



# Oregon Compensable Fatality Characteristics Calendar Year 2022

## September 2023

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The Workers' Compensation Division received notification of 30 compensable fatalities in 2022, 14 fewer than during 2021, and approximately four lower than the 10-year average of 33.5 fatalities. The number of compensable fatalities in 2022 is the lowest since 2016, when 29 notifications were received for workers who perished on the job.

### OREGON COMPENSABLE FATALITIES 2013-2022

Year	WC covered employment	Fatal claims	Fatal rate
2013	1,694,400	30	1.80
2014	1,745,000	31	1.80
2015	1,796,400	27	1.50
2016	1,855,600	29	1.60
2017	1,899,400	35	1.80
2018	1,943,000	35	1.80
2019	1,972,500	41	2.10
2020	1,857,800	34	1.80
2021	1,909,400	44	2.30
2022	1,980,500	30	1.50

Note: Employment figures are based on data from the Oregon Employment Department. Fatality rates are the number of accepted fatal claims per 100,000 workers. The 2022 employment and fatality rate estimates are preliminary.

Data exclude deaths of workers not subject to Oregon workers' compensation coverage, such as workers who were self-employed, who worked for out-of-state employers, City of Portland police and fire employees, and federal employees.

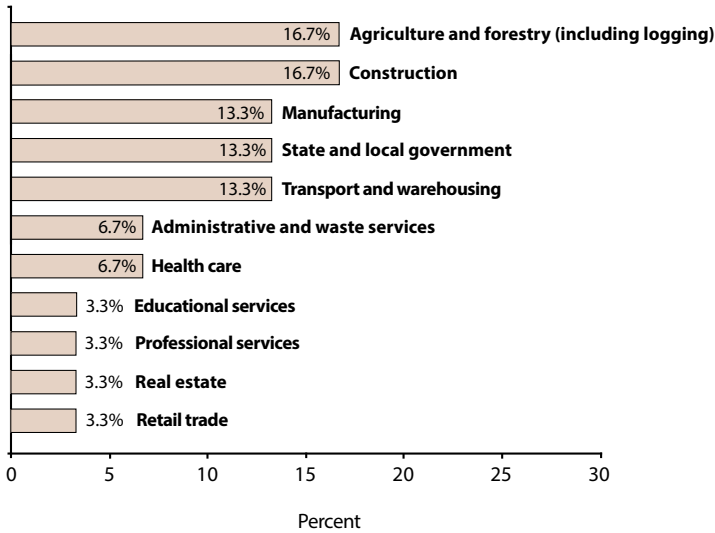
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**OREGON INDUSTRIES**  
by percent of 2022 compensable fatalities



Note: Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

SOURCE of injury or disease	2022 fatalities	Percent of total
Persons, plants, animals and minerals	12	40.0
Vehicles	11	36.7
Machinery	3	10.0
Parts and materials	3	10.0
Other sources	1	3.3

Trucks were the source for five of the 11 vehicles involved in fatal accidents, two of which involved semitrucks.

Note: Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

EVENT resulting in injury	2022 fatalities	Percent of total
Exposure to harmful substances	6	20.0
Pedestrian accident	5	16.7
Homicides	4	13.3
Struck by or against object	4	13.3
Roadway accident	3	10.0
Fall or jump to lower level	2	6.7
Aircraft accident	1	3.3
Caught in or compressed by	1	3.3
Contact with electric current	1	3.3
Exposure to harmful environment	1	3.3
Fires, explosions	1	3.3
Slip, trip without fall	1	3.3

Of the three workers killed in roadway accidents, all were wearing seat belts.

Note: Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

TENURE of worker	2022 fatalities	Percent of total
1st year	5	16.7
<i>One month or less</i>	1	3.3
<i>2nd-3rd months</i>	2	6.7
<i>4th-6th months</i>	0	0.0
<i>7th-12th months</i>	2	6.7
2nd year	1	3.3
3rd year	1	3.3
4th-5th years	6	20.0
6th-10th years	5	16.7
11th-25th years	4	13.3
26 or more years	2	6.7
Unknown	6	20.0

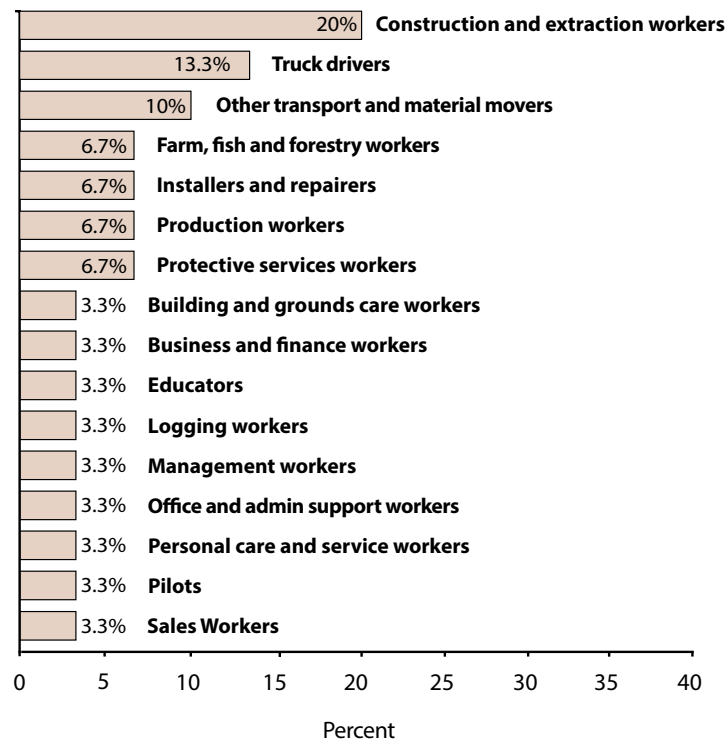
Note: Tenure is the amount of time the employee worked for the employer at the time of injury and is not necessarily indicative of the worker's level of experience.

Note: Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

## Compensable Fatality Facts, Oregon, 2022

- Of the 30 compensable fatalities in 2022, six were the result of infection with the COVID-19 virus. Consequently, COVID-19 infection accounted for all of the compensable fatalities resulting from exposure to harmful substances, and exactly half of compensable fatalities with people, plants, animals, or minerals as a source. The previous year, there were eight compensable fatalities that were the result of COVID-19 infection.
- The average age of workers with fatal claims accepted during 2022 was 52 years, which is five years higher than the average age of 47 from the previous year. The average age from 2013 to 2022 was approximately 47 years of age. The previous 10-year average from 2003 to 2012 was about 44 years of age.
- The oldest worker with a fatal claim was a 71-year-old parking lot attendant who was struck by a SUV. The youngest worker was a 22-year-old security guard who was shot by an assailant.
- There were two fatal claims accepted for female workers in 2022, which is two less than the previous two years. During the five-year period from 2018 to 2022, female workers accounted for 8.2 percent of accepted fatalities, a decrease from the 9.3 percent in the previous five-year period (2013 to 2017).
- Four of the compensable fatalities in 2022 were workers employed in the public sector. This is the second highest total in the past five years, surpassed only by the 2021 total of six public sector workers. The next highest was in 2019, when there were three compensable fatalities for public sector workers. The five-year average is now 7.7 public sector workers. Of the four compensable fatalities for worker in the public sector in 2022, two were the result of infection with the COVID-19 virus.
- Of the 30 compensable fatalities, four were out of state. There was one fatality in Alaska, one in Hawaii and two in Washington.
- During 2022, four (13 percent) compensable fatal claims were received for workers of Hispanic ethnicity, compared to six (30 percent) during 2021.
- There were three fatal claims accepted for roadway incidents in 2022, six lower than in 2021. This is below the five-year average (8.8).

**OCCUPATION OF FATALLY INJURED OREGON WORKERS  
by percent of 2022 compensable fatalities**



Note: Due to rounding, percents may not sum to 100.



## OREGON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION (Oregon OSHA)

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA) offers a wide range of services to Oregon's employers and workers to improve workplace safety and health. These services include:

- Consultations
- Education/conferences
- Technical resources and film library
- Educational grants
- Hazard abatement assistance

For more information, contact:

350 Winter St. NE  
Third Floor  
P.O. Box 14480  
Salem, OR 97309-0405

**503-378-3272** or **800-922-2689** (toll-free)

[osha.oregon.gov](http://osha.oregon.gov)

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), this publication is available in alternative formats.

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## Fatality/claims data

Visit <http://www.oregon.gov/DCBS/reports/Pages/index.aspx> for more workers' compensation claims data and other statistical reports, or call the Information Technology and Research Section at 503-378-8254.

## Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

National work-related fatality data can be found on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' website at <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshcfoi1.htm>.

## Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation

Information about Oregon Health and Science University's Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program (FACE) can be found at <https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-fatality-assessment-control-evaluation>.

## Employer workers' compensation coverage

For more information about employer coverage requirements, contact the Workers' Compensation Division Employer Compliance Program at [wcd.employerinfo@oregon.gov](mailto:wcd.employerinfo@oregon.gov), call 888-877-5670 (toll-free), or visit [wcd.oregon.gov](http://wcd.oregon.gov).

## Classification systems

Data are classified according to the following classification systems:

Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System (OIICS), Standard Occupation Classification System (SOC), North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)



Call 503-378-8254.

Visit the DCBS website [oregon.gov/dcbs](http://oregon.gov/dcbs) and select the "Statistical Reports" link at the bottom of the page for additional claims data and statistical reports, or call 503-378-8254.