Mapping OHSN Event Severity Codes

Event Severity: Overview

When working with stakeholders in the initial design of OHSN, NIOSH learned that healthcare facilities vary widely in the degree to which they track injury events. All facilities are legally mandated to track OHSA-reportable events. In addition to those events, some facilities also track events with only minor injury, and some also track events with no injury (near-misses).

OHSN requires that participants report on the severity of each event, with OHSN codes aligned to the required OSHA severity levels. In order to facilitate accurate benchmarking, OHSN benchmarking only includes events that are OSHA-reportable, which should be consistently reported among facilities.

OHSN Event Severity Codes are listed below.   The first 4 directly align with OSHA reporting requirements.

- OS11 = OSHA Recordable, Death
- OS12 = OSHA Recordable, Days Away from Work
- OS13 = OSHA Recordable, Job Transfer or Restriction
- OS14 = OSHA Recordable, all other cases

OHSN adds three other coding options to this list:

- OS20 = Not OSHA Recordable. This category includes injuries minor enough that they are not required to be reported to OSHA, or incidents in which there is no injury ("near-miss").
- UNK = Severity level unknown.
- OS10 = OSHA Recordable, unspecified. This category is available if the facility cannot specify the OSHA level, so that these events can still be included in benchmarking. We encourage facilities to use the codes OS11, OS12, OS13, and OS14 whenever possible.
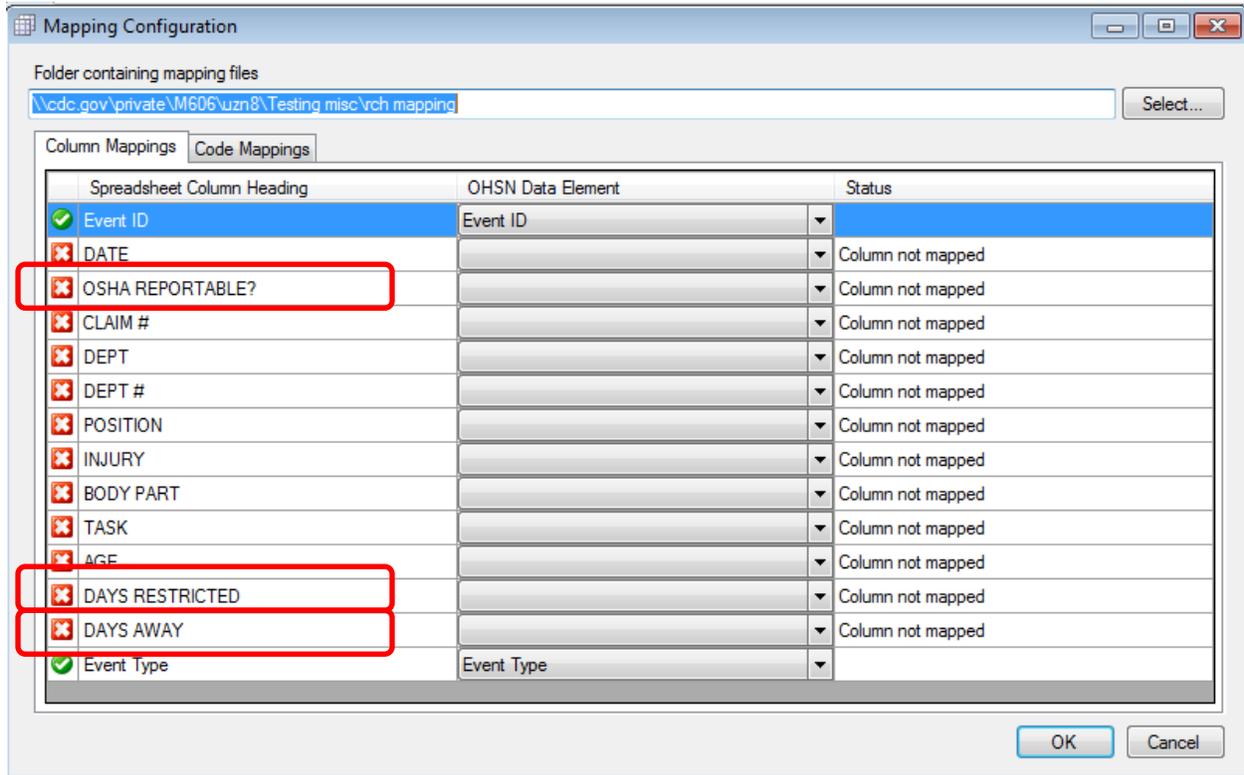

