



# 2022 Texas Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

**TDI** Division of Workers'  
Compensation

Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation  
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# Table of Contents

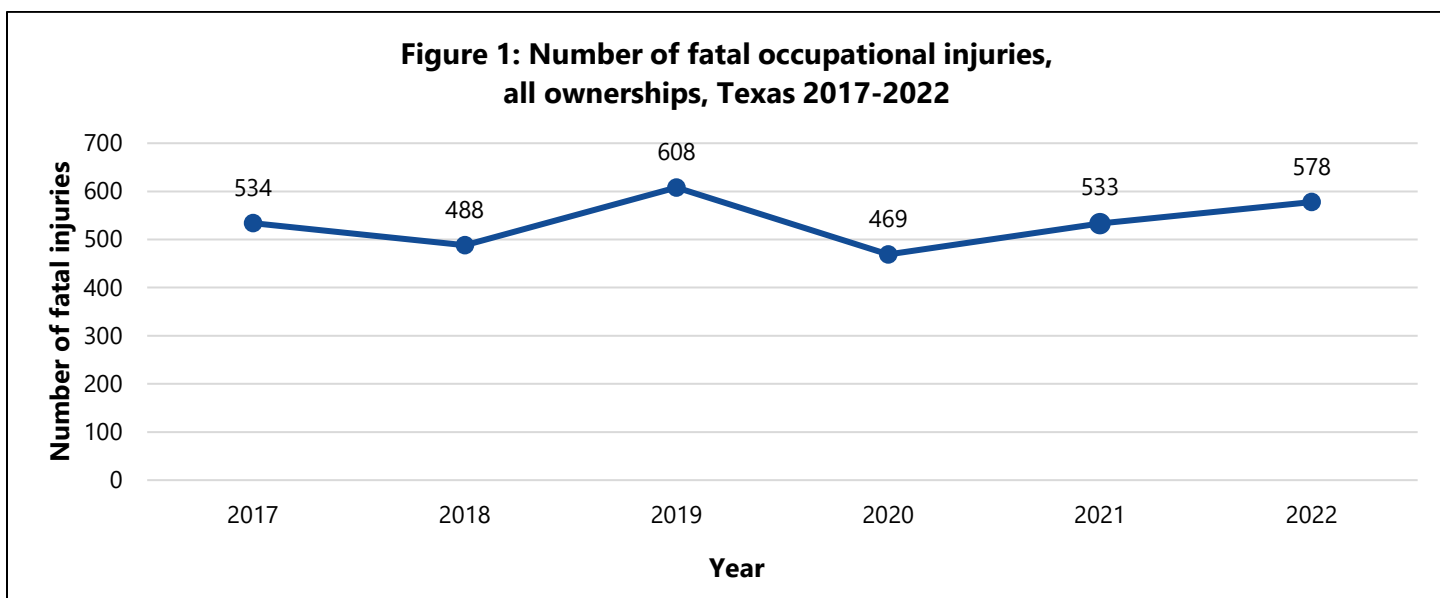
- Executive summary ..... 2
- Key findings ..... 2
- Industries ..... 4
- Occupations ..... 7
- Case characteristics ..... 7
- Demographics ..... 10
- Endnotes ..... 10
- DWC resources ..... 11

## Executive summary

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) releases this report each year to help employers, safety professionals, and policymakers identify occupational safety and health issues. The data in this report are the latest available from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). CFOI fatality counts exclude illness-related deaths unless caused by an injury event. COVID-19-related deaths are not included in the findings below.

### Key findings

In 2022, there were 578 fatal occupational injuries in Texas, 45 more than 2021 (533) - an 8% increase and 109 more than 2020 (469) – a 19% increase (See Figure 1). The incident rate of fatalities in Texas was 4.3 per 100,000 full-time employees in 2022.



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

Private sector employees represented 92% of total fatalities with 529 incidents in 2022. The other 49 incidents involved public/governmental sector employees — an increase of 14 from 2021 (35).

Nationally, there were 5,486 fatal occupational injuries — an incident rate of 3.7.

