

2019 Rates of Texas Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Requiring Days Away from Work



TDI

Division of Workers' Compensation

November 2020

Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 | Austin, Texas 78744
800-252-7031 | www.tdi.texas.gov/wc

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2019 RATES OF TEXAS WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES REQUIRING DAYS AWAY FROM WORK	3
Key Findings.....	3
Workplace Characteristics	3
Case Characteristics	5
Demographics.....	8
ENDNOTES.....	9
DWC RESOURCES.....	10

2019 RATES OF TEXAS WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES REQUIRING DAYS AWAY FROM WORK

The data in this report is the latest available from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII). The report is created by the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) in cooperation with BLS. It examines the circumstances of injuries and illnesses by industry, and the characteristics of employees in cases that involved days away from work (DAFW). This data helps employers, safety professionals, and policymakers identify occupational safety and health issues.

Key Findings

Of approximately 187,600 nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by Texas private industry employers in 2019, 49,840 or 27 percent, were of a serious nature and resulted in DAFW. This resulted in an incidence rate of 55.4 per 10,000 full-time employees (FTEs) for DAFW cases, according to estimates from SOII. The median DAFW number represents the midpoint between the most DAFW and the fewest DAFW and is a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses. The median DAFW for private industry employers was 10 in 2019. (Table 1)

Table 1. Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work, Private Industry, Texas 2018-2019

Private Industry	2018	2019
Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work.	51,250	49,840
Incidence rate of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work per 10,000 FTEs.	58.7	55.4
Median days away from work.	9	10

Workplace Characteristics

The following two sections contain information about the industries and occupations of injured employees. Industry information is about the type of business where an employee works and is coded using the North America Industry Classification System (NAICS). Occupation information is about the work an employee does and is coded using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) manual. For example, a transportation company employs managers and salespeople, as well as truck drivers. Transportation and material moving occupations are found in both goods-producing industries, as well as service-providing industries. This report presents both industry and occupational information to provide a more complete picture of the workplace characteristics of injured employees. Both the NAICS and SOC systems have been recently updated, which may limit comparisons to previous years.

Industries

The goods-producing industries reported 10,030 DAFW cases, an incidence rate of 49.0 per 10,000 FTEs and a median DAFW rate of 14 days for 2019. The service-providing industries reported 39,810 DAFW cases, an incidence rate of 57.2 per 10,000 FTEs and a median DAFW rate of 9 days. A further break down by industry sectors is provided below. (Table 2)

Table 2. Incidence Rate and Numbers of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Selected Major Industry Sectors, Private Industry, Texas 2019

Industry	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Private Industry	55.4	49,840	10
Goods-Producing	49.0	10,030	14
Natural resources and mining	45.6	1,540	19
Construction	42.5	3,280	17
Manufacturing	55.6	5,210	10
Service-Providing	57.2	39,810	9
Trade, transportation, and utilities	91.7	19,790	10
Information	68.5	1,270	35
Financial activities	17.4	1,250	14
Professional and business services	24.3	3,480	7
Education and health services	54.4	6,890	6
Leisure, entertainment, and hospitality	64.7	5,970	7
Other services (except public admin)	43.0	1,160	5

Occupations

Occupations that had statistically significant decreases in both incidence rates and number of cases from 2018 to 2019 included building and grounds cleaning and maintenance; arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; educational instruction and library; and sales and related occupations. Occupations that had statistically significant increases in both incidence rates and number of cases from 2018 to 2019 included food preparation and serving-related, and computer and mathematical occupations. (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 2019

Major Occupational Group	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases	Median Days Away from Work
Transportation and material moving	156.9	13,750	13
Farming, fishing, and forestry	115.4	600	10
Installation, maintenance, and repair	102.9	4,760	14
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	90.1	2,010	7
Production	65.7	4,200	10
Healthcare practitioners and technical	63.3	3,000	6
Construction and extraction	62.0	3,610	16
Food preparation and serving-related	59.6	4,890	6
Healthcare support	57.9	2,270	7
Protective service	56.6	520	4
Personal care and service	53.6	830	10
Sales and related	34.2	3,500	6
Community and social service	29.3	140	2
Office and administrative support	25.6	3,220	12
Management	22.1	1,190	4
Educational instruction and library	16.0	170	3
Life, physical, and social science	14.4	90	2
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	12.4	120	6
Business and financial operations	10.7	530	8
Computer and mathematical	9.3	300	5
Architecture and engineering	4.9	110	4
Legal	--	--	--

Case Characteristics

Case characteristics provide details of the injuries experienced by employees. The total incidence rate for each case characteristic category may not add up to the total incidence rate of 55.4 and the number of cases may not add up to 49,840, because of rounding and data from non-selected characteristics.

Sprains, strains, and tears in the nature of injury, illness category continues to have a high number of cases at 15,650 and accounted for 31 percent of the total DAFW cases. However, this is a statistically significant decrease in both the incidence rate and number of cases compared to 2018. Body system, in the part of body affected category, had an increase in both case count and incidence rate from 2018. Body

system is when the entire body is affected, such as allergic reactions, venomous bites, dizziness, and anxiety attacks. In the source of injury, illness category, machinery and floors, walkways, and ground surfaces had decreases in both case count and incidence rate from 2018. Within the event or exposure category, falls, slips, trips, and fall on same level, both saw decreases in their incidence rate and number of cases from 2018 to 2019. (Table 4)

Table 4. Incidence Rates and Numbers of Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Selected Characteristics, Private Industry, Texas 2019

Nature of Injury, Illness	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Fractures	6.7	6,060
Sprains, strains, tears	17.4	15,650
Amputations	0.4	400
Bruises, contusions	5.2	4,710
Chemical burns and corrosions	0.2	210
Heat (thermal) burns	1.3	1,150
Soreness, pain	6.5	5,870
Cuts, lacerations, punctures	7.0	6,340
Carpal tunnel syndrome	0.1	90
Tendonitis	--	20
Multiple traumatic injuries	2.0	1,770
Part of Body Affected	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Head	5.4	4,840
Eye	1.2	1,100
Neck	0.5	470
Trunk	11.0	9,910
Back	7.9	7,090
Upper extremities	17.9	16,140
Shoulder	3.9	3,500
Arm	2.6	2,300
Wrist	1.7	1,500
Hands	8.5	7,670
Lower extremities	13.4	12,050
Knee	4.0	3,620
Ankle	3.0	2,710
Foot	3.2	2,900
Toe, toenail	0.6	560
Body systems	1.2	1,110
Multiple body parts	5.4	4,860

Source of Injury, Illness	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Chemicals, chemical products	0.7	630
Containers	6.6	5,980
Furniture, fixtures	2.3	2,070
Machinery	2.9	2,640
Parts and materials	4.7	4,210
Person, injured or ill worker	6.4	5,740
Worker motion or position	6.1	5,520
Person, other than injured or ill worker	3.1	2,790
Health care patient	2.3	2,040
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	9.1	8,210
Ladder	1.4	1,250
Hand tools	3.1	2,830
Vehicles	7.6	6,830
Trucks	2.5	2,260
Cart, dolly, hand truck - nonpowered	0.8	690
Event or Exposure	Incidence Rate	Number of Cases
Violence and other injuries by persons or animal	2.8	2,510
Intentional injury by other person	1.2	1,100
Injury by person - unintentional or intent unknown	0.4	320
Animal and insect-related incidents	1.2	1,080
Transportation incidents	3.9	3,520
Roadway incidents involving motorized land vehicles	2.8	2,520
Fires and explosions	0.2	170
Falls, slips, trips	15.0	13,480
Slips, trips without fall	2.4	2,120
Fall on same level	8.7	7,790
Fall to lower level	3.7	3,360
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	2.7	2,450
Contact with object, equipment	16.0	14,360
Struck by object or equipment	9.7	8,770
Struck against object or equipment	2.9	2,620
Caught in or compressed by object or equipment	2.3	2,110
Overexertion and bodily reaction	14.7	13,230
Repetitive motion involving micro tasks	0.8	730
Overexertion in lifting or lowering	4.9	4,450

Demographics

Age

Whereas employees 35 to 44 saw a decrease in total number of cases and incidence rate from 2018 to 2019, employees 65 and over saw an increase in both areas in 2019. Employees 14 to 15 are included for the first time this year. (Table 5)

Table 5. Incidence Rate and Number of Nonfatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Involving Days Away from Work by Age of Employee and Major Industry Sector, Private Industry, Texas 2018

Age	Private Industry Incidence Rate	Private Industry Case Count	Goods-Producing Industries Case Count	Service Providing Industries Case Count	Median Days Away from Work
14 to 15	--	70	--	70	36
16 to 19	71.7	1,670	290	1,370	2
20 to 24	63.3	5,700	1,260	4,440	7
25 to 34	50.1	11,230	2,290	8,940	7
35 to 44	44.1	9,070	2,190	6,880	14
45 to 54	55.5	10,090	1,930	8,160	11
55 to 64	67.5	9,000	1,740	7,270	14
65 and up	73.4	2,830	290	2,540	13

Length of Service

Employees with less than 3 months had a decrease in cases from 7,270 in 2018 to 6,350 in 2019. All other groups remained statistically unchanged. (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 2017

Length of Service with Employer	Private Industry	Goods-Producing Industries	Service-Providing Industries	Median Days Away from Work
Less than 3 months	6,350	1,370	4,980	8
3 to 11 months	12,490	2,720	9,760	8
1 to 5 years	17,040	3,370	13,670	9
More than 5 years	13,470	2,550	10,920	13

This report is a companion to the 2019 industry summary data report which can be found at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepag.html. In December 2020, DWC will issue a report covering work-related fatalities from the 2019 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

To get more Texas nonfatal occupational injury and illness data, contact DWC at 512-804-4640 or email InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov. You can also visit www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/index.html. Details about the national BLS injury and illness data are at www.htm.bls.gov/iif.

ENDNOTES

Beginning with survey year 2011, the classification system used to code case characteristics and occupations was revised, which 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 before 2011.

Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 10,000 FTEs 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 FTEs (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

DAFW cases include those that result in DAFW with or without job transfer or restriction.

Private industry data excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees. Totals include data for industries not shown in this report.

Data for mining 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 MSHA, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. This data does 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 is provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. This data does 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.

A dash indicates data does not meet publication guidelines.

Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2020.

DWC RESOURCES

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 www.txsafetyatwork.com or call 800-252-7031, option 2. Employers that carry workers' compensation insurance in Texas can get accident prevention services from their insurance companies at no additional charge.



**2019 Rates of Texas Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses Requiring Days Away from Work
November 2020**

Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 | Austin, Texas 78744
800-252-7031 | tdi.texas.gov/wc