

## U.S. Bureau of Labor 2012 data reveals today's most dangerous professions

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September 12, 2013 /**24-7PressRelease**/ -- With constant changes in U.S. employment trends, learning about the most recent up and coming positions available for U.S. workers is always interesting--but keeping up on the most dangerous jobs is even more vital.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recently revealed data from 2012 regarding [workplace injuries](#) and fatalities and the top most dangerous jobs for U.S. workers.

### Workplace injuries, fatalities decrease

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is a federal agency that makes up part of the U.S. Department of Labor. The job of the BLS is to essentially collect, measure, and analyze U.S. labor market activity and working conditions, and utilize that information to support decisions made in the public and private spheres.

According to BLR's National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, both workplace injuries and deaths have decreased over the past 2 years. In 2012, there were approximately 4300 workplace injuries; down from just over 4600 in 2011. Workplace fatalities in 2012 averaged 3.2 per 100,000 full time workers, down from 3.5 from 2011 data.

However, despite the decrease, several professions still remain dangerous and possess a high percentage of fatalities compared to total workers.

**Most dangerous U.S. professions - Lumberjacks:** According to the data, lumberjack positions top the number 1 spot. Approximately 62 employees died while working on the job in 2012. Lumberjacks are responsible for cutting, harvesting and transporting timber for paper and wood products. They often work in strenuous, hostile and remote environments.-

#### **Fishing professionals:**

In 2012, approximately 32 lives were lost at sea. Those with occupations in the fishing industry work in extremely hazardous conditions--particularly those involved in Alaskan shellfishing where workers battle cold temperatures, ice, water, and very heavy and dangerous equipment.-

#### **Airplane pilots**

: In 2012, there were 71 reported airplane pilots killed on the job in the U.S. Although the number is higher overall than the others, it equates to approximately 54 deaths per full time worker.

### **Transportation, workplace violence top reasons behind fatalities**

The top cause of worker fatalities were transportation related. About 41 percent of all fatal workplace accidents in 2012 were attributed to collisions, overturned motor vehicles, and plane crashes.

The second leading cause of worker fatalities in 2012 was violent acts such as assaults and suicides. About 18 percent of workplace fatalities were from a hostile act.

The BLS expects to release the official numbers on workplace injuries and fatalities in the spring of 2014.

### **Availability of workers' comp benefits**

These and many other workplace professions not recently profiled by the BLS carry their own risks. Fortunately, workers' compensation benefits are available to workers who suffer injuries, accidents or illnesses while working on the job. Money to pay for medical bills, rehabilitation services and lost wages are among the list.

However, speaking with a workers' compensation attorney to learn more about all benefits available as they pertain to a specific circumstance is recommended.

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