

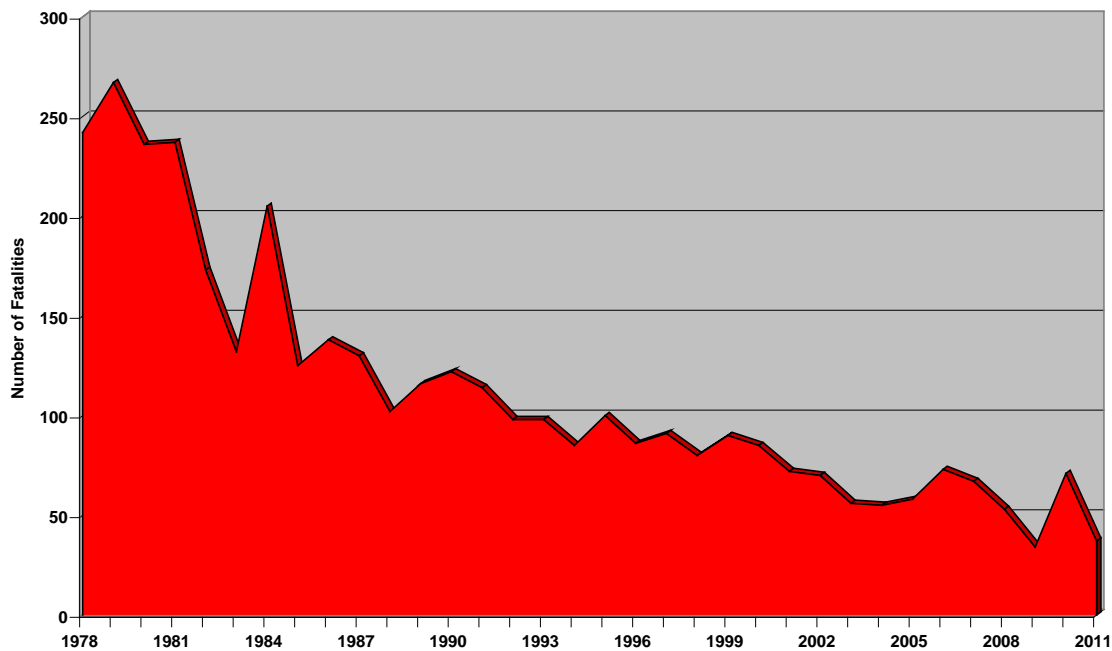
Mine Safety and Health At a Glance

07/03/2012

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. 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 Division applies scientific and engineering solutions to mitigate hazards. The agency's Educational Policy Development Division provides education and training for the mining industry which 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 CY 1978 - 2011



All Mine Safety and Health

| | <u>CY</u> | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
| Number of mines | 14,666 | 14,885 | 14,871 | 14,907 | 14,631 | 14,283 | 14,176 |
| Number of miners | 344,837 | 363,497 | 378,123 | 392,746 | 355,720 | 361,176 | 381,209 |
| Fatalities | 58 | 73 | 67 | 53 | 34 | 71 | 37 |
| Fatal injury rate ¹ | .0183 | .0220 | .0199 | .0156 | .0115 | .0234 | .0114 |
| All Injury rate ¹ | 3.92 | 3.64 | 3.43 | 3.25 | 3.01 | 2.81 | 2.73 |
| Total mining area inspection hours/mine ² | 45 | 43 | 44 | 56 | 59 | 63 | 62 |
| Citations and orders issued ³ | 127,766 | 140,082 | 144,125 | 173,656 | 173,418 | 170,909 | 157,613 |
| S&S citations and orders (%) | 32% | 32% | 29% | 28% | 30% | 33% | 32% |
| Dollar amount assessed (Millions) ⁴ | 28.1 | 42.8 | 129.4 | 142.2 | 137.1 | 162.1 | 154.3 |

Coal Mine Safety and Health

U.S. coal mine production reached the highest levels in history in recent years. MSHA continues to work to bring fatalities down through strong enforcement, active outreach and education, and technical support to the mining industry.

| | <u>CY</u> | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
| Number of coal mines | 2,063 | 2,113 | 2,030 | 2,129 | 2,076 | 1,944 | 1,973 |
| Number of miners | 116,436 | 122,975 | 122,936 | 133,828 | 134,089 | 135,500 | 143,437 |
| Fatalities | 23 | 47 | 34 | 30 | 18 | 48 | 21 |
| Fatal injury rate ¹ | .0205 | .0400 | .0293 | .0237 | .0148 | .0384 | .0156 |
| All Injury rate ¹ | 4.62 | 4.46 | 4.21 | 3.89 | 3.69 | 3.43 | 3.38 |
| States with coal mining | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Coal production (millions of tons) | 1,133 | 1,163 | 1,147 | 1,172 | 1,075 | 1,086 | 1,095 |
| Total mining area inspection hours/mine ² | 162 | 161 | 169 | 227 | 238 | 259 | 258 |
| FY Inspection completion rate (%) | 98.1 | 94.1 | 83.8 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Citations and orders issued ³ | 69,026 | 77,667 | 84,184 | 106,871 | 102,057 | 96,814 | 93,630 |
| S&S citations and orders (%) | 39% | 39% | 35% | 32% | 31% | 34% | 35% |
| Dollar amount assessed (Millions) ⁴ | 17.4 | 29.9 | 98.9 | 110.4 | 96.3 | 110.1 | 115.1 |

Metal and Nonmetal Mine Safety and Health

Fatalities in the metal and nonmetal mining industry matched its record low of 16 in 2011. 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, and continues to work to bring fatalities down through strong enforcement, active outreach and education, and technical support to the mining industry.

| | <u>CY</u> | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> | <u>2010</u> | <u>2011</u> |
| Number of metal/nonmetal mines | 12,603 | 12,772 | 12,841 | 12,778 | 12,555 | 12,339 | 12,203 |
| Number of miners | 228,401 | 240,522 | 255,187 | 258,918 | 221,631 | 225,676 | 237,772 |
| Fatalities | 35 | 26 | 33 | 23 | 16 | 23 | 16 |
| Fatal injury rate ¹ | .0170 | .0122 | .0149 | .0107 | .0092 | .0129 | .0084 |
| All Injury rate ¹ | 3.54 | 3.19 | 3.02 | 2.87 | 2.54 | 2.37 | 2.28 |
| States with M/NM mining | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Total mining area inspection hours/mine ² | 20 | 19 | 19 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 23 |
| FY Inspection completion rate (%) | 87.7 | 93.5 | 87.5 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Citations and orders issued ³ | 58,740 | 62,415 | 59,941 | 66,785 | 71,361 | 74,095 | 63,983 |
| S&S citations and orders (%) | 23% | 23% | 22% | 21% | 30% | 33% | 28% |
| Dollar amount assessed (Millions) ⁴ | 10.7 | 12.9 | 30.5 | 31.8 | 40.8 | 52.0 | 39.2 |

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

4-Based on date issued

For more information:

www.msha.gov

MSHA Office of Program Education and Outreach Services, (202) 693-9400