



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (MS-23B)

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Texas Rate of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Requiring Days Off Work Reported for 2015

AUSTIN—According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), private industry employers in Texas reported 46,440 cases involving days away from work and an incidence rate of 55.7 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time equivalent employees in 2015. The median days away from work for private sector employers in Texas, a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses, was seven in 2015. (Table 1)

Table 1. Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work, Private Industry, Texas 2014-2015

| Private Industry | 2014 | 2015 |
|---|--------|--------|
| Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work | 52,970 | 46,440 |
| Incidence rate of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 full-time employees | 65.2 | 55.7 |
| Median days away from work | 8 | 7 |

The data in this report are the latest available from SOII conducted by the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) in cooperation with BLS. It covers the circumstances of the injuries and illnesses as well as the characteristics of the employees reported in the cases that involved days away from work. The occupational injury and illness incidence rates are based on a statistical sample of approximately 10,000 private businesses in Texas. This data assists employers, safety professionals, and policymakers in identifying occupational safety and health issues in the state. Employers with questions about participating in this survey may call DWC at (866) 237-6405.

DWC provides various safety and health services to help reduce injuries and illnesses in the workplace including free safety and health consultations on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations; regional and onsite safety training; free safety and health publications; free safety training DVD loans; and the Safety Violations Hotline. For more information on these services, visit the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/index.html or call (800) 687-7080. In addition, employers that carry workers' compensation insurance in Texas can obtain accident prevention services from their insurance companies at no additional charge.

Industries

The goods producing industries reported 11,640 nonfatal injuries and illnesses requiring days away from work and the service providing industries reported 34,800. The five industry sectors reporting the highest number of cases requiring days away from work were trade, transportation, and utilities; manufacturing; education and health services; leisure and hospitality; and construction. The trade, transportation, and utilities industries had the highest incidence rate (88.8). Meanwhile, employees who were injured in the information industry sector experienced the highest median days away from work (22). (Table 2)

Table 2. Number and Incidence Rate of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Selected Major Industry Sectors, Private Industry, Texas 2015

| Industry | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases | Median Days Away from Work |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Private industry | 55.7 | 46,440 | 7 |
| Goods producing | 59.3 | 11,640 | 10 |
| Natural resources and mining | -- | -- | -- |
| Construction | 55.5 | 3,780 | 15 |
| Manufacturing | 70.7 | 6,510 | 8 |
| Service providing | 54.5 | 34,800 | 7 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 88.8 | 18,050 | 8 |
| Information | 46.1 | 850 | 22 |
| Financial activities | 18.3 | 1,220 | 6 |
| Professional and business services | 26.4 | 3,340 | 7 |
| Education and health services | 56.2 | 6,460 | 5 |
| Leisure and hospitality | 47.5 | 3,970 | 5 |
| Other services | 36.6 | 900 | 7 |

Occupations

In the major occupational groups, transportation and material moving occupations experienced the highest incidence rate (156.4) and accounted for 24 percent (11,340) of the total number of cases in 2015.

Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations followed with the second-highest rate (154.3) yet accounted for 2 percent (710) of the total number of cases. Education, training, and library occupations had relatively low incidence rates and numbers, while the median days away from work was the highest, at 19. (Table 3)

Table 3. Incidence Rates and Numbers of Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work and Median Days Away from Work by Major Occupational Group, Private Industry, Texas 2015

| Major Occupational Group | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases | Median Days Away from Work |
|--|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Transportation and material moving occupations | 156.4 | 11,340 | 11 |
| Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations | 154.3 | 710 | 2 |
| Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations | 111.4 | 2,350 | 9 |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations | 105.2 | 4,500 | 14 |
| Healthcare support occupations | 101.8 | 2,150 | 4 |
| Production occupations | 92.9 | 5,940 | 10 |
| Protective service occupations | 69.9 | 600 | 9 |
| Construction and extraction occupations | 64.5 | 3,400 | 15 |
| Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations | 55.8 | 2,380 | 5 |
| Community and social service occupations | 48.9 | 200 | 11 |
| Food preparation and serving related occupations | 42.4 | 3,120 | 6 |
| Personal care and service occupations | 36.7 | 950 | 4 |
| Sales and related occupations | 34.3 | 3,500 | 5 |
| Education, training, and library occupations | 32.5 | 260 | 19 |
| Management occupations | 27.8 | 1,110 | 6 |
| Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations | 21.9 | 170 | 10 |
| Office and administrative support occupations | 21.8 | 3,060 | 5 |
| Business and financial operation occupations | 8.9 | 370 | 5 |

