By the Numbers – Food Service



DID YOU KNOW?

The number of foodservice and bar employees killed on the job jumped by 40% in 2015, one of the sharpest increases among all professions, according to new data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The increase was particularly dramatic for kitchen workers and servers, with a rise of 64%, the absolute highest among all the trades that were gauged, ***BLS*** Reported.

However, the absolute numbers remained relatively low for *an industry employing more than 12 million* people, and one whose workforce has been growing by leaps and bounds. ***BLS*** found in its annual census of workplace fatalities that 165 foodservice and bar employees were killed while working in 2016, compared with 118 the year earlier.

The leading cause of deaths for kitchen workers and servers was homicide, which took the lives of 21 staffers. Nineteen of the murders were committed with a firearm, according to the statistics.

Another three took their own lives at their place of employment.

Overall, ***BLS*** noted, fatal workplace incidents increased 7% in 2016, pushing the total past the 5,000 mark for the first time, to 5,190 deaths. The most common causes were traffic accidents, which accounted for 40% of the casualties, followed by violence, at 23%.