United States
Department
of Labor



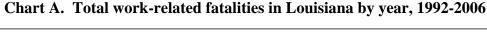
Bureau of Labor Statistics

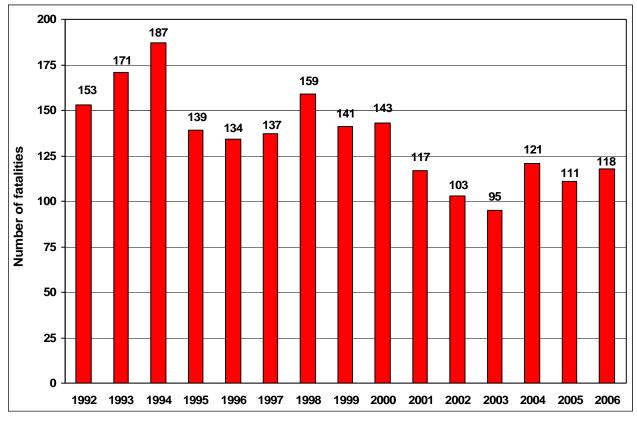
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LOUISIANA WORKPLACE FATALITIES IN 2006

A total of 118 fatal work injuries were recorded in Louisiana during 2006, up 7 from 2005, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that on-the-job fatalities in the State have ranged from a high of 187 in 1994 to a low of 95 in 2003, though in the last six years the fatality count has never exceeded 121. (See chart A.) Louisiana was one of 28 states to experience a higher number of fatal work injuries over the year. Nationwide, total worker fatalities dipped to 5,703 in 2006, down from 5,734 in 2005.





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The most frequent events leading to workplace fatalities in Louisiana in 2006 were highway crashes (19), being struck by an object (15), homicides (13), water vehicle accidents (11), and falls to a lower level (11). Combined, these five events accounted for 58 percent of all work-related deaths in Louisiana. (See chart B.) These data are from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) which was first conducted in 1992.

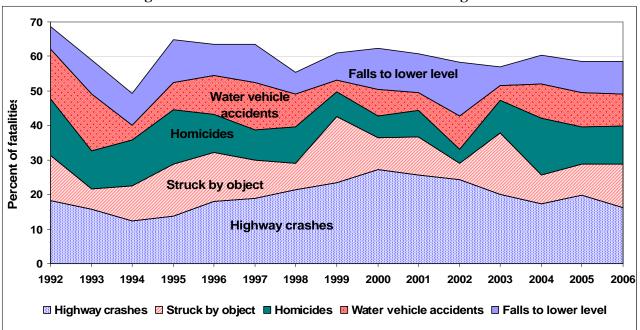


Chart B. Percentage of Louisiana work-related fatalities resulting from selected events

In Louisiana, highway incidents have led all other on-the-job fatalities since 1996, accounting for 16 percent of all worker deaths in 2006. Nationally, highway crashes were also the leading cause of work-related fatalities, resulting in 23 percent of all incidents in 2006. (See tables A and B.) Still, this was the only fatal event among the top seven in the State to register a decline from 2005. The 19 deaths resulting from work-related highway incidents in the Louisiana tied with 2003 and 1995 for the lowest number of deaths on record since the inception of the survey in 1992.

Occupational fatalities caused by being struck by an object rose to 15 in Louisiana in 2006, up from 10 in both 2005 and 2004. The 15 fatalities represented 13 percent of all workplace fatalities in the State, above the national figure of 10 percent in 2006.

Work-related homicides in Louisiana rose to 13 in 2006, accounting for 11 percent of onthe-job deaths in the State. This count, however, was still well below the high of 20 cases recorded in 2004. For the nation, work-related homicides dropped to record lows in 2006, falling to 516 deaths or 9 percent of all occupational fatalities.

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¹ Fatal events are categorized into several major groupings including transportation incidents, assaults and violent acts, and falls. These major groups are further broken down into more detailed groups. For example, transportation incidents include highway incidents, commonly referred to as crashes, and water vehicle accidents; assaults and violent acts include homicides and suicides; and falls include falls to a lower level (as from a roof or ladder) and falls on the same level.

