

# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH INDICATORS: PUTTING DATA TO WORK IN NORTH CAROLINA, 2013

November 2016

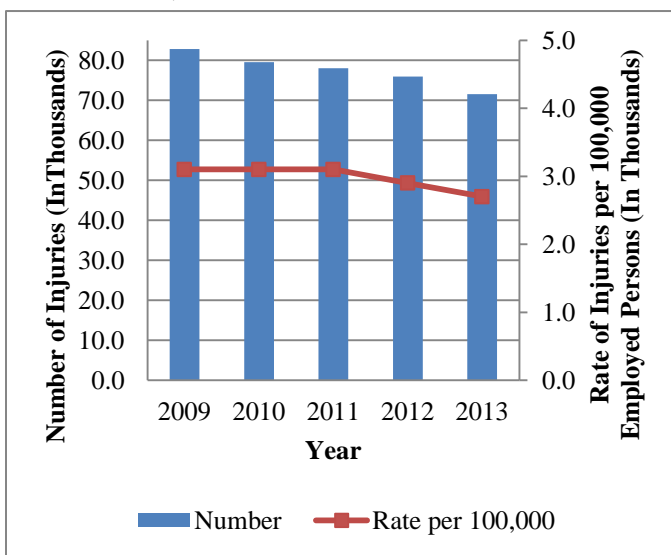
## What are OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH INDICATORS?

- Measures providing a health status “snapshot” of North Carolina’s working population
- Includes data on demographics, socioeconomic impact, health conditions, exposures, & interventions

## In North Carolina during 2013:

- The rate of work-related injuries has decreased by 13% since 2009
- An estimated 71,500 workers were injured on the job, with about 8,400 workers missing 10 or more days of work

**Figure 1.** Estimated Number and Rate of Fatal Work-Related Injuries in North Carolina, 2009-2013



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

**Table 1.** Annual Inpatient Hospitalization Rates per 100,000 Employed Persons for Select Occupational Health Indicators for the North Carolina Workforce, Aged ≥16 Years, 2000 – 2013

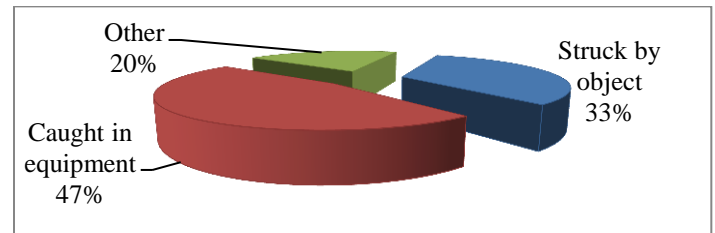
Work-Related Injuries	2000	2013	% Change
Total hospitalizations	113.4	67.2	-41
Burns	2.5	2.2	-12
Pneumoconioses* (Total)	117.9	46.5	-61
Asbestosis	76.1	40.2	-47
Silicosis	10.5	1.0	-90
Coal workers’ pneumoconiosis	20.6	3.8	-82
Other and unspecified pneumoconioses	10.7	1.6	-100
Lower back disorders (Total)	22.0 <sup>^</sup>	12.6	-43
Surgical lower-back disorders	18.8 <sup>^</sup>	11.2	-40
Non-surgical lower-back disorders	3.2 <sup>^</sup>	1.4	-56

Sources: Numerator data provided by the North Carolina Inpatient Hospital Discharge Database. Denominator data provided by the US Census Bureau.

\*Age-adjusted rates were calculated for all pneumoconiosis-related conditions.

<sup>^</sup>Values from 2004. Data for 2000 unavailable.

**Figure 2.** Events or Exposures Associated with Work-Related Amputations, North Carolina, 2013



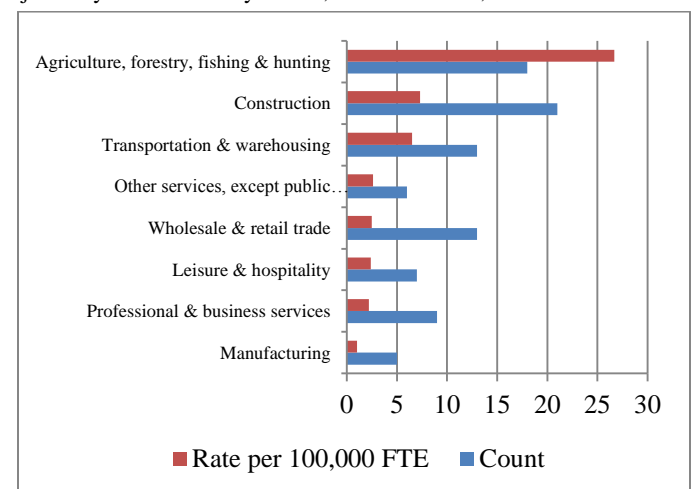
Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Table 2. North Carolina Workers Employed in Industries & Occupations at High Risk for Morbidity & Mortality		Number	%
Morbidity	Industries	193,729	5.7
	Occupations	529,448	16.5
Mortality	Industries	573,852	15.7
	Occupations	465,545	12.8

Sources: US Census Bureau County Business Patterns & the US Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Current Population Survey.

- 2,892 workers were hospitalized; an estimated rate of 67.2 hospitalizations per 100,000 employed persons
- A total of 168 workers visited the ED for a heat-related illness; an estimated rate of 3.9 ED visits per 100,000 employed persons
- A total estimated \$1,568,586,000 were paid for workers’ compensation benefits; an average of \$421.66 per worker

**Figure 3.** Number & Rate per 100,000 FTE of Fatal Work-Related Injuries by Select Industry Sector, North Carolina, 2013



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. Fatal injury rates were calculated using full-time equivalent worker hours (FTE) as the denominator, calculated as: (N/H)\*200,000,000; where N=number of fatal injuries, H=total number of hours worked during the calendar year, and 200,000,000 = base for 100,000 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).