

# COMPENDIUM OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION STATISTICS AUSTRALIA 2006–07

March 2009



Australian Government

Australian Safety and Compensation Council

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ISBN 978-0-642-32741-3

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# Part D

## Priority industry profiles

### Agriculture, forestry and fishing

#### An overview

During 2006–07, the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry employed 357 000 people, 4% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 53% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers). Caution should be exercised in using these data to represent workers in this industry who are not employees.

The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 4625 workers' compensation claims for serious injury or disease in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, representing 4% of all serious claims. This equates to 13 claims per day or 25 claims per 1000 employees, involving one or more weeks off work. The Construction industry recorded the third highest incidence rate of all industries in 2006–07, 78% higher than the incidence rate for all industries (14 claims per 1000 employees).

#### Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006–07p)

##### Industry profile

The Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry comprises a number of groups with the Horticulture and fruit growing and Grain, sheep and beef cattle farming groups together accounting for 63% of workers in this industry. Figure 21 shows that the Horticulture and fruit growing group had a considerably smaller proportion of serious claims than the proportion of workers in the group while the Services to agriculture; hunting and trapping and Other livestock farming groups recorded much larger percentages of serious claims than the proportion of employees in the group.

**Figure 21** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by industry groups, 2006–07p

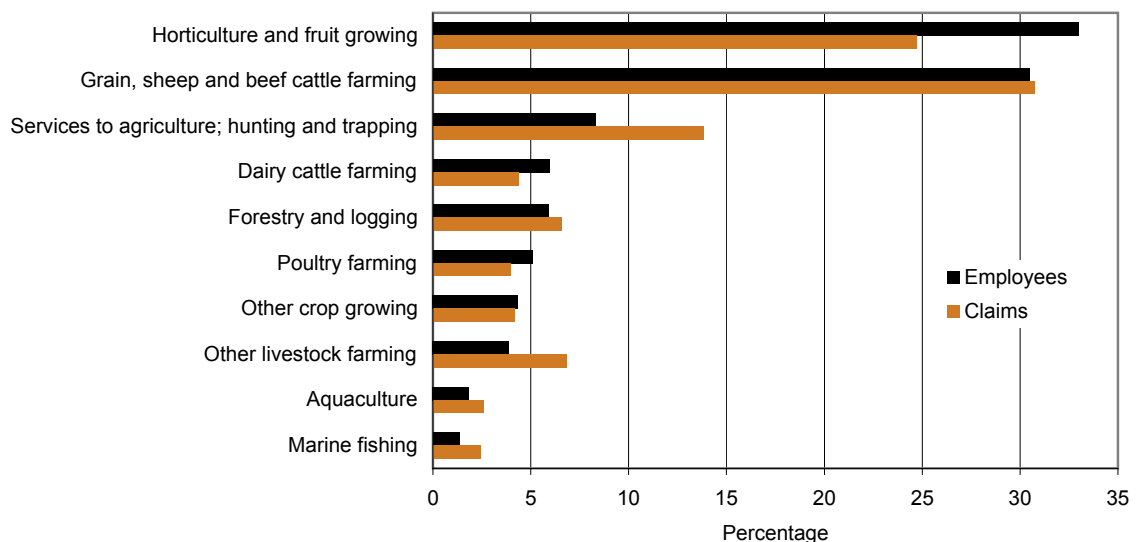


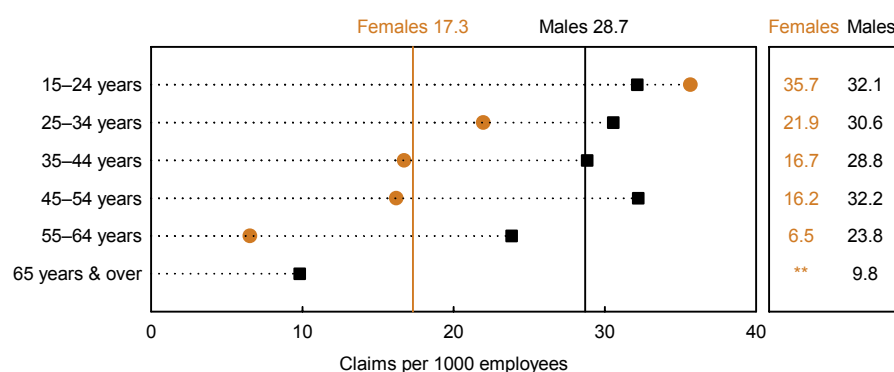
Table 25 shows that the lowest incidence rates in 2006–07p were recorded in the Dairy cattle farming and Horticulture & fruit growing groups (both with 19 claims per 1000 employees) closely followed by Poultry farming (20). In contrast, the highest incidence rates were recorded by Marine fishing (46 claims per 1000 employees) and Other livestock farming (45 claims per 1000 employees), which mainly involved the farming of pigs. These groups, however, only accounted for 4% and 1% of employees in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry respectively. The third highest incidence rate (43 claims per 1000 employees) was recorded by Services to agriculture; hunting and trapping of which 43% of the claims were from employees engaged in Shearing services and the rest from employees engaged in a variety of services to assist the Agriculture sector such as fruit picking and crop harvesting.

### Gender and age

In 2006–07, 29% of employees in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry were female, but female employees lodged only 20% of the serious claims. This equates to an incidence rate of 17 claims per 1000 female employees compared to 29 claims per 1000 male employees.

Figure 22 shows that male employees had considerably higher incidence rates than female employees in all age groups apart from the 15–24 years age group, in which female employees recorded 36 claims per 1000 employees compared with 32 claims per 1000 employees for male employees. Analysis of the claims for these younger workers reveals that females had much higher injury rates due to falls and being hit associated with animals.

**Figure 22** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p



\*\* An incidence rate for women aged 65 years and over is not shown as the estimated number of employees in this cohort is unreliable.

### Common causes of serious claims

*Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* was the most common cause of claims in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry in 2006–07p, accounting for 13% of claims. Other common causes were *Falls on the same level* and *Falls from a height* (both with 11% of claims); and *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* (10%). *Being hit by an animal* was the cause of a further 9% of claims — most notably in Dairy cattle farming and Other livestock farming, with both groups having one-quarter of their claims in this category.

### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07p, the majority of compensated claims in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry were injury-related (83%) with the remainder being disease-related (17%). Of the injury-related claims, *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* was the most common type of injury, accounting for 44% of injuries. Other common causes of injury claims were *Fractures* (19% of injury claims), and *Open wounds not involving traumatic amputation* (15% of injury claims).

The most common disease-related claims in the industry were related to *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* (30% of disease claims). A further 25% of disease claims involved *Dorsopathies - disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs*.

#### Common breakdown agencies

In 2006-07p, *Live four-legged animal* was the most common breakdown agency in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, making up 18% of all claims. This breakdown agency accounted for 43% of claims in the Other livestock farming group and 32% of claims in the Grain, sheep and beef cattle farming group. *Outdoor environment*, which includes such items as buildings and other structures; fencing; vegetation; weather and water; and holes in the ground accounted for a further 15% of claims and *Road transport*, 8% of claims.

### Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

Since the 2006-07p data are preliminary, the time series comparisons extend only to 2005-06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls.

Table 25 shows that between 2000-01 and 2005-06, the incidence rate for the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry fell from 29 claims per 1000 employees to 26 claims per 1000 employees — an 11% decrease, slightly less than the fall in the incidence rate across all industries (16%).

Between 2000-01 and 2005-06, Poultry farming recorded the largest percentage decrease in incidence rates, falling 50% from 36 claims per 1000 employees to 18, to record a rate lower than the average for the whole industry. Poultry farming accounts for around 5% of employees in this industry. The next largest percentage fall (49%) was recorded by Other livestock farming which fell from 67 claims per 1000 to 34 in 2005-06. This rate, however, was higher than the rate for the whole industry (26) and the preliminary data for 2006-07 indicates an increase in the rate for this group.

The largest percentage increase in incidence rates was recorded by Services to agriculture, hunting and trapping which increased 15% from 36 claims per 1000 employees in 2000-01 to 41 in 2005-06. As the actual number of claims lodged by this group remained fairly stable over this time period, the increase in incidence rates is driven by a fall in the number of employees in this group.

Incidence rates for groups containing relatively low numbers of claims should be interpreted with caution as random annual fluctuations in claim numbers can lead to notable shifts in incidence rates, posing difficulties in comparing rates over time. Estimates of employee numbers in smaller groups can also fluctuate between years also impacting on incidence rates.

**Table 25** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: number and incidence rate by industry sub-division and group, by year

Industry sub-division and group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
Agriculture	4360	4300	4075	3745	3600	3440	3 455	-21%
<i>Horticulture &amp; fruit growing</i>	1 445	1 380	1 420	1 360	1 285	1 190	1 140	-18%
<i>Grain, sheep &amp; beef cattle farming</i>	1 840	1 820	1 595	1 545	1 435	1 355	1 420	-26%
<i>Dairy cattle farming</i>	245	250	260	205	190	220	205	-10%
<i>Poultry farming</i>	245	275	230	200	215	160	185	-35%
<i>Other livestock farming</i>	320	320	330	285	280	325	315	2%
<i>Other crop growing</i>	260	255	235	155	200	200	190	-23%
Services to agriculture, hunting & trapping	695	670	670	655	700	690	635	-1%
Forestry & logging	435	430	400	375	345	360	305	-17%
Commercial fishing	395	370	420	380	295	215	230	-46%
<i>Marine fishing</i>	170	175	200	165	135	90	110	-47%
<i>Aquaculture</i>	225	195	220	215	160	125	120	-44%
<b>Total Agriculture, forestry &amp; fishing</b>	<b>5880</b>	<b>5765</b>	<b>5565</b>	<b>5150</b>	<b>4940</b>	<b>4705</b>	<b>4 625</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
Agriculture	27.0	24.0	27.1	24.6	24.0	23.5	22.9	-13%
<i>Horticulture &amp; fruit growing</i>	22.0	20.1	22.5	19.1	19.4	18.9	19.0	-14%
<i>Grain, sheep &amp; beef cattle farming</i>	27.0	23.3	28.3	28.2	30.4	28.3	25.5	5%
<i>Dairy cattle farming</i>	26.0	19.7	27.1	30.5	16.6	17.6	18.7	-32%
<i>Poultry farming</i>	35.8	35.7	24.5	23.3	21.4	18.0	19.8	-50%
<i>Other livestock farming</i>	66.8	65.3	53.5	51.1	42.1	33.8	44.6	-49%
<i>Other crop growing</i>	40.9	33.9	43.4	29.1	23.4	40.7	24.3	0%
Services to agriculture, hunting & trapping	36.0	41.9	46.7	42.0	42.9	41.4	42.5	15%
Forestry & logging	35.9	38.3	45.3	32.1	30.3	33.2	28.3	-8%
Commercial fishing	41.1	36.2	42.2	40.9	32.2	29.5	39.8	-28%
<i>Marine fishing</i>	27.2	29.2	36.9	37.9	34.9	22.8	45.6	-16%
<i>Aquaculture</i>	67.3	46.3	48.3	43.6	30.2	37.6	35.5	-44%
<b>Agriculture, forestry &amp; fishing</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>25.9</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>-11%</b>

(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary, and subject to change

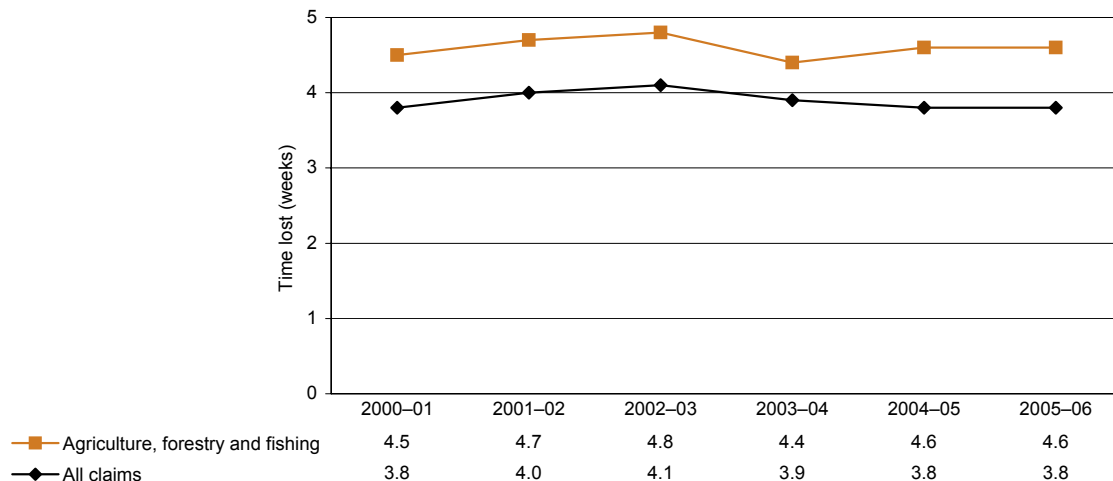
## Payments made and duration of serious claims

Between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the median time lost from work increased slightly from 4.5 working weeks to 4.6, with a high of 4.8 weeks in 2002–03. By contrast, the median time lost from work for all claims remained stable at 3.8 weeks for all claims (Figure 23).

