

News

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NATIONAL CENSUS OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN 2006

There were 5,703 fatal work injuries in the United States in 2006, down slightly from the revised total of 5,734 fatalities in 2005. The rate of fatal work injuries in 2006 was 3.9 per 100,000 workers, down from a rate of 4.0 per 100,000 in 2005. The numbers reported in this release are preliminary and will be updated in April 2008.

Key findings of the 2006 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries:

- The overall fatal work injury rate for the U.S. in 2006 was lower than the rate for any year since the fatality census was first conducted in 1992.
- Coal mining industry fatalities more than doubled in 2006, due to the Sago Mine disaster and other multiple-fatality coal mining incidents.
- The number of workplace homicides in 2006 was a series low and reflected a decline of over 50 percent from the high reported in 1994.
- Fatalities among workers under 25 years of age fell 9 percent, and the rate of fatal injury among these workers was down significantly.
- The 937 fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers in 2006 was a series high, but the overall fatality rate for Hispanic or Latino workers was lower than in 2005.
- Fatalities among self-employed workers declined 11 percent and reached a series low in 2006.
- Aircraft-related fatalities were up 44 percent, led by a number of multiple-fatality events including the August 2006 Comair crash.

Profile of 2006 fatal work injuries by type of incident

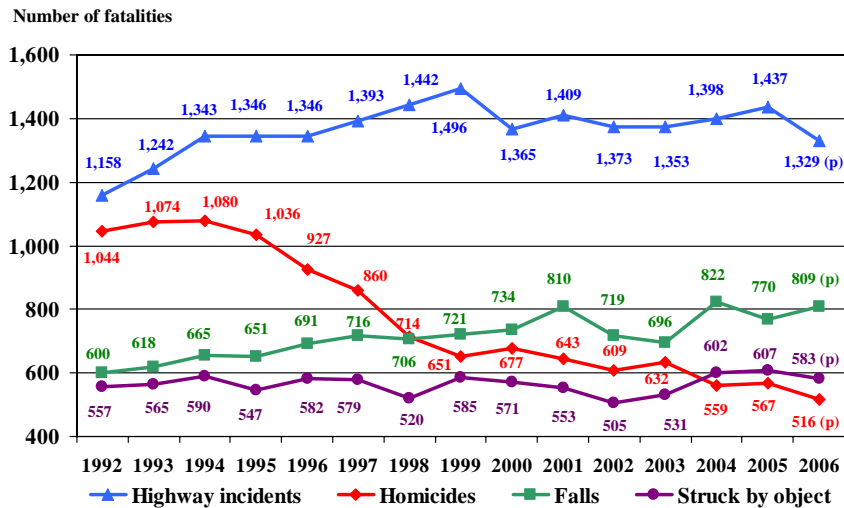
While fatal highway incidents remained the most frequent type of fatal work-related event, accounting for nearly one out of four fatal work injuries, the number of highway incidents fell 8 percent in 2006. The 1,329 fatal highway incidents in 2006 was the lowest annual total since 1993. Nonhighway incidents (such as those that might occur on a farm or industrial premises) remained at about the same level in 2006. Work-related pedestrian fatalities were lower.

Aircraft-related fatalities increased sharply in 2006 after declining in 2005. The 215 fatalities involving aircraft in 2006 represented a 44 percent increase over the 149 in 2005. Overall, there were 44 multiple-fatality aircraft incidents claiming 137 workers in 2006,

including one (the August 2006 Comair crash) that resulted in 23 fatalities. The annual number of aircraft fatalities tends to be volatile and has ranged from a high of 426 fatalities in 1994 to a low of 149 in 2005.

Fatal work injuries involving falls increased 5 percent in 2006 after a sharp decrease in 2005. The 809 fatal falls in 2006 was the third highest total since 1992, when the fatality census began. Fatal falls from roofs increased from 160 fatalities in 2005 to 184 in 2006, a rise of 15 percent.

Four most frequent work-related fatal events, 1992–2006



p = Preliminary
 NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatalities resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
 SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2007

Workplace homicides decreased 9 percent to 516 in 2006, the lowest annual total ever reported by the fatality census. Overall, workplace homicides have decreased more than 50 percent from the series high in 1994.

The number of workers who were fatally injured from being struck by objects was lower in 2006, after increasing for the last three years. The 583 fatalities resulting from being struck by objects in 2006 represented a 4 percent decline from the 2005 total.

Fatalities involving fires and explosions increased by 26 percent in 2006, rising from 159 in 2005 to 201 in 2006. Fatalities resulting from exposure to harmful substances or environments were also higher in 2006, led by a 12 percent increase in exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances (from 136 in 2005 to 153 in 2006).

Profile of fatal work injuries by demographic characteristics

Fatal work injuries involving female workers increased 5 percent in 2006 after declining the past two years. Despite the increase, the 428 fatal work injuries involving female workers was the third lowest annual total for female workers in the 15 years of the fatality census. The number and rate of fatal injury among male workers were both lower in 2006.

