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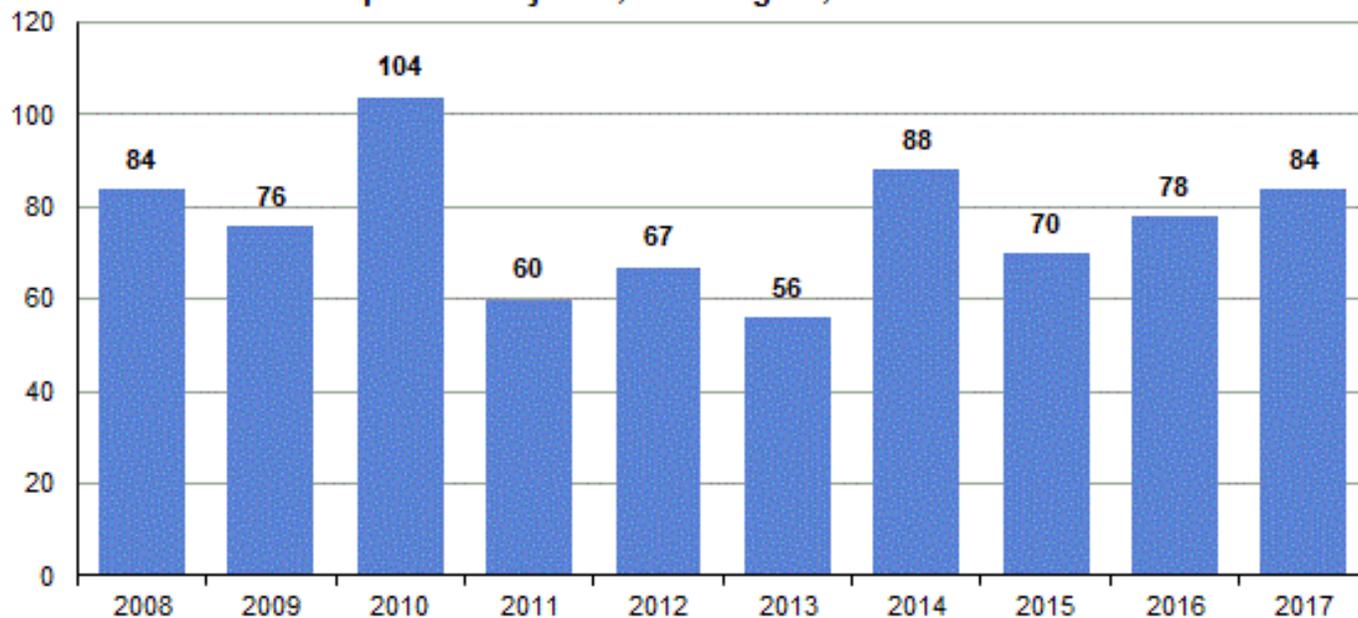
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Fatal Work Injuries in Washington – 2017

Fatal work injuries totaled 84 in 2017 for Washington, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the number of work-related fatalities in Washington was higher than the 78 fatalities in the previous year. Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 128 in 1996 to a low of 56 in 2013. (See [chart 1](#).)

