

MICHIGAN

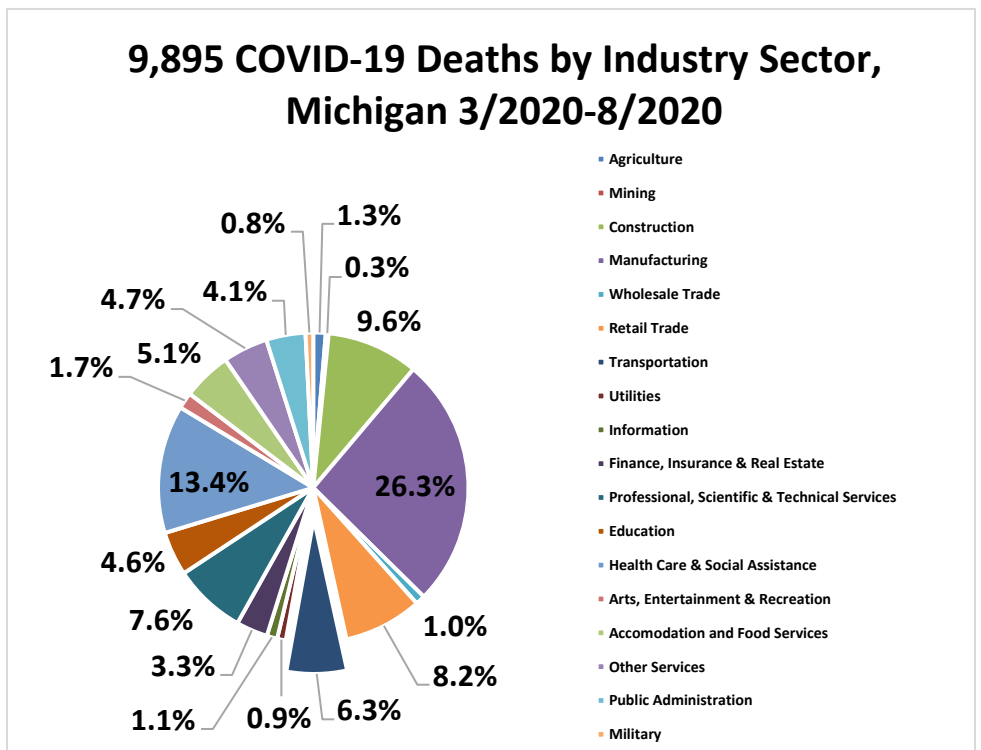


MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY: Prevention of work-related injuries & illnesses through research & investigation

COVID-19 PREVENTION IN TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES

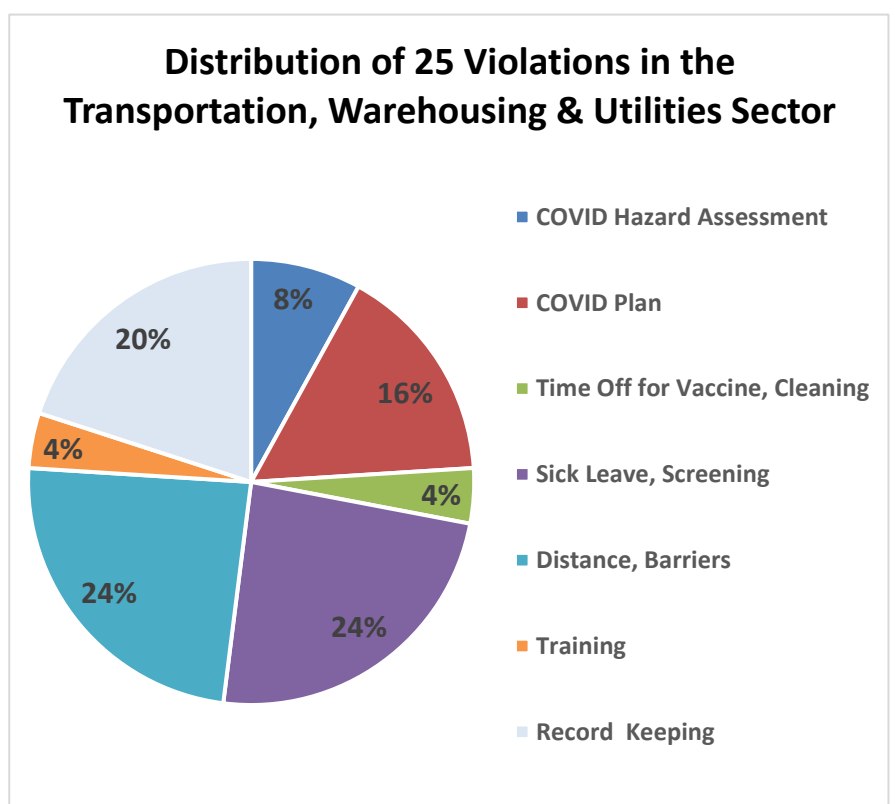
COVID-19 Deaths:

In Michigan from March 2020 through August 2022, 514 individuals 25-69 years of age died from COVID-19, whose usual job was in the **Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities** sector. The death rate for COVID-19 was 238/100,000 which was significantly greater than the COVID-19 death rate among all individuals 25-69. The death rates among managers, and engineers were significantly decreased while the death rates among transportation & material moving, and installation, maintenance and repair were significantly increased.



MIOSHA VIOLATIONS for COVID-19:

In Michigan, from 2/14/20 to 3/16/22, 11 employers (20.8% of the 53 inspections) in the **Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities** sector were cited for a COVID-19 violation. An employer had a 20% probability of receiving a violation after controlling for size, year of inspection and union status. No particular violation was less or more common in this sector than in the other industry sectors.



PREVENTING COVID-19 IN THE TRANSPORTATION, WAREHOUSING & UTILITIES SECTOR

- **Encourage employees remain up to date with all COVID-19 vaccine doses.**
- **Develop and implement a written COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan.**
 - Stay current on all MIOSHA, OSHA, and CDC guidance related to your industry.
 - Determine appropriate engineering and administrative controls as well as personal protective equipment to reduce employee's potential exposure to COVID-19.
 - Personal protective equipment should be selected based hazard assessments specific to employees required job duties.
 - Encourage employees to promptly report signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to or during their work shift.
 - Develop a process to isolate individuals experiencing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 from other employees as soon as possible if reported during their work shift.
- **Explore ways to improve ventilation in shared spaces to reduce potential exposure.**
 - Facilities that control their own HVAC system can reduce potential exposures by maximizing the number of air changes per hour, increasing outdoor air intake, and the use and maintenance of proper filtration according to the HVAC manufacturers recommendations.
- **Follow the CDC's recommendations for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and equipment.**
 - When using cleaners and disinfectants, use products approved by the EPA for COVID-19 (<https://cfpub.epa.gov/wizards/disinfectants/>) and in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Do not overuse, mix different products, or mix in concentrations beyond those recommended by the manufacturer.
 - Staff performing cleaning and disinfecting tasks should have proper training on the hazards of working with these chemicals and follow the manufacturers recommendations on the use of personal protective equipment such as gloves, eye/face protection, and respiratory protection. These chemicals can cause or aggravate asthma.
- **Provide and document COVID-19 protection training to employees.**
 - Considerations for training should include exposure related tasks, proper usage and limitations of personal protective equipment, and reporting requirements.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Respiratory protection is given what is called an assigned protection factor (APF). The APF relates to the level of protection the respiratory protection provides when used properly. A cloth mask provides a 2 fold protection, a cloth mask on top of a procedure mask provides 7-fold, a N-95 and half mask respirator both provide 10 fold, PAPR 25 fold, full facepiece 50 fold, and a full facepiece supplied air or air tank 1,000 to 10,000 fold protection.
- COVID-19 infection occurs: 1) when you breathe in air from an infected person; 2) after an infected person coughs or sneezes and these droplets land on your eyes, nose, or mouth; and 3) touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands that have the virus on them.
- Individuals who have been infected by COVID-19 are less likely to get sick from a future COVID-19 infection if they get vaccinated.

Resources

MIOSHA:

[COVID-19 Workplace Safety Part 33. Personal Protective Equipment Part 451. Respiratory Protection](#)

NIOSH:

[COVID-19 Information for the Workplace](#)

OSHA:

[Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)

CDC:

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

ASHRAE:

[COVID-19: Resources Available to Address Concerns](#)

Hazard Alert: COVID-19 Prevention in Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities, 9/23/2022