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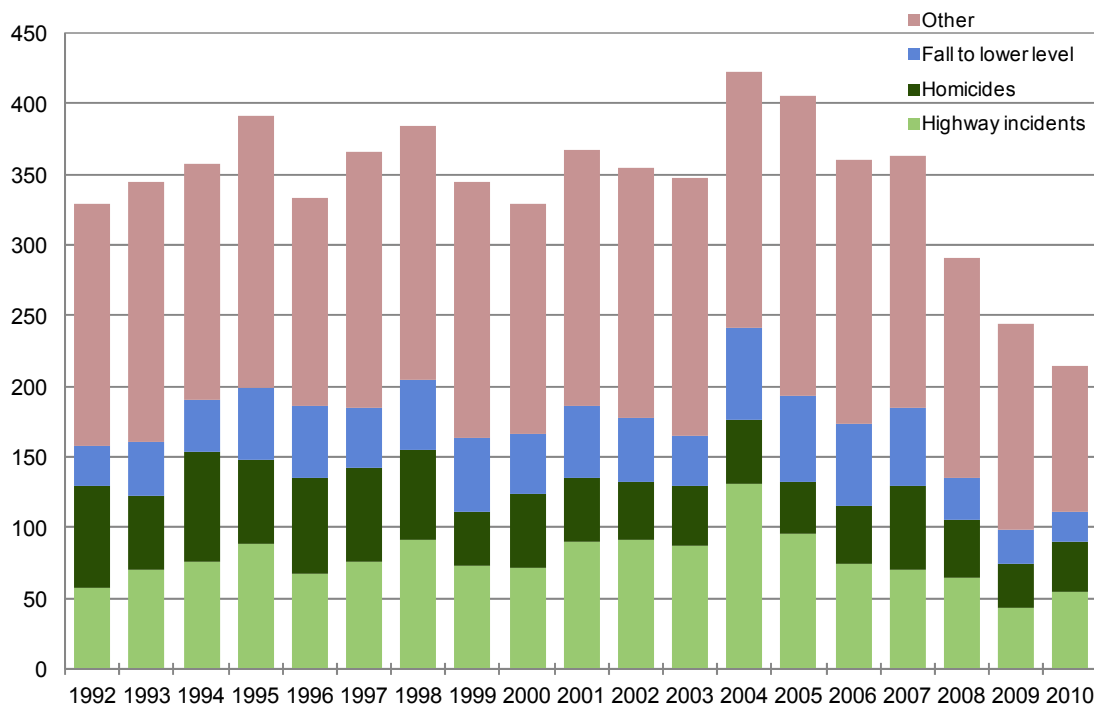
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## WORKPLACE FATALITIES IN FLORIDA – 2010

Fatal work injuries totaled 215 in 2010 for Florida, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Janet S. Rankin, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that while the 2010 count was preliminary, this year's fatality count was the lowest annual total for the State since the Bureau began tracking workplace fatalities in 1992. Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 422 in 2004 to this year's all-time low. (See table 1 and chart 1.)

Nationwide, a preliminary total of 4,547 fatal work injuries were recorded in 2010, about the same as the final count of 4,551 fatalities recorded in 2009, according to results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program. Final 2010 CFOI data will be released in Spring 2012.

**Chart 1. Total work-related fatalities and selected events, Florida 1992–2010**



Note: Data for 2009 are preliminary.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Highway incidents were the most frequent type of workplace fatality in Florida in 2010, accounting for 55 deaths. (See table 2.) One year earlier, fatalities due to this event reached a series low of 44. There were 35 homicides in 2010, an increase of 5 from the previous year. Fatalities resulting from falling to a lower level and being struck by an object or equipment declined to 21 and 13, respectively, in 2010, both series lows for their respective categories.

In the United States, highway incidents were also the most frequent fatal workplace event, accounting for 21 percent of fatal work injuries. Florida's share of on-the-job fatalities due to this event accounted for a larger share, 26 percent. Nationwide, falls to a lower level and homicides were the next most frequent events, each with 11 percent of the total work related fatalities. In Florida, falls to a lower level, with 10 percent of the total, accounted for a similar share as that for the nation, while homicides, at 16 percent of the total, represented a greater share than nationwide. Being struck by an object or equipment accounted for 9 percent of work related fatalities in the United States compared to 6 percent in Florida.

### **Additional key characteristics:**

- Men accounted for 189, or 88 percent, of the work-related fatalities in the state. Transportation incidents, which include highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail, made up two out of every five of these fatalities.
- In Florida, 69 percent of those who died from a workplace injury were white non-Hispanics. Nationwide, this group accounted for 72 percent of work-related deaths. (See table 3.)
- Workers 25-54 years old—the prime working age group—accounted for 132, or 61 percent, of the state's work-related fatalities in 2010. Nationally, workers in this group accounted for a similar percent of on-the-job fatalities.
- Of the 215 occupational fatalities in Florida, 87 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remaining workers were self-employed. The leading cause of death for wage and salary workers was transportation incidents; for the self-employed, it was assaults and violent acts.
- The trade, transportation, and utilities sector had the largest number of fatalities, 52, followed by construction with 40. Transportation incidents accounted for 28 of the worker deaths in trade, transportation, and utilities. Exposure to harmful substances or environments led to 12 on-the-job fatalities in construction.
- Transportation and material moving occupations had the highest number of workplace fatalities with 48, the majority of which were motor vehicle operators (36). Workers in construction and extraction occupations had the second highest fatality count at 35, followed by those in sales and related occupations, at 22.

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data are available on the BLS Internet site at [www.bls.gov/iif/](http://www.bls.gov/iif/). Further information on the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries program, as well as other Bureau programs, is available on the Southeast Information Office Web site at [www.bls.gov/ro4/](http://www.bls.gov/ro4/) or by contacting us at 404-893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

### **Technical Note**

**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. during the calendar year. The program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

For technical information about the CFOI program, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS web site here: [http://www.bls.gov/pub/hom/homch9\\_a1.htm](http://www.bls.gov/pub/hom/homch9_a1.htm). The technical information and definitions for the CFOI Program are in Chapter 9, Part III of the BLS Handbook of Methods.

**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.

**Acknowledgments.** The Bureau of Labor Statistics appreciates the efforts of all federal, state, local, and private sector entities 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.

**Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries in Florida by selected event groups, 1992-2010**

Year	Total fatalities	Highway incidents		Homicides		Fall to lower level		Struck by object or equipment	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	329	57	17	72	22	29	9	16	5
1993	345	70	20	52	15	39	11	15	4
1994	358	76	21	78	22	36	10	20	6
1995	391	88	23	60	15	51	13	22	6
1996	333	68	20	68	20	50	15	21	6
1997	366	76	21	66	18	43	12	28	8
1998	384	92	24	63	16	50	13	24	6
1999	345	73	21	39	11	51	15	33	10
2000	329	72	22	52	16	42	13	25	8
2001	368	90	24	45	12	52	14	20	5
2002	354	92	26	41	12	45	13	14	4
2003	347	87	25	43	12	35	10	27	8
2004	422	131	31	46	11	65	15	31	7
2005	406	96	24	36	9	62	15	24	6
2006	360	75	21	41	11	57	16	23	6
2007	363	70	19	60	17	55	15	29	8
2008	291	65	22	41	14	29	10	25	9
2009	245	44	18	30	12	25	10	21	9
2010	215	55	26	35	16	21	10	13	6

NOTE: Data for 2010 are preliminary. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

**Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, Florida, 2009-2010**

Event or exposure <sup>[1]</sup>	2009	2010	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	245	215	100
Transportation incidents	93	88	41
Highway	44	55	26
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	25	33	15
Moving in same direction	9	13	6
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	9	8	4
Moving in intersection	--	6	3
Vehicle struck object on side of road	11	9	4
Noncollision	8	11	5
Jack-knifed or overturned-no collision	7	9	4
Nonhighway (farm, industrial premises)	8	8	4
Overturned	--	7	3
Worker struck by a vehicle	23	12	6
Water vehicle accident	5	7	3
Aircraft accident	12	6	3
Assaults and violent acts	35	46	21
Homicides	30	35	16
Shooting	24	32	15
Stabbing	3	--	--
Self-inflicted injuries	4	9	4
Contact with objects and equipment	31	19	9
Struck by object or equipment	21	13	6
Struck by falling object or equipment	15	9	4
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	4	5	2
Caught in running equipment or machinery	--	3	1
Falls	36	32	15
Fall to lower level	25	21	10
Fall from ladder	4	7	3
Fall from roof	4	6	3
Fall on same level	9	7	3
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	46	28	13
Contact with electric current	26	12	6
Contact with overhead power lines	11	6	3
Contact with temperature extremes	3	4	2
Exposure to caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances	10	6	3
Inhalation of substance	3	--	--
Oxygen deficiency	7	6	3
Drowning, submersion	6	6	3

[1] Based on the 2007 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification Manual. Includes other events and exposures, such as bodily reaction, in addition to those shown separately.

**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 2010 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 worker characteristics, Florida, 2009-2010**

Worker characteristics	2009	2010	
		Number	Percent
Total	245	215	100
<b>Employee Status</b>			
Wage and salary workers <sup>[1]</sup>	210	186	87
Self-employed <sup>[2]</sup>	35	29	13
<b>Gender</b>			
Men	222	189	88
Women	23	26	12
<b>Age<sup>[3]</sup></b>			
20 to 24 years	14	9	4
25 to 34 years	34	36	17
35 to 44 years	72	40	19
45 to 54 years	52	56	26
55 to 64 years	49	56	26
65 years and over	19	16	7
<b>Race or Ethnic Origin<sup>[4]</sup></b>			
White, non-Hispanic	139	148	69
Black, non-Hispanic	46	22	10
Hispanic or Latino	49	36	17
Asian	5	4	2

[1] May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

[2] 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.

[3] Because there may have been no incidents reported for some ages or because the data do not meet publication criteria, information is not available for all age groups. In addition, some fatalities may have had insufficient information with which to determine the age of the decedents.

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

**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 2010 are preliminary.

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