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Chicago, Ill.

For release: Tuesday, November 8, 2011

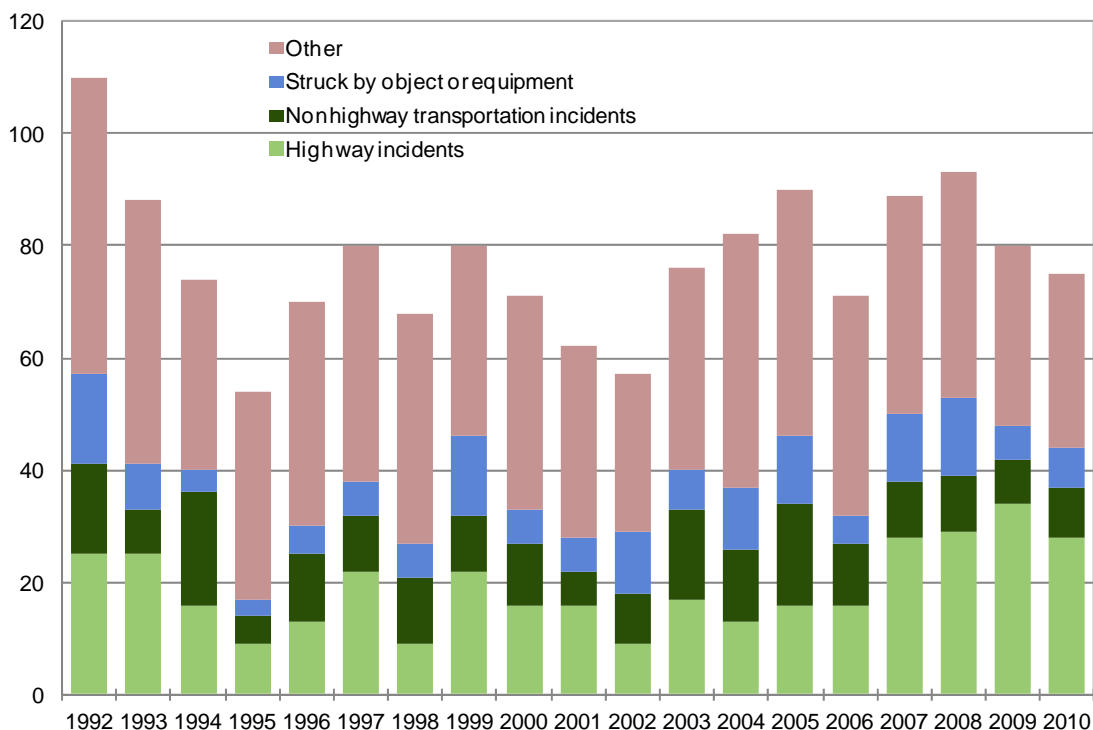
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WORKPLACE FATALITIES IN IOWA — 2010

Fatal work injuries totaled 75 in 2010 for Iowa, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that while the 2010 count was preliminary, the number of work-related fatalities in Iowa had fallen from the 80 recorded one year earlier. Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 110 in 1992 to a low of 54 in 1995. (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. Work-related fatalities by selected event, Iowa, 1992—2010



Note: Data for 2010 are preliminary.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Highway incidents were the most frequent type of workplace fatality in Iowa in 2010, accounting for 28 deaths. (See table 2.) From 2000 to 2006, the number of fatal highway incidents never exceeded 17. Since 2007, however, the number has never been below 28, and reached the series high of 34 in 2009. Fatalities due to nonhighway transportation incidents were up from 8 to 9 in 2010, while those as a result of being struck by an object or equipment increased from 6 to 7. Work fatalities from falling to a lower level decreased from 7 to 5 over the year.

In the United States, highway incidents were also the most frequent fatal workplace event, accounting for 21 percent of fatal work injuries. However, Iowa's 37-percent share of on-the-job fatalities due to this event was more than 75 percent above the nationwide share. Nationally, falls to a lower level and homicides were the next most frequent types of events, each with 11 percent of the work-related fatalities, followed by being struck by an object or equipment (9 percent). In Iowa, falls to a lower level and homicides accounted for smaller shares, 7 percent and 5 percent, respectively. The state's share of fatalities resulting from being struck by an object or equipment was consistent with the national percentage (9 percent).

