In 2005 there were 1,234,680 injuries and illnesses with days away from work. Goods-producing industries declined by 3.5 percent; injuries and illnesses in the service-providing industries remained relatively the same.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Incidence rates for all events fell by 4.0 percent between 2004 and 2005. Assaults and violent acts by persons fell by 20 percent; all assaults and violent acts fell by 14.3 percent; repetitive motion declined by 12.7 percent; overexertion in lifting fell by 9.7 percent; and overexertion fell by 7.6 percent. Struck by object and exposed to harmful substance fell less than the average for all events and exposures.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Occupations with 20,000 or more injuries and illnesses, 2005

Eleven occupations had 20,000 or more injuries and illnesses in 2005. Laborers and material movers suffered the most injuries and illnesses, followed by heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers and nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
For three years, these eleven occupations had the most injuries and illnesses. Laborers and material movers (increased 3.4 percent); heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (increased 3.7 percent); and nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants (no change) had the most injuries and illnesses from 2004 to 2005.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Injuries and illnesses are not always in proportion to their share of employment. Maintenance and repair workers account for 1.9% of injuries and illnesses but only 0.2% of employment, and had the largest ratio of injuries to employment of the occupations shown here. Registered nurses have the smallest ratio of injuries to employment and account for 1.6% of injuries and illnesses and 1.7% of employment.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Employment and injuries and illnesses by occupation group, 2005

Transportation and material movers account for 6.1% of employment, far below their 20.5% share of injuries and illnesses. Management, business, and financial workers account for 14.4% of employment, but only 2.3% of injuries and illnesses.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers and first-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers had the highest median days away from work among occupations with ½% of the total days away from work cases. These two occupations had twice the median days for all occupations.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.

Goods-producing industries made up 21 percent of private industry employment but accounted for 32 percent of injuries and illnesses with days away from work. Service-providing industries made up 79 percent of employment and 68 percent of injuries and illnesses in 2005.
Almost two-thirds of injured or ill workers were men in 2005, well above their 59 percent share of the nation’s hours worked.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.

Chart 9
Workers 20 to 24 have a higher share of injuries and illnesses in 2005 than their share of hours worked would suggest. Every other group either has fewer injuries than their share of hours worked would suggest, or are very close.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
The length of absences from work rose with the age of the worker from a median of three days for workers between 14 and 16 years old to a median of 12 days from workers 65 and older.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
There were 163,440 injuries and illnesses with days away from work among Hispanic and Latino workers in 2005. Among Hispanic and Latino workers, natural resources and mining (which includes agriculture) had the highest percentage of injuries. About 30 percent of cases do not report race and ethnicity data.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Each injury or illness is described from four viewpoints.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Sprains and strains accounted for 503,530 cases, or more than 4 out of 10 of all nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work in 2005. Sprains and strains declined by 4 percent from 2004 to 2005. Carpal tunnel syndrome declined by 14 percent.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Median days away from work due to injuries or illnesses by nature, 2005

Carpal tunnel syndrome and fractures each had a median of 27 days away from work, followed by amputations with 22 days in 2005.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Injuries and illnesses by part of body affected, 2005

Upper extremities, lower extremities, and back each account for more than one-fifth of all injuries and illnesses.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Injuries and illnesses to the shoulder (15 days) and to the wrist (14 days) required the most time to recuperate in 2005. These were twice the median time required for all parts.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Four sources accounted for over half of all nonfatal injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work in 2005: floor, ground surfaces with 19.0 percent; worker motion or position with 14.7 percent; containers with 12.3 percent; and parts and materials with 10.4 percent.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Median days away from work due to injuries or illnesses by source, 2005

Of the sources 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.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving 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 2005.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Repetitive motion, with a median of 19 days, resulted in the longest absences from work among leading events and exposures. Fires and explosions with 16 days and falls to lower level with 13 days had the next longest median days away from work.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
In 2005, musculoskeletal disorders accounted for 375,540 cases, or 30 percent, of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work. This is the lowest portion of total cases since BLS started collecting data on MSDs.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.
Sprains, strains, tears accounted for over three-fourths of the musculoskeletal disorders that resulted in days away from work in 2005.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, cases involving days away from work.