



2023 Annual Census of Maine's Fatal Occupational Injuries

A Report Provided to the US Department of Labor:
Statistical Factors Regarding Maine's 2023 Work Related
Fatalities



Twenty-Seven Maine Workers Died from Occupational/Work-Related Injuries in 2023.

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 2023 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.

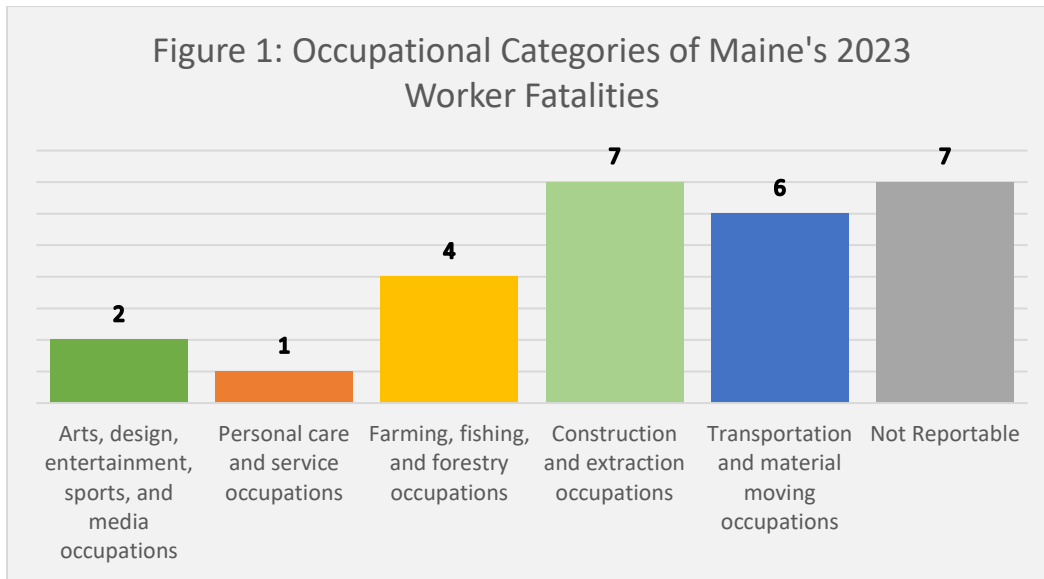
2014 – 2023 Occupational Fatalities

Table 1 lists Maine’s annual totals of occupational fatalities for the years 2014 to 2023. There were 196 occupational fatalities in that period, averaging approximately 20 fatalities per year. The largest annual total of fatalities during this period, 27, occurred in 2023.

Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Total Fatalities	27	23	19	20	20	17	18	18	15	19

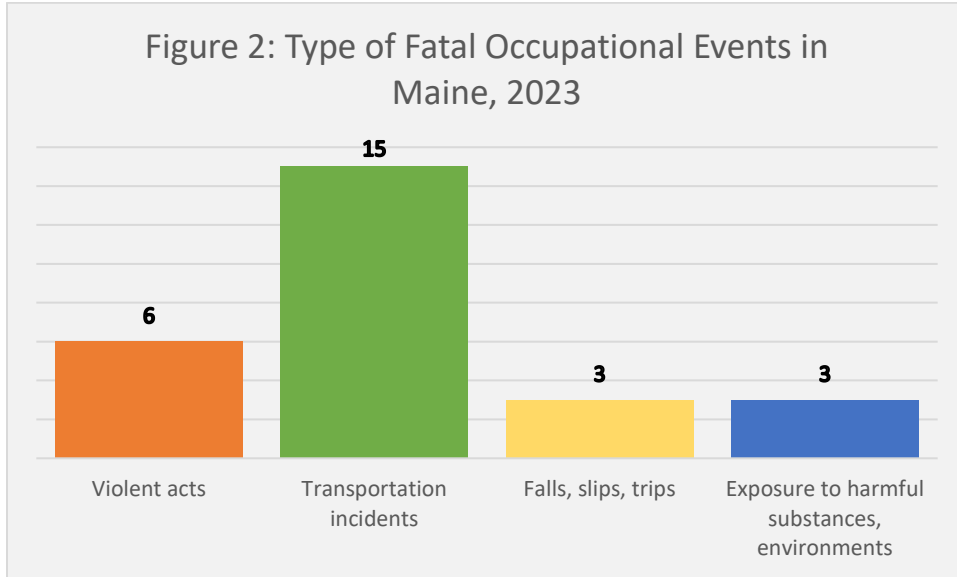
Fatalities within Occupational Categories

Figure 1 illustrates reportable data for Maine’s 2023 occupational fatalities in five occupational categories. **Construction and Extraction Occupations** account for seven fatalities (26%). **Transportation and Material Moving Occupations** followed with six fatalities (22%). **Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations** accounted for four fatalities (15%). **Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations** with two fatalities (7%). Then **Personal Care and Service Occupations** with one fatality (4%). The occupations of the remaining seven fatalities (26%) were not reportable.



