

Workplace-Related Eye Injuries



In 2003, an estimated 94,500 people were treated at U.S. hospital emergency rooms for eye injuries related to workplace or industrial products. Included in the totals are injuries that may have occurred at home or in home workshops, as location of injuries is not reported in statistics. All age groups are included. The following are the top 15 categories contributing to the most eye injuries.

Product Category	Estimated Injuries
1. Welding Equipment (not specified)	15,338
2. Tools (not specified)	9,374
3. Adhesives	5,733
5. Power Tools (combined, including portable)	5,642
4. Bleaches (non-cosmetic)	5,580
6. House Structures, Repair or Construction	4,476
7. Manual Tools (hammers, screwdrivers, sanders, etc.)	4,442
8. Lawn Mowers, Not Specified	4,388
9. Paints, Varnishes, Shellacs and Removers	3,434
10. Chemicals (misc. and otherwise not classified)	3,350
11. Lawn Trimmers or Edgers	3,183
12. Saws, Not Specified	2,727
13. Flooring, Wood Paneling and Particleboard	2,642
14. Nails, Screws, Tacks or Bolts	2,519
15. Gasoline and Gasoline Cans	1,914

Table source: Prevent Blindness America. Based on statistics provided by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Directorate for Epidemiology; National Injury Information Clearinghouse; National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). Product Summary Report—Eye Injuries Only—Calendar Year 2003.



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