



# 2016 Annual Census of Maine's Fatal Occupational Injuries\*

A Report Provided to the US Department of Labor:  
Statistical Factors Regarding Maine's 2016 Work Related Fatalities



(\*Preliminary) June 2023



# **Eighteen Maine Workers Died from Occupational/Work-Related Injuries in 2016.**

The Bureau of Labor Standards of the Maine Department of Labor annually participates in the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL). This informational report provides statistical data and charts derived from the 2016 census. It also presents key data points pertaining to Maine's fatalities.

Maine's participation in the CFOI is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Safety Education and Training Fund (SETF) in Maine.

States collect data through conducting research, verifying occupational fatalities with supporting documentation and submitting case data to the Bureau of Labor Statistics for review and compilation.

The CFOI program limits counting occupational fatalities to those which result from injuries; the latency period of many occupational illnesses and the resulting difficulty of linking illnesses to work make it difficult to compile a complete account of all fatal illnesses in a given year.

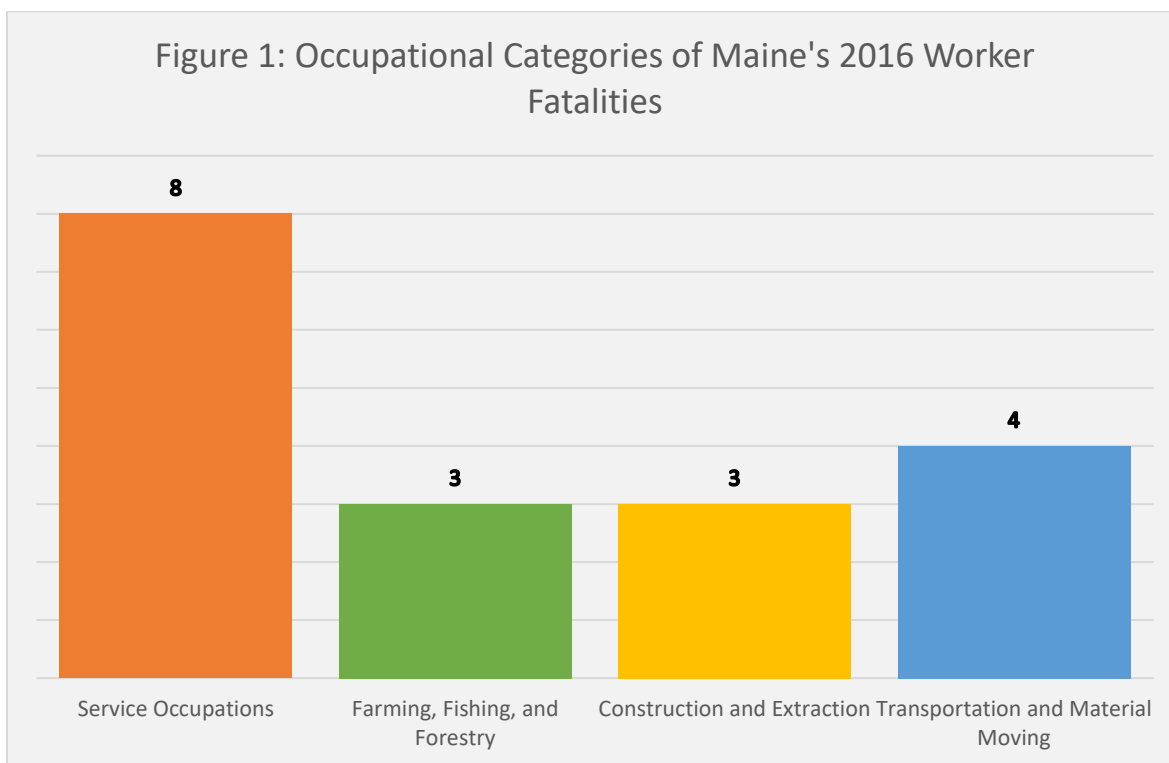
## **2007 – 2016 Occupational Fatalities**

*Table 1 lists Maine's annual totals of occupational fatalities for the years 2007 to 2016. There were 197 occupational fatalities in that period, averaging just short of 20 fatalities per year. The largest annual total of fatalities during this period, 26, occurred in 2011.*

Table 1: Maine's Occupational Fatalities from 2007 – 2016										
Year	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Total Fatalities	18	15	19	19	19	26	20	16	24	21

