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LOST-WORKTIME INJURIES AND ILLNESSES: CHARACTERISTICS AND RESULTING TIME AWAY FROM WORK, 1997

A total of 1.8 million injuries and illnesses that required recuperation away from work beyond the day of the incident were reported in private industry workplaces during 1997, according to a survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. Such cases have declined in all occupations from 1993 through 1997. (Table A presents the number of injuries and illnesses requiring recuperation away from work in the past 5 years for the 10 occupations that accounted for nearly one-third of such cases in 1997.) Truck drivers experienced the largest number of injuries and illnesses with time away from work in all 5 years. Although the overall number of these injuries and illnesses declined by nearly 50,000 cases from 1996 to 1997, injuries and illnesses for three occupations—construction laborers, carpenters, and welders and cutters--increased.

Table A. Number of occupational injuries and illnesses (in 1,000s) involving time away from work for selected occupations, 1993 - 1997

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
All occupations	2,252.6	2,236.6	2,040.9	1,880.5	1,833.4
Truck drivers	154.7	163.8	151.3	152.8	145.5
Laborers, nonconstruction	146.3	147.3	115.5	108.5	106.9
Nursing aides, orderlies	103.9	101.8	100.6	93.6	91.3
Janitors and cleaners	62.1	60.6	52.6	46.9	45.8
Construction laborers	54.6	55.7	43.5	43.7	45.8
Assemblers	46.8	53.0	55.5	44.0	44.3
Carpenters	34.8	37.4	35.0	33.5	37.1
Cooks	42.5	36.3	35.4	30.7	31.5
Stock handlers and baggers	39.5	37.2	34.7	31.9	29.2
Welders and cutters	29.4	29.4	29.9	26.1	28.4

Four out of 10 injuries and illnesses resulting in time away from work in 1997 were sprains or strains, most often involving the back, as in the preceding 4 years. The number of sprains or strains cases declined by nearly 17 percent from 1993 to 1997, slightly less than the decline for all cases (19 percent).

Table B. Number of occupational injuries and illnesses (in 1,000s) involving time away from work by selected nature of injury and illness, 1993 - 1997

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Sprains, strains	959.2	963.5	876.8	819.7	799.0
Bruises, contusions	211.2	212.0	192.1	174.9	165.8
Cuts, lacerations	169.9	164.6	153.2	133.2	133.6
Fractures	136.5	138.5	124.6	120.5	119.5
Heat burns	37.7	37.3	36.1	29.0	30.0
Carpal tunnel syndrome	41.0	38.3	31.5	29.9	29.2
Tendonitis	25.0	25.2	22.1	17.4	18.0
Chemical burns	15.7	16.5	13.9	11.6	12.2
Amputations	11.3	12.2	11.3	10.2	10.9

Worker and case characteristics

Worker characteristics detail the demographics of the injured or ill worker by providing not only the occupation but also the gender and age of the worker, occupational group, length of service with employer at the time of the incident, and race or ethnic origin (tables 1 and 2). Following are highlights of the 1997 findings for these worker traits:

*Men accounted for two out of three of the 1.8 million cases, a proportion somewhat higher than their share (55 percent) of private wage and salary workers.

*Workers aged 19 and under accounted for 3 percent of the cases and 6 percent of employment; 45 percent of injuries and illnesses to these young workers occurred in retail trade. Workers aged 25 to 44 accounted for 57 percent of the cases and 53 percent of employment; and workers aged 45 and over accounted for 26 percent of the cases and 30 percent of employment.

*Operators, fabricators, and laborers led all other occupational groups, accounting for 42 percent of the case total. This group includes 6 of the 10 individual jobs with the largest number of lost worktime cases—truck drivers; laborers, nonconstruction; construction laborers; assemblers; stock handlers and baggers; and welders and cutters. Together, these six occupations accounted for 400,000 injuries and illnesses (table 3).

*Nearly 7 out of 10 workers had at least a year of service with their employer when they sustained their injury or illness. Indeed, over a fourth had over 5 years of service, suggesting that many experienced workers incur lost worktime injuries.

Case characteristics help identify the disabling condition resulting from the lost worktime case and how the event or exposure occurred. The survey contains four characteristics to describe each disabling injury or illness (tables 4 through 6). To

illustrate, consider an injury to a nursing aide who sprains her back while lifting a patient. The nature, or physical effect, is a sprain or strain; the part of body affected, her back; the event, overexertion while lifting; and the source, the health care patient. Of the four characteristics, only the source changes when coding a similar incident for a truck driver who sprains his back trying to lift a box. Following are highlights of the 1997 findings for these case characteristics:

*Sprain and strain was, by far, the leading nature of injury and illness in every major industry division, ranging from 32 percent in agriculture, forestry, and fishing to 52 percent in transportation and public utilities.

*The trunk, including the back, was the body part most affected by disabling work incidents in every major industry division. Most other injuries and illnesses were to upper or lower extremities.

*No one source of injury or illness stood out, although the following three had nearly 15 percent each of the case total: floors and other surfaces, worker motion or position, and containers.

*Overexertion while maneuvering objects led all other disabling events or exposures, cited in a sixth to a third of the cases in every major industry division.

Injury and illness severity

Besides identifying high risk situations, the survey also helps focus on those kinds of injuries and illnesses resulting in the lengthiest absences from work (tables 7 through 10). Median days away from work—the key survey measure of severity—designates the point at which half the cases involved more days and half involved fewer days. The median number of lost workdays for all cases was 5 days in 1997, with a fourth of the cases resulting in 21 days or more away from work. The survey also found the following patterns:

*Among major disabling injuries and illnesses, median days away from work were highest for carpal tunnel syndrome (25 days), fractures (21 days), and amputations (18 days).

*Repetitive motion, such as grasping tools, scanning groceries, and typing, resulted in the longest absences from work among the leading events and exposures—a median of 17 days.

*Truck drivers had the highest median days away from work (9 days), followed by carpenters, plumbers and pipe fitters, public transportation attendants, and butchers and meat cutters (each with 8 days).

Technical note

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported annually on the number of days-away-from-work injuries and illnesses in private industry and the rate of such incidents since the early 1970s. The 1997 national survey marks the sixth year that BLS has collected additional detailed information on such cases in the form of worker and case characteristics data, including workdays lost, summarized in this release.

The number and frequency (incidence rates) of these cases are based on logs and other records kept by private industry employers throughout the year. These records reflect not only the year's injury and illness experience but also the employer's understanding of which cases are work related under current recordkeeping guidelines of the U.S. Department of Labor. The number of injuries and illnesses reported in a given year also can be influenced by changes in the level of economic activity, working conditions and work practices, worker experience and training, and the number of hours worked.

