West Virginia
Fatal Summary Report
1997-2019
INTRODUCTION

This study is being conducted on all fatal incidents that have occurred in West Virginia between 1997 and 2019.

The results concluded that **199** fatalities occurred with a total of **3,209** years of mining experience lost.
FATALITIES PER YEAR (1972-1996)
FATALITIES PER YEAR (1997-2019)

(* Sago occurred in 2006 (*) UBB occurred in 2010
FATALITIES PER MONTH

(*) Sago occurred in January  (**) UBB occurred in April
FATALITIES PER DAY OF WEEK

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday
24% OF A.M. FATALITIES OCCURRED BETWEEN 6AM AND 7AM
28% of P.M. fatalities occurred between 3PM and 4PM.
FATALITIES PER SHIFT

Day 8am-4pm | Evening 4pm-12am | Midnight 12am-8am

(*) Sago and UBB occurred on the Day Shift
FATALITIES PER REGION AND COUNTY

(*) Sago occurred in Upshur (***) UBB occurred in Raleigh
FATALITIES PER COAL SEAM

*UBB occurred at the Eagle Seam
*Sago occurred at the Middle Kittanning Seam
FATALITIES PER SEAM HEIGHT

- 48" & Under: 38
- Both: 18
- 49" & Up: 96
WORKER FATALITIES

Union/Union-Free

UMWA

27% 73%
FATALITIES PER GENDER

100% are Male
54% of mine fatality victims are between the ages of 41 and 50.
FATALITIES PER MINE EXPERIENCE

FATALITIES DO NOT DISCRIMINATE
THE MAJORITY OF MINE FATALITIES OCCUR UNDERGROUND
SEVENTY-SIX PERCENT OF UNDERGROUND MINE FATALITIES ARE LOCATED INBY.
LEADING CAUSE OF MINING FATALITIES

Causes of Fatalities

- Roof/Rib/Wall Fall
- Explosion *
- Fire
- Electrical
- Mobile Equipment
- Underground Machine
- Outburst
- Entrapment
- Drowning
- Innundation
- Slip/Fall of Person
- Other

* 29 miners died from the explosion at UBB
* 12 miners died from the explosion at Sago
ROOF, WALL OR RIB FALL FATALITIES

155

44

Roof, Wall or Rib Falls
Other Factors
FATALITIES PER MINE SIZE
(NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES)

Mine Size

- 144 (51+)
- 55 (0-50)
FATALITIES PER OCCUPATION

*CONTINUOUS MINER OPERATOR IS THE LEADING OCCUPATION FOR FATALITIES
FOURTEEN PERCENT OF FATALITIES ARE SUPERVISORS
INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS ACCOUNT FOR 20% OF FATALITIES