

TOGETHER WITH **TOSHA** newsletter

January 2023



Truck Yard Safety

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Truck Yard Safety

A 53 year old male employee was crushed between the refrigeration unit of the trailer and the smokestack on the cab of a yard truck while another employee was backing the truck into place.

The victim was assigned as a trainer for a CDL trainee. His job was to teach the trainee how to hook up the TICO Pro-Spotter yard truck to the tractor trailers and position them for loading. On the day of the accident, he was standing in the doorway of the cab on the platform of the Yard Truck

directing the trainee through the yard. All the team trucks were positioned first and they were getting started on the local route trucks. While the Trainee was backing the Yard Truck up to the trailer, the victim moved from the door opening to the platform and stood to the side of the door so the trainee could see the fifth wheel and kingpin while receiving directions.

The platform of the Yard Truck measures 42 inches high, 43 inches wide, and is 60 inches long measured from the cab to the back of the fifth wheel. The cab of the TICO Pro-Spotter yard truck is only designed to accommodate the driver, as there is only one seat and seat belt. During interviews it was determined that common practice was for the trainer to sit on the dash in the cab while the Yard truck was in operation.

On this day, the victim stood on the platform to give directions. While driving in

continues on page 3





reverse to connect the trailer, the kingpin on the trailer hit the edge of the fifth wheel on the Yard Truck causing it to slide off the fifth wheel and become lodged behind the fifth wheel. The trailer was designed with a refrigeration unit that extended out an additional 23 inches from the trailer. When the kingpin was lodged behind the fifth wheel, the victim was pinned between the refrigeration unit of the trailer and the smokestack on the cab of the Yard Truck. The Trainee could not pull the Yard Truck forward because the kingpin was lodged behind the fifth wheel. The only entrance to the Yard truck is the door located on the platform which was blocked by the trailer. The Trainee had to climb out the window of the Yard Truck to get assistance. Other employees ran over to help raise the trailer so that the kingpin would clear the fifth wheel and the Yard Truck could be moved away from the trailer.

Citation(s) as Originally Issued

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

Citation 1 Item 1

Type of Violation: Willful-Serious \$45,000

TCA 50-3-105(1): The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees:

In that employees were exposed to a struck by/caught in between hazard while training new drivers in the TICP Pro-Spotter (Yard Truck) in the following instances:

- a) While standing on the platform behind the cab while the truck was moving in reverse to connect to a tractor trailer, resulting in fatal injuries
- b) While sitting on the dash of the truck while training new drivers.

Citation 2 Item 1

Type of Violation: Serious \$3,600

TCA 50-3-105(1): The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees:

In that the operator was not required to wear a seat belt while riding in the cab of the TICP Pro-Spotter (Yard Truck) as the seat belt provided in the cab was damaged and non-functional. ☹

National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2021


The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently released its **National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2021**. There were 5,190 fatal work injuries recorded in the United States in 2021, an 8.9 percent increase from 4,764 in 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The fatal work injury rate was 3.6 fatalities per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers, up from 3.4 per 100,000 FTE in 2020 and up from the 2019 pre-pandemic rate of 3.5. These data are from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

Despite experiencing an increase from 2020 to 2021, transportation incidents are still down 6.6 percent from 2019 when there were 2,122 fatalities.

