The highest number of fatal work injuries in 2008 occurred in the private construction sector, followed by transportation and warehousing. However, the highest fatal work injury rates were in the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector and the mining sector. Both of these sectors recorded a fatality rate that was more than 4 times higher than the rate of 3.7 recorded for all workers.

In 2008, the Bureau implemented a new methodology, using hours worked, rather than employment, for fatal work injury rate calculations. Rates are expressed per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers. Additional information on changes in the fatal work injury rate methodology is found on the Internet at http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.

Number and rate of fatal occupational injuries, by industry sector, 2008