Provided by:



OSHA's Recordkeeping and Reporting Guide



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INTRODUCTION

The Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act) requires covered employers to report workplace injuries and illnesses and to prepare and maintain records of occupational injuries and illnesses. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), which is part of the U.S. Department of Labor, is responsible for monitoring compliance with the OSH Act's reporting and recordkeeping system.

The OSH Act and its regulations (29 CFR 1904 and 1952) include:

- Reporting requirements for all employers that are covered under the OSH Act; and
- Specific recordkeeping requirements for certain employers that are covered under the OSH Act.

Under the recordkeeping system, the information recorded by employers must be uniform and accurate to ensure the consistency and validity of statistical data. OSHA uses this data for a number of functions that impact employers. These functions include:

- Inspection targeting;
- Measuring performance under the Government Performance and Results Act;
- Developing health and safety standards;
- Allocating enforcement and consulting resources;
- Verifying Voluntary Protection Program eligibility; and
- Updating "low-hazard" industry exemptions.

The data also aids employers, employees and compliance officers in analyzing the safety and health environment at an employer's establishment and is the source of information for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) annual survey.

This guide provides information on recording and reporting workplace illnesses and injuries to OSHA, as well as details OSHA requirements and legal concerns, to assist employers like you with OSHA compliance.

COVERED EMPLOYERS

The OSH Act applies to **all private sector employers** in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and other U.S. jurisdictions.

The law applies to these employers either directly or through an OSHA-approved state program.

EXCEPTIONS

The following workers are **excluded** from coverage under the OSH Act:

Self-employed individuals;

- Immediate family members of farm employers that do not employ outside employees; and
- Individuals who work for state and local governments (though these individuals may have protections under an OSHA-approved state program).

In addition, OSHA does **not** regulate workplace hazards that are regulated by other federal agencies, such as the Mine Safety and Health Administration or the Federal Aviation Administration.

OVERVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS

All covered employers must report the following to OSHA:

- ✓ Any work-related employee fatality within eight hours; and
- ✓ Any in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye within 24 hours.

Certain covered employers must also prepare and maintain records of serious occupational injuries and illnesses using OSHA Forms 300, 300A and 301. This information is important for evaluating the safety of a workplace, understanding industry hazards, and implementing worker protections to reduce and eliminate hazards. Employers subject to the recordkeeping requirements must also post a completed Form 300A in their employees' workplaces from **Feb. 1 to April 30 every year**.

Finally, OSHA requires some covered employers to submit an electronic report with information from their OSHA Form 300A to the agency. Electronic reports must be submitted **by March 2 every year**.

REPORTING FATALITIES AND INJURIES

As of Jan. 1, 2015, **all covered employers** (including those that are exempt from recordkeeping requirements) must report the following to OSHA:

- Any employee fatality that results from a work-related incident;
- Any **in-patient hospitalization** of one or more employees that results from a work-related incident;
- Any employee **amputation** that results from a work-related incident; and
- Any employee **loss of an eye** that results from a work-related incident.

While other workplace injuries and illnesses do not have to be reported to OSHA, they may still need to be recorded pursuant to OSHA's recordkeeping requirements. Contact Horst Insurance if you have questions about recording other types of injuries or illnesses.

WHEN TO REPORT

Employee fatalities must be reported **within eight hours**. Any in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye must be reported **within 24 hours**.

HOW TO REPORT

Work-related fatalities, in-patient hospitalizations, amputations or losses of an eye must be reported to OSHA by:

- Calling the telephone number at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742);
- Calling or visiting the nearest area office during normal business hours; or
- Using OSHA's online <u>reporting form</u>.

INFORMATION TO REPORT

When reporting a fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye incident, an employer must provide the following information to OSHA:

- ✓ The employer's name;
- The location of the reportable event;
- The time of the reportable event;
- The type of reportable event;

EMERGENCY NOTICE:

If you have an EMERGENCY (for example, you need to report a fatality or imminent life-threatening situation), please contact the toll-free number immediately:

- 1-800-321-OSHA (6742);
- TTY 1-877-889-5627;

DO **NOT** SEND AN EMAIL OR LEAVE A VOICE MESSAGE.

- ✓ The number of employees affected by the reportable event;
- ✓ The names of all employees affected by the reportable event;
- ✓ The employer's contact person and his or her phone number; and
- ✓ A brief description of the work-related incident.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT REPORTING

What is meant by "loss of an eye"?

Loss of an eye is the physical removal of the eye. This includes enucleation and evisceration. It does not include loss of sight without the physical removal of the eye. However, a case involving loss of sight that results in the in-patient hospitalization of the worker within 24 hours of the work-related incident would be reportable.

How do you differentiate between an amputation without bone and avulsions?

If and when a health care professional's diagnosis is available, the employer should rely on that diagnosis. If the diagnosis is:

- * Avulsion, the event **does not** need to be reported.
- ✓ Amputation, the event **must** be reported.

If there is no available diagnosis by a health care professional, the employer should rely on the definition and examples of amputation included in the text of the <u>2014 final rule</u>. Under this definition, an amputation is the traumatic loss of a limb or other external body part. This includes:

- ✓ A part (such as a limb or appendage) that has been severed, cut off or amputated (either completely or partially);
- ✓ Fingertip amputations with or without bone loss;
- ✓ Medical amputations resulting from irreparable damage; and
- ✓ Amputations of body parts that have since been reattached.

Amputations do **not** include avulsions (tissue torn away from the body), enucleations (removal of the eyeball), deglovings (skin torn away from the underlying tissue), scalpings (removal of the scalp), severed ears, or broken or chipped teeth.

If an injured worker is formally admitted to the emergency room of a hospital, is this a reportable event?

No, the injured worker must be formally admitted to the in-patient service of the hospital for the injury to be a reportable event.

If an employee is admitted to the hospital for carpal tunnel surgery, is this reportable?

To be reportable, the in-patient hospitalization must occur within 24 hours of a work-related incident that injured the employee or made them ill. Scheduled surgeries that occur beyond this 24-hour period are not reportable to OSHA.

Who determines whether an employee was formally admitted to the in-patient service of a hospital or clinic for care or treatment?

The hospital or clinic makes the determination.

Who should report a fatality or in-patient hospitalization of a temporary worker?

The employer that provides the day-to-day supervision of the worker must report.

If my employee spent the night at the hospital, do I have to report an in-patient hospitalization? OSHA defines in-patient hospitalization as a formal admission to the in-patient service of a hospital or clinic for care or treatment. An overnight stay does not determine whether a case is reportable.

If an employee is hospitalized as an in-patient and the only care or treatment provided is from OSHA's "first aid list" (for example, if the only treatment is nonprescription mediation), does the event become reportable?

Yes. A work-related in-patient hospitalization involving any treatment must be reported to OSHA. The reporting requirement in the <u>2014 final rule</u> does not limit care or treatment to "medical treatment beyond first aid."

What if a fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye does not occur during or right after a work-related incident?

If a fatality occurs within 30 days of the work-related incident or if an in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye occurs within 24 hours of the work-related incident, then you must report the event to OSHA. If the fatality occurs more than 30 days after the work-related incident or if the in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye occurs more than 24 hours after the work-related incident, then you do not have to report the event to OSHA. However, you must record the event on your OSHA injury and illness records if you are required to keep OSHA injury and illness records.

When do I have to report work-related fatalities and severe injuries/illnesses?

You must report a fatality within eight hours of finding out about the fatality. You must report any inpatient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye within 24 hours of finding out about the event.

If the area office is closed, may I make a report by leaving a message on OSHA's answering machine, faxing the area office or sending an email?

No, if the area office is closed, you must report the fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye using either the 800 number (1-800-321-OSHA or 1-800-321-6742) or the reporting application located on <u>OSHA's public website</u>.

I don't have to keep OSHA records because my company has fewer than 11 employees. Do I still have to report these events?

Yes, all employers under OSHA jurisdiction must report fatalities, in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of eyes to OSHA, even if they are exempt from routinely keeping OSHA records.

I don't have to keep OSHA records because my establishment's industry classification is included in Appendix A to Subpart B of Part 1904. Do I still have to report these events?

Yes, all employers under OSHA jurisdiction must report fatalities, in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of eyes to OSHA, even if they are exempt from routinely keeping OSHA records.

Do I have to report a fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye if it resulted from a motor vehicle accident on a public street or highway?

If the motor vehicle accident occurred in a construction work zone, then you must report the fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye to OSHA. If the motor vehicle accident occurred on a public street or highway but not in a construction work zone, then you do not have to report the fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye to OSHA. However, you must record the event on your OSHA injury and illness records if you are required to keep OSHA injury and illness records.

Do I have to report the fatality in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye if it occurred on a commercial or public transportation system?

No, you do not have to report the fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye to OSHA if it occurred on a commercial or public transportation system (such as an airplane, train, subway or bus). However, you must record the event on your OSHA injury and illness records if you are required to keep these records.

Do I have to report a fatality or in-patient hospitalization caused by a heart attack?

If the heart attack is related to a work-related incident, you must report the fatality or in-patient hospitalization. Your local OSHA area office director will decide whether to investigate the incident.

What if I don't learn about a reportable fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye right away? Or what if I cannot determine that it was work-related right away?

You must report to OSHA within the following time period after the fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye is reported to you or any of your agents and you determine that it is work-related: eight hours for a fatality and 24 hours for an in-patient hospitalization, an amputation or a loss of an eye.

Do I have to report an in-patient hospitalization that involves only observation or diagnostic testing? No. You must only report each in-patient hospitalization that involves care or treatment.

RECORDING SERIOUS INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

Certain covered employers must **routinely keep records** of serious occupational injuries and illnesses using OSHA Forms 300, 300A and 301 (or equivalent forms). An employer is subject to OSHA's routine recordkeeping requirements if it:

- ✓ Employs more than 10 employees; and
- Has establishments in industries that are not classified as <u>partially exempt</u>.

Other employers are **not** required to routinely keep track of serious occupational injuries and illnesses **unless** they are asked to do so in writing by OSHA, the BLS, or a state agency operating under the authority of OSHA or BLS. (However, if a fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye occurs at any establishment due to a work-related incident, the employer would still be required to **report** the event to OSHA).

Serious Injuries and Illnesses Frequently Asked Questions

Is the partial industry classification exemption based on the industry classification of an entire company or individual business establishments operated by a company?

The partial industry classification exemption applies to individual business establishments. If a company has several establishments that perform different business activities, some of the company's establishments may be required to keep records, while others may be partially exempt.

My company had 10 or fewer employees last year, but the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for my industry is not on the updated list. Do I have to keep OSHA records? No, you do not have to routinely keep OSHA records. However, you must keep OSHA records if

requested to do so in writing by the BLS or by OSHA. In addition, you must still report any fatality, inpatient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye to OSHA.

Where can I get help with OSHA recordkeeping?

Go to <u>OSHA's recordkeeping page</u>, which includes a brief <u>tutorial</u> on completing the recordkeeping forms, educational presentations on recordkeeping requirements and downloadable copies of the recordkeeping forms, among other information.

My establishment is in an OSHA State Plan. Do these changes apply to me?

Yes, these changes apply. However, some State Plans do not have partial exemptions for low-hazard industries. Consult with your individual <u>State Plan office</u> for more information.

