

Unit 1: Young Worker Injuries



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

WA State Department of Labor & Industries

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

Antonio's Story

Age: 17

Job: Construction Helper

Injury: Fell from roof

Why do you think this happened?

What could have prevented Antonio from getting hurt?

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



Keisha's Story

Age: 16

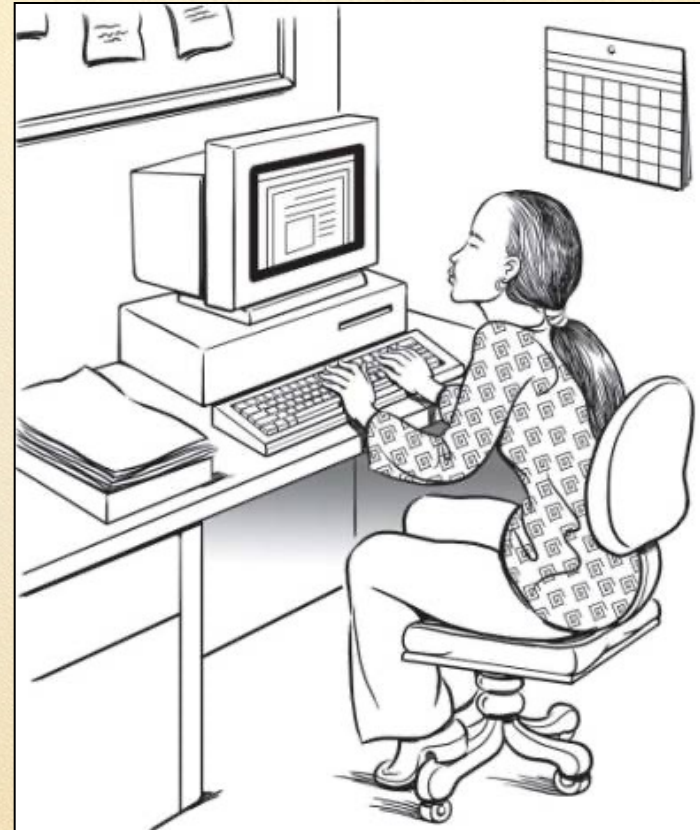
Job: Computer data entry

Injury: Repetitive stress

Why do you think this happened?

What could have prevented Keisha from getting hurt?

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



Age: 17

Job: Landscaping
Worker

Injury: Death

Why do you think this happened?

What could have prevented Dakota from being Killed?

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

Dakota's Story



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

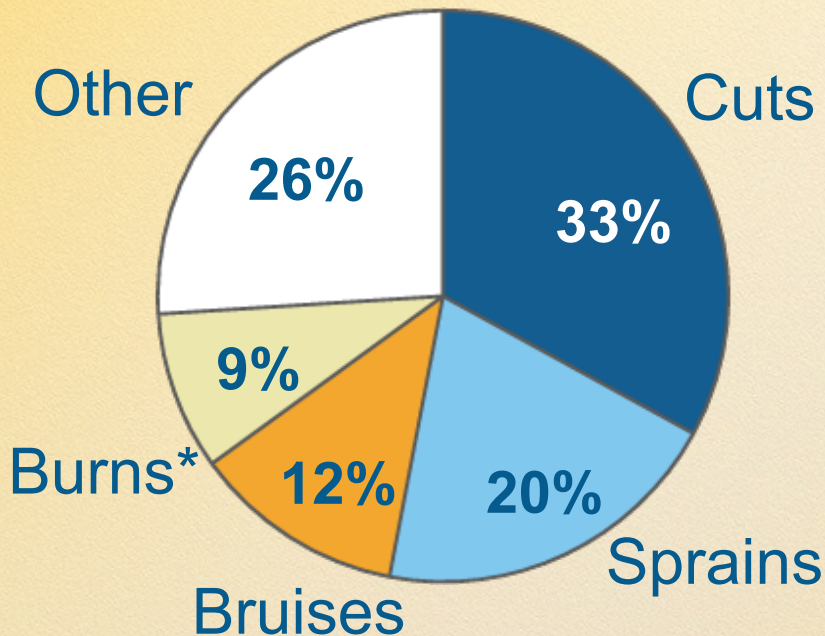
Teens injured at a rate two times higher than
adults (state and national data)

Washington State Data 2000–2008

13,568 work related injuries

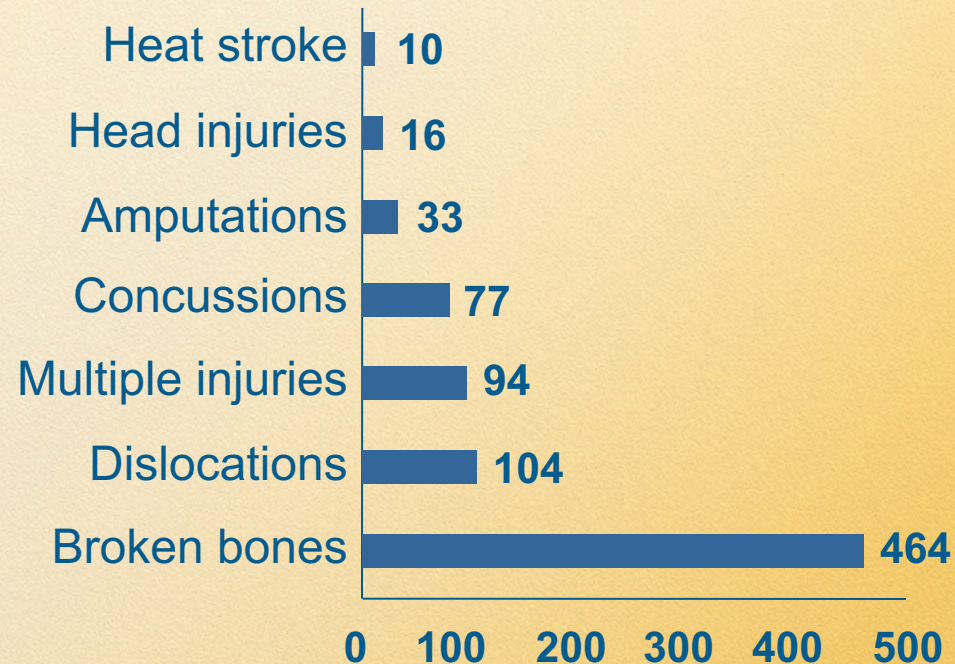
Most Common Injuries

(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

 includes a stabbing at a fast food restaurant (3)

Teen Injuries by Industry (%)

Washington State 2000–2008

