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Injury Statistics – Work-related Claims: 2006

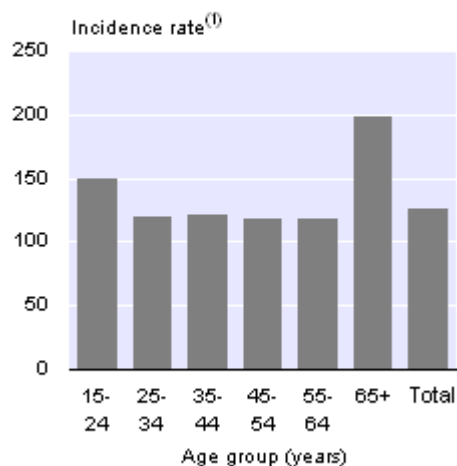
Highlights

- There were 235,200 claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006.
- Eighty-one claims were lodged for work-related fatalities.
- The manufacturing; construction; and agriculture, forestry and fishing industries accounted for 40 percent of all claims.
- Workers aged 65 years and over had a higher rate of claims than any other age group.
- The total cost of treatment, compensation and rehabilitation for work-related injuries was \$225 million, an average of \$960 per claim.
- The incidence of work-related claims remained relatively stable in the period between 2002 and 2005.

ACC Work-related Claims

By age group

2006



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

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There is a companion Media Release published – [Injury Statistics – Work-related Claims: 2006](#).

Commentary

All work-related injury claims

The provisional number of claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006 was 235,200 (as at 31 March 2007). Around 31,700 (13 percent) of these claims resulted in the payment of weekly compensation, the independence allowance, rehabilitation costs, or death benefits. The remainder resulted in the payment of medical fees only.

In 2006 there was an average of 126 work-related injury claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers (FTEs). The respective rates for females and males were 80 and 159 claims per 1,000 FTEs.

The total cost of treatment, compensation and rehabilitation for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006 was \$225 million. This provides an average of \$960 per claim.

All figures presented in this report are provisional because claims for injuries that occurred in 2006 can still be updated and filed. The number of claims, the rate of claims and the cost of claims are expected to rise as more information is received from the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) in the year ahead. Final work-related injury figures (as at 31 March 2008) will be released in October 2008.

Industry

Workers in the manufacturing industry lodged 43,600 work-related claims (19 percent of all claims). This was substantially higher than the number made by workers in any other industry. Workers in the construction industry and the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry lodged the second and third highest numbers, with 26,400 and 22,900 claims, respectively. Together, these three industries accounted for 40 percent of all work-related claims, but only around 30 percent of the workforce.

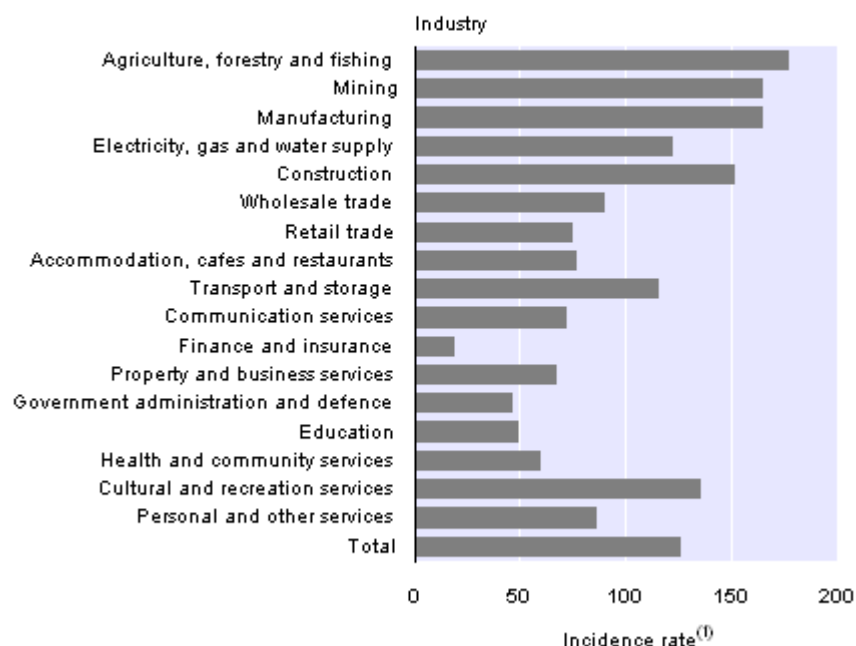
The incidence rate of work-related claims was highest in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, with 177 claims per 1,000 FTEs. This was followed by the mining industry, the manufacturing industry and the construction industry, which had respective rates of 165, 165 and 152 claims per 1,000 FTEs. The finance and insurance industry had the lowest rate of 19 claims per 1,000 FTEs.

Females made more work-related claims than males in the accommodation, cafes and restaurants industry, the finance and insurance industry, the education industry and the health and community services industry. Together, these four industries accounted for only 10 percent of all work-related claims. Males lodged more claims than females in all the industries that accounted for the remaining 90 percent of claims.

ACC Work-related Claims

By industry

2006



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Occupation

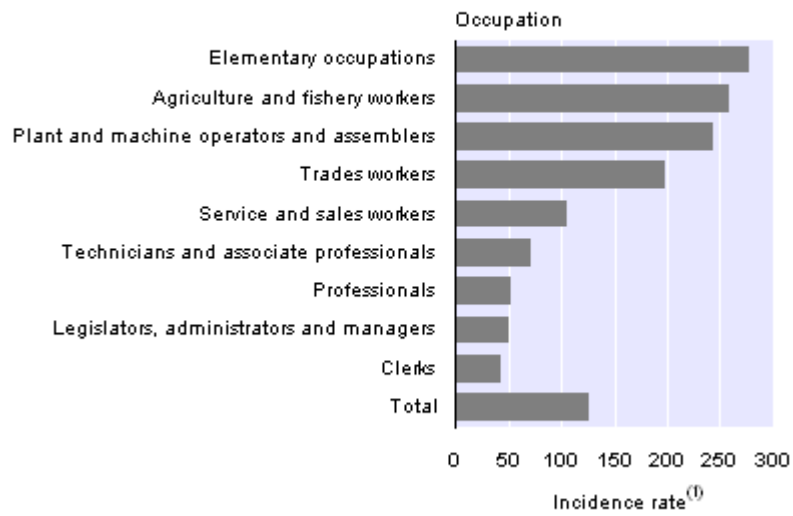
By occupation group, plant and machine operators and assemblers lodged the most claims for work-related injuries, with 42,100 claims (18 percent of all claims). The second and third highest numbers were lodged by trades workers and agriculture and fisheries workers, who made 41,400 and 33,500 claims, respectively.