Additional key characteristics:

- Men accounted for 70, or 93 percent, of the work-related fatalities in the state. Transportation incidents, which include highway, nonhighway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail, made up nearly three out of every five of these fatalities. (See table 3.)
- In Iowa, 92 percent of those who died from a workplace injury were white non-Hispanics. Nationwide, this group accounted for 72 percent of work-related deaths.
- Workers 25-54 years old—the prime working age group—accounted for 30, or 40 percent, of the state's work-related fatalities in 2010. Nationally, workers in this group accounted for 60 percent of on-the-job fatalities.
- Of the 75 occupational fatalities in Iowa, 61 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remaining were self-employed. The leading cause of death for both groups was transportation incidents.
- The agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector had the largest number of fatalities, 21, followed by construction with 14. Transportation incidents accounted for 10 of the worker deaths in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting and 9 in construction.
- Management and transportation and material moving occupations both had the highest number of workplace fatalities with 22 each. The majority of these fatalities were farm or ranch operators (20) within the management group and heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (12) within the transportation and material moving occupational group. Workers in construction and extraction occupations had the next highest fatality count at 10.

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data are available on the BLS Internet site at www.bls.gov/iif/. Further information on the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries program, as well as other Bureau programs, is available on the Midwest Information Office Web site at www.bls.gov/ro5/ or by contacting us at 312-353-1880 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

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/opub/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 Iowa by selected event groups, 1992-2010

Year	Total fatalities	Highway incidents		Nonhighway transportation incidents		Struck by object or equipment		Falls to a lower level	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1992	110	25	23	16	15	16	15	9	8
1993	88	25	28	8	9	8	9	5	6
1994	74	16	22	20	27	4	5	--	--
1995	54	9	17	5	9	3	6	6	11
1996	70	13	19	12	17	5	7	10	14
1997	80	22	28	10	13	6	8	10	13
1998	68	9	13	12	18	6	9	7	10
1999	80	22	28	10	13	14	18	3	4
2000	71	16	23	11	15	6	8	13	18
2001	62	16	26	6	10	6	10	8	13
2002	57	9	16	9	16	11	19	11	19
2003	76	17	22	16	21	7	9	3	4
2004	82	13	16	13	16	11	13	14	17
2005	90	16	18	18	20	12	13	7	8
2006	71	16	23	11	15	5	7	11	15
2007	89	28	31	10	11	12	13	9	10
2008	93	29	31	10	11	14	15	10	11
2009	80	34	43	8	10	6	8	7	9
2010	75	28	37	9	12	7	9	5	7

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, Iowa, 2009-2010

Event or exposure ⁽¹⁾	2009	2010	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	80	75	100
Transportation incidents	49	43	57
Highway	34	28	37
Collision between vehicles, mobile equipment	21	18	24
Moving in same direction	4	6	8
Moving in opposite directions, oncoming	12	10	13
Moving in intersection	4	--	--
Vehicle struck object on side of road	3	--	--
Noncollision	8	9	12
Jack-knifed or overturned-no collision	7	6	8
Nonhighway (farm, industrial premises)	8	9	12
Overturned	5	--	--
Aircraft accident	--	3	4
Assaults and violent acts	3	6	8
Homicides	--	4	5
Shooting	--	4	5
Contact with objects and equipment	15	15	20
Struck by object or equipment	6	7	9
Struck by falling object or equipment	4	4	5
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	4	4	5
Caught in or crushed in collapsing materials	5	4	5
Falls	7	7	9
Fall to lower level	7	5	7
Fall from ladder	4	--	--
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	4	4	5

(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, Iowa, 2009-2010

Worker characteristics	2009	2010	
		Number	Percent
Total	80	75	100
Employee Status			
Wage and salary workers(1)	49	46	61
Self-employed(2)	31	29	39
Gender			
Men	76	70	93
Women	4	5	7
Age(3)			
20 to 24 years	4	4	5
25 to 34 years	14	10	13
35 to 44 years	10	6	8
45 to 54 years	15	14	19
55 to 64 years	19	19	25
65 years and over	18	19	25
Race or Ethnic Origin(4)			
White, non-Hispanic	71	69	92
Hispanic or Latino	8	5	7

(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. 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.