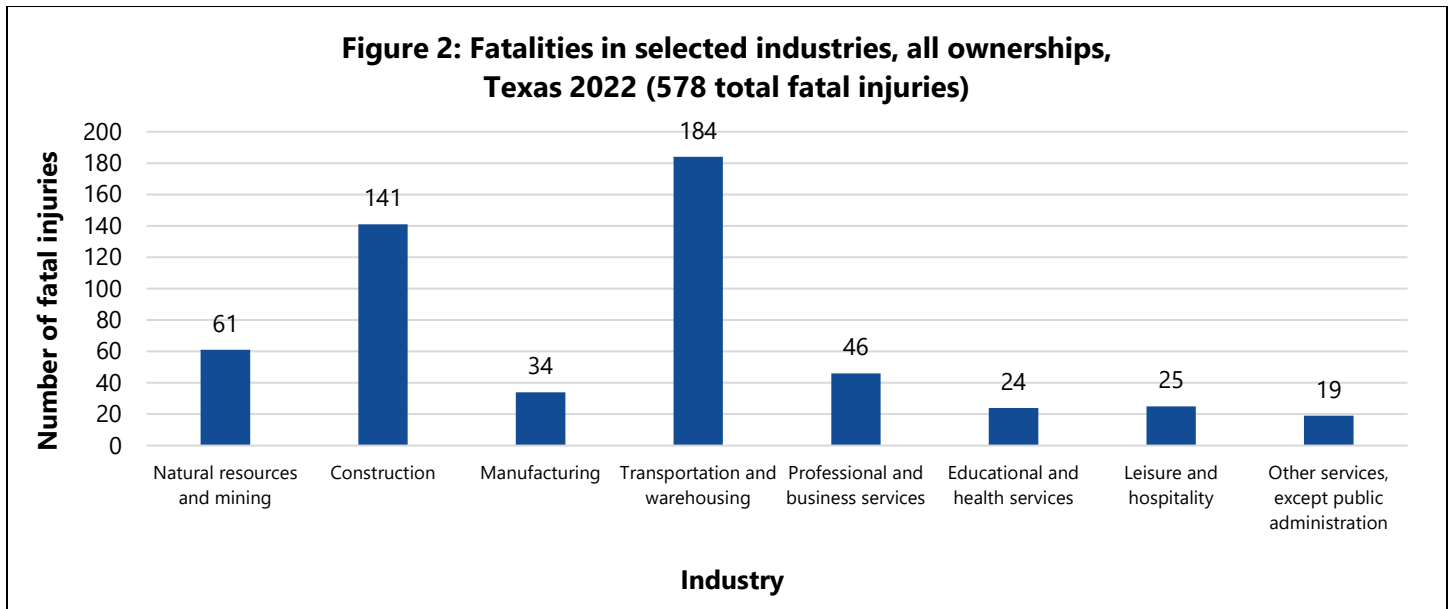
### Workplace characteristics

This report has information about the industries and occupations of fatally-injured employees. Industry information refers to the type of business where an employee worked. Occupation information refers to the type of work an employee did. For example, a transportation company employs managers and salespeople, as well as truck drivers. Transportation and material-moving occupations are found in both goods-producing industries and service-providing industries. This report shows both industry and occupation information to give a more complete picture of the workplace characteristics of fatally-injured employees. Reported categories may change from year-to-year to limit the disclosure of information about individual employees.