RECORDKEEPING FORMS (Found in the Appendix)

Form 300 (Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses) is used to classify work-related injuries and illnesses and to note the extent and severity of each case. When an incident occurs, employers must use Form 300 to record specific details about what happened and how it happened.

Form 300A (Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses) shows the total number of work-related injuries and illnesses for a year in each category. At the end of each year, employers must post Form 300A in a visible location so that employees are aware of the injuries and illnesses occurring in their workplace. When an employer has more than one establishment, a separate summary must be kept at each physical location that is expected to be in operation for one year or longer.

Form 301 (Injury and Illness Incident Report) must be filled out within seven calendar days after an employer receives information that a recordable work-related injury or illness occurred. This report includes information about the employee and the treating physician and detailed information about the case. Employers must keep this report on file for five years following the year to which it pertains.

RECORDABLE INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

Employers must record work-related injuries and illnesses that result in:

- ✓ Death;
- Loss of consciousness;
- ✓ Days away from work;
- ✓ Restricted work activity or job transfer; or
- ✓ Medical treatment beyond first aid.

In addition, employers must record work-related injuries and illnesses that are **significant** or **meet any** of the additional criteria listed below.

Significant Injuries and Illnesses

Employers must record any significant work-related injury or illness that is diagnosed by a physician or another licensed health care professional. Most significant injuries and illnesses will result in death, days away from work, restricted work or job transfer, medical treatment beyond first aid or loss of consciousness.

However, there are some significant injuries, such as a punctured eardrum or a fractured toe or rib, for which neither medical treatment nor work restrictions may be recommended. In addition, there are some significant progressive diseases, such as some types of cancer, for which medical treatment or

work restrictions may not be recommended at the time of diagnosis but are likely to be recommended as the disease progresses.

According to OSHA, all work-related cases involving cancer, chronic irreversible diseases, fractured or cracked bones, and punctured eardrums must be recorded at the time of diagnosis by a physician or another licensed health care professional, even if medical treatment or work restrictions are not recommended or are postponed.

Additional Criteria

Employers must record the following conditions when they are work-related:

- Any needle-stick injury or cut from a sharp object that is contaminated with another person's blood or other potentially infectious material;
- Any case requiring an employee to be medically removed under the requirements of an OSHA health standard;
- Tuberculosis infection as evidenced by a positive skin test or diagnosis by a physician or other licensed health care professional after exposure to a known case of active tuberculosis; and
- An employee's hearing test (audiogram) that reveals:
 - That the employee has experienced a standard threshold shift (STS) in hearing in one or both ears (averaged at 2,000, 3,000 and 4,000 hertz); and
 - That the employee's total hearing level is 25 decibels) or more above audiometric zero (also averaged at 2,000, 3,000 and 4,000 hertz) in the same ear(s) as the STS.

DETERMINING WORK-RELATEDNESS

Employers must consider an injury or illness to be work-related if an event or exposure in the work environment either:

- Caused or contributed to the resulting condition; or
- Significantly aggravated a preexisting injury or illness.

OSHA defines the term "work environment" as "the establishment and other locations where one or more employees are working or are present as a condition of their employment. The work environment includes not only physical locations, but also the equipment or materials used by the employee during the course of his or her work."

Work-relatedness is presumed for injuries and illnesses resulting from events or exposures occurring in the work environment unless an exception applies.

Not Work-related

Injuries or illnesses that occur in the work environment but are not considered work-related are **not** recordable. An injury or illness occurring in the work environment is **not** work-related if the injury or illness:

- Occurs while the employee is present in the work environment as a member of the general public rather than an employee;
- Involves signs or symptoms that surface at work but result solely from a nonwork-related event or exposure that occurs outside the work environment;
- Results solely from voluntary participation in a wellness program or in a medical, fitness or recreational activity such as blood donation, physical examination, flu shot, exercise class, racquetball or baseball;
- Is solely the result of an employee eating, drinking or preparing food or drink for personal consumption (whether bought on the employer's premises or brought in). For example, if the employee is injured by choking on a sandwich while in the employer's establishment, the case would not be considered work-related. However, if the employee is made ill by ingesting food contaminated by workplace contaminants (such as lead) or gets food poisoning from food supplied by the employer, the case would be considered work-related;
- Is solely the result of an employee doing personal tasks (unrelated to his or her employment) at the establishment outside of the employee's assigned working hours;
- Solely the result of personal grooming or self-medication for a non-work-related condition;
- ✗ Is intentionally self-inflicted;
- Is caused by a motor vehicle accident and occurs in a company parking lot or on a company access road while the employee is commuting to or from work;
- Is the common cold or flu (however, contagious diseases such as tuberculosis, brucellosis, hepatitis A, and plague are considered work-related if the employee is infected at work); or
- Is a mental illness (however, a mental illness may be considered work-related if an employee voluntarily provides the employer with an opinion from a licensed health care professional with appropriate training and experience stating that the employee has a mental illness that is work-related).

Recordable Injuries and Illnesses Frequently Asked Questions

How do I handle a case if it is not obvious whether the precipitating event or exposure occurred in the work environment or occurred away from work?

In these situations, you must evaluate the employee's work duties and environment to decide whether or not one or more events or exposures in the work environment either caused or contributed to the resulting condition or significantly aggravated a preexisting condition.

How do I know if an event or exposure in the work environment "significantly aggravated" a preexisting injury or illness?

A preexisting injury or illness has been significantly aggravated, for purposes of OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping, when an event or exposure in the work environment results in any of the following:

- Death, provided that the preexisting injury or illness would likely not have resulted in death but for the occupational event or exposure;
- ✓ Loss of consciousness, provided that the preexisting injury or illness would likely not have resulted in a loss of consciousness but for the occupational event or exposure;
- One or more days away from work, of restricted work or of job transfer that otherwise would not have occurred but for the occupational event or exposure; or
- Medical treatment in a case where no medical treatment was needed for the injury or illness before the workplace event or exposure or a change in medical treatment was necessitated by the workplace event or exposure.

