

Wholesale and Retail Trade Program PPOP

What are our priorities?

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Wholesale and Retail Trade (WRT) Program works with partners in other government agencies, industry, labor, trade associations, professional organizations, and academia. The program focuses on issues relevant to wholesale and retail trade workers, including reducing injuries and illnesses from overexertion and adverse bodily reactions, especially among aging workers and those who are exposed to safety risks from emerging technologies; preventing injuries from slips trips, and falls; and reducing motor vehicle-related injuries and fatalities.

What do we do?

- Use national surveillance data sources to identify risk factors related to the three priority areas that result in days away from work.
- Establish partnerships with other government agencies, safety and health professionals, trade, and labor organizations such as Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA), and the Loss Prevention Foundation (LPF), businesses, and academic institutions to do research and provide guidance to better understand risk factors and develop interventions.
- Conduct research on WRT worker health and well-being to make recommendations on the best ways to manage and structure work to prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).
- Evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of engineering controls and prevention methods to reduce injuries in priority areas.
- Create evidence-based guidance documents, tools, and other resources to help WRT employers and workers prevent injuries.
- Collaborate with trade associations to distribute NIOSH research findings and other resources to WRT employers and their employees.

What have we accomplished?

- Published [NIOSH Science Blog Wholesale Recycling: High Rates of Injuries and Illnesses](#).
- Presented NIOSH WRT webinars that addressed a variety of relevant COVID-19 topics, such as: general issues and impacts to the sector, implications for workplace fatigue, and essential worker heroes during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Developed CDC COVID-related factsheets for the WRT industry for [grocery and retail workers, warehousing employers, and warehousing workers](#).
- Collaborated with RILA and LPF to address issues related to COVID-19 and its impact on the WRT industry.
- Sponsored de-escalation training for the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) WRT sector council members based on COVID-19 impact feedback. Over 250 people attended this webinar.

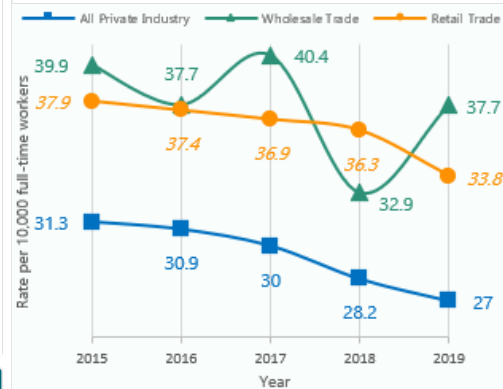
What's next?

- Develop Workplace Solutions documents on WRT trends in injuries, illnesses, and fatalities for employers and workers.
- Network with partners at virtual conferences such as safety/risk officials and labor unions in the WRT industry to promote NIOSH products.
- Produce a violence prevention poster for grocery and retail workers and guidance documents about high-priority WRT hazards.
- Write article on e-recycling hazards for trade journal Waste Management Magazine. This will provide an alternative route to reach both employees and employers
- Partner with NIOSH stakeholders to design and promote workplace safety and health materials that inform employers, workers, and the WRT community what hazards are in the industry, how to recognize them, and what to do to reduce injury rates.
- Collaborate with NIOSH Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities program to create a blog on occupational safety and health issues related to warehousing and transportation workers.
- Continue to develop the Retail Safety and Health Resource document, designed to provide information for employers about workplace safety, health, and well-being factors.

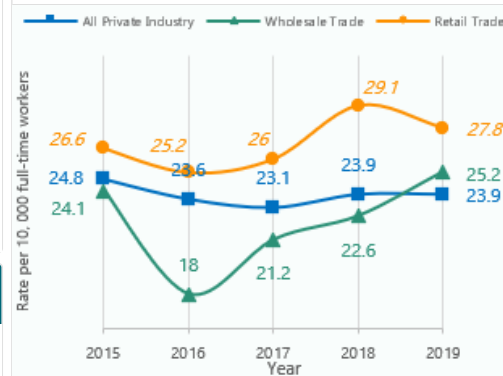
At-A-Glance

The Wholesale and Retail Trade Program provides leadership to prevent diseases, injuries, and fatalities in wholesale and retail trade workers. This snapshot shows recent accomplishments and upcoming projects.

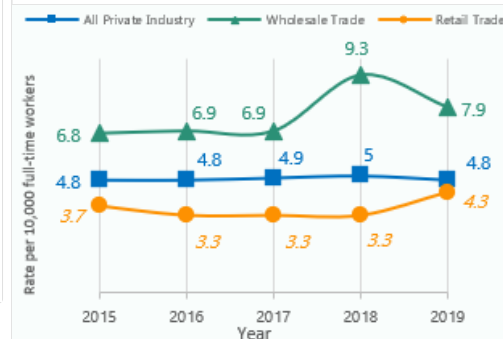
Overexertion & adverse bodily reactions-related nonfatal injury incidence rates for the wholesale, retail sectors & private industry*



Falls-related nonfatal injury incidence rate for the wholesale, retail sectors & private industry*



Transportation-related nonfatal injury incidence rates for wholesale, retail sectors & private industry*



* Data source: Incidence rates for nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 full-time equivalent workers. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2015 – 2019, Table R8.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

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To learn more, visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/wrt