



For Release: Thursday, January 21, 2016

16-45-PHI

MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION OFFICE: Philadelphia, Pa.

Technical information: (215) 597-3282 BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic

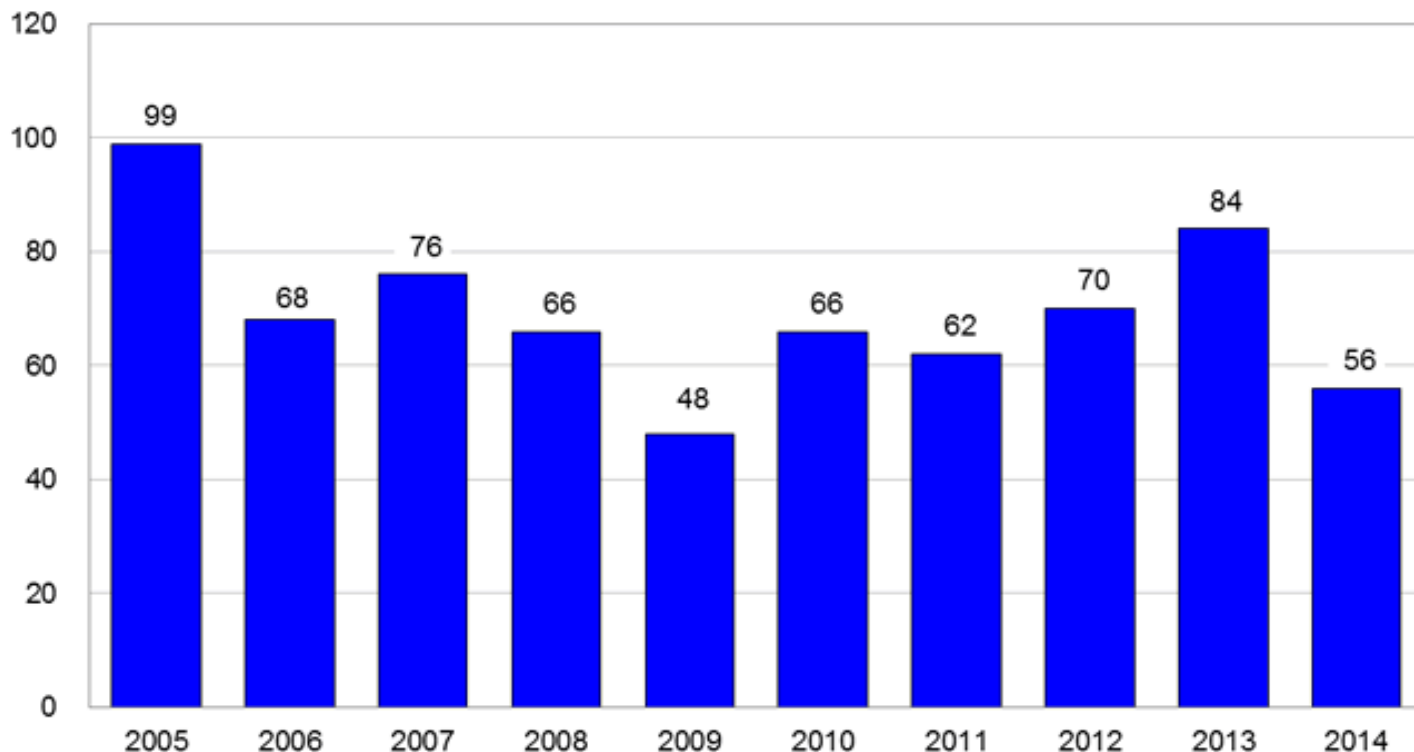
Media contact: (215) 861-5600 BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

Fatal Work Injuries in the Washington, D.C. Area — 2014

Fatal work injuries totaled 56 in 2014 for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Va.-Md.-W.Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that while the 2014 count was preliminary, the number of work-related fatalities in the Washington metropolitan area decreased by 28 over the year. The 2013 total includes the 13 fatalities from the Washington Navy Yard shooting. Fatal occupational injuries in the area have ranged from a high of 99 in 2005 to a low of 48 in 2009. The 2014 count represented the lowest annual total since 2009. (See [chart 1.](#))

Nationwide, a preliminary total of 4,679 fatal work injuries were recorded in 2014, up from the revised count of 4,585 fatal work injuries in 2013, according to the results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program. Final 2014 CFOI data will be released in the late spring of 2016.

