

Addressing Young Worker Safety and Health

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

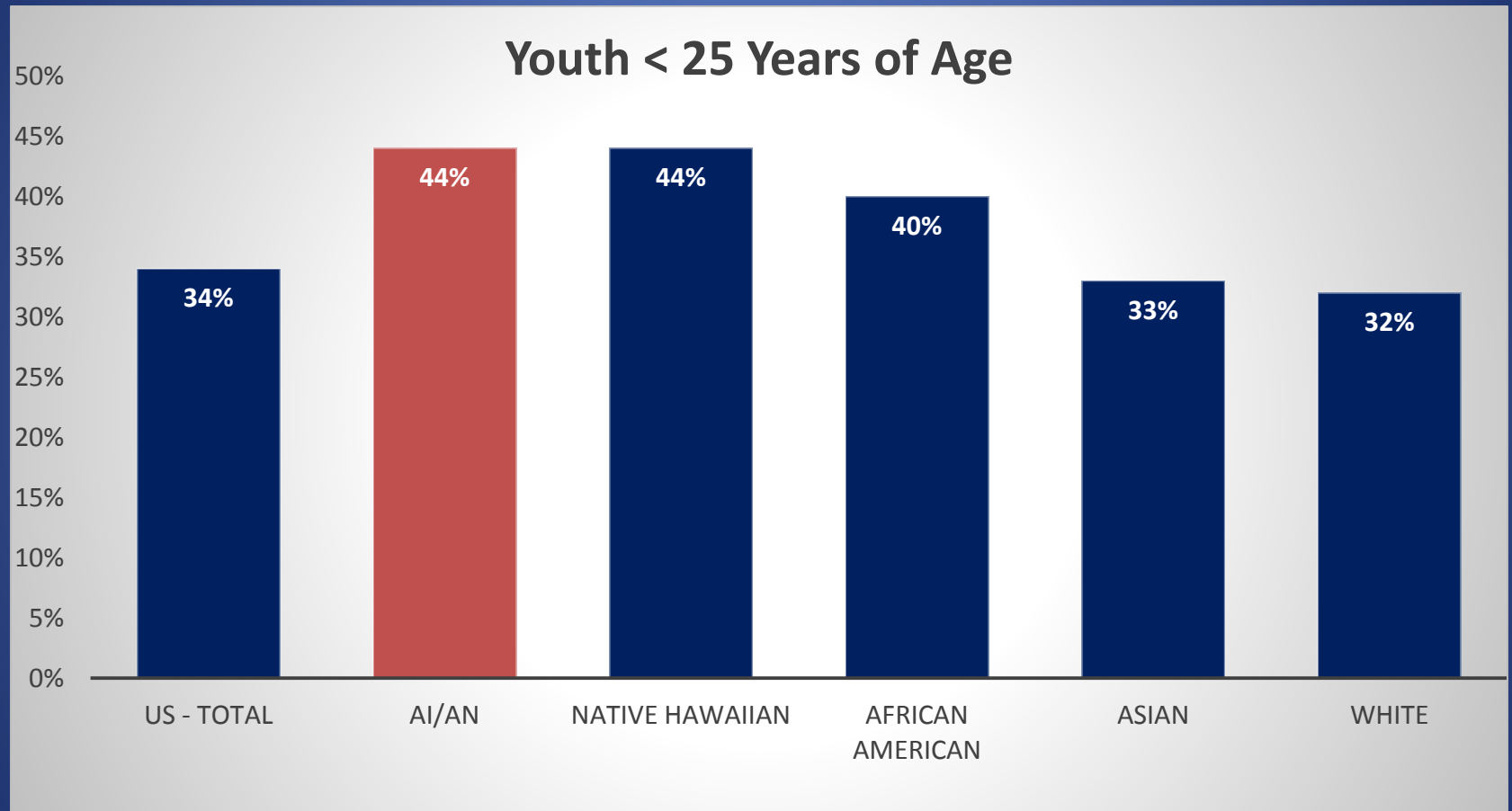
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August 17, 2015

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

Overview

- Young workers in the U.S.
- The NIOSH framework for workplace safety and health competencies
- Pathways for integration
- Discussion and Q/A

Youth in the U.S.



