

# Together With TOSHA



Department of  
**Labor & Workforce  
Development**

Commissioner Burns Phillips • 220 French Landing Drive, Nashville, TN • 800-249-8510



The 2014 Tennessee injury and illness data has been released. The total case incidence rates (TCIR) of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses for Tennessee private industry fell from 3.3 in 2013 to 3.2 in 2014. There was a similar decline in all industries including state and local government where the incidence rate fell from 3.4 in 2013 to 3.3 in 2014. Incidence rates in manufacturing decreased from 4.1 in 2013, to 3.8 in 2014. Incidence rates in construction increased from 3.2 in 2013 to 3.9 in 2014, but the Days Away Restricted Time (DART) rate fell from 2.0 to 1.7. For more information on Tennessee's injury, illness, and fatality rates please refer to page two.

OSHA published its Small Entity Guide for Permit Required Confined Spaces in Construction [here](#). The federal construction standards, 1926.1201-1213, became enforceable in Tennessee on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 and provide the same level of protection for construction workers as general industry. The new construction standards provide a higher level of guidance to employers and are projected to reduce the average number of fatalities and injuries by 96%. The guide includes a sample Permit-Required Confined Space Program for the construction industry, along with a sample entry permit. TOSHA began training on these new standards in August 2015, and continue to train employers and employees across the state. The TOSHA seminar schedule for upcoming courses is located on our [website](#). In addition to these training classes, small employers should consider using TOSHA Consultative Services, see page four of this newsletter for additional information.

Safety Fest TN 2015, presented by the Oak Ridge Business Safety partnership and co-sponsored by TOSHA, was held on September 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 2015. More than 850 employers and employees attended the free safety and health training. The courses included, OSHA 30 & 10 Hour Construction, Hazwoper 40-Hour, First Aid/CPR certification, Hands on Fire Extinguisher Use, Machine Guarding, Hearing Conservation, and Hoisting and Rigging Compliance. For more information on this event, see page five of this newsletter.

