

News

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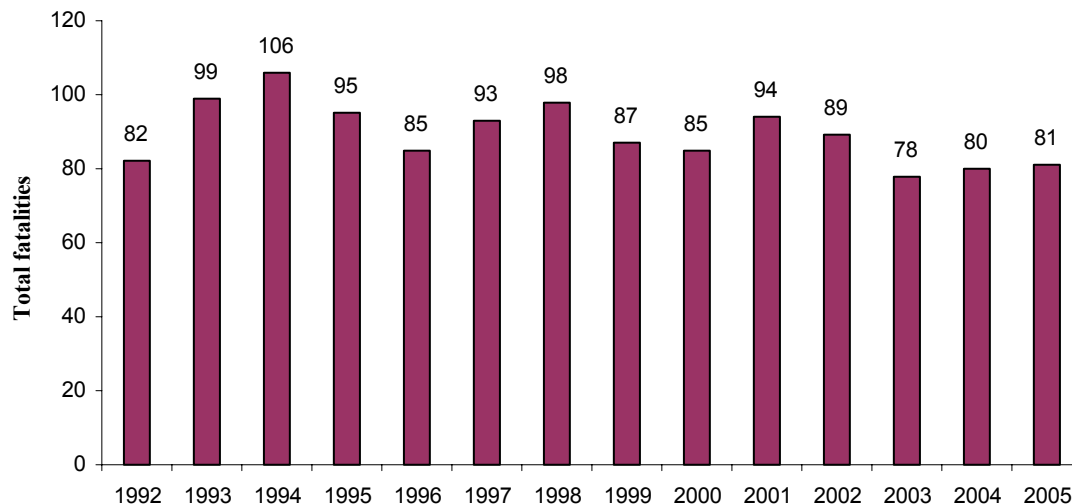
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KANSAS WORKPLACE FATALITIES, 2005

A total of 81 fatal work injuries were recorded in Kansas in 2005, about the same as the number of deaths in the previous year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that the State recorded its lowest fatality count in 2003 (78), and since that time the level has changed little. The most frequent type of workplace fatality in Kansas in 2005 was highway crashes (25), which accounted for 31 percent of the deaths. Other types of frequent fatal events included homicides (8), being struck by an object (7), and being caught in or compressed by equipment or objects (7). Taken together, these four events¹ resulted in almost three-fifths (58 percent) of the workplace fatalities in the State in 2005.

Total workplace fatalities in Kansas, 1992-2005



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 includes highway incidents, commonly referred to as highway crashes, and aircraft incidents; assaults and violent acts includes homicides and suicides; and falls includes falls to a lower level (as from a roof or ladder) and falls on the same level (as from grease on a floor or ice on a sidewalk).

Over the year, highway crashes remained the most frequent type of fatal workplace event for both the State and the nation. In Kansas, fatal highway crashes rose by 4 cases to 25 in 2005 and made up close to one-third of those fatally injured on the job; nationally, this event accounted for one-fourth of all job-related deaths. (See tables A and B.)

Homicides accounted for 10 percent of on-the-job deaths in both the State and the nation. The eight work-related homicides in Kansas in 2005 matched the count recorded in 2004.

Seven fatalities in the State resulted from workers being struck by an object, the same number as in 2004. This event accounted for 9 percent of on-the-job fatalities in Kansas; nationally, it accounted for 11 percent.

Occupational fatalities caused by being caught in or compressed by equipment or objects numbered five in 2004 and seven the next year. In 2005, being caught in or compressed by equipment or objects represented 9 percent of job-related deaths in Kansas and 5 percent of the U.S. total.

Other fatal workplace events in Kansas in 2005 included six non-highway transportation incidents (such as tractor rollovers occurring on farm premises); four falls to a lower level; and three deaths each in the following events—electrocutions, pedestrians being struck by vehicles, and self-inflicted injuries.

Table A. Fatal occupational injuries in Kansas by selected event groups, 1992 - 2005

Year	Total fatalities	Highway crashes		Homicides		Struck by object		Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	82	20	24	11	13	9	11	7	9
1993	99	30	30	7	7	12	12	3	3
1994	106	32	30	8	8	14	13	6	6
1995	95	27	28	8	8	9	9	3	3
1996	85	33	39	4	5	5	6	7	8
1997	93	30	32	3	3	6	6	7	8
1998	98	32	33	5	5	6	6	—	—
1999	87	22	25	4	5	12	14	5	6
2000	85	27	32	3	4	5	6	4	5
2001	94	29	31	4	4	4	4	5	5
2002	89	22	25	4	4	13	15	6	7
2003	78	28	36	3	4	4	5	4	5
2004	80	21	26	8	10	7	9	5	6
2005	81	25	31	8	10	7	9	7	9

