



WorkCoverWA

# INDUSTRY STATISTICAL REPORT

## 2022/23

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Arts & Recreation Services  
in the Western Australian  
Workers' Compensation Scheme

October 2023





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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.

Industry Statistical Report:  
Arts and recreation services  
2019/20 to 2022/23p

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# About This Report



## Purpose of the report

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WorkCover WA annually publishes eight industry-specific reports covering the following high-risk industry divisions:

- Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- Arts and recreation services
- Construction
- Education and training
- Health care and social assistance
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Transport, postal and warehousing.

These reports provide insight into claims activity within **the Western Australian workers' compensation scheme** over a four-year period.

## Changes to the report

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WorkCover WA is committed to providing relevant and timely information to stakeholders. In doing so, the 2023 report has been changed to include data up to the most recently completed financial year (i.e. 2022/23p, where the 'p' signifies '**provisional data**' - data that is subject to change over time as further information about the claims are received).

These changes are less likely to affect claim numbers but will have more impact on claim payments.

## Things to note

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As data for the most recent financial year is subject to develop over time due to the evolving nature of claims, care should be exercised when referencing and comparing against previous years.

Information in the report should also be read with consideration of the statements set out in the disclaimer page provided.

Frequency rates are based on the latest available data sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, which lags by one year from this report's timeframe.

## Arts and recreation services

The Arts and Recreation Services industry is classified according to the *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006* provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

This industry includes businesses mainly engaged in heritage, creative and performing arts, sports and recreation, and gambling activities.


### Arts & recreation services at a glance 2022/23p


#### Labour force\*

 **26,898**  
employees

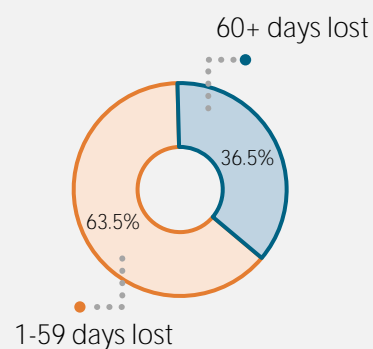
 **32 million**  
hours worked

#### Claims


 **477**  
workers' compensation  
claims lodged


 **63.7%** of claims  
involved at least one  
day/shift off work

#### Days lost



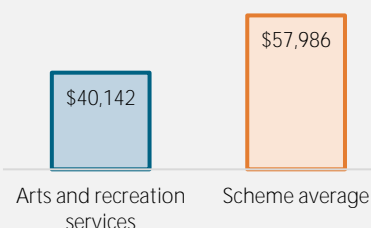
#### Frequency rate\*

 **7.7** lost-time  
claims per million  
hours worked

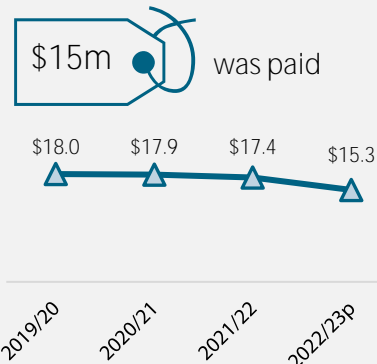
 Higher than the  
Scheme average of  
**6.9**

