



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 Decreased in 2014

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 52,970 cases involving days away from work and an incidence rate of 65.2 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time equivalent employees in 2014. The rate for 2014 is a decrease from 66.6 in 2013. The Texas rate is below the national rate of 97.8. The median days away from work, a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses, for private sector employers in Texas was eight in 2014, which was unchanged from 2013. (Table 1)

Table 1. Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work, Private Industry, Texas 2013-2014

Private Industry	2013	2014
Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work	51,890	52,970
Incidence rate of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 full-time employees	66.6	65.2
Median days away from work	8	8

The data in this report are the latest available from SOII conducted by the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), 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 through accident and illness prevention. Services include 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 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

At the major industry sector level, the service providing industries reported 25,570 more nonfatal injuries and illnesses requiring days away from work than the goods producing industries. However, the incidence rate for the goods producing industries was 12 percent higher than the rate for service providing. The top 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 (96.4). Meanwhile, employees who were injured in the natural resources and mining industry sector experienced the highest median days away from work (16). (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 2014

Industry	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Private industry	65.2	52,970	8
Goods producing	71.0	13,700	12
Natural resources and mining	80.7	2,980	16
Construction	63.4	4,100	15
Manufacturing	72.5	6,630	9
Service providing	63.4	39,270	7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	96.4	19,310	9
Information	56.2	1,090	11
Financial activities	26.0	1,670	11
Professional and business services	29.6	3,580	6
Education and health services	59.8	6,630	5
Leisure and hospitality	66.8	5,300	5
Other services	70.7	1,690	4

Occupations

In the major occupational groups, transportation and material moving occupations experienced the highest incidence rate (171.8) and accounted for 22 percent (11,660) of the total number of cases involving days away from work in 2014. Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations followed with the second highest rate (166.5) and median days away from work (13), and accounted for 13 percent (6,860) of the total number of cases involving days away from work. For the protective occupations, the incidence rate (48.2) decreased 70 percent, and the median days away from work decreased by 76 percent, from 21 in 2013 to 5 in 2014. Legal 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 2014

Major Occupational Group	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Transportation and material moving occupations	171.8	11,660	12
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	166.5	6,860	13
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	121.6	2,520	5
Healthcare support occupations	104.6	1,940	5
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	102.6	630	8
Construction and extraction occupations	91.7	4,820	14
Production occupations	87.8	5,500	10
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	65.6	2,740	7
Food preparation and serving related occupations	65.4	4,560	5
Community and social service occupations	54.0	220	9

Major Occupational Group	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Protective service occupations	48.2	420	5
Personal care and service occupations	37.3	980	5
Sales and related occupations	34.1	3,400	4
Office and administrative support occupations	34.0	4,600	8
Education, training, and library occupations	32.1	230	4
Management occupations	29.4	1,220	5
Life, physical and social science occupations	23.1	140	2
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	13.5	100	2
Business and financial occupations	5.1	200	7
Architecture and engineering occupations	4.6	90	5
Legal occupations	3.7	20	19
Computer and mathematical occupations	3.1	90	4

Case Characteristics

The sprains, strains, and tears category is the leading nature of occupational injuries with 18,590 cases, accounting for 35 percent of the 52,970 total cases requiring days away from work. The back was the body part reported to be the most affected with 9,470 cases. The category of floors, walkways, and ground surfaces was the highest reported source for cases requiring days away from work with 8,870, followed by vehicles with 7,030 and person, injured or ill worker with 6,560 cases. Overexertion and bodily reaction was the leading event or exposure, reporting 15,490 cases. Second was contact with object and equipment with 15,160 cases and third was falls, slips or trips with 13,680. (Table 4)

Table 4. Incidence Rates and Numbers of Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Selected Characteristics, Private Industry, Texas 2014