| Major Occupational Group | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases | Median Days Away from Work |
|--|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Life, physical, and social science occupations | 8.9 | 40 | 2 |
| Architecture and engineering occupations | 7.4 | 150 | 13 |
| Computer and mathematical occupations | 4.0 | 110 | 11 |
| Legal occupations | -- | -- | -- |

Case Characteristics

The sprains, strains, and tears category was the leading nature of occupational injuries with 17,350 cases, accounting for 37 percent of the total cases. The back was the body part reported to be the most affected, with 7,790 cases. The category of floors, walkways, and ground surfaces was the highest reported source for cases requiring days away from work (8,530), followed by person, injured or ill worker (5,730) and vehicles (5,280). Falls, slips, trips was the leading event or exposure, reporting 13,250 cases. Second was overexertion and bodily reaction with 13,230 cases, and third was contacts with object, equipment with 12,940. (Table 4)

Table 4. Incidence Rates and Numbers of Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Selected Characteristics, Private Industry, Texas 2015

| Nature of Injury, Illness | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Fractures | 6.3 | 5,270 |
| Sprains, strains, tears | 20.8 | 17,350 |
| Amputations | 0.5 | 400 |
| Bruises, contusions | 5.7 | 4,780 |
| Chemical burns and corrosions | 0.3 | 250 |
| Heat (thermal) burns | 1.0 | 810 |
| Soreness, pain | 4.5 | 3,790 |
| Cuts, lacerations, punctures | 6.5 | 5,430 |
| Carpal tunnel syndrome | 0.1 | 100 |
| Tendonitis | -- | 30 |
| Multiple traumatic injuries | 1.6 | 1,340 |
| Part of Body Affected | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases |
| Head | 4.8 | 4,040 |
| Eye | 1.4 | 1,130 |
| Neck | 0.6 | 510 |
| Trunk | 13.3 | 11,070 |
| Back | 9.3 | 7,790 |
| Upper extremities | 17.7 | 14,760 |
| Shoulder | 4.5 | 3,790 |
| Arm | 2.9 | 2,380 |
| Wrist | 1.7 | 1,400 |
| Hands | 7.6 | 6,320 |
| Lower extremities | 13.8 | 11,520 |
| Knee | 4.9 | 4,120 |
| Ankle | 2.8 | 2,310 |
| Foot | 3.1 | 2,610 |
| Toe, Toenail | 0.7 | 570 |
| Body systems | 1.0 | 840 |
| Multiple body parts | 4.4 | 3,660 |
| Source of Injury, Illness | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases |
| Chemicals, chemical products | 0.7 | 570 |
| Containers | 5.3 | 4,460 |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Furniture, fixtures | 1.7 | 1,450 |
| Machinery | 4.2 | 3,490 |
| Parts and materials | 5.8 | 4,810 |
| Person, injured or ill worker | 6.9 | 5,730 |
| Worker motion or position | 6.7 | 5,570 |
| Person, other than injured or ill workers | 2.9 | 2,440 |
| Patient | 2.4 | 2,020 |
| Floors, walkways, ground surfaces | 10.2 | 8,530 |
| Ladder | 1.7 | 1,410 |
| Handtools | 2.5 | 2,100 |
| Vehicles | 6.3 | 5,280 |
| Trucks | 2.3 | 1,950 |
| Cart, dolly, hand truck-nonpowered | 0.7 | 560 |
| Event or Exposure | Incidence Rate | Number of Cases |
| Violence and other injuries by persons or animal | 2.3 | 1,950 |
| Intentional injury by other person | 0.8 | 690 |
| Injury by person-unintentional or intent unknown | 0.3 | 270 |
| Animal and insect related incidents | 1.2 | 990 |
| Transportation incidents | 3.3 | 2,790 |
| Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles | 2.3 | 1,910 |
| Fires and explosions | 0.1 | 120 |
| Falls, slips, trips | 15.9 | 13,250 |
| Slips, trips without fall | 2.3 | 1,890 |
| Fall on same level | 9.6 | 8,000 |
| Fall to lower level | 3.9 | 3,250 |
| Exposure to harmful substances or environments | 2.6 | 2,130 |
| Contact with object, equipment | 15.5 | 12,940 |
| Struck by object or equipment | 8.9 | 7,400 |
| Struck against object or equipment | 3.1 | 2,550 |
| Caught in or compressed by object or equipment | 2.8 | 2,370 |
| Overexertion and bodily reaction | 15.9 | 13,230 |
| Repetitive motion involving microtasks | 0.7 | 610 |
| Overexertion in lifting or lowering | 5.2 | 4,340 |