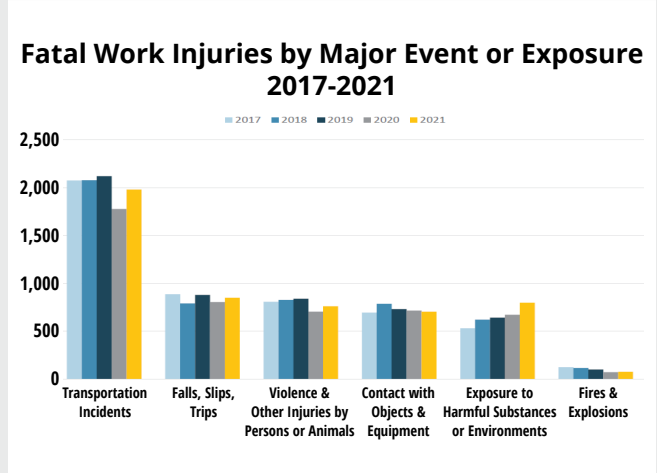
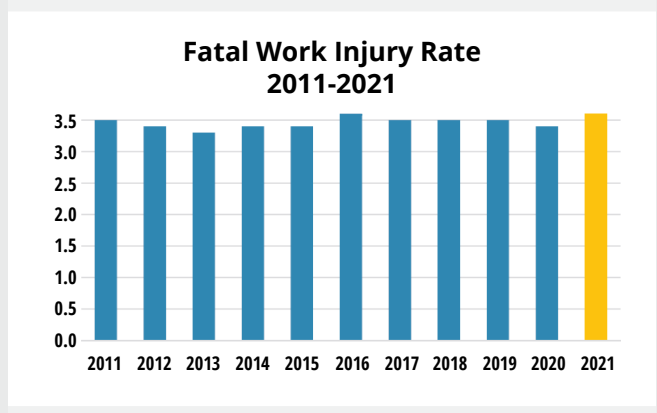
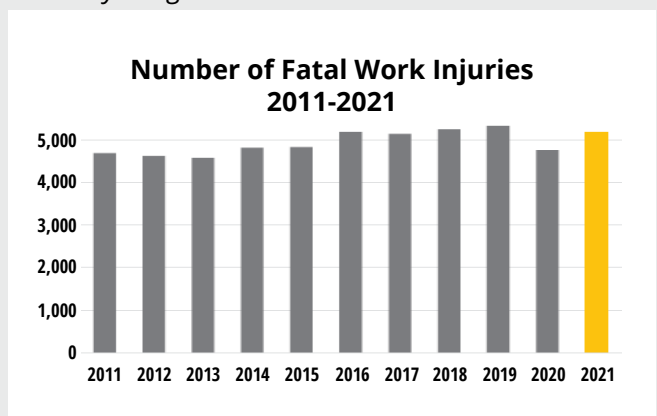
Fatalities due to violence and other injuries by persons or animals increased to 761 fatalities in 2021 from 705 fatalities in 2020 (7.9 percent). The largest subcategory, intentional injuries by person, increased 10.3 percent to 718 in 2021.

Exposure to harmful substances or environments led to 798 worker fatalities in 2021, the highest figure since the series began in 2011. This major event category experienced the largest increase in fatalities in 2021, increasing 18.8 percent from 2020. Unintentional overdose from non medical use of drugs or alcohol accounted for 58.1 percent of these fatalities (464 deaths), up from 57.7 percent of this category's total in 2020.

Work related fatalities due to falls, slips, and trips increased 5.6 percent in 2021, from 805 fatalities in 2020 to 850 in 2021. Falls, slips, and trips in construction and extraction

occupations accounted for 370 of these fatalities in 2021, and an increase of 7.2 percent from 2020 when there were 345 fatalities. Despite the increase this is still down 9.3 percent from 2019 when construction and extraction occupations experienced 408 fatalities due to this event. 

Click any image below to visit website.



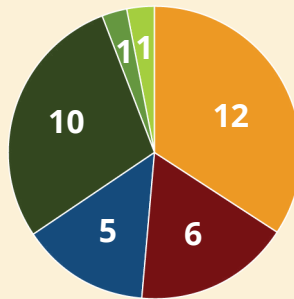
TOSHA Fatality Statistics

January to December

INDUSTRY

Number of Inspections (35)

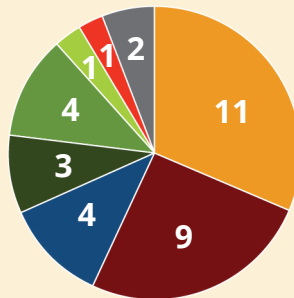
Construction	12
Manufacturing	6
Public Sector	5
Service	10
Transportation	1
Farming	1