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

Chart 1. Total fatal occupational injuries, Washington, 2008–2017



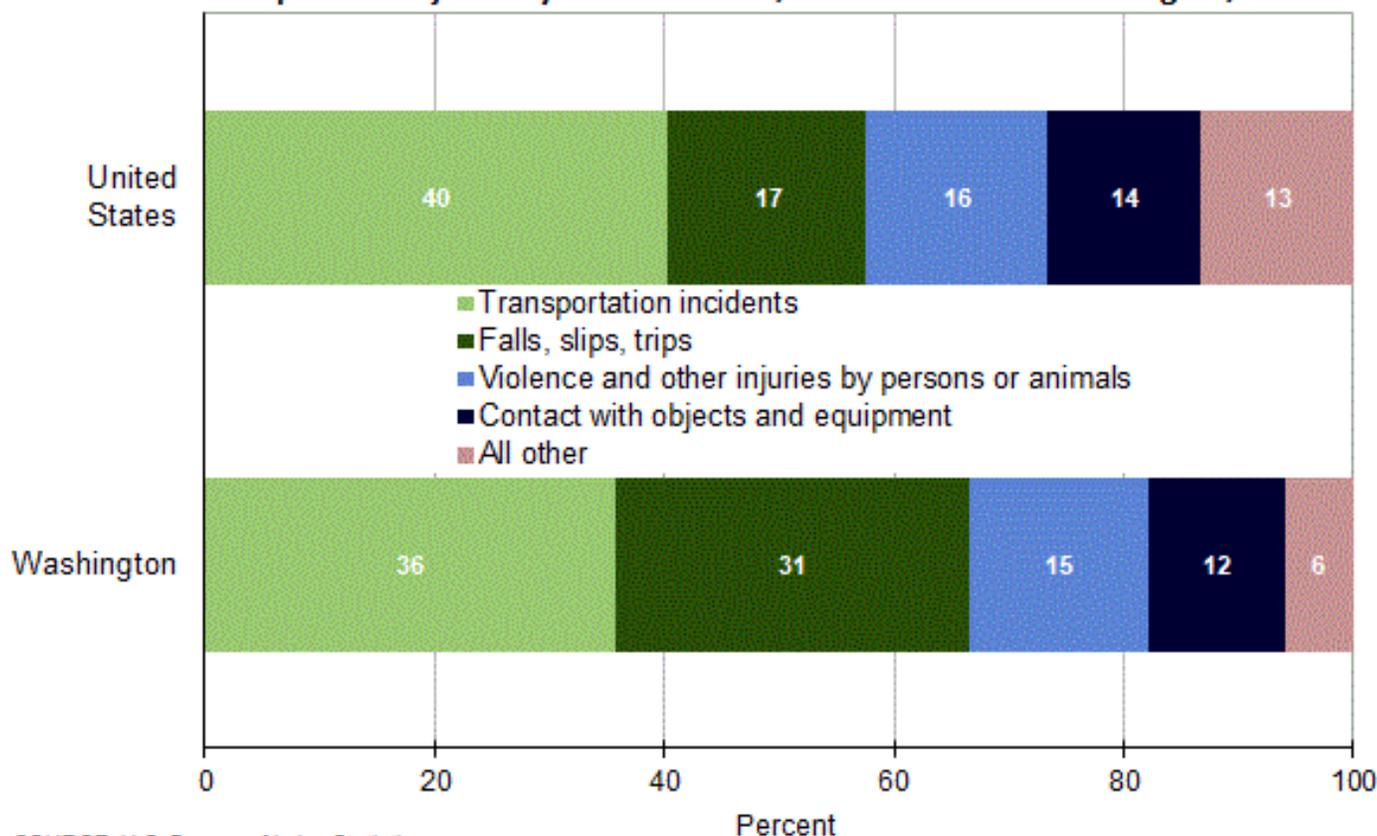
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Type of incident

In Washington, transportation incidents resulted in 30 fatal work injuries and falls, slips, and trips accounted for 26 fatalities. These two major categories accounted for 67 percent of all workplace fatalities in the state. (See [table 1](#).) The number of worker deaths from transportation incidents increased by three over the year, while fatalities from falls, slips, and trips were little changed.

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 common fatal event (17 percent), followed by violence and other injuries by persons or animals (16 percent).

Chart 2. Fatal occupational injuries by selected event, United States and Washington, 2017



SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Industry

The private construction industry sector had the highest number of fatalities in Washington with 15, similar to the count in the previous year. (See [table 2.](#)) Falls, slips, and trips were the most frequent fatal event in the sector with 10 worker deaths. Ten of those fatally injured in this sector worked as specialty trade contractors.

The private agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector had 14 workplace fatalities in 2017. Crop production accounted for almost half of the fatalities in this industry.

Occupation

Transportation and material moving occupations had the highest number of workplace fatalities with 30. (See [table 3.](#)) Fifteen of these fatalities were heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers.

Additional highlights:

- Men accounted for 95 percent of the work-related fatalities in Washington, compared to the 93-percent national share. (See [table 4.](#)) Transportation incidents made up 36 percent of the fatalities for men in Washington.
- White non-Hispanics accounted for 74 percent of those who died from a workplace injury. Nationwide, this group accounted for 67 percent of work-related deaths.
- Workers 25-54 years old accounted for 48 percent of the state’s work-related fatalities in 2017, compared to 55 percent nationwide.

