



# 2020 Annual Census of Maine's Fatal Occupational Injuries\*

A Report Provided to the US Department of Labor:  
Statistical Factors Regarding Maine's 2020 Work Related Fatalities



(\*Preliminary) June 2023

# Twenty Maine Workers Died from Occupational/Work-Related Injuries in 2020.

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 2020 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.

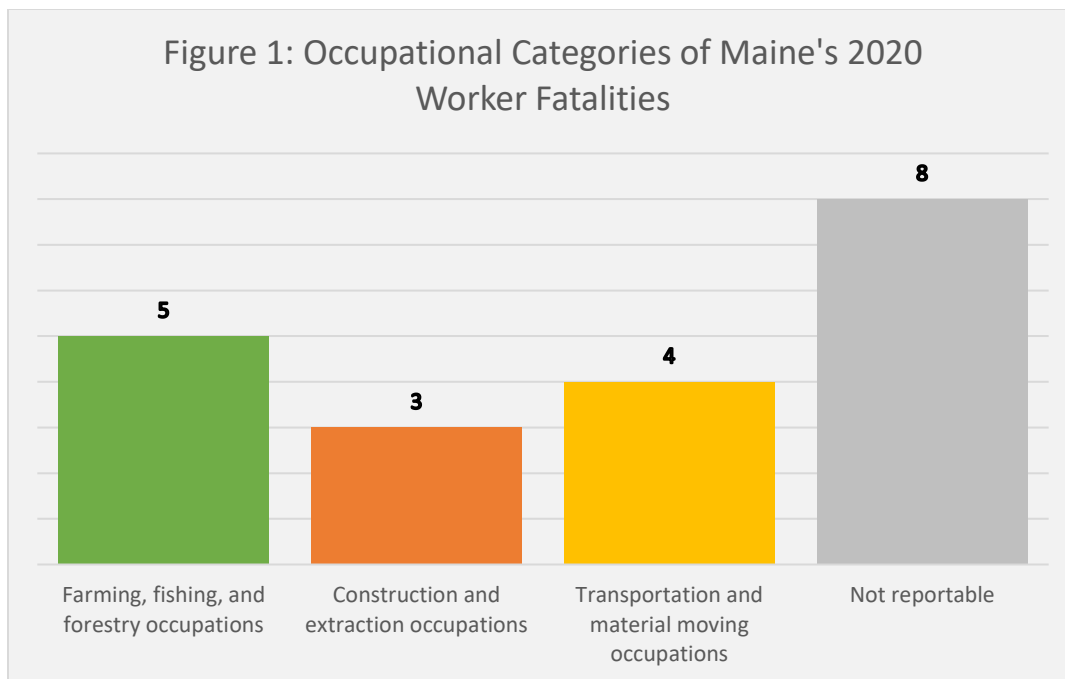
## 2011 – 2020 Occupational Fatalities

*Table 1 lists Maine's annual totals of occupational fatalities for the years 2011 to 2020. There were 191 occupational fatalities in that period, averaging approximately 19 fatalities per year. The largest annual total of fatalities during this period, 26, occurred in 2011.*

Table 1: Maine's Occupational Fatalities from 2011 – 2020										
Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Total Fatalities	20	20	17	18	18	15	19	19	19	26

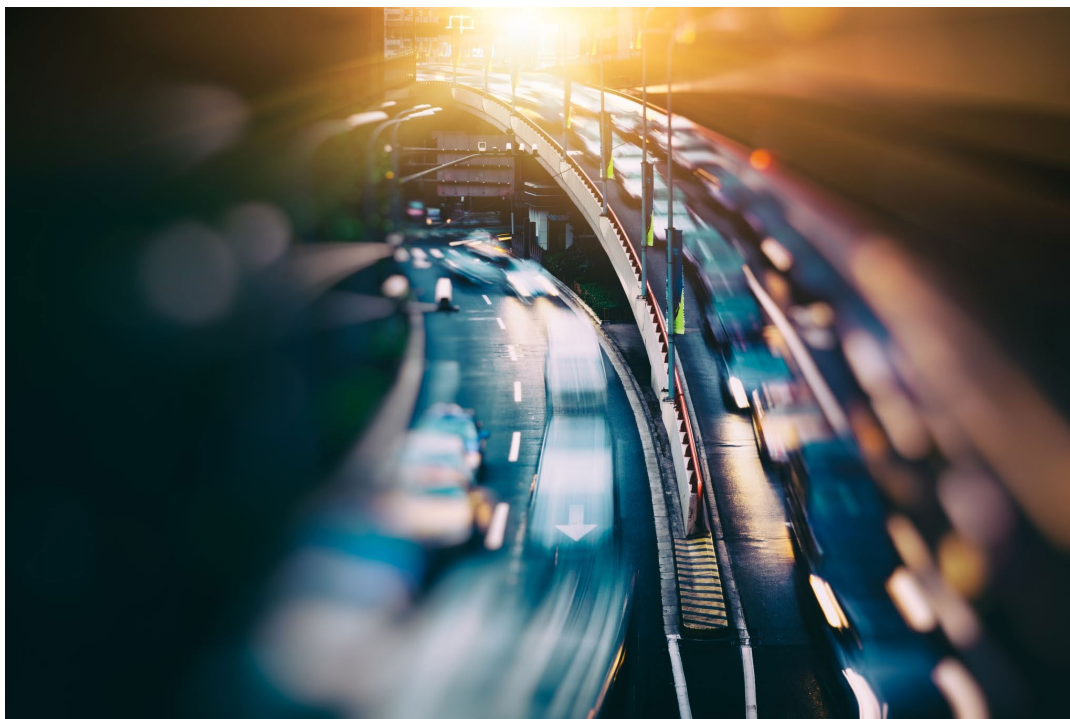
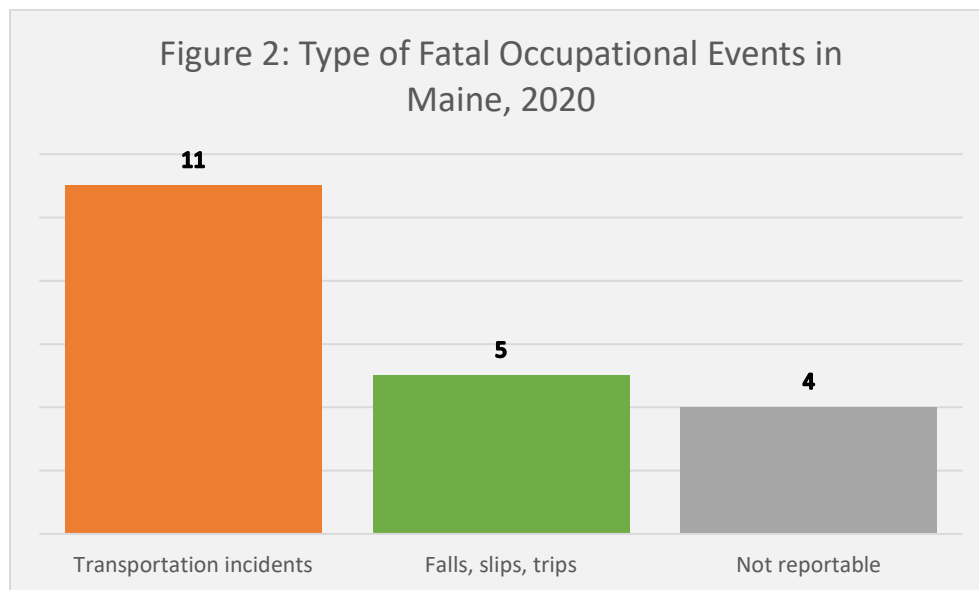
## Fatalities within Occupational Categories

Figure 1 illustrates reportable data for Maine's 2020 occupational fatalities in three occupational categories. **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** account for five fatalities (25%). **Construction and Extraction Occupations** saw three fatalities (15%), and **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** account for another four (20%). The occupations of the remaining eight fatalities (40%) were not reportable.



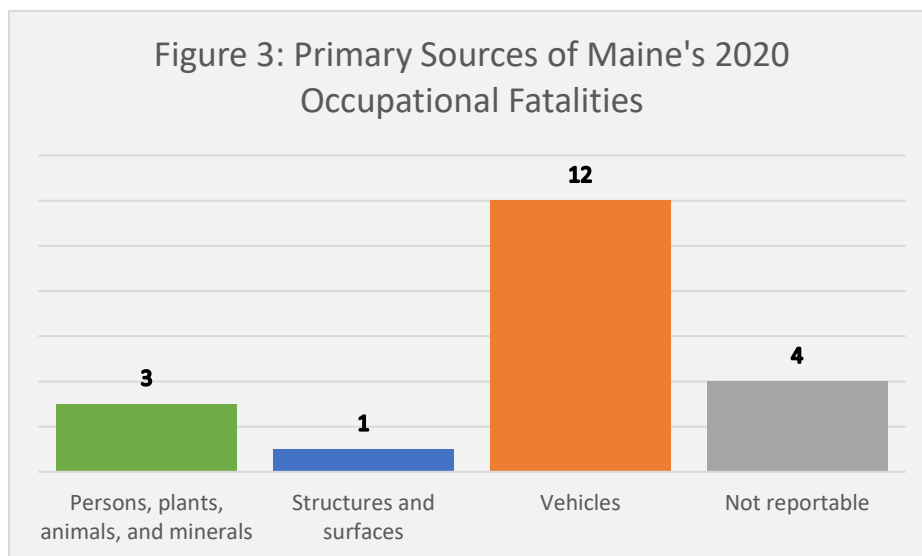
## Types of Fatal Events

Figure 2 shows the types of fatal events that happened in Maine in 2020. A majority of events, 11 or 55%, were **Transportation incidents**. Seven of these specifically were roadway incidents involving a motorized land vehicle. Five events, or 25%, were **Falls, slips, and trips**, and in fact, all five were falls to a lower level. The remaining four were not reportable.



