

Florida Occupational Health and Safety Program



Costs Associated with Occupational Injury/Illness Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits in Florida, 2006–2010: Total Gross Charges (Adjusted to 2010 Dollars)

THE FLORIDA OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM

The Florida Occupational Health and Safety Program (OHSP) at the Florida Department of Health focuses on the causes of work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths, and the reduction of those risks. A goal of the program is to use this information to inform prevention activities that will improve the health and safety of Florida's workforce.

Website: <http://doh.state.fl.us/healthy-environments/occupational-health/>

OVERVIEW OF FLORIDA'S AVERAGE WORKFORCE 2006–2010

- Population: 13.6 million people aged 15–74 years. (Florida Charts)
- Workforce: 9.1 million (range 8.8–9.3 million). (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Number employed: 8.5 million (range 8.0–8.9 million). (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- Unemployment rate: 7.1% (range 3.3%–11.3%). (Bureau of Labor Statistics)

OCCUPATIONAL INJURY/ILLNESS

Occupational injury and illness medical costs contribute substantially to overall health care costs in Florida. During the 5-year period 2006–2010, hospital inpatient and emergency department total gross charges for occupationally related injuries and illnesses amounted to over \$3.9 billion. Many occupationally related injuries and illnesses are preventable. Substantial cost savings in overall health care costs could result from successful prevention measures. These estimates only capture a portion of the total health care costs associated with occupationally related illness and injuries in Florida.

Figure 1. Total Gross Charges (Adjusted to 2010 Dollars) for Occupationally Related Injury/Illness Discharges, Florida Emergency Department Data, AHCA 2006–2010

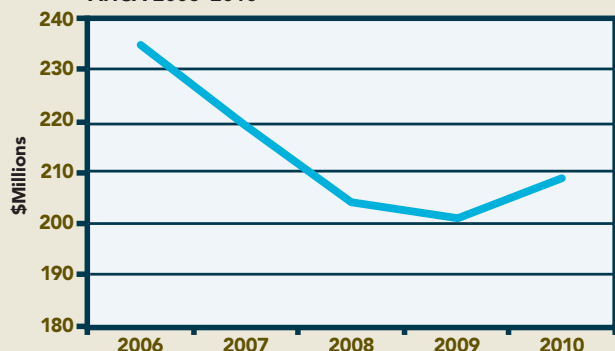


Figure 2. Total Gross Charges (Adjusted to 2010 Dollars) for Occupational Injury/Illness Discharges, Florida Hospital Inpatient Data, AHCA 2006–2010

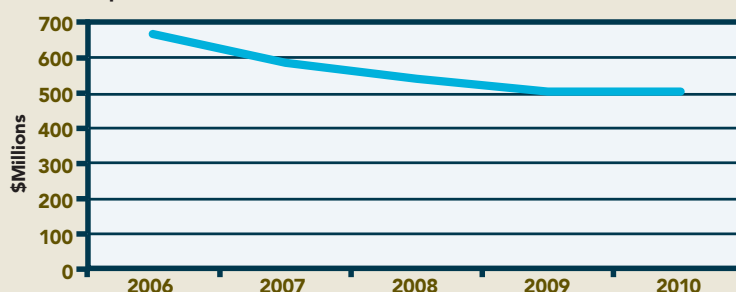


Table 1. Total gross hospital inpatient charges for the most common occupationally related injuries and illnesses, 2006–2010.

Primary Diagnosis	% of Cases	Gross Charges
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system/connective tissue	21%	\$680,000,000
Accidental Falls	8%	\$274,000,000
Diseases of the circulatory system	6%	\$125,000,000
Injury and poisoning	3%	\$78,000,000
Transportation accidents	3%	\$122,000,000
Mental illness, such as depression, anxiety disorders, etc.	3%	\$20,000,000
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	2%	\$32,000,000

Table 2. Total Gross Charges (Adjusted to 2010 Dollars) for Occupational Injury/Illness Discharges, Florida Hospital Inpatient Data, AHCA 2006–2010

Primary Diagnosis	% of Cases	Gross Charges
Accidental Falls	9%	\$137,000,000
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system/connective tissue	5%	\$43,000,000
Ill-defined signs and symptoms	5%	\$30,000,000
Transport Accidents	3%	\$63,000,000
Injury and poisoning	2%	\$20,000,000
Diseases of the nervous system	2%	\$20,000,000
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	1%	\$9,000,000
Homicide and injury purposely inflicted by other persons	1%	\$12,000,000

OCCUPATIONAL INJURY/ILLNESS HOSPITAL INPATIENT DISCHARGES 2006–2010 (ADJUSTED TO 2010 DOLLARS)

Total gross charges for all occupationally related injury and illness hospital inpatient visits were \$2.8 billion. Figure 1 shows gross charges by year. Gross charges have declined since 2006. Table 1 shows total gross charges for the most common occupationally related injuries and illnesses. The primary diagnosis with the highest gross charges (\$680,000,000) was diseases of the musculoskeletal system/connective tissue.

OCCUPATIONAL INJURY/ILLNESS EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS FROM 2006–2010 (ADJUSTED TO 2010 DOLLARS)

Total gross charges for all occupationally related emergency department visits were \$1.1 billion. Figure 2 shows gross charges by year. Gross charges have declined since 2006. Table 2 shows total gross charges for the most common occupationally related injuries and illnesses. The primary diagnosis with the highest gross charges (\$137,000,000) was accidental falls.

For the full report, please visit our website:
www.doh.state.fl.us/Environment/medicine/occupationalhealth/

Data Sources

- Florida CHARTS (www.floridacharts.org)
- Bureau of Labor Statistics (<http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/dsrv?la>)
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Hospital Inpatient Discharge Data 2006–2010
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Florida Emergency Department Discharge Data 2006–2010