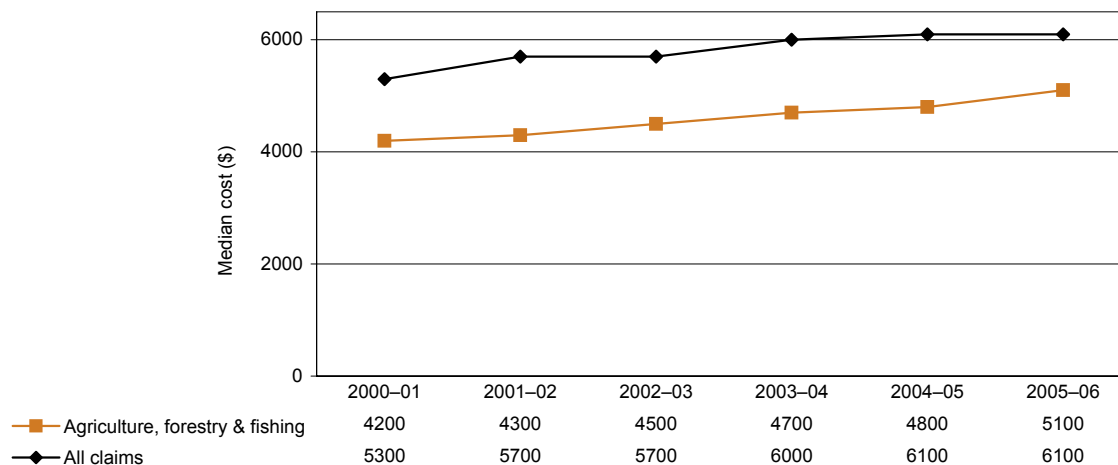
While time lost from work recorded little change over the six years, the median payment increased 21%, from \$4200 in 2000–01 to \$5100 in 2005–06. This is a larger increase than the amount recorded for all claims which recorded a 15% increase (from \$5300 to \$6100) (Figure 24). Factors influencing the payments made include the employee's salary level, the length of absence from work and medical expenses.

Notably, even though the median time lost figure for employees in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry was 21% higher than the corresponding figure for all industries in 2005–06, the median payment in this industry was 16% lower than the median payment for all industries. This is partially explained by the lower average salaries for employees in this industry compared with all industries, equating to lower claim payments.

**Figure 23** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: median time lost from work by year



**Figure 24** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: median payments by year



## Fatalities

The Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry accounted for 14% of all compensated fatalities in 2006-07. Table 26 shows that between 2000-01 and 2005-06, the total number of fatalities in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry fell from 29 to 24, however, there was a spike of 31 fatalities in 2004-05. The preliminary result for 2006-07 of 14 fatalities suggests an improvement for that year.

The incidence rate of compensated fatalities in this industry fluctuated between a low of 12 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2001-02 to a high of 17 fatalities in 2003-04: with an average of 14 fatalities across all years (Table 26). The fatality incidence rate for 2005-06 (13 claims per 100 000 employees) was five times higher than the corresponding rate for all industries (2.8 claims per 100 000 employees).

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the three years, 2004-05 to 2006-07, were aggregated for the following analysis. Over the three years, there were 69 fatalities in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, with 35 (51%) occurring in the Agriculture sub-division, including 21 employees involved with Grain, sheep and beef cattle farming.

**Table 26** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: number of compensated fatalities by industry sub-division and group and year

Industry sub-division and group	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
Agriculture	17	13	19	18	11	12	12
<i>Horticulture &amp; fruit growing</i>	4	3	2	6	2	1	2
<i>Grain, sheep &amp; beef cattle farming</i>	10	6	10	7	7	8	6
<i>Dairy cattle farming</i>	0	1	1	2	1	0	2
<i>Poultry farming</i>	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Other livestock farming</i>	1	2	1	1	0	2	0
<i>Other crop growing</i>	1	0	4	2	1	1	2
Services to agriculture, hunting & trapping	3	5	3	8	10	5	2
Forestry & logging	7	4	3	1	9	5	0
Commercial fishing	2	5	2	1	1	2	0
<i>Marine fishing</i>	2	5	2	0	1	2	0
<i>Aquaculture</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Total Agriculture, forestry &amp; fishing</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Agriculture, forestry &amp; fishing</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>7.7</b>

A further 17 (25%) deaths occurred amongst employees in the Services to agriculture; hunting and trapping sub-division including 10 from employees engaged in general services to the industry such as fruit picking and crop harvesting.

*Vehicle accident* accounted for 25 deaths (36% of fatalities) in this industry between 2004-05 and 2006-07p. Other common causes were *Being hit by falling objects* (12 deaths, 17% of fatalities) and *Being hit by moving objects* (4 deaths, 6%).

Between 2004-05 and 2006-07p, injuries accounted for 88% of fatalities, almost half (48%) of which involved *Multiple injuries*. Of the 8 disease related fatalities, 4 involved *Ischaemic heart disease*.

Figure 25 shows that fatality incidence rates by age showed no discernible pattern with employees in the 45-54 age group recording the lowest fatality rate (9 fatalities per 100 000 employees) and those age 55 years and over, the highest (17 fatalities per 100 000 employees).

The 35-44 years age group recorded the highest proportion of all fatalities, 28%, and the 45-54 years age group recorded the lowest proportion, 14%.

**Figure 25** Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2004-05 to 2006-07p combined



# Construction

## An overview

The Construction industry employed 936 000 people in Australia in 2006–07, 9% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 71% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers). Caution should be exercised in using these data to represent workers in this industry who are not employees.

The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 14 130 serious workers' compensation claims in the Construction industry, accounting for 10% of all serious claims. This equates to 39 claims per day or 22 claims per 1000 employees, involving one or more weeks off work. The Construction industry recorded the fourth highest incidence rate of all industries in 2006–07p.

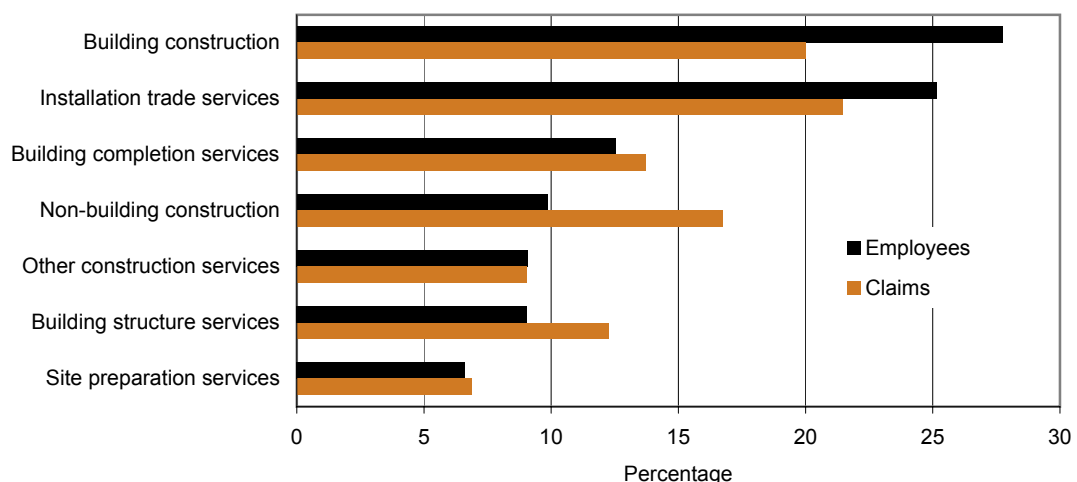
## Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006–07p)

### Industry profile

Within the Construction industry, the Building construction and Installation trade services groups employed the largest proportions of workers (28% and 25% respectively), however, these groups accounted for a lower proportion of serious claims than expected based on the proportion of employees (20% and 21% of serious claims respectively).

On the other hand, Figure 26 shows that Non-building construction and Building structure services accounted for higher proportions of serious claims than expected based on their proportion of employees. Consequently, these groups had the highest incidence rates of serious claims (38 and 30 claims per 1000 workers respectively) of all groups (see Table 27), while Installation trade services had one of the lowest incidence rates (19 claims per 1000 workers) despite having the largest number of claims.

**Figure 26 Construction industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by groups, 2006–07p**

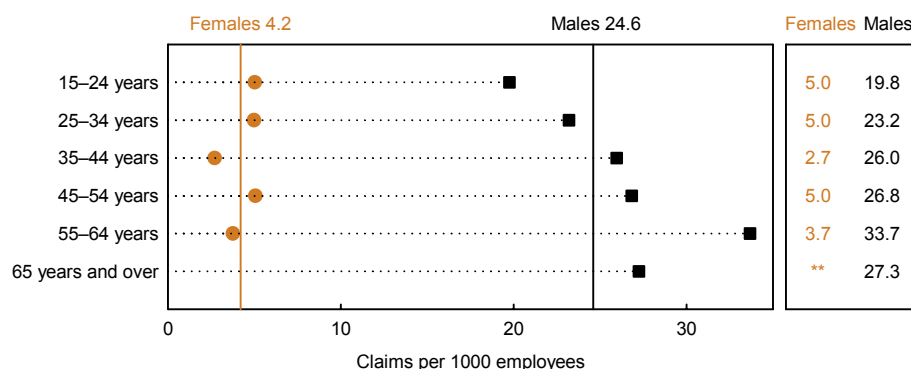


### Gender and age

In 2006–07, 12% of employees in the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry were female, however, female employees lodged only 2% of the serious claims. This resulted in female employees recording a much lower incidence rate than male employees (4 claims per 1000 female employees compared with 25 claims per 1000 male employees).

Figure 27 shows that incidence rates for female employees were consistently much lower than those for male employees at all ages ranging between 3 and 5 claims per 1000 female employees. For male employees, incidence rates increased gradually with age — from 20 claims per 1000 employees for those in the 15–24 years age group to 34 claims per 1000 employees for those in the 55–64 age group, before declining slightly for the 65 years and over age group. This difference between male and female incidence rates in part reflects the different types of work undertaken by men and women in the industry.

**Figure 27 Construction industry: incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p**



\*\* An incidence rate for women aged 65 years and over is not shown as the estimated number of employees in this cohort is unreliable.

### Common causes of serious claims

*Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* was the most common cause of claims in the Construction industry in 2006–07p, accounting for 17% of claims. Other common causes were *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* (12%); *Falls on the same level* (12% of claims); and *Falls from a height* (12%).

These proportions were broadly similar across each of the groups within the Construction industry, except for the Site preparation group, which recorded a higher proportion of *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* (16%) and a lower proportion of claims involving *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* (10%) compared to the whole industry. Non-building construction also had a lower proportion of claims due to *Falls from a height* (6%) and a greater proportion due to *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* (16%); and Building completion services recorded a higher proportion of *Falls from a height* (17%).

### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07p, three-quarters of serious claims (77%) in the Construction industry were injury-related with the remainder being disease-related (23%). Half of all injury-related claims involved *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles*, and 17% involved *Open wound not involving traumatic amputation*. A further 15% of injury claims involved *Fractures*.

The most common disease leading to a claim was *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* accounting for 26% of disease claims. This was followed by *Dorsopathies—disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs* (24% of disease claims) and *Deafness* (21% of disease claims).

### Common breakdown agencies

The breakdown agency most commonly associated with claims in the Construction industry in 2006–07p was *Other material and objects* (mainly metal materials or objects and sawn or dressed timber), accounting for 15% of claims. Other common agencies were *Outdoor environment* (13% of claims) and *Ladders, mobile ramps and stairways, and scaffolding* (8%).

These proportions were broadly consistent across the groups within the Construction industry with the exception of Building completion services where *Ladders, mobile ramps and stairways, and scaffolding* accounted for nearly twice the proportion of claims (15% of claims in this group) compared to the industry average of 8%. Site preparation services also recorded higher proportions of claims due to *Road transport* (12% in this group compared to 4% for the industry as a whole) and *Self-propelled plant* (11% in this group compared to 2% for the industry as a whole), and a lower proportion due to *Ladders, mobile ramps and stairways, and scaffolding* (3%).

## Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

Since the 2006–07p data are preliminary, time series comparisons extend only to 2005–06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls. Table 27 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the incidence rate in the Construction industry decreased 20% from 31 claims per 1000 employees to 25. This is greater than the decrease in the incidence rate for all industries (16%).

Within the Construction industry, all groups recorded decreases over the six years except for Non-building construction which increased 6%. This group includes the construction of roads, bridges dams, pipelines and oil refineries. Incidence rates in this sector were more than double the rates for the whole of the Construction industry in 2005–06 (55 claims per 1000 employees compared to 25 for the industry).

