

INFORMATION INDUSTRY

Massachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Report 2010

Employing just 3.1% of all Massachusetts' private sector workforce and 3.6% of the service industries employees, this industry had the second lowest incidence rate out of all private industries as well as the second lowest incidence rate among those industries in the service-providing sector. The Information industry also had the second lowest number of total recordable cases amongst all private industries in Massachusetts. Between 2008 and 2010, there was a drop in incidence of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. 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. There was a significant drop in the number of total recordable incidents and in total recordable injuries-only incidents between 2008 and 2010. No measurable difference was seen in recorded numbers of nonfatal occupational illnesses. 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 industry was 1.3 incidents per 100 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). This rate was 2.2 in 2008.
- The cases with days away or restricted/transferred duty rate (DART) was 0.8 (formerly 1.5 in 2008); the cases with days away from work only rate (DAFW) was 0.6; the cases with job transfer or restriction (DJTR) was 0.1; and the other recordable case rate (ORC) was 0.5 cases per 100 FTEs.
- There were 29,240 cases of injury or illness that resulted in days away from work (DAFW). The Information industry accounted for 1.7% (510 cases) of all cases with DAFW.
- Within the Information industry, the publishing industries (except internet) group had a TRC rate of 1.3. The telecommunications group had a rate of 2.1 incidents per 100 FTEs.
- The Information industry employed approximately 86,000 workers, which was approximately 3.1% of the total private sector workforce and 3.6% of the service-providing sector.
- Of the 86,000 total information industry workforce, the publishing industries group accounted for 39,900 employees or 46.4%. The telecommunications group accounted for 21,200 employees, or 24.7% of the total.
- There were approximately 1,000 recordable incidents in 2010 in the Information industry. The publishing industries accounted for 30% (300 incidences) of all nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. Telecommunications had 40% (400 cases) of the recordable cases.
- Of the 1,000 cases, approximately 60% (600 cases) required either days away from work (DAFW), job transfer or restriction (DJTR), or a combination of both (DART). Approximately 50% (500) of all cases were DAFW-only cases and 10% (100 cases) of all cases were DJTR only. Finally, 40% (400 cases) were other recordable (ORC) cases that did not require DAFW or DJTR but were recordable.
- 900 (90%) injury-only cases were reported in 2010 and 100 (10%) illness-only cases were reported.



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Case and Demographic Findings

Based on 510 cases with days away from work

OCCUPATION: The occupation with the highest number of DAFW cases was installation, maintenance and repair occupations with 220 cases (43.1%). The occupation with the second highest number of DAFW cases was equipment installers and repairers (except line installers) with 180 cases or 35.3% of all DAFW cases. Transportation and material moving occupations accounted for 70, or 13.7% of these incidences. Injuries in the sales and related occupations subset accounted for 50 cases (9.8%).

GENDER: In 2010, 66.7% (340 cases) of the 510 DAFW cases involved males, while 31.4% (160 cases) involved females. In 2008, the breakdown of the 1,060 DAWF cases was 83% (880 cases) and 14.2% (150 cases) to males and females respectively. Both the significant decrease in number of cases among males and the more even distribution of incidences between the genders is interesting to note between 2008 and 2010.

AGE: 43.1% (220 cases) of DAFW cases involved the age group 45 to 54; 27.5% (140 cases) involved the 35 to 44 age group; 13.7% (70 cases) involved the 25 to 34 age group; 9.8% (50 cases) involved the 55 to 64 age group; and 3.9% (20 cases) affected the 65 and up age 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 190 (37.3%) DAFW cases. Fractures accounted for 90 cases or 17.6%. Finally, multiple traumatic injuries accounted for 60 cases, or 11.8% of cases with DAFW.

EVENT: The most common occurring event involving DAFW was falls with a total of 140 cases or 27.5% of the total; 100 cases or 19.6% were due to overexertion. Transportation accidents caused 90 incidents (17.6%). Contact with objects or equipment accounted for 13.7% (70 cases) of all DAFW cases.

