

# ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.30 No.2 A publication of Connecticut Department of Labor

## FEBRUARY 2025

### IN THIS ISSUE...

**Connecticut's Work-Related Fatality Fell in 2023** ..... 1-5

#### Economic Indicators

- on the Overall Economy ..... 5
- Individual Data Items ..... 6-8
- Comparative Regional Data ..... 9
- Economic Indicator Trends ..... 10-11
- Help Wanted OnLine ..... 15
- Business and Employment Changes Announced in the News Media ..... 19
- Labor Market Areas:
  - Nonfarm Employment ..... 12-17
  - Sea. Adj. Nonfarm Employment ..... 14
  - Labor Force ..... 18
  - Hours and Earnings ..... 19
- Cities and Towns:
  - Labor Force ..... 20-21
  - Housing Permits ..... 22
- Technical Notes ..... 23
- At a Glance ..... 24

### In December...

#### Nonfarm Employment

Connecticut ..... 1,7  
 Change over month ..... +0.29%  
 Change over year ..... +1.12%

United States ..... 15  
 Change over month ..... +0.19%  
 Change over year ..... +1.89%

#### Unemployment Rate

Connecticut ..... 4  
 United States ..... 3.8%

#### Consumer Price Index

United States ..... 3  
 Change over year ..... +3.5%

## Connecticut's Work-Related Fatality Fell in 2023

By Erin C. Wilkins, Associate Research Analyst, CT DOL

**C**onnecticut lost 33 lives to work injuries in 2023, for a rate of 2.0 deaths per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers. This is a decrease from 2022's 34 deaths and is below Connecticut's annual average since 1992 of 37 work-related deaths (Chart 1) and the nation's 2023 rate of 3.5. Only two states – Rhode Island and New Jersey – recorded a rate lower than Connecticut's (Table 1).

The nation lost 5,283 lives to workplace injuries in 2023, a decrease from 2022's 5,486 deaths. The fatal injury rate decreased from 3.7 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers in 2022 to 3.5 in 2023. The highest loss was seen in Texas with 564 deaths, followed by California with 439 deaths, and Florida with 306 deaths. High rates were

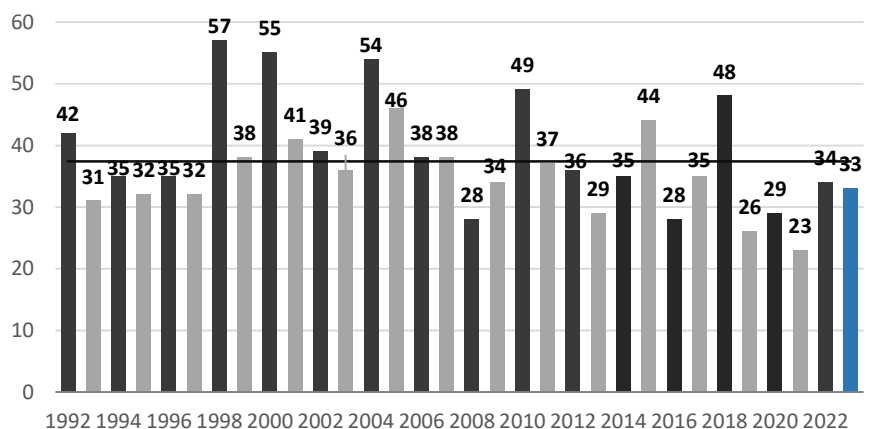
recorded in Wyoming (16.0) and West Virginia (8.3). Rhode Island had six deaths, the lowest recorded number for states.

#### Industry

Nationally, the construction industry recorded the highest number of deaths at 1,075 followed by transportation and warehousing with 930 deaths. Together, these two industries account for 38 percent of deaths.

In Connecticut, the construction industry had 10 deaths followed by the administrative and waste services with seven deaths. Together, these two industries accounted for 52 percent of deaths. The transportation and warehousing industry had five deaths while the government sector had three deaths (Table 2).

Chart 1. Connecticut Work Related Fatalities 1992 - 2023



Connecticut averages 37 work-related deaths annually

*The Connecticut Economic Digest* is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research. Its purpose is to regularly provide users with a comprehensive source for the most current, up-to-date data available on the workforce and economy of the state, within perspectives of the region and nation.

