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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARKANSAS WORK-RELATED INJURY AND ILLNESS SUMMARY DATA FOR 2019

Little Rock – The U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, has released its 2019 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 was 2.3 in 2019. The 2018 rate was 2.5. Incidence rates represent the number of injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time workers.

Private Sector

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 2019.

- Arkansas' private sector had an incidence rate of 2.1 in 2019. The 2018 rate was 2.2.
- From these injuries and illnesses, cases with days away from work occurred at a rate of 0.5 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 0.6.
- Cases with job transfer or restriction occurred at a rate of 0.5 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was also 0.5.
- The incidence rate for other recordable cases was 1.2 in 2019. The 2018 rate was 1.1. 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.
- The national private sector incidence rate in 2019 was again 2.8, unchanged from 2018.

Goods-producing industries within the private sector in Arkansas, which include natural resources and mining, construction, and manufacturing, had an incidence rate of 2.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 2.5.

Service-providing industries within the private sector in Arkansas, such as retail and wholesale trade, transportation and utilities, education and health services, and leisure and hospitality, had an incidence rate of 2.0 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 2.1.

Public Sector

Public 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 2019. Public sector reporting is voluntary, but special efforts have been made to collect information from all employers in the sample.

- Arkansas' public sector (local and state government combined) had an overall incidence rate of 3.5 work-related injury and illness cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 4.0. The national public sector incidence rate for 2019 was 4.6. The 2018 rate was 4.8.
- Local government had an incidence rate of 4.1 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 4.3.
 - Cases with days away from work occurred at a rate of 0.9 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 1.0.
 - Cases with job transfer or restriction totaled 0.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 0.4.
 - The incidence rate for other recordable cases was 2.7 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 3.0.
 - Nationally, local governments had an incidence rate of 5.0 in 2019. The 2018 rate was 5.3.
- State government had an incidence rate of 2.7 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 3.7.
 - Cases with days away from work occurred at a rate of 0.8 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 0.9.
 - Cases with job transfer or restriction occurred at a rate of 0.3 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was also 0.3.
 - The incidence rate for other recordable cases was 1.6 cases per 100 full-time workers in 2019. The 2018 rate was 2.4.
 - Nationally, state governments had an incidence rate of 3.5 in 2019. The 2018 rate was 3.6.

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

Background

The survey was administered by the Arkansas Department of Labor and Licensing, Division of Labor, OSH/CFOI Section, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The 2017 version of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2017) was used to group company data by industry. Arkansas employers are randomly selected for the survey each year.

Fatal occupational injuries for 2019 were not included in this study. A separate publication will be issued in December 2020. For more information regarding this survey, please visit www.bls.gov/iif or www.labor.ar.gov.