

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Is responsible to produce socioeconomic labor statistics by survey using mail, telephone, visits to establishments and houses. Also prepare special economic studies.

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PUERTO RICO



Division of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Statistics

2007

INTRODUCTION

The Division of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses from the Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources conducts the annual mail Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) and the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI). Both studies are done in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in compliance with the Safety and Health Law (Law 16 from 1970).

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Survey

- ◆ Produce annual information that help to identify the incidence risk in industries, and design programs to prevent and stimulate the safety and health on work places.
- ◆ Present the incidence rate (number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers) and the number of cases.
- ◆ Include case characteristics: nature of injuries and illnesses, part of body affected, sources and event responsible of the injuries or illnesses.
- ◆ Provide demographic information: occupation, age, race, gender and length of service.



Census of Fatal Injuries and Illnesses

- ◆ Provided the most complete count of fatal work injuries available .
- ◆ Produce worker characteristic annual data from the persons involved in fatal incidence related to work.
- ◆ Include salary workers and self-employed workers that in the moment of the incidence are in related worker activities in or out the industrial place and premises.
- ◆ Uses different data source such as: newspaper articles, death certificates and other administrative records.
- ◆ This information is utilize by safety and health professionals and investigators to prevent occupational fatalities injuries and to promote more safety work areas.

OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES SURVEY

Highlights

Incidence Rates of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

During 2007, the injuries and illnesses registered in all industries including State and Local government were 37,400. These cases occurred at a rate of 4.8 injuries and illnesses per 100 equivalent full-time workers. The same rate as 2006.

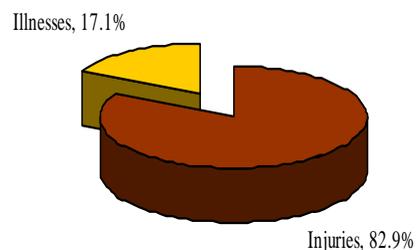
Incidence rates for total recordable cases in Private industry ranged from 1.4 cases per 100 full-time workers in Professional, scientific, and technical services to 6.3 in Accommodation and food services.

In public sector, State government report an incidence rate of 7.3 injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers in 2007, a decrease of 0.8 when we compare to last year, while Local government had 6.7, a decrease of 1.1 when compared 2006.

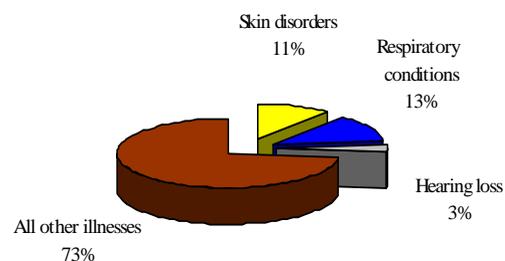
Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

In 2007, workers reported 37,400 occupational injuries and illnesses. Of these, 31,000 or 82.9 percent were injuries, and the remainder (6,400 or 17.1 percent) were illnesses. Most illnesses (73 percent) were registered in the all other illnesses category. Among detailed illnesses, respiratory conditions were the leading category with 13 percent.

Occupational injuries and illnesses
Puerto Rico, 2007



Percent distribution of occupational illnesses
by selected categories
Puerto Rico, 2007

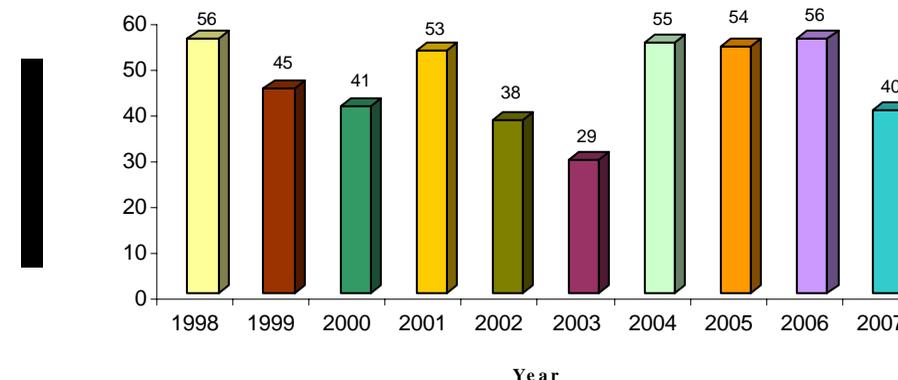


CENSUS OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES

Highlights

The Puerto Rico CFOI program, registered 40 work-related fatalities during 2007, sixteen more than incidents recorded in 2006. The following chart presents a historical count of work related fatalities from 1998 through 2007. The highest number of fatal occupational injuries during this period was observed in 1998 and 2006 with 56 deaths each one.

Historical Fatality Counts, 1998-2007



Fatal Occupational Injuries by Nature

Open wounds remains the leader in the nature of the cases, recording 13 cases (32.5 percent) of all deaths in 2007. All cases in this category were by gunshot wounds. Followed by multiple traumatic injuries with 12 cases (30.0 percent).

