Occupational Health Indicators

Surveillance indicators allow a state to compare its health or risk status with that of other states, evaluate trends over time, and guide priorities for prevention and intervention efforts. This document presents 22 indicators that describe the occupational health status of the working population. The indicators presented represent the consensus view of state and NIOSH representatives, and are intended as advisory to the states.

I. Occupational injury and illness indicators (15 indicators). These are indicators using occupational injury and illness data sources that are available in the majority of states. Three of these indicators (i, ii and iii) are published annually by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) at the national level.

A. Occupational morbidity
   i. Non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses reported by employers
   ii. Work-related amputations with days away from work reported by employers
   iii. Work-related musculoskeletal disorders with days away from work reported by employers
   iv. Work-related hospitalizations
   v. Hospitalizations from work-related burns
   vi. Hospitalizations from or with pneumoconiosis
   vii. Acute work-related pesticide-associated illnesses and injury reported to poison control centers
   viii. Incidence of malignant mesothelioma
   ix. Work-related low back disorder hospitalizations
   x. State workers’ compensation claims for amputations with lost work-time
   xi. State workers’ compensation claims for carpal tunnel syndrome with lost work-time
   xii. Asthma among adults caused or made worse by work
   xiii. Work-related severe traumatic injury hospitalizations

B. Occupational Mortality
   i. Fatal work-related injuries
   ii. Mortality from or with pneumoconiosis

II. National and state-level occupational exposure and hazard indicators (4 indicators). These indicators use occupational exposure data or hazard data sources that are consistently collected between states and at the national level. These would include laboratory screening result for exposures such as blood lead, number of workers employed in industries or occupations with high rates of work-related injuries or acute traumatic fatalities.

A. Elevated blood lead levels among adults
B. Percentage of workers employed in industries at high risk for occupational morbidity
C. Percentage of workers employed in occupations at high risk for occupational morbidity
D. Percentage of workers employed in industries and occupations at high risk for occupational mortality

III. National and state-level occupational intervention indicators (2 indicators). These indicators use data sources related to interventions that are consistently collected between states and at the national level. These would include occupational health professionals working within a state, the number of OSHA inspections conducted within a state.

A. Occupational safety and health professionals
B. OSHA enforcement activities
IV. State-specific socio-economic indicators (1 indicator). This indicator uses occupational injury and illness economic data sources that are primarily state-specific. The only indicator available at this time is for state workers’ compensation awards.

A. Worker’s Compensation Awards

**Website view** (www.cste.org):

### Data view:

**Table 1. Number of Non-Fatal Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Reported by Private Sector Employers by State and U.S., 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>CT</th>
<th>FL</th>
<th>IL</th>
<th>IA</th>
<th>LA</th>
<th>MA</th>
<th>ME</th>
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<th>VA</th>
<th>VT</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>WI</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All cases of work-related injuries and illnesses</td>
<td>502,700</td>
<td>55,000</td>
<td>246,300</td>
<td>64,300</td>
<td>75,900</td>
<td>40,300</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>28,800</td>
<td>161,700</td>
<td>104,400</td>
<td>22,400</td>
<td>176,500</td>
<td>47,300</td>
<td>59,200</td>
<td>246,000</td>
<td>109,900</td>
<td>109,900</td>
<td>4,214,200</td>
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<td>Cases involving days away from work</td>
<td>141,200</td>
<td>15,200</td>
<td>67,300</td>
<td>14,700</td>
<td>21,900</td>
<td>13,200</td>
<td>13,400</td>
<td>7,600</td>
<td>37,800</td>
<td>38,200</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>83,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>15,900</td>
<td>69,200</td>
<td>35,400</td>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>1,234,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cases involving days away from work</td>
<td>66,430</td>
<td>8,960</td>
<td>37,640</td>
<td>5,470</td>
<td>9,680</td>
<td>6,600</td>
<td>14,200</td>
<td>2,660</td>
<td>16,700</td>
<td>16,800</td>
<td>7,280</td>
<td>40,101</td>
<td>7,170</td>
<td>7,740</td>
<td>39,000</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>12,070</td>
<td>527,100</td>
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</table>

1 The rates published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) are the number of injury and illness cases per 100 full-time workers. The rates presented here, which are cases per 100,000 full-time workers, were derived by multiplying BLS published rates by 1.000. These converted rates per sector were used to those that could be calculated from the raw Annual Survey data.

Data Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

**Figure 1. Rate of Non-Fatal Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Reported by Private Sector Employers by State and U.S., 2005**

- An unweighted injury and illness
- Cases involving days away from work