

ECONOMIC DIGEST

Vol.29 No.2 A joint publication of Connecticut Department of Labor & Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

FEBRUARY 2024

IN THIS ISSUE...

Connecticut's Work-Related Fatality Rate Second Lowest in Nation for Two Years in a Row 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 1,6
 Change over month +0.03%
 Change over year +1.45%

United States 15
 Change over month +0.13%
 Change over year +1.81%

Unemployment Rate

Connecticut 3.
 United States 3.7%

Consumer Price Index

United States 30
 Change over year +3.1%

Connecticut's Work-Related Fatality Rate Second Lowest in Nation for Two Years in a Row

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

Connecticut lost 34 lives to work injuries in 2022, for a rate of 2.0 deaths per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers. This is an increase from 2021's 23 deaths but is below Connecticut's annual average of 38 work-related deaths (Chart 1). Only one other state – Rhode Island – recorded a rate lower than Connecticut's (Table 1).

The nation lost 5,486 lives to workplace injuries in 2022, an increase from 2021's 5,190 deaths. The fatal injury rate increased from 3.6 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers in 2021 to 3.7 in 2022. The highest loss was seen in Texas with 578 deaths, followed by California with 504 deaths and Florida with 307 deaths. High rates were

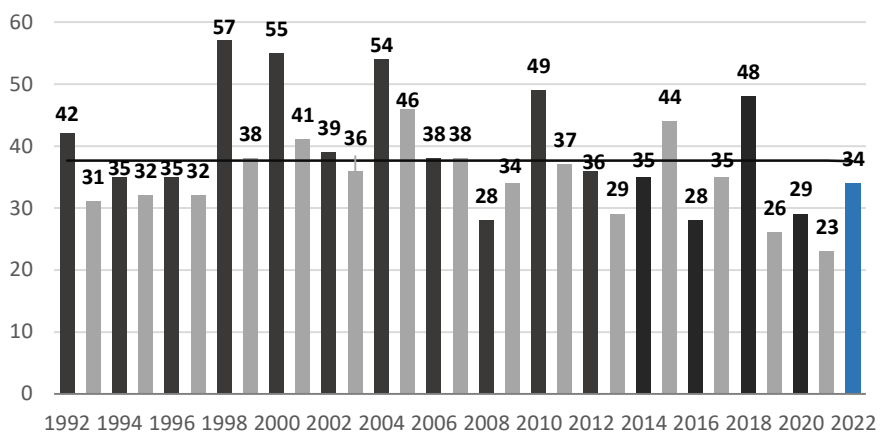
recorded in Wyoming (12.7) and North Dakota (9.8). Rhode Island had 7 deaths, the lowest recorded number for states.

Industry

Nationally, the construction industry recorded the highest number of deaths at 1,069 followed by transportation and warehousing with 1,053 deaths. Together, these two industries account for 39 percent of deaths.

The construction industry and the transportation and warehousing industry each had 9 deaths in Connecticut. Together, they accounted for 53 percent of 2022's deaths. Manufacturing came in third with 4 deaths, or 11.8 percent of total deaths (Table 2). With an overall rate of 2.0,

Chart 1. Connecticut Work Related Fatalities 1992 - 2022



Connecticut averages 38 work-related deaths annually

ECONOMIC DIGEST

The Connecticut Economic Digest is published monthly by the Connecticut Department of Labor, Office of Research, and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. 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 or DECD.

Managing Editor: Jungmin Charles Joo

Associate Editor: Erin C. Wilkins

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many DOL Research and DECD 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
Website: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi>



Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development

Alexandra Daum, Commissioner
Paul O. Robertson, Deputy Commissioner
Robert Hotaling, Deputy Commissioner

450 Columbus Boulevard
Suite 5
Hartford, CT 06103
Phone: (860) 500-2300
Fax: (860) 500-2440

E-Mail: decd@ct.gov
Website: <http://www.decd.org>



Table 1. Fatal Occupational Injuries by State 2022

Rates per 100,000 full time equivalent workers

State of Incident	Number	Rate
TOTAL	5,486	3.7
Rhode Island	7	1.4
Connecticut	34	2.0
Massachusetts	81	2.4
New Jersey	116	2.7
New Hampshire	19	2.8
Oregon	55	2.8
Maryland	80	2.8
Minnesota	81	2.8
Washington	104	2.9
New York	251	2.9
California	504	2.9
Ohio	153	3.0
Illinois	177	3.0
Colorado	89	3.1
Pennsylvania	183	3.1
Florida	307	3.1
Arizona	103	3.2
Michigan	139	3.2
Virginia	144	3.4
Hawaii	25	3.5
Vermont	11	3.6
Iowa	56	3.6
Utah	57	3.6
Alabama	74	3.6
Delaware	17	3.7
Maine	23	3.8
Kansas	52	3.8
Kentucky	71	3.9
Oklahoma	70	4.0
Nevada	60	4.3
Wisconsin	125	4.3
Georgia	209	4.3
Texas	578	4.3
District of Columbia	15	4.4
Idaho	39	4.4
Missouri	121	4.4
North Carolina	217	4.6
Montana	25	4.8
Indiana	156	5.0
Alaska	20	5.1
South Dakota	27	5.6
Tennessee	173	5.7
Nebraska	57	5.8
Arkansas	75	6.1
South Carolina	132	6.1
Louisiana	120	6.4
West Virginia	48	6.8
New Mexico	57	6.8
Mississippi	78	6.9
North Dakota	37	9.8
Wyoming	34	12.7

Connecticut saw a rate of 9.4 in transportation and utilities and 6.7 in construction. Rates for other industry sectors did not meet publishing criteria.

Worker Characteristics

Twenty-eight of the workers were wage and salary workers; six were self-employed. Fifty nine percent (20) of deaths were white. Eight were Hispanic or Latino and three were Black or African American. Nationally, Hispanic or Latino workers made up 22.7 percent of fatal occupational injuries in 2022. Deaths for Black or African American workers climbed to 734 in 2022 from 653 in 2021, a 12.4 percent increase. Thirty-two of Connecticut's deaths were men; nationally 92 percent of 2022's work-related deaths were men.

Event

Historically, the United States loses the most workers to transportation incidents. The year 2022 saw 2,066 lives lost to transportation incidents – 38 percent of all work-related deaths. Falls, slips and trips was the second most common event with 865 deaths (16 percent). Violence and other injuries by persons or animals was the third most common event with 849 deaths (15 percent). Workplace homicides claimed 524 lives and suicides claimed 267. Exposure to harmful substances or environments accounted for 839 deaths (15 percent).

With twelve deaths, transportation incidents claimed the most lives in Connecticut, accounting for 35 percent of total deaths. Falls, slips, and trips incidents had 7 deaths, and the contact with objects and equipment category had 6 deaths.

Occupations

Transportation and material moving occupations lost twelve

Industry	2022 Fatalities			
	CT		U.S.	
TOTAL	34	100.0%	5,486	100.0%
Private Industry	31	91.2%	5,005	91.2%
Goods Producing	-	-	-	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-	-	417	7.6%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	-	-	113	2.1%
Construction	9	26.5%	1,069	19.5%
Manufacturing	4	11.8%	404	7.4%
Service Providing	-	-	-	-
Wholesale trade	-	-	171	3.1%
Retail trade	-	-	301	5.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	9	26.5%	1,053	19.2%
Utilities	-	-	36	0.7%
Information	-	-	48	0.9%
Finance and insurance	-	-	17	0.3%
Real estate and rental and leasing	-	-	83	1.5%
Professional, scientific, and technical service	-	-	76	1.4%
Administrative and waste services	3	8.8%	517	9.4%
Educational services	-	-	38	0.7%
Health care and social assistance	1	2.9%	140	2.6%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1	2.9%	88	1.6%
Accommodation and food services	-	-	218	4.0%
Other services, except public admin	1	2.9%	200	3.6%
Government	3	8.8%	481	8.8%
Federal	-	-	90	1.6%
State	-	-	84	1.5%
Local	3	8.8%	303	5.5%

- Indicates data does not meet publication criteria

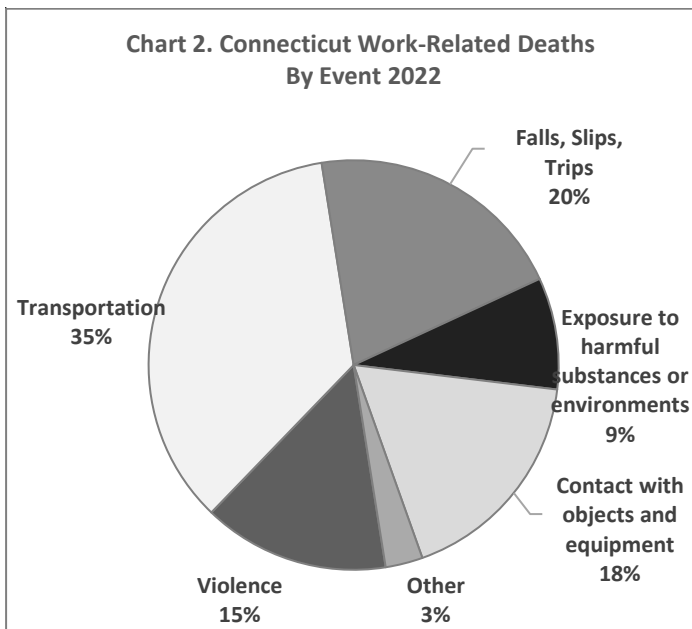
lives in Connecticut, accounting for 35 percent of total deaths. Ten of the transportation and material moving occupations were heavy and tractor-trailer drivers (Table 4). Construction and extraction occupations lost 7 lives.

Nationally, the transportation and material moving occupational group and the construction and extraction occupational group accounted for 48.8 percent of worker deaths in 2022. Transportation and material moving occupations lost 1,620 workers and construction and extraction occupations lost 1,056 workers. While the overall rate was 3.7 for 100,000 full time equivalent workers, logging workers saw a rate of 100.7. This was followed by roofers with a rate of 57.5 and fishing and hunting workers with a rate of 50.9.

Table 3. CT Fatal Occupational Injuries by Event or Exposure

Event or Exposure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	48	26	29	23	34
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	8	-	4	2	5
Homicides	1	-	3	2	3
Suicides	7	-	-	-	2
Injury by person—unintentional or intent unknown	-	-	-	-	-
Animal and insect related incidents	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation incidents	19	12	9	7	12
Pedestrian vehicular incident	3	1	4	-	-
Roadway collision with other vehicle	8	6	3	3	-
Roadway collision with object other than vehicle	6	2	2	-	-
Nonroadway incident involving motorized land vehicle	-	1	-	-	-
Fire or explosion	-	-	-	-	-
Fall, slip, trip	10	5	6	3	7
Fall on same level	-	-	-	-	-
Fall to lower level	8	5	6	3	7
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	6	-	4	4	3
Exposure to electricity	-	-	-	-	-
Exposure to other harmful substances	6	-	-	-	3
Contact with objects and equipment	5	6	6	6	6
Struck by object or equipment	4	4	3	6	5
Caught in or compressed by equipment or objects	-	1	-	-	-

- Indicates data does not meet publication criteria



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	2022
Total	34
Management occupations	2
Other management occupations	2
Miscellaneous managers	2
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	4
Building cleaning and pest control workers	1
Grounds maintenance workers	3
Construction and extraction occupations	7
Installation, maintenance and repair occupations	3
Transportation and material moving occupations	12
Motor vehicle operators	10
Heavy and tractor-trailer drivers	10

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 death, some are missed. The

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 12 percent to 5,486 deaths in 2022.

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. The coding structure for nature, part of body, event, and sources was changed in 2011. In 2012, the program began documenting contractor status, the use of drugs or alcohol, seat belt use, and union status.

Most recently, there has been 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. Beginning with the 2015 reference 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.

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 2023	3Q 2022	YoY CHG		2Q 2023	QoQ CHG	
			NO.	%		NO.	%
General Drift Indicator (2007=100)*							
Leading	111.9	111.8	0.2	0.2	111.4	0.5	0.48
Coincident	96.3	95.8	0.5	0.5	95.8	0.5	0.51
Real Gross Domestic Product** (Millions of chained 2017 dollars)	3Q 2023	3Q 2022	YoY CHG		2Q 2023	QoQ CHG	
			NO.	%		NO.	%
Connecticut	283,694	276,425	7,269	2.6	280,440	3,255	1.2
United States	22,490,692	21,851,134	639,558	2.9	22,225,350	265,342	1.2
New England	1,166,374	1,135,942	30,432	2.7	1,153,162	13,211	1.1
Per Capita Personal Income** (Current \$, SAAR)	3Q 2023	3Q 2022	YoY CHG		2Q 2023	QoQ CHG	
			NO.	%		NO.	%
Connecticut	87,372	83,537	3,835	4.6	86,606	766	0.9
United States	68,717	65,944	2,773	4.2	68,233	484	0.7
New England	82,387	78,772	3,615	4.6	81,711	676	0.8
Philadelphia Fed's Coincident Index (2007=100)***	Dec 2023	Dec 2022	YoY CHG		Nov 2023	MoM CHG	
			NO.	%		NO.	%
Connecticut			0.00	####		0.00	####
United States			0.00	####		0.00	####

Sources: *Dr. Steven P. Lanza, University of Connecticut, <https://steven-landa.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).