



Indiana

Department of Labor

Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANA OCCUPATIONAL FATALITIES ANNUAL REPORT

INDIANAPOLIS (Aug. 25, 2011) – The Indiana Department of Labor released today its annual Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) report for 2010. The state reported 115 fatal occupational injuries in 2010, the lowest experienced since the report was introduced in 1991.

“While a record low is good statistically speaking, for 115 families, their tragic loss defies any statistic,” said Lori A. Torres, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Labor. “That is why there is no higher priority in our agency than safeguarding the lives of working Hoosiers through safety and health initiatives and enforcement programs.”

Some findings of the 2010 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries report include:

- Agricultural crop related fatalities in Indiana decreased from 20 fatalities in 2009 to 14 in 2010. Overall, the agriculture industry remained statistically unchanged with the exception of an increase in fatalities in animal husbandry (0 to 5).
- Hoosier manufacturing continued its steady decline from 40 fatalities in 1997 to 13 fatalities in 2010.
- Despite a consistent decrease in workplace deaths over the past 20 years, construction continued to have the highest rate of fatalities (15.61 per 100,000 workers) compared to other non-farm industries (3.34 per 100,000 workers).
- The leading cause of all workplace fatalities was transportation incidents (54 out of 115). This includes vehicular accidents and persons being struck by a vehicle.

For the full 2010 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries report, visit www.in.gov/dol/2439.htm.

A survey pertaining to non-fatal occupational injuries and illness for 2010 is scheduled for release in October 2011.

About the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) Data: The Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data for Indiana includes work-related fatalities resulting from unintentional and intentional injuries. CFOI uses multiple data sources to identify, document, and verify work-related injury deaths. On an annual basis, thousands of documents including death certificates are reviewed by the Indiana Department of Labor's QMS Division staff to provide this data. CFOI began tracking the data in 1991.

About the Indiana Department of Labor (DOL):

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and compliance assistance by employers. www.in.gov/dol.

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Press Release Information and Preliminary Analysis
Division of Quality, Metrics and Statistics
Indiana Department of Labor

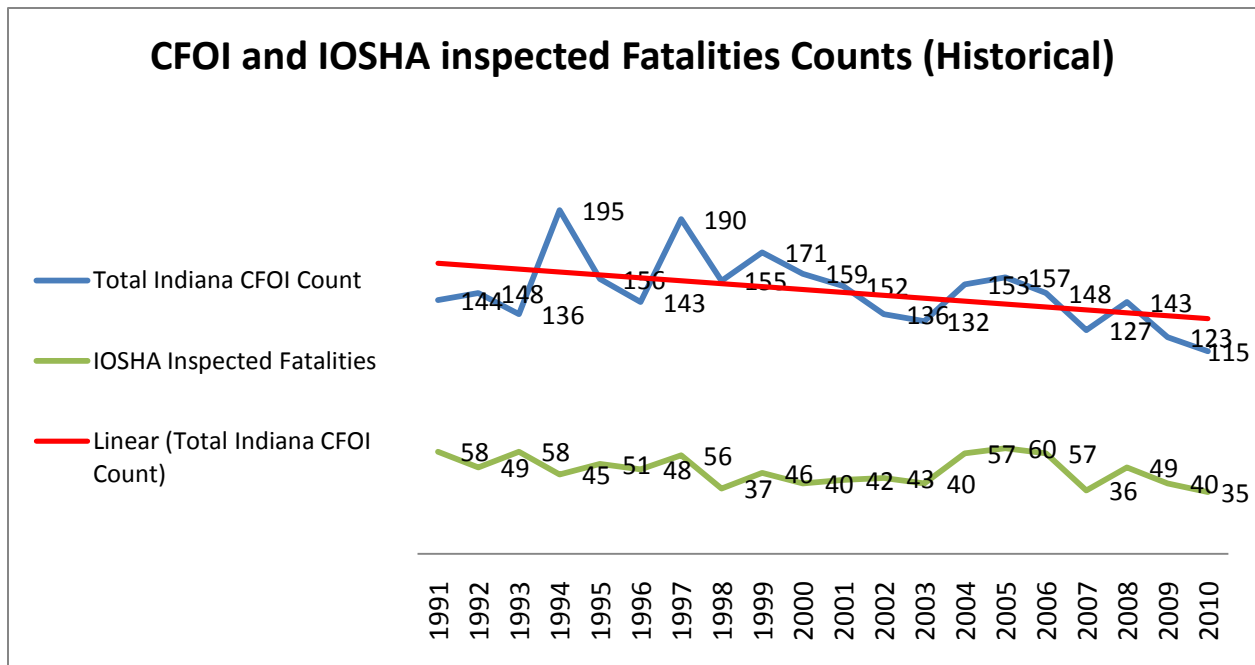
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Joseph Black, BLS Program Director, Quality, Metrics and Statistics

2011

Overview

What is the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries?

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) is the official federal count of workplace fatalities in the United States and its territories. CFOI is administrated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a part of the federal Department of Labor. Indiana participates in the collection of the data through a federal grant and with Indiana tax dollars. The census is conducted by the Division of Quality, Metrics and Statistics (QMS) at the Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL). Because our state elects to perform the survey, rather than simply subscribe to the federal government’s survey, we have access to state level data not enjoyed by other, non-participatory states.



IDOL’s CFOI team investigates each death in a Hoosier workplace, on the highway, in the fields, on the shop-floor, or in the office. We then separate the “naturally caused” deaths from those that are classified as having been from hazards present in the work before the deceased. Taking these original results, we apply rigorous criteria to determine the standard place, cause and status of each suspected death to find one clear and clean list of those persons whose life ended at work, and as a result of their work activities. For a fatality to be included in the census, the decedent must have been employed at the time of the event, engaged in a legal work activity, or present at the site of the incident as a requirement of his or her job. Fatalities that occur during a person’s normal commute are excluded from the census.

The fatalities are counted and summarized in several ways by BLS. We review them primarily by the industries in which they occur. This is done by a system set up by the United States, Canadian and Mexican governments for industries called the “NAICS” codes (North American Industry Classification System). These codes are used to define all businesses on the continent with respect to their primary activity. We also look at the major sources of workplace fatalities, whether by transportation related incidents, falls, or contact with equipment or toxic substances, among others. Our census also divides

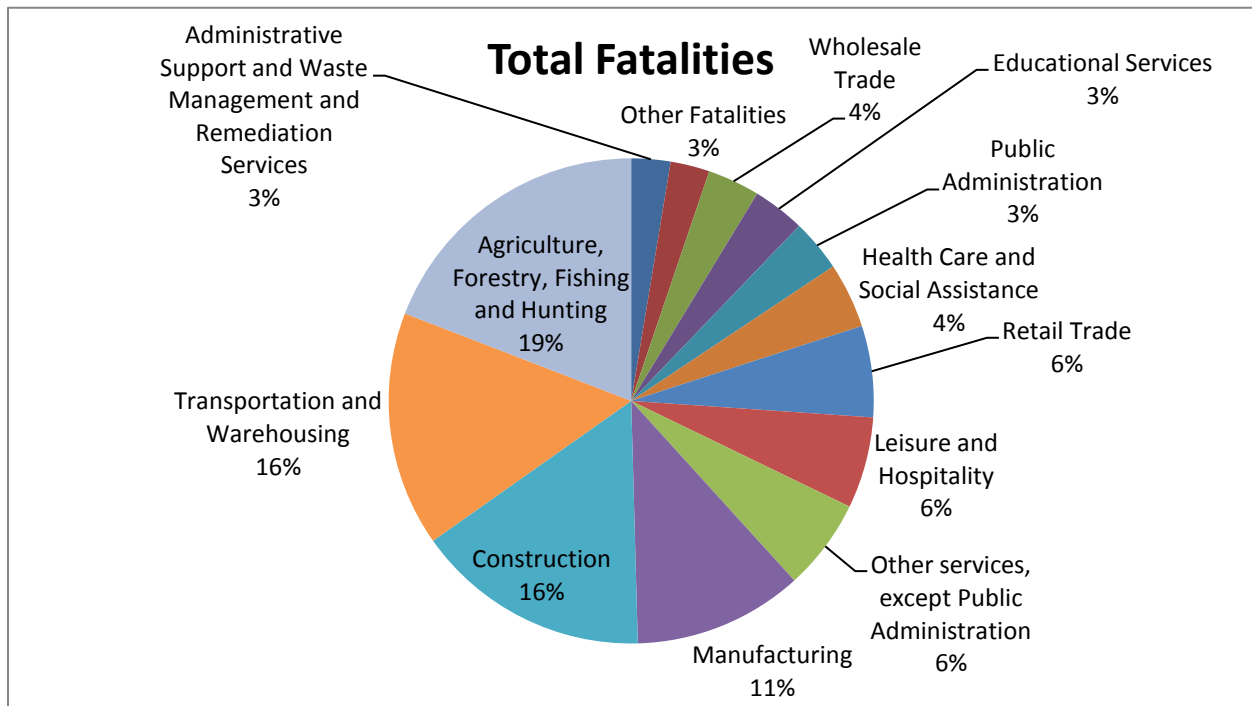
the events by the sex, age and racial demographics of workplace fatalities. These categories form the main divisions of this preliminary release analysis and synopsis.

How many fatalities were there in Indiana?

In 2010 the Indiana Occupational Safety Administration (IOSHA) investigated 35 fatalities while CFOI reported **115 fatalities**. The CFOI count is the lowest reported by the CFOI since its inception in 1991. The discrepancy between the IOSHA and CFOI counts is normal considering the limited jurisdiction of IOSHA. The CFOI includes data for all fatal work injuries, whether the decedent was working in a job covered by IOSHA or other federal or state agencies or was outside the scope of regulatory coverage.

Fatalities	NAICS Sectors
22	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting
18	Construction
18	Transportation and Warehousing
13	Manufacturing
7	Retail Trade
7	Leisure and Hospitality
7	Other services, except Public Administration
5	Health Care and Social Assistance
4	Wholesale Trade
4	Educational Services
4	Public Administration
3	Administrative Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services
3	Other Fatalities

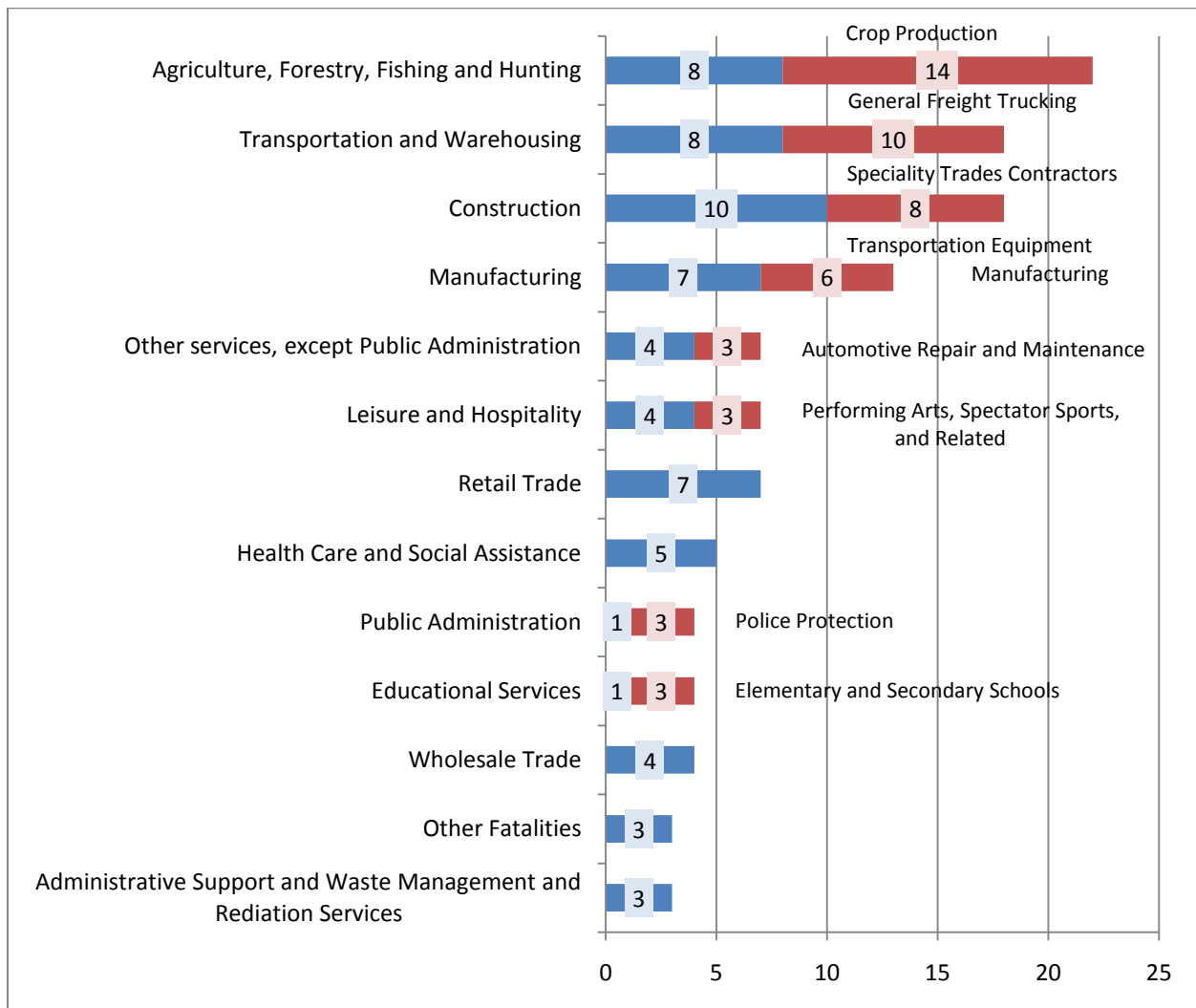
There are many factors that contribute to the overall fatality rates in Indiana. New safety measures, private sector competitiveness and emerging cultures, and the enforcement of safety regulations and practices all contribute in part.



Historically, Hoosiers have found their workplaces safer than in the past, and in general, the trend is toward fewer workplace deaths, although the random aspect of these incidents cannot allow us to predict constant and equally significant progress.

