Traumatic Injury Prevention Program

What are our priorities?
The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Traumatic Injury Prevention Program works with partners from industry, labor, trade associations, professional organizations, and academia. The program addresses these areas:

- Tackling the leading causes of work-related injuries.
- Decreasing work-related injuries among high-risk occupations and vulnerable worker groups.

What do we do?

- Conduct research to develop an evidence base for:
  - Preventing falls at work, and protecting workers from injury when falls happen.
  - Preventing work-related motor-vehicle crashes and injuries.
  - Preventing workplace violence by evaluating measures designed to reduce such violence, and making recommendations to reduce risk factors.
  - Identifying and evaluating ways to reduce traumatic injuries among high-risk occupations and vulnerable worker groups, and making recommendations to reduce risk factors. Groups may include fire fighters; law enforcement officers; workers in construction, transportation, healthcare and fishing industries; young workers; older workers; racial/ethnic minorities; those in non-standard work arrangements; and others.
  - Share research findings and evidence-based recommendations with partners who can put the information into practice. These partners include manufacturers, consensus standard committees, employers, workers, and government agencies.
  - Conduct effective surveillance for occupational injuries, and share data with the research community, employers, and workers to guide future research and prevention efforts.

What have we accomplished?

- Released the web-based Aerial Lift Hazard Recognition Simulator, and a promotional flyer. More than 4,200 users downloaded this tool in the first year, allowing users to test and view stability under different conditions.
- Released a NIOSH Fact Sheet with recommendations to improve the safety of older drivers in the workplace.
- Developed and released a flyer to promote the online Workplace Violence Prevention training course for nurses, completed by more than 23,000 since its release, and published an evaluation of the course by nursing students.
- Published results showing that emergency medical services workers have higher rates of work-related injuries than the general workforce. Over half of the injuries were due to body motion or exposure to harmful substances.
- Published three papers reporting that workers seen at emergency departments for occupational injuries do not underreport, unlike employer-based reporting.
- Published special issue of the Journal of Safety Research dedicated to research presented at the 2015 National Occupational Injury Research Symposium.

What’s next?

- Participate in the inaugural National Ladder Safety Observance; release promotional materials for NIOSH Ladder Safety app including an infographic, animated image, and postcard.
- Release videos and an infographic that provide emergency medical services workers information to purchase safer ambulances.
- Publish with the Bureaus of Justice Statistics and Labor Statistics a report that provides data on fatal and nonfatal workplace violence and trends.
- Publish findings from a study evaluating the impact of slip-resistant shoes on reducing injuries due to slipping in food service workers.
- Publish research on causes and trends of occupational fatalities to youth less than 18 years of age in the United States.
- Co-sponsor the 10th International Conference on Managing Fatigue aimed at sharing state-of-the-art science and its application to improve fatigue management and worker safety.

Rate of fatalities from work-related injuries in all industries (per 100,000 workers)

Rate of work-related injuries in private sector, as reported by employers (per 100 workers)

Rate of work-related assaults (per 10,000 workers)

To learn more, visit https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/ti