Local government had the highest incidence rate for injuries and illnesses at 194.6 per 10,000 full-time workers. State government had a high rate of 170. These were both much higher than the rate of injuries and illnesses in the private sector.
In 2008, local government had 15 percent of all injuries and illnesses with days away from work, higher than its 9 percent share of employment. Private industry had a correspondingly lower share of injuries and illnesses than employment, and State government had the same share of employment and injuries and illnesses.
Incidence rate of injuries and illnesses with days away from work by selected industry sectors, 2008

Cases in government ownerships were concentrated in the construction; trade, transportation, and utilities; education and health service; and public administration sectors. In construction, local government had a rate of 366.2 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers, compared to 196.8 in state and 174.3 in private industry. In public administration, local government had a rate of 273.0 compared to a rate in state government of 175.1.
Injuries in educational services were higher for local government than for other ownerships. State government and private industry had rates that were similar. State government had a very high rate of injuries and illnesses in hospitals compared to local government and private industry. State and local government both had higher rates of injury and illness in nursing and residential care facilities compared to the private sector.
Distribution of injuries and illnesses with days away from work and employment by gender, 2008

Injury and illness cases in state government are split relatively evenly between men and women, even though there are more women employed in state government. In local government, men had 59% of cases despite only having 39% of employment.
The proportion of injuries and illnesses with days away from work occurring to workers with over five years of service with an employer was greater for both State government (58 percent) and local government (60 percent) compared to private industry (31 percent).
Injuries and illnesses with days away from work for occupations in state government with 2,000 or more cases, by ownership, 2008

- **Correctional Officers and Jailers**: 12,420 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Psychiatric Aides**: 4,620 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners**: 3,800 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants**: 3,140 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers**: 2,980 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Psychiatric Technicians**: 2,920 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Registered Nurses**: 2,440 cases in state government, no cases in local government.
- **Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity**: 2,360 cases in state government, no cases in local government.

In state government, correctional officers and jailers had the most cases in 2008 with 12,420. No other occupation had more than 5,000 cases. Psychiatric aides and psychiatric technicians both had large numbers of cases in state government, but almost no cases in local government.
Police and sheriff's patrol officers had the most cases of injuries and illnesses with days away from work in local government in 2008. Firefighters had 16,800 cases in local government, while in state government and private industry there were less than 200 cases each. Several other occupations have significant numbers of cases in local government, but very few cases in state government due to the differences in responsibilities of state and local government.
Sprains and strains had the highest rate for private industry and State and local government. Local government had a rate of 82.8 per 10,000 full-time workers, nearly twice that of private industry (43.8). Likewise, pain (including back pain) had high rates, but the rate for local government (23.1) was nearly twice as much as private industry (12.0).
Assaults had a very high rate of injuries and illnesses (28.6 per 10,000 full-time workers) in State government, compared to local government (12.6) and private industry (2.4). Overexertion and falls on same level had the highest rates for local government.
Local government had the highest rate of MSDs, at 48.7 per 10,000 full-time workers. Private industry had the highest percentage of cases that were MSDs, at 29 percent.