The 937 fatal work injuries among Hispanic or Latino workers in 2006 was up from the 923 fatal work injuries in 2005 and represented the largest annual total since the fatality census began in 1992. Due to increased employment, however, the fatality rate for Hispanic or Latino workers was lower (4.7 fatalities per 100,000 workers in 2006 versus 4.9 per 100,000 in 2005). Among foreign-born Hispanic or Latino workers, fatalities decreased slightly after reaching a series high in 2005. Fatalities among White workers, Black or African-American workers, and Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander workers were all lower.

The number of fatal work injuries among workers younger than 25 years of age decreased 9 percent (516 in 2006 versus 568 in 2005). Fatality rates were also lower, especially for workers 16 to 17 years of age, whose fatality rates declined 40 percent. Fatal work injuries among workers 55 years of age or older were slightly higher in 2006, but the fatality rate for this group of workers was lower, reflecting the growing number of older workers in the workforce.

Fatalities among self-employed workers were down for the second straight year and represented the lowest annual total in the history of the fatality census. The rate of fatal injury among self-employed workers fell to 9.4 fatalities per 100,000 workers, down from 10.7 per 100,000 in 2005. Fatalities among wage and salary workers rose 2 percent in 2006, but the rate of fatal injury for wage and salary workers was unchanged from 2005.

Profiles of fatal injuries by industry

Of the 5,703 fatal work injuries in 2006, 5,202 occurred in private industry. Service-providing industries in the private sector accounted for 47 percent (2,693 fatalities), while private goods-producing industries accounted for 44 percent (2,509 fatalities). Government workers accounted for 9 percent (501) of fatalities in 2006. The fatality rate for goods-producing industries was unchanged in 2006, while the fatality rate for service-providing industries and for government were both lower in 2006.

Construction accounted for 1,226 fatal work injuries, the most of any industry sector. The total for construction represented an increase of 3 percent over the 2005 total. Fatalities among specialty trade contractors rose 6 percent (from 677 fatalities in 2005 to 721 in 2006), due primarily to higher numbers of fatal work injuries among building finishing contractors and roofing contractors. Fatalities in building construction and in heavy and civil engineering construction decreased in 2006.

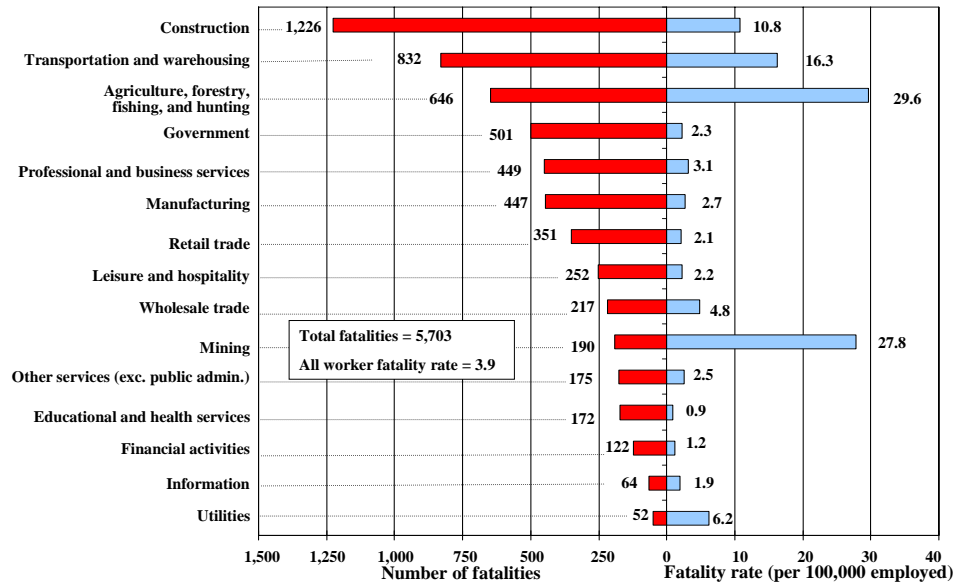
Transportation and warehousing fatalities decreased from 885 in 2005 to 832 in 2006, a 6 percent decline. The decrease was due in large part to a sharp decline in fatal injuries in general freight trucking. Rail and water transportation fatalities were also lower, but air transportation fatalities rose sharply.

Mining fatalities increased 19 percent in 2006. Fatal work injuries in coal mining more than doubled in 2006 due in part to the Sago mine disaster and other mining incidents. A total of 47 coal mining fatalities were recorded in 2006, up from 22 in 2005, due in part to 4 multiple-fatality incidents in coal mining in 2006, claiming a total of 21 workers. The fatality rate for coal

mining jumped 84 percent in 2006 to 49.5 fatalities per 100,000 workers, up from 26.8 in 2005. Oil and gas extraction fatalities were also higher in 2006.

Fatalities in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector decreased 10 percent in 2006, and the rate of fatal injury dropped from 32.5 per 100,000 in 2005 to 29.6 per 100,000 in 2006. Crop production, which reported the highest number of fatalities in agriculture, had 14 percent fewer fatal work injuries in 2006 than in 2005. The rate of fatal injury in crop production fell from 38.2 in 2005 to 33.0 in 2006.