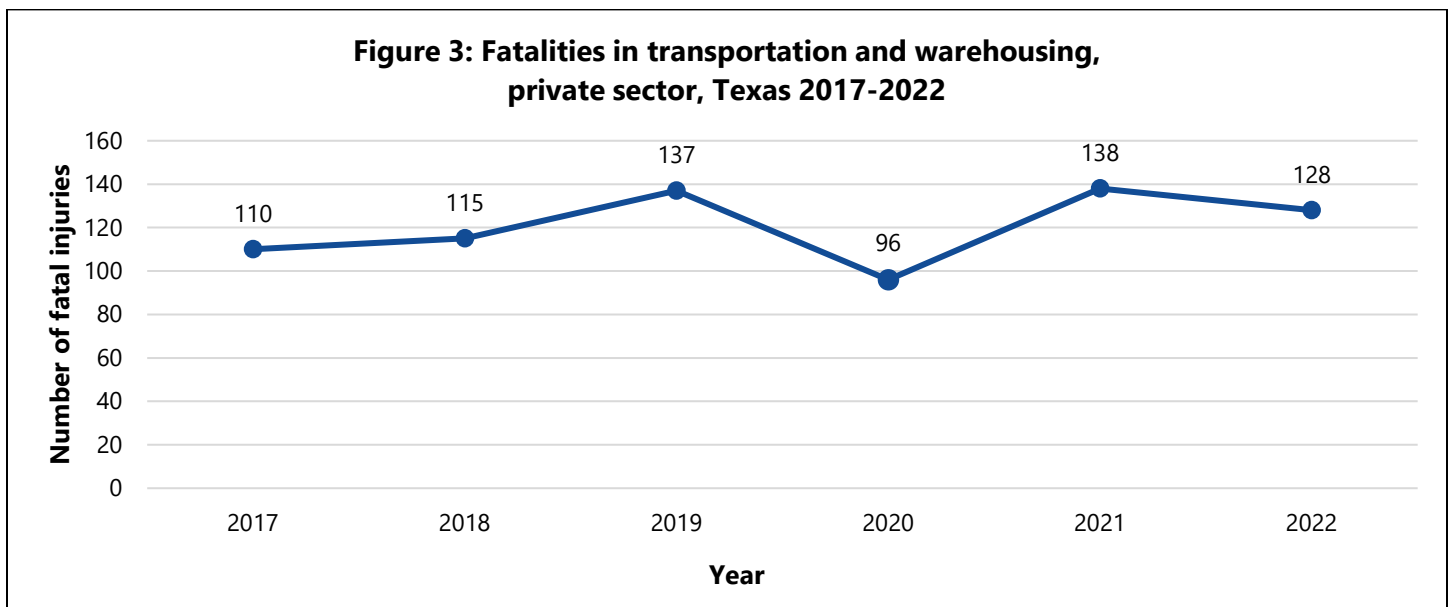
### Industries

The transportation and warehousing industry (public and private sector) had the highest number of fatalities with 184 incidents. The construction industry had an increase in the number of fatalities in 2022 (141) up from 2021 (127) incidents, representing 24% of all fatalities in Texas (Figure 2). As shown in Figure 3, fatalities in just the

private sector of the transportation and warehousing industry decreased from 2021 (138) to 128 and accounted for 22% of all fatalities in Texas.



