2003 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries
Fatality Rates
California

	Total		Industry (1) (2003)												
	1998-2002	2003	Agricul-Ture, Forestry, Fishing And hunting	Mining	Con-struc-tion	Manu-factu-ring	Trans-porta-tion and public utilities	Infor-mation	Trade	Finan-cial active-ties	Profes-sional and business services	Edu-cation and health services	Leisure and hospi-tality	Other Svcs	Public admin-istration
Fatality rate (2)	3.3	2.7	10.3	27.8	9.1	1.5	10.3	1.5	1.7	0.8	2.9	0.6	1.5	2.2	3.5

   1 Classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2002. Because there are substantial differences between NAICS and the Standard Industrial Classification system used for prior years, comparisons of industry rates between prior years and 2003 should not be made.
   2 Excludes military personnel and workers under age 16. Includes all self-employed, family business, and wage and salary workers. The ownership category Government is not presented separately and may be included in any industry category.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that a fatality rate was not calculated because the data did not meet publication criteria or there were no data reported.
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

Fatality/Employment rate computation

Fatality/employment 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 the military, fatalities to these workers were also excluded from the numerator in the calculation. The rates were computed for 2003 and for the 5-year annual average (1998-2002) as:

Fatality/employment rate (2003) = (N_{03}/W_{03}) x 100,000
Fatality/employment rate (1998-2002) = $[(N_{98} + N_{99} + N_{00} + N_{01} + N_{02}) (W_{98} + W_{99} + W_{00} + W_{01} + W_{02})]$ x 100,000, where
   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/employment 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 based on them have sampling errors. The estimates of fatality rates may differ from rates that would have been obtained if it had been possible 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 January 2004 *Employment and Earnings* for an explanation of CPS sampling, estimation, and standard error computations.