

Indicator #17: Occupational Safety and Health Professionals

Background & Public Health Significance

Physicians with training and/or special interests in occupational medicine provide both primary, secondary and tertiary occupational health preventive services. In 1989, the American Medical Association recommended that there be one physician per 1,000 employees. Occupational health nurses provide a great deal of onsite occupational health care. Industrial hygienists and safety professionals are typically the primary individuals responsible for evaluating workplaces and making recommendations to prevent occupational injuries and illnesses.

Data Source: American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM) diplomats database (www.abprevmed.org), Annual roster of members of the ACOEM (www.acoem.org), American Board of Occupational Health Nurses Directory (www.abohn.org), Annual roster of members of the AAOHN member directory (www.aaohn.org), American Board of Industrial Hygiene (www.abih.org), AIHA member directory (www.aiha.org), BCSP member directory (www.bcsp.org), ASSE member directory (www.asse.org), Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey data

Rationale:

Work-related injuries and illnesses are preventable. It is important to determine if there are sufficient trained personnel to implement occupation health preventive services.

	*Rate (Board-Certified Occ. Physicians)	*Rate (ACOEM)	*Rate (Board-Certified Occ. Health Reg. Nurses)	*Rate (AAOH)	*Rate (Board-Certified Industrial Hygienist)	*Rate (AIHA)	*Rate (Board-Certified Safety Health Professionals)	*Rate (ASSE)
2005	1.7	3.2	5.5	8.4	6.7	9.0	8.3	25.3
2006	1.6	2.8	6.8	7.7	6.8	8.4	8.7	22.0
2007	1.8	2.9	5.7	7.2	6.7	7.9	8.6	20.8
2008	2.0	2.9	5.4	6.8	6.6	7.3	8.9	21.1
2009	2.3	3.0	5.9	6.0	7.1	7.4	9.6	19.3
2010	2.1	2.9	5.9	-	7.3	7.0	10.0	21.4
2011	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2012	2.0	2.6	-	4.1	4.7	8.0	10.1	18.9
2013	-	2.5	5.4	-	5.6	3.0	10.2	18.8
2014	2.0	2.3	4.8	-	5.5	1.1**	10.6	18.0