#### Average claim cost


**\$17,844** lower than the  
scheme average



#### Claim payments



#### Payment type

 **38.9%**  
Service  
payments

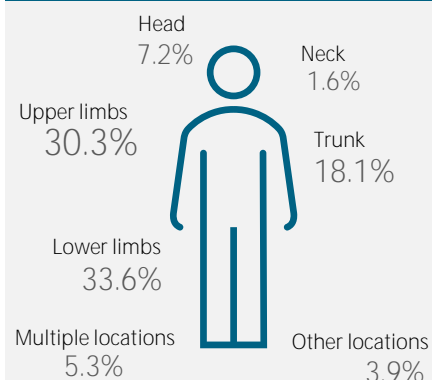
**61.1%**  
Direct  
compensation

#### The most common injury

Traumatic joint/ligament &  
muscle/tendon injury

 **51.6%**

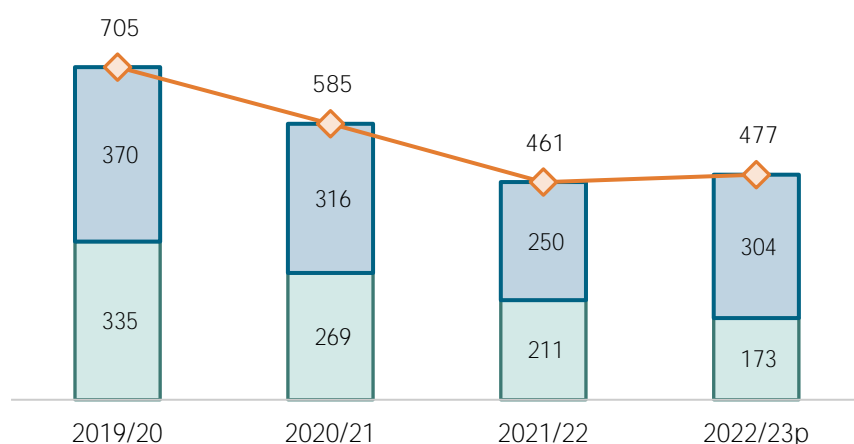
#### Bodily location



\* Based on 2021/22, as 2022/23 was not available at the time of report



## Claim numbers number of claims lodged by lost-time



## ■ All claims

Total claims in the Health care and social assistance industry significantly decreased (-32.3%) from 2019/20 to 2022/23p.

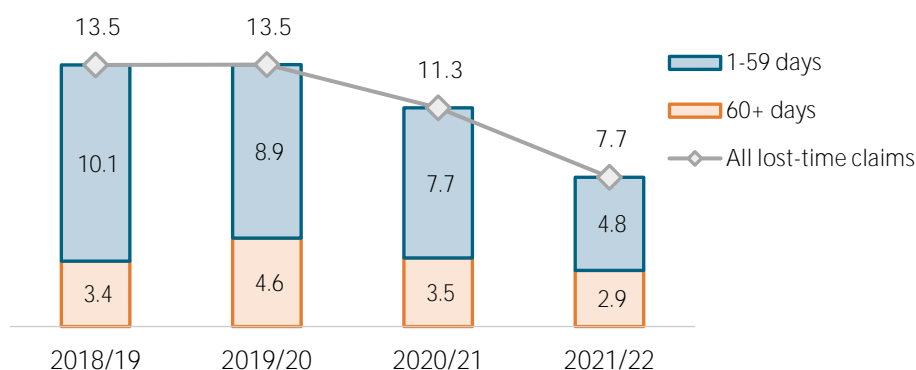
## ■ Lost-time claims

Lost-time claims averaged 310 claims per year over the same period.

## ■ No lost-time claims

Claims with no time off work dropped significantly (-48.4%) between 2019/20 and 2022/23p.

## Frequency rate\* lost-time claims per million hours worked



Frequency rate indicates the prevalence of workers' compensation lost-time claims by measuring the number of claims per million hours worked. The number of hours worked by employed persons is supplied by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

\* The 2022/23 frequency rates were not available at the time of the report.

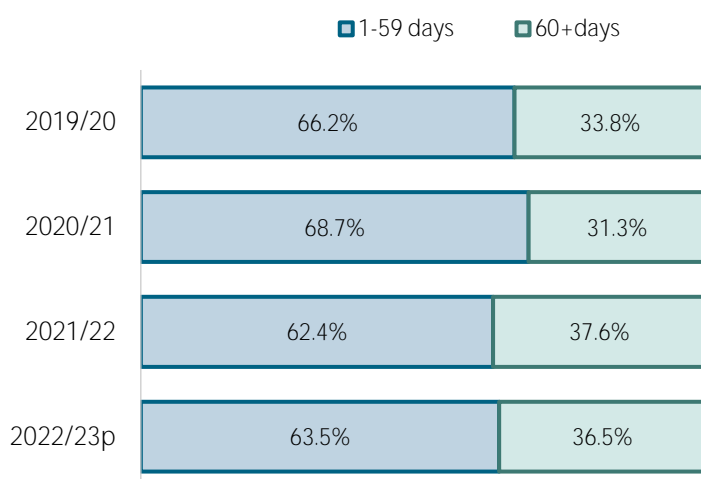


For claims lodged in 2021/22, the frequency rate for the Arts and recreation services industry was 7.7 lost-time claims per million hours worked. This is **higher** than the scheme average of 6.9.

