

TOGETHER WITH TOSHA

Newsletter



Get Involved in Safety and Health

NEWS

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OSHA's 2020 outreach initiatives are a great way to get involved! The national initiatives include: **Ladder Safety Month** in March, **Work Zone Awareness Week** on April 20-24 and the **Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction** in May 4-8. The Stand-Down campaign raises awareness of the danger of falls and encourages employers to set aside time during the week to focus on fall prevention efforts and training. More initiatives include **National Safety Month** in June, **Forklift Safety Day** on June 9 and **Trench Safety Stand-Down** on June 15-19. The Trench Safety Stand-down abating trenching hazards continues to be a priority goal in 2020. Another initiative is the **Safe + Sound Campaign** with the signature event being **Safe + Sound Week** in August 10-16, the goal of the campaign is to encourage employers to implement safety and health programs.

In addition, check out these local events including **Safety Fest TN 2020** on April 27 - May 1 in Oak Ridge and the **Kingsport Annual Safety Seminar** hosted by the Kingsport Safety Council on May 13. Plus, mark your calendar and plan to attend the **Tennessee Safety & Health Conference** on August 17-19 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville. Please check out these helpful events as we continue to work together to support OSHA's outreach initiatives.

A Message from the Assistant Commissioner

Happy New Year! Not only are we ringing in 2020 but also the beginning of a new decade. Now is a perfect time for everyone to reflect on the past and look forward to what the future may bring.

When I look back on my years working at TOSHA, I remember an organization that has always been fluid, yet stable in keeping its mission and purpose at the forefront. Even as people left to pursue other opportunities, TOSHA maintained a staff dedicated to ensuring safety and health in the workplace. Over the last year, we have seen personnel changes within our agency. These changes will prepare TOSHA to perform at a high level for years to come. I know our staff is now prepared to take on the challenge of promoting, teaching, and enforcing worker safety and health.

I want to congratulate the following people on their recent promotions: David Thomas and Sherry Roland were promoted to Safety Managers. Michael Johnson, Jon Morris, Brad Wilson, and Rusty Dugan were promoted to Safety Supervisors. Kala Grooms was promoted to Industrial Hygiene Supervisor, and Ashley Harris was promoted to Public Sector Manager. Also, John Pietuszka is now the Manager of Discrimination. I would also like to welcome the new personnel hired over the last year.

With these changes and additions to our staff, I know TOSHA will have its best year ever and begin this decade with a positive outlook.



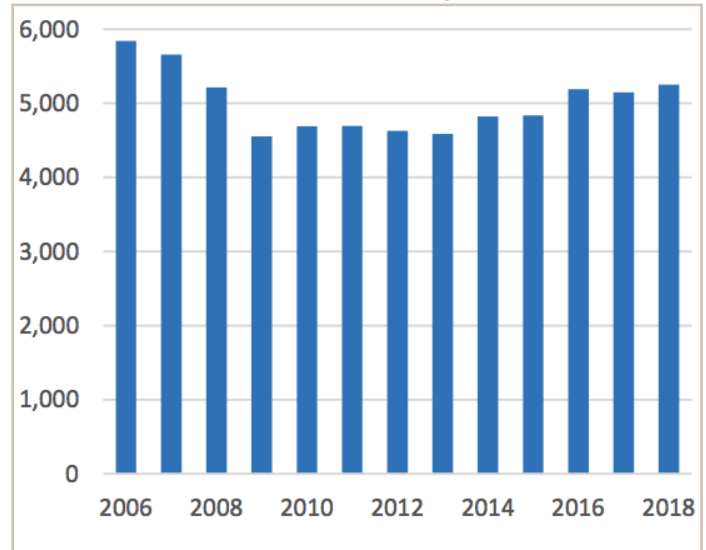
Wendy Fisher
Assistant
Commissioner

National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2018

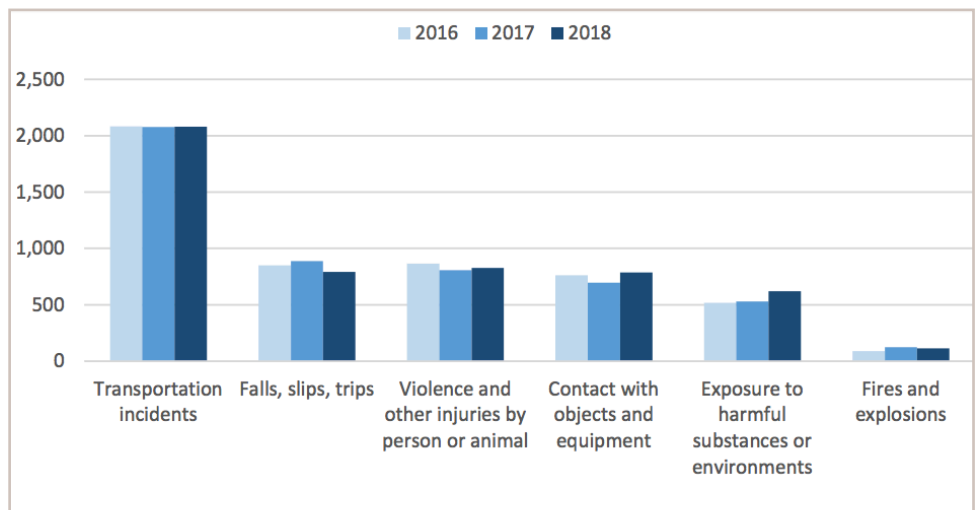
The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently released its **National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2018**. There were 5,250 fatal work injuries recorded in the United States in 2018, a 2 percent increase from the 5,147 in 2017. The fatal work injury rate remained unchanged at 3.5 per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers. These data are from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

