

Appendix D. Summaries of Conferences and Meetings

This appendix presents summaries of conferences and meetings where Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) data were presented or relevant data were discussed. Conferences and meetings provide the opportunity to receive insights from data users which can be used to improve the CFOI program.

The Annual National Safety Council Congress and Exposition

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) was invited to have an information booth at the 1994 Annual National Safety Council Congress and Exposition held at the San Diego Convention Center in October. The event attracted over 20,000 safety and health professionals and guests. Secretary of Labor Robert B. Reich delivered the opening address and responded to audience questions via satellite.

Over 6,000 reprints of BLS injury and illness articles and publications were distributed to more than 2,000 visitors. Almost 500 conference participants left their business cards, requesting to be put on the mailing list. Although the booth's activities were coordinated by the national office, staffing was provided by representatives of the BLS regional office and State agencies. Larry Baumgartner and Rich Haglund of the San Francisco regional office both assisted in staffing the booth, as well as two State representatives—Lillia Vargas of California and Susan Diaz of Arizona.

The National Safety Council's objective is the implementation of safety, health, and environmental policies, practices, and procedures that prevent and mitigate human suffering and economic losses arising from preventable causes. The Council is a nongovernmental, not-for-profit, public service organization, chartered by an act of Congress, with membership from business, labor, government, and academia. The Council regularly sponsors events to promote its safety and health agenda.

The 122nd Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the American Public Health Association

Two studies using Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data were presented at the 122nd Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the American Public Health Association (APHA) held in Washington, DC in October 1994. Janice Windau, a BLS epidemiologist, presented "Fatal Work Injuries of the Self-Employed," and Blaine Derstine, a BLS economist, presented "Young Workers at Risk of Fatal Injury."

The self-employed. Persons working for themselves were fatally injured more often than wage and salary workers in 1993. Nineteen percent of the 6,271 fatally injured workers in 1993 were self-employed, while the self-employed accounted for only 9 percent of jobholders. Two-fifths of the fatally injured self-employed worked in farming, forestry, and fishing occupations.

Transportation incidents that occurred off the roadway, such as tractor rollovers, and homicides were the leading fatal events for the self-employed. Highway motor vehicle crashes and homicides were the leading fatal events for wage and salary workers. About a quarter of the fatally injured self-employed were age 65 or older.

Young workers. During the years 1992-1993, there were 344 fatalities of workers under age 20. The leading fatal events for these workers were transportation incidents, which accounted for 40 percent of the total; assaults and violent acts, primarily homicides (22 percent); and contacts with objects or equipment, such as being struck by an object or being caught in machinery (18 percent).

Ninety-two percent of the assaults and violent acts occurred in metropolitan areas. In rural areas, transportation incidents, primarily noncollision incidents, such as tractor rollovers and single-vehicle highway crashes, accounted for almost half of the deaths.

More than two-fifths of fatally injured young workers held jobs in agriculture, forestry, and fishing and in retail trade. About three-fourths of the fatally injured workers under age 14 held jobs in agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries.

These two studies on self-employed and young worker fatalities were among 3,000 other studies presented at the APHA meeting. APHA was founded in 1872 to protect and promote personal and environmental health by exercising leadership in the development and dissemination of health policy. It is the largest public health association in the world with a membership of 50,000.

Meeting of the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health

Bureau of Labor Statistics Commissioner Katharine Abraham was invited by the National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH) to present data from the redesigned work injury and illness programs—the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and the Survey

of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses—at one of its regular meetings in February 1995. NACOSH was established by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to advise the Secretaries of Labor and Health and Human Services on occupational safety and health programs and policies.

NACOSH has 12 members: 2 each representing management, labor, occupational health professionals, and occupational safety professionals; and 4 members representing the public. The Secretary of Health and Human Services designates the two health professionals and two of the public members. The remainder are nominated by the Secretary of Labor, who also names the chairperson from the public members.

NACOSH meetings are held regularly during the year and are open to the public. The meetings focus on current workplace safety and health issues.

Prior to 1970, few Federal laws focused on workplace safety and health. This began to change during the 1960s when the United States Congress passed several laws directed at work-related safety and health issues. These laws targeted specific groups of workers and did not cover the majority of workers.

The act, administered primarily by the U.S. Department of Labor, covers private sector employers with one or more employees in the United States and its territories. Federal, State, and local government employees are excluded from coverage, as are activities covered by the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, or by other Federal laws.

