

In this month's safety newsletter, we will be discussing Violence Prevention and Awareness. Workplace violence prevention is essential for creating a safe and secure environment for all employees. It involves proactive measures to identify and mitigate risks, ensuring that workers are protected from acts of physical violence, harassment, intimidation, or other threatening behaviors.

Which of the following statistics is false?

- A. 85% of workplace violence deaths are due to robbery
- B. Workplace violence death rates for women are roughly 75% higher than those for men
- C. Workplace assaults resulted in 20,050 injuries and 392 fatalities in 2020 alone
- D. Workplace violence causes American businesses to lose on average, \$250-330 billion every year

Answer at the end of the email.



(Missed a previous email? <u>Click here</u> to see an archive of previous months' safety emails on Rockwood's Loss Control website).



## What is Workplace Violence?

Workplace violence is any act or threat of physical violence, harassment, intimidation, or other threatening behavior that occurs at the worksite. It ranges from threats and verbal abuse to physical assaults and even homicide. It can affect and involve employees, clients, customers and visitors. Acts of violence is the third-leading cause of fatal occupational injuries in the United States.

### Who is at risk of workplace violence:

Each year, many workers experience workplace violence, with even more cases going unreported. Research has

identified key risk factors that increase the likelihood of violence in certain work environments. These include:

- **Job Duties:** Handling cash transactions, working with unstable individuals, or providing care and services.
- Work Environment: Working alone, in isolated areas, or in places where alcohol is served.
- **Time & Location:** Working late at night or in high-crime areas.

### **Higher-risk professions include:**

- Retail workers and cash handlers
- Delivery drivers, taxi, and rideshare drivers
- Healthcare professionals and social workers
- Public service and customer service employees
- Law enforcement personnel
- Anyone who works alone or in small groups

Understanding these risk factors is key to improving workplace safety. If you have concerns, speak with your supervisor or HR team.



# Safety Tips For Reducing Workplace Violence Hazards

### Follow these tips to help avoid incident or injury:



tolerance policy and procedures

 Implement a policy that covers all workers, patients, clients, visitors, contractors and anyone else who may come in contact with company personnel. This policy should also contain protocols for what to do in certain emergency situations. This policy may go hand in hand with your Emergency Action Plan.



- Educate your staff about the risks and warning signs of workplace violence. It is critical to ensure that all workers know the policy and understand that all claims of workplace violence will be investigated and remedied promptly.
- Training should cover evacuation routes and what to do in specific situations (robbery, disgruntled employees, etc.).



Assess
worksite for
safety and
security
vulnerabilities

- Make sure your facility is safe, secure and well-maintained. Educate your staff about emergency exits and evacuation routes.
- Utilize engineering controls (lock doors that require badge access, security cameras) and administrative controls (sign in sheets for visitors, communication with supervision).



### Rockwood resources:

- Rockwood Safety Tip: <u>Stress Management</u>
- Rockwood offers reflective stickers to our insureds:



**OSHA**, **MSHA** and other resources:

 The Pennsylvania state capitol police, in collaboration with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation | PA Training for Health & Safety (PATHS) program is providing free virtual Active Shooter Training on the following dates. Click the link to the <u>PATHS Training</u> <u>Calendar</u> – to sign up for Active Shooter training on:

> April 16, 2025 June 18, 2025 July 16, 2025 August 20, 2025 September 17, 2025

- Workplace Violence Prevention Programs | OSHA
- Workplace Violence Fact Sheet | OSHA
- Workplace Violence Training & Other Resources | OSHA
- Workplace Violence | National Safety Council
- Workplace Violence Program | Department of Labor Don't have a written program yet? Use this as a template.
- Basic Dos and Don'ts for Employees to Prevent Workplace Violence | NIOSH Infographic
- About Workplace Violence | CDC



# Learn more about workplace violence on Streamery

Every Rockwood policy includes access to Streamery, a vast safety library with videos, quizzes and more resources to help you promote safety in your workplace. If you don't have access, contact us to get a username. Enter the SKU number below to find the recommended video.

## Watch **Streamery** videos on workplace violence:

- Workplace Violence: 30 min / SKU: 5194 / English
- Workplace Violence in Office Environments: 30 min / SKU: 5197 / English
- Active Shooter and Workplace Violence: 10 min / SKU: 3186 + 3186-S / English & Spanish
- To the Point About: Responding to Violent
   Behavior or an Active Shooter: 13 min / SKU: 3501
   + 3501-S / English & Spanish
- Many more on Streamery

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### **Bonus materials:**

### 1: OSHA recordkeeping

Each February through April, employers with more than 10 employees must post a summary of the injuries and illnesses recorded the previous year. Records must be maintained at the worksite for at least five years. If you need more information to know if you fall under this requirement or what kind of information is required of you, please visit this link: Recordkeeping - Overview | Occupational Safety and Health Administration or reach out to the Rockwood Loss Control team at the email listed below.

## 2: COVID-19 Reporting Update - OSHA

OSHA is no longer enforcing Covid-19 recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

For more information, please see OSHA's memorandum here: Enforcement Stay of the COVID-19 Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirement.

#### 3: Seatbelt covers

Don't forget that Rockwood Casualty is providing **FREE** high visibility seatbelt covers to our insureds to assist in enforcement of seatbelt use by employees. Please contact <a href="mailto:safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com">safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com</a> to make a request for your company and specify orange or yellow.





### Questions? Feel free to reach out

As always, your Rockwood partners are available to answer your questions and help you promote safety in the workplace. Contact Rockwood Loss Control for any support you need.

Thank you for your continued partnership,

#### Rockwood Loss Control Team

Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com



#RockwoodSafetySolutions #LossControl #SafetyTips



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\*Workplace violence death rates for MEN are roughly 75% higher than those for WOMEN.









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