

February Safety Newsletter

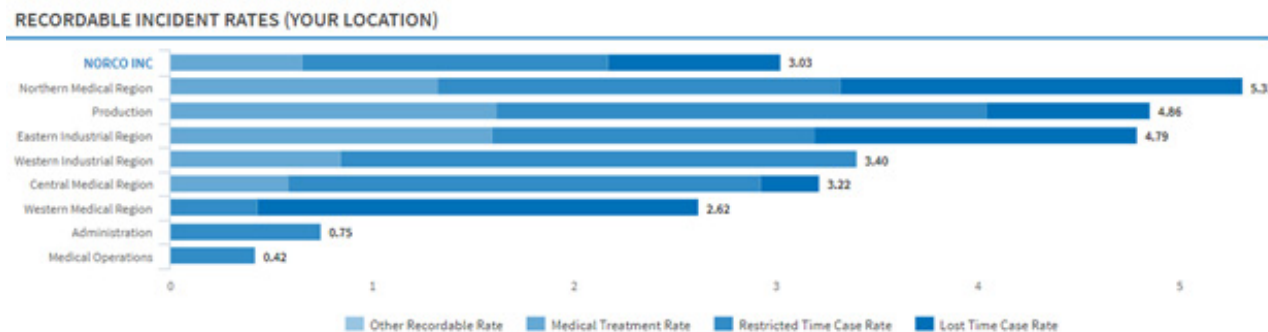


Safety committees are in the process of launching as part of one of 12 regional and risk categories. The initial launching meeting is led by Safety to cover an orientation and elect a chair and co-chair to lead the committee moving forward. All employees should know who their representative is in the event they want to discuss a safety concern. Meeting minutes will be reviewed by the Safety department to determine how we can support each store better and share lessons learned. Please thank your volunteers for their work!

The beginning of February also means that managers are required to post OSHA 300A in a conspicuous place, such as the break room or worker communication board through April 30. They can be taken down after that.

When we look at final 2022 information, 33% of all injuries were due to slips/trips/falls and a distant second was cylinder movement at 15% of all injuries. The outcome is that 31% were strains, which take time to recover. Altogether, 29% if the injuries had bruising and 9% were cuts.

Northern Medical, Production, and Eastern Industrial regions lead by some margin with regard to *Recordable Incident Rates*, as shown below.



All this means that co-workers had to cover workload for 376 employee-days while the injured were out. And upon return, another 1,161 employee days had a work restriction. That is a lot of burden and a lot of pain and suffering.

Hazard Identification and *Near Miss* reporting through Velocity is a powerful tool for us to predict high risk scenarios and have a conversation around preventing injuries before they happen. That can be done on the SharePoint intranet site or through the mobile app! One key element of Safety Committee training is to encourage more hazard reporting for insight into the injuries we suffer through. In the prior three years we were averaging three hazards per year but have moved forward with 19 in the second half of 2022.

Travis and I will be visiting 13 locations in mostly NW, Central, and Eastern WA plus Coeur d'Alene in early and late March. We look forward to meeting with everyone and getting a chance to visit your location. Plans are still being finalized at this point. Thank you for staying safe!

NORCOMMUNICATION | February 2023

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