

WORKSAFE

safety, health, and justice for workers
seguridad, salud y justicia para los trabajadores

2017 Impact Report

2017 marked Worksafe's 35th anniversary, and it's been an exciting year. We've grown our team, sharpened our focus, and collaborated with allies across the state to advance worker health and safety in California.

When I came to Worksafe in 2016, we developed a strategic plan focused on four areas: building worker power, strengthening legal protections for workers, obtaining fair treatment for injured workers, and building our capacity to operate statewide on all these fronts - embracing our role as the "Swiss Army Knife of worker advocacy" - as one of our Board Members put it.

I'm pleased to report that our plan is already yielding results. The achievements highlighted in this report are a testament to the hard work of our staff, their focus on strategies aimed at lasting improvements through worker-centered solutions, and their commitment to social justice.

Supporters and allies, we thank you and look forward to facing the coming challenges - and savoring the coming victories - in solidarity with you.



Doug Parker
Executive Director

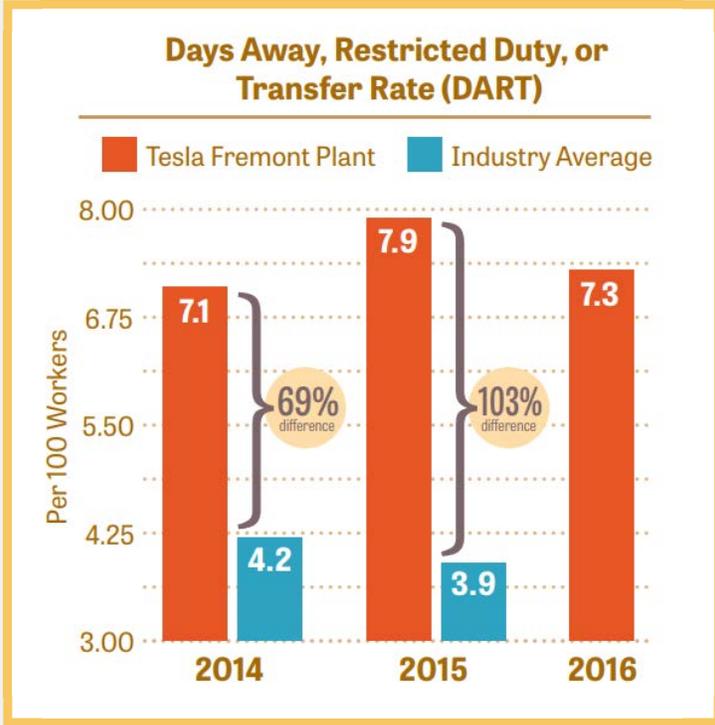


Everyone has the right to work in a safe and healthy workplace - and to return home uninjured at the end of each workday.

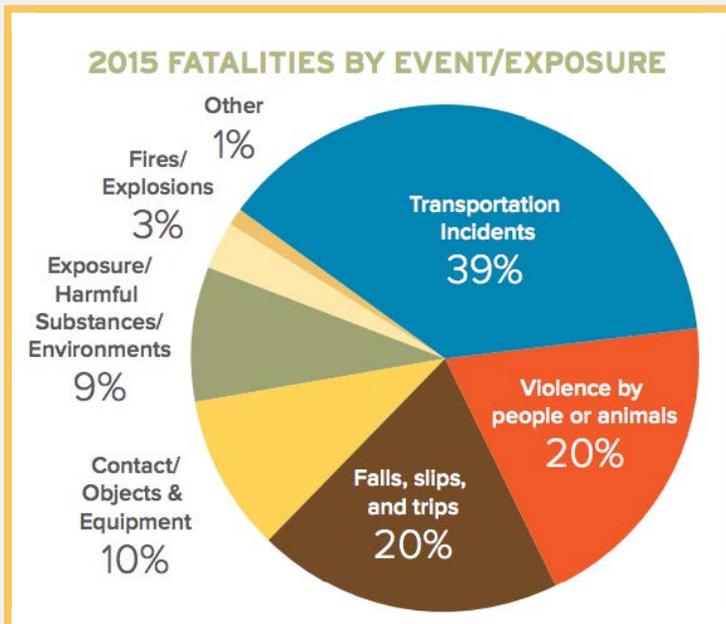
Research & Analysis

Our research highlights occupational health & safety trends, notes emerging hazards, and documents movement victories.

