

## INJURY/DISEASE FACTS, OREGON, 2007

- ◆ Occupational diseases comprised 10.6 percent of the accepted disabling claims.
- ◆ Workers in their first year with an employer filed 7,792 claims, 33.3 percent of the total accepted in 2007.
- ◆ Of the total 23,433 accepted disabling claims, 156 were for workers younger than 18 and 511 were for workers 65 or older. The average age of claimants in 2007 was 41.
- ◆ Claims filed by women totaled 7,874 (33.6 percent).
- ◆ The average weekly wage at time of injury for 2007 claimants was \$602.43. The average weekly wage for Oregon workers, excluding federal employees, was \$753.72.
- ◆ Eighty-nine percent of the accepted disabling claims came from private industry.
- ◆ Claims tend to be centered on areas of the state with dense population. The Portland metropolitan area (Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties) had 41.3 percent of all accepted disabling claims in 2007.

### OREGON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION (Oregon OSHA)

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

- Consultations
- Education/Conferences
- Technical resources, publications, and video/DVD library
- Educational grants
- Hazard abatement assistance

For more information, contact:  
Oregon OSHA

350 Winter St. NE, Rm. 430

P.O. Box 14480

Salem, OR 97309-0405

503-378-3272 or 800-922-2689

[www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org)

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Department of Consumer & Business Services  
Information Management Division  
350 Winter St. NE, Rm. 300  
P.O. Box 14480  
Salem, OR 97309-0405

# Workers' Compensation Claims Characteristics

## Calendar Year 2007



DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSUMER  
& BUSINESS  
SERVICES  
Information Management Division

The Workers' Compensation Division received notification of 23,433 accepted disabling claims in 2007, an increase of 62 claims from 2006. Employment increased by 29,700 workers. This resulted in a claims rate of 1.3 claims per 100 workers. This claims rate is a slight increase from the record low rate reached in 2005.

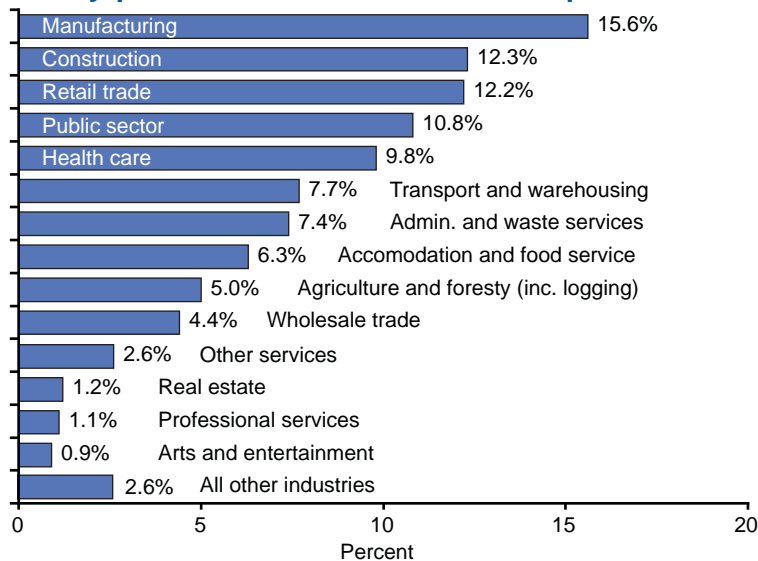
### ACCEPTED DISABLING CLAIMS 1998-2007

Year	W.C. covered employment	Disabling claims	Claims rates	Fatal cases
1998	1,576,100	27,020	1.7	52
1999	1,602,700	25,769	1.6	47
2000	1,627,600	25,326	1.6	45
2001	1,616,400	24,608	1.5	34
2002	1,596,100	23,464	1.5	52
2003	1,585,800	21,823	1.4	41
2004	1,630,500	22,321	1.4	45
2005	1,677,500	22,113	1.3	31
2006	1,727,100	23,371	1.4	37
2007	1,756,800	23,433	1.3	35

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.

In 2007, there were 87 years separating the oldest and youngest claimants. The youngest was a 10-year-old farm laborer. The oldest was an 97-year-old sales worker.

### OREGON INDUSTRIES by percent of 2007 workers' comp. claims



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

### CLAIMS CHARACTERISTICS

NATURE of injury or disease	2007 claims	Percent of total
Sprains, strains, tears	10,940	46.7%
Fractures	2,848	12.2%
Multiple injuries	1,694	7.2%
Bruises, contusions	1,396	6.0%
Both injury and illness	1,118	4.8%
Cuts, lacerations	1,008	4.3%
Musculoskeletal disease	981	4.2%
Dislocations	766	3.3%
Hernias	602	2.6%
Carpal tunnel syndrome	372	1.6%

Sprains or strains of the back were the most common injury in 2007, accounting for 4,331 claims — or 18.5 percent — of the 23,433 accepted disabling claims. Most sprains, strains, or tears resulted from workers overexerting themselves.