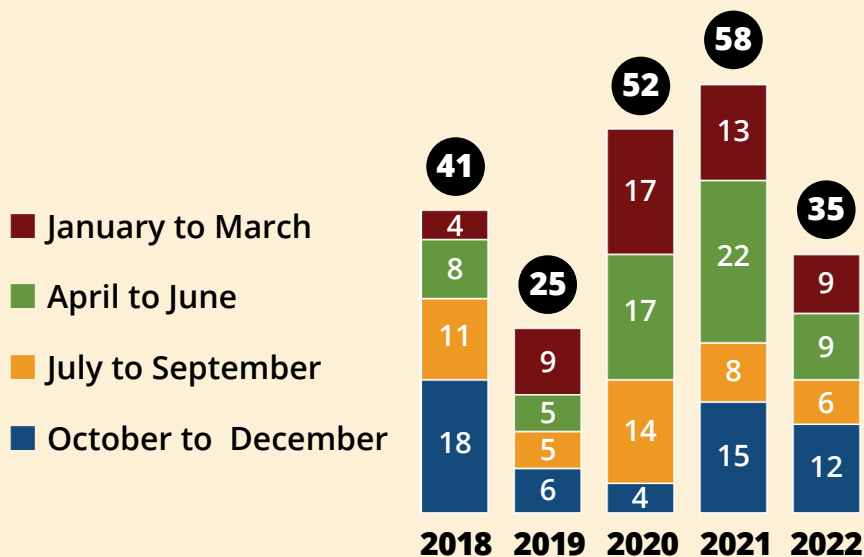
FATALITY TYPE

Number of Victims (35)

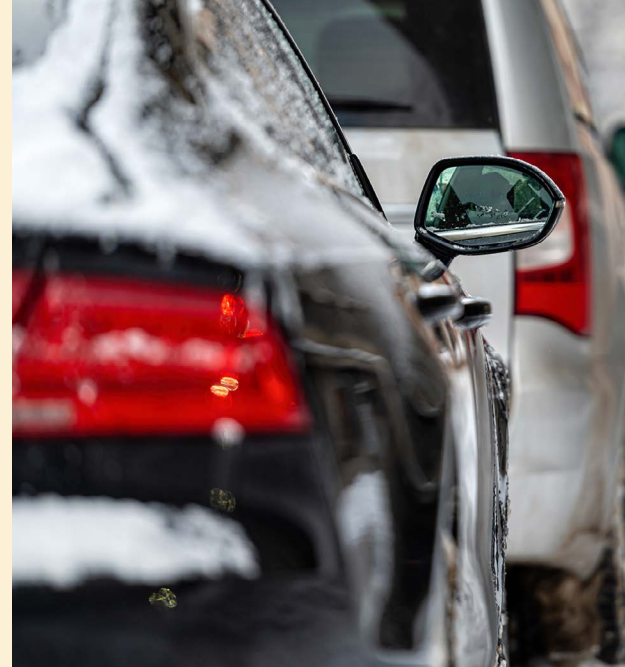
Fall	11
Struck by	9
Thrown from/ Overturned vehicle	4
Crushed by/Caught in	3
Electrocution	4
Cave in	1
Fire	1
Workplace Violence	2



FATALITY TOTALS PER QUARTER



*The 2022 statistics may change due to findings during the TOSHA investigation.



Winter Weather

Q. Are employees required to report to work during inclement weather?

A. The decision to report during inclement weather, such as snowy or icy conditions, is made by the employer and employee.

TOSHA has no rule or standard that prohibits employers from mandating attendance during inclement weather. If an employee does not report due to inclement weather, the employer is not required by TOSHA to excuse the absence.

However, Tennessee is a southern state where winter weather that restricts travel is generally brief. TOSHA encourages employers to implement severe weather attendance policies that minimize the risk to employees. ☺



Tower Crane

Subpart CC of 29 CFR Part 1926 ([§1926.1400](#) et seq.), Cranes and Derricks in Construction (“crane standard”), applies to cranes and derricks when used in construction activities. Section [1926.1400](#)—Scope of the cranes standard sets forth the types of equipment that are included in the cranes standard and excludes from the standard certain types of equipment and cranes engaged in certain types of activities.

