



IND-105  
Industrial Safety

**OSHA Recordable**

Don Retcher, Instructor  
[dretcher@northweststate.edu](mailto:dretcher@northweststate.edu)

# What is an OSHA Recordable?

1. Any work-related fatality.
2. Any work-related injury or illness that results in loss of consciousness, days away from work, restricted work, or transfer to another job.
3. Any work-related injury or illness requiring medical treatment beyond first aid.
4. Any work-related diagnosed case of cancer, chronic irreversible diseases, fractured or cracked bones or teeth, and punctured eardrums.
5. There are also special recording criteria for work-related cases involving: needlesticks and sharps injuries; medical removal; hearing loss; and tuberculosis.

# What is an OSHA Recordable?

Let's look at a few safety issues that were evaluated by OSHA to determine if they needed to be recorded, becoming an OSHA recordable.



# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A

### **FAQ ID:** 232

**Q:** An employee got something in his eye (dirt/dust) during the workday. At the end of the day the employee went home. During the evening the employee's eye became more irritated and he decided to seek medical attention the next morning before reporting to work. The doctor flushed the eye with saline solution and sent the employee back to work. The employee was away from work for 3 hours. Does this absence make the case recordable?

# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A

### **FAQ ID:** 232

**Q:** An employee got something in his eye (dirt/dust) during the workday. At the end of the day the employee went home. During the evening the employee's eye became more irritated and he decided to seek medical attention the next morning before reporting to work. The doctor flushed the eye with saline solution and sent the employee back to work. The employee was away from work for 3 hours. Does this absence make the case recordable?

**A:** No. Time spent seeking medical treatment is not counted as restricted work activity if the employee otherwise was capable of performing all of their routine job functions.

**Source:** *OSHA e-correspondence*

# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A ×

### **FAQ ID:** *168*

**Q:** Several of our employees were exposed to sulfuric acid from a damaged battery. The employees went to a local ER complaining of signs and symptoms that can be attributed to the exposure. No one was admitted and all were cleared by a physician. This happened on a Friday. On Monday all affected staff returned to work. Some exhibited further reactions over the weekend but not severe enough to go to the local ER. On Monday a few were still experiencing signs and symptoms but very mild in nature. Are these recordable?

# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A ×

### **FAQ ID:** 168

**Q:** Several of our employees were exposed to sulfuric acid from a damaged battery. The employees went to a local ER complaining of signs and symptoms that can be attributed to the exposure. No one was admitted and all were cleared by a physician. This happened on a Friday. On Monday all affected staff returned to work. Some exhibited further reactions over the weekend but not severe enough to go to the local ER. On Monday a few were still experiencing signs and symptoms but very mild in nature. Are these recordable?

**A:** These cases are not recordable if they did not involve one or more of the general recording criteria: medical treatment beyond first aid, days away from work, restricted work activity or job transfer, or loss of consciousness.

**Source:** *OSHA e-correspondence*

# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A ×

### **FAQ ID:** *214*

**Q:** Sandy cut her finger. John helped Sandy and got her blood on his hands, which had open sores. We sent him to have some lab work done. At this point, is John's case an OSHA recordable?



# Is this an OSHA Recordable?

## Selected OSHA Recordkeeping Q & A ×

### **FAQ ID:** 214

**Q:** Sandy cut her finger. John helped Sandy and got her blood on his hands, which had open sores. We sent him to have some lab work done. At this point, is John's case an OSHA recordable?

**A:** No. If an employee is splashed or exposed to blood or other potentially infectious material without being cut or scratched, you need to record such an incident on the OSHA 300 Log if: It results in the diagnosis of a bloodborne illness, such as HIV, hepatitis B, or hepatitis C; or it meets one or more of the general recording criteria (medical treatment beyond first aid; days away from work; restricted work activity or job transfer).

**Source:** *OSHA e-correspondence*

# Leading Injuries Data

Below is data from the DOL OSHA website that shows the 10 leading causes of workplace injuries.

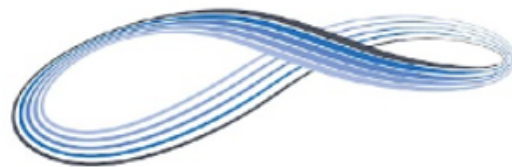
**10 Leading Causes and Direct Costs of Workplace Injuries in 2012:**

#	Causes	Cost	%
1	Overexertion	\$15.1B	25.3%
2	Falls on same level	\$9.19B	15.4%
3	Struck by object or equipment	\$5.3B	8.9%
4	Falls to lower level	\$5.12B	8.6%
5	Other exertions or bodily reactions	\$4.27B	7.2%
6	Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicle	\$3.18B	5.3%
7	Slip or trip without fall	\$2.17B	3.6%
8	Caught in/compressed by equipment or objects	\$2.1B	3.5%
9	Repetitive motions involving micro-tasks	\$1.84B	3.1%
10	Struck against object or equipment	\$1.76B	2.9%

The leading cause of injury on the list, overexertion, was typically related to lifting, pushing, pulling, holding, carrying or throwing. Other exertions, which came in at number five, includes injuries due to bending, crawling, reaching, twisting, climbing, stepping, kneeling, sitting, standing or walking.

# What is an OSHA Recordable?

In the workplace, determining if a work-related injury or illness is something that must be recorded is not always clear. When in doubt, check with your supervisor.



STRENGTHENING  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES  
TRAINING GRANTS

**DOL DISCLAIMER:**

**“This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The U.S. Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it.”**



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).