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

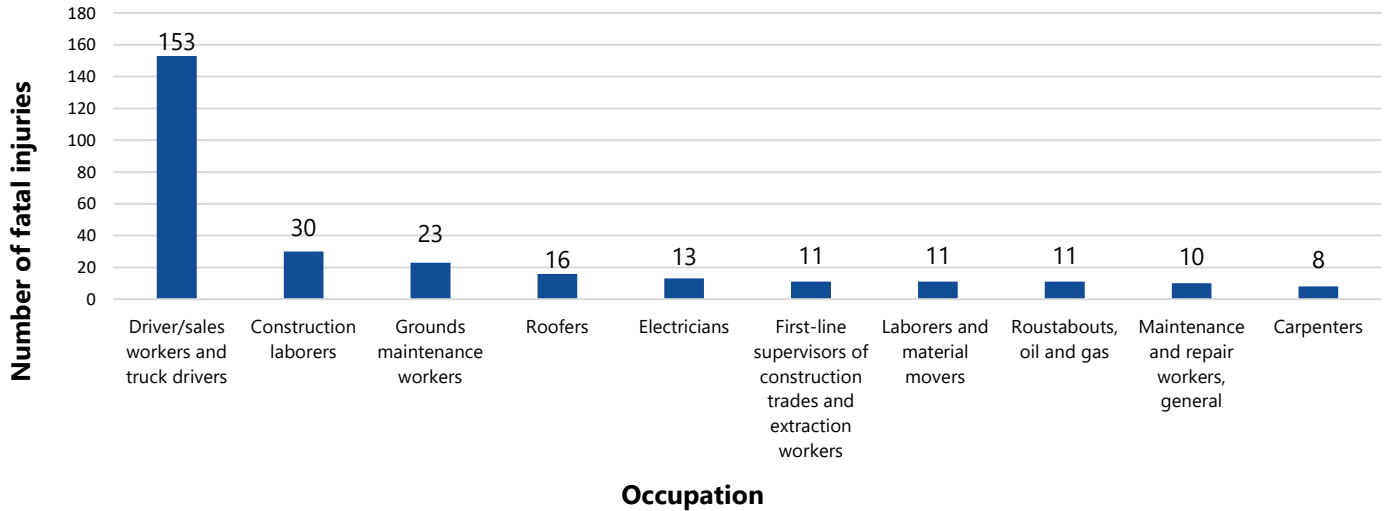


Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

## Occupations

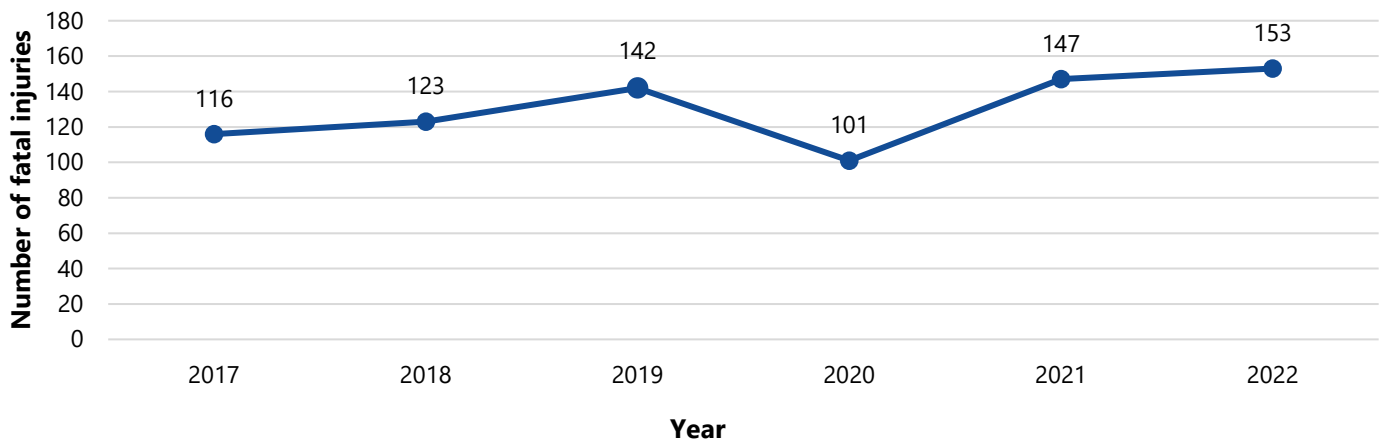
Figure 4 shows that the occupation with the highest number of fatalities was driver/sales workers and truck drivers. Figure 5 shows that except for 2020, incidents among drivers/sales workers and truck drivers had trended upwards since 2017 and increased from 147 in 2021 to 153 in 2022, representing 27% of all incidents.

