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MAJOR WORK STOPPAGES IN 2013

In 2013, there were 15 major strikes and lockouts involving 1,000 or more workers and lasting at least one shift, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The 15 major work stoppages beginning in 2013 were down from 19 major work stoppages beginning in 2012. (See chart 1 and table 1.)

Major work stoppages beginning in 2013 idled 55,000 workers, lower than 2012 with 148,000 idled workers. In 2013, there were 290,000 days idle from major work stoppages in effect, also lower than 2012 with 1.13 million days idle. In 2013, two-thirds of major work stoppages lasted three or less workdays. State and local government accounted for 60 percent of major work stoppages beginning in 2013. In addition, over half of major work stoppages beginning in 2013 occurred in the state of California. (See chart 2, and tables 1 and 2.)

Chart 1. Annual major work stoppages, 2008-2013

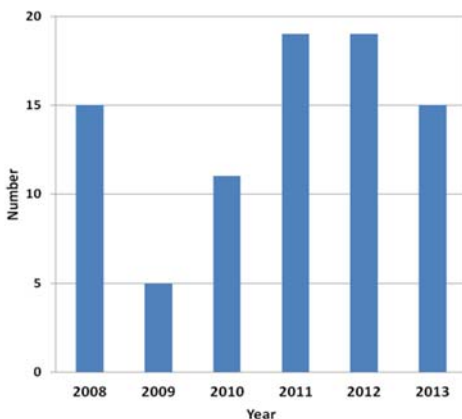
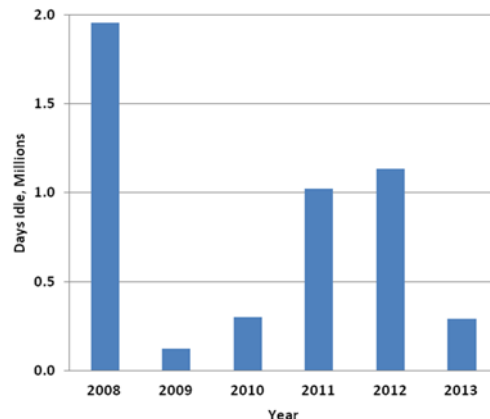


Chart 2. Annual days idle from major work stoppages, 2008-2013, in millions



The longest and most days idle of any major work stoppage beginning in 2013 was between the New York City Public Schools and the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1181, with 8,000 workers accounting for 176,000 days idle. The greatest number of workers involved in a major work stoppage beginning in 2013 was between the University of California Medical Centers and American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Local 3299 (including the University Professional and Technical Employees Union for one day), involving as many as 18,800 workers. (See table 2.)

Other notable work stoppages beginning in 2013 included the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and the Service Employees International Union Local 1021 and the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1555. BART was involved in two major work stoppages, occurring in July and October. (See table 2.)

TECHNICAL NOTE

The major work stoppages series dates back to 1947. The term “major work stoppage” includes both worker-initiated strikes and employer-initiated lockouts that involve 1,000 workers or more and lasting at least one shift. BLS does not distinguish between lockouts and strikes in its statistics.

Information on work stoppages is obtained from reports from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, state labor market information offices, BLS Strike Reports from the Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, and from media sources. One or both parties involved in the work stoppage (employer or union) is contacted to verify the duration and number of workers idled by the stoppage.

Days of idleness is calculated by multiplying the number of workers involved in the strike or lockout by the number of days workers are off the job. The number of lost workdays for every major work stoppage is based on a 5-day workweek (Monday through Friday), excluding Federal holidays.

Monthly major work stoppages data

The Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles detailed monthly statistics on major work stoppages at <http://www.bls.gov/wsp>.

Detailed data for each major work stoppage since 1993 includes the organization involved, location, beginning and ending work stoppage dates, the number of workers, and days idle.

Monthly time series data since 1981 have been published (<http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost?ws>) for the following tables:

- Number of work stoppages involving 1,000 workers or more beginning in the period
- Number of work stoppages involving 1,000 workers or more in effect in the period
- Number of workers involved in work stoppages beginning in the period
- Number of workers involved in work stoppages in effect in the period
- Days of idleness resulting from work stoppages in effect in the period
- Days of idleness resulting from work stoppages in effect in the period, as a percent of estimated working time

Major work stoppages detailed information and measures

For more information on Work Stoppages methods and measures, see “Chapter 8. National Compensation Measures” of the *BLS Handbook of Methods* at: www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch8.pdf.

