

## Revisions to the 2011 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) counts

The final count of fatal work injuries in the U.S. in 2011 was 4,693, up from the preliminary count of 4,609 reported in September 2012. The final 2011 total was the third lowest annual total since the fatal injury census was first conducted in 1992. The overall fatal work injury rate for the U.S. in 2011 was 3.5 fatal injuries per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers, down slightly from the final rate of 3.6 reported for 2010. The published fatal injury rate for 2011 equals the lowest rate reported by the program since the conversion to hours-based rates in 2006.

The final numbers reflect updates to the 2011 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) file made after the release of preliminary results in September 2012. Revisions and additions to the 2011 CFOI counts result from the identification of new cases and the revision of existing cases based on source documents received after the release of preliminary results. A table summarizing the results of the update process appears on the next page.

Among the changes resulting from the updates:

- Fatal work injuries involving contractors accounted for 12 percent of all fatal work injuries in 2011. See the contractor release on the [CFOI homepage](#) for additional information on fatalities involving contractors.
- Roadway incidents were higher by 28 cases (or 3 percent) from the preliminary count, bringing the total number of fatal work-related roadway incidents in 2011 to 1,103 cases.
- Workplace homicides were higher by 10 cases after the updates, bringing the workplace homicide total in 2011 to 468 cases. Work-related suicides increased by 8 cases.
- In the private construction sector fatal injuries increased by 17 cases from the preliminary count. The final fatal work injury total was down 5 percent from the final 2010 total and 2011 was the fifth consecutive year that fatal work injury totals have declined in this industry sector. The 2011 figure is also the lowest total for the private construction industry since CFOI began using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to define industry in 2003.
- The largest net increase in fatal work injuries among occupations involved drivers of tractor trailer or other heavy trucks. The total for this occupation rose from 656 cases to 670 after updates were added—an increase of 2 percent.
- Overall, 21 States revised their counts upward as a result of the update process.

The CFOI Program has compiled an annual count of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. since 1992 by using diverse data sources to identify, verify, and profile fatal work injuries. For more information, see Chapter 9 of the BLS Handbook of Methods, available online at [https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch9.htm#census\\_fatal](https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch9.htm#census_fatal) The revised data can be accessed using the following tools: [Create Customized Tables \(Multiple Screens\)](#), [Create Customized Tables \(Single Screen\)](#), and the [Online Profiles System](#). The original September 2012 press release with the preliminary results can be found here: [National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2011](#). Additional tables and charts can be found on the [CFOI homepage](#) and on the [CFOI State page](#).

### Changes to the OIICS Structure

The 2011 data incorporate a major revision in the Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS), which is used to describe the characteristics of fatal work injuries. Because of the extensive revisions, data for the OIICS case characteristics for reference year 2011 represent a break in series with data for prior years. More information on OIICS can be found at [www.bls.gov/iif/oshoiics.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshoiics.htm).

**Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries, comparison of 2011 preliminary and updated, selected characteristics**

Characteristics	Number			Rate <sup>1</sup>		
	Preliminary	Final	Difference	Preliminary	Final	Difference
Total	4,609	4,693	84	3.5	3.5	0.0
<b>Employee status</b>						
Wage and salary workers <sup>2</sup>	3,594	3,642	48	2.9	2.9	0.0
Self-employed <sup>3</sup>	1,015	1,051	36	12.7	13.1	0.4
<b>Gender</b>						
Men	4,234	4,308	74	5.6	5.7	0.1
Women	375	385	10	0.6	0.7	0.1
<b>Age</b>						
16 to 17 years	14	13	-1	N/A	N/A	N/A
18 to 19 years	58	61	3	2.9	3.0	0.1
20 to 24 years	288	292	4	2.5	2.5	0.0
25 to 34 years	704	714	10	2.3	2.4	0.1
35 to 44 years	858	875	17	2.8	2.9	0.1
45 to 54 years	1,207	1,222	15	3.7	3.8	0.1
55 to 64 years	911	936	25	4.3	4.4	0.1
65 years and over	558	569	11	10.8	11.0	0.2
<b>Race or ethnic origin<sup>4</sup></b>						
White (non-Hispanic)	3,257	3,323	66	3.5	3.6	0.1
Black (non-Hispanic)	433	440	7	3.2	3.3	0.1
Hispanic or Latino	729	749	20	3.9	4.0	0.1
<b>Occupation<sup>5</sup></b>						
Management occupations	456	467	11	2.8	2.9	0.1
Protective service occupations	278	282	4	8.1	8.2	0.1
Sales and related occupations	228	240	12	1.6	1.7	0.1
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	262	261	-1	25.4	25.3	-0.1
Construction and extraction occupations	770	798	28	11.5	11.9	0.4
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	362	354	-8	7.3	7.1	-0.2
Transportation and material moving occupations	1,213	1,233	20	15.3	15.5	0.2
Military occupations	54	57	3	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Industry<sup>6</sup></b>						
Private Industry	4,114	4,188	74	3.7	3.7	0.0
Goods Producing	1,754	1,786	32	6.7	6.8	0.1
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	557	566	9	24.4	24.9	0.5
Construction	721	738	17	8.9	9.1	0.2
Manufacturing	322	327	5	2.2	2.2	0.0
Service providing	2,360	2,402	42	2.7	2.8	0.1
Wholesale trade	189	190	1	4.9	4.9	0.0
Retail trade	266	268	2	1.9	1.9	0.0
Transportation and warehousing	733	749	16	15.0	15.3	0.3
Professional and business services	424	433	9	2.9	2.9	0.0
Leisure and hospitality	224	231	7	2.1	2.2	0.1
Government <sup>7</sup>	495	505	10	2.2	2.2	0.0
<b>Event or exposure<sup>8</sup></b>						
Transportation incidents	1,898	1,937	39	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	1,075	1,103	28	N/A	N/A	N/A
Violence and other injuries by persons or animal	780	791	11	N/A	N/A	N/A
Homicides	458	468	10	N/A	N/A	N/A
Contact with objects and equipment	708	710	2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Falls, slips, trips	666	681	15	N/A	N/A	N/A
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	401	419	18	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other events or exposures	156	155	-1	N/A	N/A	N/A

<sup>1</sup> The rate represents the number of fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers and was calculated as (N/EH) x 200,000,000 where

N = the number of fatal work injuries  
 EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year.  
 200,000,000 = base for 100,000 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year)

Workers under the age of 16 years, volunteer workers, and members of the resident military are not included in rate calculations to maintain consistency with the Current Population Survey (CPS) employment.

<sup>2</sup> May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude Hispanic and Latino workers.

<sup>5</sup> Based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification system.

<sup>6</sup> Based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2007.

<sup>7</sup> Includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

<sup>8</sup> Based on the Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS), version 2.01.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. N/A indicates that this type of data is not available for this data element. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

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