# The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

Promoting productive workplaces through safety and health research

# Notable Milestones in NIOSH History

# Overview

View/Download Print Document (document prints on legal size paper): Notable Milestones in NIOSH History

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness.

# **Directors**

- 2009 Present: John Howard, M.D.
- 2002 2008: John Howard, M.D.
- 1994 2000: Linda Rosenstock, M.D.
- 1981 1993: J. Donald Millar, M.D.
- **1978 1981**: Anthony Robbins, M.D.
- **1975 1978:** John Finklea, M.D.
- 1971 1975: Marcus Key, M.D.

#### 1970

#### **OSH Act created NIOSH**

NIOSH Program Portfolio, leadership centers and offices, worker services and support programs



# Jump to Decade

- o 2010
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- 1990
- o 1980
- 1970

#### 1973

- NIOSH transferred to CDC from Health Service
   Mental Health Administration
- Creation of NIOSHTIC



#### 1971

- First Criteria Document on Asbestos
- First Toxic Substances List

First Current Intelligence Bulletins published (chloroprene, trichloroethylene, ethylene dibromide, asbestos (during brake and clutch work), hexamethylphoshoric triamide, polychlorinated biphenyls)



1974

NIOSH/OSHA Standards Completion Program was the basis for 387 new standards, immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH) values and the PocketGuide

#### 1977

- First nine Education and Research Centers
   Portfolio (ERC)s were awarded (Harvard, U.
   Cincinnati, Johns Hopkins, U. Texas Houston, U.
   Minnesota, U. North Carolina, U. Washington
   Seattle, U. Illinois Chicago, & U. Arizona)
- Courts affirm authority to enter workplaces, examine medical records, and disseminate research findings NIOSH publishes
   Occupational Diseases: A Guide to Their Recognition



1978

NIOSH/OSHA Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards first published

# 1980

First State-based occupational health cooperative agreements



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Jump to Decade

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#### 1985

On the 15th anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) issued a report concluding that the Act had led to the reduction of exposures to vinyl chloride, cotton dust, and lead



1984

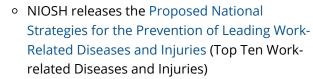
First meeting of the NIOSH Board of Scientific Counselors (BSC)

- Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risk Sentinel Event Notification System for Occupational Risk (SENSOR) program established at NIOSH
- NIOSH publishes landmark studies showing hazards of vermiculite from Libby, MT

#### 1989

- The Alice Hamilton Award for Excellence in Science in Occupational Safety and Health was initiated
- Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance (ABLES) program and State Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program established

## 1986



- NIOSH, OSHA, and EPA establish the ONE Committee to coordinate the agencies' research efforts
- Collaboration with International Labour Organization (ILO) International Programme on Chemical Safety to establish peer reviewed hazard communication cards (International Chemical Safety Cards)

#### 1990

Centers for Agricultural Disease and Injury Research, Education, and Prevention established

#### 1991

NIOSH issues Current Intelligence Bulletin on environmental tobacco smoke in the workplace

#### 1996

- o NIOSH website launched
- National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Established
- NIOSH issues findings & recommendations for preventing workplace homicides and assaults

# Jump to Decade

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- NIOSH issues recommendations for preventing job-related stress
- NIOSH issues recommendations for preventing work-related needlestick injuries



## 1997

- Mine safety research authority is transferred to NIOSH following the elimination of the U.S.
   Bureau of Mines
- NIOSH issues Engineering Control Guidelines for Hot Mix Asphalt Pavers — this represents a new paradigm for conducting research by developing a partnership between labor, industry, and government
- Latex Alert issued Preventing allergic reactions to natural rubber latex in the workplace

#### 2001

- NIOSH provides technical assistance for responder safety and health in the World Trade Center rescue and recovery
- NIOSH en Espanol Web site launched



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#### 2004

Research to Practice (r2p) Initiative established



#### 2003

NIOSH eNews debuts

#### 2006

- Second Decade of NORA begins
- NIOSH partnered with SKC Inc., to commercialize two low-cost, NIOSH-designed field methods to help first responders, public health officials, and remediation workers quickly detect the presence of methamphetamine on various environmental surfaces



#### 2005

2007

NIOSH provides technical and humanitarian assistance after Hurricane Katrina



# NIOSH Science Blog debuts

NIOSH publishes a literature review and critical analysis of Qualitative Risk Characterization and Management of Occupational Hazards: Control Banding (CB)

# 2010

NIOSH provides technical assistance for responder safety and health in the Deepwater Horizon containment and cleanup

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#### 2011

World Trade Center Health Program established

Page last reviewed: March 28, 2018

Content source:

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Office of the Director