

1994 Oregon Occupational Injury and Illness Survey Summary

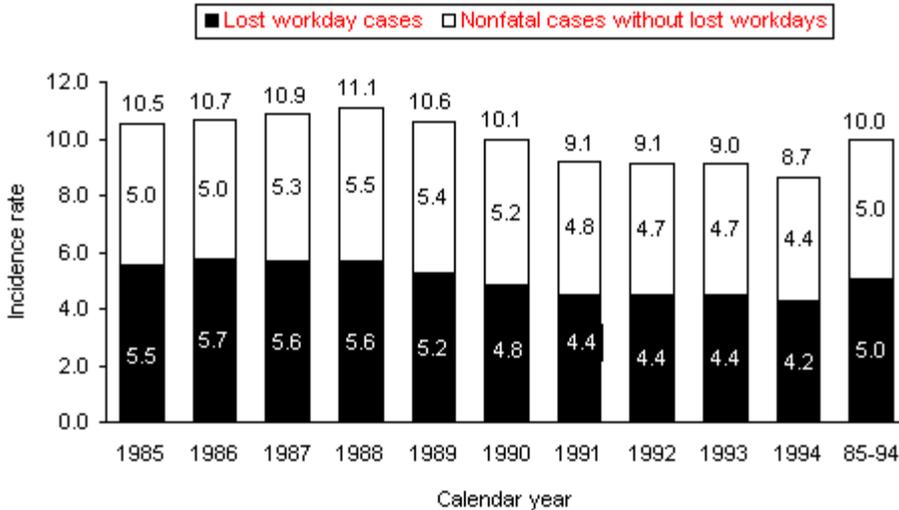
Research & Analysis Section - December 1995.....by Jim Locnikar



Private Sector Results Lowest Ever Recorded

Oregon workers employed in the private sector during calendar year 1994 suffered work-related injuries and illnesses at a rate of 8.7 for every 100 full-time employees. The 1994 **total cases incidence rate** of 8.7 is the lowest ever recorded by the private sector in Oregon. It is 13.0 percent lower than the average rate of 10.0 for the period 1985-1994.

Occupational injuries and illnesses incidence rates, private sector, 1985-1994



Note on Graph: Data excludes agricultural production employers with ten or fewer employees. Due to rounding, rates shown may not sum to total cases rate.

The 1994 **lost workday cases** incidence rate fell to 4.2, the lowest since the start of the survey in 1972. The rate of **nonfatal cases without lost workdays** fell to 4.4, the lowest since 1982. Compared to the 10-year average, the 1994 lost workday cases incidence rate decreased 16.0 percent while the rate of nonfatal cases without lost workdays decreased 12.0 percent.

Incidence rates of lost workday cases by Industry division, 1990-1994

Industry	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Private sector	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2
Agric, frstry & fish	5.8	5.1	5.1	4.8	4.3
Mining	3.6	4.5	2.4	3.1	4.2
Construction	7.5	6.6	6.0	5.5	5.8
Manufacturing	7.4	6.7	6.1	6.0	6.2
Trans & public util	6.1	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.2
Wholesale trade	4.8	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.4
Retail trade	3.6	3.2	3.6	3.9	3.6
Fin, ins & real est	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.9	1.0
Services	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.4	2.9

Of the 81,888 total recordable cases in 1994, 48.8 percent resulted in lost worktime. An estimated 896,672 workdays were lost in Oregon's private sector during 1994. This represents a 12.2 percent decrease from the 1,021,660 workdays lost in 1993.

Industry lost workday cases rates. The record low private sector lost workday cases incidence rate of 4.2 is a 4.5 percent drop from the previous record low of 4.4. Only one industry division agriculture, forestry and fishing - set a record low rate in 1994. However, most other industry divisions posted near-record low rates. Construction, manufacturing, and wholesale trade all experienced slight rate increases from record low rates in 1993.

The highest lost workday cases incidence rate of the industry divisions, 6.2, was recorded by manufacturing and transportation and public utilities. The lowest rate was 1.0 in finance, insurance and real estate, a 47.4 percent decrease from the 1993 rate of 1.9. Services also showed a large rate decrease, down 14.7 percent to 2.9. Mining was the only industry division to report a large rate increase, up 35.5 percent to 4.2.



Public Sector Results Lowest Ever Recorded

During 1994, the public sector reported a total cases incidence rate of 6.3, a record low in Oregon. This new rate is a 12.5 percent decrease from the rate of 7.2 set in 1992 and 1993. The decrease is due primarily to an improvement in the local government rate over 1993. State government recorded a total cases rate of 5.1, down 1.9 percent from the 1993 rate of 5.2, and a new record low. Local government registered a rate of 7.0, a 14.6 percent decrease from the 1993 rate of 8.2, and also a new record low.

The 1994 public sector lost workday cases incidence rate of 2.5 is 13.8 percent below the 1993 rate of 2.9, and a record low. The 1994 rate consists of the state government lost workday cases rate of 1.9, and the local government rate of 2.9, both record lows. The public sector logged an estimated 9,667 total recordable cases in 1994. Of these, 3,869 (40.0 percent) resulted in lost workdays. Lost workdays were estimated to be 81,273, down 16.8 percent from 97,640 days in 1993.



National Survey Results

The total cases incidence rate for the private sector nationwide was 8.4 in 1994, down slightly from 8.5 in 1993. The lost workday cases incidence rate remained at 3.8, while the incidence rate for nonfatal cases without lost workdays fell 4.2 percent to 4.6. At 4.4, the 1994 Oregon rate for cases without lost workdays was 4.3 percent below the national rate. However, the Oregon lost workday cases incidence rate and total cases incidence rate exceed the national rates by 10.5 percent and 3.6 percent respectively.

Comparison of Oregon and national incidence rates

	Total Cases					Lost Workday Cases					Cases Without Lost Workdays				
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Oregon rates	10.1	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.7	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2	5.2	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.4
National Rates	8.8	8.4	8.9	8.5	8.4	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	4.7	4.5	5.0	4.8	4.6

Data in this summary are based upon the annual Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) survey which collects data from a scientifically selected sample of employer establishments across the state. This should be distinguished from the data collected from workers' compensation claims submitted to the department by insurers. To be consistent with other years, data from 1992 and 1993 were re-estimated using the Oregon Estimation System. Some industry rates may vary from those published earlier.

For further information, or to order the 1994 Oregon Occupational Injury and Illness publication, please call the Oregon Department of Consumer & Business Services, Research & Analysis Section at (503) 378-8254 or send Internet e-mail below.

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If you have questions about this information please contact by e-mail or phone :
[Ed Bissell](#), Manager, Research & Analysis Section, Information Management Division (503) 947-7310

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