

Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

2024 Annual Report on Worker Safety in PCAC Plants

March 27, 2025

The 314th meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at the Log Cabin in RYSS Stem Academy, 1062 Fairmont Parkway. Jesus Davila, Safety Specialist/VPP Coordinator with Intercontinental Terminals Co. (ITC), presented data on worker safety for CY 2024, which had been submitted by each of the 18 PCAC plants. Davila emphasized that the *numbers* in the report tell the stories of *people* injured and not injured in plants. Highlights of the *23rd Annual Report* follow:

- Among the 18 PCAC plants, there were **11.3 million work hours** in 2024, which represents an estimated **2,435 employees and 2,989 contractors**. Plants worked **~3.6 million** fewer hours in 2024 compared to 2023.
- **PCAC plants ranged in size from 22,867 work hours at the smallest facility to 2,840,460 hours for employees and contractors at the largest.** That is approximately 11 workers at the smallest plant compared to approximately 1,366 workers at the largest. 61% of the total hours were worked in 3 of the 18 plants: Chevron Pasadena Refinery, LyondellBasell Houston Refinery, and Chevron Phillips Chemical. Each of those plants worked more than a million hours in 2024.
- **16 OSHA recordable workplace injuries** occurred during the 11.3 million work hours, 2 fewer injuries than in 2023. Davila explained that 16 injuries in 2024 equated to about 1 injury for every 700,000 work hours. There were **no fatalities** in the 18 PCAC plants in 2024.
- **The weighted average was 0.28.** A rate of 1.00 means 1 injury per 100 workers in a year, so 0.28 is much less than 1 injury per 100 workers in a year. That is the same as saying 2.8 injuries per 1,000 workers.
- **9 of the 18 plants had a 0.00 recordable rate**, meaning no employee or contractor workplace injuries or illnesses in 2024: “Zeros are Heroes” in CAC terms. The 9 were Afton, Enterprise Products, Ethyl, Evonik, Gulf Coast Authority, INEOS, Ketjen, Kinder Morgan Export Terminal, and Next Wave.
- **0.33 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 0.33 in 2024, the simple average was 2.64 in 2000.
- The **median was 0.06**. The median is the middle of the range when plants are listed from the lowest to the highest rates. The recordable rates ranged from 0.00 to 1.89 in 2024.
- There were **4 restricted-duty cases** in 2024. 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 2024, which was equal to the number of lost-time cases in 2023; there were 31 in 2008. Lost-time cases mean the worker was unable to come to work because of the injury. The 3 lost-time cases for 2023 and 2024 reflect the least number of lost-time cases since PCAC began to report them.
- The most common injuries were slips, trips, falls, or walking into something (4 of the 16), as well as improper use of tool (4 of the 16). Zero injuries resulted from chemical contact or exposure.
- **In 2024, 17 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 (NAICS) codes, using Bureau of Labor statistics from 2023.
- **PCAC's 0.28 recordable rate in 2024 was better than the 2023 national record of businesses typical in Pasadena**, e.g. 11.30 for spectator sports, 4.20 for elementary and secondary schools, and 2.40 for grocery stores.
- There are **less than 3,000 VPP** sites in the United States.
- 16 out of approximately 5,424 workers in PCAC plants were injured in 2024, which means that **~5,408 workers were not injured**.
- In 2004, there were 1.3 million fewer hours worked than in 2024, yet **38 workers were injured 20 years ago** compared to **16 in 2024**.