## Claim numbers number of claims lodged by days lost

DAYS LOST	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
0 days	335	269	211	173
1 - 4 days	93	57	42	50
5 - 19 days	80	88	66	70
20 - 59 days	72	72	48	73
60 - 119 days	45	38	32	56
120 - 179 days	23	13	17	18
180+ days	57	48	45	37
Total claims	705	585	461	477

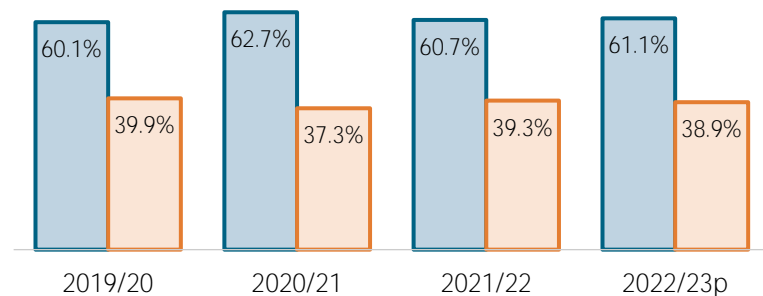
## Lost-time claims proportions by days lost



Arts & recreation services accounted for 1.8% of total claims lodged in 2022/23p in the WA workers' compensation scheme.

## Arts &amp; recreation services

## Total claim payments proportions by payment group

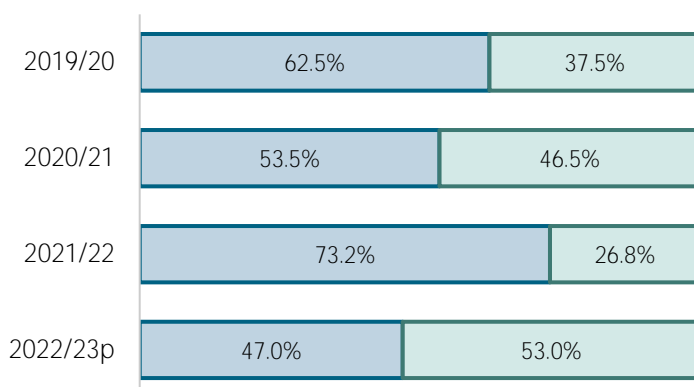
**Direct compensation**

payments made directly to the worker (either by income replacement or lump sums).

**Service payments**

includes medical & hospital, allied health, workplace rehabilitation and legal & miscellaneous payments.

## Direct compensation payments proportions by payment type

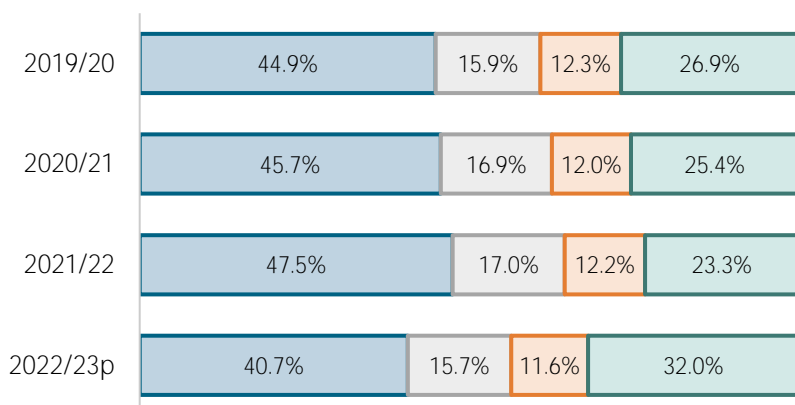
**Income payments**

as a proportion of direct compensation payments to workers ranged from 47.0% to 73.2% over four years.

**Lump sums**

accounted for 26.8% to 53.0% of direct compensation payments to workers over the last four years.

## Service payments proportions by payment type

**Medical & hospital****Allied health****Workplace rehabilitation****Legal & miscellaneous**



## Arts &amp; recreation services

## Claim payments (\$million adjusted)

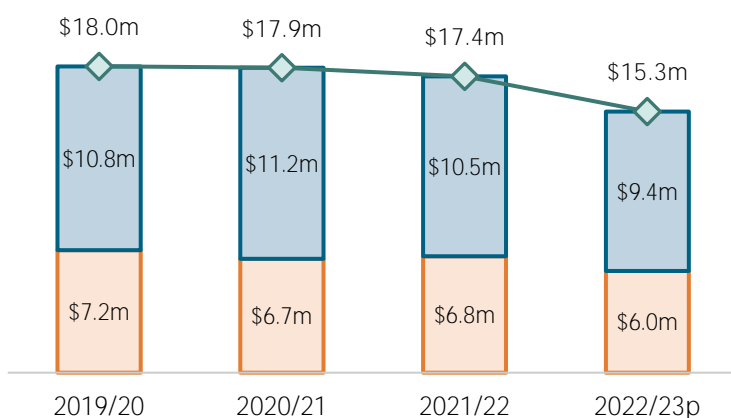
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
<b>DIRECT COMPENSATION</b>				
Income payments	\$6.7m	\$6.0m	\$7.7m	\$4.4m
Lump sums	\$4.1m	\$5.2m	\$2.8m	\$5.0m
<b>SERVICE PAYMENTS</b>				
Medical & hospital	\$3.2m	\$3.1m	\$3.2m	\$2.4m
Allied health*	\$1.1m	\$1.1m	\$1.2m	\$0.9m
Workplace rehabilitation	\$0.9m	\$0.8m	\$0.8m	\$0.7m
Legal & miscellaneous	\$1.9m	\$1.7m	\$1.6m	\$1.9m
<b>Total claim payments</b>	<b>\$18.0m</b>	<b>\$17.9m</b>	<b>\$17.4m</b>	<b>\$15.3m</b>



Total claim payments are adjusted to allow meaningful comparisons over time.

\* Allied health includes 'other treatment services'.

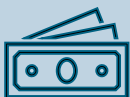
## Total claim payments (\$million adjusted) by payment group



Direct compensation payments show a steady to decreasing trend over four years.



Service payments average around \$6.7 million per year between 2019/20 and 2022/23p.



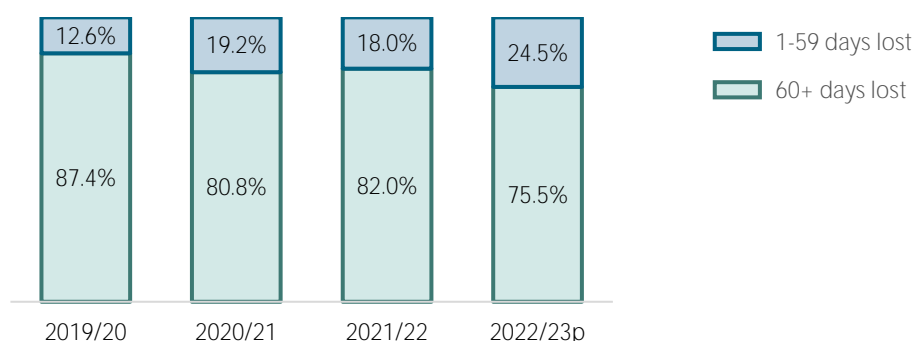
Payments for claims in the Arts & recreation services industry in 2022/23p totalled **\$15.3 million**, accounting for **1.3%** of total scheme payments.

## Claim costs\* total claim costs by days lost

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
1-59 days lost	\$2.3m	\$2.9m	\$2.0m	\$2.9m
60+ days lost	\$15.6m	\$12.4m	\$9.3m	\$8.9m
Total claims	\$17.9m	\$15.3m	\$11.3m	\$11.8m

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

## Claim costs\* proportion of claim costs by days lost



## Claim costs\* average claim costs by days lost

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
1-59 days lost	\$9,206	\$13,562	\$13,089	\$15,029
60+ days lost	\$125,198	\$124,888	\$98,942	\$80,574
Total claims	\$48,392	\$48,440	\$45,370	\$38,962

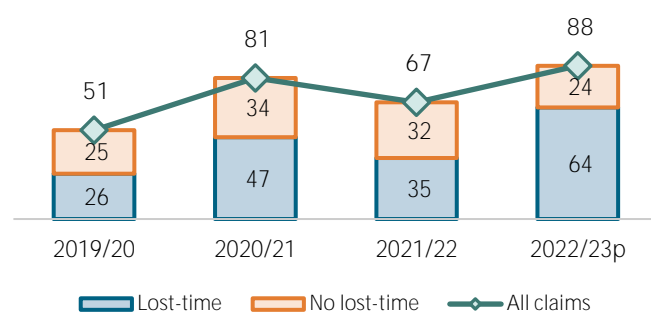
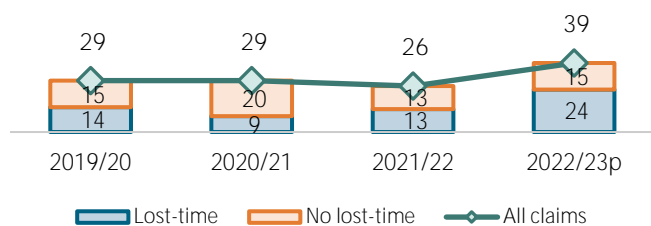


The average claim cost for Arts and recreation services was \$38,962 in 2022/23p, compared with the scheme average of \$57,986.

## Claim numbers by lost-time per industry subdivision

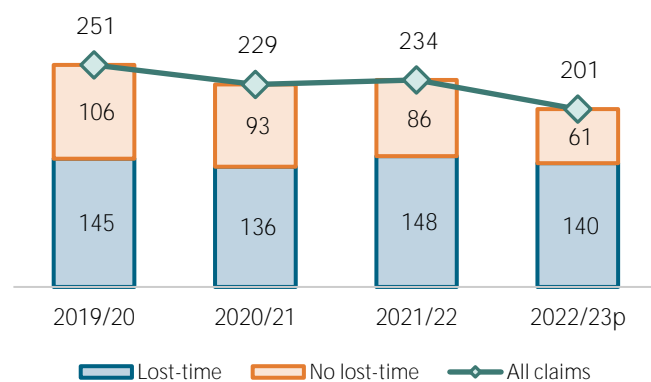
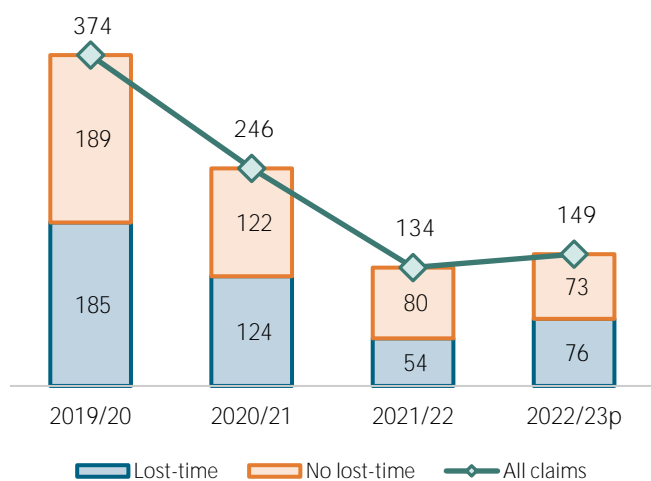
## Creative and performing arts activities

## Gambling activities



## Heritage activities

## Sports and recreation activities



## Lost-time claims and frequency rate by industry subdivision

SUBDIVISION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p	Average* frequency rate
Creative and performing arts activities	14	9	13	24	6.5
1-59 days lost	10	4	6	12	4.1
60+ days lost	4	5	7	12	2.4
Gambling activities	26	47	35	64	6.7
1-59 days lost	10	30	24	43	4.3
60+ days lost	16	17	11	21	2.4
Heritage activities	185	124	54	76	21.4
1-59 days lost	138	93	31	57	16.2
60+ days lost	47	31	23	19	5.2
Sports and recreation activities	145	136	148	140	9.4
1-59 days lost	87	90	95	81	5.9
60+ days lost	58	46	53	59	3.4
Total claims	370	316	250	304	15.7

\* The average frequency rate is over four years (2018/19 to 2021/22). The 2022/23 frequency rate was not available at the time of the report.



Frequency rate indicates the prevalence of workers' compensation claims by measuring the number of lost-time claims per million hours worked.

## Work status rate lost-time claims

Return to work rate	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
at 1 month	74.1%	72.6%	64.8%	74.0%
at 3 months	83.5%	82.9%	81.8%	81.7%
at 6 months	90.0%	86.7%	88.0%	87.4%
at 12 months	100.0%	97.3%	100.0%	n/a



The return to work rate measures the proportion of claimants who returned to work at any capacity at key intervals from the date of claim lodgement.



For 2021/22, 100% of claimants in Arts & recreation services returned to work at 12 months after the claim was lodged, higher than the overall scheme (87.3%).

