From its early days at the dawn of the 20th century the evolution of technology in the steel industry in Indiana has exerted its influence in our daily lives. From the production of steel for weapons and vehicles for the military in wartime to motor vehicles & infrastructure & other uses of steel and steel products in peacetime the industry has been instrumental in the growth of our nation throughout the 20th century and into the 21st. While steel production has made great strides in efficiency, safety and technology over the years the growth has come at a great cost in terms of fatal and non-fatal injuries in these workplaces. The working environment in steel mills is very loud, dirty & dangerous & attention to safety is of the utmost importance. This webpage will look at statistical data for the industry both nationally and in Indiana between the years 2004 and 2008.

NON-FATAL INJURY AND ILLNESS DATA

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII)

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII)
On the tables above are charts comparing national vs. Indiana incidence rates for non-fatal injuries and illnesses for NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills for the years 2004-2008. For all types of cases in every year the incidence rates for Indiana were lower than the national average and there was a downward overall trend during that period for all types of cases both nationally and in Indiana.
Number of fatalities in NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills U.S., 2004-2008

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)
(*2008 data are preliminary as of December 2009)
The table above shows the number of fatalities nationwide for NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills for the years 2004-2008. Indiana numbers of fatalities in this industry are only publishable for the years 2004 & 2008, both years in which 4 of the fatalities above occurred in Indiana. Data for 2005-2007 are not publishable by BLS because in each year there were fewer than 3 fatalities in this industry which does not meet their publication guidelines. While the non-fatal incidence rates have decreased over the last 5 years as shown in the tables in the section above the number of fatalities has fluctuated from a low of 6 in 2007 to a high of 17 for 2008 based on preliminary data for the year.

**ADDITIONAL DATA**

Below are additional Indiana and national data related to NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills for the years 2004-2008:

The table above shows the annual average employment figures for both Indiana and the U.S. as a whole in NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills for the years 2004-2008. It shows the impact Indiana has on this industry as Indiana employment in this industry throughout this period has consistently represented approximately 20% of the national workforce with percentages of national employment ranging from 19.98% in 2007 to 21.19% in 2004.
The American Iron and Steel Institute in Washington, D.C. is the organization responsible for reporting raw steel production data for the U.S. on a weekly basis. They do not publish state data on steel production but they do publish data for the following regions of the U.S.: Northeast, Pittsburgh, PA/Youngstown, OH, Lake Erie, Detroit, Indiana-Chicago, Midwest, Southern & Western. Their data are published in the daily newspaper *American Metal Market* by American Metal Market LLC which is a division of Metal Bulletin PLC which can be accessed online at [www.amm.com](http://www.amm.com). Since they do not publish state data I will use their total number of net tons of steel produced in the U.S. each year for the years 2004-2008 and compare it to the national numbers of injuries and illnesses along with national number of fatalities in NAICS 331111 Iron and Steel Mills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net number of tons of steel produced in U.S.</th>
<th>Average annual employment</th>
<th>Number of tons produced per employee</th>
<th>Number of total recordable cases</th>
<th>Number of tons produced per recordable injury &amp; illness case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>103,889,000</td>
<td>92,500</td>
<td>1,123.1</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>11,841.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>103,505,000</td>
<td>91,900</td>
<td>1,126.3</td>
<td>5,300</td>
<td>19,529.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>105,371,000</td>
<td>92,600</td>
<td>1,137.9</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>19,513.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>106,462,000</td>
<td>95,600</td>
<td>1,113.6</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>22,179.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>100,101,000</td>
<td>96,700</td>
<td>1,035.2</td>
<td>3,900</td>
<td>25,666.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Data for net number of tons of steel produced from American Iron & Steel Institute

2 Annual Average employment data from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics & Indiana Workforce Development

3 Number of total recordable cases from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
The above table shows a steady increase in steel production for the years 2004-2007 followed by a sharp decline in 2008 even though annual average employment was up compared to the previous years which lowered the number of tons of steel produced per employee by nearly 100 between 2006 & 2008. A sharp steady drop in the number of total recordable cases resulted in the number of tons of steel produced per recordable injury and illness case to increase sharply from 2004 to 2005 then steadily increase from there during the next 3 years to where the number more than doubled between 2004 & 2008.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

The following are links to web pages with more information on steel industry safety & Indiana’s steel industry:

http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/alliances/steel_group/steel_group_final.html - This is a link from Federal OSHA’s website about an alliance of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and "The Steel Group" comprised of the American Iron & Steel Institute, Specialty Steel Industry of North America, and the Steel Manufacturers Association that was formed to recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to promote and cultivate safer and more healthful American workplaces. The Steel Group and OSHA formed this alliance to provide the steel manufacturing industry and others, including downstream manufacturers, with information, guidance, and mentoring that will help them protect employees’ health and safety. In developing this Alliance, OSHA and The Steel Group recognize that OSHA’s State Plan and Consultation Project partners are an integral part of the OSHA national effort.

http://www.uswsafetyguide.org/ - Link to a training guide website created by the United Steelworkers’ Union designed by the Steelworkers Charitable and Educational Organization for their members in the basic steel industry and others who are interested in hazard recognition and control in basic steel. This project was done with the help of funding received from a grant from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

http://nwisteelheritagemuseum.org/index.htm - The Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Project is a new organization dedicated to preserving the steelmaking history that forged the identity of the Calumet Region in Northwest Indiana whose mission is to save, protect and conserve the stories, artifacts, machines and history of the entire steelmaking industry of Northwest Indiana for future generations. The Northwest Indiana Steel Heritage Project, known as NISHP, is a 501(C)(3) organization chartered to establish an interactive regional steel industry museum.
There are also a number of additional .pdf pages available on the web which can be accessed from any web browser which address the steel industry’s role in building Northwest Indiana and the current state of the steel industry along with topics about steel mill safety. For more data from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics please click on the “Quality, Metrics & Statistics” link at the Indiana Department of Labor website at www.in.gov/labor for Indiana data. Additional BLS occupational injury & illness data are available by clicking on the “Workplace Injuries” link under the “Subject Areas” menu on the upper left section of their home page at www.bls.gov which will take you to their “Injuries, Illnesses and Fatalities” page from which data can be accessed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For assistance with website navigation or for more information please contact Joe Black, BLS Coordinator at (317) 232-2668 or via email at jblack@dol.in.gov.

IN REVIEW

In each of the last 4 years we released our IN Review publication with the goal of informing Indiana employers and the public of the Indiana Department of Labor’s data-based approach to addressing safety. The issue published this past spring contains BLS occupational injury and illness data from 2007 and shows comparisons between 2007 data and previous years. Electronic copies of these publications are available at http://www.in.gov/dol/stats.htm and we plan to publish 2008 data in 2010 on an electronic copy of the 2010 IN Review which will be posted within the “Statistics” link on the Indiana Department of Labor website when it is released. For more information on these publications please email Elizabeth Friend, Deputy Commissioner of our Quality, Metrics & Statistics Division at efriend@dol.in.gov or Michelle Ellison, Marketing & Consultation Service Manager of our INSafe Division at mellison@dol.in.gov.
2009 IN FOCUS

Is there a topic you would like to see addressed in the 2009 IN Focus web page to be released in December 2010? If so, please call Joseph Black, BLS Coordinator at (317) 232-2668 or email at JoeB@states.bls.gov.

QUALITY, METRICS & STATISTICS DIVISION

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Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace