

MONTANA

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

2021 REPORT



Montana Department of
LABOR & INDUSTRY

M O N T A N A

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

2 0 2 1 R E P O R T

State of Montana

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The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) has detailed information on workplace deaths due to a traumatic injury in Montana. The CFOI program includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether they are covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, other federal or state agency regulations, or are outside the scope of regulatory coverage.

The fatality census is part of a U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Safety and Health Statistics program that provides a complete count of fatal work injuries in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Fatality statistics are used to fulfill a commitment to increasing safety in the workplace.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, Title 29, Part 1904.39(a) (1) of the Code of Federal Regulations states:

Within eight hours after the death of any employee as a result of a work-related incident, you must report the fatality to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), United States Department of Labor (USDOL).

Information on work-related illnesses is excluded from this census because of the latency period of many occupational illnesses and the resulting difficulties associated with linking illnesses to work.

This report provides information gathered for the CFOI program, by the Employment Standards Division, Montana Department of Labor & Industry, in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, on fatal occupational injuries that occurred in Montana during 2021.

There were 40 work-related fatalities in Montana in 2021.

Private industry employees accounted for 36 of the fatal injuries, with the remaining four cases in Government.

Over one-half of the employees fatally injured were wage and salary workers accounting for 28 of the 40 injuries. 12 self-employed workers made up the remaining cases.

Transportation incidents were the leading cause of fatal occupational injuries to Montana workers in 2021, with 23, or 58% of fatalities. Falls, slips, and trips recorded six fatalities while violence and other injuries by persons or animals accounted for five.

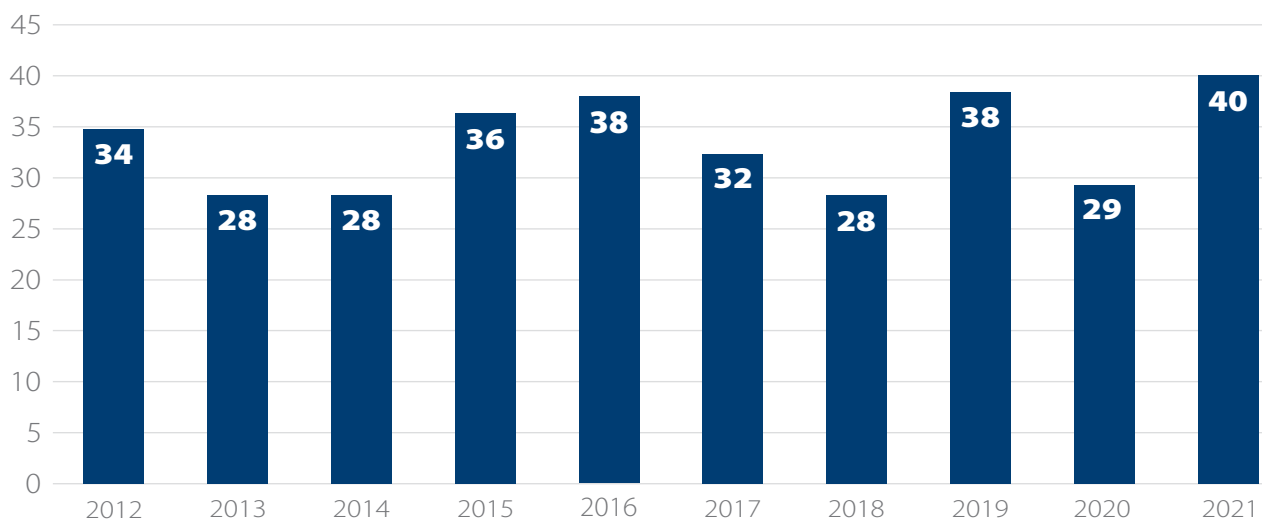
Major occupation groups showed transportation and material moving occupations experienced 11 fatal injuries. Construction and extraction occupations had 10, management occupations had nine and farming, fishing, and forestry occupations had four fatal incidents.

Males accounted for 36 of the 40 Montana fatal work-related injuries in 2021.

These fatal injuries were highest among the 55 to 64 age category, with nine fatalities. The 65 years and older years and the 35 to 44 years categories had seven fatalities each. The 45 to 54 age group had six while the 25 to 34 years category had five fatal incidents.

The following chart shows Montana's number of occupational fatalities per year over the last 10 years.

Montana Fatal Occupational Injuries



Montana employees experienced 40 fatal occupational injuries in 2021.

