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Employer-Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses in New York - 2012

About 146,000 nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses were reported among New York private industry employers in 2012, resulting in an incidence rate of 2.5 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A.](#)) Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli noted that New York was 1 of 8 states to register a significant decrease in the private industry rate of total recordable cases (TRC) rate over the year. (New York was 1 of 42 states for which statewide estimates are available. See Technical Note at the end of this release for more information about the survey.)

New York's findings from the 2012 Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses include:

- TRC incidence rates in private industry ranged from 0.7 in professional and business services to 3.5 in natural resources and mining and in trade, transportation, and utilities. (See [table 1.](#))
- Service-providing industries accounted for 83 percent of the occupational injuries and illnesses, with two industry sectors each reporting over 40,000 incidents: education and health services; and trade, transportation, and utilities. (See [table 2.](#))
- In private industry, the TRC injury and illness incidence rate ranged from 1.0 for small establishments (those employing fewer than 11 workers) to 3.1 for small mid-size establishments (those employing between 50 and 249 workers). (See [table 3.](#))
- New York was among 15 states and the District of Columbia that had a private industry TRC rate significantly lower than the national rate of 3.4.

Table A. Number and rate of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in private industry, New York and the United States, 2012

| Characteristic | New York | | United States | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| | Number (in thousands) | Rate (per 100 workers) | Number (in thousands) | Rate (per 100 workers) |
| Injuries and Illnesses (total cases) | 146.3 | 2.5 | 2,976.4 | 3.4 |
| Cases with days away from work, job transfer or restriction | 79.5 | 1.4 | 1,555.6 | 1.8 |
| Cases with days away from work | 70.7 | 1.2 | 905.7 | 1.0 |
| Cases with job transfer or restriction | 8.8 | 0.2 | 649.9 | 0.7 |
| Other recordable cases | 66.8 | 1.1 | 1,420.7 | 1.6 |

Private industry injury and illness case types

Of the 146,300 private industry injury and illness cases reported in New York, 79,500 were of a more severe nature, involving days away from work, job transfer, or restriction—commonly referred to as DART cases. These cases occurred at a rate of 1.4 cases per 100 full-time workers. Almost 90 percent of the DART cases in New York were incidents that resulted in at least one day away from work, compared to 58 percent nationally.

Other recordable cases (those not involving days away from work, job transfer, or restriction) accounted for the remaining 66,800 cases in New York, at a rate of 1.1. In comparison, the national rate for other recordable cases was 1.6.

In New York, three supersectors registered significant declines in the TRC rate over the year—trade, transportation, and utilities; professional and business services; and education and health services. Of the industries posting declines, only trade, transportation, and utilities had a significant decline in the DART rate. (See [table 4](#).) In contrast, information, the only supersector to experience a significant increase in the TRC incidence rate, registered a significant increase in the DART rate.

In 2012, approximately 140,000 (95.7 percent) of private industry recordable injuries and illnesses were injuries. Workplace illnesses accounted for an additional 6,200 recordable cases. Four categories—hearing loss, skin disorders, respiratory conditions, and poisoning—accounted for 29 percent of the occupational illnesses in New York. Nationally, these four categories accounted for 37 percent of the work-related illness total.

