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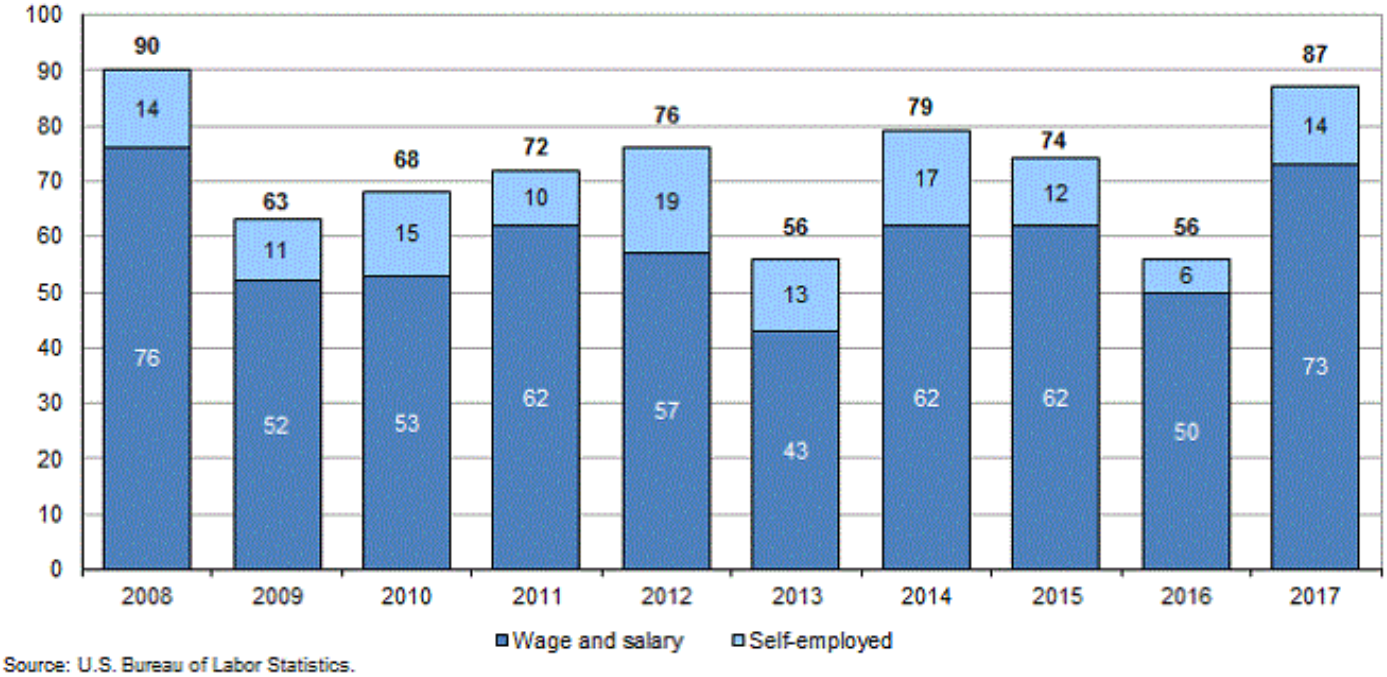
Fatal Occupational Injuries in New York City – 2017

Fatal work injuries totaled 87 in 2017 for New York City, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that the number of work-related fatalities in New York City rose by 31 from the previous year. Fatal occupational injuries in the city have ranged from a high of 191 in 1993 to a low of 56 in 2013 and 2016. (See chart 1.)

Nationwide, a total of 5,147 fatal work injuries were recorded in 2017, down slightly from the 5,190 fatal injuries reported in 2016, according to the results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program.

Chart 1. Total fatal occupational injuries, New York City, 2008–2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

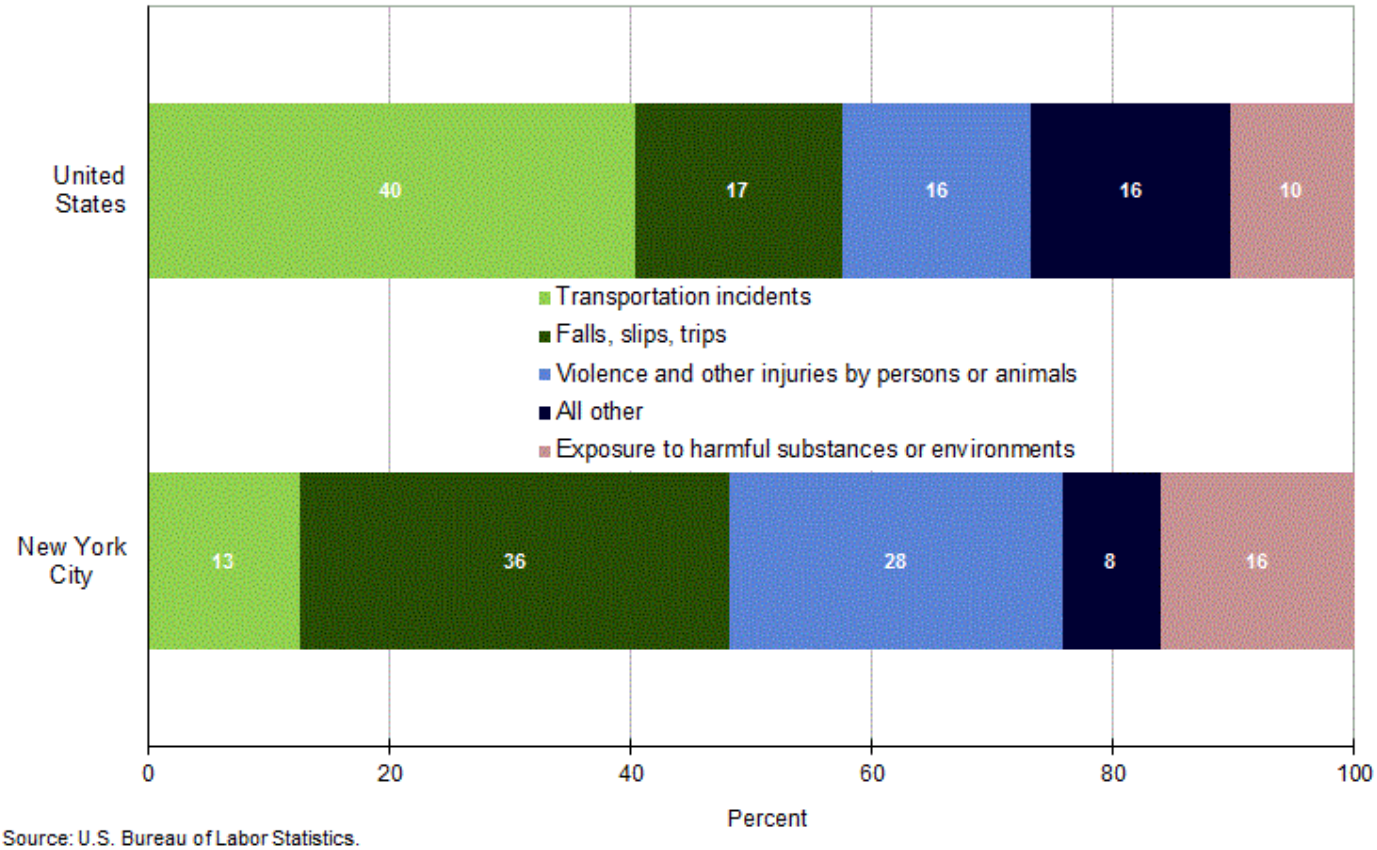
Type of incident

In New York City, falls, slips, and trips accounted for 31 fatal work injuries, and violence and other injuries by persons or animals resulted in 24 fatalities. These two major categories accounted for 63 percent of all workplace fatalities in New York City. (See table 1.) The number of workplace deaths due to falls, slips, and trips rose by 18 over the year, while the number of worker fatalities from violence and other injuries by persons or animals increased by 4 from the previous year.

Exposure to harmful substances or environments was the third-most frequent fatal work event with 14 fatalities, followed by transportation incidents with 11 work-related deaths. Both of these event categories were up from 2016.

Nationally, transportation incidents were the most frequent fatal workplace event in 2017, accounting for 40 percent of fatal work injuries. (See chart 2.) Falls, slips, or trips was the second-most frequent type of event (17 percent), followed by violence and other injuries by persons or animals (16 percent) and contact with objects and equipment (14 percent).

Chart 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event, United States and New York City, 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry

The private construction industry sector had the highest number of workplace fatalities in New York City with 20, little changed from the previous year. Building construction accounted for 11, or 55 percent, of the fatal injuries in this industry.

The trade, transportation, and utilities sector had 18 workplace fatalities, up from 10 in the previous year. (See table 2.) Transportation and warehousing accounted for eight, or 44 percent, of the sector's fatal injuries. Transportation incidents were the most frequent fatal event in trade, transportation, and utilities with six worker deaths, followed by falls, slips, trips and violence, each of which were involved in four fatalities.

Occupation

Construction and extraction occupations had the highest number of workplace fatalities (22). (See table 3.) The majority of the fatal injuries within the construction and extraction group occurred to construction trades workers (20). Transportation and material moving workers (15) had the next highest number of workplace fatalities, followed by sales and related (7) and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance (5).

