration (Federal Employees' Compensation and Longshore and Harbor Workers' divisions); the Federal Railroad Administration; the Department of Energy; State vital statistics registrars, coroners, and medical examiners; State departments of health, labor and industries, and workers' compensation agencies; State and local police departments; and State farm bureaus.

(1) Fatal events are categorized into several major groupings including transportation incidents, assaults and violent acts, and falls, among others. These major groups are further broken down into more detailed groups. See the Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) Manual at www.bls.gov/iif/oshiccs.htm for detailed information on the categories of fatalities used in this census.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure for all fatalities and major private industry (1) sector, Louisiana, 2009 (P)

Event or exposure(2)	Total fatalities (number)	Goods producing				Service providing							
		Total goods producing	Natural resources and mining(3)	Construction	Manufacturing	Total service providing	Trade, transportation, & utilities	Information	Financial activities	Professional & business services	Education & health services	Leisure & hospitality	Other services
Total	138	70	23	39	8	62	38		4	10			5
Contact with objects and equipment	30	18	6	10		11	5						
Struck by object or equipment	17	11	3	7		6							
Struck by falling object or equipment	14	8		6		6							
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	8	3				4							
Caught in running equipment or machinery	4												
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects, n.e.c.	3												
Caught in or crushed in collapsing materials	5	4											
Falls	15	7		7		7	4						
Fall to lower level	14	7		7		6	3						
Fall from scaffold, staging	5					3							
Fall from nonmoving vehicle	3												
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	16	12		7	3	4				3			
Contact with electric current	11	8		6									
Contact with electric current of machine, tool, appliance, or light fixture	3	3											
Contact with wiring, transformers, or other electrical components	3												
Contact with overhead power lines	5	3		3									
Transportation accidents	60	27	12	13		29	20						3
Highway accident	18	5	3			10	8						
Collision between vehicles, mobile	11					7	5						

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected demographic characteristics and major events or exposures, Louisiana, 2009 (P)

Selected characteristics	Total	Event or exposure (1)					
		Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Transportation incidents	Fires or explosions	Assaults and violent acts
Total	138	30	15	16	60	3	13
Employee Status							
Wage and Salary (2)	122	27	15	16	51	3	9
Self Employed (3)	16	3			9		4
Sex							
Men	134	30	15	16	59	3	10
Women	4						
Age							
Under 16							
16-17							
18-19	3						
20-24	14				7		
25-34	30	7	4	4	10		4
35-44	30	6	3	4	13		3
45-54	35	7	5	5	14		3
55-64	20	6			9		
65 and older	6				5		
Race or ethnic origin (4)							
White, non-Hispanic	95	18	11	12	43		9
Black or African American, non-Hispanic	26	9			11		
Hispanic or Latino	11	3					
American Indian or Alaska Native							
Asian	4						
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander							
Multiple races							
Other or not reported							
Footnotes							
(1) Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification system.							
(2) May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.							
(3) Includes self-employed workers, owners of unincorporated businesses and farms, paid and unpaid family workers, members of partnerships, and may include owners of incorporated businesses.							
(4) Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The individual racial categories shown exclude data for Hispanic and Latino workers.							
(P) Preliminary							
NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Blank cells indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2009 are preliminary until April 2011.							
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries .							

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by selected industries and major events or exposures, Louisiana, 2009 (P)

Selected industries (1)	Total	Event or exposure (2)					
		Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Transportation incidents	Fires or explosions	Assaults and violent acts
Total	138	30	15	16	60	3	13
Private industry	132	29	14	16	56	3	13
Goods Producing	70	18	7	12	27		4
Natural resources and mining	23	6			12		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	10				8		
Mining	13	5					

Construction	39	10	7	7	13	
Manufacturing	8			3		
Service providing	62	11	7	4	29	9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	38	5	4		20	6
Wholesale trade	7					
Retail trade	4					
Transportation and warehousing	25	3			15	3
Utilities						
Information						
Financial activities	4					
Finance and insurance						
Real estate and rental and leasing	4					
Professional and business services	10			3		
Professional, scientific, and technical services						
Management of companies and enterprises						
Administrative and waste services	8			3		
Education and health services						
Educational services						
Health care and social assistance						
Leisure and hospitality						
Arts, entertainment, and recreation						
Accommodation and food services						
Other services	5				3	
Government (3)	6				4	
Federal						
State						
Local	3					

Footnotes

(1) Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

(2) Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

(3) Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

(P) Preliminary

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Blank cells indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Data for 2009 are preliminary until April 2011.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state and federal agencies, [Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries](#).**Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by selected occupations and major events or exposures, Louisiana, 2009 (P)**

Selected occupations (1)	Total	Event or exposure (2)					
		Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Transportation incidents	Fires or explosions	Assaults and violent acts
Total	138	30	15	16	60	3	13
Management, professional, and related occupations	7				5		
Management occupations	4				3		
Business and financial operations occupations							
Computer and mathematical occupations							
Architecture and engineering occupations							
Life, physical, and social science occupations							
Community and social services occupations							
Legal occupations							
Education, training, and library occupations							
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations							
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations							
Service occupations	10						
Healthcare support occupations							
Protective service occupations	4						
Food preparation and serving related occupations							
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	5						

Personal care and service occupations						
Sales and office occupations	9				6	
Sales and related occupations						
Office and administrative support occupations	5				3	
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	66	19	11	9	22	4
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	6				5	
Construction and extraction occupations	42	12	8	7	12	
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	18	7	3		5	
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	46	6	3	5	25	4
Production occupations	10			4		
Transportation and material moving occupations	36	4			23	4
Military specific occupations						

Footnotes

(1) Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

(2) Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification system.

(P) Preliminary

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately.

Blank cells indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Data for 2009 are preliminary until April 2011.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state and federal agencies, [Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries](#).

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