

Masachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Report 2008

INFORMATION

Most of the information industry's data remained relatively unchanged from 2007 to 2008. In 2008, the industry had the third lowest incidence rate out of all industries and among those industries in the service-providing sector; it also had the second-lowest number of total recordable cases. Common examples of occupations in this field are: newspaper publishers, radio broadcasters, journalists, librarians, printers, software publishers, telecommunications repair and install workers, and cable and internet providers and technicians.

Key Information Industry Findings

- The total case (TRC) incidence rate for the information sector was 2.2 incidents per 100 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). This rate was 1.4 last year.
- The cases with days away or restricted/transferred duty rate (DART) was 1.5; the cases with days away from work only rate (DAFW) was 1.4; the cases with job transfer or restriction (DJTR) was 0.1; and the other recordable case rate (ORC) was 0.6 cases per 100 FTEs.
- Within the information industry, the publishing industries (except internet) group had a TRC rate of 1.1; while the telecommunications group had a rate of 5.8 incidents per 100 FTEs.
- The information industry employed approximately 86,900 workers, which was approximately 3.1% of the total private sector workforce and 3.6% of the service-providing sector.
- Of the 86,900 total workforce, the publishing industries group accounted for 42,100 employees, or, 48.4%; the telecommunications group accounted for 19,500 employees or, 22.4% of the total.
- There were approximately 1,700 recordable incidents in 2008. The publishing industries accounted for approximately 23.5% (400 cases) of those cases; the telecommunications group accounted for 65% or 1,100 cases.
- Of the 1,700 cases, approximately 70.6% (1,200 cases) required either days away from work (DAFW), job transfer or restriction (DJTR), or a combination of both (DART); approximately 65% (1,100) of all cases were DAFW-only cases; 5.9% (100 cases) of all cases were DJTR-only; and 29.4% (500 cases) were other recordable (ORC) cases that did not require DAFW or DJTR but were recordable.
- 1,500 (88.2%) injury-only cases were reported in 2008, and 100 illness-only cases were reported.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
Joanne F. Goldstein, Secretary
Executive Office of Labor and
Workforce Development
George E. Noel, Director
Department of Labor
Laura M. Marlin, Commissioner
Division of Occupational Safety

Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

Division of Occupational Safety

**19 Staniford Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02114**

617-626-6975

www.mass.gov/dos

INFORMATION

Case and Demographic Findings

OCCUPATION: The occupation with the highest number of DAFW cases was telecommunications equipment installers and repairers (except line installers) with 530 cases or 50% of all DAFW cases; telecommunications line installers and repairs accounted for 220 cases, or, 20.8% of all cases; production occupations accounted for 50 cases collectively or, 4.7%; driver/sales workers and truck drivers also accounted for approximately 40 cases or 3.8% of the total.

GENDER: 83% (880 cases) of the 1,060 DAFW cases involved males, while 14.2% (150 cases) involved females.

AGE: 43.3% (460 cases) of DAFW cases involved the age group 35 to 44; 25.4% (270 cases) involved the 45 to 54 group; 13.2% (140 cases) involved the 25 to 34 group; 7.5% (80 cases) involved the 55 to 64 group; and 1.9% (20 cases) affected the 20 to 24 group. (No data was available for other age groups).

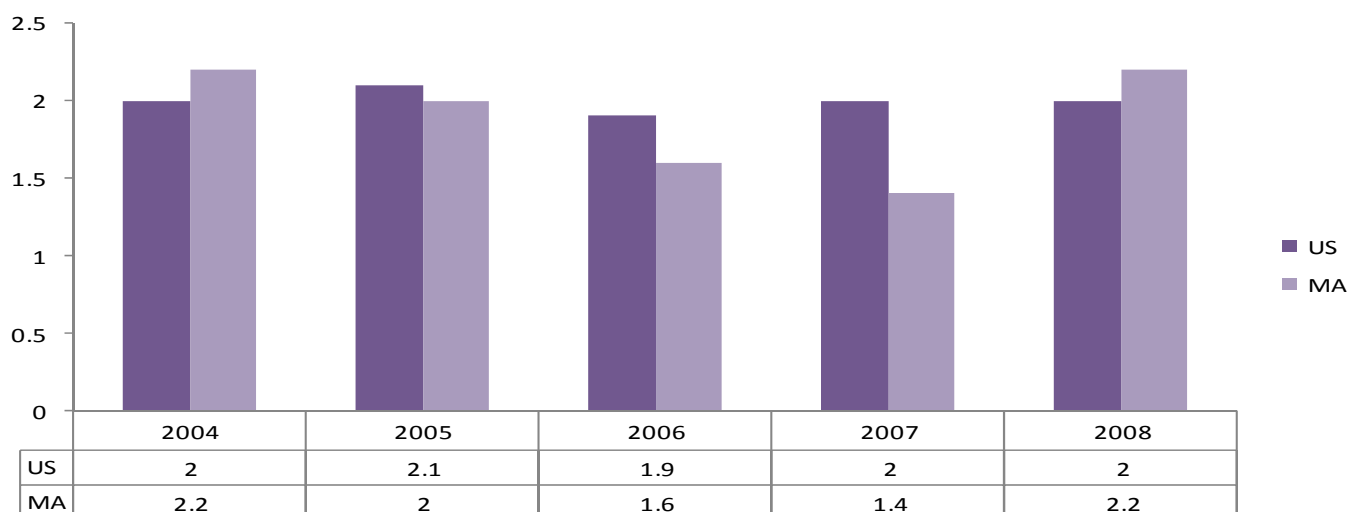
NATURE: The most common occurring nature of incident for this industry was sprains, strains and tears with approximately 490 (46.2%) DAFW cases; soreness, pain, hurt (except back) accounted for 230 cases or 21.7%; bruises and contusions accounted for 60 cases (5.7%); and fractures accounted for 50 cases (4.7%).

EVENT: The most common occurring event involving DAFW was falls with a total of 370 cases or 35% of the total; bodily reaction accounted for 290 cases or, 27.4%; contact with objects or equipment accounted for 23.6% (250 cases) of all DAFW cases; exposure to harmful substances or environments accounted for 5.7% (60 cases); and transportation accidents accounted for 2.8% or 30 cases.

SOURCE: Structures and surfaces accounted for 380 cases or 35.9% of the total DAFW cases; persons, plants, animals and minerals accounted for 270 cases or 25.5% of all cases; containers and parts and materials both accounted for 100 cases each or, 9.4% each. All other sources had fewer than 100 cases.

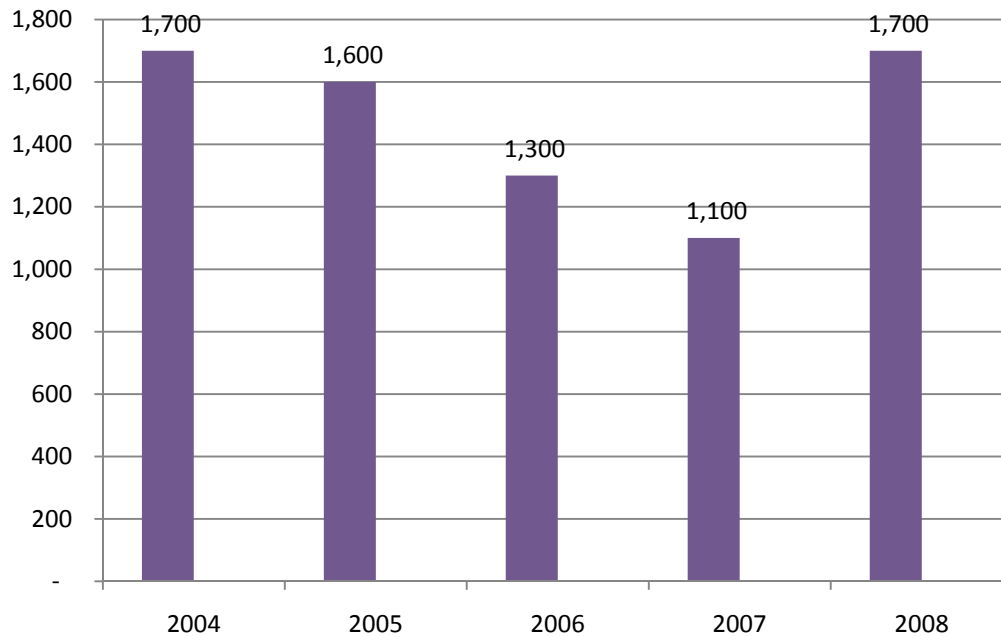
PART OF BODY: The trunk was the body region most affected in DAFW cases, there were 460 cases that affected the trunk region (back, chest and shoulder) or, 43.4% of all DAFW cases. Multiple body parts accounted for 220 cases, or, 20.8%; the lower extremities (legs, ankles, feet, toes) accounted for 160 cases, or, 15.1%; the upper extremities (arms, wrists, hands, fingers) accounted for 140 cases, or, 13.2%; the head region (including the face) accounted for 30 cases, or, 2.8%.

Incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses (per 100 full time workers), information, MA & US, 2004 - 2008

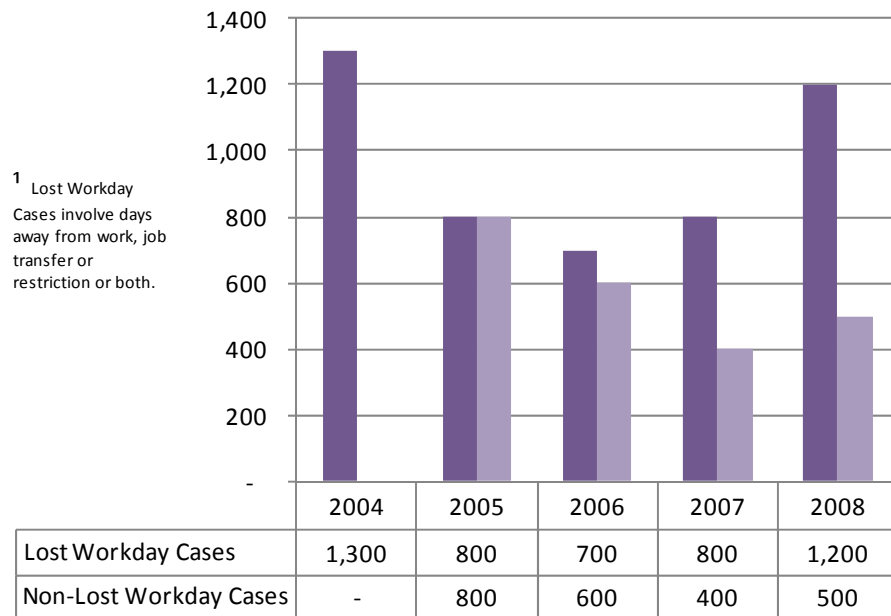


INFORMATION

Numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses, information, 2004 - 2008

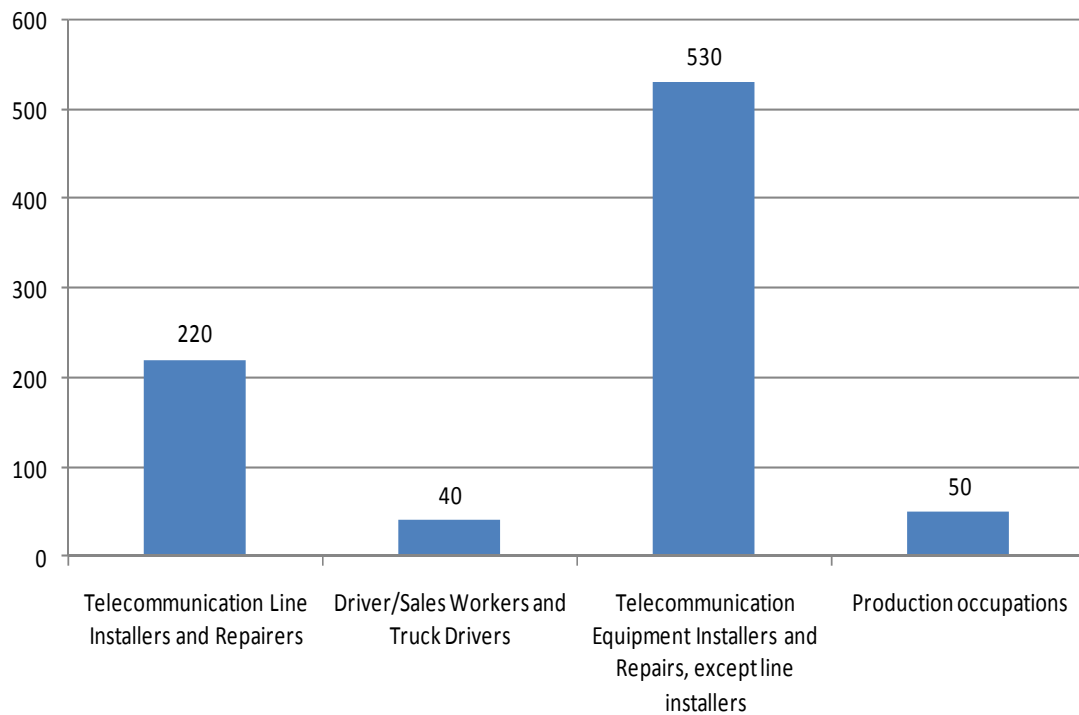


Number of lost workday¹ vs. non-lost workday cases of nonfatal injuries and illnesses, information, 2004 - 2008

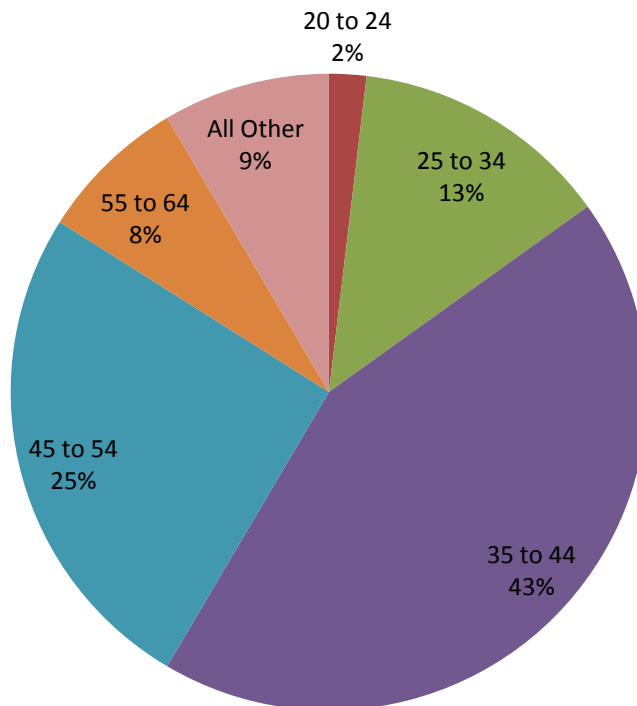


INFORMATION

Selected occupations with the highest number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work, information, 2008

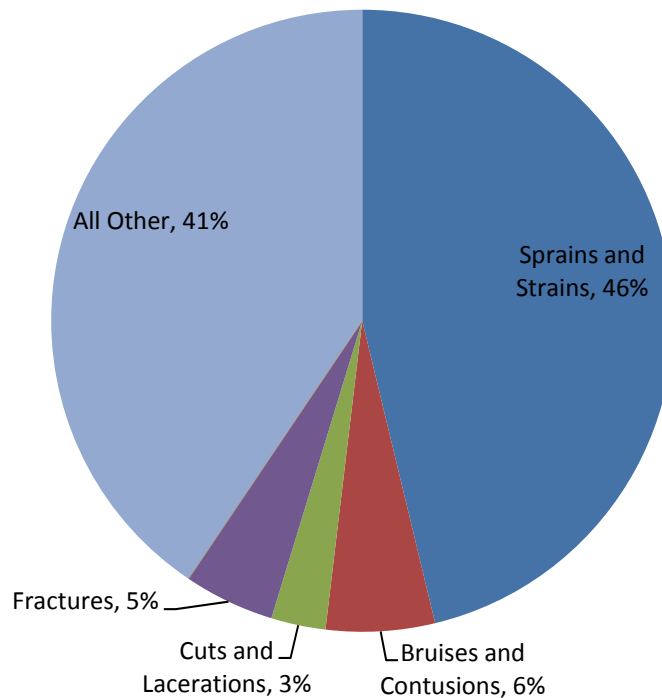


Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by age of worker, information, 2008

