

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

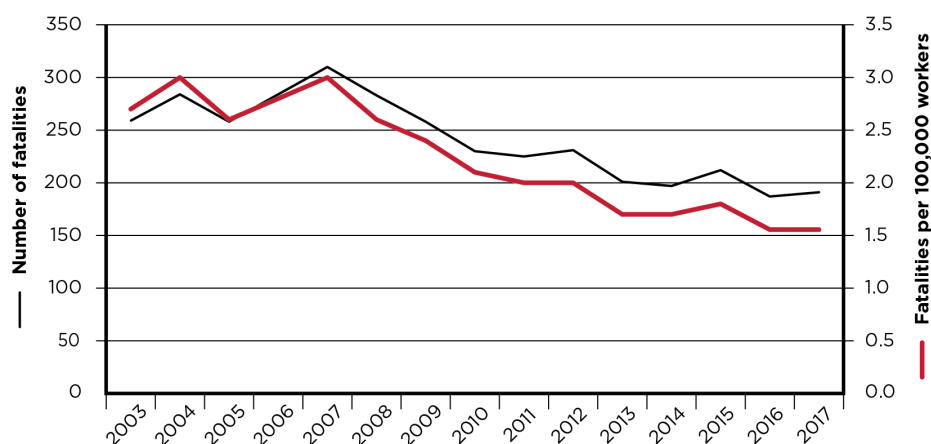
## Work-related injury fatalities

Safe Work Australia compiles the Work-related Traumatic Injury Fatalities data set which provides national statistics on all workers and bystanders fatally injured at work. This data draws on a range of information sources, including:

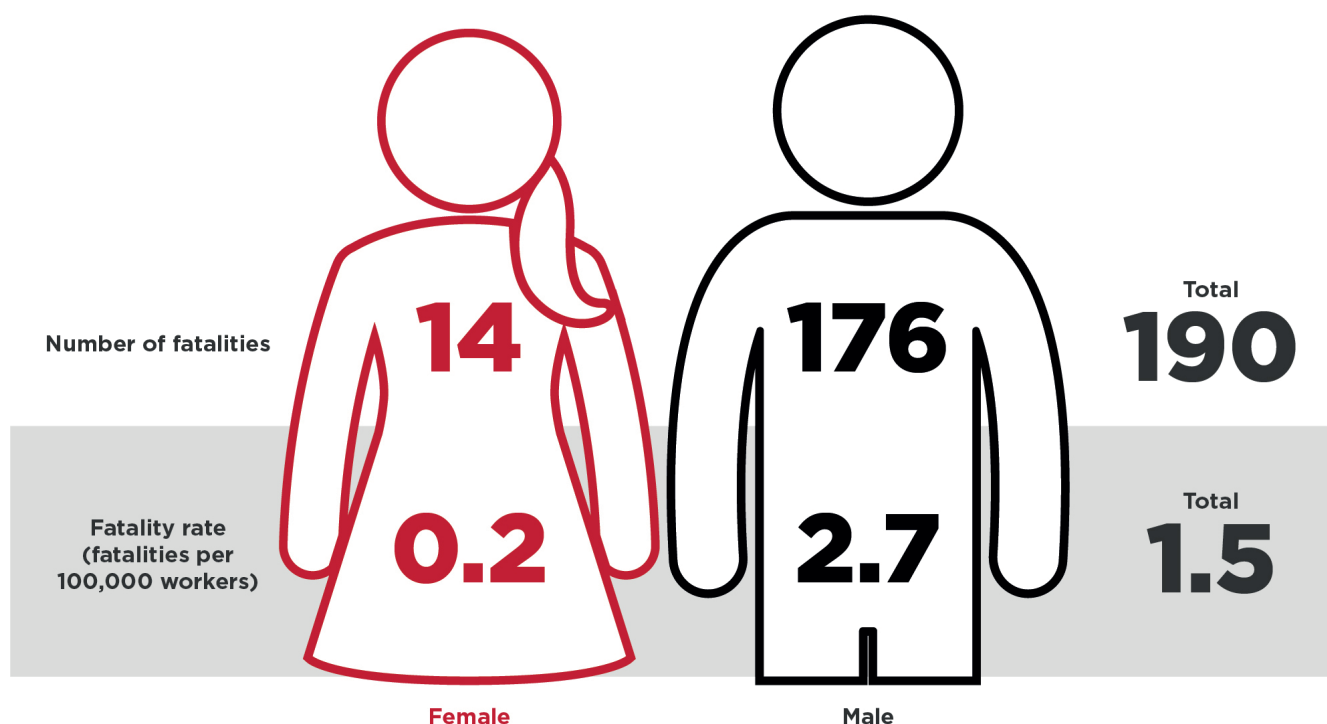
- initial reporting of fatalities in the media or on relevant authority websites such as police, road authorities and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- notifications to Safe Work Australia from the jurisdictional authorities, and
- the National Coronial Information Service which provides confidential access to coroners', police and other investigative reports.