Transportation incidents remained the most frequent type of fatal event at 2,080, accounting for 40 percent of all work-related fatalities. Incidents involving contact with objects and equipment increased 13 percent (from 695 to 786), driven by a 39 percent increase in workers caught in running equipment or machinery and a 17 percent increase in workers struck by falling objects or equipment. Unintentional overdoses due to nonmedical use of drugs or alcohol while at work increased 12 percent from 272 to 305. This is the sixth consecutive annual increase. Violence and other injuries by persons or animals increased 3 percent in 2018, due to an 11 percent increase in work-related suicides from 275 to 304. Fatal falls, slips, and trips decreased 11 percent to 791, after reaching a series high of 887 in 2017. This decline was due to a 14 percent drop in falls to a lower level (713 to 615), the lowest total since 2013.

Number of fatal work injuries, 2006-18



Fatal work injuries by major event or exposure, 2016-18



2019 TOSHA Fatality Investigation Statistics

January 1 – December 31, 2019

25

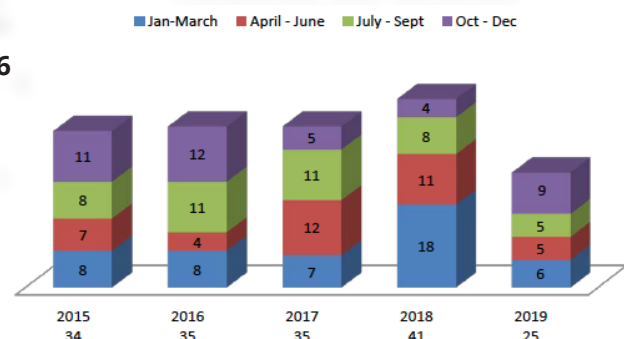
Industry Sectors pe NAICS Codes

- Manufacturing (31, 32, 33) - 5
- Construction (23) - 9
- Logging (1133) - 1
- Service - 7
- Public Sector - 3

Fatality Cause

- Struck by - 10
- Crushed by/Caught in - 6
- Falls - 7
- Trench Cave-In - 1
- Chemical Exposure - 1

Fatalities per Quarter





Tennessee
Safety & Health Conference

SAVE THE DATE

43rd Annual
**Tennessee Safety &
Health Conference**

August 17-19, 2020

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, TN



Registration opens soon! Visit
www.tshc.org for more information.



Working in Cold Weather

Winter weather presents hazards including slippery roads/surfaces, strong winds and environmental cold. Employers must prevent illnesses, injuries, or fatalities, by controlling these hazards in workplaces impacted by winter weather. Employers should, therefore, train workers on the hazards of the job and safety measures to use, such as engineering controls and safe work practices, that will protect workers' safety and health.

OSHA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are working together on a public education effort aimed at improving the way people prepare for and respond to severe weather. **This page** is designed to help businesses and their workers prepare for winter weather, and to provide information about hazards that workers may face during and after winter storms.



Worker Flu Safety

Flu season in Tennessee begins around the end of fall and typically lasts until spring. The infection is a respiratory illness caused by a virus that is spread through coughing, sneezing, or talking thereby releasing droplets into the air that contact the mucus membranes of those nearby. In most workplaces, employees work in relatively close proximity to one another, making "the office" one of the places ripe for disease transmission.

Once infected, the average adult will experience fever and chills, runny nose, coughing, aching body, headaches and general fatigue. As would be expected, a sick employee is likely to be a less productive employee. A sick employee is also likely to infect others leading to absenteeism a drop in morale as the flu moves through the workplace.

While there is no 100% effective way to prevent the flu from coming into your establishment, there are steps you can take to minimize risks. One method is to encourage your staff to obtain flu vaccines. According to the CDC this has been shown to reduce the risk of having to seek medical attention by 40 to 60 percent. In addition to flu shots, you can combine a number of options to prevent the spread of illness. Remind your employees to cover their mouths when coughing and sneezing. Encourage hand washing and make hand sanitizing gels available throughout the workplace. And if the flu still makes its way into your building, encourage the infected employees to stay home if possible.

Old sayings are old sayings for a reason, hence, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

More information about **preventing the transmission of flu** is available at the CDC's web site.



OSHA Safety Tip

Ensure workers know their roles in a safety and health program.

