The number of injuries and illnesses resulting in time away from work declined by 4.3 percent from 2004.

The incidence rate for all events and exposures improved by 5.8 percent between 2003 and 2004. This chart shows six events that improved more than the average, one event that improved the same as the average, three events that improved less than the average, and five events that did not improve.
Occupations with the most injuries and illnesses with days away from work, 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Injuries and Illnesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand</td>
<td>89,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck drivers, heavy / tractor-trailer</td>
<td>63,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing aides, orderlies, attendants</td>
<td>51,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction laborers</td>
<td>37,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck drivers, light / delivery services</td>
<td>37,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitors and cleaners</td>
<td>33,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail salespersons</td>
<td>33,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters</td>
<td>30,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stock clerks and order fillers</td>
<td>24,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance &amp; repair workers, general</td>
<td>21,050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1,259,320 injuries and illnesses with days away from work)

Laborers and material movers suffered the most injuries and illnesses with days away from work in 2004, followed by heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers and nursing aides, orderlies and attendants.

Occupations with the most injuries and illnesses with days away from work, 2003-2004

Laborers and material movers; heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers; and nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants had the most injuries and illnesses with days away from work in both 2003 and 2004.

Shares of nonfatal injuries and illnesses with days away from work and employment for occupations with the most injuries and illnesses, 2004

Drivers/sales workers and truck drivers; laborers and material movers; nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides; construction laborers; janitors and cleaners; carpenters; stock clerks and order fillers; and general maintenance and repair workers experienced a higher percentage of injuries and illnesses than their employment share.

Retail salespersons experienced a lower percentage of injuries and illnesses than their employment share.

NOTE: CPS employment data were not available for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers; light or delivery service truck drivers; and nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. These occupations were included in higher level detail on this chart.

Employment and nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by occupation group, 2004

Transportation and material movers; production workers; installation, maintenance, and repair workers; construction and extraction workers, farming, fishing, and forestry workers; and service workers had a much higher share of injuries and illnesses than their employment share would suggest.

Of the occupations with at least 1/2% of the total days away from work cases, heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers; light or delivery truck drivers; and transportation workers, other had medians of 12 days. Industrial machinery mechanics and farmworkers had medians of 11 days. Construction laborers and electricians each had a median of 10 days. This compared to a median of 7 days for all occupations.

Injuries and illnesses with days away from work

(Total = 1,259,320 injuries and illnesses)

Goods producing industries made up about 21 percent of private industry employment but accounted for 32 percent of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work while service providing industries made up about 79 percent of the employment and 68 percent of the injuries and illnesses in 2004.

Almost two-thirds of the injured or ill workers were men, well above their 59 percent share of the nation’s hours worked.

Nonfatal injuries and illnesses with days away from work and hours worked by age of worker, 2004

1,259,320 injuries and illnesses with days away from work. Chart excludes unreported data.

Workers 20 to 44 had a slightly higher share of injuries and illnesses in 2004, while workers 45 and older had a somewhat lower share, than each of their hours worked shares suggest.

Median days away from work due to nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by age of worker, 2004

Except for 14 to 15 year olds, the median days away from work due to nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses increased as the age of the worker increased in 2004.

### Percentage of nonfatal injuries and illnesses with days away from work by race or ethnic origin and selected industries, 2003-2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White only</td>
<td>46.9%</td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black only</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural resources and mining</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>14.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and health services</td>
<td>7.2%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not reported</td>
<td>30.4%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were just over 164,000 injuries and illnesses with days away from work among Hispanic and Latino workers in 2004, up by 4,000 over 2003. About 30 percent of cases do not report race and ethnicity data.

Nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by length of service, 2004

Workers who were with their employers for more than 5 years became injured or ill less often in 2004 than their employment share suggests.

Each injury or illness is described from four viewpoints.

Nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by the nature of the disabling condition, 2004

Sprains and strains accounted for 525,390 cases or 42 percent of all nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work in 2004.

Nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by the part of body affected, 2004

The upper extremities and back were involved in almost one-half of all occupational injuries and illnesses.

Nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work by source of injury or illness, 2004

Four sources accounted for over half of all nonfatal injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work in 2004: floor, ground surfaces 18.6 percent; worker motion or position 14.5 percent; containers 12.8 percent; and parts and materials 10.1 percent.

Source of Injury or Illness
(1,259,320 injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work)

Bodily reaction and exertion, contact with objects and equipment, and falls accounted for almost 90 percent of nonfatal injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work in 2004.

Median days away from work due to nonfatal occupational injuries or illnesses by nature, 2004

Carpal tunnel syndrome and fractures each had a median of 28 days away from work, followed by amputations with 25 days in 2004.

Median days away from work due to nonfatal occupational injuries or illnesses by part of body, 2004

Injuries and illnesses to the shoulder (17 days), to the knee (15 days), and to the wrist (14 days) took the longest median time from which to recover in 2004.

Repetitive motion, with a median of 20 days, resulted in the longest absences from work among the leading events and exposures. Falls to a lower level with 14 days and transportation accidents with 10 days had the next longest median days away from work.

Median days away from work due to nonfatal occupational injuries or illnesses by source, 2004

- Vehicles: 10 days
- Floors, walkways, ground surfaces: 10 days
- Worker motion or position: 10 days
- Machinery: 8 days
- Containers: 8 days
- Parts and materials: 7 days
- Health care patient: 6 days
- Furniture and fixtures: 6 days
- Tools, instruments, and equipment: 5 days
- Chemicals and chemical products: 3 days

Of the source of the injury or illness, vehicles; floors, walkways, ground surfaces; and worker motion or position had the highest median days away from work with 10 days each.

Comparison of total nonfatal injury and illness cases with days away from work to musculoskeletal disorder (MSD) cases involving days away from work, 2002-2004

The percentage of total cases involving lost worktime that result from musculoskeletal disorders decreased slightly from 2002 to 2004.

Musculoskeletal disorders with days away from work by nature of injury or illness, 2004

Sprains, strains, tears, 76.0%

Nature of Injury or Illness
(402,700 MSD cases resulted in days away from work)

Sprains, strains, and tears accounted for over three-fourths of the musculoskeletal disorders that resulted in days away from work in 2004.