

2006 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries State Fatality Rates

Important note: Rates for all States are presented on one page for convenience purposes only. BLS strongly cautions against making comparisons between States or making any assumptions about a State's safety record relative to other States based on these rates because of the different mix of industries within each State and for other reasons. Please read the attached notes carefully.

State of Incident	Total Fatalities (1)	Employment (in thousands) (2)	Fatality Rate (3)
Alabama	100	2,082	4.8
Alaska	45	328	13.7
Arizona	112	2,848	3.8
Arkansas	78	1,288	6.1
California	537	17,030	3.1
Colorado	137	2,536	5.3
Connecticut	38	1,756	2.2
Delaware	15	424	3.5
District of Columbia	7	301	2.3
Florida	360	8,634	4.1
Georgia	201	4,516	4.3
Hawaii	30	632	4.3
Idaho	38	718	5.3
Illinois	207	6,273	3.3
Indiana	148	3,073	4.8
Iowa	71	1,595	4.5
Kansas	85	1,407	5.9
Kentucky	147	1,911	7.7
Louisiana	118	1,894	6.2
Maine	20	671	3.0
Maryland	106	2,862	3.7
Massachusetts	66	3,241	2.0
Michigan	157	4,722	3.3
Minnesota	78	2,793	2.8
Mississippi	96	1,213	7.7
Missouri	167	2,871	5.8
Montana	45	479	9.4
Nebraska	57	945	6.0
Nevada	49	1,230	4.0
New Hampshire	13	706	1.8
New Jersey	88	4,284	2.1
New Mexico	59	897	6.6
New York (including NYC)	234	9,057	2.6
North Carolina	168	4,248	3.9
North Dakota	31	350	8.9
Ohio	193	5,625	3.4
Oklahoma	91	1,648	5.5
Oregon	87	1,800	4.8
Pennsylvania	240	6,003	4.0
Rhode Island	10	546	1.8
South Carolina	95	1,982	4.8
South Dakota	37	423	8.7
Tennessee	153	2,854	5.3
Texas	489	10,816	4.4
Utah	60	1,279	4.7
Vermont	14	343	4.1
Virginia	165	3,874	4.2
Washington	87	3,170	2.6
West Virginia	79	768	10.3
Wisconsin	91	2,924	3.1
Wyoming	36	274	13.1
New York City	99	3,546	2.8

1 Data for 2006 are revised and final.

2 Employment data are from the Current Population Survey (CPS)

3 Excludes military personnel and workers under age 16

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Fatality rate computation

Fatality rates may be used to compare the risk of incurring injury among worker groups with varying employment levels. These fatality rates were computed using estimates of civilian workers (age 16 and older) from the Current Population Survey (CPS) and are expressed as the number of fatalities per 100,000 employed. The numerator (fatalities) and denominator (employment) of the rate should refer to the same group of workers as closely as possible. Because CPS employment data exclude workers under the age of 16 and members of the military, fatalities to these workers were also excluded from the numerator in the calculation.

The rates were computed for 2006 as follows:

Fatality rate (2006) = $(N_{2006}/W_{2006}) \times 100,000$

N_{year} = number of civilian worker fatal injuries, age 16 and older

W_{year} = annual average number of employed civilians, age 16 and older

Fatality rate limitations

State of residence versus State of incident

The CPS counts workers by their State of residence, whereas the CFOI counts workers by State of injury. Fatality/employment rates may be affected significantly for States with net inflows or outflows of commuters, migrant workers, business travelers, and workers in inter-State transportation. For example, truck drivers incur a large number of occupational fatalities outside their State of residence. For this reason, comparisons among and between States should be made with caution. Comparisons among industries within a State also may be affected by differing inter-State worker inflows and outflows by industries.

Primary job versus job at the time of incident

The CPS categorizes workers among industries according to their primary job, which may differ from the job held when fatally injured. The CFOI categorizes decedents into the industry in which they were employed at the time of the fatal incident. For example, a person who works full time as a hotel clerk, but works occasionally for a moving company, is classified in the hotel and motel industry by the CPS. If the worker is fatally injured while working for the moving company, the CFOI classifies the fatality in the transportation industry.

Employment sampling errors

Rather than a complete count, the CPS employment data used to calculate the rates are estimates based on a sample of households which are surveyed to obtain data for all workers in those households. Therefore, the CPS estimates and the fatality rates have sampling errors. The estimates of fatality rates may differ from rates that would have been obtained if it had been feasible to take a census of employed persons. Users may use relative standard errors of the CPS employment estimates to approximate confidence intervals for the fatality rates. See "Explanatory notes and estimates of error" in the monthly BLS publication *Employment and Earnings* for an explanation of CPS sampling, estimation, and standard error computations.