

# Masachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Report 2008

## Trade, Transportation and Utilities

The trade, transportation and utilities (TTU) industry employed the second largest amount of Massachusetts' private sector workforce. The industry can be broken down into the following occupational categories: wholesale trade and retail trade, transportation and warehousing and utilities. This industry saw significant changes in their 2008 data from 2007: the number of total recordable incidents, other recordable cases, and total recordable injuries-only, all decreased; and the total number of cases with job transfer or restriction, and hearing loss illnesses saw a significant increase from 2007. Common examples of occupations in this industry are: merchant wholesalers, automotive dealers, couriers, bus and taxi drivers, truck drivers (small delivery and tractor-trailer), retail salespersons, baggage handlers, refuse system operators, oil and gas distributors, and electrical power installers and repairers.

### *Key Trade, Transportation & Utilities Industry Findings*

- TTU had a total recordable case (TRC) incidence rate of 4.3 incidents per 100 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs).
- The TRC rate for the subsector wholesale trade was 3.2; retail trade had a 4.3 rate; transportation and warehousing had a 6.8 TRC rate; and utilities had 5.3 TRC rate.
- The cases with days away or restricted/transferred duty (DART) rate was 2.7; the cases with days away from work rate (DAFW) was 2.0; the cases with job transfer or restricted duty (DJTR) was 0.8; and the other recordable rate (ORC) was 1.6.
- TTU employed approximately 20% (573,200 workers) of the private-sector workforce, and 23.7% of the service-providing sector workforce.
- Approximately 24.3% (139,100 workers) of TTU's workforce was based in wholesale trade; 61.4%, or, 352,200 workers, were employed in retail trade; 12.5% or 71,900 workers were employed in warehousing and transportation; and 1.7% (10,000 workers) were employed in utilities.
- Of the 20,000 total recordable cases, 21.0% (4,200) occurred in the wholesale trade group; 55.5% occurred in the retail trade group; transportation and warehousing accounted for 21.0% (4,200 cases); and utilities accounted for 3.0% (600 cases) of the total recordable cases.
- Of the 20,000 recordable cases, cases requiring days away from work and/or job transfer or restriction accounted for 62.5% (12,500 cases) of the total; cases with days away from work-only (DAFW) accounted for approximately 45.0% (9,000 cases); cases with job transfer or restriction-only (DJTR) accounted for 17.5% (3,500 cases); while other recordable case (with no missed work or transfer/restriction) accounted for 37.5% (7,500 cases) of the total.
- Approximately 97.5% (19,500) of all incidents were injury-only incidents
- Approximately 600 cases were illness-only incidents.



#### **Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Deval L. Patrick, Governor  
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor  
Joanne F. Goldstein, Secretary  
Executive Office of Labor and  
Workforce Development  
George E. Noel, Director  
Department of Labor  
Laura M. Marlin, Commissioner  
Division of Occupational Safety

#### **Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development**

#### **Division of Occupational Safety**

**19 Staniford Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Boston, MA 02114**

**617-626-6975**

**[www.mass.gov/dos](http://www.mass.gov/dos)**

# TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

## *Case and Demographic Findings*

**GENDER:** Males accounted for approximately 73.3% (6,630 cases) of all DAFW cases; females accounted for 25.6% (2,310 cases).

**AGE:** The 35 to 44 age group accounted for 26.3% (2,380) of all cases; the 45 to 54 age group accounted for 25.2% (2,280) cases; the 25 to 34 age group accounted for 19.4% (1,750) of cases; the 55 to 64 group accounted for 15% (1,360) of all cases; the 20 to 24 group accounted for 8.2% (740) of cases; and the 16 to 19 along with the 65 and over groups both accounted for approximately 2.7% (240) and 2.4% (220) respectively.

