

# Safety Update

## Ohio BWC Library

### Workplace Injuries Trend Downward Over the Last Decade

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released workplace injury data from 2012. Private industry employers reported nearly 3 million non-fatal workplace injuries and illnesses in 2012. This resulted in an incidence rate of 3.4 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers. The rate reported for 2012 continues the pattern of statistically significant declines that, with the exception of 2011, occurred annually for the last decade. The article contains a graphic showing the decline in injuries since 2003. See the article and the graphic from the [Editors Desk](#) page on the BLS website.

#### Other News

#### Developing Leading Indicators of Work Injury and Illness

The October edition of Issue Briefings from the Institute for Work & Health has a [paper](#) on how to develop leading indicators of work injury and illness. Leading indicators are measurements that you can take about events that precede occupational health and safety outcomes. Changes in these indicators should predict changes in safety outcomes. This helps employers prevent work injuries before they occur.

#### NSC Campbell Institute White Paper on Leading Indicators

The National Safety Council (NSC) through its Campbell Institute has issued a white paper informing safety professionals how they can use leading indicators to improve performance at their worksite. These include safety audits and safety perception surveys. The white paper can be found on the [Campbell Institute research page](#).

#### NFPA's "Fire Loss in the United States During 2012"

This [report](#) contains overall statistics from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) survey of fire departments on fires, civilian deaths and injuries, and property damage in 2012. The report includes patterns by major property class, region and community size. It also includes information on types of fire department calls and false alarms.

#### ANSI Portal Offers Free Access to Standards

If you read the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety regulations, you will often see references to standards produced by other organizations. These standards have been incorporated by reference (IBR) into the OSHA standard. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) recently launched its [Incorporated by Reference Portal](#). This portal offers free, read-only access to standards IBR in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations. The standards are available for online viewing in PDF format. You cannot download or print the standards. In addition to the standards available directly through the portal, several organizations offer free access via their own websites through links provided on the IBR website.

## Handouts and Toolbox Talks

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Looking for toolbox talks? One great resource is the Electronic Library of Construction Occupational Safety & Health or [ELCOSH](#). The Center for Construction Research and training (CPWR) maintains the site, which contains 112 toolbox talks. CPWR works with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to ensure the toolbox talks incorporate case studies, discussion questions and site-specific actions. Many of the talks have a graphic on one side that you can use as a poster after completing your talk.

## U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers YouTube page

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If you work in the agriculture industry and have been looking for a source of visual safety information, the U.S. Agricultural Safety and Health Centers have just the thing. They have a [YouTube](#) page with videos on pesticides, respirators and more.

## Monthly Labor Review Article Series

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The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has published a series of papers in the Monthly Labor Review. The BLS produced the papers from a workshop on occupational safety and health statistics held in Washington DC. The bureau has published three of seven planned articles from the workshop on topics about work-related injuries, illnesses and fatalities taken from BLR surveys. You can find links to the papers [here](#).

## National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health News

### NIOSH Aggregate Training for the Safety Impaired

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These four humorous safety videos from NIOSH show what happens to two guys, Slick the crash test dummy, and his human buddy, when they report to an aggregate processing facility without any safety gear or training. Learn not to make any of the mistakes Slick and his buddy make.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ep5VqDBnIXA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXGp4I-izzM>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1w4waMxxqc>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hy-jJgAWdZk>

### NIOSH Total Worker Health in Action! Newsletter

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If you are involved in or merely interested in workplace wellness, you will want to read the latest [Total Worker Health in Action!](#) newsletter. This month's newsletter includes articles on measuring worker health, updates on program initiatives and information on upcoming webinars and conferences.

### NIOSH Posts Web Page on Cleaning and Custodial Services

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NIOSH has posted a new [topic page](#) on cleaning and custodial services. This safety and health topic page describes hazards associated with cleaning tasks and lists NIOSH links to blogs, publications and other topic pages with recommendations for reducing exposure to those hazards. The topic page also lists resources from academia, other government agencies, industry and private organizations.

## Current Strategies for Engineering Controls in Nanomaterial Production and Downstream Handling Processes

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This new NIOSH [document](#) focuses on the identification and description of strategies for the engineering control of worker exposure during the production or use of engineered nanomaterials. As more nanomaterials are introduced into the workplace and nano-enabled products enter the market, it is essential that producers and users of engineered nanomaterials ensure a safe and healthy work environment.

## NIOSH Draft Carcinogen Document

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NIOSH released the draft document, "[Update of NIOSH Carcinogen Classification and Target Risk Level Policy for Chemical Hazards in the Workplace.](#)" This significant update to NIOSH's carcinogen policy, first issued in 1978, reflects advancements in cancer science and stakeholder concerns regarding the relevancy of the previous policy. NIOSH must receive public comments on the revised policy by Feb. 13, 2014.

## Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) News

### OSHA Technical Manual Update

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Looking for comprehensive information on noise? See the newly updated [Chapter 5](#) of the OSHA Technical Manual. This update covers how we hear, measurement of sound, guidelines for investigations, and much more.

### Proposed New OSHA Rule to Require Electronic Submittal of Injury and Illness Data

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OSHA is proposing to amend its current recordkeeping regulations to add requirements for the electronic submission of injury and illness information that employers must keep under existing standards. The new proposal would require establishments with more than 250 employees who already must keep records to submit them electronically on a quarterly basis to OSHA. The agency is also proposing that establishments with 20 or more employees, in certain industries with high injury and illness rates, electronically submit their summary of work-related injuries and illnesses to OSHA once a year. For more information on the proposed rule, read the [press release](#), and visit the Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses Rulemaking [webpage](#).

**Please contact the [library@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:library@bwc.state.oh.us) or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.**