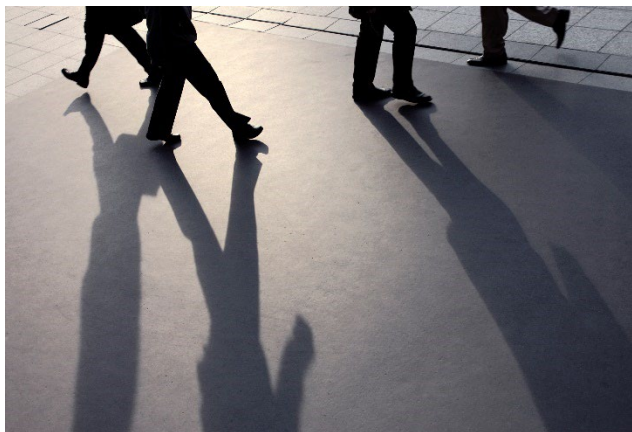
## Primary Sources Causing Fatalities

Figure 3 provides reportable data for primary sources that contributed to Maine's 2020 occupational fatalities. **Persons, Plants, Animals and Minerals** were involved in three fatalities (15%). One (5%) was in **Structures and Surfaces**, which includes many of the sources that would typically be used for a fall incident. A majority of twelve cases (60%) involved **Vehicles** as a primary source. Seven of these were highway vehicles, of which three were trucks. The primary sources of the remaining four cases were not reportable.



## Secondary Sources

Not every case is assigned a secondary source. In 2020, it was only reportable that four cases (20%) had a secondary source in **Structures and Surfaces**. This is not surprising given the number of falls that were seen in the data; the secondary source of a fall to a lower level is often in this group.

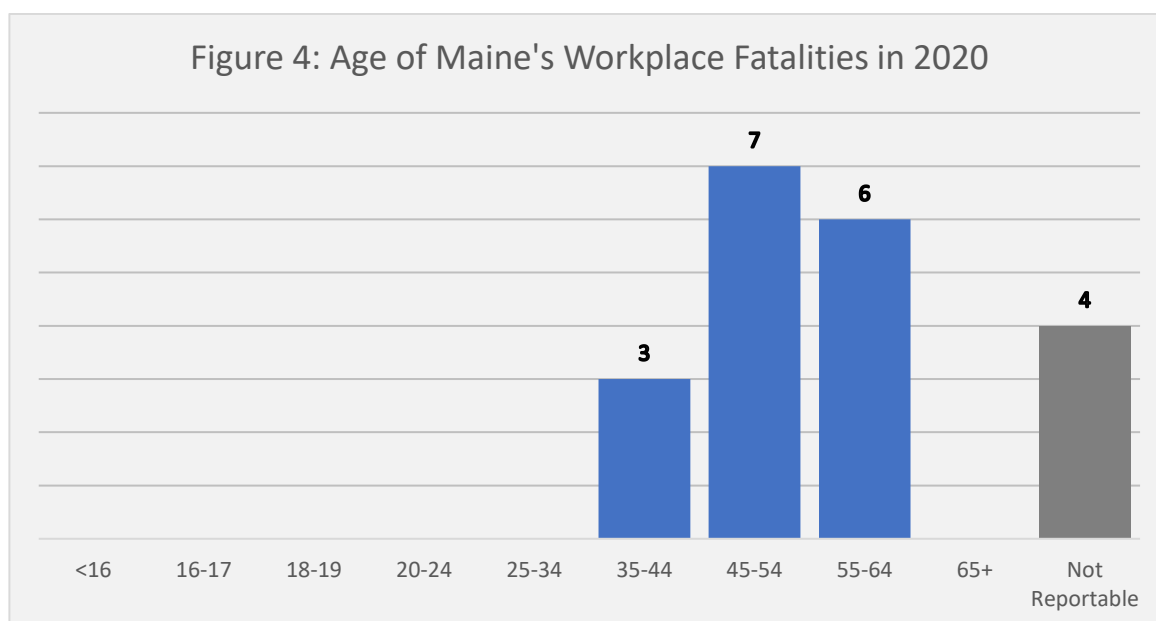




## Age Categories

Figure 4 provides reportable data regarding age categories for Maine's 2020 occupational fatalities. Age was not reportable for four of the twenty fatalities (20%). For those cases in which an age was reportable, there were three (15%) in the 35-44 year bracket, seven (35%) in the 45-54 year bracket, and six (30%) in the 55-64 bracket.

Nationally in the same period, a plurality of fatalities were in the 55-64 bracket, followed by 45-64, not too different from Maine's data.



## Other Key Points:

- ✓ 16 of Maine's decedents were working for wage, while the other four were self-employed. This is about the same proportion observed nationally, with about 80% working for wage and 20% self-employed.
- ✓ 19 fatalities were men.
- ✓ Race information was not reportable based on Maine's 2020 data.
- ✓ 19 decedents were working in the private sector.

Sources:

Data for this report was extracted from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), Maine Department of Labor, 2020, 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  
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Research and Statistics Unit, Division of Technical Services  
Bureau of Labor Standards  
Maine State Department of Labor

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