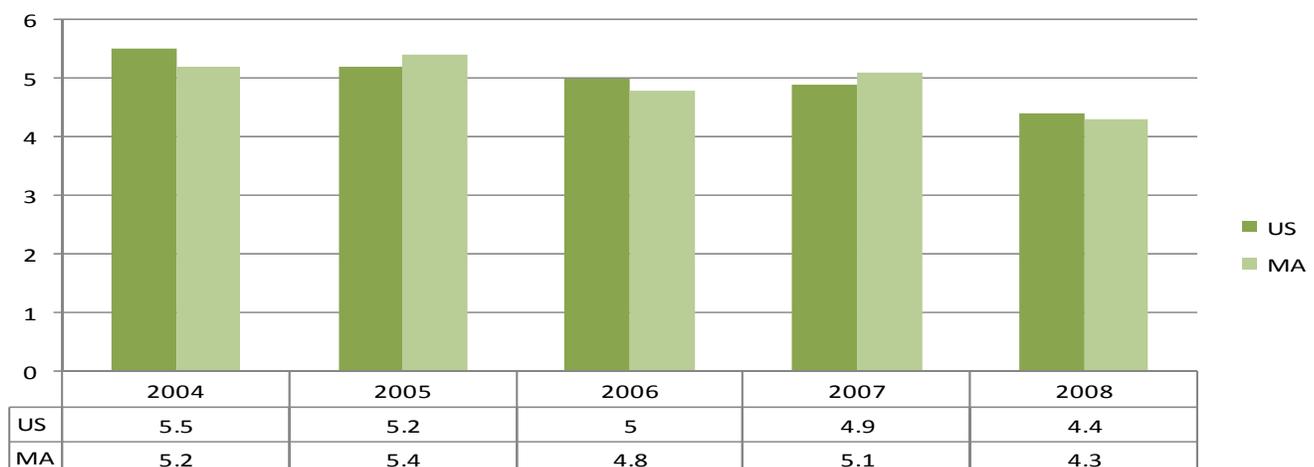
**NATURE:** The most common nature of incident in this industry was sprains, strains and tears, which accounted for 4,290 DAFW cases, which is 47.5% of the total number of cases; soreness, pain, hurt, except the back accounted for 1,030 cases, or, 11.4% of all DAFW cases; cuts and lacerations accounted for 860 cases, or, 9.5% of all cases; bruises and contusions accounted for 800 cases, or, 8.8%; and fractures accounted for 690 cases or, 7.6% of the total DAFW cases.

**EVENT:** Bodily reaction and exertion was the highest occurring nature of event for this industry with 4,010 cases or 44.4% of the total DAFW cases. Contact with objects and equipment accounted for 2,520 cases or 27.9%; falls accounted for 1,770 cases or 19.6%; and transportation accidents accounted for 400 cases 4.4% of the total number of DAFW cases in this industry.

**SOURCE:** Containers were the most common source of DAFW cases with 2,050 cases or 22.7% of the total. Structures and surfaces accounted for 1,970 cases or 21.8%; persons, plants, animals, and minerals accounted for 1,400 case or 15.5%; vehicles accounted for 1,190 cases or 13.2%; and parts and materials accounted for 600 cases or 6.6%; and tools, instruments, and equipment accounted for 590 cases or 6.5% of the total DAFW cases for this industry.

**PART OF BODY:** The part of body region most affected in DAFW cases was the trunk which accounted for 3,420 cases, or, 37.8% of the total cases; within the trunk region, the back, including spine, spinal cord accounted for 1,910; shoulders accounted for 950 cases. The lower extremities (legs, ankles, feet, toes) accounted for 2,090 cases, or, 23.1% of all DAFW cases; the upper extremities (arms, wrists, hands, fingers) region accounted for 1,910 cases, or, 21.1% of all cases; the head region (including the face) accounted for 630 cases, or approximately 7% of the total.

**Incidence rates of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses (per 100 full time workers), trade, transportation, and utilities, MA & US, 2004 - 2008**