Workers in the elementary occupations group had the highest incidence rate of 277 work-related injury claims per 1,000 FTEs. Agriculture and fisheries workers, and plant and machine operators and assemblers had the next highest rates, with 259 and 243 claims per 1,000 FTEs, respectively. The lowest rate was 44 claims per 1,000 FTEs, which occurred in the clerks occupation group.

Males accounted for more work-related injury claims than females in all occupation groups, with the exception of service and sales workers and clerks, where females made 59 and 57 percent of claims, respectively. Males made 96 percent of all claims by trades workers, 89 percent of all claims by plant and machine operators and assemblers and 77 percent of all claims by agriculture and fishery workers. As noted above, these three occupation groups accounted for the greatest proportion of work-related claims.

Males accounted for more work-related injury claims than females in all occupation groups, with the exception of service and sales workers and clerks, where females made 59 and 57 percent of claims, respectively. Males made 96 percent of all claims by trades workers, 89 percent of all claims by plant and machine operators and assemblers and 77 percent of all claims by agriculture and fishery workers. As noted above, these three occupation groups accounted for the greatest proportion of work-related claims.

ACC Work-related Claims
By occupation
 2006

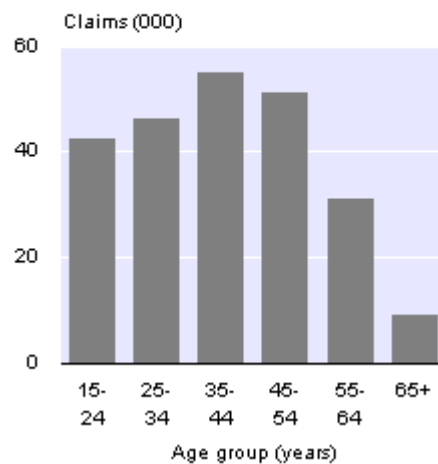


(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Age

Workers aged between 35 and 44 years made more claims for work-related injuries than any other age group, with 55,100 claims (23 percent of all claims). This was closely followed by workers aged between 45 to 54 years, who made 51,100 claims (22 percent of all claims).

ACC Work-related Claims
By age group
 2006



Although workers aged 65 years and over made only 4 percent of all claims (9,100 claims), this age group had the highest incidence rate of 199 claims per 1,000 FTEs. Workers aged between 15 and 24 years had the second highest rate, with 149 claims per 1,000 FTEs.

As was the case for all workers, a high proportion of those aged 65 years and over who made claims worked in industries associated with physically demanding work. Specifically, of those who made claims, 22 percent worked in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, 14 percent in manufacturing and 10 percent in construction. By comparison, 15 percent of those aged 65 years and over worked in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, while 13 and 6 percent worked in manufacturing and construction, respectively.

By occupation group, 16 percent of those aged 65 years and over were classified as agriculture and fisheries workers, but these workers accounted for 25 percent of all claims within this age group. Similarly, 10 percent were trades workers, and 8 percent were plant and machine operators and assemblers, but these two occupation groups accounted for 12 and 15 percent of all claims lodged by those aged 65 years and over, respectively.

It should be noted that the large majority (86 percent) of the claims made by workers aged 65 years and over were for males, and there were some significant differences between males and females in the distribution of claims by industry and occupation. While similar percentages of males and females aged 65 years and over who made claims worked in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, the next highest percentage of males worked in manufacturing (15 percent), while the next highest percentage of females worked in health and community services (14 percent). When divided by occupation group, 26 percent of males aged 65 years and over who made claims were agriculture and fisheries workers, while only 10 percent of females were in this occupation group. Likewise, 17 percent of males but only 7 percent of females were in the elementary occupation group.

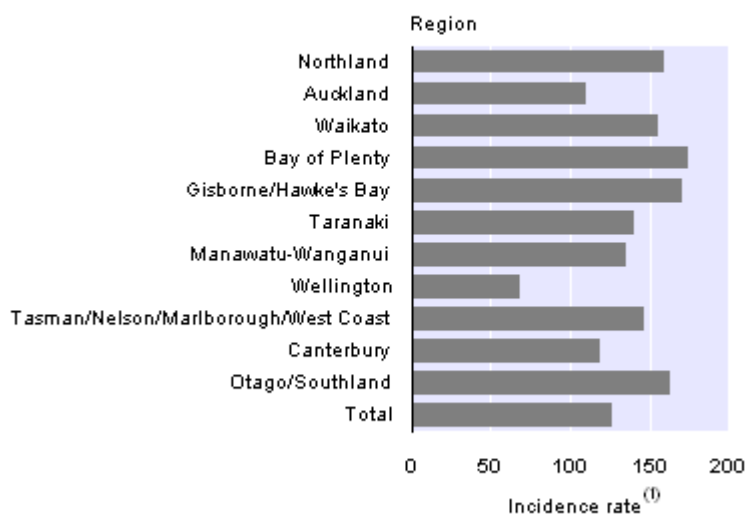
Geographic region

Of all work-related claims, 27 percent (64,100) were made for injuries that occurred in Auckland. This was considerably higher than the percentage of claims accounted for by any other region. However, the regions with the highest incidence rates were Bay of Plenty and Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, which had 174 and 171 claims per 1,000 FTEs, respectively. Wellington and Auckland had the lowest rates of 69 and 110 claims per 1,000 FTEs, respectively.

ACC Work-related Claims

By region

2006



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Employment status

The large majority of work-related claims (195,800 or 83 percent) were lodged by employees. However, the self-employed had a considerably higher incidence rate (187 claims per 1,000 FTEs) than employees (118 claims per 1,000 FTEs).

Scene of injury

Around 92,000 claims (39 percent of all claims) were made for injuries that occurred in a commercial or service location and around 69,900 (30 percent) were made for injuries that occurred in an industrial place. Injuries that occurred on a farm accounted for a further 18,800 claims (8 percent).

Ethnicity

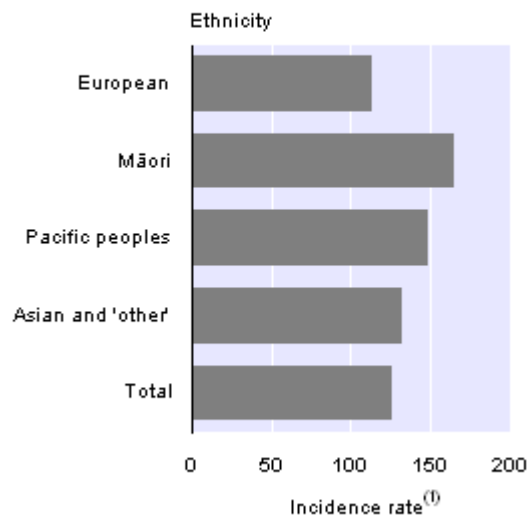
Europeans lodged 162,900 claims for work-related injuries. This represents 69 percent of all work-related claims. Another 12 percent of claims (29,400 claims) were made by Māori. Pacific peoples and Asians lodged 5 and 4 percent of claims (12,900 and 9,700 claims), respectively.

Māori had an incidence rate of 165 claims per 1,000 FTEs, compared with 149 for Pacific peoples, 133 for Asian and 'other' ethnicities and 114 for Europeans. This is consistent with figures showing that Māori were overrepresented in the elementary and the plant and machine operators and assemblers occupational groups, both of which have high claim rates.

ACC Work-related Claims

By ethnicity

2006



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Type of injury

Sprains and strains accounted for 99,300 work-related claims (42 percent of all claims). This was considerably higher than the number lodged for open wounds (35,500 claims or 15 percent) and contusions (21,500 claims or 9 percent), the second and third most common types of injury resulting in a work-related claim.

Bodily location of injury

When grouped by bodily location, injuries to the wrist and hand were the most common cause for work-related claims, accounting for 42,900 claims (18 percent of all claims). This was the only marginally higher than the number for injuries to the abdomen, lower back, lumbar, spine and pelvis, which were the cause for 41,500 claims (18 percent). Injuries to the head and neck were the third most common cause, accounting for 34,400 claims (15 percent).

Claims per person

The 235,200 claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006 were made by 216,900 people. Most people (201,100 or 93 percent) lodged only one claim. Around 14,000 people (6 percent) lodged two claims (that is, made claims for two separate injury events). Less than one percent of those who sustained a work-related injury lodged more than two claims.

Serious injury claims

Work-related injury claims that result in the payment of weekly compensation, the independence allowance, rehabilitation costs, or death benefits are collectively referred to as 'entitlement claims'. These claims are associated with more severe injuries than those that result in the payment of medical fees only. Around 31,700 entitlement claims were lodged for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006, giving an incidence rate of 17 serious injury claims per 1,000 FTEs.

Industry

The highest number of injuries resulting in entitlement claims occurred in the manufacturing industry, which had 7,600 such claims (24 percent of all entitlement claims). The construction industry had the second highest number (4,500 or 14 percent), followed by the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry (4,100 or 13 percent).

The distribution of entitlement claims across industries was reasonably similar to the distribution for all claims. However, the transport and storage industry did account for a substantially higher percentage of entitlement claims (7 percent) than all work-related claims (4 percent).

Occupation

By occupation group, plant and machine operators and assemblers lodged the most entitlement claims, with 7,900 such claims (25 percent of all entitlement claims). The second and third highest numbers were made by trades workers (5,100 or 16 percent) and agriculture and fishery workers (4,600 or 15 percent). The high percentage of entitlement claims accounted for by these three occupation groups is consistent with the figures for all work-related claims.

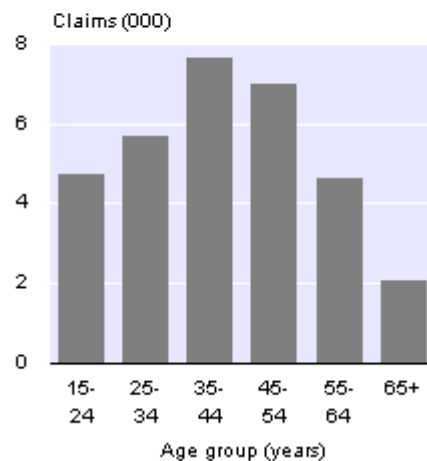
Age

As was the case for all work-related claims, workers aged between 35 and 44 years lodged more entitlement claims than any other age group, with 7,600 claims (24 percent of all entitlement claims). The fewest claims were made by workers aged 65 years and over, who lodged 2,000 claims (6 percent).

ACC Work-related Entitlement Claims

By age group

2006

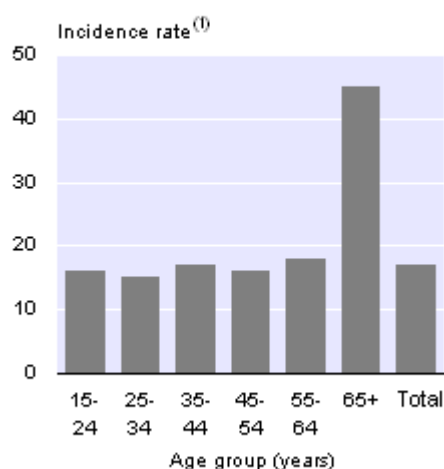


The 65 years and over age group had an incidence rate of 45 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs. This was considerably higher than the incidence rate for any other age group. For instance, the second highest rate was 18 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs, which occurred among workers aged between 55 and 64 years.

ACC Work-related Entitlement Claims

By age group

2006



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Geographic region

The highest number injuries resulting in entitlement claims occurred in Auckland, which accounted for 24 percent of such claims. However, this region had the second lowest incidence rate of 13 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs. Wellington had the lowest rate, with 9 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs. The highest rates occurred in Otago/Southland and Bay of Plenty, which had 27 and 26 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs, respectively.

Ethnicity

Approximately 21,000 entitlement claims (66 percent of all entitlement claims) were made by Europeans. Māori had the highest incidence rate however, with 27 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs. The respective rates for Pacific peoples and Europeans were 19 and 15 entitlement claims per 1,000 FTEs. These figures are consistent with those reported for all work-related claims.

Type of injury

Of all entitlement claims, 11,000 (or 35 percent) were made for sprains and strains. Fractures, the second most common types of injury resulting in entitlement claims, accounted for 34,000 such claims (11 percent).

Fatal injury claims

Fatal injury claims are those claims made to ACC for deaths that resulted from either workplace injuries (for instance, a work-related fall) or occupational diseases (for instance, asbestos-related illnesses). There were eighty-one such claims lodged for injuries that occurred in 2006, and the large majority of these claims were for male fatalities. The incidence rate for 2006 was 4 fatal injury claims per 100,000 FTEs.

The construction industry had the highest number of fatal injury claims, with 23 claims (28 percent of all fatal injury claims). This was followed by the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, which had 19 claims (24 percent). These figures parallel the high rates of claims for all work-related injury within these two industries.

By occupation group, 21 of those who died were agriculture and fisheries workers and 17 were plant and machine operators and assemblers. The remaining 43 fatal injury claims were distributed across a range of occupations.

Both the number and the incidence rate of fatal injury claims increased with age. Twenty-four claims were lodged for people aged 65 years and over, giving this age group an incidence rate of 53 fatal injury claims per 100,000 FTEs. By comparison, people aged between 55 and 64 years (the second oldest age group with the second highest number and incidence rate of fatal injury claims) accounted for 18 claims and had an incidence rate of 7 fatal injury claims per 100,000 FTEs.

Seventeen claims were lodged for work-related fatal injuries that occurred in Canterbury. The next highest numbers were in Otago/Southland and Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, which accounted for 10 and 9 claims, respectively. Gisborne/Hawke's Bay had the highest incidence rate of 11 fatal injury claims per 100,000 FTEs. Canterbury had 6 fatal injury claims per 100,000 FTEs, giving this region the fourth highest incidence rate.

The provisional figure for claims for fatal injuries occurring in 2006 is expected to increase in the coming year, as workers who have been seriously injured fail to recover. It should also be noted that not all work-related fatalities result in claims to ACC.

Trends in work-related claims

Final data on work-related injury claims in the period between 2002 and 2005 indicate stability in the incidence of such claims. While there was an increase in the annual number of claims and decrease in the rate of claims, these changes were both small. Specifically, the number of work-related claims rose from 240,100 claims in 2002 to 246,800 claims in 2005, while the rate dropped from 143 to 134 claims per 1,000 FTEs. This represents a 3 percent increase in the number of claims and a 6 decrease in the rate of claims over four years.

Males consistently accounted for approximately three quarters of all work-related claims between 2002 and 2005. The distribution of claims by industry, occupation, age and ethnic group also remained relatively constant over this time period.

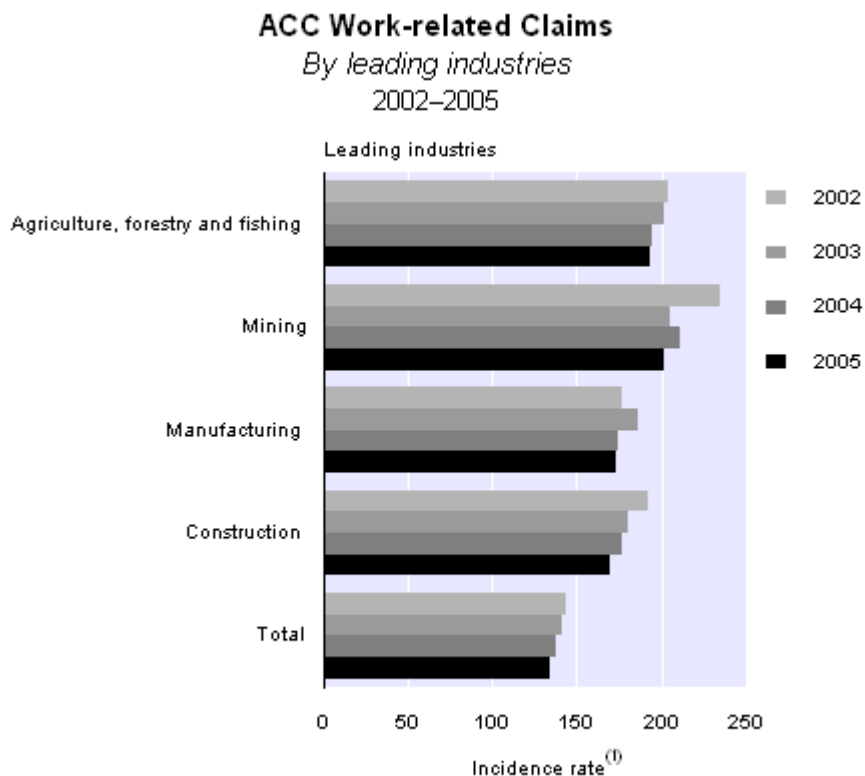
There were 95 work-related fatal injury claims in 2002, 93 in 2003, 94 in 2004 and 92 in 2005. These figures are best interpreted with caution due to the small number of claims involved.

Industry

The manufacturing industry accounted for the highest number of claims between 2002 and 2005, despite a small drop from 49,200 claims in 2002 to 46,800 in 2005. The agriculture, forestry and fishing industry, and the construction industry had the next highest numbers, with 28,600 and 22,100 claims in 2002, and 24,900 and 25,900 claims in 2005, respectively.

The highest incidence rate occurred in the mining industry in each of the four years between 2002 and 2005, although the exact rate for this industry dropped from 234 to 201 claims per 1,000 FTEs. It should be noted however that the mining industry is relatively small. The incidence rate for this industry is therefore sensitive to small alterations in the annual number of claims.

Between 2002 and 2005 the agriculture, forestry and fishing, construction, and manufacturing industries consistently had the highest claim rates, after the mining industry.



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Occupation

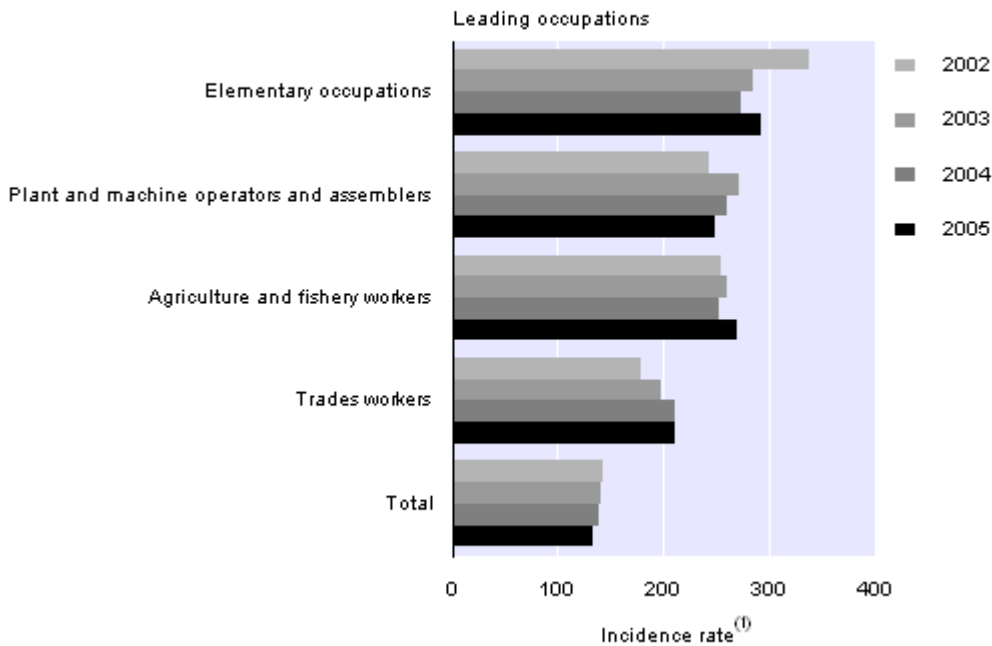
Across the period between 2002 and 2005 plant and machine operators and assemblers made the highest number of work-related claims. The number of claims accounted for by this occupation group rose steadily from 39,700 claims in 2002 to 45,100 in 2005. Agriculture and fisheries workers, trades workers and workers in elementary occupations accounted for the next highest numbers of claims, but the exact ordering of these occupational groups varied between individual years.

The elementary occupations group had the highest rate of work-related claims between 2002 and 2005, although the actual rate fluctuated from a high of 337 claims per 1,000 FTEs in 2002 to a low of 273 in 2004. Agriculture and fishery workers, plant and machine operators and assemblers and trades workers had the next highest rates.

ACC Work-related Claims

By leading occupations

2002–2005



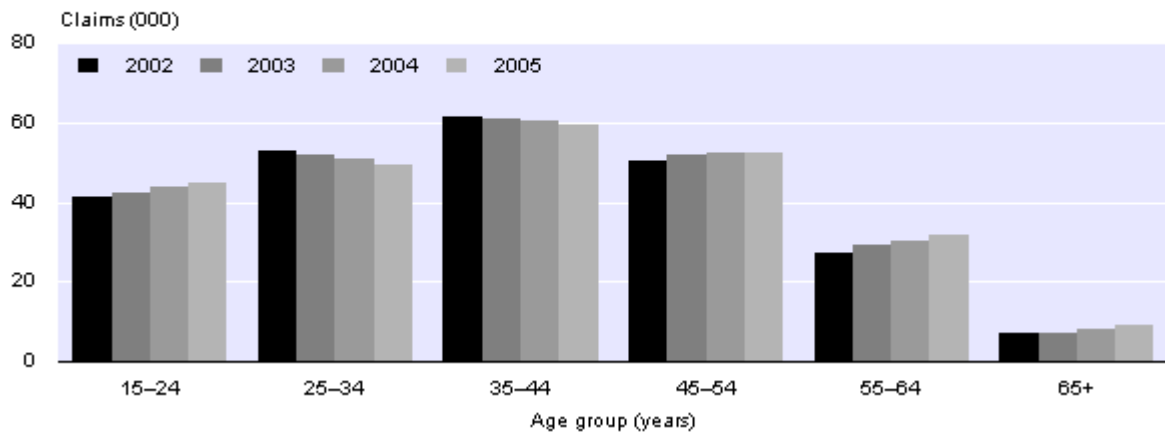
(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Age

Although the annual number of claims lodged by workers aged between 35 and 44 years decreased by 3 percent between 2002 and 2005 (from 61,300 to 59,500 claims), this age group consistently had the most claims. Workers aged between 45 to 54 years and between 25 and 34 years made the next highest numbers of claims, with 50,400 and 52,800 claims in 2002, and 52,300 and 49,500 claims in 2005, respectively.

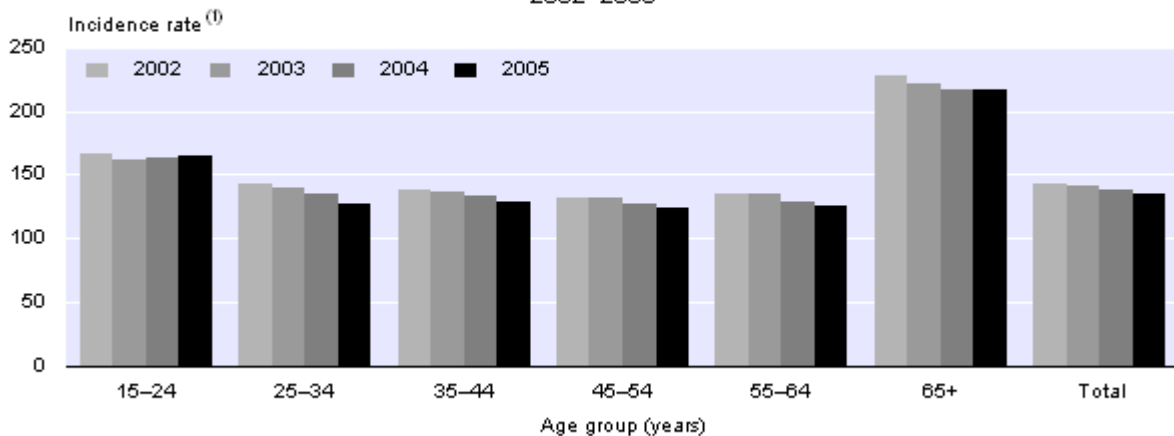
While workers aged between 15 and 24 years, 55 and 64 years and 65 years and over made the fewest claims between 2002 and 2005, the annual number of claims lodged by each of these age groups increased over this time period. For instance, the number lodged by workers aged 65 years and over rose steadily from 6,800 claims in 2002 to 8,800 in 2005. This represents a 29 percent increase in the annual number of claims for this age group.

ACC Work-related Claims
By age group
2002–2005



In the period between 2002 and 2005 workers aged 65 years and over had the highest rate of work-related claims, with 228 claims per 1,000 FTEs in 2002 and 217 in 2005. Workers aged between 15 and 24 years had the next highest rates, with 166 claims per 1,000 FTEs in 2002 and 165 in 2005. Claim rates decreased for all age groups over the time period assessed. -

ACC Work-related Claims
By age group
2002–2005



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Geographic region

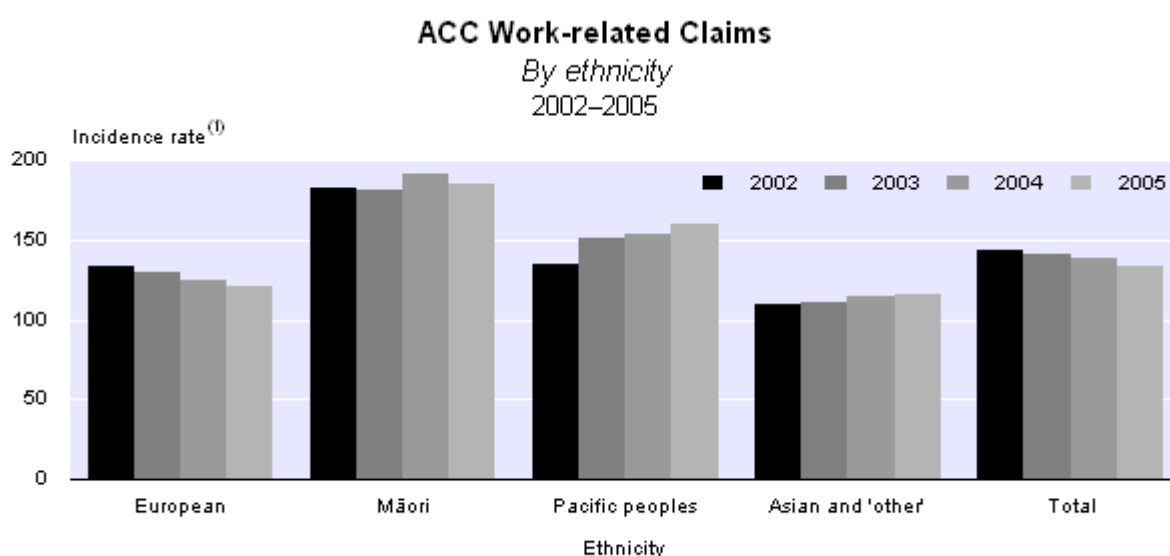
Auckland consistently had the highest number of injuries resulting in work-related claims, accounting for 61,800 claims in 2002 and 67,100 in 2005. Canterbury had the next highest numbers, with 35,600 claims in 2002 and 37,000 in 2005.

There were a number of shifts in the rates of work-related claims for individual regions between 2002 and 2005. For instance, the Bay of Plenty jumped from having the fourth highest rate in 2002 (with 171 claims per 1,000 FTEs) to having the highest rate in 2005 (201). However, the Bay of Plenty, Gisborne/Hawke's Bay, Northland and Waikato had comparatively high claim rates in each of the four years assessed. Wellington and Auckland had the lowest rates, with 82 and 118 claims per 1,000 FTEs in 2002, and 76 and 119 in 2005, respectively.

Ethnicity

Europeans lodged substantially more work-related claims than any other ethnic group in each of the four years between 2002 and 2005. However, this was the only ethnic group to experience a decrease in the number of claims (from 176,400 in 2002 to 172,200 in 2005). The annual number of claims made by Māori rose steadily from 29,400 in 2002 to 31,200 in 2005. The number lodged by Pacific peoples rose from 10,900 to 12,900, and the number lodged by Asians rose from 6,200 to 9,100.

Between 2002 and 2005 the rate of claims dropped for Europeans, but rose for Māori, Pacific peoples and Asian and 'other' ethnicities. It should be noted, however, that these changes were small and varied. For instance, the rate among Māori rose from a low of 182 claims per 1,000 FTEs in 2002 to a peak of 191 in 2004, and then dropped to 185 in 2005. Despite these fluctuations, Māori consistently had the highest claim rate, followed by Pacific peoples and Asian and 'other' ethnicities.



(1) Claims per 1,000 full-time equivalent workers.

Final work-related injury figures for 2005

Final work-related injury figures for 2005 (as at 31 March 2007) are now available and are included in this Hot off the Press release. The final figures for the three years between 2002 and 2004 used in this release can be found in the [Claims for Work-Related Injuries \(2005\)](#) report, published last year.

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Technical notes

Accident Compensation Corporation

The Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) administers New Zealand's accident compensation scheme, which provides injury insurance for all New Zealand citizens and residents, and temporary visitors to New Zealand.

A claim is made to ACC when treatment for an injury is first sought from any recognised treatment provider, such as a doctor or a physiotherapist. Claims to ACC are divided into different categories for funding purposes and only those that are work related are included in this release. Furthermore, this release only includes claims with costs recorded against them. Consequently, any claims where the only treatment was provided at a hospital accident and emergency department (A&E) are not included as the costs of treatment provided are not recorded against individual claims, and are instead bulk funded by ACC directly to the District Health Boards (DHBs).

The definition of work-related injuries covered by ACC is determined by legislation, currently the Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation, and Compensation Act 2001.

Age

The age in years as at the date of injury, calculated from the date of birth.

This may differ from the worker's age when the claim is lodged, the age when compensation is received, or the age at death if the worker dies of the injury.

Bodily location of injury

The part or parts of the body damaged in the injury event.

This is classified using the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision, Australian Modification, Second Edition (ICD-10-AM). Its codes combine information on the type of injury, illness or disease, and the bodily location in a detailed, hierarchical manner.

Claims for fatal injuries

These are claims made to ACC for deaths that resulted from workplace injuries (eg a fatal work-related fall) or occupational diseases resulting in death, such as asbestos-related illnesses.

Deaths that are accepted as work-related by the ACC are counted in the year that the injury took place, although this concept is problematic in the case of occupational disease, where the effects of exposure to known carcinogens or other hazardous substances may take many years to become apparent. To create consistency in the count of work-related deaths across years, only deaths occurring within 15 months of the end of the reference year are included in the totals for 'final' estimates. In the case of provisional estimates of work-related fatalities, deaths occurring within three months of the end of the reference year are counted.

It should be noted that by no means all work-related fatal injuries are the subject of claims to ACC. The statistics in this release are not a definitive count of work-related fatalities.

Claims for medical fees only

These are claims that involved payments by ACC to recognised treatment providers, for example doctors, physiotherapists and pharmacists, but do not involve any entitlement payments to the injured person to cover, for example, rehabilitation or the loss of earnings. The distinction between claims for medical fees only and claims involving entitlements has been used in this release to help separate the minor injuries from the more serious injuries, respectively.

Claims involving entitlements

These are claims that involved entitlement payments to the injured person. Entitlement payments include death payments, weekly compensation payments and rehabilitation payments. The distinction between claims for medical fees only and claims involving entitlements has been used in this release to help separate the minor injuries from the more serious injuries, respectively.

Costs

The cost to ACC of the treatment or service provided. For entitlement claims, payments are made to provide compensation or rehabilitation and, in the case of death payments, the recipients are the deceased's next of kin.

Treatment provided at a hospital's A&E is bulk funded by ACC directly to the DHBs and is not recorded against individual claims. These costs are not included in the figures in this release.

The costs shown in this release are exclusive of goods and services tax.

Diagnosis of injury and illness/disease

This is the type of injury, illness or disease sustained by the worker.

This is classified using the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th revision, Australian Modification, Second Edition (ICD-10-AM). Its codes combine information on the type of injury, illness or disease, and the bodily location in a detailed, hierarchical manner.

Where more than one diagnosis was provided for the claim, the first was used on the basis that this was the most important. Diagnoses are aggregated into three groups: 'Injury, poisoning and other consequences of external causes', 'Illness and disease' and 'Other and undefined'. These groupings are based on National Data Standards for Injury Surveillance (NDS-IS) recommendations.

Employment status

This indicates whether a worker is working for himself/herself (ie self-employed) or for another person or entity (ie an employee).

The employment status figures cover all those 'working for wages and salaries'. The self-employed figures include those classified as 'self-employed and not employing others' but exclude those 'working without pay or profit in a family business'. While this is non-standard for the Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS), it corresponds closely to the definitions used for workplace accident insurance.

Ethnic group

The group or groups that people identify with or feel they belong to in terms of cultural affiliation.

An ethnic group is a social group whose members:

- share a sense of common origins
- claim a common and distinctive history and destiny
- possess one or more dimensions of collective cultural individuality
- feel a sense of unique collective solidarity.

Respondents in the HLFS may specify that they belong to more than one ethnic group, and it is possible that an injured worker, in a claim to ACC, will list more than one ethnic group. However, ACC claims data allows for only one ethnic group to be coded.

The HLFS allows for up to three ethnic groups to be coded for each respondent, and then the following prioritising system is used to allocate a single ethnic group code:

- Any person who reports a 'Māori' ethnicity is allocated to the 'Māori' category.
- Any person who reports a 'Pacific peoples' ethnicity (that is Samoan, Cook Island Māori, Niuean, Tongan or Other Pacific) but not 'Māori' ethnicity, is allocated to the 'Pacific peoples' category.
- Any person who reports a 'Chinese', 'Indian' and/or 'Other' ethnicity, but not 'Māori' and/or 'Pacific peoples' ethnicity, is allocated to the 'Other' category.
- Any person who reports a 'European/Pākehā' ethnicity only is allocated to the 'European/Pākehā' category only.

This difference in coding multiple ethnicity means that where ACC and HLFS figures are combined, as in the calculation of incidence rates, the numerator and denominator are measured in different ways, even though the labels of the categories used in each are the same.

Full-time equivalent employees

This is the number of full-time employees plus half the number of part-time employees.

The full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) measure is used instead of 'total number of employees' for the calculation of the incidence rate, as part-time employees have a lower exposure to injury because they work fewer hours than full-time employees. This allows the denominator of the incidence rate to be expressed as units that each have approximately the same risk of work-related injury. The FTE is a standard measure used in labour force statistics, for example, to calculate average weekly earnings. The numbers used in the tables for FTEs is derived from the HLFS. The FTE figures used in this release are annual averages.

Geographic region where the injury occurred

This is the part of New Zealand or the world where the injury event took place.

The physical address or place of the injury event is classified according to in which territorial authority (TA) it occurred, and these TAs are grouped into regions of New Zealand. It also contains a group of codes for injuries that occurred outside New Zealand.

These regions have been chosen for the purposes of this release. Most align with regional council boundaries, but in a few cases TAs straddle these boundaries. Those TAs have been assigned to the region containing the greatest proportion of their population, on the basis of the census usually resident population count, 2001 Census. The TAs involved are Franklin, Waitomo, Taupo, Rotorua, Stratford, Rangitikei, Tararua and Waitaki Districts.

Household Labour Force Survey

Statistics New Zealand's quarterly Household Labour Force Survey (HLFS), which produces a range of statistics on the employed, unemployed, and those not in the labour force.