**Figure 4: Occupations with the largest number of fatalities, all ownerships, Texas 2022 (578 total fatalities)**



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

**Figure 5. Fatalities in driver/sales workers and truck drivers, all ownerships, Texas 2017-2022**



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

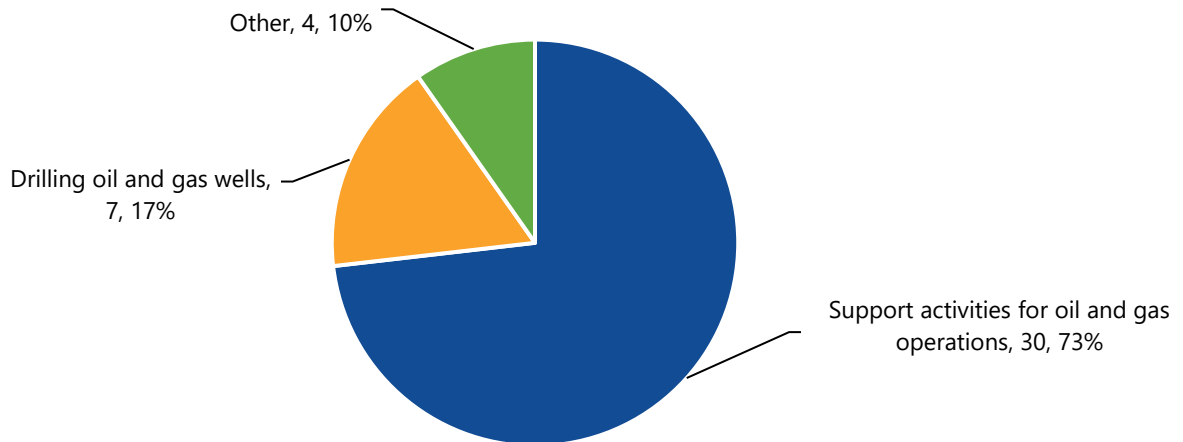
## Industries

Industry numbers are broken down by private sector (goods-producing and service-providing) and public sector (governmental). The number of cases may not add up to 578 because of data from non-selected industries.

### Goods-producing industries

Among the goods-producing industries in the private sector, the construction industry continues to have the highest number of fatalities with 140 in 2022 (see Table 1). Natural resources and mining increased 50% from 2021 (40) to 61 and account for 11% of fatalities in 2022 and is seven higher than 2020 (54). Forty-one of the 61 fatalities were in the mining/oil and gas related industries, and they accounted for 73% of all mining industry fatalities (Figure 6).

**Figure 6: Fatal occupational injuries in the mining industry, all ownerships, Texas, 2022 (41 total fatal injuries)**



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

### **Service-providing industries**

Among the service-providing industries in the private sector, transportation and warehousing had the highest number of incidents at 128, a decrease of 10 fatalities from 2021 (138). Within transportation and warehousing, truck transportation accounted for 17% of all private sector fatalities with 89 fatalities, down 16 from 2021 (105).

### **Government**

Of the 49 fatalities that involved governmental employees, 34 were employees in local government. Eighteen of those in local government were in justice, public order, and safety activities — up from 14 in 2021.



**Table 1: Number of fatalities by industry, Texas 2020-2022<sup>1</sup>**

Industry	2020	2021	2022
<b>Private industry</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>529</b>
<b>Goods-producing</b>	--	--	--
<b>Natural resources and mining</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>61</b>
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	30	21	20
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction <sup>2</sup>	24	19	41
Support activities for oil and gas operations	--	11	30
<b>Construction</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>140</b>
Heavy and civil engineering construction	40	33	26
Specialty trade contractors	68	76	94
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Service-providing</b>	--	--	--
<b>Trade, transportation, and utilities</b>	--	<b>179</b>	<b>179</b>
Wholesale trade	14	19	23
Retail trade	20	19	22
Transportation and warehousing	96	138	128
Truck transportation	73	105	89
Real estate and rental leasing	5	8	6
<b>Professional and business services</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>45</b>
Professional, scientific, and technical services	4	8	6
<b>Education and health services</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Leisure and hospitality</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>
Accommodation and food services	12	10	13
<b>Other services, except public administration</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>17</b>
Repair and maintenance	11	15	13
<b>Government<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Federal government</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>State government</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Local government</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>34</b>
Educational services	6	--	5
Justice, public order, and safety activities	19	14	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>578</b>

Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

<sup>1</sup> CFOI has used several versions of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) since 2003 to define industry. For complete information on the version of NAICS used this year, see the definitions page at [www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm). Cases where ownership is unknown are included in private industry counts. Cases classified as foreign government and other government are included in all government counts, but not displayed separately. Cases where industry is unknown are included in the service sector counts.

