



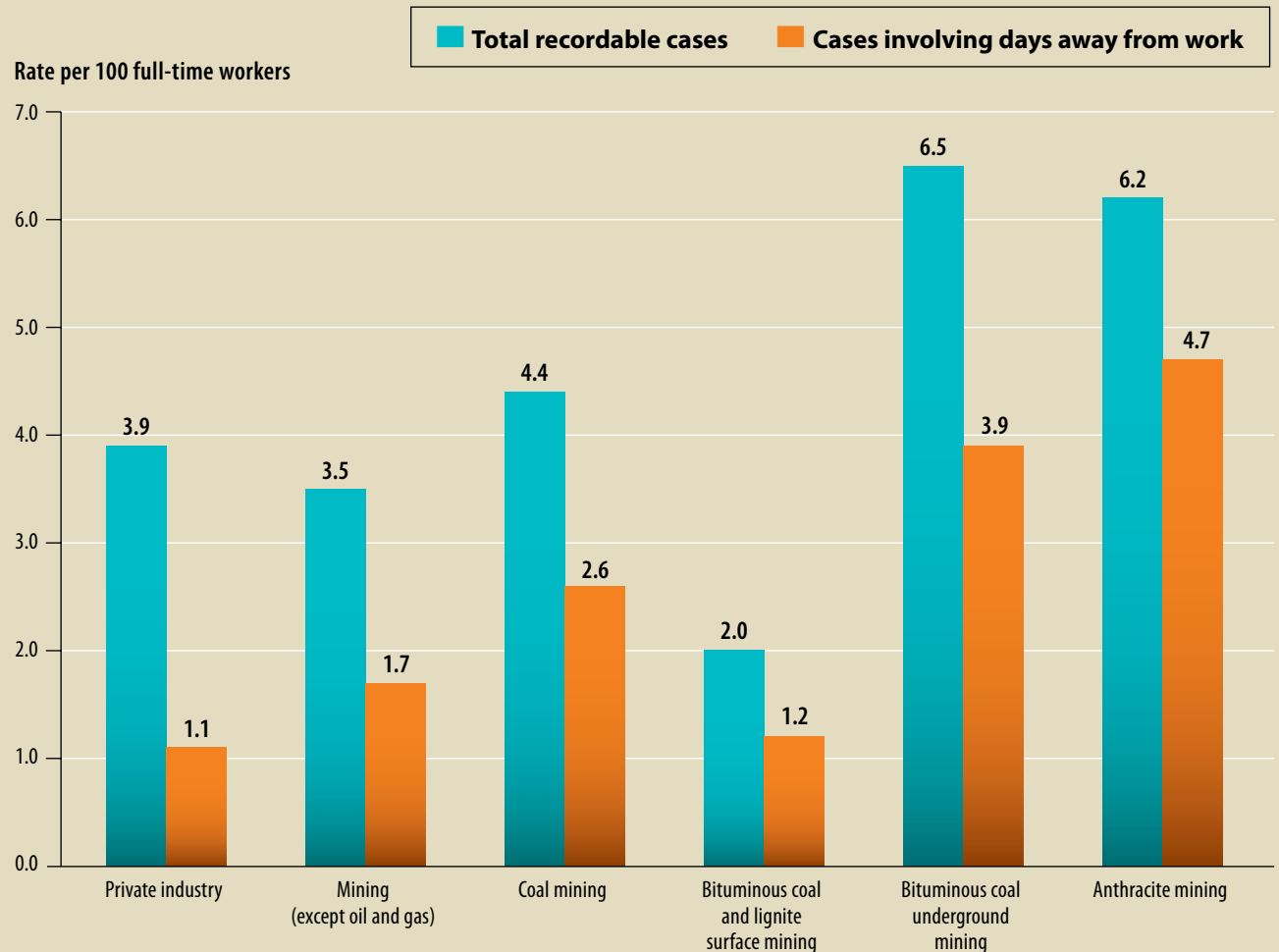
## SPECIAL TOPIC: MINING

Coal mining is a relatively dangerous industry. Employees in coal mining are more likely to be killed or to incur a nonfatal injury or illness, and their nonfatal injuries are more likely to be severe, compared with workers in private industry as a whole.

In 2008, the rate of total recordable nonfatal injuries and illnesses in coal mining was 4.4 cases per 100 full-time workers, 13 percent higher than the rate for all private industry. In bituminous coal underground mining, the rate of nonfatal injuries and illnesses was 67 percent higher than that of all private industry. Bituminous coal and lignite surface mining had a rate that was 49 percent lower than that of all private industry. Anthracite mining had a rate 59 percent higher than that of all private industry, but a very small number of cases.

The severity of injuries and illnesses can be measured by the median number of days away from work. Injuries and illnesses in coal mining required a median of at least 31 days to recover and return to work, much higher than the 8 days required for injuries and illnesses in all private industry.

# Incidence rate of nonfatal injuries and illnesses in mining, private industry, 2008



SOURCE: Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, November 2009.