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EMPLOYER-REPORTED WORKPLACE INJURIES AND ILLNESSES – 2019

Private industry employers reported 2.8 million nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses in 2019, unchanged from 2018, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. These estimates are from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII).

In 2019, the incidence rate of total recordable cases (TRC) in private industry was 2.8 cases per 100 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers, which was the rate reported in 2018 and 2017. (See chart 1.) The incidence rate of days away from work (DAFW) cases was 0.9 cases per 100 FTE workers and the incidence rate of days of job transfer and restriction only (DJTR) cases was 0.7 cases per 100 FTE workers, which were the rates reported in 2018. (See chart 2.)

There were 888,220 nonfatal injuries and illnesses that caused a private industry worker to miss at least one day of work in 2019, essentially unchanged from 2018.

Chart 1. Incidence rate of total recordable cases, private industry, 2010-19

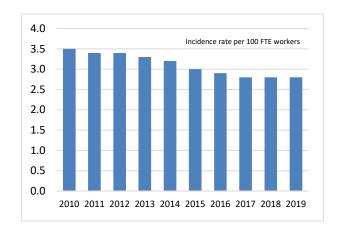
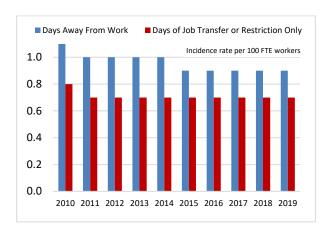


Chart 2. Incidence rate of days away from work cases and job transfer or restriction only cases, private industry, 2010-19



Changes in Industry and Occupation Classification Structure

Information in this release incorporates revisions to both the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and the Standard Occupational Classification codes (SOC). Comparison of SOII estimates for 2019 to prior years should be done with caution due to these changes. More information on NAICS can be found at www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm. More information on SOC can be found at www.bls.gov/soc/2018/home.htm.

Industry

Manufacturing accounted for 15.0 percent of all private industry nonfatal injuries and illnesses in 2019 and was the only private industry sector where the TRC rate had a statistically significant change over the year. The rate decreased from 3.4 in 2018 to 3.3 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2019. (See table 1.) The number of nonfatal cases was 421,400, essentially unchanged from 2018. (See table 2.)

Injuries and illnesses to manufacturing workers resulted in 32,470 DAFW cases of sprains, strains, or tears (28.0 percent); 16,790 cases of soreness or pain (14.5 percent); and 15,380 cases involving cuts, lacerations, or punctures (13.3 percent). (See table 3.)

TRC rates decreased for several manufacturing industry groups. The rate for motor vehicle body and trailer manufacturing decreased from 7.2 cases in 2018 to 6.3 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2019. (See chart 3.) Spring and wire product manufacturing was the only industry group with an increase in its TRC rate in 2019. The TRC rate increased from 3.9 cases in 2018 to 5.4 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2019.

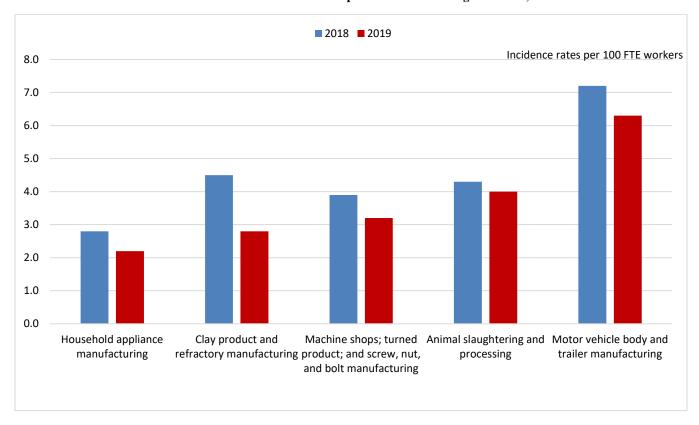


Chart 3. Incidence rates for total recordable cases in selected private manufacturing industries, 2018-19

Nonfatal occupational injury and illness estimates by industry and case type are available at www.bls.gov/web/osh/summ1_00.htm and www.bls.gov/web/osh/summ2_00.htm.

Occupation

Ten occupations accounted for 33.2 percent of all private industry cases involving days away from work in both 2018 and 2019. (See table 4.) Of these, laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand had the highest number of DAFW cases with 64,160; followed by heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers with 47,990. The incidence rates involving DAFW for these 10 occupations increased over the year. (See chart 4.)

The median number of days away from work in private industry in 2019 was 8 days, the same as 2018. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers had a median number of DAFW of 19 days, down from 23 days in 2018. Light truck drivers had a median of 20 days, an increase of 4 days from 2018. The median days for maintenance and repair workers, general; and laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand increased to 12 days in 2019 from 10 days in 2018.