SOURCE: The floor and ground surfaces accounted for 150 cases or 29.4% of the total DAFW cases. Vehicles, minerals accounted for 110 cases, or 21.6% of all cases. Worker motion or position accounted for 80 cases each or, 15.7% each. Finally, tools, instruments, and equipment caused 60 cases or 11.8% of all DAFW injuries and illnesses.

PART OF BODY: The trunk was the body region most affected in DAFW cases; there were 180 cases that affected the trunk region (back, chest and shoulder), which is 35.3% of all DAFW cases. 50% of these trunk injuries were to the back. The upper extremities (arms, wrists, hands, fingers) accounted for 100 cases, or 19.6%; the lower extremities (legs, ankles, feet, toes) accounted for 90 cases, or 17.6%. Multiple body parts accounted for 80 cases, or 15.7%.

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



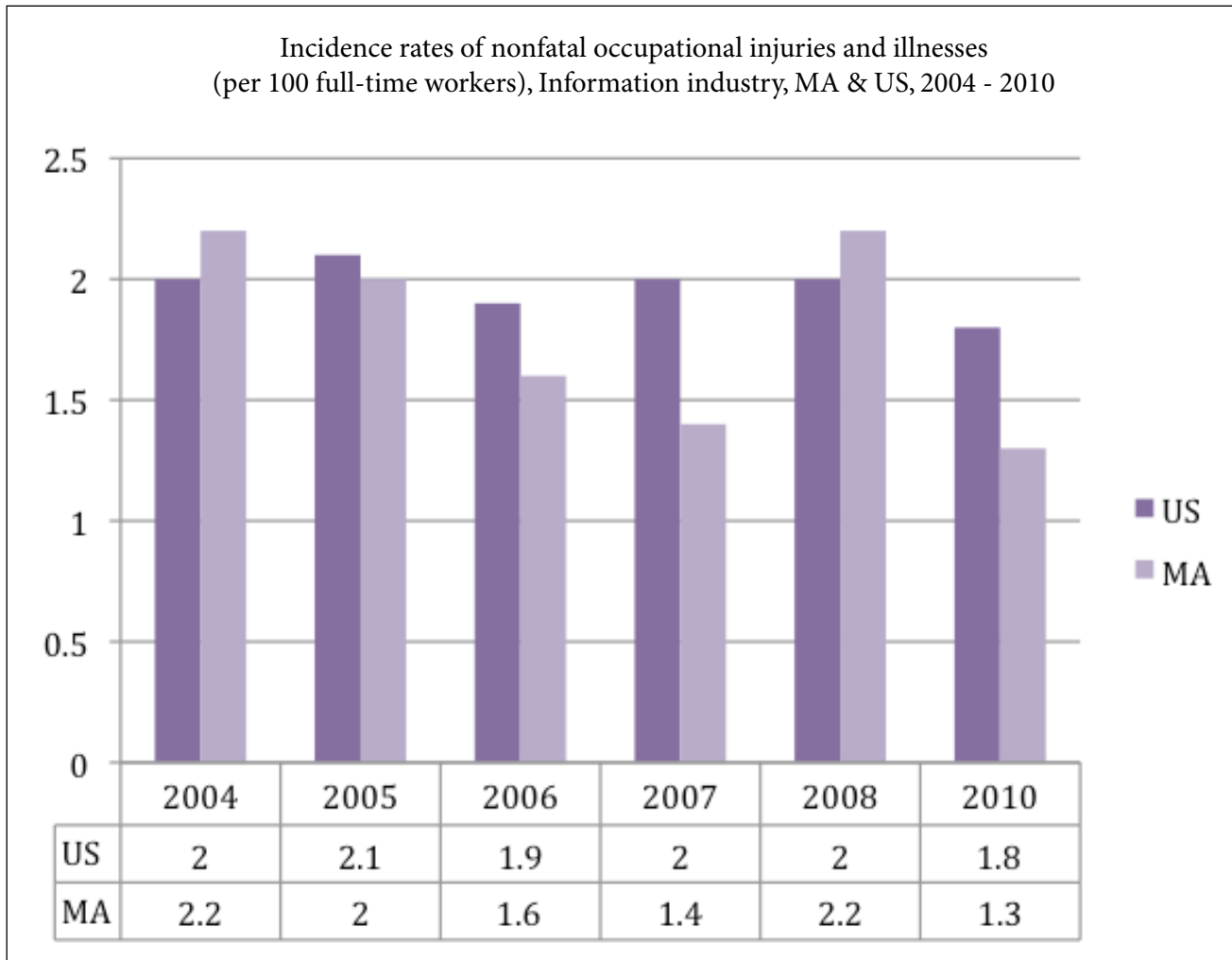
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Non-Fatal Occupational Injury and Illness Data Charts

