



WORKERS' COMPENSATION

IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA




2014/15 to 2017/18

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

A workers' compensation and injury
management scheme that works for all



Scheme and Corporate Services Division
Business Intelligence Services
2 Bedbrook Place
Shenton Park WA 6008

 workcover.wa.gov.au
 communications@workcover.wa.gov.au
 1300 794 744
 @WorkCoverWA

WorkCover WA is the government agency responsible for overseeing the WA workers' compensation and injury management scheme. WorkCover WA undertakes a range of educational, advisory, enforcement and performance monitoring activities to ensure the WA workers' compensation scheme is fair, accessible and cost-effective for all participants.

Annual Statistical Report - 2014/15 to 2017/18
Published: August 2019

© WorkCover WA, Government of Western Australia

There is no objection to this publication being copied in whole or part, provided there is due acknowledgment of any material quoted from the publication.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION	PAGE
About This Report	4
Scheme Overview	5
Premium Rates	6
Claim Activities	9
Claim Management	17
Disputes	21
Scheme Exits	24
Claimant Characteristics	29
Injury/Disease Attributes	38
Glossary	44
Disclaimer	48



ABOUT THIS REPORT

Purpose of report

WorkCover WA's annual statistical report is designed to provide stakeholders with an understanding of the overall activity and key trends within the workers' compensation scheme of WA. The report contains information about:

- ▲ workers' compensation premium rates
- ▲ claim activities (numbers and payments)
- ▲ claim management
- ▲ disputes
- ▲ scheme exits
- ▲ claimant characteristics
- ▲ injury and disease attributes.

Where does the data come from?

WorkCover WA collects data from approved insurers and self-insurers about all workers' compensation claims lodged in the WA scheme. This includes data from all current and former approved insurers, self-insurers and the Insurance Commission of Western Australia as at 31 January 2019.

WorkCover WA applies national classification standards to claims data supplied by insurers to obtain information about injury and disease attributes, industries where injuries and diseases occurred, and occupations of claimants.

Timeframe and standards of data



AVERAGE PREMIUM RATES

- ▲ Average recommended premium rates data is reported between 2010/11 and 2019/20.
- ▲ Average actual premium rates data is reported between 2008/09 and 2017/18.



CLAIM STATISTICS

- ▲ Claims data is reported between 2014/15 and 2017/18 for both finalised and unfinalised claims.
- ▲ As claims develop over time, there is a higher proportion of unfinalised claims in the most recent financial year (2017/18p). The 'p' indicates preliminary data for this year.
- ▲ Claim statistics are derived from data supplied by insurers and self-insurers in accordance with the Q2 specification found on WorkCover WA's website.



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

- ▲ Data is reported between 2014/15 and 2017/18 for lost-time claims only.
- ▲ Industry classification is based on the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification* (ANZSIC) system 2006 published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- ▲ Occupational classification is based on the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations* (ANZSCO) published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.



INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

- ▲ Data is reported between 2014/15 and 2017/18 for lost-time claims only.
- ▲ Injury/disease attributes data is classified according to *Type of Occurrence Classification System* (TOOCS) 3rd edition published by Australian Safety and Compensation Council.



SCHEME OVERVIEW

In 2017/18, there were 28,307 claims lodged within the WA workers' compensation scheme, which comprised of 26,867 work-related injury and disease claims, 84 asbestos-related disease and journey claims and 1,356 disallowed claims.



2017/18

WORK-RELATED INJURY AND DISEASE CLAIMS

For the purposes of this report, only work-related injury and disease claims are reported.



26,867

Work-related injury & disease claims

>

11,530

NO LOST-TIME CLAIMS



Claims with treatment and expenses only

43%



84

Asbestos-related diseases & journey claims

15,337

LOST-TIME CLAIMS

57%

Claims with an absence of a day/shift or more off work



10%

DISEASE CLAIMS

90%

INJURY CLAIMS



1,356

Disallowed claims



PREMIUM RATES

Every year, WorkCover WA determines the recommended premium rates, taking into account the latest available data on claims experience provided by insurers, as well as broader economic factors, such as movements in wages, employment rate, interest rates and inflation.



RECOMMENDED PREMIUM RATES

2019/20

Average recommended premium rate



1.645%
of total wages



3.7%
from last year

Factors

The increase in premium rates was driven by...



increase
in claim
expenses



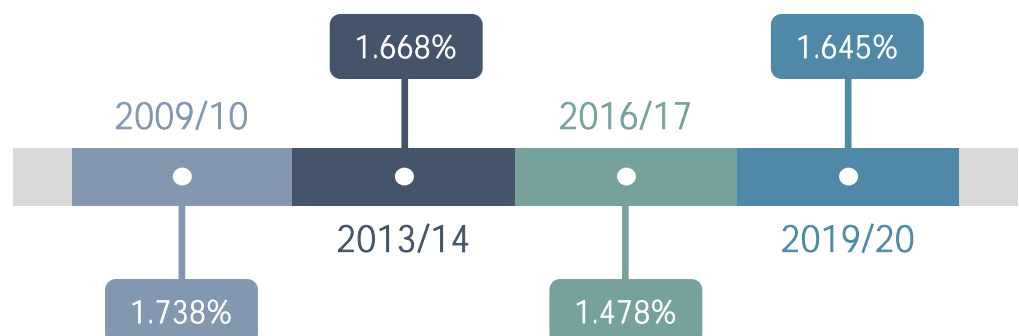
decrease
in forecasted
wages

Trends

Over a ten year period...



5.4% in average recommended premium rates





PREMIUM RATES

Recommended premium rates average percentage of wages

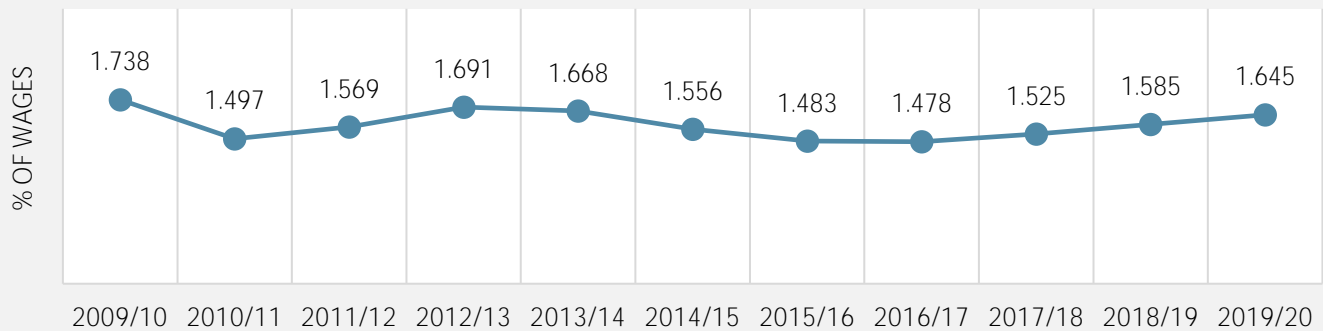
PERCENTAGE	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	4-year trend
Recommended premium rates	1.478	1.525	1.585	1.645	▲
Annual % change	-0.3%	3.2%	3.9%	3.7%	

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

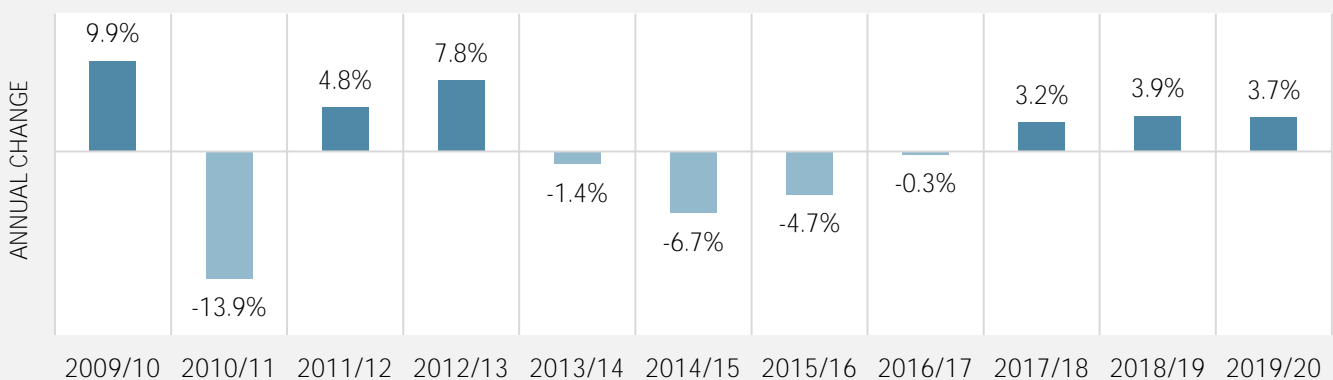


Recommended premium rates are expressed as a percentage of wages. An average premium rate of 1.65% means, on average, employers pay a premium of \$1.65 for every \$100 of wages paid to their employees.

Recommended premium rates



Recommended premium rates annual percentage change





PREMIUM RATES

Actual premium rates average percentage of wages

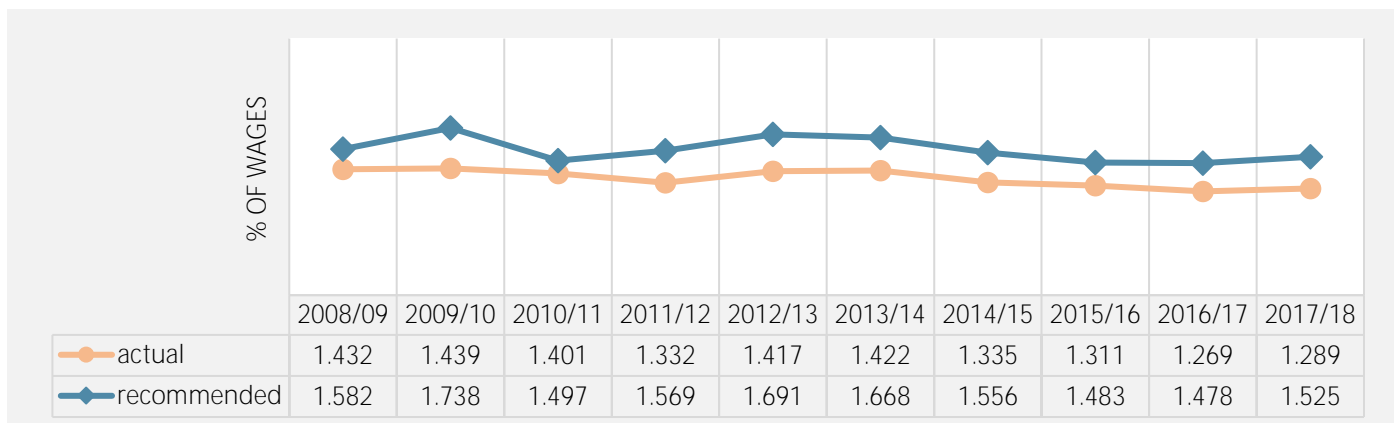
PERCENTAGE	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	4-year trend
Actual premium rates	1.335	1.311	1.269	1.289	■
Annual % change	-6.1%	-1.8%	-3.2%	1.6%	

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

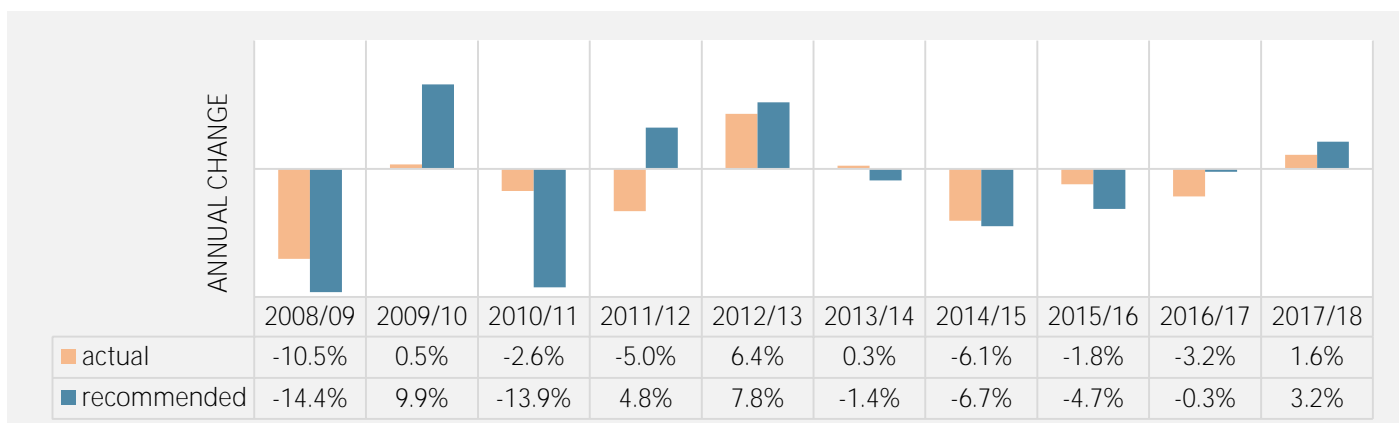


In addition to recommended premium rates, WorkCover WA annually calculates the average actual premium rate. The average actual rate is the total premiums paid as a percentage of the total wages paid by employers in a given year.

Actual premium rates vs. recommended premium rates



Actual premium rates annual percentage change





CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Between 2014/15 to 2017/18, the number of claims lodged decreased by 18% to 26,867 claims.

Claims with no lost-time fell by 27% and lost-time claims dropped by 9% over the same period.

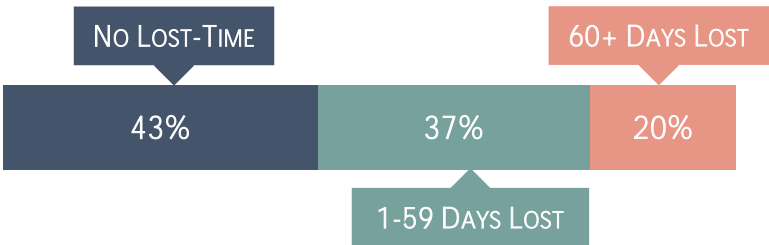
CLAIM NUMBERS



CLAIMS
lodged in 2017/18

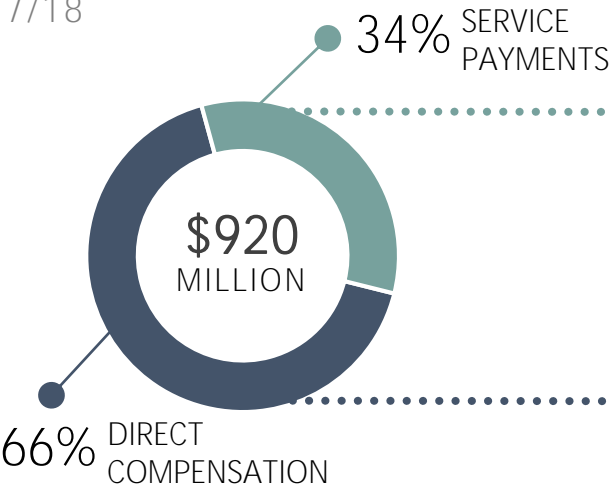


FREQUENCY RATE
claims per million hours
worked in 2017/18



PROPORTION OF CLAIMS
2017/18

CLAIM PAYMENTS 2017/18



SERVICE PAYMENTS

- 43% medical and hospital
- 27% allied health & work rehab.
- 31% legal & miscellaneous
- Total payments decreased by 4% over four years

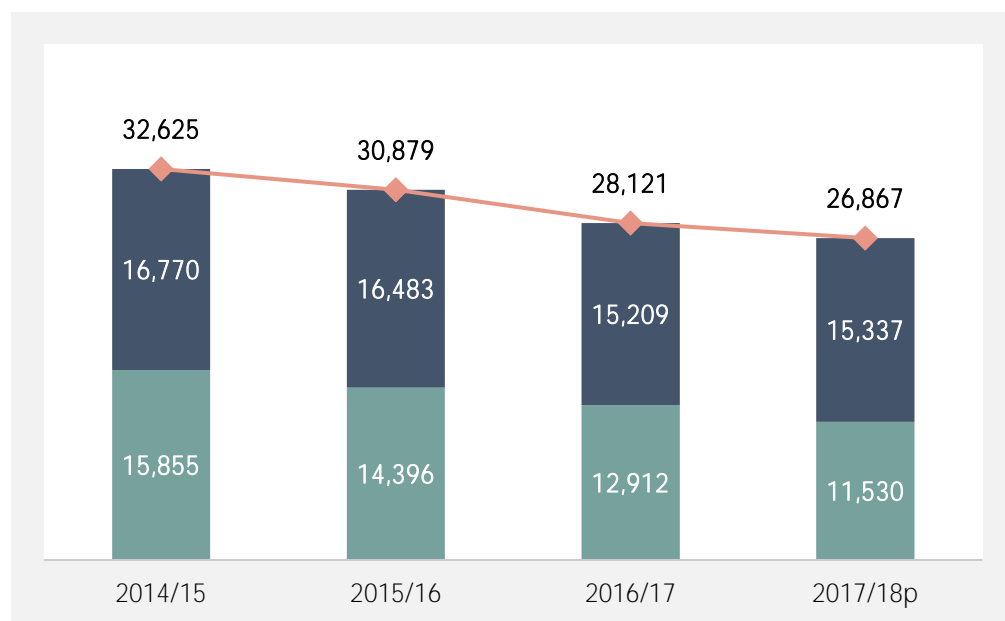
DIRECT COMPENSATION

- 57% income payment
- 43% lump sums
- Total payments decreased by 8% over four years



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Claim numbers number of claims lodged by lost-time



■ All claims

The number of claims lodged over the last four years decreased by 18% from 32,625 to 26,867 claims.

■ Lost-time claims

There has been a drop in the number of lost-time claims over the last four years, falling by 9% to 15,337 in 2017/18.

■ No lost-time claims

Claims with no time off work reduced by 27% between 2014/15 and 2017/18.

Claim numbers number of claims lodged by days lost

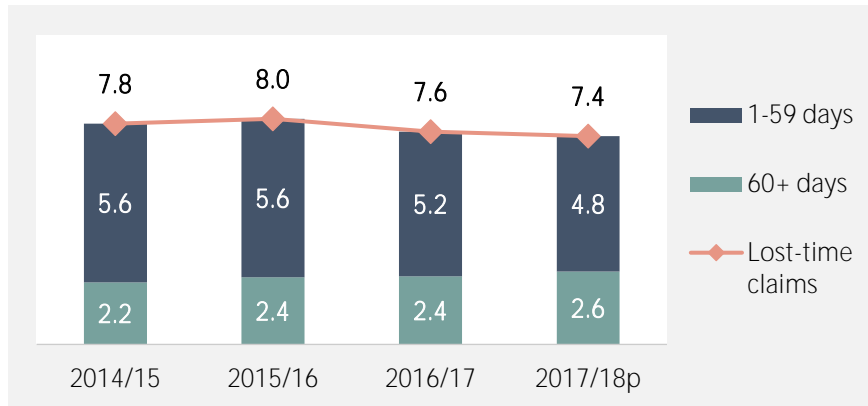
CLAIMS	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
0 days	15,855	14,396	12,912	11,530	▼
1 - 4 days	3,913	3,665	3,219	2,875	▼
5 - 19 days	4,877	4,714	4,058	4,003	▼
20 - 59 days	3,260	3,209	3,078	3,102	■
60 - 119 days	1,647	1,748	1,661	1,872	▲
120 - 179 days	856	810	817	1,134	▲
180+ days	2,217	2,337	2,376	2,351	▲
All claims	32,625	30,879	28,121	26,867	▼

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

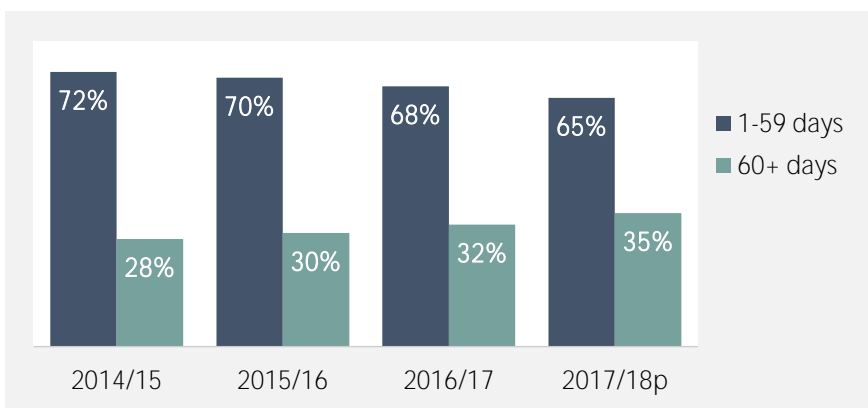
Frequency rate lost-time claims per million hours worked



 The frequency rate for lost-time claims decreased by 6%, from 7.8 in 2014/15 to 7.4 in 2017/18.

The frequency rate for claims with 1-59 days lost decreased over four years. However, the rate for claims with 60+ days lost increased over the same period.

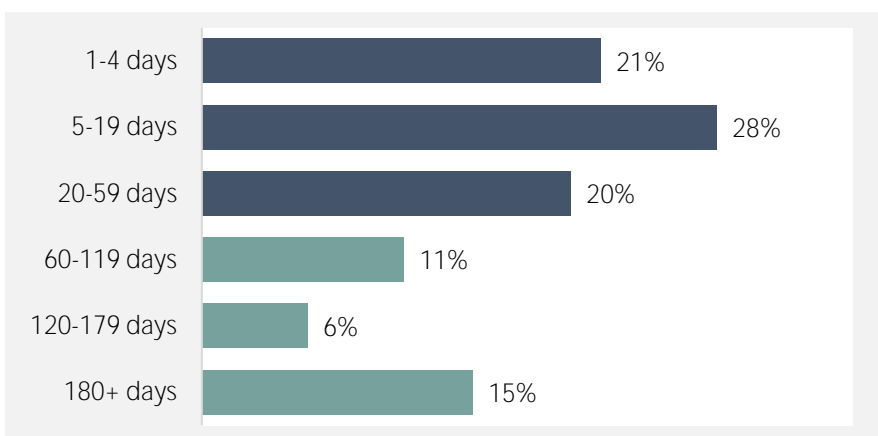
Lost-time claims by days lost




 Over the last four years, the proportion of 1-59 days lost claims to all lost-time claims reduced from 72% to 65%.

In contrast, the proportion of claims with 60+ days lost increased from 28% to 35% in the current year.

Lost-time claims 2014/15 to 2017/18p



 Within the last four years, around half of lost-time claims were for workers having less than 20 days off work.



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Claim payments unadjusted

\$MILLION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
DIRECT COMPENSATION					
Income payments	\$364.5	\$372.8	\$362.4	\$343.1	▼
Lump sums	\$268.5	\$282.9	\$274.2	\$261.9	■
SERVICE PAYMENTS					
Medical & hospital	\$134.1	\$132.5	\$132.9	\$133.0	■
Allied health	\$42.8	\$43.3	\$44.7	\$45.8	▲
Workplace rehabilitation	\$103.4	\$102.6	\$97.2	\$96.1	▼
Legal & miscellaneous	\$32.8	\$33.2	\$34.0	\$37.7	▲
Total claim payments	\$946.1	\$967.4	\$945.4	\$917.5	■

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



Claim payments (unadjusted)

Unadjusted payments do not factor in inflation and care should be taken when comparing over time.

Income replacement payments continue to be the highest payment type (37% of total claim payments) and stands at \$343.1 million in 2017/18.

Claim payments adjusted

\$MILLION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
DIRECT COMPENSATION					
Income payments	\$379.1	\$381.6	\$370.1	\$344.0	▼
Lump sums	\$279.2	\$289.6	\$280.0	\$262.6	▼
SERVICE PAYMENTS					
Medical & hospital	\$139.5	\$135.6	\$135.8	\$133.3	■
Allied health	\$44.6	\$44.4	\$45.6	\$45.9	■
Workplace rehabilitation	\$107.5	\$105.1	\$99.3	\$96.3	▼
Legal & miscellaneous	\$34.1	\$34.0	\$34.7	\$37.8	▲
Total claim payments	\$984.0	\$990.2	\$965.4	\$919.9	▼

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



Claim payments (adjusted)

Payments are adjusted for inflation to allow for meaningful comparisons over time.

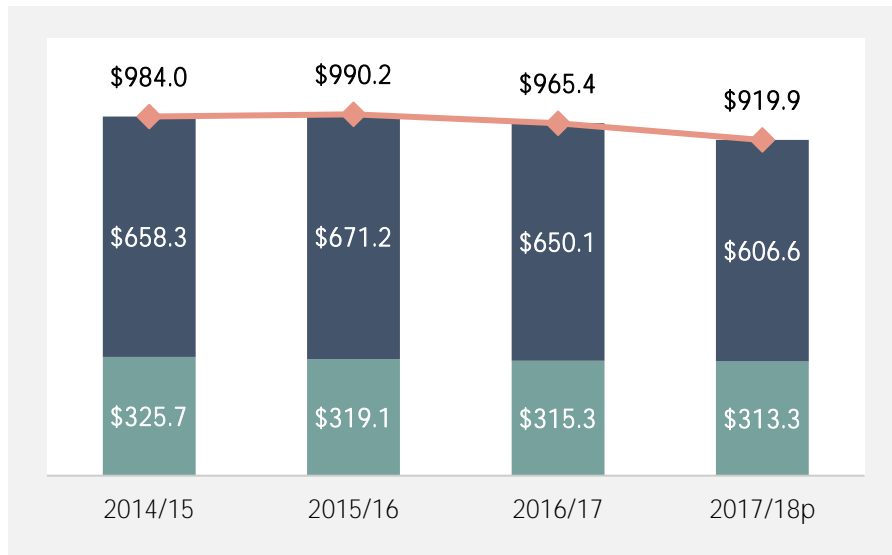
Over the last four years, total claim payments decreased by 7%, mainly driven by direct compensation to workers.

In the same period, service payments for legal and miscellaneous were the only payment groups to experience an increase (11%) between 2014/15 and 2017/18.



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Total claim payments (\$million) (adjusted) by payment group

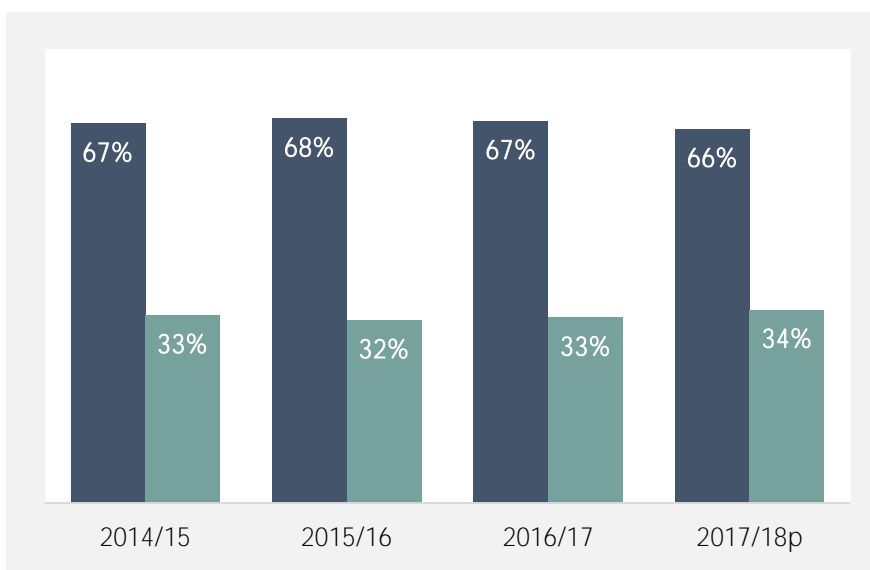


Total claim payments adjusted for inflation decreased over the last four years (2014/15 to 2017/18).

