

Total Number of Sentinel Events	
Reviewed by The Joint Commission	6244
Since January 1995	

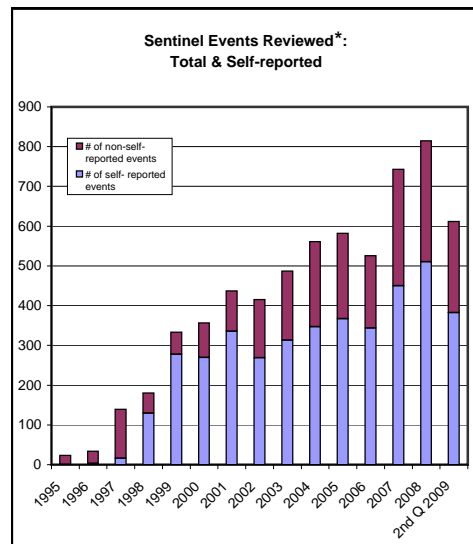
Type of Sentinel Event	#	%
Wrong-site surgery	837	13.4%
Suicide	752	12.0%
Op/post-op complication	695	11.1%
Medication error	520	8.3%
Delay in treatment	507	8.1%
Patient fall	396	6.3%
Unintended retention of foreign body**	285	4.6%
Assault/rape/homicide	241	3.9%
Perinatal death/loss of function	197	3.2%
Patient death/injury in restraints	196	3.1%
Transfusion error	139	2.2%
Infection-related event	128	2.0%
Medical equipment-related	117	1.9%
Patient elopement	94	1.5%
Fire	94	1.5%
Anesthesia-related event	92	1.5%
Maternal death	84	1.3%
Ventilator death/injury	57	0.9%
Abduction	31	0.5%
Utility systems-related event	25	0.4%
Infant discharge to wrong family	8	0.1%
Other less frequent types	749	12.0%

Sentinel Event Setting	#	%
General hospital	4226	67.7%
Psychiatric hospital	665	10.7%
Psych unit in general hospital	311	5.0%
Emergency department	284	4.5%
Behavioral health facility	281	4.5%
Long term care facility	165	2.6%
Ambulatory care	165	2.6%
Home care	117	1.9%
Office-based surgery	18	0.3%
Clinical laboratory	10	0.2%
Health care network	2	0.0%

Source of SE	#	%
Self-report	4017	64.3%
Media	384	6.1%
Complaints	917	14.7%
Identified during survey	544	8.7%
CMS or State reports	382	6.1%

Sentinel Event Outcomes	#	%
Patient death	4334	68%
Loss of Function	579	9%
Other	1466	23%
Total patients impacted	6380	100%

Self-reported Sentinel Events by Year	# Non- self- reported	# Self reported	% Self reported
1995	22	1	4%
1996	31	3	9%
1997	123	16	12%
1998	50	130	72%
1999	55	278	83%
2000	87	270	76%
2001	101	336	77%
2002	146	269	65%
2003	174	313	64%
2004	214	347	62%
2005	215	367	63%
2006	182	344	65%
2007	293	450	61%
2008	305	510	63%
2nd Q 2009	230	382	62%



Method for Review of HCO Response to Sentinel Event	#	%
Alternative 0 RCA submitted to Joint Commission	4815	77%
Alternative 1 RCA brought to Central office	1006	16%
Alternative 2 RCA documents reviewed on-site	127	2%
Alternative 3 RCA reviewed by interviews on-site	197	3%
Alternative 4 Responses inferred from process; P&P	99	2%

*This graph represents all RCAs reviewed and accepted in a particular calendar year.

**Unintended retention of a foreign object was added to the definition of reviewable events June 2005. This data represents events reviewed since that date, not 1995-2009.