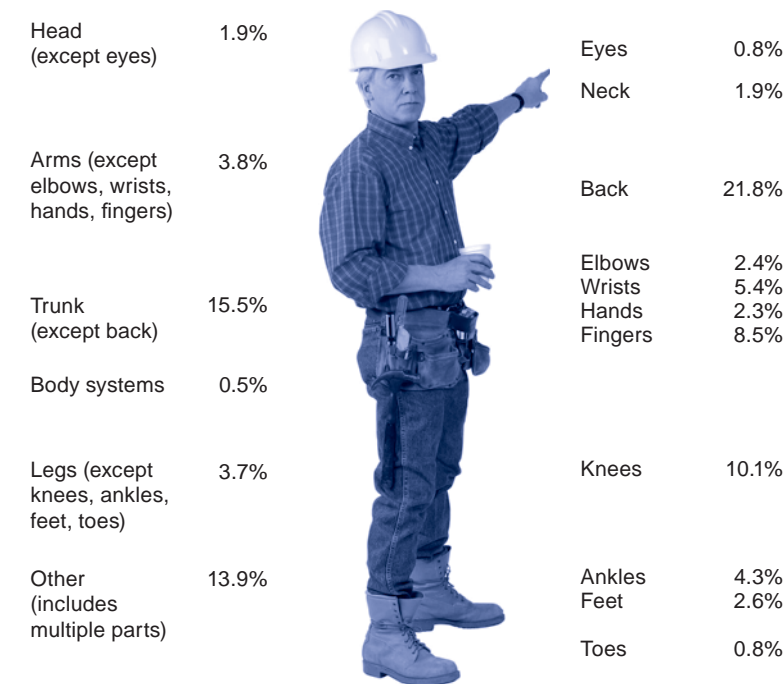
EVENT resulting in injury	2007 claims	Percent of total
Overexertion	5,658	24.2%
Struck by or against	3,356	14.3%
Bodily reaction	3,010	12.9%
Fall on same level	2,757	11.8%
Repetitive motion	2,190	9.4%
Fall from elevation	1,574	6.7%
Caught in, under, between	957	4.1%
Highway motor vehicle accident	685	2.9%
Assault or violent acts	340	1.5%
Exposure to caustic, allergenic substance	223	1.0%

Overexertion with containers accounted for 1,609 accepted disabling claims. Machinery was a factor in nearly half of the claims in which the worker was caught in or between objects.

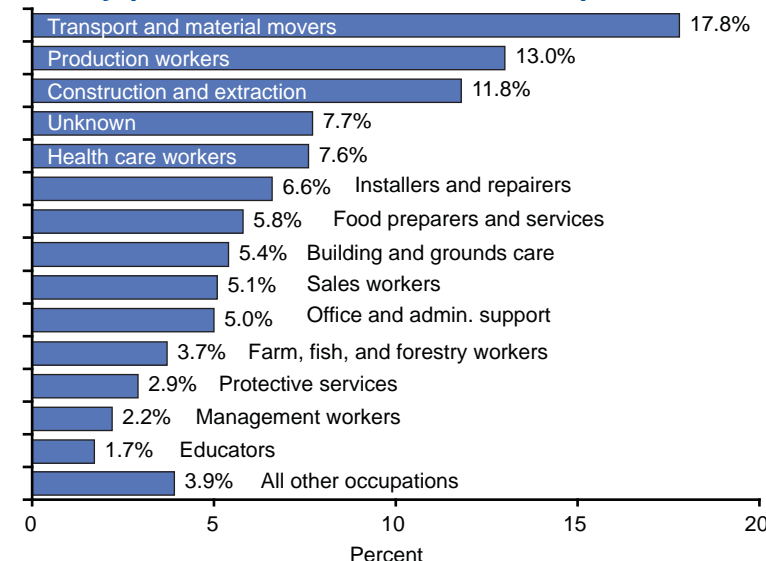
SOURCE of injury or disease	2007 claims	Percent of total
Bodily condition, motion	5,229	22.3%
Floors, walks, ground	3,956	16.9%
Containers	2,120	9.1%
Vehicles	1,740	7.4%
Machinery	1,330	5.7%
Other person	1,188	5.1%
Hand tools	822	3.5%
Furniture, fixtures	755	3.2%
Building materials	708	3.0%
Wood, lumber	424	1.8%

Workers coming into contact with the ground or a floor surface most often sustained sprains, fractures, and/or bruising (3,110 claims). These injuries are typical for falls or tripping accidents.

### Part of Body Affected:



### OCCUPATION OF INJURED OREGON WORKERS by percent of 2007 workers' comp. claims



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