

# 2021-2022 Biennial rates of Texas work-related injuries and illnesses involving days away from work, job transfer, or restrictions



## December 2023

Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation  
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**TDI** Division of Workers' Compensation

# Table of Contents

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2021-2022 Biennial rates of Texas work-related injuries and illnesses involving days away from work, job transfer, or restrictions.....	2
Key Findings.....	2
Workplace Characteristics.....	2
Case Characteristics.....	6
Demographics.....	10
Endnotes.....	11
DWC Resources.....	11

# 2021-2022 Biennial rates of Texas work-related injuries and illnesses involving days away from work, job transfer, or restrictions

The data in this report are 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.

BLS published a new biennial case and demographic data series for cases that include days of job transfer or restriction (DJTR) starting with data from 2021 and 2022. The DJTR has case circumstances and demographics that match existing days away from work (DAFW) data. With the change in data series, 2021-2022 data will be consolidated and not reported for individual years. The 2021-2022 incidence rates are annualized over the two years that the data was collected. Annual summary industry estimates will remain unchanged.

In 1992, DJTR cases accounted for 21% of total cases that had days away from work, days of restricted work activity, or days with a job transfer (DART). Return to Work or Recover at Work (RTW) programs that have been implemented since then support injured employees that perform different job functions or work in a different part of the company while they recover. These types of cases frequently don't have DAFW, and their case details were not captured.

By 2021-2022, Texas DJTR cases accounted for 45% of DART cases. Including DJTR case details as part of DART cases, instead of just reporting on DAFW cases, will give a more complete picture of all occupational injuries and illnesses. This data helps employers, safety professionals, and policymakers identify occupational safety and health issues.

## Key Findings

Due to the change in data series, the 2021-2022 case data cannot be directly compared to prior years. Of approximately 357,400 nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by Texas private industry employers in 2021-2022, 228,930 or 64%, resulted in DART. This resulted in an incidence rate of 127.6 per 10,000 full-time employees (FTEs) for DART cases, according to estimates from SOII. The median DART number represents the midpoint between the most days and the fewest days and is a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses. The median days for DART for private industry employers was 14 during 2021-2022 (Table 1).

<b>Table 1: Biennial nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving DART, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas</b>	
<b>Private industry</b>	<b>2021-2022</b>
Number of nonfatal occupational injuries involving DART cases.	228,930
Annualized incidence rate of nonfatal occupational injuries involving DART cases per 10,000 FTEs.	127.6
Median days for DART cases.	14

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

## Workplace Characteristics

The following two sections contain information about the industries and occupations of injured employees to provide a more complete picture of the workplace characteristics of injured employees. The industry information describes the type of business where an employee works and is coded using the North America Industry Classification System (NAICS). The employee occupation information describes 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. Both the NAICS and SOC systems have been recently updated, which may limit comparisons to previous years.

## Industries

The goods-producing industries reported 48,720 DART cases for the combined years of 2021 and 2022. The annualized incidence rate was 130.4 per 10,000 FTEs and a median days DART was 14 days for 2021-2022. The service-providing industries reported 180,210 DART cases, an annualized DART incidence rate of 126.9 per 10,000 FTEs, and a median days DART of 13 days. Table 2 shows a further breakdown by industry sectors.

<b>Table 2: Biennial incidence rate and numbers of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving DART by selected major industry sectors, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas</b>			
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>	<b>Median days DART</b>
<b>Private industry</b>	127.6	228,930	14
<b>Goods-producing</b>	130.4	48,720	14
Natural resources and mining	71.7	3,410	18
Construction	110.6	16,450	15
Manufacturing	162.8	28,860	14
<b>Service-providing</b>	126.9	180,210	13
Trade, transportation, and utilities	220.6	96,610	14
Information	27.0	1,010	8
Financial activities	44.1	6,610	10
Professional and business services	49.9	15,510	13
Education and health services	147.8	37,960	10
Leisure, entertainment, and hospitality	111.5	19,410	10
Other services (except public administration)	57.8	3,100	9

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

Manufacturing saw a significant decrease in their overall incidence rate from 2020 to 2021-2022. The 2020 case data is for DAFW only, but we can still see the decrease by comparing the 2021-2022 DAFW (77.2) rate in Table 3.

<b>Table 3: Incidence rates involving DAFW for manufacturing, private industry, 2020 and 2021-2022, Texas</b>		
<b>Selected industry</b>	<b>2020 incidence rate for DAFW cases</b>	<b>2021-2022 annualized incidence rate for DAFW cases</b>
Manufacturing	83.8	77.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

To break down the data further, Table 4 shows the incidence rates for specific events, so we can see changes in the types of events or exposures that manufacturing employees experienced in 2020, compared to the annualized incidence rate for 2021-2022.

<b>Table 4: Incidence rates involving DAFW for selected events in the manufacturing, private industry, 2020 and 2021-2022, Texas</b>		
<b>Selected events for manufacturing</b>	<b>2020 incidence rate for DAFW cases</b>	<b>2021-2022 annualized incidence rate for DAFW cases</b>
Violence and other injuries by persons or animals	1.0	0.4
Transportation	1.6	1.7
Fires and explosions	0.6	0.4
Falls, slips, trips	16.5	12.3
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	20.2	19.8
Contact with object, equipment	27.4	27.0
Overexertion and bodily reaction	16.4	15.4

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

## Occupations

Table 5 shows private sector occupations across multiple industries. Transportation and material moving occupations had the largest annualized incidence rate at 327.6 per 10,000 FTEs, with the rest of the occupations listed in descending order of annualized incidence rate. The number of cases and median DART are included for each occupation to provide a more complete picture.

<b>Table 5: Annualized incidence rates and numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving DART and median days involving DART by major occupational group, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas</b>			
<b>Major occupational group</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>	<b>Median days DART</b>
Transportation and material moving	327.6	64,220	15
Production	222.1	24,790	15
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	219.3	9,360	10
Protective services	185.1	3,110	14
Installation, maintenance, and repair	176.9	16,430	14
Health care support	168.6	12,360	10
Health care practitioners and technical	159.5	15,090	11
Construction and extraction	138.5	13,640	15
Food preparation and serving related	118.9	17,910	10
Farming, fishing, and forestry	118.6	1,210	14
Sales and related	109.9	20,140	14
Personal care and service	86.9	2,380	7
Life, physical, and social science	86.2	920	10
Educational instruction and library	68.9	1,470	10
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	62.1	1,070	12
Office and administrative support	53.2	12,130	14
Community and social service	50.3	590	14
Management	47.6	7,870	10
Architecture and engineering	19.1	690	10
Business and financial operations	13.6	1,550	9
Computer and mathematical	8.3	580	150
Legal	7.0	80	2

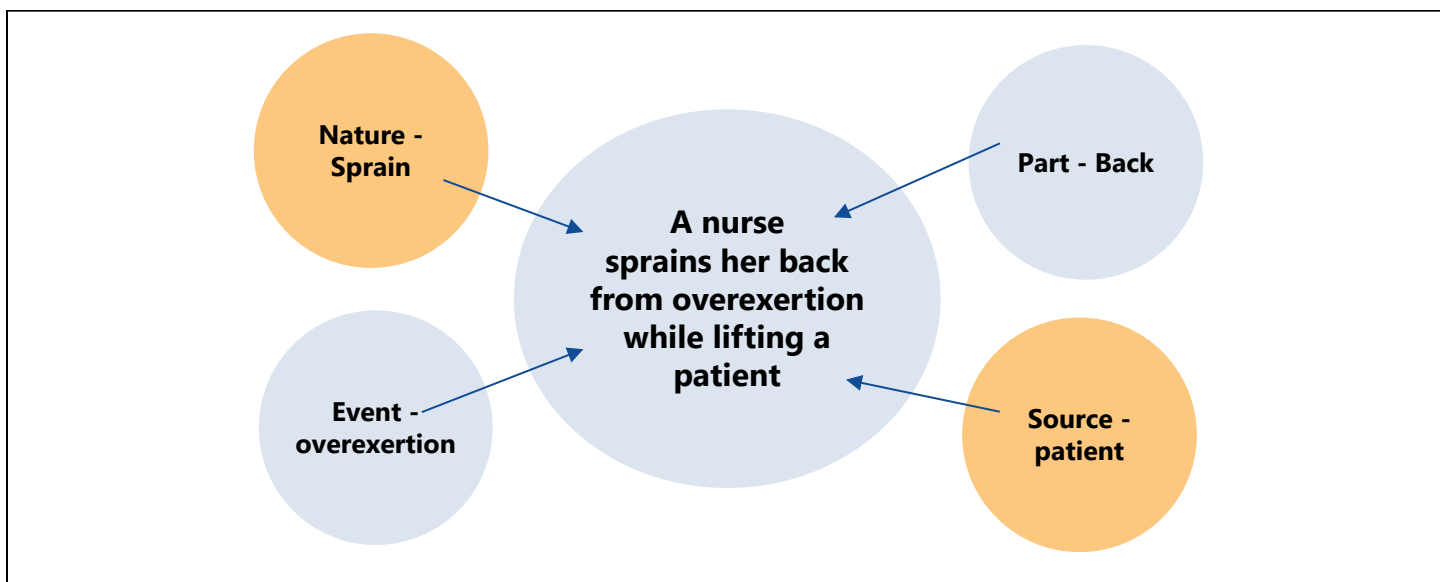
Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

Looking at specific occupations and comparing the number of DAFW cases with DJTR cases shows how RTW programs impact employees. Overall, DJTR cases are 45% of all DART cases. Table 6 shows that some occupations have a higher percentage of injured employees that continue to work as they recover.

<b>Table 6: Numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving DAFW and DJTR by selected worker occupations, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas</b>			
<b>Selected worker occupations</b>	<b>Number of cases DAFW</b>	<b>Number of cases DJTR</b>	<b>Percent of cases involving only DJTR</b>
Stockers and order fillers	3,840	8,170	68%
Food preparation workers	1,680	3,540	68%
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers	2,210	3,090	58%
Laborers and freight, stock, and material	11,490	13,830	55%
Retail salespersons	4,710	5,370	53%
Shipping, receiving, and inventory clerks	1,100	1,200	52%
Cashiers	1,540	1,640	52%
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	1,170	1,220	51%
Light truck drivers	3,310	3,530	50%
Maintenance and repair workers, general	3,250	2,710	45%
Helpers – production workers	1,460	1,170	44%
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	1,800	1,380	43%
Fast food and counter workers	1,880	1,410	43%
Construction laborers	2,820	1,980	42%
Electricians	1,070	640	37%

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

### Case Characteristics



Case characteristics provide details about the injuries experienced by employees. Each injury or illness is broken out into four different viewpoints:

- Nature of injury or illness.



- Part of body affected.
- Event or exposure.
- Source of injury or illness.

Table 7 shows incidence rates and numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving DART by specific case characteristics. The annualized incidence rate for each case characteristic category may not add up to the total annualized incidence rate of 127.6 and the number of cases may not add up to 228,930 due to rounding and data from non-selected characteristics.

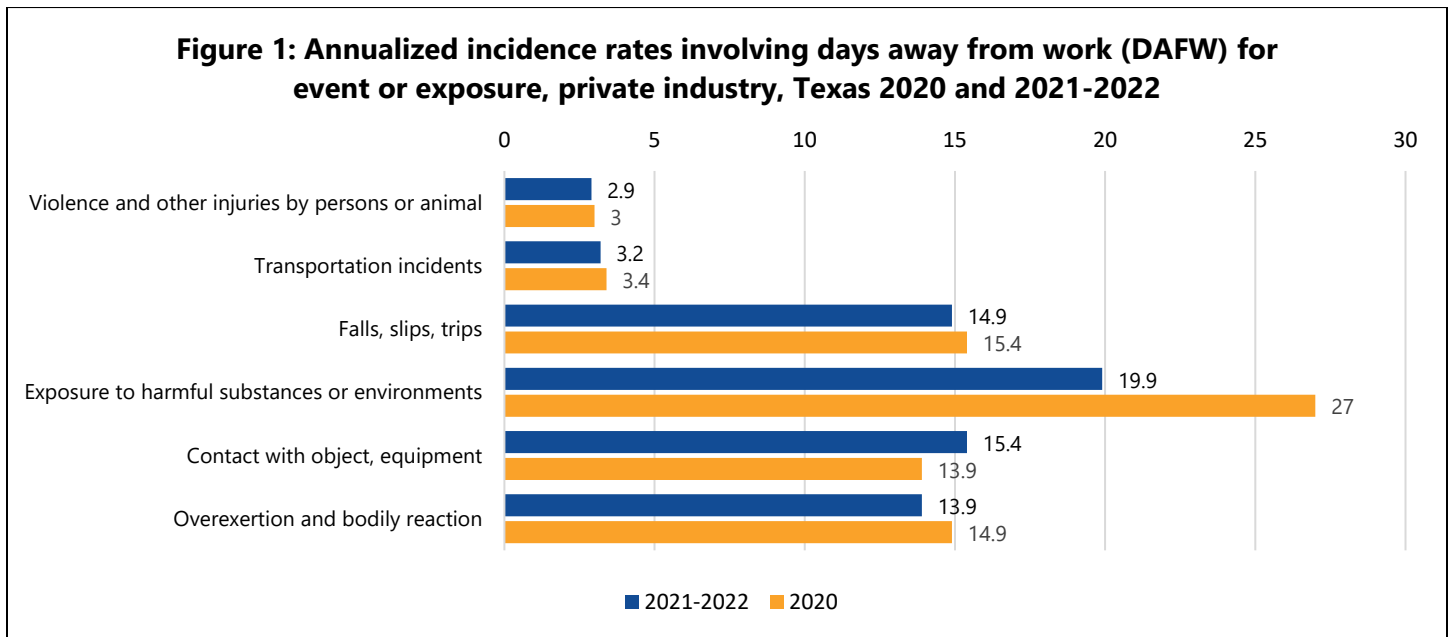
<b>Table 7: Incidence rates and numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving DART by selected characteristics, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas</b>		
<b>Nature of injury, illness</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>
Fractures	8.4	15,070
Sprains, strains, tears	43.5	78,110
Amputations	0.4	730
Bruises, contusions	13.3	23,850
Chemical burns and corrosions	0.5	850
Heat (thermal) burns	1.7	2,990
Soreness, pain	13.2	23,770
Cuts, lacerations, punctures	14.2	25,430
Multiple traumatic injuries	3.1	5,540
<b>Part of body affected</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>
<b>Head</b>	7.0	12,620
Eye	1.7	3,020
<b>Neck</b>	1.3	2,290
<b>Trunk</b>	22.2	39,770
Back	16.7	29,960
<b>Upper extremities</b>	39.5	70,920
Shoulder	7.8	14,010
Arm	5.7	10,190
Wrist	4.7	8,360
Hands	19.1	34,300
<b>Lower extremities</b>	27.9	50,050
Knee	8.7	15,670
Ankle	6.6	11,810
Foot	7.0	12,610
Toe, toenail	1.6	2,840
<b>Body systems</b>	18.9	33,850
<b>Multiple body parts</b>	9.2	16,450
<b>Source of injury, illness</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>
<b>Chemicals, chemical products</b>	1.4	2,440
<b>Containers</b>	18.2	32,590
<b>Furniture, fixtures</b>	4.2	7,530
<b>Machinery</b>	5.9	10,560



<b>Parts and materials</b>	9.7	17,440
<b>Person, injured or ill worker</b>	13.7	24,640
Worker motion or position	13.3	23,880
<b>Person, other than injured or ill worker</b>	5.9	10,600
Health care patient	4.7	8,400
<b>Floors, walkways, ground surfaces</b>	16.9	30,310
<b>Ladder</b>	2.1	3,740
<b>Hand tools</b>	6.4	11,560
<b>Vehicles</b>	12.9	23,180
Trucks	3.7	6,580
Cart, dolly, hand truck – nonpowered	2.3	4,050
<b>Event or exposure</b>	<b>Annualized DART incidence rate</b>	<b>Number of DART cases</b>
<b>Violence and other injuries by persons or animals</b>	4.6	8,250
Intentional injury by other person	1.7	3,120
Injury by other person – unintentional or intent unknown	0.8	1,450
Animal and insect-related incidences	2.1	3,690
<b>Transportation incidences</b>	5.0	9,020
Roadway incidences involving motorized land vehicles	2.9	5,120
<b>Fires and explosions</b>	0.2	360
<b>Falls, slips, trips</b>	26.6	47,650
Slips, trips without fall	4.1	7,440
Fall on same level	16.6	29,840
Fall to lower level	5.4	9,690
<b>Exposure to harmful substances or environments</b>	21.3	38,280
<b>Contact with object, equipment</b>	34.2	61,350
Struck by object or equipment	20.6	37,020
Struck against object or equipment	6.5	11,650
Caught in or compressed by object or equipment	5.4	9,720
<b>Overexertion and bodily reaction</b>	34.7	62,190
Repetitive motion involving micro tasks	1.7	2,970
Overexertion in lifting or lowering	11.9	21,350

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

Looking at event or exposure incidence rates shows changes to the types of injuries and illnesses that employees are experiencing, regardless of the industry or type of job they have. COVID cases are reported in exposure to harmful substances or environments which also includes poisoning, allergic reactions, contagious and infectious diseases, and drug overdoses. Figure 1 shows a decrease in the exposure to harmful substances or environments category as well as other changes in events from 2020 to 2021-2022.



Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

## Demographics

Employee characteristics are recorded at the time of the injury or illness, and include the injured employee's gender, age, and length of service with employer. Age of employee data includes the private industry annualized DART rate, DART case counts, and median days DART for each category (Table 8). DART case counts are further broken down by goods-producing industries and service-providing industries. Table 2 shows that the DART annualized incidence rate is similar for the goods-producing and service-providing industries, but the case counts are not, due to the differences in employment for the different sectors. Length of service with employer reports private industry DART case counts, with a further breakdown by goods producing industries and service providing industries, and median days DART for each category (Table 9).

**Table 8: Incidence rate and number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving DART by age of employee and major industry sector, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas**

Age	Private industry DART annualized incidence rate	Private industry DART case count	Goods producing industries DART case count	Service providing industries DART case count	Median days DART
14 to 15	--	50	--	50	8
16 to 19	188.2	8,870	1,560	7,310	8
20 to 24	181.1	30,130	4,830	25,310	10
25 to 34	118.3	51,550	11,390	40,160	12
35 to 44	103.2	43,030	9,970	33,060	14
45 to 54	118.2	43,550	9,650	33,890	15
55 to 64	153.2	38,460	8,140	30,310	16
65 and up	122.0	10,100	2,030	8,070	14

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

**Table 9: Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving DART by length of service and major industry sector, private industry, 2021-2022, Texas**

Length of service with employer	Private industry case count	Goods-producing industries case counts	Service-providing industries case counts	Median days DART
Less than 3 months	31,510	7,370	24,140	11
3 to 11 months	54,590	11,510	43,080	12
1 to 5 years	78,180	15,490	62,690	14
More than 5 years	62,450	13,630	48,820	15

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023.

This report is a companion to the 2022 industry summary data report which can be found at [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepag.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepag.html). In December 2023, DWC will issue a report covering work-related fatalities from the 2022 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](mailto:InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov). You can also visit [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/index.html). Details about the national BLS injury and illness data are at [www.bls.gov/iif](http://www.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 include 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 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (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.

Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

Source: BLS, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating state agencies, November 2023

## 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 OSHA regulations.
- Regional and onsite safety training.
- Free safety and health publications.
- The Safety Violations Hotline.

For more information on these services, visit [www.txsafetyatwork.com](http://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.



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