While data were collected in 2009, they were not statistically significant and therefore not publishable. These graphs represent data from 2004 to 2010, excluding 2009.

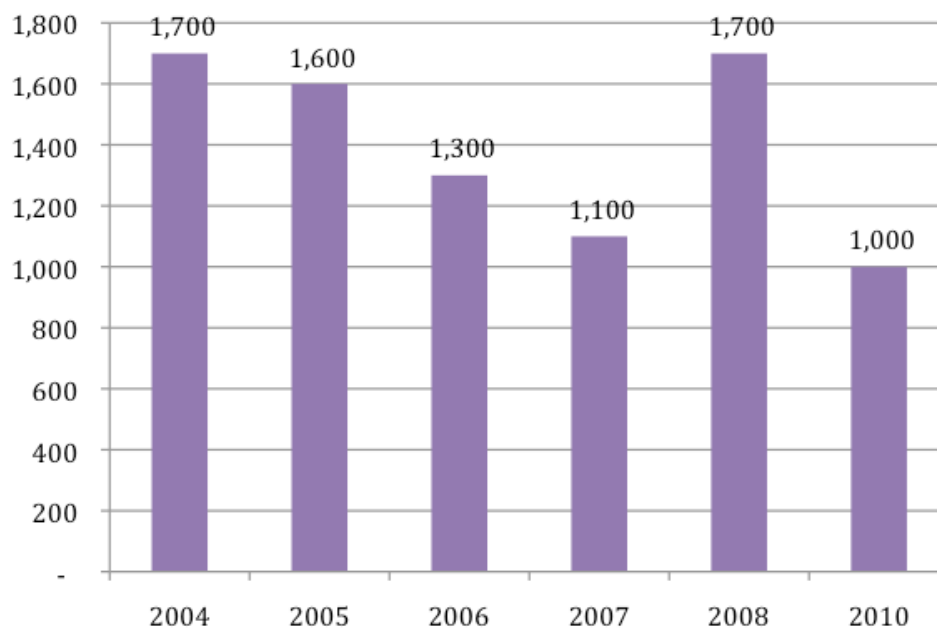


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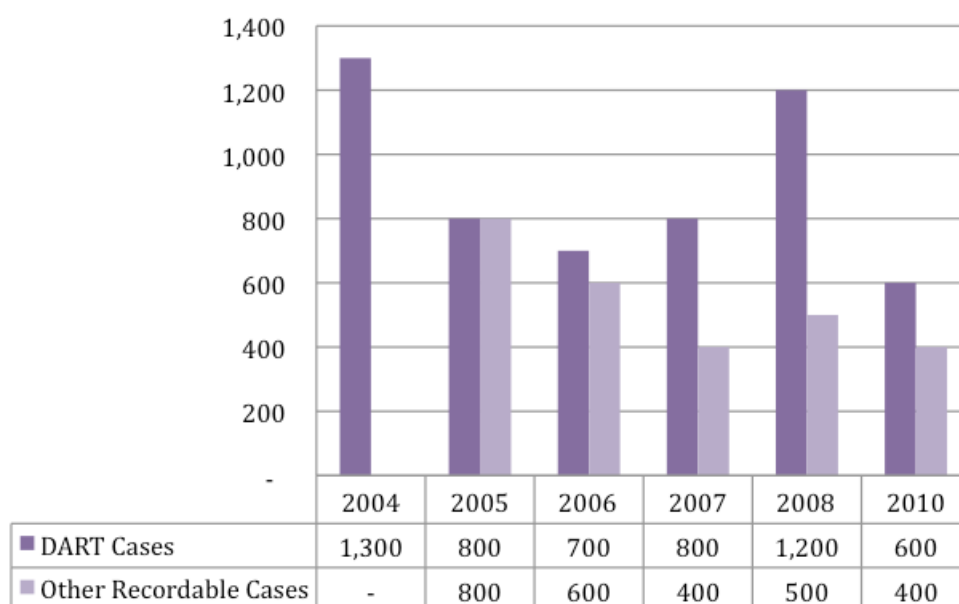
