As is traditionally the case, injuries accounted for the overwhelming majority of the nearly 4.1 million injury and illness cases reported among private industry workplaces in 2006.

Illnesses accounted for fewer than 6 in 100 injury and illness cases reported among private industry workplaces in 2006. The category of all other illnesses accounted for four of the six illness cases.

Private industry illnesses declined by 14,500 cases, from 242,500 cases in 2005 to 228,000 in 2006.

The rate of illness among private industry workplaces declined significantly in 2006—from 26.7 to 24.6 cases per 10,000 full-time employees.

Rates for two categories of illnesses, those of hearing loss (from 3.0 in 2005 to 2.6 in 2006) and all other illnesses (16.8 to 15.2), declined in 2006.

Rates for skin disorders, respiratory conditions, and poisoning were relatively unchanged in 2006 compared with 2005.