

I . The F requency and N ature of L ost-T ime I njuries in F lorida

■ *Case counts:* For injury years with mature data, the number of reported lost-time claims has decreased with each successive year, falling by almost 18% between 1990, at 96,533, and 1996, at 79,568. The steep pattern of decline in the late 1980s continued between injury year 1990 and 1991—when the number of claims fell by more than 9,000—and then decelerated, reaching a plateau of nearly 80,000 beginning in 1995. Breaking this pattern slightly, the preliminary injury count for 1997 shows a marginal increase over both 1995 and 1996, and this number is certain to increase as the data mature over the next year. In the nine years since the first publication of this report, this is the first shift observed in the consistent trend of decline in the number of lost-time claims since the late 1980s. The notable drop in claims for 1998 (74,569) and 1999 (66,331) is due partly to incomplete reporting for more recent years that is characteristic of workers' compensation claims data; however, the claims count is noticeably lower than comparable counts for 1997 and 1998 in last year's report because of extensive system modifications that required the claims database to be "frozen" over three months earlier than usual.

■ *Case status:* The percentages of open and closed cases show a definite time-related pattern that is especially pronounced for the last four injury years. As might be expected, the more recent the injury year, the higher the percentage of open cases. For cases not missing data, nearly 98% having 1990-1994 injuries were closed as of March 20, 2000. Once again, preliminary data are keenly impacted by the early freez-

ing of claims data this year, as seen in the high counts of missing data for the two most recent years and the lower percentages of closed cases compared to preliminary data in previous reports. A concerted effort was made in 1999 to close out cases with dates of injury in 1992 or earlier, as shown by the decline in the number of injuries with missing case status prior to 1993.

■ *Disability type:* Disability type likewise shows a dependency on the time from injury. The large percentage of Lost Time, No Indemnity Recorded (the "not elsewhere classified" category) for 1999 (40%) clearly reflects highly incomplete data for classifying disability type. Temporary Partial has continued to grow as a percentage of all claims over the decade, perhaps reflecting efforts of employers to provide part-time or light duty work for injured employees. For 1990 injuries, just 1,351 cases (1.4%) comprised this category; by 1996, the number of cases climbed to 8,315 (10.5%). The Temporary Partial percentages for 1997-1999, hovering between 12-13%, will likely moderate somewhat with time, although this disability type is less affected than others by increased data maturity. Temporary Total remains the largest single disability type, despite annual declines from a peak of 64,891 cases (67.2%) with 1990 injuries to 36,095 cases (45.4%) with 1996 injuries. As a composite, temporary disability cases numbered 502,718 from 1990-1999, or 61.5% of all 817,136 lost-time cases. Following a 10.5-percentage-point drop resulting from changes in the duration of eligibility mandated in the 1993 reforms, Temporary Total has remained fairly stable as just less than half of all

post-reform claims. Additional claims will likely be reclassified into this category from Temporary Partial and Lost Time, No Indemnity Recorded, but many claims currently classified as Temporary Total will likely end up as Impairment Income or, to a lesser extent, Supplemental Income or Permanent Total. Lost-time claims typically take months or years before a determination of permanent disability can be made ensuant upon the injured worker's having reached maximum medical improvement, so the percentages of Permanent Partial and Permanent Total cases for years with immature data will increase with time. The post-reform Impairment Income category captures both cases that would have qualified for wage loss benefits, plus others with permanent impairments that would not have qualified for wage loss benefits. With 101,667 cases since its inception in 1994, this category is on the verge of ranking second in both the number and percentage (12.4%) of cases over the full decade. Pre-reform and post-reform permanent partial cases numbered 154,413, or 18.9% of all lost-time cases from 1990-1999. For severe injuries, Permanent Total cases declined by roughly half between a high of 1,810 for 1990 and a low of 956 for 1996, representing just 1.3% of lost-time cases over the ten-year period; workplace injuries resulting in death have remained a stable .4% of all cases. A classification of Settled, No Indemnity Recorded (3.9% for 1998) indicates a case where a judge's settlement order was received on a case for which the disability type cannot be otherwise determined. Judges' orders are frequently not signed until several years after the injury, so the proportion in this category will also increase with additional data maturity.

■ *Florida county:* 1999 injury rates by county showed similarities to those for earlier years. The top ten counties had injury rates of 1.37% or more; rates were 0.65% or less for the ten lowest-ranked counties. Among those counties with consistently high injury rates over the past two years are Collier, DeSoto, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Marion, Taylor, and Union. Counties with consistently low rates include Clay, Leon, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa

Rosa, Seminole, and Wakulla. The highest injury rate for 1999 was 2.21% for DeSoto County, and Wakulla County's .4% was the lowest.

■ *Industry division:* Except for Mining, which displays volatile injury rates because of its small employment base, all major industries posted fairly consistent year-to-year declines in injury rates from 1990 to 1999. Construction had the highest injury rates for each of the ten years, although its 1998 (2.4%) and 1999 (1.98%) rates were about half those for 1990 (4.66%) and 1991 (4.07%). Other relatively hazardous industries include Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing, and Transportation & Public Utilities. Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate had the lowest injury rate each year. Like Construction, Wholesale and Retail Trade reported 1999 injury rates less than half those of 1990. The 1999 rate for Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (0.33%) was less than one-third the 1990 rate (1.22%).

■ *Gender:* The gender distribution of 1999 injuries was similar to that of the previous seven years, with females accounting for approximately a third of all lost-time claims. Judging by the consistent distribution over nine of the last ten years, it is likely that most of the missing data for 1990 should have been coded as female.

■ *Age:* Claimant age has shown a slow, steady increase from 1990 to 1999. For each of the ten years, the largest group of claimants was in their 30s. For the first five years of this period, the number of claimants in their 20s exceeded those in their 40s, but this is no longer the case. Each of the four oldest age groups has gradually increased as a percentage of all lost-time claims over the ten-year period. Claimants aged 40 and older accounted for 32.3% of the total in 1990, compared to 47% in 1999. This is also shown in the increase in median age, which has increased by approximately six months for each successive injury year, from 35 in 1990 to 39 in 1999.

■ *Injured body part:* The back was the most

frequently injured body part for injuries from 1990 through 1993, with injuries to the lower extremities the second most common. Beginning in 1994, injuries to the upper extremities became the most common, followed again by injuries to the lower extremities for every year except 1994 itself. Together these three body locations have consistently accounted for approximately 70% of lost-time claims each year.

■ *Cause of injury:* Sprain or Strain has been the most frequent cause of injury, accounting for more than a third of all injuries in each year of the 1990s. Second-ranked in each year was Fall or Slip Injury, comprising about one-fourth of all injuries over the entire period. Third was Struck or Injured By, which accounted for more than ten percent of injuries in each year.

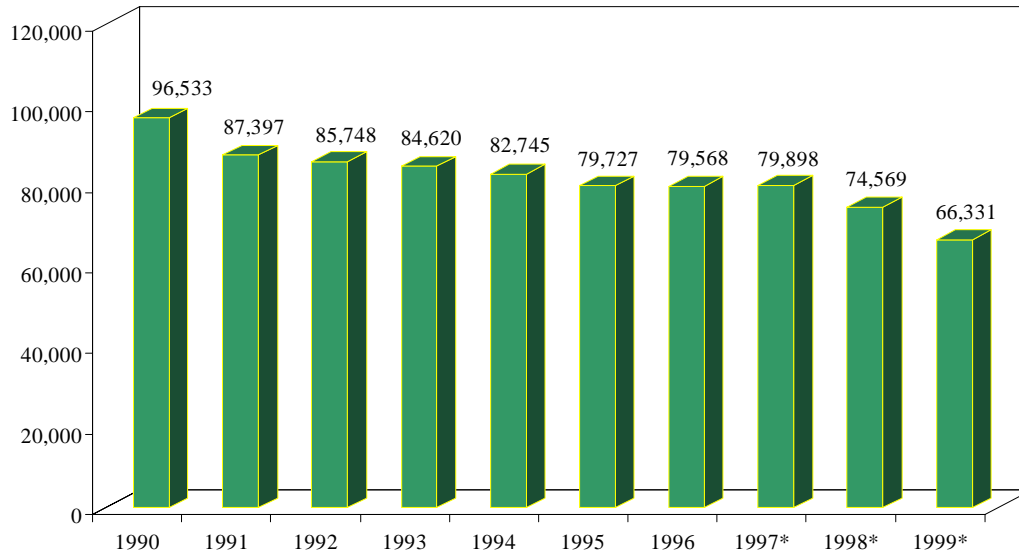
■ *Nature of injury:* Comprising 42.4% of cases for combined injury years 1990-1999, Sprain/Strain was the most frequent nature of injury for every year except 1991. Consistently placing second—first

in 1991—was the Other Leading Injuries category (22.8% over the decade), which includes angina pectoris, asphyxiation, enucleation, foreign body, freezing, inflammation, rupture severance, and vascular loss. The only other nature of injury to consistently account for more than ten percent of injuries was Contusion.

■ *Permanent impairment rating:* A permanent impairment rating is required as a condition of eligibility for all Permanent Partial benefits, pre-reform (Wage Loss Only, Permanent Impairment Only, and Wage Loss and Permanent Impairment) as well as post-reform (Impairment Income and Supplemental Income). Depending on case development, Permanent Total and Death cases may also have impairment ratings. With the exception of Supplemental Income benefits, whose requirements include an impairment rating of 20% or more, the most frequent impairment rating falls in the 1-10% range, though the inordinate amount of missing data hinders definitive characterization of impairment ratings.

Figure 1.1

Total Lost-Time Cases by Injury Year (1990-1999)



*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.1

Open and Closed Lost-Time Cases by Injury Year (1990-1999)

Year of Injury	Open Cases	Percent of Total	Closed Cases	Percent of Total	Missing Data	TOTAL
1990	1,486	1.7%	85,416	98.3%	9,631	96,533
1991	1,479	1.9%	75,728	98.1%	10,190	87,397
1992	1,477	2.0%	73,483	98.0%	10,788	85,748
1993	1,829	2.8%	64,107	97.2%	18,684	84,620
1994	2,645	4.0%	62,896	96.0%	17,204	82,745
1995	4,073	6.5%	58,666	93.5%	16,988	79,727
1996	7,629	12.5%	53,510	87.5%	18,429	79,568
1997*	15,272	24.4%	47,233	75.6%	17,393	79,898
1998*	19,854	36.5%	34,546	63.5%	20,169	74,569
1999*	25,058	59.8%	16,818	40.2%	24,455	66,331
TOTAL	80,802	12.4%	572,403	87.6%	163,931	817,136

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.2

Distribution of Cases by Disability Type and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Disability Type	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997*	1998*	1999*	Total
Temporary Partial											
Number of Cases	1,351	1,921	2,746	3,853	5,064	6,691	8,315	10,271	9,951	7,945	58,108
Percent of Total	1.4%	2.2%	3.2%	4.6%	6.1%	8.4%	10.5%	12.9%	13.3%	12.0%	7.1%
Temporary Total											
Number of Cases	64,891	57,391	54,688	53,367	43,490	39,100	36,095	34,903	34,106	26,579	444,610
Percent of Total	67.2%	65.7%	63.8%	63.1%	52.6%	49.0%	45.4%	43.7%	45.7%	40.1%	54.4%
Subtotal: Temporary Disabilities											
Number of Cases	66,242	59,312	57,434	57,220	48,554	45,791	44,410	45,174	44,057	34,524	502,718
Percent of Total	68.6%	67.9%	67.0%	67.6%	58.7%	57.4%	55.8%	56.5%	59.1%	52.0%	61.5%
Permanent Impairment Only											
Number of Cases	1,297	1,008	1,031	763	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,099
Percent of Total	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%	0.9%							0.5%
Wage Loss Only											
Number of Cases	13,325	11,966	11,327	10,823	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	47,441
Percent of Total	13.8%	13.7%	13.2%	12.8%							5.8%
Wage Loss & Perm. Impairment											
Number of Cases	326	266	265	251	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,108
Percent of Total	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%							0.1%
Impairment Income											
Number of Cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20,966	20,734	21,021	20,054	14,318	4,574	101,667
Percent of Total					25.3%	26.0%	26.4%	25.1%	19.2%	6.9%	12.4%
Supplemental Income											
Number of Cases	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	39	35	16	7	0	1	98
Percent of Total					0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Subtotal: Permanent Partial Disabilities											
Number of Cases	14,948	13,240	12,623	11,837	21,005	20,769	21,037	20,061	14,318	4,575	154,413
Percent of Total	15.5%	15.1%	14.7%	14.0%	25.4%	26.1%	26.4%	25.1%	19.2%	6.9%	18.9%
Permanent Total											
Number of Cases	1,810	1,734	1,536	1,371	1,293	1,065	956	608	161	29	10,563
Percent of Total	1.9%	2.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.6%	1.3%	1.2%	0.8%	0.2%	0.0%	1.3%
Death											
Number of Cases	408	316	297	399	392	430	364	334	250	169	3,359
Percent of Total	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Settled, No Indemnity Recorded											
Number of Cases	4,773	5,051	5,822	6,468	4,745	4,595	4,464	4,402	2,932	526	43,778
Percent of Total	4.9%	5.8%	6.8%	7.6%	5.7%	5.8%	5.6%	5.5%	3.9%	0.8%	5.4%
Lost Time, No Indemnity Recorded											
Number of Cases	8,352	7,744	8,036	7,325	6,756	7,077	8,337	9,319	12,851	26,508	102,305
Percent of Total	8.7%	8.9%	9.4%	8.7%	8.2%	8.9%	10.5%	11.7%	17.2%	40.0%	12.5%
Total Number of Cases	96,533	87,397	85,748	84,620	82,745	79,727	79,568	79,898	74,569	66,331	817,136
Total Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*Preliminary Reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.3

