

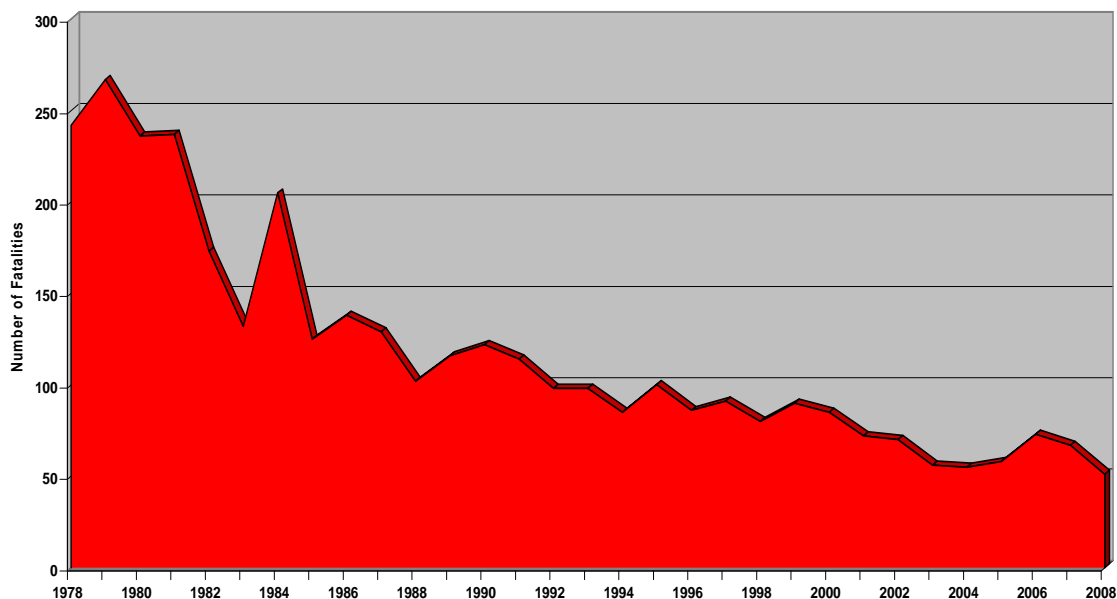
Mine Safety and Health At a Glance

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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 2008, a record low 52 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 - 2008



All Mine Safety and Health

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008*</u>
Number of mines	14,520	14,391	14,478	14,666	14,885	14,871	14,880
Number of miners	329,114	320,149	329,008	344,837	363,497	378,122	392,012
Fatalities	70	56	55	58	73	67	52
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0240	.0197	.0184	.0183	.0220	.0199	.0153
All Injury rate ¹	4.60	4.23	4.05	3.92	3.64	3.43	3.24
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	48	50	51	45	43	44	56
Citations and orders issued ³	105,589	109,761	120,844	127,951	140,264	144,735	174,522
S&S citations and orders (%)	32%	32%	33%	32%	33%	31%	30%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	24.8	19.9	27.7	24.9	35.1	74.5	194.3

*Preliminary

Coal Mine Safety and Health

U.S. coal mine production reached the highest levels in history in recent years. In 2008 coal mining fatalities totaled 30. The MINE Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006 has given MSHA more tools to improve safety and health in American mines. MSHA continues to work to implement the legislation.

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008*</u>
Number of coal mines	2,065	1,972	2,011	2,063	2,113	2,030	2,122
Number of miners	110,966	104,824	108,734	116,436	122,975	122,936	133,493
Fatalities	28	30	28	23	47	34	30
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0279	.0312	.0273	.0205	.0400	.0293	.0238
All Injury rate ¹	6.03	5.38	5.00	4.62	4.46	4.21	3.88
States with coal mining	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Coal production (millions of tons)	1,094	1,071	1,111	1,133	1,163	1,147	1,172
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	173	170	174	162	161	169	227
FY Inspection completion rate (%)	98.9	98.8	98.9	98.1	94.1	83.8	100
Citations and orders issued ³	57,201	56,786	64,481	69,075	77,734	84,544	107,441
S&S citations and orders (%)	38%	39%	41%	39%	40%	37%	35%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	14.9	11.7	17.6	15.4	22.5	53.5	152.7

*Preliminary

Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

Fatalities in the metal and nonmetal mining industry totaled a record low 22 in 2008. 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>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008*</u>
Number of metal/nonmetal mines	12,455	12,419	12,467	12,603	12,772	12,841	12,758
Number of miners	218,148	215,325	220,274	228,401	240,522	255,186	258,519
Fatalities	42	26	27	35	26	33	22
Fatal injury rate ¹	.0220	.0138	.0137	.0170	.0122	.0149	.0103
All Injury rate ¹	3.86	3.65	3.55	3.54	3.19	3.02	2.86
States with M/NM mining	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Total mining area inspection hours/mine ²	22	26	26	20	19	19	21
FY Inspection completion rate (%)	87.6	87.4	90.2	87.7	93.5	87.5	100
Citations and orders issued ³	48,388	52,975	56,363	58,876	62,530	60,191	67,081
S&S citations and orders (%)	25%	24%	24%	23%	24%	22%	21%
Dollar amount assessed (Millions)	10.0	8.2	10.1	9.5	12.7	21.0	41.6

*Preliminary

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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