



*The Worker's Memorial* on the Indiana Government Center campus. Sculpted by Daniel Edwards. Commemorated by the AFL-CIO on April 8, 1995.



# 2014 Indiana Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

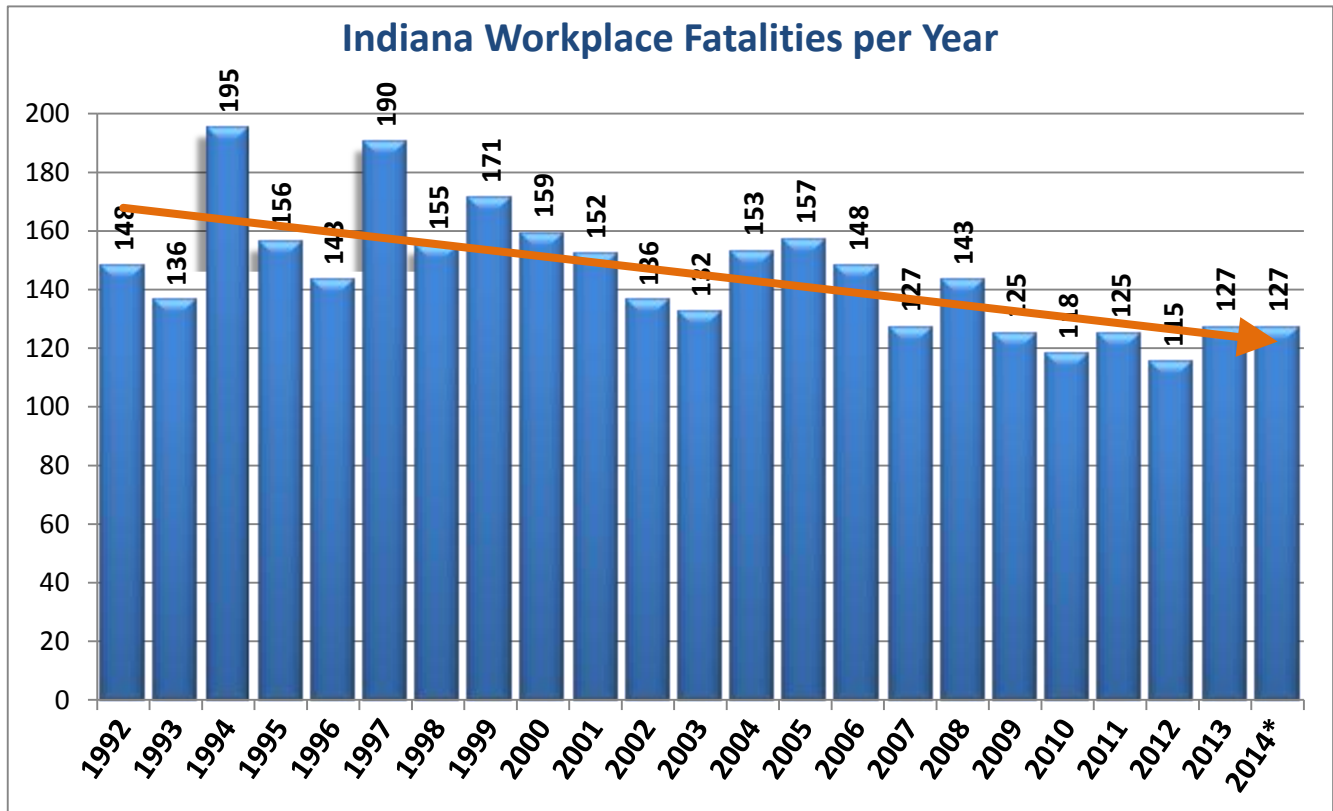
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## Preliminary Release and Analysis

*Prepared by the*  
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## OVERVIEW



Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 1992-2014, Table A-1

To maintain confidentiality, some case specifics cannot be published. Therefore, the sum of the chart elements may differ from the total number of fatal injuries.

In 1992, the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) began collecting data on fatal occupational injuries for Indiana through the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). Each year, the Indiana Department of Labor's Quality, Metrics, and Statistics (QMS) Division reviews thousands of records including death certificates, news articles, and transportation reports to identify, document, and verify deaths resulting from work-related injuries. The CFOI classifies fatal injuries by industry, event, exposure, demographic, primary cause, and body part injured. These classifications provide a more detailed view of how fatal injuries occurred.