Work-related fatalities resulting from diseases, natural causes and suicides are excluded. Further explanatory notes on the data can be found in the Explanatory notes for Safe Work Australia datasets.

## Trends in work-related injury fatalities, 2003 to 2017



## Work-related injury fatalities by gender, 2017



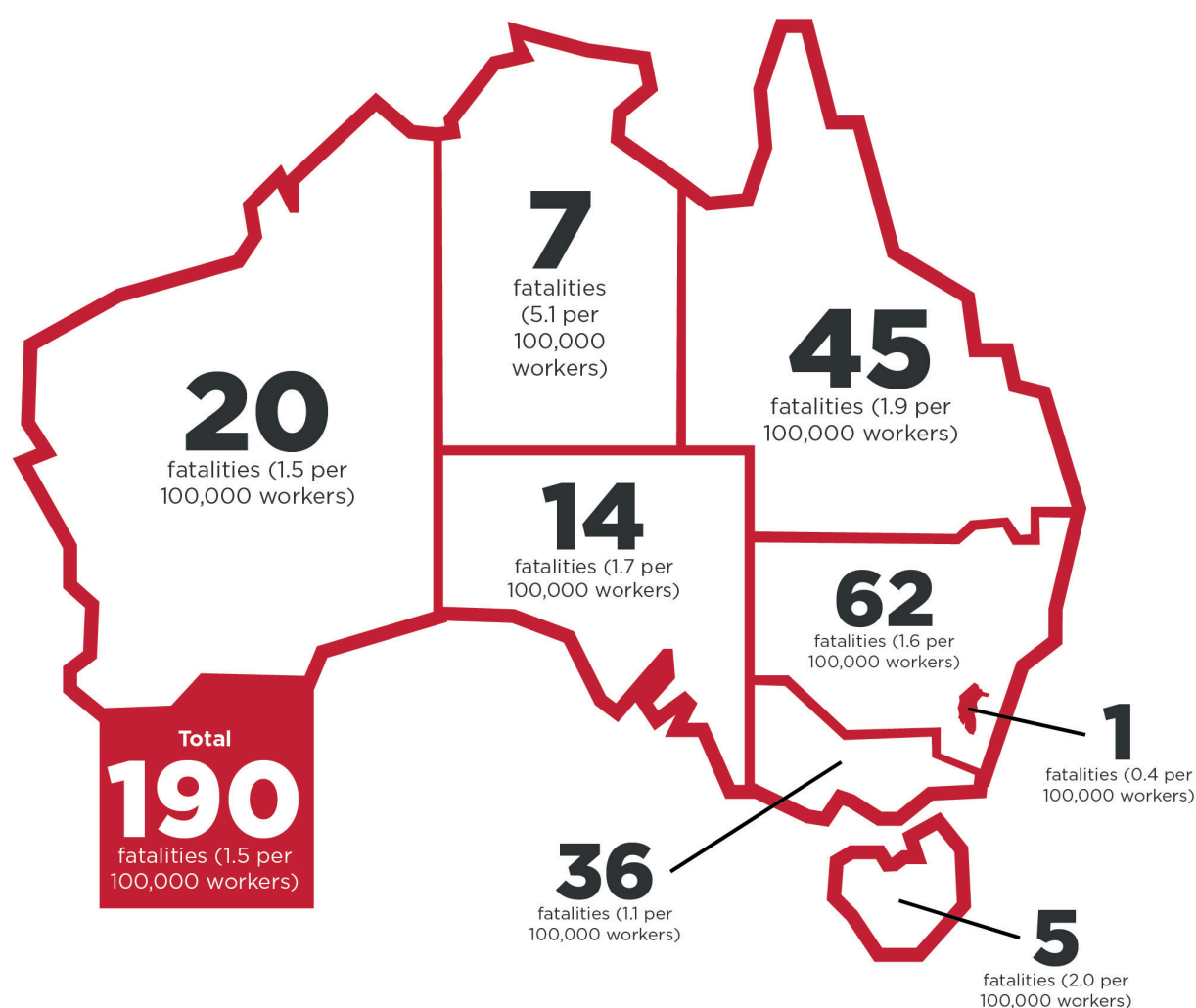
# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury fatalities

### Work-related injury fatalities by age group, 2017

Age group (years)	Number of fatalities	Fatality rate (fatalities per 100,000 workers)
less than 25	16	0.9
25-34	32	1.1
35-44	33	1.2
45-54	35	1.4
55-64	49	2.7
65 and over	25	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1.5</b>

