

September 2025

Fatal Work-related Transportation Incidents in Georgia, 2017-2021





BACKGROUND

Transportation incidents result in the highest number of fatalities among Georgia workers, accounting for approximately 40% to 50% of all work-related fatalities yearly. This highlights the importance of tracking transportation incidents among Georgia workers to increase awareness among employers and aid in developing effective strategies that help prevent future incidents and enhance occupational safety. This report uses data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), which uses multiple sources (death certificates, workers' compensation reports, etc.) to produce accurate and comprehensive counts of fatal work-related injuries.



FATAL WORK-RELATED TRANSPORTATION INCIDENTS – KEY FINDINGS

- Between 2017 and 2021, the most frequent cause (45%) of work-related fatal injury was transportation-related, such as a crash, collision, or other event involving a vehicle or mobile equipment (an average of 85 cases per year).
- There was a total of 76 fatal transportation-related deaths recorded among Georgia's workforce in 2021, down from 80 fatal transportation-related injuries recorded in 2020 (Table 1).
- Thus, the rate of fatal transportation-related injuries was lower in 2021 at 1.6 per 100,000 full-time equivalents (FTEs – represent the number of workers working 40 hours per week for 50 weeks) compared to 2020 at 1.8 per 100,000 FTEs.
- However, the proportion of all worker deaths in Georgia attributable to transportation incidents increased from 42% in 2020 to approximately 46% in 2021 (Figure 1).
- The rate of work-related transportation fatalities in Georgia remained higher than the U.S. rate during 2017-2021 (Table 1).
- The rate of work-related transportation fatalities among males (2.5 per 100,000 full-time equivalents or FTEs) was approximately six times the rate among females (0.4 per 100,000 FTEs) in 2021.

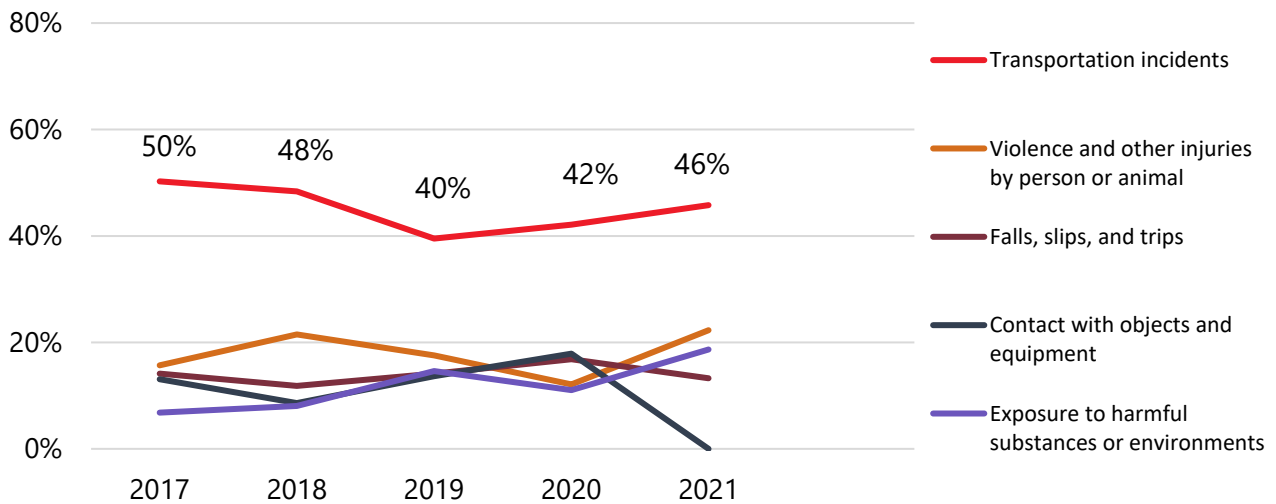
- Fatal injuries from transportation incidents in 2021 were highest among workers aged 65+ years (5.9 per 100,000 FTEs) (Figure 2).
- Fatalities from transportation incidents in 2021 were mostly reported among Georgians working in transportation and material moving occupations (e.g. tractor-trailer truck drivers, railroad conductors, crane and tower operators) (9.9 per 100,000 FTE) (Figure 3).
- Transportation-related worker deaths were also frequently reported among workers in construction and extraction (3.5 per 100,000 FTE) and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations (2.7 per 100,000 FTE) in 2021 (Figure 3).
- From 2017-2021 in Georgia, the most frequent fatal injuries sustained during work-related transportation incidents were burns, trauma to internal organs, intracranial trauma, and injuries to bones, nerves, and spinal cord (Figure 4).
- The number of fatal multiple traumatic injuries and disorders decreased by approximately 30% between 2017-2021 (Figure 4).

