



WorkCoverWA

INDUSTRY STATISTICAL REPORT

2022/23

Education & Training
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:
Education and training
2019/20 to 2022/23p

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About This Report



Purpose of the report

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

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

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.

Education and training


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

This industry covers businesses mainly engaged in the provision and support of education and training (except those engaged in training of animals) and includes preschool, tertiary, adult, community and other education.


Education and training at a glance 2022/23p


Labour force*

 **119,086**
employees

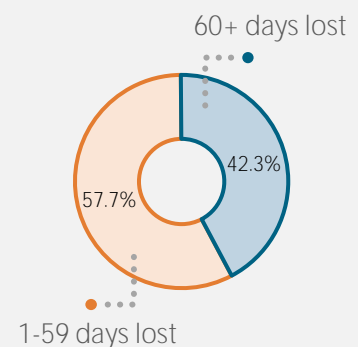
 **173 million**
hours worked

Claims

 **2,803**
workers' compensation
claims lodged


 **62.9%** of claims
involved at least one
day/shift off work

Days lost



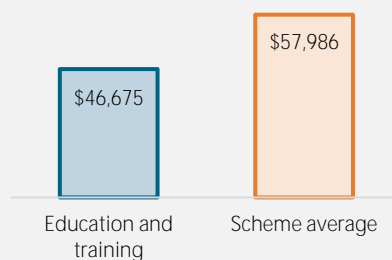
Frequency rate*

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

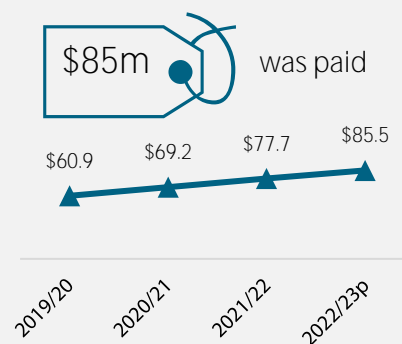
 Higher than the
Scheme average of
6.9

Average claim cost


\$11,311 lower than the
scheme average



Claim payments



Payment type

 **33.1%**
Service
payments

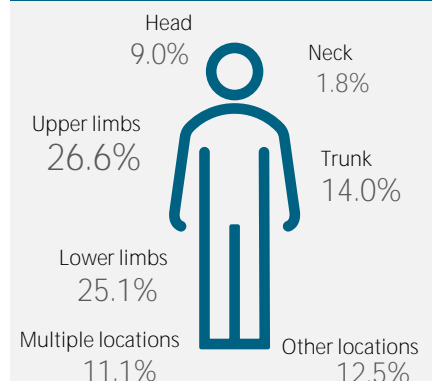
66.9%
Direct
compensation

The most common injury

Traumatic joint/ligament &
muscle/tendon injury

 **50.6%**

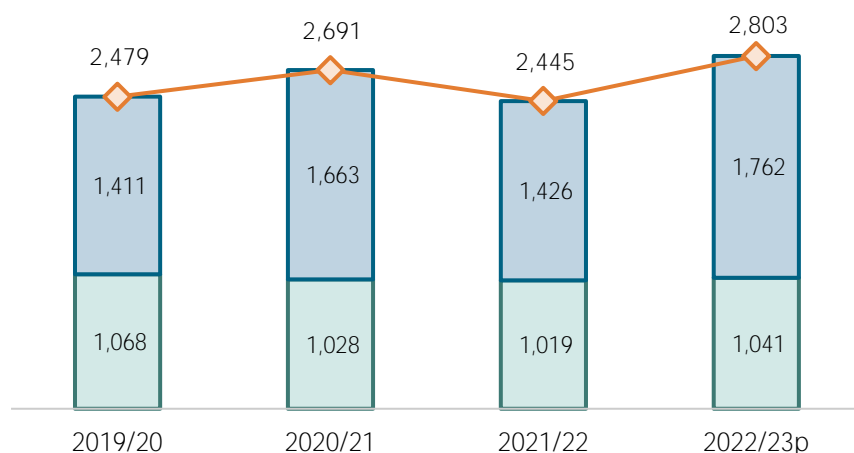
Bodily location



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

Education and training

Claim numbers number of claims lodged by lost-time



■ All claims

Total claims in the Education and training industry show a steady to increasing trend.