The survey continues to measure the number of new work-related illness cases which are recognized, diagnosed, and reported each year. In 1997, 86,900 of the 1.8 million cases with days away from work were classified as illnesses. Some conditions, e.g., long-term latent illnesses caused by exposure to carcinogens, often are difficult to relate to the workplace and are not adequately recognized and reported. These long-term latent illnesses are believed to be understated in the survey. In contrast, the overwhelming majority of the reported new illnesses are those which are easier to directly relate to workplace activity (e.g., contact dermatitis or carpal tunnel syndrome).

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is a Federal/State program (50/50 funded) in which employer reports are collected from about 165,000 private industry establishments and processed by state agencies cooperating with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Occupational injury and illness data for coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for railroad activities were provided by the Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration and the Department of Transportation's Federal Railroad Administration. The survey excludes all fatalities at work and work-related nonfatal injuries and illnesses to the self employed; workers on farms with fewer than 11 employees; private household workers; and employees in federal, state, and local government agencies.

The survey estimates of the characteristics of cases with days away from work are based on a scientifically selected probability sample, rather than a census of the entire population. Two levels of sampling were used. First, establishments were selected to represent themselves and, in many instances, other establishments of like industry and workforce size that were not selected that survey year. Then, sampled establishments projected to have large numbers of days away from work cases were instructed before the survey began on how to sample those cases to minimize the burden of their response.

Because the data are based on a sample survey, the injury and illness estimates probably differ from the figures that would be obtained from all units covered by the survey. To determine the precision of each estimate, a standard error is calculated. The standard error defines a range (confidence interval) around the estimate. The approximate 95-percent confidence interval is the estimate plus or minus twice the standard error. The standard error also can be expressed as a percent of the estimate, or the relative standard error. For example, the 95-percent confidence interval for an incidence rate of 6.5 per 100 full-time workers with a relative standard error of 1.0 percent would be 6.5 plus or minus 2 percent (2 times 1.0 percent) or 6.37 to 6.63. One can be 95 percent confident that the “true” incidence rate falls within the confidence interval. The 1997 incidence rate for all occupational injuries and illnesses of 7.1 per 100 full-time workers in private industry has an estimated relative standard error of about 0.8 percent. A relative standard error was calculated for each estimate from the survey and will be published in a BLS bulletin that is scheduled to be available later in 1999.

The data also are subject to nonsampling error. The inability to obtain detailed information about all cases in the sample, mistakes in recording or coding the data, and definitional difficulties are general examples of nonsampling error in the survey. Although not measured, nonsampling errors will always occur when statistics are gathered. However, BLS has implemented quality assurance procedures to reduce nonsampling error in the survey, including a rigorous training program for State coders and a continuing effort to encourage survey participants to respond fully and accurately to all survey elements.

Establishments are classified in industry categories based on the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget. The four case characteristics used to describe lost worktime injury and illness are based on definitions and rules of selection stipulated in the 1992 BLS Occupational Injury and Illness Classification System. The occupation of the injured or ill worker is based on the 1990 Occupational Classification System developed by the Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 1. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected worker characteristics and industry division, 1997

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total cases	1,833.4	40.5	18.1	189.8	446.1	220.6	138.2	313.9	42.7	423.4
Sex:										
Male	1,209.1	32.8	17.8	183.7	332.6	171.6	117.5	172.2	21.0	159.9
Female	605.6	7.4	.3	5.4	110.5	42.8	20.0	136.7	21.6	260.9
Age:⁴										
14 to 15 .....	.3	—	—	—	(⁵)	—	—	.1	(⁵)	.1
16 to 19	59.7	1.3	.4	3.8	9.2	3.7	3.3	27.0	.7	10.4
20 to 24	208.1	6.8	2.0	23.9	48.0	20.2	15.2	47.5	3.0	41.5
25 to 34	532.8	12.9	5.0	64.0	127.3	64.4	44.5	85.0	10.6	119.0
35 to 44	517.8	10.0	4.9	58.5	130.5	66.1	40.7	73.6	12.6	121.0
45 to 54	314.2	5.8	4.2	23.9	83.1	44.0	22.0	44.2	9.1	78.0
55 to 64	134.7	1.9	1.0	10.2	36.4	15.9	8.8	20.7	3.9	36.0
65 and over	22.4	.4	(⁵)	.9	3.3	1.4	1.5	5.6	1.3	8.1
Occupation:										
Managerial and professional specialty	98.5	.6	.3	1.8	7.0	3.1	5.2	11.4	5.2	63.8
Technical, sales, and administrative support	271.7	1.0	.4	2.7	25.8	29.9	23.4	102.3	17.5	68.6
Service	315.0	.4	(⁵)	.6	9.3	11.2	2.0	79.5	9.6	202.4
Farming, forestry, and fishing	48.0	32.2	(⁵)	.9	3.9	.4	1.1	1.5	2.6	5.6
Precision production, craft, and repair	310.4	1.2	9.8	113.7	74.5	26.4	17.3	32.6	4.7	30.2
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	775.3	4.7	7.2	69.3	320.8	148.9	88.4	84.2	2.5	49.3
Length of service with employer:										
Less than 3 months	236.5	8.6	4.3	37.7	51.0	18.7	17.2	46.8	3.9	48.3
3 to 11 months	328.2	8.9	3.7	40.8	70.7	27.7	24.2	66.8	6.4	79.1
1 to 5 years	581.5	12.4	4.4	63.5	137.1	55.4	47.2	103.4	14.4	143.8
More than 5 years	479.7	7.4	4.5	32.2	145.3	68.2	36.5	62.4	14.0	109.2
Not reported	207.3	3.2	1.2	15.6	42.0	50.7	13.1	34.5	3.9	43.1
Race or ethnic origin:										
White, non-Hispanic	966.3	16.2	6.1	123.8	251.5	89.8	82.1	163.2	21.9	211.6
Black, non-Hispanic	163.8	1.7	.4	9.1	37.7	17.4	13.2	23.1	3.6	57.7
Hispanic	187.2	16.2	1.9	22.5	46.5	10.5	16.5	27.5	5.2	40.5
Asian or Pacific Islander	31.0	.8	—	1.7	6.8	2.7	2.2	6.4	.8	9.5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	7.6	.3	.1	1.3	1.6	.7	.3	1.2	.2	1.9
Not reported	477.5	5.3	9.6	31.4	102.0	99.5	23.8	92.6	10.9	102.2

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal,

metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁴ Information is not shown separately in this release for injured workers under age 14; they accounted for fewer than 50 cases.

⁵ Fewer than 50 cases

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

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 2. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected worker characteristics and industry division, 1997

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Sex:										
Male	65.9	81.1	98.4	96.8	74.6	77.8	85.0	54.9	49.1	37.8
Female	33.0	18.4	1.6	2.8	24.8	19.4	14.4	43.6	50.7	61.6
Age:⁴										
14 to 15	(⁵)	—	—	—	(⁵)	—	—	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
16 to 19	3.3	3.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.7	2.4	8.6	1.6	2.5
20 to 24	11.3	16.9	11.1	12.6	10.8	9.2	11.0	15.1	7.1	9.8
25 to 34	29.1	32.0	27.5	33.7	28.5	29.2	32.2	27.1	24.9	28.1
35 to 44	28.2	24.6	26.9	30.8	29.3	29.9	29.5	23.4	29.6	28.6
45 to 54	17.1	14.2	23.0	12.6	18.6	19.9	15.9	14.1	21.3	18.4
55 to 64	7.3	4.6	5.8	5.4	8.2	7.2	6.3	6.6	9.1	8.5
65 and over	1.2	.9	.3	.5	.7	.6	1.1	1.8	3.0	1.9
Occupation:										
Managerial and professional specialty	5.4	1.4	1.8	1.0	1.6	1.4	3.7	3.6	12.3	15.1
Technical, sales, and administrative support	14.8	2.5	2.5	1.4	5.8	13.6	17.0	32.6	40.9	16.2
Service	17.2	1.1	.1	.3	2.1	5.1	1.5	25.3	22.5	47.8
Farming, forestry, and fishing	2.6	79.4	.1	.4	.9	.2	.8	.5	6.0	1.3
Precision production, craft, and repair	16.9	3.1	54.5	59.9	16.7	12.0	12.5	10.4	10.9	7.1
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	42.3	11.7	39.6	36.5	71.9	67.5	63.9	26.8	6.0	11.6
Length of service with employer:										
Less than 3 months	12.9	21.3	23.8	19.9	11.4	8.5	12.4	14.9	9.2	11.4
3 to 11 months	17.9	22.0	20.4	21.5	15.8	12.5	17.5	21.3	15.1	18.7
1 to 5 years	31.7	30.6	24.1	33.4	30.7	25.1	34.1	32.9	33.8	34.0
More than 5 years	26.2	18.3	24.9	17.0	32.6	30.9	26.4	19.9	32.8	25.8
Not reported	11.3	7.8	6.9	8.2	9.4	23.0	9.5	11.0	9.1	10.2
Race or ethnic origin:										
White, non-Hispanic	52.7	40.0	33.8	65.2	56.4	40.7	59.4	52.0	51.3	50.0
Black, non-Hispanic	8.9	4.1	2.3	4.8	8.4	7.9	9.6	7.4	8.4	13.6
Hispanic	10.2	39.9	10.4	11.9	10.4	4.8	11.9	8.7	12.3	9.6
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.7	2.1	—	.9	1.5	1.2	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.2
American Indian or Alaskan Native .....	.4	.7	.3	.7	.4	.3	.2	.4	.6	.5
Not reported	26.0	13.2	53.2	16.6	22.9	45.1	17.3	29.5	25.6	24.1

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal,

metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁴ Information is not shown separately in this release for injured workers under age 14; they accounted for fewer than 50 cases.

⁵ Less than 0.1 percent

NOTE: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and nonclassifiable responses, percentages may not add to 100.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 3. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected occupation and industry division, 1997

(In thousands)

Occupation	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total cases	1,833.4	40.5	18.1	189.8	446.1	220.6	138.2	313.9	42.7	423.4
Truck drivers	145.5	1.1	.7	6.0	12.1	77.7	24.1	15.6	.4	7.9
Laborers, nonconstruction	106.9	.9	1.9	—	36.0	9.4	28.2	16.9	1.4	12.3
Nursing aides, orderlies	91.3	—	—	—	(⁴)	—	—	—	.4	90.9
Janitors and cleaners	45.8	.3	(⁴)	.6	7.7	1.2	1.1	6.3	6.1	22.5
Construction laborers	45.8	—	—	44.3	.1	.3	.1	—	(⁴)	.9
Assemblers	44.3	—	(⁴)	.5	37.2	.3	2.8	1.4	—	2.2
Carpenters	37.1	—	(⁴)	29.7	2.9	.1	.7	1.1	.6	1.9
Cooks	31.5	—	—	—	.3	.1	—	21.5	.1	9.4
Stock handlers and baggers	29.2	—	(⁴)	—	1.3	.2	2.8	24.6	—	.2
Welders and cutters	28.4	.1	.3	1.9	22.4	.8	1.4	.1	.2	1.3
Registered nurses	27.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	.1	27.0
Supervisors and proprietors	26.5	—	—	—	.8	—	3.9	20.1	.5	1.0
Cashiers	25.9	—	—	—	.1	.1	.3	23.1	.3	2.0
Sales workers, other commodities ..	25.4	.1	—	—	.3	.1	1.1	22.3	.2	1.2
Maids and housemen	22.8	—	—	—	.1	(⁴)	—	.1	.5	22.0
Miscellaneous food preparation	21.9	—	—	—	.4	—	.1	14.3	.1	6.9
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	18.6	9.2	(⁴)	.8	.2	.3	.2	1.0	2.5	4.4
Mechanics, automobile	18.3	—	—	.2	.4	.4	.6	11.2	—	5.5
Electricians	17.7	—	.3	12.8	2.4	.4	.6	.2	.1	1.0
Shipping and receiving clerks	17.0	.1	—	.1	5.6	4.1	2.2	4.1	—	.9
Farm workers	15.3	14.5	—	—	.4	—	.2	—	—	.2
Driver-sales workers	14.8	.1	—	—	3.8	1.0	6.0	2.3	—	1.4
Industrial truck operators	13.6	.7	.4	.5	6.2	1.9	2.2	1.4	.1	.3
Kitchen workers	13.3	—	—	—	.1	—	.4	11.8	—	1.0
Plumbers and pipefitters	13.0	—	(⁴)	9.7	1.0	.5	.1	.2	(⁴)	1.4
Packaging, filling machine operators	12.6	.1	—	—	11.0	.1	1.0	.2	—	.2
Guards and police, except public	12.6	.1	(⁴)	—	.3	.3	.1	1.0	.6	10.1
Waiters and waitresses	12.6	—	—	—	(⁴)	—	—	8.0	.1	4.4
Stock and inventory clerks	12.2	—	—	.5	2.6	.7	1.4	5.5	.1	1.4
Licensed practical nurses	11.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.7
Supervisors, production workers	11.5	—	(⁴)	—	8.1	.9	.6	.7	.1	.9
Repairers, industrial machinery	11.4	—	1.2	.1	8.7	.2	.7	.1	—	.3
Health aides, except nursing	11.1	—	—	—	—	—	.1	—	(⁴)	11.0
Mechanics, bus, truck, stationary engine	10.3	.2	—	.4	.6	3.3	2.2	.9	—	2.6
Machinists	10.0	—	(⁴)	—	8.9	.1	.5	.1	—	.4
Attendants, public transportation	8.7	—	—	—	—	8.6	—	—	—	.1
General office clerks	8.6	.2	(⁴)	.1	.7	.8	1.3	1.1	.9	3.6
Hand packers and packagers	8.5	.2	—	—	4.1	.3	1.1	2.0	—	1.0
Waiters', waitresses' assistants	8.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.8	—	2.6
Production inspectors	8.1	—	—	—	6.7	.2	.5	.2	(⁴)	.4
Vehicle washers and cleaners	7.8	.1	—	—	1.8	1.4	.6	2.0	—	1.9
Butchers and meat cutters	7.6	—	—	—	2.3	—	.4	4.8	—	—
Secretaries	7.6	—	(⁴)	.1	.8	.2	.2	.8	.7	4.8