Eleven fatalities in Louisiana resulted from water vehicle incidents. These types of fatal work injuries accounted for 9 percent of on-the-job fatalities in the State in 2006, but just 2 percent nationally.

Falls to a lower level also resulted in 11 fatalities in Louisiana in 2006. This event represented 9 percent of all worker fatalities in the State compared with 13 percent nationwide.

Other workplace events resulting in more than 5 fatalities in Louisiana included electrocutions (10), non-highway incidents, except rail, air, and water (8), and being struck by a vehicle or mobile equipment (8). (See table 1.)

Water vehicle accidents Highway crashes Struck by object Homicides Falls to lower level Total Number Number Percent fatalities Number Percent Percent Percent Number Percent Number Year

Table A. Distribution of fatal occupational injuries in Louisiana by selected event, 1992-2006

Fatal work injuries nationwide

Nationwide, a total of 5,703 fatal work injuries were reported in 2006, down slightly from the revised total of 5,734 fatalities reported for 2005. The 2006 U.S. total was the third lowest level recorded by the fatality census since its inception in 1992. (See table B.) Although fatal highway incidents were down from a year ago, these events continued to be the leading cause of on-the-job fatalities nationally. Deaths from such incidents totaled 1,329 in 2006, representing almost one out of every four fatal work injuries. Fatalities caused by falls to a lower level increased by 10 percent to 728, the second highest level for this category. On-the-job deaths resulting from being struck by an object totaled 583 in 2006, down from a record high of 607 in 2005.

The number of workplace homicides recorded in the United States in 2006 fell to 516, representing a 9-percent decline over the year and the lowest annual total yet recorded by the fatality census. Overall, workplace homicides decreased more than 50 percent from the high of 1,080 in 1994 (excluding the fatalities resulting from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001).

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Table B. Distribution of fatal occupational injuries in the United States by selected event, 1992-2006

										Water vehicle	
	Total	Highway	y crashes	Falls to lower level		Struck by object		Homicides		accidents	
Year	fatalities	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	6,217	1,158	19	507	8	557	9	1,044	17	109	2
1993	6,331	1,242	20	534	8	565	9	1,074	17	119	2
1994	6,632	1,343	20	580	9	591	9	1,080	16	94	1
1995	6,275	1,346	21	578	9	547	9	1,036	17	87	1
1996	6,202	1,346	22	610	10	582	9	927	15	119	2
1997	6,238	1,393	22	653	10	579	9	860	14	109	2
1998	6,055	1,442	24	625	10	520	9	714	12	112	2
1999	6,054	1,496	25	634	10	585	10	651	11	102	2
2000	5,920	1,365	23	659	11	571	10	677	11	84	1
2001^{1}	5,915	1,409	24	700	12	553	9	643	11	90	2
2002	5,534	1,373	25	638	12	505	9	609	11	71	1
2003	5,575	1,353	24	604	11	531	10	632	11	69	1
2004	5,764	1,398	24	738	13	602	10	559	10	95	2
2005^{2}	5,734	1,437	25	664	12	607	11	567	10	93	2
2006	5,703	1,329	23	728	13	583	10	516	9	89	2

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

Key characteristics of fatal work injuries in Louisiana:

- Men accounted for 95 percent or 112 of the work-related fatalities in Louisiana. Transportation incidents, which include highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail fatalities, accounted for 44 percent of these deaths and contact with objects and equipment made up 18 percent. Six women were fatally injured on-the-job, two-thirds (4) as a result of assaults and violent acts. (See table 2.)
- In Louisiana, 61 percent of those who died from a workplace injury were non-Hispanic whites; 27 percent were non-Hispanic blacks; 8 percent were Hispanics or Latinos; and 3 percent were Asians. The most frequent cause of death among non-Hispanic white and black workers was transportation incidents (29 and 18, respectively), while falls accounted for the largest number of Hispanic fatalities (4). (See table 2.)
- Workers 25-54 years old the prime working age group made up nearly two-thirds (76) of the State's work-related fatalities in 2006. Workers 55 years of age or older accounted for 26 percent of those fatally injured on the job. (See table 2.)
- Ninety percent of workers killed on the job in Louisiana worked for wages and salaries and the remaining 10 percent were self-employed. (See table 2.)
- Three industry sectors made up 57 percent of the workplace fatalities in the State construction with 31deaths and, mining, and transportation and warehousing, both with 18. Within construction, transportation incidents accounted for almost two-fifths of industry fatalities while falls and exposure to harmful substances or environments each accounted for approximately one-fourth. In the mining sector, contact with objects and equipment was the leading cause of death, accounting for nearly two-fifths of fatalities. In the transportation and warehousing industry, transportation incidents were by far the leading cause of workplace deaths, accounting for two-thirds of all fatal injuries. (See table 3.)

² The BLS news release issued August 10, 2006, reported a total of 5,702 fatal work injuries for calendar year 2005. Since then, an additional 32 job-related fatalities were identified, bringing the total job-related fatality count for 2005 to 5,734. NOTE: Totals for 2006 are preliminary.

— From an occupational perspective, workers in construction and extraction jobs (37) and transportation and material moving jobs (28) led all other groups in on-the-job fatalities. Combined, these two occupational groups accounted for 55 percent of all fatal work injuries in Louisiana. Among construction and extraction workers, the most frequent fatal events were transportation incidents (10), contact with objects and equipment (9), falls (8), and exposure to harmful substances or environments (7). Within transportation and material moving jobs, transportation incidents accounted for 82 percent of the fatally injured. (See table 4.)

Additional Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data are available on the BLS Internet site at http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm. Data can be accessed in a number of ways. Selected current and historical information is available in PDF format. Detailed data may be accessed through the online query system located at http://data.bls.gov/PDQ/outside.jsp?survey=fi or via an extensive collection of flat text files. The Southwest Information Office can provide assistance accessing any of these files by calling (214) 767-6970.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Background of the program

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 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 and Federal data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. Information about each workplace fatality (industry, occupation, and other worker characteristics; equipment being used; and circumstances of the event) is obtained by cross-referencing source documents, such as death certificates, workers' compensation records, news accounts, and reports to Federal and State agencies. This method assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

Definitions

For a fatality to be included in the census, the decedent must have been employed (that is working for pay, compensation, or profit) at the time of the event, engaged in a legal work activity, or present at the site of the incident as a requirement of his or her job. Fatalities to volunteer and unpaid family workers who perform the same duties and functions as paid workers are also included in the counts. These criteria are generally broader than those used by Federal and State agencies administering specific laws and regulations. (Fatalities that occur during a person's normal commute to or from work are excluded from the census counts.)

Data presented in this release include deaths occurring in 2006 that resulted from traumatic occupational injuries. An injury is defined as any wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy, such as heat, electricity, or impact from a crash or fall, or from the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event or incident within a single workday or shift. Included are open wounds, intracranial and internal injuries, heatstroke, hypothermia, asphyxiation, acute poisonings resulting from short-term exposures limited to the worker's shift, suicides and homicides, and work injuries listed as underlying or contributory causes of death.

Information on work-related fatal illnesses is not reported in the BLS census and is excluded from the attached tables because the latency period of many occupational illnesses and the difficulty of linking illnesses to work exposures make identification of a universe problematic.

Measurement techniques and limitations

Data for the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries are compiled from various Federal, State, and local administrative sources – including death certificates, workers' compensation reports and claims, reports to various regulatory agencies, medical examiner reports, and police reports – as well as news and other non-governmental reports. Diverse sources are used because studies have shown that no single source captures all job-related fatalities. Source documents are matched so that each fatality is counted only once. To ensure that a fatality occurred while the decedent was at work, information is verified from two or more independent source documents or from a source document and a follow-up questionnaire. Approximately 30 data elements are collected, coded, and tabulated, including information about the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved.

