

Table 12. Number and median days of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work¹ involving musculoskeletal disorders² by selected occupations, 2003

(in hundreds)

Occupation	Number	Median days away from work ³
Total	4,351.8	10
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	337.1	6
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	330.9	9
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor, trailer	205.8	17
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	127.8	10
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	126.5	13
Retail salespersons	112.9	7
Stock clerks and order fillers	109.4	8
Registered nurses	100.5	6
Construction laborers	96.1	10
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	76.9	9
Carpenters	65.7	9
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	64.1	7
Cashiers	63.1	8
Maintenance and repair workers, general	59.4	13
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	52.9	12
Customer service representatives	44.9	11
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	44.6	7
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	43.6	7
Driver/sales workers	41.8	9
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	38.9	10
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	36.9	13
Home health aides	35.8	9
Packers and packagers, hand	33.1	14
Industrial machinery mechanics	32.2	18
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	30.9	15
Reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks	29.6	13
Electricians	28.1	14
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	27.7	13
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	27.5	7
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	26.7	6
Cooks, restaurant	26.6	14
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	25.2	13
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	23.7	14
Office clerks, general	23.2	10
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	22.8	8
Industrial truck and tractor operators	22.5	13
Farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse	21.0	7
Waiters and waitresses	20.6	11
Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists	19.3	15
Food preparation workers	19.1	15
Flight attendants	18.6	22
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	18.5	6
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	18.4	5
Machinists	18.3	16
Personal and home care aides	15.7	12

See footnotes at end of table.

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Occupation	Number	Median days away from work ³
Cargo and freight agents	15.0	17
Printing machine operators	14.9	11
Telecommunications equipment installers and repairers, except line installers	14.8	20
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	14.6	5
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	14.1	9
Laundry and dry,cleaning workers	13.2	10
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	12.7	7
Sewing machine operators	12.6	17
Sheet metal workers	12.5	22
Baggage porters and bellhops	11.5	8
Telecommunications line installers and repairers	11.5	7
Helpers,,production workers	11.3	8
Security guards	10.9	6
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	10.9	11
Food servers, nonrestaurant	10.8	7
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	10.7	10
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	10.6	11
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	10.5	12
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	10.5	15
Psychiatric aides	10.3	5
Painters, construction and maintenance	10.3	10
Butchers and meat cutters	10.2	29
Painting, coating, and decorating workers	10.2	8
Radiologic technologists and technicians	10.1	7
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	10.1	14
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	10.0	10
First-line supervisors/managers of non,retail sales workers	9.3	4
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	9.3	11
Automotive body and related repairers	9.3	30
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	8.7	15
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	8.4	7
Tire repairers and changers	8.3	10
Electrical power,line installers and repairers	8.2	8
Medical records and health information technicians	8.0	10
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	8.0	12
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service	7.9	14
Bartenders	7.7	63
Dishwashers	7.7	8
Machine feeders and offbearers	7.6	22
Home appliance repairers	7.3	10
First-line supervisors/managers of housekeeping and janitorial workers	7.2	5
Brickmasons and blockmasons	7.2	15
Bakers	7.2	17
Bus drivers, transit and intercity	7.2	11
Molding, coremaking, and casting machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	6.9	17
Millwrights	6.8	76
Receptionists and information clerks	6.7	7
Drywall and ceiling tile installers	6.7	15

See footnotes at end of table.

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(in hundreds)

Occupation	Number	Median days away from work ³
Crushing, grinding, and polishing machine setters, operators, and tenders	6.7	18
First-line supervisors/managers of landscaping, lawn service, and groundskeeping workers	6.5	14
Child care workers	6.5	14
Production, planning, and expediting clerks	6.5	14
Roofers	6.5	12
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffing machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	6.5	10
Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	6.5	6
First-line supervisors/managers of helpers, laborers, and material movers, hand	6.5	8
File clerks	6.2	29
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	6.2	7
Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	6.1	6
Chefs and head cooks	5.9	3
Engine and other machine assemblers	5.9	4
Cutting and slicing machine setters, operators, and tenders	5.6	8
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	5.5	12
Data entry keyers	5.5	22
Computer, automated teller, and office machine repairers	5.5	4
Food batchmakers	5.5	10
Coin, vending, and amusement machine servicers and repairers	5.4	8
Computer support specialists	5.3	5
Cooks, fast food	5.2	19
Aircraft structure, surfaces, rigging, and systems assemblers	5.2	56
Parts salespersons	5.1	7
Structural iron and steel workers	5.1	23
Carpet installers	5.0	11
Medical secretaries	4.9	31
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	4.8	26
Glaziers	4.8	13
Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	4.8	10
Maintenance workers, machinery	4.7	8
Construction managers	4.6	18
First-line supervisors/managers of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	4.5	9
Tellers	4.4	13
Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, and tenders	4.4	8

¹ Days away from work include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

² Includes cases where the nature of injury is: sprains, strains, tears; back pain, hurt back; soreness, pain, hurt, except 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. Cases of Raynaud's phenomenon, tarsal tunnel syndrome, and herniated spinal discs are not included. Although these cases may be considered MSD's, the survey classifies these cases in categories that also include non-MSD cases.

³ Median days away from work is the measure used to summarize the varying lengths of absences from work among the cases with days away from work. Half the cases involved more days and half involved less days than a specified median. Median days away from work are represented in actual values.

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 2003 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, March, 2005