



VIOLENCE PREVENTION COALITION OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

A Project of Community Partners®

FACT SHEET: violence in the workplace

CALIFORNIA

- ❖ Homicides were the second leading cause of work-related deaths. *"Work-Related Mortality in California," California Department of Health Services, 2000-2004.*
- ❖ From 2000-2004, work-related homicides involving firearms accounted for nearly 80% of deaths overall. *"Work-Related Mortality in California," California Department of Health Services, 2000-2004.*
- ❖ Suicide was the fifth leading group cause of work related deaths in California during 2000-2004, accounting for 4% (n=108) of all work-related deaths. Nearly half of these self-inflicted deaths (n=51; 47%) involved the use of firearms, and one-third (n=37; 34%) involved hanging, strangulation, or suffocation. *"Work-Related Mortality in California," California Department of Health Services, 2000-2004.*
- ❖ In California, 35-44 year-olds experienced the highest work-related death rates overall. *"Work-Related Mortality in California," California Department of Health Services, 2000-2004.*
- ❖ In California, most work-related homicides occurred between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and from 11:00 p.m. to midnight. Work related homicides were least common between 5:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. *California Department of Industrial Relations, 1995.*

UNITED STATES

General statistics

- ❖ Sensational multiple homicides represent a small number of violent incidents in the workplace. The majority of incidents are lesser cases of assaults, domestic violence, stalking, threats, harassment, and physical and/or emotional abuse. *"Workplace Violence: Issues in Response," Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2004.*
- ❖ Violence in the workplace accounted for 18% of all violent crime between 1993 and 1999. *"Violence in the Workplace," US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001.*
- ❖ There were 567 workplace homicides in 2005 in the United States. *National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2006.*
- ❖ Simple assaults account for 75% (or 1.3 million victimizations) of the crimes committed against people while working. Aggravated assaults account for 19 percent of workplace violence. *"Violence in the Workplace," US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001.*
- ❖ Five percent of all establishments, including state and local governments, had a violent incident, and half of the largest establishments (employing 1,000 or more workers) reported an incident. *Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005.*
- ❖ Workplace homicide is primarily robbery-related. *"Violence in the Workplace," US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001.*
- ❖ The rates of workplace assaults are higher for males than females. *"Violence in the Workplace," US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001.*
- ❖ Homicide is the leading cause of death for women in the workplace. *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 2007.*

(OVER)

- ❖ Workplace homicides, during 1992-2001, had a total cost of nearly \$6.5 billion dollars (1999 dollars) and a mean cost of \$800,000. *"Societal Cost of Workplace Homicides in the United States," American Journal of Industrial Medicine, 1992-2001.*

Sectors

- ❖ The industries with the highest incidence rates of workplace violence are: social services (14 assaults per 100 full time equivalent workers) and health service workers (9 assaults per 100 full time workers). The national average is 1.8 assaults per 100 full time equivalent workers. *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 1999.*
- ❖ Service providing industries reported much higher percentages of criminal, customer, and domestic violence than goods-producing industries. *Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005.*
- ❖ Risk factors for violence related fatal injuries in the workplace include contact with the public, exchange of money, delivering passengers, goods or services, working alone or in small numbers, working late night or early morning hours, and working in high crime areas. *US Department of Labor, 2002.*
- ❖ In 2000, 128 fatalities occurred in the grocery store industry. The majority (91%) of these resulted from assaults or violent acts, mostly homicide. In 78% of the homicide cases, robbery was the motive. *"Workplace Injuries and Illnesses in Grocery Stores," US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2003.*
- ❖ Of selected occupations examined from 1993 to 1999, police officers were the most likely to be victims of workplace violence, as well as correctional officers, taxicab drivers, private security workers, and bartenders. *"Violence in the Workplace," US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2001.*
- ❖ State government reported higher percentages of all types of workplace violence than local government or private industry. *Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005.*
- ❖ Of the establishments reporting an incident of workplace violence, 21% reported that the incident affected the fear level of their employees and 21% indicated that the incident affected their employees' morale. *Survey of Workplace Violence Prevention, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2005.*

Relationship

- ❖ Victim-offender relationship- percent of victimizations in the workplace:

<i>Relationship</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Stranger	59.6%	33.9%
Friends/Acquaintances	33.8%	36.4%
Relative	6.7%	7.7%
Intimate	2.9%	22.0%

US Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2006.

- ❖ Five percent of workplace homicides (or one-third of all homicides not associated with robbery or stranger crimes) are the result of intimate partner violence. *"Workplace Violence: A Report to the Nation," University of Iowa Injury Prevention Research Center, 2001.*

For a full citation list or more information, please contact:

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