

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Is responsible to produce socio-economic labor statistics by survey using mail, telephone, visits to establishment and houses. Also prepare special economics studies.

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GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Department of Labor and
Human Resources

PUERTO RICO



OSHS - 2008

**Occupational Injuries,
Illnesses and Fatalities
Statistics Division**

**Hon. Miguel Romero Lugo
Secretary**

Introduction

The Occupational Injuries, Illnesses and Fatalities Statistics Division of 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 from 1970.

Survey Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Survey

The survey is designed to produce the incidence rates and number of cases of nonfatal work-related injuries and illnesses by industry. It also presents worker and case characteristics of injuries and illnesses with days away from work. Worker characteristics include demographic information such as: age, occupation, gender, race, and length of service with the employer. Case characteristics include: nature of the injuries or illnesses, part of the body affected, source and event or exposure that resulted in injuries or illnesses.

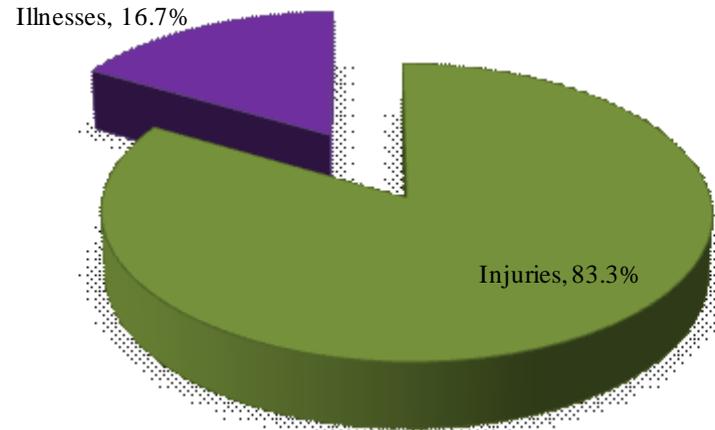
Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries

The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries provides the most complete count of fatal work injuries available. The program uses different data sources to identify, verify and profile traumatic worker injuries (fatal occupational illnesses not associated with traumatic events are excluded). Information about each workplace fatality (occupation and other worker characteristics, equipment being used, and circumstances of the event) is obtained by cross-referencing source documents, such as death certificates, workers' compensation records, newspaper articles, follow back questionnaires, toxicology reports and other administrative records. This method assures count are as complete and accurate as possible.

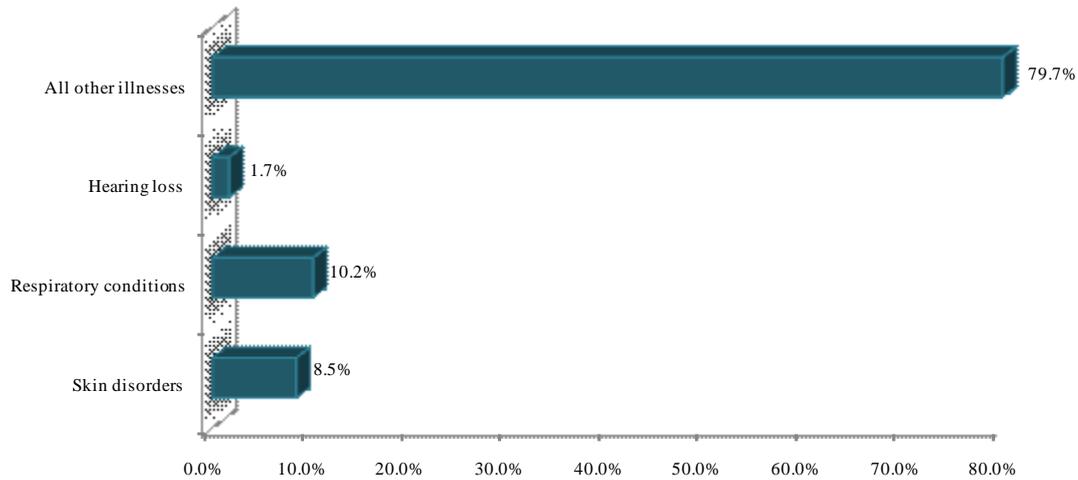
SURVEY OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

In 2008, workers reported 35,400 occupational injuries and illnesses. Of these, 29,500 or 83.3 percent were injuries, and the remainder (5,900 or 16.7 percent) were illnesses. Most illnesses (79.7 percent) were registered in the All other illnesses category. Among detailed illnesses, Respiratory conditions were the leading category with 10.2 percent.

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Puerto Rico, 2008



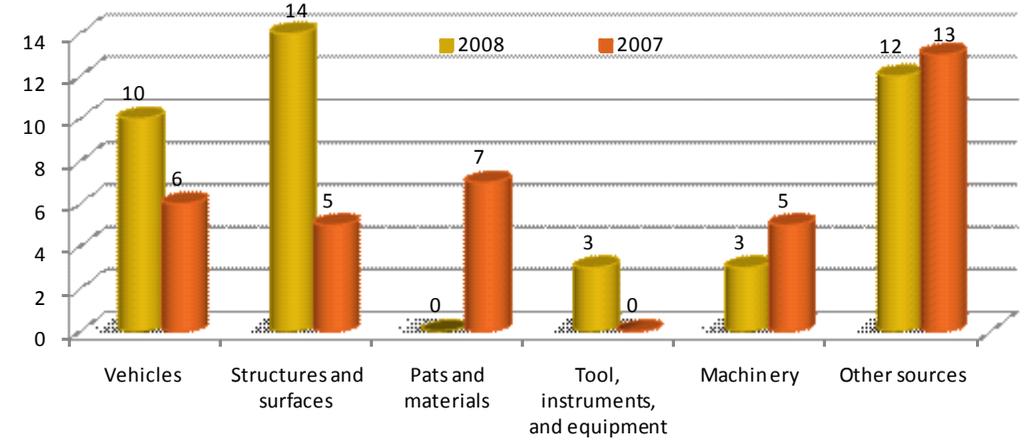
Percent distribution of occupational illnesses by selected categories Puerto Rico, 2008



CENSUS OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES

Primary Sources

The category of structures and surfaces registered the highest number of fatalities with 14 cases or 31.1 percent. Followed by other sources, with 12 cases or 24.4 percent, where the bullets and pellets were the object that directly caused the death.



Event Type

Assaults and violent acts continued to be the main event that caused the largest number of work-related deaths, with a total of 14 cases. This represents 31 percent of all occupational deaths (45), a decrease of 3 cases, when compared with 2007.