The 2014 preliminary Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries report shows **127** Hoosier workers lost their lives in a workplace accident. This number remains unchanged from the final report for 2013.

Occupational injuries can occur at any time. Accidents are unpredictable and can still occur even when employers follow all applicable safety procedures. For example, events such as accidents on the roadway or workplace violence may be outside of the employer's direct control, but these events alone result in more than half of the fatal events in Indiana. It is difficult to identify any single variable or combination of variables as the cause of an increase or decrease in the number of occupational fatalities each year.

This report contains text, charts, and tables showing the demographics and industries in which workplace fatalities occurred, as well as an analysis of the fatal events. Please note the data provided by the BLS is protected by stringent confidentiality rules. These rules forbid releasing information that could divulge the identity of the decedent or the company for which he or she worked. Confidential data may include any non-public information that was not previously released by a media outlet. Therefore, some chart elements regarding the industry or nature of the fatality may not always add up to the reflected total. For more information regarding state and national fatal occupational injuries, visit [www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm).

## OCCUPATIONAL FATALITIES BY INDUSTRY

The CFOI uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to identify the industries and sub-industries where workplace fatalities occur. Depending on the confidentiality of the case, the industry can be pared down to a very detailed view of nearly the exact business activities of the fatally injured worker.

Indiana's **agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting** industry experienced 27 fatalities in 2014—the highest number of any Hoosier industry for the year (21.26%). This represents a 50.00% increase from 18 fatal events in 2013. Nearly half of these events (13) were the result of transportation incidents. The crop production sub-industry experienced 19 of the 27 fatalities (70.37%) with nine (9) of those fatal events occurring as transportation incidents.

The **construction** industry saw a 20.00% increase in fatal events from 15 fatalities in 2013 to 18 in 2014. These deaths occurred in the sub-industries of specialty trade contractors, heavy and civil engineering, and construction of buildings.

Declining significantly from 27 fatalities in 2013 to 13 in 2014, the **transportation and warehousing** experienced a 51.85% decrease over last year's fatal events. However, while the **transportation and warehousing** industry experienced a decline, transportation-related events were the primary cause of fatal events across all industries.

Other Indiana industries with significant increases in worker fatalities in 2014 include **accommodation and food services, administrative and waste services; public administration in local government; health care and social assistance; mining and arts, entertainment and recreation.**

**Manufacturing, educational services in local government and health care and social assistance in local government** experienced significant decreases in fatal injuries.

Industry and sub-industry definitions are found online at: [www.census.gov/cgi-bin/sssd/naics/naicsrch?chart=2007](http://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/sssd/naics/naicsrch?chart=2007).

### Indiana Workplace Fatalities by Industry

Industry	2014	2013	2012	2011
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	27	18	16	16
Construction	18	15	20	19
Transportation and warehousing	13	27	21	25
Administrative and waste services	11	6	10	5
Other services, except public administration	11	12	4	7
Manufacturing	10	12	11	14
Wholesale trade	9	9	8	10
Retail trade	8	9	7	8
Public administration (Local Govt.)	5	1	4	3
Health care and social assistance	3	3	-	-
Accommodation and food services	5	-	1	3
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	3	1	5	5
Mining	1	1	-	-
Utilities	1	1	1	
Educational services (State Govt.)	1	1	-	1
Construction (Local Govt.)	1	-	1	
Educational services (Local Govt.)	-	2	-	-
Health care and social assistance (Local Govt.)	-	2	-	-
Administrative and waste services (Local Govt.)	-	1	-	-
Information	-	1	-	-
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	-	3	-
Public administration (State Govt.)	-	-	2	2
Construction (State Govt.)	-	-	1	1
Finance and insurance	-	-	-	1
Arts, entertainment and recreation (State Govt.)	-	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>127*</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>125</b>

\*The fatal incidents for 2014 are preliminary counts and may change as cases are added or removed. The final results will be released in early 2016. To maintain confidentiality, some case specifics cannot be published. Therefore, the sum of the chart elements may differ from the total.

Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2011-2014, Table A-1

## FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES BY EVENT OR EXPOSURE

Event or exposure describes the manner in which a worker was killed. Although the events may sound similar to industry classifications, the two are not interchangeable and these events may occur in any industry.

