



# STAT facts

HEALTH CARE WORKERS COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STEELWORKERS

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## In the News:

### Accreditation Group Issues Warning on Workplace Violence in Health Care

The Joint Commission, an independent, non-profit health care accreditation organization, last month issued a warning on workplace violence in the health care sector.

The report, called a Sentinel Event Alert, is intended to help identify and mitigate violence directed at health care workers.

The alert was precipitated by [OSHA data](#) showing that nearly three-quarters of all workplace assaults occurred in health care or social service settings between 2011 and 2013.

The Joint Commission identified a dozen factors that contribute to the unacceptably high rate of workplace violence in health care, including inadequate staffing levels, poor lighting, lack of training and insufficient access to emergency communication devices like call bells.

Identifying and mapping the problem is the first step the Alert recommends, including “creat[ing] simple, trusted, and secure reporting systems that result in transparent outcomes, and are fully supported by leadership, management, and labor unions.”

Health care employers should then implement changes to procedures and work environments to help keep workers safe, the report states. They should also solicit regular feedback from workers to ensure that the strategies are effective.

To read the full Sentinel Event Alert, [click here](#).

To read a summary in Health and Safety Magazine, [click here](#).



## Tell Us Your Stories!

Has your local done something outstanding? Have you had a great solidarity action? Done something huge to help your community? Made significant connections with other labor groups? Is your Women of Steel or Next Gen committee making waves?

**Tell us about it!**

**Contact Jess Kamm Broomell at [jkamm@usw.org](mailto:jkamm@usw.org) or at 412-562-2446.**

## The U.S. Can't Keep Up With Demand for Health Aides, Nurses and Doctors

By 2025, the United States will face a severe shortage of health care workers from across the spectrum of the industry, writes Parija Kavilanz for CNN.

The current shortage of skilled workers will likely be compounded by an aging population, with the greatest shortfall in home health aides.

The industry will also face heightened demand for nurses, physicians, surgeons, laboratory technicians and technologists, and others.

Retraining workers displaced from other industries may help alleviate some of this pressure, as will increasing pay for low-wage workers like home aides.

To read the full article, [click here](#).



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