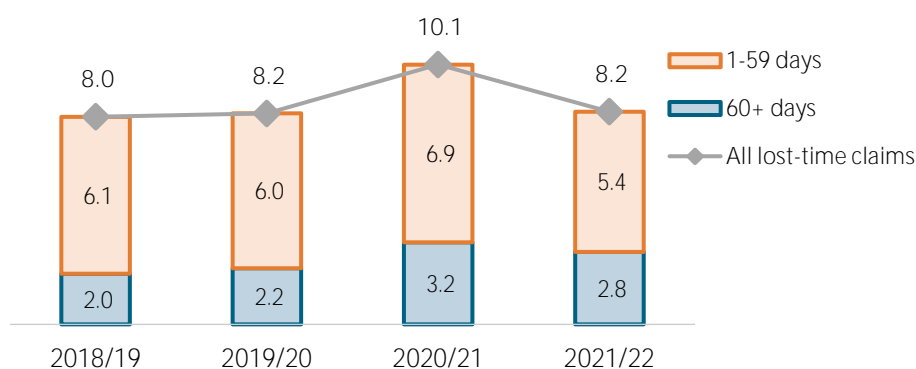
■ Lost-time claims

Lost-time claims averaged 1,566 claims between 2019/20 to 2022/23p.

■ No lost-time claims

Claims with no time off work remained stable over the same period.

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.

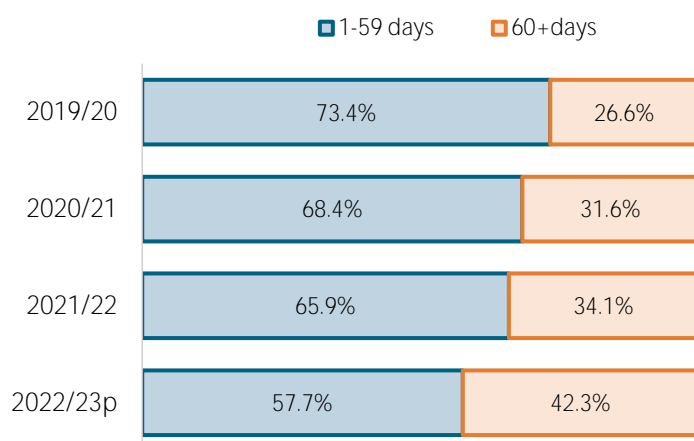


The frequency rate for the Education and training industry was 8.2 lost-time claims per million hours worked, compared to the scheme average of 6.9 for 2021/22.

Claim numbers number of claims lodged by days lost

DAYS LOST	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
0 days	1,068	1,028	1,019	1,041
1 - 4 days	476	514	426	414
5 - 19 days	352	357	291	282
20 - 59 days	207	266	223	320
60 - 119 days	135	155	136	242
120 - 179 days	58	118	84	208
180+ days	183	253	266	296
Total claims	2,479	2,691	2,445	2,803

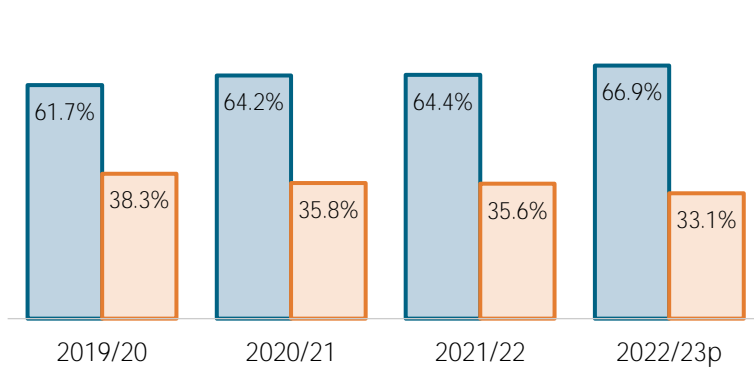
Lost-time claims proportions by days lost



Education and training accounts for 10.7% of total claims lodged in 2022/23p in the WA workers' compensation scheme.

