

Workplace Violence Awareness Key Points

What is Workplace Violence?

- The workplace is any location, permanent or temporary, where an employee performs work or work-related activities. Workplace facilities include lunchrooms, restrooms, break rooms, vehicles used for work and parking facilities.
- According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), workplace violence is any physical assault, including unwanted touching or any other offensive physical contact, threatening behavior or verbal abuse.
- Examples of workplace violence could include -• Harassment of any nature, such as being followed, sworn at or shouted at.
- Psychological traumas, such as threats, obscene phone calls, bomb threats or an intimidating presence.
- Physical violence, such as hitting, grabbing, beating, stabbing, attempted suicide, suicide, rape or shooting.
- A United States Department of Justice National Crime Victimization Survey reports that approximately 2 million assaults and threats of violence occur each year in the workplace.
- Workplace violence contributes to employee injuries, stress, increased sick days, reduced morale, lost wages and higher health-care costs.

What are the categories of Workplace Violence?

- The categories of Workplace Violence depend on the relationship between the employee and the person who is committing the violence. They are -
 - Stranger on Employee
 - Customer on Employee
 - Partner on Employee
 - Employee on Employee