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of

Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁴ Fewer than 50 cases

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

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 4. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and industry division, 1997

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total cases	1,833.4	40.5	18.1	189.8	446.1	220.6	138.2	313.9	42.7	423.4
Nature of injury or illness:										
Sprains, strains	799.0	13.2	6.6	70.1	170.4	115.2	64.4	130.1	16.2	212.9
Bruises, contusions	165.8	3.5	2.2	15.3	40.2	23.1	11.2	31.8	2.7	35.8
Cuts, lacerations	133.6	4.8	1.1	18.2	37.6	8.8	9.1	34.2	2.6	17.2
Fractures	119.5	3.3	3.1	19.5	29.6	11.9	9.8	18.1	3.0	21.3
Heat burns	30.0	.2	.2	2.1	7.8	.8	1.0	11.7	.3	5.8
Carpal tunnel syndrome	29.2	.2	.1	1.1	12.2	2.2	1.8	3.1	2.4	6.1
Tendonitis	18.0	.2	—	.8	8.2	.8	.8	3.0	.6	3.7
Chemical burns	12.2	.2	.1	1.0	4.2	.6	1.0	2.4	.1	2.5
Amputations	10.9	.3	.2	1.2	5.6	.6	.8	1.4	.1	.7
Multiple traumatic injuries	59.8	1.2	.7	5.9	13.2	9.2	4.7	9.6	1.9	13.5
Part of body affected by the injury or illness:										
Head	123.4	4.6	1.5	15.5	35.5	12.0	9.0	17.9	2.3	25.2
Eye	64.9	2.9	.6	9.0	24.1	4.3	4.9	7.7	.9	10.6
Neck	32.0	.6	.3	3.1	6.1	4.7	2.4	4.8	.7	9.2
Trunk	687.4	12.6	5.6	66.3	153.7	90.4	57.1	110.6	13.7	177.3
Shoulder	92.8	1.5	.6	8.3	24.1	14.5	6.3	14.3	1.4	21.7
Back	472.1	8.2	3.6	44.5	97.8	60.5	39.6	76.6	9.8	131.4
Upper extremities	419.5	10.3	4.5	39.9	137.4	34.1	27.4	83.5	9.8	72.4
Wrist	92.2	1.6	.5	5.8	29.0	8.5	6.4	17.0	3.8	19.7
Hand, except finger	72.9	2.4	.6	7.8	22.4	5.3	4.7	16.4	1.4	11.9
Finger	154.1	3.9	2.3	17.4	56.1	9.7	10.3	31.9	2.2	20.4
Lower extremities	375.0	8.9	4.8	47.0	76.3	52.1	29.2	66.5	8.9	81.4
Knee	129.9	2.7	1.4	14.7	24.9	17.8	11.3	23.3	3.0	30.9
Foot, except toe	69.3	1.6	1.2	10.9	16.1	8.4	5.3	13.2	1.6	10.9
Toe	21.3	.4	.6	2.9	5.3	2.3	2.0	4.1	.3	3.3
Body systems	25.2	.3	.2	2.0	5.2	3.1	1.5	3.2	1.6	8.1
Multiple parts	150.6	2.5	1.0	14.2	27.1	22.5	10.1	24.2	5.1	44.0

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 4. Number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and industry division, 1997 — Continued

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Source of injury or illness:										
Chemicals and chemical products	32.2	0.7	1.1	2.8	10.2	2.4	1.9	4.9	0.8	7.6
Containers	267.4	3.3	1.0	11.0	61.9	54.5	31.4	63.8	4.7	36.0
Furniture and fixtures	64.4	.4	(⁴)	3.5	12.1	3.9	3.1	18.4	2.7	20.4
Machinery	122.8	2.6	2.4	11.3	51.9	4.9	9.9	22.3	2.1	15.5
Parts and materials	207.3	3.6	4.0	46.0	80.8	16.0	17.0	21.8	2.7	15.3
Worker motion or position	277.5	4.9	.9	23.7	80.6	32.7	20.6	40.8	9.4	64.0
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	287.8	6.7	2.7	33.1	45.3	36.3	19.1	59.8	9.5	75.5
Tools, instruments, and equipment	108.0	3.5	1.6	20.1	29.3	7.6	5.4	17.6	1.7	21.2
Vehicles	147.8	3.4	1.2	10.4	21.9	39.2	16.9	23.1	2.8	28.9
Health care patient	85.9	—	—	—	(⁴)	1.1	.1	—	.2	84.4
Event or exposure leading to injury or illness:										
Contact with objects and equipment	494.4	13.9	8.5	66.1	151.0	46.1	37.2	88.4	7.6	75.5
Struck by object	239.3	6.3	4.6	36.5	63.2	22.8	17.7	45.6	4.2	38.5
Struck against object	128.9	3.9	1.5	14.4	35.3	12.9	9.9	27.5	2.2	21.5
Caught in equipment or object ..	80.1	2.1	2.2	7.5	37.1	6.1	6.5	9.9	.7	8.0
Fall to lower level	99.9	3.4	1.8	22.0	14.4	15.7	8.2	13.2	3.2	18.1
Fall on same level	198.1	3.6	1.2	13.3	34.0	20.7	11.0	48.8	6.7	58.9
Slip, trip, loss of balance—without fall	57.4	.9	.4	5.7	11.4	7.3	4.4	11.0	1.6	14.7
Overexertion	507.5	6.9	3.9	44.3	117.3	66.8	43.4	77.9	9.5	137.5
Overexertion in lifting	297.3	3.8	1.5	25.5	64.8	37.6	28.5	52.8	6.1	76.8
Repetitive motion	75.2	.7	.1	2.8	35.9	5.2	4.4	9.1	4.4	12.7
Exposure to harmful substances	83.4	2.5	.7	7.0	24.4	6.7	4.0	17.6	1.7	18.9
Transportation accidents	74.1	1.6	.6	5.7	8.5	20.6	8.0	9.8	2.2	17.2
Fires and explosions	3.7	—	.1	.5	.8	.4	.2	1.0	.1	.6
Assaults and violent acts by person	21.3	—	(⁴)	.2	.6	.8	.5	2.9	.3	16.0

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of

Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁴ Fewer than 50 cases

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

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 5. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and industry division, 1997