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Number of nonfatal injuries and illnesses,
Information industry, 2004 - 2010

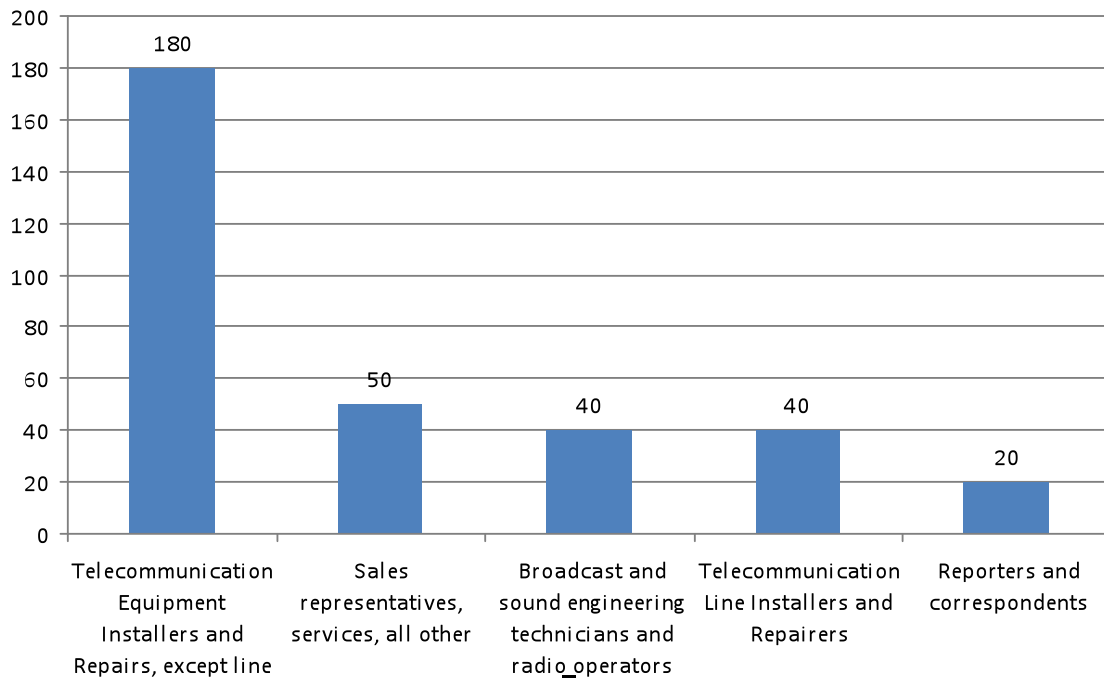


Number of cases with days away from work, restricted, or transferred duty (DART) cases vs. other recordable cases (ORC) of nonfatal injuries and illnesses, Information industry, 2004 - 2010

