

INJURY/DISEASE FACTS, OREGON, 2003

- ◆ The two industries with the highest claims rates were transportation and public utilities and the construction industry, both at 3.0. The mining industry followed with 2.3. The finance, insurance, and real estate industry had the lowest rate (0.4).
- ◆ Occupational diseases comprised 13.6 percent of the accepted disabling claims.
- ◆ Of the total 21,832 claims accepted as disabling, 134 were for workers younger than eighteen; 357 were for workers 65 or older. The average age of claimants in 2003 was 40.
- ◆ Claims filed by women totaled 7,115 (32.6 percent).
- ◆ The average weekly wage at time of injury for 2003 claimants was \$544.32. The average weekly wage for Oregon workers, excluding federal employees, was \$656.04.
- ◆ Workers in their first year with an employer filed 7,272 claims, 33.3 percent of the total accepted in 2003.
- ◆ Ninety percent of the accepted disabling claims came from private industry.
- ◆ Vehicles were the most common secondary source of injury in 2003, contributing in 749 claims.

OREGON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION (OR-OSHA)

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (OR-OSHA) offers a wide range of services to Oregon's employers and workers to improve workplace safety and health:

- Consultations
- Education/Conferences
- Technical resources and film library
- Educational grants
- Hazard abatement assistance

For more information, contact:

OR-OSHA

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Visit the DCBS Web site: <http://oregon.gov/DCBS>
Select the "Statistical Reports" link for additional claims data and statistical reports, or call (503) 378-8254.

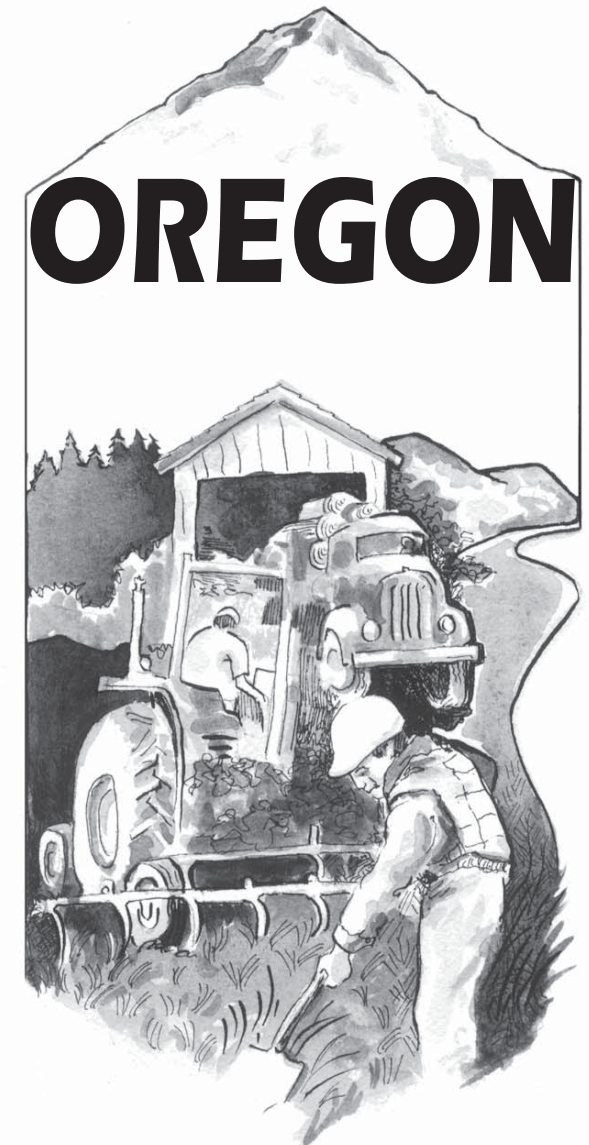
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER & BUSINESS SERVICES

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS SECTION



WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS CHARACTERISTICS

CALENDAR YEAR

2003

The Workers' Compensation Division received 21,832 accepted disabling claims in 2003, a decrease of 1,650 claims from 2002. Employment decreased by 13,600 workers. This resulted in a claims rate of 1.4 claims per 100 workers. This claims rate is a record low in Oregon.

ACCEPTED DISABLING CLAIMS 1993-2003

Year	W.C. covered employment	Disabling claims	Claims rates	Fatal cases
1993	1,317,100	30,741	2.3	64
1994	1,378,800	31,530	2.3	55
1995	1,431,600	30,564	2.1	48
1996	1,487,300	28,389	1.9	54
1997	1,547,800	27,922	1.8	43
1998	1,576,100	27,049	1.7	52
1999	1,602,700	25,802	1.6	47
2000	1,627,600	25,365	1.6	45
2001	1,617,000	24,645	1.5	34
2002	1,597,100	23,482	1.5	52
2003	1,583,500	21,832	1.4	41

Note: Employment figures based on data from Oregon Employment Dept. Claims rates represent the number of claims per 100 workers. Disabling claims include fatal cases.

Of the 41 work-related fatalities recorded in 2003, 38 of the victims were men and three were women. The youngest was a 16-year-old camp counselor. The oldest was a 75-year-old logger.

