

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE



The Transport & storage industry employed 533 000 workers in 2011–12 (5% of the Australian workforce). Within this industry 88% of workers were classed as employees and covered by workers' compensation. Employers in this industry paid 2.6% of payroll in 2011–12 to provide workers' compensation coverage for their employees.

FATALITIES

Over the five years from 2007–08 to 2011–12, 280 Transport & storage workers died from work-related injuries—262 (94%) of these involved a vehicle. The total number of deaths equates to 11.41 fatalities per 100 000 workers, which is almost five times the national rate of 2.29.

- *Vehicle incident* accounted for 198 fatalities. In 149 of the incidents the worker was in a truck, in 22 they were in aircraft, 17 were in a car, 4 were in a bus, 2 were on a train, 2 were in watercraft, 1 was on a forklift and 1 was on an excavator.
- *Being hit by moving objects* accounted for 23 fatalities. This was followed by *Falls from a height* with 14 fatalities, *Hit by falling objects* with 13 fatalities and *Being trapped between stationary and moving objects* with 11 fatalities.

SERIOUS CLAIMS

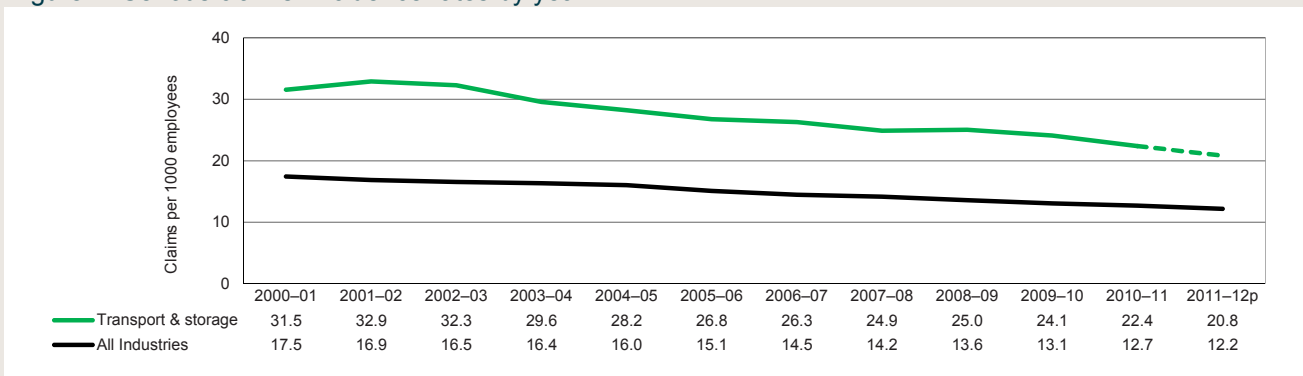
The preliminary data for 2011–12 show there were 9100 successful workers' compensation claims for serious injury or illness. Over the five years from 2007–08 to 2011–12, the Transport & storage industry accounted for 8% of all serious workers' compensation claims. On average there were 28 claims each day from employees who required one or more weeks off work because of work-related injury or disease.

Figure 1 shows that the incidence rate of serious claims has fallen 29% from 31.5 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 22.4 in 2010–11. This rate remains higher than the rate for all industries (12.7) and was the highest incidence rate of serious claims of all industries in 2010–11.

Between 2007–08 and 2011–12:

- *Body stressing* accounted for 41% of claims—the most common cause was muscular stress due to handling crates, boxes, barrels and other containers.
- *Falls, trips and slips of a person* accounted for 23% of claims with most due to falls from trucks or tripping over objects on the ground.
- *Being hit by moving objects* accounted for a further 13% of claims—most of these involved being hit by a truck or by crates, boxes or other containers.

