

NIOSH American Indian and Alaska Native Initiative

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Building Bridges to Enhance the Well-Being of American Indian and Alaska Native Workers Workshop

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Disclaimer

The findings and conclusions in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Overview

- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
- NIOSH American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Initiative
- 2015 AI/AN Partnership Workshop
- Resources
- 2019 Workshop



Every Day in the United States...

9,000

workers suffer disabling injuries

16

workers die from work injuries

137

workers die from work-related illnesses







Origin of NIOSH



Public Law 91-596 91st Congress, S. 2193 December 29, 1970

An Act

84 STAT, 1590

To assure ande and healthful working conditions for working men and women; by authorizing enforcement of the standards developed under the Act; by assisting and encouraging the States in their efforts to assure ande and healthful working conditions; by providing for research, information, education, and training in the field of excupational anderly and health; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970".

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

Occupational Safety and Health Act of

SEC. (2) The Congress finds that personal injuries and illnesses arising out of work situations impose a substantial burden upon, and are a hindrance to, interstate commerce in terms of lost production, wage loss, medical expenses, and disability compensation payments.

to the control of the

(1) by encouraging employers and employees in their efforts to reduce the number of occupational safety and health hazards at their places of employment, and to stimulate employers and employees to institute new and to perfect existing programs for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(2) by providing that employers and employees have separate but dependent responsibilities and rights with respect to achieving safe and healthful working conditions;

(3) by authorizing the Secretary of Labor to set mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to businesses affecting interstate commerce, and by creating an Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for carrying out adjudicatory functions under the Act:

(4) by building upon advances already made through employer and employee initiative for providing safe and healthful working conditions:

(3) by providing for research in the field of occupational safety and health, including the psychological factors involved, and by developing innovative methods, techniques, and approaches for dealing with occupational safety and health problems;

(6) by exploring ways to discover latent diseases, establishing causal connections between diseases and work in environmental conditions, and conducting other research relating to health problems, in recognition of the fact that occupational health standards present problems often different from those involved in occupational safety.

(7) by providing medical criteria which will assure insofa? aspracticable that no employee will suffer diminished health, functional capacity, or life expectancy as a result of his work

(8) by providing for training programs to increase the number and competence of personnel engaged in the field of occupational safety and health; Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 created NIOSH and OSHA

 U.S. federal agency that conducts research and makes recommendations to prevent worker injury and illness.

Mission: Todevelop new knowledge in the field of occupational safety and health and to transfer that knowledge into practice.

Research & Recommendations

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)



Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

Regulation & Enforcement

Department of Labor (DOL)



Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)

Occupational
Safety and Health
Administration
(OSHA)

NIOSH Activities

- Surveillance/Epidemiology
- Field Studies
- Laboratory Studies
- Exposure Measurement
- Control Technology
- Protective Equipment
- Emergency Response
- Training
- Information Dissemination

AI/AN Workers



2,901,365American Indian/Alaska
Native workers ¹



42% more likely to be employed in a **high-risk** occupation ²

¹ NIOSH "Employed Labor Force" (ELF) system, based upon Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Current Population Survey (CPS) Query 2 Steege A, Baron S, Marsh S, Menendez C, Myers J [2014]. Examining Occupational Health and Safety Disparities Using National Data: A Cause for Continuing Concern. Am J Ind Med 57:527-538.

AI/AN Workers



Tribes are often the largest employer in the community



NIOSH AI/AN Initiative

Partner with AI/AN communities, tribal-serving organizations and partners to provide occupational safety and health support.



Improving Worker Safety and Health among American Indians/Alaska Natives: 2015 Partnership Workshop



American Indian and Alaska Native Partnership

2015 Workshop

The Improving Worker Safety and Health Among American Indians/Alaska Natives: Partnership Workshop was held August 17-18 2015 at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. The event brought together members from many tribes across the U.S., as well as representatives from NIOSH and academia to discuss how to improve worker health and safety in tribal communities.

- · Partnership Agenda
- · Partnership Workshop Summary
- · Partnership Workshop Challenges, Solutions, and Resources





Site Visits

- ✓ Aug 2015: Navajo Nation
- ✓ Nov 2015: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- √ Jan 2016: Oklahoma City Area
- ✓ Spring 2016: Alaska Area
- ✓ Summer 2016: Albuquerque Area
- ✓ Spring 2017: Bemidji Area





Public Health Law

Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Selected Tribal Laws Related to Occupational Safety and Health

American Indian and Alaska Native tribes are sovereign nations that maintain a government-togovernment relationship with the United States ¹ There are currenty 567 federally recognized tribes throughout the contiguous United States and Alaska ² In addition to exercising political sovereignty, tribes exercise cultural sovereignty through traditions and religious practices unique to each tribe's history and culture. ² Cultural sovereignty "encompasses the spiritud, emotional, mental, and physical aspects" of Native people's lives and is a foundation to tribal exercise of political sovereignty. ⁴

As sovereign nations, tribes have inherent authority to protect the public health and welfare of their citizens and "to make their own laws and be ruled by them." Thus, in the context of occupational safety and health, tribes have the authority to promote occupational safety and health using methods most appropriate for their communities. Tribes have exercised this authority by passing laws related to occupational safety and health and by providing occupational safety and health services through tribal agencies and organias?

This document offers examples of selected tribal laws related to occupational safety and health. These laws can be referenced by jurisdictions interested in developing or updating their own occupational safety and health laws. While tribal codes sometimes incorporate federal or state occupational safety and health laws by reference, this document does not provide an overview of state or federal occupational safety and health laws. The following tribal laws provide examples of occupational safety and health codes, laws specific to certain industries or activities, child labor laws, and workers' compensation laws.

For more information about occupational safety and health, visit CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health website.

Occupational Safety and Health Codes

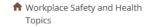
Tribal codes offer examples of occupational safety and health laws that seek to prevent and mitigate occupational injuries; illnesses, and fatalities? Offer these laws establish a tribal occupational safety and health agency or commission, ³⁰ occupational health and safety standards, ³¹ and they also allow for the inspection and enforcement of these standards for tribal and other employers. ³¹





Grant Funding Available for Occupational Health and Safety Projects in Agriculture or Forestry

The High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Healthand Safety (HICAS) at Colorado State University is accepting applications for projects related to improving the health and safety of those working in agriculture or forestry within the HICAHS region (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming).



American Indian and Alaska Native Initiative

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Contact Us

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In 2013, NIOSH launched an initiative to partner with American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) communities, organizations, and other stakeholders to identify priority issues, conduct outreach, and determine how NIOSH could best provide occupational safety and health support to tribal communities. The main goal of the initiative is to build and strengthen tribal occupational safety and health capacity to ensure workers make it home safely and healthily to their families and communities every day. All activities are coordinated with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS).

As sovereign nations, Al/AN tribes maintain a government-to-government relationship with the United States. There are currently 567 federally recognized tribes across the U.S.⁽¹⁾ Over 5.4 million Al/AN live across the United States, comprising about 2 percent of the population.⁽²⁾ Twenty-two percent of Al/AN live on reservations.⁽³⁾

Al/AN workers account for 2.7 million or 1.8% of the total U.S. workforce. These workers are employed in a wide variety of occupations with the highest numbers in office and administrative support, sales and related occupations, management, transportation and material moving, and food preparation and serving. Many workers are also employed through tribal enterprises such as medical care, housing, manufactured products, food production, livestock, and tourism. Tribes are often the largest employer in the community.



Promoting productive workplaces through safety and health research

Construction workers on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. Photo by NIOSH

Al/AN Workers

Join the listsery!

Join the listserv to receive research updates, links to worker Outreach

Resources & Publications

References

[1] Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services From the United State Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fed. Reg 81, 86 (June 11, 2017) [8]

Building Bridges to Enhance the Well-Being of AI/AN Workers Workshop

Objectives:

- Identify safety and health priorities for AI/AN workers
- Contribute to the development of an AI/AN worker safety and health strategic plan
- Meet and network with Tribal, academic, and government partners to discuss common worker safety and health issues and solutions
- Learn about resources, funding opportunities, data sources, and surveillance systems to develop worker safety and health iniatitives

Planning Committee

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- Cortney Cuff, CHWE
- Liz Dalsey, CDC/NIOSH
- Katelynn Daniells, CDC/NIOSH
- Robert Foley, NIHB
- Constance Franklin, CDC/NIOSH

- Mike Flynn, CDC/NIOSH
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Thank you!

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For more information, contact CDC 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