1999 Distribution of Lost-Time Cases and Employment by Florida County*

County	Lost-Time Cases		Average Employment		Cases as % of Employment
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Alachua	844	1.37%	103,055	1.46%	0.82%
Baker	61	0.10%	8,331	0.12%	0.73%
Bay	645	1.05%	61,898	0.87%	1.04%
Bradford	76	0.12%	9,293	0.13%	0.82%
Brevard	1,639	2.67%	198,321	2.80%	0.83%
Broward	5,552	9.04%	739,217	10.44%	0.75%
Calhoun	46	0.07%	4,568	0.06%	1.01%
Charlotte	435	0.71%	45,390	0.64%	0.96%
Citrus	357	0.58%	33,547	0.47%	1.06%
Clay	358	0.58%	67,849	0.96%	0.53%
Collier	1,385	2.26%	90,114	1.27%	1.54%
Columbia	165	0.27%	23,383	0.33%	0.71%
Dade	8,298	13.52%	984,468	13.90%	0.84%
DeSoto	177	0.29%	8,025	0.11%	2.21%
Dixie	39	0.06%	3,537	0.05%	1.10%
Duval	3,290	5.36%	370,030	5.22%	0.89%
Escambia	1,019	1.66%	116,589	1.65%	0.87%
Flagler	163	0.27%	16,582	0.23%	0.98%
Franklin	27	0.04%	4,566	0.06%	0.59%
Gadsden	205	0.33%	18,912	0.27%	1.08%
Gilchrist	56	0.09%	4,273	0.06%	1.31%
Glades	26	0.04%	3,453	0.05%	0.75%
Gulf	37	0.06%	4,746	0.07%	0.78%
Hamilton	44	0.07%	3,145	0.04%	1.40%
Hardee	127	0.21%	8,205	0.12%	1.55%
Hendry	200	0.33%	13,663	0.19%	1.46%
Hernando	401	0.65%	46,189	0.65%	0.87%
Highlands	339	0.55%	24,116	0.34%	1.41%
Hillsborough	4,516	7.36%	532,012	7.51%	0.85%
Holmes	46	0.07%	6,269	0.09%	0.73%
Indian River	549	0.89%	41,668	0.59%	1.32%
Jackson	243	0.40%	16,544	0.23%	1.47%
Jefferson	24	0.04%	4,700	0.07%	0.51%
Lafayette	29	0.05%	2,964	0.04%	0.98%
Lake	746	1.22%	88,154	1.24%	0.85%

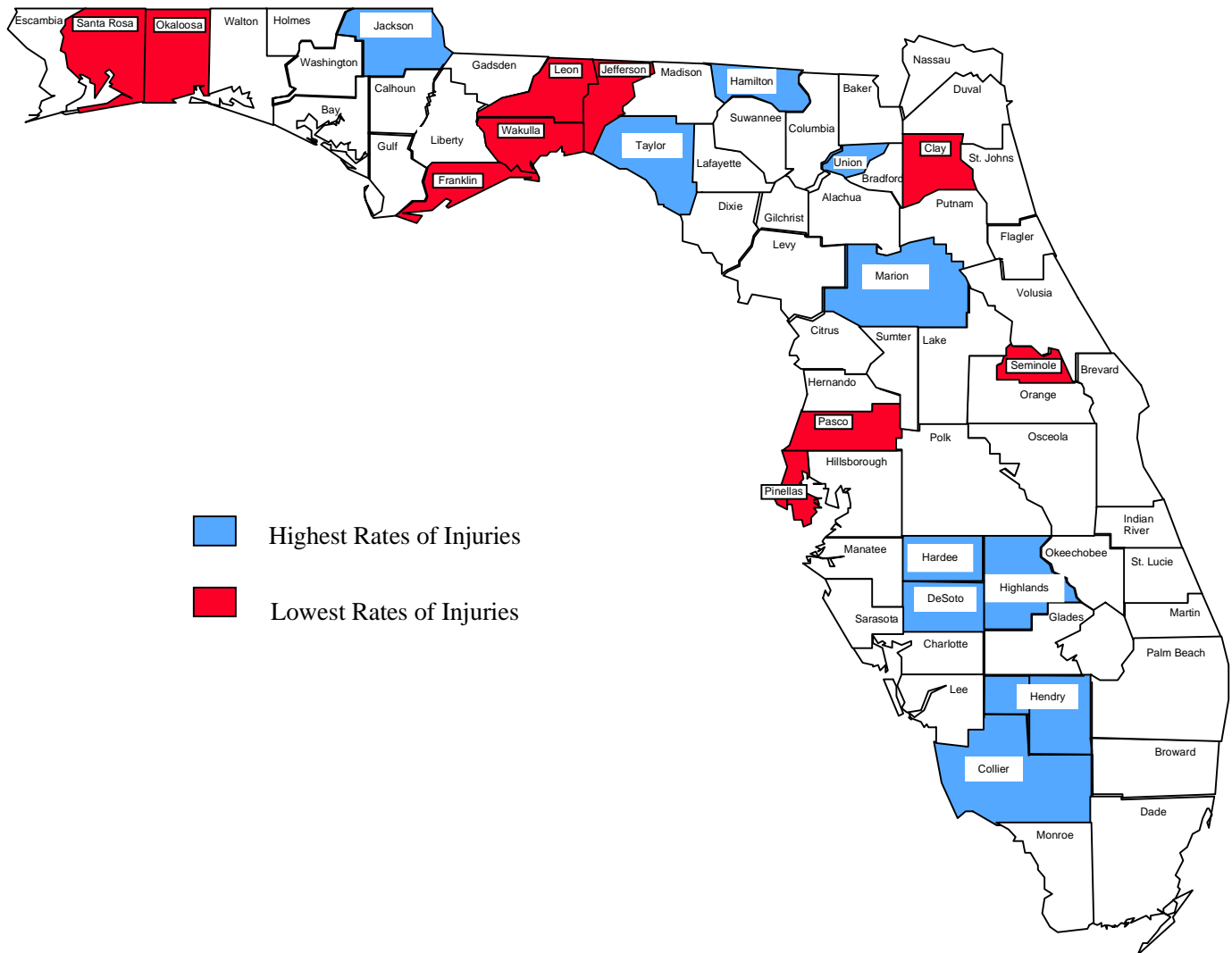
County	Lost-Time Cases		Average Employment		Cases as % of Employment
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Lee	1,879	3.06%	175,372	2.48%	1.07%
Leon	766	1.25%	126,535	1.79%	0.61%
Levy	96	0.16%	12,125	0.17%	0.79%
Liberty	27	0.04%	2,145	0.03%	1.26%
Madison	69	0.11%	6,902	0.10%	1.00%
Manatee	1,069	1.74%	118,646	1.68%	0.90%
Marion	1,300	2.12%	94,603	1.34%	1.37%
Martin	469	0.76%	45,682	0.65%	1.03%
Monroe	399	0.65%	45,085	0.64%	0.88%
Nassau	190	0.31%	27,304	0.39%	0.70%
Okaloosa	496	0.81%	77,891	1.10%	0.64%
Okeechobee	168	0.27%	14,634	0.21%	1.15%
Orange	5,483	8.93%	477,542	6.74%	1.15%
Osceola	534	0.87%	81,140	1.15%	0.66%
Palm Beach	4,132	6.73%	481,071	6.79%	0.86%
Pasco	845	1.38%	131,716	1.86%	0.64%
Pinellas	2,975	4.85%	458,582	6.48%	0.65%
Polk	2,046	3.33%	190,575	2.69%	1.07%
Putnam	252	0.41%	26,533	0.37%	0.95%
St. Johns	518	0.84%	58,540	0.83%	0.88%
St. Lucie	761	1.24%	70,509	1.00%	1.08%
Santa Rosa	252	0.41%	50,160	0.71%	0.50%
Sarasota	1,332	2.17%	149,277	2.11%	0.89%
Seminole	1,001	1.63%	211,321	2.98%	0.47%
Sumter	135	0.22%	13,968	0.20%	0.97%
Suwannee	121	0.20%	12,942	0.18%	0.93%
Taylor	102	0.17%	6,801	0.10%	1.50%
Union	70	0.11%	3,391	0.05%	2.06%
Volusia	1,445	2.35%	168,983	2.39%	0.86%
Wakulla	42	0.07%	10,622	0.15%	0.40%
Walton	156	0.25%	14,736	0.21%	1.06%
Washington	90	0.15%	9,224	0.13%	0.98%
FLORIDA	61,384	100.00%	7,082,333	100.00%	0.87%
Out of State	656	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Unknown	4,291	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*1999 annual average employment released March 2, 2000. Lost-time claims represent preliminary reporting.

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000, and Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, Office of Labor Market Statistics, Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security

Figure 1.2

Florida's Ten Highest and Ten Lowest Rates of 1999 Lost-Time Cases*



*1999 annual average employment released March 2, 2000. Lost-time claims represent preliminary reporting. Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000, and Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program, Office of Labor Market Statistics, Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security

Table 1.4

Lost-Time Injuries by Industry and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Major Industry Division	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997*	1998*	1999*
Agriculture, Forestry, & Fishing	2.56%	2.33%	2.34%	2.24%	2.13%	2.35%	2.26%	2.03%	1.80%	1.40%
Mining	1.59%	1.77%	2.33%	2.73%	1.94%	1.62%	1.90%	2.02%	1.97%	2.09%
Construction	4.66%	4.07%	3.84%	3.55%	3.42%	3.19%	2.99%	2.82%	2.40%	1.98%
Manufacturing	2.12%	1.86%	1.72%	1.60%	1.63%	1.56%	1.56%	1.46%	1.25%	1.11%
Transportation & Public Utilities	2.53%	2.32%	2.14%	2.14%	2.11%	1.92%	1.95%	1.74%	1.81%	1.55%
Wholesale Trade	1.52%	1.40%	1.21%	1.09%	1.09%	1.10%	1.03%	0.96%	0.89%	0.73%
Retail Trade	1.59%	1.52%	1.38%	1.26%	1.22%	1.06%	0.99%	0.96%	0.90%	0.77%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1.22%	1.15%	1.00%	0.81%	0.79%	0.73%	0.67%	0.48%	0.43%	0.33%
Services & State/Local Government	1.31%	1.26%	1.22%	1.12%	1.08%	1.04%	1.02%	1.00%	0.87%	0.73%
Total	1.79%	1.64%	1.60%	1.51%	1.42%	1.33%	1.29%	1.25%	1.11%	0.97%

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000, and ES-202 Employment and Wage File, Office of Labor Market Statistics, Florida Department of Labor and Employment Security

Table 1.5

Lost-Time Injuries by Gender of Claimant and Injury Year (1990-1999)