*Rate per 100,000 employees

- Data not available

Occ. = Occupational

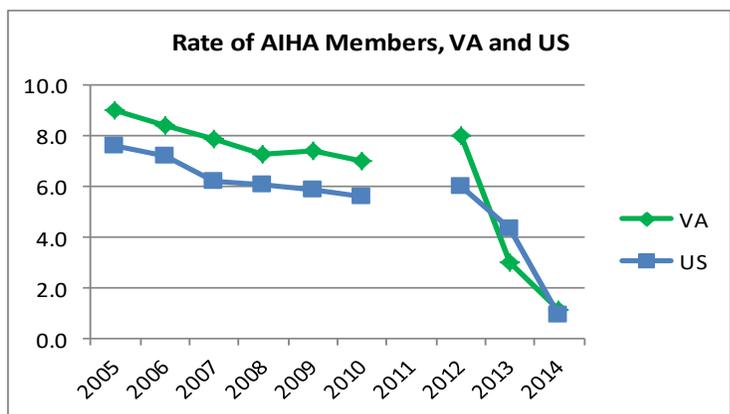
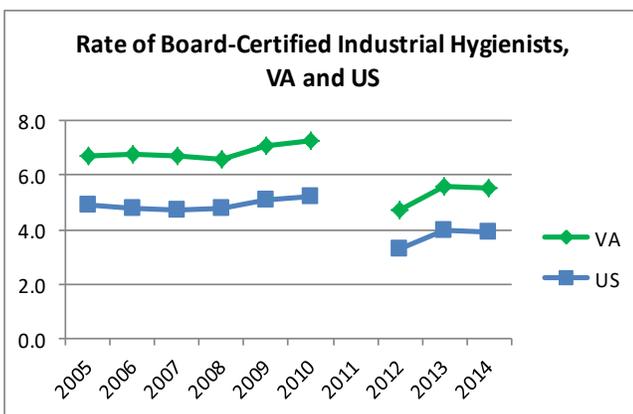
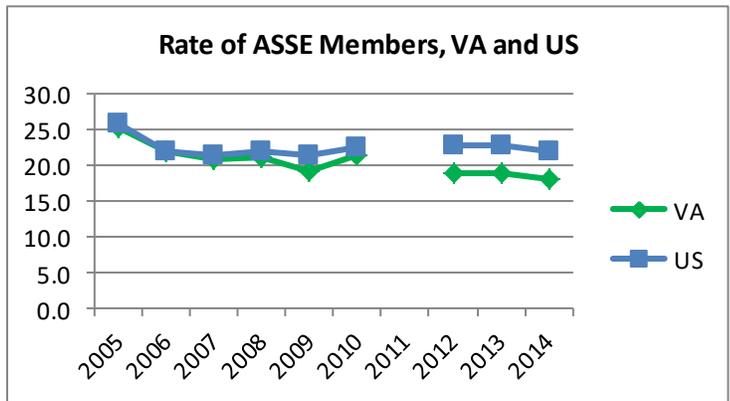
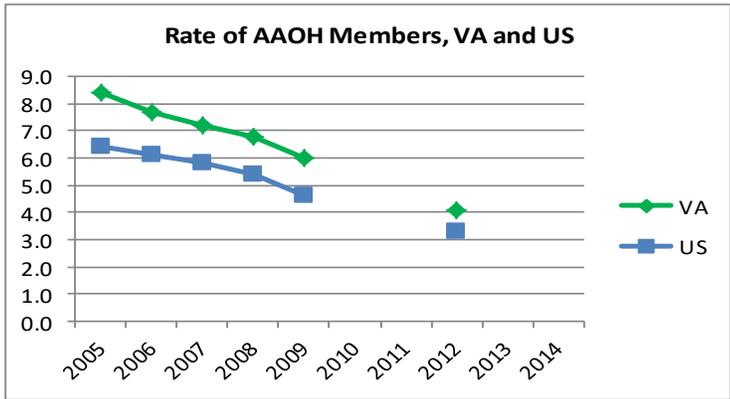
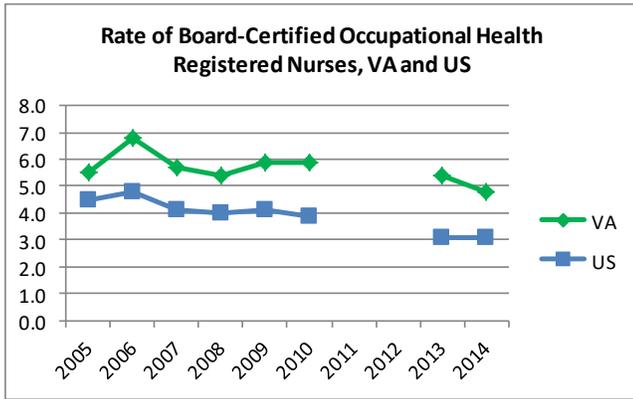
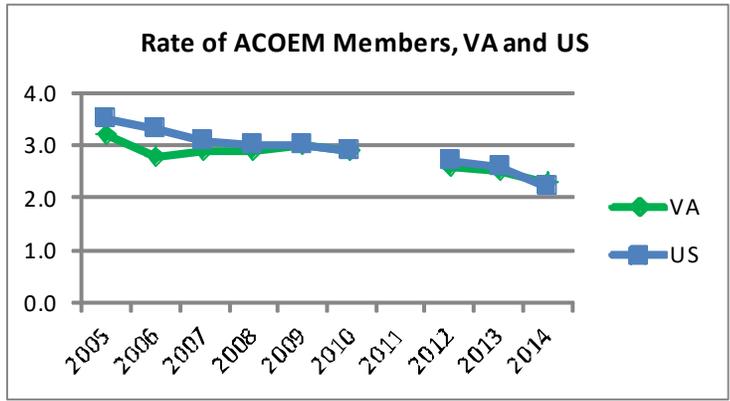
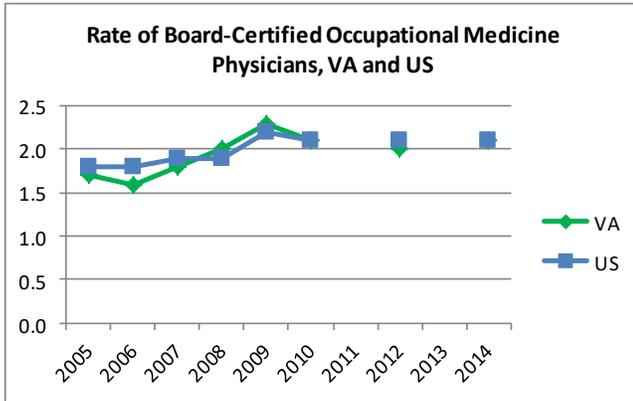
**AIHA count—excluding students

Limitations

Other important occupational health specialties such as fire prevention, health physicists, ergonomists are not included.

The numerator data include retired individuals and individuals who may devote the majority of their time to research and limited or no time to provision of actual preventive services. An individual may practice part-time or even full-time in the field of occupational health and not be board certified or a member of the organization representing occupational health professionals. The completeness and frequency of updating addresses varies by each organization. Members are often listed in a database by a preferred address, which may not be the address where they practice. Due to privacy concerns, individuals may opt out of being listed in membership rolls.

Indicator #17: Occupational Safety and Health Professionals cont.



*Rate per 100,000 employees Missing data was left blank