

Workplace Violence in Emergency Departments

Prevalence of Workplace Violence in Health Care/Emergency Departments

Workers in the **health care** sector make up about

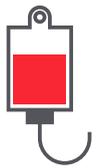


50%
of all victims of
workplace assault.¹

From 2002–2013, serious incidents of **workplace violence** were

4x

more common for workers in the **health care** sector than for all other workers in the U.S.



Studies show that **emergency nurses** and other personnel in the ED experience a **violent event** about

once every 2 months.²



ED workers are exposed to **significant rates of physical and verbal abuse**. Under-reporting of workplace violence in the ED is common and contributes to the difficulty in accurately tracking violence.^{5,6}

100% of emergency nurses reported **verbal assault** and

82% reported **physical assault** in the past year.

Emergency nurses have the **highest rate of physical assaults** of all nurses.^{3,4}

Impact of Workplace Violence on Nurses, Patients and U.S. Health Care System

Emergency nurses are more likely to experience **acute stress** than other nurses.



1/3 of emergency nurses reported they had considered **leaving** the profession due to **workplace violence**.⁷

94% of emergency nurses surveyed reported at least **one post-traumatic stress disorder symptom**, with **17%** scoring high enough to be considered **probable for PTSD**.⁸



The estimated **cost of workplace violence** in health care is

\$4.2 billion annually.⁹



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