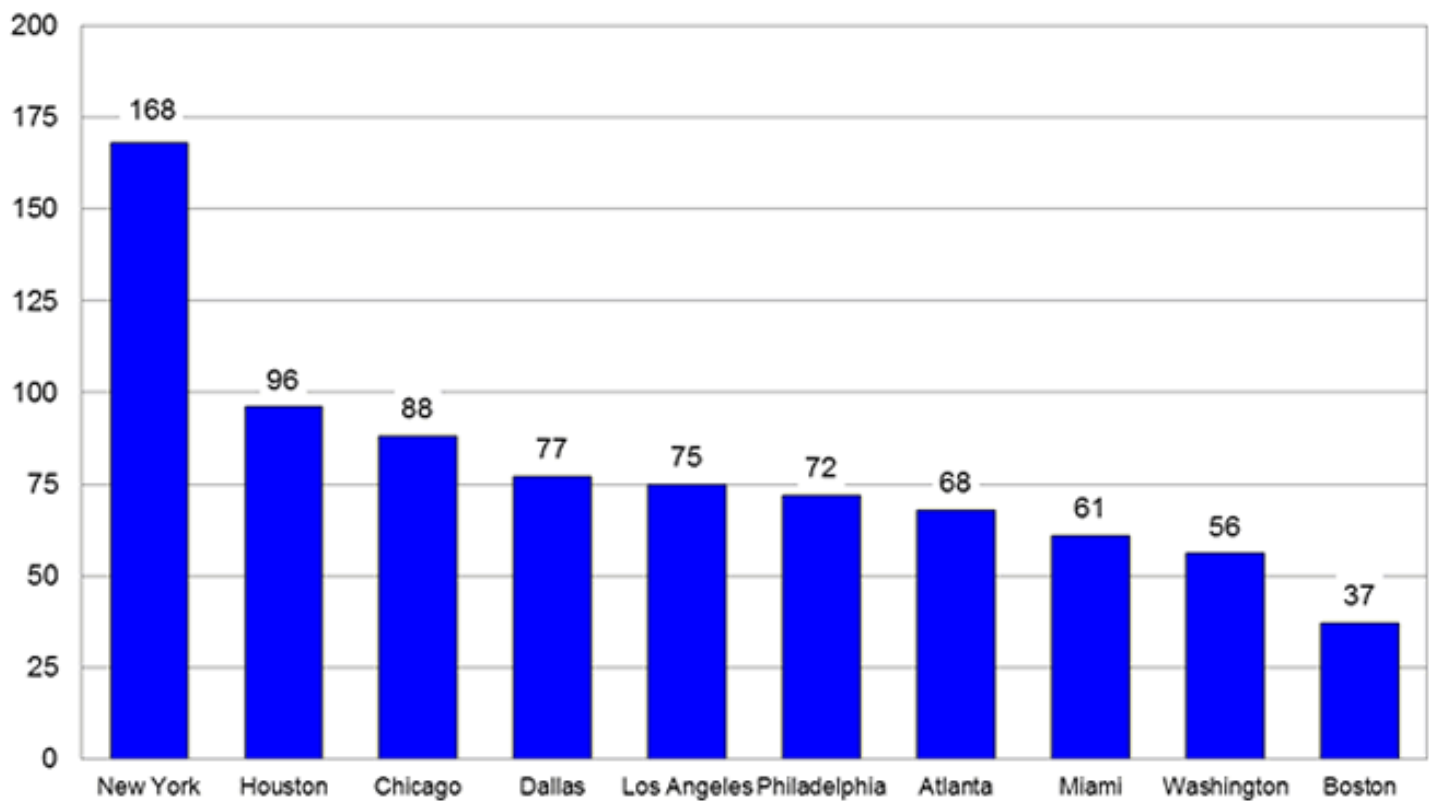
Chart 1. Total fatal occupational injuries, Washington area, 2005–2014



NOTE: Data for 2014 are preliminary. Data for prior years are revised and final.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In 2014, the Washington metropolitan area had the seventh-largest population nationally^[1] and placed second-lowest in the number of work-related fatalities among the 10 largest metropolitan statistical areas in the United States. (See [chart 2](#).) The most populated metropolitan area in the country—New York—had the highest number of workplace fatalities (168) in 2014. The smallest of the 10 metropolitan areas—Boston—had the lowest fatality count with 37 deaths.