Number and rate of fatal occupational injuries, by industry sector, 2006



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2007

Manufacturing fatalities were up 14 percent in 2006. The fatality rate in manufacturing rose from 2.4 fatalities per 100,000 manufacturing workers in 2005 to 2.7 per 100,000 in 2006, an increase of 13 percent.

Fatalities in wholesale trade also increased, while fatalities in retail trade decreased 12 percent. The decline in retail trade fatalities was led by a drop of close to 25 percent in both the rate and number of fatalities in the food and beverage stores industry. Homicides in retail trade decreased 25 percent in 2006 (from 184 in 2005 to 138 in 2006).

The number of fatal injuries in professional and business services decreased 7 percent in 2006, and the rate of fatal injury was also lower. However, the number and rate of fatal injury in both educational and health services and in leisure and hospitality services were higher.

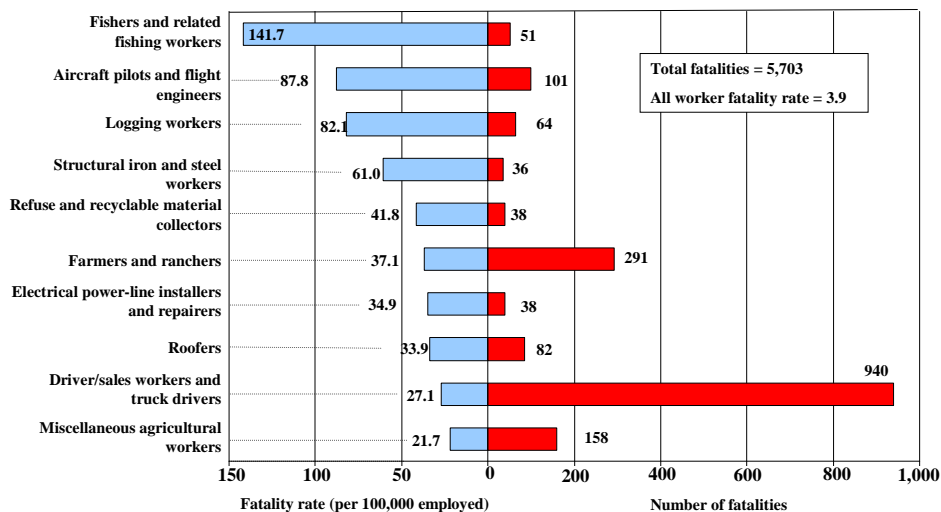
Overall, fatal work injuries decreased 4 percent among government workers. The rate of fatal injury was lower for local government workers in 2006, but higher for federal government workers. The rate for State government remained about the same as in 2005.

Profile of fatal work injuries by occupation

Two occupational groups (construction and extraction occupations and transportation and material moving occupations) together accounted for nearly half of all fatal work injuries in 2006 (48 percent).

Construction and extraction worker fatalities rose 6 percent in 2006 (from 1,184 in 2005 to 1,258 in 2006), though the rate of 13.2 per 100,000 in 2006 was not significantly higher than the rate in 2005. Construction laborers accounted for the highest number of fatal work injuries among construction and extraction occupations, accounting for 360 fatal work injuries, up 5 percent from 2005. Fatalities among electricians, roofers, painters, and drywall and ceiling tile installers also rose. Fatalities decreased among carpenters, construction trade helpers, and among plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters.

Selected occupations with high fatality rates, 2006



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2007

Transportation and material moving worker fatalities decreased 6 percent in 2006, primarily as a result of a 7 percent decline in motor vehicle operator fatalities (from 1,100 in 2005 to 1,021 in 2006). The overall fatality rate for transportation and material moving occupations decreased 8 percent in 2006 to 16.5 per 100,000 workers. Fatalities among air transportation workers rose by 22 percent in 2006, but fatalities decreased among rail transportation, water transportation, and material moving workers.

Farming, fishing, and forestry worker fatalities decreased 11 percent in 2006, from 325 in 2005 to 289 in 2006, though the fatality rate was not significantly lower. Fatalities were lower among agricultural workers and among forest conservation and logging workers, but slightly higher among fishing and related fishing workers, such as captains and mates.

Fatalities in protective service occupations increased 6 percent in 2006, led by a rise in fire fighter fatalities (from 28 fatalities in 2005 to 42 in 2006). There were fewer work-related

fatalities among law enforcement workers in 2006 as compared to 2005. Military fatalities (domestic only) were slightly higher in 2006.

Profile of fatal work injuries by state

Twenty-seven States reported higher numbers of fatalities in 2006, and 23 States and the District of Columbia had lower totals. Texas recorded the highest number of fatalities of any State (486), followed by California (448), and Florida (355). Twelve States reported increases of 20 percent or more (Alaska, Delaware, Hawaii, Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia). Seven states (Alabama, Iowa, New Hampshire, New Jersey, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and Wyoming) and the District of Columbia recorded declines of 20 percent or more.

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. For the 2006 data, over 21,000 unique source documents were reviewed as part of the data collection process.

This is the 15th year that the fatality census has been conducted in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The BLS fatality census is a Federal/State cooperative program in which costs are shared equally. Additional State-specific data are available from the participating State agencies listed in Table 6.

Another BLS program, the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, presents frequency counts and incidence rates by industry and also profiles worker and case characteristics of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses that result in days away from work. Copies of the news releases on nonfatal injuries and illnesses in 2005 are available from BLS by calling (202) 691-6170 or by accessing the website listed below. Incidence rates for 2006 by industry will be published in October 2007, and information on 2006 worker and case characteristics will be available in November 2007. For additional data, access the BLS Internet site: <http://www.bls.gov/iif/>.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, 2001-2006

Event or exposure ¹	Fatalities			
	2001-2005 average	2005 ²	2006	
			Number	Percent
Total	5,704	5,734	5,703	100
Transportation incidents	2,451	2,493	2,413	42
Highway	1,394	1,437	1,329	23
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	686	718	644	11
Moving in same direction	151	175	152	3
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	254	265	234	4
Moving in intersection	137	134	138	2
Vehicle struck stationary object or equipment in roadway	27	27	19	(³)
Vehicle struck stationary object, equipment on side of road	310	345	337	6
Noncollision	335	318	297	5
Jack-knifed or overturned-no collision	274	273	248	4
Nonhighway (farm, industrial premises)	335	340	342	6
Overturned	175	182	165	3
Worker struck by a vehicle	369	391	372	7
Rail vehicle	60	83	65	1
Water vehicle	82	88	89	2
Aircraft	206	149	215	4
Assaults and violent acts	850	792	754	13
Homicides	602	567	516	9
Shooting	465	441	417	7
Stabbing	60	60	38	1
Self-inflicted injuries	207	180	199	3
Contact with objects and equipment	952	1,005	983	17
Struck by object	560	607	583	10
Struck by falling object	345	385	378	7
Struck by flying object	50	53	69	1
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	256	278	281	5
Caught in running equipment or machinery	128	121	148	3
Caught in or crushed in collapsing materials	118	109	107	2
Falls	763	770	809	14
Fall to lower level	669	664	728	13
Fall from ladder	125	129	129	2
Fall from roof	154	160	184	3
Fall from scaffold, staging	87	82	88	2
Fall on same level	73	84	59	1
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	498	501	525	9
Contact with electric current	265	251	247	4
Contact with overhead power lines	118	112	108	2
Contact with temperature extremes	44	55	53	1
Exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances	114	136	153	3
Inhalation of substance	56	66	58	1
Oxygen deficiency	74	59	64	1
Drowning, submersion	54	48	50	1
Fires and explosions	174	159	201	4

¹ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual. Includes other events and exposures, such as bodily reaction, in addition to those shown separately.

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.

³ Less than or equal to 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Totals for 2006 are preliminary. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. The average count excludes fatalities from the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.

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

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and selected event or exposure, 2006

Industry ¹	Fatalities		Selected event or exposure ² (percent of total for industry)			
	Number	Percent	Highway ³	Homicides	Falls	Struck by object
Total	5,703	100	23	9	14	10
Private industry	5,202	91	22	8	15	11
Goods producing	2,509	44	13	1	21	14
Natural resources and mining	836	15	13	(4)	4	20
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	646	11	12	(4)	3	21
Crop production	303	5	12	1	4	17
Animal production	150	3	8	–	5	18
Forestry and logging	99	2	20	–	3	55
Fishing, hunting and trapping	47	1	–	–	–	–
Agriculture and forestry support activities	41	1	17	–	–	–
Mining ⁵	190	3	16	–	5	18
Oil and gas extraction	21	(4)	19	–	–	–
Mining, except oil and gas	67	1	–	–	–	7
Support activities for mining	102	2	23	–	7	26
Construction	1,226	21	12	1	35	10
Construction	1,226	21	12	1	35	10
Construction of buildings	218	4	10	3	45	9
Heavy and civil engineering construction	224	4	15	–	9	13
Specialty trade contractors	721	13	11	1	40	9
Manufacturing	447	8	13	3	13	14
Manufacturing	447	8	13	3	13	14
Food manufacturing	59	1	29	–	8	–
Wood product manufacturing	36	1	8	–	19	25
Chemical manufacturing	32	1	–	–	9	–
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	59	1	25	–	14	15
Primary metal manufacturing	36	1	–	–	–	25
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	46	1	7	–	24	24
Machinery manufacturing	33	1	12	–	–	21
Transportation equipment manufacturing	51	1	–	8	14	16
Service providing	2,693	47	32	15	9	8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,452	25	42	12	6	7
Wholesale trade	217	4	36	2	11	15
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	107	2	29	4	7	26
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	102	2	43	–	15	5
Retail trade	351	6	21	39	9	5
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	69	1	42	9	6	9
Building material and garden supply stores	40	1	20	10	22	18
Food and beverage stores	79	1	4	75	8	–
Gasoline stations	51	1	10	76	–	–
General merchandise stores	25	(4)	20	28	20	–
Miscellaneous store retailers	21	(4)	29	24	–	–
Transportation and warehousing	832	15	55	4	3	6
Air transportation	51	1	–	–	–	–
Truck transportation	537	9	71	1	3	5
Transit and ground passenger transportation	57	1	37	49	–	–
Support activities for transportation	81	1	20	–	–	22
Couriers and messengers	41	1	66	7	–	7
Utilities	52	1	17	–	15	12
Information	64	1	44	–	14	5
Information	64	1	44	–	14	5
Publishing industries, except Internet	27	(4)	67	–	–	–
Financial activities	122	2	16	24	13	3
Finance and insurance	44	1	23	25	11	–
Credit intermediation and related activities	21	(4)	33	33	–	–
Real estate and rental and leasing	78	1	12	23	14	5
Real estate	55	1	5	25	20	7
Rental and leasing services	23	(4)	26	17	–	–
Professional and business services	449	8	21	7	19	11
Professional and technical services	78	1	17	14	12	4
Professional and technical services	78	1	17	14	12	4
Administrative and waste services	371	7	22	6	20	13
Administrative and support services	294	5	16	7	24	14
Waste management and remediation services	77	1	42	–	6	8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by industry and selected event or exposure, 2006 — Continued