OREGON INDUSTRIES by percent of 2003 workers' comp. claims



Note: Excludes 8 claims in which the industry was not reported. Because of rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

CLAIMS CHARACTERISTICS

NATURE of injury or disease	2003 claims	Percent of total
Sprains, strains, tears	10,616	48.6%
Fractures	2,425	11.1%
Bruises, contusions	1,275	5.8%
Musculoskeletal disease	1,148	5.3%
Dislocations	994	4.6%
Cuts, lacerations	968	4.4%
Multiple injuries	831	3.8%
Hernias	637	2.9%
Carpal tunnel syndrome	628	2.9%
Both injury and illness	488	2.2%

Sprains or strains of the back were the most common injury in 2003, accounting for 4,400 claims — or 20.2 percent — of the 21,832 claims accepted as disabling. Most sprains, strains, or tears resulted from workers overexerting themselves.

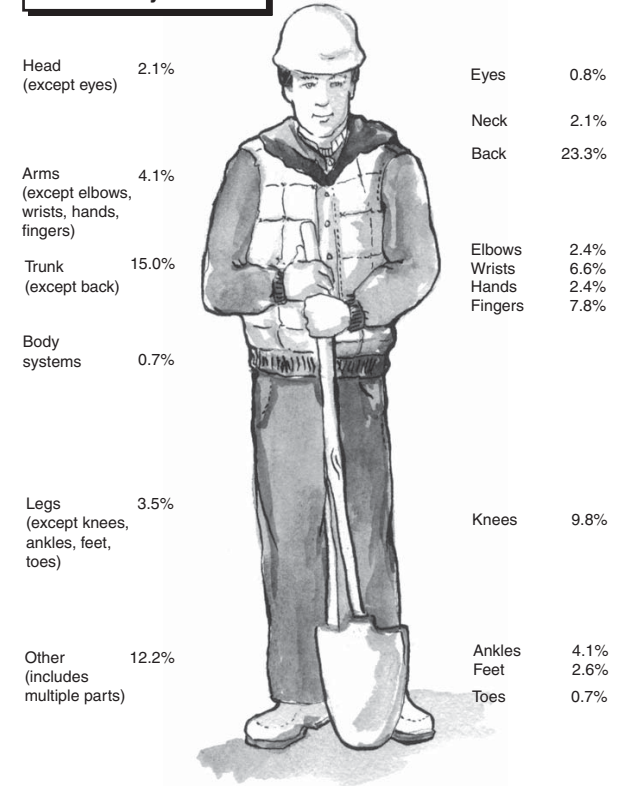
EVENT resulting in injury	2003 claims	Percent of total
Overexertion	5,634	25.8%
Struck by or against	2,985	13.7%
Bodily reaction	2,811	12.9%
Fall on same level	2,303	10.5%
Repetitive motion	2,029	9.3%
Fall from elevation	1,505	6.9%
Caught in, under, between	969	4.4%
Hwy motor vehicle accident	695	3.2%
Exposure to caustic, allergenic subst.	236	1.1%
Assault or violent acts	233	1.1%

Overexertion with containers accounted for 1,800 accepted disabling claims. Machinery was a factor in nearly half of the claims in which the worker was caught in or between objects.

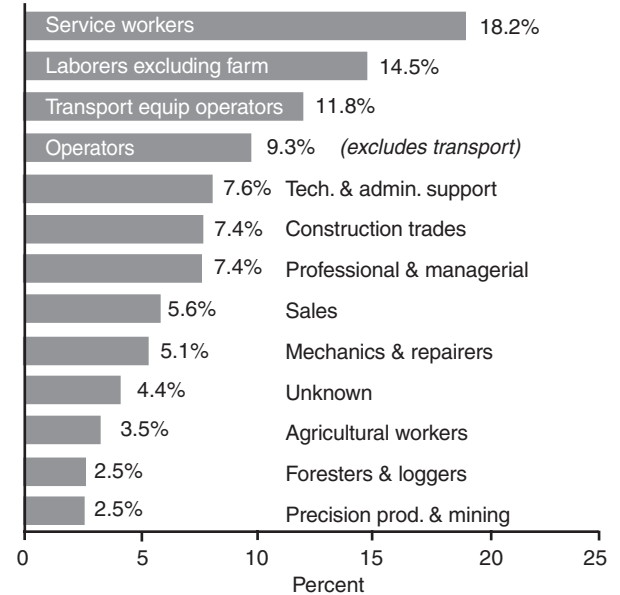
SOURCE of injury or disease	2003 claims	Percent of total
Bodily condition, motion	4,876	22.3%
Floors, walks, ground	3,481	15.9%
Containers	2,224	10.2%
Vehicles	1,809	8.3%
Machinery	1,318	6.0%
Other person	1,015	4.6%
Hand tools	756	3.5%
Furniture, fixtures	754	3.5%
Building materials	638	2.9%
Wood, lumber	398	1.8%

Workers coming into contact with the ground or a floor surface most often sustained sprains, fractures, and/or bruising (2,832 claims). These injuries are typical for falls or tripping accidents.

Part of Body Affected:



OCCUPATION OF INJURED OREGON WORKERS by percent of 2003 workers' comp. claims



Note: Because of rounding, percents may not sum to 100.