Which injuries and illnesses are considered preexisting conditions?

An injury or illness is a preexisting condition if it resulted solely from a nonwork-related event or exposure that occurred outside the work environment.

How do I decide whether an injury or illness is work-related if the employee is on travel status at the time the injury or illness occurs?

Injuries and illnesses that occur while an employee is on travel status are work-related if, at the time of the injury or illness, the employee was engaged in work activities "in the interest of the employer." Examples of such activities include traveling to and from customer contacts; conducting job tasks; and entertaining or being entertained to transact, discuss or promote business (work-related entertainment includes only entertainment activities being engaged in at the direction of the employer).

When a traveling employee checks into a hotel, motel or other temporary residence, he or she establishes a "home away from home." Employers must evaluate the employee's activities after he or she checks into the hotel, motel or other temporary residence for their work-relatedness in the same manner that they evaluate the activities of a non-traveling employee.

When the employee checks into the temporary residence, he or she is considered to have left the work environment. When the employee begins work each day, he or she reenters the work environment. If the employee has established a "home away from home" and is reporting to a fixed worksite each day, injuries or illnesses are not considered work-related if they occur while the employee is commuting between the temporary residence and the job location. Also, injuries or illnesses are not considered work-related if they occur while the employee is on a personal detour from a reasonably direct route of travel (for example, they have taken a side trip for personal reasons).

How do I decide if a case is work-related when the employee is working at home?

Injuries and illnesses that occur while an employee is working at home, including work in a home office, will be considered work-related if the injury or illness occurs while the employee is performing work for pay or compensation in the home, and the injury or illness is directly related to the performance of work rather than to the general home environment or setting.

For example, if an employee drops a box of work documents and injures his or her foot, the case is considered work-related. If an employee's fingernail is punctured by a needle from a sewing machine used to perform garment work at home, becomes infected and requires medical treatment, the injury is considered work-related.

If an employee is injured because he or she trips on the family dog while rushing to answer a work phone call, the case is not considered work-related. If an employee working at home is electrocuted because of faulty home wiring, the injury is not considered work-related.

POSTING FORM 300A

Employers that are required to keep Form 300, the Injury and Illness Log, must post a completed Form 300A, the Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses, from the previous year in their employees' workplaces **every year from Feb. 1 to April 30**.

Current and former employees (or their representatives) have the right to access their employers' injury and illness records upon request. Employers must provide a copy of the relevant record(s) by the end of the next business day after they receive a request.

PRIVACY CONCERN CASES

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protects the privacy of individuals by providing federal protections for certain health information held by covered entities, such as health plans, insurance issuers and health care providers. However, HIPAA does **not** apply to certain information held by an employer, such as information about work-related injuries and illnesses.

OSHA has stated that even if HIPAA is implicated by an employer's disclosure of the OSHA 300 Log, the law and implementing regulation expressly permit the disclosure of protected health information to the extent required by law. This exception would apply because OSHA's recordkeeping rule requires employees, former employees and employee representatives to have access to the complete OSHA 300 Log, including employee names, **except** in privacy concern cases.

Privacy concern cases involve injuries or illnesses of a particularly personal nature. The following is a complete list of the types of injuries or illnesses employers must consider to be privacy concern cases:

- An injury or illness to an intimate body part or the reproductive system;
- An injury or illness resulting from a sexual assault;
- A mental illness;
- A case of HIV infection, hepatitis or tuberculosis;
- A needle-stick injury or cut from a sharp object that is contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious material; and
- Other illnesses if the employee independently and voluntarily requests that his or her name not be entered on the log.

For these cases, employers must **not** enter the employee's name on the OSHA 300 Log. Instead, they should enter "privacy case" in the space normally used for the employee's name. Employers must keep a separate, confidential list of the case numbers and employee names for the establishment's privacy concern cases so that the cases can be updated and information provided to the government if requested.

When employers have a reasonable basis to believe that information describing the privacy concern case may be personally identifiable even though the employee's name has been omitted, they may use discretion in describing the injury or illness on both the OSHA Forms 300 and 301. However, employers must enter enough information to identify the cause of the incident and the general severity of the injury or illness but need not include details of an intimate or private nature.

ELECTRONIC REPORTING

<u>OSHA's electronic reporting rule</u> requires certain establishments to report information from their injury and illness records to OSHA electronically **by March 2** every year through OSHA's <u>Injury Tracking</u> <u>Application</u> (ITA) website. Affected establishments include:

- Establishments that have 250 or more employees and are not in a <u>partially exempt industry</u>;
- Establishments that have between 20 and 249 employees and belong to a <u>high-risk industry</u>; and
- Establishments that receive a specific request from OSHA to create, maintain and submit electronic records (even if they would otherwise be exempt from OSHA recordkeeping requirements).

To be clear, the rule does not create additional recordkeeping obligations but instead requires some entities to submit information from already-required records to OSHA in electronic format.

Under the original rule, every year, covered establishments with 250 or more employees were required to report information from OSHA Forms 300, 300A and 301, and smaller covered establishments were required to submit information only from OSHA Form 300A. However, on Jan. 25, 2019, OSHA issued a <u>new final rule</u> that removed the electronic submission requirements for data from Forms 300 and 301. The new final rule does **not** affect the rule's requirements for establishments to electronically submit data from **Form 300A**.

OSHA has implemented a new rule that will go into effect on **Jan. 1, 2024**, requiring certain employers in **designated high-hazard industries** to electronically submit additional injury and illness information than what is currently required. Employers do not need to do any additional recordkeeping, as the information asked to be submitted is already required to be documented.; employers will just have to submit more information during electronic reporting.