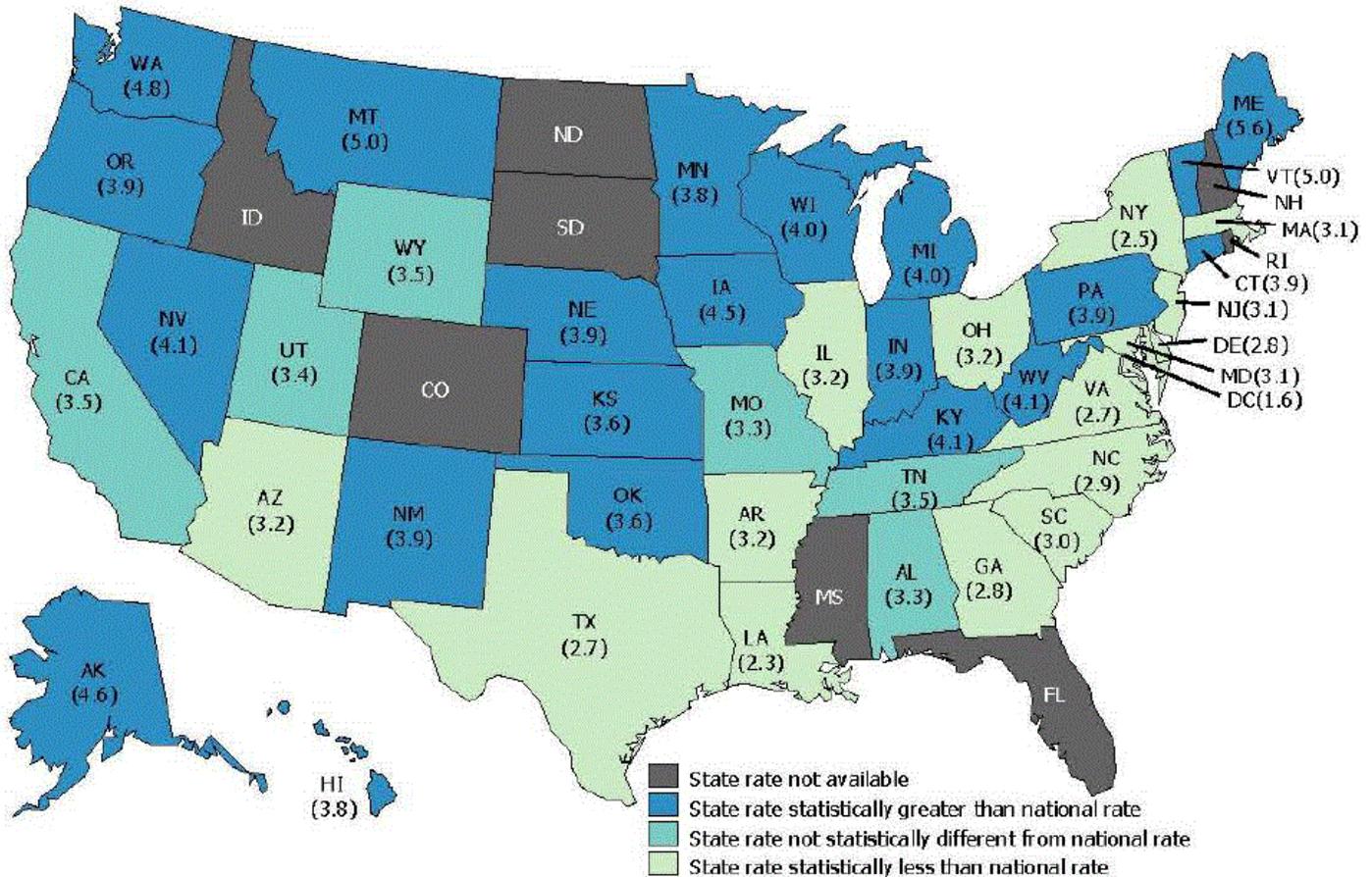
State and local government injury and illness cases

Among state and local government workers in New York, about 69,000 injury and illness cases were reported in 2012, resulting in a rate of 7.0 cases per 100 full-time workers. Nationally, the rate was 5.6. Almost 78 percent of injuries and illnesses reported in New York's public sector occurred among local government workers.

State estimates and over-the-year change

For 2012, occupational injury and illness data are available for 42 states and the District of Columbia. Twenty-one states had private industry TRC incidence rates higher than the national rate of 3.4 cases per 100 full-time workers. (See [chart 1](#).) New York was among 15 states and the District of Columbia which had TRC rates significantly below the national rate. The TRC rate was not statistically different from the national rate in the six remaining states. Differences in industry mix account for at least some of the differences in rates across states.

Chart 1. State incidence rates, total recordable cases of nonfatal occupational injury and illness, private industry, 2012



Note: Total recordable case (TRC) incidence rate per 100 full-time workers
 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Compared to 2011, the private industry TRC incidence rate decreased in New York. Rates declined in 7 additional states and in the District of Columbia, rose in 1 state, and were statistically unchanged in 32 states. (Estimates for Ohio for 2011 were not available for comparison.)

