

December 2021: SOFA-defined Severe Injuries (SIs)

December 2021 is the latest month available for SIs as defined (see definition at bottom of page) by SOFA in its report, *Severe Injuries to Train and Engine Service Employees: Data Description and Injury Characteristics* (July 2001). Feel free to cite, circulate, transmit, reformat, and reference this information.

SIs in December 2021: There were 6 SIs in December 2021. One was an amputation to the arm or hand. The other 5 SIs were fractures: 3 to the leg or foot; 1 to various body parts of equal severity; and 1 to the head or face.

December: Present and Past Years	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
SIs	6	3	9	7	8	5
Amputations (counts included in SIs above)	1	0	4	0	0	0

SIs Year-to-Date: There were 56 SIs in 2021, January through December. Note: SI counts reported herein are provisional, subject to revision. Because of revisions, year-to-date counts may not sum to counts previously published. *There have been 4 revisions in 2021.*

Year-to-Date: January through December	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
SIs	56	53	72	68	68	47
Amputations (counts included in SIs above)	7	9	8	8	9	7

Brief Description of the December 2021 SIs

#	Month	Day	State	Age	Injury	RR Location	Description
1	December	02	PA	30	fracture: injuries to various body parts of equal severity	yard	Slipped, fell, stumbled, other while walking between tracks
2	December	02	TX	40	fracture: leg or foot	industry	“BRAKEMAN WAS RIDING A SHOVE MOVEMENT ON THE END PLATFORM OF A TANK RAILCAR WHEN HE WAS FORCED TO JUMP FROM THE CAR DUE TO A TRUCK NOT STOPPING. THE TEAM MEMBER SUFFERED INJURY TO LOWER LEG/ANKLE.” [accompanying narrative]
3	December	04	IL	38	amputation: arm or hand	yard	“EMPLOYEE REPORTED HE WAS [injured] WHILE PREPARING CARS TO TYING ONTO RIP CUT IN BOWL.” [accompanying narrative]
4	December	07	CA	51	fracture: leg or foot	main/branch	“EMPLOYEE REPORTED SHE WAS INJURED FROM TRIPPING ON A PIECE RAIL.” [accompanying narrative]
5	December	12	OH	39	fracture: head or face	yard	Slipped, fell, stumbled, other.
6	December	29	AL	36	fracture: leg or foot	yard	Slipped, fell, stumbled, other while getting off side of car.

Comments: There was a slight increase in SIs in year 2021 compared to 2020 (56 vs. 53). Amputations, which are included in SI totals, declined slightly (7 vs. 9). Historically, there is an overall downward trend in SIs, although year-to-year counts increase at times. Since 2009, SIs have occurred within a range of a high of 76 per-year, and a low of 47 per-year.

SOFA-defined Severe Injuries and Amputations, by year, 1997 through 2021

(counts of amputations included in SIs)

year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
SIs	139	137	135	139	140	123	114	123	122	100	110	87	53
Amputations	20	27	18	19	19	11	15	15	15	12	16	8	6
year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	totals
SIs	63	69	47	68	76	57	47	68	68	72	53	56	2,266
Amputations	6	11	6	8	13	5	7	9	8	8	9	7	298