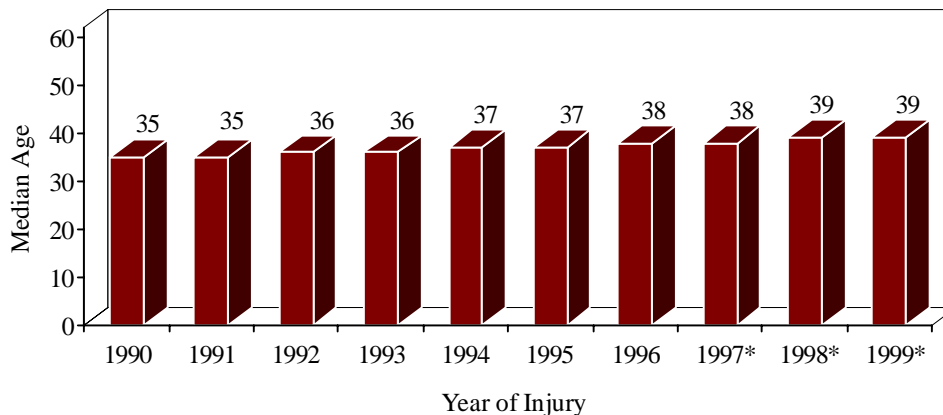
Injury Year	Female		Male		Missing Data	Total
	Number of Cases	Percent of Total	Number of Cases	Percent of Total		Number of Cases
1990	28,143	29.4%	67,502	70.6%	888	96,533
1991	28,726	32.9%	58,648	67.1%	23	87,397
1992	29,092	34.0%	56,572	66.0%	84	85,748
1993	28,372	33.5%	56,240	66.5%	8	84,620
1994	27,858	33.7%	54,886	66.3%	1	82,745
1995	27,054	33.9%	52,672	66.1%	1	79,727
1996	26,845	33.7%	52,722	66.3%	1	79,568
1997*	27,258	34.1%	52,633	65.9%	7	79,898
1998*	25,533	34.2%	49,032	65.8%	4	74,569
1999*	22,036	33.2%	44,276	66.8%	19	66,331
Total	270,917	33.2%	545,183	66.8%	1,036	817,136

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Figure 1.3

Median Age of Injured Workers (1990 - 1999)



* Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.6

Lost-Time Cases by Claimant Age and Injury Year (1990-1999)

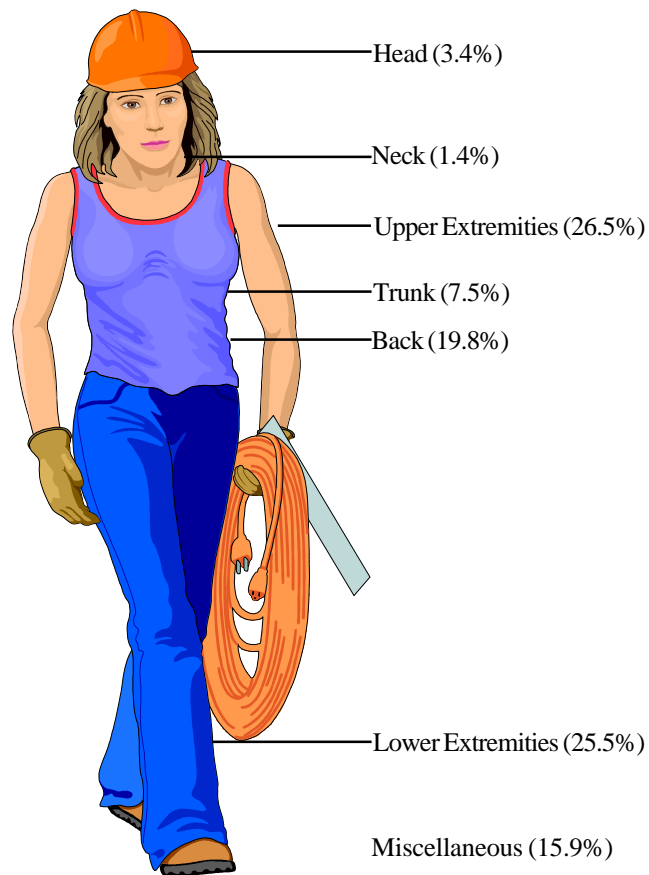
Year		Age Group								Missing Data	TOTAL
		14-17	18-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70 +		
1990	Number of Cases	967	2,825	24,658	26,369	16,869	9,921	3,727	536	10,661	96,533
	Percent of Total	1.0%	2.9%	25.5%	27.3%	17.5%	10.3%	3.9%	0.6%	11.0%	
1991	Number of Cases	707	2,288	21,923	25,253	16,503	9,588	3,625	507	7,003	87,397
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.6%	25.1%	28.9%	18.9%	11.0%	4.1%	0.6%	8.0%	
1992	Number of Cases	646	2,055	20,572	24,979	16,838	9,707	3,406	535	7,010	85,748
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.4%	24.0%	29.1%	19.6%	11.3%	4.0%	0.6%	8.2%	
1993	Number of Cases	655	1,839	19,155	24,765	17,045	9,753	3,490	569	7,349	84,620
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.2%	22.6%	29.3%	20.1%	11.5%	4.1%	0.7%	8.7%	
1994	Number of Cases	605	1,889	18,334	25,328	18,070	10,547	3,554	623	3,795	82,745
	Percent of Total	0.7%	2.3%	22.2%	30.6%	21.8%	12.7%	4.3%	0.8%	4.6%	
1995	Number of Cases	567	1,727	17,080	24,171	18,194	10,504	3,542	679	3,263	79,727
	Percent of Total	0.7%	2.2%	21.4%	30.3%	22.8%	13.2%	4.4%	0.9%	4.1%	
1996	Number of Cases	630	1,730	15,961	23,861	19,059	10,807	3,607	783	3,130	79,568
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.2%	20.1%	30.0%	24.0%	13.6%	4.5%	1.0%	3.9%	
1997*	Number of Cases	589	1,758	15,549	23,426	19,461	11,402	3,714	744	3,255	79,898
	Percent of Total	0.7%	2.2%	19.5%	29.3%	24.4%	14.3%	4.6%	0.9%	4.1%	
1998*	Number of Cases	568	1,665	14,137	21,073	18,771	11,309	3,563	810	2,673	74,569
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.2%	19.0%	28.3%	25.2%	15.2%	4.8%	1.1%	3.6%	
1999*	Number of Cases	549	1,652	12,681	18,323	16,876	10,147	3,348	840	1,915	66,331
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.5%	19.1%	27.6%	25.4%	15.3%	5.0%	1.3%	2.9%	
Total	Number of Cases	6,483	19,428	180,050	237,548	177,686	103,685	35,576	6,626	50,054	817,136
	Percent of Total	0.8%	2.4%	22.0%	29.1%	21.7%	12.7%	4.4%	0.8%	6.1%	

