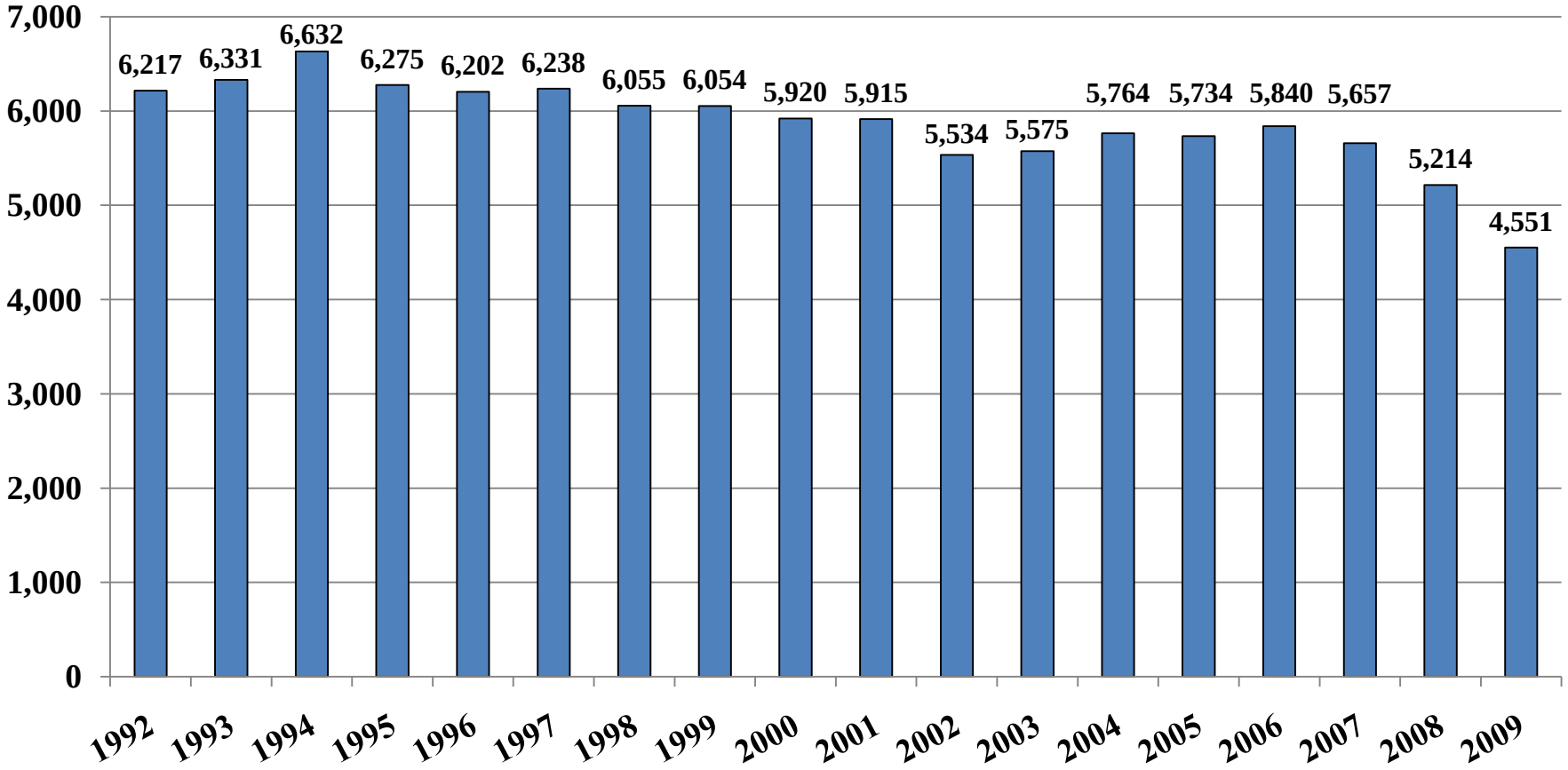
Number of fatal work injuries, 1992–2009



The 2009 total of 4,551 fatal work injuries represents a 13 percent decrease from the 5,214 fatal work injuries reported for 2008.

NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatal work injuries resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Rate of fatal work injuries, 2006–2009

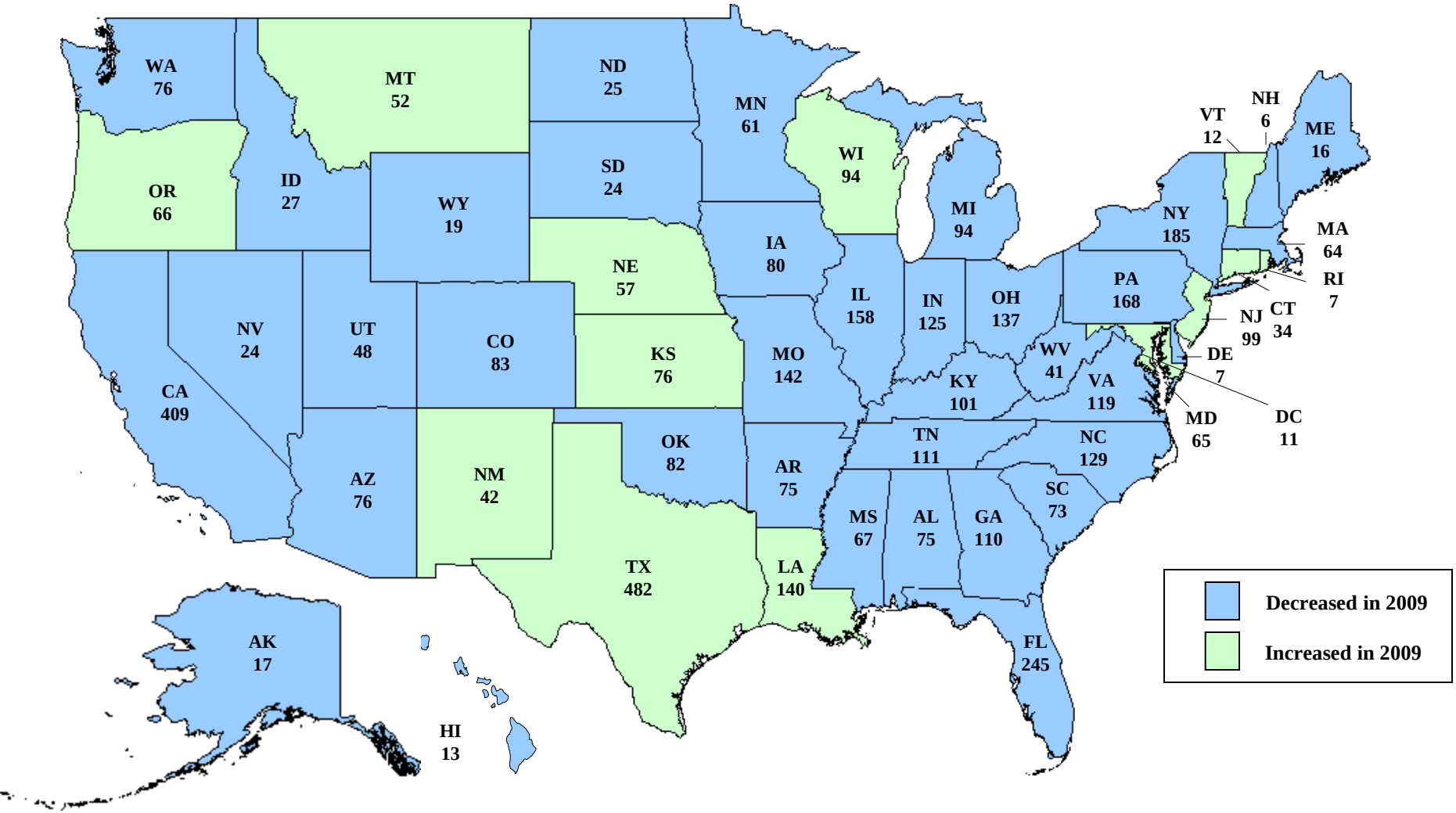
The rate of fatal work injuries in 2009 was 3.5 fatal work injuries per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers, down from 3.7 in 2008.

Rate = (Fatal work injuries/Total hours worked by all employees) x 200,000,000 where 200,000,000 = base for 100,000 full-time equivalent workers (FTEs) working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year. The total hours worked figures are annual average estimates of total at work multiplied by average hours for civilians, 16 years of age and older, from the Current Population Survey (CPS).

In 2008, CFOI implemented a new methodology, using hours worked for fatal work injury rate calculations rather than employment. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology changes please see http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Population Survey, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, and U.S. Census Bureau, 2011.

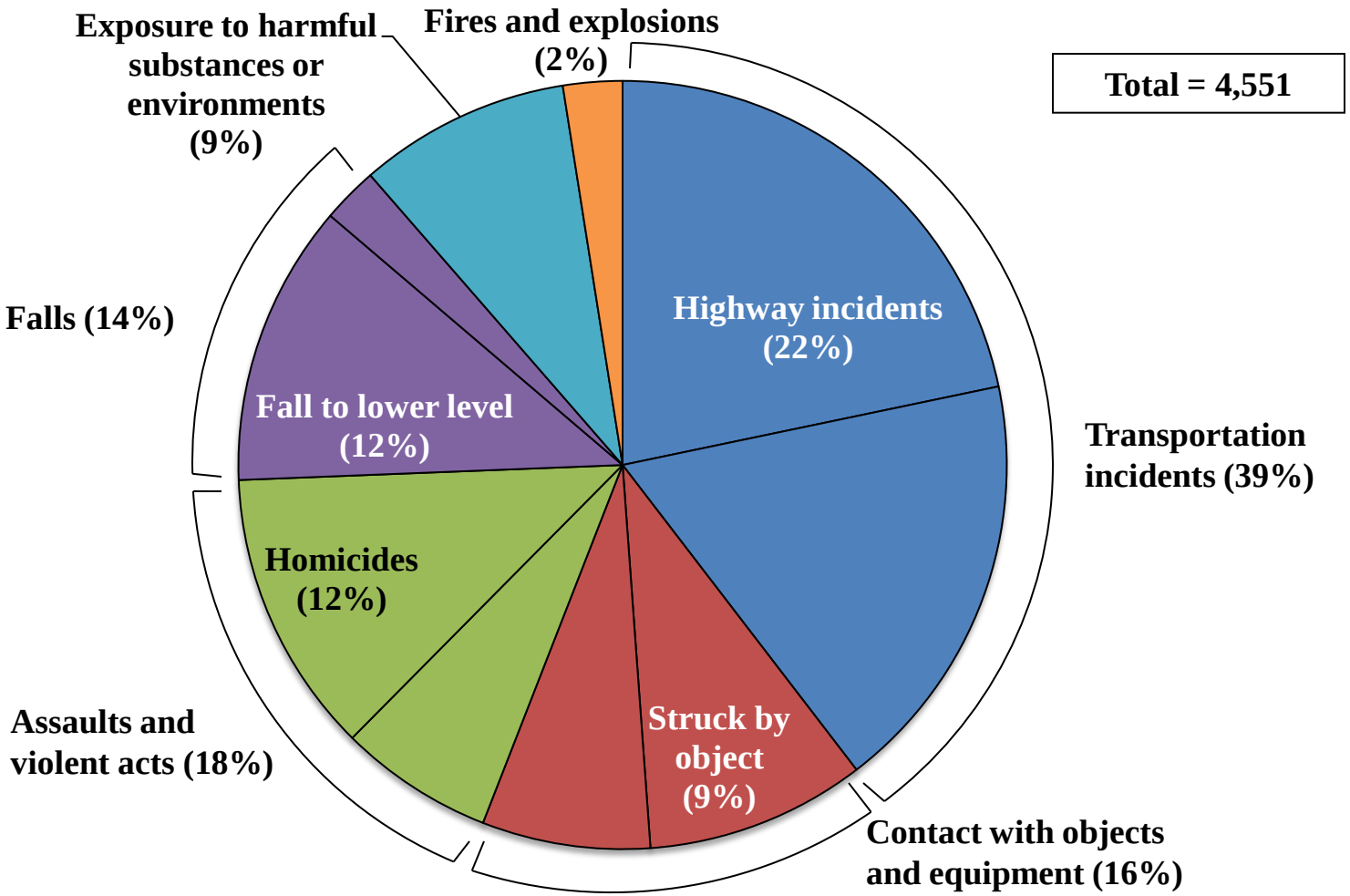
Number of fatal work injuries, by State, 2009



Thirty-seven States had fewer fatal workplace injuries in 2009 compared to 2008. Thirteen States and the District of Columbia had more fatal injuries in 2009 than in 2008.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

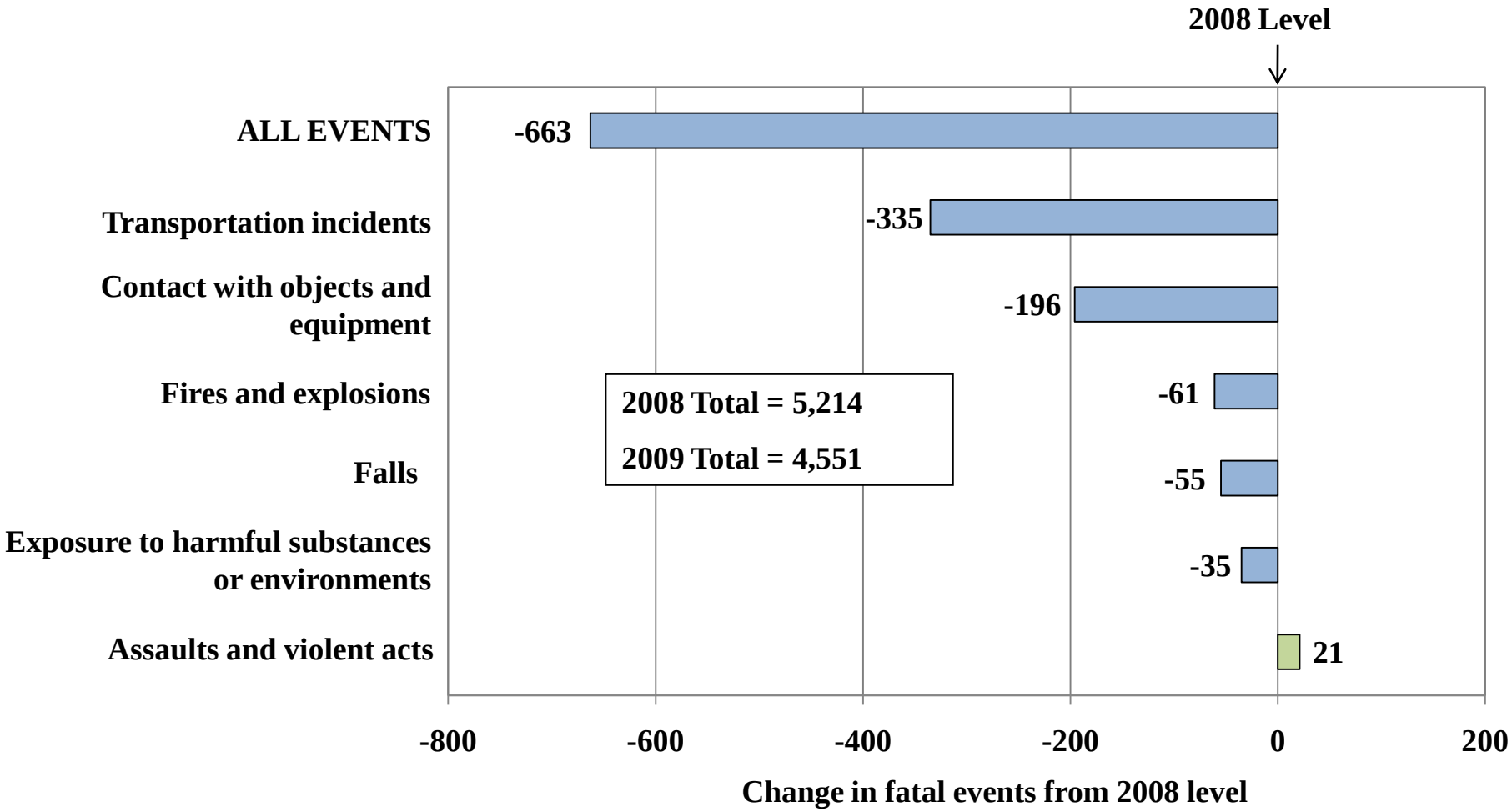
Manner in which fatal work injuries occurred, 2009



More fatal work injuries resulted from transportation incidents than from any other event. Highway incidents alone accounted for more than one out of every five fatal work injuries in 2009.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

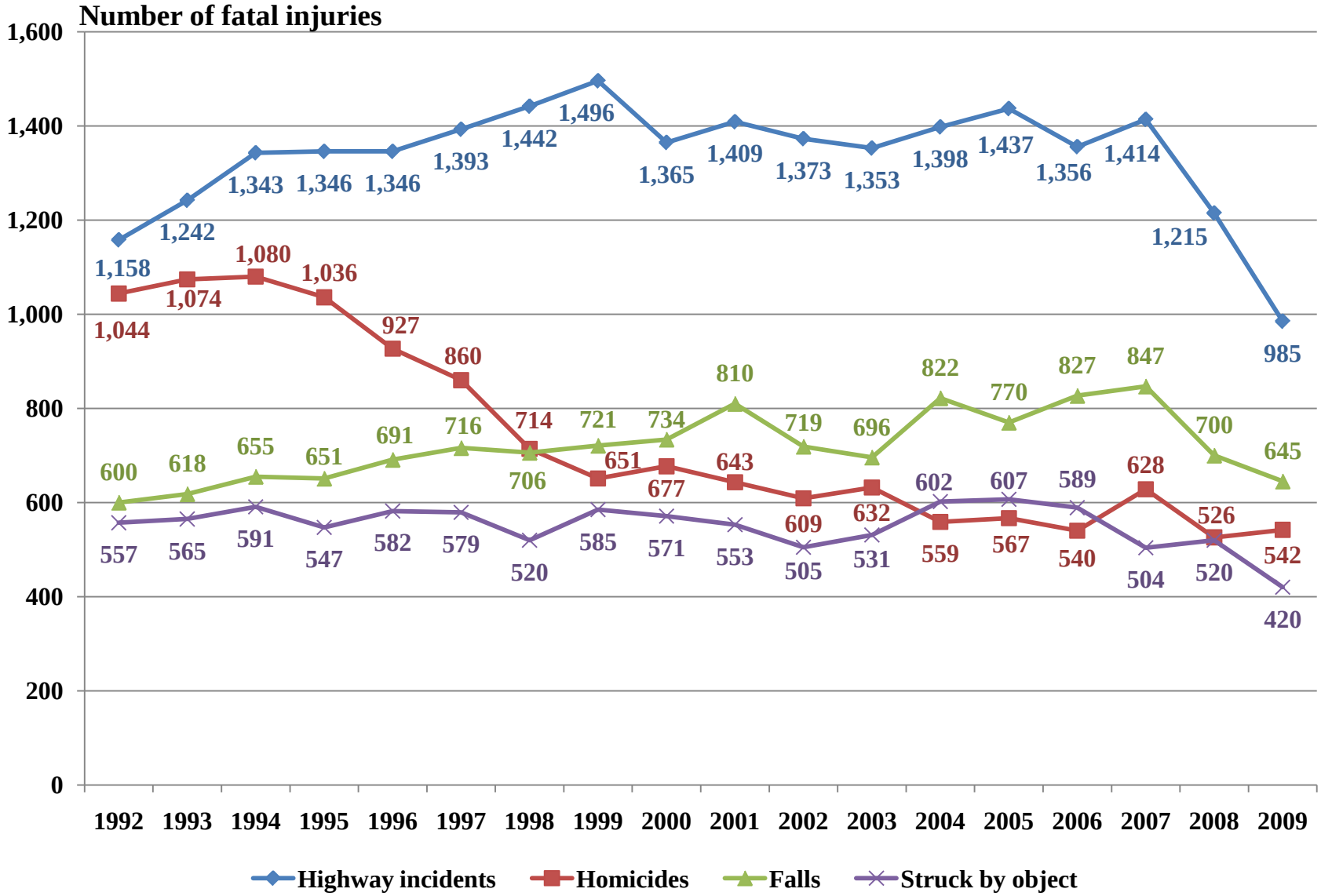
Difference in fatal work injury counts, by event, 2008–2009



