



Median number of days away from work is a key measure of severity of injuries and illnesses with days away from work (DAFW).

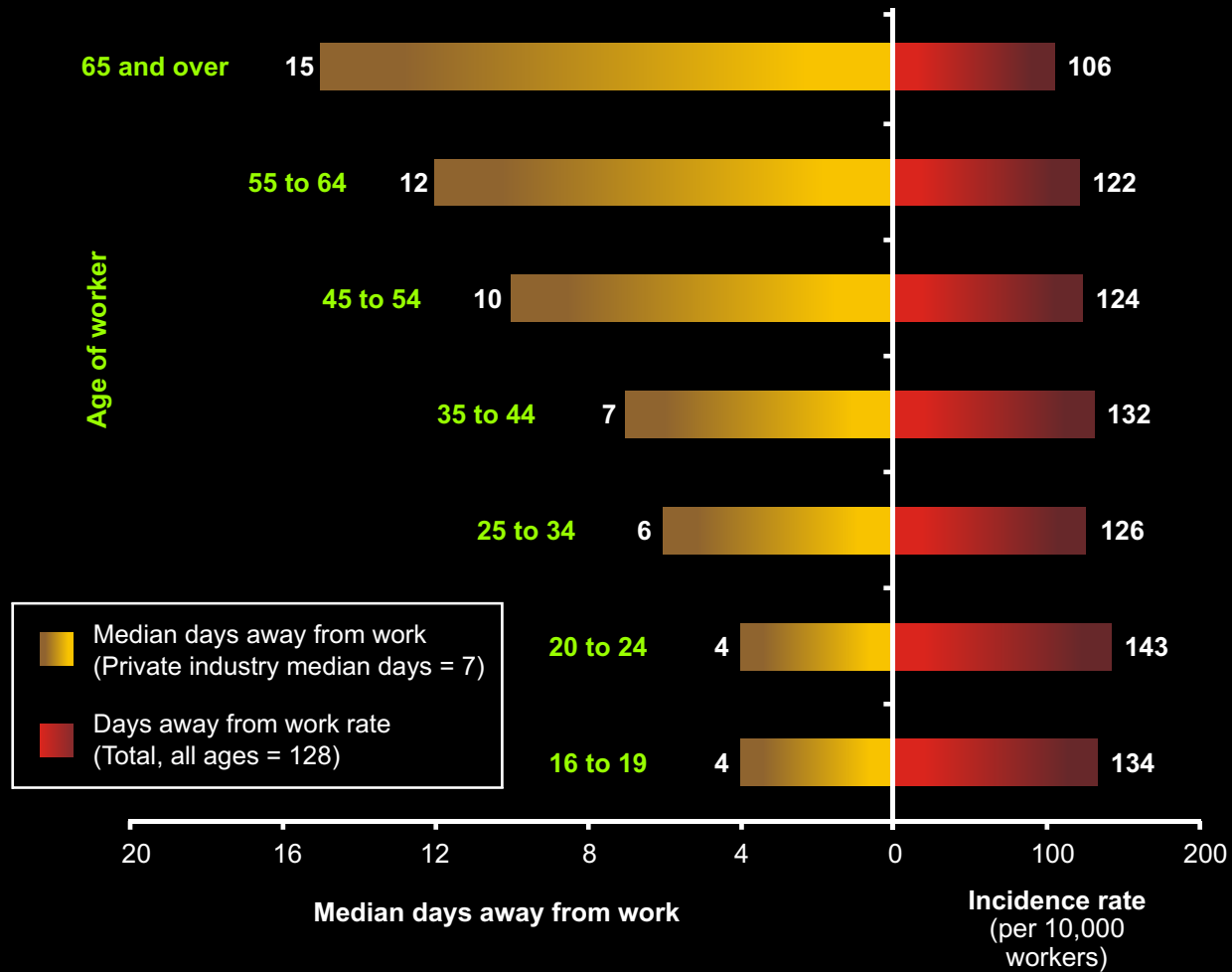
In the chart injuries and illnesses become more severe as age increases, from a median of 4 days away from work for workers aged 16 to 24 years to 15 days for those workers aged 65 years and older.

The rates of DAFW injuries and illnesses were highest for younger workers and declined with age. Workers 65 and older had the lowest incidence rate, 106 per 10,000 full-time workers, while workers aged 20 to 24 had the highest incidence rate, 143 per 10,000 full-time workers.

DAFW injuries and illnesses in workers aged 65 or older had characteristics different from those of the population as a whole. These older workers had a rate of sprains and strains that was 39 percent less than the average, but a rate of fractures that was 80 percent greater than the average.

# CHART 26

## Median days away from work and incidence rate due to injuries and illnesses, by age of worker, private industry, 2006



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, November 2007