2016 Georgia Occupational Health Indicators: Demographics and Summary Tables

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), in association with the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), recommends that states conduct surveillance for a set of 25 occupational health indicators across five main categories: health effects, exposures, hazards, interventions, and socioeconomic impact.

Demographic information, along with the recommended indicators, are reported below for Georgia and the U.S. during 2016 and serve as measures of the occupational health status of the state's civilian workforce and can be used to track trends and guide prevention and intervention efforts.

Over four million people age 16 years and older comprise Georgia's civilian workforce. Employment in some industries or occupations may put members of the Georgia workforce at higher risk for work-related injuries or illnesses[1].

The top three industries employing Georgia residents in 2016 were: Education and Health Services, Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Professional and Business Services.

Table 1. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics, 2016

	Georgia	U.S.
Employed Persons, 16 Years and Older	4,670,000	151,436,000
Characteristics	**Percent (%)**	
Civilian Workforce, Unemployed	5.4	4.9
Civilian Workforce, Self-Employed	5.8	6.3
Civilian Workforce, Part-Time	16.0	18.3
Civilian Employment by Number of Hours Worked		
0 to 39 hours	28.8	32.7
40 hours	46.6	43.0
41+ hours	24.6	24.3
Civilian Employment by Sex		
Males	52.4	53.2
Females	47.6	46.8
Civilian Employment by Age Group		
16 to 17 years	0.7	1.2
18 to 64 years	94.4	93.0
65+ years	4.9	5.9
Civilian Employment by Race		
White	62.9	78.8
Black	30.2	11.9
Other	6.9	9.3
Civilian Employment by Hispanic Origin	10.5	16.7

Table 2. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics by Industry and Occupation, 2016

	Georgia	U.S.
Characteristics	**Percent (%)**	
Civilian Employment by Industry		
Mining and logging	0.2	0.5
Construction	7.2	6.8
Manufacturing: Durable Goods	5.1	6.4
Manufacturing: Nondurable Goods	4.9	3.8
***Wholesale and Retail Trade**	**14.3**	13.4
Transportation and Utilities	6.4	5.3
Information	2.1	1.9
Financial Activities	7.2	6.9
***Professional and Business Services**	**13.4**	12.1
***Education and Health Services**	**19.3**	22.6
Leisure and Hospitality	8.0	9.4
Other Services	5.5	4.8
Public Administration	4.8	4.5
Agriculture and Related Industries	1.6	1.6
Civilian Employment by Occupation		
***Management, Business and Financial Operations**	**16.2**	16.5
***Professional and Related Occupations**	**20.8**	22.8
***Service Occupations**	**16.2**	17.7
Sales and Related Occupations	11.1	10.5
Office and Administrative Support	12.7	11.7
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	0.7	0.7
Construction and Extraction	5.2	5.2
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	3.6	3.2
Production Occupations	5.8	5.6
Transportation and Material Moving	7.7	6.1

* = top three industries and occupations among employed civilians in 2016

2016 Recommended Occupational Health Indicators

Table 3. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 1 - 8, 2016

Characteristics	Georgia Number or Rate	U.S. Number or Rate
Indicator 1: Non-Fatal Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Reported by Employers		
1.1 Estimated Annual Total Number of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses	82,300	2,857,400
1.2 Estimated Annual Total Work-Related Injuries and illness Incidence Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	2,700	2,900
1.3 Estimated Annual total Number of Cases Involving Days Away from Work	25,100	892,270
1.4 Estimated Annual Total Incidence Rate for Cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	800	917
1.5 Estimated Annual Total Number of Cases Involving More Than 10 Days Away from Work	10,860	407,310
Indicator 2: Work-Related Hospitalizations		
2.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Hospitalizations	2,327	N/A
2.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	49.8	N/A
Indicator 3: Fatal Work-Related Injuries		
3.1 Annual Number of Fatal Work-Related Injuries	171	5,190
3.2 Annual Fatality Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	3.7	3.6
Indicator 4: Work-Related Amputations with Days Away from Work Reported by Employers		
4.1 Estimated Annual Number of Work-Related Amputations Involving Days Away from Work	140	5,060
4.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Work-Related Amputations Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	5.0	5.0
Indicator 5: State Workers' Compensation Claims for Amputations with Lost Work-Time		
5.1 Annual Number of Amputations Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System	255	N/A
5.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Amputations Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System (per 100,000 covered workers)	6.3	N/A
Indicator 6: Hospitalizations for Work-Related Burns		
6.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations	115	N/A
6.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	2.5	N/A
Indicator 7: Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs) with Days Away from Work Reported by Employers		
7.1 Estimated Annual Number of All MSDs Involving Days Away from Work	6,870	285,950
7.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of All MSDs Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	229	294
7.3 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Neck, Shoulder & Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work	2,190	90,910
7.4 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of Neck, Shoulder, and Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	73	93
7.5 Estimated Annual Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases Involving Days Away from Work	90	5,390
7.6 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	3	6
7.7 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work	2,950	113,320
7.8 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	98	116
Indicator 8: State Workers' Compensation Claims for Carpal Tunnel Syndrome with Lost Work-Time		
8.1 Annual Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System	310	N/A
8.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases with Lost Work-Time Identified in State Workers' Compensation System (per 100,000 covered workers)	7.6	N/A