Table 1: Number and rate of fatal transportation-related injuries reported to the census of fatal occupational injuries (CFOI), Georgia and U.S., 2017-2021

<u>Year</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>Georgia Rate per 100,000 FTEs</u>	<u>U.S. Rate per 100,000 FTEs</u>
2017	96	2.0	1.4
2018	90	1.9	1.4
2019	81	1.7	1.4
2020	80	1.8	1.3
2021	76	1.6	1.4

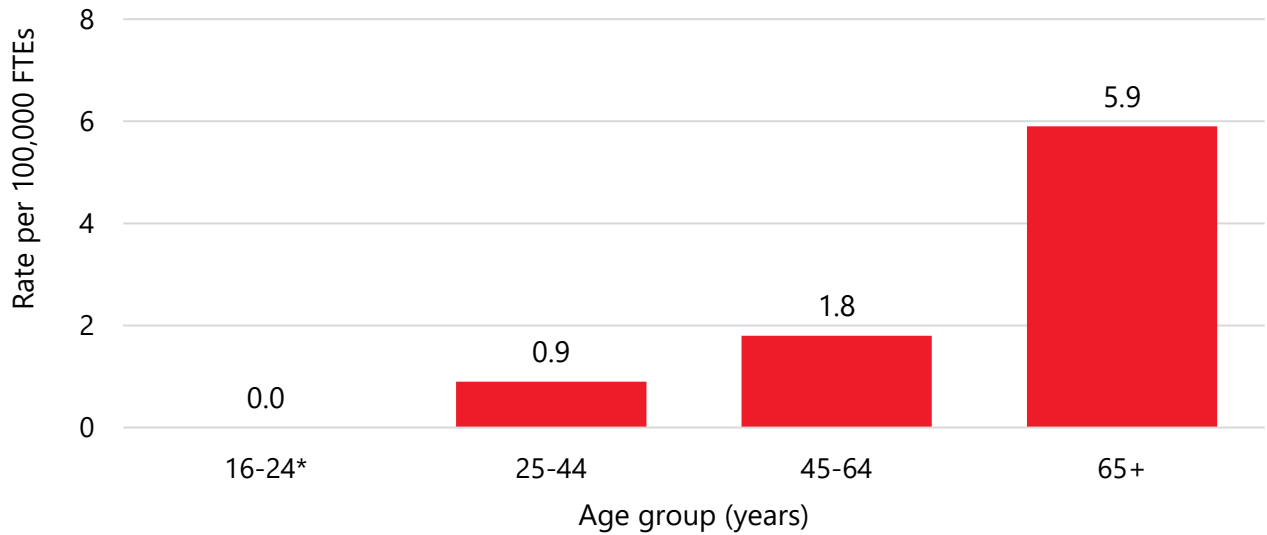
Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. Rate per 100,000 FTEs.

Figure 1. Percentage of all work-related deaths attributable to transportation incidents compared to other causes, Georgia, 2017-2021