### Work-related injury fatalities by state/territory, 2017\*

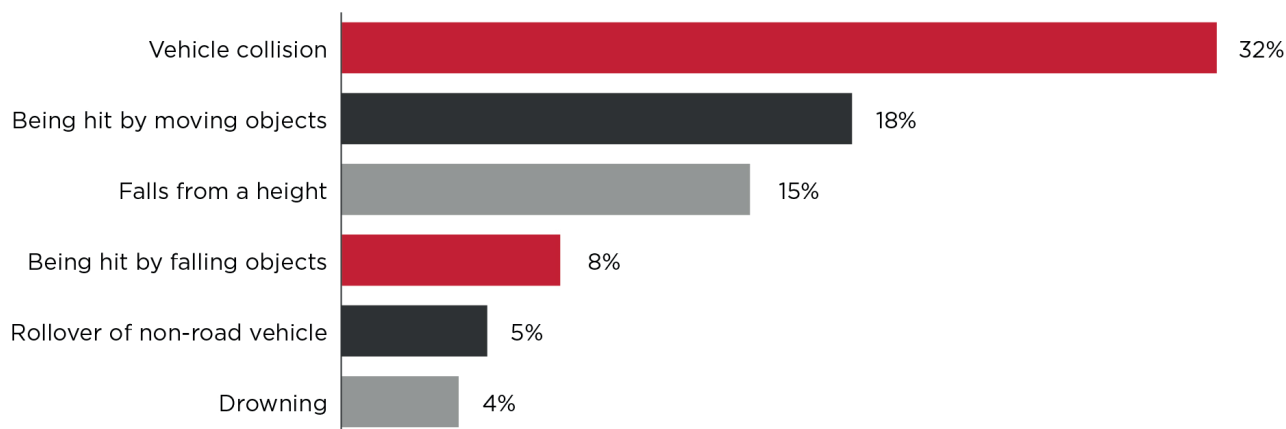


\* Fatalities are presented according to the state or territory where the fatality occurred, not the jurisdiction under which the fatality fell.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury fatalities

### Work-related injury fatalities by mechanism of fatal injury, 2017



Note: Only mechanisms accounting for 5 per cent or more of fatalities are included.

Mechanism of incident	Number of fatalities	% of injury fatalities
Vehicle incident	60	32%
Being hit by moving objects	35	18%
Falls from a height	28	15%
Being hit by falling objects	15	8%
Roll over of non-road vehicle	10	5%
Drowning	8	4%
Other mechanisms	34	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury fatalities

### Work-related injury fatalities by occupation, 2017



Machinery operators and drivers

**7.1**

fatalities per 100,000 workers



Labourers

**4.6**

fatalities per  
100,000 workers



Managers

**1.7**

fatalities per  
100,000 workers

Occupation	Number of fatalities	Fatality rate (fatalities per 100,000 workers)
Machinery Operators and Drivers	55	7.1
Labourers	56	4.6
Managers	26	1.7
Community and Personal Service Workers	14	1.1
Technicians and Trades Workers	17	1.0
Professionals	18	0.6
Clerical and Administrative Workers	3	0.2
Sales Workers	1	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1.5</b>

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury fatalities

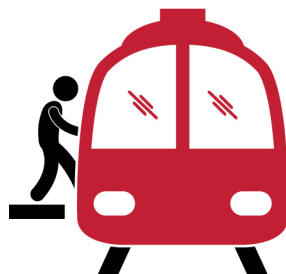
### Work-related injury fatalities by industry, 2017



Agriculture, forestry  
and fishing

**16.5**

fatalities per  
100,000 workers



Transport, postal  
and warehousing

**8.6**

fatalities per  
100,000 workers



Arts and  
recreation services

**3.5**

fatalities per  
100,000 workers

Industry of employer	Number of fatalities	Fatality rate (fatalities per 100,000 workers)
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	52	16.5
Transport, postal & warehousing	54	8.6
Arts & recreation services	8	3.5
Construction	30	2.7
Wholesale trade	6	1.6
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	2	1.5
Mining	3	1.4
Rental, hiring & real estate services	2	1.0
Manufacturing	6	0.7
Public administration & safety	5	0.6
Other Services	3	0.6
Accommodation & food services	5	0.6
Administrative & support services	2	0.5
Financial & insurance services	2	0.5
Retail trade	4	0.3
Health care & social assistance	4	0.3
Education & training	1	0.1
Professional, scientific & technical services	1	0.1
Information media & telecommunications	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1.5</b>

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

Safe Work Australia compiles the National Dataset for Compensation-based Statistics which comprises information on workers' compensation claims provided by each of the jurisdictional workers' compensation authorities.

In this section 'serious claims' relate to where the compensated injury or disease resulted in one week or more off work. The data for 2016-17 is preliminary (denoted by a 'p') and therefore is subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised. Further explanatory notes on the data can be found in the Explanatory notes for Safe Work Australia datasets.