OSHA's announcement of this final rule follows proposed amendments announced in March 2022 to regulations requiring specific establishments in certain high-hazard industries to electronically submit information from their Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses and their Injury and Illness Incident Report.

The final rule includes the following submission requirements:

• Establishments with 100 or more employees in certain high-hazard industries must electronically submit information from their Form 300, Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses, and Form 301, Injury and Illness Incident Report, to OSHA once a year. These

submissions are in addition to the submission of Form 300A, Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses; and

• Establishments are required to include their legal company name when making electronic submissions to OSHA from their injury and illness records to improve data quality.

The final rule retains the current requirements for electronic submission of Form 300A information from establishments with 20-249 employees in certain high-hazard industries and establishments with 250 or more employees in industries that must routinely keep OSHA injury and illness records.

Some of the data collected on the OSHA website will be published to allow employers, employees, potential employees, employee representatives, current and potential customers, researchers and the general public to use information about a company's workplace safety and health record to make informed decisions. OSHA stated that it believes that providing public access to the data will ultimately reduce occupational injuries and illnesses.

Electronic Reporting Frequently Asked Questions

Why is OSHA collecting the data and how will it be used?

Electronic submission of establishment-specific injury and illness data will enable OSHA to use its enforcement and compliance assistance resources more efficiently. Analysis of the data will improve OSHA's ability to identify, target, and remove safety and health hazards, thereby preventing workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths.

Does the rule require employers to start keeping new records or change how they keep the records?

No. The new requirement does not add to or change an employer's obligation to complete, retain, and certify injury and illness records. It only requires certain employers to electronically submit some of the information from these records to OSHA.

Are the electronic reporting requirements based on the size of the establishment or the size of the firm?

The electronic reporting requirements are based on the size of the establishment, not the firm. The OSHA injury and illness records are maintained at the establishment level. An establishment is defined as a single physical location where business is conducted or where services or industrial operations are performed. A firm may be comprised of one or more establishments. To determine if you need to provide OSHA with the required data for an *establishment*, you need to determine the establishment's peak employment during the last calendar year. Each individual employed in the establishment at any time during the calendar year counts as one employee, including full-time, part-time, seasonal and temporary workers.

How should the data be submitted and how long will it take?

OSHA estimates that it will take a typical employer about 10 minutes to create an account and another 10 minutes to enter the required information from the Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (Form 300A).

Establishments must submit the information electronically and may not submit the information on paper. Employers that do not have the necessary equipment or internet connection may submit their data from a public facility, such as a library. OSHA also intends to provide an interface for entering data from a mobile device.

ITA TRACKING APPLICATION

The OSHA ITA has transitioned its login procedure to the public's one-account access to government applications, <u>Login.gov</u>. OSHA provides a <u>secure website</u> for employers that are required to submit injury and illness data submissions. Affected employers can manually enter their data, upload a comma-separated values (CSV) file to add multiple establishments at one time or transmit data electronically via an application programming interface.

Login.gov is a secure, single sign-in service used by the federal government to provide the public with access to all participating government agency applications.

ITA FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Account Access

How do I create an ITA account?

The steps to create an ITA account and connect it to a Login.gov account are explained in the <u>Create an</u> <u>ITA Account</u> and <u>Create a Login.gov Account</u> job aids. You can also watch OSHA's <u>how-to video</u>, which covers the account creation process.

Does OSHA notify employers that they need to report their Form 300A data? And if not, where do I get my username and password to log in and provide my data?

OSHA does not send out notifications to report the Form 300A data. If your establishment meets the industry and size reporting criteria, you must create an account in the ITA and connect the ITA account to a Login.gov account with the same email address. Once you create your account, you can log in and report your Form 300A data on an annual basis. Each year, the data is due by March 2. To create an ITA account, go to the <u>Injury Tracking Application Login</u> page and select the "Create an ITA Account" link that is right below the "Injury Tracking Application" banner. Follow the instructions from there.

I want multiple staff members to access the information in my account. How do I give them access?

To provide an ITA account holder access to your establishment data, follow these steps (**Note:** Before these steps are taken, ensure that the staff member has already created an ITA account):

- Log into the ITA and choose "View Establishment List";
- Select the establishment name link;
- Select "Assign User";
- Enter the email address of the other ITA account holder;
- Select "User Role"; and
- Select "Save."

I am assigning my establishment to another ITA account holder. What is the difference between the "ITA establishment user" and "ITA establishment admin" user roles?

An ITA establishment user can edit the establishment data AND add, edit and submit the Form 300A data for that establishment. An ITA establishment admin can perform the same functions AND assign additional users to that establishment.

The person who submitted the data for us has left the company. How do I reassign their establishments to my account?

If establishments need to be transferred to a new user, please submit a <u>Help Request Form</u>, select the "Assign Establishments to another user" topic and provide the previous submitter's email address. The ITA help desk will then make the reassignment.

I am submitting the required data for multiple clients. Can I create more than one account in the ITA?

An email address can only be associated with one account in ITA. If you are submitting data on behalf of multiple companies, you can use your one account to create the establishments for each of the companies. There is a field in the "Establishment" form where you can identify the company to which the establishment belongs.

What are the requirements for creating a password?

A password must contain at least eight characters and three of the following four character types: uppercase letters, lowercase letters, numbers, and punctuation.

NAICS Codes

My establishment performs tasks that are covered by multiple six-digit NAICS codes. Can I use a fourdigit NAICS code that reflects everything we do?

No, you must provide a valid six-digit 2012 NAICS code. Choose the code that represents the activity that generates the most revenue for your establishment and/or has the most employees, whichever is more applicable to your business.

When looking at the drop-down choices for my NAICS code, I do not see a choice for exactly what we do. Which selection should I make?

