

Occupational Health in Nebraska

Surveillance Data Update

March 2014

Nebraska Fast Facts

48 workers died as a result of a fatal work-related injury in 2012.^{1*}

600 workers were hospitalized for a work-related injury or illness in 2012.²

28,700 estimated work-related injuries and illnesses occurred in 2012.³

38,539 injuries and illnesses occurring in 2012 were reported to the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court.⁴

983,000 Nebraskans were employed in 2012.⁵

* 2012 fatal injury data are preliminary.

Overview

Work plays an important role in a person's health. Work-related injuries and illnesses impact Nebraska workers, employers, and the economy. Nebraska is one of 23 states funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to conduct occupational health surveillance.

What is occupational health surveillance?

Occupational health surveillance is the ongoing tracking of work-related injuries, illnesses, hazards and exposures to help determine where, how, and why Nebraska workers get sick or hurt on the job. Collecting this information helps detect trends in worker health, identify high-risk workers, and develop prevention strategies. The purpose of occupational health surveillance is to reduce work-related injuries and illnesses and improve the health of the Nebraska workforce.

How are the data collected?

Occupational health data are collected using several state and national data sources, such as the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Nebraska Hospital Association, Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Learn more about occupational health in Nebraska

Visit <http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/OccHealth/>

Numbers of work-related fatal injuries¹, hospitalizations², estimated injuries and illnesses, and injuries and illnesses reported to workers' compensation⁴, Nebraska, 2008-2012

Year	Fatal work-related injuries	Work-related hospitalizations [†]	Estimated total work-related injuries & illnesses	Injuries & illnesses reported to workers' compensation [‡]
2012	48*	600	28,700	38,536
2011	39	775	25,700	38,794
2010	54	698	25,700	39,041
2009	57	583	23,800	39,161
2008	53	669	24,300	39,041

*2012 fatal work-related injury data are preliminary.

† Nebraska residents with hospital discharge date of 2012.

‡ Nebraska residents with a reported date of injury/illness in the respective year.

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 2012 Preliminary Data.

² Nebraska Hospital Association, Hospital Discharge Data, 2012 Inpatient Data.

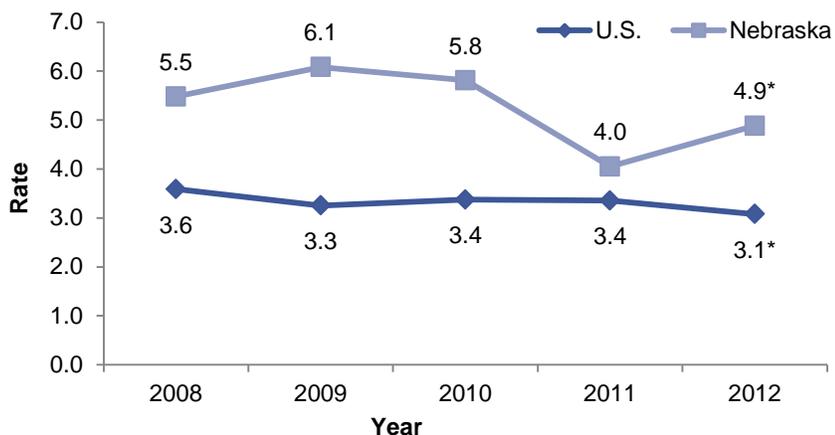
³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, 2012 Data.

⁴ Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court, 2012 Claims Data.

⁵ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2012 Annual Average.

Fatal work-related injuries

Fatal work-related injury rates per 100,000 employed persons, Nebraska and the U.S., 2008–2012



*2012 data are preliminary.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (numerator); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2012 Annual Average (denominator).

Fatal injury facts*

- Nebraska's fatal work-related injury rate is higher than the U.S. rate.
- The largest number of fatal work injuries in 2012 was in the natural resources and mining industry with 14 (29%) fatalities.
- 14 (29%) fatalities were among workers with a transportation & material moving occupation, which was leading occupation of fatal injuries in 2012.
- The leading fatal event was transportation incidents, which accounted for 25 (52%) of fatal injuries in 2012.

*2012 data are preliminary.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 2012 Data.

Non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses

Nebraska's 2012 incidence rate of work-related injuries and illnesses was 3.9 per 100 full-time workers, which was higher than the U.S. rate of 3.4 per 100 full-time workers. Nebraska's manufacturing industry had the highest work-related injury and illness incidence rate in 2012 (6.6 per 100 full-time workers).

Top 10 injury and illness incidence rates per 100 full-time employees, by private industry, 2012

Industry Division	Nebraska	U.S.
Manufacturing	6.6	4.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	6.2	5.5
Health Care and Social Assistance	5.1	4.8
Construction	4.3	3.7
Other Services, except Public Administration	4.3	2.5
Wholesale Trade	4.2	3.3
Transportation & Warehousing	4.2	4.9
Accommodation and Food Services	4.2	3.8
Retail Trade	3.6	4.0
Admin, Support, Waste Mgmt and Remediation Services	2.6	2.8
Total Private Sector Incidence Rate	3.9	3.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, 2012, in collaboration with Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court.

Costs of work-related injuries and illnesses

In addition to impacting the health of Nebraskans, occupational injuries and illnesses result in significant financial and economic costs.

In Nebraska, occupational injuries and illnesses resulted in:

\$321 million in workers' compensation benefits paid in 2011*

\$26.5 million in hospital charges in 2012**

*National Academy of Social Insurance, Workers' Compensation: Benefits, Coverage, and Costs, 2011.

**Nebraska Hospital Association, 2012 Hospital Discharge Data.

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