Using the OHSN Conversion and Mapping Tool

Many healthcare facilities track information related to event severity in three different columns:

- Is it OSHA Reportable? (Yes/No)
- Days Away? (tracked as a number)
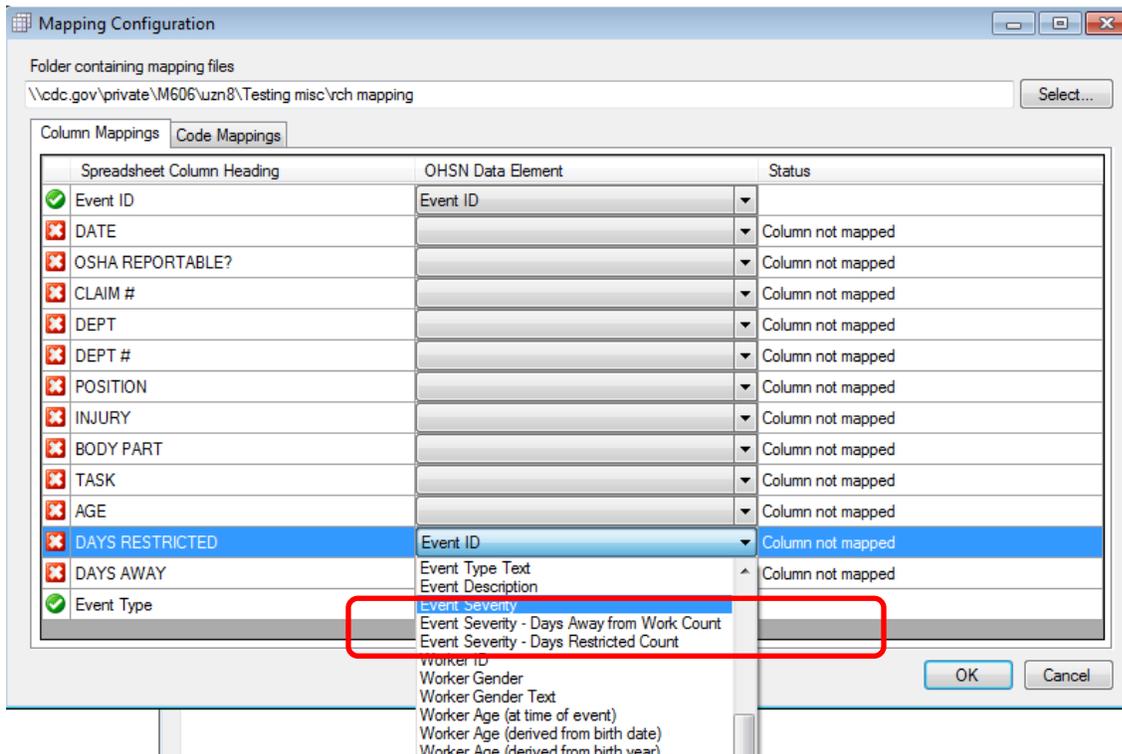- Days of Job Transfer or Restriction? (tracked as a number)

To meet the needs of these facilities, NIOSH has built flexibility into the mapping tool.
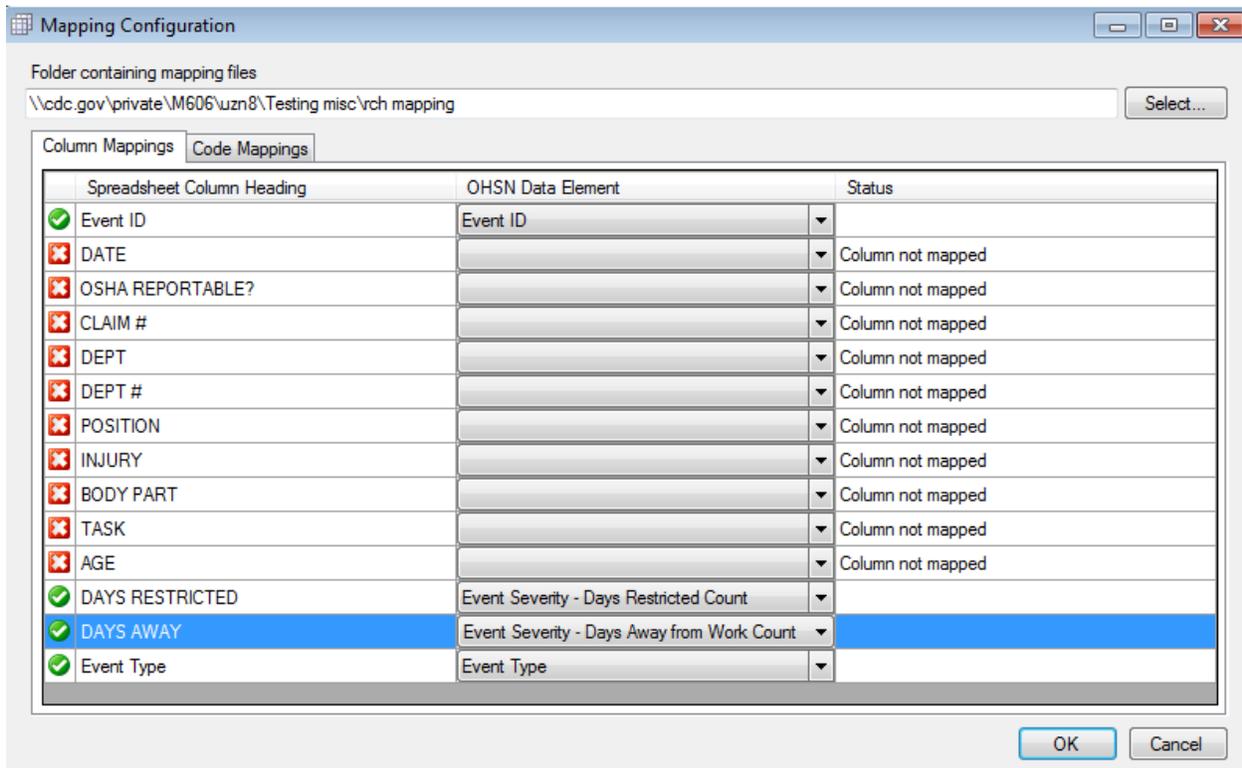
Mapping Days Away and Days Restricted

The example below shows the mapping process from a facility mapping this information in three columns as described above.