Direct compensation payments made directly to the worker (either by income replacement or lump sums) decreased by 8% since 2014/15.

Service payments decreased by 4% over the last four years to \$313.3 million.

Total claim payments proportions by payment group



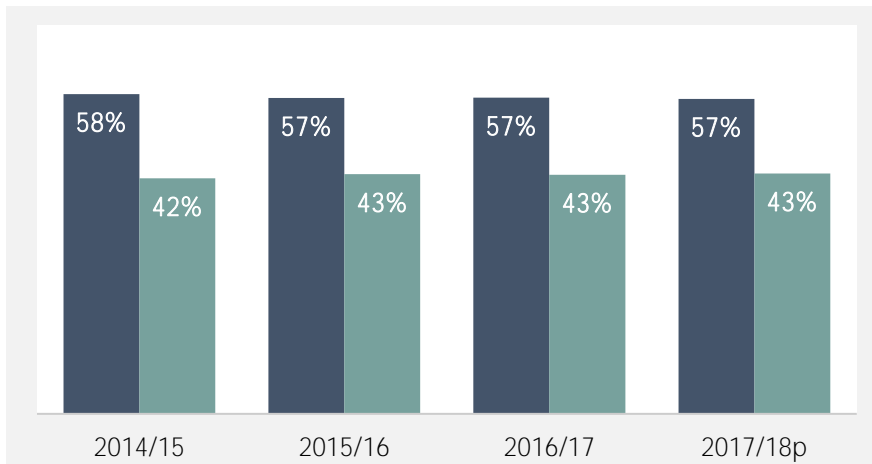
Direct compensation payments to workers accounted for the majority of claim payments, and shows a stable trend across four years.

Service payments in turn, remained stable over the last four years and currently accounts for around a third of all claim payments in 2017/18.



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Direct compensation payments proportions by payment type



Income payments

accounted for more than half of direct compensation payments to workers over four years.



Lump sums

accounted for 42% to 43% of direct compensation payments to workers over the last four years.

Service payments proportions by payment type



Medical & hospital
service payments accounted for 43% of total service payments.



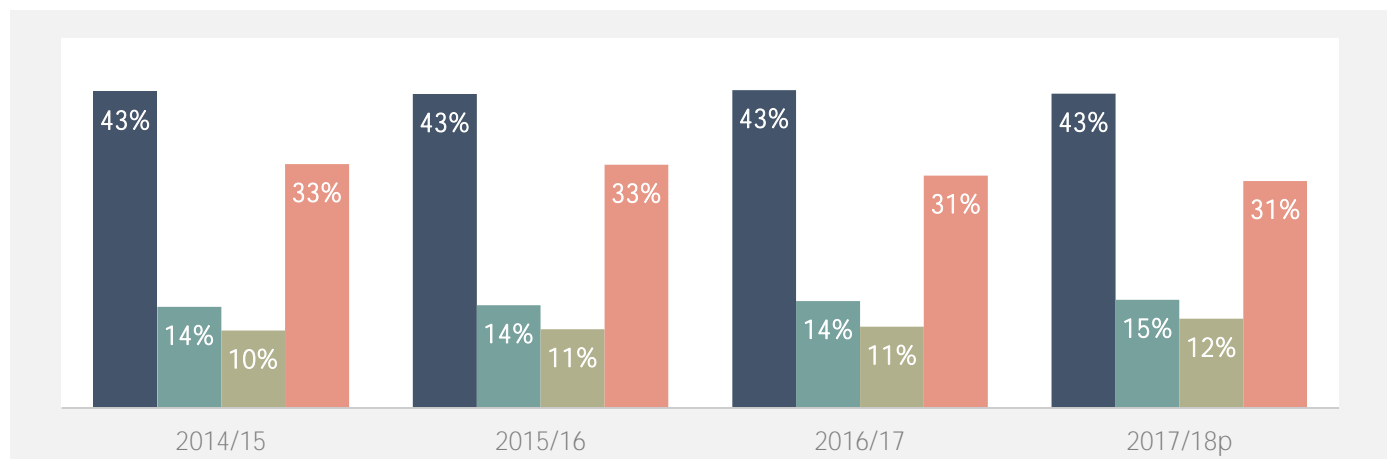
Allied health
service payments attributed 14% to 15% of total service payments over four years.



Workplace rehabilitation
service payments accounted for the lowest proportion of service payments.



Legal & miscellaneous
service payments attributed 31% to 33% of total service payments over four years.





CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Claim costs* total claim costs by days lost

\$MILLION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
1-4 days	\$11.2	\$11.0	\$9.9	\$9.4	▼
5-19 days	\$40.3	\$37.6	\$32.2	\$32.7	▼
20-59 days	\$86.4	\$81.7	\$73.5	\$72.6	▼
60-119 days	\$93.5	\$101.4	\$91.6	\$99.0	▲
120-179 days	\$82.2	\$78.5	\$74.7	\$101.3	▲
180+ days	\$499.5	\$511.5	\$491.6	\$401.1	▼
Lost-time claims	\$813.1	\$821.7	\$773.5	\$716.1	▼

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)

* Due to the evolving nature of claims, data is subject to change particularly the most recent year.



Total claim costs

for lost-time claims decreased by 12% over the last four years.

Claims with lost-time between 120-179 days experienced the largest increase (\$19.1 million) over four years, followed by 60-119 days lost (\$5.4 million).

Claim costs* average claim costs by days lost

\$	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
1-4 days	\$2,863	\$2,997	\$3,064	\$3,265	▲
5-19 days	\$8,273	\$7,973	\$7,932	\$8,179	■
20-59 days	\$26,489	\$25,458	\$23,873	\$23,415	▼
60-119 days	\$56,784	\$57,984	\$55,177	\$52,864	▼
120-179 days	\$96,049	\$96,966	\$91,422	\$89,348	▼
180+ days	\$225,304	\$218,874	\$206,919	\$170,593	▼
Lost-time claims	\$48,488	\$49,850	\$50,859	\$46,691	■

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)

* Due to the evolving nature of claims, data is subject to change particularly the most recent year.



Average claim costs

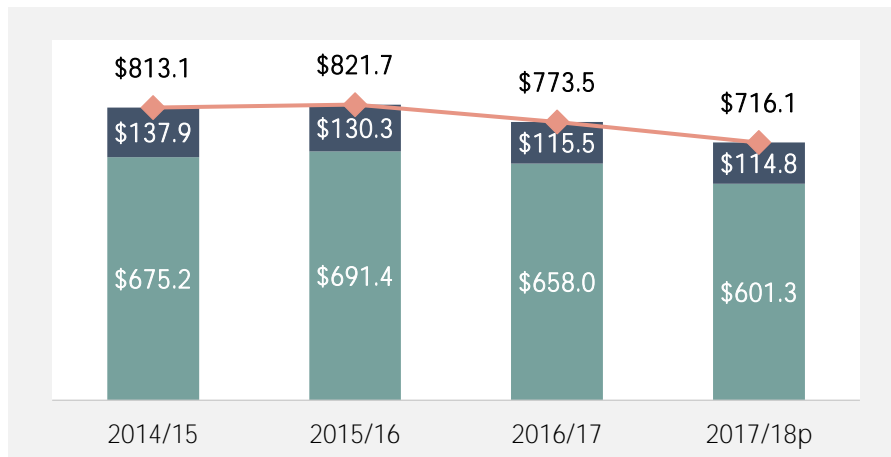
for all lost-time claims decreased by 4% over four years and currently stands at \$46,691 for the current year.

Claims with 180+ days lost experienced the largest movement (-24%) in average claim costs between 2014/15 and 2017/18.



CLAIM ACTIVITIES

Claim costs (\$million) by days lost



Long duration claims

are claims commonly defined as workers' compensation claims which involve 60 or more days/shifts off work. Although these claims represent only a minor proportion of total claims, these claims account for the majority of costs.

Total claim costs

for lost-time claims decreased by 12% over four years.

1-59 days lost

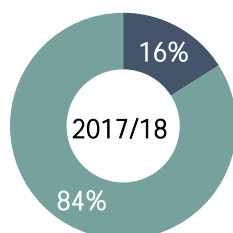
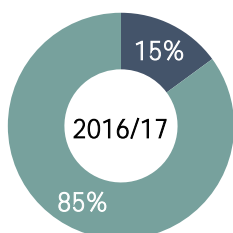
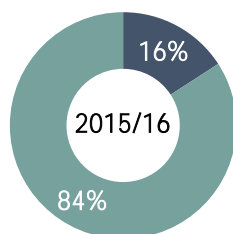
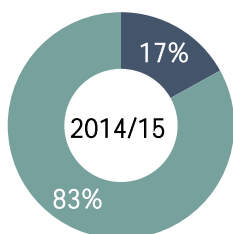
The total claim costs for claims with shorter duration (less than 60 days lost) decreased by 17% between 2014/15 and 2017/18.

60+ days lost

The total claim costs for long duration claims decreased by 11% over the last four years.

Claim costs proportion by days lost

1-59 days 60+ days



In 2017/18, claims with shorter duration accounted for 16% of total claim costs, while 84% of claim costs were associated with long duration claims.

Over the past four years, the ratio between short and long duration claim costs remained stable.



CLAIM MANAGEMENT

TIMEFRAME FOR INCOME CLAIMS

Over the last four years, timeframes for claim lodgement by employers to insurers improved, and the average days for insurers to make a decision regarding liability remained stable at 11 days.

Overall, it took longer for insurers to finalise income claims (claims with weekly income replacement), increasing from a median of 5.5 months to 5.9 months over the last four years.



INJURY

Worker sustains work-related injury/illness and submits claim



EMPLOYER

4
days

average between employer receiving claim and lodging with insurer



INSURER

11
days

average for insurers to make a liability decision for the claim



FINALISATION

AVERAGE
10.9
MEDIAN
5.9

months between insurer lodgement and initial finalisation of claim



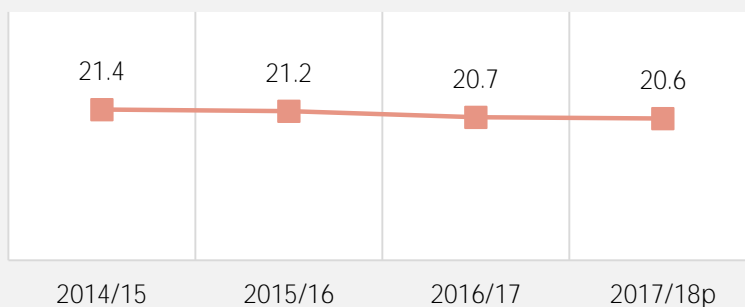
CLAIM MANAGEMENT

Claim management income claims

WORKER TO EMPLOYER LODGEMENT

average days between injury
occurrence and lodgement of
claim with employer

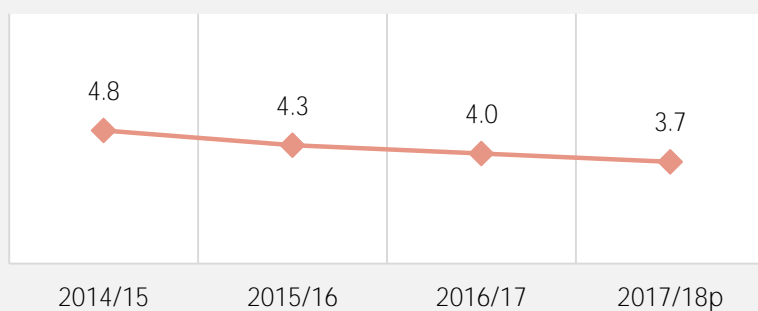
AVERAGE DAYS



EMPLOYER TO INSURER LODGEMENT

average days between employer
receiving and lodging claim with
insurer

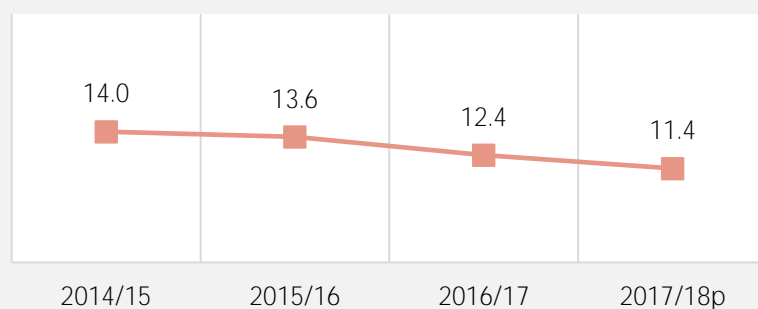
AVERAGE DAYS



LIABILITY DECISIONS

average days for insurer to make a
liability decision for the claim

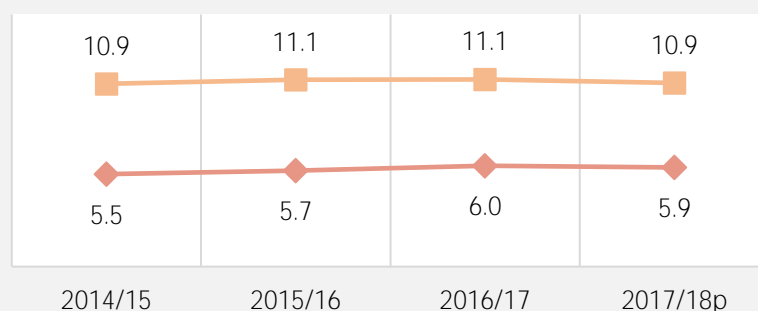
AVERAGE DAYS



CLAIM DURATION

number of months between
insurer lodgement and finalisation
of claim

MONTHS



— average — median



CLAIM MANAGEMENT

Claims with weekly payments income claims

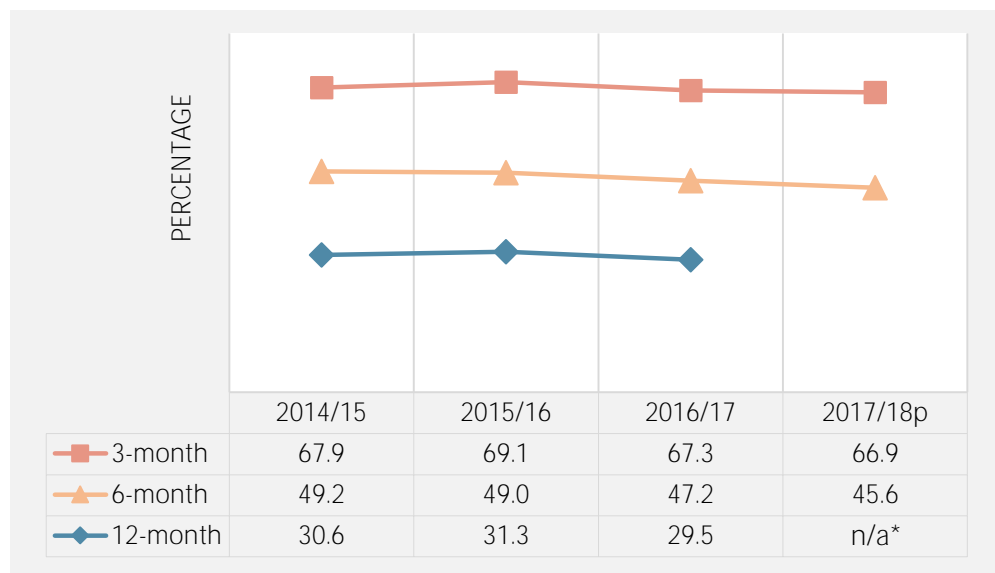
CLAIMS	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
1 month	6,669	6,735	6,651	6,720	■
3 months	4,529	4,657	4,478	4,493	■
6 months	3,282	3,297	3,139	3,064	▼
12 months	2,043	2,111	1,964	n/a*	■

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)

* The 12-month figure for 2017/18 was not available at the time of publication.

Claims with weekly payments
at one month remained stable, while claims with weekly payments at 6 months decreased by 7% over four years.

Continuance rates income claims



* The 12-month figure for 2017/18 was not available at the time of publication.

Continuance rate
provides insight into claim duration and scheme exits. It shows the number of claims involving weekly income replacement payments at three, six and 12 months as a proportion of claims involving weekly income replacement payments at one month. Continuance rates at three and six months decreased between 2014/15 and 2017/18.



CLAIM MANAGEMENT

Return to work status lost-time claims

PROPORTION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p
Returned to work*	85.2%	87.4%	86.2%	85.0%
Not working	12.2%	10.9%	12.2%	14.2%
Unknown	2.6%	1.7%	1.6%	0.8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

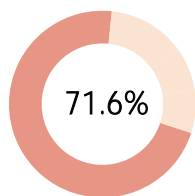
* Returned to work either at full or partial hours



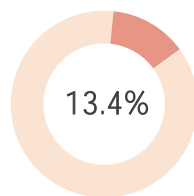
Work status

The number of workers returning to work (either full or partial hours) as a proportion of all lost-time claims slightly decreased over the last four years.

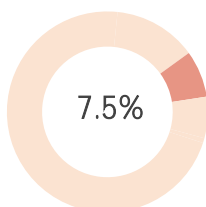
Return to work status lost-time claims lodged in 2017/18p



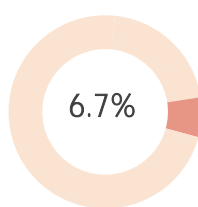
RETURNED
TO WORK
full hours



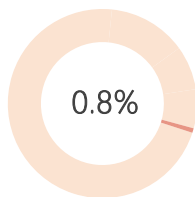
RETURNED
TO WORK
partial hours



NOT WORKING
injury-related



NOT WORKING
other reasons



UNKNOWN
return to work



Return to work

For claims lodged in 2017/18, a total of 85.0% of claimants successfully returned to work. This consisted of 71.6% returning to full hours and 13.4% returning to work partial hours.

In the same year, 7.5% of claimants of lost-time claims had not returned to work due to injury and 6.7% did not return to work for other reasons.

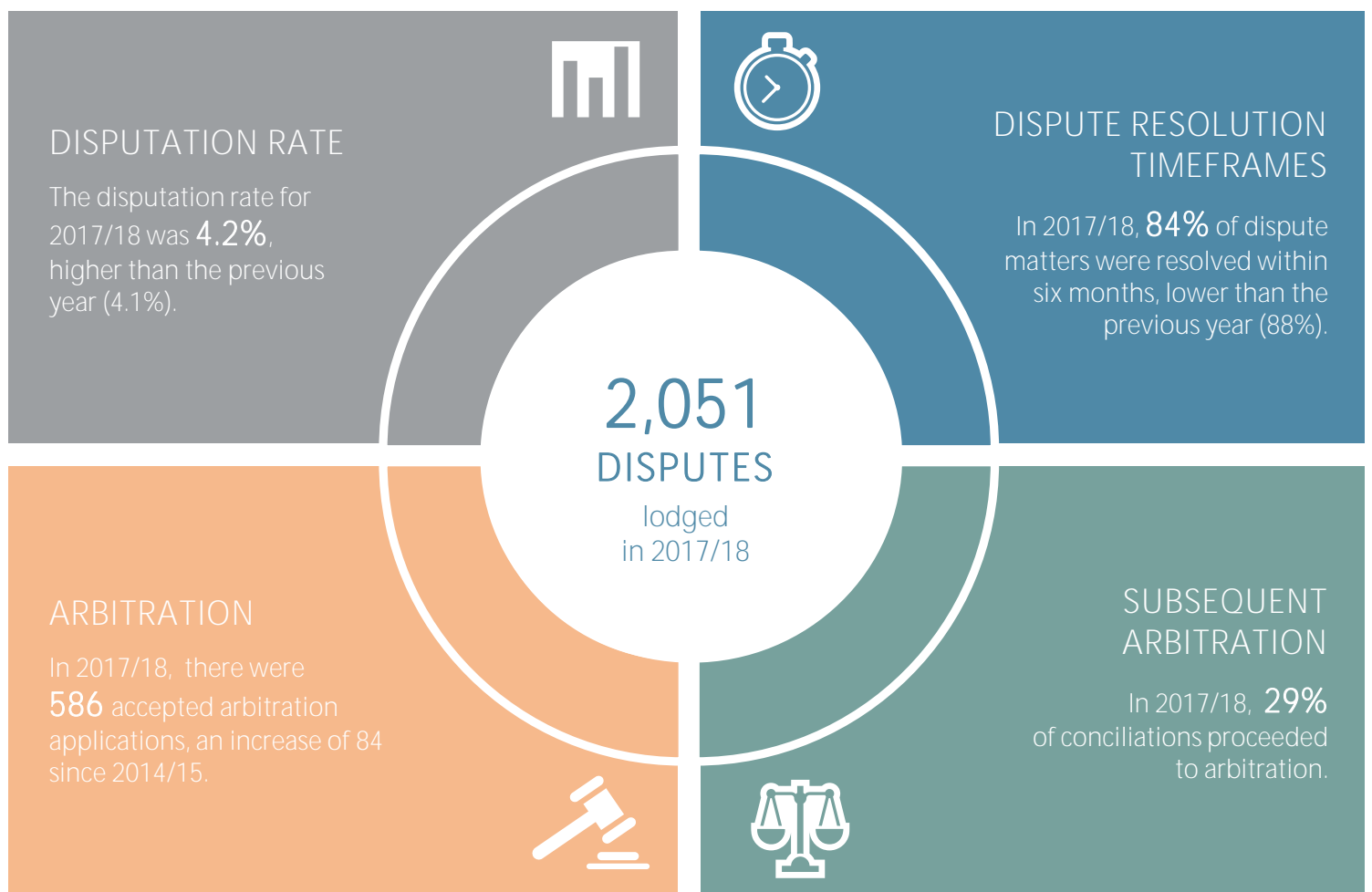


DISPUTES

The majority of workers' compensation claims progress to the satisfaction of all parties involved, including the injured worker, the employer and their insurer.

Disputes can occur at any stage of a claim and arise over a broad range of matters, including the liability to pay compensation, the amount of weekly benefits to be paid, medical and related expenses, and return to work programs.

WorkCover WA's Conciliation and Arbitration Services aims to provide an independent and transparent system for the fair, timely and cost-effective resolution of workers' compensation disputes in WA.





DISPUTES

Dispute applications number of accepted conciliations

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Conciliations	2,264	2,132	2,084	2,051	▼
Disputation rate	3.9%	3.8%	4.1%	4.2%	▲

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



Conciliation

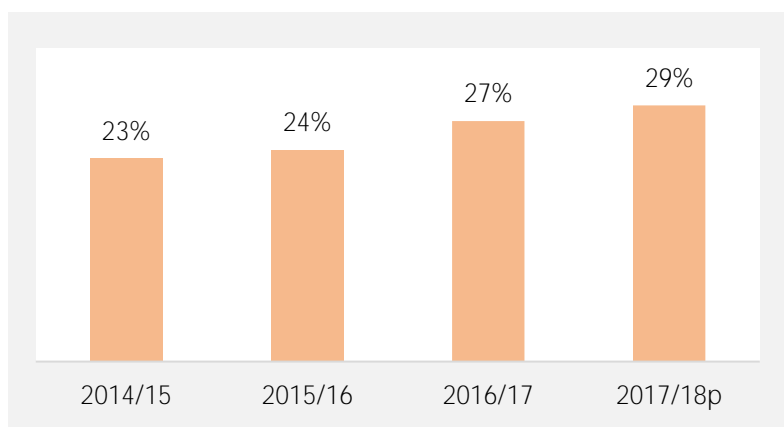
involves parties in dispute reaching an agreement, with the assistance of an independent and impartial Conciliation Officer.



Disputation rate

is the number of dispute applications per 100 active claims (claims with at least one transaction payment within the financial year).

Subsequent arbitration proportion of conciliations with subsequent arbitration



Disputes

must have been conciliated by the Workers' Compensation Conciliation Service (or a certificate issued by the Director of Conciliation advising the matter is not suitable for conciliation) before an application can be made to the Workers' Compensation Arbitration Service.

Arbitration number of accepted arbitration applications

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Arbitration applications	502	511	554	586	▲

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



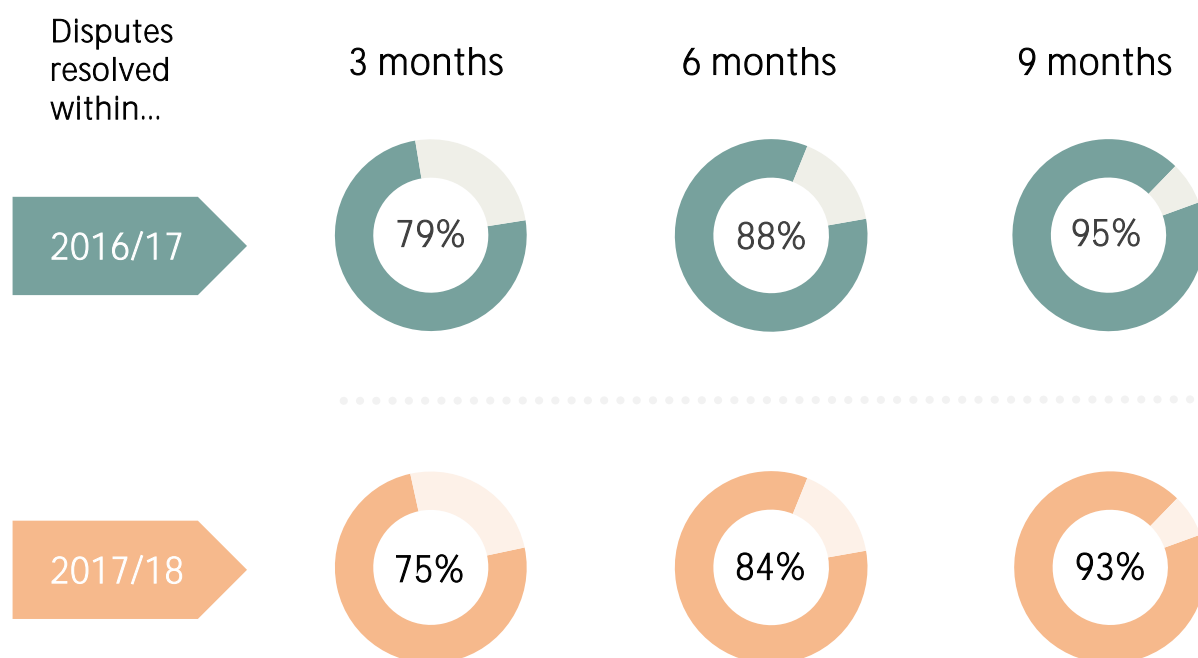
Arbitration

is a formal proceeding at which evidence is heard and a legally qualified Arbitrator makes a final determination. However, some matters are settled before a formal arbitration hearing is required.



