

By any measure, the U.S. mining industry has made significant advances in improving the health and safety of its skilled and highly-trained workforce. This improvement, documented statistically from several independent sources, has been sustained, significant and long-term, and is the result of seven key trends:

- A commitment by management, workers and regulators to a goal of zero fatalities and injuries;
- better equipment design;
- technological advances;
- conscientious safety awareness;
- improved engineering methods;
- advanced and continuous training;
- strong oversight and assistance from the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration.

The industry has made safety and health a core value, meaning that it is integrated into company operations from top to bottom, and evident in communications and procedures at the workplace. Recognizing that even one serious accident is too many, the mining industry today is better prepared than ever to achieve the ultimate goal of zero fatalities and injuries in the 21st century.

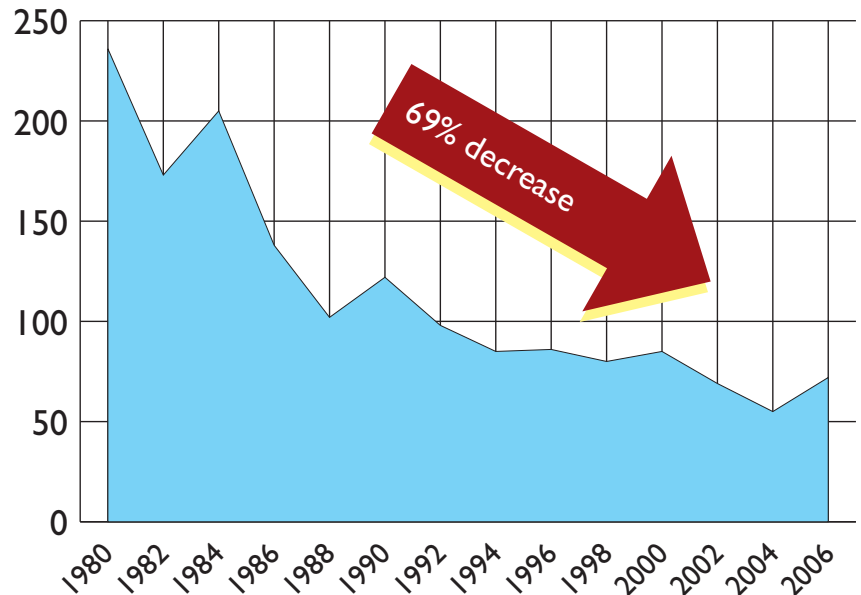
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the mining industry's occupational injury and illness rate of 3.6 cases per 100 full time workers in 2005 ranked it next to the lowest total among major industries.

### BLS Estimates of Nonfatal Occupational Injury and Illness Rates by Industry Division, 2004-2005

Industry Division	Total Cases	
	2004	2005
Trade, Transportation & Public Utilities	6.9	5.2
Manufacturing	6.6	6.3
Construction	6.4	6.3
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	6.4	6.1
Education & Health Services	5.8	5.5
Retail Trade	5.3	5.0
Leisure & Hospitality	4.7	4.7
Service Providing	4.6	4.1
<b>MINING</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Financial Activities	1.6	1.7
<b>Private Sector Average</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>

## A Record of Continued Improvement

U.S. Mining Fatalities, 1980-2006



source: Mine Safety and Health Administration

**“When safety is a value, you strive for absolute perfection, set your production goals at zero injuries and manage accordingly.”**

Alan C. McMillan  
President  
National Safety Council

### Overall U.S. Mine Safety and Health, 1990-2006

Category	1990	1995	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Number of mines	16,158	13,859	14,520	14,391	14,478	14,666	14,885
Number of miners	404,315	361,647	329,114	320,149	329,008	344,837	363,497
Fatalities	122	100	69	56	55	57	72
Fatal injury rate	.0329	.0303	.0237	.0197	.0184	.0180	.0217
All injury rate	8.36	6.30	4.60	4.23	4.05	3.92	3.64

source: Mine Safety and Health Administration. Includes operator and contractors, stone, sand and gravel.