

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE



The Transport & storage industry employed 549 000 workers in 2010–11, representing 5% of the Australian workforce. Within this industry, 86% of workers were classed as employees and were covered by workers' compensation. Employers in this industry paid 2.5% of payroll in 2010–11 to cover their employees for workers' compensation.

FATALITIES

Over the three years from 2008–09 to 2010–11, 154 Transport & storage workers died from work-related injuries. Of these 109 involved a truck. This number of deaths equates to 10.98 fatalities per 100 000 workers which is five times the national fatalities rate of 2.23.

Vehicle incident accounted for 70% of fatalities with 78 workers in a truck at the time of the incident, 13 in a car and 13 in an aircraft.

Being hit by moving objects accounted for 7% of fatalities with trucks involved in 8 of the 11 deaths. There were also 5 workers who were trapped between their truck and a stationary object.

Being hit by falling objects accounted for 6% of fatalities, with trucks involved in 5 of the 9 deaths.

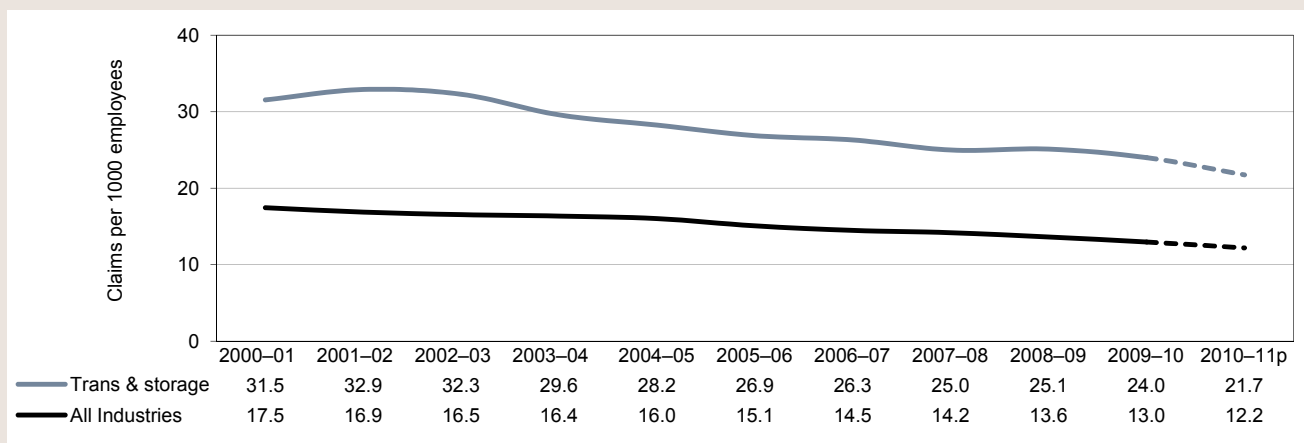
SERIOUS CLAIMS

The preliminary data for 2010–11 show 9535 claims for serious injury or illness. Over the three years from 2008–09 to 2010–11 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.

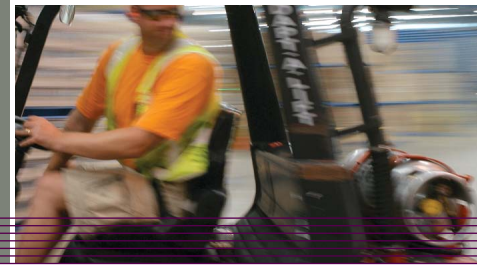
Figure 1 shows that the incidence rate of serious claims has fallen by 23% from 31.5 claims per 1000 employees in 2000–01 to 24.0 in 2009–10. However this rate remains almost double the rate for all industries of 13.0 and was the highest incidence rate of all industries in 2009–10.

Over the past three years *Body stressing* accounted for 42% of claims. This was mainly due to muscular stress while 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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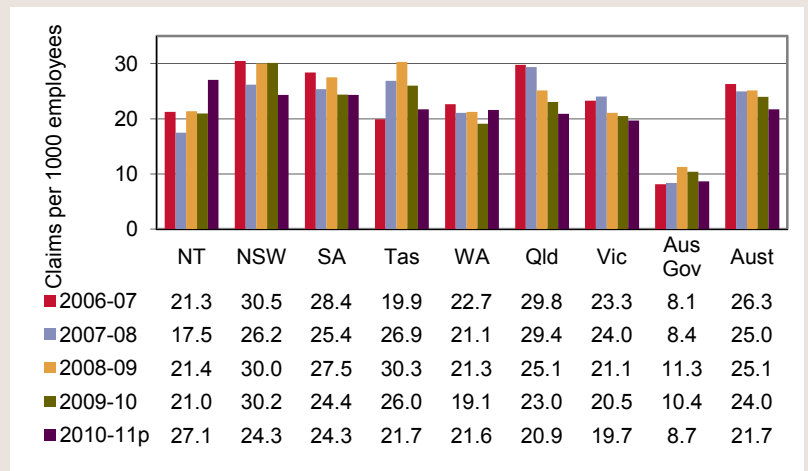
SERIOUS CLAIMS BY JURISDICTION

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

Over the period 2006–07 and 2009–10 the largest decrease in incidence rates was recorded by Queensland (23%) followed by Western Australia (16%). Tasmania recorded a 31% increase in incidence rates during the same period and the Australian Government a 28% increase.

The preliminary data for 2010–11 show that the Northern Territory recorded the highest incidence rate of 27.1 serious claims per 1000 employees while the Australian Government recorded the lowest at 8.7.

Figure 2: Serious claims: Incidence rates by jurisdiction



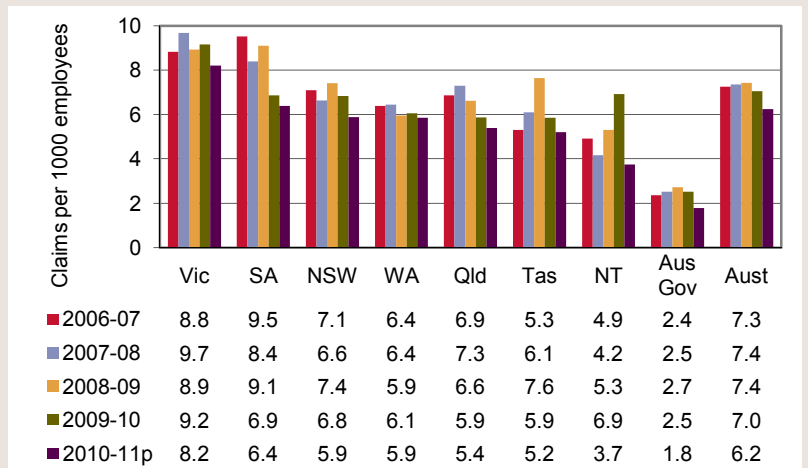
CLAIMS INVOLVING TWELVE OR MORE WEEKS TIME LOST BY JURISDICTION

Figure 3 shows the incidence rates of claims involving twelve or more weeks off work by jurisdiction. In 2010–11, 27% of serious claims had compensation paid for twelve or more weeks off work.

Over the period 2006–07 and 2009–10 the largest decrease in incidence rates was recorded by South Australia (28%) while the Northern Territory recorded a 41% increase during over the same period.

The preliminary data for 2010–11 show that Victoria recorded the highest incidence rate (8.2 claims per 1000 employees) with the Australian Government recording the lowest at 1.8.

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 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 2010–11 data are preliminary and expected to rise. More information on this industry can be found at safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

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

