Workplace Safety for Teens
You will learn about

• Ways young workers can get hurt on the job
• Common health and safety hazards on the job
• Ways to reduce or control workplace hazards
• Emergencies in the workplace and how to respond
• What to do if you see something at work that could hurt you or make you sick
• What legal rights and responsibilities young people have at work
What is Your Experience with Work?

• How many of you have ever had a job?
• Where did you work?
• What did you do?
• Have you ever been hurt at work, or do you know someone who has?
• Have you ever been uncomfortable with a task you’ve been asked to do at work?
• Have you ever had any health and safety training at work?
Take the Job Safety Quiz
Job Safety Quiz Answers

- The law says your employer is responsible for providing you with a safe and healthy workplace.
  - True
  - False

- The law sets limits on how late you can work on a school night if you are under 16.
  - True
  - False

- If you are 16 years old you are allowed to drive a car on public streets as part of your job.
  - True
  - False
Job Safety Quiz Answers, p. 2

- If you are injured on the job, your employer must pay for your medical care.
  - True
  - False

- How often do teens get injured on the job in the United States?
  - One per day
  - One per hour
  - One every 9 minutes
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.
- Many youths are injured on the job.
- On average, each year
  - 59,800 workers younger than 18 are sent to the ER for job-related injuries, but actual injury statistics are much higher.
  - 37 workers younger than 18 die on the job.
  - Young workers are twice as likely to be injured as adult workers.

NIOSH 2010  
www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/chartpackage.html  
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5915a2.htm
Teen Worker Employment Statistics

Where Teens Work:
% of total workers, aged 15-17, per industry

44% - Leisure and hospitality*
24% - Retail trade
8% - Educational and health services
6% - Other services
5% - Professional and business services
4% - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting
2% - Manufacturing
1% - Finance and insurance
7% - Other

*Includes restaurants

Based on national data, and may vary by state. Working teens under age 14 not represented. Youth farm workers not represented.
Source: NIOSH / CDC 2009 (www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/chartpackage.html)
Teen Worker Injury Statistics

Where Teens are Injured on the Job:
% of total workers, aged 15-17, per industry

*Includes restaurants.

These data are for injuries that require at least one day away from work. They do not include youth who work on small farms, work for government agencies, or are self-employed.

Source: NIOSH / CDC 2009  (www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/chartpackage.html)
Are You A Working Teen? Brochure

- Are you a Working Teen Brochure: English [PDF]

- Are you a Working Teen Brochure: Spanish [PDF]