Industry ¹	Fatalities		Selected event or exposure ² (percent of total for industry)			
	Number	Percent	Highway ³	Homicides	Falls	Struck by object
Educational and health services	172	3	27	15	8	2
Educational services	49	1	18	—	10	—
Educational services	49	1	18	—	10	—
Health care and social assistance	123	2	30	20	7	3
Ambulatory health care services	55	1	36	18	—	—
Hospitals	20	(4)	25	—	—	—
Nursing and residential care facilities	22	(4)	14	32	27	—
Social assistance	24	(4)	29	21	—	—
Leisure and hospitality	252	4	9	43	9	3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	79	1	6	19	9	6
Performing arts and spectator sports	44	1	—	9	14	7
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	31	1	—	35	—	—
Accommodation and food services	173	3	10	54	9	—
Accommodation	38	1	8	13	24	—
Food services and drinking places	135	2	11	65	5	—
Other services, except public administration	175	3	14	17	12	19
Other services, except public administration	175	3	14	17	12	19
Repair and maintenance	110	2	9	17	6	27
Personal and laundry services	27	(4)	22	30	—	—
Membership associations and organizations	32	1	25	—	34	—
Government⁶	501	9	32	15	8	4
Federal government	111	2	28	10	11	7
Public administration	65	1	23	—	8	12
National security and international affairs	52	1	25	—	6	13
State government	109	2	44	11	6	4
Public administration	57	1	49	12	5	—
Justice, public order, and safety activities	36	1	42	19	—	—
Local government	272	5	29	19	7	3
Public administration	162	3	33	28	2	—
Justice, public order, and safety activities	147	3	33	30	—	—

¹ Based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2002.

² The figure shown is the percent of the total fatalities for that industry group.

³ "Highway" includes deaths to vehicle occupants resulting from traffic incidents that occur on the public roadway, shoulder, or surrounding area. It excludes incidents occurring entirely off the roadway, such as in parking lots and on farms; incidents involving trains; and deaths to pedestrians or other nonpassengers.

⁴ Less than or equal to 0.5 percent.

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 2006 are preliminary. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

There were 8 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific industry classification, although a distinction between private and government was made for each.

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

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and selected event or exposure, 2006

