



INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

ERIC J. HOLCOMB, GOVERNOR

Rick J. Ruble, Commissioner

402 West Washington Street, Room W195

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2751

Phone: (317) 232-2655

Fax: (317) 233-3790

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Stephanie McFarland

Phone: (317) 602-1546, ext. 2

Email: media@dol.in.gov

Hoosier Workplace Injuries and Illnesses Lowest in State History

Annual report shows historic low for worker injuries

INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 7, 2019) – The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today in its latest Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses that Indiana’s 2018 nonfatal occupational injury and illness rate is the lowest in state history -- with an almost 6% **decrease** from 2017’s previous historic low.

The latest data (2018), according to the report, shows Indiana’s rate of nonfatal workplace injuries and illness is estimated at 3.3 injuries or illnesses per 100 full-time workers, compared to 2017’s rate of 3.5. From a program high of 11.3 in 1994, Indiana’s rate of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses has decreased by 71%.

“Workplace health and safety has been improving steadily in Indiana for over the past 25 years, and continues to improve,” said Rick Ruble, commissioner of the Indiana Department of Labor. “Indiana has 86 companies in the state’s Voluntary Protection Program, and 41 companies in the state’s Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program. These companies have made a vested commitment to improving worker safety and health. It’s this kind of commitment that has enabled Indiana to reduce nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses year over year.”

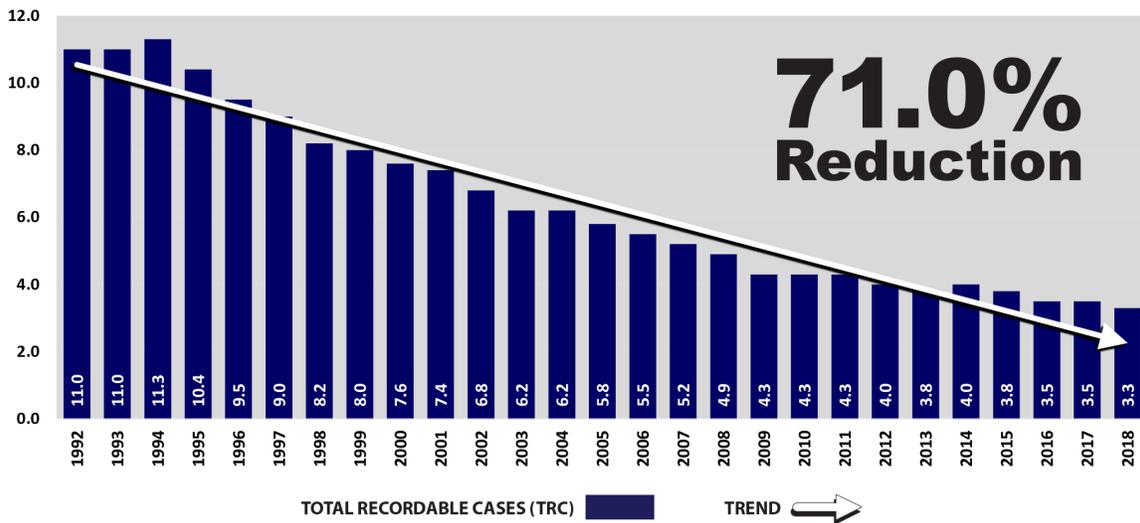
The SOII measures incidents of nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses on an annual basis. The report also showed that the Hoosier **agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting** industry experienced a 32.1% decrease from a rate of 5.3 in 2017 to a rate of 3.6 in 2018—the highest percentage of decrease in any industry.

After remaining steady with a nonfatal injury and illness rate of 5.2 in 2016 and 2017, **local government** also experienced an 11.5% decrease to 4.6 in 2018. **Arts, entertainment and recreation** experienced the highest nonfatal injury and illness rate in 2018 with 5.7 injuries or illnesses per 100 full-time workers 2018—a 14% increase from a rate of 5.0 in 2017. The **construction** industry remained unchanged from 2017 with a rate of 2.6.

[Click here](#) for a copy of the full report.

[Click here](#) for a one-page supplement of report highlights.

Indiana's Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Rate



###

About the Indiana Department of Labor:

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and voluntary compliance by employers. Follow the Indiana Department of Labor on Twitter at [@INDeptofLabor](https://twitter.com/INDeptofLabor) and Like on Facebook at www.facebook.com/IndianaDepartmentofLabor.

About the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) Data:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses data for Indiana includes nonfatal work-related injuries and illnesses. On an annual basis, the Indiana Department of Labor's Quality, Metrics, and Statistics (QMS) Division staff work with approximately 5,800 Hoosier employers to obtain information on nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. SOII began tracking the data in 1992.

At the time of initial publication of this document (11/2019), INSafe, the Indiana Consultation State Plan, receives 79.2% of its budget from a grant of \$893,000 in federal funds. The remaining 20.8% of the State Plan budget is financed through \$234,572 in Indiana state funds.

At the time of initial publication of this document (11/2019), IOSHA, the Indiana Enforcement State Plan, receives 48.1% of its budget from a grant of \$2,308,000 in federal funds. The remaining 51.9% of the State Plan budget is financed through \$2,492,006 in Indiana state funds.