The drop-down choices are the examples provided in the NAICS manual. The ITA only captures the code itself (i.e., the number); it does not capture the text behind the code. Choosing any of the options for your particular code is sufficient.

How do the 2012 to 2017 NAICS coding changes affect the reporting requirements for establishments in the selected high-risk industries?

The list of covered industries is based on 2012 NAICS codes. Under the 2012 coding system, department stores are classified as NAICS 4521, and other general merchandise stores are classified as NAICS 4529. The fact that these two industries are classified as 2017 NAICS 4522 and NAICS 4523, respectively, does not change their reporting status (i.e., these two industries are covered by this data collection).

CSV Files

Do I need to submit my data by using the web forms AND in a CSV file?

No, you only have to provide the data using one of those methods. Please be aware that if you are submitting data for just one or for a small handful of establishments, it is **much** easier to enter the data manually by selecting the "Create Establishment" button and filling out the two web forms rather than trying to create and upload a CSV file. If you have already provided your establishment information for a previous collection (or collections), you only need to click on "View establishment list," select the already-entered establishment and provide the new 300A summary data.

I am trying to submit my data using a CSV file, but it keeps stripping the leading zeroes from my ZIP codes. How can I fix this problem?

When working in Excel, follow these steps to fix the ZIPs with leading zeroes. Be aware that if you open the file with Excel again, it will strip the zeroes again and you will need to repeat these steps and save it as a last step.

- 1. Outline the ZIP field.
- 2. Click the down arrow in the "Number" group.
- 3. Choose "Special."
- 4. Choose ZIP code.
- 5. Save.

You can also edit it with Notepad (right-click on the file and choose the "Open with..." feature). Notepad will not strip the zeroes.

Can I include decimals in my numbers?

No. The system will reject the file if you include decimals in any of the number fields. Only enter whole numbers.

What are the most common errors in a CSV file that prevent it from loading?

The most common errors that prevent a CSV file from loading are:

- Including decimals in the "annual_average_employees" and "total_hours_worked" fields. **Only** enter integers for any of the number fields;
- Including a dash in the "ein_number" field. Format your EIN as XXXXXXXX, not as XX-XXXXXXX;
- Using duplicate establishment names. Each establishment name must be unique. (See Other Technical Issues below for further guidance);
- Having null entries in required fields; and
- Using text or multiple digits in the coded fields.

Which fields in the CSV file require codes?

There are three (3) fields that require codes:

- 1. Size
 - Enter "1" if the establishment has less than 20 employees.
 - Enter "2" if the establishment has 20-249 employees.
 - Enter "3" if the establishment has 250+ employees.
- 2. Establishment_type
 - Enter "1" if the establishment is not a government entity.
 - Enter "2" if the establishment is a state government entity.
 - Enter "3" if the establishment is a local government entity.
- 3. No_injuries_illnesses
 - Enter "1" if the establishment had injuries or illnesses.
 - Enter "2" if the establishment did not have injuries or illnesses.

I use Excel spreadsheets from OSHA's website as my OSHA forms. Can I save the spreadsheets as CSV files to upload to the ITA?

No, the forms would not be in the correct format, and the system would reject that file. The format must be the same as the CSV template file located under the "How" section on the main ITA webpage. Please be aware that if you are submitting data for just one or for a small handful of establishments, it is much easier to enter the data manually by selecting the "Create Establishment" button and filling out the two web forms rather than trying to create and upload a CSV file. If you have already provided your establishment information for a previous collection(s), you only need to click on "View establishment list," select the already entered establishment and provide the new 300A summary data.

Other Technical Issues

I used your formula to calculate average employment, but the number seems off. Can you provide further guidance?

If you have about the same number of employees every pay period throughout the year, then you don't need to use the formula. You can use the count from a typical pay period. For example, if you had about 100 employees throughout the year, you can use 100 as your annual average employment.

If your number of employees goes up and down throughout the year, then you should use the formula. For example, if your business is seasonal and you have more employees during the summer or before Christmas, or if your establishment grew or shrank during the year, you should use the formula.

To use the formula, follow these steps:

- 1. Add up the number of employees IN EACH PAY PERIOD throughout the year. For example, in Pay Period 1 you had 30 employees, in Pay Period 2 you had 25 employees, in Pay Period 3 you had 23 employees. So you would add 30, 25 and 23.
- 2. Divide by the number of pay periods in the year. For example, divide by 26 if you have biweekly pay periods or divide by 52 if you have weekly pay periods.
- 3. The result is your average number of employees.
- 4. CHECK TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS RESULT MAKES SENSE! Is it about the same as the number of workers belonging to your establishment on a typical day? Is it bigger than your smallest number of employees in a pay period? Is it smaller than your biggest number of employees in a pay period? If the answer to any of these questions is no, then the calculation may be incorrect.

Please note that you CANNOT divide the total number of W-2s by the number of pay periods to calculate the average employment. You must add up the number of employees IN EACH PAY PERIOD before dividing by the number of pay periods.

I get an error message that says the number of cases in columns G through J does not equal the number of cases in columns M(1) through M(6). What am I doing wrong?

The most common error associated with this message is the double counting of a single case that involves both days away from work and days of restricted work activity. If you enter a checkmark in column H AND column I, the case is double-counted. A case that involves both days away from work and days of restricted work activity should only have a checkmark in column H (with no checkmark in column I). The number of days away is counted in column K, and the number of days restricted is counted in column L. Categorize the case in one of the M columns.

I filled in the information for the 300A Summary, but it will not let me click on the "Save" button. What do I do now?

There are three common problems that stop the Save button from being highlighted. First, the radio button on the top right of the 300A data page that says "Did this establishment have injuries or illnesses" must be filled out. Second, all the boxes must be filled out, with a "0" if applicable, instead of being left empty. Third, there cannot be any commas, decimals, or other non-numbers in the employees or hours worked fields. Generally, a field that contains an error is outlined in red.

