

INJURY/DISEASE FACTS, OREGON, 2008

- ▶ Occupational diseases comprised 9.7 percent of the accepted disabling claims.
- ▶ Workers in their first year with an employer filed 6,580 claims, 30.4 percent of the total accepted in 2008.
- ▶ Of the total 21,660 accepted disabling claims, 112 were for workers younger than 18 and 462 were for workers 65 or older. The average age of claimants in 2008 was 41.
- ▶ Claims filed by women totaled 7,495 (34.6 percent).
- ▶ The average weekly wage at time of injury for 2008 claimants was \$623.65. The average weekly wage for Oregon workers, excluding federal employees, was \$771.14.
- ▶ Eighty-eight 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 41.2 percent of all accepted disabling claims in 2008.

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
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For more information, contact:
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503-378-3272 or 800-922-2689

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Workers' Compensation Claims Characteristics

Calendar Year 2008

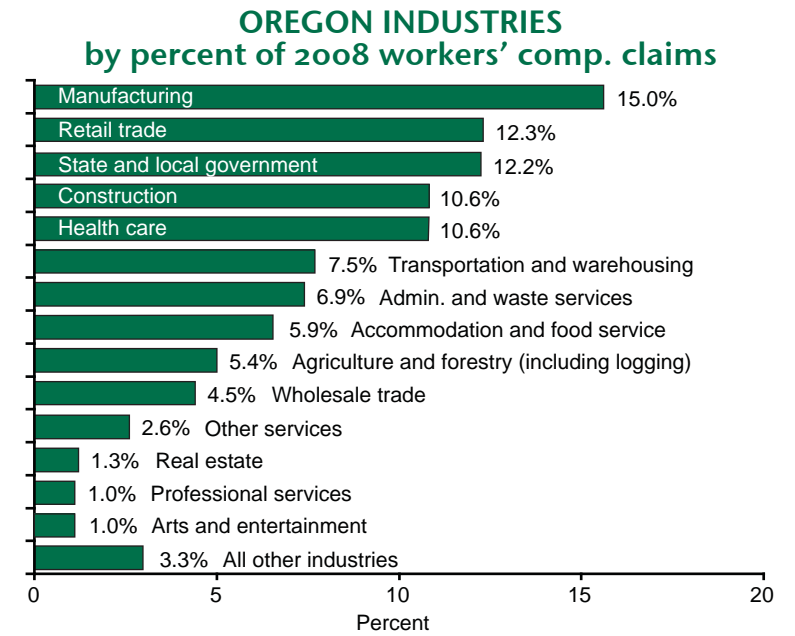


The Workers' Compensation Division received notification of 21,660 accepted disabling claims in 2008, a decrease of 1,773 claims from 2007. Employment decreased by 13,700 workers. This resulted in a claims rate of 1.2 claims per 100 workers, and a record low claims rate in 2008.

ACCEPTED DISABLING CLAIMS 1999-2008				
Year	W.C. covered employment	Disabling claims	Claims rates	Fatal cases
1999	1,602,700	25,769	1.6	47
2000	1,627,600	25,325	1.6	45
2001	1,616,400	24,607	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	22,320	1.4	45
2005	1,677,500	22,111	1.3	31
2006	1,734,400	23,370	1.3	37
2007	1,762,700	23,431	1.3	35
2008	1,749,000	21,660	1.2	45

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 2008, there were 73 years separating the oldest and youngest claimants. The youngest was a 14-year-old camp counselor. The oldest was an 87-year-old office worker.



Note: Excludes 68 claims in which the industry was not reported. Because of rounding, percents may not sum to 100.

CLAIMS CHARACTERISTICS		
NATURE of injury or disease (Top 10)	2008 claims	Percent of total
Sprains, strains, tears	10,135	46.8%
Fractures	2,590	12.0%
Multiple injuries	1,675	7.7%
Both injury and illness	1,309	6.0%
Bruises, contusions	1,194	5.5%
Cuts, lacerations	844	3.9%
Musculoskeletal disease	837	3.9%
Dislocations	700	3.2%
Hernias	528	2.4%
Open wounds, other	284	1.3%