**Table 27 Construction industry: number and incidence rate by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry sub-division and group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
General construction	5 535	5 055	4 805	5 415	5 645	5 415	5 185	-2%
<i>Building construction</i>	2 775	2 390	2 500	2 800	3 010	2 810	2 820	1%
<i>Non-building construction</i>	2 760	2 665	2 310	2 615	2 630	2 605	2 365	-6%
Construction trade services	8 095	7 340	8 055	8 675	8 710	8 775	8 935	8%
<i>Site preparation services</i>	930	750	835	880	955	960	970	3%
<i>Building structure services</i>	1 625	1 505	1 650	1 875	1 775	1 675	1 730	3%
<i>Installation trade services</i>	2 765	2 480	2 665	2 810	2 885	2 965	3 025	7%
<i>Building completion services</i>	1 940	1 735	1 765	1 930	1 825	1 930	1 935	-1%
<i>Other construction services</i>	835	870	1 145	1 175	1 275	1 245	1 275	49%
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>13 630</b>	<b>12 395</b>	<b>12 865</b>	<b>14 090</b>	<b>14 355</b>	<b>14 195</b>	<b>14 120</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
General construction	29.6	26.1	27.2	28.2	28.3	24.6	21.6	-17%
<i>Building construction</i>	20.8	16.5	18.9	19	19.8	16.2	16.0	-22%
<i>Non-building construction</i>	51.7	54.8	51.6	58.7	55.1	54.8	37.6	6%
Construction trade services	32.8	30.5	29.7	28.1	25.3	25.3	22.4	-23%
<i>Site preparation services</i>	41.0	34.5	34.2	35.2	27.3	29.1	22.9	-29%
<i>Building structure services</i>	45.2	41.2	44.2	37.0	31.0	30.9	30.0	-32%
<i>Installation trade services</i>	28.9	26.5	24.0	24.2	22.9	21.8	18.9	-25%
<i>Building completion services</i>	31.1	28.3	28.6	25.5	21.7	26.7	24.2	-14%
<i>Other construction services</i>	27.6	31.6	31.1	28.5	30.4	24.5	22.0	-11%
<b>Construction</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>-20%</b>

(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary and subject to change

The Building structure services group which includes bricklaying, concreting and structural steel erection, recorded the largest percentage decrease in incidence rates, decreasing 32% from 45 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 31 in 2005–06.

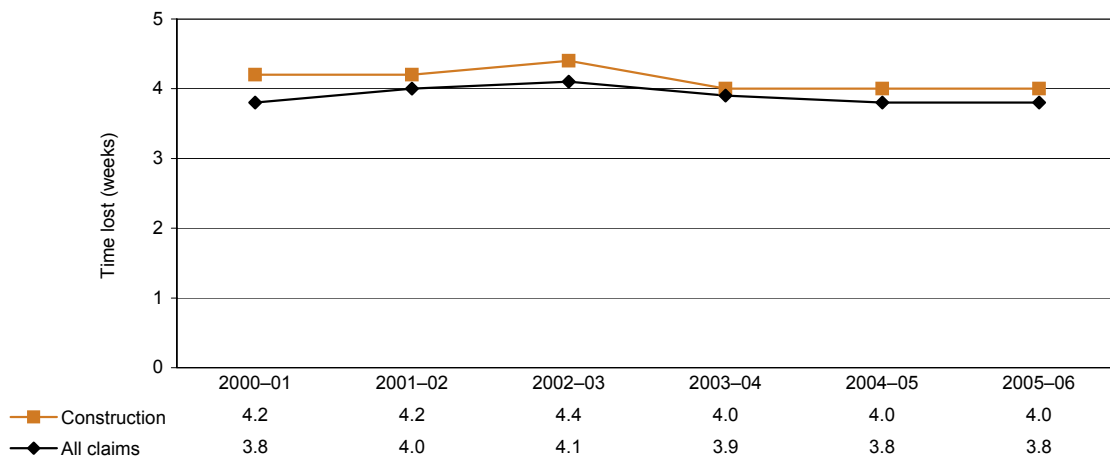
Incidence rates for groups containing relatively low numbers of claims should be interpreted with caution as random annual fluctuations in claim numbers can lead to notable shifts in incidence rates, posing difficulties in comparing rates over time. Estimates of employee numbers in smaller groups can also fluctuate between years also impacting on incidence rates.

## Payments made and duration of serious claims

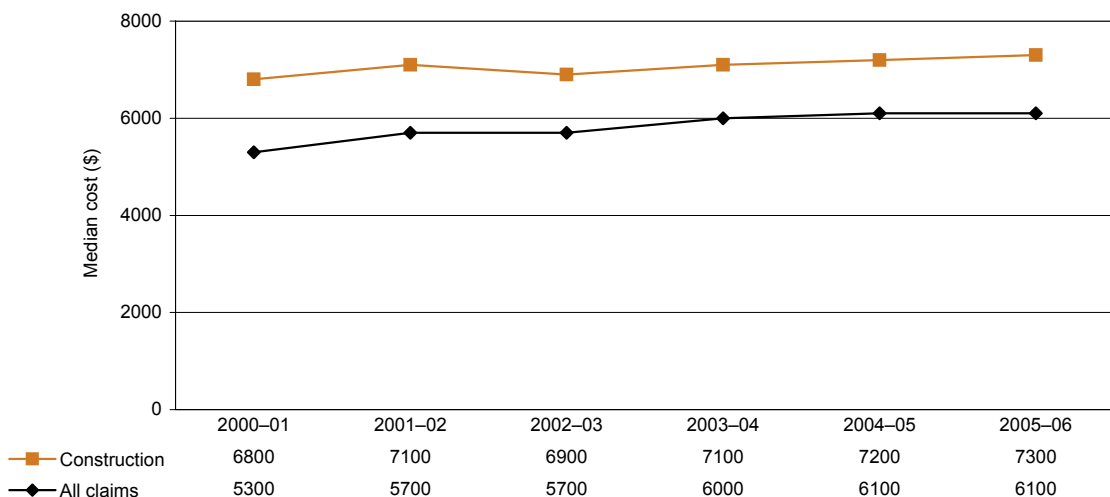
Figure 28 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the median time lost from work decreased slightly from 4.2 working weeks to 4.0 for claims in the Construction industry. This is higher than the rate for all claims which remained stable at 3.8 weeks. Over the same period, the median payment increased 7% (from \$6800 to \$7300) for the Construction industry and by 15% (\$5300 to \$6100) for all claims (Figure 29).

Factors influencing the payments made include the employee's salary level, the length of absence from work, and medical expenses. The higher median payment in the Construction industry compared with all industries can be explained in part by higher salaries in this industry in addition to the slightly higher median time lost figures.

**Figure 28 Construction industry: median time lost from work by year**



**Figure 29 Construction industry: median payments by year**



## Fatalities

Table 28 shows that between 2000-01 and 2005-06, the number of fatalities fell from 48 to 38, however the preliminary results for 2006-07 has 50 fatalities so far for the Construction industry. While the Construction industry accounts for 7% of Australian employees, it accounted for 15% of all compensated fatalities in 2005-06 and 21% of the preliminary number of fatalities recorded in 2006-07.

The Construction industry recorded a fatality incidence rate of 6.7 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2005-06, considerably lower than all previous years. Nevertheless, this rate was double the fatality incidence rate for all claims (2.8).

**Table 28 Construction industry: number of compensated fatalities by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry sub-division & group	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
General construction	20	16	10	19	17	12	20
<i>Building construction</i>	8	9	1	8	9	4	10
<i>Non-building construction</i>	12	6	9	9	8	8	10
Construction trade services	28	32	38	32	28	26	30
<i>Site preparation services</i>	5	7	3	5	3	3	1
<i>Building structure services</i>	6	6	6	5	1	2	4
<i>Installation trade services</i>	10	6	11	6	10	12	16
<i>Building completion services</i>	6	9	17	12	13	5	6
<i>Other construction services</i>	1	4	1	4	1	4	3
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Construction</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the three-years, 2004-05 to 2006-07p, are aggregated in the following analysis. There were 133 compensated fatalities in the industry over this period.

Construction trade services sub-division accounted for 84 of the fatalities during this period — 38 of these within Installation trade services. The remaining 49 fatalities occurred in the General construction sub-division — 26 of these within Non-building construction (which includes the construction of roads, bridges, dams and pipelines), and 23 in Building construction.

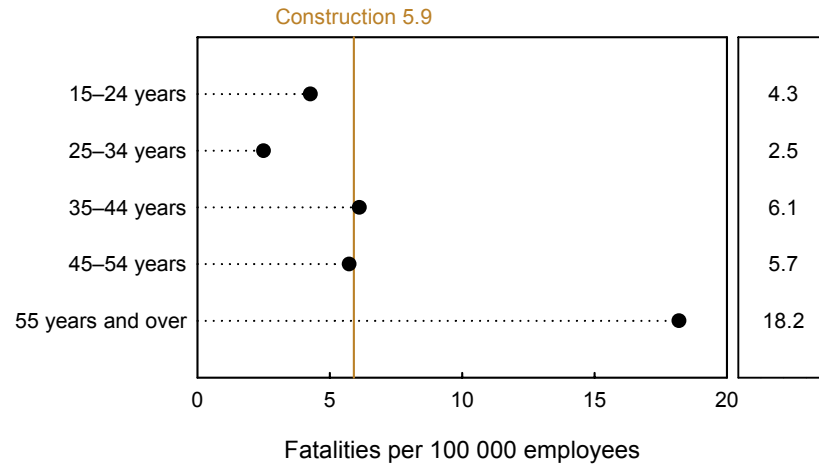
*Long term contact with chemicals or substances* was the most common cause of fatalities in the Construction industry between 2004-05 and 2006-07p, accounting for 55 fatalities. Other common causes were *Vehicle Accident* (27 fatalities), *Contact with electricity* (13 fatalities), *Falls from a height* (11 fatalities), and *Being hit by falling objects* (10 fatalities).

Between 2004-05 and 2006-07p, 52% of fatalities in the Construction industry were injury-related and 48% were disease-related. The most common causes of injury-related fatalities were *Multiple injuries* (22 fatalities), *Effects of weather, exposure, air pressure and other external causes* (15 fatalities) and *Intracranial injury, including concussion* (9 fatalities). The most common disease-related fatalities involved *Mesothelioma* (40 fatalities) and *Asbestosis* (13 fatalities).

Figure 30 shows that fatality incidence rates generally increased with age. The much higher fatality incidence rate recorded for employees aged 55 years and over is mostly attributable to cases of *Mesothelioma* and *Asbestosis*, with these diseases responsible for 38 of the 54 fatalities in this age group. It is important to note that

*Mesothelioma* and *Asbestosis* have a long latency period, typically resulting in death 20 to 30 years after the initial exposure. Therefore the date of claim lodgement upon which 'age' is assigned in these data do not correspond to the age at which the exposure occurred. For other fatalities, particularly for injuries, the date of claim lodgement much better reflects the age at which the incident causing death occurred.

**Figure 30 Construction industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2004–05 to 2006–07p combined**



# Health and community services

## An overview

The Health and community services industry employed 1 078 000 people in 2006–07, 11% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 95% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers).

The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 16 030 serious claims in the Health and community services industry, 12% of the claims across all industries. This equates to 44 claims per day or 15 claims per 1000 employees, involving one or more weeks off work. The Health and community services industry recorded the eighth highest incidence rate of all industries but only slightly above the national rate of 14 claims per 1000 employees.

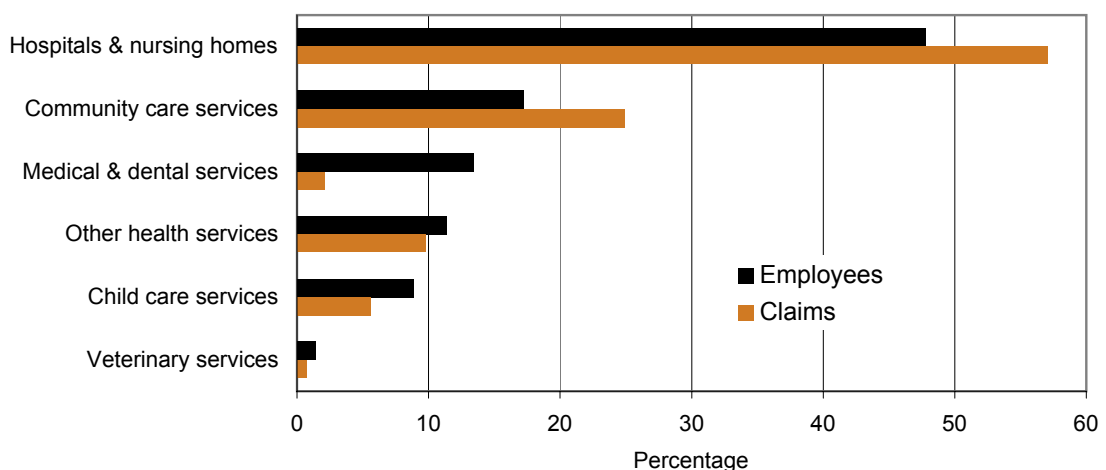
## Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006–07p)

### Industry profile

Within the Health and community services industry, the Hospitals and nursing homes group accounted for 48% of employees and 57% of serious workers' compensation claims. Figure 31 similarly shows that the Community care services group also accounted for a greater proportion of claims than expected from its proportion of employees (17% of employees and 25% of claims).

In contrast, the Medical and dental services group had the third largest proportion of employees (13%), but the second lowest proportion of serious claims resulting in the lowest incidence rate of serious claims (2.3 claims per 1000 workers) in the Health and community services industry. Table 29 shows that the highest rate of serious claims (22 claims per 1000 workers) was recorded by the Community care services group.

**Figure 31** Health and community services industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by groups, 2006–07p



### Gender and age

The Health and community services industry had the highest rate of female employment of all industries in 2006–07p with female employees accounting for 80% of all employees in this industry. As female employees lodged 80% of claims this resulted in similar incidence rates of serious claims for males and females: 15 claims per 1000 employees.

**Figure 32 Health and community services industry: Incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p**

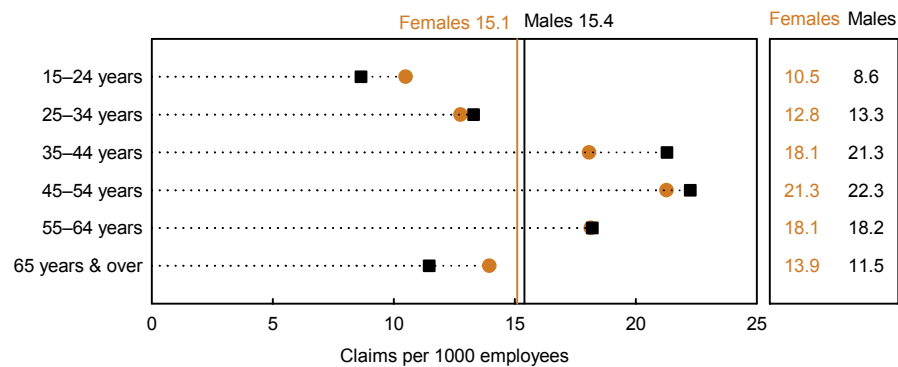


Figure 32 shows that male and female employees recorded similar incidence rates across the age groups with female employees recording higher rates than male employees in the 15–24 years and 65 years and over age groups. The highest incidence rates were recorded by the 35–44 and 45–54 years age groups.

### Common causes of serious claims

*Body stressing* was the most common cause of claims in the Health and community services industry in 2006–07p, accounting for over half (52%) of all claims in the industry. A more detailed analysis of this mechanism shows that one-quarter of all claims were caused by *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* and 18% were caused by *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying, or putting down objects*. Another notable cause for claims was *Falls on the same level*, accounting for 14% of claims.

These causes represented similar proportions across most groups within this industry in 2006–07p. However, the Veterinary services group (understandably) had more claims caused by *Being bitten by an animal* (28% of claims) and *Being hit by an animal* (10%) compared to very few of these claims recorded by the other groups, and less claims caused by *Body stressing* (28% of claims).

The Medical and dental services group recorded twice the proportion of Mental stress claims (16% compared to 8% for the whole industry), which was offset by a lower proportion of *Body stressing* (40%).

### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07p, two-thirds (68%) of claims in Health and community services were injury-related, and the remaining one-third (32%) were disease-related. The most common injury leading to a claim was *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* (69% of injury claims and 47% of all claims in the industry). The most common type of disease-related claim involved *Dorsopathies – disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs* (29% of disease claims) followed by *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* (28% of disease claims) and *Mental disorders* (26% of disease claims).

These proportions were similar for most industry groups within the Health and community services industry in 2006–07p. The Veterinary services group was again an exception: this group had a higher proportion of *Open wound not involving amputation* (37% of injury claims compared to 4% for the industry) and a lower proportion of *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* (37% of injury claims). This group also had a lower proportion of *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* (12% of disease claims) but a higher proportion of *Other diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue* (12% compared to 1% for the industry).

### Common breakdown agencies

The breakdown agency most commonly associated with claims in this industry in 2006–07p was *Human agencies*, accounting for 34% of claims. The human agency in these cases was predominantly the person being cared for with 57% of these claims lodged by employees engaged in Hospital and nursing homes and a further 27% lodged by employees in Community care services. Common causes of these injuries were the result of lifting or moving objects (patients). Other common agencies were *Furniture and fittings* (9% of claims) and *Indoor environment* (9%).

The distribution of these breakdown agencies was similar in most groups of Health and community services in 2006–07p. However, the Veterinary services group had a different pattern dominated by the agency *Live four-legged animals* (53% of claims), Child care services had a higher proportion of claims in *Outdoor environment* (10%) and the Other health services group had a higher proportion of claims with *Road transport* (6%) compared with all industries (2%), reflecting the presence of Ambulance services in this group.

### Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

As the 2006–07p data are preliminary, time series comparisons extend only to 2005–06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls. Table 29 shows that the incidence rate of serious claims in the Health and community services industry fell 14% from 19 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 15 in 2005–06. This is slightly less than the fall in the rate for all industries (16%).

Medical and dental services recorded the greatest percentage improvement in incidence rates (34%) over the six years. This group accounted for 13% of employees. Other health services recorded the next highest percentage improvement (23%) over the six years though the rates have fluctuated from 14 serious claims per 1000 employees to 22.

**Table 29 Health and community services industry: number by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry sub-division & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
Health services	12 270	12 035	12 210	12 875	13 140	11 675	11 140	-5%
<i>Hospitals &amp; nursing homes</i>	10 060	9 845	9 955	10 300	10 520	9 665	9 135	-4%
<i>Medical &amp; dental services</i>	435	380	370	405	375	325	330	-25%
<i>Other health services</i>	1 680	1 725	1 800	2 085	2 135	1 570	1 560	-7%
<i>Veterinary services</i>	90	90	85	90	115	120	110	33%
Community services	3 905	4 185	4 130	4 405	4 495	4 800	4 890	23%
<i>Child care services</i>	595	590	595	760	745	840	895	41%
<i>Community care services</i>	3 310	3 595	3 540	3 645	3 750	3 960	3 990	20%
<b>Total Health &amp; community services</b>	<b>16 175</b>	<b>16 225</b>	<b>16 340</b>	<b>17 280</b>	<b>17 635</b>	<b>16 475</b>	<b>16 030</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
Health services	18.7	18.4	17.8	18.3	18.2	15.4	14.2	-18%
<i>Hospitals and nursing homes</i>	23.0	23.1	22.1	21.9	22.6	19.9	18.1	-13%
<i>Medical and dental services</i>	4.0	3.3	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.3	-43%
<i>Other health services</i>	17.5	16.8	17.6	22.2	19.4	13.5	13.0	-23%
<i>Veterinary services</i>	6.9	8.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.5	13%
Community services	19.7	18.6	18.5	19.4	18.8	18.7	17.8	-5%
<i>Child care services</i>	10.1	10.1	9.3	11.0	9.6	9.9	9.6	-2%
<i>Community care services</i>	23.8	21.6	22.2	23.1	23.1	23.1	21.9	-3%
<b>Health &amp; community services</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>-14%</b>

(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary and subject to change

Incidence rates for groups containing relatively low numbers of claims should be interpreted with caution as random annual fluctuations in claim numbers can lead to notable shifts in incidence rates, posing difficulties in comparing rates over time. Estimates of employee numbers in smaller groups can also fluctuate between years also impacting on incidence rates.

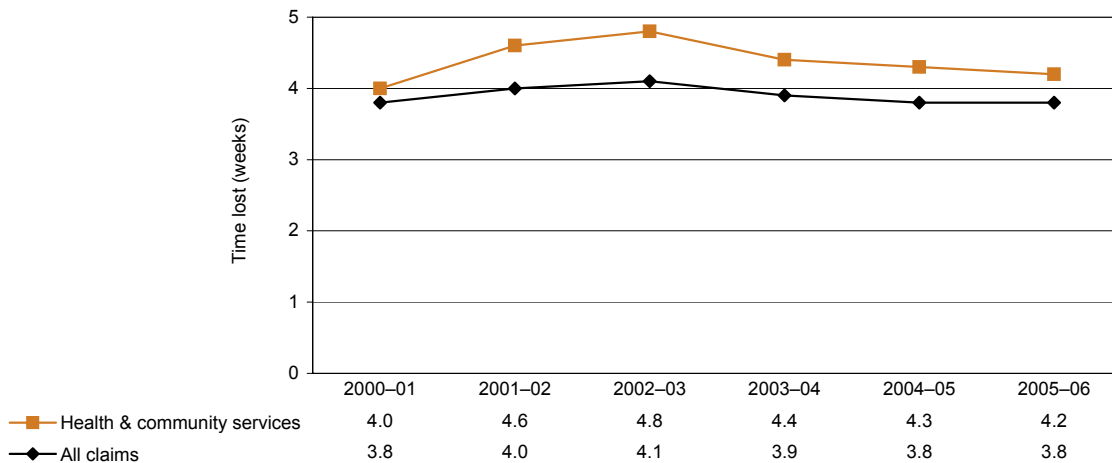
## Payments made and duration of serious claims

Figure 33 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the median time lost from work increased slightly from 4.0 weeks to 4.2 weeks for claims in the Health and community services industry, but remained stable at 3.8 weeks for all claims.

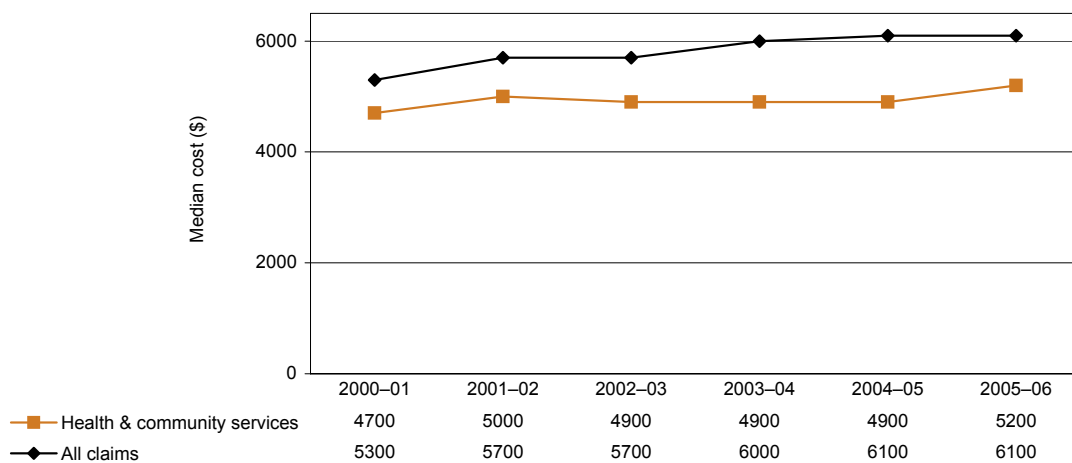
Over the same period, the median payment increased 11% from \$4700 to \$5200 for claims in the Health and community services industry, below the 15% increase recorded for all claims (Figure 34).

Factors influencing the payments made include employee's salary level, the length of absence from work and medical expenses. Despite the longer periods off work for claims in the Health and community services industry, the costs of claims were lower, possibly due to lower average salaries of workers in this industry.

**Figure 33** Health and community services industry: median time lost from work by year



**Figure 34** Health and community services industry: median payment by year



## Fatalities

Table 30 shows that, except for the large spike in fatalities (18) in 2001–02, the number of fatalities in the Health and community services industry has steadily declined from 8 fatalities in 2000–01 to 4 fatalities in 2005–06. The preliminary data for 2006–07 has 5 fatalities.

With the exception of the sharp increase in the incidence rate in 2001–02 (2.1 fatalities per 100 000 employees), the fatality incidence rate in this industry has fallen from 0.9 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2000–01 to 0.4 in 2005–06, to record an incidence rate considerably smaller than the rate for all industries (0.4 fatalities per 100 000 employees compared with 2.8 fatalities per 100 000 employees for all industries).

**Table 30 Health and community services industry: number and incidence rate of fatalities by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry sub-division & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
Health services	6	15	2	4	4	4	5
<i>Hospitals &amp; nursing homes</i>	1	9	2	0	2	1	1
<i>Medical &amp; dental services</i>	0	3	0	0	0	1	3
<i>Other health services</i>	5	3	0	4	2	2	1
<i>Veterinary services</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community services	2	3	6	2	1	0	0
<i>Child care services</i>	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Community care services</i>	2	3	5	2	1	0	0
<b>Total Health &amp; community services</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Health &amp; community services</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the five-year period, 2002–03 to 2006–07 are aggregated for the following analysis. During this period, there were 28 compensated fatalities in the Health and community services industry. These fatalities occurred predominantly in three industry groups — Other health services, Community care services and Hospitals and nursing homes, with 9, 8 and 6 fatalities respectively. The Other health services group includes Ambulance services as well as Community health centres.

During the period 2002–03 to 2006–07p, *Vehicle accident* was the most common cause of fatality in the Health and community services industry, accounting for 29% of fatalities (8 of the 28 fatalities). A further 3 fatalities involved heart attacks caused by *Work pressure*, and 3 were caused by *Being hit by moving objects*.

There was no main type of injury or disease resulting in the fatalities in the Health and community services industry between 2002–03 and 2006–07p. The largest groups, accounting for 5 fatalities each, were *Multiple injuries* and *Ischaemic heart disease*.

Figure 35 shows that the 55 years and over age group recorded the highest incidence rate of all age groups (0.8 fatalities per 100 000 employees). Except for the 25–34 years age group, incidence rates increased with age. In numerical terms, the 45–54 year old group had the highest number of fatalities in the five-year period (9) though all age groups other than the 15–24 years group recorded at least 5 fatalities.

**Figure 35** Health and community services industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2002–03 to 2006–07p combined



# Manufacturing

## An overview

The Manufacturing industry employed 1 064 000 people in 2006–07, 11% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 94% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers).

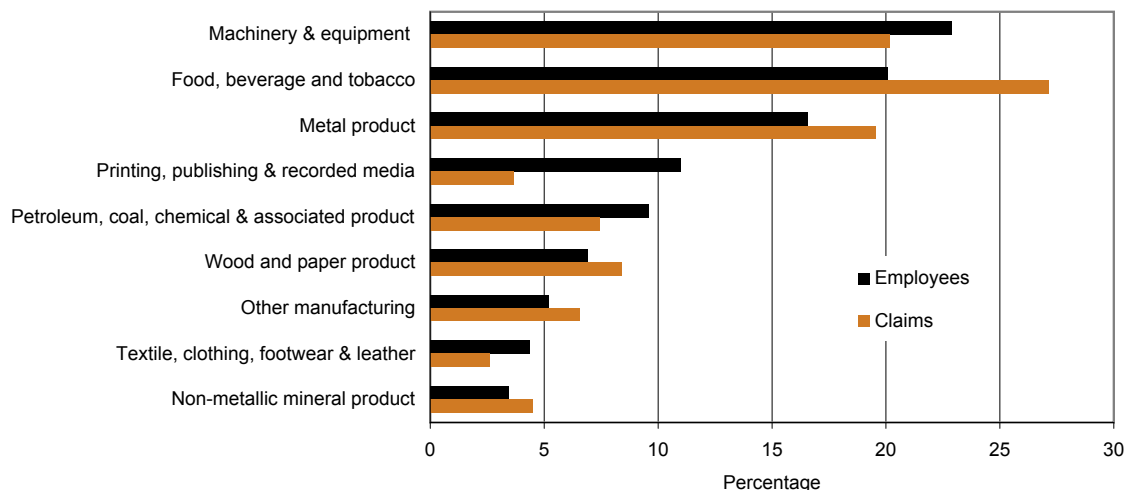
The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 26 695 serious workers' compensation claims in the Manufacturing industry, representing one-fifth of claims across all industries. This equates to 73 claims per day or 28 claims per 1000 employees involving one or more weeks off work. The incidence rate of 28 claims per 1000 employees, meant the Manufacturing industry had the highest incidence rate of all industries in 2006–07p, twice the national rate of 14 claims per 1000 employees.

## Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006-07p)

### Industry profile

Within the Manufacturing industry, the Machinery and equipment group accounted for the largest proportion of employees (23%) and the second largest proportion of serious claims (20%). Figure 36 shows that the largest proportion of serious claims (27%) was lodged by the Food, beverage and tobacco group. As this group only accounted for 20% of employees, it recorded the highest incidence rate of serious claims (37 claims per 1000 employees: see Table 31). In contrast the Printing, publishing and recorded media group accounted for 11% of employees but only 4% of claims and therefore recorded the smallest incidence rate (9 claims per 1000 employees).

**Figure 36** Manufacturing industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by groups, 2006–07p



### Gender and age

While 25% of the employees in the Manufacturing industry in 2006–07 were female, they accounted for only 15% of claims in this industry. This resulted in female employees recording an incidence rate half that of men (16 claims per 1000 female employees compared with 32 claims per 1000 male employees).

**Figure 37 Manufacturing industry: incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p**



\*\* An incidence rate for women aged 65 years and over is not shown as the estimated number of employees in this cohort is unreliable.

Figure 37 shows that in 2006–07p, incidence rates were similar for all age groups for female employees (around 14 claims per 1000 female employees) except those in the 45–54 years age group for which the rate was 22 claims per 1000 female employees. For male employees, incidence rates also varied little with age, averaging 32 claims per 1000 male employees, except for the 65 years and over age group which recorded the much lower rate of 23 claims per 1000 male employees.

#### Common causes of serious claims

*Body stressing* was the most common cause of claims in the Manufacturing industry in 2006–07p, accounting for 43% of all claims, including 20% of claims in *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying, or putting down objects* and 15% in *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down*. Other common causes were *Falls on the same level* (9%); *Being hit by moving objects* (7%); and *Long term exposure to sounds* (5%). These proportions were broadly consistent across the sub-divisions within the Manufacturing industry.

#### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07, 71% of claims in the Manufacturing industry were injury-related, and the remaining 29% were disease-related. The most common type of injury leading to a claim was *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* (50% of injury claims and 35% of all claims), and *Open wound not involving traumatic amputation* (17% of injury claims). The most common type of disease leading to a claim was *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* (28% of disease claims and 8% of all claims) followed by *Dorsopathies – disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs* (23% of disease claims). These proportions were broadly consistent across the industry sub-divisions.

#### Common breakdown agencies

The breakdown agency most commonly associated with claims in the Manufacturing industry in 2006–07p was *Other materials and objects*, representing 18% of claims. A large proportion of these claims (44%) involved the sub-agency *Ferrous and non-ferrous metal* (mainly in the sub-divisions Metal product manufacturing and Machinery and equipment manufacturing) and a further 13% involved the sub-agency *Sawn or dressed timber* (mainly in the sub-division Wood and paper product manufacturing). Other common agencies were *Fastening, packing and packaging equipment* (10% of claims) and *Indoor environment* (7%).

There were however some differences to these proportions for the sub-divisions within the Manufacturing industry. The Food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing sub-division recorded higher proportions of injuries involving *Hand-tools, non-powered, edged* (mainly knives and cutlery) (9% of claims compared with 4% for all groups), *Non-living animals* (9% of claims compared with 2% for all groups) and

*Fastening, packing and packaging equipment* (16% of claims), offset by a lower proportion in *Other materials and objects* (6% of claims).

In the Printing, publishing and recording media sub-division there was more involvement of *Crushing, pressing, rolling machinery* (12% of claims compared with 2% for all groups) and *Fastening, packing and packaging equipment* (17% of claims). In the Metal product manufacturing sub-division there was a higher concentration of *Other materials and objects* (29% of claims) offset by a lower proportion in *Fastening, packing and packaging equipment* (5% of claims).

## Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

As the 2006–07p data are preliminary, these time series comparisons extend only to 2005–06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls. Table 31 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the incidence rate decreased 5% from 30 claims per 1000 employees to 29. This is much smaller than the decrease in the incidence rate for all industries (16%). The incidence rate for the Manufacturing industry in 2005–06 was nearly double the rate for all industries (29 compared to 15 claims per 1000 employees for all industries).

Between 2000–01 and 2005–06, five of the industry sub-divisions within the Manufacturing industry experienced a decrease in incidence rates and four increased. The most notable decrease (20%) was in the Food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing sub-division (from 49 claims per 1000 employees to 39). The Other manufacturing sub-division (which manufactures goods such as prefabricated building materials, furniture, jewellery, toys and sporting goods) recorded the largest percentage increase (38%): from 23 to 31 claims per 1000 employees over the same period.

**Table 31 Manufacturing industry: number and incidence rate by industry sub-division, by year**

Industry sub-division	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
Food, beverage & tobacco	8 735	8 095	7 880	7 100	7 245	7 215	7 240	-17%
Textile, clothing, footwear & leather	1 415	1 380	1 080	1 005	925	785	690	-45%
Wood & paper product	2 310	2 225	2 510	2 430	2 405	2 415	2 240	5%
Printing, publishing & recorded media	1 255	1 220	1 180	1 180	1 175	1 145	975	-9%
Petroleum, coal, chemical & associated product	2 430	2 285	2 145	2 065	2 060	1 990	1 990	-18%
Non-metallic mineral product	1 415	1 380	1 410	1 365	1 310	1 275	1 200	-10%
Metal product	5 805	5 535	5 410	5 490	5 445	5 580	5 220	-4%
Machinery & equipment	6 430	5 875	5 730	5 730	5 875	5 625	5 390	-13%
Other manufacturing	1 615	1 680	1 935	2 065	2 125	1 745	1 755	8%
<b>Total Manufacturing</b>	<b>31 405</b>	<b>29 675</b>	<b>29 280</b>	<b>28 435</b>	<b>28 565</b>	<b>27 770</b>	<b>26 695</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
Food, beverage & tobacco	49.0	45.6	43.7	41.9	35.7	39.2	37.3	-20%
Textile, clothing, footwear & leather	19.7	22.3	17.9	18.4	18.7	17.2	16.3	-13%
Wood & paper product	35.4	35.2	37.3	33.1	35.2	36.5	33.6	3%
Printing, publishing & recorded media	11.2	12.4	11.3	11.7	11.2	11.4	9.2	2%
Petroleum, coal, chemical & associated product	22.8	21.3	19.3	20.5	20.9	21.9	21.5	-4%
Non-metallic mineral product	36.7	36.7	34.7	33.9	41.3	35.7	35.9	-3%
Metal product	34.7	38.0	35.6	37.1	39.3	35.0	32.7	1%
Machinery & equipment	28.4	25.9	25.0	26.1	26.0	25.0	24.4	-12%
Other manufacturing	22.6	26.2	32.3	32.2	34.6	31.3	34.9	38%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>30.2</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>29.3</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>28.8</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>-5%</b>

(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary and subject to change

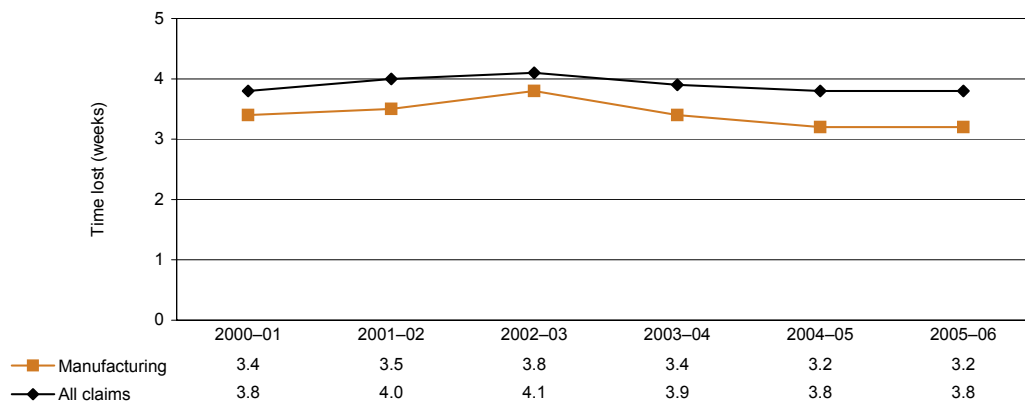
## Payments made and duration of serious claims

Figure 38 shows that median time lost from work in the Manufacturing industry has recorded a fall from 3.4 working weeks to 3.2 over the period 2000–01 to 2005–06, however it has been as high as 3.8. This is a similar pattern to the median time lost for all claims (Figure 38).

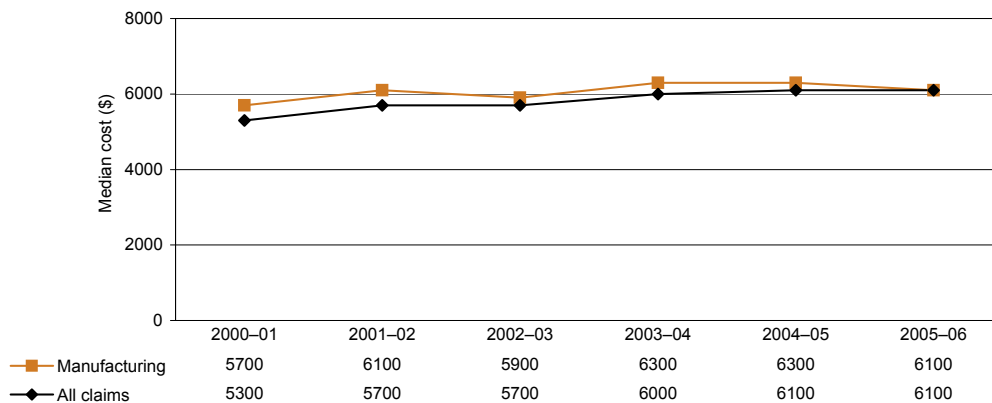
The median payment increased 7% from \$5700 to \$6100 for claims in the Manufacturing industry between 2000–01 and 2005–06, lower than the rise of 15% recorded for all claims (Figure 39).

Factors influencing the payments made include the employee's salary level, the length of absence from work and medical expenses. The combination of a lower median time lost figure and slightly higher median cost figure for the Manufacturing industry compared with all industries indicates that average salaries in this industry are slightly higher than all industries leading to higher compensation payments.

**Figure 38 Manufacturing industry: median time lost from work by year**



**Figure 39 Manufacturing industry: median payment by year**



## Fatalities

Table 32 shows the number of fatalities in the Manufacturing industry has fluctuated over recent years, from a high of 45 deaths in 2000–01 to a low of 32 in 2003–04 before climbing back up to 40 in 2005–06. The preliminary data for 2006–07 has 36 fatalities.

The incidence rate of compensated fatalities in the Manufacturing industry also displayed the same pattern, falling from 4.3 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2000–01 down to 3.3 in 2002–03 and 2003–04 before increasing to 4.2 in 2005–06. This resulted in the fatality rate in Manufacturing being 50% higher than the fatality rate for all industries (2.8 fatalities per 100 000 employees) in 2005–06.

**Table 32 Manufacturing industry: number of compensated fatalities by industry sub-division, by year**

Industry sub-division	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
Food, beverage and tobacco	6	7	6	4	8	5	6
Textile, clothing, footwear & leather	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Wood and paper product	1	6	4	2	1	0	7
Printing, publishing & recorded media	2	3	1	1	2	0	0
Petroleum, coal, chemical & associated product	3	3	2	4	2	6	2
Non-metallic mineral product	14	8	6	4	5	8	4
Metal product	4	6	7	6	11	10	4
Machinery & equipment	13	4	5	7	6	5	10
Other manufacturing	0	2	2	4	3	6	3
<b>Total Manufacturing</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.7</b>

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the three-year period 2004–05 to 2006–07p were aggregated for the following analysis.

There were 114 compensated fatalities within the industry during 2004–05 to 2006–07p, 80% of which occurred in four of the nine sub-divisions: Metal product manufacturing (25 fatalities); Machinery and equipment manufacturing (21); Food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing (19); and Non-metallic mineral product manufacturing (17).

*Long term contact with chemicals or other substances* (mostly exposure to asbestos) was the most common cause of fatalities in the Manufacturing industry between 2004–05 and 2006–07p, representing 28% of the fatalities. A further 20% of fatalities involved a *Vehicle accident*. Other main causes were *Being hit by moving objects* (accounting for 10% of fatalities) and *Being hit by falling objects* (9%).

*Multiple injuries* was recorded as the type of injury or disease for one-quarter (30 of 114) of the compensated fatalities in the Manufacturing industry between 2004–05 and 2006–07p. *Mesothelioma* and *Asbestosis* were the next most common types of injury or disease, accounting for 17% and 11% of compensated fatalities respectively. Together, these diseases represented all of fatalities involved in the *Long term contact with chemicals and other substances* mechanism as noted above. *Ischaemic heart disease* was involved in a further 7% of fatalities and *Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis* was involved in 6% of fatalities.

Figure 40 shows that fatality rates for individual age groups remained relatively stable between 2 and 4 fatalities per 100 000 employees for employees aged below 55 and increased sharply to 11 fatalities per 100 000 employees for employees aged 55 years and over. One major cause for this high fatality rate of employees aged 55 and over was their long term exposure to chemicals and substances (mostly asbestos), which accounted for 17 of the 41 fatalities in this age group over the period. The long latency of the diseases arising from asbestos exposure means that the dates on which claims are lodged do not relate well to the age at which the incident causing death occurred. Date of claim lodgement is used to determine employee age when incidents occur. This provides accurate data for the majority of fatalities where the interval between the incident causing the injury or illness and death is short but leads to inflated incidence rates in the older age groups for diseases with slow onset.

**Figure 40 Manufacturing industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2004–05 to 2006–07p combined**



# Mining

## An overview

The Mining industry employed 136 000 people in 2006–07, representing 1% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 98% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers).

The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 2445 serious workers' compensation claims in the Mining industry, 2% of claims across all industries. This equates to 7 claims per day or 19 claims per 1000 employees involving one or more weeks off work. The Mining industry recorded the fifth highest incidence rate of all industries in 2006–07p.

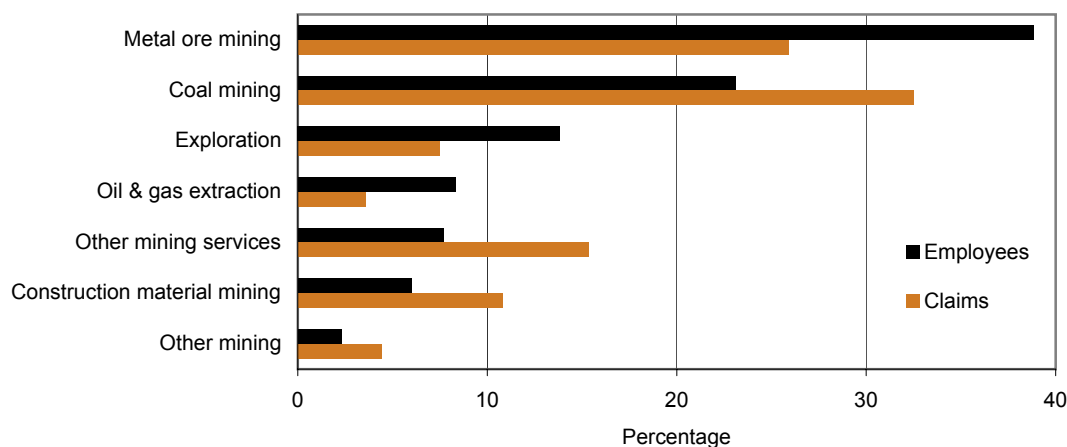
## Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006–07p)

### Industry profile

Within the Mining industry, almost 40% of employees were employed in the Metal ore mining group in 2006–07. However, this group accounted for only just over 25% of the serious workers' compensation claims resulting in this group recording one of the lowest rates for the industry (see Table 33).

In contrast, Figure 41 shows that the Coal mining, Other mining services and Construction material mining groups all had a greater proportion of serious claims than expected based on the proportion of employees in these groups. Other mining services recorded the highest incidence rate of serious claims (38 claims per 1000 employees), however, this group accounted for only 8% of employees in the industry.

**Figure 41 Mining industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by group, 2006–07p**



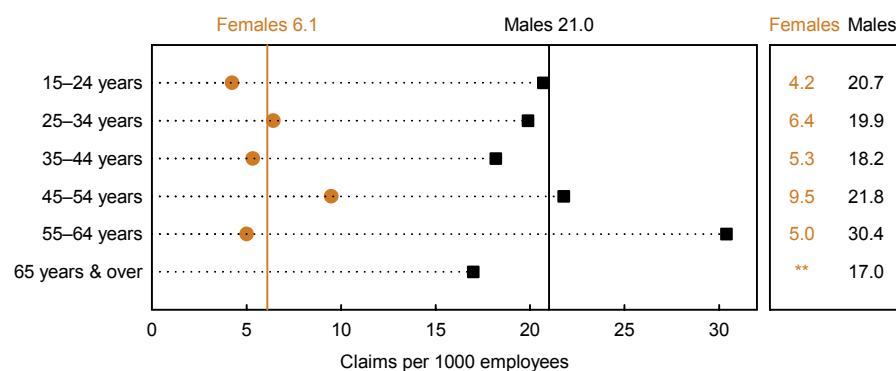
### Gender and age

While female employees represented 14% of the employees in the Mining industry during 2006–07p, they accounted for only 4% of claims. This resulted in female employees recording a much lower incidence rate than men: 6 claims per 1000 female employees compared with 21 claims per 1000 male employees.

Figure 42 shows female employees had much lower incidence rates than male employees in all age groups, reflecting the different types of work undertaken by men and women in this industry. Incidence rates varied little with age for female employees ranging from 4 to 6 claims per 1000 female employees, except for the

45–54 years age group which recorded a higher rate of 9 claims per 1000 female employees. For male employees rates decreased slightly with age up to 44 years and then increased substantially for the 55–64 years age group (30 claims per 1000 male employees). A lower than average rate was recorded for the 65 years and over age group (17 claims per 1000 male employees), possibly reflecting the lower employment of workers in this age group (less than 1% of all male employees).

**Figure 42 Mining industry: incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p**



\*\* An incidence rate for women aged 65 years and over is not shown as the estimated number of employees in this cohort is unreliable.

### Common causes of serious claims

The most common causes of claims in the Mining industry in 2006–07p were *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* (17% of claims), *Falls on the same level* (14%), *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* (10%) and *Long term exposure to sounds* (9%). The involvement of *Long term exposure to sounds* in this industry was much higher compared with all industries (3%).

These proportions were generally similar between the industry sub-divisions of the Mining industry. However, Oil and gas extraction recorded a greater proportion of claims due to *Falls from a height* (11% of claims compared to 6% for the industry) and Coal mining had a higher proportion of *Long term exposure to sounds* (17% of claims compared to 9% for the industry).

### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07p, most claims in the Mining industry were injury-related (79%) and the remainder were disease-related (21%). The most common type of injury was *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* (43% of all claims), *Fractures* (11% of all claims), and *Contusion with intact skin surface and crushing injury excluding those with fracture* (6% of all claims).

The most common diseases leading to a claim were *Deafness* (8% of claims), *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* (3% of claims) and *Dorsopathies - disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs* (2% of claims).

These proportions for injury and disease claims were broadly consistent across the industry sub-divisions except for *Deafness*, which accounted for 17% of claims in the Coal mining sub-division.

### Common breakdown agencies

There was no predominant breakdown agency in the Mining industry in 2006–07p. The most common agencies were *Other materials and objects* (11% of claims), *Outdoor environment* (11%), *Indoor environment* (9%), *Road Transport* (8%), and *Self-propelled plant* (8%).

These proportions differed between the sub-divisions within the Mining industry. For example, Oil and gas extraction had higher proportions in *Indoor environment* (17% compared to 9% for the industry) and *Other mobile plant* (9% compared to 2% for the industry) and a lower involvement of *Self-propelled plant* (1%). Coal mining had higher proportions in *Underground environment* (10% compared with 4% in the industry) and *Self-propelled plant* (13%).

## Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

As the 2006–07p data are preliminary, the time series comparisons extend only to 2005–06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls. Table 33 shows that the incidence rate of compensated claims in the Mining industry fell 36% from 30 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 19 claims per 1000 employees in 2005–06. Nevertheless, at 19 claims per 1000 employees, the incidence rate for this industry in 2005–06 was well above the incidence rate for all claims (15 claims per 1000 employees).

All sub-divisions within the Mining industry experienced large falls in incidence rates between 2000–01 and 2005–06 — most notably a 51% decrease in the rate for the Metal Ore mining sub-division (from 26 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 13 claims per 1000 employees in 2005–06) and a 42% decrease in the rate for the Oil and gas extraction sub-division (from 13 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 8 claims per 1000 employees in 2004–05).

Incidence rates for groups containing relatively low numbers of claims should be interpreted with caution as random annual fluctuations in claim numbers can lead to notable shifts in incidence rates, posing difficulties in comparing rates over time. Estimates of employee numbers in smaller groups can also fluctuate between years also impacting on incidence rates.

**Table 33 Mining industry: number and incidence rate by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry sub-division & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
Coal mining	605	725	785	840	785	755	795	25%
Oil & gas extraction	70	80	90	75	85	80	85	14%
Metal ore mining	785	765	770	675	645	600	635	-24%
Other mining	335	350	290	405	450	380	375	13%
<i>Construction material mining</i>	255	270	195	235	270	250	265	-2%
<i>Other mining</i>	80	80	95	165	180	130	110	63%
Services to mining	450	400	365	385	450	530	560	18%
<i>Exploration</i>	155	85	85	105	145	165	185	6%
<i>Other mining services</i>	295	310	285	285	305	365	375	24%
<b>Total Mining</b>	<b>2 240</b>	<b>2 320</b>	<b>2 300</b>	<b>2 380</b>	<b>2 415</b>	<b>2 340</b>	<b>2 445</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
Coal mining	34.3	38.3	38.5	40.0	31.8	24.8	26.7	-28%
Oil and gas extraction	13.0	23.1	21.9	12.1	11.9	7.5	8.1	-42%
Metal ore mining	26.1	23.4	22.1	18.0	16.8	12.8	12.7	-51%
Other mining <sup>(b)</sup>	37.9	40.1	34.7	51.0	42.3	35.3	35.0	-6%
Services to mining	33.9	32.2	24.7	21.3	23.9	21.8	20.1	-36%
<i>Exploration</i>	14.5	8.4	7.4	7.8	10.8	11.1	10.3	-23%
<i>Other mining services</i>	**	**	81.7	59.2	59.5	38.4	37.8	**
<b>Mining</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>26.2</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>-36%</b>

(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary and subject to change

(b) The incidence rate for the sub-groups have been excluded due to high relative standard errors in the estimate of the number of employee.

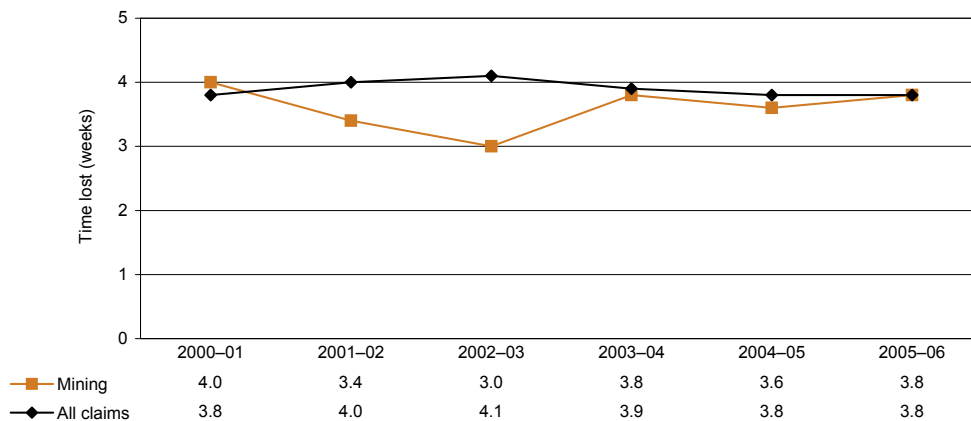
## Payments made and duration of serious claims

Figure 43 shows that the median time lost from work data for the Mining industry have shown more movement than other industries. The shorter median time lost figures recorded for 2001–02 and 2002–03 reflect both a greater incidence of shorter-term claims in those years and a degree of instability in trends over time stemming from the relatively small number of claims in this industry. The median time lost for all industries has remained relatively stable over this period.

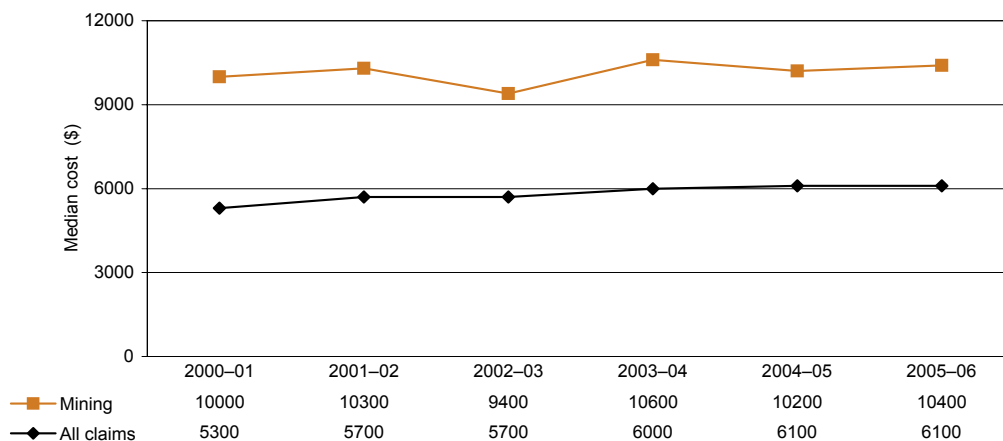
In contrast to the median time lost for claims in the Mining industry, the median payment in this industry was substantially higher than that for all industries. Over the period 2000–01 to 2005–06, the median payment in the Mining industry increased 4% from \$10 000 to \$10 400. Figure 44 shows that this was substantially lower than the 15% increase in the median payment of all industries.

Factors influencing the total direct cost of a claim include the employee’s salary level, the length of absence from work and medical expenses. The combination of a lower median time lost figure and considerably higher median cost figure for the Mining industry compared with all industries indicates that average salaries in this industries are higher than all industries leading to higher compensation payments.

**Figure 43 Mining industry: median time lost from work by year**



**Figure 44 Mining industry: median payment by year**



## Fatalities

Table 34 shows that there was a decline in the number of fatalities in the Mining industry from 18 fatalities in 2000–01 to 6 fatalities in 2004–05. This trend was reversed in 2005–06 with 14 fatalities recorded. The preliminary data for 2006–07 has 7 fatalities.

The incidence rate of compensated fatalities fell appreciably from 24 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2000–01 to 6 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2004–05 before increasing to 11 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2005–06. The growth in the number of employees in this industry sector in recent years has seen the incidence rate decrease 52% compared to the number of fatalities decreasing 22% from 2000–01 to 2005–06. Nevertheless, the incidence rate in the Mining industry in 2005–06 (11 fatalities per 100 000 employees) was more than four times the incidence rate of all industries (2.8 fatalities per 100 000 employees).

**Table 34 Mining industry: number of compensated fatalities by industry sub-division and group, by year**

Industry subdivision & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
Coal mining	3	3	0	2	1	2	0
Oil & gas extraction	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Metal ore mining	7	5	5	2	3	5	2
Other mining	4	1	3	2	1	4	1
<i>Construction material mining</i>	3	1	2	2	1	2	1
<i>Other mining</i>	1	0	1	0	0	2	0
Services to mining	2	1	4	2	1	3	4
<i>Exploration</i>	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
<i>Other mining services</i>	2	1	4	2	1	2	2
<b>Total Mining</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Mining</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>5.4</b>

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the five-year period 2002–03 to 2006–07p, were aggregated for the following analysis. There were 47 compensated fatalities within the industry during this period — 17 of these within the Metal ore mining sub-division, 14 within Services to mining and 11 within the Other mining sub-division.

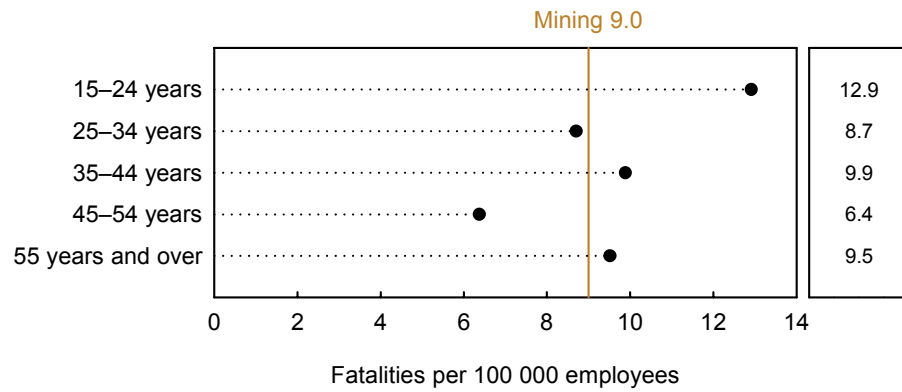
*Vehicle accident* was the most common cause of compensated fatalities in the Mining industry, accounting for one quarter (12 of 47) of the fatalities that occurred in the period 2002–03 and 2006–07p. Other notable causes of fatalities were *Being hit by moving objects* (19%, 9 deaths) and *Slide or cave in* together with *Long term contact with chemicals or other substances* accounting for 5 deaths each (11% each). Three out of the five deaths from *Long term contact with chemicals or other substances* were due to asbestos exposure.

*Multiple injuries* was recorded as the type of injury or disease for 41% of the fatalities that occurred in the Mining industry (19 fatalities) from 2002–03 to 2006–07p. A further 4 fatalities involved *Fractures*; 3 from *Intracranial injury, including concussion*; and 3 from *Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis*.

There was no clear relationship between age and the incidence rate of fatalities in the Mining industry (Figure 45). This contrasts with the other industries where there is typically an increase in incidence rates with age. In the Mining industry, age specific incidence rates ranged from 6 fatalities per 100 000 for employees in the 45–54 age group to 13 fatalities per 100 000 for employees in the 15–24 age group.

The greatest number of fatalities was recorded by employees aged 35-44 (16 of the 47 fatalities) and the smallest number was recorded by those aged 55 and over (5 fatalities).

**Figure 45 Mining industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2000–01 to 2006–07p combined**



# Transport and storage

## An overview

The Transport and Storage industry employed 471 000 people in Australia in 2006–07, 5% of the Australian workforce. The following workers' compensation statistics relate to the 87% of workers in this industry who were classified as employees in that year (i.e. excluding self-employed workers).

The preliminary data for 2006–07 show there were 10 765 serious workers' compensation claims in the Transport and Storage industry, 8% of claims across all industries. This equates to 29 claims per day or 26 claims per 1000 employees involving one or more weeks off work. The Transport and Storage industry recorded the second-highest incidence rate of all industries in 2006–07p, nearly twice the national rate of 14 claims per 1000 employees.

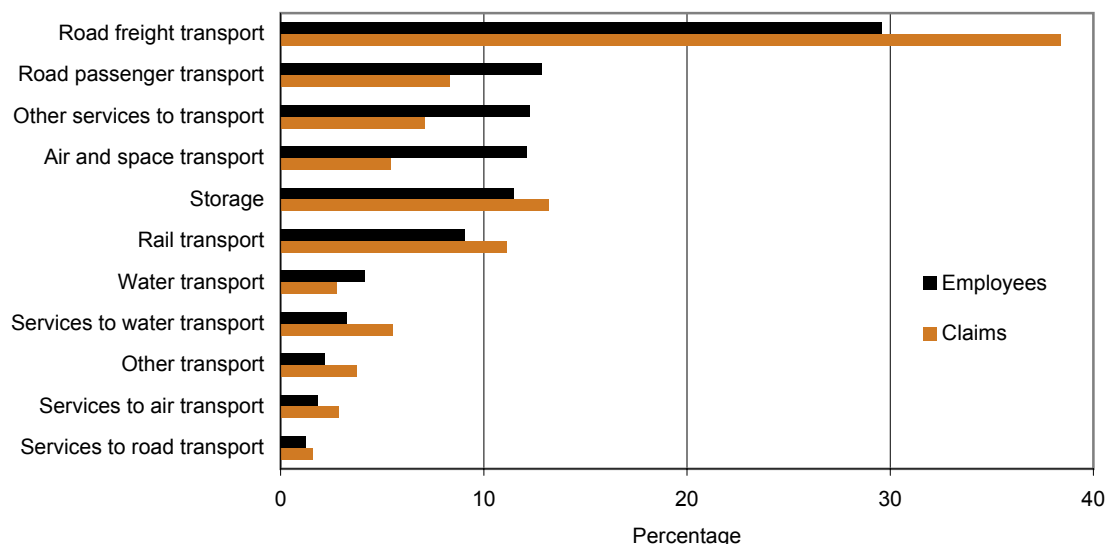
## Characteristics of serious claims in the most recent data (2006–07p)

### Industry profile

Within the Transport and Storage industry, the Road freight transport group accounted for the largest proportion of employees (30%) and the largest proportion of serious claims (38%). Despite recording a significantly higher proportion of claims than the proportion of employees, the Road freight transport group recorded only the third highest incidence rate of serious claims (33 claims per 1000 employees) (see Table 35).

In contrast, the Air and space transport group recorded a much smaller proportion of claims (5%) than expected based on the proportion of employees (12%) to record the lowest incidence rate (12 claims per 1000 employees). The highest incidence rates were recorded by the groups with very small numbers of employees and disproportionately more claims.

**Figure 46** Transport and storage industry: proportion of employees and serious claims by groups, 2006–07p



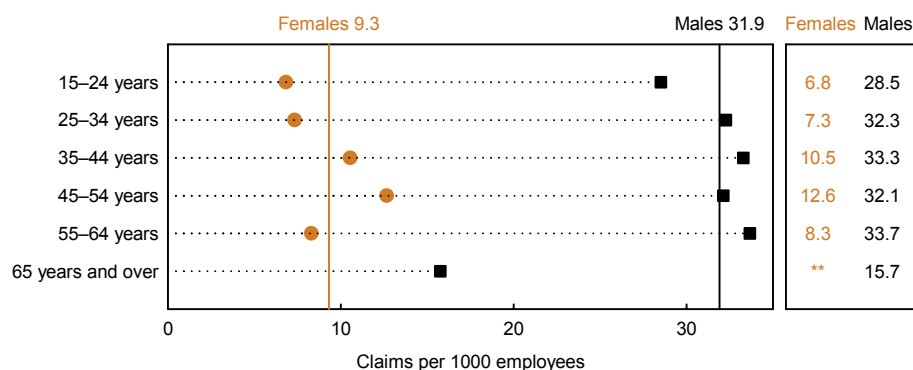
### Gender and age

While female employees represented 27% of the employees in the Transport and storage industry in 2006–07p, they accounted for only 10% of the claims in this industry. This resulted in female employees recording a much lower incidence rate than male employees (9 claims per 1000 female employees compared with 32 claims per 1000 male employees).

Figure 47 shows incidence rates for male employees in the Transport and storage industry in 2006–07p, were similar for 25 to 64 year old employees, averaging 33 claims per 1000 male employees. A much lower rate occurred among those aged 65 years and over (16 claims per 1000 employees), although this figure should be interpreted with some caution in view of the small number of men still at work in this industry after reaching 65 years.

For female employees, the rate increased with age from 7 claims per 1000 female employees for those aged 15–24 years to 13 claims per 1000 female employees for those aged 45–54 years and then fell for females aged 55–64 years to 8 claims per 1000 female employees.

**Figure 47 Transport and storage industry: incidence rate by gender and age, 2006–07p**



\*\* An incidence rate for women aged 65 years and over is not shown as the estimated number of employees in this cohort is unreliable.

### Common causes of serious claims

*Body stressing* was the most common cause of claims in the Transport and storage industry in 2006–07p, accounting for 42% of all claims. *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* had the largest representation in the *Body stressing* group, with 21% of all claims, followed by *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down*, with 15% of all claims. Other common causes were *Falls on the same level* (12%) and *Falls from a height* (8%). A higher proportion of claims in this industry involved *Vehicle accident* (6%) compared with all industries (2% of claims).

These proportions were broadly consistent across all of the industry groups except for more involvement of *Body stressing* in Services to transport (in which stevedoring is a class) (60% of claims), Air and space transport (58%), Storage (55%) and Other transport (54%). The increased proportions of claims involving *Body stressing* in these groups were offset by lower proportions in *Falls on the same level* and *Falls from a height*.

### Common types of injury and disease

In 2006–07p, 72% of serious claims in the Transport and storage industry were injury-related with the remaining 28% being disease-related. The most common injury-related claims involved *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles* (43% of all claims), *Fractures* (9% of claims), and *Contusion with intact skin surface and crushing injury excluding those with fracture* (8%).

The most common diseases leading to a claim involved *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* and *Dorsopathies - disorders of the spinal vertebrae and intervertebral discs* accounting for 7% of claims each. *Mental disorders* accounted for a further 5% of claims.

These proportions were similar across the industry groups except for the Rail transport group which recorded a higher proportion of *Mental disorders* (26% of claims) and a lower proportion of *Sprains and strains of joints and adjacent muscles*

(30%). The higher proportion of *Mental disorders* claims were linked to vehicle accidents (28% of these claims) and exposure to a traumatic event (15% of these claims).

The other group to record a different pattern was the Air and space transport group which recorded a higher proportion of *Disorders of muscle, tendons and other soft tissues* and *Dorsopathies* (18%) and lower proportions across the other common types of injury and disease.

### Common breakdown agencies

*Fastening, packing and packaging equipment* was responsible for the greatest proportion of claims in the Transport and storage industry (18% of all claims). It was the most common breakdown agency in all the subdivisions within the industry except in the Road transport and Rail transport subdivisions, and accounted for between 12% and 40% of claims. Other common breakdown agencies were *Road transport* (16% of claims), *Outdoor environment* (8% of claims) and *Other materials and objects* (8% of claims).

In the Road transport and Rail transport subdivisions, the most common breakdown agencies were, not surprisingly, *Road transport* (trucks, buses, cars etc) accounting for 27% of claims and *Rail transport* (railway lines, locomotives, rolling stock etc) accounting for 20% of claims.

The Rail transport subdivision also recorded 19% of claims due to *Human agencies* with the majority of these claims due to the action of another person. Most of these claims resulted in claims for mental disorders. *Human agencies* were not major breakdown agencies in the other subdivisions of the Transport and storage industry, where they only accounted for between 2 and 4% of claims.

The Storage subdivision recorded the highest proportion of claims (40%) due to *Fastening, packing and packaging equipment*. Three-quarters of these claims involved packing boxes such as crates and cartons. The next highest proportion of claims were due to the use of *Conveyors and lifting equipment* and accounted for 9% of claims in this subdivision.

### Changes in characteristics of serious claims over time

As the 2006–07p data are preliminary, the time series comparisons extend only to 2005–06 so as not to overstate any percentage falls. Table 35 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the incidence rate of serious claims in the Transport and storage industry decreased 15%: from 32 claims per 1000 employees to 28 claims per 1000 employees. This decrease is similar to the decrease in the incidence rate for all claims (16%). Nonetheless, the incidence rate in the Transport and storage industry in 2005–06 remained nearly double the incidence rate for all claims.

In 2005–06, the Storage sub-division had the highest incidence rate of all sub-divisions within the Transport and storage industry (35 claims per 1000 employees), followed by the Rail transport and Road transport (both with 31 claims per 1000 employees) sub-divisions. The sub-division with the lowest incidence rate in the industry was Air and space transport (14 claims per 1000 employees).

There were very high incidence rates in Services to water transport and Services to air transport groups but these industry groups only accounted for 5% of employees in the Transport and storage industry in 2006–07. Approximately half of the Services to water transport claims were in the Stevedoring class of this industry group.

Incidence rates for groups containing relatively low numbers of claims should be interpreted with caution as random annual fluctuations in claim numbers can lead to notable shifts in incidence rates, posing difficulties in comparing rates over time. Estimates of employee numbers in smaller groups can also fluctuate between years also impacting on incidence rates.

**Table 35** Transport and storage industry: number and incidence rate by industry sub-division and group, by year

Industry sub-division & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p	%chg <sup>(a)</sup>
<b>Number of claims</b>								
Road transport	5 610	5 490	5 325	5 240	5 150	5 195	5 030	-7%
<i>Road freight transport</i>	4 495	4 360	4 270	4 150	4 150	4 290	4 135	-5%
<i>Road passenger transport</i>	1 120	1 125	1 055	1 090	1 000	905	895	-19%
Rail transport	1 155	1 265	1 265	1 215	1 245	1 345	1 195	16%
Water transport	340	330	290	345	285	300	295	-12%
Air and space transport	1 275	1 045	960	855	845	760	585	-40%
Other transport	280	235	295	260	130	90	400	-68%
Services to transport	1 575	1 730	1 815	2 020	1 920	1 940	1 835	23%
<i>Services to road transport</i>	130	175	195	185	170	210	170	62%
<i>Services to water transport</i>	645	685	675	675	610	650	595	1%
<i>Services to air transport</i>	95	150	230	275	310	285	305	200%
<i>Other services to transport</i>	705	720	715	880	825	800	765	13%
Storage	1 345	1 550	1 440	1 550	1 650	1 550	1 420	15%
<b>Total Transport and storage</b>	<b>11 580</b>	<b>11 640</b>	<b>11 385</b>	<b>11 485</b>	<b>11 225</b>	<b>11 180</b>	<b>10 765</b>	<b>-3%</b>
<b>Incidence rate (claims per 1000 employees)</b>								
Road transport	37.0	34.5	33.2	30.4	30.7	31.1	28.3	-16%
<i>Road freight transport</i>	42.5	38.8	37.3	32.8	36.6	37.1	33.4	-13%
<i>Road passenger transport</i>	24.4	24.1	23.0	23.6	18.5	17.7	16.6	-27%
Rail transport	29.8	38.0	33.6	29.8	30.6	31.4	31.5	5%
Water transport	23.5	21.5	20.8	22.4	17.5	19.7	17.2	-16%
Air and space transport	23.5	20.6	20.5	18.4	16.9	14.2	11.5	-40%
Other transport <sup>(b)</sup>	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	
Services to transport	23.1	26.3	29.0	28.0	25.5	24.8	23.6	7%
<i>Services to road transport</i>	29.3	41.6	37.5	28.5	35.1	41.2	33.1	41%
<i>Services to water transport</i>	51.1	46.9	52.3	50.9	47.2	45.2	43.3	-12%
<i>Services to air transport</i>	13.2	25.3	38.5	40.2	48.1	34.1	40.1	158%
<i>Other services to transport</i>	16.0	17.5	18.5	19.4	16.2	15.8	14.9	-1%
Storage	44.1	65.7	54.9	52.7	36.8	34.5	29.6	-22%
<b>Transport and storage</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>27.6</b>	<b>25.7</b>	<b>-15%</b>

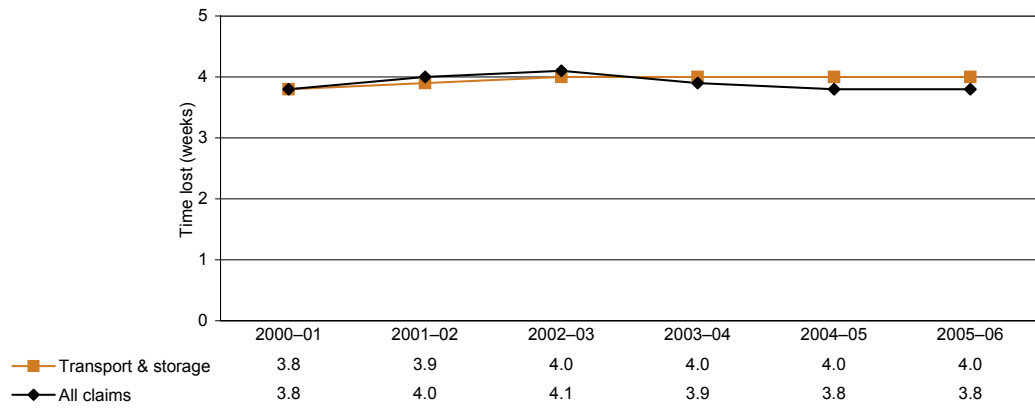
(a) Percentage change from 2000–01 to 2005–06 due to the data for 2006–07 being preliminary and subject to change.

(b) Incidence rates for Other transport are excluded due to high relative standard errors in the estimate of employee numbers.

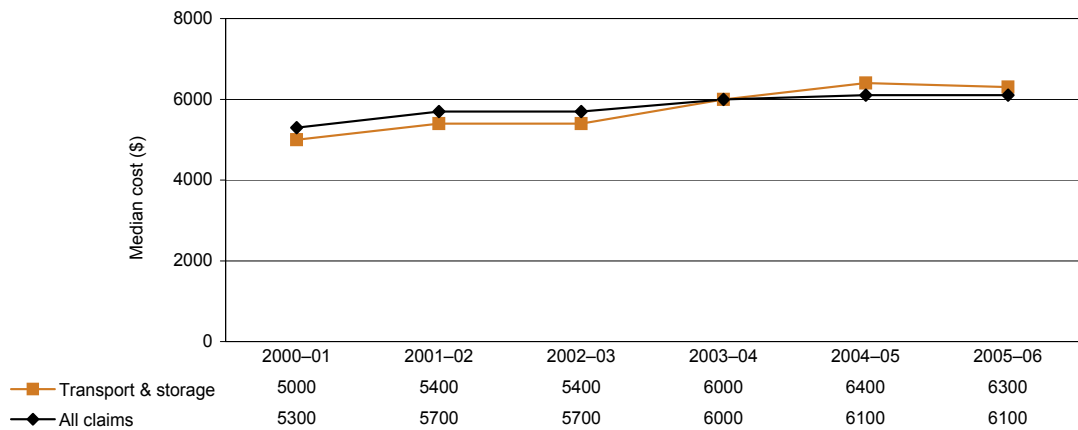
## Payments made and duration of serious claims

Figure 48 shows that between 2000–01 and 2005–06, the median time lost from work for claims in this industry remained similar to the median time lost for all industries. The median payment however increased at a greater rate: 26% from \$5000 to \$6300 compared with the 15% increase in median for all claims (Figure 49). Factors influencing the payments made include the employee's salary level, the length of absence from work and medical expenses.

**Figure 48** Transport and storage industry: median time lost from work by year



**Figure 49** Transport and storage industry: median payment by year



## Fatalities

The number of fatalities in the Transport and storage industry declined from 57 fatalities in 2000-01 to 47 fatalities in 2005-06, although there was a large spike in 2002-03 when 68 deaths were recorded. However, Table 36 shows the number of fatalities has remained relatively stable with 47 - 48 fatalities per year since 2003-04. The preliminary data for 2006-07 has 45 fatalities.

Fatality incidence rates followed a similar pattern, though increasing employment in this industry resulted in slight improvements in rates over the last few years. Despite this the fatality incidence rate of 12 fatalities per 100 000 employees in 2005-06 was four times the rate across all industries (2.8 fatalities per 100 000 employees).

### Characteristics of fatalities

In order to produce a more robust analysis of fatality characteristics, data from the three years 2004-05 to 2006-07p were aggregated in the following analysis. Over this period there were 140 compensated fatalities within the industry. Two-thirds of these fatalities occurred in the Road freight transport group.

*Vehicle accident* was the most common cause of compensated fatalities in this industry between 2004-05 and 2006-07p, accounting for two-thirds of fatalities (91 of 140). The Road freight transport group accounted for 73 of these fatalities. Notably, truck drivers were involved in 85% of the Road freight transport fatalities and 61% of all compensated fatalities in the Transport and Storage industry over this three-year period. Injuries accounted for 90% of all claims in this industry with

**Table 36** Transport and storage industry: number of compensated fatalities by industry sub-division and group, by year

Industry sub-division & group	2000–01	2001–02	2002–03	2003–04	2004–05	2005–06	2006–07p
<b>Number of fatalities</b>							
Road transport	42	45	45	38	35	35	34
Road freight transport	34	41	39	34	31	31	31
Road passenger transport	8	4	6	4	4	4	3
Rail transport	1	2	6	0	1	1	1
Water transport	3	0	2	0	1	0	1
Air and space transport	3	6	2	1	5	5	0
Other transport	1	1	1	2	1	0	3
Services to transport	5	4	9	5	4	2	6
Services to road transport	3	2	2	2	2	1	4
Services to water transport	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Services to air transport	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Other services to transport	2	2	5	3	2	1	2
Storage	2	0	3	1	1	1	0
<b>Total Transport and storage</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Incidence rate (fatalities per 100 000 employees)</b>							
<b>Transport and storage</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>10.8</b>

*Multiple injuries* accounting for half of the fatalities between 2004–05 and 2006–07p with *Internal injuries of chest, abdomen and pelvis* accounting for 5% and *Intracranial injury, including concussion* accounting for 4%.

Incidence rates generally increased with employee age: from 5 fatalities per 100 000 employees for those in the 15–24 years age group to 17 fatalities per 100 000 employees for those in the 55 years and over age group (Figure 50). Except for the 15–24 years group, which had 6 fatalities in the three-year period, all other age groups had similar numbers of fatalities (ranging from 32 to 34 fatalities).

**Figure 50** Transport and storage industry: fatality incidence rate by age, years 2004–05 to 2006–07p combined