Figure 1: Serious claims: Incidence rates by year



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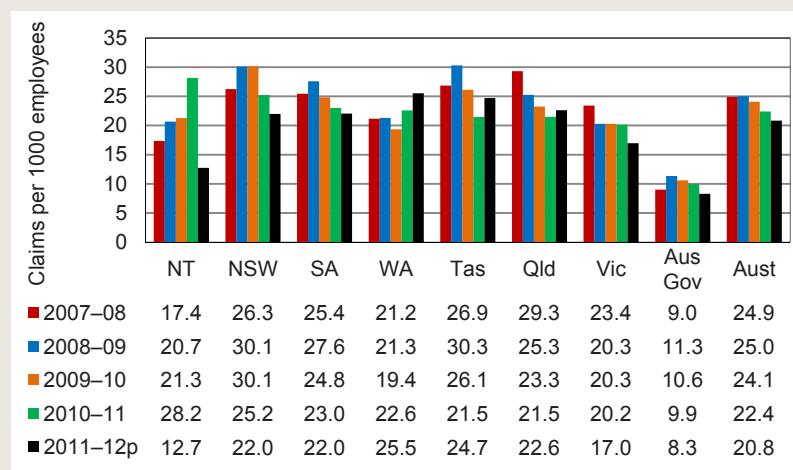
SERIOUS CLAIMS BY JURISDICTION

Figure 2 shows the incidence rates of serious claims in the Transport & storage industry by jurisdiction.

Over the period 2007–08 to 2010–11 most jurisdictions recorded decreases in incidence rates. The largest decreases were recorded by Queensland (27%), Tasmania (20%) and Victoria (14%). Increases were recorded in the Northern Territory (62%), the Australian Government (10%) and Western Australia (7%).

The preliminary data for 2011–12 show that Western Australia recorded the highest incidence rate with 25.5 serious claims per 1000 employees while the Australian Government recorded the lowest with 8.3.

Figure 2: Serious claims: Incidence rates by jurisdiction



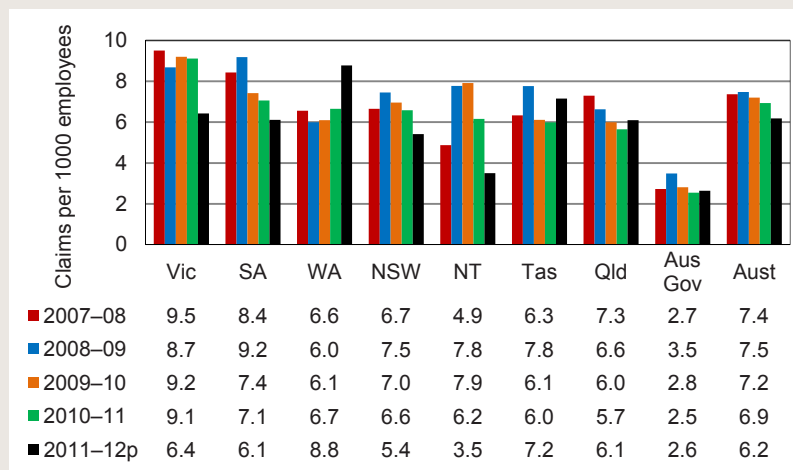
CLAIMS INVOLVING 12 OR MORE WEEKS TIME LOST BY JURISDICTION

Figure 3 shows the incidence rates of claims involving 12 or more weeks off work by jurisdiction. Preliminary data for 2011–12 show 30% of serious claims had compensation paid for 12 or more weeks off work.

Over the period 2007–08 to 2010–11 the largest decrease in incidence rates of long term claims was recorded by Queensland (22%) followed by South Australia (15%). Over the same period the Northern Territory recorded the largest increase in long term claims (27%).

The preliminary data for 2011–12 show that incidence rates ranged from 2.6 serious long term claims per 1000 employees in the Australian Government to 8.8 in Western Australia.

Figure 3: Claims involving twelve or more weeks off work: Incidence rates by jurisdiction



Claims data were extracted from the National Data Set (NDS) for Compensation-based Statistics. The data presented here are restricted to accepted claims for serious injury and disease. Serious claims include fatalities, claims for permanent disability and claims for conditions that involve one or more weeks of time lost from work. Serious claims do not include those involving journeys to and from work. The 2011–12 data are preliminary and expected to rise. As such they have not been used to determine the percentage change in rates over time. More information on this industry can be found at swa.gov.au.

Information on fatalities is extracted from the Traumatic Injury Fatalities database. Annual fatalities reports can be found at swa.gov.au.

