

What are our priorities?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Center for Maritime Safety and Health Studies (CMSHS) addresses the unique hazards within the maritime industries: Commercial Fishing, Aquaculture, Seafood Processing, Shipyards, Marine Terminals, Marine Transportation, and Commercial Diving. CMSHS works with partners in industry, labor, trade associations, professional organizations, other Federal and State agencies, and academia.

What do we do?

- Conduct research to identify and reduce risk factors for injuries, fatalities, and vessel casualties.
- Conduct research on work-related illness, including epidemiologic analyses and field exposure assessments.
- Design and evaluate interventions to mitigate hazards.
- Build partnerships with industry, labor, and other organizations to conduct research and promote scientific findings, practical recommendations, and interventions.
- Coordinate maritime safety and health research among intramural and extramural scientists.

What have we accomplished?

- Published and presented results on the following:
 - [fatality rates for fishing fleets](#)
 - [injury, illness and disability risk in American seafarers](#)
 - [trends in medical claims in the seafood processing industry](#)
 - [factors associated with cold water survival after fishing vessel sinkings](#)
 - [engineering solutions for preventing entanglements on shrimp vessels](#)
- Coordinated the planning of the Fifth International Fishing Industry Safety and Health conference (IFISH 5) including occupational safety and health topics in aquaculture and seafood processing. Memorial University and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations are co-sponsors. We expect twice as many conference attendees as compared with past conferences.
- Entered into a formal partnership with Oregon State University to coordinate research and implement interventions.
- Developed and tested injury prevention solutions for commercial fishermen in cooperation with [Oregon Sea Grant](#).

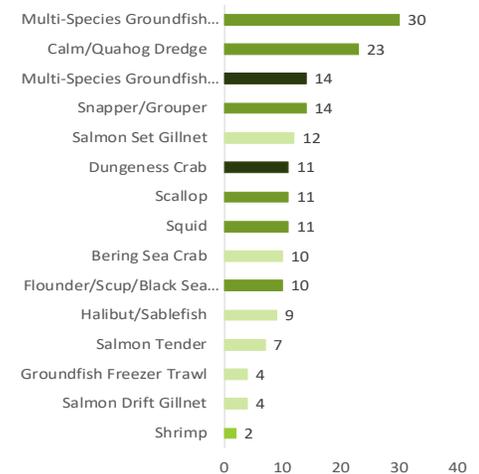
What's next?

- Finalize the design of winch guards for shrimp vessels to reduce entanglement injuries.
- Present and gain stakeholder feedback on CMSHS priorities at the National Maritime Safety Association conference in 2018.
- Upgrade the Commercial Fishing Incident Database to collect data on nonfatal injuries and illnesses.
- Start a translational research project to understand the impediments to adoption of safety engineering technologies.
- Complete analysis of major marine vessel casualties in the U.S.
- Establish quarterly coordination calls with intramural and extramurally funded scientists working with commercial fishermen.
- Organize a seminar to educate NIOSH scientists on how the Jones Act (section 27 of the Merchant Marine Act) intersects with their work.

At-A-Glance

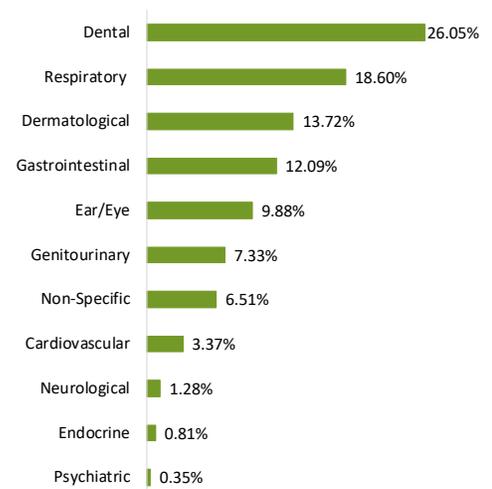
The NIOSH Center for Maritime Safety and Health Studies promotes safety and health for all maritime workers, including those employed on vessels, at waterfront facilities and on shore directly supporting marine operations. This snapshot shows recent accomplishments and upcoming work.

Fatality Rates by US Commercial Fishing Fleet (per 10,000 FTE), 2005-2014



Source: NIOSH Commercial Fishing Incident Database

Distribution of seafarer illnesses by disease category, Jan. 2014-July 2016 (n=860)



Source: Lefkowitz RY, Slade MD, Redlich CA. Injury, illness, and disability risk in American seafarers. Am J Ind Med. 2018 Feb;61(2):120-29.

To learn more, visit
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/maritime/default.html>

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