

## Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Decrease to 34 in 2015

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the number of occupational fatalities declined from 37 in 2014 to 34 in 2015, a decrease of 3 deaths (-8.1%; see Figure 1). From 1992 to 2015 there was an average of 34 occupational fatalities each year. 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. In other cases, a sudden illness may be nearly coincidental with an accident that results in a workplace fatality. Occupational fatalities are counted in the state where the injury occurred, not necessarily the state of residence or the state of death.

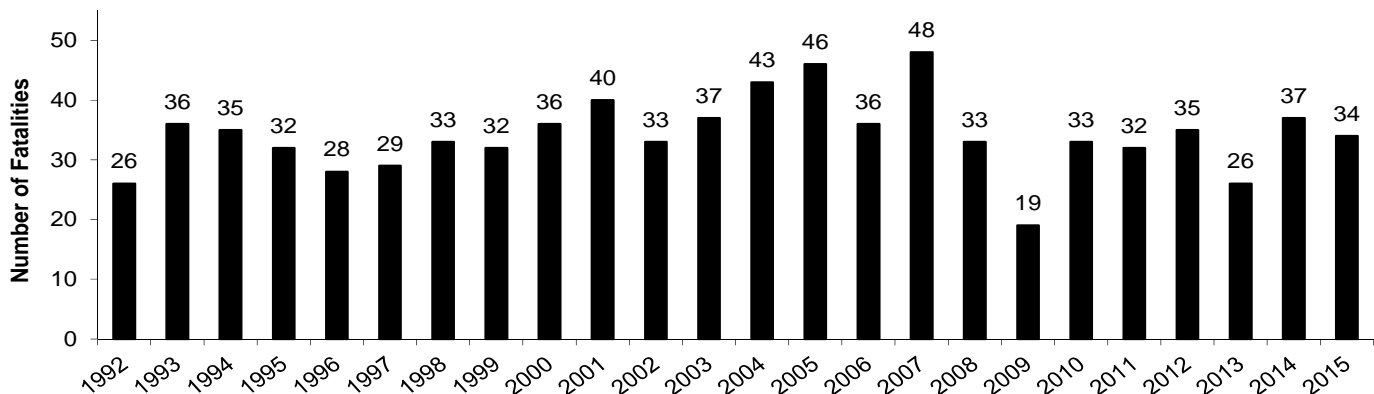
The fatality counts featured in this release are compiled by the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program (a joint effort of R&P and the Bureau of Labor Statistics or BLS) and may not match those from other programs, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) because of differences in scope and methodology. In addition to regular wage and salary employees, CFOI counts include volunteer workers and self-employed individuals. The CFOI program utilizes a wide variety of data sources, such as OSHA reports, workers' compensation, vital records, coroner's reports, media reports, and police and highway patrol reports of vehicle crashes. Additionally, similar data sources from other states are routinely used to identify workplace fatalities. For example, a worker fatally injured in a highway incident in Wyoming may be covered by workers' compensation in another state. That information is made available to R&P as part of confidential data sharing agreements between the states and federal government (BLS).

In 2015, 12 deaths occurred in natural resources & mining (or 35.3% of all deaths; see Table below). Within that category, eight deaths were in agriculture (23.5%) and four deaths (11.8%) were in mining (including oil & gas). Trade, transportation, & utilities accounted for nine deaths (26.5%), with seven deaths in transportation & warehousing (20.6%). There were four deaths each in construction (11.8%) and in professional & business services (11.8%). Half (50.0%) of workplace fatalities were the result of transportation incidents (see Figure 2).

From 2003-2015, transportation incidents made up 57.5% of all workplace deaths. Transportation incidents include highway crashes as well as incidents involving aircraft and other vehicles.

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

Figure 1: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities, 1992-2015



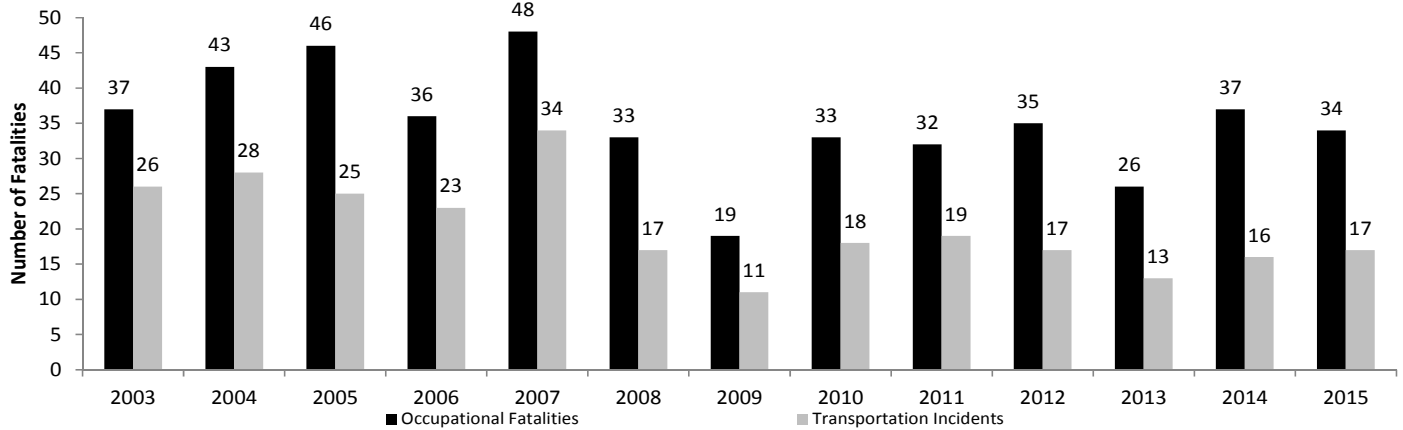
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies.

Table: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities by Selected Industry, 2015

Industry	Number	Col. %
<b>Natural Resources &amp; Mining</b>	12	35.3%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, & Hunting	8	23.5%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	4	11.8%
<b>Construction</b>	4	11.8%
<b>Trade, Transportation, &amp; Utilities</b>	9	26.5%
Transportation & Warehousing	7	20.6%
<b>Professional &amp; Business Services</b>	4	11.8%
<b>All Other Industries</b>	5	14.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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, 2003-2015**



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 2015 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.

**Wyoming Department of Workforce Services  
Research & Planning**

Internet Address: <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI>

December 16, 2016

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist

Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

[david.bullard@wyo.gov](mailto:david.bullard@wyo.gov) 307-473-3810

[carola.cowan@wyo.gov](mailto:carola.cowan@wyo.gov) 307-473-3804

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services  
Research & Planning  
PO Box 2760  
Casper WY 82602-2760