- Of the 84 fatally-injured workers in Washington, 80 percent worked for wages and salaries; the remainder were self-employed. The most frequent fatal event for wage and salary workers was transportation incidents.

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/cfoi/home.htm.

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 at www.bls.gov/iif/cfoiscope.htm.

Acknowledgments. BLS 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.

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Table 1. Fatal occupational injuries by event or exposure, Washington, 2016–17

Event or exposure ⁽¹⁾	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total.....	78	84	100
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals.....	13	13	15
Intentional injury by person.....	13	13	15
Homicides (Intentional injury by other person).....	9	6	7
Shooting by other person--intentional.....	7	4	5
Suicides (Self-inflicted injury--intentional).....	4	7	8
Transportation incidents.....	27	30	36
Aircraft incidents.....	--	1	1
Other in-flight crash.....	--	1	1
Other in-flight crash into structure, object, or ground.....	--	1	1
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle.....	15	18	21
Roadway collision with other vehicle.....	--	9	11
Roadway collision--moving in opposite directions, oncoming.....	--	6	7
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle.....	8	4	5
Vehicle struck object or animal on side of roadway.....	7	4	5
Roadway noncollision incident.....	5	5	6
Jack-knifed or overturned, roadway.....	5	5	6
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicles.....	4	3	4
Falls, slips, trips.....	24	26	31
Falls to lower level.....	22	20	24
Other fall to lower level.....	16	14	17
Exposure to harmful substances or environments.....	3	3	4
Contact with objects and equipment.....	8	10	12
Struck by object or equipment.....	7	9	11
Struck by powered vehicle--nontransport.....	--	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, Washington, 2016–17

Industry ⁽¹⁾	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	78	84	100
Private industry	73	80	95
Natural resources and mining	16	14	17
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	15	14	17
Construction	14	15	18
Construction	14	15	18
Specialty trade contractors	7	10	12
Foundation, structure, and building exterior contractors	3	5	6
Manufacturing	4	7	8
Manufacturing	4	7	8
Trade, transportation, and utilities	16	26	31
Retail trade	6	10	12
Transportation and warehousing	10	10	12
Truck transportation	8	7	8
Financial activities	6	4	5
Professional and business services	8	8	10
Administrative and waste services	8	8	10
Administrative and support services	8	6	7
Services to buildings and dwellings	5	6	7
Landscaping services	5	4	5
Leisure and hospitality	--	1	1
Other services, except public administration	3	1	1
Other services, except public administration	3	1	1
Repair and maintenance	--	1	1
Government ⁽²⁾	5	4	5
Federal government	--	1	1

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, Washington, 2016–17

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	78	84	100
Management occupations	4	2	2
Other management occupations	3	2	2
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	--	1	1
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	--	1	1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	5	5	6
Grounds maintenance workers	4	3	4
Grounds maintenance workers	4	3	4
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	3	1	1
Sales and related occupations	6	7	8
Supervisors of sales workers	1	3	4
First-line supervisors of sales workers	1	3	4
Construction and extraction occupations	14	14	17
Construction trades workers	9	13	15
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	7	8	10
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	--	--	--
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	6	4	5
Production occupations	--	4	5
Transportation and material moving occupations	18	30	36
Air transportation workers	--	1	1
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	--	1	1
Commercial pilots	--	1	1
Motor vehicle operators	13	18	21
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	13	18	21
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	11	15	18
Material moving workers	3	7	8

Footnotes:

(1) Occupation data are based on the Standard Occupational Classification system, 2010.

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 4. Fatal occupational injuries by selected demographic characteristics, Washington, 2016–17

Worker characteristics	2016	2017	
	Number	Number	Percent
Total	78	84	100
Employee status			
Wage and salary workers ⁽¹⁾	59	67	80
Self-employed ⁽²⁾	19	17	20
Gender			
Men	70	80	95
Women	8	4	5
Age ⁽³⁾			
20 to 24 years	5	3	4
25 to 34 years	9	14	17
35 to 44 years	13	11	13
45 to 54 years	19	15	18
55 to 64 years	18	24	29
65 years and over	13	16	19
Race or ethnic origin ⁽⁴⁾			
White (non-Hispanic)	60	62	74
Black or African-American (non-Hispanic)	--	4	5
Hispanic or Latino	13	9	11
Asian (non-Hispanic)	--	1	1

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.