Nature of Injury, Illness	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Fractures	6.4	5,230
Sprains, strains, tears	22.9	18,590
Amputations	.5	420
Bruises, contusions	5.7	4,640
Chemical burns and corrosions	.5	400
Heat (thermal) burns	1.3	1,050
Soreness, pain	8.5	6,880
Cuts, lacerations, punctures	7.8	6,320
Carpal tunnel syndrome	.1	70
Tendonitis	--	40
Multiple traumatic injuries	1.7	1,370
Part of Body Affected	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Head	5.9	4,820
Eye	1.8	1,480
Neck	1.1	860
Trunk	16.0	12,990

Back	11.7	9,470
Upper extremities	20.1	16,320
Shoulder	4.7	3,800
Arm	2.8	2,250
Wrist	2.2	1,750
Hands	9.7	7,870
Lower extremities	15.0	12,200
Knee	5.5	4,440
Ankle	3.3	2,640
Foot	3.3	2,640
Toe, Toenail	.9	720
Body systems	1.0	830
Multiple body parts	6.0	4,870
Source of Injury, Illness	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Chemicals, chemical products	1.0	770
Containers	7.8	6,360
Furniture, fixtures	2.5	2,050
Machinery	3.8	3,070
Parts and materials	7.0	5,700
Person, injured or ill worker	8.1	6,560
Worker motion or position	7.9	6,390
Person , other than injured or ill workers	2.8	2,310
Patient	2.1	1,700
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	10.9	8,870
Ladder	1.5	1,180
Handtools	2.8	2,290
Vehicles	8.7	7,030
Trucks	2.9	2,360
Cart, dolly, hand truck-nonpowered	1.1	870
Event or Exposure	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Violence and other injuries by persons or animal	2.5	2,060
Intentional injury by other person	.7	600
Injury by person-unintentional or intent unknown	.3	220
Animal and insect related incidents	1.5	1,250
Transportation incidents	4.9	3,970
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles	3.4	2,780
Fires and explosions	.1	100
Falls, slips, trips	16.8	13,680
Slips, trips without fall	2.6	2,090
Fall on same level	10.4	8,440
Fall to lower level	3.7	2,970
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	3.1	2,480
Contact with object, equipment	18.7	15,160
Struck by object or equipment	11.4	9,240
Struck against object or equipment	3.4	2,720
Caught in or compressed by object or equipment	3.1	2,550
Overexertion and bodily reaction	19.1	15,490

Repetitive motion involving microtasks	.9	730
Overexertion in lifting or lowering	6.9	5,630

Demographics

Employees ages 35 to 44 reported 12,380 cases involving days away from work, accounting for 23 percent of the total number of the cases. Employees in the 16 to 19 age group reported the lowest number of cases (1,500), while employees ages 65 and over experienced the highest median days away from work (30). (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 2014

Age	Private Industry	Goods Producing Industries	Service Providing Industries	Median Days Away from Work
16 to 19	1,500	330	1,170	3
20 to 24	5,300	1,430	3,880	5
25 to 34	11,720	3,490	8,230	6
35 to 44	12,380	2,870	9,510	9
45 to 54	12,170	3,310	8,870	10
55 to 64	8,350	1,740	6,610	14
65 and over	1,510	540	970	30

Length of Service

Employees with one to five years of service reported 18,020 cases and accounted for 34 percent of the 52,970 total private industry cases requiring days away from work. Employees having less than three months of service reported the lowest number of cases with 7,530. (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 2014

Length of Service with Employer	Private Industry	Goods Producing Industries	Service Providing Industries
Less than 3 months	7,530	2,440	5,100
3 months to 11 months	12,160	3,680	8,490
1 year to 5 years	18,020	4,290	13,730
More than 5 years	14,890	3,290	11,600

DWC released previous communications in 2015 reporting on 2014 data from the BLS occupational safety and health statistical series. On September 17, 2015, the DWC issued the first report, which covered work-related fatalities from the 2014 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (located at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/documents/2014newsrelease.pdf). On October 29, 2015, DWC reported that there were 194,642 nonfatal injuries and illnesses in the private sector in Texas in 2014 (report located at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/documents/2014nfnwrlse.pdf). This report is a companion to the October 29, 2015 report.

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.bls.gov/news.release/osh2.nr0.htm.

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—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. 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.*
- Source: U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, November 19, 2015.*