

PUBLIC SECTOR - STATE GOVERNMENT

Massachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Report 2010

2010 marks the third year in which public sector data was collected in Massachusetts. The reporting of occupational injuries and illnesses within local government is still not mandatory, and due to a low response rate, data was not publishable this year. Non-fatal occupational injuries and illnesses occurred at a higher rate for state government workers, with 3.4 cases per 100 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs), than it did for private sector workers (3.2 cases per 100 FTEs). State government employees accounted for 111,000 members of the total Massachusetts workforce and reported a total of 3,100 recordable cases in 2010, which is a slight increase from the 2,500 recordable cases in 2008. It is important to note that, while data were collected in 2009, they were not statistically significant and key findings could not be produced. Therefore, the 2010 data will be compared to the 2008 collection figures. When referencing case and demographic data, it is represented as state government only, except where indicated otherwise.

Key Public Sector Findings

- The total recordable case incidence rate (TRC) for state government was 3.4 cases per 100 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs).
- Both the days away from work and restricted or transferred case (DART) rate, and days away from work only case (DAFW) rate, were 2.5 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The other recordable rate case (ORC) rate was 0.9 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The cases with days of job transfer or restriction (DJTR) rate was not publishable due to available data.
- State government employed approximately 3.6% (111,000 employees) of the total Massachusetts workforce in 2010.
- State government accounted for 3,100 recordable cases.
- Of the 3,100 total recordable cases, approximately 2,300 or 74.2% were non-fatal occupational injury-only cases.
- There were 800 recordable non-fatal occupational illness-only cases, which is 25.8% of the total, and is relatively unchanged from 2008.
- The all other illnesses category was selected for all of the recordable illness-only cases.
- Roughly 74.2% (2,300) of all recordable cases required at least one full lost work day (DAFW).



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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- There were 800 incidents, 25.8% of the total, that were recordable but did not require lost work time or restricted/transferred duty.
- The service-providing sector of state government, which consists of: trade, transportation, and utilities, education and health services, and public administration, accounted for 98.6% (109,500) of state government's workforce; it also accounted for 100% (3,100) of the incidents.
- The sector of state government with the highest incidence rate was health care and social assistance, which had a total recordable case rate of 6.6 incidents per 100 FTEs.
- State-run hospitals had a TRC incidence rate of 7.8 cases per 100 FTEs.
- State establishments with 250 to 999 employees had the highest total recordable case incidence rate with 4.9 cases per 100 FTEs; establishments with 11 to 49 employees had a TRC rate of 3.4 cases per 100 FTEs; establishments with 1,000 or more employees had a rate of 2.7 cases per 100 FTEs; establishments with 50 to 249 employees had the lowest publishable TRC rate with 2.2 cases per 100 FTEs.
- Assaults and violent acts were the cause of 720 cases that resulted in lost work days.
- Nationally, there were a total of 183,900 reported nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses in state government.
- The incidence rate for state agencies nationally was 4.6 cases per 100 full-time employees.
- Nationally, state-run hospitals had a TRC rate of 11.8 cases per 100 FTEs; nursing and residential care facilities had a TRC rate of 15.1 cases per 100 FTEs.



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Case and Demographic Findings Based on 2,270 cases with days away from work

OCCUPATION: Correctional officers and jailers accounted for 380 DAFW cases or 16.7%. Mental health counselors accounted for 340 cases or 15.0% of the total. Construction trades workers (specifically construction laborers, 110 cases) accounted for 150 cases or 6.6%; nursing aides orderlies and attendants accounted for 110 cases 4.8%.

GENDER: Males accounted for 1,530 of the 2,270 total DAFW cases; that represents 67.4% of the total; females accounted for 710 DAFW cases which represents 31.3%; the gender for the remainder of the cases was not reported.

AGE: The 55 to 64 age group accounted for 680 or ~30.0% of the total number of DAFW cases; the 35 to 44 age group accounted for 510 cases or 22.5% of the total; the 45 to 54 age group accounted for 470 cases or 20.7% of the total; the 25 to 34 age group accounted for 330 cases or 14.5% of the total; the 20 to 24 age group accounted for 220 cases or 9.7% of the total. Lastly, the 65 and over age group reported 30 cases with days away from work, which represents 1.3% of the total. There was not enough data to produce statistics on the 14 to 15 or 16 to 19 year old age groups.

NATURE: Sprains, strains, and tears accounted for 980 DAFW cases or roughly 43.2% of the total number of DAFW cases; bruises and contusions accounted for 480 cases or 21.1% of the total; fractures accounted for 120 cases or 5.3% of the total; multiple traumatic injuries accounted for 90 cases or 4.0%; and cuts and lacerations accounted for 70 cases or 3.1% of the total.

EVENT: Assaults, violent acts were the cause of 720 cases or 31.7% of the total with DAFW; contact with object or equipment was responsible for 330 cases or 14.5% of the total; overexertion accounted for 280 cases or 12.3%; falls on the same level accounted for 230 cases or 10.1%; slips and trips (without fall) accounted for 180 cases or 7.9%; and transportation accidents accounted for 120 cases or 5.3% of the total.

SOURCE: Persons, plants, animals, and minerals were the source for approximately 480 DAFW cases or roughly 21.0% of the total; structures and surfaces accounted for 280 cases or 12.2% of the total; containers accounted for 60 cases or 2.6% of the total; and vehicles accounted for 50 DAFW cases or 2.2% of the total; 1,240 cases were non-classifiable.

PART OF BODY: The trunk region (back, shoulders, chest) was the part of body most affected in DAFW cases, with approximately 380 cases or 16.6% of the total amount; lower extremities (legs, ankles, feet, toes) accounted for 250 cases or 10.9%; multiple body parts accounted for 170 cases or 7.4%; upper extremities (arms, hands, fingers) accounted for 160 cases or roughly 7.0%; and the head region (including face) accounted for 60 cases or 2.6% of the total; 1,240 cases were non-classifiable.

Data source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, in cooperation with participating State agencies, 2011.



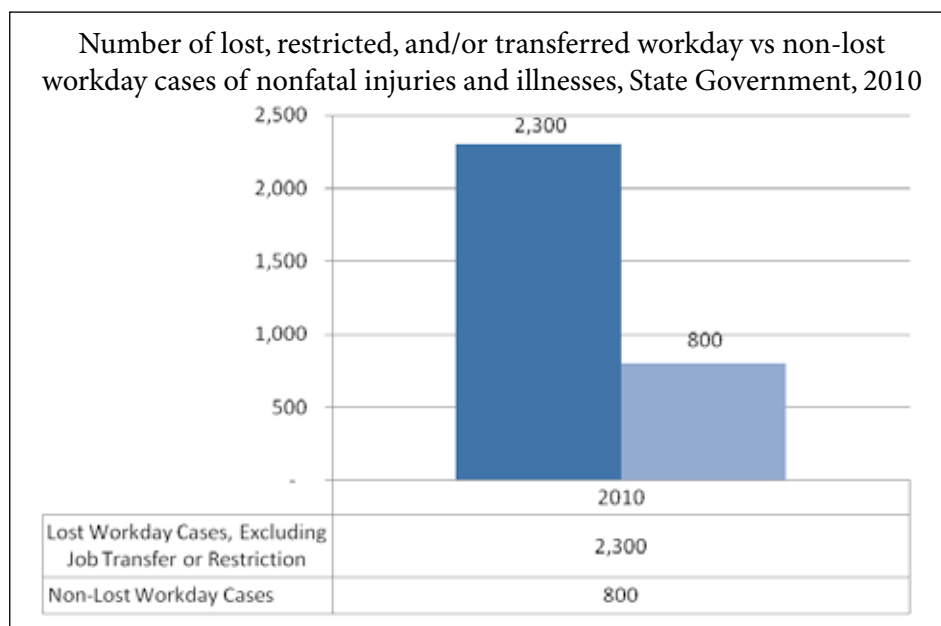
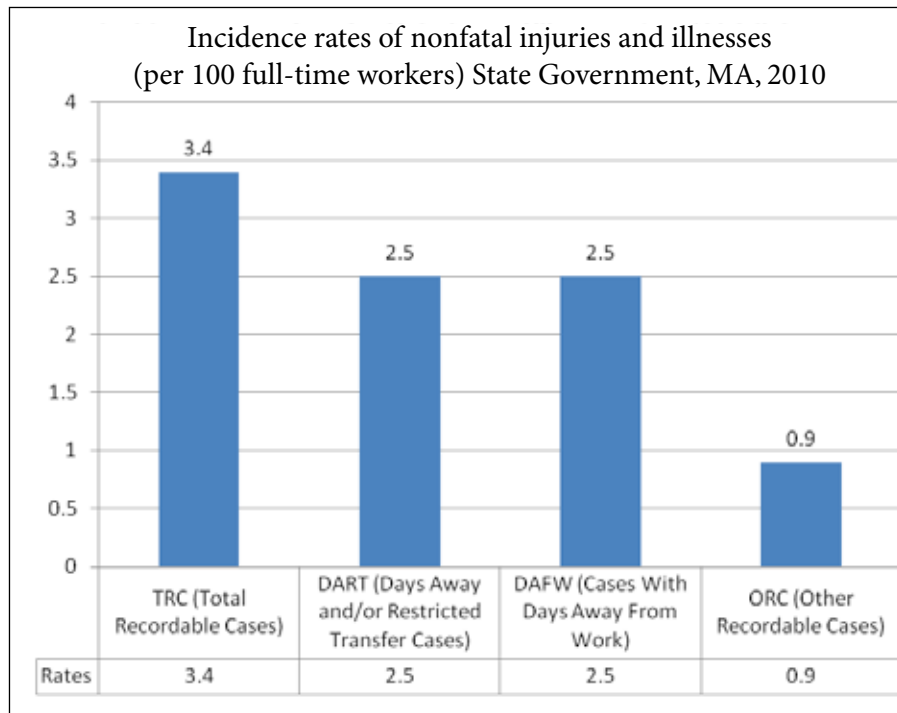
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Non-Fatal Occupational Injury and Illness Data Charts

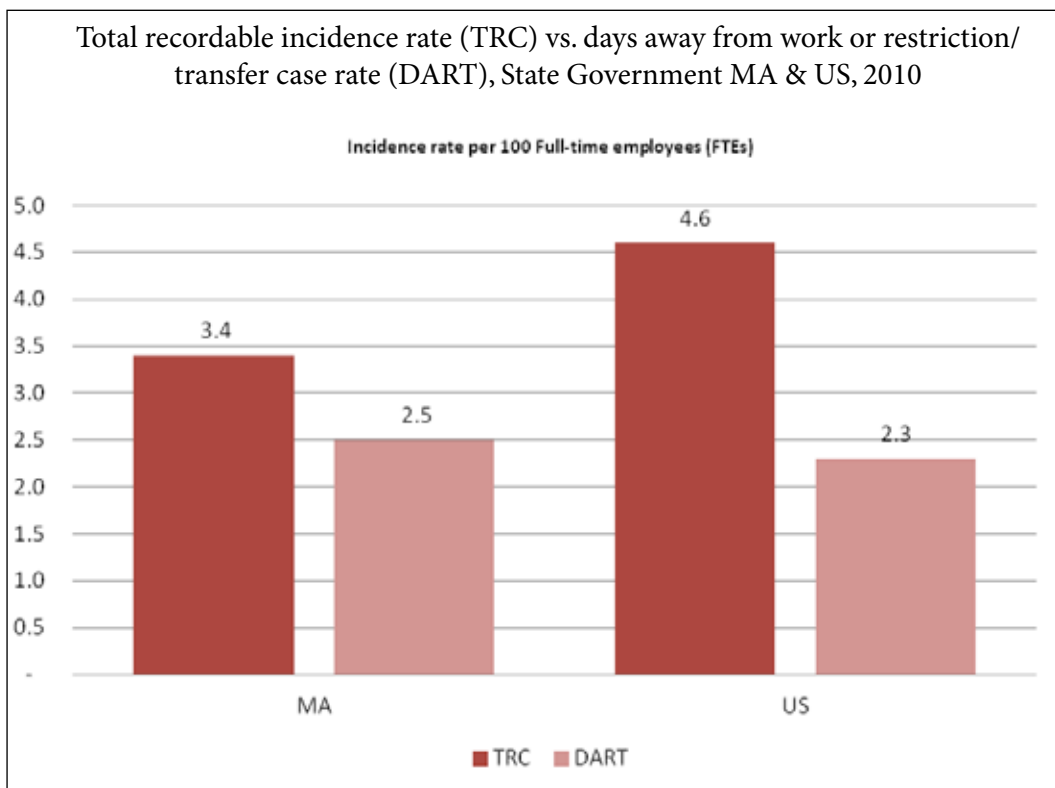
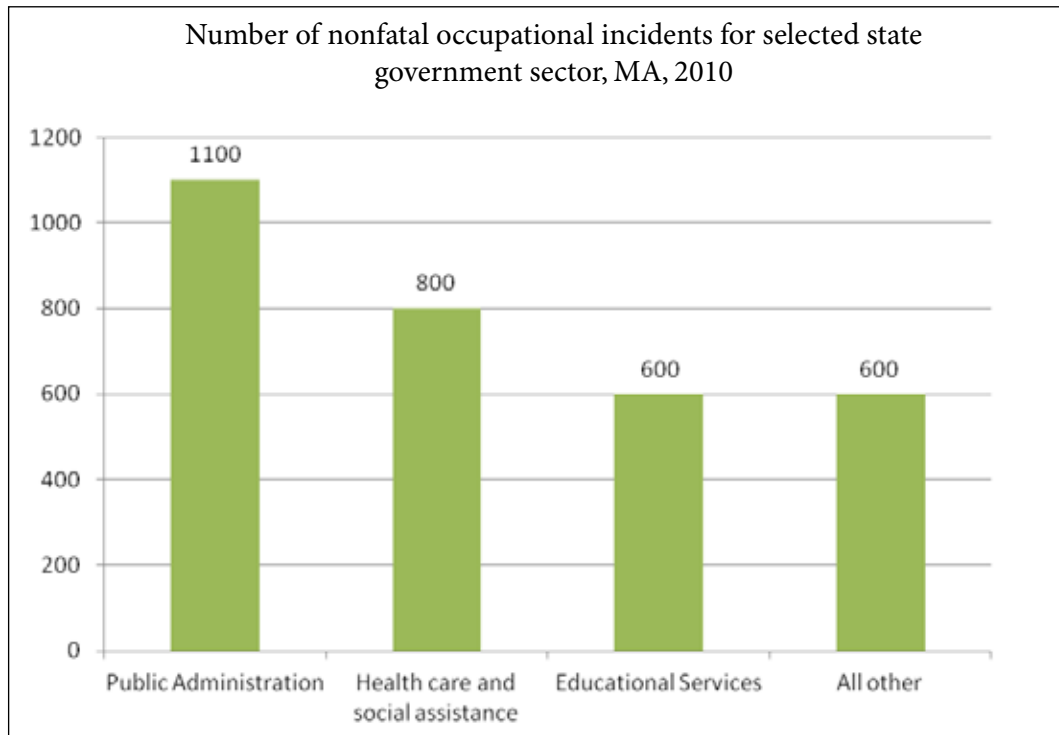