<sup>2</sup> Includes fatal injuries at all establishments categorized as Mining (Sector 21) in NAICS, including establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration rules and reporting, such as those in Oil and Gas Extraction.

<sup>3</sup> Includes fatal injuries to workers employed by federal, state, local, and foreign governmental organizations regardless of industry.

## Occupations

Farming, fishing, and forestry have trended down since 2020 and decreased to nine for 2022. Occupations seeing large changes from 2021 to 2022 include:

- Management, with a 63% increase from 19 in 2021 to 31 in 2022.
- Protective services, with a 46% increase from 24 in 2021 to 35 in 2022.
- Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations, with a 10% increase from 52 in 2021 to 57 in 2022.

The number of cases may not add up to 578 because of rounding and data from non-selected characteristics.

<b>Table 2: Number of fatalities by major occupational group, all ownerships, Texas 2020-2022<sup>4</sup></b>			
<b>Major occupational group</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Transportation and material moving</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Motor vehicle operators</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>156</b>
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	101	147	153
<b>Material moving workers</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>
Laborers and material movers	9	12	11
<b>Construction and extraction</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>133</b>
<b>First-line supervisors of construction trades and extraction workers</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Construction trades workers</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>89</b>
Construction laborers	35	28	30
Electricians	9	11	13
Roofers	15	9	16
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Protective service</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Grounds maintenance workers</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Production</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Sales and related</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Management</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Farming, fishing, and forestry</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Office and administrative support</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Food preparation and serving</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Personal care and service</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>578</b>

Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

## Case characteristics

Case characteristics give details of the fatal injuries. Each injury is broken out into multiple characteristics including, Nature of Injury, Illness; Part of Body Affected; Event or Exposure; Source of Injury, Illness; and Location

<sup>4</sup> CFOI has used several versions of the Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) system since 2003 to define occupation. For more information on the version of SOC used this year, see the definitions page at [www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcdef.htm).