Source: United States Census Bureau

Work is a formative experience

- Work has a positive impact on young people's lives
- 80% of youth work while in high school—high
- In 2013, workers < 24 years old made up 13% of the workforce (18.1 million people)



Working youth at higher risk

- A U.S. young worker (< 25) is injured on the job every minute
- Youth (<25 years old) are injured at work at twice the rate of adults
- Annual cost of job injuries for youth = \$5 billion
- Job injuries and illnesses have a lasting impact

Why are youth at greater risk?

- Individual factors
- Work-related risk factors
- Other factors



Vision: Protecting young workers

Before entering the U.S. workforce for the first time, all individuals will have the basic skills, knowledge, and abilities they need to stay safe and healthy on the job and to contribute to a safe, healthy, and productive workplace.

Mission: Protecting young workers

Integrate and institutionalize
foundational workplace safety and
health skills, knowledge, and
abilities in relevant pathways

Missing from Work Readiness

Hard / Basic Skills (The Three Rs +)	Soft / Life / Applied Skills
<p>Reading Writing Arithmetic Government/Economics Science Humanities/Arts Foreign Language History/Geography</p> <p>Sources: Conference Board; 21st Century Skills Framework</p>	<p>Critical thinking/problem solving Oral and written communication Teamwork/collaboration Diversity IT application Leadership Creativity/innovation Lifelong learning/self direction Professionalism/work ethic Ethics/accountability/social responsibility Flexibility/adaptability Appropriate health & wellness choices <i>→Skills, knowledge, & abilities to contribute to a safe and healthy workplace?</i></p>

NIOSH 8 Core Competencies

*Understand/recognize:
work-related risks; hazard
recognition and control;
rights and responsibilities
on the job; how to
communicate about a job-
related problem.*



Workplace safety and health knowledge, skills, and abilities (NIOSH 8 Core Competencies) are the foundation for a lifetime of safe and healthy work.

Pathways for integration: Adolescent workers



YOUTH @ WORK

Talking Safety

A Safety & Health Curriculum
for Young Workers

Colorado Edition



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health



AIHA

Protecting Worker Health



SKILL BADGES



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



WERNATIVE



NIOSH Young Worker Curriculum

- Teaches 8 Core Competencies
- Aligned with CDC's National Health Education Standards (NHES)
- Aligned with the Common Career Technical Core, Common Core State Standards, NextGen Science Standards

What is *Talking Safety*?

Teaches foundational workplace safety and health competencies to middle and high school students

- Free, fun, interactive
- 6 main, 5 supplemental lessons
- Customized for each U.S. state & territory (54 versions)
- Spanish language and French Creole versions



Impact

- Students obtain vital workplace safety and health knowledge and skills
- Schools integrate these skills sustainably
- Work injuries and illnesses decline, well-being increases



Miami Dade Schools

- 4-year evaluation project in the Miami-Dade County Public School System, the 4th largest in the country
- Integrate *Talking Safety* (8 Core Competencies) into 8th grade science classes
- Evaluate the curriculum, build a sustainable model



Rebecca Guerin and Andrea Okun, NIOSH, with M-DCPS Superintendent Alberto Carvalho (3rd from left) and M-DCPS project partners.

Oklahoma

Passage of SB262;
Signed into law April 1
by Gov. Mary Fallin

The State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Oklahoma Department of Labor, shall make available to school districts information regarding workplace safety training for grades seven through twelve. Such information shall include the NIOSH "Youth@ Work Talking Safety: A Safety and Health Curriculum for Young Workers."



Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin signs SB262

Talking Safety Assessment

- Created an online assessment tool and certificate with NOCTI
- Piloted assessment with students—Ada, Oklahoma
- Develop a “digital badge” and a delivery platform



Stacy Oakley, teacher, Latta High School, Bushy the Safety Squirrel, Lester Claravall, Oklahoma Department of Labor, and Monkey (around with workplace safety)

Outreach to AI/AN Youth

- Partner with Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Choctaw in OK to adapt/use *Talking Safety*
- Partner with *WeRNative* to promote workplace safety and health



WERNATIVE

- Presented at National Indian Health Board conference

How can NIOSH partner with you?

- How can NIOSH efforts be better integrated with Tribal activities and programs?
- How can the Core Competencies become an integral part of work readiness initiatives?
- What other pathways should be explored?
- What metrics can be used to measure success?

Safe-Skilled-Ready

Thank you!

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