



Make Excellent Air Quality a Priority in Your Practice

Health Hazards by Occupation (Courtesy: U.S. Department of Labor)

The following statistics were gathered by the U.S. Department of Labor to assess interactions between individual workers and their physical job environment. Complete field data was extracted from a total of 967 occupations (according to Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)); for viewing simplification purposes, only the top 25 “most hazardous” of these have been included in the table below, when considering 6 relevant categories of health hazards; for data relating to additional hazards, visit: www.ONETOnline.org>Advanced Search>Work Context>Physical Work Conditions.

Rank <i>(from most to least hazardous)</i>	Occupation	Exposure to Contaminants	Exposure to Disease or Infections	Exposure to Hazardous Conditions	Exposure to Radiation	Exposure to Minor Burns, Cuts, Bites, or Stings	Time Spent Sitting <i>(Multiple studies show frequent inactivity has potential to shorten lifespan)</i>	Cumulative Average of previous six categories <i>(higher value indicates higher health hazard)</i>
		How often does this job require working exposed to contaminants (such as pollutants, gases, dust or odors)?	How often does this job require exposure to disease/infections?	How often does this job require exposure to hazardous conditions?	How often does this job require exposure to radiation?	How often does this job require exposure to minor burns, cuts, bites, or stings?	How much does this job require sitting?	
		0 = Never	0 = Never	0 = Never	0 = Never	0 = Never	0 = Never	
		25 = Once a year or more but not every month	25 = Once a year or more but not every month	25 = Once a year or more but not every month	25 = Once a year or more but not every month	25 = Once a year or more but not every month	25 = Less than half the time	
		50 = Once a month or more but not every week	50 = Once a month or more but not every week	50 = Once a month or more but not every week	50 = Once a month or more but not every week	50 = Once a month or more but not every week	50 = About half the time	
		75 = Once a week or more but not every day	75 = Once a week or more but not every day	75 = Once a week or more but not every day	75 = Once a week or more but not every day	75 = Once a week or more but not every day	75 = More than half the time	
1	Dental Hygienists	82	100	44	91	35	85	72.83
2	Dentists, General	72	95	39	85	44	82	69.50
3	Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	82	87	58	65	77	30	66.50
4	Dental Laboratory Technicians	99	72	68	3	67	85	65.67
5	Dental Assistants	78	96	52	85	24	58	65.50
6	Nurse Anesthetists	87	96	51	77	19	52	63.67
7	Prosthodontists	74	88	55	53	42	66	63.00
8	Flight Attendants	88	77	44	63	69	33	62.33
9	Anesthesiologists	81	90	45	72	29	54	61.83
10	Anesthesiologist Assistants	71	97	53	72	51	24	61.33
11	Podiatrists	67	87	32	69	45	61	60.17
12	Immigration and Customs Inspectors	78	63	49	62	48	56	59.33
13	Histotechnologists and Histologic Technicians	76	75	88	11	36	68	59.00
14	Veterinarians	70	89	33	60	70	27	58.17
15	Surgical Assistants	69	87	70	64	33	24	57.83
16	Stationary Engineers and Boiler Operators	99	26	89	10	84	38	57.67
17	Surgical Technologists	81	82	59	43	50	29	57.33
18	Nuclear Equipment Operation Technicians	74	14	81	92	43	39	57.17
19	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists	91	96	79	9	21	44	56.67
20	Fire Investigators	80	63	64	16	67	49	56.50
21	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	71	67	24	74	79	23	56.33
22	Municipal Firefighters	82	77	69	18	52	39	56.17
23	Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas	100	0	91	29	93	23	56.00
24	Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	68	28	54	73	18	93	55.67
25	Medical Equipment Preparers	94	92	64	17	45	22	55.67