### Serious claims overall statistics, 2016-17p\*



Total of

**106,260**

serious claims



Frequency rate of

**5.6**

serious claims per  
million hours worked



Median time lost

**5.6**

weeks



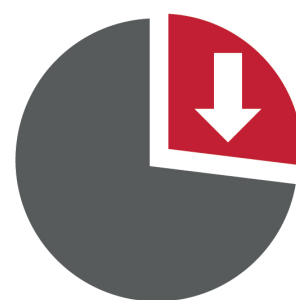
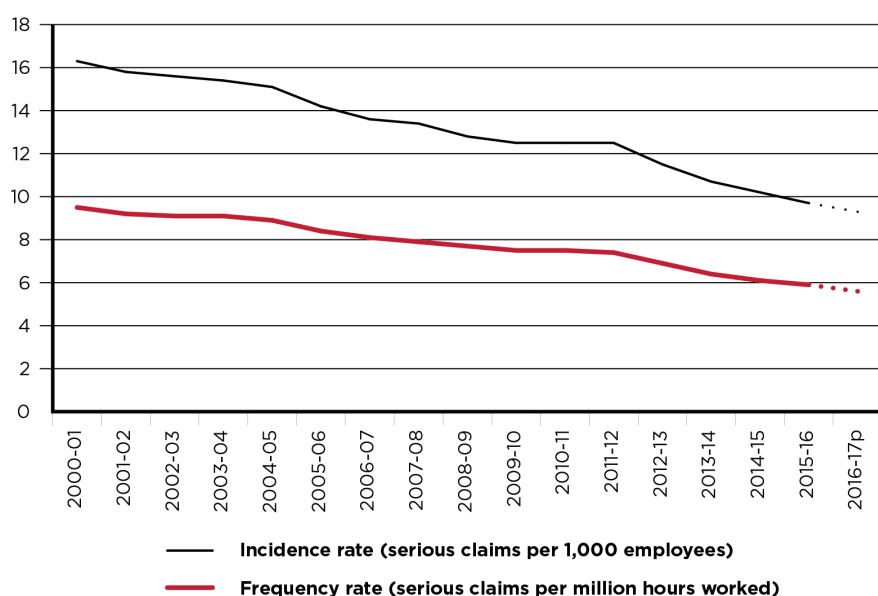
Median compensation paid

**\$11,500**

per claim

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

### Trends in the rates of serious claims, 2016-17p\*



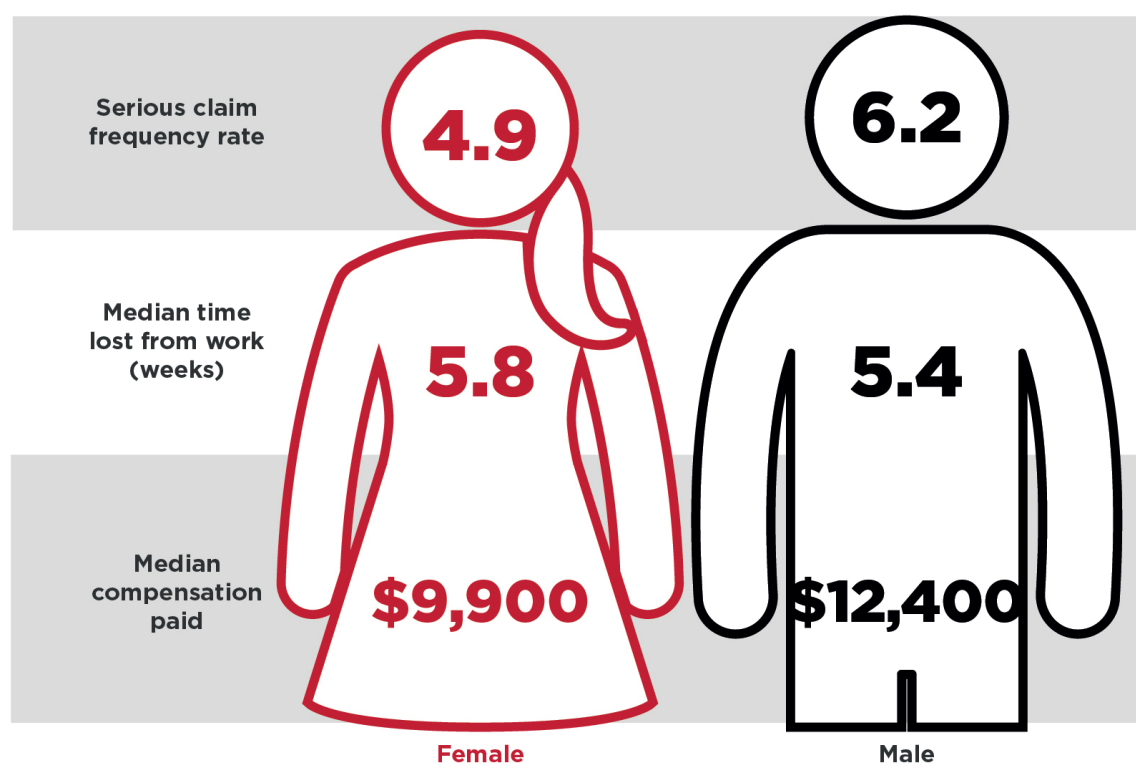
The Australian serious claim frequency rate **dropped by 28%** from 2006-07 to 2015-16

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by gender, 2016-17p\*



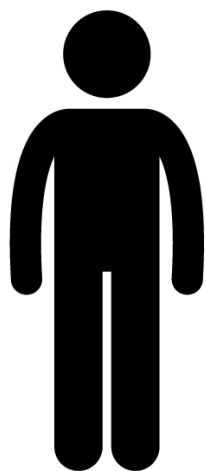
Sex	Number of serious claims	Frequency rate (serious claims per million hours worked)	Incidence rate (serious claims per 1,000 employees)
Female	38,155	4.9	6.9
Male	68,105	6.2	11.5
Total	106,260	5.6	9.3

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

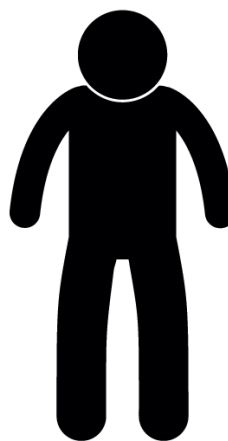
### Serious claims by age group, 2016-17p\*



30-34 years

**4.3**

claims per million  
hours worked



60-64 years

**7.7**

claims per million  
hours worked

Age group (years)	Number of serious claims	Frequency rate (serious claims per million hours worked)	Incidence rate (serious claims per 1,000 employees)
Less than 20 years	3,635	6.4	5.5
20-24 years	10,085	5.7	8.2
25-29 years	10,860	4.5	7.8
30-34 years	10,390	4.3	7.5
35-39 years	10,070	4.6	8.1
40-44 years	11,540	5.3	9.3
45-49 years	13,545	6.2	11.1
50-54 years	13,735	6.9	12.2
55-59 years	11,960	7.2	12.4
60-64 years	7,595	7.7	12.2
65 years and over	2,845	6.0	8.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.



# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

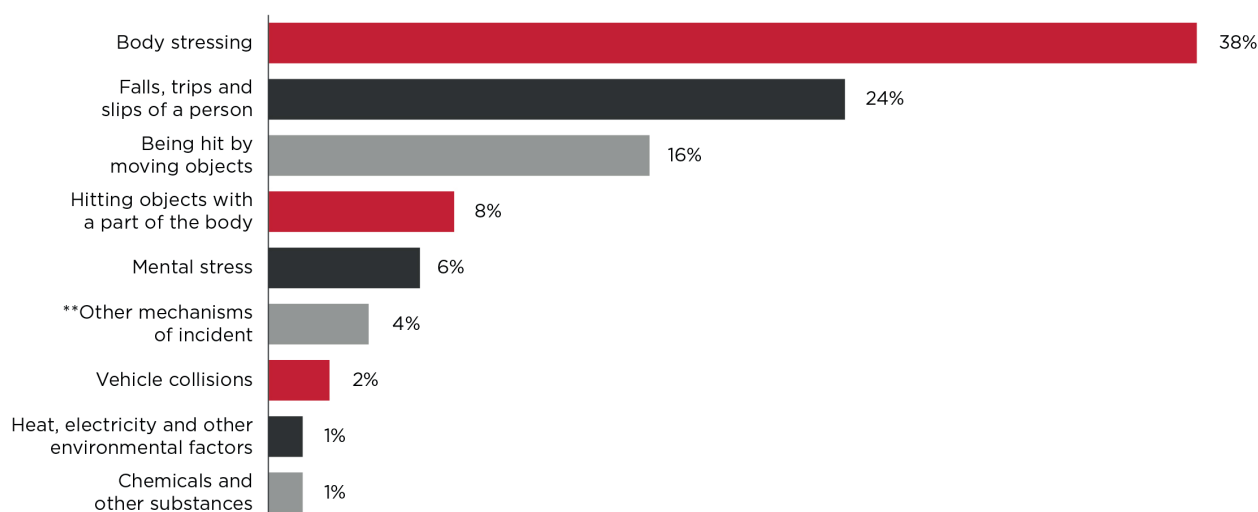
### Serious claims by mechanism of incident, 2016-17p\*



Body stressing  
**38%**



Falls, trips and slips of a person  
**24%**



Mechanism of incident	Number of serious claims	Per cent
Body stressing	40,330	38
Falls, trips and slips of a person	25,070	24
Being hit by moving objects	16,565	16
Hitting objects with a part of the body	8,070	8
Mental stress	6,675	6
Other mechanisms of incident**	4,645	4
Vehicle collisions	2,650	2
Heat, electricity and other environmental factors	1,455	1
Chemicals and other substances	800	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>100</b>

\* preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

\*\* other mechanisms of incident include biological factors, sound and pressure, other multiple mechanisms of incident, roll over, slide or cave-in and unspecified mechanisms of incident.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by nature of injury/disease per cent, 2016-17p\*



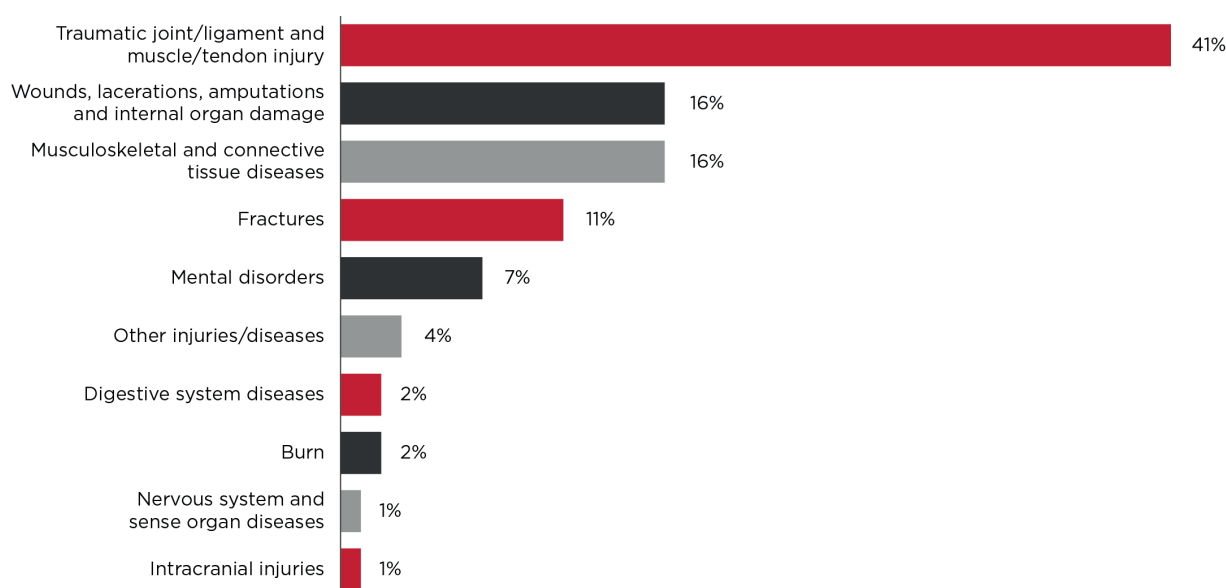
Traumatic joint/ligament  
and muscle/tendon injury

**41%**



Wounds, lacerations, amputations  
and internal organ damage

**16%**



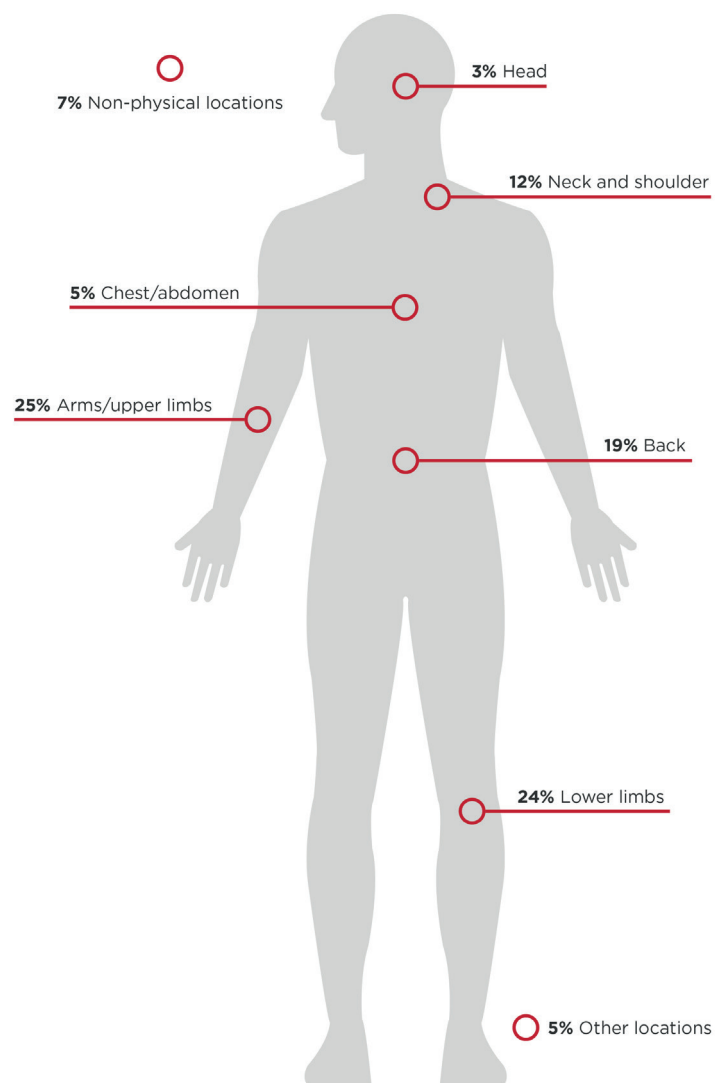
Nature of injury/disease (1-digit)	Total	percent
Traumatic joint/ligament and muscle/tendon injury	43,930	41%
Wounds, lacerations, amputations and internal organ damage	16,690	16%
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue diseases	16,595	16%
Fractures	11,485	11%
Mental disorders	7,165	7%
Other injuries/diseases	4,535	4%
Digestive system diseases	2,215	2%
Burn	1,620	2%
Nervous system and sense organ diseases	1,095	1%
Intracranial injuries	930	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Bodily location of injury, 2016-17p\*



