



Massachusetts Survey of **Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Report**

2022

Compiled by:
Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development
Department of Labor Standards,
Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Program



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Overview

This report highlights the Massachusetts Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) for 2022. The survey is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards (DLS). Selected rates of injury and illness, number of cases of injury and illness, and case and demographic statistics are included.

Massachusetts Work-Related Nonfatal Injuries and Illnesses in 2022

Total Number of Recordable Cases (TRC) and Incidence rates:

In 2022, there were approximately 81,700 work-related injuries and illnesses reported by employers across the private and public sector workforce in Massachusetts. This resulted in a Total Recordable Incidence Rate of 2.9 cases per 100 full-time equivalent workers (FTEs).

Private Sector Workforce

Of the total number of cases 67,400 nonfatal work-related injuries and illnesses were reported by Massachusetts' Private Sector workforce. This total translates into an incidence rate of 2.7 cases per 100 FTE workers. In the private sector, there were 43,100 cases that resulted in either days away from work and/or job transfer or restriction, also referred to as DART cases. Of the DART cases there were 37,600 cases with Days Away from Work (DAFW), and approximately 5,500 that resulted in Days with Job Transfer or Restriction (DJTR). There were also 24,300 recordable cases that were less severe but recordable under the OSHA recordkeeping requirements.

Public Sector Workforce

State and local government employers reported an estimated 14,300 recordable cases in 2022. The corresponding TRC incidence rate was 4.5 incidents per 100 FTEs.

State Government

There was an estimated total of 2,600 recordable incidents in the State government workforce in 2022. This translates to an incidence rate of 2.7 incidents per 100 FTEs.

Local Government

There were an estimated 11,700 recordable work-related incidents involving local government workers. The total recordable incidence rate was 5.3 incidents per 100 FTEs.

Year to Year Comparison

Notably, Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) contributed to the closure of workplaces, the shift to remote work, and to the number of documented respiratory conditions. The effects of COVID-19 might have also contributed to some of these changes listed below.

Statistically significant changes from 2021 to 2022 in the Total Number of Injuries and Illnesses for selected Industries:

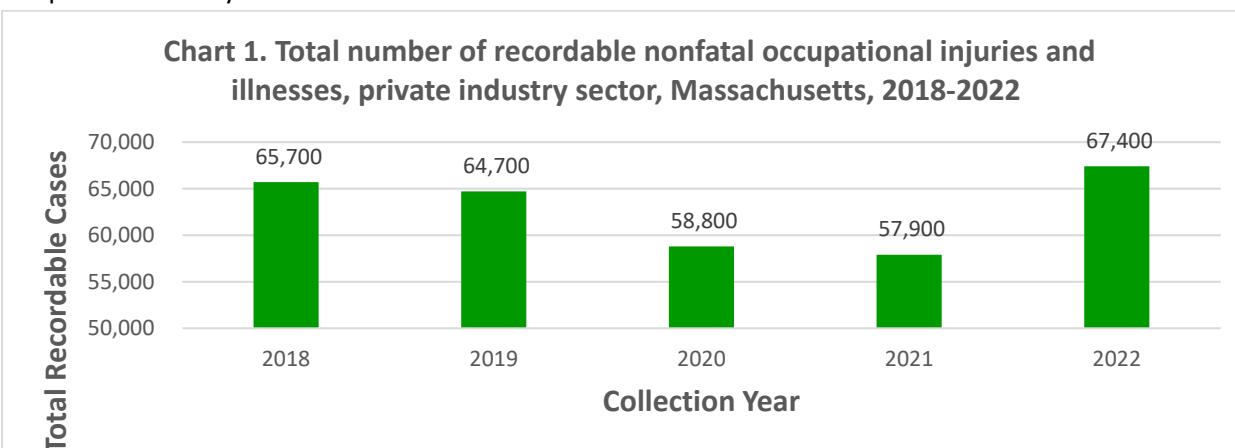
- The total number of occupational injuries and illnesses in the private industry sector had a statistically significant change from 57,900 in 2021 to 67,400 cases in 2022.
- The Service providing sector also had a statistically significant change. There were 48,300 cases in 2021 and 58,000 cases in 2022.