The bottom two columns – Days Restricted and Days Away – can be mapped directly to those categories in the mapping tool.
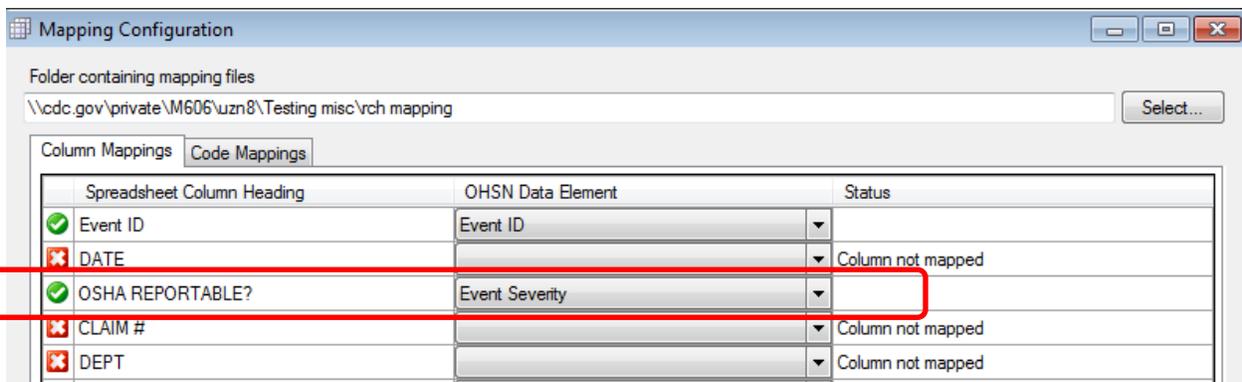
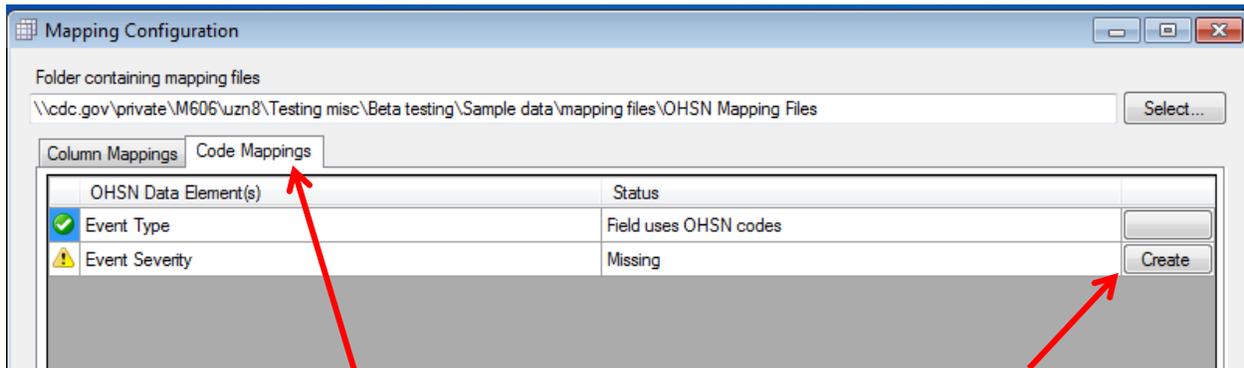Translation of these values into OHSN codes for the required Event Severity data element works as follows:

- If there is a non-zero number in the Days Away from Work column, the Event Severity will be coded as OS12. This is true even if there is also a number in the Days Restricted column
- If there is a zero in the Days Away from Work column and a non-zero number in the Days Restricted column, Event Severity will be coded as OS13.
- If both of these columns have a value of zero, the tool will look at the OSHA Reportable?(yes/no) column.

OSHA Reportable? (yes/no)

The Yes/No column for OSHA Reportable should be mapped to the OHSN Data Element for Event Severity:

After selecting this column, select the other tab for Code Mappings, and click Create to map the Event Severity data element.

The answer "No" for events that are not OSHA Reportable should be mapped to *OS20, Not OSHA Reportable*.

For the answer "Yes" in this column, you have two options.

- If you feel confident that values of zero in the Days Away and Days Restricted columns are accurate, then you can choose to map "Yes" to *OS14, OSHA Reportable All Other Cases*. Then any case labeled as OSHA Reportable with zero days away and zero restricted days would automatically be labeled as *OS14, OSHA Reportable All Other Cases*. See below for examples:

OSHA Reportable?	Days Away	Days Restricted	OHSN Event Severity Code
Yes	3	0	OS12
Yes	2	5	OS12
Yes	0	4	OS13
Yes	0	0	OS14
No	0	0	OS20

- If you have records where you think the Days Away and Days Restricted may be marked inaccurately as zero when there actually were Days Away and/or Days Restricted, then you can choose to map "Yes" to *OS10, OSHA Reportable – Unspecified*. This will produce output graphs with a lower level of detail.

Please Note: You can also choose to create a single column to map these data. In this case, your column would contain all of the following values in a single column, which could be mapped to Event Severity

- OS11 = OSHA Recordable, Death
- OS12 = OSHA Recordable, Days Away from Work
- OS13 = OSHA Recordable, Job Transfer or Restriction
- OS14 = OSHA Recordable, all other cases
- OS20 = Not OSHA Recordable
- UNK = Unknown

Please contact nioshohsn@cdc.gov with any questions.