

Table 1. Average temporary disability days and claim costs paid for resolved accepted disabling claims by resolution year, Oregon, 1996-2010

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	28,603	16	59	\$11,240	\$4,460	\$6,780	\$2,970	\$2,040	\$1,230	\$290	\$250
1997	27,417	15	56	11,070	4,290	6,780	2,900	2,030	1,340	280	230
1998	26,729	16	55	11,310	4,530	6,780	2,990	2,040	1,240	320	190
1999	25,289	17	55	12,040	4,910	7,130	3,090	2,100	1,390	370	180
2000	24,392	16	53	12,830	5,540	7,290	3,140	2,180	1,420	360	190
2001	24,202	18	57	13,730	5,620	8,110	3,560	2,370	1,580	390	220
2002	22,699	18	61	15,030	6,300	8,730	3,900	2,510	1,650	450	220
2003	21,452	19	60	15,510	6,620	8,890	3,860	2,610	1,750	460	220
2004	21,574	19	61	16,500	7,130	9,370	4,070	2,750	1,830	470	250
2005	21,139	20	63	17,420	7,690	9,730	4,140	2,900	1,960	450	280
2006	22,316	20	60	17,230	7,800	9,430	4,070	2,670	2,030	400	250
2007	23,023	19	61	18,000	8,170	9,830	4,250	2,640	2,150	510	280
2008	21,989	21	65	19,340	8,520	10,820	4,700	2,730	2,550	550	290
2009	19,940	25	75	22,230	9,930	12,290	5,460	3,010	2,870	640	310
2010	18,526	24	77	\$22,720	\$10,540	\$12,180	\$5,690	\$3,110	\$2,520	\$570	\$280

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 claims, permanent total disability (PTD) claims, claims with no indemnity, and claims with unreasonably high indemnity, as well as 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 for initial claim openings. 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. 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 initial claims resolved by claim disposition agreements rather than claim closure. Insurers do not report this data to the department. Indemnity costs incurred after claim closure that were paid through mid-April 2011 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 include estimates for initial claims resolved by claim disposition agreement rather than claim closure. 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, July 2011