The University of Washington incidence rate increases in 2022 are due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the Omicron surge.

An injury or illness is considered recordable by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) if it results in medical treatment beyond first aid, loss of consciousness, significant injury or illness as diagnosed by health care provider, restricted work or job transfer, days away from work, or death.

The incidence rate is an indication of the number of new recordable injury/illness cases for UW employees each year. It is calculated as follows:

\[
\text{Incidence Rate} = \frac{\text{(Number of Recordable Injuries or Illnesses) \times (200,000)}}{\text{Sum of All Employee Hours Worked}}
\]

The 200,000 in the formula represents the equivalent of 100 employees working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year, and provides the standard base for the incidence rate. The denominator represents the summation of all employee hours worked across the organization.