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# Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Illinois, 2015

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# Fatal Occupational Injuries – 2015

## Major Findings

- There were 172 fatal work-related injuries in 2015. This is a 4.9% increase from 164 fatal work-related injuries in 2014.
- The majority of decedents worked for wages or salary (76.7 percent), were male (94.2 percent), and were white and non-Hispanic (70.9 percent).
- The industry sectors per the North American Industry Classification System, 2012 edition, with the greatest percentage of injury-related fatalities in 2015 were: (Table 2)
  - Construction (22.1 percent)
  - Transportation and warehousing (12.8 percent)
  - Wholesale and retail trade (12.2 percent)
  - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (9.3 percent)
  - Manufacturing (7.0 percent)
- The detailed occupations per the Standard Occupational Classification Manual, 2010 edition, with the greatest percentage of injury-related fatalities within their assigned industries were: (Table 3)
  - Construction and extraction occupations (39 total fatal injuries): construction laborers accounted for 7.0 percent of work related deaths.
  - Transportation and material handling (34 total fatal injuries): motor vehicle operators accounted for 14.0 percent of worker related deaths.
  - Management occupations (21 total fatal injuries): farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers accounted for 6.4 percent of work related deaths.
  - Production operations occupations (12 total fatal injuries): supervisors of production work accounted for 2.9 percent of work related deaths.
  - Protective service occupations (10 total fatal injuries): supervisors of protective service workers accounted for 1.7 percent of work related deaths.
  - Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations (10 total fatal injuries): vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers accounted for 2.3 percent of work related deaths.

- For all industries these events or exposure resulted in the most fatalities: (Table 4)
  - Transportation (34.3 percent)
  - Contact with objects and equipment (19.9 percent)
  - Falls, slips, trips (19.2 percent)
  - Violence and other injuries by persons or animals (15.7 percent)
  - Exposure to harmful substances or environments (11.0 percent)
  - Fires and explosions (2.9 percent)

## Introduction

The Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Epidemiologic Studies conducts the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) with partial support from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). This partnership has been in existence since 1993. The purpose of the Illinois CFOI is to monitor, verify, and record all instances of workplace fatalities. Upon receipt of fatality data, CFOI staff works to verify fatalities and collect additional information on fatality circumstances and demographics of the decedent. This report presents data collected through the Illinois CFOI program for calendar year 2015.

## Methods

The Illinois CFOI obtains data elements from a variety of public and confidential source documents. These documents include, but are not limited to, coroner and medical examiner reports, death certificates, National Transportation Safety Board reports, news media articles and reports, Mine Safety and Health Administration reports, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) reports, police reports, and workers' compensation reports.

For verification purposes, a minimum of two source documents is required for each fatality case. CFOI staffers match source documents with cases using the decedent's name, place of employment, date and approximate time of death, or any other combination of identifying elements that can help differentiate existing cases from new ones. For some cases, the second source document is a questionnaire completed by the decedent's employer or another informant. In instances where two source documents are unavailable, BLS and state employees review cases to determine if the data are sufficiently reliable for inclusion. If a fatality does not

meet BLS' criteria, the cases are marked out-of-score and the data will not appear in either the national aggregate data or this report.

For injury-related fatalities to be included, cases must meet the following criteria: the incident must have occurred in Illinois, the death must have occurred during calendar year 2015, and the injury must be work-related according to the BLS guidelines. The injury must have occurred either: on the employer's premises while the person was there to work, or off the employer's premises and the person was there to work, or the event/exposure were related to the person's work or employee status. 'Work' is defined by the BLS guidelines as 'duties, activities, or tasks that produce a product or result; that are done in exchange for money, goods, services, profit or benefit; and that are legal activities in the United States.

## Results

The following data tables present some of the data collected during the 2015 CFOI cycle. Columns and rows may not add up to 100 percent, as not all included cases may be publishable. Cases that lack publicly accessed source documents and have three or fewer total cases associated with the subcategory are not published out of respect for the deceased's privacy. Cells with double dash marks (--) are empty, due to unpublishable data or because there was no data reported.

## Overall Trends

In 2015, there were 172 fatal occupational injuries reported, which is an increase of 4.9 percent over the 164 work-related fatalities collected in the 2014 CFOI. Compared to the previous year, fatalities decreased by 6.5 percent in the private sector and increased by 38.9 percent in the public sector. (Figure 1)

## Demographics

When documenting fatal occupational injuries, the Illinois CFOI collects data on the demographics of the decedent and the circumstances of the incident. Of the 172 injury-related fatalities in 2015, 132 (76.7 percent) occurred among wage/salary workers, and 40 (23.3 percent) occurred among the self-employed. (Table 1)

Men made up a significantly larger section of the fatally injured, with 162 (94.2 percent) injuries compared to the 10 (5.8 percent) fatal injuries sustained by women. (Table 1) People in the 45 to 54 years age group had the highest occurrence of fatal injuries (25.6 percent). The next highest were those 55 to 64 years old (19.2 percent), and 35 to 44 years old (18 percent). (Table 1). The majority of reported fatalities involved white, non-Hispanic workers (70.9 percent) and African-American workers were the second-highest reported fatalities (14.0 percent). (Table 1).

#### Incident Data

The industry sector (per NAICS codes 2012) that incurred the most injury-related fatalities with 38 (22.1 percent of the total) was Construction; followed by Transportation and warehousing with 22 (12.8 percent of the total); Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting with 16 (9.3 percent of the total); and Manufacturing with 12 (7.0 percent of the total) (Table 2).

The major group occupations (per SOC classification 2010) suffering the most injury-related fatalities were Construction and extraction occupations accounted with 39 (22.7 percent of the total), followed by Transportation and material handlers 34 fatalities (19.8 percent of the total). Management occupations were next with 21 fatalities (12.2 percent of the total). Production operations occupations had 12 fatalities (7.0 percent of the total) and Protective service occupations with 10 fatalities (5.8 percent of the total) (Table 3).

The event or exposure causing the injury-related fatality is another important aspect in describing work-related fatalities. Transportation incidents continues to cause the most injury-related occupational fatalities in 2015 with 59 fatalities or 34.3 percent of all fatalities. Falls, slips, and trips are the second most prevalent type of incident causing 33 fatalities or 19.2 percent of all fatalities. Contact with objects and equipment (29 fatalities or 19.9 percent of all fatalities) and Violence and other injuries by persons or animals (27 or 15.7 percent of all fatalities) were a close third and fourth in injury-related fatalities. (Table 4).

When cross tabulating the event or exposure that caused the injury-related fatality with the industry sector in which the fatality occurred, certain industries are more susceptible to certain events. Within industry sectors, transportation incidents were the leading cause of fatalities for Transportation and warehousing (86.4 percent); Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting (50.0 percent); Administrative and waste services (45.5 percent); Wholesale trade (40.0 percent);



Manufacturing (33.3 percent); and Leisure and hospitality (28.6 percent). Violent acts and assaults were the leading event for fatalities in Public administration (50.0 percent); Other services, except for public administration (33.3 percent); and Retail trade (27.3 percent); Accommodation and food services (30.0 percent). Falls, slips, and trips were the leading event for fatalities in construction (31.6 percent); and Leisure and hospitality (28.6 percent) (Table 5).

<b>Table 1. Distribution of Fatal Occupational Injuries by Selected Socio-Demographic Characteristics, Private and Public Ownership, Illinois, 2013</b>		
	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Employment Status</b>		
Wage and salary workers	132	76.7
Self-employed <sup>1</sup>	40	23.3
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	162	94.2
Women	10	5.8
<b>Age</b>		
<20	3	1.7
20-24	15	8.7
25-34	19	11.0
35-44	31	18.0
45-54	44	25.6
55-64	33	19.2
65 years and older	27	15.7
<b>Race</b>		
White (non-Hispanic)	122	70.9
Black	24	14.0
Hispanic or Latino	19	11.0
Other	6	3.5
<b>Hispanic Origin</b>		
Hispanic <sup>2</sup>	19	11.0
Non-Hispanic	153	89.0

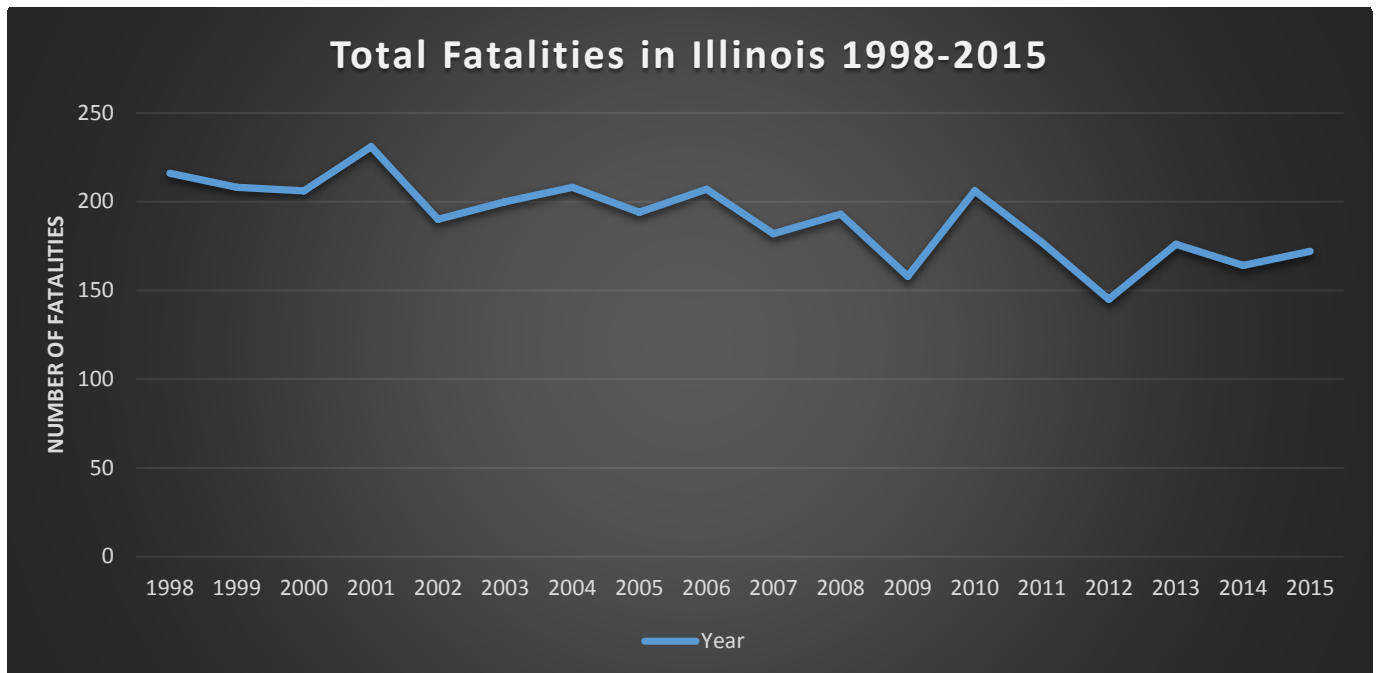
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

<sup>1</sup>Includes paid and unpaid family workers and may include owners of incorporated businesses or members of partnerships.

<sup>2</sup>Persons identifies as Hispanic may be of any race.

## TABLES AND FIGURES

Figure 1. Number of Fatal Occupational Injuries, Illinois, 1998-2015



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

<b>Table 2. Distribution of Fatal Occupational Injuries by Industry<sup>1</sup>, Illinois, 2015</b>		
	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>22.1</b>
Specialty trade contractors	27	15.7
Construction of buildings	6	3.5
Heavy and civil engineering	4	2.3
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12.8</b>
Truck transportation	12	7.0
<b>Agriculture, Forestry, fishing, and hunting</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Crop production	11	6.4
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Primary metal manufacturing	4	2.3
<b>Administrative and waste services</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Administrative and support services	10	5.8
<b>Retail trade</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Motor vehicle and parts store	3	1.7
Food and beverage stores	3	1.7
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	5	2.9
Merchant wholesalers, non-durable goods	5	2.9
<b>Accommodations and food services</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Food services and drinking places	9	5.2
<b>Public Administration</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Justice, public order, and safety activities	8	4.7
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Educational and health services</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Educational services	5	2.9
Health care and social assistance	3	1.7
<b>Arts, entertainment, and recreation</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Mining</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Professional and technical services</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.7</b>

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health

<sup>1</sup>North American Industry Classification System, 2012 edition.

**Table 3. Distribution of Fatal Occupational Injuries by Occupation<sup>1</sup>, Illinois, 2015**

	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>22.7</b>
Construction laborers	12	7.0
<b>Transportation and material handlers occupations</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>19.8</b>
Motor vehicle operators	24	14.0
Material moving workers	8	5.0
<b>Management occupations</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>12.2</b>
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	11	6.4
Operations specialties managers	4	2.3
Food service managers	3	1.7
<b>Production operations occupations</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Supervisors of production workers	5	2.9
Metal workers and plastic workers	3	1.7
Other production occupations	3	1.7
<b>Protective service occupations</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Supervisors of protective service workers	3	1.7
Law enforcement workers	3	1.7
Other protective service workers	3	1.7
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	4	2.3
Maintenance and repair workers, general	3	1.7
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Grounds maintenance workers	5	2.9
Building cleaning and pest control workers	4	2.3
<b>Sales and related occupations</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5.2</b>
Supervisors of sales workers	5	2.9
Retail sales workers	3	1.7
<b>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Agriculture workers	4	2.3
<b>Art, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Food and beverage serving workers	3	1.7
<b>Architecture and engineering occupations</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.7</b>

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

<sup>1</sup>Standard Occupational Classification Manual, 2010 edition.

<b>Table 4. Distribution of Fatal Occupational Injuries by Event or Exposure<sup>1</sup>, Illinois, 2015</b>		
	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percentages</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Transportation incidents</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>34.3</b>
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	29	16.9
Non-roadway incident involving motorized land vehicles	16	9.3
Pedestrian vehicular incident	7	4.1
Aircraft incidents	5	2.9
<b>Falls, slips, trips</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>19.2</b>
Falls to lower level	23	13.4
Falls on same level	7	4.1
<b>Contact with objects and equipment</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19.9</b>
Struck by object or equipment	22	12.8
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	4	2.3
<b>Violence and other injuries by persons or animals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>15.7</b>
Homicides	18	10.5
Suicides	8	4.7
<b>Exposure to harmful substances or environments</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11.0</b>
Exposure to electricity	9	5.2
Exposure to other harmful substances	7	4.1
<b>Fires and explosions</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Explosions	4	2.3

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

<sup>1</sup>Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS) 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

**Table 5. Fatal occupational Injuries by Industry and Event or Exposure, Private Ownership, Illinois, 2015**

Industry	Event or Exposure													
	Total Fatalities		Transportation		Violence and other injuries by persons or animals		Contact with objects and equipment		Falls, slips, trips		Exposure to harmful substances or environments		Fires and Explosions	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting</b>	16	9.3	8	50	--	--	5	31.3	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Construction</b>	38	22.1	4	10.5	--	--	10	26.3	12	31.6	8	21.1	--	--
<b>Manufacturing</b>	12	6.8	4	33.3	--	--	--	--	4	33.3	--	--	--	--
<b>Trade, transportation, and utilities</b>	44	25.6	21	47.7	8	18.2	7	16.0	4	9.1	3	7.0	--	--
<b>Wholesale trade</b>	10	5.8	4	40.0	--	--	3	30.0	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Retail trade</b>	11	6.4	--	--	3	27.3	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Transportation and warehousing</b>	22	12.8	19	86.4	4	18.2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Accommodations and food services</b>	10	5.8	--	--	3	30.0	--	--	--	--	3	30.0	--	--
<b>Professional and technical services</b>	3	1.7	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Administrative and waste services</b>	11	6.4	5	45.5	--	--	--	--	4	36.4	--	--	--	--
<b>Leisure and hospitality</b>	14	8.1	4	28.6	3	21.4	--	--	4	28.6	3	21.4	--	--
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	9	5.2	3	33.3	3	33.3	3	33.3	--	--	--	--	--	--
<b>Public Administration</b>	8	4.7	-	--	4	50.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	--

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health.  
 Note: Numbers and percentages may not add to totals due to exclusions of categories that do not meet publication criteria.