



Safety Matters



A Safety & Health
Training for
Young Workers



Young Worker Injuries



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Teen Worker Injury Statistics

- Approximately 1.6 million teens (aged 15–17) in the United States work. About 50% of 10th graders and 75% of 12th graders have jobs.
- A teenager in the U.S. is injured on the job every 9 minutes.
- On average, each year
 - 59,800 workers younger than 18 are sent to the ER for job-related injuries, but actual injury statistics are probably much higher.
 - 37 workers younger than 18 die on the job.
 - Young workers are twice as likely to be injured than adult workers.

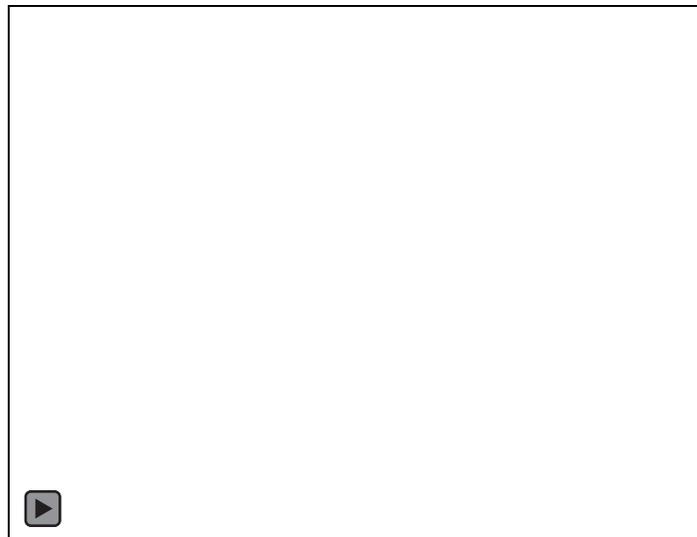
CDC 2010

www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/chartpackage.html

www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5915a2.htm

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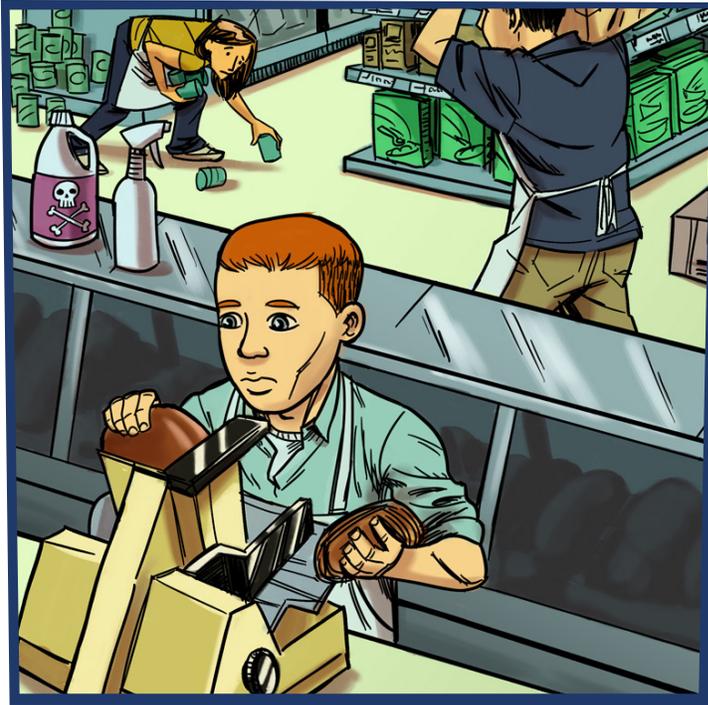
Mallory's Story



- What are some factors that contributed to this incident?
- What could have kept Mallory from being hurt?
- How might this affect Mallory's future life choices?

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Finding Hazards



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Workplace Hazards

All workplaces have hazards that can be identified and corrected.

What is a Job Hazard?

A job hazard is anything at work that can hurt you either physically or mentally.

4 categories:

- Safety
- Chemical
- Biological
- Other health hazards

Job Hazards

- **Safety hazards** can cause immediate injuries
 - Knives, hot grease
- **Chemical hazards** are gases, vapors, liquids, or dusts that can harm your body
 - Cleaning products, pesticides
- **Biological hazards** are living things that can cause sickness or disease, such as:
 - HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, tuberculosis
 - Bacteria, viruses

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Job Hazards (continued)

- **Other health hazards** are other harmful things that can injure you or make you sick. Some are not obvious because they may not cause health problems right away.
 - Noise, radiation, repetitive movements, heat, cold, stress, violence
- ***Can you think of other job hazards?***

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Making the Job Safer



Controlling Job Hazards



Controlling Job Hazards

- Remove the Hazard = the best way
 - Example: Buy precut vegetables so that employees don't have to use knives.
- Good safety policies
 - Examples: Train workers, give regular breaks, assign enough people to do the job safely
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) = the least effective (but use when provided!)
 - Examples: Gloves, steel-toed shoes, hard hats, respirators, safety glasses, hearing protectors, lab coats or smocks

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Removing or Reducing Hazards



Jasmin's Story

- Job:** Hospital dishwasher
- Hazard:** Chemical dishwashing solution
- Injury:** Chemical burn to the eye

What solutions can you think of that might prevent this injury from happening again?

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Know Your Rights and Responsibilities



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Who Protects Teen Workers?

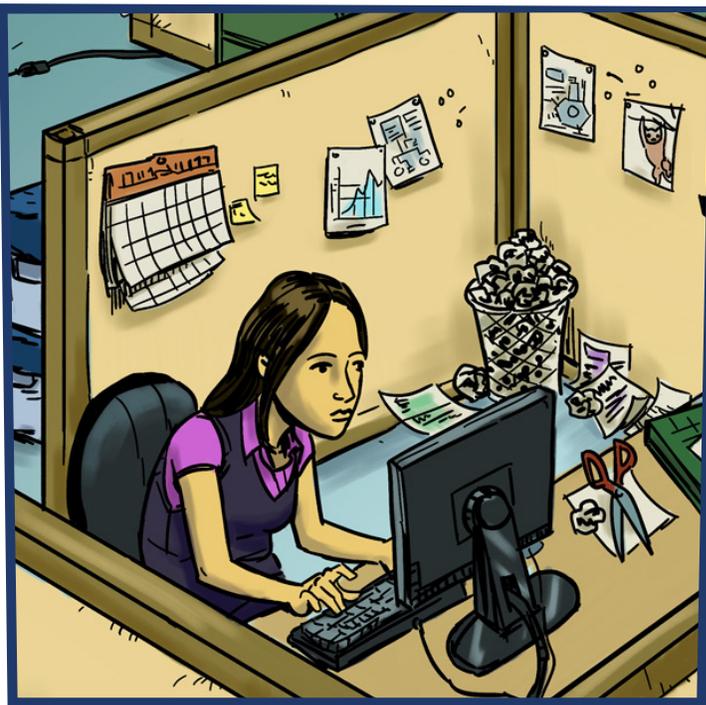
- Employers
- Teens
- Government agencies
 - The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
 - Federal and State Departments of Labor
 - U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

Are You a Teen Worker?

- What is the minimum wage in our state?
- If you are under 18 years old do you need a work permit before you start a new job?
- During the school year, how late can 14- and 15-year-olds work at night?
- During the school year, how late can 16- and 17-year-olds work at night?

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Being Prepared, Taking Action



Emergencies at Work

What is an emergency at work?

An unplanned event that harms or threatens employees, customers, or the public; that shuts down business operations; or that causes physical or environmental damage.

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Emergencies at Work - Examples

Man Made	Natural
Toxic releases	Hurricanes
Power outages	Blizzards
Fires	Wild fires
Chemical spills	Tornadoes
Terrorism	Ice storms
Explosions	Earthquakes
Violence	Floods

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Speaking Up

- Never feel bad about seeking help or asking questions. Trust your instincts!
- Don't be silent when confronted with a problem at work. It could get worse, and you or a co-worker could get hurt!
- It is illegal for an employer to fire someone for reporting work hazards or other safety problems at work!

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What Do OSH Professionals Do?



Occupational safety and health (OSH) professionals:

- Help prevent harm to workers, the environment, and the general public.
- Design safe workspaces, study or treat work-related diseases, inspect machines, or test air quality.

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Safety Matters: Summing Up (1)

- Everyone is at risk for being hurt on the job, and all jobs have hazards.
- Young workers are more likely than any other age group to get hurt or killed at work.
- Workplace injuries are NOT accidents. They can be predicted and prevented.

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Safety Matters: Summing Up (2)

- You need to know about the types of hazards so you can recognize potential health and safety problems.
- The best way to prevent a workplace injury or illness is to remove the hazard.
- If this can't be done, then control the hazard through work policies, procedures or the use of PPE.

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Safety Matters: Summing Up (3)

- OSHA enforces health and safety laws.
- Employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthy workplace, safety training and safety equipment.
- Young people should know their rights in the workplace but they also need to know their responsibilities, like reporting hazards and following all safety rules.

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Safety Matters: Summing Up (4)

- Remember to trust your instincts and don't be afraid to Speak Up if you have a problem at work!
- A work injury (or illness) can change your life forever!
- Learn about the risks and hazards at work and take action to protect yourselves and others.

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Stay Safe & Healthy at Work!

The skills you've learned in the NIOSH/AIHA **Safety Matters** training will help keep you safe and healthy on the job, now and throughout your work lives.

Thank you!