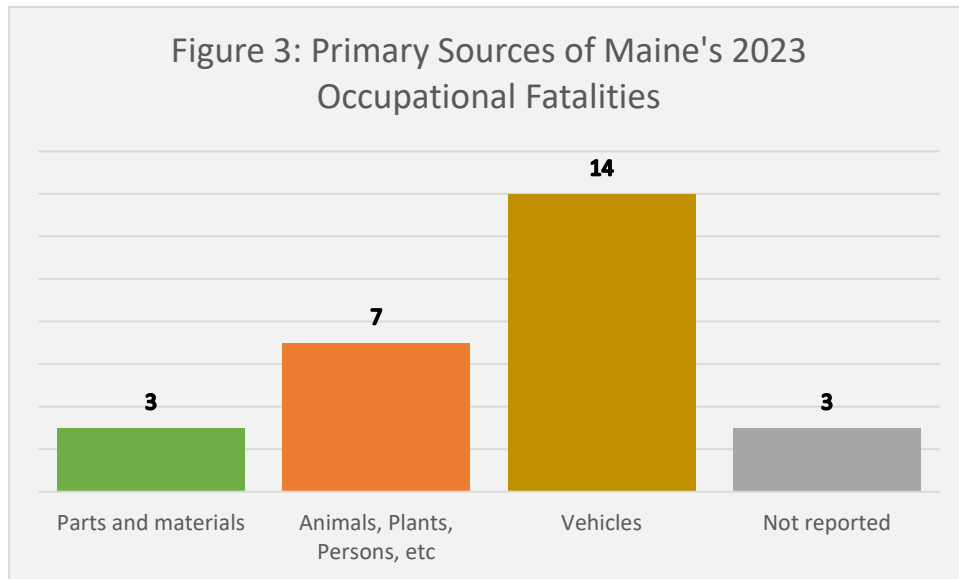
Types of Fatal Events

Figure 2 shows the types of fatal events that happened in Maine in 2023. **Transportation incidents** account for 15 fatalities (56%). Six, or 22%, were **Violent acts**. Three (11%) were due to **Falls, slips, trips**. The remaining three (11%) were from **Exposure to harmful substances, environments**.



Primary Sources Causing Fatalities

Figure 3 provides reportable data for primary sources that contributed to Maine’s 2023 occupational fatalities. **Vehicles** were involved in 14 fatalities (52%). Seven fatalities (26%) had a source in the group of **Animals, Plants, Persons, etc.** Five of these, more specifically, was a person other than the injured worker. Three (11%) were due to **Parts and Materials**. The sources of the other three cases (11%) were not reportable.



Secondary Sources

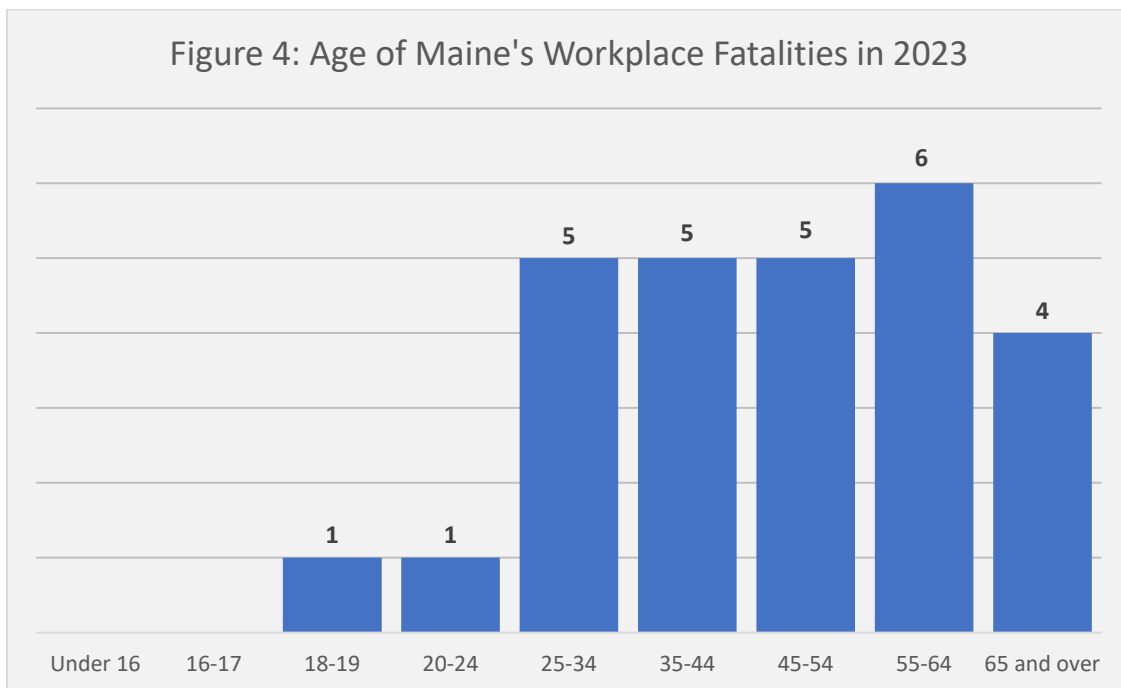
Not every case is assigned a secondary source, and of course they are not always reportable in our data even when they are present. In 2023, four cases had **Trees, Logs, Limbs** as a secondary source, and three had **Vehicles**.



Age Categories

Figure 4 provides reportable data regarding age categories for Maine’s 2023 occupational fatalities. Six (22%) fatalities were in the 55-64 year bracket, five (19%) were in the 25-34, 35-44, and 45-54 brackets, four (15%) were 65 and over, and finally one fatality (4%) was in both the 18-19 and 20-24 bracket.

Nationally in the same period, a plurality of fatalities were in the 55-64 bracket, followed very closely by the 45-54 and 35-44 brackets.



Other Key Points:

- ✓ 19 (70%) of Maine’s decedents were working for wages, while the other eight (30%) were self-employed. These self-employed workers represent a slightly higher percentage than was observed nationally (17%).
- ✓ Three (11%) of the fatalities were female workers, the remaining 24 (89%) were male.
- ✓ 26 of the 27 decedents were working in the private sector.
- ✓ The Lewiston Shooting on Oct. 25th, 2023, contributed to the increase in violent act fatalities for this year.

Sources:

Data for this report was extracted from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), Maine Department of Labor, 2023, or from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics' One-Screen Data Search tool at <https://data.bls.gov/PDQWeb/fa>.

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

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