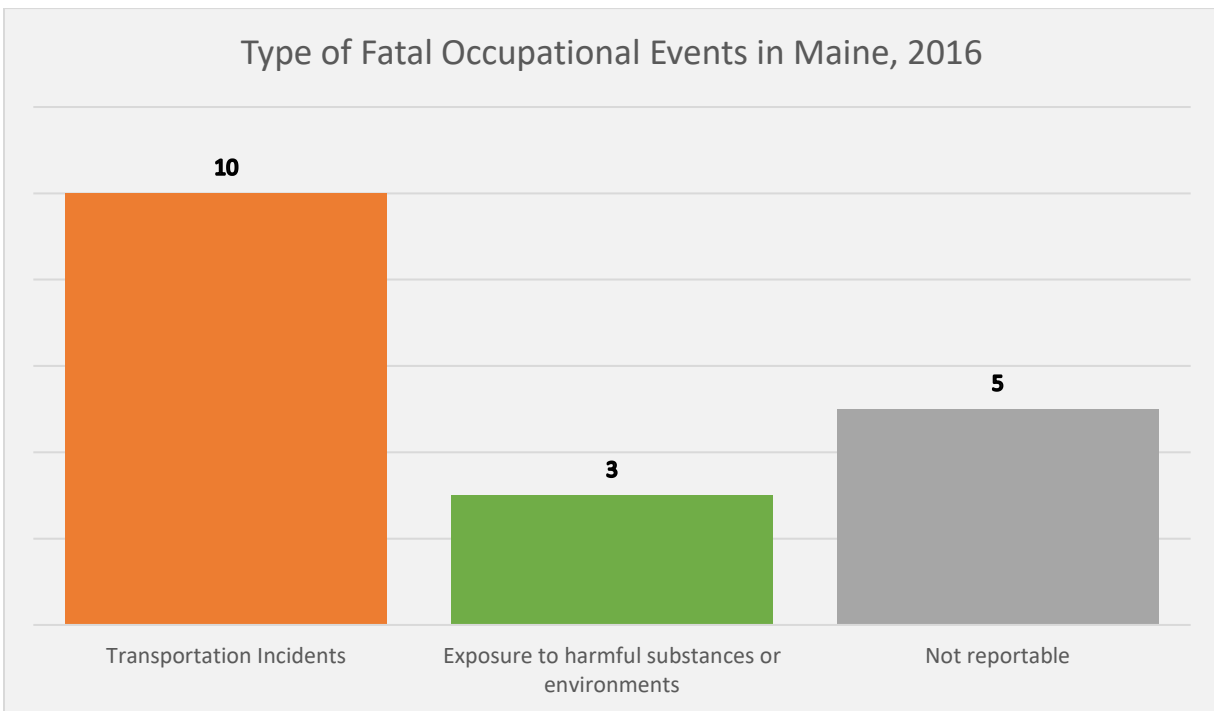
## Fatalities within Occupational Categories

Figure 1 represents all of Maine's occupational fatalities in 2016 in four occupational categories. Unlike many previous years, occupational categories were reportable for all cases. In **Service occupations**, there were eight fatalities, or 44% of Maine's total this year. **Transportation and Material Moving** had four (22%), and **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry** and **Construction and Extraction** had three each (11%).



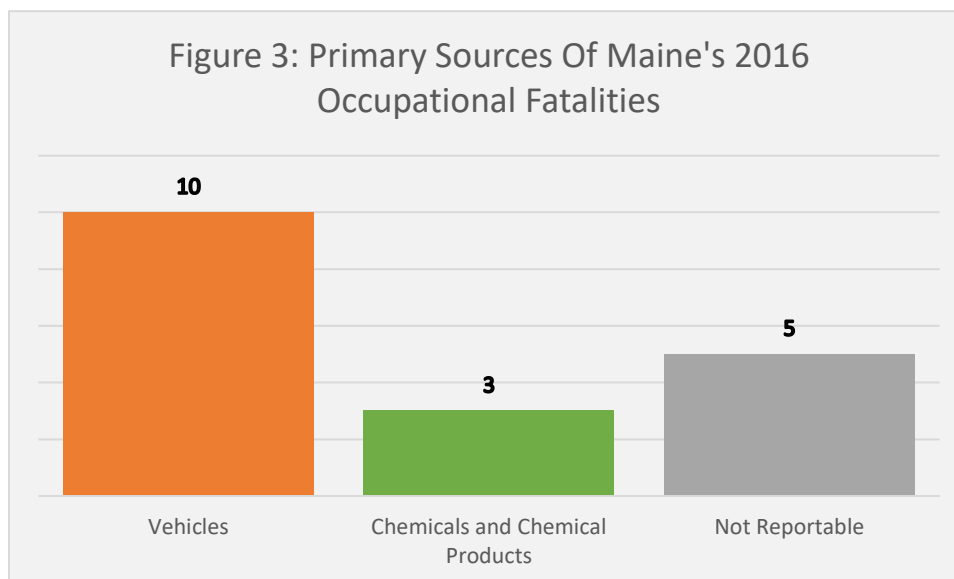
## Types of Fatal Events

Figure 2 shows the categories of events for Maine's occupational fatalities in 2016. **Transportation Incidents** accounted for most of the events, ten of eighteen (56%). **Exposure to harmful substances or environments** were responsible for another three (17%). The remaining five events were not reportable.