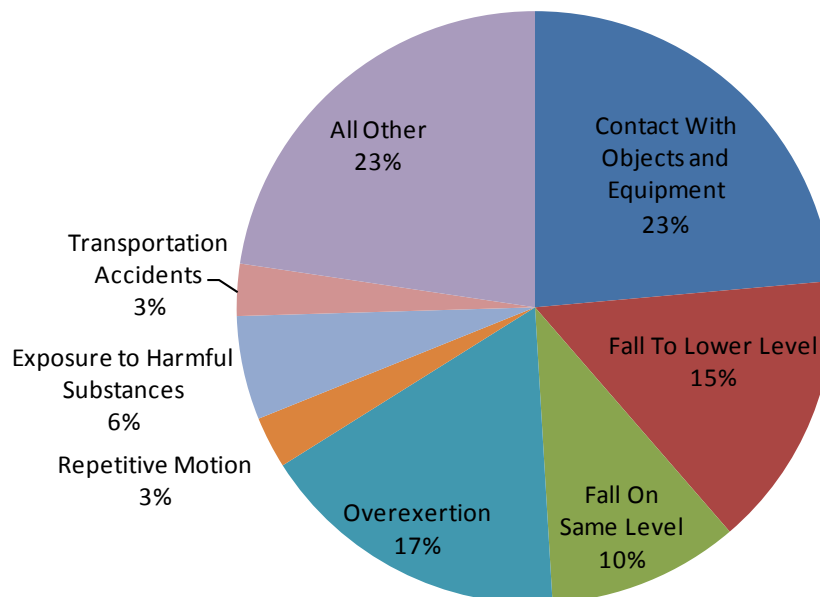


INFORMATION

Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by nature of injury or illness, Information, 2008

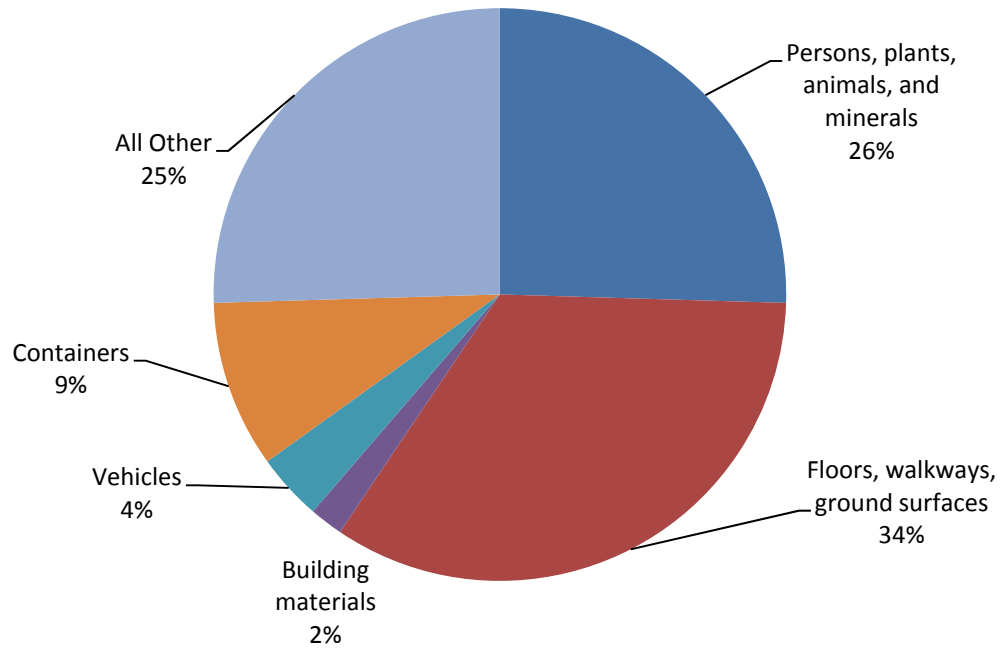


Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by event or exposure, information, 2008



INFORMATION

Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by source, all private industries, information, 2008



Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by part of body, all private industries, information, 2008