Nationwide, a total of 5,702 fatal work injuries were reported in 2005, a decrease of about 1 percent from the revised count of 5,764 fatalities reported for 2004. The 2005 U.S. total was the third lowest level recorded by the fatality census, which has been conducted yearly since 1992. (See table B.) Fatal highway crashes rose by 2 percent over the year, from 1,398 in 2004 to 1,428 in 2005. The number of deaths from highway crashes in 2005 represented one out of every four fatal work injuries and continued to lead all other events in the frequency of on-the-job fatalities. The 662 fatal falls to a lower level recorded in 2005 represented a 10 percent decline from the series high of 738 recorded in 2004. Fatalities resulting from being struck by an object remained at about the same level as in 2004 (604 fatal work injuries in 2005 compared to 602 in 2004); never-the-less, this was the highest annual total ever reported for this event by the fatality census.

The number of workplace homicides recorded in the U.S. changed little over the year, from 559 incidents in 2004 to 564 in 2005. Overall, workplace homicides were down 48 percent from the high of 1,080 recorded in 1994 (excluding the 2,886 work-related homicides resulting from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001).

Table B. Fatal occupational injuries in the United States by selected event groups, 1992-2005

Year	Total fatalities	Highway crashes		Falls to lower level		Struck by object		Homicides	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	6,217	1,158	19	507	8	557	9	1,044	17
1993	6,331	1,242	20	534	8	565	9	1,074	17
1994	6,632	1,343	20	580	9	591	9	1,080	16
1995	6,275	1,346	21	578	9	547	9	1,036	17
1996	6,202	1,346	22	610	10	582	9	927	15
1997	6,238	1,393	22	653	10	579	9	860	14
1998	6,055	1,442	24	625	10	520	9	714	12
1999	6,054	1,496	25	634	10	585	10	651	11
2000	5,920	1,365	23	659	11	571	10	677	11
2001 ¹	5,915	1,409	24	700	12	553	9	643	11
2002	5,534	1,373	25	638	12	505	9	609	11
2003	5,575	1,353	24	604	11	531	10	632	11
2004 ²	5,764	1,398	24	738	13	602	10	559	10
2005	5,702	1,428	25	662	12	604	11	564	10

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

² The BLS news release issued August 25, 2005, reported a total of 5,703 fatal work injuries for calendar year 2004. Since then, an additional 61 job-related fatalities were identified, bringing the total job-related fatality count for 2004 to 5,764.

NOTE: Totals for 2005 are preliminary.

Select characteristics of workplace fatalities in Kansas in 2005:

- Men accounted for 96 percent (78) of the work-related fatalities in Kansas. Transportation incidents, which include highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail fatalities, accounted for almost one-half of these deaths and contact with objects and equipment accounted for about another 20 percent. Three women were fatally injured on the job in 2005. (See table 2.)
- Eighty-three percent of those who died from a workplace injury were white, non-Hispanic (67) and 12 percent were Hispanic or Latino (10). Transportation incidents (35) were the most frequent type of fatal event for white, non-Hispanic workers, followed by contact with objects and equipment (13), and assaults and violent acts (8). Among Hispanic or Latino workers, transportation incidents (3) and contact with objects and equipment (3) were the most frequent fatal events. (See table 2.)
- Workers 25-54 years old—the prime working age group—made up 58 percent of the State's work-related fatalities in 2005 with 47 deaths. Twenty-seven workers 55 years of age or older died on the job, accounting for 33 percent of the fatally injured. (See table 2.)
- Seventy-four percent of workers killed on-the-job in Kansas worked for wages and salaries and the remaining 26 percent were self-employed. Work-related deaths resulting from transportation incidents accounted for the largest number of fatalities among wage and salary workers (31) and the self-employed (9) in 2005. (See table 2.)
- Four industry sectors made up 60 percent of the workplace fatalities in Kansas—

agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting recorded 15 fatalities; transportation and warehousing, 12; and wholesale trade and government each had 11.

Transportation incidents were the most frequent type of fatal event for all four industry sectors. (See table 3.)

- Workers in transportation and material moving jobs led all other occupational groups with 29 fatalities. Motor vehicle operators suffered the largest number of fatally injured (21) in this occupational group, in particular, truck drivers (17). Workers in the management occupational group had the second highest number of fatalities, 12. Managers of farmers and ranchers accounted for 11 of these deaths. Combined, workers in transportation and material moving and management occupations accounted for about one-half of the fatal work injuries in Kansas. (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. For personal assistance or further information on the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries program, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Kansas City Economic Analysis & Information Office at 816-285-7000 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT.

TECHNICAL NOTES

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 profile 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, and reports to Federal and State agencies. This method assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible. For the 2005 data, over 20,000 unique source documents were reviewed as part of the data collection process.