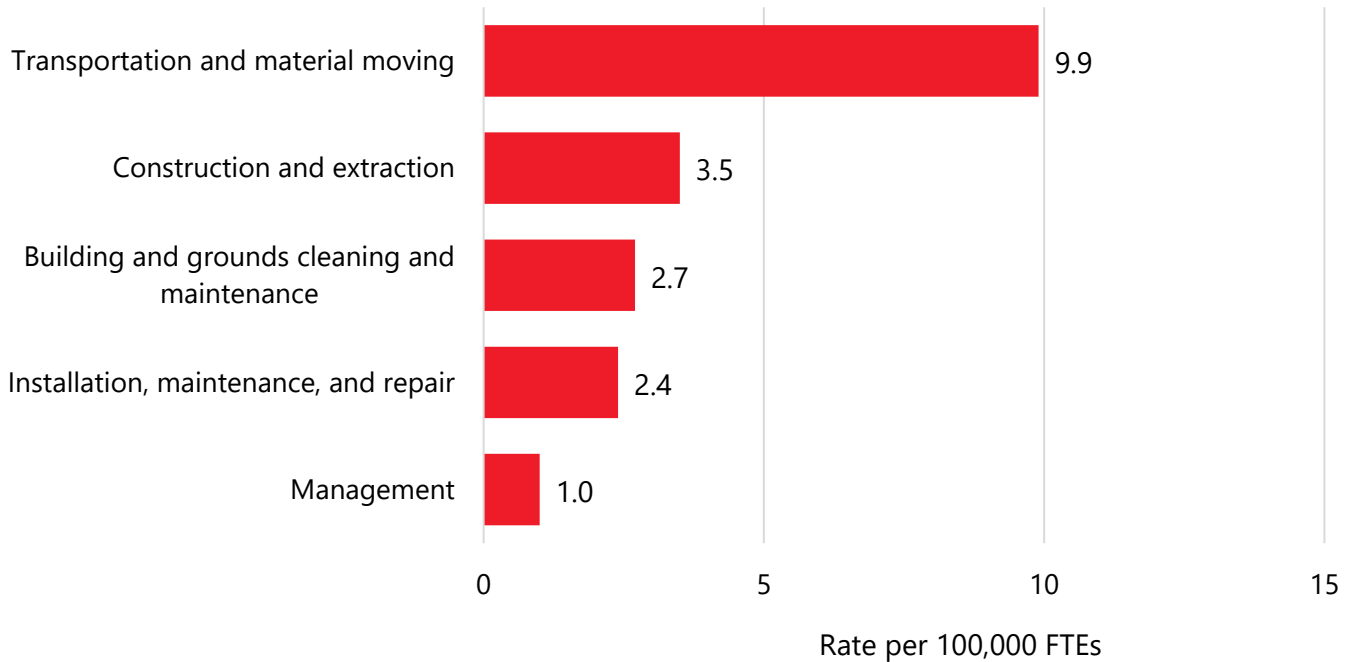
Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Figure 2. Age-specific fatal work-related transportation incident rate per 100,000 FTEs, Georgia, 2021



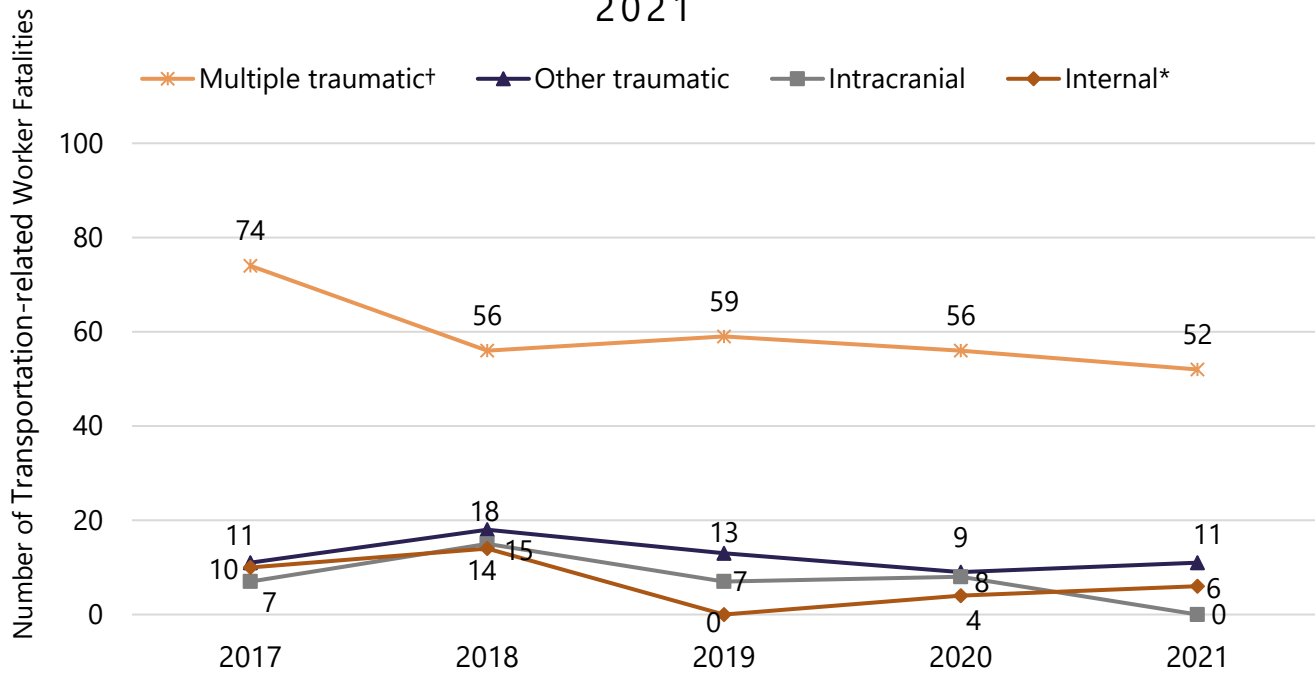
*Fatal transportation incidents among age 16-24 in 2021: no data reported, or data did not meet publication criteria. Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

Figure 3. Occupations with highest rate (per 100,000 FTEs) of transportation-related fatalities, Georgia 2021



Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Figure 4. Types of Fatal injuries caused by work-related transportation incidents, Georgia, 2017 - 2021

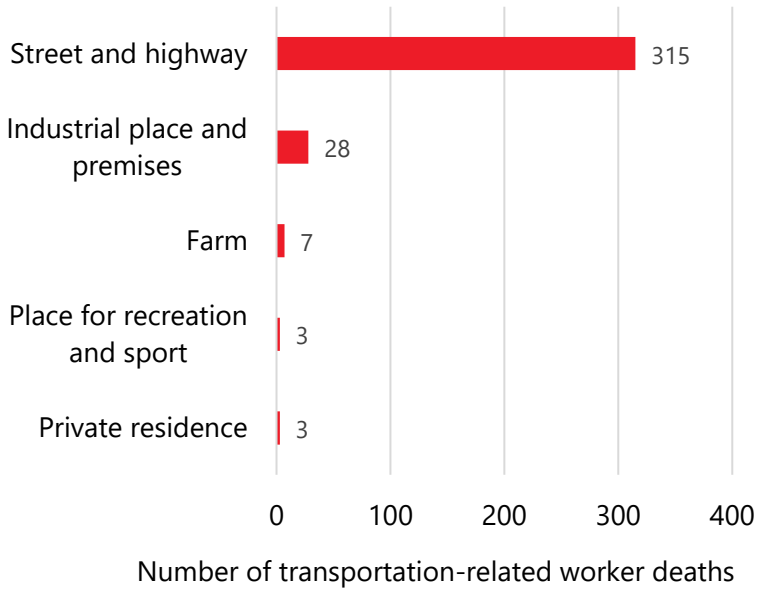


†Multiple traumatic injuries and disorders involving burns, injuries to internal organs, intracranial trauma, and injuries to bones, nerves, and spinal cord

*Internal = internal injuries to organs and blood vessels of the trunk

Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

Figure 5. Most frequent locations of transportation-related worker deaths, Georgia, 2017 -2021



- Most of the fatal work-related traumatic injuries involved the head (49 cases) or trunk (49 cases).
- The location where most work-related transportation injuries occurred between 2017 and 2021 was on a street or highway (312 cases, 88%) followed by an industrial place or premise (28 cases, 8%) (Figure 5).
- The primary vehicle types leading to work-related transportation fatalities in Georgia between 2017 and 2021 were motorized highway vehicles, mainly trucks (motorized freight hauling and utility; 149 cases) followed by passenger vehicles (automobiles, buses, passenger vans; 33 cases)

Source: Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

