

2017 Missouri Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses News Release

Statistical data on Missouri nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses are obtained from the annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII). The SOII is an annual survey administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Research and Analysis Section. Nonfatal occupational injury and illness data are randomly collected from approximately 5,700 Missouri employers each year.

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

The SOII data indicated that there were a total of 50,600 nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in Missouri private industry in 2017, not statistically significantly changed from the 52,700 cases in 2016. 24,700 of the 2017 cases were the more serious cases that involved days away from work, job transfer, or restriction (DART cases).

The incidence rate (number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers) for total recordable cases of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in Missouri private industry in 2017 was 2.6. This rate was statistically significantly reduced from the 2016 rate of 2.8, continuing the downward trend with the 2016 rate also statistically significantly less than the 2015 rate. The incidence rate of cases with days away from work, job transfer, or restriction was 1.3.

Illnesses

Workplace illnesses accounted for 2,600 (5.1 percent) of the total cases of injuries and illnesses in Missouri private industry in 2017. This number was not statistically significantly changed from the number of illnesses in 2016. The incidence rate (number of illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers) of workplace illnesses was 13.1 in 2017, not statistically significantly changed from the 2016 rate of 14.3.

Goods and Services Industries

Private industry goods-producing industries, such as natural resources, construction, and manufacturing, as a whole had an incidence rate of 3.5 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers in 2017, statistically significantly unchanged from the 2016 rate. Private industry service-providing industries, such as retail trade, transportation, health care, and leisure and hospitality, as a whole had an incidence rate of 2.4 per 100 equivalent full-time workers in 2017. This rate was not statistically significantly changed from the rate of 2.5 in 2016.

Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (NAICS 21) was the only private industry sector that had an incidence rate in 2017 that was statistically significantly decreased from 2016. The incidence rate for mining had been increased in 2016 over 2015.

Lost Work-time Cases

The most serious nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases involve lost work time (days away from work) for the injured or ill employee. Survey data indicated that there were 11,270 lost work time cases in Missouri private industry in 2017. This number is not statistically significantly changed from the 12,450 lost work time cases in 2016. The incidence rate for nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work per 10,000 full-time workers was 57.9 for private industry. This rate was statistically significantly reduced from the 2016 rate of 65.1

A measure of the severity of lost work-time cases is the median number of lost workdays. The median days away from work designates the point at which half the cases involved more days and half the cases involved fewer days. There were nine median days away from work for private industry in Missouri in 2017.

Goods and Services Industries

Survey data indicated that in 2017, 3,890 workers in private goods-producing industries had lost work time due to nonfatal injuries and illnesses. The days away from work incidence rate for goods-producing industries was 100.8 per 10,000 full-time workers. Goods-producing industries had 14 median days away from work in 2017. The construction major industry sector had 27 median days away from work in 2017.

In 2017, the number of Missouri workers who lost work time due to work-related injuries and illnesses incurred in private service-providing industries was 7,380. The days away from work incidence rate was 47.3 per 10,000 full-time workers. Service-providing industries had seven median days away from work in 2017. The trade, transportation, and utilities major industry sector had 13 median days away from work in 2017.

Gender

Male workers accounted for 63.3 percent of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work in private industry in 2017. Male workers accounted for 83.8 percent of the cases in goods-producing industries and 52.4 percent of the cases in service-providing industries. Female workers accounted for 80.3 percent of cases in the education and health services major industry sector, 69.2 percent of the cases in the financial activities major industry sector, and 56.1 percent of the cases in the leisure and hospitality major industry sector. Male workers had 11 median days away from work in 2017. Female workers had seven median days away from work.

Race or Ethnic Origin

White only was the race or ethnic origin in 42.4 percent of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work in private industry in 2017. Black only was the race in 5.5 percent of the cases; Hispanic or Latino only was the race in 2.5 percent of the cases; the race was not reported in 47.6 percent of the cases. Black only was the race in 13.8 percent of cases in the education and health services major industry sector. White workers had seven median days away from work. Black workers had seven median days away from work. Hispanic or Latino workers had four median days away from work. American Indian or Alaska Native workers had 60 median days away from work.

Experience on the Job

Workers with more than five years of service accounted for 34.3 percent of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work in private industry in 2017; workers with one to five years of service accounted for 33.8 percent. Workers with five or more years of service had 14 median days away from work. Workers with one to five years of service had nine median days away from work.

Age of Worker

Workers who were 45 to 54 years old accounted for 22.4 percent of the total number of nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases with days away from work in private industry in 2017; workers who were 35 to 44 years old accounted for 20.9 percent, and workers who were 55 to 64 years old accounted for 20.8 percent. Workers who were 45 to 54 years old had 15 median days away from work. Workers who were 65 and over and workers who were 16-19 years old each had 12 median days away from work.

Occupation

The occupation with the most nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work in Missouri private industry in 2017 was laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand with 830. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers had 770 injuries and illnesses with days away from work in 2017. First-line supervisors of food preparation

and serving workers had 60 median days away from work. Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters had 32 median days away from work.

Four characteristics are used to describe the event that caused an occupational injury or illness – nature of injury or illness (physical characteristics), part of body affected, source of injury or illness, and event or exposure.

Nature

Sprains, strains, tears was the nature of the injury or illness in 37.4 percent of the nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work in 2017 in private industry. Fractures accounted for 15.4 percent. Bruise, contusions accounted for 9.6 percent.

Part of Body

The body part affected in 35.2 percent of all nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases in private industry in 2017 was upper extremities. Lower extremities accounted for 25.6 percent. Trunk accounted for 19.8 percent of the cases.

Source

Floors, walkways, ground surfaces was the source of injury or illness in 18.4 percent of all nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses involving days away from work in 2017 in private industry. Person, injured or ill worker was the source in 16.5 percent of the cases, with 16.4 percent of the cases being due to worker motion or position. Vehicles was the source in 13.8 percent of the cases.

Event or Exposure

Overexertion and bodily reaction accounted for 31.9 percent of all events or exposures of injuries or illnesses in private industry. Falls, slips, trips accounted for 28.4 percent of the cases. Contact with object, equipment accounted for 25.2 percent.

For more information regarding this survey, please visit www.labor.mo.gov/Lmi or www.bls.gov/iif or call the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Research and Analysis Section at (573) 751-9677.