N/A = Data not available

†FTEs = Full-Time Equivalents

There were 2327 work-related hospitalizations, 171 fatal work-related injuries, and an estimated 140 work-related amputations that required more than 7 days away from work in Georgia in 2016.

Table 4. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 9 – 11: Pneumoconiosis and Pesticides, 2016

Characteristics	Georgia Number or Rate	U.S. Number or Rate
Indicator 9: Hospitalizations from or with Pneumoconiosis~		
9.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	139	N/A
9.1.2 Annual Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	16.9	N/A
9.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	16.8	N/A
9.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	23	N/A
9.2.2 Annual Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.8	N/A
9.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.5	N/A
9.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges	81	N/A
9.3.2 Annual Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	9.8	N/A
9.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	10.3	
9.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Hospital Discharges	19	N/A
9.4.2 Annual Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.3	N/A
9.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.1	N/A
9.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	17	N/A
9.5.2 Annual Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.1	N/A
9.5.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	2.0	N/A
Indicator 10: Mortality from or with Pneumoconiosis		
10.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Deaths	15	1,662
10.1.2 Annual Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.8	*
10.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.9	5.6
10.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Deaths	0	300
10.2.2 Annual Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	*
10.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.8
10.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Deaths	14	1,142
10.3.2 Annual Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.7	*
10.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.8	3.9
10.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Deaths	0	73
10.4.2 Annual Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	*
10.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.2
10.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Deaths	<5	161
10.5.2 Annual Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	*
10.5.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.5
Indicator 11: Acute Work-Related Pesticide-Associated Illness and Injury Reported to Poison Control Centers		
11.1 Annual Number of Reported Work-Related Pesticide Poisoning Cases	91	2,490
11.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Reported Work-Related Pesticide Poisoning Cases (per 100,000 workers)	2.0	1.7

~Rates not calculated for indicators with <5 cases

N/A = Data not available

Pneumoconiosis is a class of non-malignant lung disease that includes asbestosis, coal workers' pneumoconiosis, and silicosis.

There were 139 hospitalizations due to pneumoconiosis in Georgia during 2016, including 81 due to asbestosis. There were also 91 reported work-related pesticide poisonings in Georgia in 2016.

Table 5. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 12 – 17, 2016

Characteristics	Georgia Number or Rate	U.S. Number or Rate
Indicator 12: Incidence of Malignant Mesothelioma, Ages 15 and Older		
12.1 Annual Number of Incident Mesothelioma Cases	62	*
12.2 Annual Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	7.5	N/A
12.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	7.4	*
Indicator 13: Elevated Blood Lead Levels (BLL) Among Adults		
13.1.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL)	1,167	14,791
13.1.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	25.0	15.2
13.1.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL)	555	N/A
13.1.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	11.9	N/A
13.2.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL)	232	2,563
13.2.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	5.0	2.6
13.2.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL)	148	N/A
13.2.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	3.2	N/A
13.3.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL)	18	N/A
13.3.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	0.4	N/A
13.3.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL)	14	N/A
13.3.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	0.3	N/A
Indicator 14: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries at High Risk~ for Occupational Morbidity		
14.1 Number of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Industries	191,026	6,682,275
14.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk NAICS Industries	5.0	5.3
Indicator 15: Percentage of Workers Employed in Occupations at High Risk for Occupational Morbidity		
15.1 Average Number of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk Bureau of the Census Occupations	604,022	18,256,349
15.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk Bureau of the Census Occupations	16.6	15.8
Indicator 16: Percentage of Workers Employed in Industries and Occupations at High Risk~ for Occupational Mortality		
16.1 Average Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Industries	653,123	20,367,099
16.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Industries	16.0	15.6
16.3 Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	526,131	15,769,868
16.4 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	12.9	12.1
Indicator 17: Occupational Safety and Health Professionals[X]		
17.1 Rate of Board-Certified Occupational Medicine Physicians (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.2 Rate of American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.3 Rate of Board-Certified Occupational Health Nurses (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.4 Rate of American Association of Occupational Health (AAOH) Nurse Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.5 Rate of Board-Certified Industrial Hygienists (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.6 Rate of American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.7 Rate of Board-Certified Safety Health Professionals (BCSP) (per 100,000 employees)	x	x
17.8 Rate of American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Members (per 100,000 employees)	x	x

