**2013 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 2013:**
- 24,615 total claims filed
- $280 million total indemnity paid out
- $202.6 million indemnity spent on traumatic injuries
- $11,379 average indemnity cost per claim

**Table of Contents**

- Leading Cause of Injuries 1
- 5 Year Trend: 2009-2013 1
- Nature of Injury 2
- County Infographic 2
- Part of Body Injured 2

**Leading Cause of Injuries**

In 2013, Wisconsin workers sustained 9,960 strains and 6,529 falls/slips. There were 2,255 workers injured by being struck by an object or person and 1,944 workers injured by miscellaneous causes.

**Strains:** The most frequent types of strain injuries were due to lifting (35%), not otherwise classified (22%), and pushing/pulling (16%).

**Falls and Slips:** Falls not otherwise classified made up 27% of falls, followed by falls due to ice/snow (25%), falls on the same level (18%), and falls from a different level (9%).

**Struck or Injured by:** Thirty percent of workers in this category were struck by falling or flying objects, 18% by objects lifted or handled by worker, 17% struck by something not otherwise classified, and 14% struck by a co-worker or patient.

**Miscellaneous:** These types of injuries include 12 subcategories, such as repetitive motion, foreign body in eye, ingestion, or electrocution. Nearly half of misc. injuries were caused by repetitive motion (48%), followed by “other” injuries (22%), and cumulative injuries (11%).

**5 Year Trend: Total Claims & Average Indemnity Cost**

- 2009: $12,041.11 (25,195 claims, average cost per claim $480)
- 2010: $10,982.26 (24,947 claims, average cost per claim $433)
- 2011: $10,260.08 (24,466 claims, average cost per claim $421)
- 2012: $11,272.00 (24,412 claims, average cost per claim $462)
- 2013: $11,379.04 (24,615 claims, average cost per claim $455)
Traumatic Injuries: Of the 24,615 total claims filed, 90% workers sustained traumatic injuries in 2013: 46 of these injuries were strains, 12% were fractures, and 11% were sprains. There were also 262 workers who suffered amputations.

Wounds, Bruises, and Burns: Approximately 48% of workers in this category suffered contusions 30% sustained lacerations, and 13% sustained crushing injuries or burns.

Multiple Traumatic Injuries: There were 2,058 workers with multiple injuries and disorders, including 293 concussions.

Non-Traumatic Disorders and other: There were 1,224 non-traumatic disorders. 63% of injured workers in this category suffered from carpal tunnel syndrome or cumulative disorders.

Non-Traumatic Disease: Out of 1,091 claims filed in this category, 57% were diagnosed with hernias, and 28% suffered hearing loss.

Nature of Injury 2013

Nature of Injury

County of Injury

Part of Body Injured
Injuries occurred most frequently to the upper extremities (34%), with shoulder & wrist injured most, followed by lower extremities (24%), and trunk (10%)

Multiple disc injuries were the most expensive category, costing an average of $40,369 indemnity paid per claim

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