DOSH Inspection Activities Show Continuing Effectiveness
Workers’ Compensation Claims Rates after DOSH Inspections, 2003-2016

Percent change\(^1\) in compensable claims\(^2\) rate at fixed-site industries\(^3\):
Worksites receiving a DOSH compliance inspection\(^4\) compared to those with no DOSH visit.

- Inspections at fixed-site businesses in recent years are consistently associated with claims rate reductions of 10-15% beyond those seen by comparable worksites not receiving an inspection.
- Results for inspections in non-fixed industries such as construction show slightly smaller reductions in claims rates.

1. Each year’s result is expressed by the average percent change from the five years of annual studies ending in that year, i.e. 2016 reflects the average one-year percent change in claims rates for inspections from 2012 through 2016.
2. Compensable claims include those involving wage replacement for lost work time (4 or more days), total permanent disability, fatality, or a worker kept on salary by the employer during disability.
3. Fixed-site industries are those where the physical location of the work is fixed over time. Examples are factories, doctor’s offices, schools and farms. Industries such as construction and trucking are "non-fixed".
4. Washington State Department of Labor & Industries Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with safety and health rules. Violations found during inspections may result in citations that carry monetary penalties.


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