Appendix B. State and area data from the 1993 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

This appendix presents State and metropolitan area data from the 1993 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

Comparisons between States should be made with caution. The industrial and occupational mix in a State greatly determines the number of work fatalities that may occur, as well as the types of fatal events.

Year-to-year comparisons of State totals and rates also should be made with caution. Disasters such as explosions and aircraft crashes often result in multiple fatalities that sharply increase a State’s total for a particular year. Such disasters can lead to unwarranted conclusions about safety conditions in a State’s workplaces.

In addition, a State’s fatality totals may increase slightly as the result of improved techniques for identifying and capturing occupational fatality information.

Two States—California and Texas—together accounted for one-sixth of the 6,271 fatal work injuries in 1993. In general, States with the highest employment totals reported greater numbers of work injury fatalities.

Transportation incidents accounted for half of the fatal work injuries in 11 States. The types of transportation incidents differed, however, among States. In most of the States, incidents that occurred on highways and other public roadways predominated. In States with large agricultural sectors, vehicle-related fatalities included tractor rollovers and other incidents occurring off public roadways. In Alaska, almost half of the transportation-related fatalities resulted from aircraft crashes.

Workplace homicide was the leading fatal event in nearly a third of the States.

State fatality data for major industry and occupation groups are shown in this appendix. More specific breakouts may be obtained from each State. (See appendix E for a list of State CFOI agencies and telephone numbers.)

The 19 Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs) together accounted for one-third of the total work-related fatalities in the United States. The two largest CMSAs—New York and Los Angeles—had the most work injury fatalities and together accounted for over one-tenth of the total nationwide. About half of the work fatalities in these two CMSAs were the result of assaults and violent acts, the leading fatal event in 12 of the 19 CMSAs.

Caution should also be taken when comparing metropolitan areas for the same reasons noted above.

1 Metropolitan areas are core geographic areas containing a large population nucleus. Together with adjacent communities they have a high degree of economic and social integration. Metropolitan Areas (MAs) are defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in Bulletin 93-17, June 30, 1993. They refer to the entire set of areas known as Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs), Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSAs) and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs). CMSAs consist of 2 or more PMSAs, have a population over 1 million, and meet certain other requirements specified by OMB. OMB has defined 19 CMSAs and 253 MSAs in the United States. MSAs are defined in terms of entire counties, except in the six New England States where they are defined in terms of cities and towns.