## Primary Sources Causing Fatalities

Figure 3 shows the reportable primary sources of Maine's occupational fatalities. These numbers are the same as those in figure 2; **Vehicles** were involved in ten fatalities, (56%), and **Chemicals and Chemical Products** in 3 (17%). Vehicles are always coded as the source of transportation incidents.



## Secondary Sources

Not every case gets assigned a secondary source. Of the secondary sources that did appear in 2016's data, six were **Vehicles**, two were **Tools, Instruments, and Equipment**, and one was **Surfaces and Structures**.

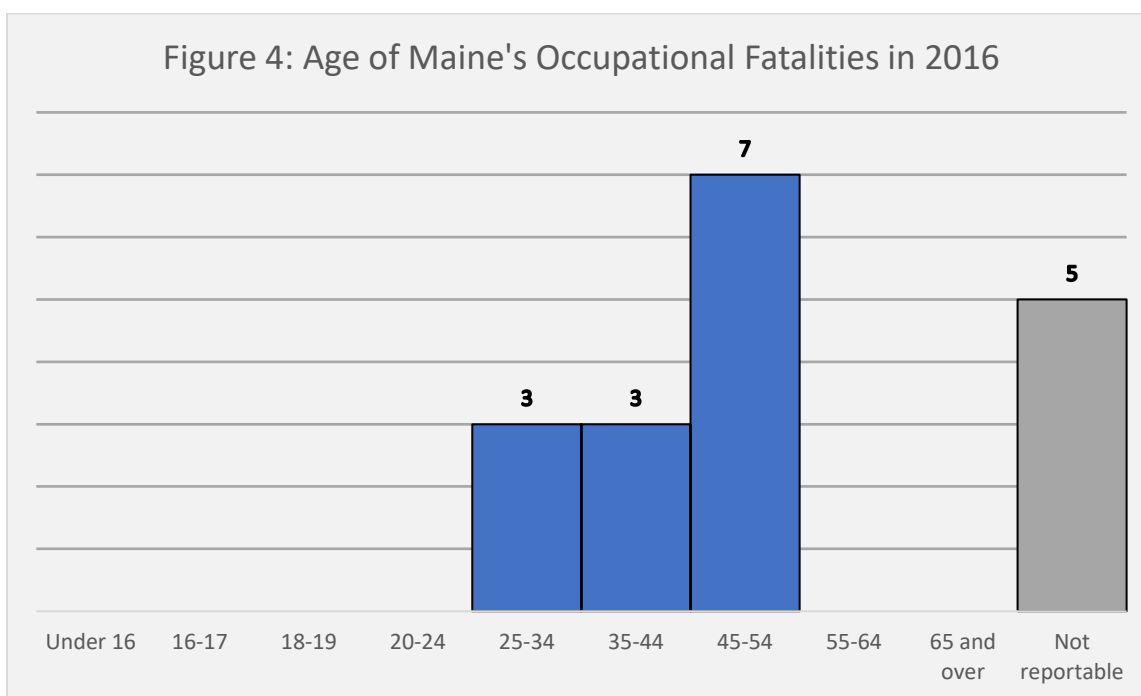


## Age Categories

Figure 4 provides reportable data regarding age categories for Maine's 2015 occupational fatalities. There were thirteen fatalities for which age was reportable. This includes three (17% of the total) each in the 25-34 and 35-44 brackets, and seven (39%) in the 45-54 bracket.

The national CFOI shows only 22% in the 45-54 bracket, a much smaller percentage than was witnessed in Maine, and several more cases in the 55-64 bracket, in which we had none reportable. However, nationally there were 16% and 19% respectively in the 25-34 and 35-44 brackets, which is not too different from Maine's data.

Maine's small sample size makes it difficult to compare with the national figures, especially when nearly a third of our data is not reportable.



## Other Key Points:

- ✓ Three fatalities (17%) were self-employed workers. This is a large drop from 2015, when just over half of fatalities were self-employed.
- ✓ Sixteen fatalities (89%) were men. Sixteen were also white, and sixteen were employees in the private sector.
- ✓ Of the ten fatal transportation incidents, six were collisions with other vehicles.
- ✓ 2016 saw two fatalities (11%) employed in Leisure and Hospitality industries, which are not usually represented in our data. As a comparison, approximately 5% of national fatalities were in this industry group.



## Sources:

Data for this report was extracted from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), Maine Department of Labor, 2016, or from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics' One-Screen Data Search tool at <https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/fw>.

CFOI is a federal program that, in most cases, is administered by the states.

For more information on fatal occupational injuries, contact  
Blake Dauphinais, Statistician III  
207-623-7904  
TTY users call Maine Relay 711.

Research and Statistics Unit, Division of Technical Services  
Bureau of Labor Standards  
Maine State Department of Labor

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