Chart 2. Total fatal occupational injuries in the 10 largest metropolitan areas, 2014



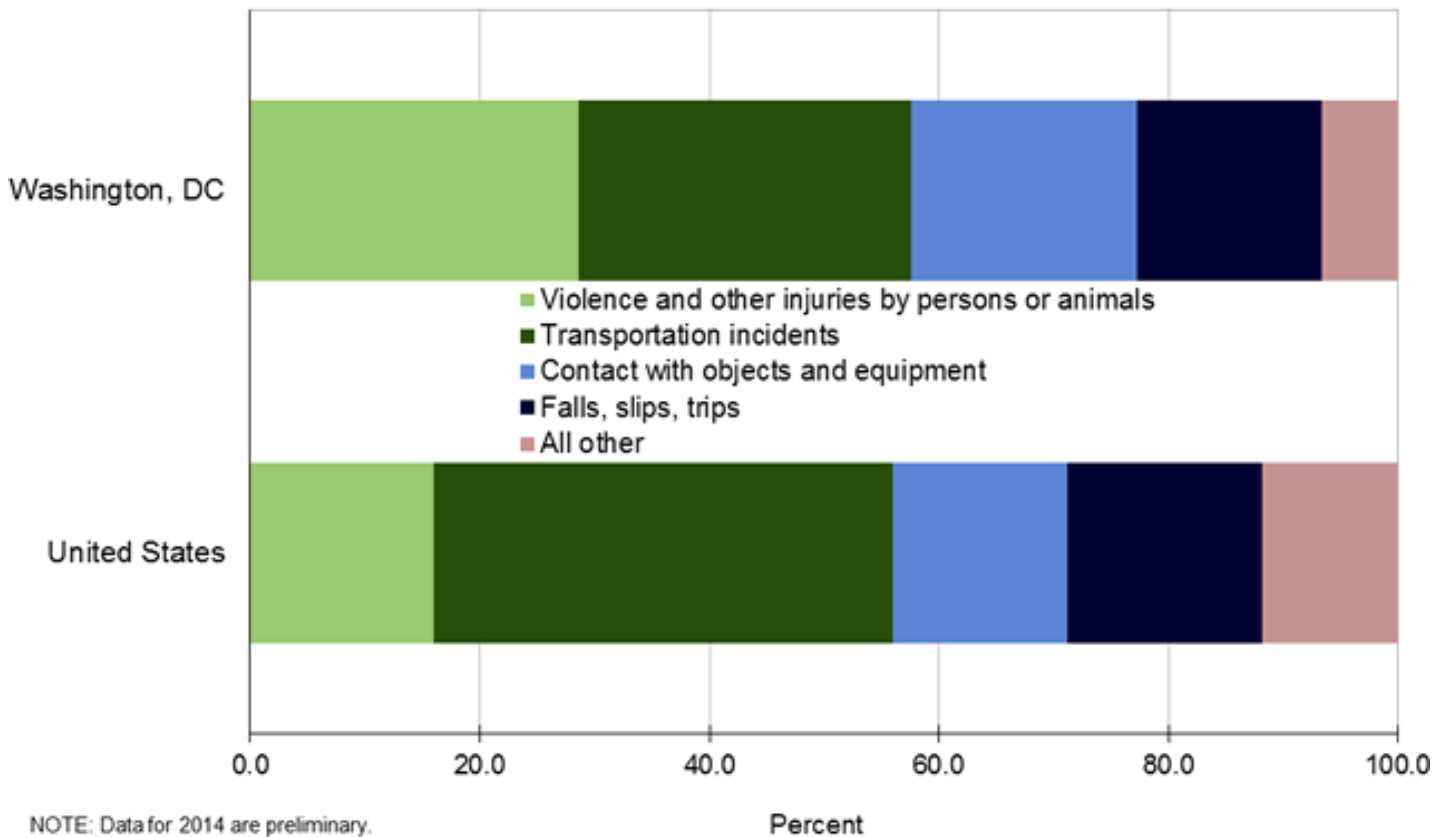
NOTE: Data for 2014 are preliminary.
 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Violence and other injuries by persons or animals and transportation incidents were the most frequent causes of workplace deaths in the Washington metropolitan area in 2014, each accounting for 16 fatalities. (See [table 2](#).) Within the violence and other injuries by persons or animals category, homicides accounted for 10 fatalities and suicides accounted for 6. The share of total fatalities due to violence and other injuries by persons or animals in Washington (29 percent) was exceeded only in Atlanta (31 percent) and Boston (30 percent). (See [table 1](#).) Within transportation incidents, 6 of the 16 work-related fatalities in the Washington area were roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles. Washington’s 29-percent share of total fatalities from transportation incidents ranked sixth among the 10 largest areas, higher than Miami (28 percent), Chicago (26 percent), Los Angeles (25 percent), and Houston (24 percent). (Note that roadway incident counts are expected to rise when updated 2014 data are released in the late spring of 2016 because key source documentation detailing specific transportation-related incidents has not yet been received.)