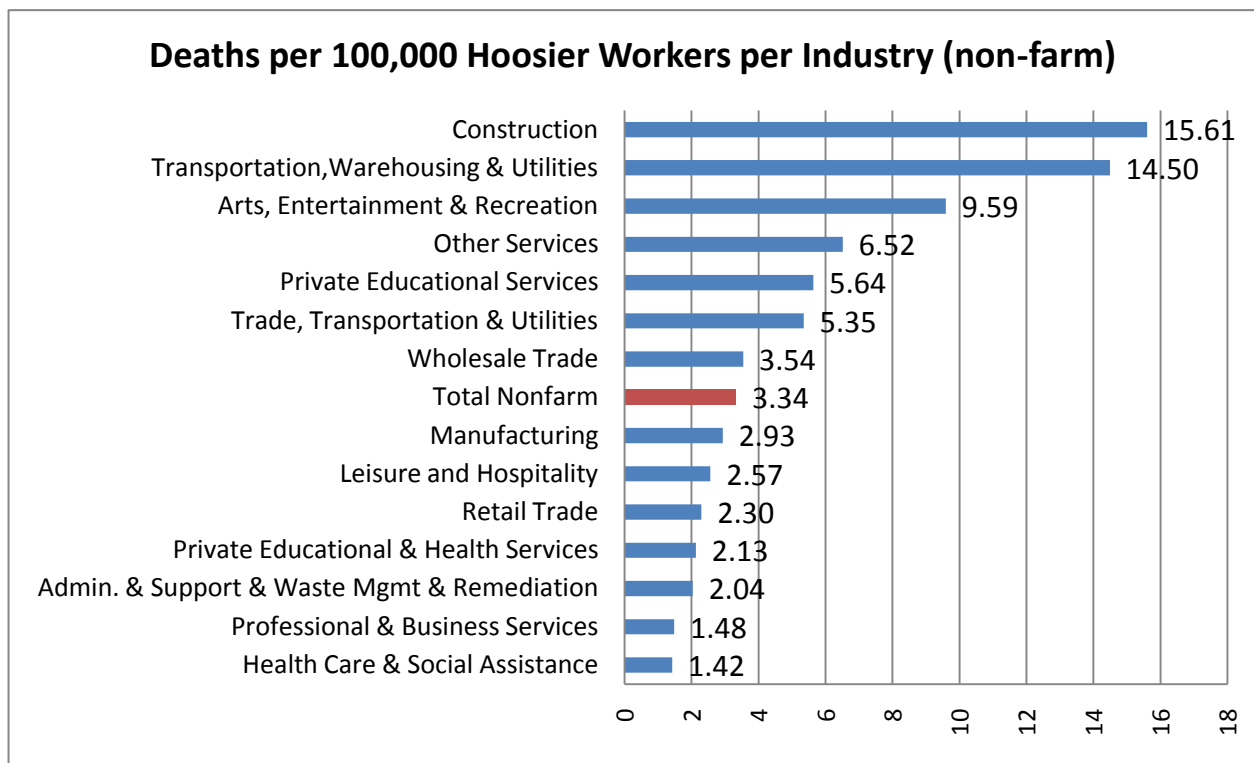
Which Indiana industries have the most fatalities?

The **Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting** industry as defined by the NAICS coding system has 19% of the fatalities, most occurring in the **Crop Production** industry. This is followed by the **Construction** industry with 15.7% and then **Manufacturing** with 11.3% of fatalities. Historically, **Transportation & Warehousing** has been included as the most probable industry for fatalities. Traditionally, this is because of the large number of deaths from vehicular accidents. In 2010, **Transportation & Warehousing** contributed 15.7% of all Hoosier workplace fatalities, equal to **Construction** at 15.7% of the total. **Construction**, having a larger number of employees (111,966 Hoosier employed, according to BLS data) than **Transportation and Warehousing** (99,735 also from BLS), could be said to be a less “dangerous” occupation in terms of the risk of fatality.



With 12,400 employees and operatives, **Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting** also has the most fatalities per employee. We will see in the next section on goods producing industries that those who labor to provide others with things are exposed to more workplace fatal dangers than everyone else in the workforce, except for transportation workers.

Manufacturing, particularly the manufacture of motor vehicle parts, was also one of the leading industries in which workplace fatalities occurred in 2010 for Hoosiers. Public service accounted for six deaths in 2010. Three were from **Police Protection** services and three from **Elementary and Secondary Education**. This last category includes all those who work in schools, including Janitors and Food Service Workers, as well as the teaching and Administrative staff.



To see how working in a particular industry is related to the possibility of a 2010 death in that industry in Indiana, see the table above. The rate for non-farm activities is in red (3.34); those above have a proportionately greater chance of fatality per worker, those below, a lesser chance, based on 2010 data.

What changes were there from 2009, by occupation?