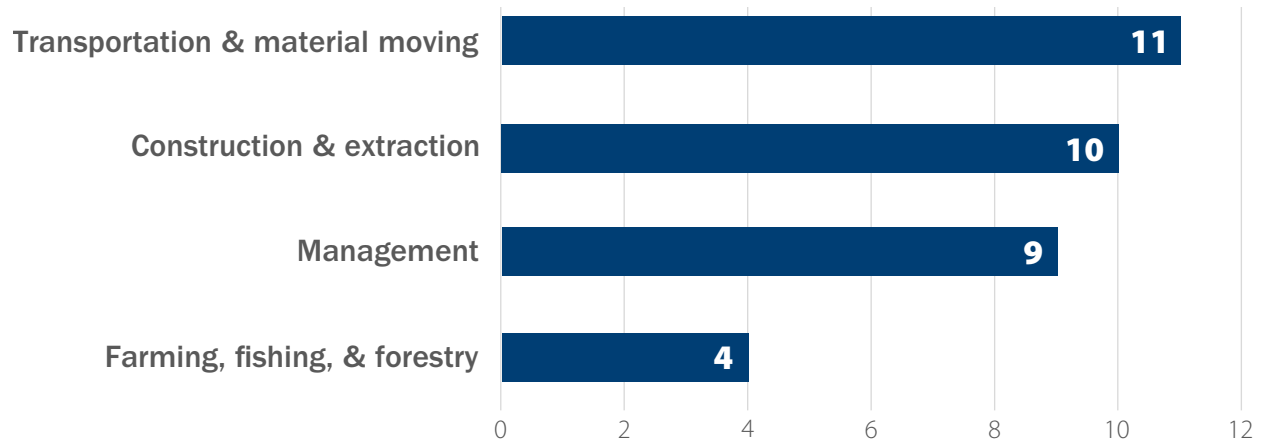
In the following charts, totals include data for fatalities that do not meet publication criteria due to confidentiality and may not total 40.

Industry



Industry identifies the industry the decedent worked in, as described by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

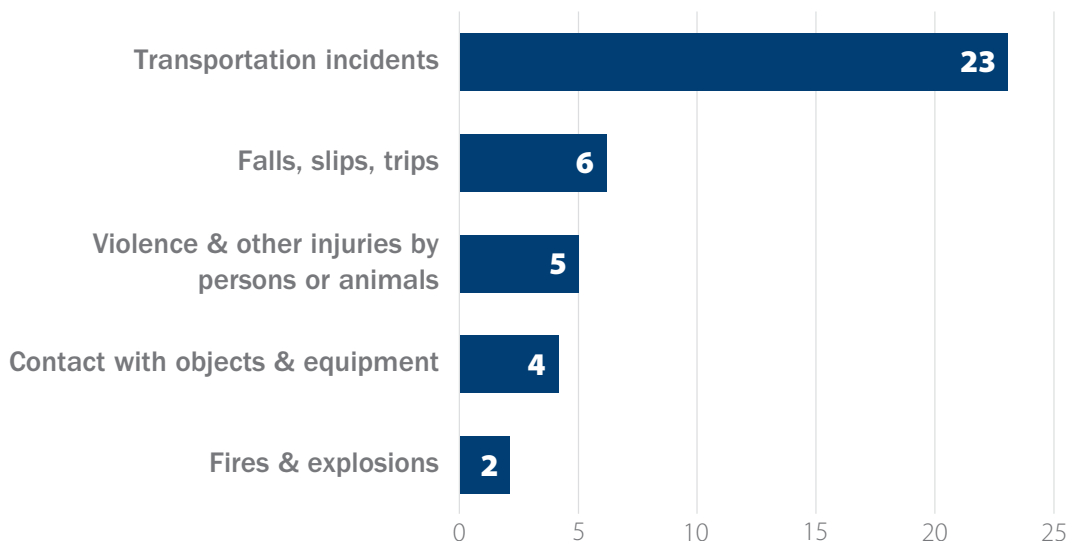
Occupation



Worker occupation describes the occupation the worker was engaged in at the time of the fatal incident or exposure as described by the Standard Occupational Classification system.

Event

The event or exposure describes the manner in which the injury or illness was produced or inflicted by the source of injury or illness.



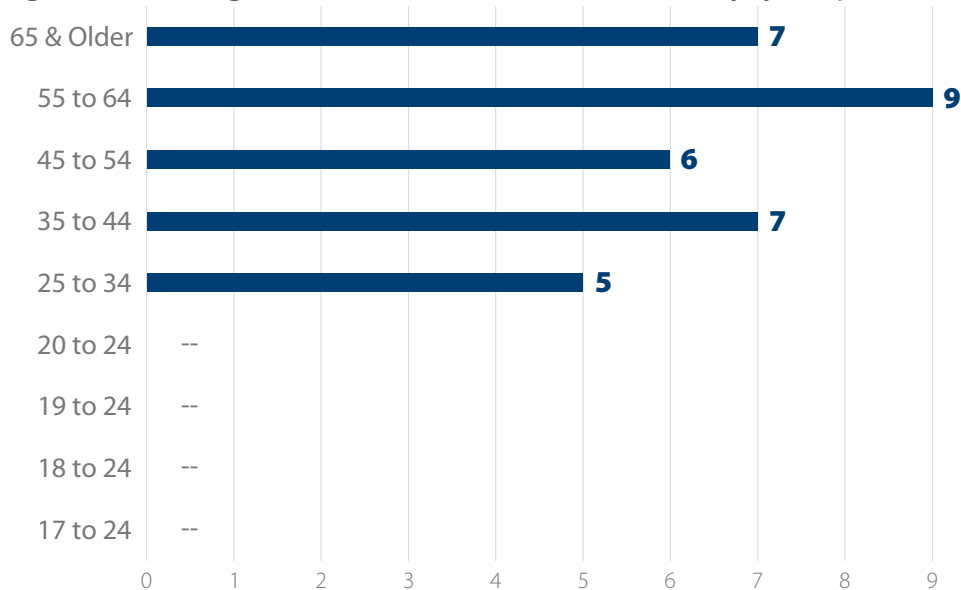
Work Status

The status indicates the classification of someone in employment, as either an employee or working on their own account.



Age

The age indicates the age of the decedent at the time of the fatal injury or exposure.



Dashes indicate no data reported or data that does not meet publication criteria.

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TABLE 1. Fatal occupational injuries by industry & event or exposure, Montana, 2021

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatal injuries	Event or exposure ²					
			Violence & other injuries by persons or animals ³	Transportation incidents ⁴	Fires & explosions	Falls, slips, trips	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Contact with objects & equipment
Total		40	5	23	2	6	--	4
Private industry		36	4	21	2	5	--	4
Goods producing		--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Natural resources & mining		15	3	9	--	--	--	--
Agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting		11	3	5	--	--	--	--
Animal production and aquaculture	112	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle ranching and farming	1121	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Beef cattle ranching and farming, including feedlots	11211	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Beef cattle ranching and farming	112111	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction		4	--	4	--	--	--	--
Construction		6	--	3	--	3	--	--
Construction		6	--	3	--	3	--	--
Specialty trade contractors	238	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors	2381	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing		3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing		3	--	--	--	--	--	--

TABLE 1. *Continued*

Industry ¹	NAICS code ¹	Total fatal injuries	Event or exposure ²					
			Violence & other injuries by persons or animals ³	Transportation incidents ⁴	Fires & explosions	Falls, slips, trips	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Contact with objects & equipment
Service providing		--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Trade, transportation, and utilities		10	--	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale trade		3	--	--	--	--	--	--
Retail trade		1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Food and beverage stores	445	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Grocery stores	4451	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and warehousing		6	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rail transportation	482	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rail transportation	4821	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rail transportation	48211	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Line-haul railroads	482111	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Truck Transportation	484	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and hospitality		1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Arts, entertainment, and recreation		1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Amusement, gambling, and recreation industries	713	1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Other amusement and recreation industries	7139	1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Fitness and recreational sports centers	71349	1	1	--	--	--	--	--
Other services, except public administration		1	--	--	1	--	--	--
Other services, except public administration		1	--	--	1	--	--	--
Repair and maintenance	811	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Automotive repair and maintenance	8111	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Automotive mechanical and electrical repair and maintenance	81111	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
General automotive repair	811111	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Government ⁶		4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Local government		1	--	1	--	--	--	--
Service providing		--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Public administration		1	--	1	--	--	--	--
Public administration		1	--	1	--	--	--	--
Justice, public order, and safety activities	922	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Justice, public order, and safety activities	9221	1	--	1	--	--	--	--
Police protection	92212	1	--	1	--	--	--	--

¹ CFI has used several versions of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) since 2003 to define industry. For complete information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Cases where ownership is unknown are included in private industry counts. Cases classified as foreign government and other government are included in all government counts, but not displayed separately. Cases where industry is unknown are included in the service sector counts.

² Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

³ Includes fatal injuries at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in the North American Industry Classification System, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. For complete information on how the data are coded and presented see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, December 01, 2022

TABLE 2. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation & event or exposure, Montana, 2021

Industry ¹	Total fatal injuries	Event or exposure ²					
		Violence and other injuries by persons or animals ³	Transportation incidents ⁴	Fires and explosions	Falls, slips, trips	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Contact with objects and equipment
Total	40	5	23	--	6	--	4
Management occupations	9	--	7	--	--	--	--
Food preparation and serving related occupations	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cooks and food preparation workers	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Food preparation workers	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Food preparation workers	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Farming, fishing, & forestry occupations	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Agricultural workers	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Miscellaneous agricultural workers	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction & extraction occupations	10	--	--	--	--	--	--
Supervisors of construction and extraction workers	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors of construction trades and extraction workers	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
First-line supervisors of construction trades and extraction workers	5	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other construction and related workers	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rail-track laying and maintenance equipment operators	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Rail-track laying and maintenance equipment operators	1	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation and material moving occupations	11	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ CFI has used several versions of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system since 2003 to define occupation. For complete information on the version of SOC used in this year, see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Cases where occupation is unknown are included in the total.

² Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

³ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

⁴ Includes roadway, nonroadway, air, water, rail fatal occupational injuries, and fatal occupational injuries resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. For complete information on how the data are coded and presented see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, December 01, 2022

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by worker characteristics & event or exposure, Montana, 2021

Work Characteristics	Total fatal injuries	Event or exposure ¹					
		Transportation incidents ²	Violence and other injuries by persons or animals ³	Contact with objects and equipment	Falls, slips, trips	Exposure to harmful substances or environments	Fires and explosions
Total	40	23	5	4	6	--	2
Employee status							
Wage and salary ⁴	28	14	--	--	6	--	1
Self-employed ⁵	12	9	--	--	--	--	1
Gender							
Women	4	--	--	--	--	--	--
Men	36	21	--	4	--	--	--
Age							
Under 16 years	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
16 to 17 years	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
18 to 19 years	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
20 to 24 years	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
25 to 34 years	5	--	--	--	--	--	2
35 to 44 years	7	4	--	--	--	--	--
45 to 54 years	6	--	--	--	--	--	--
55 to 64 years	9	--	--	--	--	--	--
65 years and over	7	--	--	--	--	--	--
Race or ethnic origin ⁶							
White (non-Hispanic)	33	18	--	4	5	--	--
Black or African-American (non-Hispanic)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Hispanic or Latino	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
American Indian or Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Asian (non-Hispanic)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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

² Includes roadway, nonroadway, air, water, rail fatal occupational injuries, and fatal occupational injuries resulting from being struck by a vehicle.

³ Includes violence by persons, self-inflicted injury, and attacks by animals.

⁴ May include volunteers and workers receiving other types of compensation. Cases where employment status is unknown are included in the counts of wage and salary workers.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Persons identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. The race categories shown exclude data for Hispanic and Latino workers. Cases where ethnicity is unknown are included in counts of non-Hispanic workers.

Note: Data for all years are revised and final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. For complete information on how the data are coded and presented see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, and federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, December 01, 2022

TABLE 4. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure for all fatal injuries & major private industry¹ sector, Montana, 2021

Event or exposure ²	Total fatal injuries	Goods producing				Service providing							
		Total goods producing	Natural resources & mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Total service providing	Trade, transportation & utilities	Information	Financial activities	Professional & business services	Educational & health services	Leisure & hospitality	Other services
Total	40	--	15	6	3	--	10	--	--	--	--	1	1
Violence & other injuries by persons or animals	5	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
Transportation incidents	23	--	9	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	11	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Roadway noncollision incident	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Jack-knifed or overturned, roadway	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicles	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nonroadway noncollision incident	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fires and explosions	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1
Fires	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ignition of vapors, gases, or liquids	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	--
Explosions	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Explosion of nonpressurized vapors, gases, or liquids	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Falls, slips, trips	6	--	--	3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Contact with objects and equipment	4	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

¹ CFI has used several versions of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) since 2003 to define industry. For complete information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Cases where ownership is unknown are included in private industry counts. Cases classified as foreign government and other government are included in all government counts, but not displayed separately. Cases where industry is unknown are included in the service sector counts.

² Based on the BLS Occupational Injury & Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

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Note: Data for all years are revised & final. Totals for major categories may include subcategories not shown separately. For complete information on how the data are coded & presented see our definitions page at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>. Dashes indicate no data reported or data that do not meet publication criteria. CFI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless precipitated by an injury event.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with state, New York City, District of Columbia, & federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, December 01, 2022

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, provides the most complete count of fatal work injuries available. CFOI uses diverse state and federal data sources to identify, verify, and profile fatal work injuries. The CFOI program is designed to collect information on all work-related fatalities. Information about each workplace fatality (occupation and other worker characteristics, equipment being used, and circumstances of the incident) is obtained by cross-referencing source documents, such as death certificates, workers' compensation records, and reports from federal and state agencies. This method assures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

The fatality census is a federal/state cooperative program, which is conducted in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In Montana, the Employment Standards Division, Data Management Section of the Montana Department of Labor & Industry collects the data in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Another BLS program, the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, profiles worker and case characteristics of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses that result in lost work time and presents frequency counts and incidence rates by industry. Copies of the 2021 Montana report on nonfatal injuries and illnesses are available from the Data Management Section, Montana Department of Labor & Industry by viewing the web page at erd.dli.mt.gov or clicking on the publication link erd.dli.mt.gov/_docs/research/oshs-research/SOII-Report-2021.pdf or by calling (406) 444-3297.

National data on occupational injuries and fatalities can be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. For additional national data, visit www.bls.gov/iif.

Technical Notes

DEFINITIONS

For a fatality to be included in the census, the decedent must have been employed (that is working for pay, compensation, profit, or certain volunteer positions) at the time of the event, engaged in a legal work activity, or present at the site of the incident as a requirement of his or her job. These criteria are generally broader than those used by federal and state agencies administering specific laws and regulations. (Fatalities that occur during a person's commute to or from work are excluded from the census counts).

Data presented in this release include deaths occurring in 2021 that resulted from traumatic occupational injuries. An injury is defined as any intentional or unintentional wound or damage to the body. This can result from acute exposure to energy, such as heat, electricity, or kinetic energy from a crash or the absence of such essentials as heat or oxygen caused by a specific event, incident, or series of events within a single workday or shift. Included are open wounds, intracranial and internal injuries, heatstroke, hypothermia, asphyxiations, acute poisonings resulting from short-term exposure limited to the worker's shift, suicides and homicides, and work injuries listed as underlying or contributory causes of death.

Information on work-related fatal illnesses are not reported in the BLS census and are excluded from the attached tables. The latency period of many occupational illnesses and the difficulty of linking illnesses to work make identification of a universe problematic.

MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES AND LIMITATIONS

Data for the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries are compiled from various federal, state, and local administrative sources, including death certificates, workers' compensation reports and claims, reports from various regulatory agencies, medical examiner reports, and police reports, as well as news reports. Diverse sources used as studies have shown no single source captures all job-related fatalities. Source documents are matched so each fatality is counted only once. Information is verified from two or more independent source documents or from a source document and a follow-up questionnaire to ensure a fatality occurred while the decedent was at work. Approximately 30 data elements are collected, coded, and tabulated, including information about the worker, the fatal incident, and the machinery or equipment involved.

IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION OF WORK-RELATED FATALITIES

Because some state laws and regulations prohibit enumerators from contacting the next of kin, it was not possible to independently verify work relationship (whether a fatality is job-related) for some fatal work injuries in 2021; however, the information on the initiating source document for these cases was sufficient to determine the incident was likely to be job-related. Data for these fatalities, which primarily affected self-employed workers, are included in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries counts. A few fatalities were not included because the initiating source document had insufficient information to determine the work relationship, which could not be verified by either an independent source document or a follow-up questionnaire.

FEDERAL/STATE AGENCY COVERAGE

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether they are covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) or other federal or state agencies or are outside the scope of regulatory coverage. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and those released by other agencies should consider the different coverage requirements and definitions used.

Several federal and state agencies have jurisdiction over workplace safety and health. OSHA and affiliated agencies in states with approved safety programs cover the largest portion of America's workers. However, injuries and illnesses occurring in certain industries or activities such as coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and highway, water, rail, and air transportation are excluded from OSHA coverage because they are covered by other federal agencies, such as the Mine Safety and Health Administration and various agencies within the Department of Transportation.

Fatalities occurring among several other groups of workers are generally not covered by any federal or state agencies. These groups include self-employed and unpaid family workers, laborers on small farms, and state and local government employees in states without OSHA approved safety programs.

All work-related fatalities are covered in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

