

Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Increase to 31 in 2018

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the number of occupational fatalities in Wyoming rose from 20 in 2017 to 31 in 2018 (an increase of 11 deaths, or 55%; see Figure 1). From 1992 to 2018, there were an average of 33 occupational fatalities each year, making 2018's count of 31 deaths slightly lower than average. Variations in fatalities from year to year are, to some extent, the result of the random nature of work-related accidents. Furthermore, there is not always a direct relationship between workplace fatalities and workplace safety. For example, suicides and homicides that occur in the workplace are included as occupational fatalities. Occupational fatalities are counted in the state where the injury occurred, not necessarily the state of residence or the state of death.

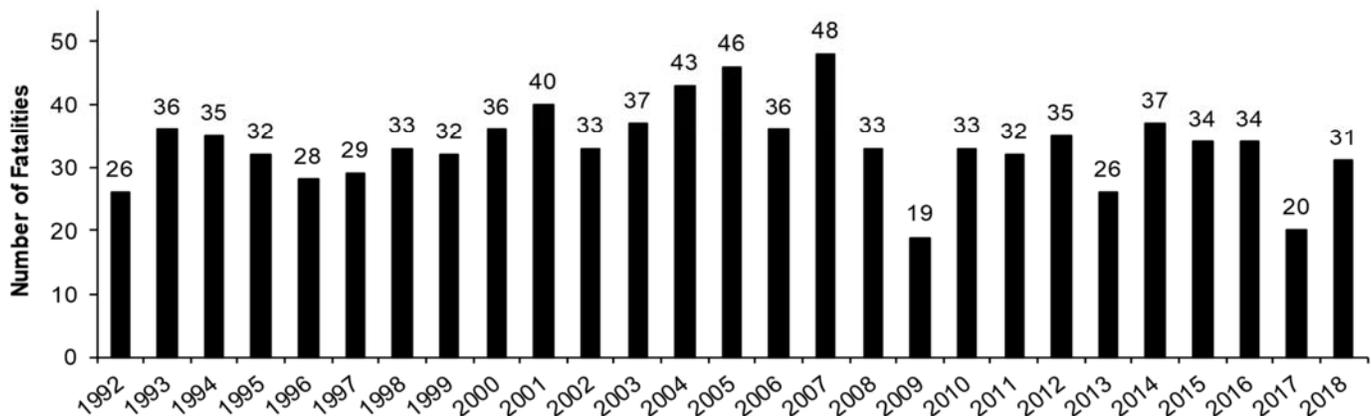
In 2018, nine deaths occurred in trade, transportation, & utilities (or 29.0% of all deaths; see Table below). Six deaths were reported in leisure & hospitality (19.4%) and five deaths were reported in construction (16.1%). Four deaths were seen in agriculture, forestry, fishing & hunting (12.9%), while three deaths occurred in mining, quarrying, & oil & gas extraction (9.7%).

Across all industries, the majority of 2018 deaths (61.3%) were the result of transportation incidents. From 2003 to 2018, transportation incidents made up 56.6% of all workplace deaths (see Figure 2). Transportation incidents include highway crashes as well as incidents involving aircraft and other vehicles.

The fatality counts featured in this release are compiled by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program (a joint effort of R&P and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, or BLS) and may not match those from other programs, such as data published by Wyoming's State Occupational Epidemiologist. One major reason for differences is that CFOI is a national program with data being collected for all 50 states. States regularly share information in order to obtain the most complete counts of workplace fatalities. The State Occupational Epidemiologist Program and the CFOI program complement each other with their two different goals: the State-run program allows for a more detailed look at workplace deaths, while the CFOI program allows for the collection of national data across states. Reports from the State Occupational Epidemiologist are available at <http://wyomingworkforce.org/data/epidemiology/>.

For official definitions used in the CFOI program, please visit <https://stats.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm>

Figure 1: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities, 1992-2018



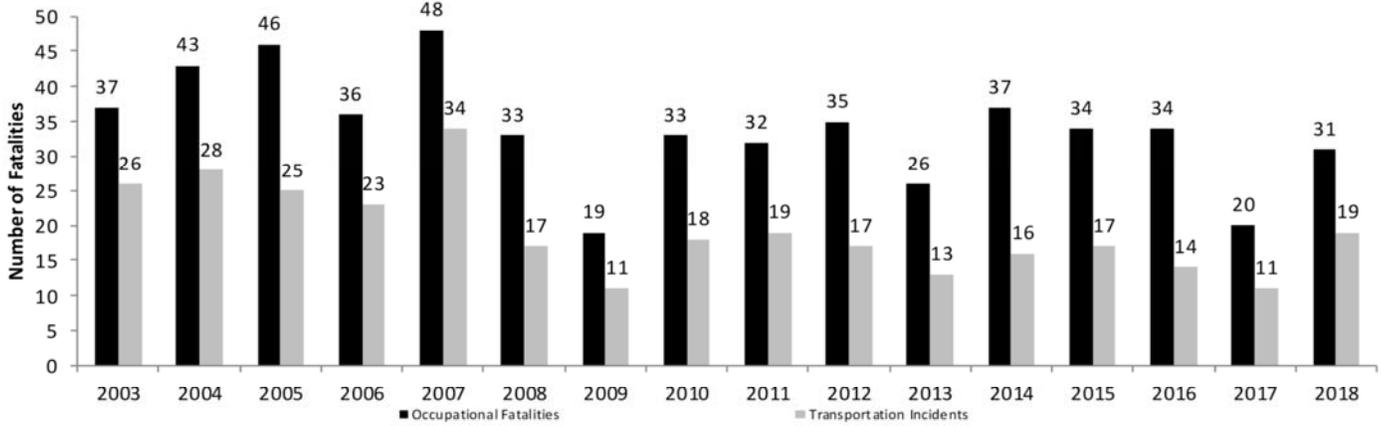
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies.

Table: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities by Selected Industry, 2018

Industry	Number	Col. %
Total	31	100.0%
Total Private	31	100.0%
Natural Resources & Mining	7	22.6%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	4	12.9%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	3	9.7%
Construction	5	16.1%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	9	29.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	7	22.6%
Leisure & Hospitality	6	19.4%
All Other Industries	4	12.9%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

Figure 2: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities and Transportation Incidents, 2003-2018



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies.

From 2003 to 2010 transportation incidents are based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS). From 2011 to 2018 transportation incidents are based on OIICS 2.01. Due to substantial differences between OIICS 2.01 and the original OIICS structure, data for transportation incidents from 2011 forward should not be compared to prior years.

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December 17, 2019

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