



only one or two days away from work and 27 percent of the cases involved more than 20 days away from work. This was a slight shift from the previous year, when 30 percent of the cases had one or two days away from work and 24 percent had 20 days or more days away from work.

**Fatal occupational injuries**

The CFOI covers all fatal work injuries in the private and public sectors, regardless of program coverage; thus, it includes federal workers and self-employed workers. However, fatal *illnesses* (such as asbestosis) are excluded.

- In 2008, 65 Minnesotans were fatally injured on the job. For 2005 through 2008, Minnesota had an average of 76 fatal work injuries a year, consisting of approximately 55 wage-and-salary workers and 21 self-employed people.
- Among industries, agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting recorded the highest number of worker fatalities, with 25. Construction had the second-highest number of fatalities, with 13 cases.
- The most frequent causes of Minnesota’s fatal work injuries for 2008 were: highway transportation accidents (43 percent); and contact with objects and equipment (40 percent).

**SOII sauce** Interesting findings from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

The most recent results from the annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses showed that the median number of days away from work, for cases with at least one day away from work, increased from five days in 2007 to six days in 2008.

The median number of days is the value at which half the cases have smaller values and half the cases have larger values.

The diagram at right shows that the median varied widely by the body part injured, ranging from a low of two days for head, eye and body system injuries to a high of 15 days for knee injuries.

**Median days away from work, 2008  
Private industry**

**Part of body**