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.

Fatalities occurring among several other groups of workers are generally not covered by any Federal or State agencies. These groups include self-employed and unpaid family workers, which accounted for about 18 percent of the fatalities; laborers on small farms, accounting for about 1 percent of the fatalities; and State and local government employees in States without OSHA-approved safety programs, which accounted for about 4 percent. (Approximately one-half of the States have approved OSHA safety programs, which cover State and local government employees.)

Acknowledgments

BLS thanks the Louisiana Department of Labor's Division of Workers' Compensation 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 agencies 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 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.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure and major private industry sector, Louisiana, 2006

		Goods producing Service providing											
Event or exposure ²	Total fatalities (number)	Total goods producing	Natural resources and mining ³	Constru ction	Manu- fact- uring	Total service providing	Trade, transpor- tation, & utilities	Infor- mation	Financial activities	Professio nal & business services	Educa- tion & health srvcs	Leisure & hospi- tality	Other services
Total	118	67	28	31	8	47	27			9		7	4
Contact with objects and equipment	21	15	8	3	4	6	4						-
Struck by object	15	11	7			4	3						-
Struck by falling object	9	8	5										
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	5	3											
Caught in running equipment or machinery	4	3											
Falls	12	9		8		3							
Fall to lower level	11	9		8									
Fall from roof	4	4		4									
Fall from scaffold, staging	3	3		3									
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	-	11		7		7	3			3			
Contact with electric current	10			6		·							
Contact with overhead power lines	-												
Exposure to air pressure changes													
Pressure changes underwater	_												
Transportation accidents	-	28	14	12		20	15			5			
Highway accident		-		'2		14	-			3			
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	11					7	4			3			
Moving in same direction						2	3]			
Moving in agine directions, oncoming						2	٦			2			
						3				3			
Moving in intersection	3										-		
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment	3					2	2						
on side of road	. J					3	3			1			
Noncollision accident	5					4	4				-		
Jack-knifed or overturnedno collision						4	4		-	-			
Nonhighway accident, except rail, air, water		5		3		3				-			
Noncollision accident	٥	4		3					-	-			
Fell from and struck by vehicle, mobile	l .												
equipment	4	3								-			
Pedestrian, nonpassenger struck by vehicle,	_												
mobile equipment	8	6	4							-			
Pedestrian struck by vehicle, mobile	_	_	_										
equipment in parking lot or non-roadway area	. 6	-	3										
Water vehicle accident		10	4	5			-				I		
Explosion, fire, n.e.c.		5		5									
Fall from ship, boat, n.e.c		5	4				-		-	-			
Fires and explosions		4	3	-			-		-				
Explosion		4	3						-		I		
Assaults and violent acts				l		11	4					7	I
Assaults and violent acts by person(s)	13					11	4					7	
Shooting	. 13					11	4					7	

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

NOTE: 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." Data for 2006 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

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

³ Includes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Louisiana, 2006

	Event or exposure ¹								
Worker characteristics	Total fatalities (number)	Transportation incidents ²	Assaults and violent acts ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions		
Total	118	50	13	21	12	18	4		
Employee Status									
Wage and Salary Workers ⁴ Self-employed ⁵	106 12	46 4	11 	19 	11 	15 3	4		
Gender									
Men	112 6	49 	9 4	20 	12 	18 	4		
Age									
Under 16 years	 9 29 18 29 23	 12 7 12 13 5	 4 3 3	 5 5 3 3	 4 4 -	 4 4 3 4	 		
White, non-Hispanic Black, non-Hispanic Hispanic or Latino American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	32 10 	29 18 	7 5 	15 4 	6 4 	13 3 	 		

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2006 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

² Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

³ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

⁴ May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude data for Hispanics and Latinos.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Louisiana, 2006

