

## CALCULATING THE OSHA INCIDENT RATE

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Each year the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates the OSHA Incident Rate, the Lost Time Incident Rate and Cases with job transfer or restrictions, for each NAICS Code (North American Industrial Classification System).

These are published each year so that companies can compare how they are doing against other companies in their Industrial Code. OSHA also uses these results to establish a Target List of companies to inspect during the year. If a company has a combined Incident Rate for Lost Time Cases and Cases with job transfer, or restriction above the Incident Average for that class, then they will be put on the Target List.

If a company is on the Target Inspection List, OSHA has the right to conduct a complete inspection. Not all companies are inspected, but each year a number of companies on the list get inspected.

The OSHA Incident Rate is also used by many companies to provide a guide for them to follow in measuring their own Safety Program success. Many set their Annual Safety Goals using the OSHA Incident Rate. It provides a universal method to measure safety performance.

The OSHA Incident Rate is based on the number of OSHA Recordable Injuries per 100 employees. An OSHA Recordable Injury is one that is more than First Aid and usually requires professional medical attention.

To determine your company's OSHA Incident Rate, use the following formula:

\* Multiply the number of OSHA Recordable Incidents by 200,000 (2000,000 is the number of hours worked by 100 employees for 50 weeks).

\* Divide by the number of man hours your company works during the year

\* Example:

\* 1 OSHA Recordable Incident

\* Multiply (X) 200,000 man hours

\* Divided (÷) by (50,000 hours worked)

\* The OSHA Incident Rate for these companies would be 4

\* If the company worked 25,000 hours the OSHA Incident Rate would be 8

\* The same formula is used to determine the Lost Time Incident Rate

Note: OSHA tracks the Cases Away from work days total for the purpose of establishing their Annual Targeted Inspection Program.

If you are currently determining your Annual OSHA Incident Rate please call my office. We will either calculate it for you or send you a form to use to calculate the Incident Rate.

If you have any other questions about your Safety Program or need some assistance, please give our office a call at 1-800-356-1274.