



## Texas Department of Insurance

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### Texas Reports on the Number of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Requiring Days Off Work in 2011

AUSTIN, TX — According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, private industry employers experienced a lower incident rate of 78.7 injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 full-time equivalent employees in Texas for 2011. The rate is a decrease from 79.5 in 2010 and is below the national rate of 105, despite the slight increase in the total number of cases involving days away from work.

**Table A. Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work, Private Industry, Texas 2009-2011**

	2009	2010	2011
Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work	60,240	56,720	57,220
Incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 full-time employees	81.2	79.5	78.7
Median days away from work	8	9	9

The median days away from work, a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses, for Texas was 9 in 2011, the same as reported in 2010 and it remains higher than the 8 median days away from work reported nationally. (Table A).

The survey is conducted in cooperation with the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC). The TDI-DWC collects survey data in order to assist employers, safety professionals, and policymakers in identifying occupational safety and health issues in the state.

The TDI-DWC also provides various safety and health services to promote safe and healthy workplaces, including free safety and health consultations on Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations; regional and on-site safety training; free safety and health publications; free safety training audio-visual loans; guidance on return-to-work programs and drug-free workplace programs; and the Safety Violations Hotline. For more information on these services, visit the TDI website at <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/index.html>, or call 1- 800-687-7080.

The TDI-DWC released several communications in 2012 reporting on 2011 data from the BLS workplace safety and health statistical series. The first news release, in October 2012 covered work-related fatalities from the 2011 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. In November 2012, BLS reported that there were 96,642 nonfatal injuries and illnesses in Texas, in 2011. The data are based on the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses with a sample of approximately 10,000 Texas employers. This news release is a companion report to the November 2012 news release. It covers the circumstances of the injuries and illnesses as well as the characteristics of the employees involved in the 57,220 cases that involved days away from work.

Note: The classification system used to code the 2011 case characteristics and occupations in the 2011 survey have been revised and create a break in series. Case characteristics (nature, body part, source, and event) and many occupations are not comparable to data for prior years.

## ***Industry***

In 2011, the service providing industries reported 27,200 more nonfatal injuries and illnesses than the goods producing industries. However, the incidence rate for goods producing is 18 percent higher than the rate for service providing. Among the industry sectors listed below (Table B), trade, transportation and utilities reported the highest number of cases and the highest incidence rate. Within this sector, 25 percent of the cases affected the ages of 35 to 44 and 38 percent worked for the employer for more than 5 years. Education and health services and manufacturing reported the second and third highest number of cases, accounting for almost 17 and 12 percent of the total cases. The major industry sector reporting the highest median days is information at 35 days with 66 percent of the cases occurring in the installation maintenance and repair occupations.

**Table B. Top Three Industry Sectors Reporting the Highest Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work, Private Industry, Texas 2011**

Industry	Total cases	Incidence rate	Median days
Private Industry	57,220	78.7	9
Goods Producing	15,010	89.3	12
Manufacturing	6,670	79.5	10
Construction	6,100	107.3	10
Natural Resources and Mining	2,240	82.1	20
Service Providing	42,210	75.5	7
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	19,970	109.2	9
Education and Health Services	9,500	91.4	4
Leisure and Hospitality	4,210	59.8	5

## ***Demographics***

Employees ages 35 to 44 reported 13,690 cases accounting for 24 percent of the total number of cases involving days away from work. Employees age 65 and over experienced a 49 percent increase in cases while the employees ranging from the ages of 16-19 had a 30 percent decrease in cases. Employees ages 55 to 64 experienced the highest median days away from work at 13 days. (Table C).

**Table C. Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work by Age of Employee and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry, Texas 2011**

Age	Private industry	Goods producing	Service providing	Median days
16 to 19	1,130	270	870	3
20 to 24	5,390	1,920	3,480	7
25 to 34	12,850	3,500	9,340	7
35 to 44	13,690	3,700	9,980	10
45 to 54	13,330	3,080	10,240	10
55 to 64	8,340	2,200	6,150	13
65 and over	2,350	340	2,010	12

## ***Length of Service***

Employees with 1 to 5 years of service reported 19,960 cases and accounted for 35 percent of the 57,220 total private industry cases requiring days away from work. Employees having more than 5 years of service reported the second highest number of cases with 18,840. This group experienced a 10 percent increase in cases requiring days away from work and accounted for 33 percent of the total cases (Table D).

**Table D. Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work by Length of Service and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry, Texas 2011**

Length of service with employer	Private industry	Goods producing	Service providing
Less than three months	7,090	2,360	4,740
3 months to 11 months	11,020	3,360	7,660
1 year to 5 years	19,960	4,900	15,060
More than 5 years	18,840	4,380	14,460

### **Occupations**

Among the ten occupations with the most injuries and illnesses, heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers reported the highest number of cases involving days away from work with 3,070, accounting for 5.4 percent of the total cases reported (57,220). The occupation with the tenth highest number of cases, registered nurses, accounts for 2 percent of the total cases reported. Telecommunications equipment installers and repairers (except line installers) reported the highest median days away from work at 54. Followed by heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (30), first-line supervisors of retail sales workers (25), industrial truck and tractor operators (22) and construction laborers (18).

**Table E. Ten Occupations with the Most Occupational Injuries and Illnesses With Days Away From Work, Private Industry, Texas 2011**

Occupation	Number of inj/ill	Median days
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,070	30
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	3,000	8
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	2,090	14
Nursing Assistants	1,900	5
Construction Laborers	1,670	18
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	1,660	8
Retail Salespersons	1,650	7
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,350	9
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,280	12
Registered Nurses	1,160	5

### **Case Characteristics**

The sprains, strains or tears category is the leading nature of occupational injuries with 22,930 cases, accounting for 40 percent of the 57,220 total cases requiring days away from work. The back is the body part reported to be the most affected with 10,630 cases. The category of floors, walkways or ground surfaces is the highest reported source for cases requiring days away from work with 8,640; followed by containers with 7,210 cases and vehicles with 7,090. Overexertion and bodily reaction is the leading event or exposure, reporting 19,180 cases. Second is contact with object, equipment with 15,110 cases and third is falls, slips or trips with 14,290.

**Table F. Incidence Rates and Numbers of Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away From Work by Selected Characteristics, Private Industry, Texas 2011**

Nature of Injury, Illness:	Rate	Number
Fractures	8.2	5,970
Sprains, Strains, Tears	31.5	22,930
Amputations	0.4	320
Bruises, Contusions	7.5	5,490
Chemical Burns and Corrosions	0.7	510
Heat (Thermal) Burns	1.2	890
Soreness, Pain	6.6	4,770
Cuts, Lacerations, Punctures	8.0	5,800

Cuts, Lacerations	6.6	4,780
Punctures (Except Gunshot Wounds)	1.4	1,010
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome	0.2	170
Tendonitis	0.1	60
Multiple Traumatic Injuries	1.9	1,350
<b>Part of body affected:</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Number</b>
Head	6.0	4,400
Eye	2.2	1,610
Neck	1.5	1,120
Trunk	19.9	14,460
Back	14.6	10,630
Upper Extremities	22.8	16,560
Shoulder	5.3	3,870
Arm	3.9	2,810
Wrist	2.5	1,820
Hands	10.1	7,310
Lower Extremities	18.4	13,380
Knee	6.9	5,050
Ankle	3.8	2,780
Foot	4.5	3,300
Toe, Toenail	1.3	910
Body Systems	1.8	1,320
Multiple Body Parts	8.0	5,850
<b>Source of Injury, Illness:</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Number</b>
Chemicals, Chemical Products	1.3	970
Containers	9.9	7,210
Furniture, Fixtures	3.8	2,790
Machinery	5.0	3,660
Parts and Materials	9.3	6,790
Person, Injured or Ill Worker	8.3	6,020
Worker Motion or Position	8.2	5,980
Person , Other Than Injured or Ill Workers	4.4	3,170
Patient	3.0	2,160
Floors, Walkways, Ground Surfaces	11.9	8,640
Ladder	1.5	1,110
Handtools	2.8	2,000
Vehicles	9.7	7,090
Trucks	3.5	2,560
Cart, Dolly, Hand Truck-Nonpowered	0.9	640
<b>Event or Exposure:</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Number</b>
Violence and Other Injuries by Persons or Animal	3.1	2,250
Intentional Injury by Other Person	0.8	590
Injury by Person-Unintentional or Intent Unknown	0.5	380
Animal and Insect Related Incidents	1.8	1,270
Transportation Incidents	4.3	3,160
Roadway Incidents Involving Motorized Land Vehicles	2.9	2,110
Fires and Explosions	0.4	290
Falls, Slips, Trips	19.6	14,290
Slips, Trips Without Fall	2.0	1,490

Fall on Same Level	12.5	9,110
Fall to Lower Level	4.2	3,050
Exposure to Harmful Substances or Environments	3.8	2,800
Contact With Object, Equipment	20.8	15,110
Struck by Object or Equipment	12.3	8,910
Struck Against Object or Equipment	4.4	3,190
Caught In or Compressed by Object or Equipment	3.2	2,310
Overexertion and Bodily Reaction	26.4	19,180
Repetitive Motion Involving Microtasks	1.2	900
Overexertion in Lifting or Lowering	9.3	6,780

Additional Texas nonfatal occupational injury and illness data are available by contacting the TDI-DWC at 512-804-4664 or [InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov) or by visiting the TDI website at <http://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 <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/osh2.nr0.htm>.

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Sources for this report include: the TDI-DWC, in cooperation with the BLS, U.S. Department of Labor.

Details regarding 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—United States, 2002) 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.
- Dashes indicate data that do not meet publication guidelines or data for incidence rates less than 0.05 per 10,000 full-time employees. The scientifically selected probability sample used in each year was one of many possible samples, each of which could have produced different estimates. A measure of sampling variability for each estimate is available upon request. Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.