Indiana
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2013

Preliminary Release and Analysis

Prepared by the
Indiana Department of Labor
Quality, Metrics & Statistics Division

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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 documents 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, or exposure, demographic, primary cause and body part injured. These classifications provide a more detailed view of how fatal injuries occurred.

The 2013 BLS preliminary Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries report shows 123 Hoosier workers lost their lives in a workplace accident. This is an increase of eight fatalities over the record-low 115 workplace fatalities in 2012.

Numerous variables affect occupational injuries. Even when all applicable safety procedures are followed, fatal events can still occur. For example, fatal events such as accidents on the roadway or workplace homicides may be outside the worker or the employer’s control. It is difficult to identify any single 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).
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.

In 2013, the Hoosier transportation and warehousing industry experienced the highest number of workplace fatalities, with 25 fatalities (20.33%). The general long-distance freight trucking sub-industry experienced 18 of these fatalities (72%). Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles (motor vehicle accidents) accounted for 11 of the 18 fatalities in this sub-industry and 16 of the 25 total fatalities in transportation and warehousing.

Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting had 17 workplace deaths in 2013, all of which occurred on Hoosier farms. Twelve of the deaths were directly related to crop production and five were related to animal production.

Other Indiana industries with significant increases in worker fatalities in 2013 include health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, educational services and other services (except public administration).

Construction, the industry with the highest number of fatal injuries in 2012, experienced a 31.82% decrease from 22 fatalities in 2012 to 15 in 2013. Ten of the construction deaths occurred in the specialty trade contractor sector, more specifically, among workers engaged in roofing, site preparation, and electrical wiring.

Public administration, arts, entertainment, and recreation and administrative and waste services also experienced significant decreases in fatal injuries. Real estate and rental and leasing, which accounted for three fatalities in 2012, had no fatalities in 2013. Industry and sub-industry definitions are online at www.census.gov/cgi-bin/ssa/naics/naicsrch?chart=2007.

### Indiana Workplace Fatalities by Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and warehousing</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services (except public administration)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative and waste services</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care and social assistance</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation and food services</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational services</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, and recreation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate and rental and leasing</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and insurance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>123</strong></td>
<td><strong>115</strong></td>
<td><strong>125</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fatal incidents for 2013 are preliminary counts and may change as cases are added or removed. The final results will be released in early 2015. The counts shown for 2012 are the final number of cases for that year.

1 Due to confidentiality, some case specifics cannot be published. The sum of the chart elements may differ from the total.

Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2011-2013

www.in.gov/dol/stats.htm
**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; these events may occur in any industry.

*Transportation-related incidents* have historically caused the highest number of Hoosier workplace fatalities. In 2013, there were 58 transportation-related incidents, which accounted for 47.97% of all Indiana occupational fatalities. These incidents included motor vehicle accidents, pedestrians struck by vehicles while working and non-roadway incidents involving vehicles. Transportation-related incidents are not limited to work performed solely in the transportation industry. Twenty of these incidents happened in the transportation and warehousing industry, while 38 fatalities occurred in other sub-industries including crop production (6), animal production (5), religious organizations (4), merchant wholesalers (3), educational services (2) and ambulance services (2).

The second most frequent fatal Hoosier workplace event in 2013 was *violence and other injuries by persons or animals* with 26 fatal injuries (21.14%). These events include homicides and suicides occurring in the workplace. The majority of these fatalities took place in the service providing industries—primarily the retail trade (7), transportation and warehousing (4) and accommodation and food services (4).

In 2013, 13 homicides occurred in Indiana workplaces. Workplace violence was the leading cause of fatalities in retail trade, with five of the nine retail trade fatalities (55.56%) attributed to homicide. All five instances of retail homicide were fatal shootings in convenience stores and gas stations. Three of the four fatalities in the accommodation and food services industry were also attributed to homicide by shooting (75%). Additionally, one police officer was murdered in 2013.

Events involving *contact with objects and equipment* accounted for 16 fatalities (13.01%). These events include being struck by a falling object or other non-transportation powered equipment. All of these events occurred in private industry, with 11 occurring in the manufacturing (5), agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (4), and construction (2) industries. The industries most affected by contact with objects and equipment were crop production, residential and non-residential construction and wood product manufacturing.

Cognizant of the high number of occupational fatalities from transportation and workplace violence, the Indiana Department of Labor’s INSafe Division has partnered with public agencies and private sector organizations to educate Hoosier employers on safety awareness in these two problem areas.

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OCCUPATIONAL FATALITY DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender
In 2013, men suffered 114 of the 123 Indiana workplace fatalities (92.68%). Nine women suffered fatalities (7.32%). Transportation incidents accounted for 52 (45.61%) of male fatalities and six (66.67%) female fatalities.

Employee Status
In 2013, self-employed workers suffered 37 of the 123 fatal injuries in Indiana (30.08%). Wage and salary workers suffered 86 fatal injuries (69.92%). Transportation incidents accounted for 41 (47.67%) wage and salary worker fatalities and 17 (45.95%) self-employed workers fatalities.

Age
Workers 55-64 years of age suffered 29 fatalities, and have the highest percent workplace fatalities (23.58%) in 2013. Workers 45-54 years of age suffered 27 fatalities (21.95%) and workers 25-34 years of age suffered 21 (17.07%). Workers under 20 suffered three fatalities, and all were transportation incidents.

Location
In 2013, the highest number of Indiana workplace deaths (45) occurred on streets and highways (36.59%), while 26 (21.14%) deaths occurred in industrial places and premises, 19 deaths (15.45%) occurred on a farm and 10 deaths (8.13%) occurred in the decedent’s home.

Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2013
Due to confidentiality, some case specifics cannot be published. The sum of the chart elements may differ from the total.
**EMPHASIS ON OCCUPATIONAL TRANSPORTATION-RELATED FATALITIES**

Historically, transportation-related incidents have been a leading cause of Hoosier workplace fatalities. Nearly half (47.15%) of all Hoosier 2013 workplace fatalities were attributed to transportation-related incidents, including:

- Incidents occurring on the roadway (55.17%)
- Pedestrians struck by vehicles (20.69%)
- Incidents occurring off the roadway (17.24%)

With so many vehicles used by Hoosier businesses and so many variables at play on and off the road, the opportunities for injury resulting from transportation incidents are astronomical. While no one factor causes 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 both on and off Indiana’s roads.

**Strategic Workplace Safety and Health Initiative**

A difficult challenge in addressing transportation-related incidents is no single government agency has exclusive jurisdiction over roadway fatalities. To combat this issue, the Indiana Department of Labor began developing a long-term strategic initiative in 2013 to educate key stakeholders in the transportation community and partner with other state agencies to address various aspects of roadway safety.

In April 2013, INSafe Assistant Commissioner Michelle Ellison discussed long-haul trucking safety in a one-hour live interview about work zone safety and long-haul trucking on the SiriusXM satellite radio “Road Dog Trucking” channel.

In 2014, the Indiana Department of Labor, along with the Indiana Department of Transportation, the Indiana State Police, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, implemented the “DRIVE NOW. TXT L8R.” campaign aimed at educating motorists and employers on the dangers of distracted driving behaviors whether on or off the job. The campaign is online at [www.txtl8r.in.gov](http://www.txtl8r.in.gov).

**Work Zone Safety Awareness Week**

From April 7 through April 11, 2014, the Indiana Department of Labor supported the Indiana Department of Transportation’s week-long Work Zone Safety Awareness campaign. The Indiana Department of Labor issued news releases aimed at educating Hoosier motorists and trucking and construction industry associations. Indiana Department of Labor staff also participated in a media event to underscore the Work Zone Safety Awareness Week campaign.

The Indiana Department of Labor also developed a work zone safety webpage at [www.in.gov/dol/2835.htm](http://www.in.gov/dol/2835.htm) that features turnkey articles for company newsletters, sample motor vehicle safety policies and templated programs.

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![Fatal Transportation Events](chart.png)

**Source:** BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2011-2013

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EMPHASIS ON WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

Over the past several years, the number of fatalities due to workplace violence, specifically homicides, has increased. In 2013, there were 13 workplace homicides in Indiana—12 of which took place in service providing industries. Retail trade was most affected by workplace violence with five homicides (38.46%), followed by accommodation and food services with three (23.08%), and scenic and sightseeing transportation with two (15.38%).

Three workplace homicides were committed in convenience stores and one was committed in a gasoline station attached to a convenience store. The BLS classifies these four events as shooting by other person-intentional.

In accommodation and food services, one homicide occurred in an establishment classified as hotels (except casino hotels) and motels and two occurred in food services and drinking places. The BLS also classifies these three events as shooting by other person-intentional.

Additionally, one police protection officer was shot and killed in 2013.

Focus on Retail
Historically, convenience stores and gas stations have been frequent targets of robberies and theft. Recently these crimes have led to more violent crimes including several homicides. The Indiana Department of Labor, Indiana State Police and industry leaders identified several key factors common among the violent events in retail:

- Contact with the public
- Exchanging money for services and/or goods
- Working late-night or early morning hours (e.g. 11 p.m. - 5 a.m.)
- Working in high-crime areas

Indiana Late-Night Retail Workplace Violence Prevention Working Group
In 2012, the Indiana Department of Labor met with industry leaders, trade associations and members of the Indiana State Police and Federal OSHA to form the Indiana Late-Night Retail Workplace Violence Prevention Working Group.

The group researched best practices for late-night retail safety and presented these findings at a public meeting on June 12, 2012. The proposals and findings are online at www.osha.gov/dte/library/wp-violence/latenight/index.html.

Strategic Occupational Safety and Health Alliance
In March 2012, the Indiana Department of Labor signed a strategic occupational safety and health alliance with the Indiana Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store Association (IPCA). The alliance formalized occupational safety and health-related goals and objectives to provide IPCA members with consultation, outreach, resources and training about the prevention of workplace violence in late-night retail establishments. The Indiana Department of Labor also informally partnered with other state agencies including the Indiana Department of Health’s Weights and Measures Division and Indiana Excise Police to provide late-night retail workplace violence education and resources.

![Workplace Violence Incidents by Industry](image-url)

Source: BLS Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries 2013