Table 1. Work stoppages involving 1,000 or more workers, 1947-2013

Period	Number of work stoppages beginning in period	Numbers of workers involved (thousands) ¹	Days idle ²	
			Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time ³
2013	15	55	290	(4)
2012	19	148	1,131	(4)
2011	19	113	1,020	(4)
2010	11	45	302	(4)
2009	5	13	124	(4)
2008	15	72	1,954	.01
2007	21	189	1,265	(4)
2006	20	70	2,688	.01
2005	22	100	1,736	.01
2004	17	171	3,344	.01
2003	14	129	4,091	.01
2002	19	46	660	(4)
2001	29	99	1,151	(4)
2000	39	394	20,419	.06
1999	17	73	1,996	.01
1998	34	387	5,116	.02
1997	29	339	4,497	.01
1996	37	273	4,889	.02
1995	31	192	5,771	.02
1994	45	322	5,021	.02
1993	35	182	3,981	.01
1992	35	364	3,989	.01
1991	40	392	4,584	.02
1990	44	185	5,926	.02
1989	51	452	16,996	.07
1988	40	118	4,381	.02
1987	46	174	4,481	.02
1986	69	533	11,861	.05
1985	54	324	7,079	.03
1984	62	376	8,499	.04
1983	81	909	17,461	.08
1982	96	656	9,061	.04
1981	145	729	16,908	.07
1980	187	795	20,844	.09
1979	235	1,021	20,409	.09
1978	219	1,006	23,774	.11
1977	298	1,212	21,258	.10
1976	231	1,519	23,962	.12
1975	235	965	17,563	.09
1974	424	1,796	31,809	.16
1973	317	1,400	16,260	.08
1972	250	975	16,764	.09
1971	298	2,516	35,538	.19
1970	381	2,468	52,761	.29
1969	412	1,576	29,397	.16
1968	392	1,855	35,367	.20
1967	381	2,192	31,320	.18
1966	321	1,300	16,000	.10
1965	268	999	15,140	.10
1964	246	1,183	16,220	.11

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Work stoppages involving 1,000 or more workers, 1947-2013 — Continued

Period	Number of work stoppages beginning in period	Numbers of workers involved (thousands) ¹	Days idle ²	
			Number (thousands)	Percent of estimated working time ³
1963	181	512	10,020	.07
1962	211	793	11,760	.08
1961	195	1,031	10,140	.07
1960	222	896	13,260	.09
1959	245	1,381	60,850	.43
1958	332	1,587	17,900	.13
1957	279	887	10,340	.07
1956	287	1,370	26,840	.20
1955	363	2,055	21,180	.16
1954	265	1,075	16,630	.13
1953	437	1,623	18,130	.14
1952	470	2,746	48,820	.38
1951	415	1,462	15,070	.12
1950	424	1,698	30,390	.26
1949	262	2,537	43,420	.38
1948	245	1,435	26,127	.22
1947	270	1,629	25,720	(⁵)

¹ Number of workers involved includes only those workers who participated in work stoppages that began in the calendar year. Workers are counted more than once if they are involved in more than one stoppage during the reference period. Numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand.

² Days idle includes all stoppages in effect during the reference period. For work stoppages that are still ongoing

at the end of the calendar year, only those days of idleness in the calendar year are counted.

³ Agricultural and government employees are included in the calculation of estimated working time; private households, forestry, and fishery employees are excluded.

⁴ Less than .005.

⁵ Data not available.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 1,000 or more workers beginning in 2013

Organizations involved, location, and sector	Industry code ¹	Beginning date	Ending date	Number of workers ²	Days idle
New York City Public Schools New York, NY Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1181 (Local Government)	611110	1/16/13	2/15/13	8,000	176,000
G4S, Allied Barton, Securitas, Viking Security, ABM Security, and Whelan Security Minneapolis - St. Paul, MN Service Employees International Union Local 26, Security Guards (Private Industry)	561612	2/27/13	2/27/13	2,000	2,000
Sheet Metal Contractors Association of Philadelphia and Vicinity Philadelphia Metropolitan Area, PA, NJ Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 19 (Private Industry)	236220	5/1/13	5/2/13	1,300	2,600
Sutter Health Hospitals, Hospital Corporation of America San Francisco Bay Area, CA California Nurses Association, National Nurses United (Private Industry)	622110	5/17/13	5/24/13	4,200	25,200
University of California Medical Centers, Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Irvine, and San Diego, CA American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 3299, ³ University Professional, and Technical Employees Union (State Government)	622110	5/21/13	5/22/13	18,800	34,300
Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) San Francisco Bay Area, CA Service Employees International Union Local 1021 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1555 (Local Government)	485112	7/1/13	7/5/13	2,400	9,600
City of Oakland Oakland, CA International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Local 21 (Local Government)	921110	7/1/13	7/1/13	2,500	2,500
Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc. Hurst, TX United Auto Workers Local 218 (Private Industry)	336411	9/6/13	9/6/13	2,600	2,600
Los Angeles County, CA Service Employees International Union Local 721 (Local Government)	921110	10/1/13	10/1/13	2,500	2,500

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Work stoppages involving 1,000 or more workers beginning in 2013 — Continued

Organizations involved, location, and sector	Industry code ¹	Beginning date	Ending date	Number of workers ²	Days idle
Steamship Trade Association of Baltimore Maryland Port Administration Baltimore, MD International Longshoremen's Association Local 333 (Private Industry)	488310	10/16/13	10/18/13	2,000	6,000
Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) San Francisco Bay Area, CA Service Employees International Union Local 1021 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1555 (Local Government)	485112	10/18/13	10/21/13	2,300	4,600
Will County Joliet, IL American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 1028 (Local Government)	921110	11/18/13	12/4/13	1,000	12,000
University of California Medical Centers Statewide, CA American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 3299, UC Student-Workers (State Government)	622110	11/20/13	11/20/13	2,100	2,100
Deaconess Medical Center, Valley Hospital Spokane, WA Service Employees International Union Local 1199NW Healthcare (Private Industry)	622110	12/4/13	12/4/13	1,100	1,100
Los Angeles County, CA Service Employees International Union Local 721 Social Workers (Local Government)	624110	12/5/13	12/10/13	1,700	6,800

¹ Industry code is from the 2012 NAICS (North American Industry Classification System).

² The number of workers involved is rounded to the nearest 100.

³ 3,300 members of the University Professional and Technical Employees Union participated in the strike for one day only on May 21, 2013.