Employers who use cranes and derricks in construction work must comply with the crane standard. In addition, other employers on construction sites where cranes and derricks are used are responsible for ensuring that their employees are not exposed to hazards associated with cranes, and, therefore, they need to address the requirements of the standard that may affect their employees. Crane lessors who provide operators and/or maintenance personnel with the equipment have duties under the crane standard. The cranes standard also explicitly establishes certain tasks for some entities or individuals. Some examples are listed below. Note that employers, not employees, are responsible for meeting the requirements of OSHA’s standards, including the cranes standard.

- Controlling contractors are responsible for ensuring that ground conditions are sufficient for the crane or other covered equipment to be assembled. (See [§1926.1402\(c\)](#)).
- Utility owner/operators must provide voltage information for work in proximity

to power lines in certain circumstances under [§§1926.1407-1409](#), and employers must consult with utility owner/operators in order to perform work in very close proximity to power lines under [§1926.1410](#). (See [§§1926.1407-1410](#)).

- Crane inspector duties are contained in [§1926.1412](#). Inspections of modified equipment, repaired or adjusted equipment, post-assembly, annual inspections, severe-service and equipment not in regular use must be performed by a qualified person as defined in [§1926.1401](#). Shift and monthly inspections must be performed by a competent person as defined in [§1926.1401](#).
- The Assembly /Disassembly Director has specific duties outlined in [§§1926.1402-1404](#) and [§1926.1407](#) for assembly or disassembly in proximity to power lines.
- The employer must assure that signal persons meet the qualification requirements in [§1926.1428](#). The standard outlines signal persons’ duties in [§§1926.1419-1422](#).
- Until operator certification goes into effect, under [§1926.1427](#) the employer has a duty to ensure that the crane operator is qualified to operate the equipment under [§1926.1427\(k\)\(2\)](#).

An OSHA directive provides guidance for inspections of a crane operator’s training, certification, and evaluation under the Cranes and Derricks in Construction standard. ☉

Working Together to Address Workplace Stress & Mental Health

Many factors cause stress. Let's work through it together.

Employers can:

- Create a judgement-free, shame-free workplace.
- Be transparent.
- Provide access to mental health resources (e.g., workplace, state, federal programs).
- Encourage workers to seek help when needed.
- Train managers and supervisors to recognize and talk about mental health and substance use.

Workers can:

- Talk with coworkers and supervisors about workplace stress.
- Share ideas about reducing workplace stress with management.
- Take advantage of existing mental health resources.
- Ask for help when needed.

Employers and workers together can:

- Talk openly about workplace stress and collaborate in identifying solutions.
- Monitor one another and talk about mental health concerns.
 - Learn the signs and symptoms of distress, including substance use and risk factors for suicide.
 - Watch for changes in attitudes and behaviors.
 - Tell someone if a person's signs or symptoms worry you.

Reducing workplace stress benefits everyone through:

- Enhanced quality of life
- Lower blood pressure
- Stronger immune system
- Better sleep
- More positive outlook
- Increased productivity
- Improved morale
- Fewer sick days
- Better focus
- Fewer workplace injuries



Workplace Stress

Workplace stress can be harmful to our health and increase mental health challenges. Mental health challenges can include clinical mental illness and substance use disorders as well as other emotions like stress, grief, and feeling sad or anxious, where these feelings are temporary and not part of a diagnosable condition. While there are many things in life that induce stress, work can be one of those factors. However, workplaces can also be a key place for resources, solutions, and activities designed to improve our mental health and well-being. 🕒

[osha.gov/workplace-stress](https://www.osha.gov/workplace-stress)
1-800-321-OSHA (6742) • @OSHA_DOL

Sodium Nitrate Alert



Hazardous Materials Notice Suicide by Sodium Nitrate/Nitrite (NaNO₃/NaNO₂)

There is a new “trend” in chemical suicides using Sodium Nitrate/Nitrite being seen around the nation. We have had our first in the region in 16 years. All first responders and emergency room personnel should be aware of individuals attempting suicide by ingesting Sodium Nitrate or Sodium Nitrite.

