A total of 5,147 workers died from an occupational injury in 2017. This number decreased by 1 percent from 2016. Self-employed workers have consistently accounted for around one-fifth of fatal work injuries.

The 2017 all-worker fatal work injury rate was 3.5 fatal work injuries per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers (FTEs).

The rate for self-employed workers has consistently been higher than that of all workers since the adoption of hours-based rates.
More fatal work injuries resulted from transportation incidents than from any other event in 2017.
• Roadway incidents alone accounted for about one out of every four fatal work injuries.

The all-event total for 2017 was lower by 43 cases over the 2016 total.

Falls, slips, and trips saw the greatest increase from 2016.

A total of 713 work-related fatal falls to lower level were recorded in 2017, up 2 percent from 2016.
Of the cases where height of fall was known (614 cases), 48 percent were falls of 15 feet or less.
About one in five falls with a known height were from more than 30 feet.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Transportation incidents decreased from 2,083 in 2016 to 2,077 in 2017.
Together, roadway collisions with another vehicle and other roadway incidents account for about 63 percent of fatal work-related transportation injuries.

How workers died in multiple-fatality incidents by selected events, 2011–17

- A total of 164 multiple-fatality incidents were recorded in 2017 (incidents in which more than one worker was killed).
- These incidents resulted in 400 worker deaths.

Note: Not all event categories shown.
A disproportionate share of fatal work injuries involved men relative to their hours worked in 2017. Men had a fatal work injury rate of 5.7 deaths per 100,000 full time equivalent workers while the rate for women was 0.6.

Fatal work injuries = 5,147

Hours worked = 285,976,849,170

Note: Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. The number of fatal work injuries represents total published fatal injuries before the exclusions. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology, please see www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.
Women experienced a higher proportion of fatal injuries due to homicides relative to men.

Men incurred a higher proportion of injuries from falls, slips, and trips and contact with objects and equipment.
Percent of work-related homicides by gender of decedent and assailant type, 2017

- Relatives or domestic partners were the most frequent assailant in work-related homicides involving women.
- Robbers were the most common work-related homicide assailant for men.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2018
Fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers, 2003–17

- Fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers increased in 2017.
- Over 60 percent of fatally-injured Hispanic or Latino workers in 2017 were born outside of the United States.

Fatal injuries involving foreign-born workers by country or region of birth, 2011–17

- About one-fifth of fatalities in 2017 were to foreign-born workers.
- Fatalities involving workers born in Central America (exc. Mexico) increased in 2017 to 154.

Note: Not all countries or regions of birth are shown.
Workers age 65 and over had the highest fatal injury rate of all workers.

The largest number of fatal work injuries involved workers in the 55 to 64 and 45 to 54 age groups.
Number and rate of fatal work injuries by industry sector, 2017

Total fatal work injuries = 5,147
All-worker fatal injury rate = 3.5

Private construction had the highest count of fatal injuries in 2017, but the private agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sector had the highest fatal work injury rate.

Note: Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. The number of fatal work injuries represents total published fatal injuries before the exclusions. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology, please see www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.
There were 811 fatally-injured contracted workers in 2017, which accounted for 16 percent of all fatalities. Construction and extraction occupations had the highest percentage of fatally-injured workers who were contracted at the time of the incident at 47 percent.
Fatal occupational injuries in the private sector mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industry, 2003–17

- Fatal work injuries in the private mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction industry increased by 26 percent to 112 in 2017.
- Oil and gas extraction industries accounted for 72 percent of the fatal work injuries in this sector in 2017.


Note: Oil and gas extraction industries include oil and gas extraction (NAICS 21111), drilling oil and gas wells (NAICS 213111), and support activities for oil and gas operations (NAICS 213112).
Number and rate of fatal occupational injuries to civilian workers by major occupation group, 2017

- Transportation and material moving occupations had the highest number of fatal work injuries in 2017.
- Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations had the highest fatal work injury rate in 2017.

Fishers and related fishing workers and logging workers had the highest published rates of fatal injury in 2017.

Driver/sales workers and truck drivers incurred the greatest number of fatal injuries.
The 11 occupations with highest fatal injury counts accounted for 42 percent of all fatal injuries in 2017. Transportation incidents caused the highest share of fatal injuries in four of the occupations with high fatal injury counts shown. Falls, slips, and trips were the leading cause of death in five of the eleven, four of which were construction occupations.

Twenty-one states and the District of Columbia had more fatal injuries in 2017 than in 2016; twenty-seven states had fewer. California and Maine had the same total for both years.

In 2017, over 23,400 source documents helped identify and verify information on 5,147 fatal work injuries, an average of 4.6 source documents per fatal injury case.

Sources of data on fatal work injuries, 2017

- All other: 5,238
- Death certificate: 4,987
- Coroner/Medical examiner/Autopsy: 3,400
- News media: 3,304
- OSHA: 1,886
- Toxicology: 1,401
- State workers' compensation: 1,265
- Police: 1,051
- Other government: 671
- State follow-up: 238