

Staying Cool at the Car Wash:
*Advocating for Heat Illness
Prevention in Southern
California*

Occupational Health Internship Program (OHIP)

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Working at the Car Wash!

Car washes in California are a phenomena! It is a booming industry!



A car wash has many moving parts from its tunnel to its worker body.

- Dryers
- Washer
- Ticketer
- Detailer

Carwasherxs work with

- Toxic car care chemicals
- Long hours w/o pay
- Unsafe conditions (mechanical dangers)

And unfortunately often unaware of their rights





CLEAN

CARWASH WORKER CENTER



CLEAN is the first and only car wash worker center dedicated to empowering car wash workers in the nation.

- Worker Organization & Community Outreach
- Workforce development
- CleanWASH Mobile Co-Op

Photo Credit: CLEAN (<https://www.cleancarwash.org/>)


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Cal/OSHA

Background

OSHA Inspection Industry Search

Cal/OSHA District Offices




(415) 557 - 0300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Francisco (415) 557 - 0100 Fremont/San Jose (510) 794 - 2521 Foster City (650) 573 - 3812 Oakland (510) 622 - 2916 American Canyon (707) 649 - 3700 	(916) 263 - 2803	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacramento (916) 263 - 2800 Modesto (209) 545 - 7310 Fresno (559) 445 - 5302 Redding (530) 224 - 4743
		(714) 558 - 4300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Santa Ana (714) 558 - 4451 San Diego (619) 767 - 2280 San Bernardino (909) 383 - 4321 Long Beach (424) 450 - 2630
		(626) 471 - 9122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Los Angeles (213) 576 - 7461 Monrovia (626) 239 - 0369 Van Nuys (818) 901 - 5403 Bakersfield (661) 588 - 6400

Region 5 (statewide):
Mining & Tunneling (M&T) Unit (818) 901 - 5420

Region 6 (statewide):
High Hazard Unit and Labor Enforcement Task Force (LETF) (714) 558 - 4415

Process Safety Management (PSM) Unit (statewide): (925) 602 - 2665



Region 6 (statewide):
High Hazard Unit and Labor Enforcement Task Force (LETF) (714) 558 - 4415



Region 4

Region 3



Photo Credit: Department of Industrial Relations

Industry Search Continued...

Number of Car Wash Citations from Cal/OSHA District Offices

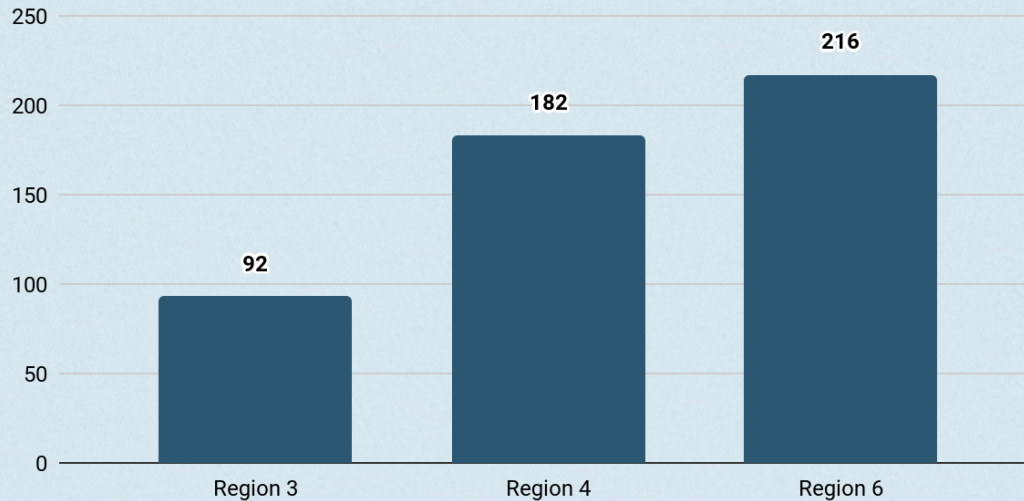


Figure 1: Car Wash citations in Region 3 [Santa Ana, San Diego, San Bernardino, Long Beach], Region 4 [Los Angeles, Monrovia, Van Nuys, Bakersfield], & Region 6 [Hh Unit, South LETF]

Most Common Health & Safety Citations

Section 3395(i)	Heat Illness Prevention Plan
Section 3395(h)	Training
Section 3203(a)	Injury and Illness Prevention Program
Section 5194(e)	Written Hazard Communication Program
Section 5194(f)	Labels and Other Forms of Warning

Objectives



Cal/OSHA citation database

Learn about the inspection process in the car wash industry.



