

Wyoming Occupational Fatalities Decrease to 20 in 2017

The Research & Planning (R&P) section of the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services reported today that the number of occupational fatalities in Wyoming fell from 34 in 2016 to 20 in 2017 (a decrease of 14 deaths, or 41.2%; see Figure 1). In 2017, occupational fatalities were at their lowest level since 2009. 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.

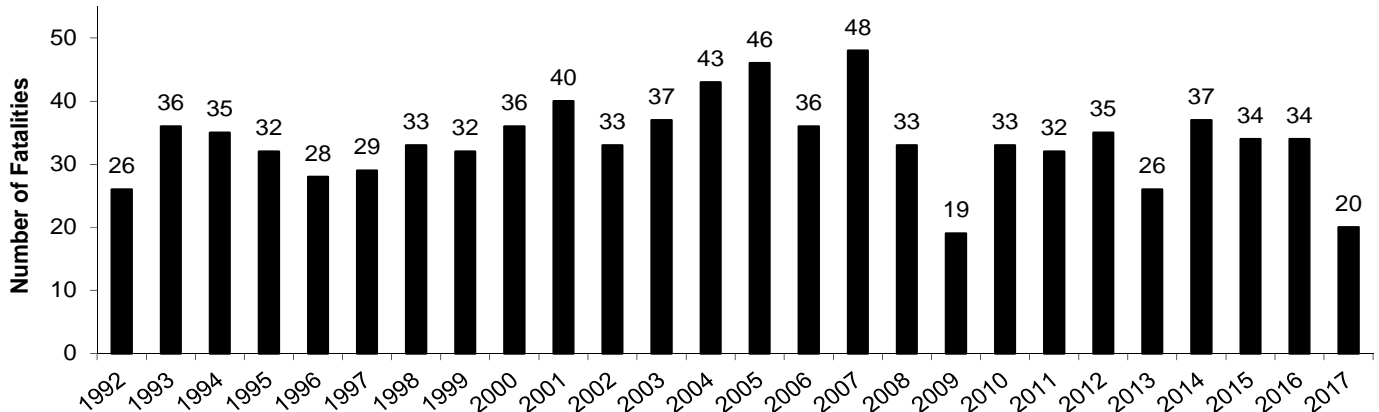
In 2017, six deaths occurred in trade, transportation, & utilities (or 30.0% of all deaths; see Table below). Five deaths occurred in the government sector (25.0%) and four deaths occurred in natural resources & mining (20.0%). More than half (55.0%) of workplace fatalities were the result of transportation incidents (see Figure 2).

From 2003 to 2017, transportation incidents made up 56.3% of all workplace deaths. 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. The report from the State Occupational Epidemiologist is typically released before the CFOI report, thus providing more current data. Reports from the State Occupational Epidemiologist are available at <http://wyomingworkforce.org/data/epidemiology/>.

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

Figure 1: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities, 1992-2017



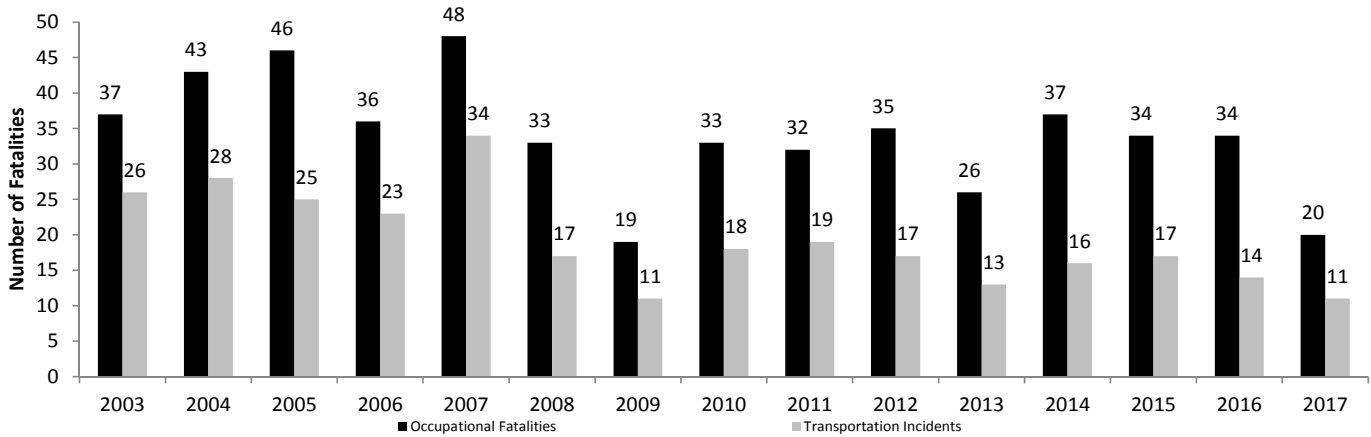
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies.

Table: Wyoming Occupational Fatalities by Selected Industry, 2017

Industry	Number	Col. %
Total	20	100.0%
Total Private	15	75.0%
Natural Resources & Mining	4	20.0%
Mining, Quarrying, & Oil & Gas Extraction	3	15.0%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	6	30.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	6	30.0%
All Other Industries	5	25.0%
Government	5	25.0%

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, 2003-2017



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 2017 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**

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

Contacts:

David Bullard, Senior Economist

david.bullard@wyo.gov 307-473-3810

Carola Cowan, BLS Programs Supervisor

carola.cowan@wyo.gov 307-473-3804

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