

## Florida Occupational Health and Safety Program



### 1) FLORIDA OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM

In 2010, the Florida Department of Health (DOH) received funding from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to begin an occupational health and safety program (OHSP). The purpose of this program is to gather information about workers in Florida, the number of work-related injuries and illnesses, and risk factors associated with these events. This information is then shared with partner agencies and other programs, the general public, employers and employees in an effort to reduce the occurrence of such events and increase the safety of all workers throughout the state of Florida.

**Our website:** <http://doh.state.fl.us/healthy-environments/occupational-health/>

### Occupational Health Facts 2009

#### 2) FLORIDA DEMOGRAPHICS

- Florida's 2009 population was 18,819,000 (Florida Charts, 2010).
- Approximately 8.2 million people were employed.
  - White only, non-Hispanic ..62.1%**
  - Black only, non-Hispanic....13.4%**
  - Other race, non-Hispanic ..03.3%**
  - Hispanic, any race .....21.1%**
- Most workers were employed full-time, with 75% working 40 hours/week or more.
- A few (5.4%) were self-employed.
- The workforce was comprised of 52% males and 48% females.
- The workforce by age was as follows:
  - 16-19 years old .....02.9%**
  - 20-29 years old .....17.7%**
  - 30-39 years old .....21.5%**
  - 40-49 years old .....24.9%**
  - 50-59 years old .....21.3%**
  - 60+ years old .....11.7%**

#### 3) FLORIDA'S MAJOR INDUSTRIES/ OCCUPATIONS

- Tourism remains a main source of revenue in Florida, and a variety of occupations and industries in our state support tourism.
- Industries that employed the highest percentage of employees in 2009 were:
  - Education and health services—21.1%**
  - Wholesale and retail trade—15.0%**
  - Professional and business services—12.8%**
  - Leisure and hospitality—10.6%**
  - Financial activities—7.9%**
- Occupations that employed the highest percentage of employees in 2009 were:
  - Professional and related occupations—21.0%**
  - Service—18.4%**
  - Management, business and financial operations—16.1%**
  - Office and administrative support—13.7%**
  - Sales and related occupations—12.8%**



#### 4) FLORIDA OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS AND INJURY STATISTICS WORK-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS<sup>1</sup> (AHCA<sup>2</sup>)

- On average, 11,900 work-related hospitalizations occurred per year from 2000 to 2009.
- The number of work-related hospitalizations from 2000 to 2009 declined 44 percent, from 14,835 in 2000 to 8,365 in 2009.

1. Hospitalizations were considered work-related if Workers' Compensation was listed as the principal payor. This is likely an underestimate of the true burden of work-related injuries and illnesses that were severe enough to require hospitalization.

2. AHCA—Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

#### NON-FATAL WORK-RELATED ILLNESSES AND INJURIES

- According to a national survey of employers, approximately 185,700 non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses occur every year (SOII<sup>3</sup>).
- 50,800 of these injuries and illnesses were severe enough to result in days away from work.
- The five occupations with the highest rate of injuries and illnesses requiring days away from work in 2009 were:
  - Transportation and material moving**
  - Farming, fishing, and forestry**
  - Construction and extraction**
  - Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance**
  - Installation, maintenance and repair**

3. SOII—Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

#### WORK-RELATED FATALITIES

- In 2009, 245 people were killed from on-the-job injuries (CFOI<sup>4</sup>).
- 11.6% of Floridians were employed in high fatality risk occupations.
- Occupations in 2009 with the highest fatality rates:
  - Miscellaneous agricultural workers**
  - Aircraft pilots and flight engineers**
  - Roofers**
  - Construction laborers**
  - Police officers**
- 15.1% of Floridians were employed in high fatality risk industries.
- Industries in 2009 with the highest fatality rates:
  - Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting**
  - Administrative and waste services**
  - Construction**
  - Transportation and warehousing**
  - Arts, entertainment, and recreation**

4. CFOI—Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

#### 5) IMPORTANT RESOURCES

- **Florida Division of Workers' Compensation:** <http://www.myfloridacfo.com/wc/>
- **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Surveillance Homepage:** The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/surv/>
- **NIOSH State-based Occupational Health Surveillance Clearinghouse:** This clearinghouse developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) provides access to state-based occupational health surveillance and related reports. <http://www.niosh.gov/niosh-survapps/statedocs/Default.aspx>
- **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA):** This agency sets and enforces workplace standards to protect the safety and health of employees. OSHA also provides employers and employees with information, training, and assistance in maintaining a safe environment at work. <http://www.osha.gov/>
- **University of South Florida (USF) Safety Florida Consultation Program:** The USF Safety Florida program offers free on-site consultations to assist Florida businesses with identifying hazards and meeting OSHA requirements. This program is separate from the OSHA enforcement program. They can also assist with record keeping, education and training. <http://www.usfsafetyflorida.com/>