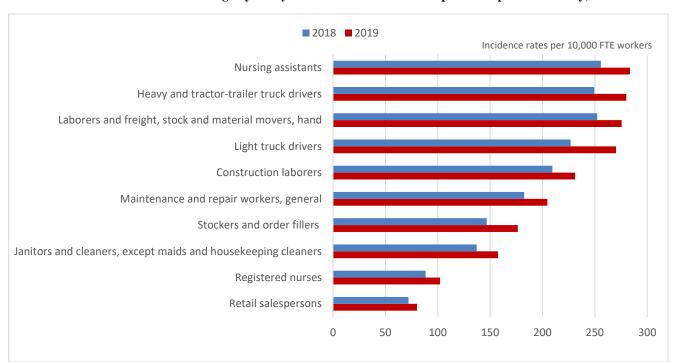


Chart 4. Incidence rates of cases involving days away from work for selected occupations in private industry, 2018-19

Additional Highlights

- Within private industry, the rate of total recordable cases of nonfatal injuries and illnesses in the retail trade sector was essentially unchanged from a year ago. In 2018, the rate increased to 3.5 cases from 3.3 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2017. (See table 1.)
- Private industry workers age 65 years or over had a median of 16 days away from work due to injuries and illnesses in 2019, compared to 8 days for all private industry workers.
- Private industry workers with sprains, strains, or tears resulting in days away from work visited
 medical treatment facilities at a rate of 6.5 cases per 10,000 FTE workers in 2019, down from 7.3
 cases in 2018. Medical treatment facilities include emergency room visits and/or in-patient
 hospitalization.
- Within private industry, the DAFW incidence rate for men decreased from 94.3 in 2018 to 91.7 cases in 2019 and the rate for women decreased from 83.4 in 2018 to 80.4 cases per 10,000 FTE workers in 2019.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Impact on the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Estimates in this news release are for reference year 2019. No changes in estimation procedures or outputs were necessary due to COVID-19. Additional information is available at www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-on-workplace-injuries-and-illnesses-compensation-and-occupational-requirements.htm.

Additional Information

This news release is the first of two releases from BLS covering occupational safety and health statistics for the 2019 calendar year. The SOII presents estimates of counts and incidence rates of employer-reported nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses by industry and type of case, as well as detailed estimates of case circumstances and worker characteristics for cases that resulted in days away from work. A second release on December 16, 2020, will provide results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) of all fatal work injuries occurring in the U.S. during the calendar year.

Data and analysis in this release highlight case circumstances and worker characteristics for nonfatal injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work. Incidence rates for days away from work cases are published per 10,000 full-time employees. Incidence rates per 10,000 workers can be converted to rates per 100 workers by moving the decimal point left, two places, and rounding the resulting rate to the nearest tenth. Data users are cautioned to account for different levels of precision when analyzing estimates presented in this release.

BLS has generated estimates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses for many industries as defined in the 2017 *North American Industry Classification System* (NAICS) manual. Tables including cross-tabulations for various case circumstances and worker characteristics are available at www.bls.gov/web/osh.supp.toc.htm. For additional information on nonfatal injury and illness estimates, see www.bls.gov/iif/soii-overview.htm.

The SOII bases definitions for emergency room and hospital visits on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Regulations. (See www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1904/1904.39 for additional information.)

All statements of comparison made in this news release are statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence level. Additional background and methodological information regarding the BLS occupational safety and health statistics program is located in the BLS Handbook of Methods at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/home.htm.

Additional data from the SOII are available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/iif, from BLS staff at (202) 691-6170, or by email at IIFSTAFF@bls.gov. Information in this release is available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

TABLE 1. Incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by selected industry and case types, private industry, 2018-19

Industry (1)	Total record	dable cases ⁽²⁾	Cases with days away from work ^{(2),(3)}	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Private industry ⁽⁴⁾	2.8	2.8	0.9	0.9
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting ⁽⁴⁾	5.3	5.2	1.7	1.7
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction ⁽⁵⁾	1.4	1.2	0.6	0.5
Utilities	1.9	2.2	0.7	0.7
Construction	3.0	2.8	1.2	1.1
Manufacturing	3.4	3.3	0.9	0.9
Wholesale trade	2.9	2.7	1.0	1.0
Retail trade	3.5	3.4	1.1	1.0
Transportation and warehousing ⁽⁶⁾	4.5	4.4	2.1	2.0
Information	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.5
Finance and insurance	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1
Real estate and rental and leasing	2.3	2.3	0.8	0.7
Professional, scientific, and technical services	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.2
Management of companies and enterprises	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.2
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	2.3	_	0.9	_
Educational services	1.9	2.0	0.6	0.6
Health care and social assistance	3.9	3.8	1.1	1.0
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	4.1	4.0	1.1	1.1
Accommodation and food services	3.1	3.2	0.9	0.9
Other services (except public administration)	2.2	2.0	0.8	0.7

- (1) Data are coded using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our Handbook of Methods concepts page: https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/concepts.htm.
- (2) The incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as:
- (N/EH) x 200,000, where N = number of injuries and illnesses; EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year; 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).
- (3) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.
- (4) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.
- (5) Data for Mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore, estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates of other industries.
- (6) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

Note: Dash indicates data do not meet publication guidelines, data may be too small to be displayed.

