

VOSHA/OSHA Breakdown of Risk of Occupational Exposure to COVID-19

Occupations Identified as Very High Exposure Risk:

Very high exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19 during specific medical, postmortem, or laboratory procedures.

- Healthcare workers (e.g., doctors, nurses, dentists, paramedics, EMTs) performing or present for aerosol-generating procedures (e.g., intubation, cough induction procedures, bronchoscopies, CPR, some dental procedures and exams, invasive specimen collection) on known or suspected COVID-19 patients.
- Healthcare or laboratory personnel collecting or handling specimens from known or suspected COVID-19 patients.
- Morgue workers performing autopsies on the bodies of people who are known to have or are suspected of having COVID-19 at the time of their death.

Occupations Identified as High Exposure Risk:

High exposure risk jobs are those with high potential for exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19.

- Healthcare delivery and support staff (e.g. doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff who must enter patient's rooms) exposed to known or suspected COVID-19 patients while NO aerosol generating procedures are being performed.
- Medical transport workers (e.g., ambulance operators) moving known or suspected COVID-19 patients in enclosed vehicles.
- Mortuary workers involved in preparing the bodies of people who were known to have or suspected of having COVID-19 at the time of their death.

Occupations Identified as Medium Exposure Risk:

Medium exposure risk jobs include those that require frequent contact, close contact (within 6 feet), or both with people who may be infected with SARS-CoV-2, but who are not known or suspected COVID-19 patients. In areas where there is ongoing community transmission, workers in this category may have contact with the general public (e.g., schools, high-population-density work environments, some high-volume retail settings).

- Critical retail workers, such as those in pharmacies and grocery stores.
- Transit workers, such as bus drivers and taxi drivers.
- Workers in other transportation operations.

Occupations Identified as Low Exposure Risk:

Lower exposure risk jobs are those that do not require contact with people known to be, or suspected of being, infected with SARS-CoV-2 nor frequent, close contact with the general public. Workers in this category have minimal occupational contact with the public and other coworkers.