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Figure 1.4

The Most Frequently Injured Parts of the Body in 1999*



*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.7

Lost-Time Cases by Injured Body Part and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Body Part	1990		1991		1992		1993		1994	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Head	2,927	3.0%	2,647	3.0%	2,589	3.0%	2,520	3.0%	2,586	3.1%
Neck	746	0.8%	308	0.4%	445	0.5%	1,240	1.5%	1,288	1.6%
Upper Extremities	20,416	21.1%	18,458	21.1%	17,963	20.9%	19,147	22.6%	19,693	23.8%
Trunk	4,847	5.0%	4,408	5.0%	4,551	5.3%	5,854	6.9%	5,453	6.6%
Lower Extremities	21,633	22.4%	19,938	22.8%	19,006	22.2%	18,741	22.1%	18,517	22.4%
Back Injury	23,756	24.6%	22,859	26.2%	22,000	25.7%	20,036	23.7%	19,097	23.1%
Multiple Body Parts	18,184	18.8%	17,482	20.0%	17,805	20.8%	17,082	20.2%	16,111	19.5%
Missing Data	4,024	4.2%	1,297	1.5%	1,389	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	96,533	100%	87,397	100%	85,748	100%	84,620	100%	82,745	100%

Body Part	1995		1996		1997*		1998*		1999*		1990-1999	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Head	2,688	3.4%	2,608	3.3%	2,701	3.4%	2,513	3.4%	2,259	3.4%	26,038	3.2%
Neck	1,143	1.4%	1,156	1.5%	1,103	1.4%	1,024	1.4%	933	1.4%	9,386	1.1%
Upper Extremities	19,881	24.9%	20,533	25.8%	21,071	26.4%	19,938	26.7%	17,598	26.5%	194,698	23.8%
Trunk	5,395	6.8%	5,505	6.9%	5,658	7.1%	5,514	7.4%	4,959	7.5%	52,144	6.4%
Lower Extremities	17,978	22.5%	18,389	23.1%	18,901	23.7%	18,313	24.6%	16,901	25.5%	188,317	23.0%
Back Injury	17,875	22.4%	17,218	21.6%	16,661	20.9%	14,948	20.0%	13,134	19.8%	187,584	23.0%
Multiple Body Parts	14,767	18.5%	14,159	17.8%	13,803	17.3%	12,319	16.5%	10,547	15.9%	152,259	18.6%
Missing Data	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6,710	0.8%
Total	79,727	100%	79,568	100%	79,898	100%	74,569	100%	66,331	100%	817,136	100%

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.8

Lost-Time Cases by Cause of Injury and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Cause of Injury	1990		1991		1992		1993		1994	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Burn/Scald-Heat/Cold Exp.	1,370	1.4%	1,096	1.3%	1,317	1.5%	1,956	2.3%	1,760	2.1%
Caught in or Between	3,673	3.8%	2,987	3.4%	2,506	2.9%	2,268	2.7%	2,341	2.8%
Cut, Puncture, Scrape	27	0.0%	48	0.1%	325	0.4%	3,392	4.0%	3,700	4.5%
Fall or Slip Injury	20,971	21.7%	18,840	21.6%	18,689	21.8%	21,658	25.6%	20,970	25.3%
Motor Vehicle	3,856	4.0%	3,389	3.9%	3,420	4.0%	3,910	4.6%	4,172	5.0%
Strain or Sprain	35,908	37.2%	36,131	41.3%	35,252	41.1%	31,219	36.9%	30,516	36.9%
Striking Against/Stepping On	7,419	7.7%	6,371	7.3%	5,319	6.2%	3,651	4.3%	3,160	3.8%
Struck or Injured By	12,077	12.5%	10,444	12.0%	9,996	11.7%	9,069	10.7%	8,735	10.6%
Rubbed or Abraded By	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	4	0.0%	4	0.0%
Miscellaneous Causes	7,422	7.7%	7,114	8.1%	7,953	9.3%	7,493	8.9%	7,387	8.9%
Missing Data	3,810	3.9%	977	1.1%	969	1.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	96,533	100.0%	87,397	100.0%	85,748	100.0%	84,620	100.0%	82,745	100.0%

Cause of Injury	1995		1996		1997*		1998*		1999*		1990 - 1999	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Burn/Scald-Heat/Cold Exp.	1,794	2.3%	1,658	2.1%	1,624	2.0%	1,485	2.0%	1,297	2.0%	15,357	1.9%
Caught in or Between	2,441	3.1%	2,301	2.9%	2,248	2.8%	2,261	3.0%	2,222	3.3%	25,248	3.1%
Cut, Puncture, Scrape	4,083	5.1%	4,002	5.0%	4,102	5.1%	3,925	5.3%	3,652	5.5%	27,256	3.3%
Fall or Slip Injury	20,375	25.6%	20,428	25.7%	20,860	26.1%	19,475	26.1%	17,612	26.6%	199,878	24.5%
Motor Vehicle	4,237	5.3%	4,131	5.2%	3,919	4.9%	3,633	4.9%	3,031	4.6%	37,698	4.6%
Strain or Sprain	29,285	36.7%	29,980	37.7%	30,272	37.9%	27,242	36.5%	23,633	35.6%	309,438	37.9%
Striking Against/Stepping On	2,969	3.7%	2,846	3.6%	2,653	3.3%	2,383	3.2%	1,960	3.0%	38,731	4.7%
Struck or Injured By	8,309	10.4%	8,720	11.0%	8,748	10.9%	8,742	11.7%	7,923	11.9%	92,763	11.4%
Rubbed or Abraded By	12	0.0%	28	0.0%	83	0.1%	179	0.2%	123	0.2%	435	0.1%
Miscellaneous Causes	6,222	7.8%	5,474	6.9%	5,389	6.7%	5,244	7.0%	4,878	7.4%	64,576	7.9%
Missing Data	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5,756	0.7%
Total	79,727	100.0%	79,568	100.0%	79,898	100.0%	74,569	100.0%	66,331	100.0%	817,136	100.0%