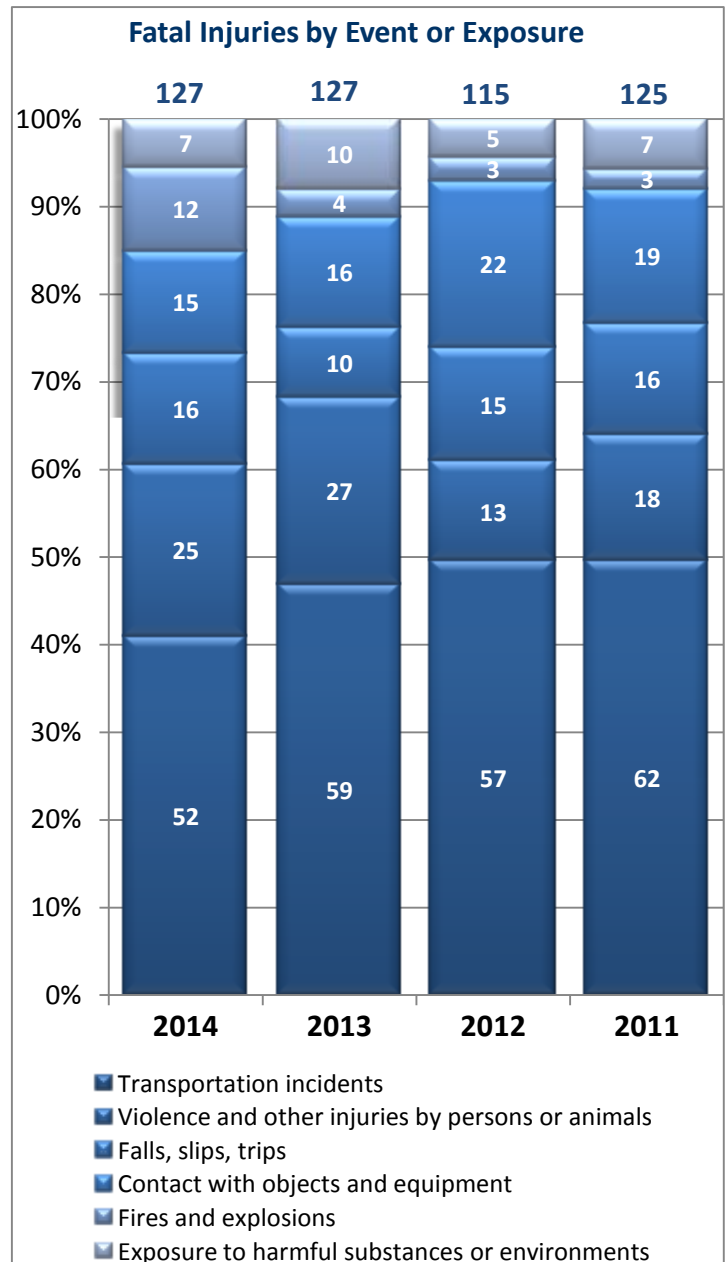
**Transportation-related incidents** continue to result in the highest number of Hoosier workplace fatalities. In 2014, there were 52 **transportation-related incidents**, which accounted for 40.94% of all Indiana occupational fatalities. These incidents included roadway motor vehicle accidents (30), non-roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles (12), and pedestrians struck by vehicles while working (6). Transportation-related incidents can affect all industries and are not solely limited to work performed in the transportation and warehousing industry. In 2014, 11 of these incidents happened in the transportation and warehousing industry, while 41 fatalities occurred in other industries including agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (13), construction (8) and administrative and waste services (6).

For the second year in a row, **violence and other injuries by persons or animals** was the second-most frequent fatal Hoosier workplace event with 25 fatal injuries (19.69%). The majority of these fatalities took place in the service providing industries—primarily the retail trade (6), local government public administration (3), and accommodation and food services (3). Eighteen (72.00%) of these events were reported as homicides with fifteen (60.00%) reported as intentional shootings by another person.

**Violence and other injuries by persons or animals** (workplace violence) was the leading cause of fatalities in the retail trade, with six of the eight retail trade fatalities (75.00%) attributed to homicide. Three of the five fatalities reported in the local government public administration industry were also attributed to homicide by shooting (60.00%). All three local government public administration homicides were police officers fatally shot in the line of duty.