DISPUTES

Dispute resolution timeframes proportion of matters



💬 The trend between 2016/17 and 2017/18 dispute resolution timeframes slightly decreased for matters resolved within three, six, and nine months.

💬 For disputes lodged in 2017/18, 75% of matters were resolved within three months, 84% of matters were resolved within six months, and 93% of matters were resolved within nine months.



SCHEME EXITS

Over a four-year period, the total number of finalised claims that exited the scheme dropped (-15%) to 31,037 claims in 2017/18. The number of claims finalised with lump sum payments increased over the same period.

The number of settlements and settlement payments increased from 2014/15 to 2017/18.



In 2017/18, there were...

31,037

claims exiting the
scheme of which...



54% received weekly
income replacement



29% utilised workplace
rehabilitation services



16% incurred legal payments

A settlement finalises a worker's compensation claim by way of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) or Section 92(f) deed.

In 2017/18, the proportion of claims finalised by MoA or 92(f) deeds was 20.6%, an increase of 0.9% from 2016/17.



92(f) MoA

2016/17

7.0%

13.1%

2017/18

8.1%

12.4%



SCHEME EXITS

Finalised claims numbers by exit type

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Without lump sums	29,028	26,908	23,772	23,433	▼
With lump sums	7,403	7,843	7,632	7,604	■
Total finalised claims	36,431	34,751	31,404	31,037	▼

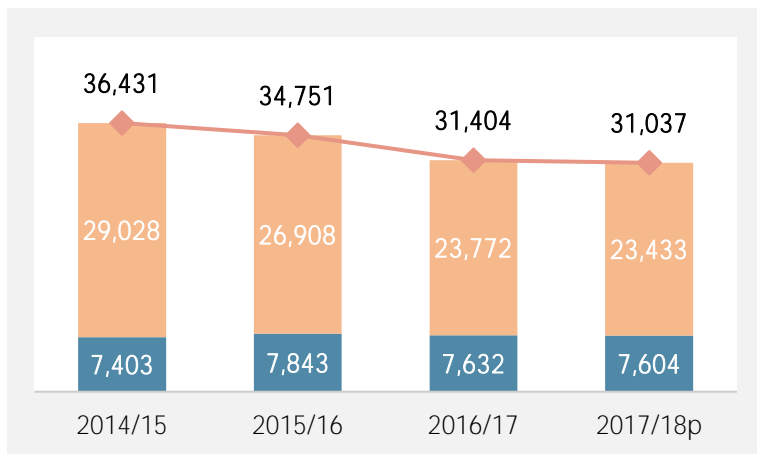
▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Lump sum

is a single payment made for all outstanding liabilities, as opposed to having a number of smaller payouts or instalments. Acceptance of a lump sum generally finalises a claim.

Finalised claims numbers by exit type



All finalised claims

The number of finalised claims across four years decreased by 15%.

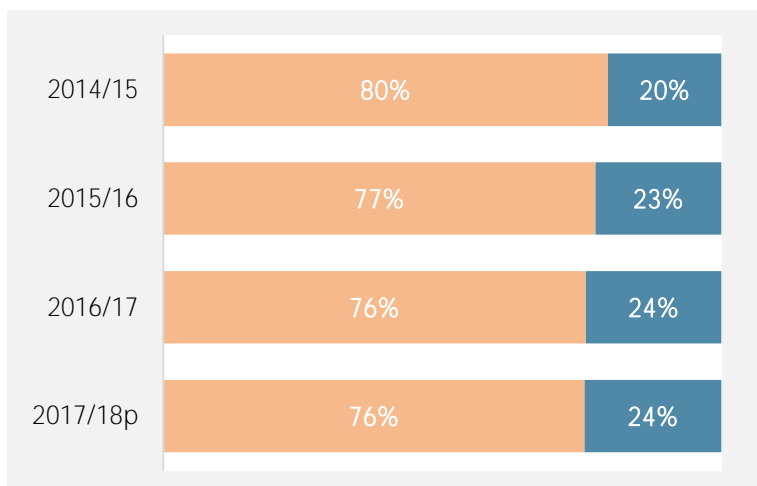
Finalised claims without lump sums

Over four years, the number of finalised claims without lump sum payments decreased by 19%.

Finalised claims with lump sums

Claims finalised with lump sum payments increased by 3% from 2014/15 to 2017/18.

Finalised claims proportions by exit type



Finalised claims without lump sums

The majority of claims were finalised without lump sums. This proportion decreased from 80% in 2014/15 to 76% in 2017/18.

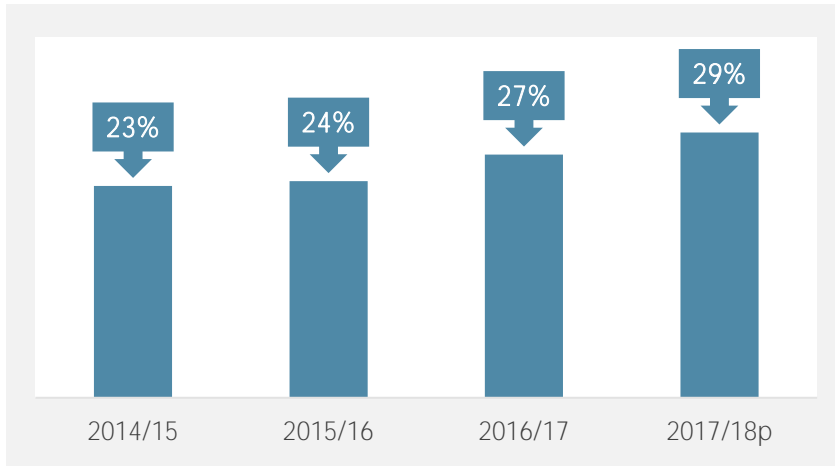
Finalised claims with lump sums

The proportion of claims finalised with lump sum payments increased from 20% in 2014/15 to 24% in 2017/18.



SCHEME EXITS

Workplace rehabilitation proportion of lost-time claims

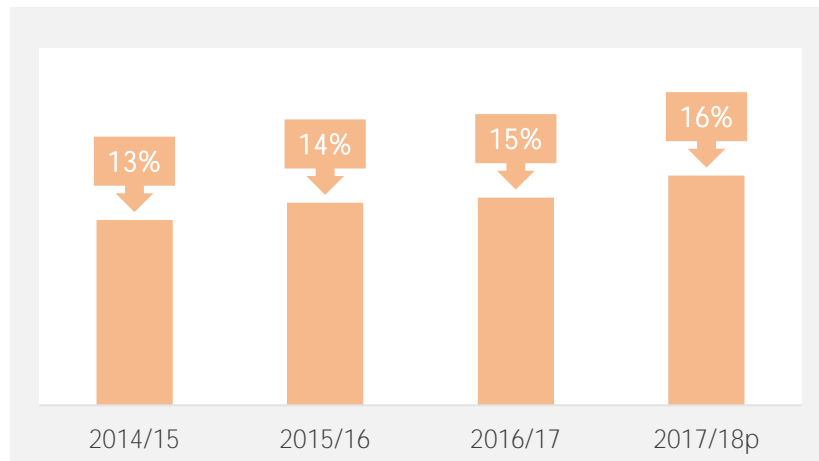


Workplace rehabilitation

The proportion of lost-time claims utilising workplace rehabilitation services increased from 23% in 2014/15 to 29% in 2017/18.

Workplace rehabilitation includes services such as case management, workplace activities, reports (general), and travel.

Legal payments proportion of all claims



Legal payments

The proportion of all claims with legal payments increased from 13% to 16% over four years.



SCHEME EXITS

The Act provides different pathways for settling workers' compensation claims depending on whether the settlement relates to a statutory compensation claim or a common law action.

Section 92(f) deeds allow for resolution of common law actions that do not proceed to judgement in a Court.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) is a legal instrument which, if registered with the Conciliation and Arbitration Services of WorkCover WA, records a statutory settlement of a worker's compensation claim.



Settlements number of settlements

PROPORTION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
MoA	4,113	4,327	4,116	3,859	▼
92(f) deeds	2,085	2,207	2,206	2,523	▲
Total settlements	6,198	6,534	6,322	6,382	■

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Settlements

remained stable from 2014/15 to 2017/18 for combined pathways (MoA and 92(f) deeds) to settle a workers' compensation claim.

Settlement rate proportion of settlements to finalised claims

RATE	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
MoA	11.3	12.5	13.1	12.4	▲
92(f) deeds	5.7	6.4	7.0	8.1	▲
Total settlements	17.0	18.8	20.1	20.6	▲

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Settlement rate

increased, along with the settlement numbers, for both MoA and 92(f) deeds from 2014/15 to 2017/18.

Settlement rate is the number of settlements as a proportion of finalised claims.



SCHEME EXITS

Settlement payments \$million

\$MILLION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
MoA	\$122.9	\$130.0	\$118.2	\$108.0	▼
92(f) deeds	\$142.4	\$145.9	\$159.3	\$164.4	▲
Total payments	\$265.3	\$275.8	\$277.4	\$272.4	■

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Settlement payments

remained stable from 2014/15 to 2017/18, as a result of an increase in 92(f) deeds payments (15%) and decrease in MoA payments (12%).

Settlement payments as a proportion of finalised claim payments

PROPORTION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
MoA	11.8	12.5	11.7	10.2	▼
92(f) deeds	13.7	14.0	15.8	15.6	▲
Total payments	25.4	26.4	27.5	25.8	■

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Settlement payments

as a proportion of finalised claim payments remained stable from 2014/15 to 2017/18.



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

2017/18



MALES

9,848
LOST-TIME
CLAIMS

frequency
rate 7.9

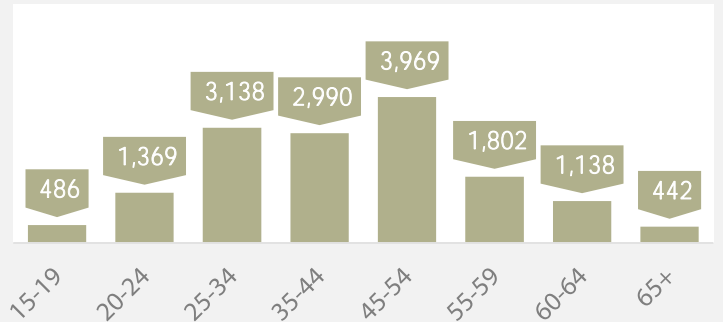


FEMALES

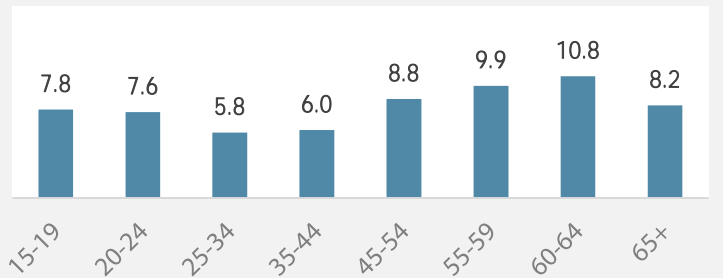
5,489
LOST-TIME
CLAIMS

frequency
rate 6.7

Claim numbers by age group



Frequency rate by age group



TOP FOUR INDUSTRIES

CLAIM NUMBERS



HEALTH CARE &
SOCIAL ASSISTANCE
2,292



CONSTRUCTION
1,986



MANUFACTURING
1,710



EDUCATION &
TRAINING
1,387

FREQUENCY RATE



MANUFACTURING
12.4



AGRICULTURE
12.1



ARTS & RECREATION
SERVICES
11.1



WHOLESALE
TRADE
9.9



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Lost-time claims males by days lost

MALES	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
1-4 days	2,540	2,331	1,945	1,728	▼
5-19 days	3,381	3,212	2,742	2,695	▼
20-59 days	2,303	2,307	2,130	2,050	▼
60-119 days	1,099	1,168	1,121	1,180	▲
120-179 days	576	527	512	715	▲
180+ days	1,434	1,457	1,512	1,480	■
Lost-time claims	11,333	11,002	9,962	9,848	▼

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



Males

The overall trend for lost-time claims lodged by males decreased by 13% from 2014/15 to 2017/18.

The largest portion of claims lodged by males were for 5-19 days off work (27.4% in 2017/18).

Lost-time claims females days lost

FEMALES	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
1-4 days	1,373	1,334	1,274	1,147	▼
5-19 days	1,496	1,502	1,316	1,308	▼
20-59 days	957	902	948	1,052	▲
60-119 days	548	580	540	692	▲
120-179 days	280	283	305	419	▲
180+ days	783	880	864	871	▲
Lost-time claims	5,437	5,481	5,247	5,489	■

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)



Females

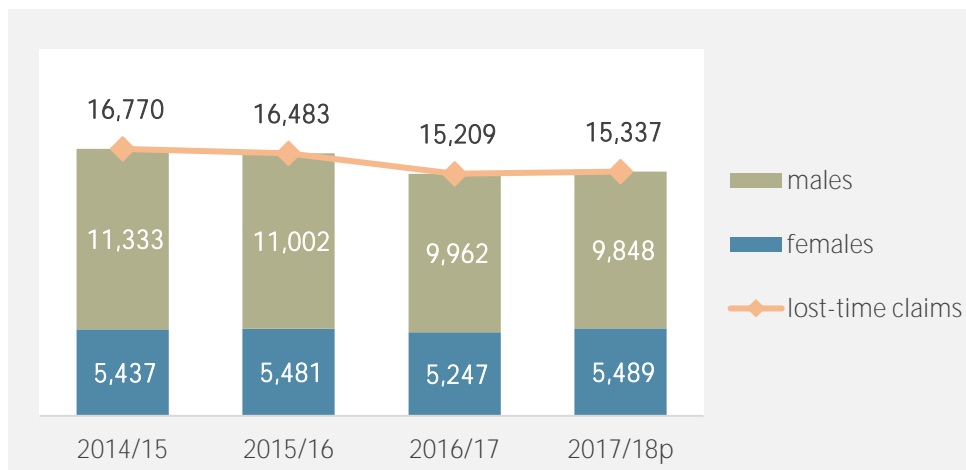
Over the last four years, lost-time claims lodged by females remained stable at 5,489 claims in 2017/18.

Similar to males, the largest portion of claims were for 5-19 days lost across four years (23.8% in 2017/18).



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

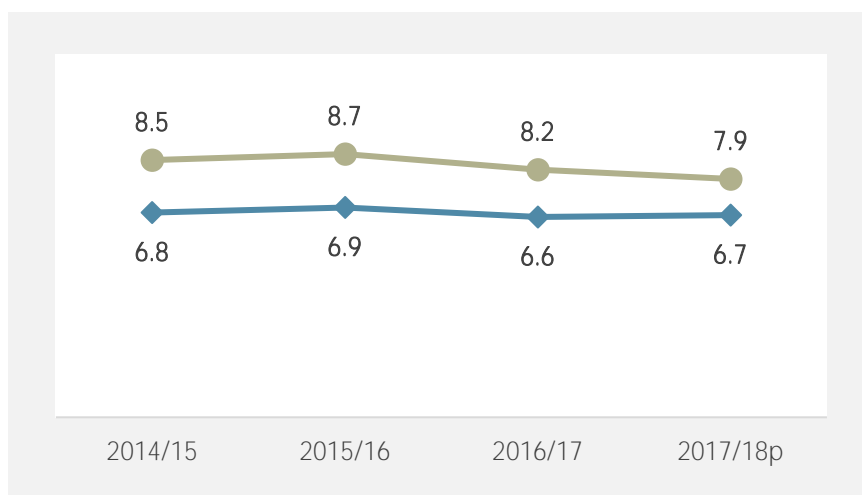
Lost-time claims by gender



Males lodged almost double the amount of lost-time claims than females. This pattern is consistent across four years.

In 2017/18, males lodged 64% of claims, compared to 36% of claims lodged by females.

Frequency rate by gender



Frequency rate is the number of lost-time claims per million hours worked based on employed persons covered by workers' compensation.



Males

The frequency rate of males lodging a lost-time claim shows a decreasing trend over four years.



Females

The frequency rate of females lodging a lost-time claim shows a stable trend from 2014/15 to 2017/18. However, females had a lower frequency rate than males over the same period.



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Lost-time claims by age group

AGE GROUP	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
15-19 years	696	628	482	486	▼
20-24 years	1,652	1,506	1,332	1,369	▼
25-34 years	3,651	3,606	3,162	3,138	▼
35-44 years	3,564	3,412	3,075	2,990	▼
45-54 years	4,073	4,062	3,971	3,969	■
55-59 years	1,663	1,701	1,647	1,802	▲
60-64 years	1,080	1,121	1,103	1,138	▲
65+ years	389	441	436	442	▲
Unknown	2	6	1	3	▲
Lost-time claims	16,770	16,483	15,209	15,337	▼

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Age groups

Within the last four years, the 45-54 year old age group had the highest number of lost-time claims.

The youngest age group (15-19 year olds) had the largest movement in lost-time claims (-30%) since 2014/15.

Frequency rate by age group

AGE GROUP	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
15-19 years	8.5	8.9	8.1	7.8	▼
20-24 years	7.6	7.7	7.1	7.6	■
25-34 years	6.3	6.6	6.1	5.8	▼
35-44 years	7.7	7.3	6.5	6.0	▼
45-54 years	8.8	9.0	9.0	8.8	■
55-59 years	9.3	9.7	9.3	9.9	▲
60-64 years	10.1	10.9	10.6	10.8	▲
65+ years	7.8	9.5	10.5	8.2	▲
Lost-time claims	7.8	8.0	7.6	7.4	▼

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



Age groups

Over the last four years, 60-64 year olds had the highest frequency rate, followed by 55-59 year olds.

The largest decrease in frequency rate from 2014/15 to 2017/18 was the 35-44 year old age group (-21%), followed by the 25-34 year old age group (-9%).



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Lost-time claims by industry division

INDUSTRY	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Accommodation & food services	752	777	714	742	■
Administrative & support services	359	355	333	346	■
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	590	590	594	626	▲
Arts & recreation services	428	409	412	403	▼
Construction	2,707	2,711	2,054	1,986	▼
Education & training	1,174	1,262	1,373	1,387	▲
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	188	208	235	164	▼
Financial & insurance services	47	50	28	48	■
Health care & social assistance	2,420	2,347	2,283	2,292	▼
Information media & telecommunications	64	46	35	44	▼
Manufacturing	2,126	1,844	1,641	1,710	▼
Mining	1,222	1,237	1,226	1,335	▲
Other services	466	457	481	465	■
Professional, scientific & technical services	306	240	237	269	▼
Public administration & safety	771	862	841	837	▲
Rental, hiring & real estate services	147	119	106	130	▼
Retail trade	1,168	1,281	1,094	1,075	▼
Transport, postal & warehousing	1,134	1,045	976	930	▼
Wholesale trade	701	643	546	542	▼

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)



The industry with the highest number of lost-time claims over four years is Construction. For 2017/18, 1,986 lost-time claims were lodged.

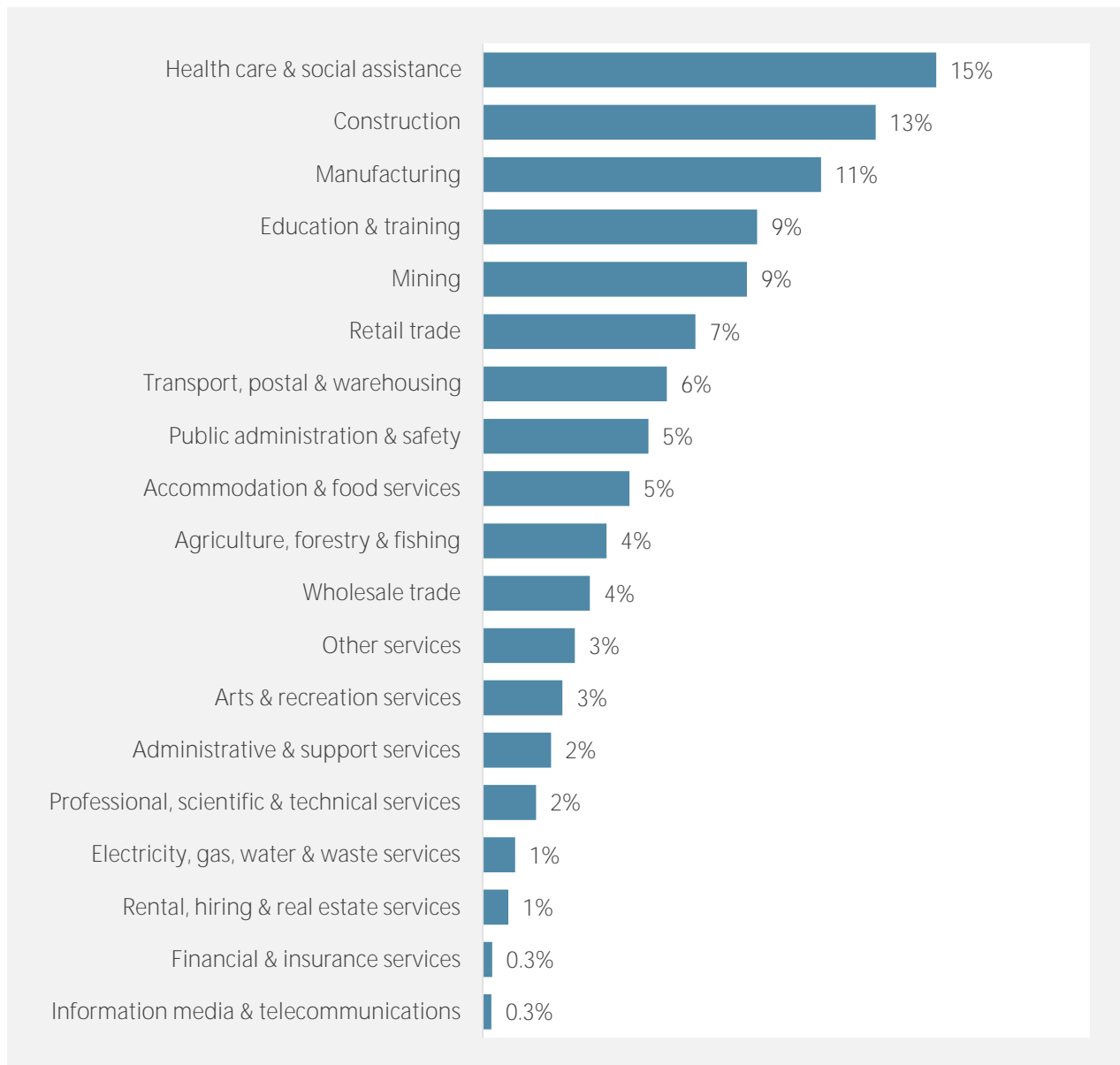


Financial & insurance services was the industry with the lowest number of lost-time claims across four years. In 2017/18, 48 lost-time claims were lodged.



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Lost-time claims proportions by industry division

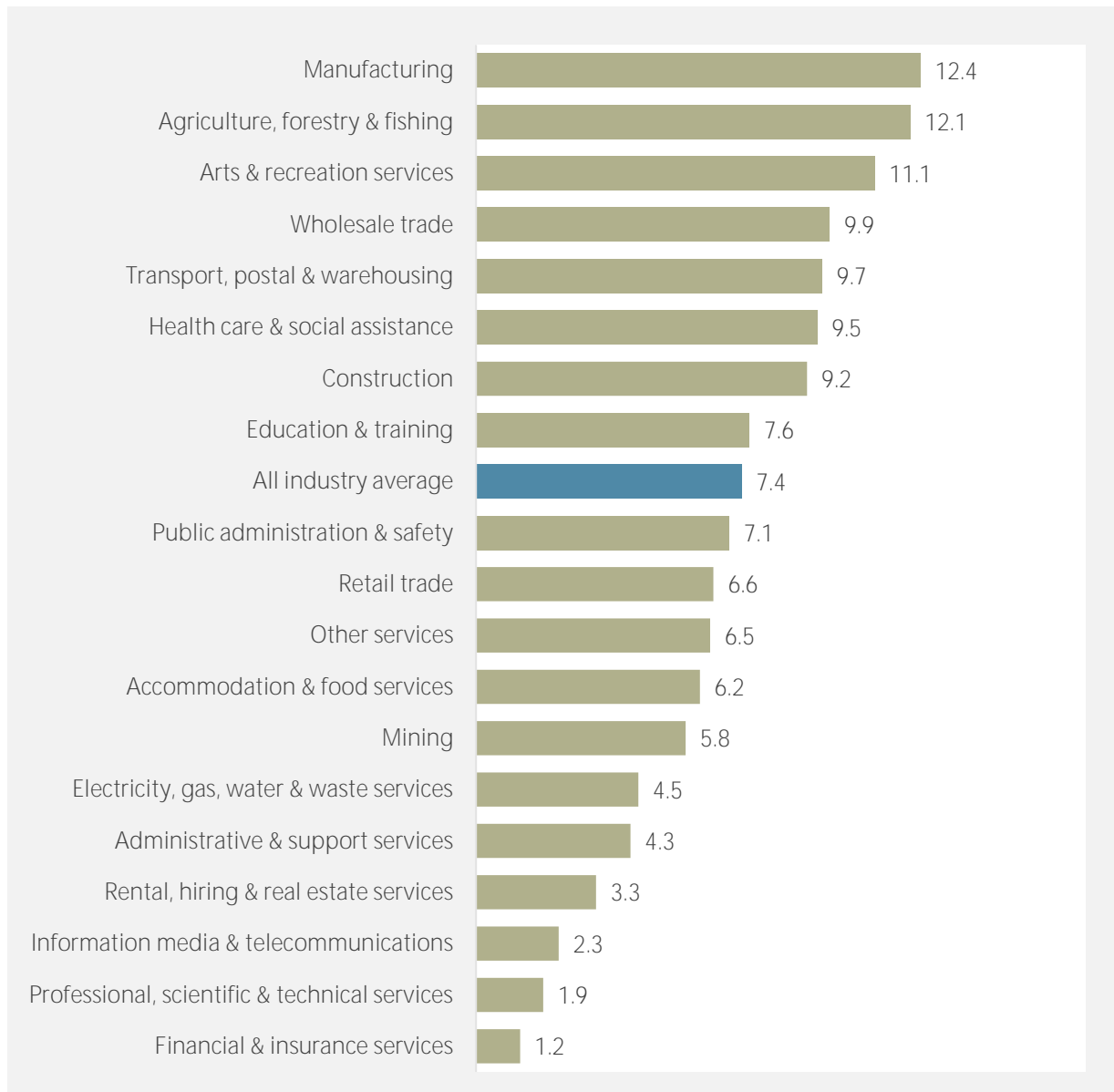


In 2017/18, the highest proportion of lost-time claims were associated with manual labour and high risk industries, including Health care and social assistance (15%), Construction (13%) and Manufacturing (11%).



CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Frequency rate by industry division



The risk associated with different industries is evident in frequency rates. In 2017/18, industries with the highest frequency rates were Manufacturing (12.4), Agriculture, forestry and fishing (12.1), Arts & recreation services (11.1) and Wholesale trade (9.9).





CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS


Lost-time claims by occupation

OCCUPATION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Clerical & administrative workers	629	579	551	606	■
Community & personal service workers	2,511	2,663	2,761	2,741	▲
Labourers	3,756	3,684	3,111	3,133	▼
Machinery operators & drivers	2,960	2,732	2,524	2,474	▼
Managers	464	417	462	450	■
Professionals	1,434	1,406	1,308	1,387	■
Sales workers	739	849	695	666	▼
Technicians & trades workers	4,277	4,153	3,797	3,874	▼

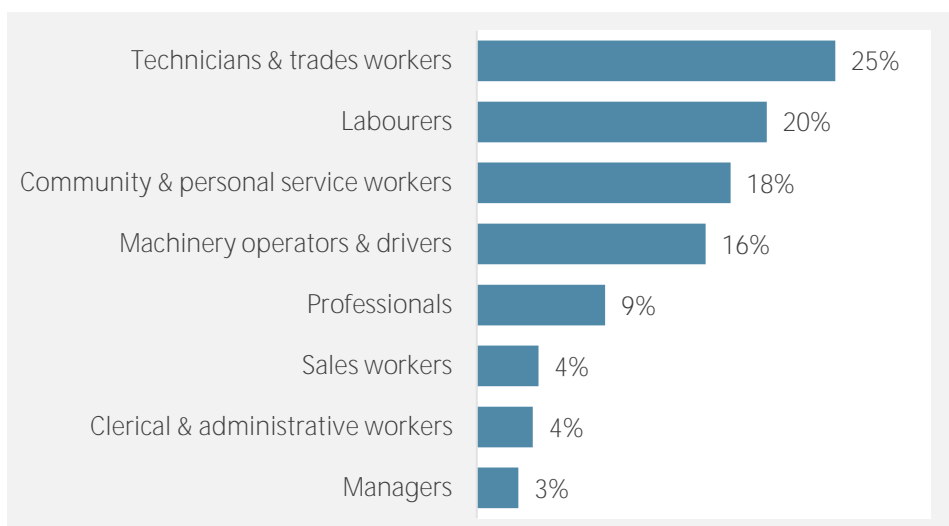
▲ Increasing ($\geq +5\%$) ■ Stable (within $\pm 5\%$) ▼ Decreasing ($\geq -5\%$)


 Technicians and trades workers had the highest number of lost-time claims lodged over four years.

 Labourers had the second highest lost-time claim numbers across four years.

 Managers had the least amount of lost-time claims lodged between 2014/15 and 2017/18.

Lost-time claims proportions by occupation 2017/18p



 In 2017/18, Technicians and trades workers continued to have the highest proportion (25%) of lost-time claims across all occupations, followed by Labourers (20%).

CLAIMANT CHARACTERISTICS

Lost-time claims proportions by region

REGION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Metropolitan	64%	64%	65%	63%	■
South West	7%	8%	8%	8%	▲
Pilbara	9%	9%	7%	7%	▼
Goldfields-Esperance	4%	4%	4%	5%	▲
Peel	4%	4%	4%	4%	▲
Wheatbelt	4%	4%	4%	4%	▲
Midwest	3%	3%	3%	4%	▲
Great Southern	3%	3%	3%	3%	▲
Kimberley	3%	3%	3%	2%	▼
Gascoyne	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	▲

Region is based on the address where the incident of injury or disease occurred.

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

Lost-time claims map of regions



The map illustrates the geographic distribution of lost-time claims across Western Australia in 2017/18.

The majority of lost-time claims occurred in the Perth metropolitan area (63%). The South West and Peel region had the second highest number of lost-time claims lodged (12%), followed by the Pilbara (7%).

This pattern is reflective of population and employment density in Western Australia.



INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

Between 2014/15 and 2017/18, around 81% of work-related injuries and diseases resulted in temporary incapacity for claimants.

Injuries resulting in permanent incapacity and work-related fatalities decreased over the same period.



81%

of workers who lodged lost-time claims resulted in

TEMPORARY INCAPACITY

and

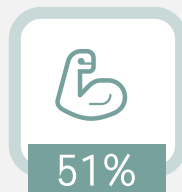


19%

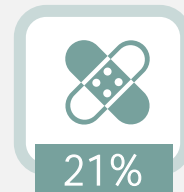
of workers who lodged lost-time claims resulted in

PERMANENT INCAPACITY

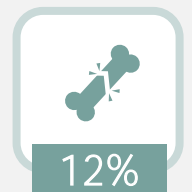
The most common type of work-related injury/disease in **2017/18**



TRAUMATIC
JOINT/LIGAMENT &
MUSCLE TENDON
INJURY

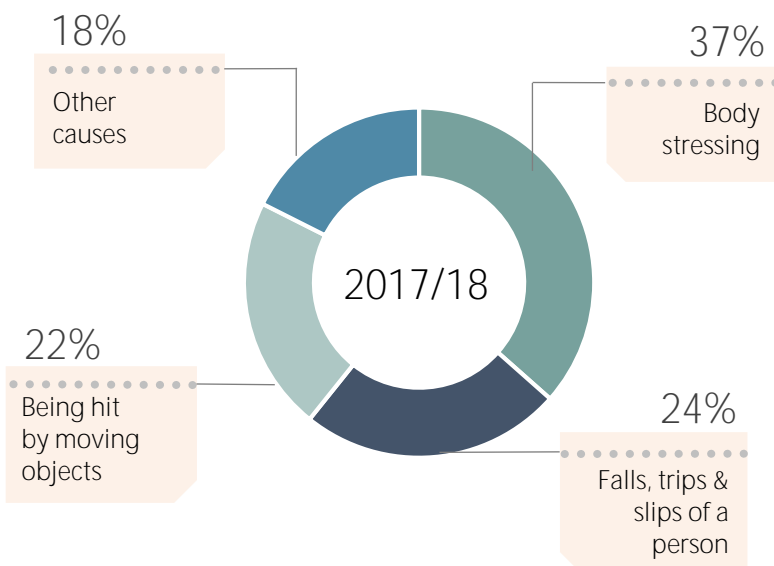


WOUNDS, LACERATIONS,
AMPUTATIONS &
INTERNAL ORGAN
DAMAGE

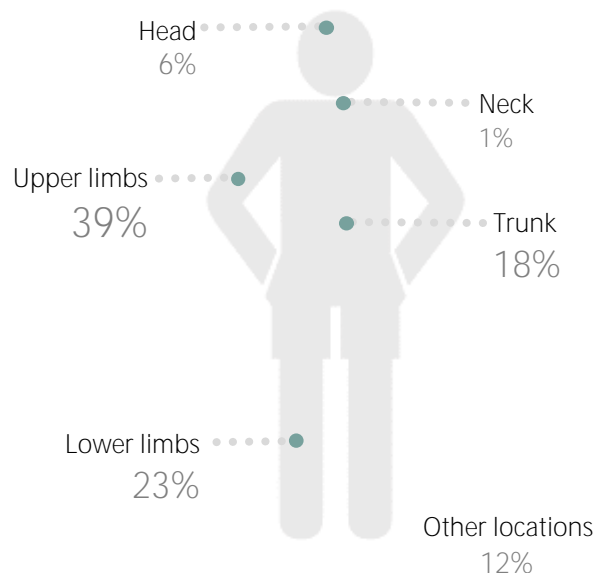


FRACTURES

MECHANISM OF INCIDENT



BODILY LOCATION OF INJURY/DISEASE





INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

Level of incapacity* lost-time claims

CLAIMS	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Temporary incapacity	11,793	11,575	11,061	12,350	■
Permanent incapacity - partial	4,905	4,811	4,023	2,834	▼
Permanent incapacity - total	50	72	92	74	▲
No incapacity at any time	16	22	33	73	▲

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

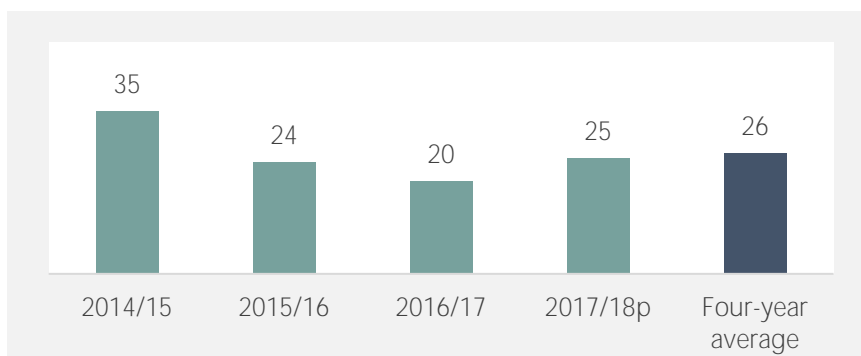
* Due to the evolving nature of claims, level of incapacity data is subject to change particularly the most recent year.

Level of incapacity proportion of lost-time claims

PROPORTION	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Temporary incapacity	70%	70%	73%	81%	▲
Permanent incapacity - partial	29%	29%	26%	18%	▼
Permanent incapacity - total	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	▲
No incapacity at any time	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	▲

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

Fatalities number of compensated fatalities



In 2017/18, there were 25 compensated fatalities, which is below the four-year average of 26 compensated fatalities.





INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES


Nature of injury/disease lost-time claims

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
INJURY					
Traumatic joint/ligament & muscle/tendon injury	9,160	8,913	7,866	7,808	▼
Wounds, lacerations, amputations & internal organ damage	3,529	3,487	3,347	3,255	▼
Fractures	1,776	1,799	1,704	1,841	■
Burn	365	323	303	351	■
Intracranial injuries	147	140	126	172	▲
Other injuries	437	444	370	344	▼
DISEASE					
Musculoskeletal & connective tissue diseases	506	553	667	688	▲
Mental diseases	407	424	405	480	▲
Digestive system diseases	216	202	194	183	▼
Nervous system & sense organ diseases	85	90	104	107	▲
Skin & subcutaneous tissue diseases	58	39	41	26	▼
Respiratory system diseases	9	12	13	13	▲
Infectious & parasitic diseases	31	23	24	13	▼
Circulatory system diseases	10	8	6	9	▼
Other diseases	34	26	39	47	▲

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)

 The nature of injury/disease classification is intended to identify the most serious injury/disease suffered by the worker.

 Across the four years, traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendon injury was the most common injury (51%) for lost-time claims suffered by a worker.

 In terms of work-related diseases, musculoskeletal and connective tissue diseases were the most common type of disease for lost-time claims lodged between 2014/15 and 2017/18.



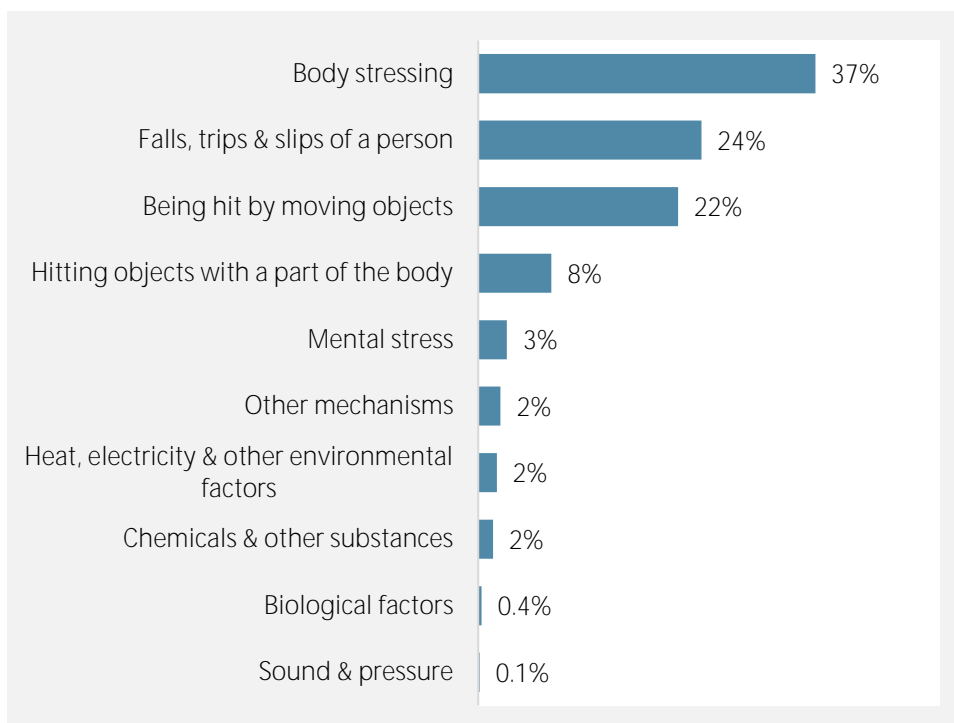
INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

Mechanism of incident lost-time claims

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Body stressing	6,326	6,201	5,706	5,604	▼
Falls, trips & slips of a person	4,039	3,996	3,782	3,714	▼
Being hit by moving objects	3,519	3,406	3,181	3,324	▼
Hitting objects with a part of the body	1,331	1,423	1,168	1,213	▼
Mental stress	404	420	400	477	▲
Other mechanisms	462	418	370	371	▼
Heat, electricity & other environmental factors	326	287	267	308	▼
Chemicals & other substances	252	254	233	246	■
Biological factors	82	62	87	57	▼
Sound & pressure	29	16	15	23	▼

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

Mechanism of incident proportion of lost-time claims in 2017/18p



In 2017/18, the predominant causes of work-related injuries or diseases were due to body stressing (37%), falls, trips and slips (24%), and being hit by moving objects (22%).