		Total		1	E VOIII OI	exposure ²	F :	
Industry [†]	NAICS code ¹	fatalities (number)	Transpor- tation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total		118	50	13	21	12	18	4
Private Industry		114	48	11	21	12	18	4
Goods Producing		67	28		15	9	11	4
Natural Resources and Mining		28	14		8			3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	10	8					
Crop Production	111	3						
Fishing, Hunting and Trapping		4	4					
FishingFishing		4	4					
Shellfish Fishing	114112	3	3					
Mining ⁵	21	18	6		7			3
Support Activities for Mining		18	6		7			3
Support Activities for Mining		18 18	6 6		7 7			3
Drilling Oil and Gas Wells	213111	4			3			
Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations		14	5		4			3
Construction		31	12		3	8	7	
Construction	23	31	12		3	8	7	
Construction of buildings		5 3				4		
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction		10	8					
Utility System Construction Oil and Gas Pipeline and Related Structures Construction		8	7 7					
Specialty Trade Contractors		7 14	3			3	6	
Foundation, Structure, and Building Exterior Contractors	2381	5						
Building Equipment Contractors Electrical Contractors		6 4					4 3	
Manufacturing		8			4			
Manufacturing		8			4			
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	336	3			-			
Ship and Boat BuildingShip and Boat Building		3						
Ship Building and Repairing		3						
Service providing		47	20	11	6	3	7	
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities		27	15	4	4		3	
Retail Trade	44-45	4		3				
Transportation and Warehousing		18	12		4			
Truck Transportation		8	8					
Specialized Freight Trucking	4842	7	7					
Specialized Freight (except Used Goods) Trucking, Local		5 4	5					
Support Activities for Water Transportation		3						
Utilities	22	3						
Utilities	221	3						
Professional and Business Services		9	5				3	
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	54	3	3					
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services		3	3					
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services.	56	6					3	
Administrative and Support Services		5					3	
Services to Buildings and Dwellings	5617	3						
Landscaping Services Leisure and Hospitality		3 7		7				
Accommodation and Food Services	72	5		5				
Food Services and Drinking Places Other Services		5 4		5 				
Other Services, except Public Administration	81	4						
Repair and Maintenance	811	3						
Government ⁶		4						
Local Government		4						
Service providing		4						
Public Administration		4						
Public Administration		4						
Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities		4						
Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities		4						

 $[\]ensuremath{^{1}}$ Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2006 are preliminary.

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

³ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁴ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

Includes foliative by persons, self-inflitted injury, and attacks by aliminals.

Fincludes fatalities at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, 2002, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

Fincludes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Louisiana, 2006

		Event or exposure ²								
Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environments	Fires and explosions			
Total	118	50	13	21	12	18	4			
Management occupations	7	3	3							
Other management occupations			3							
Protective service occupations			4							
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations										
Grounds maintenance workers										
Grounds maintenance workers	3									
Sales and related occupations	4		3							
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations		5								
Fishing and hunting workers		4								
Fishers and related fishing workers		4								
Fishers and related fishing workers		4								
Construction and extraction occupations		10		9	8	7	3			
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	. 6			3						
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and										
extraction workers	6			3						
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and										
extraction workers	6			3						
Construction trades workers	20	6			7	7				
Carpenters	3									
Carpenters	3									
Construction laborers	6									
Construction laborers	6									
Construction equipment operators	. 3	3								
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	3	3								
Electricians	4					3				
Electricians	4					3				
Extraction workers	10			6						
Mining machine operators	4									
Mining machine operators, all other	. 4									
Miscellaneous extraction workers	3									
Extraction workers, all other	. 3									
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	. 13			4		7				
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	10					6				
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	. 4									
Industrial machinery mechanics	. 3									
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers						3				
Commercial divers	3					3				
Production occupations	. 11			4		3				
Metal workers and plastic workers	. 3									
Other production occupations										
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers										
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers										
Transportation and material moving occupations		23		3						
Motor vehicle operators		14								
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers		14								
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer		12								
Water transportation workers	6									
Sailors and marine oilers	4									
Sailors and marine oilers	1 4									
Material moving workers	5	4								

¹Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. Data for 2006 are preliminary.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

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

 $^{^3}$ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

 $^{^{\}rm 4}$ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.