

# SAFETY MATTERS

## WASTE COLLECTION IS 6<sup>TH</sup> MOST DANGEROUS JOB IN THE US

In December, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) 2020 worker fatality report revealed that refuse and recyclable materials collection remains the 6<sup>th</sup> deadliest occupation in the United States. There were at least 30 fatalities for this group in 2020.

According to SWANA data, the leading causes of worker fatalities in waste collection are:



### 1. **Getting hit by a waste vehicle**

Being struck by your own truck is a leading cause of death in collection. Drivers should have all helpers in line of sight before moving, particularly when backing.

### 2. **Getting hit by other vehicles**

Motorists continue to hit workers when they're out of their trucks. Always wear PPE, especially high visibility vests and/or outerwear. Avoid double-siding.

### 3. **Collisions**

The single best way to prevent a crash from becoming fatal is to ensure everyone in the cab is wearing a seatbelt whenever the truck is in motion.

For more #SWANAsafety info and resources visit [SWANA.org/safety](https://www.swana.org/safety)