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**FATAL WORK INJURIES  
AND WORK HAZARDS**

**Fact Sheet  
CFOI 96-2**

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
August 1996

Office of Safety, Health  
and Working Conditions  
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**JOB-RELATED HOMICIDES PROFILED**

Homicide accounted for one out of every six of the 6,210 fatal work injuries that occurred in 1995, following only highway fatalities as a leading cause of job-related death, according to the annual BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). This fact sheet summarizes the characteristics of the 1,024 victims of job-related homicide, the occupations and industries in which they worked, and circumstances surrounding the incident. (See accompanying table.)

While three times as many male workers were murdered as female workers, homicide was the leading cause of job-related fatality for women, accounting for nearly half their fatal work injuries. And homicides of female workers went up by about one third from 1994, while homicides of male workers went down by about one-eighth. Because of their occupations, homicide was also the leading cause of job-related death for the self-employed and various minority groups, such as blacks, Asian and Pacific Islanders, and Hispanics.

Most of the workplace homicides appear to result from robberies or robbery-attempts. Typically these robberies involved store personnel, gas station attendants, or taxicab drivers being shot for cash receipts. But several workers were killed during carjackings, muggings, and robberies of goods or services, such as a tankful of gas or a taxi fare. One-seventh of the job-related homicide victims were police officers and security guards killed in the line of duty; one-eighth were victims of the Oklahoma City bombing of a federal building (including some police officers). One tenth of the workplace homicide victims were killed by a current or former work associate, almost double the number from the previous year. And several workers, primarily women, were killed as a result of domestic disputes that filtered into the workplace. Firearm-related homicides dropped almost 20 percent in 1995 from the previous year, but still accounted for three-quarters of the job-related homicides. Explosives were involved in one-eighth of the workplace homicides.

Half the victims of workplace homicide worked in either a sales occupation (such as sales clerk, retail store owner, or cashier) or a service-related occupation (such as police officer, security guard, or food preparer). Taxicab drivers and various management-related occupations also reported high numbers of job-related homicides. Although job-related homicides in retail trade dropped by 21 percent from the previous year, they still accounted for 41 percent of all workplace homicides in 1995. Homicides in convenience and other grocery stores, eating and drinking places, and gasoline service stations predominated among retail establishments. Government workers accounted for one-fifth of the homicide victims, twice as many as the previous year because of the Oklahoma City bombing of a federal building.

(over)

Table B. Job-related homicides by selected characteristics, 1995

	Number	Percent		Number	Percent
Total .....	1,024	100	Total .....	1,024	100
<b>Employee status</b>			<b>Occupation</b>		
Wage and salary workers .....	817	80	Managerial and professional specialty occupations .....	199	19
Self-employed .....	207	20	Executive, administrative, managerial occupations .....	161	16
			Administrators and officials, public administration .....	19	2
			Managers, food serving and lodging places .....	46	4
			Professional specialty .....	38	4
			Technical, sales, and administrative support jobs .....	374	37
<b>Gender</b>			Sales occupations .....	298	29
Men .....	780	76	Supervisors and proprietors, sales occupations .....	133	13
Women .....	244	24	Sales workers, retail and personal services .....	156	15
			Sales workers, other commodities .....	23	2
			Cashiers .....	107	10
			Administrative support occupations, including clerical .....	63	6
			Service occupations .....	212	21
<b>Age</b>			Protective service occupations .....	142	14
18 to 19 years .....	25	2	Police and detectives, including supervisors .....	81	8
20 to 24 years .....	69	7	Guards, including supervisors .....	59	6
25 to 34 years .....	262	26	Service occupations, except protective and household .....	67	7
35 to 44 years .....	255	25	Food preparation and service occupations .....	42	4
45 to 54 years .....	213	21	Farming, forestry, and fishing occupations .....	20	2
55 to 64 years .....	125	12	Precision production, craft, and repair occupations .....	40	4
65 years and over .....	64	6	Mechanics and repairers .....	16	2
Other or unspecified .....	11	1	Operators, fabricators, and laborers .....	160	16
			Transportation and material moving occupations .....	115	11
			Motor vehicle operators .....	112	11
			Truck drivers .....	24	2
			Taxicab drivers and chauffeurs .....	69	7
			Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	31	3
			Military .....	9	1
			Other or unspecified .....	10	1
<b>Race</b>			<b>Industry</b>		
White .....	666	65	Private industry .....	813	79
Black .....	208	20	Agriculture, forestry, and fishing .....	19	2
Asian or Pacific Islander .....	90	9	Construction .....	15	1
Other or unspecified .....	60	6	Manufacturing .....	44	4
			Transportation and public utilities .....	97	9
<b>Hispanic origin</b>			Local and interurban passenger transit .....	72	7
Hispanic .....	128	13	Taxicabs .....	68	7
			Wholesale trade .....	25	2
			Retail trade .....	416	41
			Food stores .....	159	16
			Grocery stores .....	150	15
<b>Circumstance or alleged perpetrator</b>			Automotive dealers and service stations .....	51	5
Robberies and other crimes .....	727	71	Gasoline service stations .....	36	4
Work associates .....	113	11	Apparel and accessory stores .....	16	2
Coworker, former coworker .....	88	9	Eating and drinking places .....	119	12
Customer, client .....	25	2	Eating places .....	61	6
Police killed in the line of duty .....	81	8	Drinking places .....	33	3
Security guard killed in the line of duty .....	59	6	Miscellaneous retail .....	48	5
Personal acquaintance .....	44	4	Liquor stores .....	17	2
Husband, ex-husband .....	14	1	Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	53	5
Boyfriend, ex-boyfriend .....	11	1	Depository institutions .....	24	2
Wife, ex-wife, girlfriend, ex-girlfriend .....	4	--	Federal credit unions .....	18	2
Other relative .....	10	1	Real estate .....	24	2
Other acquaintance .....	5	--	Real estate operators and lessors .....	16	2
			Services .....	137	13
			Personal services .....	17	2
			Business services .....	39	4
			Miscellaneous business services .....	32	3
			Detective and armored car services .....	26	3
			Auto repair, services, and parking .....	20	2
<b>Event</b>			Other or unspecified .....	7	1
Shooting .....	754	74	<b>Government</b> .....	211	21
Stabbing .....	67	7	Federal .....	109	11
Hitting, kicking, beating .....	44	4	State .....	17	2
Other, including bombing .....	159	16	Local .....	83	8

NOTE: Dashes indicate less than 0.5 percent. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 1995