

# Indicator #16: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries and Occupations at High Risk for Occupational Mortality

## Background and Public Health Significance

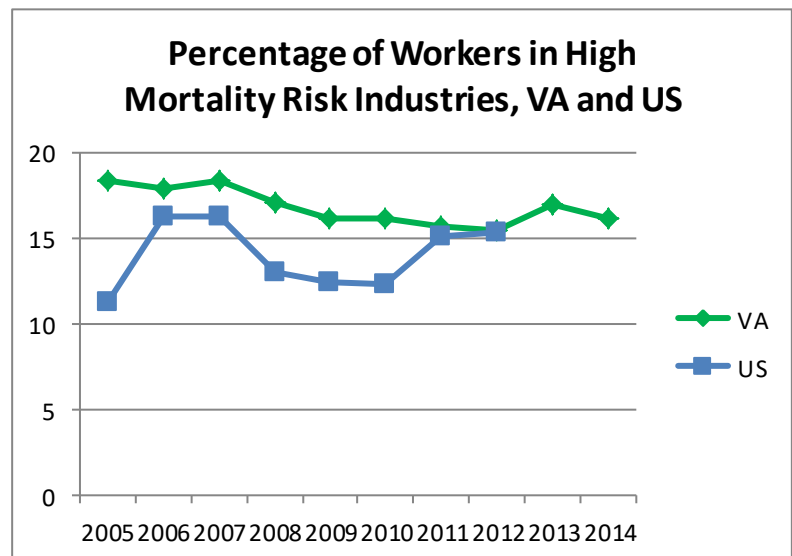
In 2013, 4,585 fatal work injuries were reported to the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) Program administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The 2013 total was the second lowest annual total recorded since the fatal injury census was first conducted in 1992. The overall fatal work injury rate for the U.S. in 2013 was 3.3 fatal injuries per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers, down slightly from the final rate of 3.4 reported in 2012. Worker fatalities have decreased approximately 18% from a decade earlier. But even with this decrease, roughly 13 workers die on an average day in the U.S. as a result of a workplace injury (CFOI, 2015).

Data source: Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Population Survey (CPS)

## Rationale:

Multiple factors and risks contribute to work-related fatalities, including workplace and process design, work organization, worker characteristics, economics and other social factors. Surveillance of work-related fatalities can identify new hazards and case clusters, leading to the development of new interventions and new or revised regulations to protect workers. Concentrating on high-risk occupations and industries for fatalities helps prioritize limited resources.

	16.1 Average Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Industries	16.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Industries
2005	571,053	18.4 %
2006	571,630	17.9 %
2007	585,374	18.3 %
2008	551,549	17.1 %
2009	497,016	16.2 %
2010	486,872	16.1 %
2011	496,538	15.7 %
2012	496,393	15.5 %
2013	544,073	17.0 %
2014	526,506	16.2 %



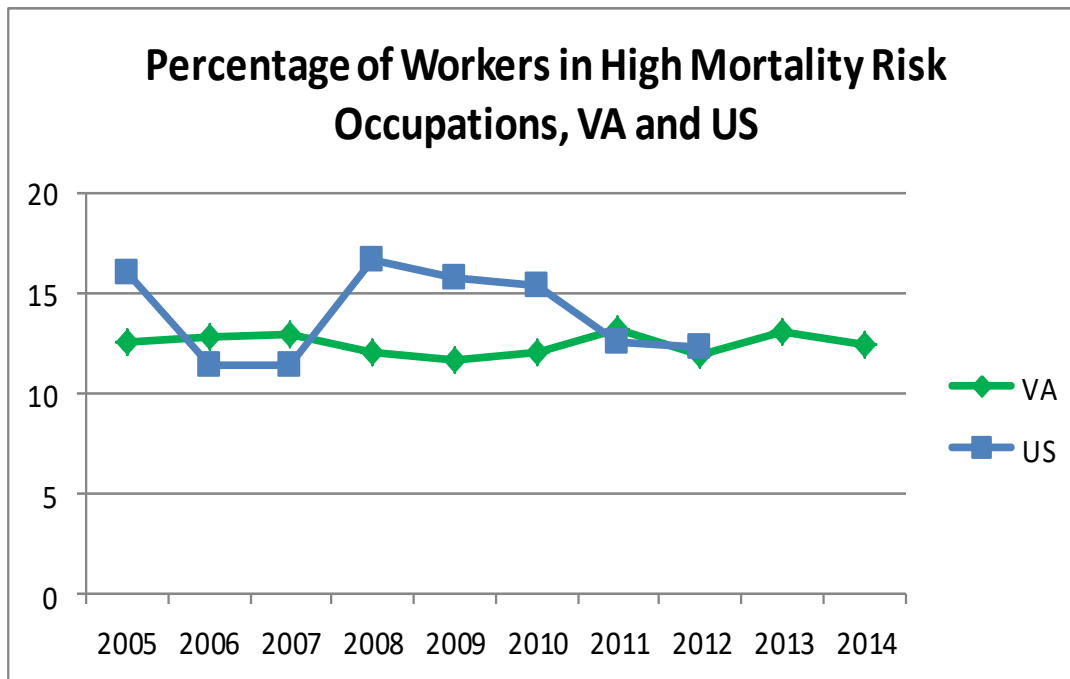
NOTE: 2013 & 2014 rates may change when the updated 2015 Occupational Health Indicators: A Guide for Tracking Occupational Health Conditions and Their Determinants is released due to changes in high risk industries and occupations.

## Limitations

Differences in regional industrial practices may cause the ranking of high-risk occupations and industries within a specific state to differ from those identified from national data. State industry rates are not comparable to other states because of the large differences in industry composition by state.

The CFOI program counts suicides at work as work-related fatalities, even when the cause of death may not be due to factors at work. CFOI does not count military deaths. To be consistent with Indicators #14 and #15, this indicator has been limited to private sector workers. Although, unlike Indicators #14 and #15, the self-employed are included.

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	16.3 Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Occupations	16.4 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Occupations
2005	390,880	12.6 %
2006	408,016	12.8 %
2007	414,305	12.9 %
2008	388,745	12.0 %
2009	358,094	11.7 %
2010	366,527	12.1 %
2011	416,447	13.2 %
2012	382,765	11.9 %
2013	419,505	13.1 %
2014	402,098	12.4 %