Contact with objects and equipment was the third-most frequent fatal event in the Washington area in 2014, responsible for 20 percent of all workplace fatalities. Eight of the 11 fatalities in this category were a result of being struck by an object or equipment. Washington’s share of total fatalities due to contact with objects and equipment ranked highest among the 10 largest metropolitan areas.

In the United States, transportation incidents was the most frequent fatal workplace event in 2014, accounting for 40 percent of fatal work injuries. (See [chart 3](#).) Nationally, falls, slips, or trips was the second-most frequent type of event, representing 17 percent of work-related fatalities. Violence and other injuries by persons or animals accounted for 16 percent of the nation’s workplace fatalities and contact with objects and equipment accounted for 15 percent.

Chart 3. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event, Washington area and the United States, 2014



Additional highlights:

- Within private industry, the construction sector had the largest number of fatalities in the Washington area with 14 in 2014, compared with 21 in the previous year. (See [table 3](#).) Falls, slips, or trips accounted for six of these worker deaths, followed by contact with objects and equipment with four fatalities.
- Retail trade had the second-highest fatality count in the private sector with eight, up from the five fatalities reported in 2013. All eight of the fatalities in this sector were a result of violence and other injuries by persons or animals.
- Construction and extraction occupations had the highest fatality count with 14, followed by transportation and material moving occupations with 13. (See [table 4](#).) Four of the 14 fatalities in construction and extraction occupations were construction laborers. Within the transportation and material moving occupations, 7 of the 13 fatalities were heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers.
- Men accounted for 95 percent of the work-related fatalities in the metropolitan area. (See [table 5](#).) Violence and other injuries by persons or animals and transportation incidents were each responsible for 28 percent of these fatalities. Nationally, men made up 92 percent of all fatalities.
- In the Washington metropolitan area, 55 percent of those who died from a workplace injury were white non-Hispanics; nationally, this group made up 68 percent. Black or African-American non-Hispanic workers accounted for 21 percent of the area’s fatal injuries; nationwide, the share was 10 percent.

- Workers 25-54 years old—the prime working age group—accounted for 57 percent of the area’s work-related fatalities in 2014. Nationally, workers in this group accounted for 58 percent of on-the-job fatalities. Thirty-eight percent of work-related fatalities in the Washington area were workers 55 years of age and over, similar to the 35-percent share nationwide.
- Of the 56 people who suffered fatal work injuries in the Washington area, 88 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remainder were self-employed. The most frequent fatal event for wage and salary workers was transportation incidents, while violence and other injuries by persons or animals was the most frequent fatal event for the self-employed.
- Half of the workplace fatalities in the Washington area in 2014 occurred on a Monday (20 percent) or a Friday (30 percent).
- In 2011, CFOI began identifying if a fatally-injured worker was working as a contractor and recording the industry of both the worker and the contracting firm. A contractor is defined as a worker employed by one firm but working at the behest of another firm that exercises overall responsibility for the operations at the site of the fatal injury. In 2014, the Washington area had 12 fatally-injured workers identified as fitting the contractor criteria; 7 of these were in the private residential building construction industry.

Footnotes

¹ Metropolitan area populations based on 2011 estimates from the Census Bureau.

Technical Note

Background of the program. The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), part of the BLS Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) program, compiles a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. during the calendar year. The CFOI program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This ensures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

For technical information and definitions for CFOI, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS web site at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf.