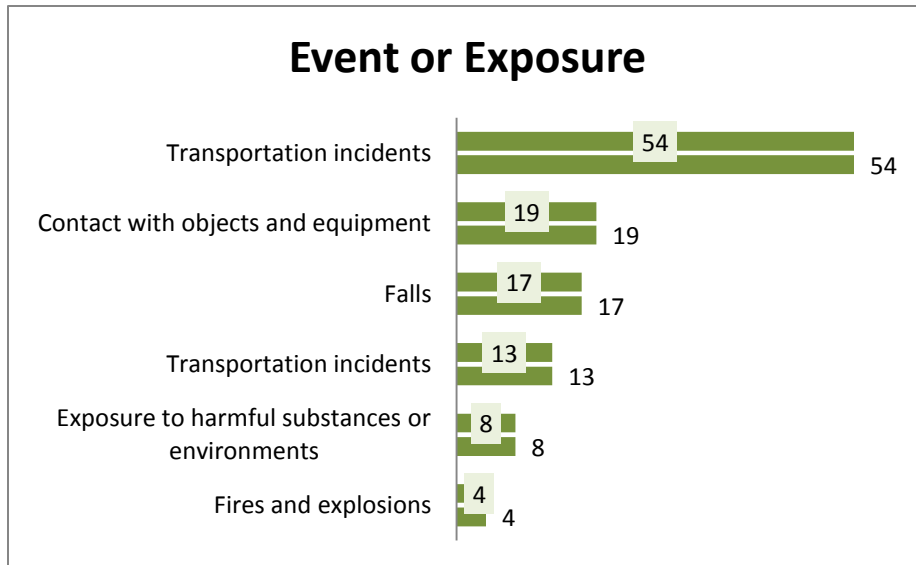
Changes in how Hoosier workers died while working happened in many occupations and in the ways those deaths occurred. In Agriculture, there was a slight drop of 4 percent (55 in 2009 to 53 in 2010). However, Crop Production changed significantly (from 20 to 14, or by 30 percent). The balance is made up by an increase in deaths from Animal Husbandry (from 0 to 5). Construction deaths dropped 10 percent (from 20 to 18), with a precipitous drop of 33 percent in the construction of Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction (from 8 to 3).

Large declines were captured in services, which includes transportation. An overall drop from 2009 (69 deaths) to 2010 (62 deaths) resulted in an 8.8 percent drop in fatalities. Wholesale trades (Grain Merchants, Wholesale Warehousing and Recycling, among others) dropped by almost two thirds (63 percent, from 11 to 4). Retail Trade dropped from 9 to 7 fatalities (22 percent). Transportation fatalities however increased by one (12 to 13).

Non-transportation Services overall saw more workplace fatalities (from 46 to 50, an 8.7 percent change). One area of increase was in Police Protection, where 3 lost lives among our forward responders were recorded in Indiana in 2010, compared to none in 2009.

How were Hoosier Workers killed?

A preliminary look into the causes of workplace deaths sheds light on what are the most risky actions within the course of our work place activities. The simple answer: driving. Of the 115 workplace deaths, 54 of them involved **Transportation Incidents (47%)**. **Contact with Objects or Equipment** was second,



listed as the primary cause of death in an additional 19 cases (16.7%). Falls followed with 17 deaths the result of a fall from another story in a building, ladders, or otherwise (14.8%). Workplace violence accounted for the deaths of 13 Hoosiers (11.3%). Environmental exposures, fires and

explosions and exposure to dangerous chemical substances complete the picture.

This analysis of our preliminary data is authored from the QMS Division of the Indiana Department of Labor. The report should serve interested parties by explaining the statistics from the CFOI and placing them in the overall context of workplace safety in Indiana. There is a more thorough analysis available from IDOL that reviews the deaths in the workplace by industry (Goods-Producing, Service-oriented, and Government sectors), and then looks at the various causes of fatalities in the Hoosier Workplace. The report tackles the issue of who dies, not in the individual sense, but looking at what demographic characteristics place Hoosiers at most risk. Our hope is to give meaning to the folks whose lives have been lost at work. If they point us toward a safer future, their lives may save those of future Hoosiers in the workplace.

What changes were there from 2009, by fatality event?

The biggest changes from 2009 in the source of fatalities in the workplace were that the place of work is trending toward a safer place (as far as death events are concerned), yet our roads and driving incidents increased. There was a 36 percent drop in deaths from machinery in the workplace. Plant and Industrial Equipment (most often agricultural tractors) saw a drop of 31 percent (from 16 in 2009 to 11 in 2010). This was offset by fatalities from vehicles in motion, which increased 14 percent overall (from 49 to 56). Highway deaths increased by 40 percent, making Hoosier highways a contributing factor in reducing overall occupational safety. On a more positive note, gun deaths decreased from 17 to 7 between 2009 and 2010.