

Injury and illness survey team now collecting data for 2007

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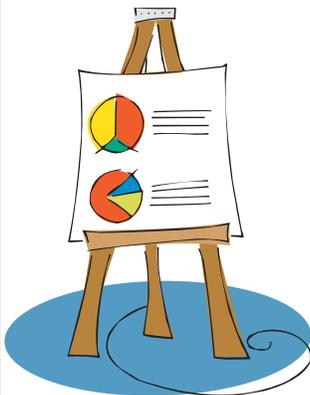


Approximately 5,000 Minnesota employers have now received survey packets for the 2007 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII). In Minnesota, the SOII is conducted jointly by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI). The employers participating in the survey were notified in December 2006 that their OSHA log data for 2007 would be submitted to calculate the incidence rates and case characteristics for the state and – together with employers across the country – for the nation. Employers' timely response to the SOII mailing is essential to successfully completing this vital statistical activity.



It is very important that the employers who received 2007 survey packets in January, begin to respond to the survey. The first task is to complete preliminary OSHA recordkeeping for the 2007 injuries and illnesses. Cases involving injured workers who are still away from work or on work restrictions will need to have estimates entered for the respective durations. Then the log totals are transferred to the log summary sheet and those totals are also entered on the SOII form.

Completing the survey takes very little time if the OSHA recordkeeping requirements have been followed. Those with questions about how to complete the OSHA log or the log summary sheet can review this publication's Recordkeeping 101 series at www.doli.state.mn.us/recordkeeping.html.



The DLI survey team can answer questions about the survey itself and how to transfer the OSHA log information to the survey forms. The team can be reached by calling (651) 284-5428. Questions about submitting the survey online should be directed to BLS at fdc.helpdesk@bls.gov.

In December 2007, another set of 5,000 employers received notice that they are participating in the 2008 SOII. Some employers are participating in both the 2007 and 2008 surveys. It is very important to keep the material for the two years separate. Only employers that received the 2007 SOII packet should submit 2007 OSHA log data. Employers that are participating only in the 2008 SOII need to make sure staff members assigned to recording occupational injuries and illnesses are properly trained about recordkeeping.