Technical Note

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) is based on employer reports of OSHA-recordable injuries. Survey data are collected and processed by state agencies cooperating with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The survey measures nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses, only, and excludes the self-employed; farms with fewer than 11 employees; private households; and federal government agencies.

Employer reports reflect not only the year's injury and illness experience, but also employers' understanding of which cases are work-related under recordkeeping rules revised by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor and made effective on January 1, 2002.

The number of injuries and illnesses reported any year can be influenced by the level of economic activity, working conditions and work practices, worker experience and training, and the number of hours worked.

The incidence rates presented in this release represent the number of injuries and/or illnesses per 100 full-time equivalent workers and were calculated as:

$(N / EH) \times 200,000$ where,

N = number of injuries and/or illnesses

EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year

200,000 = base for 100 full-time equivalent workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year)

Background and methodological information regarding the BLS occupational safety and health statistics program, including information such as changes in the definition of recordable cases due to revised recordkeeping requirements in 2002 and the inherent underreporting of illnesses, can be found in Chapter 9 of the BLS Handbook of Methods at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch9.pdf.

Additional occupational injury and illness data are available from our regional web page at www.bls.gov/regions/new-york-new-jersey/news.htm#safety. Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Incidence rates⁽¹⁾ of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by industry sector and case type, New York, 2012

| Industry ^{(2) (3) (4)} | Total recordable cases | Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction | | | Other recordable cases |
|--|------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------|
| | | Total | Cases with days away from work ⁽⁵⁾ | Cases with job transfer or restriction | |
| All industries including state and local government | 3.2 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 1.4 |
| Private industry..... | 2.5 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 1.1 |
| Goods-producing..... | 3.4 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 0.3 | 1.4 |
| Natural resources and mining | 3.5 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 0.1 | 1.9 |
| Construction | 3.3 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 0.2 | 1.3 |
| Manufacturing..... | 3.4 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 1.5 |
| Service-providing..... | 2.4 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 3.5 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| Information | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.8 | (6) | 0.6 |
| Financial activities | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.4 | -- | 0.5 |
| Professional and business services | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.4 | (6) | 0.3 |
| Education and health services | 3.3 | 1.9 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| Leisure and hospitality..... | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | (6) | 1.9 |
| Other services, except public administration.... | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| State and local government..... | 7.0 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 0.1 | 2.8 |
| State government..... | 7.5 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 0.1 | 3.0 |
| Local government..... | 6.8 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 0.1 | 2.7 |

Footnotes:

(1) Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: $(N/EH) \times 200,000$ where N = number of injuries and illnesses EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

(2) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

(3) Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System, 2007 edition) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

(4) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

(5) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

(6) Data too small to be displayed.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Table 2. Numbers of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by selected industries and case types, 2012
(In thousands)**

| Industry ^{(1) (2) (3)} | Total recordable cases | Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction | | | Other recordable cases |
|--|------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------|
| | | Total | Cases with days away from work ⁽⁴⁾ | Cases with job transfer or restriction | |
| All industries including state and local government | 215.0 | 120.9 | 111.5 | 9.4 | 94.1 |
| Private industry..... | 146.3 | 79.5 | 70.7 | 8.8 | 66.8 |
| Goods-producing..... | 25.3 | 14.7 | 12.3 | 2.4 | 10.6 |
| Natural resources and mining | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | (5) | 0.4 |
| Construction | 9.1 | 5.6 | 5.2 | 0.4 | 3.5 |
| Manufacturing..... | 15.4 | 8.8 | 6.8 | 1.9 | 6.7 |
| Service-providing..... | 121.0 | 64.8 | 58.4 | 6.4 | 56.2 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 42.2 | 23.7 | 20.1 | 3.6 | 18.5 |
| Information | 3.2 | 1.9 | 1.9 | (5) | 1.3 |
| Financial activities | 6.1 | 2.9 | 2.6 | -- | 3.3 |
| Professional and business services | 7.6 | 4.0 | 3.7 | 0.3 | 3.5 |
| Education and health services | 41.0 | 23.3 | 21.3 | 2.0 | 17.7 |
| Leisure and hospitality..... | 17.6 | 7.2 | 7.0 | 0.2 | 10.5 |
| Other services, except public administration.... | 3.3 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 0.2 | 1.4 |
| State and local government..... | 68.7 | 41.4 | 40.8 | 0.6 | 27.3 |
| State government..... | 15.1 | 9.1 | 8.9 | 0.2 | 6.0 |
| Local government..... | 53.6 | 32.3 | 31.8 | 0.4 | 21.3 |

Footnotes:

(1) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

(2) Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System, 2007 edition) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

(3) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

(4) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

(5) Data too small to be displayed.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 3. Incidence rates⁽¹⁾ of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by industry sector and employment size, 2012

| Industry ^{(2) (3) (4)} | All establishments | Establishment employment size (workers) | | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|----------|-----------|------------|---------------|
| | | 1 to 10 | 11 to 49 | 50 to 249 | 250 to 999 | 1,000 or more |
| All industries including state and local government | 3.2 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 3.6 | 4.7 |
| Private industry..... | 2.5 | 1.0 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.8 |
| Goods-producing..... | 3.4 | 1.4 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 1.9 |
| Natural resources and mining | 3.5 | (5) | 4.1 | 3.3 | -- | -- |
| Construction | 3.3 | 1.7 | 3.3 | 4.5 | 4.7 | -- |
| Manufacturing..... | 3.4 | -- | 3.9 | 4.2 | 3.2 | 1.8 |
| Service-providing..... | 2.4 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 3.5 | 0.9 | 2.7 | 4.6 | 5.0 | 3.7 |
| Information | 1.4 | -- | 1.5 | 1.9 | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Financial activities | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Professional and business services | 0.7 | -- | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| Education and health services | 3.3 | 0.7 | 1.8 | 3.4 | 4.4 | 4.0 |
| Leisure and hospitality..... | 3.3 | -- | 2.9 | 4.2 | 4.7 | 5.2 |
| Other services, except public administration | 1.4 | -- | 1.7 | 1.8 | 3.5 | 1.0 |
| State and local government..... | 7.0 | -- | 5.5 | 6.2 | 6.9 | 7.3 |
| State government..... | 7.5 | (5) | 2.9 | 6.0 | 8.4 | 7.4 |
| Local government..... | 6.8 | -- | 5.8 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 7.3 |

Footnotes:

(1) Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: $(N/EH) \times 200,000$ where N = number of injuries and illnesses EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

(2) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

(3) Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System, 2007 edition) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

(4) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

(5) Data too small to be displayed.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 4. Incidence rates⁽¹⁾ of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by industry sector and selected case type with measures of statistical significance, 2011-2012

| Industry ^{(2) (3) (4)} | Total recordable cases | | Cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction | |
|---|------------------------|------|--|------|
| | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 |
| All industries including state and local government | 3.5 | 3.2* | 1.9 | 1.8* |
| Private industry..... | 2.9 | 2.5* | 1.5 | 1.4 |
| Goods-producing..... | 4.0 | 3.4 | 2.1 | 2.0 |
| Natural resources and mining | 3.6 | 3.5 | 2.0 | 1.6 |
| Construction | 4.4 | 3.3 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Manufacturing..... | 3.8 | 3.4 | 2.1 | 1.9 |
| Service-providing..... | 2.7 | 2.4* | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| Trade, transportation, and utilities | 3.6 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 1.9* |
| Information | 0.9 | 1.4* | 0.5 | 0.8* |
| Financial activities | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Professional and business services | 1.1 | 0.7* | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| Education and health services | 4.0 | 3.3* | 2.1 | 1.9 |
| Leisure and hospitality..... | 3.5 | 3.3 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| Other services, except public administration..... | 1.9 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 0.8 |
| State and local government..... | 7.1 | 7.0* | 4.4 | 4.2* |
| State government..... | 8.0 | 7.5* | 4.6 | 4.5* |
| Local government..... | 6.9 | 6.8 | 4.3 | 4.1* |

Footnotes:

(1) Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers and were calculated as: $(N/EH) \times 200,000$ where N = number of injuries and illnesses EH = total hours worked by all employees during the calendar year 200,000 = base for 100 equivalent full-time workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

(2) Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

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(4) Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation.

(5) Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

(*) An asterisk indicates a significant difference between the current year and prior year values, when testing at 95% confidence.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.