Occupation ¹	Fatalities		Selected event or exposure ² (percent of total for occupation)			
	Number	Percent	Highway ³	Homicides	Falls	Struck by object
Total	5,703	100	23	9	14	10
Management occupations	543	10	11	9	9	13
Top executives	25	(4)	32	—	—	—
Advertising, marketing, promotions, public relations, and sales managers	12	(4)	50	—	—	—
Operations specialties managers	29	1	10	—	21	—
Other management occupations	477	8	9	10	8	14
Business and financial operations occupations	38	1	26	13	18	—
Business operations specialists	23	(4)	35	13	17	—
Financial specialists	15	(4)	—	—	20	—
Computer and mathematical occupations	16	(4)	19	—	25	—
Computer specialists	15	(4)	20	—	20	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	54	1	26	—	19	6
Architects, surveyors, and cartographers	14	(4)	—	—	21	—
Engineers	29	1	24	—	21	—
Drafters, engineering, and mapping technicians	11	(4)	45	—	—	—
Life, physical, and social science occupations	25	(4)	16	—	20	—
Physical scientists	7	(4)	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and related workers	5	(4)	—	—	—	—
Life, physical, and social science technicians	11	(4)	—	—	—	—
Community and social services occupations	31	1	55	23	10	—
Counselors, social workers, and other community and social service specialists	19	(4)	58	21	—	—
Religious workers	12	(4)	50	25	—	—
Legal occupations	11	(4)	—	45	—	—
Lawyers, judges, and related workers	9	(4)	—	44	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	23	(4)	30	—	22	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	11	(4)	27	—	27	—
Other teachers and instructors	6	(4)	—	—	—	—
Other education, training, and library occupations	5	(4)	—	—	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	45	1	9	—	11	—
Art and design workers	4	(4)	—	—	—	—
Entertainers and performers, sports and related workers	26	(4)	—	—	19	—
Media and communication workers	5	(4)	60	—	—	—
Media and communication equipment workers	10	(4)	—	—	—	—
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	54	1	28	19	—	—
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners	41	1	22	22	—	—
Health technologists and technicians	13	(4)	46	—	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	20	(4)	40	15	15	—
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	17	(4)	41	18	—	—
Other healthcare support occupations	3	(4)	—	—	—	—
Protective service occupations	274	5	27	33	1	2
First-line supervisors managers, protective service workers	21	(4)	24	19	—	—
Fire fighting and prevention workers	44	1	20	—	—	—
Law enforcement workers	131	2	40	38	—	2
Other protective service workers	78	1	12	46	4	—
Food preparation and serving related occupations	78	1	9	54	10	—
Supervisors, food preparation and serving workers	26	(4)	—	73	—	—
Cooks and food preparation workers	14	(4)	—	36	—	—
Food and beverage serving workers	28	(4)	—	57	18	—
Other food preparation and serving related workers	10	(4)	60	—	—	—
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	277	5	11	5	29	14
Supervisors, building and grounds cleaning and maintenance workers	36	1	25	—	17	—
Building cleaning and pest control workers	74	1	14	11	39	—
Grounds maintenance workers	167	3	7	2	27	22
Personal care and service occupations	56	1	11	21	11	5
Supervisors, personal care and service workers	5	(4)	—	80	—	—
Animal care and service workers	13	(4)	—	—	—	—
Entertainment attendants and related workers	8	(4)	—	—	—	—
Personal appearance workers	6	(4)	—	67	—	—
Transportation, tourism, and lodging attendants	5	(4)	—	—	—	—
Other personal care and service workers	19	(4)	16	—	16	—
Sales and related occupations	308	5	20	48	6	3
Supervisors, sales workers	132	2	11	52	5	5
Retail sales workers	99	2	13	70	5	—
Sales representatives, services	23	(4)	48	22	17	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation and selected event or exposure, 2006 — Continued

Occupation ¹	Fatalities		Selected event or exposure ² (percent of total for occupation)			
	Number	Percent	Highway ³	Homicides	Falls	Struck by object
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	27	(4)	59	—	11	—
Other sales and related workers	27	(4)	30	—	—	—
Office and administrative support occupations	82	1	33	29	10	5
Supervisors, office and administrative support workers	8	(4)	—	50	—	—
Financial clerks	5	(4)	—	—	—	—
Information and record clerks	7	(4)	—	43	—	—
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching, and distributing workers	45	1	38	22	11	7
Secretaries and administrative assistants	6	(4)	—	—	—	—
Other office and administrative support workers	11	(4)	45	27	—	—
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	289	5	11	—	4	23
Supervisors, farming, fishing, and forestry workers	11	(4)	27	—	—	36
Agricultural workers	162	3	17	—	6	10
Fishing and hunting workers	51	1	—	—	—	—
Forest, conservation, and logging workers	65	1	—	—	—	71
Construction and extraction occupations	1,258	22	10	1	33	11
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	113	2	19	4	22	11
Construction trades workers	969	17	9	1	38	9
Helpers, construction trades	10	(4)	—	—	30	—
Other construction and related workers	51	1	12	—	22	8
Extraction workers	115	2	10	—	6	23
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	415	7	12	3	18	20
Supervisors of installation, maintenance, and repair workers	23	(4)	22	13	13	13
Electrical and electronic equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	20	(4)	20	—	35	20
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	137	2	9	4	4	36
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	235	4	12	2	25	11
Production occupations	282	5	6	4	9	18
Supervisors, production workers	25	(4)	—	—	—	16
Assemblers and fabricators	21	(4)	—	—	—	29
Food processing workers	8	(4)	—	—	—	—
Metal workers and plastic workers	85	1	4	5	15	25
Printing workers	4	(4)	—	—	—	—
Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers	11	(4)	—	—	—	27
Woodworkers	14	(4)	—	—	—	57
Plant and system operators	20	(4)	15	—	—	—
Other production occupations	94	2	7	3	9	9
Transportation and material moving occupations	1,463	26	50	4	4	7
Supervisors, transportation and material moving workers	15	(4)	27	—	—	—
Air transportation workers	101	2	—	—	—	—
Motor vehicle operators	1,021	18	67	4	3	5
Rail transportation workers	16	(4)	—	—	—	—
Water transportation workers	27	(4)	—	—	—	11
Other transportation workers	18	(4)	—	39	—	—
Material moving workers	265	5	14	3	11	14
Military occupations	51	1	25	—	—	14

¹ Based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification system.

² The figure shown is the percent of the total fatalities for that occupation group.

³ "Highway" includes deaths to vehicle occupants resulting from traffic incidents that occur on the public roadway, shoulder, or surrounding area. It excludes incidents occurring entirely off the roadway, such as in parking lots and on farms; incidents involving trains; and deaths to pedestrians or other non passengers.

⁴ Less than or equal to 0.5 percent.

NOTE: Totals for 2006 are preliminary. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

There were 11 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine a specific occupation classification.

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

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by selected worker characteristics and selected event or exposure, 2006

Characteristic	Fatalities		Selected event or exposure ¹ (percent of total for characteristic category)			
	Number	Percent	Highway ²	Homicides	Falls	Struck by object
Total	5,703	100	23	9	14	10
Employee status						
Wage and salary ³	4,690	82	26	8	14	10
Self-employed ⁴	1,013	18	12	13	14	13
Sex						
Men	5,275	92	23	8	15	11
Women	428	8	30	27	9	2
Age⁵						
Under 16 years	10	(6)	—	—	—	—
16-17 years	20	(6)	—	15	—	20
18-19 years	104	2	21	10	12	12
20-24 years	382	7	19	8	11	10
25-34 years	1,016	18	26	11	12	10
35-44 years	1,266	22	24	11	12	9
45-54 years	1,378	24	23	8	15	10
55-64 years	941	17	24	9	17	11
65 years and older	577	10	20	5	17	13
Race or ethnic origin⁷						
White	3,945	69	25	6	13	10
Black or African-American	552	10	24	21	11	10
Hispanic or Latino	937	16	17	8	21	12
American Indian or Alaska Native	44	1	39	7	7	9
Asian	142	2	15	46	8	4
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	10	(6)	50	—	—	—
Multiple races	10	(6)	30	—	—	—
Other or not reported	63	1	21	11	13	10

¹ The figure shown is the percent of the total fatalities for that demographic group.

² "Highway" includes deaths to vehicle occupants resulting from traffic incidents that occur on the public roadway, shoulder, or surrounding area. It excludes incidents occurring entirely off the roadway, such as in parking lots and on farms; incidents involving trains; and deaths to pedestrians or other nonpassengers.

³ May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

⁴ 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.

⁵ There were 9 fatalities for which there was insufficient information to determine the age of the decedent.

⁶ Less than or equal to 0.5 percent.

⁷ Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude Hispanic and Latino workers.

NOTE: Totals for 2006 are preliminary. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

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

Table 5. Fatal occupational injuries by state and event or exposure, 2005-2006

State of injury	Total fatalities ¹		Event or exposure ⁴ 2006					
	2005 ² (revised)	2006 ³	Transportation incidents ⁵	Assaults and violent acts ⁶	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Alabama	128	100	42	8	26	14	5	5
Alaska	29	44	24	4	8	-	5	-
Arizona	99	108	53	18	10	15	12	-
Arkansas	80	78	47	5	8	12	-	4
California	465	448	167	61	72	87	45	12
Colorado	125	137	60	30	23	13	7	3
Connecticut	46	38	15	10	6	4	-	-
Delaware	11	14	13	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	12	7	-	3	-	-	-	-
Florida	406	355	141	54	36	63	48	11
Georgia	200	192	80	27	31	33	15	4
Hawaii	15	30	18	-	6	-	-	-
Idaho	35	38	24	-	7	3	-	-
Illinois	194	207	86	36	24	32	27	-
Indiana	157	148	75	15	26	19	7	6
Iowa	90	71	38	3	11	11	4	4
Kansas	81	85	43	7	11	12	7	5
Kentucky	122	147	77	15	27	13	6	9
Louisiana	111	118	50	13	21	12	18	4
Maine	15	20	12	-	3	-	-	-
Maryland	95	105	39	24	12	21	8	-
Massachusetts	75	66	16	10	10	16	13	-
Michigan	110	155	60	21	30	21	17	4
Minnesota	87	78	29	5	27	9	5	-
Mississippi	112	96	45	8	20	9	10	-
Missouri	185	166	76	27	21	23	17	-
Montana	50	45	30	3	4	4	4	-
Nebraska	36	57	17	6	19	7	5	3
Nevada	57	49	16	8	7	10	8	-
New Hampshire	18	13	4	3	3	-	-	-
New Jersey	112	88	39	18	9	13	3	6
New Mexico	44	59	29	3	13	9	5	-
New York (including N.Y.C.)	239	233	71	37	43	46	23	12
New York City	88	99	14	21	14	34	10	6
North Carolina	165	167	66	22	30	25	16	8
North Dakota	22	31	16	-	8	5	-	-
Ohio	168	193	65	22	54	22	22	7
Oklahoma	95	91	59	-	15	8	4	3
Oregon	65	72	46	4	13	6	-	-
Pennsylvania	224	240	89	40	44	37	22	8
Rhode Island	6	10	3	-	-	3	-	-
South Carolina	132	93	34	19	9	19	10	-
South Dakota	31	37	19	4	10	-	-	-
Tennessee	139	153	59	37	29	14	9	5
Texas	495	486	200	59	87	60	54	23
Utah	54	60	30	6	9	7	7	-
Vermont	7	14	6	-	3	-	-	-
Virginia	186	164	60	32	38	18	15	-
Washington	85	87	40	4	13	19	10	-
West Virginia	46	79	26	3	14	7	7	22
Wisconsin	125	91	33	11	24	15	4	-
Wyoming	46	36	23	-	7	-	-	3

¹ State totals include other events and exposures, such as bodily reaction, in addition to those shown separately.