Assaults and violent acts was the only type of event to see an increase in fatal work injuries from 2008 to 2009. Fatal injuries from all other types of events decreased in 2009.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

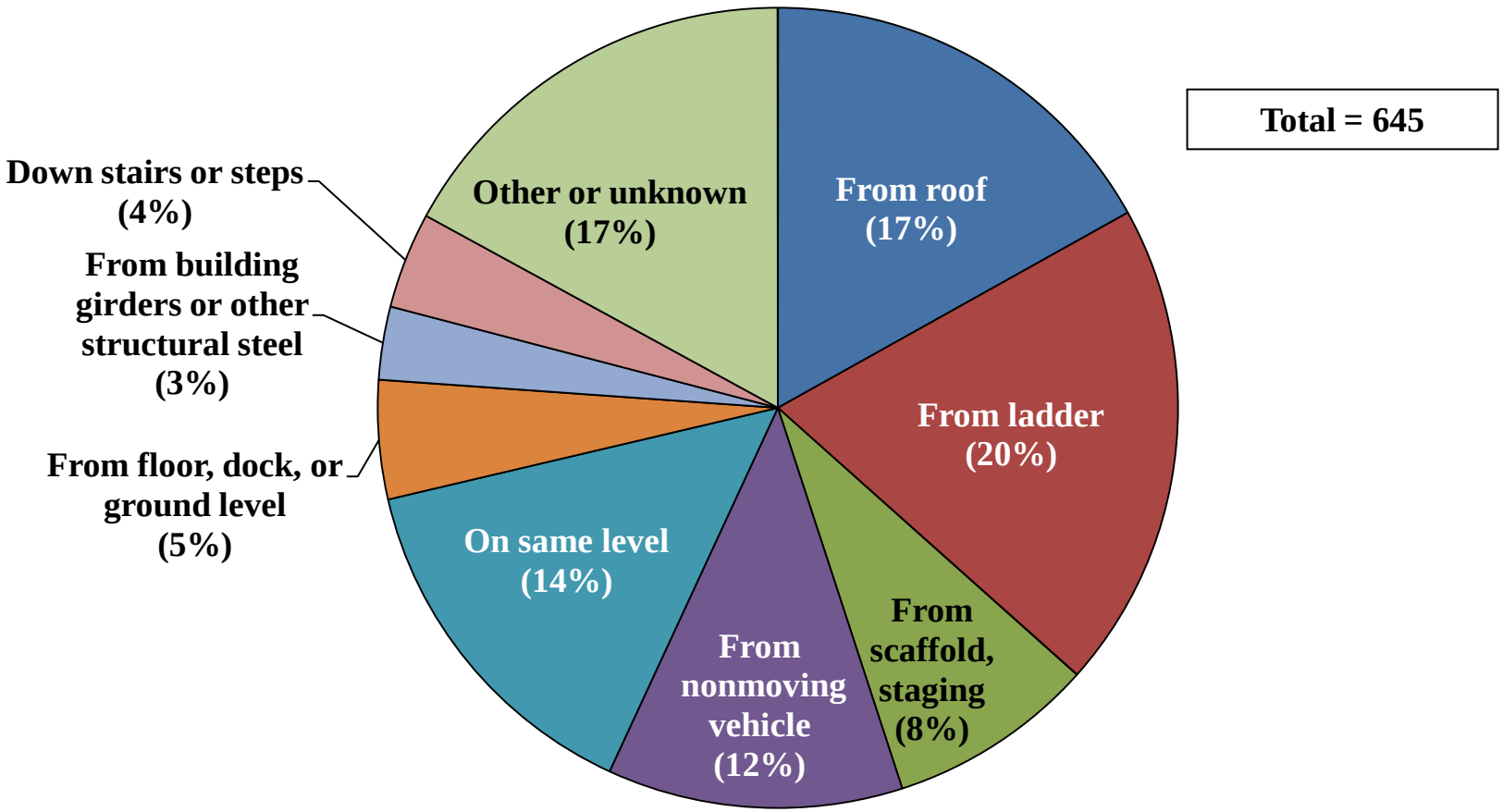
Four most frequent work-related fatal injury events, 1992–2009



Workplace homicides have declined by almost 50 percent since 1994, but increased by 3 percent from 2008 to 2009. Highway incidents decreased by 30 percent in the last two years from 2007 to 2009.

NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatal work injuries resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

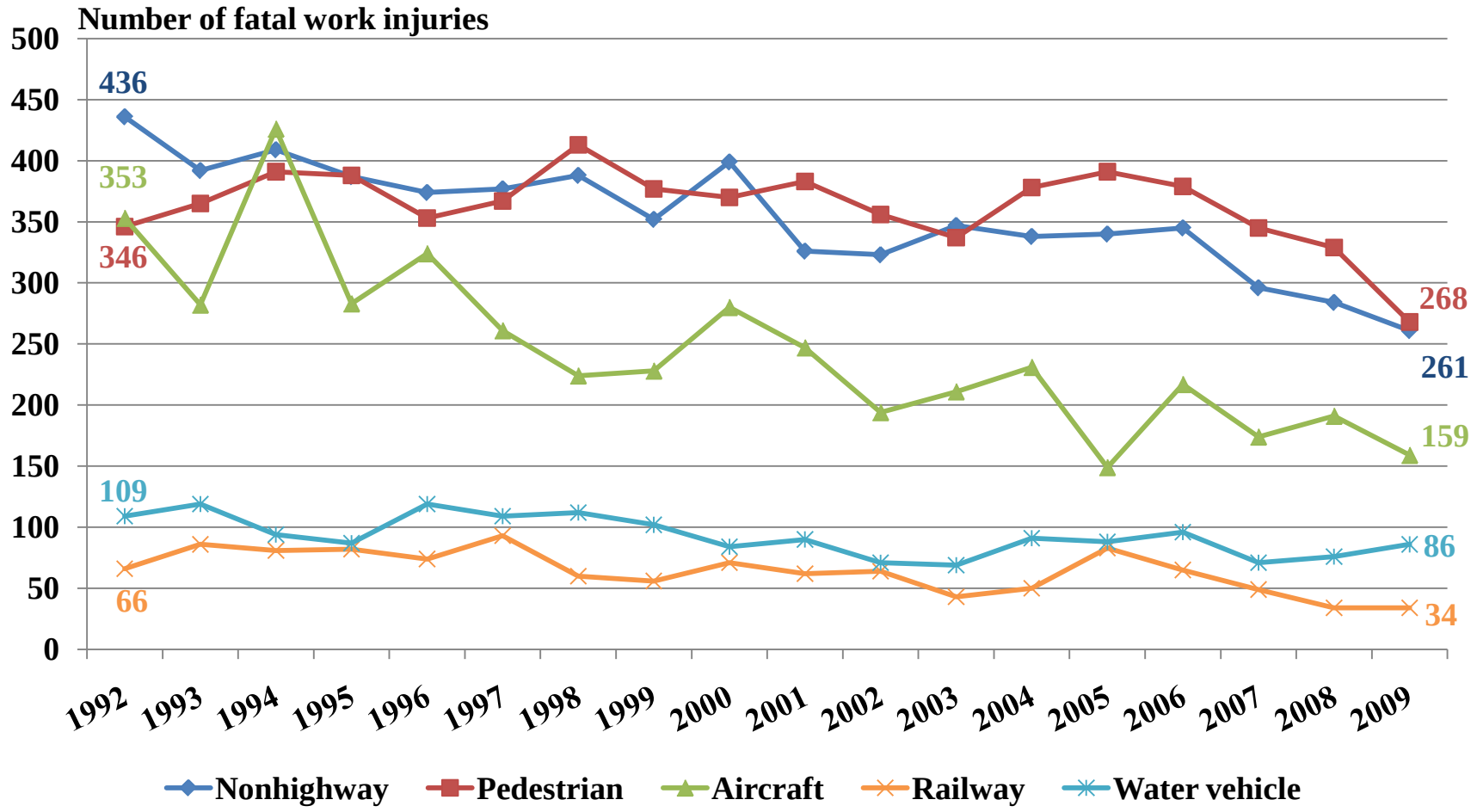
Work-related fatal falls, by type of fall, 2009



Of the 645 fatal falls in 2009, over one-third involved falls from roofs or ladders.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

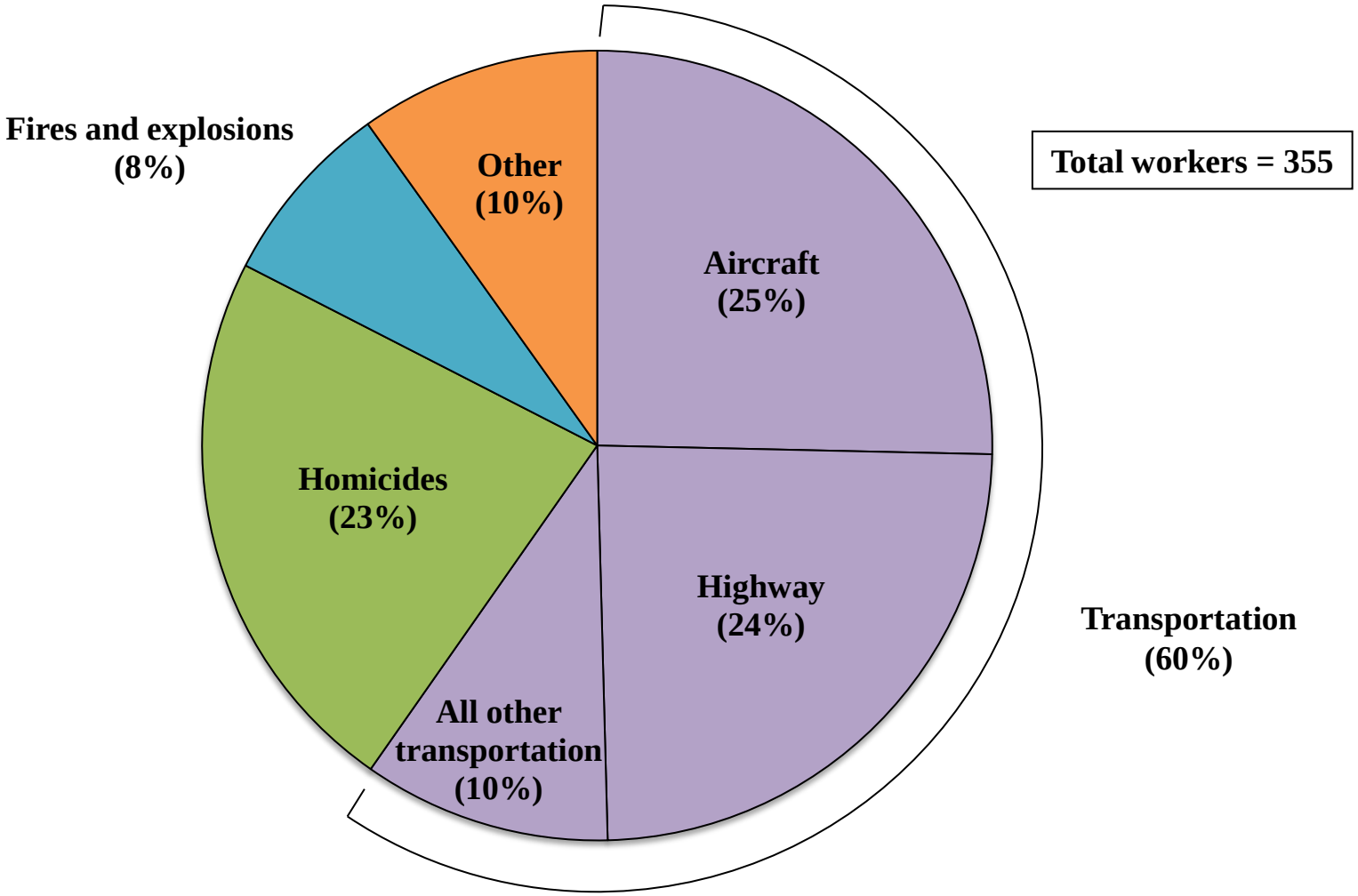
Fatal work-related injuries from selected transportation events, excluding highway incidents, 1992–2009



Fatal work-related injuries involving water vehicle transportation increased in 2009, while nonhighway, pedestrian and aircraft decreased. Railway incidents stayed the same.

NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatal work injuries resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

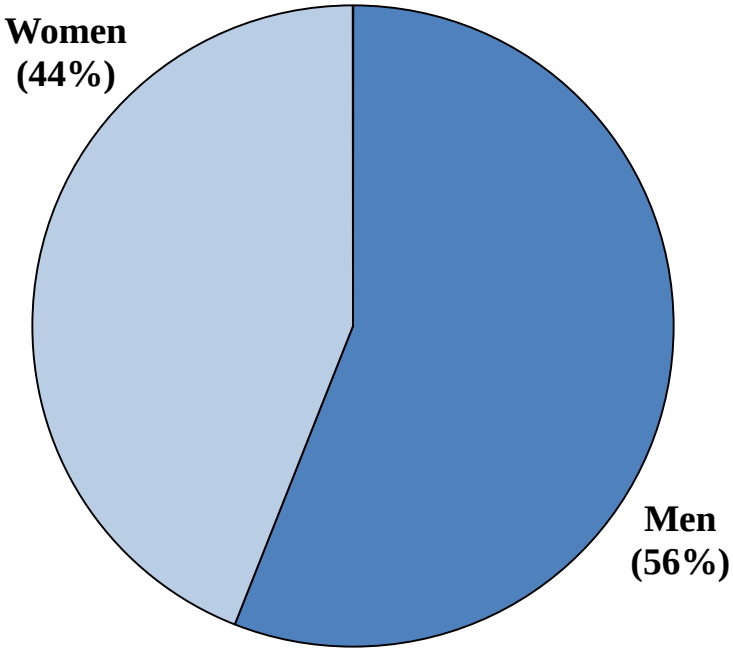
How workers died in multiple-fatality incidents, 2009



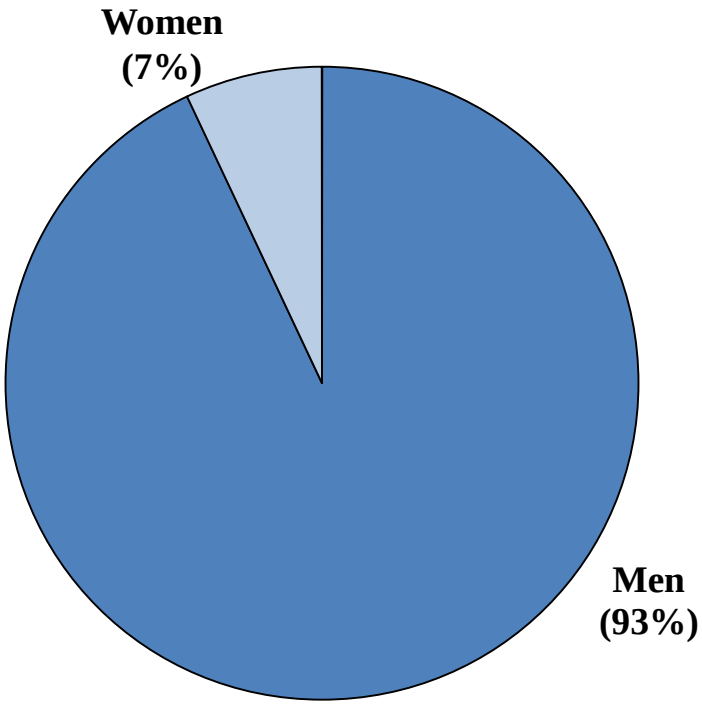
Transportation incidents accounted for three-fifths of the workers killed in multiple-fatality events. Aircraft and highway transportation incidents each made up about a quarter of these multiple-fatality incidents.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Hours worked and fatal work injuries, by gender of worker, 2009



Hours worked = 254,771,380,000

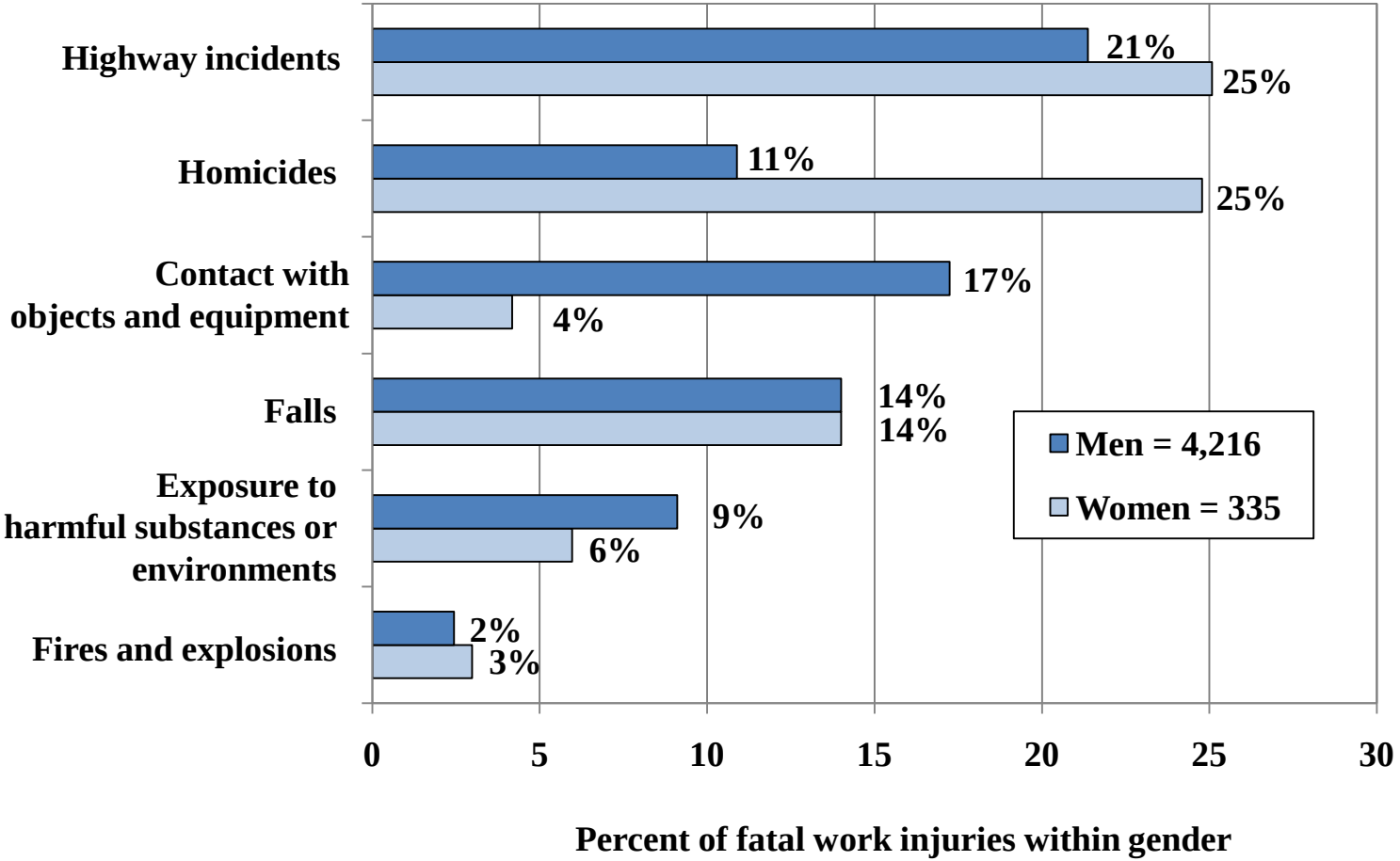


Fatal work injuries = 4,551

A disproportionate share of fatal work injuries involved men relative to their hours worked in 2009.

SOURCE: US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, and Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 2011.

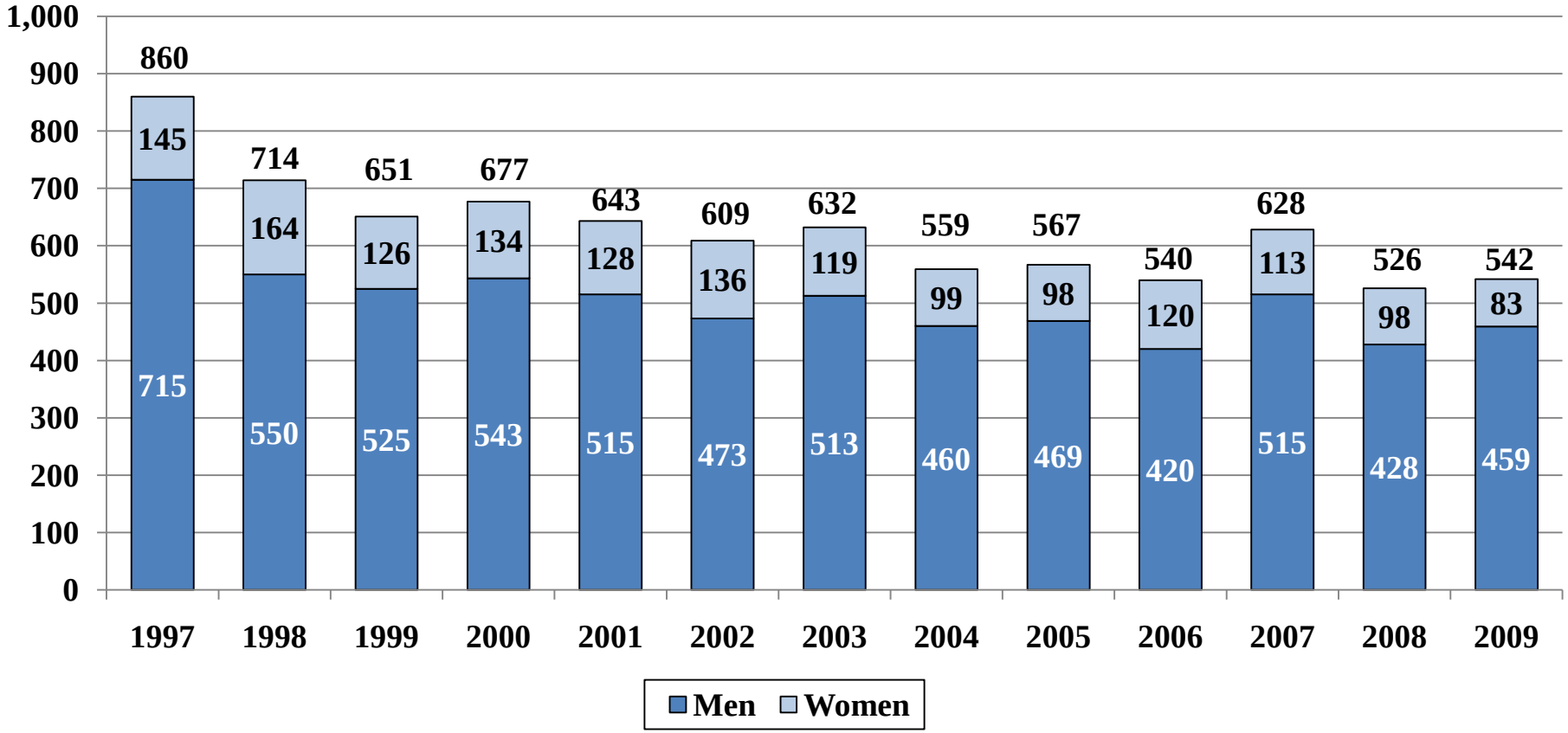
Distribution of fatal injury events, by gender of worker, 2009



A higher percentage of fatal work injuries to women resulted from highway incidents, homicides, and fires and explosions than to men. A higher percentage of fatal work injuries to men resulted from contact with objects and equipment and exposure to harmful substances or environments.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

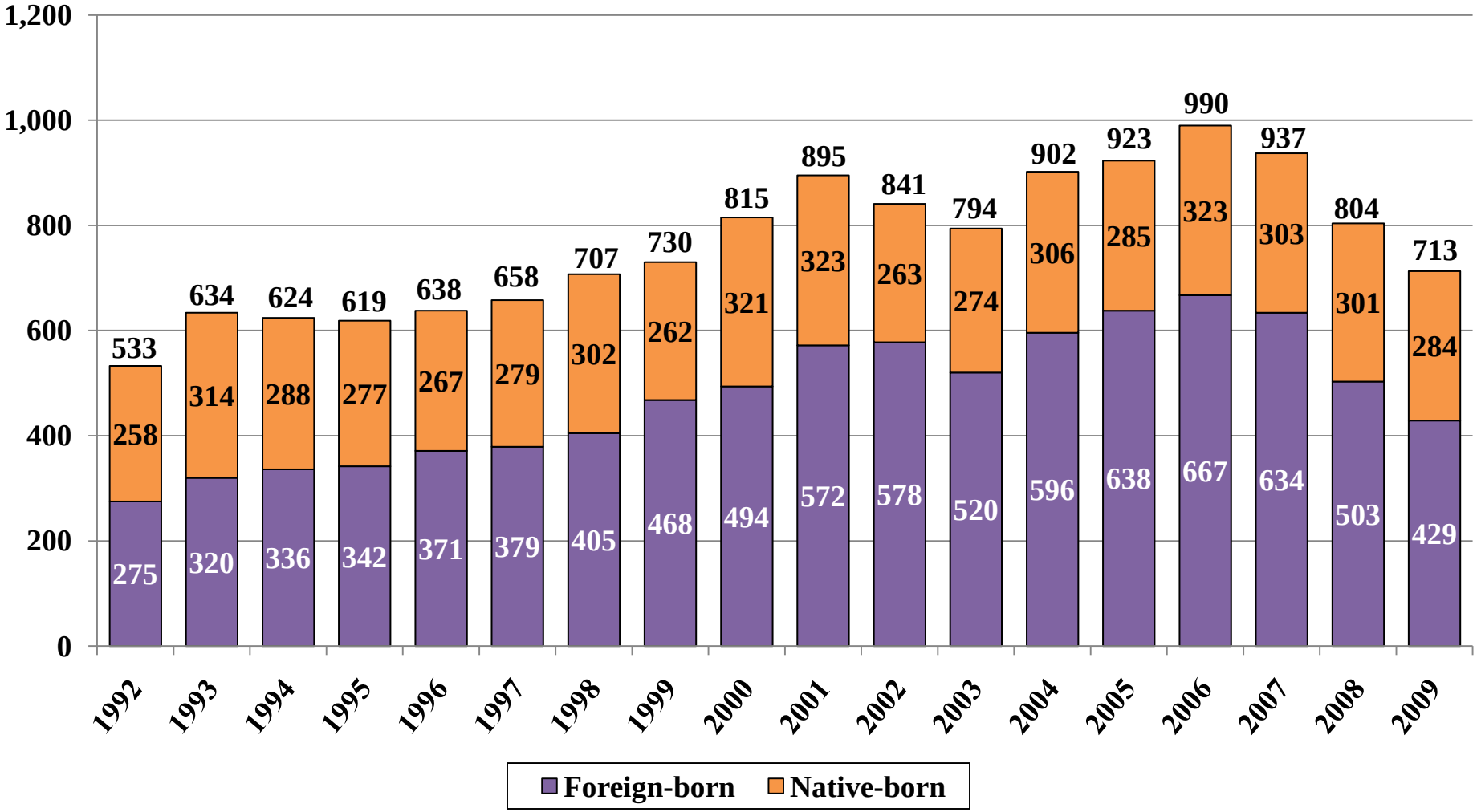
Number of work-related homicides, by gender of decedent, 1997–2009



Workplace homicides incurred by women were down in 2009, but workplace homicides to men increased by 7 percent.

NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatal work injuries resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

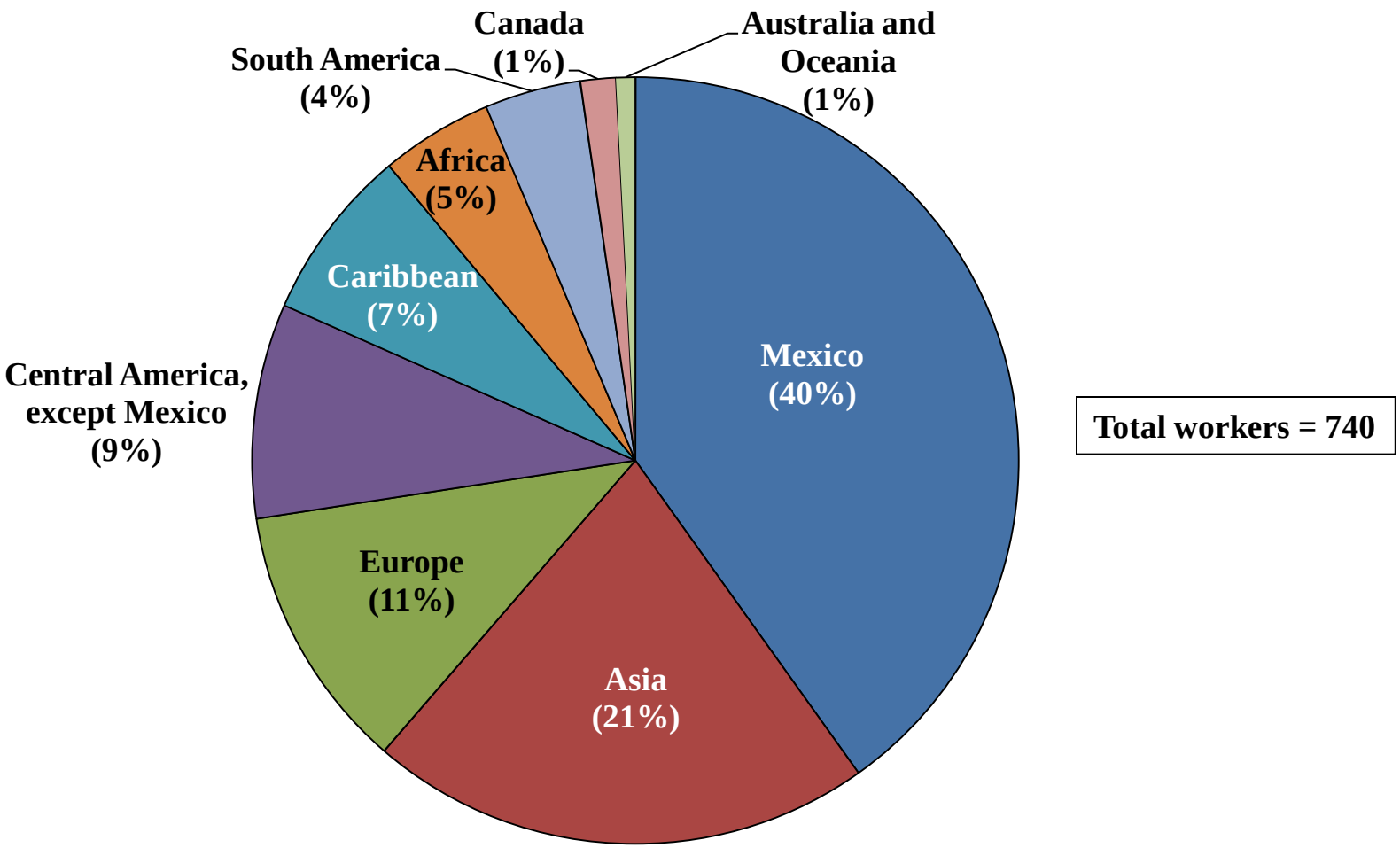
Number of fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers, 1992-2009



Fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers continued to decrease in 2009 after reaching a series high in 2006. About three-fifths of fatally-injured Hispanic or Latino workers in 2009 were born outside of the United States.

NOTE: Data from 2001 exclude fatal work injuries resulting from the September 11 terrorist attacks.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

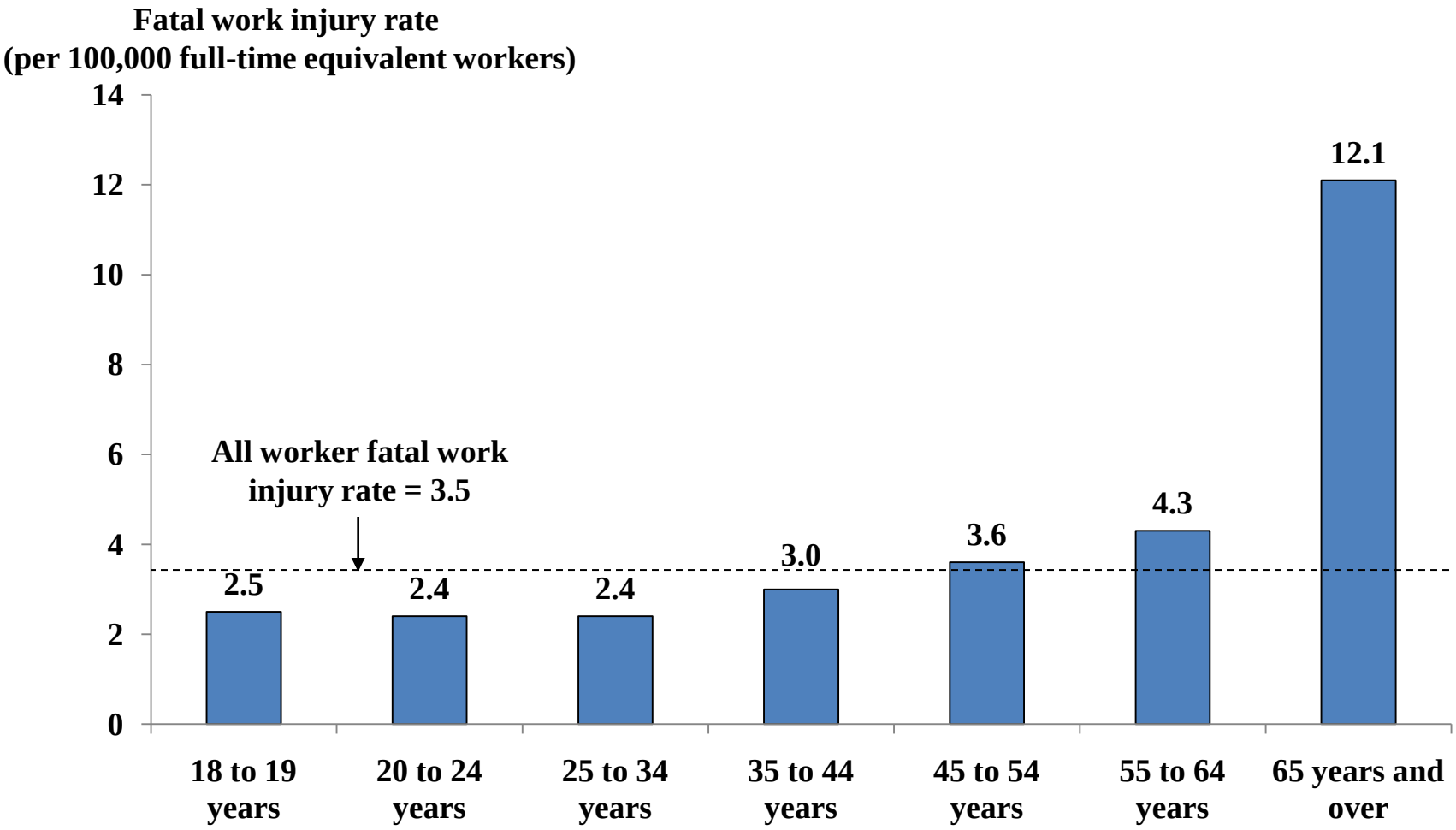
Fatal occupational injuries involving foreign-born workers, by country or region of birth, 2009



Workers born in Mexico accounted for the largest portion (40 percent) of foreign-born workers who died from work-related injuries in the United States in 2009.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Fatal work injury rates, by age group, 2009