Events involving **contact with objects and equipment** accounted for 15 fatalities (11.81%). These events include being struck by a falling object or other non-transportation powered equipment. All of these events

occurred in private industry, with seven occurring in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting; three in construction; and one in mining. The sub-industries most affected by **contact with objects and equipment** were crop production (5), specialty trade contractors (2), and forestry and logging (2).



Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2011-2014, Table A-1

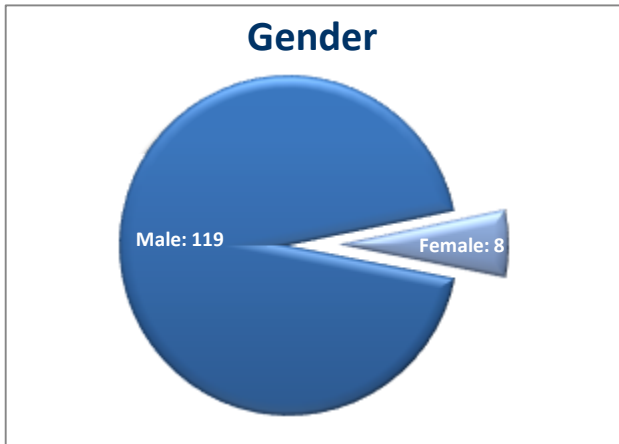
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## OCCUPATIONAL FATALITY DEMOGRAPHICS

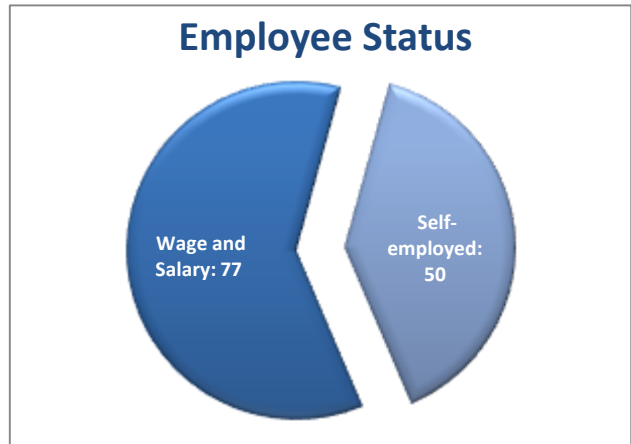
### Gender

In 2014, **men** suffered 119 of the 127 Indiana workplace fatalities (93.70%). Eight **women** suffered fatalities (6.30%). Transportation incidents accounted for 50 (42.02%) male fatalities, while violence and other injuries by persons or animals accounted for four (50.00%) of the female fatalities.



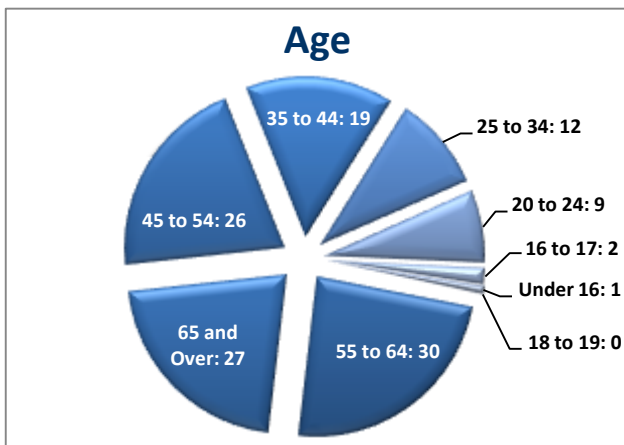
### Employee Status

**Self-employed** workers suffered 50 of the 127 fatal injuries in Indiana (39.37%). **Wage and salary** workers suffered 77 fatal injuries (60.63%). Transportation incidents accounted for the greatest percentage of fatalities for both **wage and salary** workers (45.45%) and **self-employed** workers (34.00%).



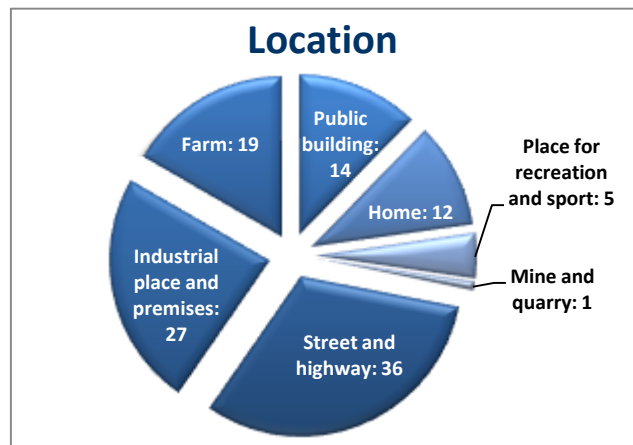
### Age

**Workers 55-64 years of age** suffered 30 fatalities in 2014 and had the highest percent workplace fatalities (23.62%). **Workers 65 years of age and over** suffered 27 fatalities (21.26%), and **workers 45-54 years of age** suffered 26 (20.47%). Workers under age 20 suffered three fatalities, and all were transportation incidents.



### Location

In 2014, the highest number of Indiana workplace deaths (36) occurred on **streets and highways** (28.35%), while 27 (21.26%) deaths occurred in **industrial places and premises**. Nineteen deaths (14.96%) occurred on a **farm**, and 14 deaths (11.02%) occurred in **public buildings**.



Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2014, Tables A-7 and Industry Profiles

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS

Even with an 11.86% decrease from 59 fatal events in 2013 to 52 in 2014, transportation incidents remain the leading cause of Hoosier workplace fatalities. 40.94% of all Hoosier workplace fatalities in 2014 (52) were attributed to transportation-related incidents, including 30 roadway incidents (57.69%), 12 nonroadway incidents (23.08%), and 6 pedestrian vehicle accidents (11.54%).

Almost every Hoosier business utilizes some form of motorized transportation for shipping, travel or entertainment. In 2014, transportation incidents accounted for nearly half of the fatalities in the **agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting** industry (13 of 27, or 48.15%), with nine (9) occurring in **crop production**. Eleven (11) fatal transportation incidents occurred in **transportation and warehousing**, with 10 occurring in the **truck transportation** sub-industry.

In 2013, the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) estimates over 79 billion vehicle miles were travelled on Hoosier roadways. With so many drivers on Indiana's roads, the chances of vehicle accidents, both minor and fatal, are greatly increased. In 2014, **roadway incidents involving a motorized land vehicle** accounted for the majority (30 of 52, or 57.69%) of fatal transportation events. Fifteen of the 30 fatal in 2014 (50.00%) were due to **roadway collision with another vehicle**. Five (16.67%) of these were due to **vehicles moving in opposite directions (oncoming)**. In nine cases (30.00%), a motorized land **vehicle struck an object or animal on the side of the roadway**.

Seven of the 12 (58.33%) fatal **nonroadway incidents** were the result of a **jack-knifed or overturned motorized land vehicle**.

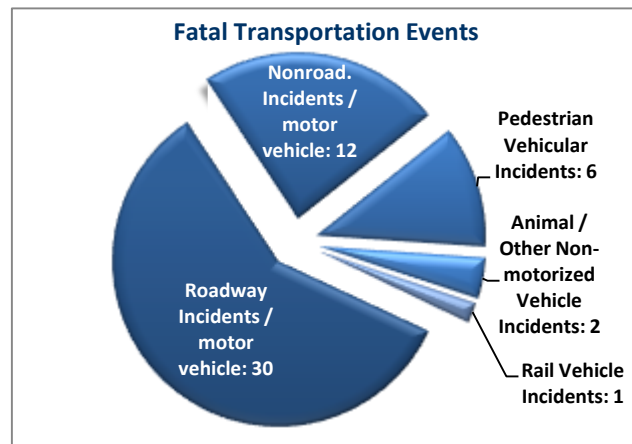
Of the six **pedestrian vehicular incidents**, three (50.00%) instances involved a **pedestrian struck by a vehicle in a nonroadway area**. Two (33.33%) fatalities occurred when a pedestrian was **struck by a forward-moving vehicle in a work zone**.

While no single factor can be defined as the cause of all transportation incidents, driver inattentiveness, failing to operate the vehicle at a safe speed, and improper vehicle maintenance play a role in many fatal transportation incidents on and off Indiana's roadways.

The Indiana Department of Labor has partnered with INDOT, the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), the Indiana State Police (ISP) and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute to raise awareness to the dangers of distracted driving. This campaign, called "DRIVE NOW. TXT L8R." has received a great deal of support from state leadership and has been recognized nationally with an OSHA Consultation Achievement Recognition (OSCAR) award by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Accidents, by definition, occur at random, so simply instructing a motorist on how to operate safely does not guarantee his or her safety. To significantly impact driver safety requires the concerted effort of numerous government agencies and the care and attention of each motorist.