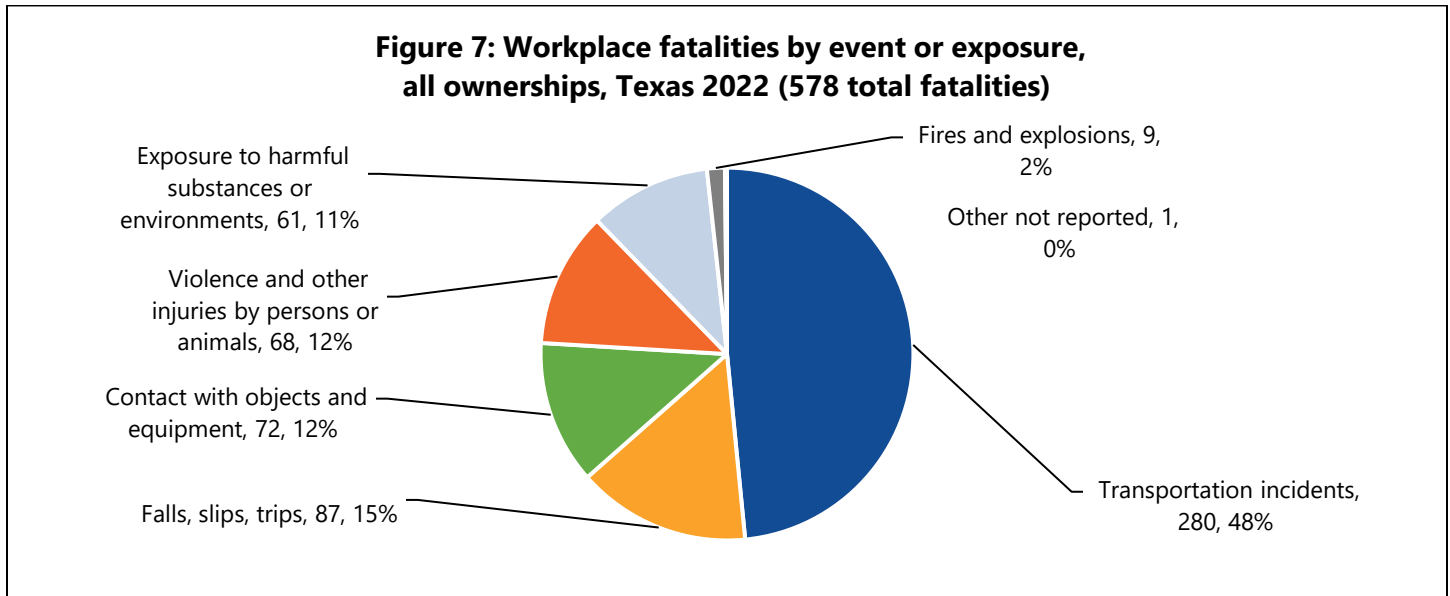


where injury was sustained. Two of those characteristics, Event or Exposure and Location, are discussed below. The number of cases may not add up to 578 because of data from non-selected characteristics.

### Event or exposure

Transportation incidents have increased from 260 in 2021 to 280 for 2022, representing 48% of all incidents (see Table 3 and Figure 7). Most categories within transportation incidents increased from 2021 to 2022. Roadway incidents involving a motorized land vehicle has trended up since 2020 and accounted for 210 fatalities in 2022 for 36% of all Texas work related fatalities (see Table 3).

Violence and other injuries by persons or animals increased to 68 from 2021 (57) and included 63 incidents that were intentional injury by person, up from 2021 (52).



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

**Table 3: Number of fatalities by event or exposure, all ownerships, Texas 2020-2022<sup>5</sup>**

<b>Event or exposure</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Violence and other injuries by persons or animals</b>	55	57	68
Intentional injury by person	46	52	63
<b>Transportation incidents</b>	214	260	280
Aircraft incidents	9	--	14
Rail vehicle incidents	--	4	7
Pedestrian vehicular incident	35	34	33
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in work zone	7	3	5
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in roadway	12	11	9
Pedestrian struck by vehicle on side of road	9	5	8
Pedestrian struck by vehicle in non-roadway area	7	14	8
Roadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	146	199	210
Roadway collision with other vehicle	92	116	134
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle	35	47	40
Roadway non-collision incident	19	36	36
Non-roadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	12	17	11
<b>Fire or explosion</b>	--	7	9
<b>Falls, slips, trips</b>	71	88	87
Fall to lower level	58	71	72
Fall through surface or existing opening	6	10	16
Other fall to lower level	48	54	52
<b>Exposure to harmful substances or environments</b>	48	54	61
Exposure to electricity	19	21	35
Exposure to other harmful substances	22	23	16
Non-medical use of drugs or alcohol, unintentional overdose	13	13	14
Inhalation of harmful substance	9	6	--
<b>Contact with objects and equipment</b>	70	66	72
Struck by object or equipment	50	38	51
Struck by powered vehicle non-transport	22	15	17
Struck by falling object or equipment	22	12	21
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	12	18	13
Caught in running equipment or machinery	9	12	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>578</b>

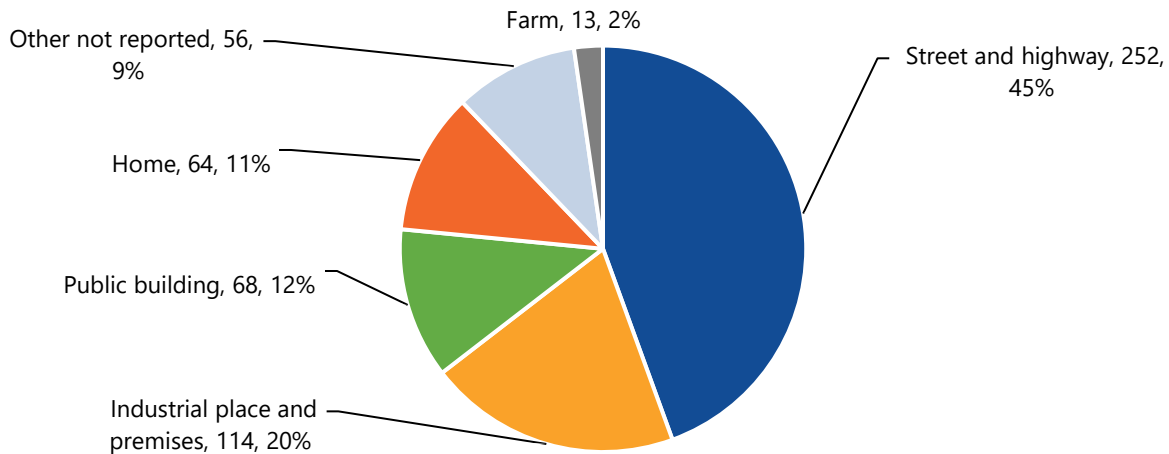
Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

