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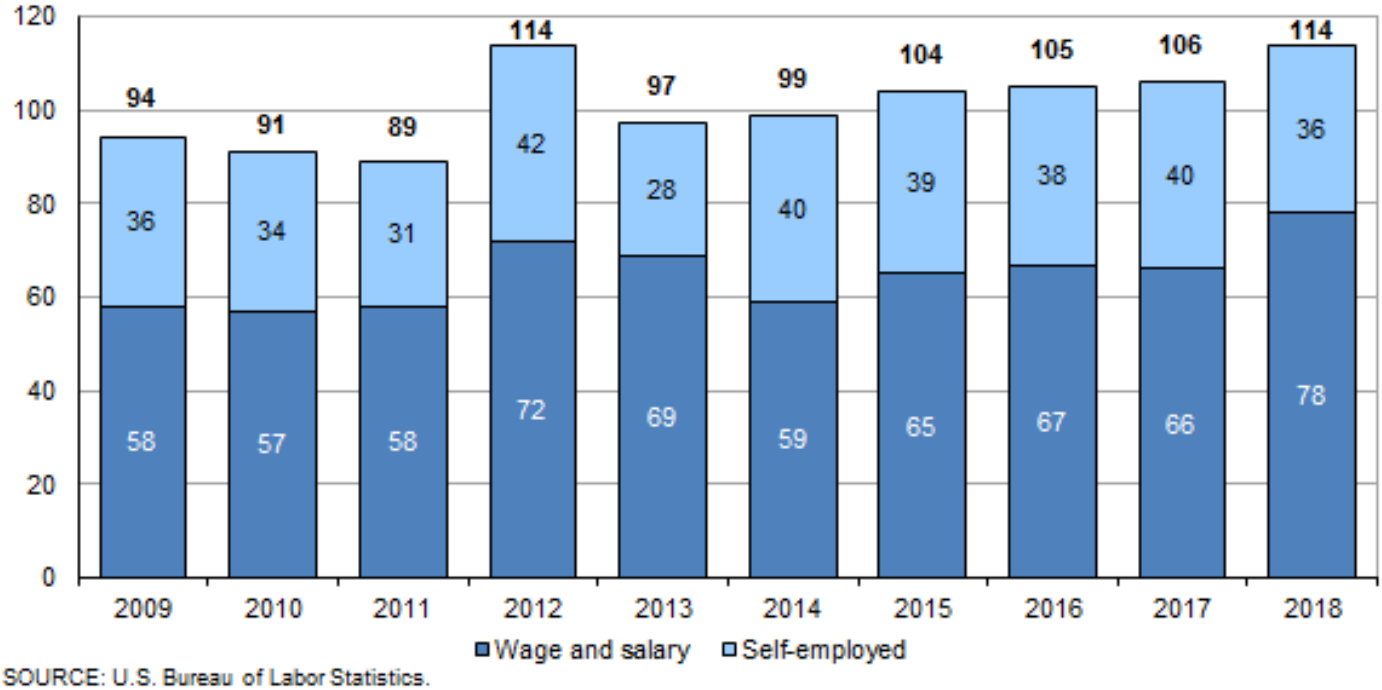
Fatal Work Injuries in Wisconsin — 2018

Fatal work injuries totaled 114 in 2018 for Wisconsin, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that the number of work-related fatalities in Wisconsin was up from the previous year. Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 138 in 1993 to a low of 77 in 2008.

Nationwide, a total of 5,250 fatal work injuries were recorded in 2018, up from the 5,147 fatal injuries in 2017, according to the results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program.

Chart 1. Total fatal occupational injuries, Wisconsin, 2009–2018



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

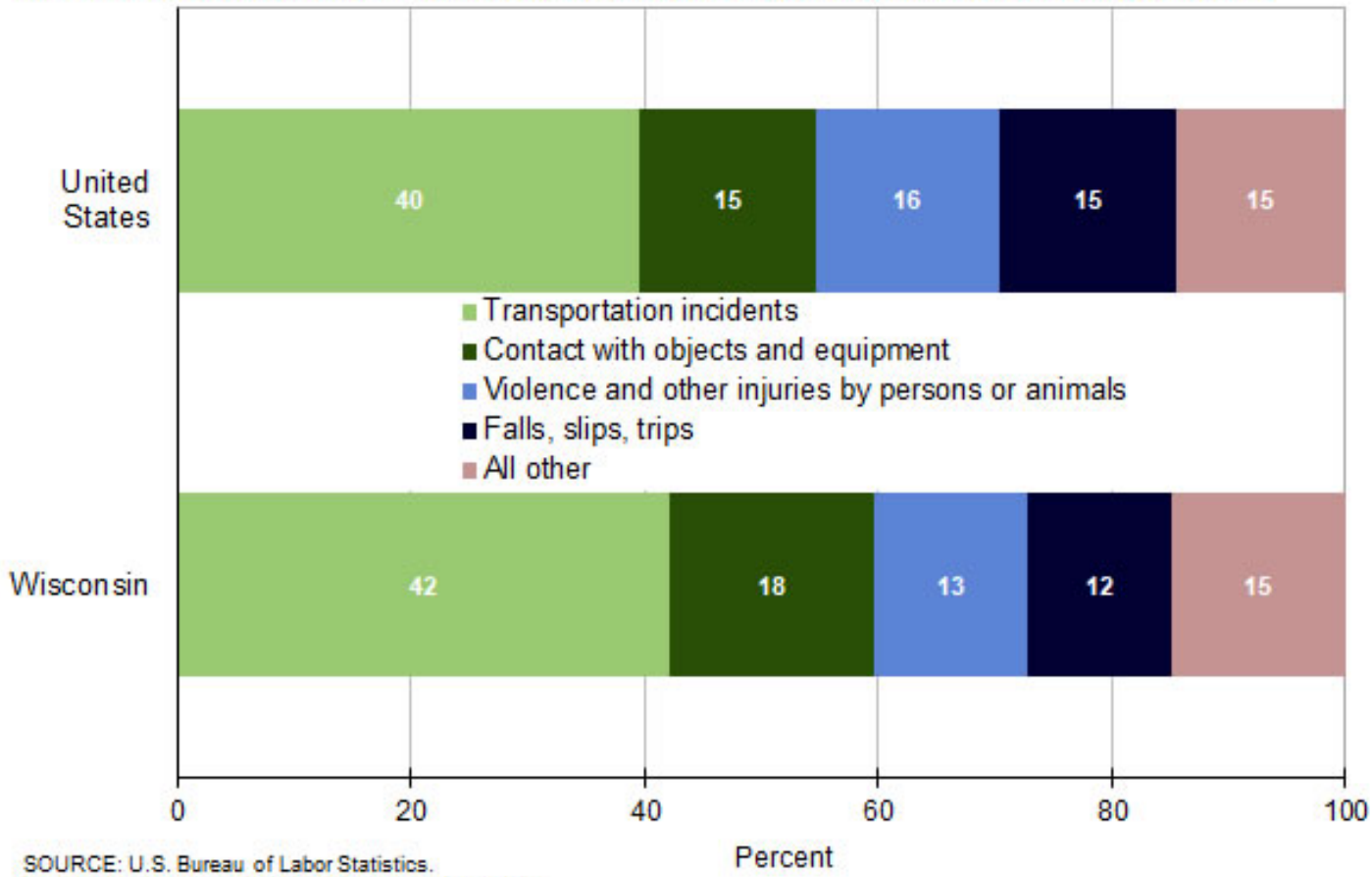
Type of incident

In Wisconsin, transportation incidents resulted in 48 fatal work injuries, and contact with objects and equipment accounted for 20 fatalities. These two major categories accounted for 60 percent of all workplace fatalities in the state. (See table 1.) Worker deaths from transportation incidents were up from 35 over the year, and worker fatalities due to contact with objects and equipment were unchanged from their 2017 level.

Violence and other injuries by persons or animals was the third-most frequent fatal work event with 15 fatalities, down from 20 in the prior year. Falls, slips, or trips resulted in 14 work-related deaths compared to 18 in 2017.

Nationally, transportation incidents were the most frequent fatal workplace event in 2018, accounting for 40 percent of fatal work injuries. (See chart 2.) Violence and other injuries by persons or animals was the second-most common fatal event (16 percent), followed by falls, slips, and trips (15 percent), and contact with objects and equipment (15 percent).

Chart 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event, United States and Wisconsin, 2018



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Industry

The private agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industry had the highest number of fatalities in Wisconsin with 30, up from 24 in the previous year. (See table 2.) Transportation incidents and contact with objects or equipment resulted in 10 fatalities each within the industry. Two sectors, animal production and aquaculture plus crop production, each had 13 workplace fatalities in the private agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting industry.

The private transportation and warehousing industry had 13 workplace fatalities, up from 7 in the previous year. The specialized freight trucking sector accounted for 6, or 46 percent, of the fatal injuries in this industry.

Occupation
The transportation and material moving occupational group had the highest number of workplace fatalities with 26. (See table 3.) Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers accounted for 14 of the fatalities among transportation and material moving workers. The management occupational group had the second-highest number of workplace fatalities with 22. Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers accounted for 18 of the 22 management occupational fatalities. Within the farming, fishing, and forestry occupational group, agricultural workers accounted for 7 of the 10 total fatalities. Construction trades workers suffered 7 of the 10 work-related deaths within the construction and extraction group.

Additional highlights

- Men accounted for 89 percent of the work-related fatalities in Wisconsin, compared to the 92-percent national share. (See table 4.) Transportation incidents made up 39 percent of the fatalities for men in Wisconsin.

- White non-Hispanics accounted for 89 percent of those who died from a workplace injury. Nationwide, this group accounted for 65 percent of work-related deaths.

- Workers 25-54 years old accounted for 45 percent of the state's work-related fatalities in 2018, compared to 58 percent of on-the-job fatalities nationally.

- Of the 114 fatal work injuries in Wisconsin, 68 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remainder were self-employed. The most frequent fatal event for both wage and salary workers and self-employed workers was transportation incidents.

Technical Note

Background of the program. The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Safety and Health Statistics (OSHS) program, is a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. during the calendar year. The CFOI uses a variety of 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 the 2018 national data, over 24,800 unique source documents were reviewed as part of the data collection process. For technical information and definitions for the CFOI, see the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cfoi/home.htm.

Federal/State agency coverage. The CFOI includes data for all fatal work injuries, some of which may be outside the scope of other agencies or regulatory coverage. Comparisons between CFOI counts and those released by other agencies should account for the different coverage requirements and definitions used by each agency. For more information on the scope of CFOI, see www.bls.gov/iif/cfoiscope.htm and www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cfoi/concepts.htm.

Acknowledgments. BLS thanks the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene 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. Among these agencies are the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; the National Transportation Safety Board; the U.S. Coast Guard; the Mine Safety and Health Administration; the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (Federal Employees' Compensation and Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation divisions); the Federal Railroad Administration; the National Highway Traffic Safety

Administration; state vital statistics registrars, coroners, and medical examiners; state departments of health, labor, and industrial relations and workers' compensation agencies; state and local police departments; and state farm bureaus.

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 event or exposure, Wisconsin, 2017–18

Event or exposure [1]	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	106	114	100
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	20	15	13
Intentional injury by person	19	12	11
Intentional injury by other person	11	8	7
Shooting by other person--intentional	8	6	5
Stabbing, cutting, slashing, piercing	--	1	1
Self-inflicted injury--intentional	8	4	4
Shooting--intentional self-harm	4	3	3
Transportation incidents	35	48	42
Aircraft incidents	--	6	5
Other in-flight crash	--	--	--
Other in-flight crash into structure, object, or ground	--	1	1
Pedestrian vehicular incident	4	8	7
Pedestrian struck by vehicle on side of road	--	4	4
Pedestrian struck by forward-moving vehicle on side of road	--	4	4
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	21	21	18
Roadway collision with other vehicle	14	13	11
Roadway collision--moving in same direction	4	5	4
Roadway collision--moving in opposite directions, oncoming	6	5	4
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle	--	3	3
Vehicle struck object or animal on side of roadway	--	3	3
Roadway noncollision incident	6	5	4
Jack-knifed or overturned, roadway	5	4	4
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicles	8	9	8
Nonroadway collision with object other than vehicle	--	3	3
Nonroadway noncollision incident	6	5	4
Jack-knifed or overturned, nonroadway	3	3	3
Fires and explosions	7	3	3
Falls, slips, trips	18	14	12
Falls on same level	--	4	4
Falls to lower level	15	8	7
Other fall to lower level	13	7	6
Other fall to lower level more than 30 feet	--	1	1
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	6	13	11
Exposure to other harmful substances	6	9	8
Nonmedical use of drugs or alcohol--unintentional overdose	3	8	7
Contact with objects and equipment	20	20	18
Struck by object or equipment	19	10	9
Struck by powered vehicle--nontransport	5	5	4
Struck by falling object or equipment--other than powered vehicle	9	4	4
Struck by discharged or flying object	4	1	1
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	--	7	6
Caught in running equipment or machinery	--	7	6
Caught in running equipment or machinery during maintenance, cleaning	--	5	4
Overexertion and bodily reaction	--	--	--

Footnotes:
(1) Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.
NOTE: Data for all years are final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Wisconsin, 2017–18

Industry [1]	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	106	114	100
Private industry	96	107	94
Goods producing	50	52	46
Natural resources and mining	24	30	26
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	24	30	26
Crop production	12	13	11
Oilseed and grain farming	--	5	4
Corn farming	--	5	4
Animal production and aquaculture	10	13	11
Cattle ranching and farming	9	10	9
Dairy cattle and milk production	4	9	8
Other animal production	--	1	1
Horses and other equine production	--	1	1
Forestry and logging	--	3	3
Logging	--	3	3
Logging	--	3	3
Construction	17	12	11
Construction	17	12	11
Specialty trade contractors	14	10	9
Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors	5	4	4
Roofing contractors	3	1	1
Residential roofing contractors	--	1	1
Building equipment contractors	5	3	3
Manufacturing	9	10	9
Manufacturing	9	10	9
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	--	3	3
Service providing	46	55	48
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18	25	22
Wholesale trade	4	10	9
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	--	7	6
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	--	3	3
Transportation and warehousing	7	13	11
Truck transportation	7	8	7
Specialized freight trucking	4	6	5
Specialized freight (except used goods) trucking, local	--	3	3
Pipeline transportation	--	1	1
Pipeline transportation of crude oil	--	1	1
Pipeline transportation of crude oil	--	1	1
Couriers and messengers	--	1	1
Couriers	--	1	1
Couriers	--	1	1
Information	--	--	--
Financial activities	7	--	--
Professional and business services	7	6	5
Administrative and waste services	4	4	4
Administrative and support services	4	3	3
Educational and health services	4	10	9
Health care and social assistance	4	10	9
Hospitals	3	4	4
General medical and surgical hospitals	3	4	4
General medical and surgical hospitals	3	4	4
Leisure and hospitality	5	8	7
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	--	5	4
Performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries	1	3	3
Amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	--	1	1
Other amusement and recreation industries	--	1	1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, Wisconsin, 2017–18 - Continued

Industry [1]	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Fitness and recreational sports centers	--	1	1
Accommodation and food services	3	3	3
Food services and drinking places	--	3	3
Special food services	--	1	1
Mobile food services	--	1	1
Restaurants and other eating places	--	--	--
Restaurants and other eating places	--	--	--
Snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars	--	1	1
Other services, except public administration	3	4	4
Other services, except public administration	3	4	4
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations	--	4	4
Civic and social organizations	--	4	4
Civic and social organizations	--	4	4
Government [2]	10	7	6
Federal government	--	--	--
State government	5	--	--
Local government	5	6	5

Footnotes:
(1) Industry data are based on the North American Industry Classification System, 2012.
(2) Includes fatal injuries to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry.
NOTE: Data for all years are final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, Wisconsin, 2017–18

Occupation [1]	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	106	114	100
Management occupations	27	22	19
Advertising, marketing, promotions, public relations, and sales managers	--	1	1
Marketing and sales managers	--	1	1
Sales managers	--	1	1
Other management occupations	25	21	18
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	21	18	16
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	21	18	16
Business and financial operations occupations	--	--	--
Computer and mathematical occupations	--	--	--
Architecture and engineering occupations	--	--	--
Life, physical, and social science occupations	--	--	--
Community and social services occupations	--	--	--
Legal occupations	1	--	--
Education, training, and library occupations	--	--	--
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	1	4	4
Entertainers and performers, sports and related workers	1	3	3
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	3	--	--
Health technologists and technicians	1	1	1
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	1	1	1
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	1	1	1
Healthcare support occupations	--	3	3
Protective service occupations	3	3	3
Food preparation and serving related occupations	--	3	3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	3	8	7
Grounds maintenance workers	--	7	6
Grounds maintenance workers	--	7	6
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	--	6	5
Personal care and service occupations	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations	--	4	4
Office and administrative support occupations	4	3	3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	4	10	9
Agricultural workers	--	7	6
Miscellaneous agricultural workers	--	7	6
Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals	--	5	4
Forest, conservation, and logging workers	--	3	3
Logging workers	--	3	3
Fallers	1	3	3
Construction and extraction occupations	15	10	9
Construction trades workers	13	7	6
Roofers	3	1	1
Roofers	3	1	1
Other construction and related workers	--	1	1
Septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners	--	1	1
Septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners	--	1	1
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	10	4	4
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	8	3	3
Production occupations	9	7	6
Metal workers and plastic workers	--	4	4
Machinists	--	3	3
Machinists	--	3	3
Transportation and material moving occupations	17	26	23
Air transportation workers	--	3	3
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	--	3	3
Commercial pilots	--	3	3
Motor vehicle operators	11	16	14

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, Wisconsin, 2017–18 - Continued

Occupation [1]	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	9	16	14
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	8	14	12
Material moving workers	6	6	5
Military specific occupations [2]	--	--	--

Footnotes:
(1) Occupation data are based on the Standard Occupational Classification system, 2010.
(2) Includes fatal injuries to persons identified as resident armed forces regardless of individual occupation listed.
NOTE: Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 4. Fatal occupational injuries by selected demographic characteristics, Wisconsin, 2017–18

Worker characteristics	2017	2018	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	106	114	100
Employee status			
Wage and salary workers [1]	66	78	68
Self-employed [2]	40	36	32
Gender			
Men	97	101	89
Women	9	13	11
Age [3]			
Under 16 years	--	5	4
18 to 19 years	--	1	1
20 to 24 years	6	5	4
25 to 34 years	15	19	17
35 to 44 years	16	16	14
45 to 54 years	16	16	14
55 to 64 years	24	26	23
65 years and over	29	26	23
Race or ethnic origin [4]			
White, non-Hispanic	92	102	89
Black or African-American, non-Hispanic	4	4	4
Hispanic or Latino	7	7	6

Footnotes:
(1) May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation.
(2) 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.
(3) Information may not be available for all age groups.
(4) Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude data for Hispanics and Latinos.
NOTE: Data for all years are final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding. CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria.