

**Table 12. Number and median days of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work<sup>1</sup> involving musculoskeletal disorders<sup>2</sup> by selected occupations, 1998**

Occupation		Number	Median days away from work
Total		592,544	7
447	Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	49,099	5
804	Truck drivers	43,889	10
889	Laborers, exc. construction	36,558	6
785	Assemblers	19,721	10
453	Janitors and cleaners	13,971	5
095	Registered nurses	12,439	5
877	Stock handlers and baggers	11,330	5
869	Construction laborers	10,791	7
276	Cashiers	10,025	5
567	Carpenters	9,282	7
449	Maids and housemen	8,197	6
243	Supervisors and proprietors, sales occupations	8,186	9
783	Welders and cutters	7,804	6
364	Traffic, shipping, and receiving clerks	7,668	5
274	Sales workers, other commodities	7,364	7
806	Driver-sales workers	6,649	7
207	Licensed practical nurses	5,711	5
754	Packaging and filling machine operators	5,392	7
486	Groundskeepers and gardeners, exc. farm	5,188	5
444	Miscellaneous food preparation occupations	4,556	9
365	Stock and inventory clerks	4,434	6
505	Automobile mechanics	4,415	7
856	Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators	4,167	7
888	Hand packers and packagers	4,145	9
436	Cooks	4,094	11
446	Health aides, exc. nursing	4,030	5
628	Supervisors, production occupations	4,015	6
575	Electricians	3,900	10
585	Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	3,651	10
518	Industrial machinery repairers	3,505	10
744	Textile sewing machine operators	3,456	6
796	Production inspectors, checkers, and examiners	3,408	8
318	Transportation ticket and reservation agents	3,259	10
637	Machinists	3,236	9
683	Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	2,910	9
435	Waiters and waitresses	2,879	5
686	Butchers and meat cutters	2,835	6
313	Secretaries	2,782	8
463	Public transportation attendants	2,704	15
507	Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	2,553	9
579	Painters, construction and maintenance	2,362	12
379	General office clerks	2,356	7
443	Waiters/waitresses' assistants	2,253	9
709	Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators	2,215	8

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 12. Number and median days of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work<sup>1</sup> involving musculoskeletal disorders<sup>2</sup> by selected occupations, 1998**

Occupation		Number	Median days away from work
439	Kitchen workers, food preparation	2,184	6
479	Farm workers	2,184	7
706	Punching and stamping press machine operators	2,100	10
759	Painting and paint spraying machine operators	2,072	6
769	Slicing and cutting machine operators	2,015	7
874	Production helpers	1,961	10
734	Printing press operators	1,914	11
799	Graders and sorters, exc. agricultural	1,888	5
376	Investigators and adjusters, exc. insurance	1,886	10
719	Molding and casting machine operators	1,848	4
259	Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale	1,781	5
885	Garage and service station related occupations	1,686	5
878	Machine feeders and offbearers	1,645	5
534	Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics	1,629	6
373	Expeditors	1,626	5
887	Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners	1,623	5
268	Sales workers, hardware and building supplies	1,608	4
523	Electronic repairers, communications and industrial equipment	1,590	5
595	Roofers	1,542	7
748	Laundering and dry cleaning machine operators	1,486	7
808	Bus drivers	1,427	5
174	Social workers	1,398	11
727	Sawing machine operators	1,377	7
385	Data-entry keyers	1,302	13
756	Mixing and blending machine operators	1,293	8
203	Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	1,252	7
636	Precision assemblers, metal	1,249	13
766	Furnace, kiln, and oven operators, exc. food	1,203	7
213	Electrical and electronic technicians	1,195	5
866	Helpers, construction trades	1,185	8
563	Brickmasons and stonemasons	1,178	7
356	Mail clerks, exc. postal service	1,170	6
529	Telephone installers and repairers	1,146	6
017	Managers, food serving and lodging establishments	1,117	7
337	Bookkeepers, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,116	15
433	Supervisors, food preparation and service occupations	1,084	7
577	Electrical power installers and repairers	1,081	9
206	Radiologic technicians	1,054	4
426	Guards and police, exc. public service	1,044	7
514	Automobile body and related repairers	1,041	6
516	Heavy equipment mechanics	1,039	7
375	Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	1,036	8
588	Concrete and terrazzo finishers	987	5
596	Sheetmetal duct installers	983	18
573	Drywall installers	966	10

See footnotes at end of table.

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Occupation		Number	Median days away from work
634	Tool and die makers	955	9
689	Inspectors, testers, and graders	929	3
597	Structural metal workers	920	17
844	Operating engineers	908	14
653	Sheet metal workers	879	8
755	Extruding and forming machine operators	877	9
229	Computer programmers	869	4
029	Buyers, wholesale and retail trade exc. farm products	851	13
527	Telephone line installers and repairers	835	6
757	Separating, filtering, and clarifying machine operators	833	9
327	Order clerks	822	13
544	Millwrights	807	11
768	Crushing and grinding machine operators	778	6
448	Supervisors, cleaning and building service workers	772	5
363	Production coordinators	766	10
459	Attendants, amusement and recreation facilities	742	5
503	Supervisors, mechanics and repairers	737	5
319	Receptionists	725	4
264	Sales workers, apparel	723	5
508	Aircraft engine mechanics	723	5
269	Sales workers, parts	677	5
484	Nursery workers	676	7
519	Machinery maintenance occupations	664	6
383	Bank tellers	658	10
458	Hairdressers and cosmetologists	654	8
853	Excavating and loading machine operators	614	25
103	Physical therapists	611	6

<sup>1</sup> Days away from work include those which result in days away from work with or without restricted work activity.

<sup>2</sup> Includes cases where the nature of injury or illness is sprains, strains, tears; back pain, hurt back; soreness, pain, hurt, except the back; carpal tunnel syndrome; hernia; or musculoskeletal system and connective tissue diseases and disorders **and** when the event or exposure leading to the injury or illness is bodily reaction/bending, climbing, crawling, reaching, twisting; overexertion; or repetition.

NOTE: Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals. Dashes indicate data that do not meet publication guidelines. The scientifically selected probability sample used in 1998 was one of many possible samples, each of which could have produced different estimates. A measure of sampling variability for each estimate is available upon request.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
U. S. Department of Labor  
April 2000