

In 2006, musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) accounted for 357,160 cases with days away from work (DAFW), or 30 percent of the total injuries and illnesses with days away from work. MSD cases decreased by almost 5 percent from 2005 to 2006.

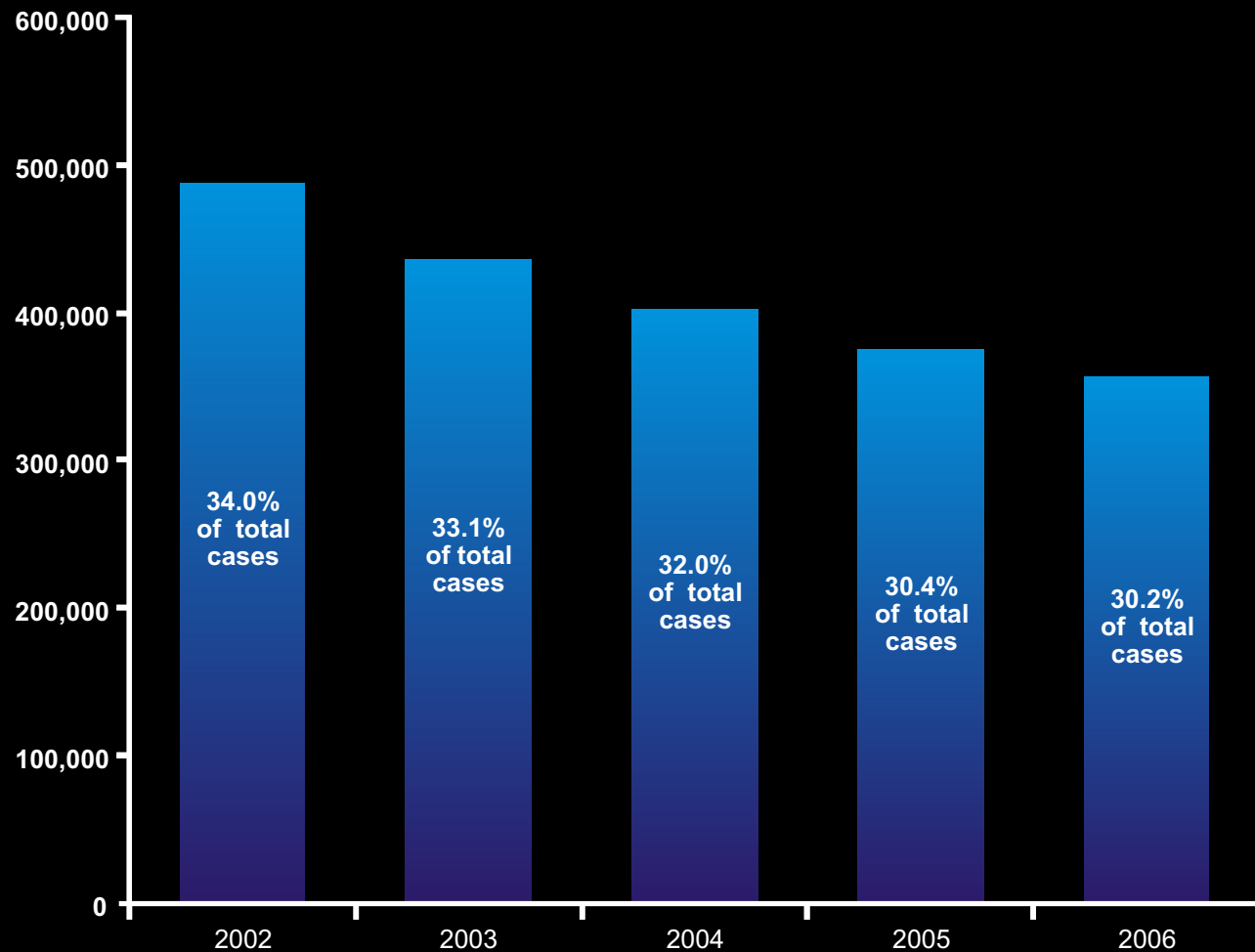
The U.S. Department of Labor defines a musculoskeletal disorder as an injury or disorder of the muscles, nerves, tendons, joints, cartilage, or spinal discs. MSDs do not include disorders caused by slips, trips, falls, motor vehicle accidents, or similar accidents.

The number of MSDs has declined from 34 percent of total DAFW cases in 2002 to 30 percent of cases in 2006.

Service-providing industries accounted for 71 percent of the MSD cases.

CHART 36

Number of musculoskeletal disorders, private industry, 2002–06 (cases involving days away from work)



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