- Steve Hawkins, TOSHA Administrator

# INSIDE THIS EDITION

Incidence Rates  
..... page 2

Confined Space  
Outreach.....page 3

Consultative  
Services.....page 4

Safety Fest.....page 5

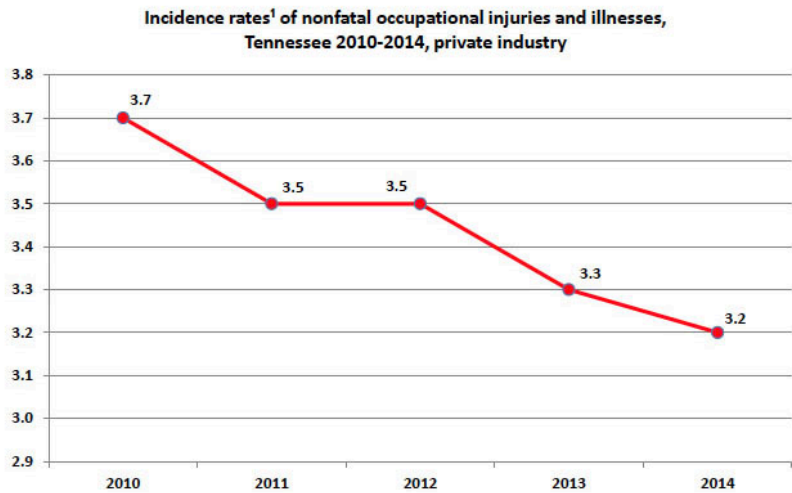
Volunteer STAR  
Update.....page 6

SHARP Update...page 6

Bulletin  
Board..... page 7

Contact.....page 8

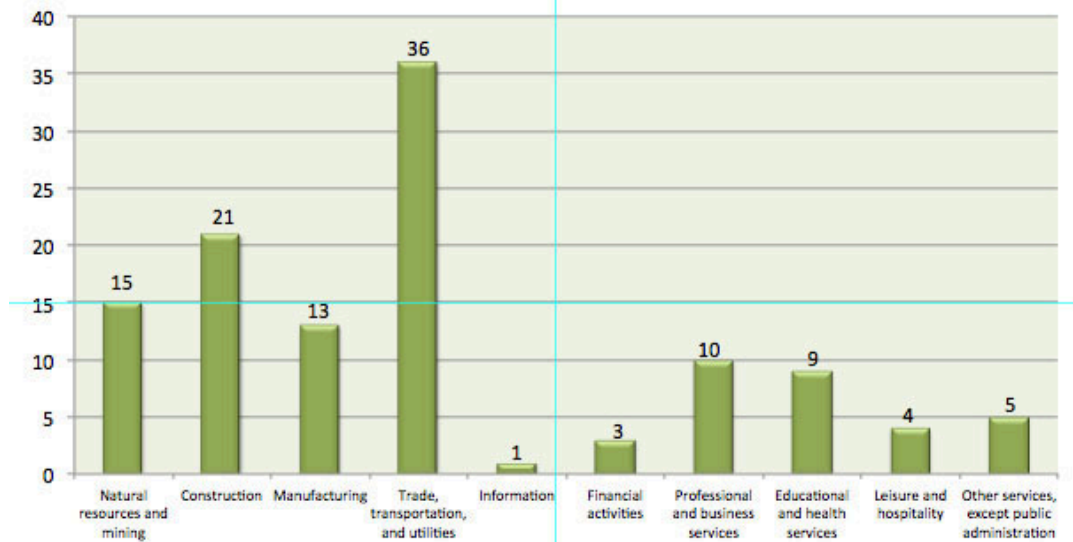
## 2014 Tennessee Incidence Rates



<sup>1</sup> Incidence rates represent the number of occupational injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time equivalent workers.  
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, Tennessee Department of Labor, October, 2015.

Even though non-fatal incidence rates decreased in 2014, workplace fatalities have increased. The total number of fatal occupational injuries in Tennessee increased 30 percent from 2013 to 2014. The preliminary count of 124 work related fatalities was the highest yearly total in Tennessee since 2010. Workers in the trade, transportation and utilities industries suffered the greatest number of fatal occupational injuries in Tennessee during 2014, accounting for 36 work-related fatalities or 29 percent of the 124 total work-related fatalities in the state during the census year. Workers in construction industries had the second highest total number of fatalities with 21 or 17 percent of the state total. TOSHA had jurisdiction and investigated 29 of these workplace fatalities. To date in 2015, TOSHA has investigated 27 workplace fatalities. Falls, and contact with objects and equipment continue to be in the top four that result in Tennessee workplace deaths. Most all of these fatalities are preventable.

Number of fatal work injuries in selected industries  
Tennessee, 2014 (124\* fatalities)



# NEW PERMIT REQUIRED CONFINED SPACE CONSTRUCTION STANDARD



OSHA has posted a new publication called [Protecting Construction Workers in Confined Spaces: Small Entity Compliance Guide](#) on its Website. The guide is intended to help small businesses and other construction employers comply with the standard. It addresses the most common compliance issues in plain English and includes examples of a permit-required confined space program and an entry permit.

For more information on complying with the confined spaces in construction standard, see OSHA's [Confined Spaces in Construction Web page](#), which includes links to the standard, FAQs, and fact sheets. TOSHA Consultative Services can also be of assistance, please refer to page four of this newsletter for additional details.

## TOSHA'S FIELD EFFORTS



TOSHA trainers conducted a Permit Required Confined Space for Construction training on October 27. There were 102 people in attendance. The free event was hosted by Johnson City.



TOSHA, in partnership with Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT), in Murfreesboro continues to train industry professionals on the new standard.

To find the next available training course on the new standard, see our fall training schedule [here](#).

# TOSHA CONSULTATIVE SERVICES

TOSHA offers a consultative service to employers who wish to improve their workplace safety and health.

TOSHA's Consultation Section provides a confidential service without fees, out-of-pocket expense, or penalty/citation to employers. All that is required of TOSHA Consultation participants is that employers agree to correct any violations identified.

Consultation is geared towards smaller employers, those with 250 or fewer employees on-site and 500 or fewer employees corporate wide in the U.S.

Once a Consultation visit is requested, TOSHA's consultants will make contact to schedule a convenient time for an on-site visit. During the on-site visit the consultant will provide examples and guidance of how to correct, prevent, and reduce hazards. Examples of written programs and information on developing and improving workplace training can also be provided.

The consultant will provide a formal written report of their findings. The findings of the report are confidential and not shared with or provided to TOSHA enforcement.

Industrial hygiene services, including air contaminant and noise sampling are also available at no direct cost to the employer.

If this sounds like something you and your employees could benefit from, please contact TOSHA consultative services at 800-325-9901, or fill out the [Request for Consultative Services](#) form.



# SAFETY FEST TN IN OAK RIDGE



Safety Fest TN continues to rack up impressive statistics. More than 1,300 seats were reserved by 850 people representing 172 companies, institutions, and organizations from 79 cities in six states at this year's Fest. According to Class Coordinator Michelle Keever, UCOR, "We had 60 free safety classes and sessions this year with instructors coming from across Tennessee and from as far away as Hanford, Washington." There were six demonstrations at the fest, which included Pike Electric's Live Line High Voltage Unit.

The weeklong annual event, dating back to 2012, has experienced dramatic growth. The Fest provides free safety classes, sessions, and demonstrations to promote safety at work and at home. Safety Fest TN also provided free snacks and lunch each day. "Free lunch? Well, it's sort of trade mark," said Tom Wantland, Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). "All you have to do is get registered, get here, and get focused on learning... We'll take care of the rest!"