## Location

The most common location for a fatal injury is on streets or highways with a total of 252 incidents, accounting for 45% of all fatal injuries. Industrial place and premises, includes maritime dockyards, industrial yards, loading platforms, railyards, warehouses, construction sites, factories, plants, and repair shops. These locations represent 20% of all fatalities with 114 incidents (See Figure 6).

<sup>5</sup> Based on the BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System 2.01 implemented for 2011 data forward.

**Figure 6: Workplace fatalities by location, all ownerships, Texas 2022 (578 total fatalities)**



Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, December 2023.

## Demographics

Men accounted for 92% of total fatalities (534 incidents). Employees 55 and older accounted for 29% (170) of all incidents in 2022. Employees from 35 to 44 years of age experienced a sharp increase from 101 fatalities in 2021 to 133 in 2022 and an increase of 32%.

Asian (non-Hispanic) saw a decrease in fatalities from 2021 (18) to 13 in 2022. All other races or ethnic origins saw increases in the number of incidents, in line with the overall increase in incidents from 2021 to 2022. Hispanic or Latino employees had the highest number of fatal injuries with 269 incidents, up from 2020 (231) and accounted for 47% of all fatalities, up from 43% in 2021. White (non-Hispanic) accounted for 38% (221). Twelve percent were Black or African American (non-Hispanic) (71).

The CFOI data tables are at [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/fathomepage.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/fathomepage.html). For more information about fatal occupational injuries, contact DWC at 512-804-4640 or [cfoi@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:cfoi@tdi.texas.gov).

## Endnotes

In accordance with [BLS policies](#), individually-identifiable data collected by the CFOI program is used exclusively for statistical purposes and is protected under the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA). Data are collected under a pledge of confidentiality and requires BLS to prevent disclosure of identifying information of decedents. Disclosure of confidential information is a serious issue, a violation of CIPSEA, and a matter that BLS has addressed with new disclosure protections beginning with the 2019 CFOI release. These disclosure protections have significant impacts on the data that are publishable for 2019 to present and have resulted in the suppression of some private sector numbers to protect the confidentiality of all employees in the private and public sectors.

CFOI fatal injury counts exclude illness-related deaths unless caused by an injury event.

Data for all years are revised and final.

See data definitions at [www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm](http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfdef.htm).

Beginning with survey year 2011, the classification system used to code case characteristics and occupations was revised, which created a break in series. Case characteristics (nature, body part, source, and event) and many occupations for years after 2011 are not comparable to data for years before 2011.

Note: A dash in place of a number in a table or chart means data does not meet publication guidelines.

Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, in cooperation with participating state agencies, December 2022.

## **DWC resources**

DWC provides various safety and health services to help reduce injuries and illnesses in the workplace, including:

- Free safety and health consultations on Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations.
- Regional and onsite safety training.
- Free safety and health publications.
- Free safety training streaming videos.
- The Safety Violations Hotline.

For more information on these services, visit [www.txsafetyatwork.com](http://www.txsafetyatwork.com) or call 800-252-7031, option 2. Employers that carry workers' compensation insurance in Texas can get accident prevention services from their insurance companies at no added cost.



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