Contracted workers

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 2017, New York City had 19 fatally-injured workers identified as fitting the contractor criteria, little changed from the prior year.

Additional highlights

- Men accounted for 89 percent of the work-related fatalities in New York City, compared to 93 percent nationwide. (See table 4.) Fall, slips, trips made up 39 percent of the fatalities for men in New York City.
- Hispanics or Latinos accounted for 28 percent of those who died from a workplace injury. Nationwide, this group accounted for 18 percent of work-related deaths.
- Workers 55 years old and over accounted for 45 percent of the city's work-related fatalities in 2017, compared to 37 percent of on-the-job fatalities nationally.
- Of the 87 fatally injured workers in New York City, 73, or 84 percent, worked for wages and salaries; the remainder were self-employed. The most frequent fatal event for wage and salary workers was falls, slips, or trips. For the 14 self-employed workers, nine of the incidents involved violence and other injuries by persons or animals.

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 the 2017 national data, over 23,400 unique source documents were reviewed as part of the data collection process. For technical information and definitions for CFOI, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf.

Federal/State agency coverage. The CFOI includes data for all fatal work injuries, even those that may be outside the scope of other agencies or 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. More on the scope of CFOI can be found atwww.bls.gov/iif/cfoiscope.htm.

Acknowledgments. The Bureau of Labor Statistics appreciates the efforts of all federal, state, local, and private sector entities that submitted source documents used to identify fatal work injuries, in particular the New York City government.

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, New York City, 2016–17

Event or exposure [1]	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	56	87	100
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	20	24	28
Intentional injury by person	20	24	28
Homicides (Intentional injury by other person)	12	13	15
Shooting by other person--intentional	4	10	11
Stabbing, cutting, slashing, piercing	4	--	--
Strangulation by other person	2	--	--
Bombing, arson	--	1	1
Suicides (Self-inflicted injury--intentional)	8	11	13
Hanging, strangulation, asphyxiation--intentional self-harm	5	4	5
Jumping from building or other structure--intentional self-harm	--	5	6
Transportation incidents	7	11	13
Aircraft incidents	1	--	--
Other in-flight crash	1	--	--
Other in-flight crash due to mechanical failure	1	--	--
Pedestrian vehicular incident	3	3	3
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	1	6	7
Roadway collision with other vehicle	--	3	3
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle	1	--	--
Vehicle struck object or animal on side of roadway	1	--	--
Falls, slips, trips	13	31	36
Falls on same level	--	4	5
Falls to lower level	11	27	31
Fall from collapsing structure or equipment	--	4	5
Other fall to lower level	8	20	23
Other fall to lower level less than 6 feet	--	5	6
Other fall to lower level 11 to 15 feet	--	4	5
Other fall to lower level more than 30 feet	4	5	6
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	5	14	16
Exposure to other harmful substances	4	11	13
Nonmedical use of drugs or alcohol--unintentional overdose	4	11	13
Contact with objects and equipment	9	7	8
Struck by object or equipment	5	6	7
Struck by powered vehicle--nontransport	1	--	--
Struck or run over by rolling powered vehicle	1	--	--
Struck by falling object or equipment--other than powered vehicle	4	4	5

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, New York City, 2016–17

Industry [1]	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	56	87	100
Private industry	47	77	89
Construction	21	20	23
Construction	21	20	23
Construction of buildings	4	11	13
Residential building construction	3	7	8
Residential building construction	3	7	8
Residential remodelers	--	4	5
Nonresidential building construction	--	3	3
Commercial and institutional building construction	--	3	3
Specialty trade contractors	13	9	10
Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors	4	3	3
Building equipment contractors	3	4	5
Electrical contractors	--	4	5
Other building equipment contractors	3	--	--
Other specialty trade contractors	4	--	--
All other specialty trade contractors	3	--	--
Manufacturing	--	4	5
Manufacturing	--	4	5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	10	18	21
Wholesale trade	--	4	5
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	--	3	3
Grocery and related product wholesalers	--	3	3
Retail trade	8	6	7
Electronics and appliance stores	2	--	--
Electronics and appliance stores	2	--	--
Electronics and appliance stores	2	--	--
Electronics stores	2	--	--
Food and beverage stores	2	3	3
Grocery stores	1	3	3
Supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores	1	--	--
Beer, wine, and liquor stores	1	--	--
Transportation and warehousing	--	8	9
Transit and ground passenger transportation	--	3	3
Taxi and limousine service	--	3	3
Taxi service	--	3	3
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	--	1	1
Scenic and sightseeing transportation, land	--	1	1
Information	1	--	--
Information	1	--	--
Telecommunications	1	--	--
Wired telecommunications carriers	1	--	--
Financial activities	--	7	8
Finance and insurance	--	--	--
Credit intermediation and related activities	--	--	--
Nondepository credit intermediation	--	--	--
Other nondepository credit intermediation	--	--	--
Consumer lending	--	1	1
Real estate and rental and leasing	--	5	6
Real estate	--	5	6
Professional and business services	3	10	11
Professional and technical services	--	3	3
Professional, scientific, and technical services	--	3	3
Administrative and waste services	--	7	8
Administrative and support services	--	7	8
Investigation and security services	1	--	--