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. 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 2005 that resulted from traumatic occupational injuries. An injury is defined as any intentional or unintentional wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy, such as heat, electricity, or kinetic energy from a crash, or from the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event, incident, or series of events 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 20 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 Kansas Department of Labor 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 industry¹ sector, Kansas, 2005 - continued

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, and utilities	Information	Financial activities	Professional and business services	Education and health services	Leisure and hospitality	Other services
mobile equipment.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Railway accident.....	5	--	--	--	--	5	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Collision between railway vehicle and other vehicle.....	4	--	--	--	--	4	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Assaults and violent acts.....	12	--	--	--	--	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Assaults and violent acts by person(s).....	8	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Shooting.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Self-inflicted injury.....	3	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Suicide, attempted suicide.....	3	--	--	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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 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.

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 2005 are preliminary.

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

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics and event or exposure, Kansas, 2005

Worker characteristics	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ¹					
		Transportation incidents ²	Assaults and violent acts ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful sub- stances or environ- ments	Fires and explosions
Total.....	81	40	12	16	4	5	--
Employee Status							
Wage and Salary Workers ⁴	60	31	9	11	4	--	--
Self-employed ⁵	21	9	3	5	--	3	--
Sex							
Men.....	78	38	11	16	4	5	--
Women.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Age							
Under 16 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
16 to 17 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
18 to 19 years.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
20 to 24 years.....	5	4	--	--	--	--	--
25 to 34 years.....	17	5	4	3	--	--	--
35 to 44 years.....	18	8	4	4	--	--	--
45 to 54 years.....	12	6	--	3	--	--	--
55 to 64 years.....	11	5	--	3	--	--	--
65 years and over.....	16	11	--	--	--	--	--
Race or Ethnic Origin⁶							
White, non-Hispanic.....	67	35	8	13	3	4	--
Black, non-Hispanic.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hispanic or Latino.....	10	3	--	3	--	--	--
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.....	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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

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.

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 2005 are preliminary.

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

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Kansas, 2005

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
			Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total		81	40	12	16	4	5	--
Private Industry		70	33	9	15	4	5	--
Goods Producing		32	13	--	9	--	4	--
Natural Resources and Mining		18	8	--	4	--	--	--
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	11	15	8	--	4	--	--	--
Crop Production.....	111	6	4	--	--	--	--	--
Animal Production.....	112	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle Ranching and Farming.....	1121	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction		8	--	--	3	--	--	--
Construction	23	8	--	--	3	--	--	--
Construction of buildings.....	236	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Specialty Trade Contractors.....	238	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing		6	4	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	31-33	6	4	--	--	--	--	--
Service providing		38	20	6	6	--	--	--
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities		24	14	--	5	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	42	11	5	--	3	--	--	--
Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods.....	423	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods.....	424	5	3	--	--	--	--	--
Farm Product Raw Material Merchant wholesalers.....	4245	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Grain and Field Bean Merchant wholesalers.....	42451	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and Warehousing	48-49	12	9	--	--	--	--	--
Truck Transportation.....	484	11	8	--	--	--	--	--
General Freight Trucking.....	4841	9	8	--	--	--	--	--
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance.....	48412	8	7	--	--	--	--	--
General Freight Trucking, Long-Distance, Truckload.....	484121	5	5	--	--	--	--	--

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and event or exposure, Kansas, 2005 - continued

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
			Transportation incidents ³	Assaults and violent acts ⁴	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Professional and Business Services		5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	56	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Administrative and Support Services.....	561	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Services to Buildings and Dwellings.....	5617	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Landscaping Services.....	56173	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services		3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services, except Public Administration	81	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Government⁵		11	7	3	--	--	--	--
Local Government		7	3	3	--	--	--	--
Service providing		6	3	3	--	--	--	--
Public Administration		3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Public Administration	92	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities.....	922	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Justice, Public Order, and Safety Activities.....	9221	3	--	--	--	--	--	--

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 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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

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 2005 are preliminary.

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

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and event or exposure, Kansas, 2005

Occupation ¹	Total fatalities (number)	Event or exposure ²					
		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.....	81	40	12	16	4	5	--
Management occupations.....	12	5	--	3	--	--	--
Other management occupations.....	12	5	--	3	--	--	--
Agricultural managers.....	11	5	--	3	--	--	--
Farmers and ranchers.....	11	5	--	3	--	--	--
Protective service occupations.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Supervisors, sales workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations.....	7	--	--	3	--	--	--
Construction trades workers.....	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	8	5	--	--	--	--	--
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers.....	5	4	--	--	--	--	--
Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians and mechanics.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Production occupations.....	7	3	--	--	--	--	--
Supervisors, production workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers.....	3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	29	19	--	4	--	--	--
Motor vehicle operators.....	21	16	--	--	--	--	--
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers.....	19	14	--	--	--	--	--
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer.....	17	13	--	--	--	--	--
Material moving workers.....	5	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System.

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.

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 2005 are preliminary.

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