Working in the 21st Century

A total of 5.7 million injuries and illnesses occurred in private industry workplaces in 1999. This resulted in the lowest rate recorded (6.3 cases for every 100 full-time workers) since Federal data collection began in the early 1970s.

The sharpest declines in injuries and illnesses were among cases serious enough to require days away from work.

In contrast, there are a growing number of cases in which the worker comes back to work but cannot do the full range of usual job activities.

Truck drivers, laborers, and nursing aides have the largest number of injuries and illnesses requiring time away from work.

DID YOU KNOW?

Highway crashes are the leading cause of on-the-job fatalities. Falls are the second-leading cause of workplace deaths, and homicides are third.

