Preferences of Small Businesses When Writing Safety Programs

Neal L. Lester, CIH

AIHCE

May 24, 2005

States with Safety Program Requirements

California  Montana
Hawaii      Nevada
Kentucky    North Carolina
Maryland    Oregon
Minnesota   Washington

Please provide the following information about your Company:

Company
Safety Program Coordinator
Send e-mail Reminders
Remind e-mail Address
Address
Confirm Reminder e-mail Address
Number of Employees
Please enter the exact number of employees if there are fewer than 25 employees in the company. In some states, the regulatory requirements for small businesses depend on the number of employees.

Address
City, State, Zip Code

Type of Business:
- Office Work
- Manufacturing/Assembly
- Construction
- Agriculture

The Company Information you entered on the previous screen was updated.

Please list all of the departments in Website Analytics. Enter one department for each supervisor in the company, but do not enter the supervisor's name. Instead, use a name that describes what the department does. Each department must have a unique name. If Website Analytics does not have more than one department supervisor, then leave everything blank.

- Manufacturing
- Accounting
- ... (more departments)

Please select all of the hazards that apply to the Maintenance department:
- Computer Workstations
- Employees Provide First Aid
- Driving
- Use of Chemicals
- Manual Material Handling
- Floor Openings
- Use of Hand Tools
- Portable Power-Operated Tools

Please indicate which departments, if any, are engaged ONLY in Office Work:
- Manufacturing
- Sales
- Accounting
- Maintenance

Submit
Final Program Elements

- Safety Policy Statement and Annual Review
- Start-Up Checklist
- Communication Methods
- Inspection System
- Accident Investigation and Reporting Policy
- Responsibilities Listed by Responsible Party
- Code of Safe Practices
- Optional Email Reminders

The sample presented here is entirely self selected.

n = 357
Methods of Communication

- Newsletter: 38%
- Suggestion Box: 34%
- Safety Committee: 49%
- All Hands Meetings: 93%
- Department Meetings: 63%

Average Number of Days Between Meetings (95% Confidence Interval)

- Construction: 40 (27 - 53)
- Regulated Construction: 9.6 (7.8 - 11)
- Other: 59 (46 - 71)

Percentage of Work Areas With Daily Inspections (99% Confidence Interval)

- Construction: 74% (66% - 81%)
- Other: 48% (44% - 53%)
### Average Inspection Interval; Days
(95% Confidence Interval)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Average Interval</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>(6.7 – 8.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(17 – 25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>(-1.2 – 44)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>(10 – 35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>(14 – 36)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repair/Maintenance</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>(27 – 45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Trace</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(16 – 72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warehousing</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>(15 – 72)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Service/Hospitality</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>(18 – 74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>(29 – 96)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Work</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>(68 – 92)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percentage of Employers from “Safety Program” States
(99% Confidence Interval)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>99% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Website Visitors</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>(38% – 51%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All U.S. Businesses</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratio</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>(1.6 – 2.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### States with Safety Program Requirements

- California
- Hawaii
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- Montana
- Nevada
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- Washington

### Ratio Calculation

\[
\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Actual Fraction of Website Visitors}}{\text{Expected Fraction of Website Visitors}}
\]

#### California

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Actual Fraction</th>
<th>Expected Fraction</th>
<th>99% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>(1.8 – 2.9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Plan States</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>(1.1 – 2.0)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Others</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>(0.6 – 0.8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Actual Fraction</th>
<th>Expected Fraction</th>
<th>99% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>(2.7 – 3.5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>(-0.7 – 5.7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>(1.4 – 3.1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>(0.9 – 1.6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Warehouse/Transportation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Actual Fraction</th>
<th>Expected Fraction</th>
<th>99% CI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warehouse/Transportation</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>(0.2 – 0.8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>(0.1 – 0.7)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>(0.1 – 0.4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Service</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>(-0.1 – 0.3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>(-0.02 – 0.2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions

www.mysafetyprogram.com

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