

New data reveals deadliest jobs in the United States

Written by Australian Business

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Take a moment to consider whether your occupation comes with the risk of injury to yourself or others. Chances are, regardless of the type of position you hold, you may be at risk of sustaining some type of injury throughout the course of performing your job duties. Even positions that seem relatively risk-free -- such as those that involve primarily office work -- could result in harm to the worker, such as repetitive stress injuries.

Nevertheless, people in certain professions are more at risk of sustaining injuries -- or even, in the worst case scenarios, losing their lives -- while performing their job duties. As many people likely have assumptions about which positions lead to the most fatalities in the United States, the top 10 deadliest jobs in the country may come as a surprise.

Recently, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released data revealing which jobs led to the most fatalities in the United States last year. According to the BLS data, a total of 4,383 workers lost their lives in incidents while on the job in 2012.

According to the information released by the BLS, the job that led to the most fatalities in 2012 was loggers. A total of 62 workers in the logging industry lost their lives while on the job -- making the fatality rate 127.8 for every 100,000 full-time workers.

Previously, fishermen had the deadliest job in the U.S. Last year, they ranked second on the list of dangerous professions, as 32 fishermen lost their lives in 2012. Other professions that made the list of the top 10 deadliest professions in the U.S. included airline pilots, roofers, power-line installers, truck drivers, sales representatives, agricultural workers and construction workers.

What are the common causes of workplace fatalities in the US?

According to the BLS data, a large number of individuals die in transportation accidents while on

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the job. Transportation accidents include both motor vehicle accidents and plane crashes. In total, 41 percent of all workplace accidents that led to a fatality involved a transportation accident in 2012.

After transportation accidents, violent incidents accounted for the second-leading cause of worker fatalities last year. In total, 767 workers in the U.S. died as a result of a violent act, which includes both suicides and homicides.

In addition, workers are at risk of sustaining a fatal injury in a slip and fall accident or from being hit by large equipment while on the job.

If you have lost a loved one in a workplace accident, you may be entitled to workers' compensation death benefits. Seek the advice of a skilled workers' compensation attorney to ensure your rights are protected.