Volunteer STAR Update



In the month of September 2019, TOSHA VPP Manager David Blessman presented the employees of SRK in Midway and New Tazewell with the Volunteer STAR Award. This was the third time the company has received the award. SRK manufactures rubber vibration isolation products for the automotive industry and employs 1,903 people between the two locations.

On September 17, 2019, Deputy Commissioner, Steve Hawkins, presented the employees of Honeywell in Memphis with the Volunteer STAR Award. This was the first time the company has received the award. Honeywell repairs and overhauls the wheels and brakes of large aircraft used by the airline industry and package shipping industry. They employ 50 people.



On October 16, 2019, TOSHA VPP Manager, David Blessman presented the employees of Performance Pipe in Knoxville with the Volunteer STAR Award. This was the third time the company has received the award. Performance Pipe manufactures plastic pipe for natural gas distribution and employs 87 people.

On November 26, 2019, TOSHA Administrator, Wendy Fisher, presented the employees of ITW Dynatec in Hendersonville with the Volunteer STAR Award. This was the fourth time that the company has received the award. ITW Dynatec manufactures and assembles cold and hot-melt adhesive application equipment.



SHARP Update

Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA) Assistant Commissioner Wendy Fisher recognized Wagner-Meinert LLC of Nashville, Tennessee, for its initial certification as a TOSHA Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) site, a designation the location earned in 2019. Wagner-Meinert LLC established its Nashville facility in 2013 and is engaged in the construction, retrofit and maintenance of ammonia refrigeration systems. They are one of 15 SHARP sites currently in Tennessee.

Wagner-Meinert, partnered with TOSHA's consultative services program to assist in improving its safety and health program with the goal of attaining SHARP award status. The consultative services unit does not issue fines, penalties or citations, but it does require an employer correct any hazards identified. The confidential service is offered at no direct cost to employers. For more information on the SHARP award and TOSHA's consultative services program, contact TOSHA's Nashville office at (800) 325-9901.



TOSHA Assistant Commissioner Wendy Fisher (center) presents the TOSHA SHARP flag to the employees and management of Wagner-Meinert LLC in Nashville.



Tennessee Safety & Health Conference

August 17-August 19, 2020

Reminder:
Post the OSHA
300A Form from
Feb 1 - April 30.

Reminder:
The Electronic
Reporting deadline
is March 2.

**2020 January - July
TOSHA Seminar
Schedule**

OSHA 300 Log Recordkeeping - This half day class will review recordkeeping requirements, maintenance of the OSHA 300 log, reporting & electronic scanning requirements.
01/22 - Memphis - ABC West TN
01/23 - Knoxville - TCCI
02/04 - Hendersonville - TCCI
02/07 - Chattanooga - TCCI
02/13 - Jackson - TCCI
02/28 - Murfreesboro - TCCI
03/20 - Fayetteville - MSCC
05/20 - Greenville - WSCC

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.
02/06 - Chattanooga - TCCI
02/12 - Jackson - TCCI
02/19 - Morristown - TCCI
03/03 - Maury County - TCCI
03/04 - Murfreesboro - TCCI
03/13 - Bartlett - TCCI
03/13 - Smyrna - MSCC

Basic Safety - This full day class will review walking working surfaces including fall protection, emergency procedures, personal protective equipment (PPE), machine guarding, lockout / tag-out (LOTO), electrical & most cited safety standards in general industry.
03/17 - Kingsport - TCCI
03/25 - Jackson - TCCI
04/09 - Hendersonville - TCCI

Walking Working Surfaces - This half day class will review the changes to subparts D & I of 29 CFR 1910.
02/21 - McMinnville - MSCC
03/05 - Murfreesboro - TCCI
03/18 - Morristown - TCCI
03/26 - Jackson - TCCI

Powered Industrial Trucks (Forklifts) - This half day class will cover hazards associated with forklifts in the workplace. The standard 29 CFR 1910.178 will be reviewed.
04/07 - Chattanooga - TCCI
04/15 - Jackson - TCCI
04/17 - Knoxville - TCCI
04/28 - Murfreesboro - TCCI

Fall Protection in Construction - This half day class will cover fall hazards in the construction industry. 29 CFR 1926 Subpart M will be reviewed.
04/07 - Nashville - ABC Greater TN

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.
03/09-12 - Blountville - NESCC
04/21-24 - Greenville - WSCC
05/11-14 - Murfreesboro - 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.
02/19-20 - Memphis - ABC West TN

Dock & Warehouse Safety - This full day class emphasizes on the identification & control of safety & health hazards in warehouses including the dock area. The standards covered will include forklifts, docks, shelving & storage, material handling, hazard communication, fire safety, personal protective equipment (PPE), & housekeeping.
04/17 - Smyrna - MSCC
05/07 - Jackson - TCCI
05/08 - Hendersonville - TCCI
05/19 - Murfreesboro - TCCI
05/21 - Knoxville - TCCI



Congratulations Wade Gowan on your retirement after 39 years with TOSHA!



**Recommended Practices for
Safety and Health
Programs**

OSHA®
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
www.osha.gov/itp/activities
OSHA 3885 October 2016

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



#337483



GET IN TOUCH WITH US

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