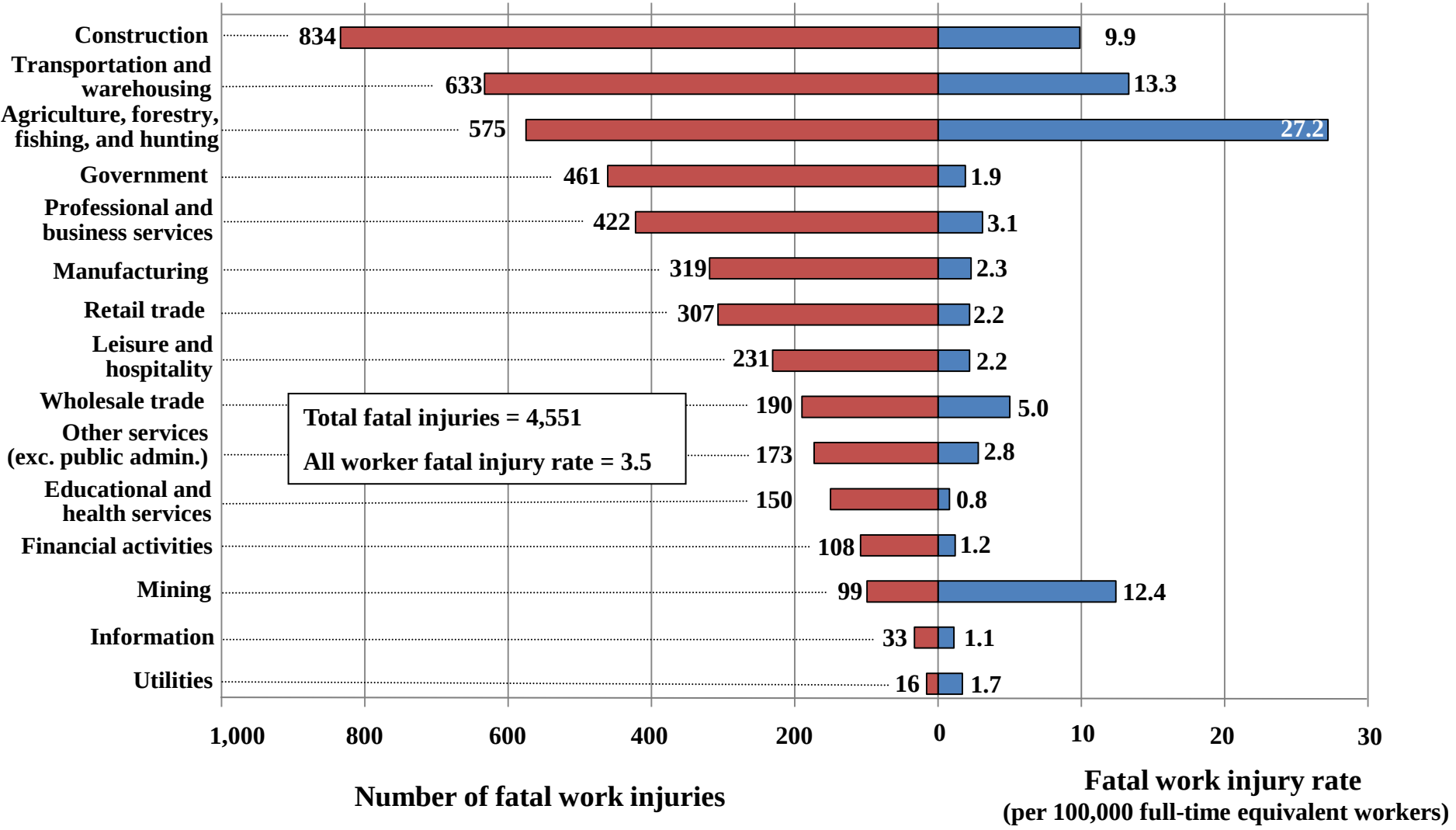


Fatal work injury rates for workers 45 years of age and older were higher than the overall U.S. rate and the rate for workers 65 years of age and older were nearly 3.5 times the rate for all workers.

NOTE: Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology changes please see http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Number and rate of fatal occupational injuries, by industry sector, 2009

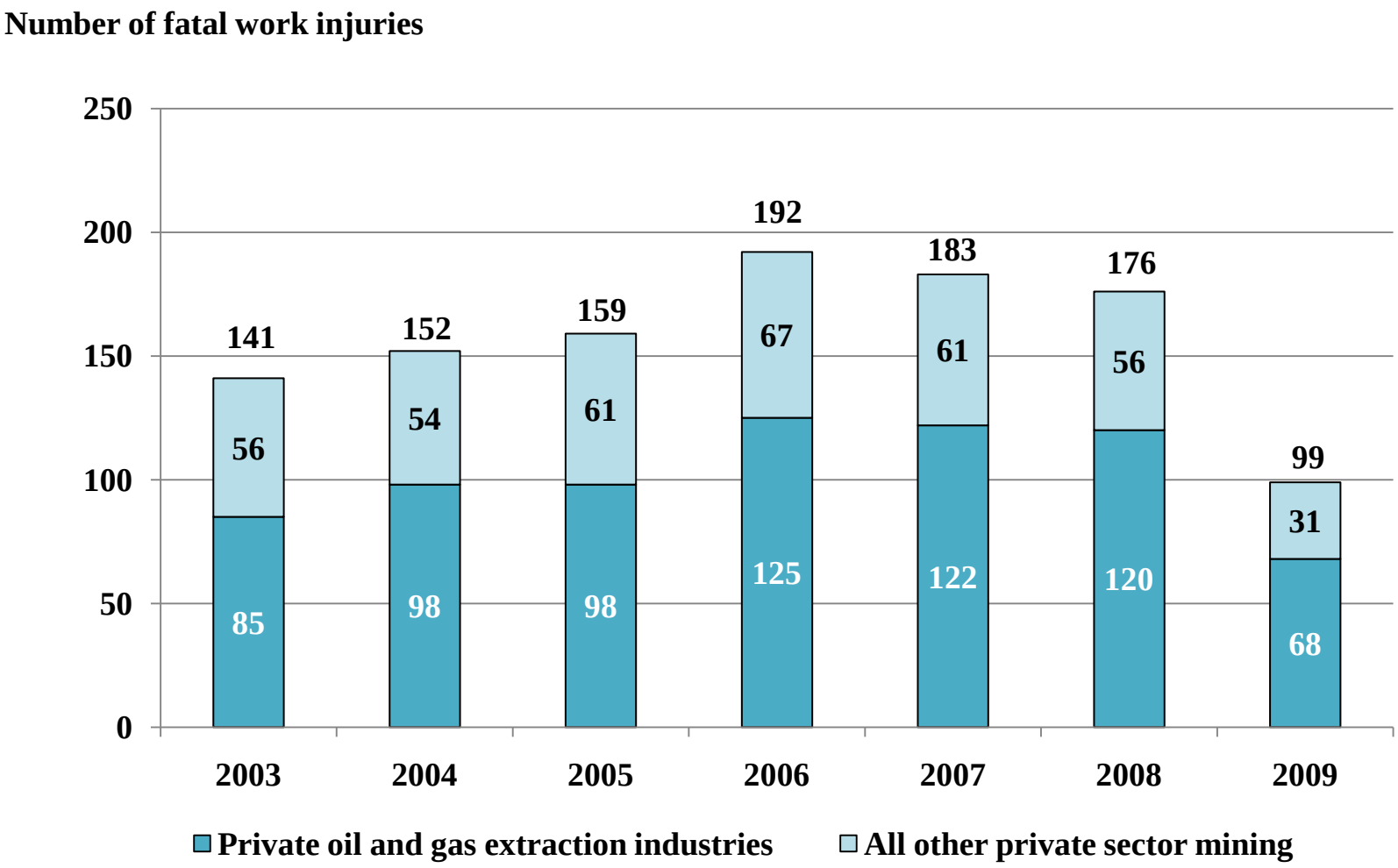


Although construction had the highest number of fatal injuries in 2009, the agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting sector had the highest fatal work injury rate.

NOTE: All industries shown are private with the exception of government, which includes fatalities to workers employed by governmental organizations regardless of industry. Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. The number of fatal work injuries represents total published fatalities before the exclusions. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology changes please see http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Fatal occupational injuries in the private mining industry, 2003–2009

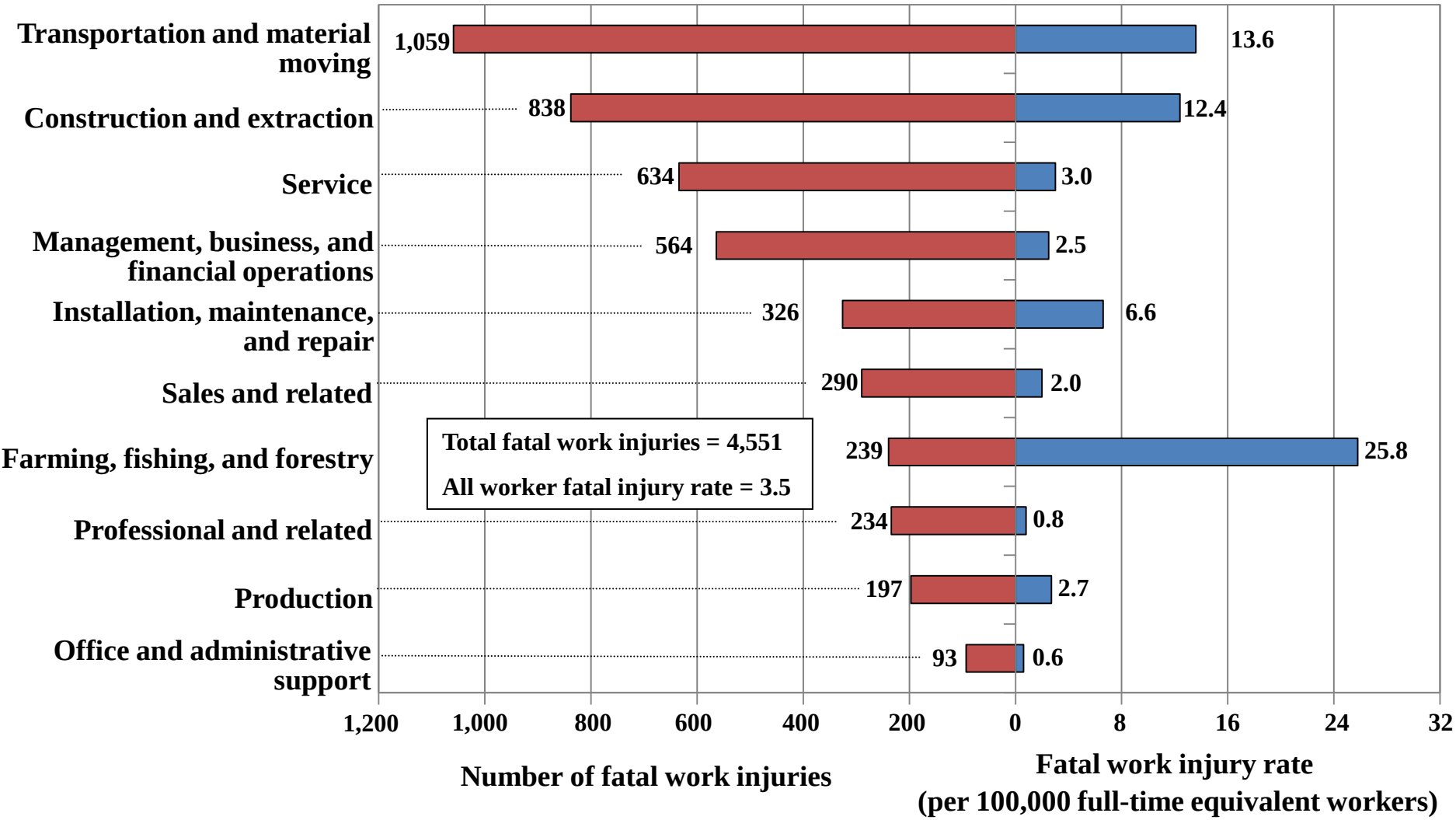


Fatal work injuries in the private mining industry declined in 2009. Oil and gas industry fatal work injuries accounted for more than two-thirds of the fatal work injuries in the mining sector in 2009.

