

ILLNESSES

Injuries accounted for the vast majority of the nearly 3.7 million injury and illness cases reported in the private sector in 2008. Illnesses accounted for 5.1 percent of all injury and illness cases reported among private industry workplaces in 2008, about the same percentage as in 2007.

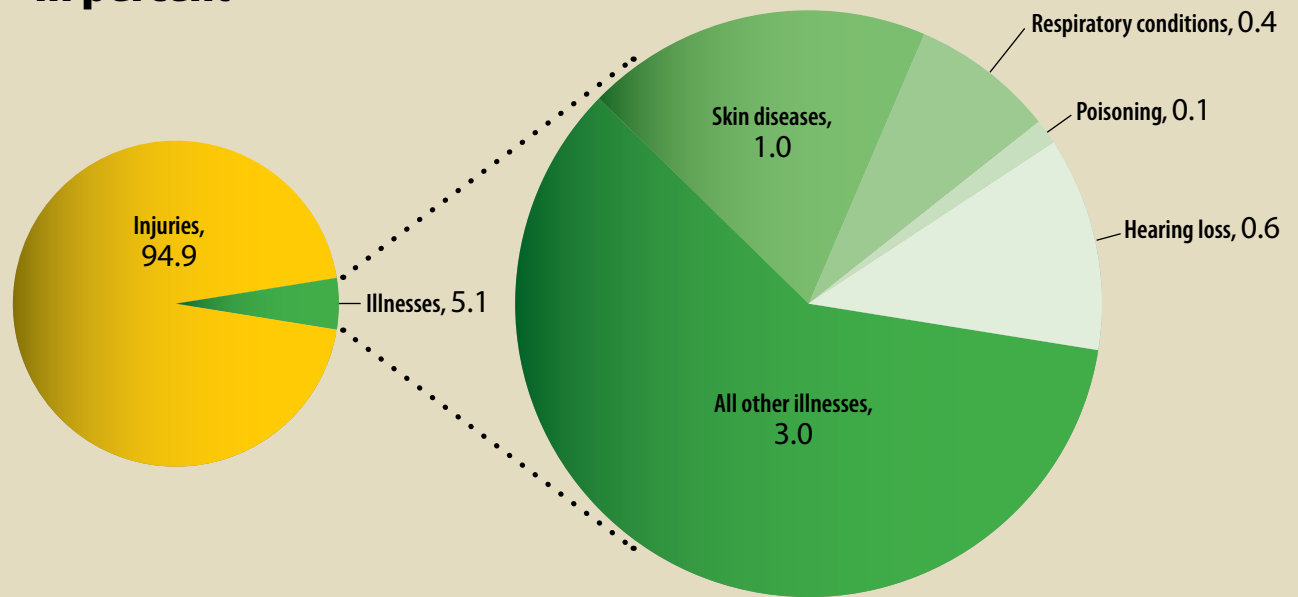
The number of reported occupational illnesses in private industry declined from 206,300 in 2007 to 187,400 in 2008, and the rate declined from 21.8 per 10,000 full-time workers in 2007 to 19.7 per 10,000 full-time workers in 2008.

The rate and number for the “all other illnesses” category fell significantly; however, the rates and numbers for skin diseases, respiratory conditions, poisonings, and hearing loss stayed about the same from 2007 to 2008.

Because illnesses make up a smaller fraction of cases than injuries, the rates are reported per 10,000 full-time workers. Injuries are reported per 100 full-time workers.

Distribution of nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases, by category of illness, private industry, 2008

In percent



3,696,100 total cases

NOTE: Illness rates are per 10,000 full-time workers; injuries are reported per 100 full-time workers.
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, October 2009.

