

## Latino and Immigrant Worker Fatalities

- The 2020 AFL-CIO report, *Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect*, found that Latino workers and immigrant Latino workers continue to be at increased risk of dying on the job. In 2018, the number of Latino worker deaths increased, and the job fatality rate remains higher than the national job fatality rate for all workers.
- The increase in Latino worker deaths in 2018 was primarily among Latino immigrant workers.
- The decrease in Latino worker deaths since 2001 is a result of increased attention and targeted programs addressing working conditions for these especially vulnerable workers.
- Latino workers face major health and safety problems while laboring in dangerous jobs with inadequate safeguards.
- Immigrant workers often are subject to employer exploitation and face retaliation if they raise job safety concerns.

### ALL LATINO WORKERS

- In 2018, 961 Latino workers died on the job, an increase from 903 Latino worker deaths in 2017. This increase was largely due to an increase in fatalities among Latino immigrant workers.
- In 2018, the fatality rate for Latino workers remained the same at 3.7 per 100,000 workers. This fatality rate has not changed since 2016, and remains greater than the national job fatality rate for all workers at 3.5 in both 2017 and 2018.
- Since 2001, when the rate of Latino worker fatalities reached an all-time high of 6.0 deaths per 100,000 workers, there has been a decline in work-related deaths among Latinos, and the job fatality rate among Latino workers has been reduced by 38%. At the same time, the overall job fatality rate has declined by 19%.
- The states with the greatest number of Latino worker fatalities in 2018 were Texas (198), California (190) and Florida (104), accounting for 41%, 45% and 31% of worker fatalities in each state, respectively.
- Since 2011, Latino contractor deaths have increased 74%. This number decreased from the recorded high of 263 in 2017 to 242 in 2018.
- The construction industry was responsible for the greatest number of Latino worker deaths (294), followed by transportation and warehousing (164, with 73% of these deaths in truck

transportation) and administrative and support and waste management and remediation services (114, with 67% of these deaths in landscaping services).

- Events or exposures responsible for deaths of Latino workers were similar to the causes for all workers, with transportation incidents the leading event (337 deaths), followed by deaths from falls (190), contact with equipment (175) and violence (132). The number of deaths due to violence increased 28% from 2017, while the number of deaths from falls decreased 18%.

#### LATINO IMMIGRANT WORKERS:

- In 2018, 67% (641) of Latino worker deaths were among immigrant workers. This is an increase from the 568 deaths among Latino immigrant workers in 2017.
- Seventy-six percent of Latino worker deaths in Florida were immigrant workers, 61% of Latino worker deaths in California were immigrant workers and 63% of Latino worker deaths in Texas were immigrant workers.

#### ALL IMMIGRANT WORKERS

- The number of immigrant worker deaths increased from 927 in 2017 to 1,028 in 2018, the highest number in at least 12 years.
- The four states with the greatest number of immigrant worker fatalities in 2018 were California (169), Texas (146), Florida (107) and New York (83).
- The largest number of immigrant worker deaths was in the construction industry, at 262 out of 1,028 total deaths, specifically in specialty trade contracting, where 63% of the construction deaths took place. The transportation industry was responsible for 127 immigrant worker deaths—72% of these in truck transportation, specifically.
- Thirty-six percent of immigrant workers died in transportation incidents, 20% from falls, slips and trips, 17% from violent acts and 16% from contact with objects and equipment.
- Of all work-related immigrant deaths in 2018, 62% were Latino; 14% were Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; 7% were black or African American; and 14% were white.
- Of all work-related deaths among immigrant workers in 2018, 39% (406) were from Mexico.