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Nature of injury or illness:										
Sprains, strains	43.6	32.5	36.3	36.9	38.2	52.2	46.6	41.4	38.0	50.3
Bruises, contusions	9.0	8.7	12.2	8.0	9.0	10.5	8.1	10.1	6.3	8.4
Cuts, lacerations	7.3	12.0	6.3	9.6	8.4	4.0	6.6	10.9	6.1	4.1
Fractures	6.5	8.0	17.1	10.3	6.6	5.4	7.1	5.8	7.0	5.0
Heat burns	1.6	.5	1.4	1.1	1.7	.4	.7	3.7	.8	1.4
Carpal tunnel syndrome	1.6	.6	.4	.6	2.7	1.0	1.3	1.0	5.7	1.4
Tendonitis	1.0	.4	—	.4	1.8	.4	.6	1.0	1.3	.9
Chemical burns .....	.7	.5	.8	.5	.9	.3	.8	.8	.3	.6
Amputations .....	.6	.8	1.4	.6	1.2	.3	.6	.4	.1	.2
Multiple traumatic injuries	3.3	2.9	3.7	3.1	2.9	4.2	3.4	3.0	4.4	3.2
Part of body affected by the injury or illness:										
Head	6.7	11.4	8.3	8.1	8.0	5.5	6.5	5.7	5.3	5.9
Eye	3.5	7.1	3.1	4.8	5.4	1.9	3.5	2.5	2.1	2.5
Neck	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.4	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.7	2.2
Trunk	37.5	31.2	31.2	34.9	34.5	41.0	41.3	35.2	32.0	41.9
Shoulder	5.1	3.6	3.6	4.4	5.4	6.6	4.6	4.5	3.3	5.1
Back	25.7	20.3	20.1	23.4	21.9	27.4	28.7	24.4	23.0	31.0
Upper extremities	22.9	25.4	25.1	21.0	30.8	15.5	19.8	26.6	23.0	17.1
Wrist	5.0	3.9	2.6	3.1	6.5	3.8	4.6	5.4	8.9	4.6
Hand, except finger	4.0	6.0	3.3	4.1	5.0	2.4	3.4	5.2	3.2	2.8
Finger	8.4	9.5	12.5	9.2	12.6	4.4	7.5	10.2	5.2	4.8
Lower extremities	20.5	21.9	26.4	24.8	17.1	23.6	21.1	21.2	20.9	19.2
Knee	7.1	6.7	7.6	7.7	5.6	8.0	8.1	7.4	7.1	7.3
Foot, except toe	3.8	4.1	6.4	5.7	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.8	2.6
Toe	1.2	1.0	3.3	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	.6	.8
Body systems	1.4	.7	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.0	3.8	1.9
Multiple parts	8.2	6.2	5.6	7.5	6.1	10.2	7.3	7.7	11.8	10.4

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and industry division, 1997 — Continued

Characteristic	Private industry ²	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	Mining ³	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ³	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Source of injury or illness:										
Chemicals and chemical products	1.8	1.6	6.1	1.5	2.3	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.8
Containers	14.6	8.2	5.3	5.8	13.9	24.7	22.7	20.3	11.0	8.5
Furniture and fixtures	3.5	.9	.2	1.8	2.7	1.7	2.3	5.9	6.3	4.8
Machinery	6.7	6.3	13.5	5.9	11.6	2.2	7.2	7.1	4.9	3.7
Parts and materials	11.3	8.8	22.4	24.2	18.1	7.2	12.3	7.0	6.2	3.6
Worker motion or position	15.1	12.1	4.9	12.5	18.1	14.8	14.9	13.0	21.9	15.1
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	15.7	16.5	15.1	17.4	10.1	16.4	13.8	19.1	22.2	17.8
Tools, instruments, and equipment	5.9	8.5	9.0	10.6	6.6	3.5	3.9	5.6	4.0	5.0
Vehicles	8.1	8.5	6.5	5.5	4.9	17.8	12.2	7.4	6.5	6.8
Health care patient	4.7	—	—	—	(⁴)	.5	.1	—	.5	19.9
Event or exposure leading to injury or illness:										
Contact with objects and equipment	27.0	34.4	47.2	34.8	33.8	20.9	27.0	28.2	17.9	17.8
Struck by object	13.1	15.5	25.6	19.2	14.2	10.3	12.8	14.5	9.8	9.1
Struck against object	7.0	9.6	8.4	7.6	7.9	5.9	7.1	8.7	5.0	5.1
Caught in equipment or object ..	4.4	5.2	12.3	4.0	8.3	2.8	4.7	3.2	1.6	1.9
Fall to lower level	5.4	8.4	9.7	11.6	3.2	7.1	5.9	4.2	7.6	4.3
Fall on same level	10.8	8.8	6.5	7.0	7.6	9.4	8.0	15.5	15.7	13.9
Slip, trip, loss of balance—without fall	3.1	2.2	2.0	3.0	2.5	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.9	3.5
Overexertion	27.7	17.0	21.8	23.3	26.3	30.3	31.4	24.8	22.2	32.5
Overexertion in lifting	16.2	9.3	8.4	13.4	14.5	17.1	20.6	16.8	14.2	18.1
Repetitive motion	4.1	1.8	.6	1.5	8.0	2.3	3.2	2.9	10.2	3.0
Exposure to harmful substances	4.6	6.2	3.7	3.7	5.5	3.0	2.9	5.6	4.1	4.5
Transportation accidents	4.0	4.0	3.2	3.0	1.9	9.3	5.8	3.1	5.2	4.1
Fires and explosions .....	.2	—	.5	.3	.2	.2	.1	.3	.3	.1
Assaults and violent acts by person	1.2	—	(⁴)	.1	.1	.4	.3	.9	.8	3.8

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of

Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁴ Less than 0.1 percent

NOTE: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and nonclassifiable responses, percentages may not add to 100.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 6. Incidence rates¹ for nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work² per 10,000 full-time workers for selected characteristics and industry division, 1997

Characteristic	Private industry ³	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ³	Mining ⁴	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ⁴	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Total [1,833,380 cases]	212.3	300.5	292.7	364.8	238.3	365.4	214.3	193.0	67.4	166.9
Nature of injury or illness:										
Sprains, strains	92.5	97.6	106.2	134.7	91.0	190.8	99.9	79.9	25.6	84.0
Bruises, contusions	19.2	26.1	35.6	29.3	21.5	38.3	17.4	19.6	4.2	14.1
Cuts, lacerations	15.5	35.9	18.3	34.9	20.1	14.6	14.1	21.0	4.1	6.8
Fractures	13.8	24.2	50.1	37.5	15.8	19.6	15.2	11.1	4.7	8.4
Heat burns	3.5	1.5	4.0	4.1	4.2	1.3	1.5	7.2	(⁵)	2.3
Carpal tunnel syndrome	3.4	1.7	1.3	2.0	6.5	3.6	2.9	1.9	3.9	2.4
Tendonitis	2.1	1.3	—	1.5	4.4	1.3	1.3	1.9	(⁵)	1.4
Chemical burns	1.4	1.5	2.2	1.9	2.2	1.0	1.6	1.5	(⁵)	1.0
Amputations	1.3	2.6	4.0	2.3	3.0	(⁵)	1.3	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Multiple traumatic injuries	6.9	8.8	10.7	11.4	7.0	15.2	7.4	5.9	3.0	5.3
Part of body affected by the injury or illness:										
Head	14.3	34.1	24.4	29.7	19.0	19.9	14.0	11.0	3.6	9.9
Eye	7.5	21.2	9.0	17.4	12.9	7.1	7.6	4.7	1.4	4.2
Neck	3.7	4.4	5.7	5.9	3.3	7.8	3.8	3.0	1.1	3.6
Trunk	79.6	93.8	91.5	127.3	82.1	149.7	88.6	68.0	21.6	69.9
Shoulder	10.7	10.9	10.4	15.9	12.9	24.1	9.8	8.8	2.3	8.6
Back	54.7	60.9	58.9	85.5	52.2	100.2	61.4	47.1	15.5	51.8
Upper extremities	48.6	76.4	73.6	76.7	73.4	56.5	42.5	51.4	15.5	28.6
Wrist	10.7	11.7	7.6	11.2	15.5	14.0	9.9	10.4	6.0	7.8
Hand, except finger	8.4	18.1	9.5	14.9	12.0	8.8	7.2	10.1	2.2	4.7
Finger	17.9	28.6	36.5	33.4	30.0	16.0	16.0	19.6	3.5	8.1
Lower extremities	43.4	65.8	77.4	90.3	40.8	86.3	45.2	40.9	14.1	32.1
Knee	15.1	20.2	22.3	28.2	13.3	29.4	17.5	14.4	4.8	12.2
Foot, except toe	8.0	12.2	18.8	20.9	8.6	14.0	8.3	8.1	2.6	4.3
Toe	2.5	3.1	9.6	5.5	2.9	3.9	3.1	2.5	(⁵)	1.3
Body systems	2.9	2.2	2.9	3.8	2.8	5.2	2.3	2.0	2.6	3.2
Multiple parts	17.4	18.6	16.3	27.4	14.5	37.3	15.6	14.9	8.0	17.3

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 6. Incidence rates¹ for nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work² per 10,000 full-time workers for selected characteristics and industry division, 1997 — Continued

Characteristic	Private industry ³	Goods producing				Service producing				
		Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ³	Mining ⁴	Construction	Manufacturing	Transportation and public utilities ⁴	Wholesale trade	Retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
Source of injury or illness:										
Chemicals and chemical products	3.7	4.8	17.9	5.3	5.5	3.9	2.9	3.0	1.3	3.0
Containers	31.0	24.6	15.6	21.1	33.1	90.2	48.6	39.2	7.4	14.2
Furniture and fixtures	7.5	2.7	(⁵)	6.7	6.5	6.4	4.9	11.3	4.2	8.1
Machinery	14.2	19.0	39.5	21.7	27.7	8.1	15.3	13.7	3.3	6.1
Parts and materials	24.0	26.4	65.6	88.4	43.2	26.5	26.4	13.4	4.2	6.1
Worker motion or position	32.1	36.3	14.2	45.5	43.0	54.2	31.9	25.1	14.8	25.2
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	33.3	49.5	44.1	63.5	24.2	60.1	29.6	36.8	15.0	29.8
Tools, instruments, and equipment	12.5	25.7	26.3	38.7	15.6	12.6	8.5	10.8	2.7	8.4
Vehicles	17.1	25.4	19.1	20.1	11.7	64.9	26.2	14.2	4.4	11.4
Health care patient	10.0	—	—	—	(⁵)	1.9	(⁵)	—	(⁵)	33.3
Event or exposure leading to injury or illness:										
Contact with objects and equipment	57.3	103.4	138.2	127.0	80.6	76.4	57.8	54.3	12.1	29.8
Struck by object	27.7	46.5	75.0	70.1	33.8	37.7	27.4	28.0	6.6	15.2
Struck against object	14.9	28.8	24.5	27.6	18.8	21.4	15.3	16.9	3.4	8.5
Caught in equipment or object ..	9.3	15.6	36.1	14.4	19.8	10.1	10.1	6.1	1.1	3.2
Fall to lower level	11.6	25.2	28.4	42.2	7.7	26.0	12.7	8.1	5.1	7.1
Fall on same level	22.9	26.4	19.2	25.6	18.1	34.3	17.1	30.0	10.6	23.2
Slip, trip, loss of balance—without fall	6.7	6.7	5.9	10.9	6.1	12.1	6.9	6.8	2.6	5.8
Overexertion	58.8	50.9	63.9	85.2	62.7	110.7	67.2	47.9	15.0	54.2
Overexertion in lifting	34.4	28.0	24.7	49.0	34.6	62.3	44.2	32.4	9.6	30.3
Repetitive motion	8.7	5.5	1.7	5.4	19.2	8.5	6.8	5.6	6.9	5.0
Exposure to harmful substances	9.7	18.6	10.7	13.5	13.0	11.1	6.1	10.8	2.8	7.4
Transportation accidents	8.6	11.9	9.4	10.9	4.5	34.0	12.4	6.0	3.5	6.8
Fires and explosions	(⁵)	—	1.4	1.0	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Assaults and violent acts by person	2.5	—	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)	1.3	(⁵)	1.8	(⁵)	6.3

¹ Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers and were calculated as: (N/EH) x 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 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

² Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

³ Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

⁴ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal industries.

⁵ Less than 1.0 case per 10,000 full-time workers

NOTE: Dashes indicate data that are not available.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 7. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected worker characteristics and number of days away from work, 1997

Characteristic	Total cases	Cases involving							Median days away from work
		1 day	2 days	3 to 5 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 days or more	
Total [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	16.6	13.0	20.4	13.1	11.7	6.7	18.5	5
Sex:									
Male	100.0	16.8	12.6	20.2	13.1	11.7	6.8	18.8	6
Female	100.0	16.3	13.9	20.9	13.1	11.7	6.3	17.8	5
Age:²									
14 to 15	100.0	5.3	9.2	16.9	42.6	2.1	9.9	13.7	9
16 to 19	100.0	22.1	17.2	26.7	11.9	9.2	5.0	7.8	3
20 to 24	100.0	21.6	16.2	22.5	14.5	9.6	5.8	9.9	4
25 to 34	100.0	17.9	13.9	21.6	12.9	11.5	6.2	15.9	5
35 to 44	100.0	15.7	12.5	19.4	13.3	11.9	6.8	20.4	6
45 to 54	100.0	13.7	10.8	19.1	12.7	13.0	7.1	23.5	8
55 to 64	100.0	12.0	10.3	16.7	12.4	13.1	8.7	26.8	10
65 and over	100.0	10.8	9.4	17.1	12.5	15.0	9.4	25.7	11
Occupation:									
Managerial and professional specialty	100.0	17.5	14.1	21.9	13.6	11.4	5.4	16.1	5
Technical, sales, and administrative support	100.0	16.8	13.6	21.9	13.0	11.6	5.9	17.2	5
Service	100.0	15.8	14.7	22.0	13.7	11.8	6.2	15.8	5
Farming, forestry, and fishing	100.0	16.4	11.5	22.6	14.6	11.2	5.9	17.7	5
Precision production, craft, and repair	100.0	16.6	12.6	17.7	12.8	11.6	7.7	21.1	7
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	100.0	16.8	12.2	19.9	12.9	11.8	6.8	19.5	6
Length of service with employer:									
Less than 3 months	100.0	18.4	13.3	22.1	13.1	10.0	6.7	16.4	5
3 to 11 months	100.0	17.9	15.5	21.5	12.8	10.6	6.2	15.4	5
1 to 5 years	100.0	17.1	13.2	20.4	13.3	12.0	6.4	17.7	5
More than 5 years	100.0	14.6	11.1	19.0	13.0	12.7	7.4	22.2	7
Race or ethnic origin:									
White, non-Hispanic	100.0	17.1	13.5	20.4	12.6	11.4	6.8	18.2	5
Black, non-Hispanic	100.0	16.7	13.6	20.8	13.8	12.1	6.3	16.8	5
Hispanic	100.0	14.8	11.5	20.6	14.1	11.6	7.0	20.5	7
Asian or Pacific Islander	100.0	17.8	11.1	21.4	12.9	15.0	5.6	16.1	5
American Indian or Alaskan Native	100.0	13.7	13.0	22.9	14.8	10.8	11.0	13.8	6