N/A = Data not available

* = Not reported for 2016

[X] = No longer a required indicator

There were 555 reported new cases of elevated blood lead levels ≥10 µg/dL among adults in Georgia during 2016. Exposure to lead is associated with hypertension, cognitive dysfunction, adverse effects on renal function, and adverse effects on female reproductive outcomes.[1]

Table 6. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 18 – 22, 2016

Characteristics	Georgia	U.S.
	Number or Rate	
Indicator 18: OSHA Enforcement Activities		
18.1 Annual Number of Establishments Inspected by OSHA in all OSHA-covered Sectors	1,617	74,350
18.2 Number of OSHA-Covered Establishments that are Eligible for OSHA Inspection (Excluding Farms and Mines)	290,244	9,320,150
18.3 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Establishments Eligible for Inspection that were Inspected by OSHA	0.6	0.8
18.4 Annual Number of Employees Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	109,503	3,409,034
18.5 Number of OSHA-Covered Employees (Excluding Farmers and Miners)	3,700,890	119,247,257
18.6 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Employees Eligible for Inspection Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	3.0	2.9
Indicator 19: Workers' Compensation Awards		
19.1 Total Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid	$1,375,290,000	$61,918,340,000
19.2 Average Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid	$337.41	$456.00
Indicator 20: Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations		
20.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Surgical Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations	N/A	N/A
20.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Surgical Low Back Disorder Hospitalization (per 100,000 worker)	N/A	N/A
20.3 Annual Number of Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations	N/A	N/A
20.4 Annual Rate of Work-Related Low Back Disorder Hospitalizations (per 100,000 worker)	N/A	N/A
Indicator 21: Asthma Among Adults Caused or Made Worse by Work		
21.1 Weighted estimate of the number of ever-employed adults with current asthma who report that their asthma was caused or made worse by exposures at work	334,065	8,054,104
21.2 Estimated proportion of ever-employed adults with current asthma who report that their asthma was caused or made worse by exposures at work	61.1	52.0
Indicator 22: Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations†		
22.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations	†	†
22.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	†	†
Indicator 23: Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Hospital Care Personnel		
23.1 Pooled Proportion of Hospital Care Personnel Influenza Vaccination Coverage in Acute Care Hospitals (2015-2016 influenza season)	88.1	86.4
Indicator 24: Occupational Heat-Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits		
24.1 Annual Number of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness	353	N/A
24.2 Annual Rate of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness (per 100,000 workers)	7.6	N/A
Indicator 25: Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries		
25.1 Annual Number of Inpatient Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries	44	N/A
25.2 Annual Rate of Inpatient Hospitalizations for Occupational Eye Injuries (per 100,000 workers)	0.9	N/A

N/A = Data not available

† = Data not collected in 2016

Georgia spends an average of $1.4 billion in workers' compensation costs each year for work-related injuries, illnesses, medical expenses, and lost wages[2].

Approximately 61% of adults with asthma in Georgia in 2016 reported that their asthma was made worse or caused by exposures at their workplace.

2016 Recommended Occupational Health Indicators

To access the full Georgia Occupational Health Indicators Surveillance Report visit: dph.georgia.gov/georgia-occupational-health-and-safety-surveillance-program

References:

1. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. Occupational Health Indicators: A Guide for Tracking Occupational Health Conditions and Their Determinants. April 2019.
2. National Academy of Social Insurance. Workers' Compensation Benefits, Coverage, and Costs, 2016.