For more information on the DRIVE NOW. TXT L8R. campaign or to request a free safety consultation or assistance in designing an employee driving safety program, visit the Indiana Department of Labor's INSafe Division online at [www.in.gov/dol/insafe.htm](http://www.in.gov/dol/insafe.htm).



Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2014, Table A-9

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Indiana's 18 workplace homicides were second only to roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles (30) in the number of 2014 fatal incidents. The **retail trade**, historically the area most affected by workplace homicide, experienced six homicides in 2014—making workplace homicide the number one cause of fatal events in the **retail trade** (75.00%).

The homicides in the **retail trade** were committed in **convenience stores** (1), **gasoline station attached to a convenience stores** (1), and **supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores** (1). Other retail homicides occurred in **tobacco stores** (1), **clothing stores** (1), and **sporting goods stores** (1).

Additionally, workplace homicides affected the sub industries of **limited service restaurants** (2), **general automotive repair** (1), and **services for the elderly and persons with disabilities** (1). Three (3) **police protection** officers were victims of homicide in 2014.

Fifteen incidents, including those listed above and two others in **curtain and linen mills**, were reported as **shooting by other person-intentional**.

As with transportation incidents, workplace violence is difficult to predict and thereby prevent. Historically, convenience stores and gas stations have been frequent targets of robberies and theft. While that is still the case, Indiana saw a dramatic increase in the intentional shooting deaths police protection officers; from one event in 2013 to three events in 2014.

### *It's Never "Just Part of the Job"*

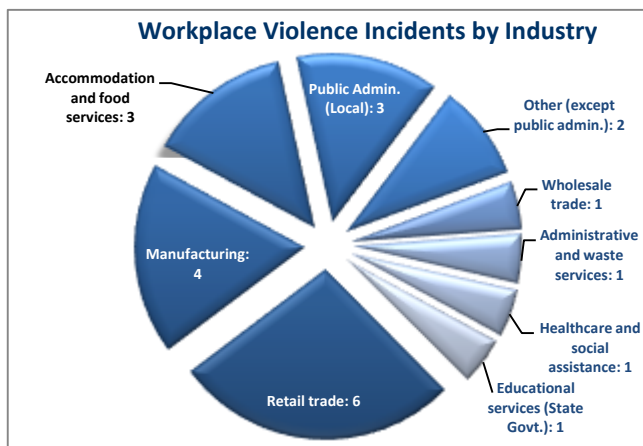
While it is true that some occupations are inherently more dangerous than others, the thought that dying is "just part of the job" is erroneous and obsolescent. Even though an occupation is dangerous, it is the responsibility of the employer and the employee to work together to eliminate or minimize exposure to known hazards.

In the **retail trade**, employers should ensure that employee interaction with customers is limited during "late-night" hours from 11:00 PM to 5:00 AM. Installation of bullet-resistant barriers, proper lighting, and keeping emergency exit and delivery doors locked are just a few of the ways hazards can be addressed. For more information about late-night retail safety proposals, visit

[www.osha.gov/dte/library/wp-violence/latenight/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/dte/library/wp-violence/latenight/index.html).

For police officers, whose occupation centers around dealing with the public in difficult situations, the hazards are much more difficult to engineer away. In a 2009 report issued by the United States Department of Justice entitled Officer Safety and Wellness: An Overview of the Issues, author Mora L. Feidler cites training, physical conditioning, staying-off fatigue to ensure mental acuity, mandatory use of body armor, and proper budgeting for advanced safety technology as key components to officer safety. While these measures may not stop violence from occurring, they will give the officer the best chance to de-escalate, escape, or end a violent confrontation unscathed.

From pure accidents to intentional harm, it is difficult to predict when a workplace injury will occur. While it may not be possible to plan for everything, fostering good communication between all levels of management—from front-line employees through senior staff—breeds a deeper culture of safety into a business. Employees should be encouraged to speak up when a safety hazard is spotted, and management should be quick to appropriately address these issues. For more information on fostering a culture of safety, or to request a free safety consultation, please visit the Indiana Department of Labor's INSAFE Division online at [www.in.gov/dol/insafe.htm](http://www.in.gov/dol/insafe.htm).



Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2014, Table A-1

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