NOTE: Oil and gas extraction are designated as oil and gas extraction (NAICS 21111), drilling oil and gas wells (NAICS 213111) , and support for oil and gas industries (NAICS 213112).

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

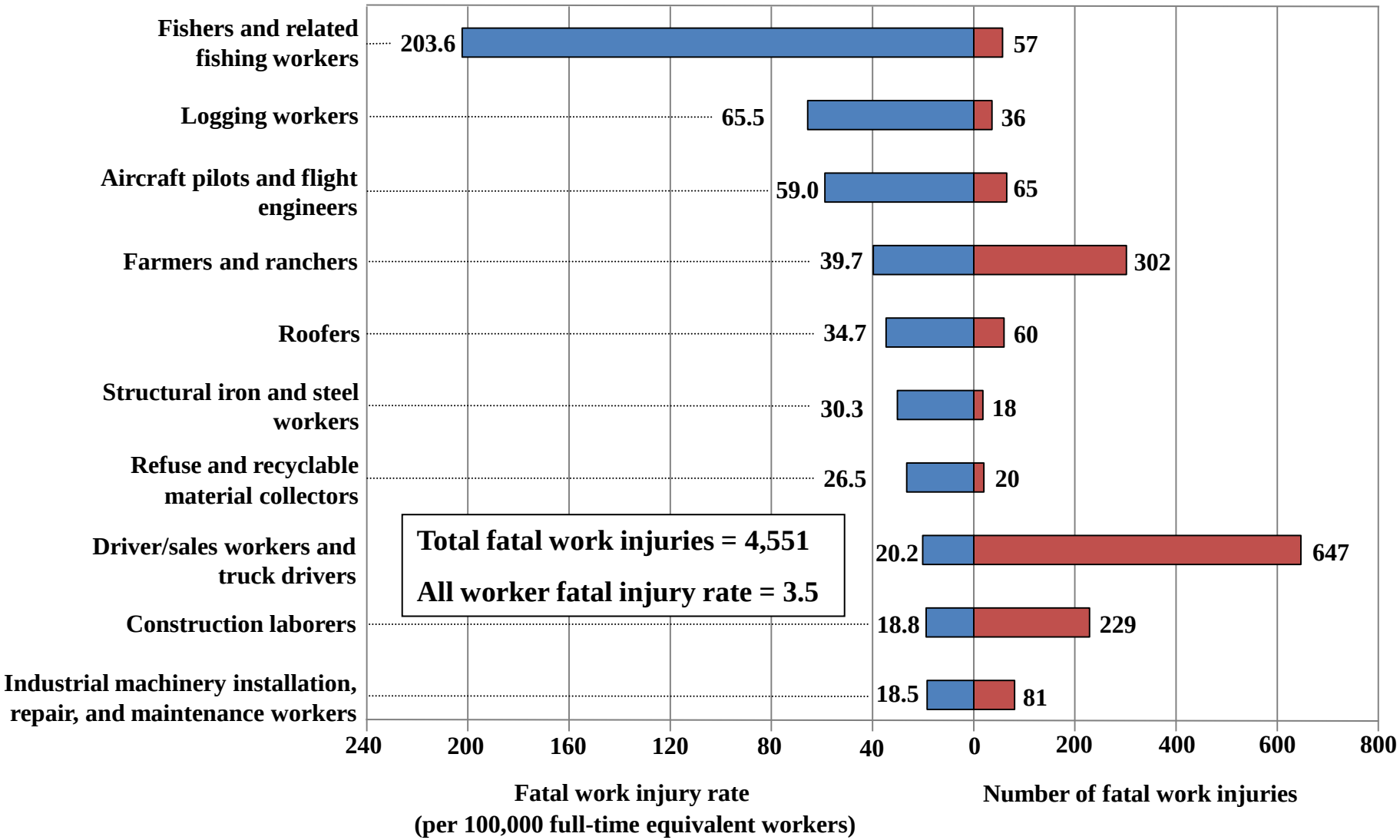
Number and rate of fatal occupational injuries, by occupation group, 2009



Although transportation and material moving occupations had the highest number of fatal work injuries in 2009, the highest fatal work injury rate among major occupational groups was for farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.

NOTE: Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. The number of fatal work injuries represents total published fatalities before the exclusions. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology changes please see http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Number and rate of selected occupations with high fatal injury rates, 2009

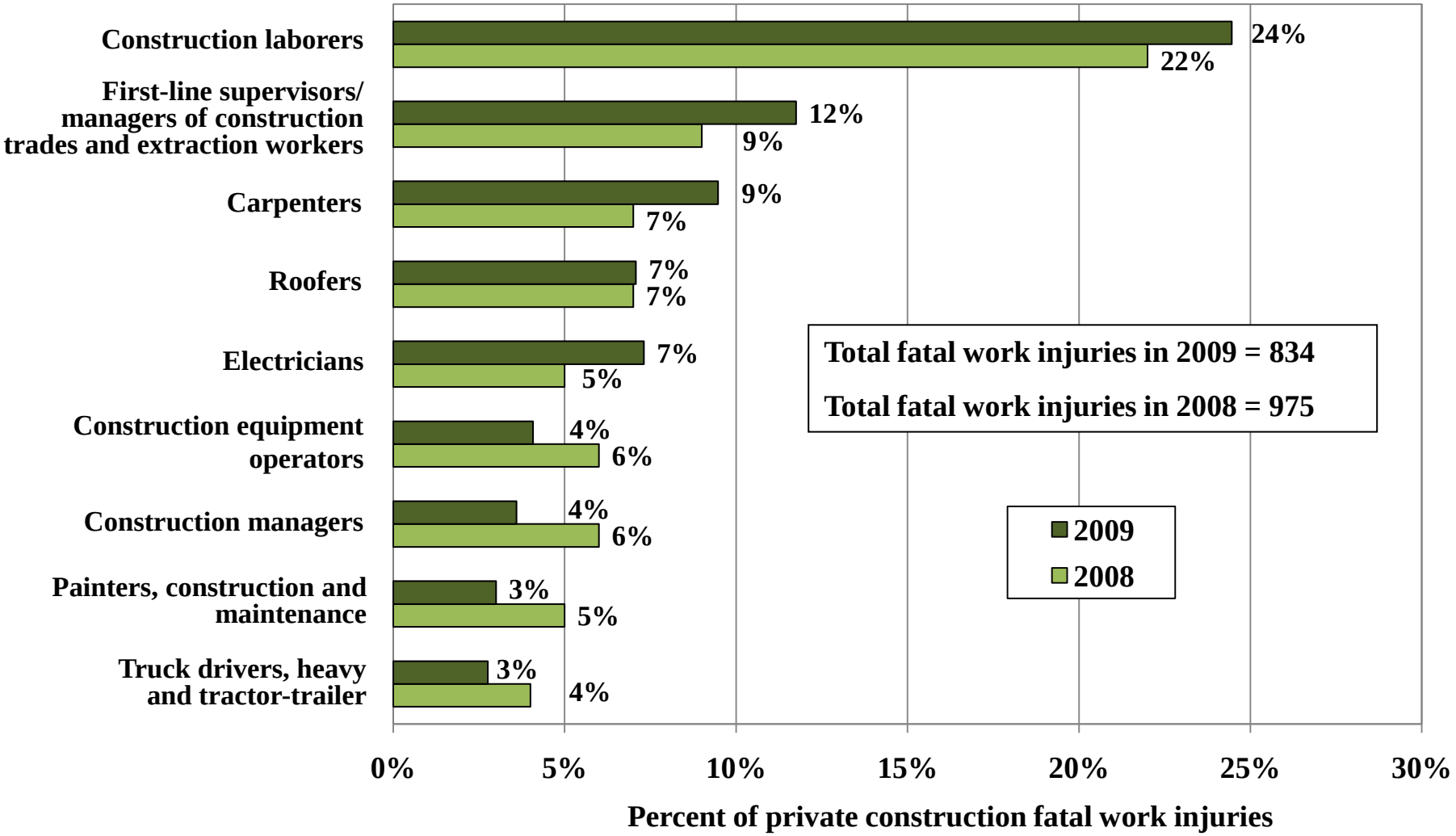


Fatal work injury rates were highest for fishers, logging workers, and aircraft pilots and flight engineers in 2009.

NOTE: Fatal injury rates exclude workers under the age of 16 years, volunteers, and resident military. The number of fatal work injuries represents total published fatalities before the exclusions. For additional information on the fatal work injury rate methodology changes please see http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshnotice10.htm.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.

Distribution of fatal work injuries by selected occupations in the private construction industry, 2008–2009



Fatal work injuries involving construction laborers accounted for about one out of every four private construction fatal work injuries in 2009. Total fatal work injuries in construction declined by 14 percent from 2008 to 2009.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2011.