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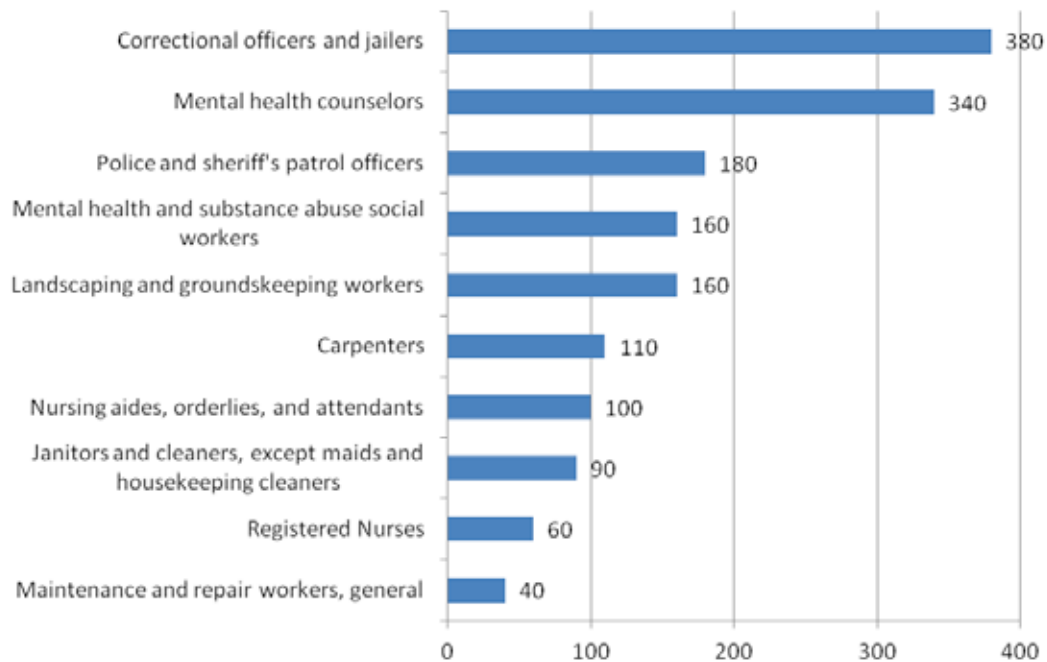


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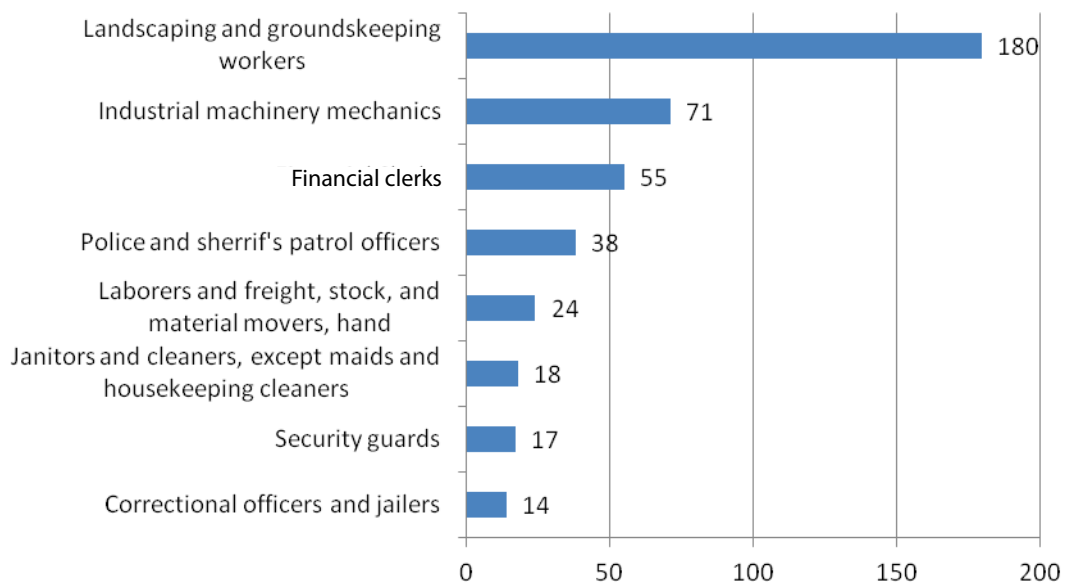
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Occupations* with the most injuries and illnesses with days away from work, Massachusetts, State Government, 2010



Occupations* with the highest median days away from work, Massachusetts, State Government, 2010



*Occupations shown had more than 50% of total DAFW cases

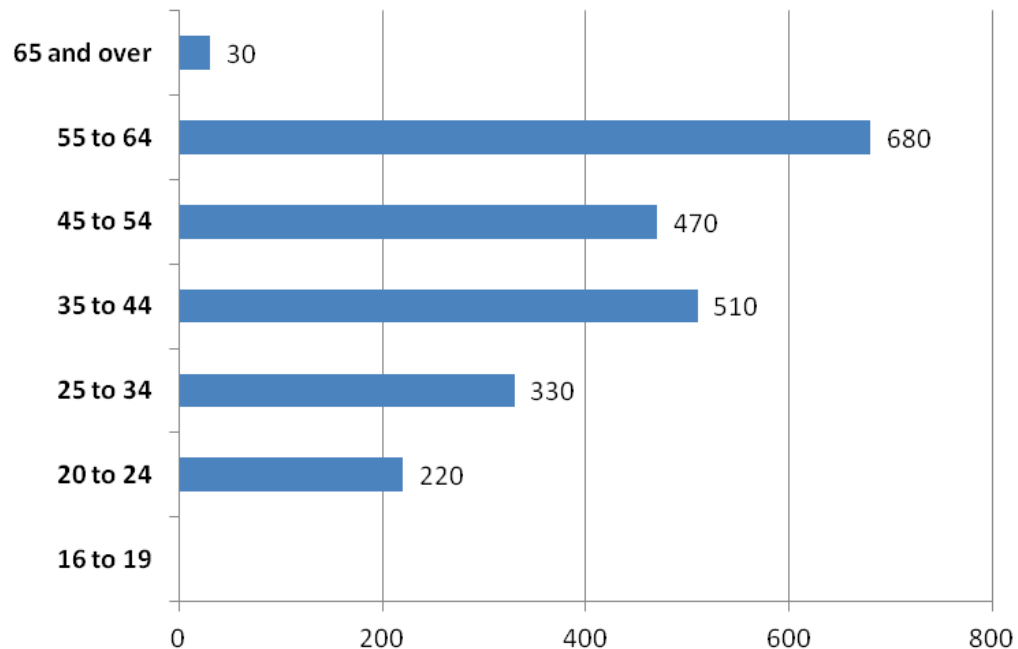


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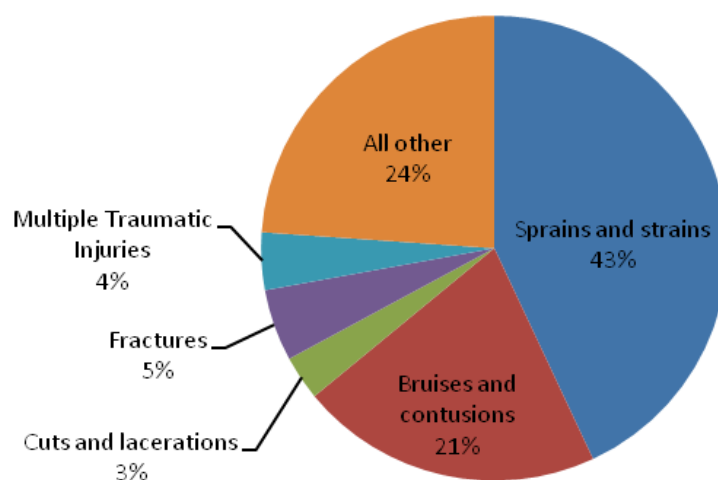
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Number of cases involving days away from work, by age of worker,
State Government, 2010

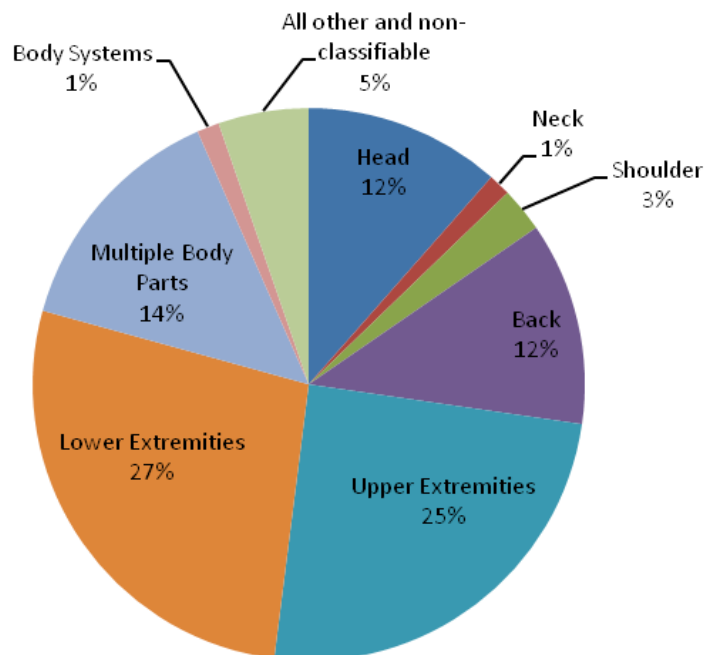


Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from
work by nature of injury or illness, State Government, 2010



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Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work, by part of body, State Government, 2010



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