

Two thousand two marked the 10th anniversary of the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries program, which was launched in all 50 States and the District of Columbia in 1992. Over the years since its inception, the fatality census has established itself as the most accurate and comprehensive national source of information on fatal work injuries. ■ The need for



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comprehensive, timely, and accurate information on workplace fatalities that prompted the creation of the program in 1992 continues to be a priority for us in 2003. The fatal work injury information is used by other government agencies, employers, and worker groups for fatal work injury surveillance, safety research, standards assessment, policy development, and the design of strategies for the prevention of fatal events. Clearly, the information the program provides has greatly enhanced understanding of fatal workplace incidents and of the circumstances surrounding those incidents. ■ *Fatal Occupational Injuries in the United States: A Chartbook* provides a 5-year snapshot of workplace fatalities for all industries in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and New York City. What are the most dangerous jobs? How do safety needs differ across States? What industries have become more or less dangerous since 1995? Insights into these questions and others can be found in this publication in a reader-friendly format that affords safety specialists and laypersons equal access to the informative data. ■ Workplace safety ranks among the most important considerations for employers and employees alike. It is our hope that this publication will add to efforts to make our workplaces safer for all workers.

Kathleen P. Utgoff

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen P. Utgoff". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K".

Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics