

# FACE The FACTS

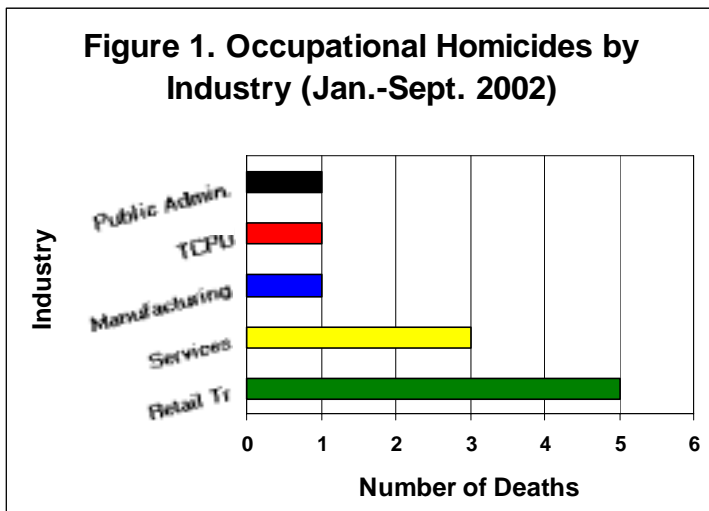
Kentucky Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (KY FACE) Newsletter

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## Large Increase in the Number of Occupational Homicides

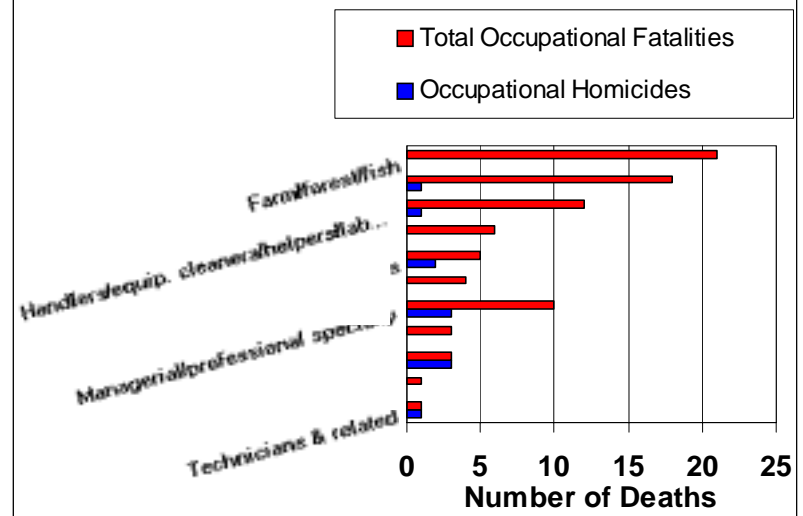
From January through September of this year, there have been 11 occupational homicides out of 90 total fatalities. For all 2001, there were 8 occupational homicides out of 112 work-related fatalities. There has been a *large increase in the number of work-related homicides*.

Five homicides occurred in the Retail Trade industry, 3 in the Service industry, and 1 each in Manufacturing, Transportation/Communication/Public Utilities (TCPU), and Public Administration (see Fig. 1).



Regarding occupations, most homicides occurred in the service (3), managerial/professional specialty (3) and sales (2) occupations. Other occupations represented were handlers/equipment cleaners/helpers/laborers (1), technicians and related (1), and transport/material movers (1). For total occupational fatalities, most decedents were working in the farming/forestry/ fishing occupation (21), followed by transport/material movers (18), and handlers/equipment cleaners/helpers/laborers (12) occupations (see Fig. 2).

**Figure 2. Occupations of Work-Related Homicides Compared to Total Work-Related Fatalities (Jan.-Sept. 2002)**



Nine of the 11 occupational homicides were caused by firearms, 1 was a stabbing and one was un-coded. Eight percent of the occupational deaths in 2001 were caused by firearms, whereas, 13% of firearm deaths in 2002 have been firearm-related. There has been an *increase in the use of firearms relating to worker deaths* this year.

The percentage of women involved as victims in occupational homicides has remained the same. Last year, 37.5% (3 out of 8) of homicides involved women and this year, 37% (4 of 11) have been women. Nationwide, the second leading cause of work-related death in females is homicide following motor vehicle collisions.

### Conclusion

**When compared to last year, the number of occupational homicides has increased dramatically and a greater proportion of work-related deaths were due to firearms. Therefore, further prevention efforts should be directed in this area.**



Kentucky FACE is an occupational fatality surveillance and intervention project. Its purpose is to collect data on work-related fatalities in Kentucky and to develop recommendations and strategies for prevention.

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