

Glossary

Absorption: To take a substance into the body, usually through the skin.

Acute injury or illness: An illness or injury that happens immediately after exposure to a hazard. Acute illnesses and injuries are usually short-term.

Administrative controls: Rules, regulations, or procedures to control or limit employees' exposures to potential hazards.

Benefits: Positive contribution to a person's life; advantages.

Cardboard compactor: A machine that crushes cardboard boxes and ties them into bundles. Bundles are then more easily recycled.

Child labor laws: Laws that protect children's rights in the workplace.

Chronic injury or illness: An illness or injury that persists over time.

Combine: A machine used for harvesting and threshing grain.

Confined space: Any space with limited openings and poor ventilation that can cause harm due to toxic gases or lack of oxygen.

Decibels: The units by which the intensity of sound is measured.

Dust: Tiny particles of solids.

Ear protection: Hearing protection, usually earplugs or earmuffs.

Engineering controls: Protective measures taken to prevent exposure to a hazard by changing the equipment or instruments that are used to do a job.

Ergonomics: Practices that make a job fit the worker instead of force the worker to fit the job.

Fair Labor Standards Act: Enacted in 1938, this act protects the rights of all workers, including children. The act played an important role in making the workplace safer for children.

Grain bin: A container in which grain is stored.

Hazard: Anything that can harm a person—physically or mentally.

Hazard map: A map showing the location of hazards in a workplace.

Hypothermia: An illness caused by loss of heat in the body.

Illness: The condition of being in poor health; sickness; disease.

Ingestion: Taking a substance into the body through the mouth; swallowing.

Inhalation: To breathe a substance into one's lungs. Substances that are inhaled may then spread to the bloodstream.

Injury: Harm or damage done to a person's body.

Limitations: Restrictions or negative results of an action, such as the enactment of a law.

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS): Detailed information sheet on chemicals and their ingredients, safety precautions, and use. MSDS generally are prepared and made available by chemical manufacturers.

Microorganisms: Microscopic organisms such as bacteria, viruses, and molds.

Permanent injuries or illnesses: Injuries or illnesses that remain with a person for the rest of his or her life.

Personal protective equipment: Equipment workers wear to act as barriers between themselves and hazards.

Power takeoff: A rotating shaft that powers a moving piece of equipment, often seen on a farm.

Prevention strategy: A variety of actions that can be taken to prevent injuries or illnesses from happening in the workplace. Administrative controls, building barriers, and communication are three main categories of prevention strategies.

Risk: The chance that an injury or illness will happen given certain workplace conditions.

Routes of entry: The different ways hazardous substances can get into the body.

Safety action plan: A guide that is used to implement safety changes in the workplace.

Safety team: A group of people, either employ-

ees or outside consultants, who work to create a safer workplace for a particular business or organization.

Temporary injuries or illnesses: Injuries or illnesses that last a short period of time.

Vapors: Tiny drops of liquid suspended in the air.

Worker safety laws: Laws that protect the health and safety of workers, including children.

Workplace hazard: Anything in the workplace that can harm a person—physically or mentally.

Workplace biological hazard: Hazards in the workplace caused by contact with living things or their byproducts.

Workplace chemical hazard: Any chemical in the workplace that can cause injuries or illnesses.

Workplace physical hazard: Hazards in the workplace caused by the transfer of energy from one object to another.

Worker Safety and Health Education Resources

Government Agencies

- **National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** – NIOSH is the federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness. This agency is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/>
- **U. S. Department of Labor** – The mission of this federal agency is to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.
<http://www.dol.gov/>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) - OSHA was created by Congress to assure safe and healthful working conditions for men and women by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance. This agency is part of the United States Department of Labor.
<http://www.osha.gov/>

- **Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)** – The DLI is responsible for overseeing Minnesotans' occupational safety and health, wage and hour standards, and workers' compensation programs.
<http://www.dli.mn.gov/>
- **Minnesota Department of Health Center for Occupational Health and Safety** - This website provides information on the programs and activities within the MDH Center for Occupational Health and Safety. *Work Safe Work Smart* can be downloaded from this site.
www.health.state.mn.us/occhealth

Child Labor Information

Federal

- **Youth Rules!** This website offers parents, educators and young workers an easy reference for basic questions about federal child labor laws.
<http://www.youthrules.dol.gov/>
- **Child Labor Provisions for Nonagricultural Occupations Under the Fair Labor Standards Act.** U.S. Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division. Child Labor Bulletin 101 WH-1330. Revised July 2010. This booklet is a guide to laws that apply to minors employed in nonagricultural

sota version of the NIOSH curriculum.
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/talkingsafety/states/mn/>

- **NIOSH** – Young Worker Safety and Health. This is a link to the NIOSH youth worker topics page. It includes information and resources for teachers.
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/>
- **Washington State** – Health and Safety Awareness for Working Teens. Provides several different curricula including a general employment safety curriculum and an agricultural curriculum.
<http://www.uwworksafe.com/worksafe/>
- **UC Berkley Labor Occupational Health Program** – YoungWorkers.org. In addition to other resource links, they link to the NIOSH Youth@Work curriculum, which was developed by this program.
<http://www.youngworkers.org/>
- **WorkSafeBC** – Young Workers at Risk. WorkPlaceBC is an independent, employer funded agency in British Columbia, Canada, that enforces workplace health and safety and handles all the workers compensation claims. In addition to the downloadable curriculum “Student WorkSafe: Planning 10 Program,” the site provides several video case-studies and many other resources for young workers.*
<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Topics/YoungWorker/Home.asp>
- **Workplace Safety and Insurance Board** – Ontario. Resources for Young Workers and Parents: This site offers an online e-course for workers 24 and under. People who take and pass this training get a nationally recognized (Canadian) certificate “Passport to Safety” to show employers.* “Health & Safety 101” can be found at:
<http://www.hs101.ca/homepageEng.htm>
- **Youth@work** – The government of South Australia provides information to promote and encourage safe, fair and productive working lives for residents, including young people. The gateway provides resources, factsheets and interactive hazard assessments.*
<http://www.safework.sa.gov.au/youth/>
- **The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE)** Teen Work Safety Tool Kit – This is an interactive tool designed to educate young workers on important safety information they need to know to stay safe at work.
<http://www.asse.org/teensafety/index.php>

** laws discussed may not be the same as those in the United States*

Additional Internet Resources

- **Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation – National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety.** This NIOSH-funded program contains many valuable documents and guidelines regarding health and safety of children and youth associated with agricultural work.
<http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/NCCRAHS/>

- **National Research Council, Institute of Medicine. *Protecting Youth at Work: Health, Safety, and Development of Working Children and Adolescents in the United States*.** Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1998. A general report on health and safety issues of working teens. http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=6019
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.** “Occupational Injuries and Deaths Among Younger Workers – United States, 1998-2007.” *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* April 23, 2010/59(15): 449-455. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5915a2.htm>
- **U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.** “Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities.” This site provides a wealth of statistics on fatal and non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses in the United States. <http://www.bls.gov/iif/>
- **U.S. Department of Labor - OSHA - Youth in Agriculture - Agriculture eTool.** Agriculture remains one of the most hazardous industries and some 2 million youth under the age of 20 are exposed to farm-related hazards. This eTool describes common agriculture hazards and potential safety solutions for teen workers and employers on farms. <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/agriculture/index.html>
- **U.S. Department of Labor - OSHA - Young Worker Safety in Restaurants - eTool.** Many first jobs for youth are in restaurants and nearly 30% of restaurant employees are under 20 years of age. This eTool describes common hazards and safety solutions for teen workers in restaurants. <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/restaurant/index.html>