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Inspections, Violations Up in First Three Quarters of 2008, Stats Show

Onsite inspections by California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) increased 10% in the first nine months of 2008 compared to the same period the year prior, and violations cited climbed 5%, according to statistics released by the Division.

Inspections and violations were up sharply for the period in agriculture, according to the data.

DOSH initiated more than 8,000 total onsite inspections in the the nine months ended Sept. 30, 2008, versus 7,273 in the comparable period in 2007. About one-quarter of them were accident-related, up 12%; 2,291 were initiated by complaints, a 17% rise; and 2,715 were programmed (surprise) inspections (which saw a very slight decrease). These investigations produced 15,944 alleged violations, versus 15,242 in 2007. Violations classified as serious were down slightly, from 3,471 to 3,421.

Inspections were up 45% in agriculture, from 627 to 910, including 54% more accident-related, 52.5% more complaint-related and 39% more programmed inspections. Total alleged violations were up by more than two-thirds, to 1,505, and alleged serious violations were up 79%, although the percentage of serious allegations was up only slightly.

Inspections in construction were down 6%, while alleged violations were down 9%, and alleged serious violations were up 15.5%. In another large sector (manufacturing), inspections jumped 14%, from 1,231 to 1,403, while alleged violations increased from 4,625 to 4,762.

And in another big industry (services), inspections increased from 1,115 to 1,378 (24%); total alleged violations rose 18%, from 1,945 to 2,296; while serious allegations dropped 5%, to 268.

For the comparable statistics for 2007, see News, [May 16, 2008, p. 9189](#).



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DOSH On-Site Inspections and Violations Cited, Major Industrial Groups, January-September, 2008														
	Onsite Inspections	Change From 07	Accident Related	Change From 07	Complaint Related	Change From 07	Programmed Inspections	Change From 07	Total Alleged Violations	Change From 07	Alleged Serious	Change From 07	% Alleged Serious	Percent In 2007
Agriculture	910	45%	209	54%	125	52.5%	526	39%	1,505	68%	296	79%	20%	19%
Mineral Extraction	443	8%	26	18%	15	-6%	393	7%	333	-15%	43	11%	13%	9%
Construction	2,328	-6%	611	16%	471	6%	824	26%	3,915	9%	1,001	15.5%	26%	20%
Manufacturing	1,403	14%	477	3%	380	24%	398	10%	4,762	3%	1,333	3%	28%	28%
Transportation/ Public Utilities	441	0%	161	0%	188	13%	39	-54%	800	13%	155	-24%	19%	22%
Wholesale Trade	214	18%	106	43%	69	-3%	26	62.5%	615	48%	114	46%	19%	19%
Retail Trade	533	4%	112	-12%	290	11%	87	37.5%	1,281	-9%	150	0%	12%	11%
Financial/ Real Estate	97	43%	15	50%	51	48%	7	250%	165	49%	24	14%	15%	19%
Services	1,378	24%	282	13%	546	15%	408	57%	2,296	18%	268	-5%	12%	15%
State/Local Government	248	45%	64	45.5%	156	49%	7	12.5%	272	34%	37	32%	14%	14%
Totals	8,009	10%	2,063	12%	2,291	17%	2,715	0%	15,944	5%	3,421	-1.5%	22%	23%

Source: DOSH Program Office

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