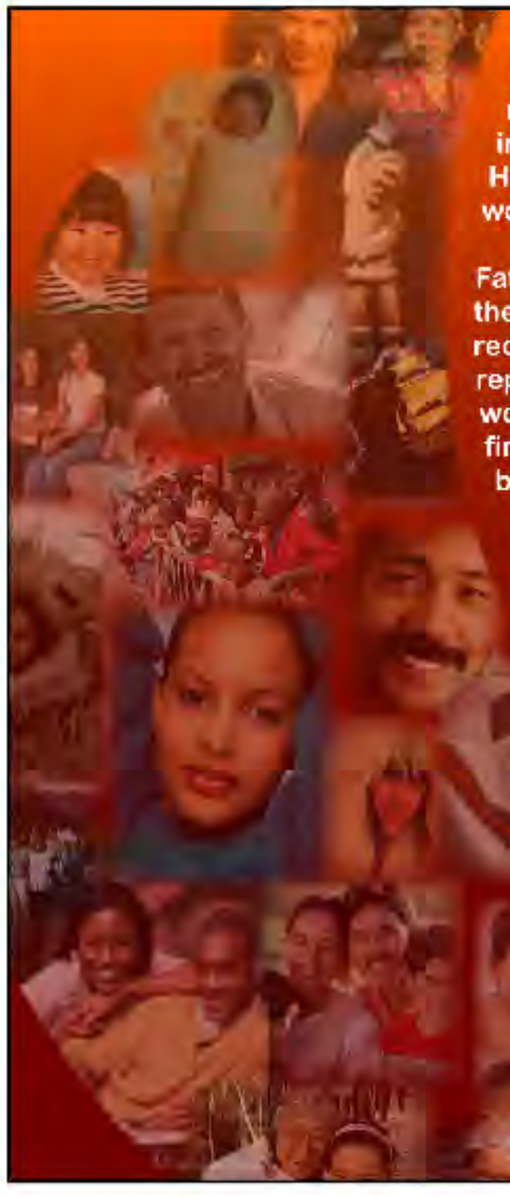


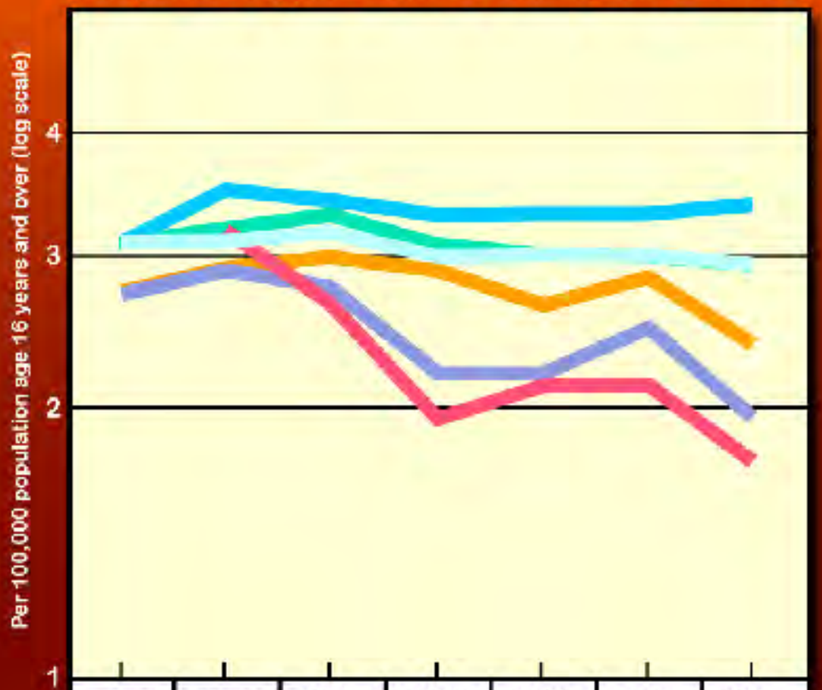
The number of fatal work injuries involving black workers was higher in 2003 after declinging for the previous three years. The number of fatally injured black workers rose from 491 in 2002 to 542 in 2003, an increase of 10 percent. Fatalities among white, non-Hispanic workers, and Asian, native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander workers also increased in 2003.

Fatal work injuries among Hispanic or Latino workers were lower for the second consecutive year, although Hispanic workers continued to record the highest rate of injuries among the racial/ethnic groups reported (4.5 fatal work injuries per 100,000 Hispanic workers). Fatal work injuries among foreigh-born Hispanic workers declined for the first time ever in the fatality census, although fatalities among native-born Hispanic workers rose slightly in 2003.

The number of fatal injuries rose for workers under 25 years of age and for workers 45 years of age and older in 2003, although workers from 25 through 44 years of age recorded fewer fatalities. Workers 65 years of age and older continued to record the highest fatality rate of any age group. The rate of 11.3 fatal work injuries per 100,000 workers for workers 65 and older was more than three times the rate of 2.2 fatalities per 100,000 workers for those 25 to 34 years of age.

The total of 1,167 self-employed workers who were fatally injured in 2003 represented an increase of 11 percent over the number reported in 2002. to 11.1 per 100,000 in 2003. Fatal work injuries involving wage and salary workers were down in 2003.

Work-related injury death rates by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1992-1998.



	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Total	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9
White	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Black	2.7	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.4
Hispanic	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4
American Indian/ Alaska Native		3.2	2.6	1.8	2.2	2.2	1.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.5	1.9