I am submitting the required data for multiple establishments. All of my establishments have the same name, but the system will not allow me to use a name more than once. What can I do? Each establishment name must be unique. You can make each unique by adding a number or a city/town name to the end of the establishment name. For example, if your establishment name is XYZ, you can make each location unique in the following manners: XYZ – 1, XYZ – 2, XYZ – 3; or XYZ Atlanta, XYZ Smyrna, XYZ Savannah.

How do I print what I submitted?

The ITA does not have a print function. You can view the data you submitted by clicking "View establishment list" and then clicking on the establishment name link. You can use your browser to print the information.

I need to submit/edit my Form 300A data from a year other than the year currently being collected. How do I do that?

The ITA only allows submission and editing of the last year's injury and illness totals. There is no mechanism for you to submit or edit data for years earlier than last year.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions explain some of the terms used in OSHA's reporting and recordkeeping requirements:

FIRST AID: Includes:

- Using a nonprescription medication at nonprescription strength (for medications available in both prescription and nonprescription form, a recommendation by a physician or other licensed health care professional to use a nonprescription medication at prescription strength is considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- ✓ Administering tetanus immunizations (other immunizations, such as hepatitis B vaccine or rabies vaccine, are considered medical treatment);
- Cleaning, flushing or soaking wounds on the surface of the skin;
- Using wound coverings, such as bandages, adhesive bandages, and gauze pads, or using butterfly bandages (other wound closing devices, such as sutures and staples, are considered medical treatment);
- ✓ Using hot or cold therapy;
- Using any nonrigid means of support, such as elastic bandages, wraps and nonrigid back belts (devices with rigid stays or other systems designed to immobilize parts of the body are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- Using temporary immobilization devices while transporting an accident victim (such as splints, slings, neck collars and back boards);
- ✓ Drilling of a fingernail or toenail to relieve pressure or draining fluid from a blister;
- ✓ Using eye patches;
- ✓ Removing foreign bodies from the eye using only irrigation or a cotton swab;
- Removing splinters or foreign material from areas other than the eye by irrigation, tweezers, cotton swabs or other simple means;
- ✓ Using finger guards;
- Using massages (physical therapy or chiropractic treatment are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes); and
- Drinking fluids for relief of heat stress.

MEDICAL TREATMENT: The management and care of a patient to combat disease or disorder. Under OSHA, medical treatment does **not** include:

 Visits to a physician or other licensed health care professional solely for observation or counseling;

- The conduct of diagnostic procedures, such as X-rays and blood tests, including the administration of prescription medications used solely for diagnostic purposes (e.g., eye drops to dilate pupils); or
- First aid (as defined by OSHA).

PARTIALLY EXEMPT INDUSTRIES: Partially exempt industries include establishments in specific lowhazard retail, service, finance, insurance or real estate industries and are listed <u>here</u>.

PREEXISTING CONDITION: An injury or illness is a preexisting condition if it resulted solely from a nonwork-related event or exposure that occurred outside the work environment.

RESTRICTED WORK: Restricted work occurs when, as the result of a work-related injury or illness, an employer keeps an employee from performing one or more of the routine functions of his or her job or from working the full workday that he or she would otherwise have been scheduled to work; or a physician or other licensed health care professional recommends that an employee not perform one or more of the routine functions of his or her job or not work the full workday that he or she would otherwise have been scheduled to work; or a more of the routine functions of his or her job or not work the full workday that he or she would otherwise have been scheduled to work.

SIGNIFICANTLY AGGRAVATED: A preexisting injury or illness has been significantly aggravated, for purposes of OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping, when an event or exposure in the work environment results in any of the following:

- Death, provided that the preexisting injury or illness would likely not have resulted in death but for the occupational event or exposure;
- ✓ Loss of consciousness, provided that the preexisting injury or illness would likely not have resulted in a loss of consciousness but for the occupational event or exposure; or
- ✓ One or more days away from work, of restricted work or of job transfer that otherwise would not have occurred but for the occupational event or exposure.

"SIGNIFICANT" DIAGNOSED INJURY OR ILLNESS: Work-related cases involving cancer, chronic irreversible disease, a fractured or cracked bone, or a punctured eardrum must always be recorded under the general criteria at the time of diagnosis by a physician or other licensed health care professional (even if medical treatment or work restrictions are not recommended or are postponed in a particular case).

OSHA believes that most significant injuries and illnesses will result in death, days away from work, restricted work or job transfer, medical treatment beyond first aid or loss of consciousness. However, there are some significant injuries, such as a punctured eardrum or a fractured toe or rib, for which neither medical treatment nor work restrictions may be recommended. In addition, there are some significant progressive diseases, such as byssinosis, silicosis and some types of cancer, for which

medical treatment or work restrictions may not be recommended at the time of diagnosis but are likely to be recommended as the disease progresses.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The establishment and other locations where one or more employees are working or are present as a condition of their employment. The work environment includes not only physical locations but also the equipment or materials used by the employee during the course of his or her work.

WORK-RELATED: An event or exposure in the work environment that either caused or contributed to the condition. In addition, if an event or exposure in the work environment significantly aggravated a preexisting injury or illness, this is also considered work-related.

APPENDIX A

OSHA's Form 300 (Rev. 01/2004)

Note: You can type input into this form and save it. Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses

Attention: This form contains information relating to employee health and must be used in a manner that protects the confidentiality of employees to the extent possible while the information is being used for occupational safety and health purposes.