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Information is not shown separately in this release for injured workers under age 14; they accounted for fewer than 50 cases.

NOTE: Because of rounding, percentages may not add to 100.
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 8. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected occupation and number of days away from work, 1997

Occupation	Total cases	Percent of cases involving							Median days away from work
		1 day	2 days	3 to 5 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 days or more	
Total [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	16.6	13.0	20.4	13.1	11.7	6.7	18.5	5
Truck drivers	100.0	11.8	10.0	19.6	12.9	13.1	7.9	24.7	9
Laborers, nonconstruction	100.0	19.6	13.3	20.8	12.1	11.8	6.0	16.4	5
Nursing aides, orderlies	100.0	16.1	15.7	23.1	14.3	11.2	5.8	13.8	5
Janitors and cleaners	100.0	16.7	13.2	22.6	11.7	13.2	5.0	17.6	5
Construction laborers	100.0	12.4	10.7	22.3	12.7	11.5	7.2	23.1	7
Assemblers	100.0	17.8	12.3	19.0	11.6	12.0	6.6	20.7	6
Carpenters	100.0	12.1	13.9	16.4	13.0	12.0	9.7	22.9	8
Cooks	100.0	15.2	14.8	25.6	12.2	10.3	8.6	13.4	5
Stock handlers and baggers	100.0	16.0	16.0	24.0	13.0	12.0	5.3	13.8	5
Welders and cutters	100.0	26.7	14.5	18.2	11.0	9.5	6.2	13.9	4
Registered nurses	100.0	18.5	17.1	19.8	13.5	11.7	4.5	15.0	4
Supervisors and proprietors	100.0	13.5	13.4	21.5	12.6	14.2	5.9	19.0	6
Cashiers	100.0	16.9	15.8	22.6	10.5	9.3	5.9	19.0	5
Sales workers, other commodities ..	100.0	17.3	12.9	23.4	13.1	12.1	6.1	15.0	5
Maids and housemen	100.0	15.1	11.8	21.6	12.7	13.0	7.1	18.6	6
Miscellaneous food preparation	100.0	16.3	12.3	25.6	13.9	9.6	5.2	17.1	5
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	100.0	19.1	12.2	24.9	14.3	7.2	4.7	17.6	5
Mechanics, automobile	100.0	24.4	15.0	18.7	11.0	11.2	4.1	15.6	4
Electricians	100.0	19.6	13.0	13.7	9.7	10.9	7.8	25.2	7
Shipping and receiving clerks	100.0	16.9	13.0	23.5	12.7	10.6	5.1	18.2	5
Farm workers	100.0	12.0	10.1	21.2	18.4	14.9	5.5	17.9	7
Driver-sales workers	100.0	15.6	11.1	21.2	16.1	10.8	6.7	18.3	6
Industrial truck operators	100.0	15.5	12.1	20.7	12.7	10.5	6.9	21.7	6
Kitchen workers	100.0	21.7	12.4	22.4	17.1	10.4	5.8	10.2	5
Plumbers and pipefitters	100.0	17.3	11.4	14.4	13.0	14.1	8.2	21.5	8
Packaging, filling machine operators	100.0	16.9	12.0	20.4	14.8	11.4	6.5	18.0	6
Guards and police, except public	100.0	15.7	12.3	15.4	14.7	11.3	5.7	24.8	7
Waiters and waitresses	100.0	12.7	19.3	18.9	13.5	10.7	6.6	18.2	5
Stock and inventory clerks	100.0	19.2	14.7	22.2	12.5	12.1	5.1	14.2	5
Licensed practical nurses	100.0	17.8	15.3	21.7	15.3	13.0	4.5	12.4	5
Supervisors, production workers	100.0	19.1	13.2	21.9	12.3	10.0	5.7	17.8	5
Repairers, industrial machinery	100.0	15.6	12.3	17.3	11.6	12.5	7.6	23.2	7
Health aides, except nursing	100.0	21.3	14.8	20.4	13.7	12.2	6.1	11.6	5
Mechanics, bus, truck, stationary engine	100.0	24.3	9.9	18.3	12.9	11.9	6.1	16.6	5
Machinists	100.0	19.6	17.8	16.8	11.5	8.9	5.4	20.1	5
Attendants, public transportation	100.0	8.7	10.4	21.6	18.7	18.4	7.1	15.1	8
General office clerks	100.0	21.1	21.8	18.6	9.1	8.1	6.6	14.6	4
Hand packers and packagers	100.0	18.3	17.2	20.8	11.8	11.5	6.2	14.1	4
Waiters', waitresses' assistants	100.0	8.7	24.0	12.8	15.2	17.2	5.8	16.3	7
Production inspectors	100.0	16.0	10.6	16.6	15.6	14.6	6.7	19.9	7
Vehicle washers and cleaners	100.0	20.5	17.9	22.6	13.6	8.4	5.6	11.5	4
Butchers and meat cutters	100.0	13.0	13.7	16.1	14.2	14.1	10.4	18.5	8
Secretaries	100.0	13.6	8.5	28.3	7.4	16.0	5.5	20.7	5

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

NOTE: Because of rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 9. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and number of days away from work, 1997

Characteristic	Total cases	Percent of cases involving							Median days away from work
		1 day	2 days	3 to 5 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 days or more	
Total [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	16.6	13.0	20.4	13.1	11.7	6.7	18.5	5
Nature of injury or illness:									
Sprains, strains	100.0	13.6	13.0	22.3	14.4	12.3	6.4	18.0	6
Bruises, contusions	100.0	23.9	17.5	24.4	11.8	9.3	4.2	8.9	3
Cuts, lacerations	100.0	24.8	15.8	22.4	14.6	9.6	4.0	8.9	3
Fractures	100.0	7.8	6.3	11.6	11.5	12.3	12.8	37.7	21
Heat burns	100.0	19.2	15.3	24.3	14.0	13.0	5.3	8.9	4
Carpal tunnel syndrome	100.0	4.0	4.4	9.4	9.6	16.3	13.0	43.3	25
Tendonitis	100.0	9.8	8.6	17.4	14.0	16.3	8.0	26.0	11
Chemical burns	100.0	35.5	18.7	20.7	8.7	7.0	3.8	5.5	2
Amputations	100.0	7.7	6.9	10.8	11.3	16.8	11.0	35.6	18
Multiple traumatic injuries	100.0	15.7	11.2	18.3	12.0	12.6	7.3	23.0	7
Part of body affected by the injury or illness:									
Head	100.0	39.8	21.2	19.2	8.2	4.5	1.8	5.3	2
Eye	100.0	49.0	22.5	18.5	4.5	2.5	1.1	2.0	2
Neck	100.0	15.9	13.6	22.2	10.9	10.0	5.7	21.9	5
Trunk	100.0	13.0	12.0	21.7	14.2	12.9	6.9	19.3	7
Shoulder	100.0	12.9	10.3	17.6	12.8	13.7	6.8	25.8	9
Back	100.0	13.3	12.9	23.5	14.6	12.1	5.7	17.9	6
Upper extremities	100.0	17.5	13.0	19.5	13.2	11.9	6.7	18.2	6
Wrist	100.0	11.0	9.6	16.2	11.4	13.5	8.9	29.5	12
Hand, except finger	100.0	19.4	15.9	21.5	14.8	10.7	5.7	12.1	5
Finger	100.0	21.6	14.1	20.7	13.4	11.9	5.9	12.4	5
Lower extremities	100.0	15.0	12.7	19.8	13.8	11.9	7.7	19.1	6
Knee	100.0	11.9	10.3	17.9	13.4	13.2	8.8	24.5	9
Foot, except toe	100.0	18.0	13.4	20.2	12.0	10.9	8.7	16.8	5
Toe	100.0	20.8	14.3	21.4	14.0	12.3	6.8	10.5	5
Body systems	100.0	26.2	13.9	19.5	12.3	7.5	5.5	15.1	4
Multiple parts	100.0	14.0	11.0	18.6	11.6	12.4	7.4	25.1	8

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 9. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by selected injury or illness characteristics and number of days away from work, 1997 — Continued

Characteristic	Total cases	Percent of cases involving							Median days away from work
		1 day	2 days	3 to 5 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 days or more	
Source of injury or illness:									
Chemicals and chemical products	100.0	32.3	18.0	20.6	11.1	7.1	3.9	7.0	2
Containers	100.0	14.8	12.0	22.4	14.2	12.5	6.7	17.5	6
Furniture and fixtures	100.0	18.6	14.6	21.8	12.6	11.2	6.2	15.0	5
Machinery	100.0	16.9	12.8	18.7	14.0	13.0	7.3	17.2	6
Parts and materials	100.0	19.1	12.8	21.2	12.9	11.3	5.7	17.0	5
Worker motion or position	100.0	12.3	10.8	19.0	14.1	13.2	7.8	22.8	8
Floors, walkways, ground surfaces	100.0	13.0	11.4	18.8	12.0	11.8	8.0	24.9	8
Tools, instruments, and equipment	100.0	22.2	16.0	20.8	13.7	9.8	5.2	12.3	4
Vehicles	100.0	13.5	12.1	18.8	13.2	12.6	8.0	21.9	7
Health care patient	100.0	15.6	16.7	23.6	14.7	11.0	4.9	13.6	4
Event or exposure leading to injury or illness:									
Contact with objects and equipment	100.0	23.5	15.3	20.5	12.2	9.9	5.6	13.0	4
Struck by object	100.0	22.9	15.6	20.9	12.9	9.3	5.5	12.9	4
Struck against object	100.0	22.2	15.2	21.8	12.8	10.5	5.3	12.1	4
Caught in equipment or object ..	100.0	17.6	12.3	18.2	12.1	13.0	8.1	18.7	6
Fall to lower level	100.0	10.7	10.0	16.0	12.1	10.8	9.7	30.7	12
Fall on same level	100.0	14.4	12.0	20.3	11.9	12.1	7.3	22.1	7
Slip, trip, loss of balance—without fall	100.0	13.5	14.0	20.0	14.6	11.2	8.8	17.8	6
Overexertion	100.0	13.1	12.5	21.8	14.3	13.0	6.6	18.6	6
Overexertion in lifting	100.0	13.1	12.3	22.1	14.6	13.2	6.6	18.0	6
Repetitive motion	100.0	7.9	6.8	12.9	12.3	15.9	10.0	34.1	17
Exposure to harmful substances	100.0	29.3	16.9	22.4	11.9	8.5	4.1	7.0	3
Transportation accidents	100.0	12.5	10.1	17.4	13.2	13.1	8.1	25.6	10
Fires and explosions	100.0	15.3	10.7	25.5	11.9	11.3	9.7	15.6	5
Assaults and violent acts by person	100.0	15.3	15.4	25.1	12.5	10.1	3.8	17.8	5

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

NOTE: Because of rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor

TABLE 10. Percent distribution of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work¹ by industry division and number of days away from work, 1997

Industry	Total cases	Percent of cases involving							Median days away from work
		1 day	2 days	3 to 5 days	6 to 10 days	11 to 20 days	21 to 30 days	31 days or more	
Private industry ² [1,833,380 cases]	100.0	16.6	13.0	20.4	13.1	11.7	6.7	18.5	5
Goods producing:									
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing ²	100.0	17.0	11.3	23.0	14.1	12.3	6.6	15.6	5
Mining ³	100.0	7.1	7.4	13.6	15.1	9.3	13.0	34.4	18
Construction	100.0	14.7	11.4	18.1	12.5	11.5	7.8	24.0	8
Manufacturing	100.0	19.7	12.9	18.8	12.4	11.5	6.6	18.1	5
Durable goods	100.0	20.4	13.0	18.6	12.3	11.1	6.5	18.2	5
Nondurable goods	100.0	18.3	12.8	19.3	12.4	12.4	6.7	18.0	5
Service producing:									
Transportation and public utilities ³	100.0	12.8	10.4	19.4	15.1	12.7	7.9	21.9	8
Wholesale trade	100.0	15.9	12.9	20.8	12.7	12.6	6.9	18.2	6
Retail trade	100.0	16.0	14.4	23.2	12.5	11.5	6.0	16.4	5
Finance, insurance, and real estate ...	100.0	15.1	13.2	21.6	12.7	10.1	6.8	20.5	6
Services	100.0	17.5	14.7	21.2	13.6	11.5	5.7	15.9	5

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data conforming to OSHA definitions for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining and for employers in railroad transportation are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S.

Department of Labor; and by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal industries.

NOTE: Because of rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor