

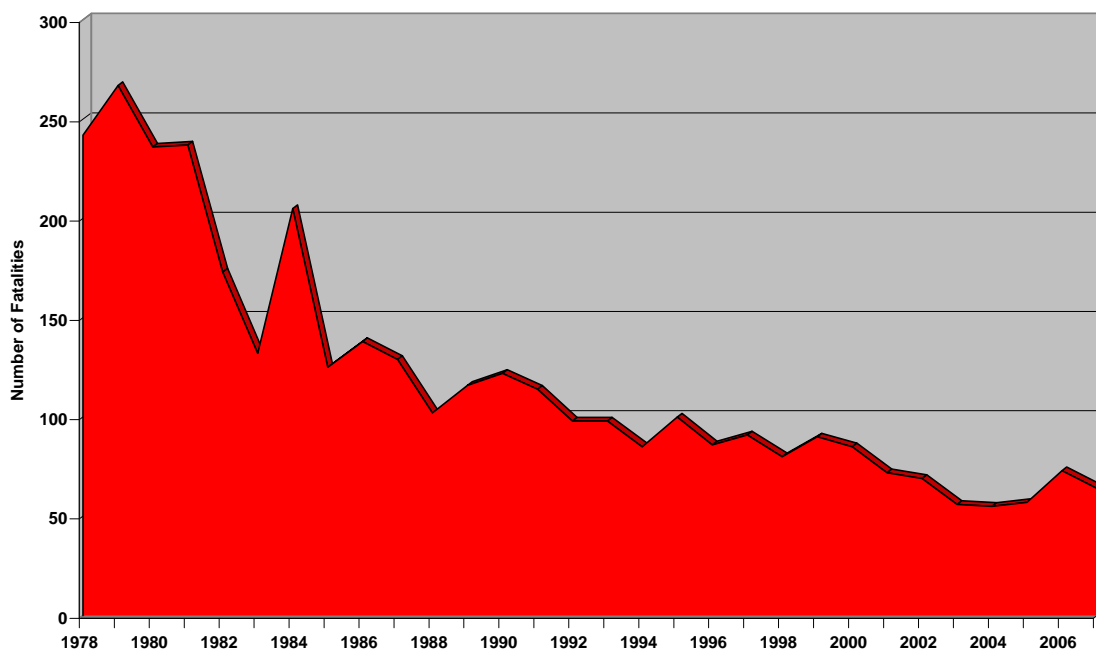
Mine Safety and Health At a Glance

07/09/2008

U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration

Safety and health in America's mining industry made significant strides during the 20th century and over the last 25 years in particular. In 1978, the first year the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) operated under the new Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, 242 miners died in mining accidents. Last year, in CY 2007, 66 fatalities were reported. MSHA's culture of prevention embeds safety and health as core values in all initiatives and ongoing activities. Inspectors are trained to direct their efforts to those areas or activities that are most likely to place miners at risk. Strong enforcement is supplemented by helping mine operators understand the law and how to comply with the law's requirements. MSHA's technical support program applies scientific and engineering solutions to mitigate hazards. Education and training for the mining industry is crucial to the reduction of accidents and illnesses. MSHA ensures that its training specialists and technical support personnel are readily accessible to the mining industry.

U.S. Mining Fatalities 1978 - 2007



All Mine Safety and Health

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Number of mines	14,623	14,520	14,391	14,478	14,666	14,885	14,871
Number of miners	347,228	329,114	320,149	329,008	344,837	363,497	378,122
Fatalities	72	70	56	55	58	73	67
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0232	.0240	.0197	.0184	.0183	.0220	.0199
All Injury rate ¹	4.75	4.60	4.23	4.05	3.92	3.64	3.43
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	52	48	50	51	45	43	44
Citations and orders issued ³	126,356	105,589	109,761	120,844	127,951	140,264	144,735
S&S citations and orders (%)	34%	32%	32%	33%	32%	33%	31%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	23.2	24.8	19.9	27.7	24.9	35.1	74.5

Coal Mine Safety and Health

U.S. Coal mine production reached the highest levels in history in recent years. In 2007 coal mining fatalities totaled 34. In the wake of three major mining accidents in 2006, MSHA along with the mining industry is making significant progress in implementing the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Number of coal mines	2,144	2,065	1,972	2,011	2,063	2,113	2,030
Number of miners	114,458	110,966	104,824	108,734	116,436	122,975	122,936
Fatalities	42	28	30	28	23	47	34
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0402	.0279	.0312	.0273	.0205	.0400	.0293
All Injury rate ¹	6.03	6.03	5.38	5.00	4.62	4.46	4.21
States with coal mining	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Coal production (millions of tons)	1,128	1,094	1,071	1,111	1,133	1,163	1,147
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	176	173	170	174	162	161	169
FY Inspection completion rate (%)	97.1	98.3	97.7	98.3	97.7	93.8	83.8
Citations and orders issued ³	68,165	57,201	56,786	64,481	69,075	77,734	84,544
S&S citations and orders (%)	40%	38%	39%	41%	39%	40%	37%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	12.4	14.9	11.7	17.6	15.4	22.5	53.5

Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

Fatalities in the Metal and Nonmetal mining industry totaled 33 in 2007. Metal and nonmetal mining includes production of metals such as gold and copper, nonmetals such as salt and phosphate, and production of stone, sand and gravel. Mining techniques and conditions are diverse and differ substantially from the coal sector. Most metal and nonmetal operations are small. MSHA has focused on small mines and formed partnerships to aid in accident reduction.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Number of metal/nonmetal mines	12,479	12,455	12,419	12,467	12,603	12,772	12,841
Number of miners	232,770	218,148	215,325	220,274	228,401	240,522	255,186
Fatalities	30	42	26	27	35	26	33
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0146	.0220	.0138	.0137	.0170	.0122	.0149
All Injury rate ¹	4.10	3.86	3.65	3.55	3.54	3.19	3.02
States with M/NM mining	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	25	22	26	26	20	19	19
FY Inspection completion rate (%)	75.3	87.6	87.4	90.2	87.7	93.5	87.5
Citations and orders issued ³	58,191	48,388	52,975	56,363	58,876	62,530	60,191
S&S citations and orders (%)	27%	25%	24%	24%	23%	24%	22%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	10.8	10.0	8.2	10.1	9.5	12.7	21.0

1-Reported injuries per 200,000 hours worked

2-Total Mining Area Time includes: On-site Inspection Time (M/NM), MMU Pit Time (Coal), Outby Area Time (Coal), Surface Area Time (Coal), Citation/Order writing On-Site. On-site inspection hours represent hours entered by Authorized Representatives of the Secretary (AR) for certain inspection activities and task codes.

3-Citations and orders are those not vacated

For more information:

www.msha.gov

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