Sodium Nitrate/Nitrite is used as a food preservative and when mixed with food in high concentrations it is an effective suicide agent. It is easily purchased on Amazon, eBay, and wherever food and wine making supplies are sold and can be purchased in-store and online as Reagent Grade or Laboratory Grade.

Pathophysiology: Sodium Nitrate/Nitrite poisoning patients will present with hypotensive and hypoxic symptoms and may include the following:

- Almost immediately causes dramatic drop in blood pressure due to a lack of vascular resistance.
- Decreases capacity of hemoglobin to carry oxygen as it oxidizes the Ferrous Iron to Ferric Iron in the hemoglobin. This condition is known as methemoglobinemia. The blood will take on a brown color like chocolate depending on the extent of methemoglobinemia.
- The change in blood color causes a very low and inaccurate oximetry reading.

Patient Assessment (recommended):

- Use capnography to determine the seriousness of the poisoning. Readings below 35mmHg may indicate a critical case.
- If available, it is recommended to use Rainbow Technology to determine methemoglobinemia level. Rainbow is available on LP15, RAD57, and Phillips cardiac monitors.
- Methemoglobin levels can also be determined by blood analysis.

Treatment:

- Responders: Exercise care in handling any of the material. Nitrates/Nitrites are easily absorbed through the skin. Ensure runoff from emesis or any decontamination efforts is not affecting other body areas.
- Support blood pressure.
- Pharmaceutical intervention includes IV Methylene Blue at 1-2mg/kg not to exceed 7mg/kg. Follow local prehospital hazmat protocols or physician order.
- Hospitals should have Methylene Blue in their pharmacy inventory, but it is not generally kept in the ED.
- Contact Poison Control Centers for guidance but **DO NOT** delay initial treatment.
- Decontamination is necessary if skin is exposed.
- Ensure runoff is not affecting other areas of the body. ☺

Volunteer STAR News



On November 16th, Deputy Commissioner Dewayne Scott presented the employees of SI Group in Newport with their Volunteer STAR Award as part of the site's third certification effort.

The Volunteer STAR is patterned after the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program and recognizes the best of the best in safety and health programming and performance. Qualified candidates must demonstrate that they have performed in a manner that is below the national average for injury and illness rates in their industrial classification. They must also have all the critical safety and health management system components in place and involve their employees in a manner that ensures total involvement in safety and health issues.

Volunteer STAR is open to all manufacturers (NAICS codes 20 – 39). Programs must be in place for at least a year, prior to evaluation.

On average for 2021 the Tennessee Volunteer STAR sites experience three-year Total Case Incident Rates (TCIR) 55% below their industry average and three-year Days Away, Restricted or Transferred Case Rates (DART) 49% below their industry average. In 2021 there were thirteen (13) sites that experienced a TCIR of 0.0 and there were fifteen (15) sites that experienced a DART of 0.0. There are 33 Volunteer STAR sites, covering approximately 25,000 employees in Tennessee. 🌐

For more information on Volunteer STAR, contact the VPP Manager at (800) 325-9901

Electronic Reporting

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a [news release](#) reminding employers that the agency is collecting calendar year 2022 Form 300A data. Employers must submit the form electronically by March 2, 2023.

Establishments can use the [ITA Coverage Application](#) to determine if they are required to electronically report their injury and illness information to OSHA. Employers must connect their [Injury Tracking Account](#) to a Login.gov account to submit their 2022 workplace injury and illness data. Watch the [video](#) to learn how. 🌐



SAVE THE DATE

**Tennessee Safety &
Health Conference**

August 14-16, 2023

Gaylord Opryland
Resort & Convention Center

Nashville, TN

Click any image to visit website

Ladder Safety Month
March 2023
(American Ladder Institute)

Form 300A
Employers must post summary
of CY 2022 injuries and
illnesses for period of
February 1 to April 30