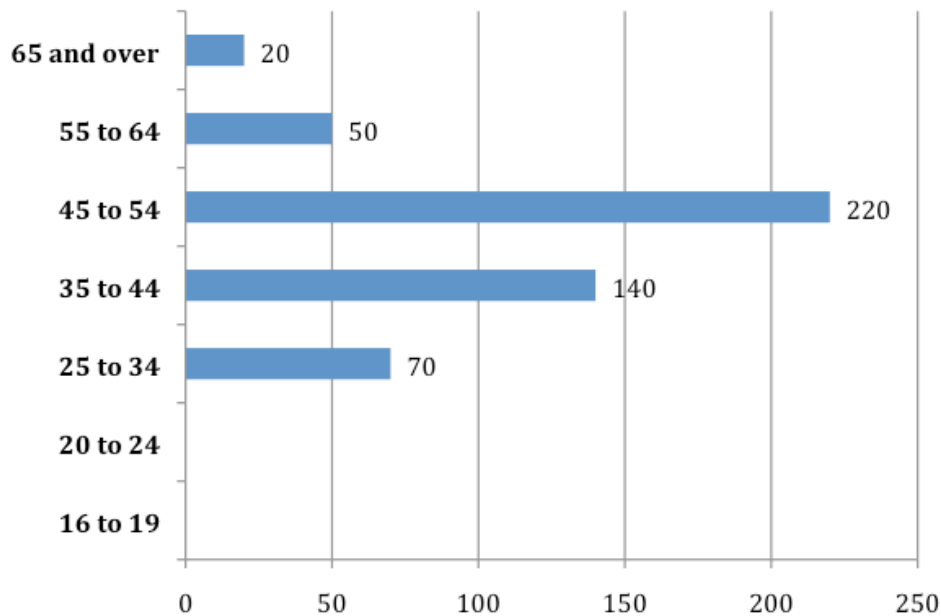


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Selected occupations with the highest number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work, Information industry, 2010

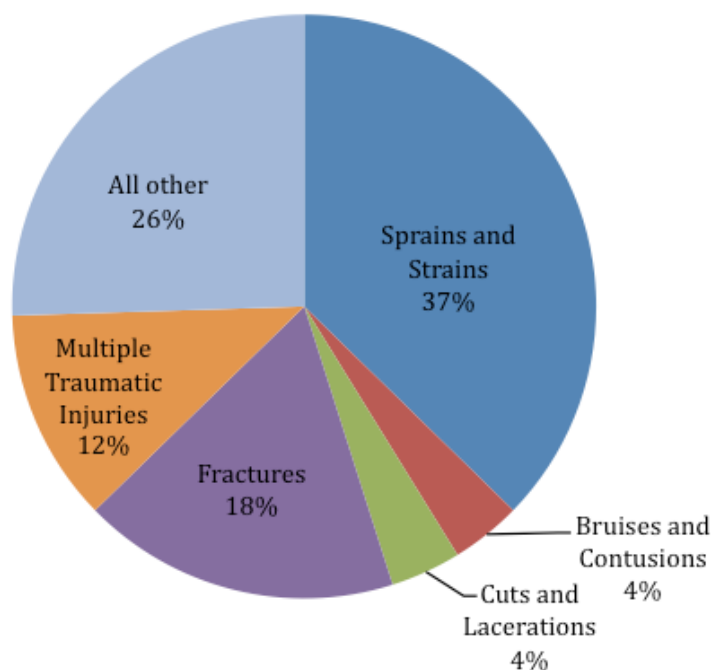


Number of cases involving days away from work, by age of worker, Information industry, 2010

