



FATALITY ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL EVALUATION (FACE)

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State Web Site: <http://www2a.cdc.gov/NIOSH-FACE/state.asp?Category=0000&Category2=ALL&State=KY&Submit=Submit>

National Web Site: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face/facecont.html>

Sources of Information for the Database

The Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to conduct surveillance of fatal occupational injuries, perform on-site investigations of work-related deaths and disseminate prevention information to similar industries and occupations where workers died. Since 1994, the Kentucky FACE program has collected data and performed on-site investigations of traumatic fatal occupational injuries. A work-related fatality is included in the Kentucky FACE dataset if the occupational injury occurred in Kentucky and the decedent was performing work tasks. Multiple sources of information for identification of cases include death certificates, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) reports, the Collision Reporting Analysis for Safer Highways (CRASH) reports, coroner reports and interviews, news media reports, Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) reports and others. There is no Kentucky mandate that requires collection of occupational fatality data.

Description of the Data Collected

Sources utilized to identify potential cases include 24 state online newspapers, radio and television reports, coroner reports, state vital statistics records, the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) program located in the Kentucky Department of Labor, the Kentucky CRASH dataset, medical examiner reports, and Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) reports. FACE surveillance data is compared to CFOI, occupational safety and health fatality reports, and CRASH data monthly to verify and support information received through other sources such as the newspaper.

At least two sources of information are used to confirm cases. Authority to use the state and national agency resources is based on verbal agreements.

FACE surveillance information is entered into a first report form in the FACE dataset (EpiInfo v. 6.0) that contains 205 data variables. Staff continue to add variables that are of importance to both public health and research communities. These include industry (Standard Industrial Classification, North American Industry Classification Standards), occupation (Occupational Classification Codes), external cause of injury (ICD-10 codes), self-employed status, health status (e.g., diabetes, heart condition, weight), and specific questions related to motor vehicle collisions, farm incidents, and interpersonal violence issues. Data are updated and edited as new information is obtained on a case.

FACE data are analyzed with descriptive and, as necessary, advanced statistics using EpiInfo, Microsoft Excel, and SAS®. Basic descriptive analysis on all data variables is performed to assess data quality and validity, and to describe cases. Frequencies are determined for the dataset to account for any missing variables.

Routine cross-tabulations are performed to assess relationships between selected variables. Continuous variables are recoded to categorical variables (i.e., e-code, Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system, Occupational Classification Codes (OCC), age groups, etc.) and frequency analysis is completed. Results are utilized for quarterly summary reports, annual reports, newsletters, Hazard Alerts, data requests, peer-reviewed and non-peer reviewed articles and other dissemination avenues.

Strengths of the Data

The FACE program provides timely, comprehensive multi-source surveillance and epidemiologic analysis of worker fatalities to identify risk factors. On-site investigations of motor vehicle collision and logging fatalities produce case studies for employer/employee safety training at the individual, company, local, and state levels, by sector and across sectors. Prevention strategies are developed and disseminated to target populations of workers/employers.

Specific Uses of Information

- Hazard alerts on specific types of occupational injuries
- Peer-reviewed publications on occupational injuries and illnesses
- Case fatality reports for use by employers for safety training purposes
- Data requests from external and internal agencies, organizations, and associations
- Production of prevention materials to educate legislators

Data Limitations

All data elements in the dataset may not be available for some workers who incurred a fatal occupational injury in Kentucky but died out of state because their death certificates were filed out-of-state. Other sources of information may be available to complete the data elements for these few cases.

System Evaluation

Evaluation of the FACE program is based on updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines to measure the program's impact on the reduction of occupational fatalities in Kentucky, the validity of its goals, and the project's efficiency. Since the FACE program was initiated in 1994, it is primarily a process and outcome evaluation.

Data Set Availability

As of July 1, 2011, the FACE database currently contains information on 2,100 fatality cases. A public-use Kentucky FACE dataset is not currently available. Aggregated data may be obtained in an excel spreadsheet format at no charge by contacting the data coordinator.

Data Release Policy

FACE aggregate data will be released upon request due to confidentiality concerns.

Data Publications

An annual FACE report, hazard alerts, and fatality reports are produced and available on the state FACE website.

Suggested Data Citation

Kentucky Injury Prevention and Research Center (KIPRC). *Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program*. Lexington, Kentucky: University of Kentucky [data year].

References

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Contributing Authors

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