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.

Acknowledgments. BLS thanks the District of Columbia Department of Health; Virginia Department of Labor and Industry; and Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation for their efforts in collecting accurate, comprehensive, and useful data on fatal work injuries. BLS also appreciates the efforts of all federal, state, local, and private sector entities that provided source documents used to identify fatal work injuries.

Area definitions. The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, dated February 2013. A detailed list of the geographic definitions is available at www.bls.gov/lau/lausmsa.htm.

The **Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Va.-Md.-W.Va. Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of the Silver Spring-Frederick-Rockville, Md. Metropolitan Division (MD) and the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Va.-Md.-W.Va. Metropolitan Division (MD).

The **Silver Spring-Frederick-Rockville, Md. MD** consists of Frederick and Montgomery Counties in Maryland.

The **Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Va.-Md.-W.Va. MD** consists of the District of Columbia; Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William, Rappahannock, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren Counties in Virginia; Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, and Manassas Park Cities in Virginia; and Jefferson County in West Virginia.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event groups in the 10 largest metropolitan areas in the United States in 2014

Metropolitan Areas ⁽¹⁾	Total fatalities ⁽²⁾	Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	Transportation incidents	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls, slips, trips
United States ⁽³⁾	4,679	749	1,891	708	793
New York-Newark-Jersey City, N.Y.-N.J.-Pa.	168	39	51	21	40
Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, Texas	96	20	23	18	17
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, Ill.-Ind.-Wis.....	88	24	23	15	23
Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, Texas	77	17	24	11	14
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, Calif.....	75	21	19	6	19
Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington, Pa.-N.J.-Del.-Md.	72	16	23	7	15
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, Ga.	68	21	23	5	17
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, Fla. ...	61	11	17	5	14
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Va.-Md.-W.Va.	56	16	16	11	9
Boston-Cambridge-Newton, Mass.-N.H.	37	11	14	2	7

Footnotes:

(1) Metropolitan areas used in this table are Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) based on definitions from the Office of Management and Budget Bulletin Number 13-01, February 2013.

(2) Data are based on a preliminary total of 4,679 fatal work injuries nationwide for 2014.

(3) Also includes fatalities occurring in nonmetropolitan areas.

NOTE: Data for 2014 are preliminary. Revised and final 2014 data are scheduled to be released in spring 2016.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14

Event or exposure ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total.....	84	56	100
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	34	16	29
Intentional injury by person	30	16	29
Homicides.....	21	10	18
Shooting by other person—intentional	21	6	11
Stabbing, cutting, slashing, piercing.....	-	2	4
Suicides.....	9	6	11
Shooting—intentional self-harm	3	3	5
Transportation incidents	15	16	29
Aircraft incidents.....	-	-	-
Aircraft crash during takeoff or landing.....	-	-	-
Aircraft crash during takeoff or landing—due to mechanical failure	-	3	5
Pedestrian vehicular incident	3	3	5
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in work zone	-	1	2
Pedestrian struck by vehicle propelled by another vehicle in work zone	-	1	2
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in roadway	-	1	2
Pedestrian struck by forward-moving vehicle in roadway	-	1	2
Pedestrian struck by vehicle on side of road.....	-	1	2
Pedestrian struck by forward-moving vehicle on side of road	-	1	2
Roadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	11	6	11
Roadway collision with other vehicle.....	6	4	7
Roadway collision moving and standing vehicle in roadway.....	-	1	2
Roadway collision moving and standing vehicle on side of roadway	-	1	2
Roadway noncollision incident	1	1	2
Jack-knifed or overturned, roadway	1	1	2
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	1	3	5
Nonroadway collision with object other than vehicle.....	1	1	2
Fall, slip, trip	15	9	16
Fall to lower level.....	13	7	13
Fall through surface or existing opening	-	3	5
Fall through surface or existing opening 26 to 30 feet	-	1	2
Other fall to lower level.....	10	4	7
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	5	4	7
Exposure to electricity	-	1	2
Direct exposure to electricity	-	1	2
Exposure to other harmful substances.....	3	3	5
Inhalation of harmful substance	-	1	2
Inhalation of harmful substance single episode	-	1	2
Contact with objects and equipment	13	11	20
Struck by object or equipment.....	10	8	14
Struck by powered vehicle nontransport	-	4	7
Struck by falling object or equipment	7	4	7
Struck by object falling from vehicle or machinery other than vehicle part	1	1	2
Struck, caught, or crushed in collapsing structure, equipment, or material.....	-	2	4
Excavation or trenching cave-in	-	2	4

Footnotes:

(1) Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

(2) Totals for 2013 are revised and final.