Common car wash citations

Identify which citations are issued the most in Southern California.



Connect with workers!

Conduct outreach and surveys to help inform carwashers of their rights!

02

Community Outreach

Methods

Developing a Survey



- Collecting workers' first hand experiences with regards to Heat Illness preventions/symptoms
- 10 minute, 13 question survey
- Translated into Spanish
- Conducted in person/over the phone



Survey Outreach



Photo Credit: CLEAN

Data collection occurred through an outreach meeting in Orange County hosted by CLEAN.

- 11 workers were surveyed in person
- 14 workers were surveyed over the phone
- Areas: 3 CW in Orange County & 13 CW in Los Angeles

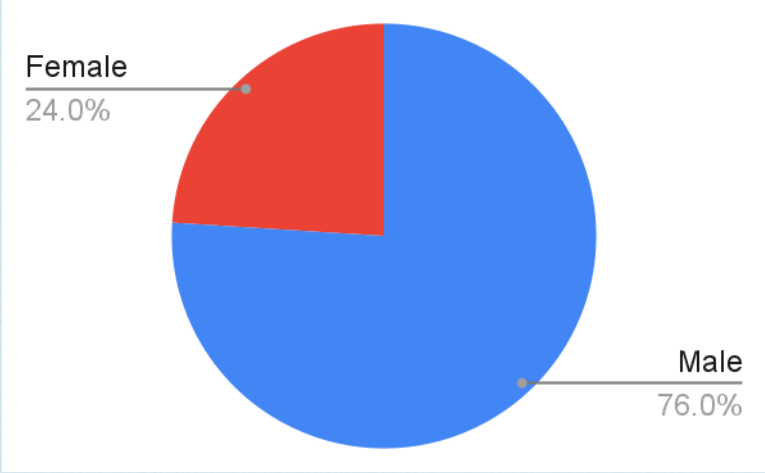
03

Data Analysis

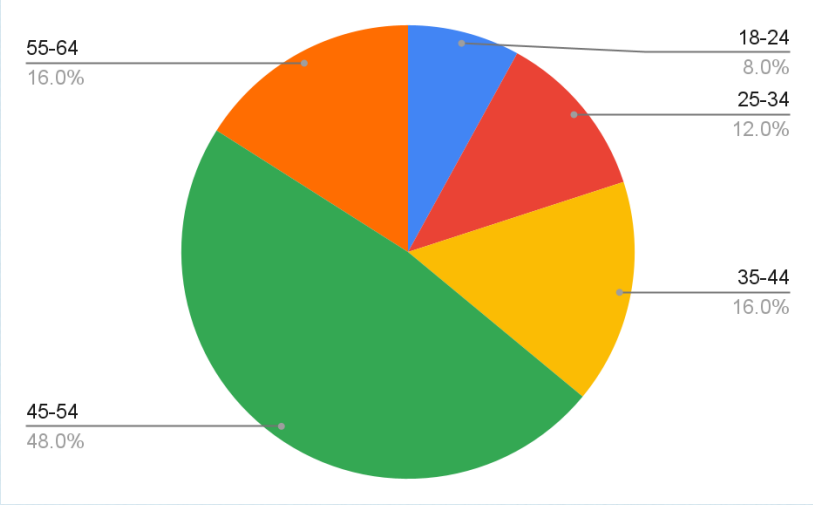
Results

Demographic

Gender Identity

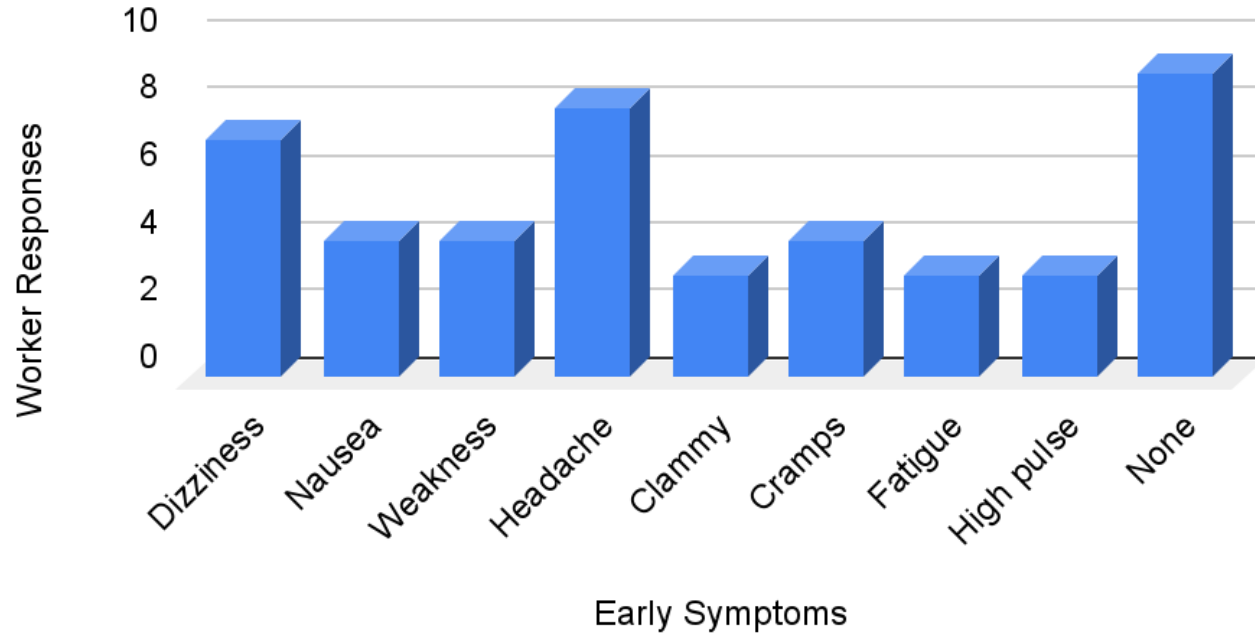


Age Range



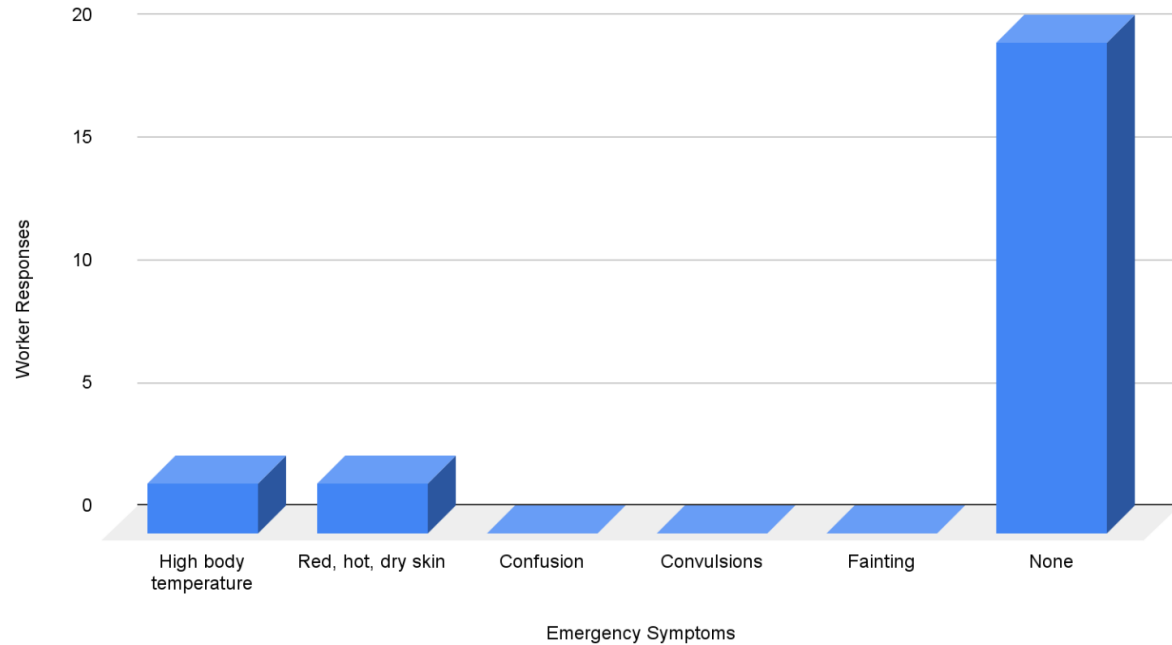
Heat Illness Symptoms

Heat Illness Symptoms



Heat Stroke Symptoms

Emergency Symptoms (Heat Stroke)



