

LOSS CONTROL DATA GUIDE

OSHA Occupational Injury and Illness Incidence Rates

Definitions

The definitions of occupational injuries and illnesses and lost workdays are from Recordkeeping Requirements under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Recordable occupational injuries and illnesses are:

1. Occupational deaths, regardless of the time between injury and death, or the length of the illness; or
2. Nonfatal occupational illnesses; or
3. Nonfatal occupational injuries which involve one or more of the following: Loss of consciousness, restriction of work or motion, transfer to another job, or medical treatment (other than first aid).

Occupational injury is any injury such as a cut, fracture, sprain, amputation, etc., which results from a work accident or from exposure involving a single incident in the work environment.

Occupational illness is any abnormal condition or disorder, other than one resulting from an occupational injury, caused by exposure to environmental factors associated with employment. It includes acute and chronic illnesses or disease which may be caused by inhalation, absorption, ingestion, or direct contact.

Lost workday cases are cases which involve days away from work, or days of restricted work activity, or both.

1. Lost workday cases involving days away from work are those cases which result in days away from work, or a combination of days away from work and days of restricted work activity.
2. Lost workday cases involving restricted work activity are those cases which result in restricted work activity only.

Lost workdays—away from work are the number of workdays (consecutive or not) on which the employee would have worked but could not because of occupational injury or illness.

Lost workdays—restricted work activity are the number of workdays (consecutive or not) on which, because of injury or illness:

1. The employee was assigned to another job on a temporary basis; or
2. The employee worked at a permanent job less than full time; or
3. The employee worked at a permanently assigned job but could not perform all duties normally connected with it.

The number of days away from work or days of restricted work activity does not include the day of injury or onset of illness or any days on which the employee would not have worked even though unable to work.

How to calculate:

Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and/or illnesses or lost workdays per 100 full time workers and are calculated as: $N \times 200,000 \div EH$, where:

N = number of injuries and/or illnesses or lost workdays

EH = total hours worked by all employees during calendar year.

200,000 = base for 100 full time equivalent workers (working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year).

**Does the Occupational Injury Rate of Your Company
Compare to Other Companies of the Same Size and Type?**

N = Number of employee injuries or illnesses = _____

EH = Average number of full time employees _____ x 2,000 (estimated work hours for one employee, working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year) = _____

200,000 = Base for 100 full time employees, working 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year

N _____ x 200,000 ÷ EH _____ = Incidence rate _____

Compare your incidence rate to the following table:

**Nonfatal Occupational Injury Incidence Rates Per 100 Full Time Workers,
By Industry Division and Employment Size, 1995**

Industry Division	All Establishments	Establishment Employment Size (Workers)				
		1 to 10	11 to 49	50 to 249	250 to 999	1,000 to more
Private Sector	7.5	3.0	6.5	9.6	8.5	7.8
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	9.3	6.1	9.7	10.7	9.2	8.9
Mining	6.0	4.2	6.7	6.6	5.0	-
Construction	10.4	6.3	12.1	12.3	9.6	2.9
Manufacturing	9.9	4.5	9.6	11.7	9.3	9.3
Durable goods	11.0	5.9	11.5	13.3	9.9	10.1
Nondurable goods	8.3	2.5	6.6	9.8	8.5	7.5
Transportation and public utilities	8.7	3.8	7.3	10.3	8.5	9.9
Wholesale and retail trade	7.3	2.8	6.4	9.7	10.3	7.7
Wholesale trade	7.3	3.4	6.4	10.0	9.6	6.6
Retail trade	7.2	2.6	6.4	9.6	10.6	7.9
Finance, insurance, and real estate	2.3	1.8	2.6	2.9	2.5	1.5
Services	6.1	2.0	3.9	8.5	7.7	7.5

Is your record Better than average Worse than average

Contact your local Great American Loss Prevention Specialist for additional information.

The loss prevention information and advice presented in this brochure are intended only to advise our insureds and their managers of a variety of methods and strategies based on generally accepted safe practices, for controlling potentially loss producing situations commonly occurring in business premises and/or operations. They are not intended to warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. They are not intended as an offer to write insurance coverage for such conditions or exposures, or to imply that Great American Insurance Company will write such coverage. The liability of Great American Insurance Company is limited to the specific terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies issued.