



October 30, 2015

News Release

Contact: Don Cash
Phone: 501-682-4542
Email: Cash_D@states.bls.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARKANSAS WORK-RELATED INJURY AND ILLNESS DATA FOR 2014

Little Rock - The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, has released its 2014 nonfatal occupational injury and illness data which was obtained through the annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses. The overall incidence rate in Arkansas for public and private sectors combined declined to 2.7 in 2014, down from 3.2 in 2013. Incidence rates represent the number of injuries or illnesses per 100 full-time workers.

Private Sector

Three thousand eight hundred thirty-five (3,835) private sector employers in Arkansas were surveyed for information concerning their average number of employees and hours worked, as well as details regarding any nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses that occurred during calendar year 2014.

- The overall incidence rate for the private sector dropped to 2.6 in 2014, down from 3.0 work-related injury and illness cases per 100 full-time workers in 2013.
- From these injuries and illnesses, cases with days away from work decreased from 0.8 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2013 to 0.6 in 2014.
- Cases with job transfer or restriction were unchanged with 0.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2014.
- The incidence rate for other recordable cases decreased from 1.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2013 to 1.3 cases in 2014. Other recordable cases are work-related injuries or illnesses that required more than first aid, but did not require days away from work, job transfer or restriction.

Goods-producing industries within the private sector, which include natural resources and mining, construction, and manufacturing, as a whole, had an incidence rate of 3.3 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2014, down from 3.6 in 2013.

As a whole, service-providing industries within the private sector, such as retail and wholesale trade, transportation and utilities, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality, had an incidence rate of 2.3 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2014, down from 2.7 in 2013.

Public Sector

Three hundred sixty-four (364) public sector employers in Arkansas were surveyed for information concerning their average number of employees and hours worked, as well as details regarding any occupational injuries and illnesses that occurred during calendar year 2014. This is the seventh year to capture data from state and local government employers. Public sector reporting is voluntary, but special efforts have been made to collect information from all employers in the sample.

- The overall incidence rate for the public sector (local and state government combined) decreased from 4.7 work-related injury and illness cases per 100 full-time workers in 2013 to 3.7 cases in 2014.
- Local government had an incidence rate of 4.4 cases per 100 full-time workers, down from 4.7 in 2013.
 - Cases with days away from work decreased from 1.0 in 2013 to 0.9 cases in 2014.
 - Cases with job transfer or restriction increased from 0.5 in 2013 to 0.6 in 2014.
 - The incidence rate for other recordable cases decreased from 3.2 in 2013 to 2.8 in 2014.
- State government had an incident rate of 2.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2014, down from 4.7 in 2013.
 - Cases with days away from work decreased from 1.6 in 2013 to 1.1 cases in 2014.
 - Cases with job transfer or restriction decreased from 0.2 in 2013 to 0.1 in 2014.
 - The incidence rate for other recordable cases decreased from 2.9 in 2013 to 1.4 in 2014.

Note: Because of rounding, components may not add to totals.

Background

The survey was administered by the Arkansas Department of Labor, OSH/CFOI Division in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 2012 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2012) was used to group company data by industry. Over 4,000 Arkansas employers are randomly selected for the survey each year.

Additional case and demographic data related to these nonfatal injuries and illnesses will be released in November 2015 by the U.S. Department of Labor. This information will provide the nature of the injury or illness, part of the body affected, source of injury or illness, and event or exposure that caused the injury or illness. In addition, worker demographics, such as race, sex and age will be provided. Fatal occupational injuries for 2014 were not included in this study; however, a separate publication was issued in September 2015.

For more information regarding this survey, please visit www.bls.gov/iif or www.labor.ar.gov.