



# News Statement

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U.S. Department of Labor  
Office of Public Affairs  
Washington, D.C.  
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For Immediate Release

Aug. 25, 2011  
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## Statement by Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis on fatal occupational injuries in 2010

**WASHINGTON** – Preliminary results from the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries released today show little change in the number of workplace fatalities in 2010 compared with 2009. Last year, 4,547 workers died from work-related injuries, down from a final count of 4,551 fatal work injuries in 2009. In response, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis issued the following statement:

“No worker should have to sacrifice his or her life to earn a living.

“An average 12 workers die on the job every day, and that reality continues to drive the work of the Labor Department. When the Occupational Safety and Health Act was passed in 1970, the National Safety Council estimated that 14,000 workers died each year on the job. Now, with a workforce that has doubled in size, the annual number of fatalities has dropped significantly. But it’s not enough. We cannot relent from our enforcement of laws that keep our nation’s workers safe. One worker killed or injured on the job is one too many.

“As our economy continues to strengthen and the workforce expands, we at the Department of Labor will remain resolute in our mission to ensure that safety is not sacrificed as America’s workers provide for themselves and their families. My constant focus is ‘good jobs for everyone,’ and safety is an essential part of that equation.”

**Editor’s note:** A news release about the National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries is available from the



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