

Indicator 4: Amputations Reported By Employers (Unable to Report)

Significanceⁱ

Most work-related amputations involve full or partial loss of fingers. Less common amputations involve the arm, leg, foot, toe, nose or ear. Work-related amputations can be prevented through the identification and control of occupational hazards and the implementation of safety procedures.

Methods

This indicator is calculated using data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), an employer based survey of workplace injuries. The SOII is the only comprehensive measure of work-related injuries and illnesses in American workplaces. As such, employers, employees, public policy makers and researchers rely on these data in their efforts to protect and maintain the productivity of the American workforce. Colorado is one of only eight states that does not participate in the BLS SOII; thus, state-level data for this indicator are not available.ⁱⁱ

See Indicator #5 (Amputations Identified in the State Workers' Compensation System) for data on this measure collected by an alternate method.

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Continue to explore opportunities for Colorado to participate in the BLS SOII, which requires a state-resource match to federal funds. (See Indicator #1 Recommendations for additional information about SOII participation.)

ⁱ Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists. *Occupational Health Indicators: A Guide for Tracking Occupational Health Conditions and Their Determinants*. Last updated April 2012.

ⁱⁱ See BLS SOII overview: <http://www.bls.gov/respondents/iif/home.htm>