

Table 1. Average temporary disability days and claim costs paid for resolved accepted disabling claims by resolution year, Oregon, 1996-2009

Resolution year	Claims resolved	Median temporary disability days	Mean temporary disability days	Average claim costs	Medical services	Indemnity	Temporary disability costs	PPD	CDA	DCS	Vocational assistance
1996	29,091	17	63	\$11,820	\$4,550	\$7,260	\$3,230	\$2,100	\$1,390	\$270	\$280
1997	27,602	16	57	11,140	4,270	6,880	2,980	2,020	1,370	270	230
1998	26,776	17	56	11,280	4,420	6,860	3,030	2,060	1,280	280	210
1999	25,350	18	56	11,920	4,780	7,140	3,140	2,130	1,390	310	170
2000	24,654	17	55	12,710	5,290	7,420	3,240	2,180	1,440	350	200
2001	24,159	18	57	13,080	5,290	7,780	3,460	2,290	1,460	360	210
2002	23,007	19	60	14,860	6,100	8,760	3,790	2,530	1,740	490	210
2003	21,583	19	61	15,490	6,470	9,010	3,950	2,630	1,750	460	210
2004	21,684	19	62	16,400	7,030	9,370	4,060	2,750	1,860	480	220
2005	21,380	20	64	16,730	7,040	9,690	4,190	2,870	1,910	460	260
2006	22,529	20	62	16,620	7,120	9,500	4,140	2,620	2,090	420	220
2007	23,232	20	63	17,520	7,600	9,920	4,390	2,640	2,140	490	250
2008	22,400	21	67	18,980	7,920	11,060	4,820	2,810	2,610	570	250
2009	20,865	27	79	\$22,570	\$9,550	\$13,020	\$5,780	\$3,310	\$2,910	\$720	\$300

Footnotes on following page

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Footnotes:

Accepted disabling claims are claims, accepted by insurers, arising from occupational injuries or diseases that entitle workers to compensation for disability or death. Fatality and permanent total disability (PTD) claims and their associated costs are excluded from this analysis.

Claims are reported by the year of claim resolution, which is the year of the latest notice of claim closure, determination order, or claim disposition agreement. This may be different than the year of injury or year of claim acceptance.

PPD = Permanent partial disability; CDA = Claim disposition agreement; DCS = Disputed claim settlement.

Claim cost is the composite of medical and indemnity costs. The components of indemnity are temporary disability, PPD, CDA, DCS, and vocational assistance. Reported cost statistics are means, unless otherwise specified. Costs have been rounded, and components may not sum to composite averages. In addition, due to the estimation process, conclusions should not be drawn for rows with a small number of claims.

Average costs for the indemnity components are computed over the total claims resolved. The temporary disability days and dollars include estimates of temporary disability for claims with claim disposition agreements prior to claim closure. Insurers do not report this data to the department. Indemnity costs incurred after claim closure that were paid through mid-May 2010 are also included in this table. This primarily includes permanent partial disability modified by dispute resolution, disputed claim settlements, and vocational assistance costs. These costs after resolution generally increase over time. Worker, employer, and insurer reimbursements from the Workers' Benefit Fund are also excluded.

Medical costs are reported at the time of claim resolution for approximately 88 percent of claims. The average medical costs of claims without data (mostly CDAs) are assumed to be the same as those with reported data. Medical costs after claim resolution, which are often substantial, are not included in this report.

Data in this table will change. The claim counts will change as claims are reopened and resolved. Also, as mentioned above, post-closure costs will increase over time. However, if past trends continue, then the temporary disability days and costs for the most recent year will decline as claims are reopened and then closed in future years.

Source: Information Management Division, Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, June 2010