

2019 Wisconsin Work Injury Claims

Worker's Compensation Division

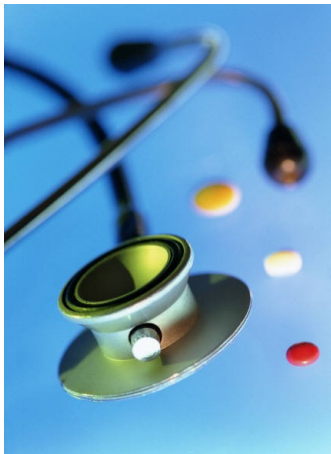
These reports are based off data provided by the Worker's Compensation Division and their Information Claims Management System. Claims included in this analysis are indemnity-only and the amounts paid are only indemnity. They do not include claims denied, under investigation, non-compensable, or no lost time. They include closed claims and claims in litigation when the reports were run.

The WC Division started accepting First Reports of Injury (FROI) via our Electronic Data Interchange program on October 30th, 1997, and then via our Pending Reports Internet application on October 25th, 2001. Starting September 1st, 2005 FROIs were required to be reported to us electronically via either method. It should be noted that for electronically reported FROIs the codes for gender, body part, cause of injury, nature of injury and county where injury occurred are accepted into our database as they are sent to us, without any vetting or accuracy examination by WC staff.



KEY FIGURES FOR 2019:

- **19,753 TOTAL CLAIMS FILED**
- **\$207.9 MILLION TOTAL INDEMNITY PAID OUT**
- **\$190.1 MILLION INDEMNITY SPENT ON TRAUMATIC INJURIES**
- **\$10,523.54 AVERAGE INDEMNITY COST PER CLAIM**



Leading Cause of Injuries

In 2019, Wisconsin workers sustained 6,915 strains and 5,973 falls/slips. There were 2,141 workers injured by being struck by an object or person and 1,310 workers injured by miscellaneous causes.

Strains: The most frequent types of strain injuries were due to lifting (36%), not otherwise classified (20%), and pushing/pulling (16%).

Falls and Slips: Falls not otherwise classified comprised 27% of falls, followed by falls due to ice/show (25%), falls on same level (19%), and falls from a different level (9%).

Struck or Injured by: Thirty-one percent of workers in this category were struck by falling or flying objects, 19% by objects lifted or handled by worker, 15% struck by something not otherwise classified, and 13% struck by a co-worker or patient.

Miscellaneous: This category includes 9 publishable subcategories, such as repetitive motion, foreign body in eye, or electrocution. **Forty-three percent** of miscellaneous injuries were caused by repetitive motion, followed by "other" injuries (25%), and cumulative injuries (10%).

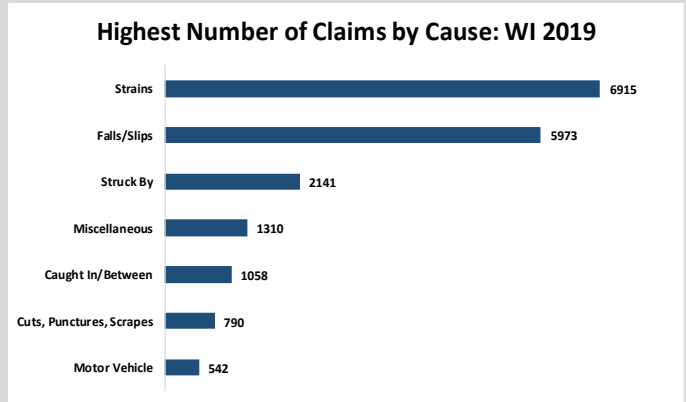
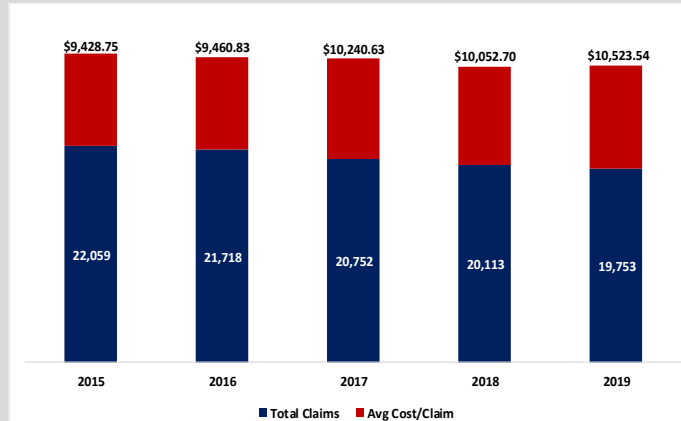


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5 Year Trend: Total Claims & Average Indemnity Cost





NUMBER OF CLAIMS

- 6,804 STRAINS
- 2,433 FRACTURES
- 2,041 SPRAINS
- 574 RUPTURES
- 476 CONCUSSIONS
- 398 HERNIAS
- 315 DISLOCATIONS
- 212 HEARING LOSS
- 207 CARPAL TUNNEL



Part of Body Injured

Injuries to the upper extremities were most frequent (38%), with shoulders accounting for over one-third of that category, followed by lower extremities (26%), and trunk (19%). Neck injury was the most expensive category, averaging \$18,850 per claim, with disc injuries averaging \$35,212 as the highest subcategory.

For more information
visit our website:
www.dwd.wi.gov/wc/

Nature of Injury

Traumatic Injuries: Of the 19,753 total claims filed, 17,815 were noted as traumatic injuries and 69% of those traumas were to bones, nerves, spinal cord, muscles, joints, etc. in 2019: 55% of these traumatic injuries were strains, 20% were fractures, and 17% were sprains. There were also 178 amputation claims.

Wounds, Bruises, and Burns:

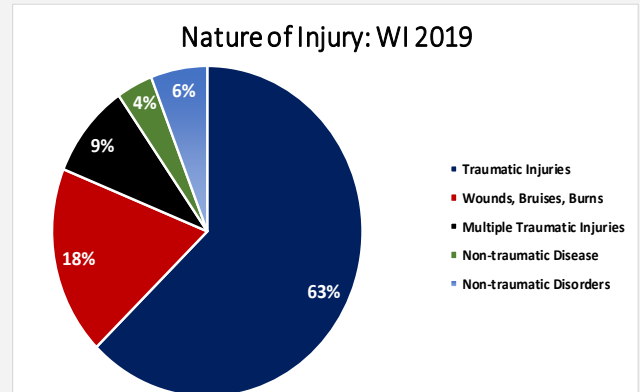
Approximately 54% of workers in this category suffered contusions, 25% sustained lacerations, 8% sustained crushing injuries, and 7% sustained burns.

Multiple Traumatic Injuries: There were 1,815 workers with multiple injuries and disorders; 39% were not otherwise classified.

Non-Traumatic Disease:

Out of 745 claims filed in this category, 53% were diagnosed with hernias, and 28% suffered hearing loss.

Non-Traumatic Disorders and other: There were 1,162 non-traumatic disorders. Fifty-five percent of injured workers in this category suffered from carpal tunnel syndrome or cumulative disorders.



County of Injury

