Colorado oil and natural gas operators are an integral part of one of the safest industries in the country. In 2017, the rate of job-related injuries and illnesses for the oil and natural gas industry was 1.7 per 100 full-time workers compared to a rate of 2.8 for the entire U.S. private sector.\(^1\)

Over the past decade, the oil and natural gas industry’s incident rate has decreased by 41 percent, while doubling the size of its workforce and increasing overall production and the number of drilling rigs.\(^2\) The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that the oil and natural gas industry is safer than construction, agriculture, manufacturing, leisure and hospitality and educational and health services.

**Incidence Rates\(^3\) of Occupational Injuries by Industry\(^4\)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil and Gas Extraction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing and Residential Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hog and Pig Farming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing of manufactured homes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pet and Supply Stores</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beet Sugar Manufacturers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattle ranch and farming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skiing facilities</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Colorado operators are continually working to improve their safety record through:

- **Prevention**
  - Operations are intentionally designed to reduce the risk of injury and incident.
  - Many operations are monitored 24/7 and are designed to automatically shut in remotely, further preventing risk of injuries and incidents.
  - Anyone who comes on an active site has stop-work authority if they see anything unsafe occurring.

- **Training**
  - Colorado employees attend regular, mandatory safety training sessions.
  - Operators conduct spontaneous safety drills in coordination with local responders to ensure everyone has the skills and confidence to effectively respond to a situation.

- **Industry Collaboration**
  - Through innovation, applied learnings and tailoring operations in ways that benefit communities and improve the safety of employees.
  - Applying best safety practices and train employees on incident prevention.
  - Serving as a resource to community first responders on incident responses.
  - Engaging in active campaigns like Colorado811 to educate excavators and the general public on the industry’s underground infrastructure of pipelines to avoid incident and injury.
Industry’s Commitment to Safety

Goal of zero injuries and incidents

Continuously monitored operations

Automatic, remote shut-in capabilities

Stop-work authority at all active sites

Regular, mandatory safety training for employees

Active safety drills in collaboration with local first responders

Additional Resources & Information


For More Oil & Natural Gas Industry Informational Fact Sheets:  www.coga.org/energy-education/factsheet

Updated 3.4.2019