Several Federal agencies were created by or given additional responsibilities under the act. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was created with the authority to set and change work safety and health standards, inspect work sites, enforce standards, and require employers to maintain safety and health records. The act also created the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct research on work safety and health standards and to publish annually a list of all known toxic substances. The Bureau of Labor Statistics was given the responsibility of developing and maintaining a program of work safety and health statistics. In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission was created as an agency independent of the U.S. Department of Labor to adjudicate disputes between employers and OSHA over enforcement actions.

The Business and Labor Research Advisory Councils

BLS staff from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses programs of the Bureau of Labor Statistics meet regularly with members of the Business Research Advisory Council (BRAC) and the Labor Research Advisory Council (LRAC). BRAC and LRAC members are briefed by BLS staff on developments in the safety and health statistics programs

and are provided with current data products. In return, BRAC and LRAC members provide advice and comments that help guide improvements in the collection and dissemination of BLS safety and health data. Since 1947, BRAC and LRAC have provided BLS with advice on technical questions and furthered the understanding and acceptance of its statistical series and analytical reports.

BRAC members come from the business community and may be associated with trade associations or individual firms.

LRAC members come from the labor unions and other labor-related organizations. They bring to the council their knowledge of the interests and perspectives of the labor community.

Both BRAC and LRAC function through the work of standing committees. Each council has a committee for each major BLS program area, such as occupational safety and health statistics, that meets with BLS staff to discuss current matters of interest two or three times annually. BRAC and LRAC committee meetings are held separately and at different times during the year. Council and committee meetings are open to the public.

BRAC and LRAC members are free to raise any issue concerning BLS programs and provide their views on policy and technical matters, but responsibility for decisions on those matters rests with the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. BRAC and LRAC members serve 2-year terms and may be reappointed for additional terms.

Meeting of the Occupational Safety and Health State Plan Association

BLS Commissioner Abraham also spoke at the January 1995 meeting of the Occupational Safety and Health State Plan Association (OSHSPA), which meets several times a year. The meeting was attended by representatives from Congress, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, BLS, and business, labor, and occupational safety and health professionals.

Using data from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Commissioner Abraham discussed the four industries with the highest rates of lost workday cases due to occupational injury or illness. These industries are shipbuilding and repairing, bottled and canned soft drinks, logging, and truck trailer manufacturing. She pointed out that similar lists can be developed for specific injuries, such as back injuries or injuries due to repetitive motion.

Commissioner Abraham also presented an index of relative risk, which is used to compare the risk of nonfatal injury among worker groups. The index was calculated for nonfarm private wage and salary workers, 15 years and older, using data for nonfatal injuries resulting in lost workdays from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, and hours at work data (exposure data) from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The data show that nonconstruction laborers and nursing aides and orderlies have a

relatively higher risk of nonfatal injury and illness than other workers.

A similar index can be used to assess the risk of fatal injury, using data from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and hours at work data from the CPS. The fatal injury risk index for timber cutters, airplane pilots, fishers, and farm supervisors was 20 times higher than for the average worker. Commissioner Abraham noted that work in these jobs is generally performed outdoors, rather than in factories.

She concluded the presentation by comparing workplace assaults that resulted in fatal and nonfatal injuries, and distributed examples of publications States can use to inform workers of workplace hazards.

OSHSPA serves the to administrators of State agencies that operate occupational safety and health programs under sections 18b and 18e of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. These sections authorize the establishment of State-run occupational safety and health programs, with the stipulation that they meet Federal standards. About 25 States and territories operate such programs, with half the funding provided by the State and half provided by the Federal Government.

The 10th Annual National VPPPA Conference

The BLS was invited to participate in a workshop on workplace violence and security at the 10th Annual Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association Conference held in Phoenix, AZ in September 1994. Guy Toscano, from the BLS national office, presented a comparison between 1993 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data and data from the 1992 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (private sector cases with days away work).

Other members serving on the panel with Mr. Toscano included Susan Fox, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Labor for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; and Michael Smith, a security advisor for Mobil Oil. Each panel member made a presentation on the subject of workplace violence, which was followed by a panel discussion.