Education and training

Total claim payments proportions by payment group

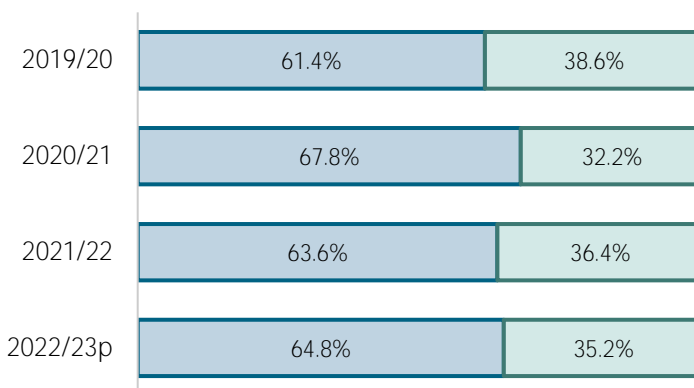
**Direct compensation**

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

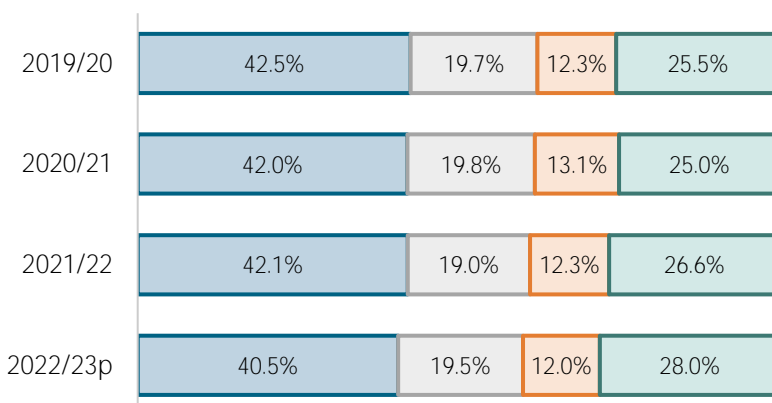
**Income payments**

accounted for almost two-thirds of direct compensation payments to workers over four years.

**Lump sums**

accounted for 32.2% to 38.6% 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**

Claim payments (\$million adjusted)

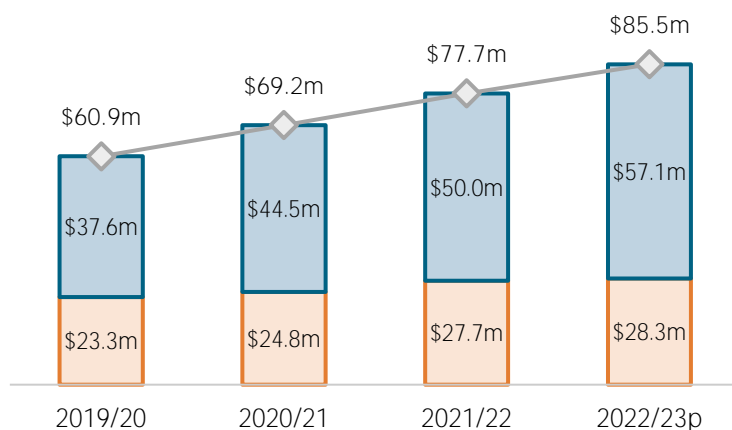
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
DIRECT COMPENSATION				
Income payments	\$23.1m	\$30.1m	\$31.8m	\$37.0m
Lump sums	\$14.5m	\$14.3m	\$18.2m	\$20.1m
SERVICE PAYMENTS				
Medical & hospital	\$9.9m	\$10.4m	\$11.7m	\$11.5m
Allied health*	\$4.6m	\$4.9m	\$5.3m	\$5.5m
Workplace rehabilitation	\$2.9m	\$3.2m	\$3.4m	\$3.4m
Legal & miscellaneous	\$5.9m	\$6.2m	\$7.4m	\$7.9m
Total claim payments	\$60.9m	\$69.2m	\$77.7m	\$85.5m



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

* Allied health includes 'other treatment services'.

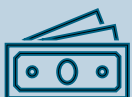
Total claim payments (\$million adjusted) by payment group



Direct compensation payments increased from \$37.6 million in 2019/20 to \$57.1 million in 2022/23p.



Service payments increased by \$5.0 million over the four year period.



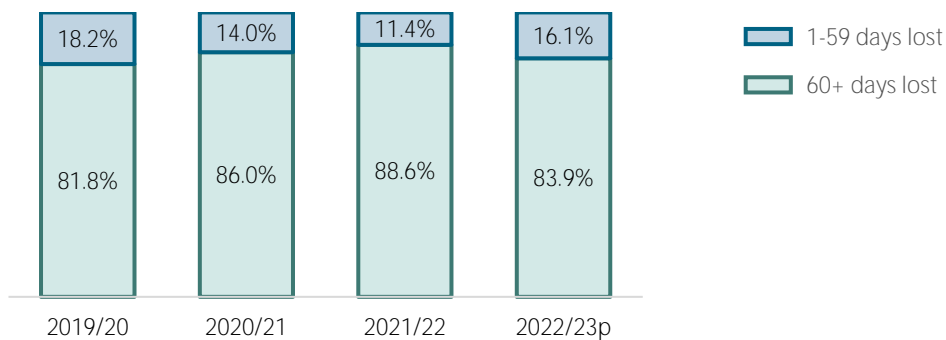
Payments for claims in the Education and training industry in 2022/23p totalled \$85.5million, accounting for 7.2% of total scheme payments.

Claim costs* total claim costs by days lost

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
1-59 days lost	\$10.8m	\$10.5m	\$8.0m	\$13.2m
60+ days lost	\$48.5m	\$64.3m	\$61.6m	\$69.0m
Total claims	\$59.2m	\$74.8m	\$69.6m	\$82.1m

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

Claim costs* proportions of claim costs by days lost



Claim costs* average claim costs by days lost

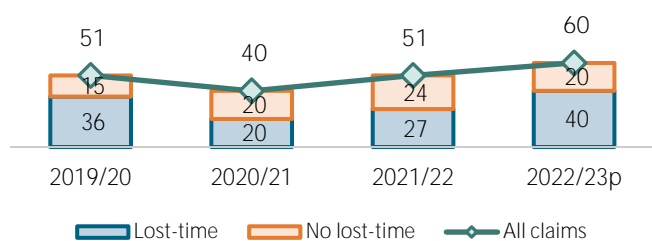
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
1-59 days lost	\$10,393	\$9,253	\$8,500	\$12,933
60+ days lost	\$128,911	\$122,203	\$127,084	\$92,968
Total claims	\$41,975	\$44,957	\$48,832	\$46,675



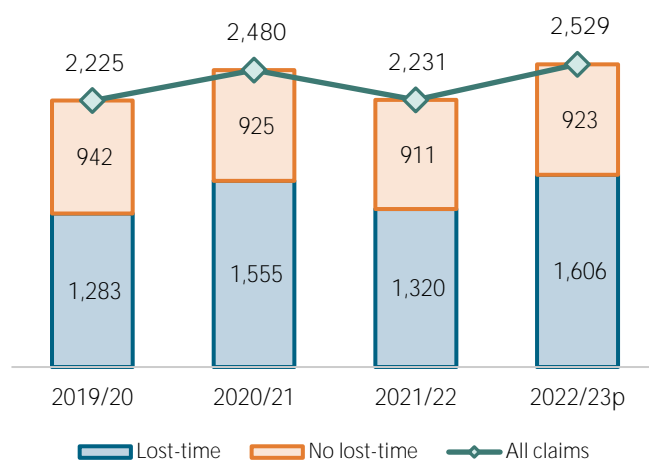
The average claim cost for Education and training was \$46,675 in 2022/23p, compared with the scheme average of \$57,986.

Claim numbers by lost-time per industry subdivision

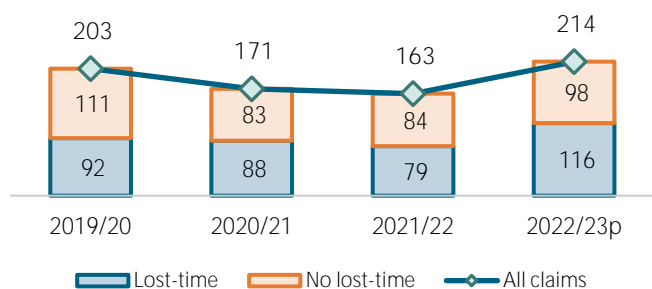
Adult, community and other education



Preschool and school education



Tertiary education



Lost-time claims and frequency rate by industry subdivision

SUBDIVISION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p	Average* frequency rate
Adult, community and other education	36	20	27	40	1.2
1-59 days lost	24	11	16	22	0.7
60+ days lost	12	9	11	18	0.4
Preschool and school education	1,283	1,555	1,320	1,606	12.1
1-59 days lost	953	1,067	875	936	8.6
60+ days lost	330	488	445	670	3.5
Tertiary education	92	88	79	116	2.6
1-59 days lost	58	59	49	58	1.7
60+ days lost	34	29	30	58	0.9
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762	8.6

* 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	75.9%	74.0%	66.0%	64.6%
at 3 months	85.2%	85.0%	78.7%	77.1%
at 6 months	90.2%	90.0%	84.4%	81.6%
at 12 months	91.8%	92.6%	87.7%	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, 87.7% of claimants in Education and training 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	6	<5	10	11
20-24 years	43	51	38	58
25-34 years	147	160	137	204
35-44 years	254	302	261	341
45-54 years	463	571	452	556
55-59 years	234	289	243	257
60-64 years	186	203	197	218
65+ years	78	86	88	117
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

Frequency rate* by age group

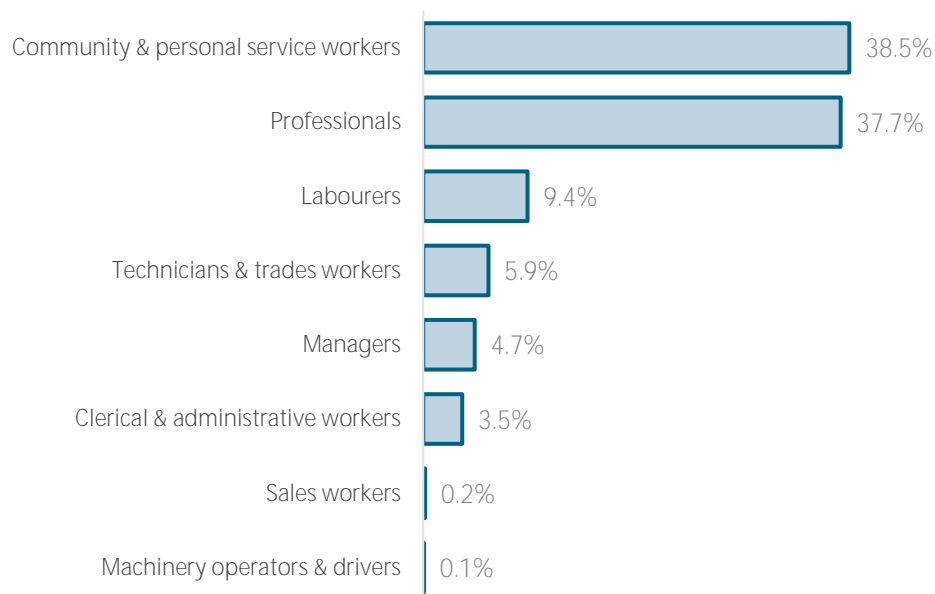
AGE GROUP	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
15-19 years	11.2	0.5	4.4	n/a
20-24 years	4.9	7.2	3.7	n/a
25-34 years	4.0	4.8	4.0	n/a
35-44 years	6.0	7.4	6.1	n/a
45-54 years	8.8	12.1	10.5	n/a
55-59 years	13.9	15.7	13.3	n/a
60-64 years	15.7	17.5	14.4	n/a
65+ years	20.7	17.0	9.6	n/a
Total claims	8.2	10.1	8.2	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	462	638	593	679
Professionals	556	598	497	665
Labourers	167	199	143	166
Technicians & trades workers	102	109	93	104
Managers	65	65	42	82
Clerical & administrative workers	53	48	53	62
Sales workers	1	1	4	3
Machinery operators & drivers	5	5	1	1
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

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	743	901	707	892
Wounds, lacerations, amputations & internal organ damage	283	305	301	315
Mental diseases	79	106	102	212
Fractures	163	197	159	176
Musculoskeletal & connective tissue diseases	32	40	46	56
Intracranial injuries	37	48	47	54
Other injuries	27	24	24	23
Burn	13	10	11	10
Respiratory system diseases	5	6	3	8
Nervous system & sense organ diseases	15	16	7	6
Digestive system diseases	6	2	4	3
Infectious & parasitic diseases	2	0	8	3
Skin & subcutaneous tissue diseases	1	2	1	1
Circulatory system diseases	2	2	0	1
Other diseases	3	4	6	2
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

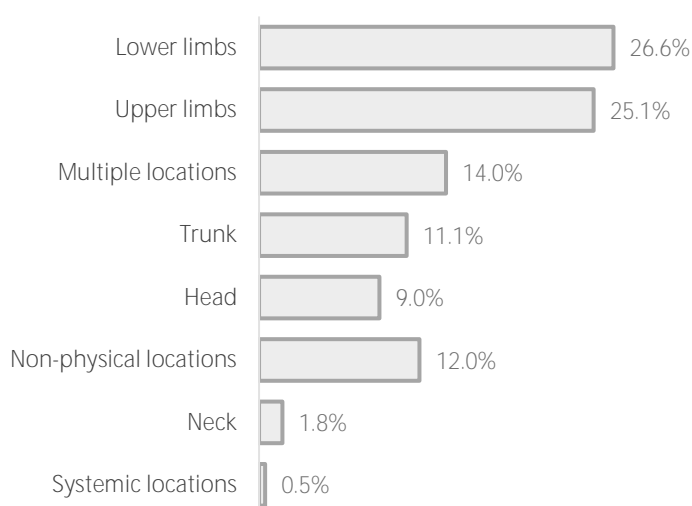


In 2022/23p, Sprains and strains (traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendon injury) continue to be the **leading** type of injury for claims lodged in the Education and training industry (50.6%), on par with the overall scheme (49.5%).

Lost-time claims by bodily location of injury/disease

LOCATION	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Lower limbs	381	464	407	468
Upper limbs	366	423	366	442
Multiple locations	223	264	207	247
Trunk	206	224	179	195
Head	128	156	125	159
Non-physical locations	79	106	102	212
Neck	17	19	24	31
Systemic locations	11	6	15	8
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

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

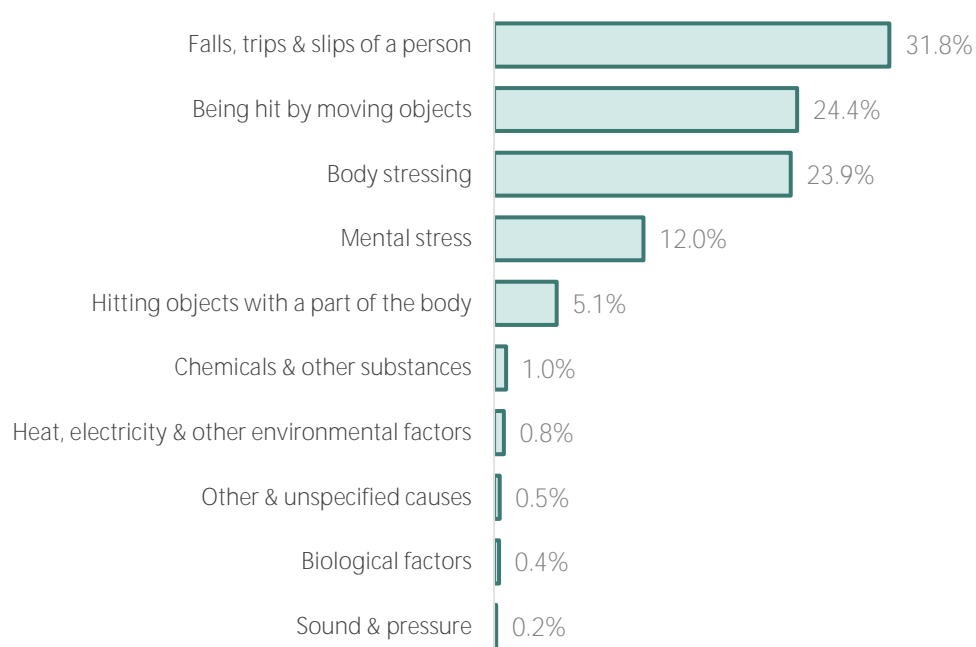


Upper and lower limb injuries accounted for 51.7% of total claims lodged in 2022/23p.

Lost-time claims by mechanism of incident

MECHANISM	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Falls, trips & slips of a person	541	625	527	561
Being hit by moving objects	327	408	376	430
Body stressing	347	386	298	421
Mental stress	80	106	102	212
Hitting objects with a part of the body	62	85	62	89
Chemicals & other substances	17	19	16	17
Heat, electricity & other environmental factors	14	13	14	14
Other & unspecified causes	11	12	17	8
Biological factors	9	6	13	7
Sound & pressure	3	3	1	3
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

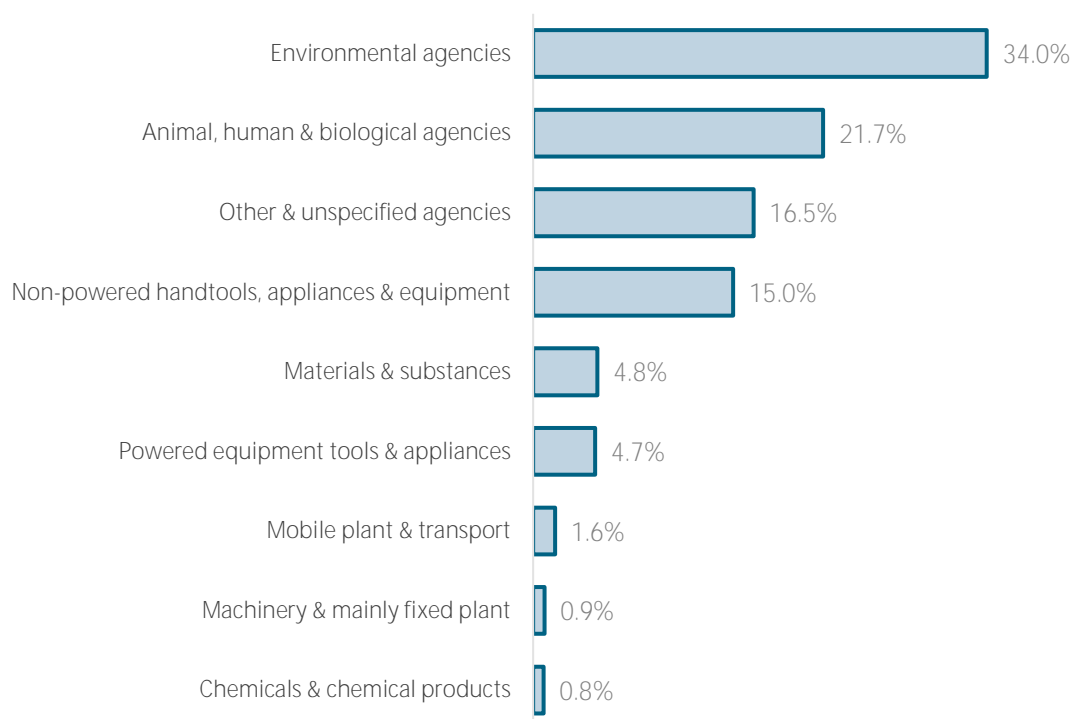
Lost-time claims proportions by mechanism of incident 2022/23p



Lost-time claims by agency of injury/disease

AGENCY	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23p
Environmental agencies	548	597	524	599
Animal, human & biological agencies	264	360	300	383
Other & unspecified agencies	144	166	156	291
Non-powered handtools, appliances & equipment	275	314	249	264
Materials & substances	56	85	79	85
Powered equipment tools & appliances	53	74	57	82
Mobile plant & transport	39	38	38	29
Machinery & mainly fixed plant	19	16	13	15
Chemicals & chemical products	13	13	10	14
Total claims	1,411	1,663	1,426	1,762

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> (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
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> (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>

Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION / EXPLANATION OF TERM
Claim payments	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.
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">▲ redemption payments made under Schedule 1▲ specific injury payments made under Schedule 2▲ fatal payments including funeral expenses▲ common law and other Acts payments.
Frequency rate	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.
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> (safeworkaustralia.gov.au).
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> (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).
Service payments	<p>Service payments include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. medical and hospital payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 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) 3. workplace rehabilitation payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 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) 4. legal and miscellaneous: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ 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).

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.
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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.**