In May, we brought international attention to the shockingly high injury rates at Tesla Motors. Workers are using our research to bring their health and safety concerns to the company and to the public.



This year we also re-launched our annual report, **Dying at Work in California: The Hidden Stories Behind the Numbers**. We write this report to bear witness to the human toll of workplace injuries and fatalities.



Legislative Advocacy

We counter anti-worker & anti-immigrant policy trends with our alternative vision of safety, health, & justice for all workers.

This year, we partnered with advocates across the state on several legislative victories, including:

SB 306 (Hertzberg) will strengthen protections for whistleblowers fired or discriminated against for reporting dangerous working conditions or other labor code violations. A major victory!

AB 450 (Chiu) Provides clear guidelines to protect workers and employers in the event of worksite enforcement activities by ICE.

SB 258 (Lara) will require disclosure of the ingredients in consumer cleaning products and notification of potential health effects.

SB 54 (De Leon) will prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies from engaging in immigration enforcement or using any state or local resources to carry out enforcement activities.

AB 1008 (McCarty) will reduce barriers to employment for people with arrest and conviction records through a statewide fair hiring policy that prohibits employers from asking about an applicant's criminal record until a conditional offer of employment has been made.



In April, we traveled to Sacramento with Street Level Health Project and members of Oakland Workers Collective to advocate for legislation to strengthen workplace protections for day laborers and immigrant workers.

Administrative Advocacy

We are active in administrative and regulatory forums to advocate for strong occupational health and safety standards and regulations.

Worksafe was actively engaged with the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board this year. We organized support, submitted comments, and testified in favor of more protective health and safety standards on a variety of issues, including:



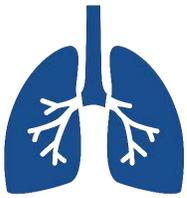
Heat Hazards for Indoor Workers



Ergonomic Protections for Hotel Workers



Cancer-Causing Beryllium



Lung-Damaging Silica



Process Safety Management



Workplace Violence

Legal Support

We promote access to justice for low-wage and immigrant workers by making sure their legal advocates have the capacity to assist them.

We provide legal training and technical assistance to legal aid organizations that serve these workers. This year, training topics included:

- Workplace and Domestic Violence
- Health and Safety Law 101
- Legal Remedies for Injured Workers
- Handling an OSHA Complaint

33 Legal aid trainings conducted
252 Attorneys & legal advocates trained
28 Organizations received assistance with health & safety cases

Worker & Organizer Training

Strengthening workers' voice and increasing their knowledge through interactive trainings helps to build worker power.

This year, training topics included:

- Hazard Identification
- Health and Safety Rights
- Filing Health & Safety and Retaliation Complaints
- How to Exercise Your Rights

13 Worker trainings conducted
225 Workers & organizers trained

"I love that Worksafe develops our capacity to critically analyze a situation and address employer violations with confidence. They know that worker knowledge is just as important as legal knowledge. When workers collaborate in the process of improving systems and conditions, their communities develop power."

- Veronica Alvarado, Program Coordinator
Warehouse Workers Resource Center

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In April we organized an event in Oakland to commemorate Workers Memorial Day 2017.



In October Worksafe and our partners convened a Northern California Day Labor Center meeting to share information, build capacity, brainstorm policy proposals, and engage in strategic planning.



This fall we joined with partners to offer free legal clinics for low-income temporary workers.



In November we organized a convening on temporary workers in Los Angeles to strategize with allies about issues facing temp workers throughout the state.

Worksafe is a California-based organization dedicated to promoting and protecting the basic right of all people to a safe and healthy workplace. We engage in campaigns in coalition with worker organizations and activist networks to eliminate toxic chemicals and other hazards from the workplace. We advocate for protective worker health and safety laws and effective remedies for people who are injured on the job or suffer work-related illness, and we watchdog government agencies to ensure they enforce these laws.

Check out the newly redesigned worksafe.org

WORKSAFE

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