employsure
workplace relations specialists

The cost of an unsafe workplace.

Managing risks and maintaining a safe workplace should be a priority for all business owners. Already in 2017, there have been over 76 fatalities in Australian workplaces, with devastating consequences for both employers and employees.

Workplace fatalities.

3,461 From 2003 to June 2017, 3,461 people have died in Australia from workplace injury or illness.

76 Over 76 individuals have already died from workplace injury or illness this year.

The cost to business.

$61.8 billion
is the total cost of work-related injury and illness to the Australian economy per year.

$61.8 billion

| 28 billion (workplace injury) | 33.8 billion (workplace illness) |

31% Technicians and trades workers, machinery operators and drivers, and labourers together make up 31% of the workforce.

58% Together they contribute to 58% of total work related injury of illness cases.

57% Together they contribute to 57% of total costs.

Common workplace injuries.

Body stressing.
• 40% of cases
• Cost of $24.7 billion

Falls, trips and slips.
• 21% of cases
• Cost of $11.5 billion

Being hit by objects.
• 15% of cases
• Cost of $7.5 billion

Do you know the safety risks in your workplace?

Most dangerous occupations.

Machinery operators and drivers (33.8% of workplace deaths).

Road and rail drivers (21.5% of workplace deaths).

Mobile plant operators (8.2% of workplace deaths).

Industries with the most fatalities.

38.1% Transport, postal, and warehousing industries.

20.6% Agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries.

15.8% Construction industry.

Three step workplace safety plan.

There are specific laws about managing health and safety risks in the workplace, failing to follow these can have serious consequences.

1. Identify safety risks.
Conduct a safety audit of your workplace by examining your work environment thoroughly for any potential risks. Ensure you know the safety risks and precautions for the chemicals or machinery staff are using. Ensure staff have been trained, and keep incident records up to date.

2. Communicate with employees.
Ask employees about any safety problems they have encountered while performing their usual tasks, like near misses or uncomfortable strains, and about health and safety risks they encounter in the workplace. Ensure workers recognise the importance of communicating safety issues with management.

3. Take action.
Once risks have been identified, rectify everything that can be fixed. Many falls and trips in the workplace can be avoided by tidying the work area. If hazards cannot be removed, minimise risks as far as possible. Protective equipment, warning signs and revised procedures are some ways to do this.

For peace of mind, speak to an Employsure workplace safety professional.

References.

* All figures are taken from the latest published year of statistics

https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/statistics-and-research/statistics/fatalities/fatality-statistics
https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/statistics-and-research

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For tailored advice on making your workplace safe, call 1300 651 415 to speak with a specialist.