VPPPA is an inter-industry association that provides a forum for those committed to ensuring that business establishments are safe and healthful workplaces. The purpose of the conference was to bring together representatives from labor, business, government, and safety and health organizations to recognize and reward worksites that achieved a desired level of excellence in safety and health management. There are currently over 50 worksites in the VPPPA, representing major companies in chemicals, construction, food processing, hospitals, and manufacturing.

Conference on Violent Crime and Drug Abuse

Bureau personnel participated on a panel addressing the issue of workplace violence, at a conference on violent crime and drug abuse sponsored by the U.S. Department of Jus-

tice, Bureau of Justice Assistance in December 1994. The conference was entitled State and Local Government Conference on Violent Crime and Drug Abuse. Its theme was creating and implementing solutions to problems of violent crime and drug abuse by reinforcing government and community partnerships. Conference participants included State and Federal law enforcement officials, as well as members of crime prevention organizations, such as the National Crime Prevention Council, and the Justice Research and Statistics Association.

Guy Toscano presented Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data showing that no occupation is immune from workplace violence. Victims of workplace homicides worked as taxicab drivers, cooks, food servers, auto mechanics, and cashiers. Workers at particular risk are those who handle money, work alone, or work late at night.

Contrary to popular belief, current and former coworkers are not the primary perpetrators of workplace homicides. Only 1 in 7 of workplace homicide victims was killed by a work or personal associate. Most homicide victims murdered at work were killed by strangers whose primary motive was robbery.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance is the primary administrator of grant provisions in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The act will appropriate \$30.2 billion over a 6-year period to State and local governments for crime prevention programs, the most of any U.S. anti-crime legislation.

The American National Standards Institute

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is considering approval of the BLS Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Classification Structures (OIICS) as the national standard for coding workplace injuries and illnesses. ANSI is a federation of manufacturers, trade associations, technical societies, professional groups, and consumer organizations that coordinates the effort to eliminate duplicate standards and to create universal business and technical standards that are accepted nationwide.

Since 1918, ANSI has approved over 4,000 standards for a broad range of issues, such as thread pitches for screws, nuts and bolts; computer software; and occupational safety and health. ANSI standards are widely used in business and government, in spite of the fact that they are voluntary. ANSI approves a standard only after inquiries have been conducted and consensus has been established.

ANSI accomplishes its mission through the work of committees. The Z16 committee, sponsored by the National Safety Council and the Association of Casualty and Surety Companies, has four subcommittees:

- Subcommittee Z16.2 handles matters concerning the 1962 standards, Method of Recording Basic Facts Relating to the Nature and Occurrence of Work Injuries. (This subcommittee is responsible for the BLS OIICS approval process);

- Subcommittee Z16.3 handles matters concerning the 1989 standards, American National Standard for Injury Statistics—Employee Off-The-Job Injury Experience—Recording and Measuring;
- Subcommittee Z16.4 handles matters concerning the 1977 standards, American National Standard for Uniform Recordkeeping for Occupational Injuries and Illnesses; and
- the Subcommittee on Interpretations handles requests for interpretation of the Z16 committee's standards.

If approved, BLS' OIICS will have been preceded by a number of standards. The first standard was set forth in a 1920 BLS bulletin (No. 276), *Standardization of Industrial Accident Statistics*. It was revised several times and finally replaced by the current standard in 1962. Several concepts in BLS' OIICS were derived from the current standard, as well as from the International Classification of Diseases-9th Edition, which is used to code medical and death records.

The Z16 Committee met in February 1995 to review the subcommittee recommendation to replace the 1962 standard with BLS' OIICS. If the recommendation is approved, the OIICS will be submitted to ANSI for approval as the national standard. The recommendation is expected to be sent to ANSI in the autumn of 1995.