(p) Data for 2014 are preliminary. Revised and final 2014 data are scheduled to be released in spring 2016.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14

Industry ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	84	56	100
Private industry	64	51	91
Goods-producing	23	16	29
Natural resources and mining	-	1	2
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-	1	2
Forestry and logging	-	1	2
Logging	-	1	2
Logging	-	1	2
Construction	21	14	25
Specialty trade contractors	13	13	23
Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors	7	4	7
Framing contractors	3	-	-
Residential framing contractors	-	1	2
Roofing contractors	3	1	2
Residential roofing contractors	1	1	2
Building equipment contractors	3	5	9
Plumbing, heating, and air-conditioning contractors	-	3	5
Residential plumbing, heating, and air-conditioning contractors	-	1	2
Building finishing contractors	-	1	2
Drywall and insulation contractors	-	1	2
Residential drywall and insulation contractors	-	1	2
Other specialty trade contractors	3	3	5
Manufacturing	1	1	2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	-	1	2
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	-	1	2
Sign manufacturing	-	1	2
Service-providing	41	35	63
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14	15	27
Retail trade	5	8	14
Food and beverage stores	-	5	9
Grocery stores	-	4	7
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	-	3	5
Convenience stores	-	1	2
Beer, wine, and liquor stores	-	1	2
Beer, wine, and liquor stores	-	1	2
Miscellaneous store retailers	-	1	2
Used merchandise stores	-	1	2
Used merchandise stores	-	1	2
Transportation and warehousing	7	7	13
Truck transportation	5	4	7
General freight trucking	4	3	5
General freight trucking, local	2	1	2
Specialized freight trucking	-	1	2
Specialized freight (except used goods) trucking, long-distance	-	1	2
Transit and ground passenger transportation	-	1	2
Taxi and limousine service	1	1	2
Taxi service	1	1	2
Support activities for transportation	-	1	2
Support activities for transportation	-	1	2
Motor vehicle towing	-	1	2
Financial Activities	-	1	2
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	1	2
Rental and leasing services	-	1	2
Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing	-	1	2
Construction, transportation, mining, and forestry machinery and equipment rental and leasing	-	1	2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14 - Continued

Industry ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Construction, mining, and forestry machinery and equipment rental and leasing	-	1	2
Professional and business services	18	10	18
Professional, scientific, and technical services	9	3	5
Professional, scientific, and technical services	9	3	5
Scientific research and development services	-	1	2
Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences	-	1	2
Research and development in the physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology)	-	1	2
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	9	7	13
Administrative and support services	8	6	11
Employment services	-	1	2
Temporary help services	-	1	2
Business support services	-	1	2
Other business support services	-	1	2
Repossession services	-	1	2
Services to buildings and dwellings	5	4	7
Landscaping services	5	4	7
Education and health services	1	-	-
Health care and social assistance	1	-	-
Ambulatory health care services	-	-	-
Medical and diagnostic laboratories	-	2	4
Medical and diagnostic laboratories	-	2	4
Medical laboratories	-	2	4
Leisure and hospitality	3	3	5
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-	1	2
Performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries	-	1	2
Spectator sports	-	1	2
Spectator sports	-	1	2
Racetracks	-	1	2
Accommodation and food services	3	-	-
Food services and drinking places	2	-	-
Restaurants and other eating places	-	-	-
Restaurants and other eating places	-	-	-
Snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars	-	1	2
Other services, except public administration	5	3	5
Repair and maintenance	4	1	2
Automotive repair and maintenance	3	1	2
Automotive mechanical and electrical repair and maintenance	3	1	2
General automotive repair	3	1	2
Government⁽³⁾	20	5	9
Federal government	17	5	9
Service-providing	17	5	9
Public administration	16	5	9
Executive, legislative, and other general government support	-	1	2
Executive, legislative, and other general government support	-	1	2
Executive offices	-	1	2
National security and international affairs	13	3	5
National security and international affairs	13	3	5
National security	13	3	5

Footnotes:

(1) Industry data for 2013 are based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2007. Industry data for 2014 are based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2012.