Body location of injury/disease (1-digit)	Total	Per cent
Arms\Upper Limbs	26,375	25%
Lower Limbs	25,020	24%
Back	20,215	19%
Neck and Shoulder	13,275	12%
Non Physical Locations	7,165	7%
Other Locations	5,195	5%
Chest\Abdomen	4,830	5%
Head	3,455	3%
<b>Total**</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>100%</b>

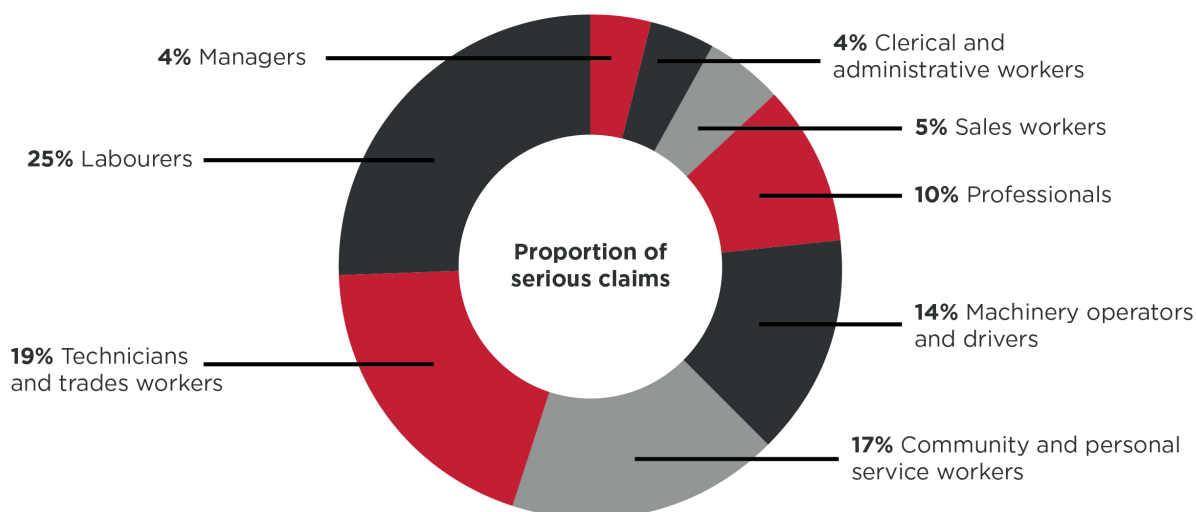
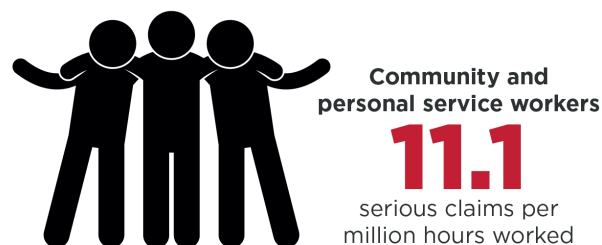
\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

\*\*claim numbers are rounded to the nearest five. Claims where the bodily location was unknown are not included separately, but are included in the total.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by occupation, 2016-17p\*



\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by occupation, 2016-17p\*

Occupation	Number of Claims	Frequency rate (serious claims per million hours worked)	Incidence rate (serious claims per 1,000 employees)
Labourers	26,330	23.7	16.5
Community and personal service workers	18,130	14.2	11.1
Machinery operators and drivers	15,035	21.1	10.8
Technicians and trades workers	19,965	13.7	7.2
Sales workers	5,695	5.2	4.0
Professionals	10,795	3.9	2.3
Clerical and administrative workers	4,615	2.8	1.8
Managers	4,745	3.5	1.7
<b>Total**</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>

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\*\*claim numbers are rounded to the nearest five. Claims where the occupation was unknown are not included separately, but are included in the total.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by industry, 2016-17p\*



**Agriculture, forestry  
and fishing**

**9.5**

serious claims per  
million hours worked



**Construction**

**8.1**

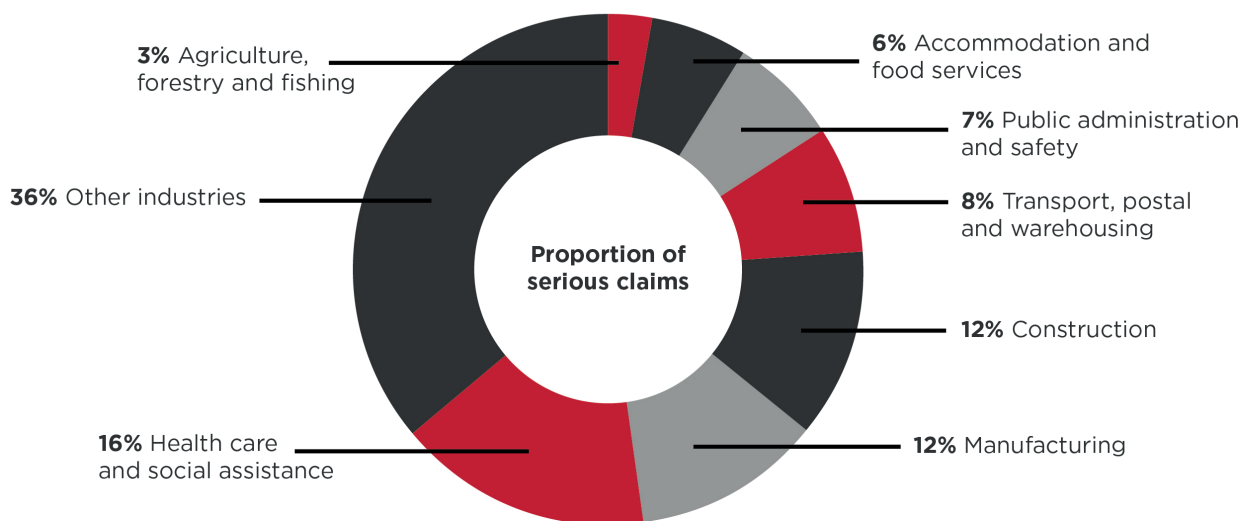
serious claims per  
million hours worked



**Manufacturing**

**8.0**

serious claims per  
million hours worked



\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Work-related injury and disease

### Serious claims by industry, 2016-17p\*

Industry	Number of claims	Frequency rate (serious claims per million hours worked)	Incidence rate (serious claims per 1,000 employees)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3,620	9.5	18.7
Construction	13,280	8.1	16.0
Arts and recreation services	2,190	8.0	10.2
Manufacturing	12,860	8.0	15.1
Transport, postal and warehousing	8,330	8.0	15.0
Health care and social assistance	17,190	7.8	11.1
Wholesale trade	4,500	6.6	12.4
Administrative and support services	4,730	6.3	10.0
Public administration and safety	7,710	5.9	9.6
Accommodation and food services	6,175	5.6	7.1
Retail trade	8,490	5.0	7.0
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1,210	4.7	9.2
Other services	3,065	4.6	7.6
Education and training	6,850	6.8	4.4
Mining	2,030	9.3	4.2
Rental, hiring and real estate services	970	4.7	2.6
Information media and telecommunications	590	2.8	1.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,795	1.9	1.1
Financial and insurance services	585	1.4	0.7
<b>Total**</b>	<b>106,260</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>9.3</b>

\*preliminary data subject to revision in subsequent years as further claims are finalised.

\*\*claim numbers are rounded to the nearest five. Claims where the industry was unknown are not included separately, but are included in the total.

# Key WHS statistics Australia 2018

## Costs of work-related injuries and diseases

Work-related injuries, illnesses and deaths impose both direct costs and indirect costs on employers, workers and the community. The costs are estimated using a methodology developed by the former National Occupational Health and Safety Commission.

### Costs of work-related injuries and diseases

Costs of work-related injuries and diseases	2000-01	2005-06	2008-09	2012-13
Total estimated cost (billion)	\$34.3	\$57.5	\$60.6	\$61.8
Estimated cost as a percentage of GDP	5.0%	5.9%	4.8%	4.1%
Percentage of cost borne by employers	3%	4%	5%	5%
Percentage of cost borne by workers	44%	49%	74%	77%
Percentage of cost borne by community	53%	47%	21%	18%

### Cost of work-related injuries and diseases by severity