Challenges & Successes

Some were
unresponsive
toward the survey



Most were happy to
share about their
experiences



Fear with talking
about their
workplace



Grateful for the
opportunity to freely
talk about their
experience

Personal Reflections

- Learned how to conduct research and present the data
- Understood the dangers of working in a car wash



04

Giving Back

Recommendations and Fact Sheet

Recommendations for Cal/OSHA

1. More informative outreach and training events for carwasherxs
2. Employer awareness
3. Make inspections thorough

Enfermedades causadas por el calor

¡Carwasherxs, conozcan sus derechos de su salud y seguridad!



Agua Potable

- Fresca y pura agua
- Suficiente agua para **cuatro vasos de 8 onzas por hora**
- **Recordatorios** para beber agua
- Te sugerimos elijas agua en lugar de bebidas con cafeína, azúcar, y alcohólicas para **evitar deshidratación**

Acceso a la Sombra

Cuando hace **mas de 80 grados**, tienen que...

- Tener sombra que **cubre todos** los trabajadores durante su turno de trabajo
- Estar **cerca**, como sea posible, **al lugar de trabajo**
- Es disponible incluso cuando no sea más de 80 grados **por pedido del trabajador**



Períodos de Descanso

Puede tomar un **descanso preventivo** para refrescarse

- Debe de estar **observada sobre como se siente**
- **Mínimo de 5 minutos**, mas si todavía siente un síntoma
- El **empleador** debe de **proveer un kit de primeros auxilios y/o un respuesta de emergencia adecuada a lo que se siente el trabajador**



Capacitación y Plan de Emergencia

Es necesario **tener capacitación en el lugar de trabajo**

- Prevé que resulte en exposición al riesgo de enfermedades causadas por el calor
- Por ejemplo, saber cuando llamar servicios de emergencia



Giving Back!



Procedimientos de Alto Calor

Cuando la temperatura esta **más o igual de 95 grados...**

- Necesitan un **plan exclusivo** para su lavado de autos que esta **escrito y disponible** a trabajadores
- Cada **20 trabajadores** necesitan un **supervisor** y un **descanso de 10 minutos** cada dos horas
- En caso de un emergencia, deben de **tener una persona encargado de llamar al 911**

Supervision del Clima

El **EMPLEADOR** tiene la **responsabilidad de permanecer atentos al clima y adaptar el trabajo**

- Por ejemplo, tener mas sombra disponible si hace mas calor que otro días
- **Discutir cambios** con todos trabajando



Aclimatación

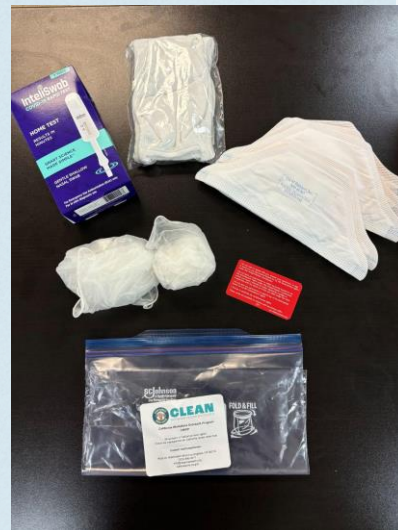
Cuando alguien **no esta acostumbrado de trabajar bajo el sol**, el cuerpo necesita tiempo para ajustar.

- Importante para **nuevos trabajadores**
- **Durante un ola de calor**
- Obligatorio comunicar y vigilar trabajadores **durante 4-14 días**

Factores de riesgo ambientales y personales

Otro factores pueden **empeorar su riesgo** a enfermedades causadas por el calor.

- **Por ejemplo:** edad, humedad, cemento, cafeína, usar ropa oscura, pesada o ajustada, y tu propio estado de salud



CLEAN's COVID kit!

Para saber más sobre su salud y seguridad en los lavados de autos conéctate con el

Centro de Trabajadores Carwasherxs CLEAN...

Número de teléfono: (323) 840 - 3311

Sitio web: <https://www.cleancarwash.org>

Correo electrónico: info@cleancarwash.org

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