- Education and Health Services industry saw a statistically significant increase in the total number of cases from 21,100 in 2021 to 25,700 in 2022.
- Professional and Business Services saw a statistically significant increase in the total number of cases from 5,400 in 2021 to 8,600 in 2022.
- Administrative and Support, and Waste Management and Remediation Services saw a statistically significant increase from 2,600 in 2021 to 4,500 in 2022.
- Education Services experienced a statistically significant decrease from 2,600 in 2021 to 1,800 in 2022.
- Health Care and Social Assistance had a statistically significant increase from 18,500 in 2021 to 23,900 in 2022.

Statistically Significant Changes in the Total Recordable Case Rate:

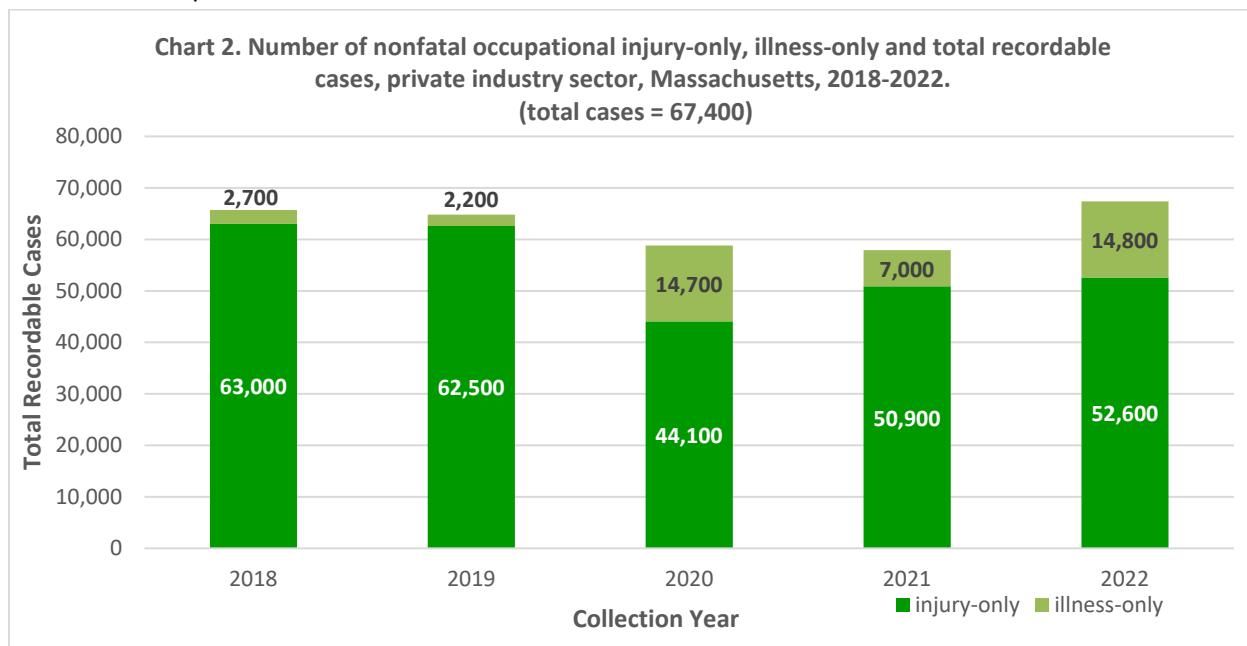
- The Leisure and Hospitality industry's TRC rate increased from 2.3 incidents per 100 FTEs in 2021 to 2.6 incidents in 2022.
- Education and Health Services industry also saw an increased from 4.0 incidents in 2021 to 4.8 incidents in 2022.
- The Financial Activities industry saw a decrease in TRC rate from 0.8 incidents per 100 FTEs in 2021 to 0.6 in 2022.

Chart 1 shows the total number of nonfatal injuries and illnesses from 2018-2022 for employees working in the private industry sector of Massachusetts.



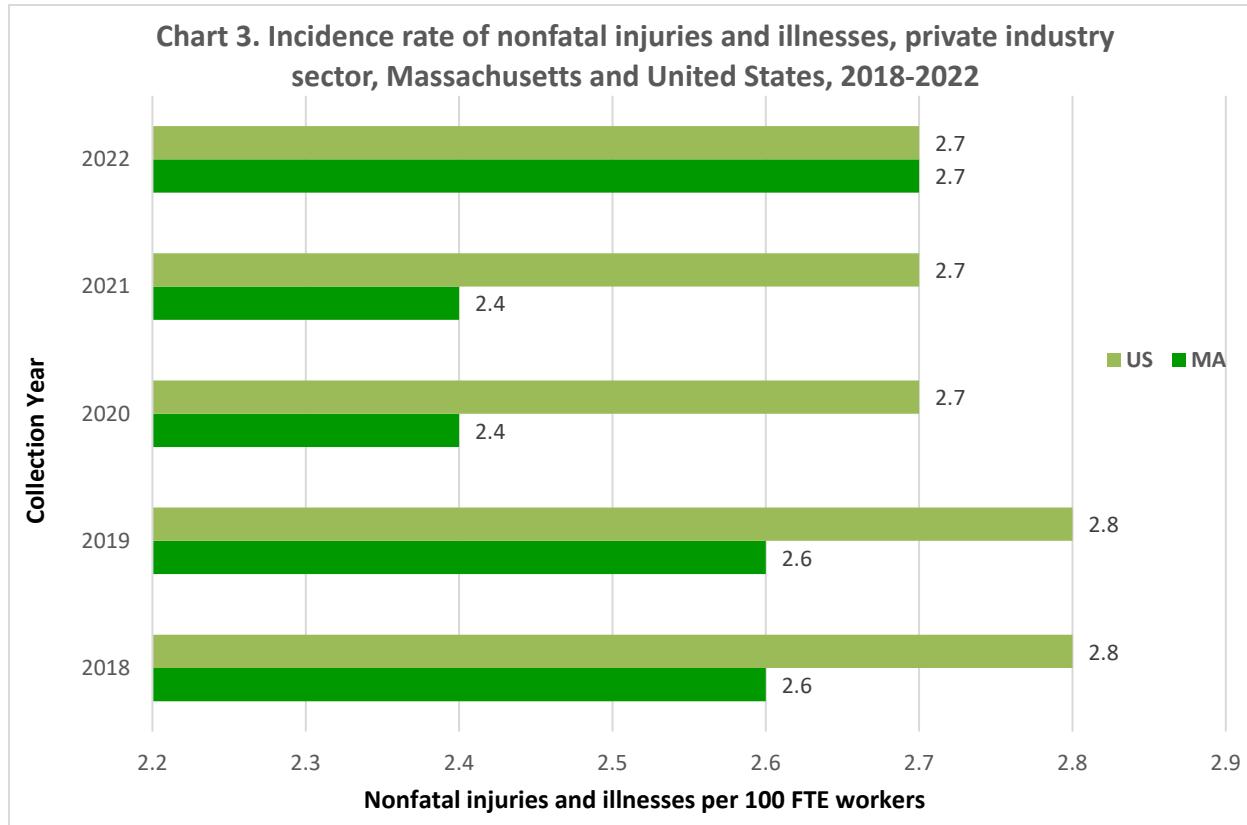
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Chart 2 shows the number of nonfatal occupational injury-only, illness-only and total recordable cases in the Massachusetts private sector from 2018 – 2022.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Chart 3 compares the incidence rates between the United States and Massachusetts private industry sector workforce from 2018 to 2022.



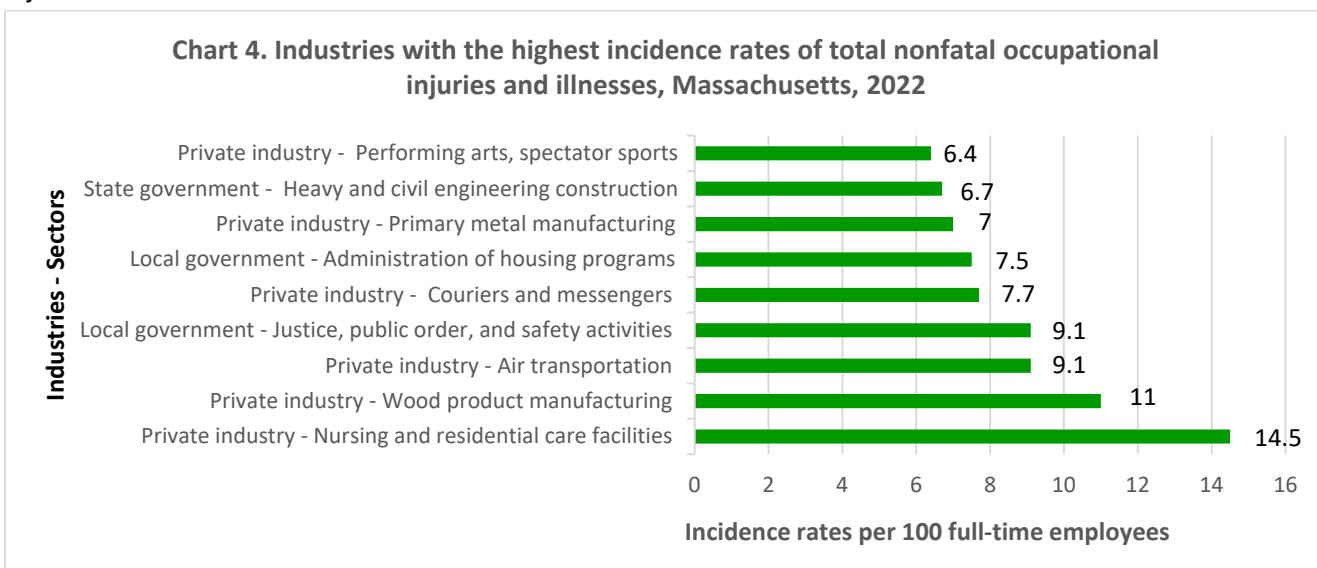
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Injury and Illness Case Types

Work-related injuries and illnesses are recorded as three individual case types by employers: 1. Cases with Days Away From Work are commonly identified in this report as DAFW. 2. Cases with Job Transfer or Restricted duty commonly identified as DJTR. 3. Other Recordable Cases commonly identified as ORC.

For a case to be considered recordable by an employer, there are two criteria about the incident that must be met. First, the injury or illness must be determined to be work-related or caused by the work environment. Second, the incident needs to involve loss of consciousness, require days away from work, job transfer or restricted duty, medical treatment beyond first aid (i.e., stitches, prescribed medication from a doctor, surgery, etc.), involve a significant work-related injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or licensed healthcare professional or meet other recordkeeping criteria as specified under the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's regulation 29 CFR 1904. If both criteria are met, the incident is recordable. DAFW cases are considered the most serious type of case since the employee was not healthy enough to attend work (usually recommended by a medical professional) due to the severity of their injury or illness. DJTR cases are deemed as such when a work-related injury or illness prohibits an employee from performing one or more of the main functions of that employee's job duties. Cases that require more than first aid treatment or meet other recordkeeping criteria, but where there is no lost work time or job transfer or restriction, are considered ORCs.

Chart 4 shows industries in Massachusetts with the highest incidence rates of total nonfatal occupational injuries and illness.



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Case and Demographics:

To generate case and demographic data, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) requested some basic information about the employee, such as job title, age, or date of birth, date of hire, or length of service, race, or ethnic background, work shift start time, and time of injury or illness. It is with this data that we compile and publish specific demographic information about the characteristics of the employee. In addition to demographic information, specific case information that describes the nature, event, source, secondary source (if applicable), and part of body affected, is also collected.

Gender:

Of the 35,890 total cases with days away from work occurring in the private sector workforce, from 2021-2022, 19,400 cases or approximately 54.1% were reported to involve a female employee. Male workers accounted for 16,060 or 44.7% of the DAFW cases. Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to totals. Biennial estimates for case circumstances and worker demographics for cases involving days away from work and days of job transfer or restriction were published for the first time for the two-year 2021-2022 reference period. This data will be published every two years (biennially), with the next release occurring for the 2023-2024 period.

Table 1 below shows the distribution of occupational injuries and illnesses by gender in major private industry sector from 2021-2022.

Table 1. Number of injuries and illnesses with days away from work (DAFW) by major occupation and gender, private industry, Massachusetts, 2021-2022

Private Sector - Industries	Men	Women
Transportation and material moving	10,320	3,010
Service	8,110	12,190
Installation, maintenance, and repair	4,420	80
Construction and extraction	4,060	100
Production	3,770	1,190
Healthcare practitioners and technical	1,890	7,110
Sales and related	1,860	1,470
Management, business, and financial	1,150	1,900
Office and administrative support	820	1,950
Education, legal, community service, arts, and media	640	2,100
Computer, engineering, and science	560	90
Farming, fishing, and forestry	-	-

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Note: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

Biennial estimates for case circumstances and worker demographics for cases involving days away from work and days of job transfer or restriction were published for the first time for the two-year 2021-2022 reference period. These data will be published every two years (biennially), with the next release occurring for the 2023-2024 period.

Cases involving days away from work, job transfer, or restriction (DART) are the sum of cases with days away from work (DAFW) and cases involving only days of job transfer or restriction (DJTR). Days-away-from-work cases include those that resulted in days away from work, some of which may also include days of job transfer or restriction. Days of job transfer or restriction cases include those that result in only days of job transfer or restriction.

Table 2 shows the distribution of occupational injuries and illnesses by gender in the public sector (state and local government combined) from 2021 – 2022.

Table 2. Number of injuries and illnesses with days away from work (DAFW) by major occupation and gender, state and local government combined, Massachusetts, 2021-2022

Public Sector - Industries	Men	Women
Service	7,400	1,460
Construction and extraction	1,080	-
Transportation and material moving	590	300
Installation, maintenance, and repair	510	20
Education, legal, community service, arts, and media	220	1,680
Management, business, and financial	100	290
Production	90	-
Computer, engineering, and science	40	-
Office and administrative support	30	-
Healthcare practitioners and technical	-	190
Sales and related	-	-
Farming, fishing, and forestry	-	-

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Note: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

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Table 3 below shows the total number of cases and percent distribution of DAFW cases in Massachusetts by nature in private industry and public sector.

Table 3. Total number of cases and percent distribution of DAFW cases by nature, private industry sector and public sector, Massachusetts, 2021-2022. (total cases = 70,170)

Nature of injury or illness	Cases-Private Industry	Cases-Public Sector
Sprains, strains, tears	18,440 (26.3%)	3,450 (23.3%)
Soreness, pain	10,800 (15.4%)	14,290 (29%)
Cuts, lacerations, punctures	6,940 (9.9%)	460 (3.1%)
Bruises, contusions	4,560 (6.5%)	450 (3%)
Fractures	3,410 (4.9%)	1,230 (8.3%)
Multiple traumatic injuries	1,030 (1.5%)	190 (1.3%)
Heat (thermal) burns	800 (1.1%)	30 (0.2%)
Amputations	190 (0.4%)	--
Tendonitis	130 (0.3%)	--
Carpal tunnel syndrome	110 (0.2%)	--

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Note: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

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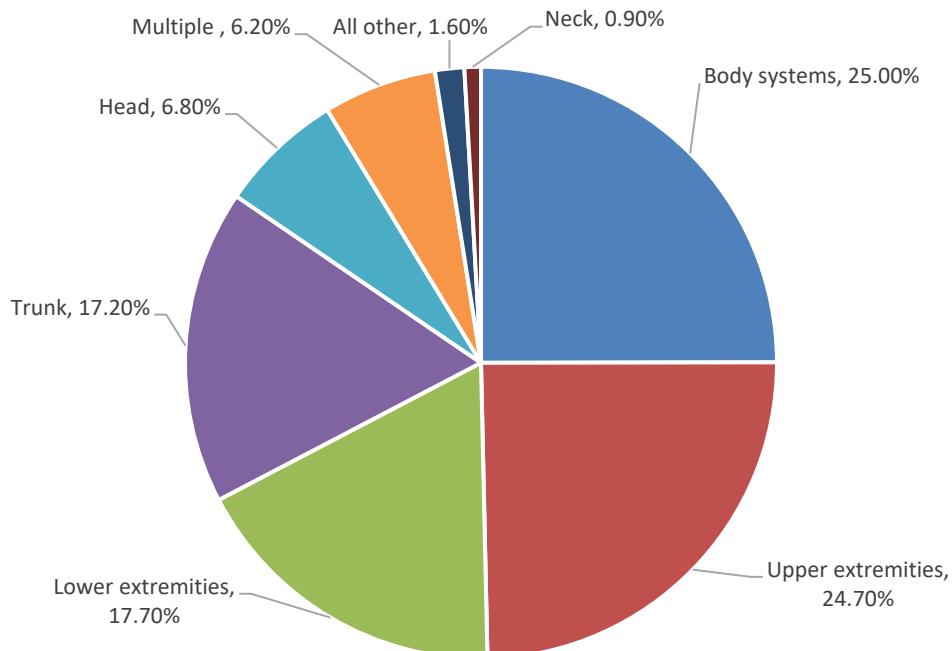
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Part of Body:

Body systems is the part of body that is typically named when an illness affects the entire body system, rather than a particular part of the external body. From 2021-2022, Body systems accounted for 17,540 DAFW cases, which represented 25% of the DAFW cases. The upper extremities, which include the shoulder, arms, hands, and fingers accounted for approximately 17,300 cases or 24.7% of all cases. The lower extremities, which range from the upper leg to the toes, were identified as the part of body in 12,390 DAFW cases. From 2021-2022 upper and lower extremities combined were accountable for roughly 29,690 DAFW cases or approximately 42.40% of the total DAFW cases. In addition, there were an estimated 4,780 cases: 6.8%, that involved the head as the part of body.

Chart 5 below displays the percent distribution of days away from work cases by the part of body affected in the private industry sector.

Chart 5. Percent distribution of injuries with days away from work (DAFW), by part of body, private industry, Massachusetts, 2021-2022.
(total cases = 70,170)



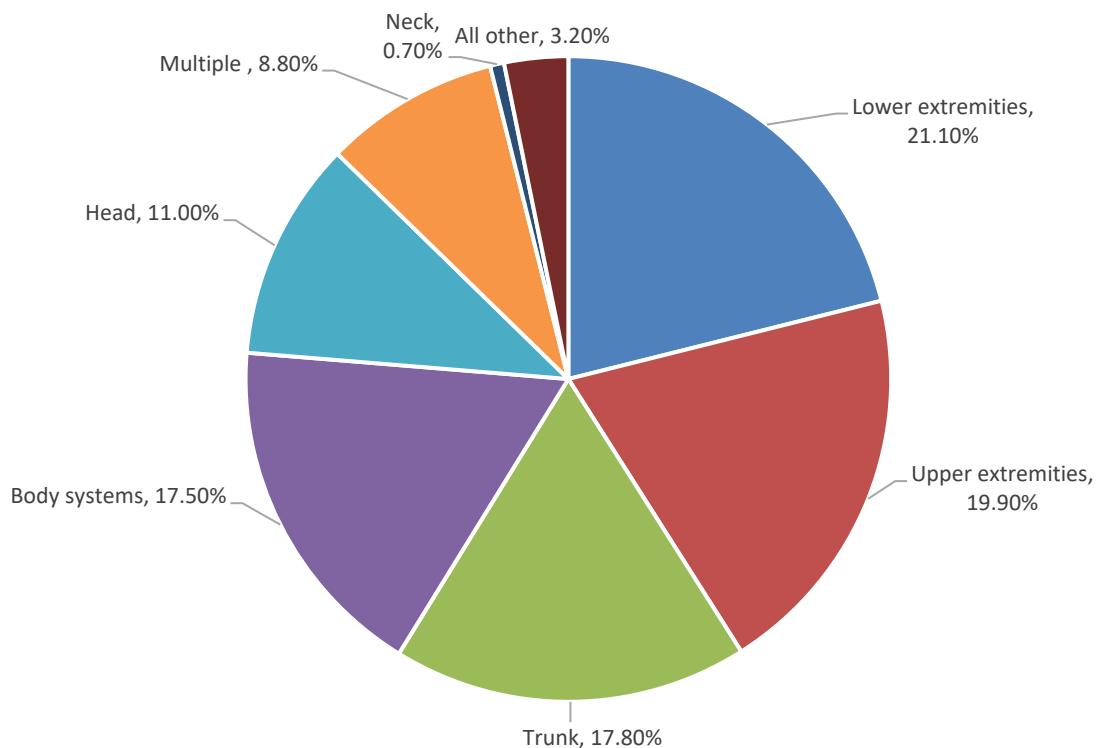
[SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2024]

Biennial estimates for case circumstances and worker demographics for cases involving days away from work and days of job transfer or restriction were published for the first time for the two-year 2021-2022 reference period. These data will be published every two years (biennially), with the next release occurring for the 2023-2024 period.

Cases involving days away from work, job transfer, or restriction (DART) are the sum of cases with days away from work (DAFW) and cases involving only days of job transfer or restriction (DJTR). Days-away-from-work cases include those that resulted in days away from work, some of which may also include days of job transfer or restriction. Days of job transfer or restriction cases include those that result in only days of job transfer or restriction.

Chart 6 below displays the percent distribution of days away from work cases by the part of body affected in the public sector (state and local government combined).

Chart 6. Distribution of injuries with days away from work (DAFW), by part of body, state and local government combined, Massachusetts, 2021-2022. (total cases = 14,790)

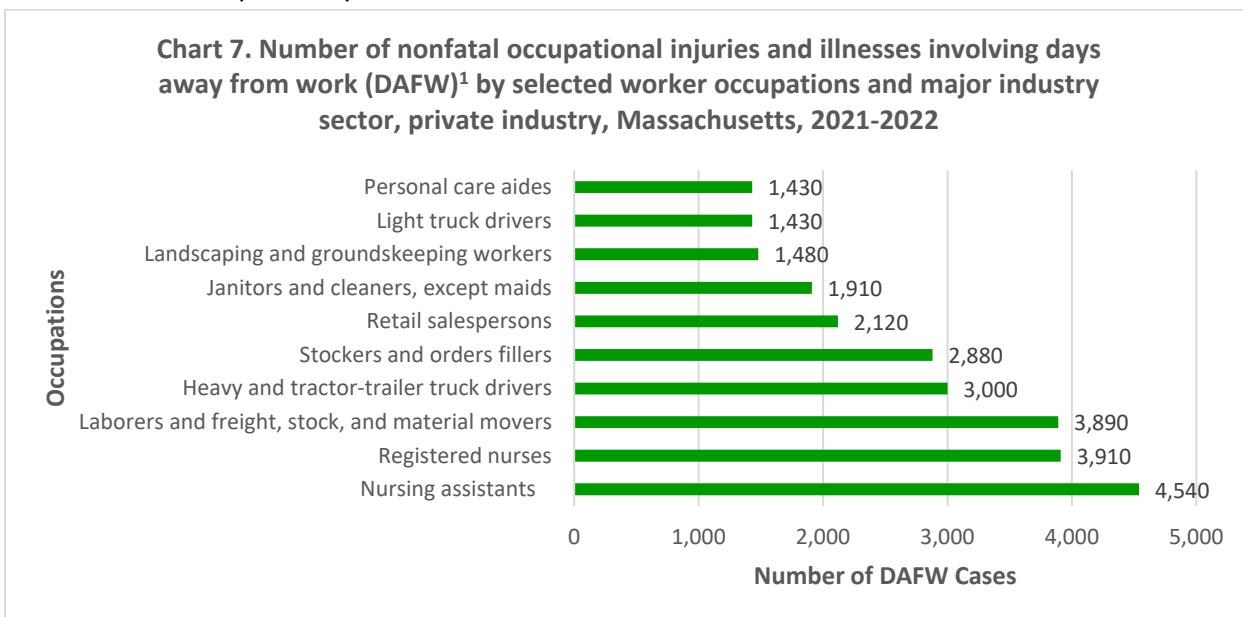


[SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2024]

Biennial estimates for case circumstances and worker demographics for cases involving days away from work and days of job transfer or restriction were published for the first time for the two-year 2021-2022 reference period. These data will be published every two years (biennially), with the next release occurring for the 2023-2024 period.

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Chart 7 below shows selected occupations with the highest number of Days Away from Work (DAFW) cases. As in prior years, healthcare occupations continue to be prevalent among selected occupations with high DAFW cases and impacted by COVID-19.



1 Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2022

Biennial estimates for case circumstances and worker demographics for cases involving days away from work and days of job transfer or restriction were published for the first time for the two-year 2021-2022 reference period. These data will be published every two years (biennially), with the next release occurring for the 2023-2024 period.

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Data Source for this Report

The data source for this report is the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), in cooperation with participating state agencies. Survey data for the SOII is derived from mandatory logs kept by private industry employers and participating public sector employers during the calendar year. All survey responses are confidential and are used for statistical purposes only. The SOII is a federal-state government partnership between the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards (DLS). For more information about the data sources and methodology visit BLS' Concepts page: bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/data.htm.

About the Department of Labor Standards

The mission of the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards (DLS) is to promote and protect workers' safety and health, wages and working conditions, and to support employers and workers in the utilization of apprenticeship as a workforce development tool. In collaboration with public and private entities, DLS protects workers by means of education and training, workplace safety and health consultation and assessment, occupational injury and illness data collection and analysis, and consistent and responsible administration and enforcement of its statutes and regulations. DLS carries out its objectives in a manner that supports employers and strengthens the Commonwealth's communities and economy. DLS' Occupational Safety and Health

Statistics Program administers the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) for all Private Sector and public sector industries, trades, and occupations. The SOII remains the largest occupational injury and illness surveillance system in the country, providing injury and illness counts and rates for a variety of employer, employee, and case characteristics based on a sample of approximately 230,000 establishments. Employers record cases that result in days away from work due to injury or illness. SOII contains multiple case characteristics that capture invaluable information about the nature of the industry, the injury, and the demographics of the injured employee. The Program uses this data to produce an annual occupational injury and illness report, which summarizes overall and industry-specific data on occupational safety. Reports from prior years can be found on the DLS website at mass.gov/occupational-safety-and-health-statistics-program.

The mission of the Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Program is to support continued improvement of workplace environments by compiling and presenting data to employers, employees, researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers, so that these data can be used to devise strategies to reduce occupational injuries and illnesses. DLS administers eight programs (including the Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Program) that interact with the public on a range of occupational health and safety issues. Visit mass.gov/orgs/department-of-labor-standards for more information about DLS.

Occupational Health and Safety Resources in Massachusetts On-Site Consultation Program This program, administered by DLS, offers a free consultation service designed to help employers recognize and control potential safety and health hazards at their worksites, improve their safety and health program, assist in training employees, and possibly qualify for a one-year exemption from routine OSHA inspections. This service targets smaller businesses (less than 250 employees per establishment or 500 employees nationwide) in high hazard industries, such as manufacturing, healthcare, and construction. It is a confidential service in which your firm's name, any other information you provide, and any unsafe or unhealthy working conditions found, will not be reported routinely to the OSHA inspection staff. Visit mass.gov/dols/consult for more information.

Workplace Safety and Health Program

The Workplace Safety and Health Program within DLS provides technical assistance and performs investigations of workplace health and safety hazards within public sector workplaces in Massachusetts. For more information visit: mass.gov/workplace-safety-and-health-program-wshp.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Occupational Health Surveillance Program

The Massachusetts Occupational Health Surveillance Program within the Department of Public Health generates reports, fact sheets, and safety alerts regarding fatal occupational injuries. For more materials on this subject, please contact the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Occupational Health Surveillance Program (OHSP), 250 Washington Street, 4th Floor Boston, MA 02108. To speak with a representative directly, please call 1 (800) 338-5223. Reports are available on the program's website: mass.gov/orgs/occupational-health-surveillance-program.

Department of Industrial Accidents' Safety Grant Program

The Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents (DIA), through the Office of Safety, annually awards hundreds of thousands of dollars in safety training grants to various organizations. In each fiscal year, thousands of people receive workplace training through programs funded by these DIA grants. This highly successful program provides monies for workplace safety training aimed at workers throughout the Commonwealth. For more information explore the following link: mass.gov/workplace-safety-grant-program.

Material Request Information: for more information about the 2022 *Report* or past year data, please contact the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards, Occupational Safety and Health Statistics Program, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114 or call (617) 626-6948. Information can also be found on our website at: mass.gov/orgs/department-of-labor-standards.

Detailed statistical information can also be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics at: bls.gov/bls/safety.htm.



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