2020 Georgia Occupational Health Indicators:
Demographic and Summary Tables

The Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE), in association with the National Institute for 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 2020. These 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.

Nearly five million people aged 16 years and older comprise Georgia's civilian workforce. The top three industries employing Georgia residents in 2020 were: Education and Health Services, Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Professional and Business Services.

Table 1. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics, 2020

	Georgia	U.S.
Employed Persons, 16 Years and Older	4,716,000	147,795,000
Characteristics	**Percent (%)**	
Civilian Workforce, Unemployed	7%	8%
Civilian Workforce, Self-Employed	5%	6%
Civilian Workforce, Part-Time	15%	17%
Civilian Employment by Number of Hours Worked		
0 to 39 hours	30%	34%
40 hours	48%	45%
41+ hours	22%	22%
Civilian Employment by Sex		
Males	51%	53%
Females	49%	47%
Civilian Employment by Age Group		
16 to 17 years	1%	1%
18 to 64 years	92%	92%
65+ years	7%	7%
Civilian Employment by Race		
White	60%	78%
Black	31%	12%
Other	9%	10%
Civilian Employment by Hispanic Origin	10%	18%

Table 2. Georgia and U.S. General Employment Demographics by Industry and Occupation, 2020

	Georgia	U.S.
Characteristics	**Percent (%)**	
Civilian Employment by Industry		
Mining and logging	0.1%	0.5%
Construction	7%	7%
Manufacturing: Durable Goods	6%	6%
Manufacturing: Nondurable Goods	4%	4%
***Wholesale and Retail Trade**	**14%**	13%
Transportation and Utilities	8%	6%
Information	2%	2%
Financial Activities	6%	7%
***Professional and Business Services**	**13%**	13%
***Education and Health Services**	**21%**	23%
Leisure and Hospitality	7%	8%
Other Services	5%	5%
Public Administration	5%	5%
Agriculture and Related Industries	2%	2%
Civilian Employment by Occupation		
***Management, Business and Financial Operations**	**17%**	18%
***Professional and Related Occupations**	**23%**	25%
***Service Occupations**	**15%**	16%
Sales and Related Occupations	11%	10%
Office and Administrative Support	10%	11%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	1%	1%
Construction and Extraction	5%	5%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	3%	3%
Production Occupations	6%	5%
Transportation and Material Moving	9%	7%

* = top three industries and occupations among employed civilians

Table 3. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 1 - 8, 2020

Characteristics	Georgia	U.S.
	Number, Rate, or %	
Indicator 1: Non-Fatal Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Reported by Employers		
1.1 Estimated Annual Total Number of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses	N/A	2,654,700
1.2 Estimated Annual Total Work-Related Injuries and illness Incidence Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	2,700
1.3 Estimated Annual total Number of Cases Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	1,176,300
1.4 Estimated Annual Total Incidence Rate for Cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	1,200
1.5 Estimated Annual Total Number of Cases Involving More Than 10 Days Away from Work	N/A	627,760
Indicator 2: Work-Related Hospitalizations		
2.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Hospitalizations	1,590	N/A
2.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	33.7	N/A
Indicator 3: Fatal Work-Related Injuries		
3.1 Annual Number of Fatal Work-Related Injuries	193	4,764
3.2 Annual Fatality Rate (per 100,000 FTEs†)	4.2	3.4
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	N/A	4,760
4.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Work-Related Amputations Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	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	228	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)	5.5	N/A
Indicator 6: Hospitalizations for Work-Related Burns		
6.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations	55	N/A
6.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Burn Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	1.2	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	N/A	247,620
7.2 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of All MSDs Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	254
7.3 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Neck, Shoulder & Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	80,980
7.4 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of Neck, Shoulder, and Upper Extremities Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	83
7.5 Estimated Annual Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	3,910
7.6 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome cases Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	4
7.7 Estimated Annual Number of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work	N/A	95,690
7.8 Estimated Annual Incidence Rate of MSDs of the Back Involving Days Away from Work (per 100,000 FTEs†)	N/A	98
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	335	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)	8.1	N/A

N/A = Data not available; †FTEs = Full-Time Equivalents

Table 4. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 9 – 11, 2020

Characteristics	Georgia	U.S.
	Number, Rate, or %	
Indicator 9: Hospitalizations from or with Pneumoconiosis~		
9.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	100	N/A
9.1.2 Annual Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	11.8	N/A
9.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Total Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	11.6	N/A
9.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	30	N/A
9.2.2 Annual Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	3.5	N/A
9.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	3.2	N/A
9.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges	43	N/A
9.3.2 Annual Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	5.1	N/A
9.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Asbestosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	5.4	N/A
9.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Hospital Discharges	12	N/A
9.4.2 Annual Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.4	N/A
9.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Silicosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.3	N/A
9.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges	15	N/A
9.5.2 Annual Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.8	N/A
9.5.3 Annual, Age-Standardized, Rate of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Hospital Discharges (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.7	N/A
Indicator 10: Mortality from or with Pneumoconiosis		
10.1.1 Annual Number of Total Pneumoconiosis Deaths	11	1,654
10.1.2 Annual Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.3	6.1
10.1.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Total Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	1.3	5.1
10.2.1 Annual Number of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Deaths	0	370
10.2.2 Annual Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	1.4
10.2.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	1.1
10.3.1 Annual Number of Asbestosis Deaths	7	1,037
10.3.2 Annual Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	0.8	3.9
10.3.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Asbestosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	0.9	3.3
10.4.1 Annual Number of Silicosis Deaths	<5	93
10.4.2 Annual Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.3
10.4.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Silicosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.3
10.5.1 Annual Number of Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Deaths	<5	170
10.5.2 Annual Other and Unspecified Pneumoconiosis Death Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	~	0.6
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	84	N/A
11.2 Annual Incidence Rate of Reported Work-Related Pesticide Poisoning Cases (per 100,000 workers)	1.8	N/A

~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.

Table 5. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 12 – 17, 2020

Characteristics	Georgia	U.S.
	Number, Rate, or %	
Indicator 12: Incidence of Malignant Mesothelioma, Ages 15 and Older		
12.1 Annual Number of Incident Mesothelioma Cases	54	N/A
12.2 Annual Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.4	N/A
12.3 Annual, Age-Standardized Mesothelioma Incidence Rate (per 1,000,000 residents)	6.2	N/A
Indicator 13: Elevated Blood Lead Levels (BLL) Among Adults		
13.1.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL)	906	N/A
13.1.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	19.2	N/A
13.1.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL)	325	N/A
13.1.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=10 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	6.9	N/A
13.2.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL)	220	N/A
13.2.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	4.7	N/A
13.2.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL)	119	N/A
13.2.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=25 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	2.5	N/A
13.3.1 Annual Number of Residents with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL)	34	N/A
13.3.2 Annual Prevalence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	0.7	N/A
13.3.3 Annual Number of Incident Cases with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL)	29	N/A
13.3.4 Annual Incidence Rate of Blood Lead Levels (>=40 µg/dL) (per 100,000 workers)	0.6	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	222,710	7,263,901
14.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk NAICS Industries	5%	5%
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	553,900	16,814,040
15.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Morbidity Risk Bureau of the Census Occupations	16%	15%
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	649,136	20,121,995
16.2 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Industries	16%	16%
16.3 Number of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	536,581	15,387,843
16.4 Percentage of Employed Persons in High Mortality Risk Bureau of Census Occupations	13%	12%
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

Table 6. Georgia and U.S. Occupational Health Indicators, Numbers 18 – 25, 2020

Characteristics	Georgia	U.S.
	Number, Rate or %	
Indicator 18: OSHA Enforcement Activities		
18.1 Annual Number of Establishments Inspected by OSHA in all OSHA-covered Sectors	927	49,133
18.2 Number of OSHA-Covered Establishments that are Eligible for OSHA Inspection (Excluding Farms and Mines)	298,240	10,083,838
18.3 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Establishments Eligible for Inspection that were Inspected by OSHA	0.3%	0.5%
18.4 Annual Number of Employees Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	59,139	3,468,762
18.5 Number of OSHA-Covered Employees (Excluding Farmers and Miners)	3,748.870	11,618,576
18.6 Percentage of OSHA-Covered Employees Eligible for Inspection Whose Work Areas were Inspected by OSHA	2%	3%
Indicator 19: Workers' Compensation Awards		
19.1 Total Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid	$1,327,371,000	$58,924,532
19.2 Average Amount of Workers' Compensation Benefits Paid (per covered worker)	$322.49	$434.60
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	320,405	6,108,024
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	52%	49%
Indicator 22: Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations[†]		
22.1 Annual Number of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations	172	N/A
22.2 Annual Rate of Work-Related Severe Traumatic Injury Hospitalizations (per 100,000 workers)	3.6	N/A
Indicator 23: Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Hospital Care Personnel		
23.1 Pooled Proportion of Hospital Care Personnel Influenza Vaccination Coverage in Acute Care Hospitals (2016-2017 influenza season)	N/A	N/A
Indicator 24: Occupational Heat-Related Emergency Department (ED) Visits		
24.1 Annual Number of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness	155	N/A
24.2 Annual Rate of Emergency Department Visits for Occupational Heat-Related Illness (per 100,000 workers)	3.3	N/A
Indicator 25: Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries		
25.1 Annual Number of Inpatient Hospitalizations for or with Occupational Eye Injuries	26	N/A
25.2 Annual Rate of Inpatient Hospitalizations for Occupational Eye Injuries (per 100,000 workers)	0.5	N/A

2020 RECOMMENDED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH INDICATORS

Key Findings:

- The top three industries employing Georgia residents in 2020 were: Education and Health Services, Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Professional and Business Services.
- Georgia spent $1.3 billion in workers' compensation costs in 2020 for work-related injuries, illnesses, medical expenses, and lost wages.
- Over half a million Georgia workers are employed in high mortality risk industries and occupations.
- Employment in some industries or occupations may put members of Georgia's workforce at higher risk for work-related injuries or illnesses.
    - About 16% of Georgia's workforce are employed in occupations at high risk for occupational morbidity.
- There were 1,590 work-related hospitalizations and 193 fatal work-related injuries in Georgia during 2020.
- There were 906 reported cases of elevated blood lead levels ≥10 µg/dL among adults in Georgia during 2020, including 325 new cases.
- Over half (52%; 320,405) of Georgia adults with asthma reported that their asthma was made worse or caused by exposures at their workplace.
- There were 100 hospitalizations due to pneumoconiosis in Georgia during 2020, including 43 due to asbestosis and 12 due to silicosis.
- There were 84 reported work-related pesticide poisonings in Georgia in 2020.
- During 2020, Georgia had 155 emergency department visits due to occupational heat-related illness.

For more information about the Georgia Occupational Health Surveillance Program 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. Analysis of 2020 OHI Data. May 2023.
2. National Academy of Social Insurance. Workers' Compensation Benefits, Coverage, and Costs, 2020.