## Lost-time claims by age group

AGE GROUP	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
15-19 years	19	18	14	23
20-24 years	37	41	40	49
25-34 years	70	63	52	67
35-44 years	75	57	40	56
45-54 years	86	64	44	47
55-59 years	46	36	27	25
60-64 years	22	19	22	21
65+ years	15	18	11	16
Total claims	370	316	250	304

## Frequency rate\* by age group

AGE GROUP	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
15-19 years	14.1	11.4	9.0	n/a
20-24 years	7.8	12.6	9.4	n/a
25-34 years	13.1	11.7	6.0	n/a
35-44 years	12.7	7.7	6.1	n/a
45-54 years	13.3	10.0	8.4	n/a
55-59 years	16.0	14.0	5.6	n/a
60-64 years	73.4	17.6	21.5	n/a
65+ years	35.4	65.0	38.0	n/a
Total claims	13.5	11.3	7.7	n/a

\* The 2022/23 frequency rate was not available at the time of the report.



## Lost-time claims by occupation

OCCUPATION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Community & personal service workers	78	100	98	105
Technicians & trades workers	105	82	55	66
Labourers	109	65	49	56
Professionals	30	29	15	42
Managers	15	17	19	17
Clerical & administrative workers	13	6	4	7
Machinery operators & drivers	16	9	4	6
Sales workers	4	8	6	5
Total claims	370	316	250	304

## Lost-time claims proportions by occupation 2022/23p



## Lost-time claims by nature of injury/disease

NATURE	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Traumatic joint/ligament & muscle/tendon injury	204	173	114	157
Wounds, lacerations, amputations & internal organ damage	57	54	46	45
Fractures	53	46	44	40
Musculoskeletal & connective tissue diseases	11	13	14	21
Mental diseases	8	1	10	10
Other injuries	10	7	3	8
Burn	9	2	8	8
Intracranial injuries	11	12	10	8
Digestive system diseases	2	3	1	3
Nervous system & sense organ diseases	3	4	0	3
Neoplasms (cancer)	0	0	0	1
Infectious & parasitic diseases	2	1	0	0
Total claims	370	316	250	304

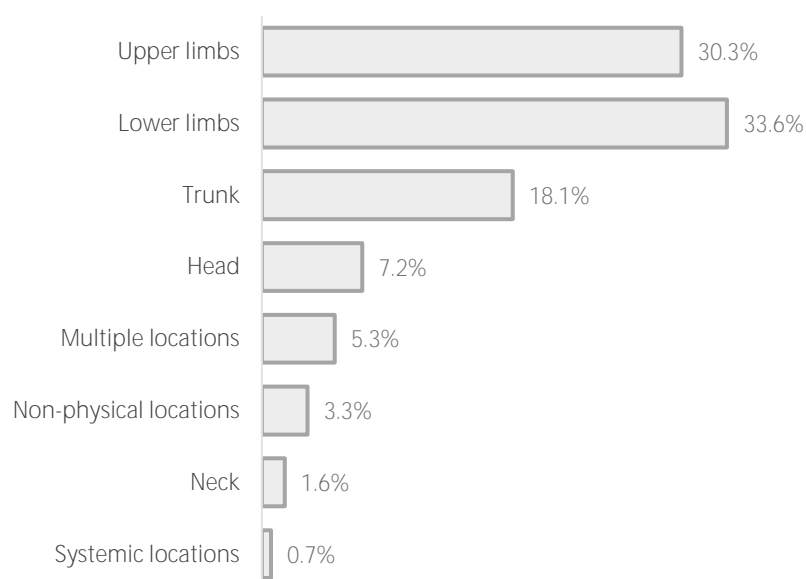


Sprains and strains (traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendon injury) continue to be the **leading** type of injury for claims lodged in the Arts & recreation services industry (51.6%), and shows the same pattern in the overall scheme (49.5%).

## Lost-time claims by bodily location of injury/disease

LOCATION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Upper limbs	121	109	97	92
Lower limbs	107	87	70	102
Trunk	77	54	34	55
Head	27	36	18	22
Multiple locations	23	22	18	16
Non-physical locations	8	1	10	10
Neck	4	6	3	5
Systemic locations	3	1	0	2
Total claims	370	316	250	304