TABLE 2. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by selected industry and case types, private industry, 2018-19 (thousands)

Industry (1)	Total recor	dable cases	Cases with days away from work ⁽²⁾		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	
Private industry ⁽³⁾	2,834.5	2,814.0	900.4	888.2	
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting ⁽³⁾	54.4	50.9	17.4	17.0	
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction ⁽⁴⁾	9.8	9.4	4.1	4.2	
Utilities	10.6	12.0	3.6	3.7	
Construction	199.1	200.1	77.5	79.7	
Manufacturing	430.3	421.4	118.6	116.1	
Wholesale trade	160.8	153.6	56.2	55.5	
Retail trade	409.9	395.7	126.9	120.2	
Transportation and warehousing ⁽⁵⁾	221.4	227.9	103.6	103.6	
Information	33.3	31.6	15.6	13.0	
Finance and insurance	28.5	26.1	7.1	7.5	
Real estate and rental and leasing	46.1	46.2	16.0	14.9	
Professional, scientific, and technical services	70.5	72.8	16.3	17.2	
Management of companies and enterprises	17.5	16.9	4.7	4.7	
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	118.6	_	46.5	_	
Educational services	36.9	38.6	11.6	12.1	
Health care and social assistance	577.4	575.2	155.6	151.4	
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	57.9	56.4	16.0	15.3	
Accommodation and food services	278.5	288.7	77.8	82.9	
Other services (except public administration)	72.8	64.6	25.5	21.8	

- (1) Data are coded using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our Handbook of Methods concepts page: https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/concepts.htm.
- (2) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.
- (3) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.
- (4) Data for Mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore, estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates of other industries.
- (5) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

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TABLE 3. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by selected nature of injury or illness, private industry manufacturing sector, 2018-19

Characteristic	Private	industry	Manufacturing (1)		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	
Total ⁽²⁾	900,380	888,220	118,580	116,070	
Nature of injury or illness (3)					
Sprains, strains, tears	308,630	295,180	34,270	32,470	
Soreness, pain	159,600	157,440	15,950	16,790	
Bruises, contusions	79,250	80,640	8,870	9,050	
Cuts, lacerations, punctures	92,840	89,730	14,860	15,380	
Fractures	79,470	85,710	13,210	13,400	

- (1) Data are coded using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our Handbook of Methods concepts page:
- https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/concepts.htm.
- (2) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.
- (3) Based on the Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System 2.01 developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

TABLE 3A. Number and incidence rates for total recordable cases of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in selected private manufacturing industries, 2018-19

Industry ⁽¹⁾	Rat	e ⁽²⁾	Number		
	2018	2019	2018	2019	
Manufacturing	3.4	3.3	430,300	421,400	
Household appliance manufacturing	2.8	2.2	1,700	1,300	
Clay product and refractory manufacturing	4.5	2.8	1,800	1,100	
Machine shops; turned product; and screw, nut, and bolt manufacturing	3.9	3.2	13,800	11,700	
Animal slaughtering and processing	4.3	4.0	23,500	22,100	
Motor vehicle body and trailer manufacturing	7.2	6.3	11,900	10,200	

- (1) Data are coded using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information on the version of NAICS used in this year, see our Handbook of Methods concepts page: https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/concepts.htm.
- (2) The incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: (N/EH) x 200,000, where N = number of injuries and illnesses; EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year; 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

TABLE 4. Number, incidence rates, and median days for nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses requiring days away from work (DAFW), selected occupations, private industry, 2018-19

	2018			2019		
Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Number	Rate ⁽²⁾	Median DAFW	Number	Rate ⁽²⁾	Median DAFW
Laborers and freight, stock and material movers, hand	66,300	252.1	10	64,160	275.5	12
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	48,050	249.4	23	47,990	280.0	19
Nursing assistants	29,490	255.7	6	27,590	283.5	6
Stockers and order fillers	25,100	146.8	11	27,390	176.3	10
Retail salespersons	26,670	72.1	7	24,870	80.2	8
Light truck drivers	22,270	226.8	16	23,070	270.1	20
Maintenance and repair workers, general	21,130	182.5	10	21,490	204.6	12
Registered nurses	20,040	88.4	7	20,150	102.1	8
Construction laborers	20,430	209.3	10	19,790	231.0	11
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	19,090	137.1	8	18,680	157.4	10

- (1) Data are coded using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). For more information on the version of SOC used in this year, see our Handbook of Methods concepts page: https://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/concepts.htm.
- (2) The incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers and were calculated as
- (N/EH) x 20,000,000, where N = number of injuries and illnesses,
- EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year,
- 20,000,000 = base for 10,000 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).