

# Appendix B. Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Work Relationship Criteria

For purposes of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), a **work relationship** exists if an event or exposure results in fatal injury or illness to a person: (1) ON the *employer's premises* and the person was there to *work*; or (2) 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 a duty, activity, or task that produces a product or service; is done in exchange for money, goods, services, profit, or benefit; and is legal 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 do paid employees, and who meet the CFOI work relationship criteria, are IN the scope of the census.

**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 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** may be IN scope only if a traumatic injury contributed to the cause of death.

**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. The exclusion pertaining to recreational activities also applies to a person who was in travel status.

**Recreational activities:** Fatal events or exposures that occurred during a person's recreational activities, which were not required by the person's employer, are OUT of scope.

**Commuting:** Fatal events or exposures that occurred during a person's normal commute to or from work are OUT of scope.

**Off-duty police:** Homicides occurring to off-duty police officers are generally IN scope. Other fatalities to off-duty police are in scope if the worker was performing a police-related function, such as directing traffic at the scene of an accident or rescuing someone from a fire.

**Undocumented workers:** Fatalities to undocumented workers are IN scope provided they meet the other work-relationship criteria.