

Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

2023 Annual Report on Worker Safety in PCAC Plants

March 26, 2024

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- Among the 18 PCAC plants, there were **14.9 million work hours** in 2023, which represents an estimated **2,647 employees and 4,509 contractors**. Plants worked **~2.6 million** more hours in 2023 compared to 2022.
- **PCAC plants ranged in size from 14,560 work hours at the smallest facility to 4,101,291 hours for employees and contractors at the largest.** That is approximately 7 workers compared to approximately 1,972 workers. 73% of the total hours were worked in 4 of the 18 plants: Next Wave Energy Partners, LyondellBasell Houston Refinery, Chevron Pasadena Refinery, and Chevron Phillips Chemicals. Each of those worked more than a million hours in 2023.
- **18 OSHA recordable workplace injuries or illnesses** occurred during the 14.9 million work hours, 4 fewer injuries than in 2022. There were **no fatalities** in the 18 PCAC plants in 2023.
- **The weighted average was 0.24.** A rate of 1.00 means 1 injury per 100 workers in a year, so 0.24 is well less than 1 injury per 100 workers in a year. That is the same as saying 2.4 injuries per 1,000 workers.
- **7 of the 18 plants had a 0.00 recordable rate**, meaning no employee or contractor workplace injuries or illnesses in 2023. "Zeros are Heroes" in CAC terms. The 7 were Air Products, Enterprise Products, Ethyl, Evonik, Intercontinental Terminals, OxyChem, and Sekisui.
- **0.72 was the simple average.** The simple average is based on the number of plants, not on the hours worked. Thus, it treats big plants and small plants the same, rather than recognizing the differences in the number of hours worked. It is affected mostly by small plants, in which a single injury can result in a high recordable rate. Compared to the 0.72 in 2023, the simple average was 2.64 in 2000.
- The **median was 0.20**. The median is the middle of the range when plants are listed from 0.00 to the highest rates. The recordable rates ranged from 0.00 to 5.46 in 2023.
- There were **6 restricted duty cases** in 2023. Restricted duty means the worker is given another assignment after an injury because he or she cannot perform the usual one.
- There were **3 lost-time cases** in 2023, compared to 8 in 2022 and 31 in 2008. Lost-time cases mean the worker was unable to come to work due to the injury. This was the least number of lost-time cases since the PCAC report began with data from 2020.
- The most common injuries (6 of the 18) were trips, slips, falls, or walking into something. Two injuries resulted from chemical contact or exposure.
- **In 2023, 13 of the 18 PCAC plants had recordable rates better than companies nationwide in the same general kind of business**, when compared by North American Industry Classification System codes, using Bureau of Labor statistics from 2022.
- **PCAC's 0.24 recordable rate in 2023 was better than the 2022 national record of businesses typical in Pasadena**, e.g. 13.10 for nursing care/skilled nursing, 3.90 for elementary and secondary schools, and 2.0 for auto repair and maintenance.

- OSHA data may be found at the Bureau of Labor Statistics website www.bls.gov under “workplace injuries.”

Emphasizing that the safety report *numbers* are really about *people*, Sheridan said 18 out of approximately 7,156 workers in PCAC plants were injured in 2023, which means that ~7,138 workers were not injured. Fourteen years ago, the work hours were nearly identical, but 45 workers were injured instead of 18.