HOW DO WORKERS GET INJURED?
2019 workers’ compensation claim characteristics

INDEMNITY CLAIMS
Approximately 22,200 Minnesota workers were paid workers’ compensation indemnity benefits (wage loss and disability) for injuries and illnesses in 2019.

Workers with a work disability longer than three days or a permanent partial disability qualify for these benefits. The figures on this page depict the most common injury characteristics, using information from the First Report of Injury form.

NATURE OF INJURY
- Sprains, strains, tears: 39%
- Pain: 24%
- Contusions: 11%
- Fractures: 9%
- Open wounds: 7%

EVENT OR EXPOSURE
- Fall on same level: 20%
- Overexertion while lifting or lowering person or object: 13%
- Struck by an object or equipment: 9%
- Pushing, pulling, turning: 6%
- Bending, reaching, climbing: 6%
- Fall to lower level: 6%
- Repetitive motion: 5%
- Violence: 5%

SOURCE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS
- Structures and surfaces: 23%
- Injured worker: 20%
- Containers, furniture, fixtures: 12%
- Person other than worker: 8%
- Vehicles: 8%
- Parts and materials: 7%
- Tools, instruments, equip.: 7%

INJURED WORKER CHARACTERISTICS
- 62% were men
- 28% were older than 54 years
- 10% were younger than 25 years
- 33% were at their job for less than a year

PART OF BODY INJURED
- Head and neck 9%
- Shoulders 10%
- Back 16%
- Arms and hands 19%
- Trunk/internal organs/body systems 7%
- Knees 10%
- Legs and feet 13%
- Multiple parts 12%