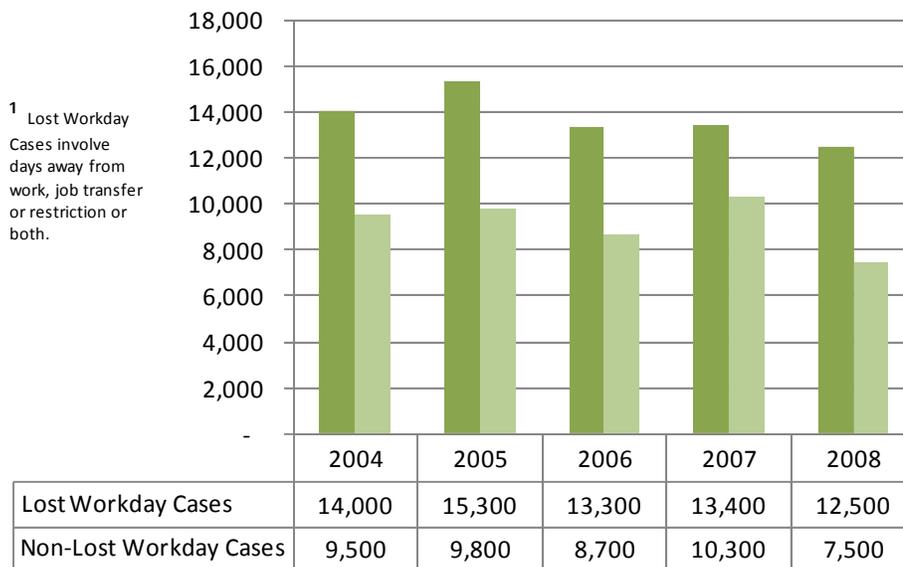


# TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

**Numbers of nonfatal injuries and illnesses, trade, transportation, and utilities, 2004 - 2008**

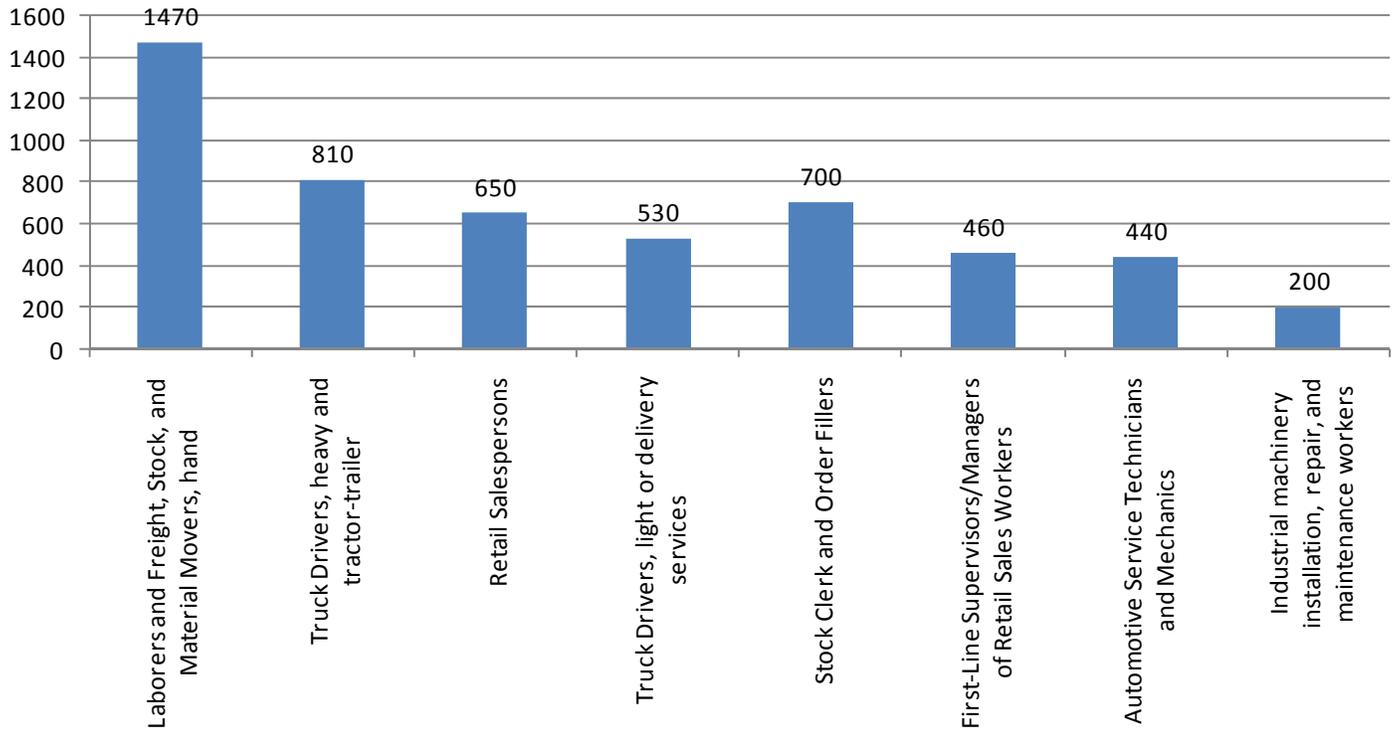


**Number of lost workday<sup>1</sup> vs. non-lost workday cases of nonfatal injuries and illnesses, trade, transportation, and utilities, 2004 - 2008**