## Lost-time claims proportions by bodily location of injury/disease 2022/23p

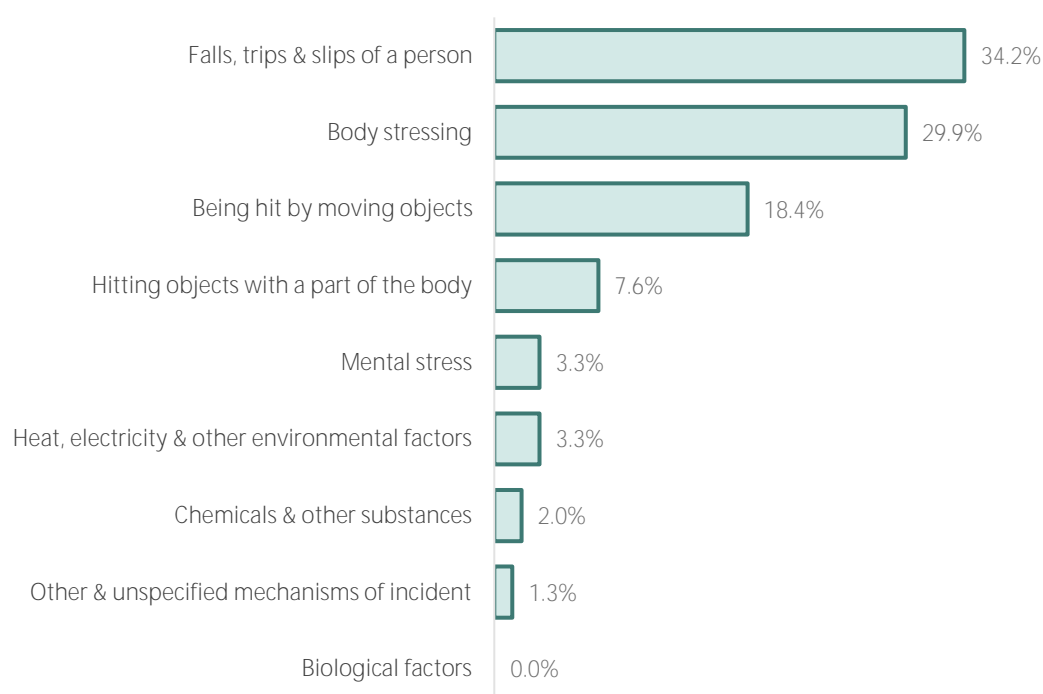


Upper and lower limb injuries accounted for 63.9% of total claims lodged in 2022/23p.

## Lost-time claims by mechanism of incident

MECHANISM	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Falls, trips & slips of a person	116	103	93	104
Body stressing	137	114	66	91
Being hit by moving objects	65	60	47	56
Hitting objects with a part of the body	21	28	19	23
Mental stress	8	1	10	10
Heat, electricity & other environmental factors	7	1	6	10
Chemicals & other substances	9	2	5	6
Other & unspecified mechanisms of incident	5	6	4	4
Biological factors	2	1	0	0
Total claims	370	316	250	304

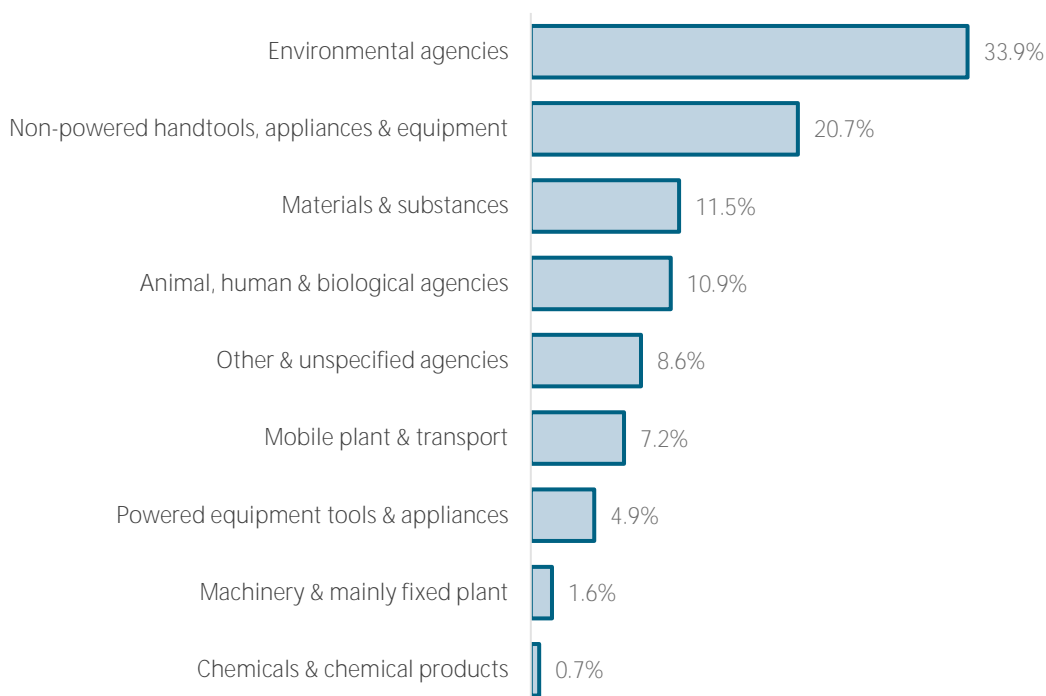
## Lost-time claims proportions by mechanism of incident 2022/23p



