

2017 Wisconsin Work Injury Claims

Worker's Compensation Division

These reports are based off data provided by the Worker's Compensation Division and their Information Claims Management System. Claims included in this analysis are indemnity-only and the amounts paid are only indemnity. They do not include claims denied, under investigation, non-compensable, or no lost time. They include closed claims and claims in litigation when the reports were run.

The WC Division started accepting First Reports of Injury (FROI) via our Electronic Data Interchange program on October 30th, 1997, and then via our Pending Reports Internet application on October 25th, 2001. Starting September 1st, 2005 FROIs were required to be reported to us electronically via either method. It should be noted that for electronically reported FROIs the codes for gender, body part, cause of injury, nature of injury and county where injury occurred are accepted into our database as they are sent to us, without any vetting or accuracy examination by WC staff.



KEY FIGURES FOR 2017:

- **20,752 TOTAL CLAIMS FILED**
- **\$212.5 MILLION TOTAL INDEMNITY PAID OUT**
- **\$146.9 MILLION INDEMNITY SPENT ON TRAUMATIC INJURIES**
- **\$10,240.63 AVERAGE INDEMNITY COST PER CLAIM**



Leading Cause of Injuries

In 2017, Wisconsin workers sustained 7,881 strains and 5,433 falls/slips. There were 2,332 workers injured by being struck by an object or person and 1,555 workers injured by miscellaneous causes.

Strains: The most frequent types of strain injuries were due to lifting (36%), not otherwise classified (19%), and pushing/pulling (17%).

Falls and Slips: Falls not otherwise classified comprised 28% of falls, followed by falls on the same level (21%), falls due to ice/snow (17%), and falls from a different level (11%).

Struck or Injured by: Thirty-two percent of workers in this category were struck by falling or flying objects, 19% by objects lifted or handled by worker, 15% struck by something not otherwise classified, and 14% struck by a co-worker or patient.

Miscellaneous: This category includes 11 subcategories, such as repetitive motion, foreign body in eye, or electrocution. **Thirty-five percent** of miscellaneous injuries were caused by repetitive motion, followed by "other" injuries (21%), and cumulative injuries (8%).

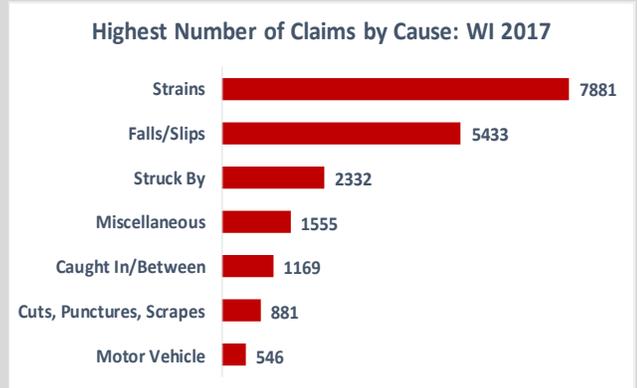
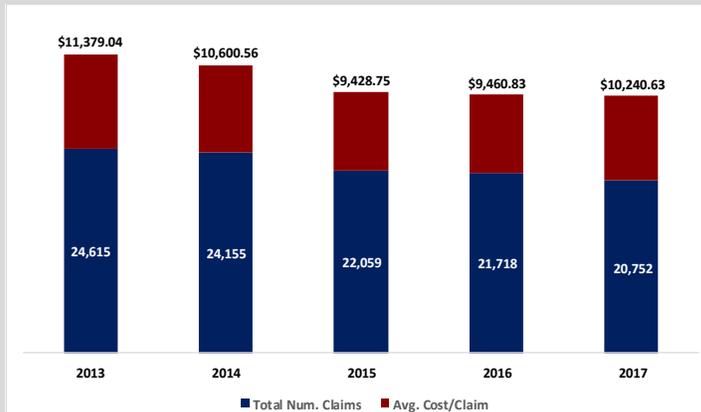


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5 Year Trend: Total Claims & Average Indemnity Cost





NUMBER OF CLAIMS
 7,814 STRAINS
 2,325 FRACTURES
 1,848 SPRAINS
 477 HERNIAS
 352 CONCUSSIONS
 350 DISLOCATIONS
 246 HEARING LOSS
 219 CARPAL TUNNEL
 211 AMPUTATIONS



Part of Body Injured
 Injuries to the upper extremities were most frequent (39%), with shoulders accounting for over one-third of that category, followed by lower extremities (25%), and trunk (21%). Neck injury was the most expensive category, averaging \$21,150.49 per claim, with disc injuries averaging \$39,430.04 as the highest subcategory.

For more information visit our website:
www.dwd.wi.gov/wcl

Nature of Injury

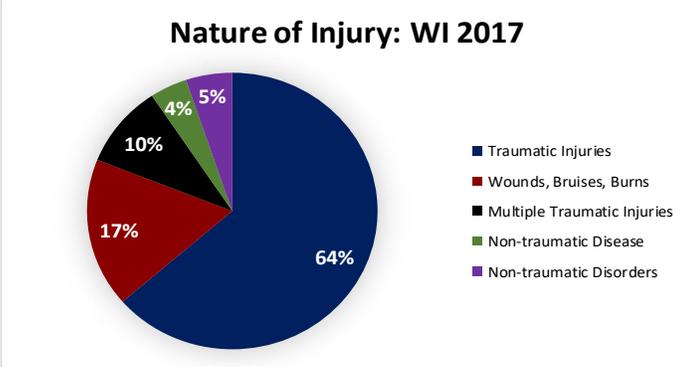
Traumatic Injuries: Of the 20,752 total claims filed, 18,817 were noted as traumatic injuries and 70% of those traumas were to bones, nerves, spinal cord, muscles, joints, etc. in 2017: 59% of these traumatic injuries were strains, 18% were fractures, and 14% were sprains. There were also 211 amputation claims.

Wounds, Bruises, and Burns: Approximately 49% of workers in this category suffered contusions, 28% sustained lacerations, 8% sustained crushing injuries, and 8% sustained burns.

Multiple Traumatic Injuries: There were 2,001 workers with multiple injuries and disorders; 41% were not otherwise classified.

Non-Traumatic Disorders and other: There were 1,072 non-traumatic disorders. 59% of injured workers in this category suffered from carpal tunnel syndrome or cumulative disorders.

Non-Traumatic Disease: Out of 863 claims filed in this category, 55% were diagnosed with hernias, and 29% suffered hearing loss.



County of Injury

