

Unit 1: Young Worker Injuries

ProSafety Curriculum
for the Culinary Arts

Washington Restaurant Association

Dept of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
School of Public Health University of Washington



John's Story



Age: 17

Job: Fast food worker

Injury: Slipped on greasy floor

Why do you think this happened?

What could have prevented John from getting hurt?

Note: This was a real incident reported by the Massachusetts Dept. of Public Health

National Data

On average

- 55–70 teens* die on the job/year
 - major causes:
 - motor vehicles
 - homicide
 - agricultural machines
 - 30–50% worked in family's business
- Nearly 230,000 teens suffer work related injuries nationwide each year
 - 64,000 work injuries among teens treated in emergency rooms each year

*<18 years old

Washington State Data 2000–2008

13,568 work related injuries
(11–17 yr-olds)

6% 14–15
year-olds

94% 16–17
year-olds

44%
females

56%
males

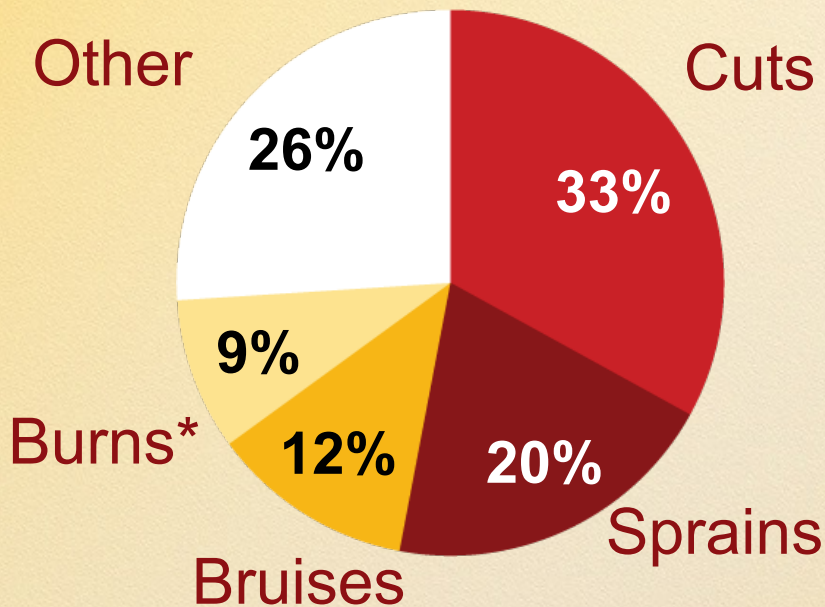
Teens injured at a rate two times
higher than adults (state and
national data)

Washington State Data 2000–2008

13,568 work related injuries

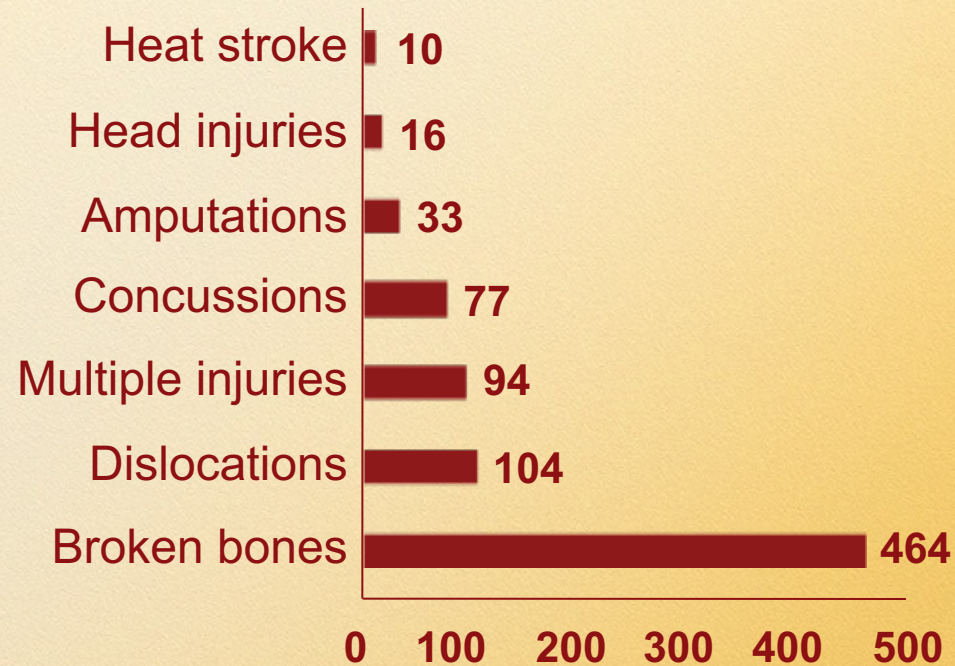
Most Common Injuries

(75% of injuries)



* chemical and thermal

Serious Injuries



Workplace Fatalities of Teens

Washington State 1988–2008 (17 fatalities: 15 male, 2 female)

Agricultural

 machinery rollover or MV crash (6)


 suffocation in grain silo (2)

 drowning in irrigation ditch (1)


Construction or Maintenance

 struck by falling objects (3)

 fall from roof (1)

 machinery roll-over (1)

Food Service

 slipping at a fast food restaurant (3)

Teen Injuries by Industry (%)

Washington State 2000–2008

