

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

CENSUS OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES

CFOI OVERVIEW

The goal of the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) is to produce comprehensive, accurate and timely counts of fatal work injuries.

CFOI is a federal and state cooperative program implemented in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The National Safety Council adopted the CFOI figure as the authoritative count for work-related deaths in the United States. Data compiled by the CFOI program is issued each December for the preceding calendar year.

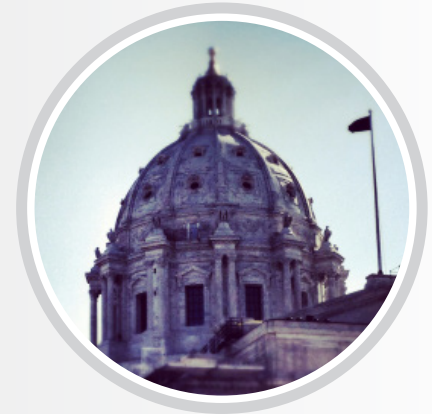
CFOI INFORMATION USE

CFOI information is used by safety and health policy analysts and researchers to help prevent fatal work injuries by:

- informing workers of life threatening hazards associated with various jobs;
- promoting safer work practices through enhanced job safety training;
- assessing and improving workplace safety standards; and
- identifying new areas of safety research.

CORONERS, MEDICAL EXAMINERS, MORTICIANS, PHYSICIANS, POLICE – HOW YOU CAN HELP

Information from your work is a vital source for completing the CFOI reporting. Cause of death, date of incident, place, occupation and descriptions of how the injury occurred, from your reports, are key indicators of whether a fatality is included for this census. The state and federal governments rely on your cooperation to compile CFOI case records.



SOURCE DOCUMENTS

To ensure that fatal injuries are work-related, cases are substantiated with two or more independent public and confidential source documents, or a source document and a follow-up questionnaire.

- Autopsies
- Death documentation
- Employer reports
- Funeral home websites
- Medical examiner reports
- News media alerts
- NSTB files
- OSHA investigations
- Police reports
- Transfers from other states

WORK-RELATED FATALITY

A work-related fatality must meet the following criteria to be included in CFOI.

- It must have resulted from a traumatic injury.
- The incident that led to the death must have occurred in the United States, its territories, or its territorial waters or airspace.
- It must be related to work in some capacity.



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