



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 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

Major Occupational Group	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Office and administrative support occupations	21.8	3,060	5
Business and financial operation occupations	8.9	370	5
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
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.