## Lost-time claims by agency of injury/disease

AGENCY	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Environmental agencies	133	127	90	103
Non-powered handtools, appliances & equipment	72	76	52	63
Materials & substances	36	30	27	35
Animal, human & biological agencies	44	37	30	33
Other & unspecified agencies	22	11	13	26
Mobile plant & transport	28	17	15	22
Powered equipment tools & appliances	29	17	15	15
Machinery & mainly fixed plant	4	0	6	5
Chemicals & chemical products	2	1	2	2
Total claims	370	316	250	304

## Lost-time claims proportions by agency of injury/disease 2022/23p



# 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 circumstances which ultimately led to the most serious injury or disease. A comprehensive list of this classification is available from <i>Safe Work Australia Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> ( <a href="http://safeworkaustralia.gov.au">safeworkaustralia.gov.au</a> ).
Bodily location	The part of the body affected by the most serious injury or disease. A comprehensive list of this classification is available from <i>Safe Work Australia Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> ( <a href="http://safeworkaustralia.gov.au">safeworkaustralia.gov.au</a> ).
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><b>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:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ lost-time journey claims between home and work</li> <li>▲ asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma and pneumoconiosis, caused by asbestos exposure</li> <li>▲ duplicated or disallowed (by an insurer).</li> </ul> <p>Due to the evolving nature of claims, data is subject to change particularly the most recent year.</p>



# Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Claim payments	<b>Categories are based on WorkCover WA's Guidelines for Completing Form WC 101.</b> 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.
Days lost	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.
Direct compensation	Payments made directly to the worker either by income replacement (payments made for absences from work) or lump sums such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▲ redemption payments made under Schedule 1</li><li>▲ specific injury payments made under Schedule 2</li><li>▲ fatal payments including funeral expenses</li><li>▲ common law and other Acts payments.</li></ul>
Frequency rate	The number of lost-time claims per million hours worked and indicates the <b>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.</b>
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).
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 injury or disease results in an absence from work of at least one day or shift.

# Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Mechanism of incident	The action, exposure or event that best describes the circumstances that resulted in the most serious injury or disease. The full list of this classification is available from <i>Safe Work Australia's Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> ( <a href="http://safeworkaustralia.gov.au">safeworkaustralia.gov.au</a> ).
Nature of injury or disease	The most serious injury or disease suffered by the worker. The full list of this classification is available from <i>Safe Work Australia's Type of Occurrence Classification System 3rd edition</i> ( <a href="http://safeworkaustralia.gov.au">safeworkaustralia.gov.au</a> ).
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 ( <a href="http://abs.gov.au">abs.gov.au</a> ).
Service payments	<p>Service payments include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. medical and hospital payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ medical practitioner and specialist payments (consultation and treatment expenses rendered by general practitioners and medical specialists)</li> <li>▲ hospital expenses (hospital accommodation and hospital treatment)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. allied health payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ other treatment and appliance payments (comprises payments made under clauses 17(1)(3), (4), (5) and (6) of Schedule 1 of the Act, other than medical and hospital expenses)</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. workplace rehabilitation payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ workplace rehabilitation payments (comprises payments made under clause 17 (1a) of Schedule 1 of the Act in respect of counselling, occupational training, work assessment, aids and appliances)</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. legal and miscellaneous: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▲ 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)</li> <li>▲ miscellaneous (includes general items that do not fit in any other category, for example travelling, meals and lodgings, under clause 19 of Schedule 1).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

# Glossary

## TERM

## DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM

### 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.

- 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.
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- 5 Information concerning the accuracy and appropriate uses of the data or concerning other **workers' compensation data may be obtained by contacting WorkCover WA.**