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. Includes 1 fatality that occurred within the territorial boundaries of the United States, but a State of incident could not be determined.

³ Includes 4 fatalities that occurred within the territorial boundaries of the United States, but a State of incident could not be determined.

⁴ Based on the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual.

⁵ Includes highway, nonhighway, air, water, rail fatalities, and fatalities resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

⁶ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injuries, and attacks by animals.

NOTE: Totals for 2006 are preliminary. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

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

Table 6. CFI participating agencies and telephone numbers

State	Agency	Telephone number
Alabama	Department of Labor	(334) 242-3460
Alaska	Department of Labor and Workforce Development	(907) 465-4539
Arizona	Industrial Commission of Arizona	(602) 542-3737
Arkansas	Department of Labor	(501) 682-4542
California	Department of Industrial Relations	(510) 286-0702
Colorado	Department of Public Health and Environment	(303) 692-2173
Connecticut	Labor Department	(860) 263-6933
Delaware	Department of Labor	(302) 761-8221
District of Columbia	State Center for Health Statistics	(202) 442-9010
Florida	Department of Financial Services	(850) 413-1611
Georgia	Department of Labor	(404) 679-0687 ext. 113
Hawaii	Department of Labor and Industrial Relations	(808) 586-9001
Idaho	Industrial Commission	(208) 334-6090
Illinois	Department of Public Health	(217) 558-0500
Indiana	Department of Labor	(317) 232-2668
Iowa	Division of Labor Services	(515) 281-5151
Kansas	Department of Labor	(785) 296-1640
Kentucky	Department of Labor	(502) 564-3070 ext. 280
Louisiana	Department of Labor	(225) 342-3126
Maine	Bureau of Labor Standards	(207) 623-7907
Maryland	Division of Labor and Industry	(410) 767-2356
Massachusetts	Department of Public Health	(617) 624-5679
Michigan	Department of Labor and Economic Growth	(517) 322-1851
Minnesota	Department of Labor and Industry	(651) 284-5568
Mississippi	Department of Health	(601) 576-7186
Missouri	Department of Labor and Industrial Relations	(573) 751-2454
Montana	Department of Labor and Industry	(406) 444-3297
Nebraska	Workers' Compensation Court	(402) 471-3547
Nevada	Division of Industrial Relations	(775) 684-7081
New Hampshire	Division of Vital Records Administration	(603) 271-4647
New Jersey	Department of Health and Senior Services	(609) 292-9553
New Mexico	Occupational Health and Safety Bureau	(505) 476-8740
New York State	Department of Health	(518) 402-7900
New York City	Department of Health	(212) 788-4585
North Carolina	Department of Labor	(919) 733-0337
North Dakota	Bureau of Labor Statistics	(312) 353-7200 ext. 410
Ohio	Department of Health	(614) 728-4116
Oklahoma	Department of Labor	(405) 528-1500 ext. 236
Oregon	Department of Consumer and Business Services	(503) 947-7991
Pennsylvania	Department of Health	(717) 783-0295 ext. 210
Rhode Island	Department of Health	(401) 222-2812
South Carolina	Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation	(803) 896-7673
South Dakota	Bureau of Labor Statistics	(312) 353-7200 ext. 410
Tennessee	Department of Labor and Workforce Development	(615) 741-1749
Texas	Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation	(512) 804-4599
Utah	Utah Occupational Safety and Health Statistics	(801) 530-6823
Vermont	Department of Labor	(802) 828-5076
Virginia	Department of Labor and Industry	(804) 786-1035
Washington	Department of Labor and Industries	(360) 902-5512
West Virginia	Division of Labor	(304) 558-7890 ext. 112
Wisconsin	Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene	(608) 221-6289
Wyoming	Department of Employment	(307) 473-3819

TECHNICAL NOTES

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.

Identification and verification of work-related fatalities

In 2006, there were 81 cases included for which work relationship could not be verified with a second document; however, the information on the initiating source document for these cases was sufficient to determine that the incident was likely to be job-related. Data for these fatalities are included in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries counts. An additional 46 fatalities submitted by States were not included because the source documents had

insufficient information to determine work relationship and could not be verified by either an independent source document or a follow-up questionnaire.

States may identify additional fatal work injuries after data collection closeout for a reference year. In addition, other fatalities excluded from the published count because of insufficient information to determine work relationship may subsequently be verified as work-related. States have up to seven months to update their initial published State counts. This procedure ensures that fatality data are disseminated as quickly as possible and that legitimate cases are not excluded from the counts. Thus, each year's report should be considered preliminary until final data are issued. Over the last 5 years, increases in the published counts based on additional information have averaged fewer than 27 fatalities per year or less than 0.5 percent of the revised total. The BLS news release issued August 10, 2006, reported a total of 5,702 fatal work injuries for 2005. Since then, a net addition of 32 fatal work injuries were identified, bringing the total for 2005 to 5,734. Revised counts for 2006 will be available in April 2008.

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.)

Acknowledgements

BLS thanks the participating States, New York City, and the District of Columbia 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 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.