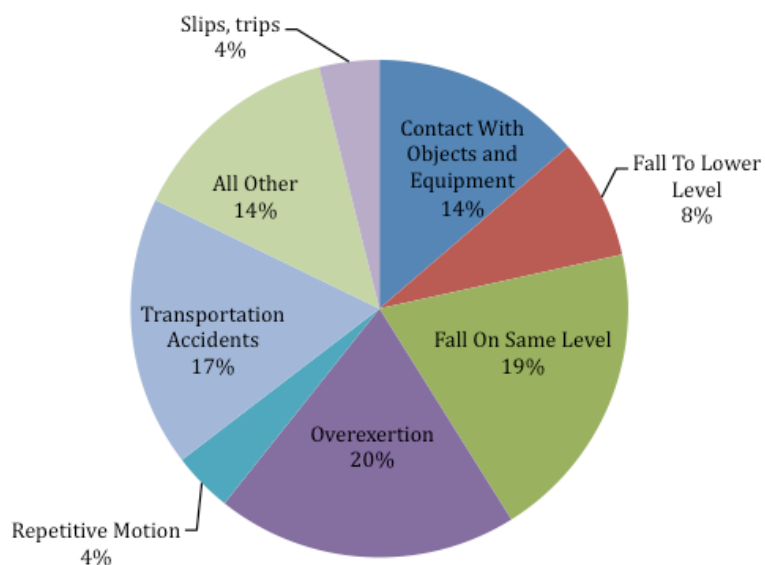


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Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by nature of injury or illness, Information industry, 2010



Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by event or exposure, all private industries, Information industry, 2010

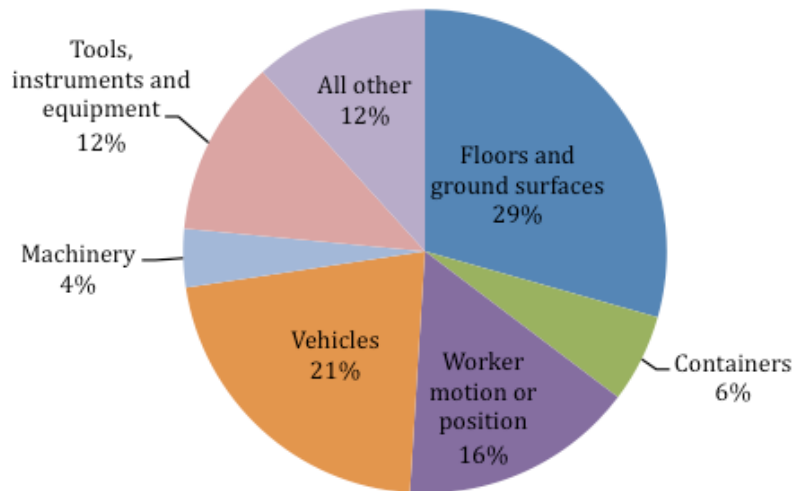


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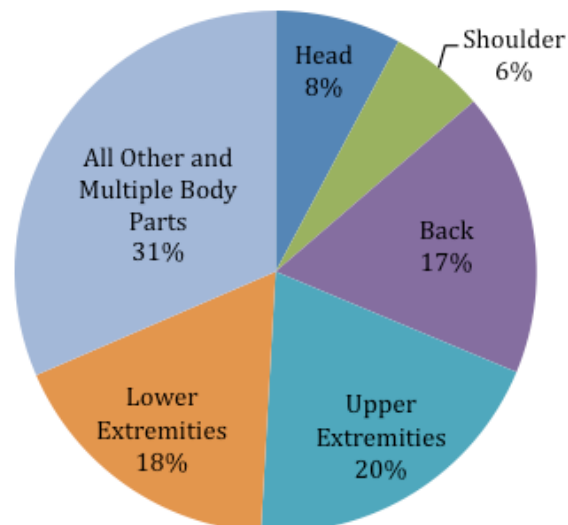
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Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by source of injury or illness, all private industries, Information industry, 2010



Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by part of body, all private industries, Information industry, 2010



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