Appendix E. State CFI Agencies and Telephone Numbers

State	Agency	Telephone
Alabama	Department of Labor	(205) 242-3460
Alaska	Department of Labor	(907) 465-4539
Arizona	Industrial Commission	(602) 542-3739
Arkansas	Department of Labor	(501) 682-4542
California	Department of Industrial Relations	(415) 703-5661
Colorado	Department of Health	(303) 692-2164
Connecticut	Labor Department	(203) 566-4380
Delaware	Department of Labor	(302) 577-2889
District of Columbia	Commission of Public Health	(202) 727-0682
Florida	Department of Labor and Employment Security	(904) 922-8953
Georgia	Department of Labor	(404) 656-3032
Hawaii	Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations	(808) 586-9005
Idaho	Industrial Commission	(208) 334-6050
Illinois	Department of Public Health	(217) 785-1873
Indiana	Department of Labor	(317) 232-2679
Iowa	Department of Employment Services	(515) 281-5151
Kansas	Department of Health and Environment	(913) 296-5641
Kentucky	Labor Cabinet	(502) 564-2454
Louisiana	Department of Labor	(504) 342-3126
Maine	Bureau of Labor Standards	(207) 624-6442
Maryland	Division of Labor and Industry	(410) 333-4202
Massachusetts	Department of Public Health	(617) 727-2735
Michigan	Department of Labor	(517) 322-1851
Minnesota	Department of Labor and Industry	(612) 297-7428
Mississippi	Department of Health	(601) 960-7741
Missouri	Bureau of Health Services Statistics	(314) 751-6274
Montana	Department of Labor and Industry	(800) 541-3904
Nebraska	Workers' Compensation	(402) 471-3547
Nevada	Division of Industrial Relations	(702) 687-3293
New Hampshire	Department of Public Health	(603) 271-4651
New Jersey	Department of Health	(609) 984-1863
New Mexico	Health and Environment Division	(505) 827-2877
New York	Department of Health	(518) 458-6228
New York City	Department of Health	(212) 788-4585
North Carolina	Department of Labor	(919) 733-2355
North Dakota	Bureau of Labor Statistics	(816) 426-2481
Ohio	Department of Health	(614) 466-4183
Oklahoma	Department of Labor	(405) 528-1500
Oregon	Dept. of Consumer and Business Services	(503) 373-1352
Pennsylvania	Department of Health	(717) 783-2548
Rhode Island	Department of Health	(401) 277-2812
South Carolina	Department of Labor	(803) 734-9661
South Dakota	Bureau of Labor Statistics	(816) 426-2481
Tennessee	Department of Labor	(615) 741-1991
Texas	Workers' Compensation Commission	(512) 440-3864
Utah	Industrial Commission	(801) 530-6823
Vermont	Department of Labor and Industry	(802) 828-2765
Virginia	Department of Labor and Industry	(804) 786-6427
Washington	Department of Labor and Industries	(206) 956-5509
West Virginia	Department of Labor	(304) 558-7890
Wisconsin	Workers' Compensation Division	(608) 266-7850
Wyoming	Department of Employment	(307) 777-5646

Appendix F. List of CFOI Research Articles and Reports

- John W. Ruser, "A Relative Risk Analysis of Workplace Fatalities," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, January 1995, pp. 41-45.
- "Occupational Injuries and Illnesses and Work-Related Fatalities," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, January 1995, pp. 88-97.
- Elyce Biddle, "Standardized Coding of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, November 1994, pp. 1-6.
- Guy Toscano and Janice Windau, "The Changing Character of Fatal Work Injuries," *Monthly Labor Review*, October 1994, pp. 17-28.
- William M. Marine, MD and Tracy Jack, "Analysis of Toxicology Reports from the 1992 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, October 1994, pp. 1-6.
- Letitia K. Davis, Daniel R. Brooks., Lynn E. Taylor, and Cathy Schwartz, "Data Sources for Fatality Surveillance in Commercial Fishing: Massachusetts, 1987-91," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, July 1994, pp. 7-13.
- Andrew T. Knestaut, "Fatal Occupational Injuries of Women in 1992," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, May 1994, pp. 1-6.
- Gary A. Helmer, "Fatalities Involving Forklifts and Other Powered Industrial Carriers, 1991-1992," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, May 1994, pp. 7-12.
- Fatal Workplace Injuries in 1992: A Collection of Data and Analysis*, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Report 870, April 1994.
- Scott Richardson and Andrew Schulman, "Texas Study Finds Older Workers at Relatively High Risk of Fatal Occupational Injury," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, April 1994, pp. 1-8.
- Theresa Hanson, "Fatal Work Injuries in the Mountain States," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, March 1994, pp. 1-4.
- Janice Windau and Guy Toscano, "Workplace Homicides in 1992," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, February 1994, pp. 1-8.
- Tracy A. Jack and Mark J. Zak, "Results from the First National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 1992," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, December 1993, pp. 1-14.
- Guy Toscano and Janice Windau, "Fatal Work Injuries: Results from the 1992 National Census," *Monthly Labor Review*, October 1993, pp. 39-48.
- Scott Richardson, "Workplace Homicides in Texas, 1990-91," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, May 1993, pp. 1-6.
- Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Fatal Workplace Injuries in 1991: A Collection of Data and Analysis*, Report 845, April 1993.
- Lisann Rolle, "Using Improved Data on Work-Related Vehicle Fatalities in Washington State," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, March 1993, pp. 1-9.
- Marcia R. Blake, "Length of Time in Position and Fatal Occupational Injury in Colorado," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, March 1993, pp. 10-14.
- "Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries: Results for 32 States, 1991," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, February 1993, pp. 1-13.
- William M. Marine, MD, MPH, Blaine Derstine, Tracy A. Jack, "Analysis of Toxicology Reports from the 1991 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, February 1993, pp. 14-20.
- Conference Papers, *Monthly Labor Review*, December 1992, pp. 49-51.
- Tracy A. Jack and Mark Zak, "Fatal Occupational Injuries: Results from BLS Census of 31 States," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, December 1992, pp. 1-5.

Lynn Taylor, Letitia K. Davis, and Daniel Brooks, "Surveillance of Fatal Occupational Injuries in Massachusetts: The Response of Next-of-Kin," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, December 1992, pp. 6-9.

Guy Toscano and Janice Windau, "Fatal Work Injuries: Census for 31 States," *Monthly Labor Review*, September 1992, pp. 3-8.

John J. Kane and Blaine Derstine, "Fatal Occupational Injuries: Test Results from the BLS Census," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, April 1992, pp. 3-9.

Guy Toscano and Janice Windau, "Further Testing of a Census Approach to Compiling Data on Fatal Work Injuries," *Monthly Labor Review*, October 1991, pp. 33-36.

Guy A. Toscano, "The BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, June 1991, pp. 1-2.

Janice Windau and Donna Goodrich, "Testing a Census Approach to Compiling Data on Fatal Work Injuries," *Monthly Labor Review*, December 1990, pp. 47-49.

Technical Note

CFOI work relationship criteria

A *work relationship* exists if an event or exposure results in fatal injury or illness to a person:

- On the *employer's premises* and the person was there to *work*; or
- Off the *employer's premises* and the person was there to *work*, or the event or exposure was related to the person's *work* or status as an employee.

The *employer's premises* include buildings, grounds, parking lots, and other facilities and property used in the conduct of business. *Work* is defined as duties, activities, or tasks that produce a product or result; that are done in exchange for money, goods, services, profit, or benefit; and, that are legal activities in the United States.

The following are clarifications of the CFOI work relationship criteria.

- *Volunteer workers* who are exposed to the same work hazards and perform the same duties or functions as paid employees, and who meet the CFOI work relationship criteria, are in scope.
- *Institutionalized persons*, including inmates of penal and mental institutions, sanitariums, and homes for the aged, infirm and needy are out of scope. Institutionalized persons who are fatally injured or become fatally ill while employed off the premises of their institutions, however, are in scope.
- *Suicides* and *homicides* that meet the CFOI work relationship criteria are in scope.

- *Fatal heart attacks* and *strokes* are in scope, if they occurred on or off the employer's premises and the person was there to work. Fatal heart attacks and strokes that occurred under other circumstances are out of scope, unless work relationship is verified.
- *Travel status*: Fatal events or exposures that occurred when a person was in travel status are in scope, if the travel was for work purposes or was a condition of employment. Clarification regarding recreational activities (see below) also applies to a person who was in travel status.
- *Recreational activities*: Fatal events or exposures that occurred during a person's recreational activities, that were not required by the person's employer, are out of scope.
- *Commuting*: Fatal events or exposures that occurred during a person's commute to or from work are out of scope.

Definitions of traumatic injury and occupational illness

Traumatic injury. This is any unintentional or intentional wound or damage to the body resulting from acute exposure to energy—such as heat or 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.

Occupational disease (illness). This is defined as a condition produced in the work environment over a period longer than 1 workday or shift. Usually an illness is due to repetitive factors over a period of time. It may result from systemic infection, repeated stress or strain, exposure to toxins, poisons, fumes, or other continuing conditions of the work environment.