Suicide Awareness Hazard Alert



From 2018–2022, workplace suicides accounted for 1,373 of workplace fatalities in the United States¹. In Oregon alone, 12 workers died by suicide from 2018 to 2023. These numbers highlight the urgent need for prevention and support efforts in every workplace.

¹Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2024, September 10). *There were 267 workplace suicides in 2022*. Bureau of Labor Statistics. https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2024/there-were-267-workplace-fatalities-by-suicide-in-2022.htm

Please observe the following safety tips:

- Organizational leaders should prioritize workplace policies that foster respect, encourage open communication, and provide employee support to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health and wellbeing.
- Provide mental health awareness training to managers and supervisors to help them recognize and support employees experiencing mental health challenges, including strategies for empathy, confidentiality, and encouraging professional help.

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Learn more at: https://www.samhsa.gov/about/digitaltoolkits/suicide-prevention-month

- Educate employees about mental health resources – both within the workplace, such as Employee Assistance Programs and health insurance benefits, and within the broader community (see resources listed below).
- Establish a peer-support program where employees can confidentially support each other and connect coworkers to help when needed.

Safety tips sources: Workplace Suicide Prevention. (n.d.). Make suicide prevention a health and safety priority at work. Workplace Suicide Prevention. https://workplacesuicideprevention.com/



Workplace Mental Health Training for Managers:



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Suicide Prevention Resources

988

Lines for Life: https://www.linesforlife.org

Oregon Health & Science University:
https://www.ohsu.edu/school-of-medicine/psychiatry/suicide-prevention

SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Oregon State University:

https://counseling.oregonstate.edu/suicideprevention

Call or text 988 or chat online at <u>988lifeline.org</u>.

Oregon Health Authority:

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/preventionwellness/safeliving/suicideprevention/pages/index.aspx

For a list of Oregon Crisis Resources by county, scan the QR code:



Examples of Fatal Stories

Case 1: A 48-year-old police officer was found dead in his patrol car. He died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Case 2: A 41-year-old gas station attendant working alone was found unresponsive by a customer. He was transported to the hospital, where he died four days later. He died by suicide.

Case 3: A 73-year-old shop foreman died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Case 4: A 33-year-old grocery store floor person arrived at work and went to the bathroom. He never came out and was later found dead with a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