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.9

Lost-Time Cases by Nature of Injury and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Nature of Injury	1990		1991		1992		1993		1994	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Amputation	519	0.5%	557	0.6%	486	0.6%	464	0.5%	473	0.6%
Burn	1,507	1.6%	1,413	1.6%	1,328	1.5%	1,326	1.6%	1,232	1.5%
Concussion	316	0.3%	211	0.2%	193	0.2%	230	0.3%	199	0.2%
Contusion	6,983	7.2%	5,871	6.7%	5,972	7.0%	11,533	13.6%	9,893	12.0%
Crushing	1,119	1.2%	699	0.8%	714	0.8%	614	0.7%	618	0.7%
Dislocation	791	0.8%	608	0.7%	593	0.7%	571	0.7%	486	0.6%
Electric Shock	169	0.2%	162	0.2%	140	0.2%	159	0.2%	138	0.2%
Fracture	7,387	7.7%	6,275	7.2%	5,924	6.9%	6,063	7.2%	5,912	7.1%
Hearing Loss, Traumatic	81	0.1%	85	0.1%	61	0.1%	28	0.0%	24	0.0%
Heat Prostration	32	0.0%	24	0.0%	27	0.0%	34	0.0%	22	0.0%
Hernia	1,860	1.9%	1,637	1.9%	1,660	1.9%	1,669	2.0%	1,559	1.9%
Infection	597	0.6%	412	0.5%	295	0.3%	253	0.3%	257	0.3%
Laceration	6,859	7.1%	5,518	6.3%	5,096	5.9%	4,950	5.8%	4,834	5.8%
Myocardial Infarction	97	0.1%	78	0.1%	82	0.1%	99	0.1%	106	0.1%
Puncture	1,115	1.2%	965	1.1%	903	1.1%	1,061	1.3%	1,021	1.2%
Sprain/Strain	37,806	39.2%	27,640	31.6%	31,144	36.3%	42,532	50.3%	39,707	48.0%
Vision Loss	8	0.0%	7	0.0%	16	0.0%	61	0.1%	33	0.0%
Other Leading Injuries	23,957	24.8%	32,751	37.5%	28,282	33.0%	10,485	12.4%	14,209	17.2%
Occupational Diseases	1,293	1.3%	1,433	1.6%	1,683	2.0%	1,973	2.3%	1,787	2.2%
All Other Injuries	30	0.0%	60	0.1%	187	0.2%	497	0.6%	202	0.2%
Multiple Injuries	7	0.0%	6	0.0%	6	0.0%	18	0.0%	30	0.0%
Missing Data	4,000	4.1%	985	1.1%	956	1.1%	0	0.0%	3	0.0%
TOTAL	96,533	100.0%	87,397	100.0%	85,748	100.0%	84,620	100.0%	82,745	100.0%

Table 1.9

Lost-Time Cases by Nature of Injury and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Nature of Injury	1995		1996		1997*		1998*		1999*		1990-1999	
	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total	# of Cases	% of Total
Amputation	364	0.5%	359	0.5%	400	0.5%	325	0.4%	331	0.5%	4,278	0.5%
Burn	1,196	1.5%	1,139	1.4%	1,160	1.5%	1,048	1.4%	1,027	1.5%	12,376	1.5%
Concussion	180	0.2%	175	0.2%	168	0.2%	163	0.2%	165	0.2%	2,000	0.2%
Contusion	8,811	11.1%	9,460	11.9%	9,460	11.8%	8,579	11.5%	7,352	11.1%	83,914	10.3%
Crushing	640	0.8%	620	0.8%	675	0.8%	605	0.8%	593	0.9%	6,897	0.8%
Dislocation	549	0.7%	554	0.7%	517	0.6%	530	0.7%	495	0.7%	5,694	0.7%
Electric Shock	170	0.2%	161	0.2%	162	0.2%	144	0.2%	119	0.2%	1,524	0.2%
Fracture	5,998	7.5%	5,897	7.4%	5,638	7.1%	5,457	7.3%	5,161	7.8%	59,712	7.3%
Hearing Loss, Traumatic	18	0.0%	22	0.0%	35	0.0%	42	0.1%	22	0.0%	418	0.1%
Heat Prostration	39	0.0%	21	0.0%	28	0.0%	44	0.1%	19	0.0%	290	0.0%
Hernia	1,613	2.0%	1,456	1.8%	1,358	1.7%	1,210	1.6%	1,115	1.7%	15,137	1.9%
Infection	266	0.3%	204	0.3%	176	0.2%	176	0.2%	176	0.3%	2,812	0.3%
Laceration	4,855	6.1%	4,885	6.1%	5,021	6.3%	5,062	6.8%	4,763	7.2%	51,843	6.3%
Myocardial Infarction	115	0.1%	131	0.2%	90	0.1%	70	0.1%	33	0.0%	901	0.1%
Puncture	1,022	1.3%	949	1.2%	921	1.2%	788	1.1%	837	1.3%	9,582	1.2%
Sprain/Strain	37,207	46.7%	35,905	45.1%	34,544	43.2%	31,930	42.8%	28,433	42.9%	346,848	42.4%
Vision Loss	22	0.0%	15	0.0%	13	0.0%	4	0.0%	7	0.0%	186	0.0%
Other Leading Injuries	14,629	18.3%	15,583	19.6%	17,305	21.7%	15,867	21.3%	13,199	19.9%	186,267	22.8%
Occupational Diseases	1,807	2.3%	1,751	2.2%	1,642	2.1%	1,424	1.9%	1,026	1.5%	15,819	1.9%
All Other Injuries	182	0.2%	196	0.2%	218	0.3%	155	0.2%	148	0.2%	1,875	0.2%
Multiple Injuries	43	0.1%	79	0.1%	360	0.5%	912	1.2%	1,291	1.9%	2,752	0.3%
Missing Data	1	0.0%	6	0.0%	7	0.0%	34	0.0%	19	0.0%	6,011	0.7%
TOTAL	79,727	100.0%	79,568	100.0%	79,898	100.0%	74,569	100.0%	66,331	100.0%	817,136	100.0%