Small Business Safety
and Health Handbook



National Work
Zone Awareness
Week April 17-21

National Stand-Down
to Prevent Struck-By
Incidents April 17-21

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

Stand Up 4 Grain
Safety Week
March 27-31

2023 January – July TOSHA Seminar Schedule

TN Department of
Labor & Workforce
Development

TOSHA

Basic Safety and Health – This full day class will review Exit Routes, Emergency Action and Fire Prevention Plans; Machine Guarding, Lockout/Tag-out, Hazard Communication, Personal Protective Equipment, and Respiratory Protection.
04/11 – Knoxville - TCCI
04/12 – Gallatin - TCCI
05/09 – Clarksville - TCCI

Basic Safety for Utilities – This full day class will review confined spaces, trenching & excavation, personal protective equipment (PPE), walking working surfaces, lockout / tag-out (LOTO), electrical, & the most cited standards in utilities
7/11 – Lenoir City - TAUD

Forklift and Warehouse Safety – This full day class will cover the hazards and injuries likely to occur in warehousing and storage operations, including encounters with powered industrial trucks, material handling, lifting, hazard communication, walking and working surfaces, and life safety including fire protection and evacuation. This course is intended for warehouse workers, supervisors, and employers responsible for developing safe work practices and procedures in a warehouse setting.
05/10 – Clarksville - TCCI
05/16 – Cleveland - TCCI
05/24 – Morristown - TCCI

Recordkeeping – This half day class will review recordkeeping requirements, maintenance of the OSHA 300 log, reporting & electronic scanning requirements.
01/19 – Clarksville - TCCI
01/20 – Jackson - TCCI
02/02 – Kingsport - TCCI
02/08 – Cleveland - TCCI
03/15 – Paris - TCCI
03/30 – Fayetteville - TCCI

Maintenance Related Standards – This full day class will review the most cited standards in general industry, lockout / tag-out (LOTO), machine guarding, electrical, confined spaces, housekeeping, egress routes, emergency procedures, fire safety, compressed gas safety & health hazards.
02/07 – Cleveland - TCCI
02/15 – Murfreesboro - TCCI
02/24 – Morristown - TCCI
03/14 – Paris - TCCI
03/29 – Fayetteville - TCCI
04/05 – Jackson - TCCI

OSHA 10-Hour for Construction – This two-day course emphasizes the identification, avoidance, control, & prevention of safety & health hazards present in construction. An OSHA 10 Hour card is achieved after successfully completing the course.
02/16 - 02/17 – Nashville - TCCI

OSHA 30-Hour for General Industry – This four-day course emphasizes the identification, avoidance, control & prevention of safety & health hazards present in general industry. The training helps to ensure that workers are more knowledgeable about workplace hazards and their rights. An OSHA 30 Hour card is achieved after completion of the course.
05/02-05 -- Murfreesboro - TCCI
03/20-23 -- Greeneville - WSCC

Walking, Working Surfaces – This half day class will review 29 CFR 1910 Subparts D and I. Falls from heights and on the same level (a working surface) are among the leading causes of serious work-related injuries and deaths. This rule on Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Fall Protection Systems was developed to better protect workers in general industry from these hazards by updating and clarifying standards and adding training and inspection requirements.
06/06 – Dickson - TCCI
06/07 – Chattanooga - TCCI

Agency Links

[OSHA](#)

[Tennessee's Government Website](#)

[Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development](#)

[Tennessee Occupational Safety & Health Administration \(TOSHA\)](#)

Useful Links

[File a Complaint](#)

[Video Library](#)

[TOSHA Publications](#)

[Safety & Health Conference](#)

Recognition Links

[TOSHA Safety Awards](#)

[VPP](#)

[SHARP](#)

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SUBSCRIBE

Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development
Commissioner Deniece Thomas

TN Occupational Safety & Health Administration
Assistant Commissioner Wendy Fisher
Wendy.Fisher@tn.gov

TN Occupational Safety & Health Administration
Assistant Administrator Larry Hunt
Larry.Hunt@tn.gov

TOSHA Newsletter Editor
Calvin Wyatt
Calvin.Wyatt@tn.gov

Layout & Design
Mike Rivera
Mike.Rivera@tn.gov