This whole event would not be possible if it were not for the efforts of the hard-working volunteers. Thank you to our volunteer coordinators - David Neubauer, Consolidated Nuclear Services, LLC (CNS), Carlyne Thomas, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and Amanda VanOver, ORAU - for organizing everything. Together, they tallied more than 100 volunteers from both federal and contractor staff. The volunteers worked hard for five days, greeting people at the doors, working onsite registration, facilitating classes, and even directing traffic to ensure a safe learning experience.

The 2015 event was sponsored by 69 organizations, including Tennessee OSHA. Many of the community's most recognizable names provided vital financial and critical in-kind support. "We simply could not do it if organizations, big and small, and a multitude of individuals were not willing to generously help," said Jenny Freeman, Strata-G. Further, the DOE Office of Science, Integrated Support Center, and the DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management provided outstanding assistance in planning, and managing the event.

As in past years, CNS, ORAU, and UCOR all played major roles providing facilities, resources, etc. that were needed. CNS hosted almost two-thirds of the classes at the New Hope Center, and this year Safety Fest expanded to an additional location, the Pollard Technology Conference Center, where more classes were held. Classes were also provided at the Tennessee Laborers' Training Facility and two local churches hosted the Safety Fest TN 2015 Hispanic Outreach.



## VOLUNTEER STAR (VPP) AND SAFETY AND HEALTH AWARDS



On July 16<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner Burns Phillips presented the employees of **Manufacturing Sciences Corporation**, in Oak Ridge, with the Volunteer STAR Award recognizing the site's fourth certification effort.



On July 29<sup>th</sup>, at the Tennessee Safety and Health Congress closing session, TOSHA Administrator Steve Hawkins presented Governor's Awards of Excellence in Safety and Health to the employees of: **Firestone Industrial Products-Dyersburg**, **General Cable-Jackson**, **Performance Pipe-Knoxville**, **Sonoco Products-Murfreesboro**, **Sonoco Products Protective Solutions Division - Nashville**, **AECOM-Memphis**, and **AECOM-New Johnsonville**. He presented the Commissioner's Awards of Excellence in Safety and Health to the employees of: **DTR TN - Midway**, **DTR TN-Tazewell**, **DENSO Manufacturing-Maryville**, **La-Z-Boy-Dayton**, and **NEMAK-Dickson**.

On August 7<sup>th</sup>, TOSHA Administrator Steve Hawkins presented the employees of **John Deere Powered Products**, in Greeneville, with the Commissioner's Award of Excellence in Safety and Health.

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, TOSHA Assistant Administrator Jim Flanagan presented the employees of **Cormetech**, in Cleveland, with the Governor's Award of Excellence in Safety and Health.

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, TOSHA Administrator Steve Hawkins presented the employees of **TRW**, in Rogersville, with the Commissioner's Award of Excellence in Safety and Health.

## SAFETY AND HEALTH ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION PROGRAM (SHARP)



In late July, TOSHA Consultative Services conducted an on-site visit at a new pre-SHARP location: **TCT Stainless Steel** in Lebanon, Tennessee.

**PolyOne's** Clinton, Tennessee location was re-certified for SHARP in July.

TOSHA currently has 17 active SHARP sites.

# BULLETIN BOARD



TENNESSEE SAFETY &  
HEALTH CONGRESS

The 2016 TSHC dates are booked! Please come out and join us July 17-20, 2016! For more information please visit:

<https://www.tnsafetycongress.org/>

Please make sure you follow us on social media for all the latest updates about the TSHC and for information on vendors, safety tips, etc.



Tabitha Thompson, Health Compliance Supervisor in Nashville, talks with Tech students at TTU's Career Day. TOSHA is currently recruiting for Safety and Health Compliance Officers. If you are interested in applying please contact [Tina.Kline-Douglas@tn.gov](mailto:Tina.Kline-Douglas@tn.gov).

Make sure to take a look at our fall training schedule! There are several classes to choose from, OSHA 300 Log Recordkeeping, TOSHA Maintenance Related Standards, Confined Spaced, Dock and Warehouse Safety, etc. Sign up for a class today!

[Fall Training Schedule](#)



Department of  
**Labor & Workforce  
Development**

**Burns Phillips**

*Commissioner, Tennessee Department  
of Labor and Workforce Development*

**Steve Hawkins**

*TOSHA Administrator  
[Steve.Hawkins@tn.gov](mailto:Steve.Hawkins@tn.gov)*

Editor.....Tina Kline-Douglas

Layout and Design.....Jennifer Farrar

To follow us on twitter, click  
the graphic below.



Click [here](#) to view all  
of the past TOSHA  
newsletters.

## Helpful Links

[Tennessee's Official Government Website](#)

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

[Tennessee Occupational Safety & Health Administration](#)

[U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration](#)

[TOSHA Resource Center](#)

[VPP](#)

[SHARP](#)

[TOSHA Safety Awards](#)

[Consultation Services](#)

[OSHA Small Business Guide](#)

E-mail [Jennifer.Farrar@tn.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Farrar@tn.gov) to subscribe to the TOSHA newsletter