U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Year 20

You must record information about every work-related death and about every work-related injury or illness that involves loss of consciousness, restricted work activity or job Form approved OMB no. 1218-0176 transfer, days away from work, or medical treatment beyond first aid. You must also record significant work-related injuries and illnesses that are diagnosed by a physician or																	
licensed health care professional. You must also record work-related injuries and illnesses that meet any of the specific recording criteria listed in 29 CFR Part 1904.8 Establishment name through 1904.12. Feel free to use two lines for a single case if you need to. You must complete an Injury and Illness Incident Report (OSHA Form 301) or equivalent form for																	
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	(A) Case no.	(B) Employee's name	(C) Job title (e.g., Welder)	(D) Date of injury or onset of	(E) Where the event occurred (e.g., Loading dock north end)	(F) Describe injury or illness, par affected, and object/substance		based on the most serious that case:			us outcome for		days the injured or ill worker was:		Select the "Injury" column of choose one type of illness:		
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OSHA's Form 300A (Rev. 01/2004)

Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses

Note: You can type input into this form and save it. Because the forms in this recordkeeping package are "fillable/writable" PDF documents, you can type into the input form fields and then save your inputs using the free Adobe PDF Reader.



U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Form approved OMB no. 1218-0176

Year 20

All establishments covered by Part 1904 must complete this Summary page, even if no work-related injuries or illnesses occurred during the year. Remember to review the Log to verify that the entries are complete and accurate before completing this summary.

Using the Log, count the individual entries you made for each category. Then write the totals below, making sure you've added the entries from every page of the Log. If you had no cases, write "0."

Employees, former employees, and their representatives have the right to review the OSHA Form 300 in its entirety. They also have limited access to the OSHA Form 301 or its equivalent. See 29 CFR Part 1904.35, in OSHA's recordkeeping rule, for further details on the access provisions for these forms.

Total number of deaths	Total number of cases with days away from work	Total number of cases with job transfer or restriction	Total number of other recordable cases		
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Post this Summary page from February 1 to April 30 of the year following the year covered by the form.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 50 minutes per response, including time to review the instructions, search and gather the data needed, and complete and review the collection of information. Persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. If you have any comments about these estimates or any other aspects of this data collection, contact: US Department of Labor, OSHA Office of Statistical Analysis, Room N-3644, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Do not send the completed forms to this office.

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Optional

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U.S. Department of Labor occupational Safety and Health Adminis the Summary page at the end of the year.

Worksheet to Help You Fill Out the Summary

At the end of the year, OSHA requires you to enter the average number of employees and the total hours worked by your employees on the summary. If you don't have these figures, you can use the information on this page to estimate the numbers you will need to enter on

Note: You can type input into this form and save it. Because the forms in this recordkeeping package are "fillable/writable" PDF documents, you can type into the input form fields and then save your inputs using the free Adobe PDF Reader. In addition, the forms are programmed to auto-calculate as appropriate.

How to figure the average number of employees who worked for your establishment during the How to figure the total hours worked by all employees: year: Include hours worked by salaried, hourly, part-time and seasonal workers, as well as hours worked by other workers subject to day to day supervision by Add the total number of employees your your establishment (e.g., temporary help services workers). establishment paid in all pay periods during the Do not include vacation, sick leave, holidays, or any other non-work time, year. Include all employees: full-time, part-time, even if employees were paid for it. If your establishment keeps records of only The number of employees temporary, seasonal, salaried, and hourly. the hours paid or if you have employees who are not paid by the hour, please paid in all pay periods estimate the hours that the employees actually worked. If this number isn't available, you can use this optional worksheet to Count the number of pay periods your estimate it. establishment had during the year. Be sure to include any pay periods when you had no The number of pay employees. periods during the year = **Optional Worksheet** Find the number of full-time employees in your **Oivide** the number of employees by the number of establishment for the year. pay periods. X Multiply by the number of work hours for a full-time employee in a year. 4 Round the answer to the next highest whole number. Write the rounded number in the blank The number rounded marked Annual average number of employees. This is the number of full-time hours worked. Add the number of any overtime hours as well as the hours worked by other employees (part-time, For example, Acme Construction figured its average employment this way: temporary, seasonal) In this pay period . . . Acme paid this many employees . . . 10 1 Number of employees paid = 830 ด 2 0 Round the answer to the next highest whole number. Number of pay periods = 26ค 3 15 Write the rounded number in the blank marked Total 4 30 830 = 31.92 hours worked by all employees last year. 40 5 26 . v 24 20 31.92 rounds to 32 25 15 Save Input Reset 26 +10 32 is the annual average number of employees 830

OSHA's Form 301 **Injury and Illness Incident Report**

Note: You can type input into this form and save it. Because the forms in this recordkeeping package are "fillable/writable" PDF documents, you can type into the input form fields and then save your inputs using the free Adobe PDF Reader. In addition, the forms are programmed to auto-calculate as appropriate.

Information about the employee

Attention: This form contains information relating to employee health and must be used in a manner that protects the confidentiality of employees to the extent possible while the information is being used for occupational safety and health purposes.



Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Form approved OMB no. 1218-0176

This Injury and Illness Incident Report is one of the first forms you must fill out when a recordable work-related injury or illness has occurred. Together with the Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses and the accompanying Summary, these forms help the employer and OSHA develop a picture of the extent and severity of work-related incidents.

Within 7 calendar days after you receive information that a recordable work-related injury or illness has occurred, you must fill out this form or an equivalent. Some state workers' compensation, insurance, or other reports may be acceptable substitutes. To be considered an equivalent form, any substitute must contain all the information asked for on this form.

According to Public Law 91-596 and 29 CFR 1904, OSHA's recordkeeping rule, you must keep this form on file for 5 years following the year to which it pertains.

If you need additional copies of this form, you may photocopy the printout or insert additional form pages in the PDF, and then use as many as you need.

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Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 22 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. If you have any comments about this estimate or any other aspects of this data collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden, contact: US Department of Labor, OSHA Office of Statistical Analysis, Room N-3644, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. Do not send the completed forms to this office.

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