

Safe Community Partnerships

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Injuries and Safe Communities Accreditation: Is there a link?

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ABSTRACT

Safe Communities (SC) is a global movement that brings together community stakeholders to collaboratively address injury concerns. SC accreditation is a formal process through which communities are recognized for strengthening local injury prevention capacity. Six million Americans live in 25 SC sites, but no research has been done to understand the model's potential impact on this population. This study explored the temporal relationship between SC accreditation and injury trends in three SC sites from the state of Illinois—Arlington Heights, Itasca, and New Lenox. Hospitalization data, including patient demographics, exposure information, injury outcomes, and economic variables, were obtained from a statewide hospital discharge database for a 12-year period (1999–2011). Joinpoint regression models were fitted to identify any periods of significant change, examine the direction of the injury trend, and to estimate monthly percent changes in injury counts and rates. Poisson random-intercept regression measured the average total change since the official SC accreditation for the three communities combined and compared them to three matched control sites. In joinpoint regression, one of the SC sites showed a 10-year increase in hospitalization cases and rates followed by a two-year decline, and the trend reversal occurred while the community was pursuing the SC accreditation. Injury hospitalizations decreased after accreditation compared to the pre-accreditation period when SC sites were compared to their control counterparts using Poisson modeling. Our findings suggest that the SC model may be a promising approach to reduce injuries. Further research is warranted to replicate these findings in other communities.

Spatial Clustering of Occupational Injuries in Communities

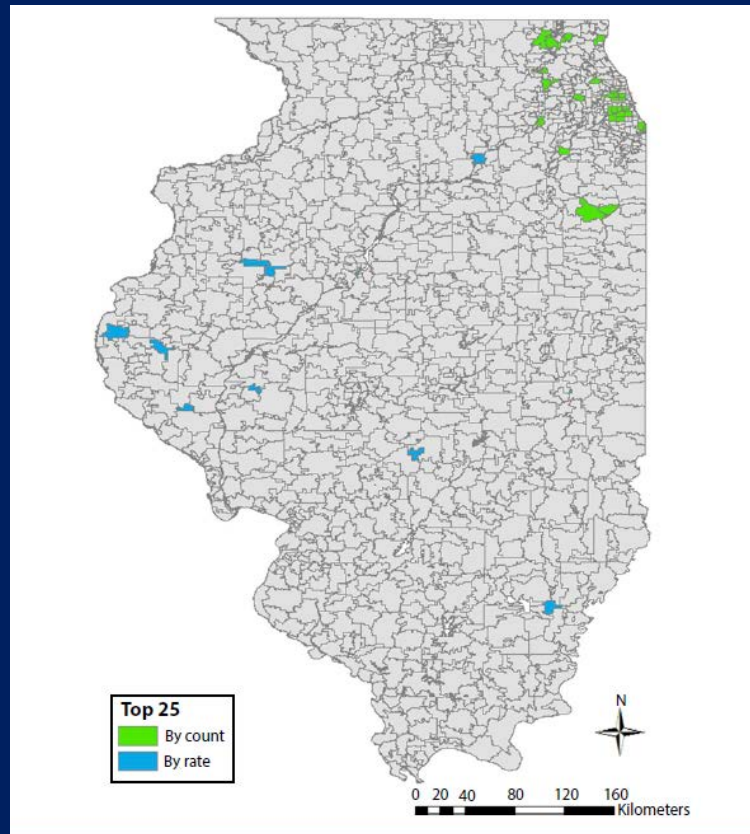


FIGURE 1—The 25 zip codes with the highest counts and rates of work-related injuries: Illinois Trauma Registry, 2000–2009.

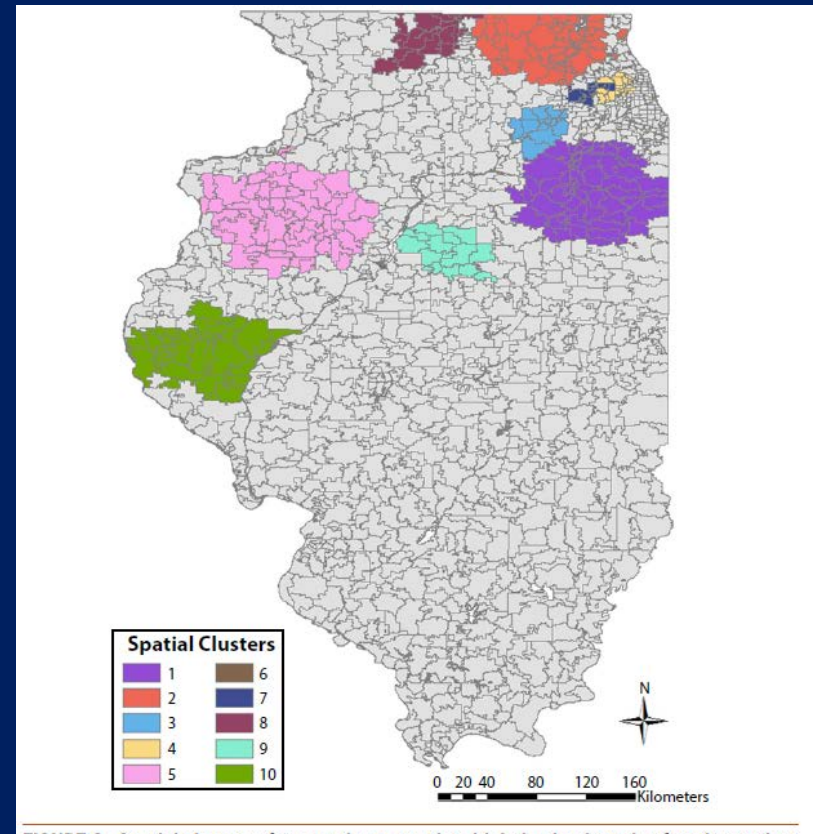
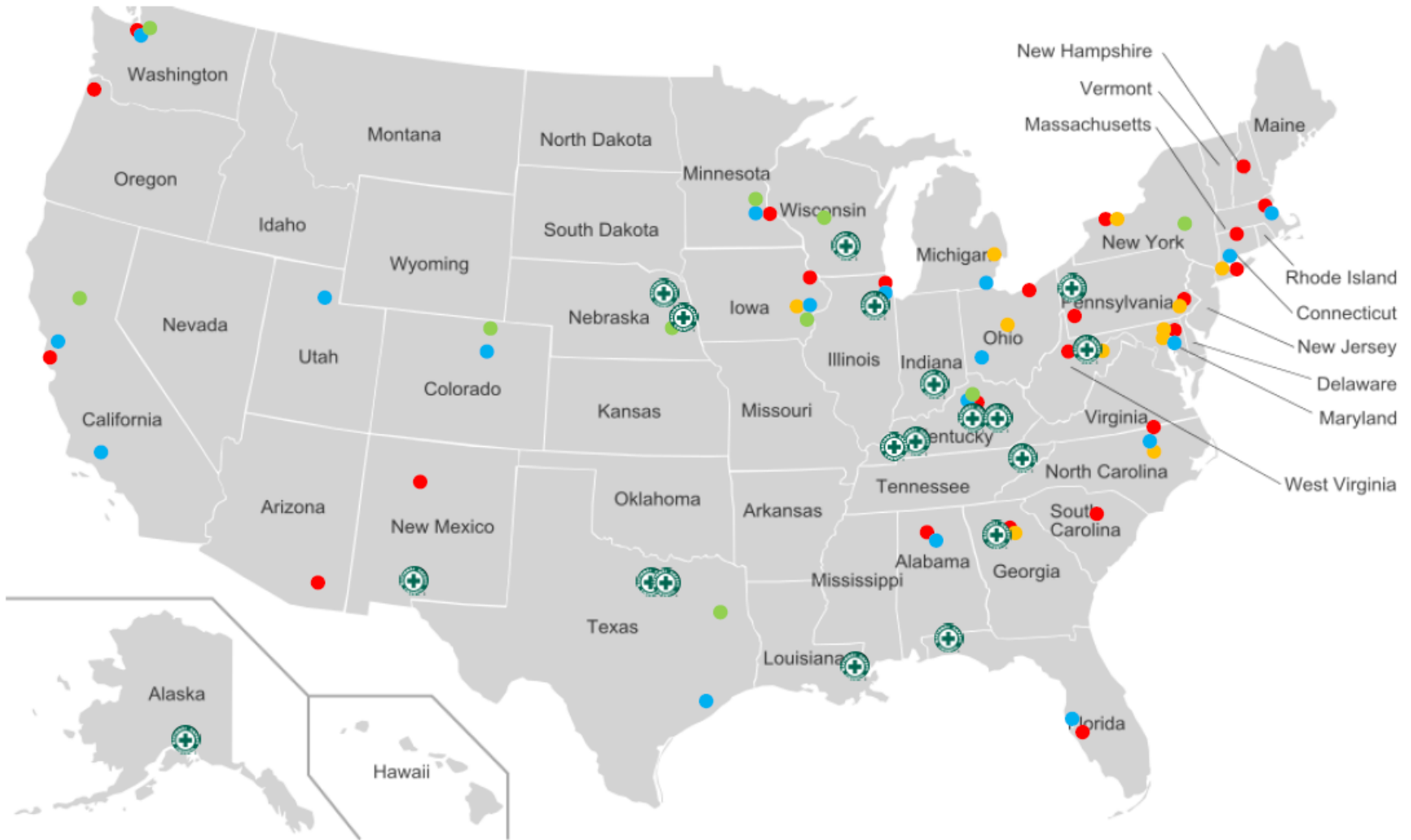


FIGURE 2—Spatial clusters of traumatic occupational injuries by zip code of worker-patient home residences, based on number injured per total employed in the zip code: Illinois Trauma Registry, 2000–2009.

Safe Communities & Injury Prevention Resource Centers, U.S., 2016



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National Safety Council Safe Communities

- AK** Anchorage
- FL** Santa Rosa County
- GA** Emory University
- IL** Village of New Lenox
- KY** Jessamine County
- KY** Madison County
- KY** Murray State University
- KY** Western Kentucky University
- LA** City of Hammond
- NE** City of Norfolk
- NM** Doña Ana County
- PA** City of New Castle
- TN** Sullivan County
- TX** Dallas
- TX** Fort Worth
- WI** Madison-Dane County
- WV** West Virginia University/Greater Morgantown



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- MD** Johns Hopkins University
- MN** U of Minnesota
- NC** UNC at Chapel Hill
- NH** Dartmouth College

- NM** U of New Mexico Health Sciences Center
- NY** NYU School of Medicine and City University School of Public Health
- NY** University of Rochester
- OH** Case Western Reserve University
- OR** Oregon Health & Science University
- PA** U Penn
- PA** U of Pittsburgh
- SC** U OF South Carolina Columbia
- WA** U of Washington
- WV** West Virginia University



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NIOSH / Education & Research Centers

- AL** Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- CA** Northern California Education and Research Center
- CA** Southern California Education and Research Center
- CO** Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center
- FL** Sunshine Education and Research Center

- IA** Heartland Center for Occupational Health & Safety
- IL** Illinois Education and Research Center
- KY** Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center
- MA** Harvard Education and Research Center
- MD** Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center
- MI** Michigan Education and Research Center
- MN** Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- NY/NJ** New York/New Jersey Education and Research Center
- NC** North Carolina Occupational Safety & Health Education Research Center
- OH** U of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
- TX** Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
- UT** Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
- WA** Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety



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- KY** U of Kentucky
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- NE** U of Nebraska
- NY** New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
- TX** U of Texas Health Science Center Tyler
- WA** U of Washington
- WI** National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety

How Academic Programs Can Support SCCs

- Increase safety communications for the community
 - Write a quarterly report, newsletter, column for a local newspaper
 - Create a trifold brochure, infographics, fact sheets on specific topics
 - Add to the website, facebook
- Data collection and reporting
 - Use hospital discharge, outpatient ED, poison center, and other data to assist the community in reporting metrics, establishing evidence, evaluating ongoing programs
 - Call state and local Poison Center to see how they can assist
 - Use data for planning: extract some indicators/diagnoses, discuss what is needed (elder falls, suicide attempts, poisonings by prescription drug overdose, illegal drug overdoses, ER visits for injury of all types, motor vehicle data, workers' compensation data, other?)
- Strategic planning/coalition building/succession planning/"making a case"
 - U could facilitate a strategic planning/visioning exercise for the coalition to re-set/re-think goals and plans (eg, further work; additional partners; funding sources, relationship to NSC; better local entrenchment and support; connection to the hospital; connection to state and county agencies....)
- Evaluation
 - Develop an overall evaluation plan for the partnership and for the programs; establish metrics and a mechanism for inputting data
- Continuing Education
- Research projects

Thank you

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