Demographics

Employees ages 45 to 54 reported 10,430 cases involving days away from work, accounting for 22 percent of the total number of the cases. Employees in the 16 to 19 age group reported the lowest number of cases (1,210), while employees ages 55 to 64 experienced the highest median days away from work (14). (Table 5)

Table 5. Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Age of Employee and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry, Texas 2015

| Age | Private Industry | Goods Producing Industries | Service Providing Industries | Median Days Away from Work |
|----------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 16 to 19 | 1,210 | 180 | 1,030 | 3 |
| 20 to 24 | 4,400 | 950 | 3,450 | 4 |
| 25 to 34 | 9,380 | 2,700 | 6,680 | 5 |
| 35 to 44 | 9,970 | 3,010 | 6,950 | 8 |
| 45 to 54 | 10,430 | 2,550 | 7,880 | 9 |
| 55 to 64 | 9,110 | 1,890 | 7,220 | 14 |

| Age | Private Industry | Goods Producing Industries | Service Providing Industries | Median Days Away from Work |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 65 and over | 1,790 | 300 | 1,490 | 12 |

Length of Service

Employees with one to five years of service reported 15,320 cases and accounted for 33 percent of the cases, and employees with less than three months of service reported the lowest number of cases with 6,430. (Table 6)

Table 6. Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Length of Service and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry, Texas 2015

| Length of Service with Employer | Private Industry | Goods Producing Industries | Service Providing Industries |
|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Less than 3 months | 6,430 | 2,090 | 4,340 |
| 3 months to 11 months | 10,550 | 2,830 | 7,720 |
| 1 year to 5 years | 15,320 | 3,700 | 11,620 |
| More than 5 years | 13,860 | 2,970 | 10,890 |

DWC released a previous communication in 2016 reporting on 2015 data from the BLS occupational safety and health statistical series. On October 27, 2016, DWC reported that there were 189,507 nonfatal injuries and illnesses in the private sector in Texas in 2015 (report located at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepag.html). This report is a companion to the October 27, 2016 report. DWC will also issue a report which will cover work-related fatalities from the 2015 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. It is tentatively scheduled for release in December 2016.

Additional Texas nonfatal occupational injury and illness data are available by contacting DWC at (512) 804-5020, by email at InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov, or by visiting the TDI website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/index.html. Details about the national BLS injury and illness data can be found on the BLS website at www.htm.bls.gov/iif.

Note: Beginning with survey year 2011, the classification system used to code case characteristics and occupations was revised and created a break in series. Case characteristics (nature, body part, source, and event) and many occupations for years after 2011 are not comparable to data for years prior to 2011.

Details about the data reported in this report:

- *Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time employees and were calculated as: $(N / EH) \times 20,000,000$ 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 full-time equivalent employees (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).*
- *Days away from work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.*
- *Data excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.*
- *Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System) includes 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 MSHA, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore, estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.*

- *Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. These data do not reflect the changes OSHA made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore, estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.*
- *Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.*

Source: U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, November 10, 2016.