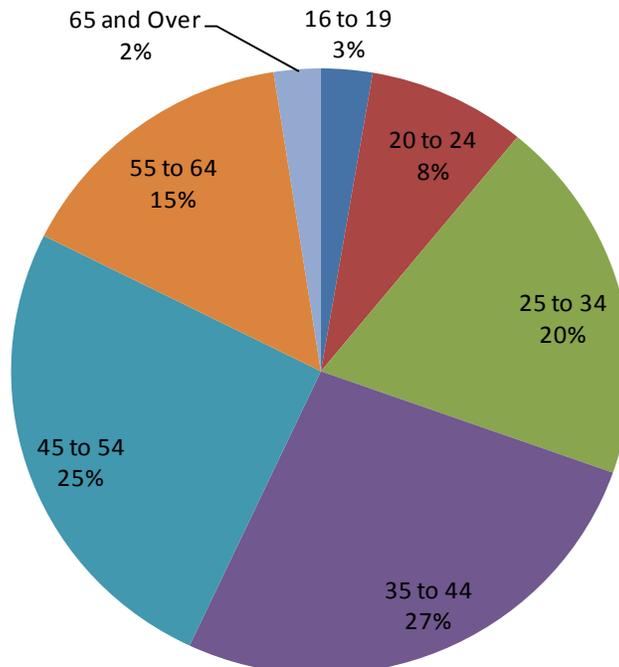


# TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

Selected occupations with the highest number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses with days away from work, trade, transportation, and utilities, 2008

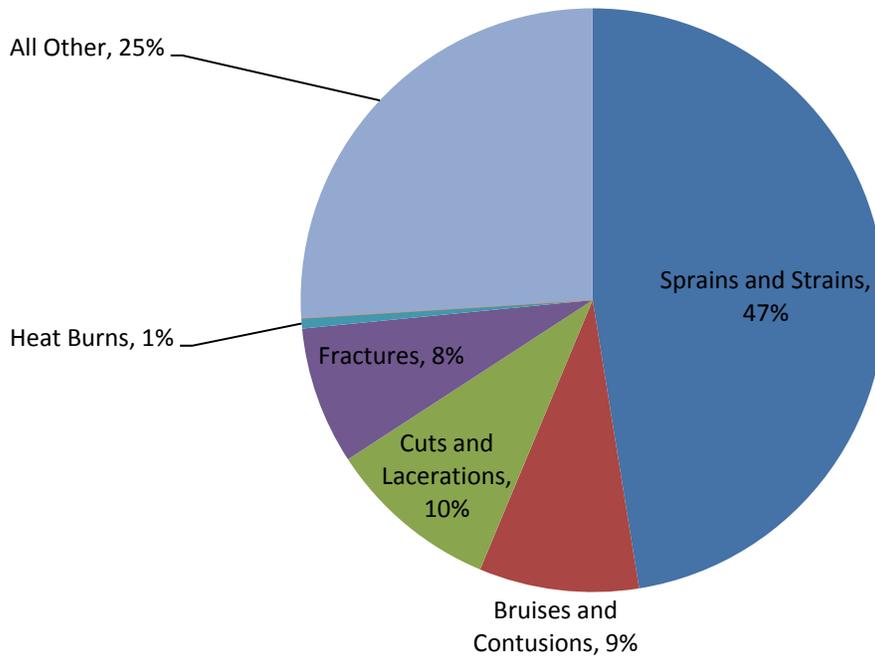


Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by age of worker, trade, transportation, and utilities 2008

