

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



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CFOI Reports 108 Work-Related Deaths in 2019

There were 108 fatal work-related injuries recorded in South Carolina in 2019, up 10 from the previous year, according to data from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

In previous years, the totals were: 98 in 2018, 88 in 2017; 96 in 2016; 117 in 2015; 64 in 2014; 75 in 2013; 63 in 2012; 81 in 2011; 69 in 2010; 73 in 2009; 87 in 2008; and 122 in 2007.

CFOI is compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. The report compiles a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in South Carolina during the calendar year. The CFOI program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries.

The census counts every fatal work-related injury, including highway deaths and homicides, which are not covered by OSHA. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and SC OSHA counts should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions used by each agency.

Key findings of the 2019 South Carolina CFOI include:

• By event or exposure type, transportation incidents remained the most frequent occupational fatality at 41. Violence and other injuries by persons or animals followed at 27, falls, slips and trips at 17, contact with objects and equipment at 13, exposure to harmful substances or environments at 9, and fires and explosions at 1.

• Deaths among men totaled 101, while women accounted for 7 fatalities. A total of 57.1% of the fatalities involving women were due to violence and other injuries by persons or animals.

• Fatalities by race or ethnic origin were led by White, non-Hispanic workers at 61, followed by 28 for Black or African American, non-Hispanic, and15 for Hispanic or Latino workers.

In 2019, SC OSHA reported and investigated 40 work-related fatalities.