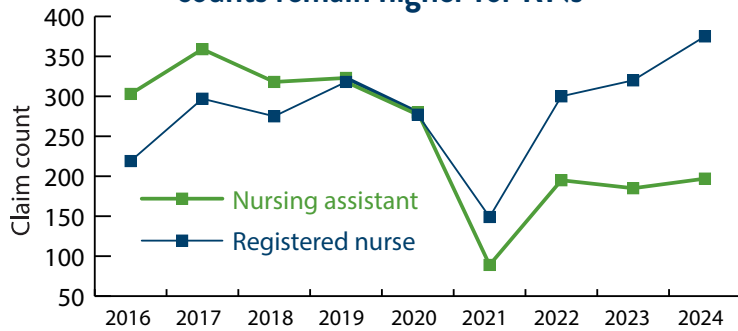




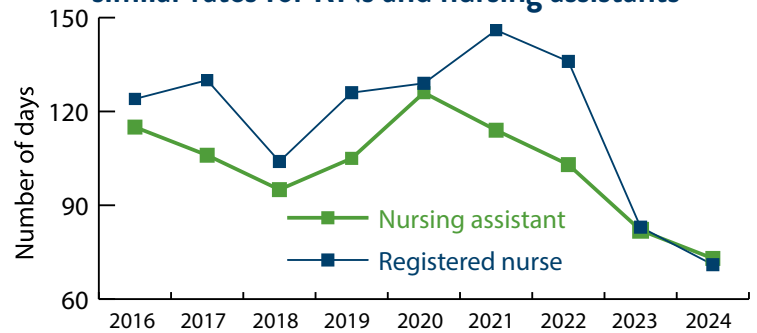
Safe patient handling in hospital and nursing homes

Minnesota patient handling indemnity claims, 2016-2024

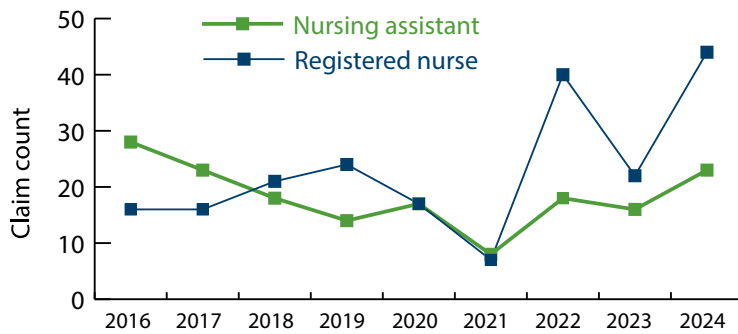
Patient handling claims increase while counts remain higher for RNs



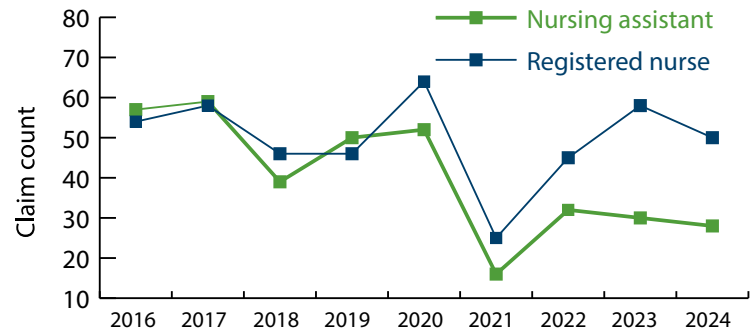
Average days away from work decrease with similar rates for RNs and nursing assistants



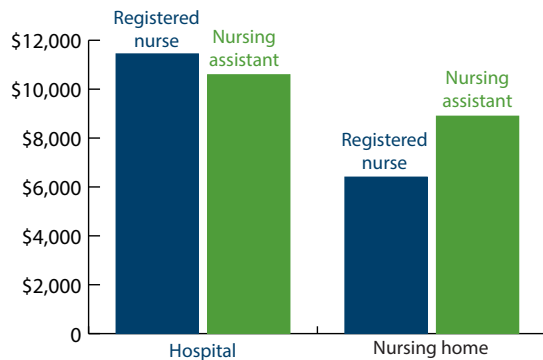
Violence-related claims increased in 2021 and highest for RNs in 2024



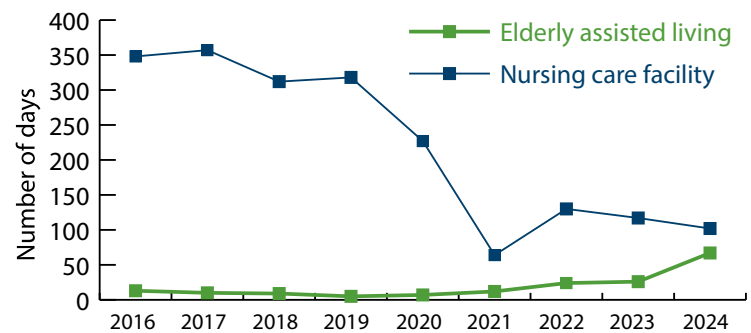
Musculoskeletal disorder counts remain unchanged



Nursing assistants receive higher average paid claims



Patient handling paid claims decline in nursing care yet rise in assisted living facilities



Minnesota occupational safety and health statistics

[View the survey of occupational injuries and illnesses data.](#)

- From 2020–2024, the highest injury and illness rates were in state-government hospitals (13.3) and government nursing and residential care facilities (10.1 local, 6.3 state).
- Across private industry groups, educational and health services had the highest nonfatal injury and illness rates, starting at 6.8 in 2020, dropping to 5.2 in 2021, rising to 6.3 in 2022, and then falling to 3.9 in 2023 and 2024.

Contact the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Data Analytics at dli.research@state.mn.us.

The Minnesota Safe Patient Handling Act

The act requires nursing homes to maintain a written safe patient handling program and committee. Employers must provide mechanical lift equipment; gait belts and lift sheets do not prevent injuries. Safe patient-handling practices benefit long-term, transitional care and hospital settings.

Minnesota patient handling indemnity data was taken from the [Work Comp Campus](#) data portal in November 2025.

Contact Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation for a free patient-handling consultation by phone at 1-800-657-3776 or via email at osha.consultation@state.mn.us.