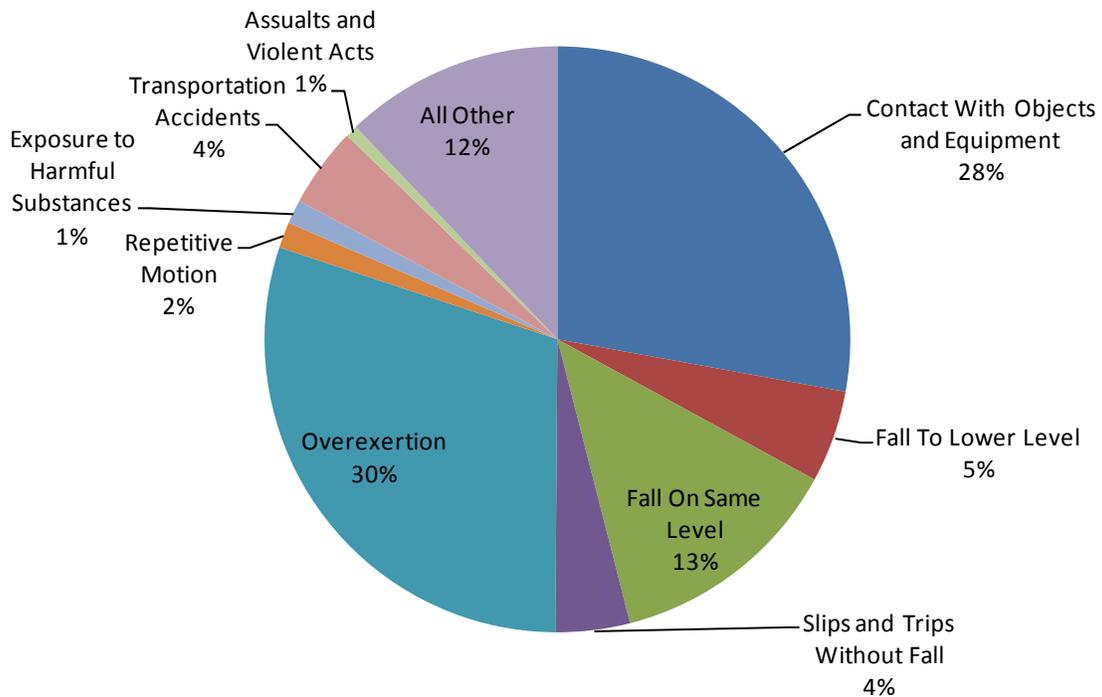


# TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by nature of injury or illness; trade, transportation, and utilities 2008

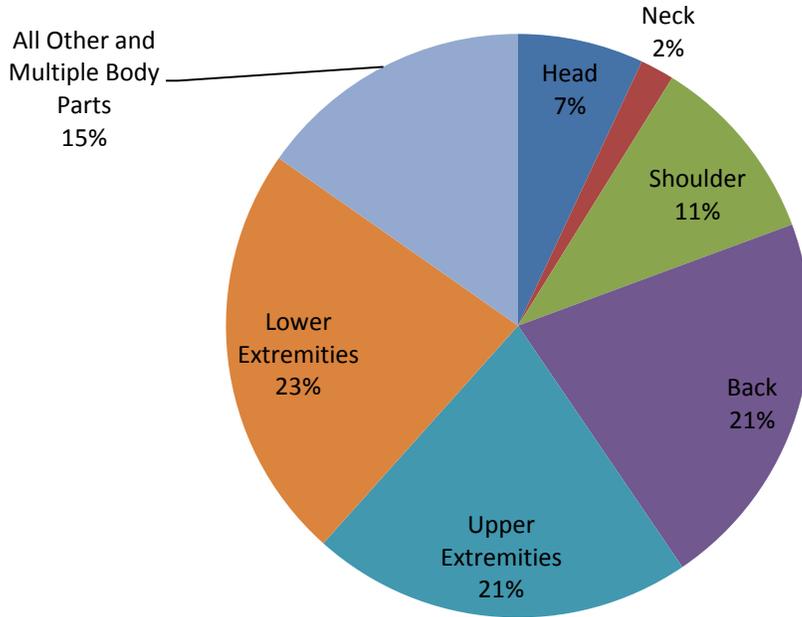


Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by event or exposure; trade, transportation, and utilities, 2008



# TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES

**Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by part of body, all private industries,; trade, transportation, and utilities, 2008**



**Percent distribution of nonfatal injuries and illnesses involving days away from work by source, all private industries; trade, transportation, and utilities 2008**