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Fatal occupational injuries by industry, New York City, 2016–17 - Continued

Industry [1]	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Investigation, guard, and armored car services	1	--	--
Security guards and patrol services	1	--	--
Services to buildings and dwellings	--	5	6
Janitorial services	--	4	5
Educational and health services	--	6	7
Health care and social assistance	--	6	7
Ambulatory health care services	--	4	5
Social assistance	1	--	--
Community food and housing, and emergency and other relief services	1	--	--
Community housing services	1	--	--
Temporary shelters	1	--	--
Leisure and hospitality	6	5	6
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1	--	--
Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions	1	--	--
Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions	1	--	--
Museums	1	--	--
Accommodation and food services	5	3	3
Food services and drinking places	4	3	3
Restaurants and other eating places	4	--	--
Restaurants and other eating places	4	--	--
Other services, except public administration	--	4	5
Other services, except public administration	--	4	5
Government [2]	9	10	11
State government	3	5	6
Local government	5	5	6

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, New York City, 2016–17

Occupation [1]	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	56	87	100
Management occupations	--	3	3
Business and financial operations occupations	--	--	--
Computer and mathematical occupations	--	--	--
Architecture and engineering occupations	1	--	--
Architects, surveyors, and cartographers	1	--	--
Architects, except naval	1	--	--
Architects, except landscape and naval	1	--	--
Life, physical, and social science occupations	--	--	--
Community and social service occupations	--	--	--
Legal occupations	--	--	--
Education, training, and library occupations	--	--	--
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	--	--	--
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	--	3	3
Healthcare support occupations	--	--	--
Protective service occupations	6	4	5
Other protective service workers	4	--	--
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	3	--	--
Security guards	3	--	--
Food preparation and serving related occupations	--	3	3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	3	5	6
Building cleaning and pest control workers	--	3	3
Building cleaning workers	--	3	3
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	--	3	3
Personal care and service occupations	--	--	--
Sales and related occupations	6	7	8
Supervisors of sales workers	--	3	3
First-line supervisors of sales workers	--	3	3
Retail sales workers	3	--	--
Cashiers	1	--	--
Cashiers	1	--	--
Office and administrative support occupations	--	3	3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	--	--	--
Construction and extraction occupations	18	22	25
Construction trades workers	14	20	23
Carpenters	--	3	3
Carpenters	--	3	3
Construction laborers	12	8	9
Construction laborers	12	8	9
Electricians	--	5	6
Electricians	--	5	6
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	6	4	5
Supervisors of installation, maintenance, and repair workers	1	--	--
First-line supervisors of mechanics, installers, and repairers	1	--	--
First-line supervisors of mechanics, installers, and repairers	1	--	--
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	4	--	--
Line installers and repairers	1	--	--
Telecommunications line installers and repairers	1	--	--
Production occupations	--	4	5
Transportation and material moving occupations	7	15	17
Air transportation workers	1	--	--
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	1	--	--
Commercial pilots	1	--	--
Motor vehicle operators	--	12	14
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	--	4	5
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	--	4	5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Fatal occupational injuries by occupation, New York City, 2016–17 - Continued

Occupation [1]	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	--	4	5
Material moving workers	3	--	--

Footnotes:
(1) Occupation data are based on the Standard Occupational Classification system, 2010.
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, New York City, 2016–17

Worker characteristics	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	56	87	100
Employee status			
Wage and salary workers [1]	50	73	84
Self-employed [2]	6	14	16
Gender			
Men	54	77	89
Women	--	10	11
Age [3]			
20 to 24 years	3	--	--
25 to 34 years	9	11	13
35 to 44 years	13	18	21
45 to 54 years	14	17	20
55 to 64 years	14	26	30
65 years and over	3	13	15
Race or ethnic origin [4]			
White, non-Hispanic	18	41	47
Black or African-American, non-Hispanic	14	9	10
Hispanic or Latino	20	24	28
Asian, non-Hispanic	4	11	13

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 Hispanic and Latino workers.
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.