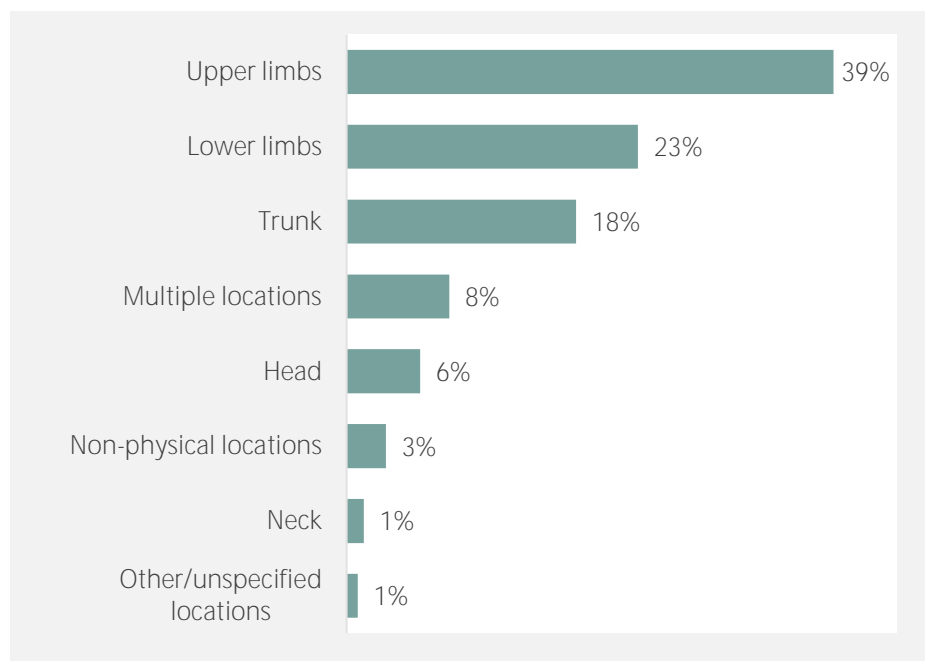
INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

Bodily location of injury/disease lost-time claims

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Upper limbs	6,230	6,284	5,767	5,967	■
Lower limbs	3,973	3,832	3,545	3,572	▼
Trunk	3,492	3,402	3,076	2,812	▼
Multiple locations	1,300	1,242	1,226	1,257	■
Head	1,007	962	848	901	▼
Non-physical locations	407	424	405	480	▲
Neck	239	227	238	212	▼
Other/unspecified locations	122	110	104	136	▲

▲ Increasing (≥ +5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥ -5%)

Bodily location of injury/disease proportion of lost-time claims in 2017/18p



Lost-time claims statistics show that injuries/diseases predominantly occurred to the upper limbs (39%), lower limbs (23%), and trunk (18%) in 2017/18.



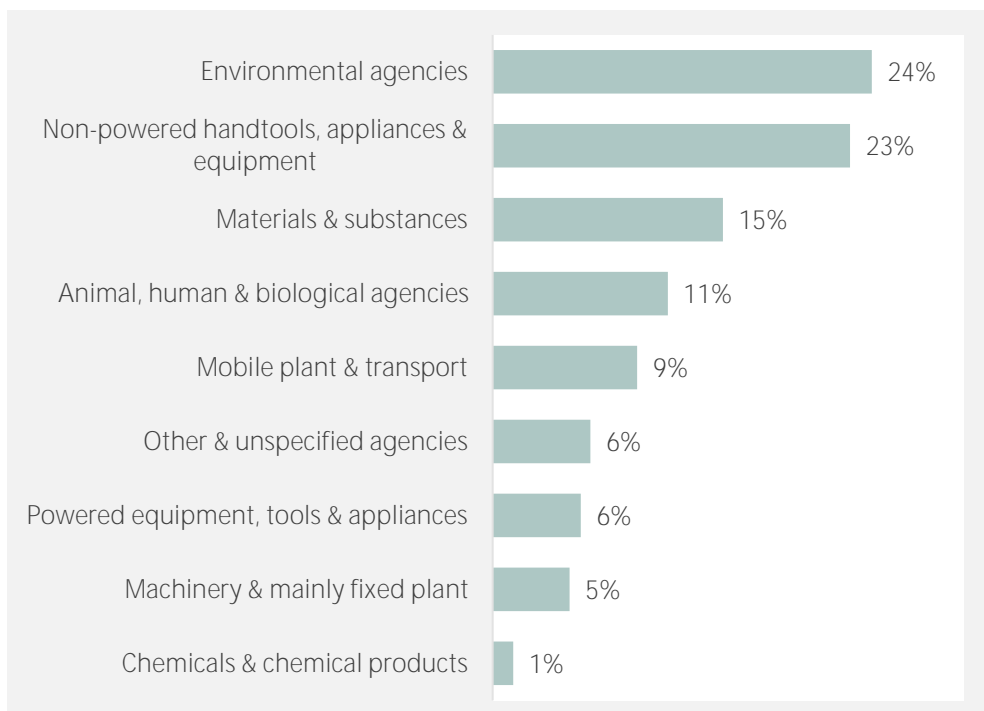
INJURY/DISEASE ATTRIBUTES

Agency of injury/disease lost-time claims

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18p	4-year trend
Environmental agencies	3,945	3,979	3,678	3,704	▼
Non-powered handtools, appliances & equipment	3,909	3,802	3,641	3,493	▼
Materials & substances	2,779	2,793	2,151	2,250	▼
Animal, human & biological agencies	1,622	1,650	1,657	1,711	▲
Mobile plant & transport	1,532	1,368	1,447	1,412	▼
Other & unspecified agencies	1,162	1,096	983	955	▼
Powered equipment, tools & appliances	912	891	875	860	▼
Machinery & mainly fixed plant	717	718	622	752	■
Chemicals & chemical products	192	186	155	200	■

▲ Increasing (≥+5%) ■ Stable (within +/-5%) ▼ Decreasing (≥-5%)

Agency of injury/disease proportion of lost-time claims in 2017/18p



The agency of injury or disease identifies the object, substance, or circumstance which was the direct cause of the most serious injury or disease.

In 2017/18, environmental agencies accounted for 24% of work-related injuries or diseases, followed by non-powered handtools, appliances, and equipment.



GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Act	The <i>Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981</i> .
Age	Chronological age (in years) of the worker at the date of injury or disease.
Agency of injury or disease	The object, substance or circumstance that was principally involved in or most closely associated with the point at which things started to go wrong and which ultimately led to the most serious injury or disease. The agency classification is based on the <i>Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> published by Safe Work Australia (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
Arbitration	If an agreement cannot be reached through a conciliation, the dispute can proceed to a more formal process where an independent and impartial lawyer (arbitrator) will assess evidence presented by the worker and other parties at a formal hearing or series of hearings.
Bodily location	The part of the body affected by the most serious injury or disease. The bodily location is based on the <i>Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> published by Safe Work Australia (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
Claimant	A person who lodges a claim in the WA workers' compensation scheme.
Claim costs	An estimate of costs for unfinalised claims, and total cost of finalised claims attributed to the year in which a claim was lodged. Due to the evolving nature of claims, data is subject to change particularly the most recent year. Claim costs are not adjusted for inflation.
Claims data	<p>Information pertaining to workers' compensation claims is reported to WorkCover WA by approved insurers and self-insurers. Information is collated based on the financial year in which a claim was lodged with the insurer. For the purposes of this report, certain types of claims were excluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ lost-time journey claims between home and work▲ asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma and pneumoconiosis, caused by asbestos exposure▲ duplicated or disallowed (by an insurer). <p>Due to the evolving nature of claims, data is subject to change particularly the most recent year.</p>
Claim management	<p>The <i>Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981</i> requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ an employer to lodge a claim with the insurer within five working days of receiving a claim form and first medical certificate.▲ an approved insurer to give a worker and the respective employer notice of a decision on a lodged workers' compensation claim within 14 days.▲ a self-insurer to give a worker and the respective employer notice of a decision on a lodged workers' compensation claim within 17 days.



GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Claim payments	<p>Categories are based on WorkCover WA's Guidelines for Completing Form WC 101. Claim payments are in contrast with claim costs as they do not reflect liabilities incurred but not yet paid. Claim payment information is collated based on the financial year during which payment was made, regardless of when the claim was lodged with the insurer. In this report, claim payments are reported both in adjusted and unadjusted formats. In relation to the former, payments are adjusted for inflation to allow for meaningful comparisons over time.</p>
Conciliation	<p>Involves parties in dispute coming to their own agreement, with the assistance of an independent and impartial Conciliation Officer.</p>
Continuance rate	<p>Monitors claims over time from the date a claim was lodged with an insurer. The continuance rate shows the number of claims involving weekly income replacement payments at three months, six months and twelve months as a proportion of claims involving weekly income replacement payments at one month. This indicator provides insight into claim duration and scheme exits.</p>
Days lost	<p>The number of hours off work divided by the number of hours usually worked each day. If the claim is finalised, actual hours off work are used, otherwise if the claim is not finalised, estimated hours off work are used.</p>
Direct compensation	<p>Payments made directly to the worker either by income replacement (payments made for absences from work) or lump sums such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ redemption payments made under Schedule 1▲ specific injury payments made under Schedule 2▲ fatal payments including funeral expenses▲ common law and other Acts payments.
Dispute	<p>A dispute over a workers' compensation claim by parties involved (e.g. insurer, employer, worker). A dispute can occur at any stage of a claim in relation to a number of matters.</p>
Disputation rate	<p>The number of dispute applications per 100 active claims for the reference year.</p>
Extent of incapacity	<p>The outcome of the injury or disease as assessed by the insurer and the treating doctor. Categories include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▲ temporary incapacity▲ permanent incapacity - partial▲ permanent incapacity - total.
Frequency rate	<p>The number of lost-time claims per million hours worked and indicates the prevalence of workers' compensation claims. It is based on the number of hours worked by employed persons in Western Australia as supplied by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.</p>



GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Income claims	Refers to claims with weekly income replacement (weekly benefits).
Industry	Based on the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) 2006</i> published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The ANZSIC system groups together businesses that carry out similar economic activities and structured into a hierarchy of units reflecting different levels of description (abs.gov.au).
Journey claims	Up to 24 December 1993, workers' compensation claims could be lodged for injuries sustained while travelling to and from work. Journey claims have since been excluded from claims data.
Liability decision period	The number of calendar days between the date the claim was lodged with the insurer and the first date on which the insurer made a decision (accepted or rejected) about liability for the claims.
Lodgement year	The financial year in which the claim was lodged with the insurer.
Long duration claims	Workers' compensation claims for which the injury or disease results in an absence from work of at least 60 days or shifts.
Lost-time claims	Claims for which the work-related injury or disease results in an absence from work of at least one day or shift.
Mechanism of incident	The action, exposure or event that best describes the circumstances that resulted in the most serious injury or disease. The mechanism classification is based on the <i>Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> published by Safe Work Australia (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
Nature of injury or disease	The most serious injury or disease suffered by the worker. The nature of injury or disease classification is based on the <i>Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> published by Safe Work Australia (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
Occupation	Based on the <i>Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO)</i> published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. It is a skill-based classification which encompasses all occupations in the Australian workforce (abs.gov.au).
Region	Based on the address where the incident of injury or disease occurred.



GLOSSARY

TERM

DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM

Service payments

Service payments include:

1. medical and hospital payments:
 - ▲ medical practitioner and specialist payments (consultation and treatment expenses rendered by general practitioners and medical specialists)
 - ▲ hospital expenses (hospital accommodation and hospital treatment)
2. allied health payments:
 - ▲ other treatment and appliance payments (includes payments made under clauses 17(1)(3), (4), (5) and (6) of Schedule 1 of the Act, other than medical and hospital expenses)
3. workplace rehabilitation payments:
 - ▲ workplace rehabilitation payments (includes payments made under clause 17 (1a) of Schedule 1 of the Act in respect to counselling, occupational training, work assessment, aids and appliances)
4. legal and miscellaneous:
 - ▲ legal expenses (comprises the cost of legal advice and representation incurred by approved insurers or exempt employers, witness fees and the costs of these services incurred by the worker where the approved insurer or exempt employer is ordered to meet the costs)
 - ▲ miscellaneous (includes general items that do not fit in any other category, for example travelling, meals and lodgings, under clause 19 of Schedule 1).

Settlement

A pathway to finalising a worker's compensation claim depending on whether the settlement relates to a statutory compensation claim or a common law action. If a worker enters into a settlement, they will not be entitled to any further compensation under the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*.

Settlement rate

The number of settlements recorded as a proportion of finalised claims.

Work status

The work status of claimants with claims lodged between 2012/13 and 2015/16. Due to the evolving nature of claims, work status is subject to change particularly the most recent year.

Worker

As defined in Section 5 of the *Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981*, a worker is defined as:

- a) any person to whose service any industrial award or industrial agreement applies; and
- b) any person engaged by another person to work for the purpose of the other person's trade or business under a contract with him for service, the remuneration by whatever means of the person so working being in substance for his personal manual labour or services.



DISCLAIMER

- 1 Due to the dynamic nature of **workers'** compensation claims, the interpretation of data contained within this report (the data) must be undertaken with some caution. Data users are cautioned to consider carefully the provisional nature of the data before using it for decisions that concern personal or public safety or the conduct of business that involves substantial monetary or operational consequences.
- 2 The accuracy or reliability of the data is not guaranteed or warranted in any way. WorkCover WA has made a reasonable effort to ensure that the data is up-to-date, accurate, complete, and comprehensive at the time of disclosure. This data reflects data reported to this agency by insurers and self-insurers for the reporting periods indicated. Data users are responsible for ensuring by independent verification its accuracy, currency or completeness.
- 3 Neither WorkCover WA, or its agencies or representatives are responsible for data that is misinterpreted or altered in any way. Derived conclusions and analysis generated from this data are not to be considered attributable to WorkCover WA.
- 4 This data is provided as is and in no event shall WorkCover WA, its agencies or representatives be liable for any damages, including, without limitation, damages resulting from lost data or lost profits or revenue, the costs of recovering such data, the costs of substitute data, claims by third parties or for other similar costs, or any special, incidental, punitive or consequential damages, arising out of the use of the data.
- 5 Information concerning the accuracy and appropriate uses of the data or concerning other **workers' compensation data may be obtained by contacting WorkCover WA.**

