Number and incidence rate of injuries and illnesses for occupations with the highest incidence rates, private industry, 2006 (cases involving days away from work)

Each of these 11 occupations constituted at least one-tenth of 1 percent of employment and had a DAFW rate of 300 or more in 2006. The total private industry rate was 128 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers.

Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers had the highest number of DAFW injuries and illnesses, but were third in terms of incidence rates, behind nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants and construction laborers.

Construction laborers had the second-highest rate among these occupations—488 injuries and illnesses per 10,000 full-time workers. These are the workers who provide the physical labor for building and construction. They may use hand or power tools and clean or prepare sites, performing any of the following duties: digging trenches, setting braces, erecting scaffolding, cleaning up debris, and removing asbestos and other hazardous waste. These workers' rate of injuries and illnesses is nearly 4 times the rate of all occupations.