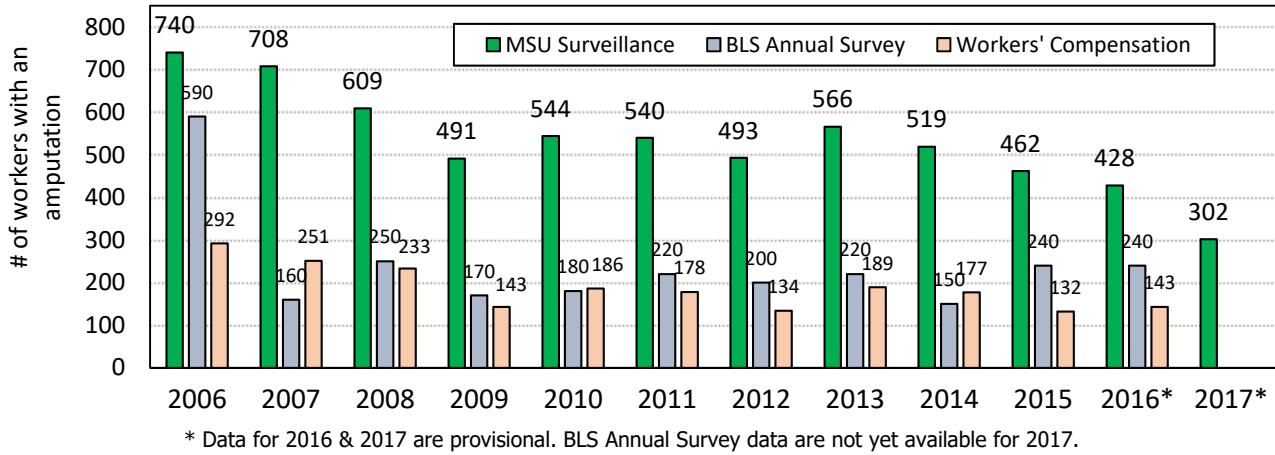


Tracking Work-related Amputations in Michigan

Additional Information Available at: www.oem.msu.edu

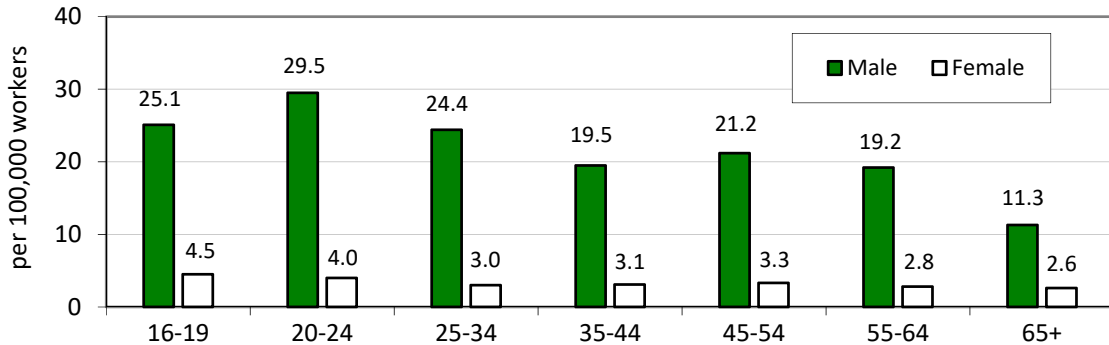
The MSU work-related amputation surveillance system identifies many more cases each year than other traditional sources, as illustrated in the figure below.

Number of work-related amputations per year, by data source, 2006-2017

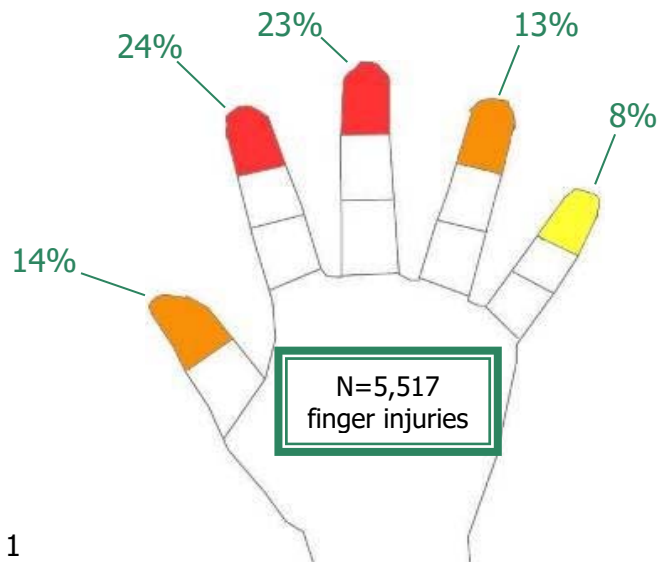


For all age groups, amputation rates are much higher for male workers than female workers. At highest risk of these injuries are males aged 20-24 years.

Amputation rates by worker age and gender, 2006-2015

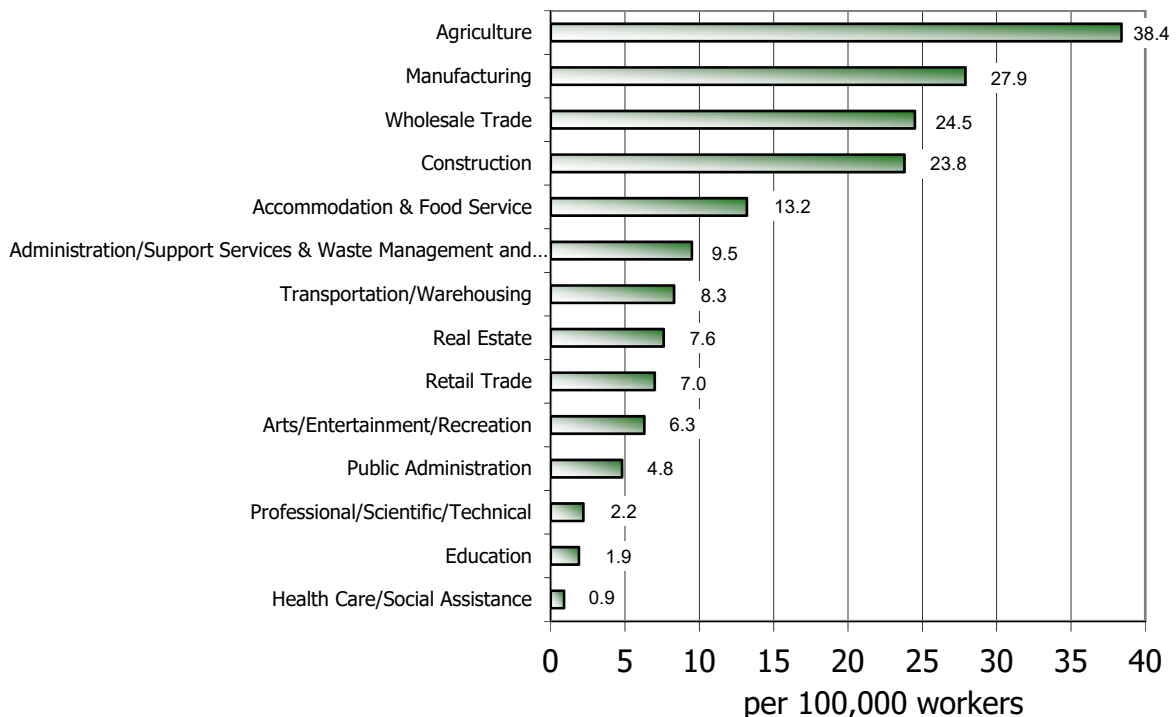


Nearly all (96%) work-related amputations involve the fingers. Most finger amputations (83%) involve only the distal phalanx. The sections that are most frequently amputated are illustrated below.



Background: In 2004, staff in the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Division within Michigan State University’s College of Human Medicine began reviewing hospital records to identify patients treated for work-related amputations and referring cases meeting designated criteria to MIOSHA. MIOSHA referrals were tracked through 2005. Beginning with 2006 data, a system to track all work-related amputations treated at Michigan hospitals was established. In addition, data were obtained from the Michigan Workers’ Compensation Agency to supplement the hospital-based data and provide a more complete count of work-related amputations.

Work-related amputation rates by industry, 2006-2015



Work-Related Amputation Narratives

- A 54-year-old male was cutting wood with a circular saw. His glove was grabbed by the saw, pulling his hand into the blade. He lost half of his left index, middle and ring fingers.
- A 32-year-old male was using his foot to push wood into a chipper when he slipped. His right foot went into the chipper amputating his heel. At the hospital, he subsequently had a below-knee amputation.

Leading Causes of Amputations

1. Saws (18%)
2. Presses (12%)
3. Pinched between objects (12%)
4. Struck by an object (9%)
5. Caught in chain/pulley/gears/belt (9%)