

OSHRI publishes "Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report" providing an at-a-glance view of latest occupational safety and health issues

The report includes 6 studies on public perception on Industrial Safety & Health Act, COVID-19 workplace response, etc.

- The Occupational Safety and Health Research Institute (OSHRI: Director General Jae-cheol Ko) published "OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ISSUE REPORT" to provide the latest issues related to workplace safety and workers' health and to help develop related policies.
- The latest edition of "Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report" includes six studies on four topics including △ sentencing guidelines of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which has become an issue following the fire accident in the Icheon Logistics Warehouse, △ COVID-19 at industrial sites, △ management system for chemical substances, and △ working environment (work-life balance).
- Among six studies, "the issues and implications of stronger punishment against employers violating the Occupational Safety and Health Act" is particularly notable; it presents the results of the public survey* on 1,000 citizens regarding the sentencing standards that took effect in 2019.

* Survey detail: Conducted on August 5-15, 2019 (10 days), online panel survey was conducted based on samples extracted proportionally by gender, region, and age. Sampling confidence level of 95% ($\pm 3.1\%$)

- The survey found that regarding the recommended sentencing criteria for employers who violated safety and health obligations and thereby caused a death of a worker, 58.9% of the respondents answered that '6 months to 1.5 years of imprisonment' was not appropriate enough, and 91.7% said that the sentencing standard should become stricter.
- Meanwhile, the report also includes a safety and health study on COVID-19 responses at industrial sites.
 - The study titled 'how can we protect workers from COVID-19 disease-control and disinfecting chemicals?' summarizes the risks of mixing disinfectants and introduces how to use substance safety and health information and how important it is to wear PPEs.
- This report also includes a study on where Korea stands in terms of work-life balance by comparing Korea's chemical substance regulations and working environment with Europe.
- The Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report was first published in September 2007, and has been published on a bi-annual basis.
 - All reports can be downloaded from OSHRI website* for free and can be used freely for non-commercial use upon disclosing the source.
- * OSHRI website (<http://kosha.or.kr/oshri>)→Research→Occupational Safety & Health Issue Reports
- "We hope that the Occupational Safety & Health Issue Report can

contribute to the reduction of occupational accidents by presenting the latest issues and policy directions on occupational safety and health,” said Jae-cheol Ko, Director General of OSHRI. “We are going to further commit ourselves to focusing on research for the safety and health of all workers in the future” Director General Ko added.

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