The target population of the HLFS is the civilian, usually resident non-institutionalised population aged 15 years and over. It therefore excludes people in non-private dwellings such as hospitals and prisons, visitors from overseas who are staying for less than 12 months, the armed forces, overseas diplomats in New Zealand, and people living on offshore islands (except Waiheke Island).

The HLFS provides the FTE figures that are used in this release to calculate injury incidence rates by age, sex, ethnic group, employment status, industry, occupation, and region where the injury occurred. The FTE figures used in this release are annual averages.

Being derived from a sample survey, FTE figures are subject to both sampling and non-sampling error, and should therefore be seen as indicative rather than definitive.

Incidence rate

For claims for non-fatal injuries the incidence rate is the number of work-related claims per 1,000 FTEs.

For claims for fatal injuries, the incidence rate is the number of claims for work-related fatal injuries per 100,000 FTEs.

These rates are used as a means of comparing levels of injuries and fatal injuries claims between groups with different numbers of workers. This rate is used by the International Labor Organization to enable comparisons of work-related injuries between countries.

Industry

The type of activity carried out by the organisation, enterprise, business, or unit of economic activity within which the injured person worked.

The Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), New Zealand Version 1996, (Version 4.1) is used to classify each business.

Injury

The Injury Prevention, Rehabilitation, and Compensation (IPRC) Act 2001, Section 26, defines a 'personal injury' to include:

- death
- a physical injury or mental injury caused by a physical injury
- mental injury caused by criminal act
- damage to dentures or prostheses that replace a part of the human body.

The IPRC Act 2001, Section 25, defines 'accident' to include:

- a specific event, or a series of events, that involves the application of a force (including gravity) or resistance external to the human body, or involves the sudden movement of the body to avoid such a force or resistance external to the human body
- the inhalation or oral ingestion of any solid, liquid, gas, or foreign object on a specific occasion, which kind of occurrence does not include the inhalation or ingestion of a virus, bacterium, protozoa, or fungi unless that inhalation or ingestion is the result of the criminal act of a person other than the injured person
- a burn, or exposure to radiation or rays of any kind, on a specific occasion, which kind of occurrence does not include a burn or exposure caused by exposure to the elements
- the absorption of any chemical through the skin
- any exposure to the elements, or to extremes of temperature or environment.

The IPRC Act 2001 also covers work-related gradual process, disease or infection.

'Gradual process' is defined as:

Changes that result in personal injury and develop slowly and progressively over time, although not necessarily over a definable period such as:

- the effects of exposure to noise or fumes over a few months at a workplace
- the physical deterioration resulting from an activity such as keyboarding where there are no specific events involving impacts or strain
- the progressive degenerative change due to the ageing process.

The second category covers occupational overuse syndromes (OOS), a range of conditions caused/contributed to by work factors resulting in localised inflammations, compression syndromes and pain syndromes.

Occupation

This is the claimant's occupation at the time of injury.

Occupation is classified according to the New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (NZSCO), 1995, Version 2.0.

Scene of injury

This is the location where the injury happened.

The scene of injury includes the likes of homes, farms and streets. The categories included in this release differ from those produced previously.

Work-related claims

Claims made to ACC for work-related injuries.

The IPRC Act 2001, s28(1), defines a work-related injury as an injury which happens when the worker is:

- at his or her place of employment, including when the place moves (as it does for a taxi driver), or is a place to or through which the worker moves, or
- having a rest or meal break at work, or
- travelling to or from work in transport provided by the employer, or
- travelling from work in order to receive treatment for a work-related injury.

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Timing

Timed statistical releases are delivered using postal and electronic services provided by third parties. Delivery of these releases may be delayed by circumstances outside the control of Statistics NZ. Statistics NZ accepts no responsibility for any such delays.

Next release ...

Injury Statistics – Work-related Claims: 2007 will be released in October 2008.

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Tables

The following tables can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel format. If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print and export the contents of the file.


2006 Work-related claims tables

1. Claims for work-related injuries by age and sex
2. Claims for work-related injuries by ethnic group and sex
3. Claims for work-related injuries by occupation and sex
4. Claims for work-related injuries by industry and sex
5. Claims for work-related injuries by geographic region of injury occurrence and sex
6. Claims for work-related injuries by location/scene of injury and sex
7. Claims for work-related injuries by employment status and sex
8. Claims for work-related injuries per person
9. Claims for work-related injuries by type of injury or illness/disease and sex
10. Claims for work-related injuries by type of injury or illness/disease and cost
11. Claims for work-related injuries by bodily location of injury and sex
12. Claims for work-related injuries by the number of types of payment per claim
13. Days of weekly compensation payment by sex
14. Incidence rate of claims for work-related injuries by ethnic group and age
15. Incidence rate of claims for work-related injuries by ethnic group and occupation
16. Number of claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006
17. Cost to date of claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006
18. Distribution of cost of claims for work-related injuries that occurred in 2006
19. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by age and sex
20. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by ethnicity and sex
21. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by occupation and sex
22. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by industry and sex
23. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by region and sex
24. Entitlement claims for work-related injuries by type of injury or illness/disease and sex
25. Claims for fatal injuries by sex
26. Claims for fatal injuries by age
27. Claims for fatal injuries by ethnic group
28. Claims for fatal injuries by occupation
29. Claims for fatal injuries by industry
30. Claims for fatal injuries by geographic region of injury occurrence
31. Work-related injury trends: 2002–2006

2005 Work-related claims tables

1. Claims for work-related injuries by age and sex
2. Claims for work-related injuries by ethnic group and sex
3. Claims for work-related injuries by occupation and sex
4. Claims for work-related injuries by industry and sex
5. Claims for work-related injuries by geographic region of injury occurrence and sex
6. Claims for work-related injuries by location/scene of injury and sex
7. Claims for work-related injuries by employment status and sex
8. Claims for work-related injuries per person
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30. Claims for fatal injuries by geographic region of injury occurrence
31. Work-related injury trends: 2002–2005

 [Injury Statistics – Work-related claims: 2006 \(xls\)](#)

 [Injury Statistics – Work-related claims: 2005 \(xls\)](#)

 [Injury Statistics: Definitions and Classifications](#)