

What are our priorities?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (TWU) Program works with partners in industry, labor, trade associations, professional organizations, and academia. The program focuses on these areas:

- Reducing traumatic injuries and deaths among TWU workers
- Reducing musculoskeletal disorders among TWU workers
- Improving overall health and well-being of TWU workers
- Reducing TWU worker exposure to chemical, biological and physical occupational hazards

What do we do?

- Use surveillance data on the TWU sector to guide research and prevention efforts.
- Research effective programs to prevent musculoskeletal disorders for the TWU sector.
- Research healthy behaviors, work-related physical and mental stressors, and health care use strategies. Findings can be used by employers and others to promote worker health and safety.
- Assess exposures to chemical, biological and physical hazards and develop methods that can be used by workers, employers, manufacturers and regulators to reduce worker exposures.
- Work with partners and the TWU Sector Council to widely disseminate research findings and prevention recommendations.

What have we accomplished?

- Published a [scientific article](#) connecting four distinct sleep patterns of commercial truck drivers with driving performance.
- Released a computer-based fatigue prevention [training program](#) to educate aviation companies and pilots in Alaska on recognizing and preventing fatigue.
- Co-Sponsored the [10th International Conference on Managing Fatigue](#) with Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, Department of Transportation agencies and other partners.
- Published a [NIOSH Science Blog](#) on the effects of vehicle and seat design on bus drivers' whole body vibration exposures.
- Published a [scientific article](#) reporting that among a small subset of flight attendants with 3 or more births, breast cancer was more frequent when exposure to cosmic radiation or circadian disruption was higher. Additional research was suggested to confirm these findings.

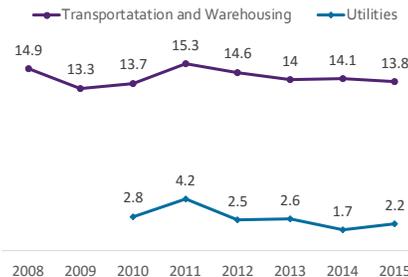
What's next?

- Publish a scientific article describing 14 years of nonfatal work injuries in the Alaskan aviation industry.
- Publish a scientific article describing sleep and determinants of excessive fatigue in long haul-truck drivers.
- Publish a NIOSH Science Blog on airport screening interventions to reduce musculoskeletal disorders among baggage screeners and handlers.
- Use the 2015 National Health Interview Occupational Supplement to update findings on TWU workers exposures to occupational hazards.

At-A-Glance

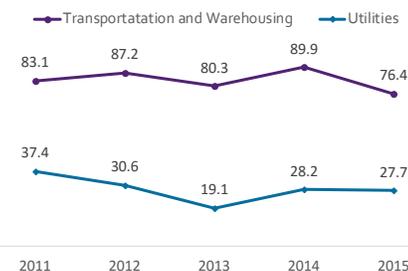
The Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (TWU) Program provides leadership to eliminate occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities among workers in these industries. This snapshot shows recent accomplishments and upcoming work.

Traumatic injury fatality rate, per 100,000 workers



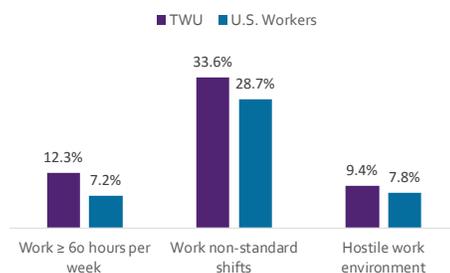
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Note: Utilities data not reported 2008-2009

Incidence rate of musculoskeletal disorders, per 100,000 workers



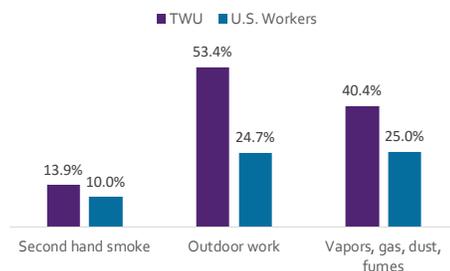
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Percent reporting work-related physiologic and psychological stressors



Source: 2010 National Health Interview Survey Occupational Health Supplement

Percent reporting physical and occupational exposures at work



Source: 2010 National Health Interview Survey Occupational Health Supplement