*Preliminary reporting

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000

Table 1.10

Permanent Impairment Rating by Disability Type and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Disability Type/ Impairment Rating	1990		1991		1992		1993		1994	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Permanent Impairment Only										
1 - 10	215	16.6%	201	19.9%	275	26.7%	318	41.7%	N/A	
11 - 19	56	4.3%	56	5.6%	77	7.5%	58	7.6%		
20 - 39	19	1.5%	23	2.3%	25	2.4%	28	3.7%		
40 and above	3	0.2%	2	0.2%	1	0.1%	1	0.1%		
No Rating Provided	1,004	77.4%	726	72.0%	653	63.3%	358	46.9%		
Average Impairment Rating					8.9		7.9		7.3	
Median Impairment Rating			7.0		6.0		5.5		5.0	
Wage Loss Only										
1 - 10	1,659	12.5%	2,612	21.8%	4,465	39.4%	5,158	47.7%	N/A	
11 - 19	673	5.1%	1,079	9.0%	1,651	14.6%	1,307	12.1%		
20 - 39	216	1.6%	304	2.5%	363	3.2%	243	2.2%		
40 and above	12	0.1%	30	0.3%	21	0.2%	22	0.2%		
No Rating Provided	10,765	80.8%	7,941	66.4%	4,827	42.6%	4,093	37.8%		
Average Impairment Rating			10.1		9.9		9.1		8.2	
Median Impairment Rating			9.0		9.0		8.0		7.0	
Wage Loss & Permanent Impairment										
1 - 10	28	8.6%	30	11.3%	58	21.9%	85	33.9%	N/A	
11 - 19	12	3.7%	28	10.5%	30	11.3%	32	12.7%		
20 - 39	10	3.1%	18	6.8%	21	7.9%	23	9.2%		
40 and above	1	0.3%	2	0.8%	3	1.1%	0	0.0%		
No Rating Provided	275	84.4%	188	70.7%	153	57.7%	111	44.2%		
Average Impairment Rating			11.9		14.0		12.7		11.1	
Median Impairment Rating			10.0		11.0		10.0		9.0	
Impairment Income										
1 - 10	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		14,204	67.7%
11 - 19									1,919	9.2%
20 - 39									371	1.8%
40 and above									32	0.2%
No Rating Provided									4,440	21.2%
Average Impairment Rating									6.6	
Median Impairment Rating									5.0	
Supplemental Income										
1 - 10	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		0	0.0%
11 - 19									0	0.0%
20 - 39									22	56.4%
40 and above									1	2.6%
No Rating Provided **									16	41.0%
Average Impairment Rating									20.5	
Median Impairment Rating									21.0	
Permanent Total										
1 - 10	163	9.0%	237	13.7%	267	17.4%	324	23.6%	344	26.6%
11 - 19	132	7.3%	230	13.3%	278	18.1%	197	14.4%	182	14.1%
20 - 39	116	6.4%	161	9.3%	161	10.5%	144	10.5%	106	8.2%
40 and above	31	1.7%	30	1.7%	39	2.5%	36	2.6%	39	3.0%
No Rating Provided	1,368	75.6%	1,076	62.1%	791	51.5%	670	48.9%	622	48.1%
Average Impairment Rating			17.2		16.3		16.1		15.2	
Median Impairment Rating			14.0		14.0		13.0		11.0	
Death										
1 - 10	4	1.0%	9	2.8%	17	5.7%	17	4.3%	21	5.4%
11 - 19	4	1.0%	1	0.3%	2	0.7%	7	1.8%	1	0.3%
20 - 39	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	3	0.8%	1	0.3%
40 and above	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%
No Rating Provided	400	98.0%	305	96.5%	276	92.9%	371	93.0%	368	93.9%
Average Impairment Rating			9.9		8.9		11.5		11.6	
Median Impairment Rating			11.0		7.0		7.0		6.5	
Total										
Average Impairment Rating			11.0		10.8		9.8		8.8	
Median Impairment Rating			10.0		9.0		9.0		7.0	

Table 1.10

Permanent Impairment Rating by Disability Type and Injury Year (1990-1999)

Disability Type/ Impairment Rating	1995		1996		1997*		1998*		1999*		1990-99
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	
Permanent Impairment Only											
1 - 10	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		
11 - 19											
20 - 39											
40 and above											
No Rating Provided											
Average Impairment Rating											8.1
Median Impairment Rating											6.0
Wage Loss Only											
1 - 10	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		
11 - 19											
20 - 39											
40 and above											
No Rating Provided											
Average Impairment Rating											9.1
Median Impairment Rating											8.0
Wage Loss & Permanent Impairment											
1 - 10	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		
11 - 19											
20 - 39											
40 and above											
No Rating Provided											
Average Impairment Rating											12.3
Median Impairment Rating											10.0
Impairment Income											
1 - 10	14,718	71.0%	15,826	75.3%	15,829	78.9%	11,819	82.5%	3,759	82.2%	
11 - 19	1,830	8.8%	1,665	7.9%	1,225	6.1%	606	4.2%	75	1.6%	
20 - 39	320	1.5%	288	1.4%	234	1.2%	93	0.7%	12	0.3%	
40 and above	28	0.1%	39	0.2%	17	0.1%	14	0.1%	0	0.0%	
No Rating Provided	3,838	18.5%	3,203	15.2%	2,749	13.7%	1,786	12.5%	728	15.9%	
Average Impairment Rating		6.4		6.1		5.6		4.9		4.0	5.9
Median Impairment Rating		5.0		5.0		5.0		4.0		3.0	5.0
Supplemental Income											
1 - 10	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A		0	0.0%	
11 - 19	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%			0	0.0%	
20 - 39	22	62.9%	6	37.5%	3	42.9%			0	0.0%	
40 and above	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%			0	0.0%	
No Rating Provided**	13	37.1%	10	62.5%	4	57.1%			1	100.0%	
Average Impairment Rating		20.1		16.1		18.2				N/A	19.5
Median Impairment Rating		20.5		17.0		20.0				N/A	21.0
Permanent Total											
1 - 10	300	28.2%	240	25.1%	157	25.8%	51	31.7%	4	13.8%	
11 - 19	142	13.3%	133	13.9%	66	10.9%	17	10.6%	0	0.0%	
20 - 39	95	8.9%	58	6.1%	35	5.8%	7	4.3%	1	3.4%	
40 and above	20	1.9%	29	3.0%	11	1.8%	4	2.5%	0	0.0%	
No Rating Provided	508	47.7%	496	51.9%	339	55.8%	82	50.9%	24	82.8%	
Average Impairment Rating		13.6		14.7		13.4		12.6		7.2	15.2
Median Impairment Rating		10.0		10.0		9.0		9.0		5.0	12.0
Death											
1 - 10	25	5.8%	20	5.5%	20	6.0%	11	4.4%	1	0.6%	
11 - 19	5	1.2%	2	0.5%	1	0.3%	2	0.8%	0	0.0%	
20 - 39	2	0.5%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
40 and above	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
No Rating Provided	397	92.3%	341	93.7%	312	93.4%	237	94.8%	168	99.4%	
Average Impairment Rating		9.0		6.8		10.3		7.0		5.0	9.5
Median Impairment Rating		5.0		5.0		6.5		6.0		5.0	6.0
Total											
Average Impairment Rating		6.6		6.3		5.7		5.0		4.0	6.9
Median Impairment Rating		5.0		5.0		5.0		4.0		3.0	5.0

*Preliminary reporting

**Includes cases erroneously reported as less than 20% impairment, statutorily ineligible for Supplemental Income benefits.

Source: Division of Workers' Compensation Claims File as of March 20, 2000.