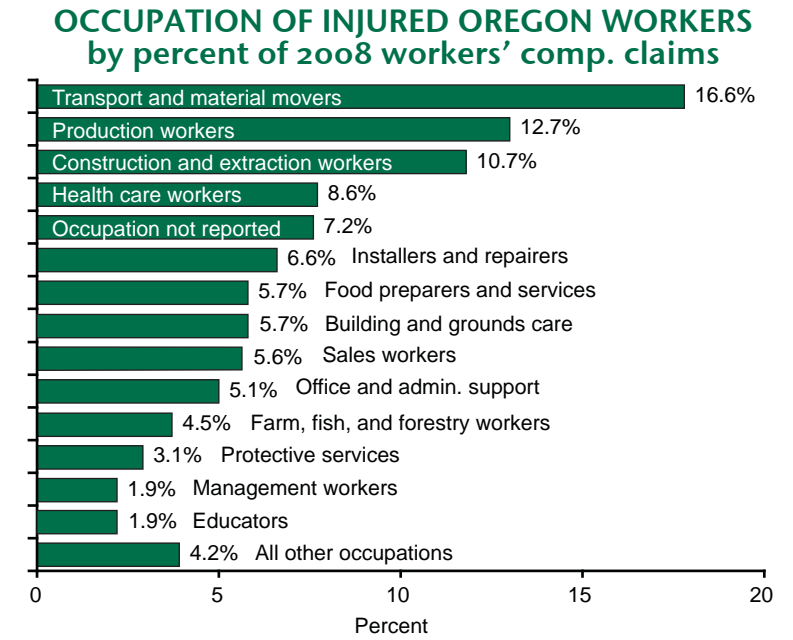
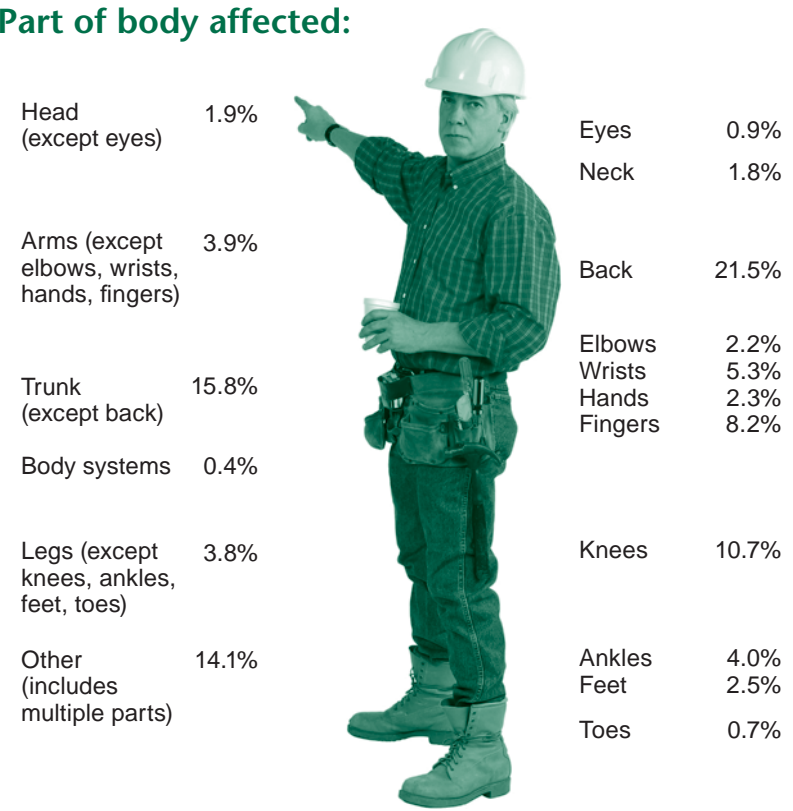
Sprains or strains of the back were the most common injury in 2008, accounting for 3,893 claims — or 18.3 percent — of the 21,660 accepted disabling claims. Most sprains, strains, or tears resulted from workers overexerting themselves.

EVENT resulting in injury (Top 10)	2008 claims	Percent of total
Overexertion	5,155	23.8%
Struck by or against	2,997	13.8%
Bodily reaction	2,959	13.7%
Fall on same level	2,633	12.2%
Repetitive motion	2,129	9.8%
Fall from elevation	1,423	6.6%
Caught in, under, between	827	3.8%
Highway motor vehicle accident	627	2.9%
Assault or violent acts	370	1.7%
Contact with temperature extremes	202	0.9%

Overexertion with containers accounted for 1,394 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 (Top 10)	2008 claims	Percent of total
Bodily condition, motion	5,105	23.6%
Floors, walks, ground	3,777	17.4%
Containers	1,836	8.5%
Vehicles	1,642	7.6%
Machinery	1,191	5.5%
Other person	1,188	5.5%
Hand tools	759	3.5%
Furniture and fixtures	685	3.2%
Building materials, excluding lumber	599	2.8%
Wood and lumber	283	1.3%

Workers coming into contact with the ground or a floor surface most often sustained sprains, fractures, and/or bruising (2,937 claims). These injuries are typical for falls or tripping accidents.



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