(2) Totals for 2013 are revised and final.

(3) Includes fatal injuries to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.

(p) Data are for 2014 preliminary. Revised and final 2014 data are scheduled to be released in spring 2016.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total.....	84	56	100
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	18	12	21
Management, business, and financial occupations	8	6	11
Management occupations	6	-	-
Top executives.....	1	2	4
Chief executives	1	2	4
Chief executives	1	2	4
Other management occupations	3	-	-
Medical and health services managers	-	1	2
Medical and health services managers	-	1	2
Professional and related occupations	10	6	11
Computer, engineering, and science occupations	8	-	-
Computer and mathematical occupations	4	-	-
Computer occupations	3	-	-
Computer and information analysts.....	2	-	-
Computer systems analysts	1	1	2
Education, legal, community service, arts, and media occupations	-	4	7
Education, training, and library occupations	-	1	2
Other teachers and instructors.....	-	1	2
Self-enrichment education teachers.....	-	1	2
Self-enrichment education teachers.....	-	1	2
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	-	-	-
Media and communication workers.....	-	1	2
Public relations specialists	-	1	2
Public relations specialists	-	1	2
Service occupations	10	4	7
Food preparation and serving related occupations	1	1	2
Supervisors, food preparation and serving workers.....	1	1	2
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers.....	1	1	2
First-line supervisors of food preparation and serving workers.....	1	1	2
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	6	3	5
Grounds maintenance workers	4	3	5
Grounds maintenance workers	4	3	5
Sales and office occupations	4	9	16
Sales and related occupations	3	7	13
Supervisors, sales workers	-	5	9
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	-	5	9
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	-	5	9
Office and administrative support occupations	1	2	4
Financial clerks.....	-	1	2
Bill and account collectors.....	-	1	2
Bill and account collectors.....	-	1	2
Material recording, scheduling, dispatching, and distributing workers	1	1	2
Stock clerks and order fillers	-	1	2
Stock clerks and order fillers	-	1	2
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	27	16	29
Construction and extraction occupations	18	14	25
Construction trades workers.....	12	11	20
Construction laborers	4	4	7
Construction laborers	4	4	7
Electricians	-	3	5
Electricians	-	3	5
Helpers, construction trades.....	-	1	2
Helpers, construction trades.....	-	1	2
Helpers—carpenters	-	1	2
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	7	-	-

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	2013 ⁽²⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers.....	4	1	2
Automotive technicians and repairers	-	1	2
Automotive service technicians and mechanics.....	-	1	2
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	17	13	23
Transportation and material moving occupations	14	13	23
Motor vehicle operators.....	10	10	18
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	7	9	16
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	6	7	13
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	-	1	2
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	-	1	2
Material moving workers	4	-	-
Laborers and material movers, hand.....	4	1	2
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	4	1	2

Footnotes:

(1) Occupation data are based on the Standard Occupational Classification system, 2010.

(2) Totals for 2013 are revised and final.

(p) Data for 2014 are preliminary. Revised and final 2014 data are scheduled to be released in spring 2016.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Table 5. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics, Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV, 2013-14

Worker characteristics	2013 ⁽¹⁾	2014 ^(p)	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	84	56	100
Employee status			
Wage and salary workers ⁽²⁾	73	49	88
Self-employed ⁽³⁾	11	7	13
Gender			
Women	8	3	5
Men	76	53	95
Age⁽⁴⁾			
20 to 24 years	11	3	5
25 to 34 years	11	11	20
35 to 44 years	15	10	18
45 to 54 years	19	11	20
55 to 64 years	20	11	20
65 and over	5	10	18
Race or ethnic origin⁽⁵⁾			
White (non-Hispanic)	36	31	55
Black or African-American (non-Hispanic)	17	12	21
Hispanic or Latino	25	10	18
Asian (non-Hispanic)	5	3	5

Footnotes:

(1) Totals for 2013 are revised and final.

(2) May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.

(3) 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.

(4) Information may not be available for all age groups.

(5) Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude Hispanic and Latino workers.

(p) Data for 2014 are preliminary. Revised and final 2014 data are scheduled to be released in spring 2016.

NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.