

Wholesale and Retail Trade Program

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 (or especially) those listed below:” 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
- Reducing motor vehicle-related injuries and fatalities
- Occupational neurologic and renal disease incidence

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, 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?

- Updated the [Wholesale and Retail Trade Program topic page](#) with current information and resources; also improved page functionality
- Published article in [the American Journal of Industrial Medicine](#) that provides WRT trends in injuries, illnesses and fatalities, and economic implications for 2006 – 2016.
- Collaborated with National Center for Productive Aging and Work on National Employ Older Workers Week to increase awareness of aging retail workforce safety, health, and well-being issues.
- Conducted two social media campaigns to promote workplace safety for teen workers during the 2019 holiday season.
- Published 3 NIOSH science blogs
 - [Wholesale and Retail Trade Fatal and Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses: 2006-2016](#)
 - [Older Wholesale and Retail Workers in Nonstandard Work Arrangements](#)
 - [Reducing Fatigue and Stress in the Retail Industry: Workplace Solutions.](#)
- Presented a poster at the Work, Stress and Health 2019 Conference based on the *Wholesale and Retail Trade Sector Occupational Fatal 2016: Implications for Interventions* journal article.

What's next?

- Publish a series of studies assessing pulmonary toxicity of carbon nanotubes and nanofibers from U.S. facilities.
- Present a webinar on the impacts of shift work on occupational cancer, in collaboration with the National Toxicology Program.
- Update the NIOSH *List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings* and publish NIOSH Document on *Managing the Occupational Health Risks of Hazardous Drug Exposure in Healthcare Settings.*
- Seek NIOSH approval of the National Firefighter Registry protocol.
- Evaluate risks of cancer and other chronic diseases from long-term, low-dose occupational radiation exposures, among 140,000 workers.



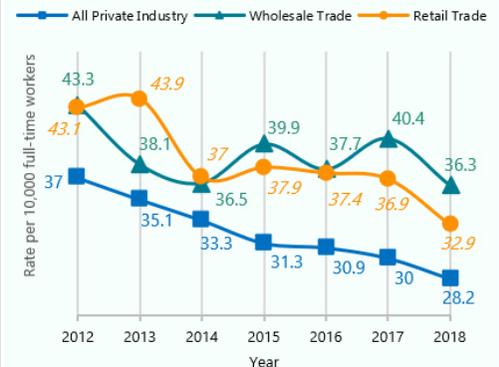
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

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



Falls-related nonfatal injury incidence rates for the wholesale, retail sectors, and private industry*



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



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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