The annual subscription is \$50. Send subscription requests to: *The Connecticut Economic Digest*, Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, 200 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114. Make checks payable to the Connecticut Department of Labor. Back issues are \$4 per copy. The Digest can be accessed free of charge from the DOL Web site. Articles from *The Connecticut Economic Digest* may be reprinted if the source is credited. Please send copies of the reprinted material to the Managing Editor. The views expressed by the authors are theirs alone and may not reflect those of the DOL.

**Managing Editor:** Jungmin Charles Joo

**Associate Editor:** Erin C. Wilkins

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many DOL Research staff and Rob Damroth to the publication of the Digest.

**Connecticut  
Department of Labor**

Danté Bartolomeo, Commissioner  
Daryle Dudzinski, Deputy Commissioner  
Mark Polzella, Deputy Commissioner

Patrick J. Flaherty, Director  
Office of Research  
200 Folly Brook Boulevard  
Wethersfield, CT 06109-1114  
Phone: (860) 263-6255  
Fax: (860) 263-6263  
E-Mail: [dol.econdigest@ct.gov](mailto:dol.econdigest@ct.gov)  
Website: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>



**Table 1. Fatal Occupational Injuries by State 2023**

Rates per 100,000 full time equivalent workers

State of Incident	Number	Rate
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,283</b>	<b>3.5</b>
Rhode Island	6	1.2
New Jersey	81	1.8
<b>Connecticut</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Maryland	69	2.4
California	439	2.5
Delaware	11	2.5
Illinois	145	2.5
Minnesota	70	2.5
Hawaii	16	2.6
Virginia	117	2.7
Washington	97	2.7
Colorado	83	2.8
New York	246	2.8
Oregon	54	2.8
Pennsylvania	169	2.9
Arizona	103	3.1
Florida	306	3.1
New Hampshire	21	3.1
Ohio	164	3.1
Massachusetts	111	3.3
District of Columbia	12	3.5
Alabama	75	3.6
Michigan	166	3.6
North Carolina	177	3.7
Kansas	53	3.8
Wisconsin	112	3.9
Georgia	192	4.0
Nevada	57	4.0
Missouri	114	4.1
Texas	564	4.1
Utah	69	4.1
Maine	27	4.2
Oklahoma	76	4.3
South Dakota	20	4.3
New Mexico	38	4.5
Kentucky	91	4.6
Nebraska	46	4.8
South Carolina	112	5.0
Vermont	16	5.0
Indiana	157	5.1
Idaho	48	5.4
Tennessee	164	5.4
Louisiana	104	5.6
Iowa	91	5.9
Mississippi	72	6.3
North Dakota	26	6.9
Montana	38	7.1
Alaska	29	7.4
Arkansas	92	7.5
West Virginia	58	8.3
Wyoming	45	16.0

With an overall rate of 2.0, Connecticut saw a rate of 9.7 in construction and 5.3 in transportation and utilities. Rates for other industry sectors did not meet publishing criteria.

**Worker Characteristics**

Twenty-three of the workers were wage and salary workers; ten were self-employed. Sixty-four percent (21) of deaths were white. Eight were Hispanic or Latino. Nationally, Hispanic or Latino workers made up 23.7 percent of fatal occupational injuries in 2023. Deaths for Black or African American workers dropped to 659 in 2023 from 734 in 2022, a 10.2 percent decrease. Thirty of Connecticut’s deaths were men; nationally 91 percent of 2023’s work-related deaths were men.

**Event**

Historically, the United States loses the most workers to transportation incidents. The year 2023 saw 1,942 lives lost to transportation incidents – 37 percent of all work-related deaths. The falls, slips and trips category was the second most common event with 885 deaths (17 percent). Exposure to harmful substances and environments was the third most common event with 820 deaths (16 percent). Within this category, 512 lives were lost to drug or alcohol overdose. In the violent acts category, workplace homicides claimed 458 lives and suicides claimed 281.

With fourteen deaths, transportation incidents claimed the most lives in Connecticut, accounting for 42 percent of total deaths. Falls, slips, and trips incidents had eight deaths. Both the exposure to harmful substances and environments and contact incidents had four deaths each. The exposure to harmful substances and environments category includes

**Table 2. CT Fatal Occupational Injuries by Industry**

Industry	2023 Fatalities			
	CT		U.S.	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>5,283</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Private Industry</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>90.9%</b>	<b>4,838</b>	<b>91.6%</b>
<b>Goods Producing</b>	-	-	-	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-	-	448	8.5%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	-	-	113	2.1%
Construction	10	30.3%	1,075	20.3%
Manufacturing	-	-	391	7.4%
<b>Service Providing</b>	-	-	-	-
Utilities	-	-	41	0.8%
Wholesale trade	-	-	177	3.4%
Retail trade	2	6.1%	306	5.8%
Transportation and Warehousing	5	15.2%	930	17.6%
Information	-	-	29	0.5%
Finance and insurance	-	-	22	0.4%
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	-	91	1.7%
Professional, scientific, and technical service	-	-	66	1.2%
Administrative and waste services	7	21.2%	484	9.2%
Educational services	-	-	45	0.9%
Health care and social assistance	-	-	133	2.5%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	-	-	89	1.7%
Accommodation and food services	1	3.0%	176	3.3%
Other services, except public admin	-	-	209	4.0%
<b>Government</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
Federal	-	-	83	1.6%
State	1	3.0%	92	1.7%
Local	-	-	264	5.0%

events such as electrocutions, heat exhaustion, and drug overdoses. Contact incidents include events such as contact with animals, trench collapses, and struck by falling objects.

**Occupations**

Transportation and material moving occupations lost 12 lives in Connecticut, accounting for 36 percent of total deaths. Eleven of the transportation and material moving occupations were driver/sales workers and truck drivers (Table 4). Construction and extraction occupations lost seven lives.

Nationally, the transportation and material moving occupational group and the construction and extraction occupational group accounted for 48.3 percent of worker deaths in 2023. Transportation and material moving occupations lost 1,495 workers and construction and extraction occupations lost 1,055 workers. While the overall rate was 3.5 for 100,000 full time equivalent workers, logging workers saw a rate of 98.9. Fishing and hunting workers followed with 86.9. Roofers came in third with a rate of 51.8.

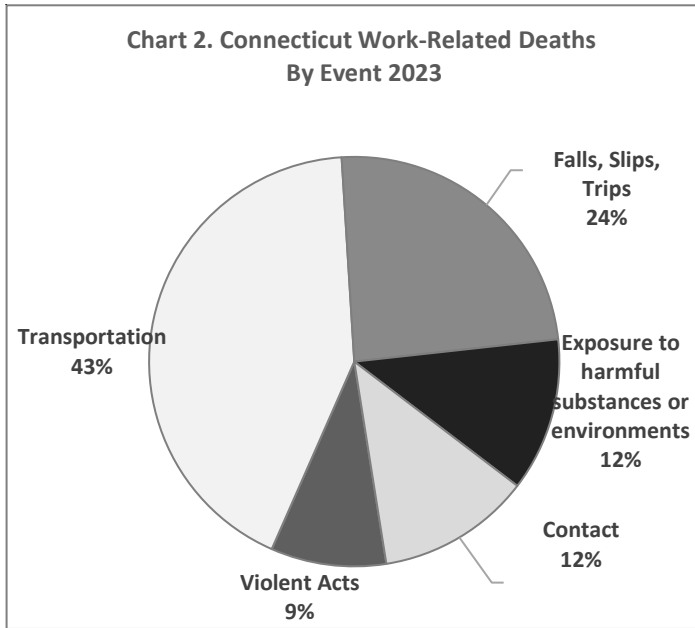
**Identifying Work-Related Deaths**

The CFOI (Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries) program reports fatal work injuries only. CFOI does not report any illness related information, including COVID-19. The CFOI program requires a minimum of two sources to verify a work-related death. The media is often the first notice of a work-related death. Other resources include death certificates, Coast Guard reports, the NHTSA (National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration), and OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration).

While every attempt is made to capture every work-related

**Table 3. CT Fatal Occupational Injuries by Event or Exposure**

Event or Exposure	2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Violent acts</b>	<b>3</b>
Violent acts by other person	3
Shooting by other person	2
Strangulation, asphyxiation by other person	1
<b>Transportation incidents</b>	<b>14</b>
Pedestrian incidents involving motorized land vehicles	3
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	11
Roadway collision with other vehicle(s)	8
Moving in same direction	2
<b>Falls, slips, trips</b>	<b>8</b>
Fall to lower level	7
<b>Exposure to harmful substances, environments</b>	<b>4</b>
Exposure to harmful substances	4
Drug, alcohol overdose	4
<b>Contact incidents</b>	<b>4</b>
Collapse, engulfment	1
Collapse, engulfment— open trench or excavation	1



death, some are missed. The CFOI program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries. This ensures counts are as complete and accurate as possible.

It is important to note that the Bureau of Labor Statistics holds all information on companies and the deceased in strict confidence. Information is never shared for compliance measures.

OSHA requires all employers to report workplace fatalities within eight hours. Included are small establishments and industries that are normally exempt from OSHA jurisdiction. Natural deaths, such as heart attacks, must also be reported. However, many employers are unaware of this requirement. Additionally, OSHA does not require employers to report all fatalities. Employers are not required to report:

- o Street and transportation deaths unless they occur in a construction work zone
- o Deaths on commercial or public transportation systems (airplane, subway, bus, train, etc.)
- o Deaths occurring more than 30 days after the incident

OSHA does not investigate every work-related death. Homicides and most transportation incidents fall outside OSHA's jurisdiction. However, OSHA is beginning to investigate some of these incidents to develop training programs. Homicides may be prevented with changes in security cameras and enforcing safety rules. Transportation deaths can be prevented with training programs on distracted driving, sleep deprivation, and safe driving techniques.

**Table 4. CT Fatal Occupational Injuries by Occupation**

Occupational Group	2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b>	3
Grounds maintenance workers	3
<b>Sales and related occupations</b>	1
Supervisors of sales workers	1
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	1
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b>	7
Construction trades workers	7
Construction laborers	4
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b>	2
Other installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	2
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	1
<b>Transportation and material moving occupations</b>	12
Motor vehicle operators	11
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	11
Material moving workers	1
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	1

## History of the Program

When President Nixon signed the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) into law, a census of workplace fatalities did not exist. It was estimated that approximately 14,000 workers were killed on the job annually. While OSHA immediately began investigating workplace deaths, the U.S. Department of Labor did not have a comprehensive statistical program dedicated to documenting workplace deaths.

In 1992, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) was established to track all work-related deaths and collect the

much-needed data. That first year, 6,217 deaths were documented nationally, 42 of which were in Connecticut. Since then, national numbers have dropped by 15 percent to 5,283 deaths in 2023.

Since 1992, the CFOI program has seen several changes. Prior to 2006, rates were calculated per 100,000 workers. Now the rates take into account the number of hours spent in the workplace, resulting in rates per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers. In 2012, the program began documenting contractor status, the use of drugs or alcohol, seat belt use, and union status. In 2015, there was a change in the release of data. Formerly, a

preliminary release was made in August or September with revised, final data published in April of the following year. Final data is now released in December – 4 months earlier than in past years. This December release is the only release of CFOI data. Most recently, the coding structure for nature, part of body, event, and sources was changed in 2023.

The program continues to develop to meet the needs of researchers, as the data is beneficial in creating engineering solutions, regulations, and education programs to minimize workplace deaths. ■

## GENERAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

<i>(Seasonally adjusted)</i>	3Q 2024	3Q 2023	YoY CHG NO. %		2Q 2024	QoQ CHG NO. %	
<b>General Drift Indicator (2007=100)*</b>							
<b>Leading</b>			0.0	####		0.0	####
<b>Coincident</b>			0.0	####		0.0	####
<b>Real Gross Domestic Product**</b> (Millions of chained 2017 dollars)	3Q 2024	3Q 2023	YoY CHG NO. %		2Q 2024	QoQ CHG NO. %	
<b>Connecticut</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>United States</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>New England</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>Per Capita Personal Income**</b> (Current \$, SAAR)	3Q 2024	3Q 2023	YoY CHG NO. %		2Q 2024	QoQ CHG NO. %	
<b>Connecticut</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>United States</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>New England</b>			0	####		0	####
<b>Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index (2007=100)***</b>	Dec 2024	Dec 2023	YoY CHG NO. %		Nov 2024	MoM CHG NO. %	
<b>Connecticut</b>			0.00	####		0.00	####
<b>United States</b>			0.00	####		0.00	####

Sources: \*Dr. Steven P. Lanza, University of Connecticut, <https://steven-lanza.uconn.edu/the-connecticut-green-sheet/>  
 \*\*U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis \*\*\*Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

**General Drift Indicators** are composite measures of the four-quarter change in three coincident (Connecticut Manufacturing Production Index, nonfarm employment, and real personal income) and three leading (housing permits, manufacturing average weekly hours, and initial unemployment claims) economic variables, and are indexed so 2007 = 100.

The **Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index** summarizes current economic condition by using four coincident variables: nonfarm payroll employment, average hours worked in manufacturing, the unemployment rate, and wage and salary disbursements deflated by the consumer price index (U.S. city average).