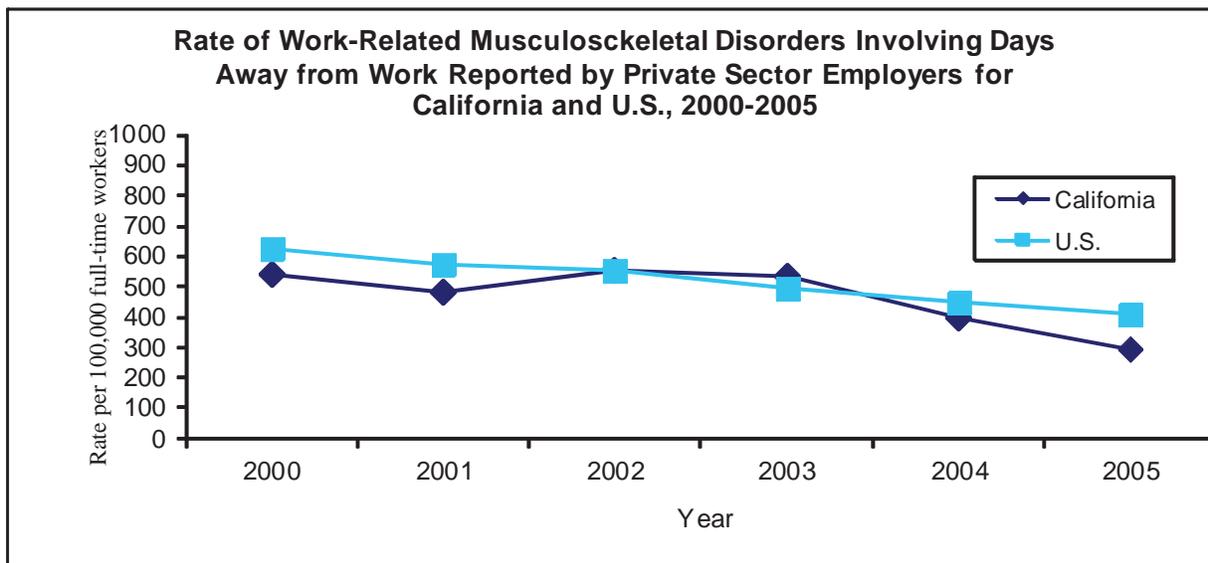


## Musculoskeletal Disorders Reported by Employers

Work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are some of the most common and costly work-related health problems. MSDs are injuries or disorders of muscles, tendons, nerves, ligaments, joints, or spinal discs that are caused or aggravated by work activities. These injuries can significantly impact the ability of workers to perform their job and affect quality of life both on and off the job. The majority of cases involve the back, neck, shoulders, or upper extremities. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses provides yearly estimates of work-related MSDs with days away from work. The Annual Survey may underestimate the true number of MSDs due to underreporting and exclusion of certain groups of workers. Furthermore, workers with MSDs may be treated by their personal health care provider and not report these injuries to their employer, or they may develop the disorder after leaving the employment responsible. See also the Indicator “Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases Identified in State Workers’ Compensation Systems”.



Rate and Number of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders Involving Days Away From Work Reported by Private Sector Employers for California and U.S., 2000-2005							
Year	California						U.S.
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005
Incidence Rate per 100,000 Full-Time Workers	543	484	555	536	400	292	413
Number of Work-Related MSDs	56,615	52,136	55,551	53,180	40,870	31,150	375,540

Data Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses

Rate and Number of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders Involving Days Away From Work Reported by Private Sector Employers for California and U.S., 2000-2005							
Year	California						U.S.
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005
Incidence Rate of MSD Cases Involving the Neck, Shoulder, and Upper Extremities per 100,000 Full-Time Workers	151	129	154	136	111	76	118
Number of MSDs of the Neck, Shoulder, and Upper Extremities	15,700	13,890	15,477	13,460	11,380	8,050	107,800
Incidence Rate of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases per 100,000 Full-Time Workers	30	20	30	25	17	16	18
Number of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases	3,149	2,172	3,041	2,450	1,770	1,680	16,440
Incidence Rate of MSD Cases Involving the Back per 100,000 Full- Time Workers	266	242	276	263	201	150	203
Number of MSD Cases Involving the Back	27,731	26,049	27,607	26,090	20,490	16,020	184,440

Data Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses