

2023

Work Health and Safety Performance

Tasmania Industry Overview

Statewide Analysis



WORKCOVER
BOARD
Tasmania

An initiative of the WorkCover Tasmania
Board delivered by WorkSafe Tasmania



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Disclaimer

Purpose and Scope of Work

The purpose of this report is to provide an account of the work health and safety performance of industry in Tasmania. The aim is to identify and focus on emerging or existing WHS issues, for evaluation and action. It compares most current Industry WHS performance relative to previous years, and where applicable, to other industries in Tasmania.

Data

The data used in the preparation of this report comes from the WorkSafe Tasmania Information Management System (WIMS). While every effort is taken to ensure the accuracy of this report, all data is provided by Licensed and Self Insurers and the Tasmanian State Service. WorkSafe Tasmania cannot ensure the accuracy of the data.

Denominator data is from Safe Work Australia and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Supporting statistics include sources like the Department of Treasury and Finance Tasmania.

WIMS data used in this report was current to May 2024. The latest Safe Work Australia data was at end of 2023. ABS data, where applicable, is the most recent available from its website.

This report provides data on a calendar year basis unless otherwise stated.

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Introduction

As part of its Strategic Plan 2018-2023, WorkSafe Tasmania has established a number of strategies to aid in fulfilling its commitment to the Tasmanian community of 'Safe and Well, Every Day'. These strategies include a focus on Targeted Harm Reduction and Building Culture and Capability. A component of both of these strategies is implementing new ways to engage with and educate the community on injury trends and areas of risk in order to work towards better health, safety and wellbeing outcomes.

The Industry Overview report provides an account of the work health and safety (WHS) performance of each industry group across Tasmania. It identifies and focuses on emerging or existing WHS issues, for evaluation and action. It compares most current WHS performance relative to previous years and, where applicable, to other industries across Tasmania.

Industry background

In 2023, there were approximately 250,000 people employed in Tasmania, across 19 industry divisions. The three largest employing divisions are Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, and Manufacturing.

On average, 64% of Tasmanians work full-time, but this varies greatly between industries. Around 43% of Tasmanian workers are aged over 45 years, with older workers most represented in Transport, Postal and Warehousing; and least represented in Accommodation and Food Services.



Industry profile

Employment

In 2023, there were approximately 250,000 people employed in Tasmania, across 19 industry divisions. The three largest employing divisions were Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, and Manufacturing.

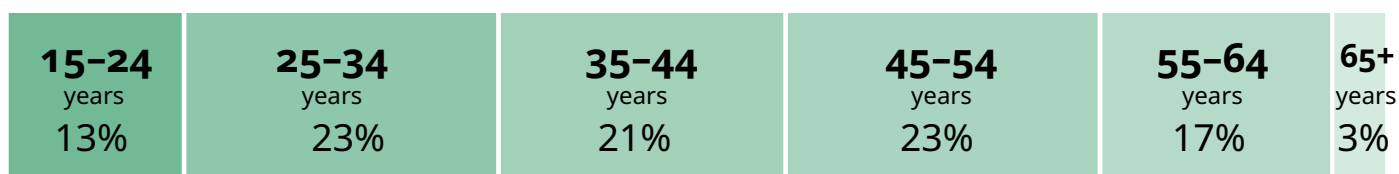
Statewide, hours worked increased in 2023 to around 386 million hours, continuing the growth seen in recent years. At an industry level, some industries such as Rental, Hiring and Real Estate and Administrative and Support Services saw strong growth whereas others such as Information Media and Telecommunications and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing saw a decline in hours worked.

On average, 64% of Tasmanians work full-time. This varies between industries, from 41% in Accommodation and Food Services to 92% in Mining.

Age profile

The 45-54 year age group makes up the largest proportion of Tasmanian workers, at around 21% of the total workforce. On average, 43% of Tasmanian workers were aged over 45 (see Figure 1 below). This varies between industries, with Accommodation and Food Services reporting the lowest proportion of the workforce over 45 (21%) and Transport, Postal and Warehousing reporting the highest proportion of the workforce over 45 (57%). In contrast, younger workers (those under 25 years of age) were most represented in Accommodation and Food Services (43%) and least represented in Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services (2%).

Figure 1. Percentage of workforce by age group



Statewide

hours worked increased in 2023



Rental, Hiring and Real Estate has seen the largest decrease in hours worked



Information media and Telecommunications

has seen the largest increase in hours worked



Proportion of Tasmanian workers aged over 45:

43%

Proportion of Tasmanian workforce employed full-time:

64%

Industry breakdown

The workforce in Tasmania is broken into 19 industry divisions. These are listed in Figure 2 below, with the corresponding percentage of the Tasmanian workforce.

Figure 2. Percentage of workforce by industry %



Half of the state's workforce are employed in one of these five industries:



Health Care and Social Assistance



Retail Trade



Education and Training



Accommodation and Food Services



Manufacturing

School Education

is the largest employing industry group in the state



17%

of Tasmanian workers are employed in Health Care and Social Assistance

making it the largest employing industry division in the state



These 19 divisions are then further broken down into industry groups, of which there are 214. The five largest employing industry groups in Tasmania are:

1. Hospitals

2. School Education

3. Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services

4. Other Social Assistance Services

5. State Government Administration

Injury numbers and trends

There were 8,177 workplace injuries in Tasmania in 2023.

Over the past ten years:

- injury numbers per year have increased 15%
- the serious injury frequency rate has risen slightly from 9.6 to 10.6 serious injuries per million hours worked
- there have been 77 work-related fatalities

8177

injuries in Tasmania in 2023



Injury numbers have increased by in the last ten years

15%

Health Care and Social Assistance

reported the highest number of serious injuries in 2023 at

26%

of serious injuries statewide

10.6

serious injuries per million hours worked in 2023

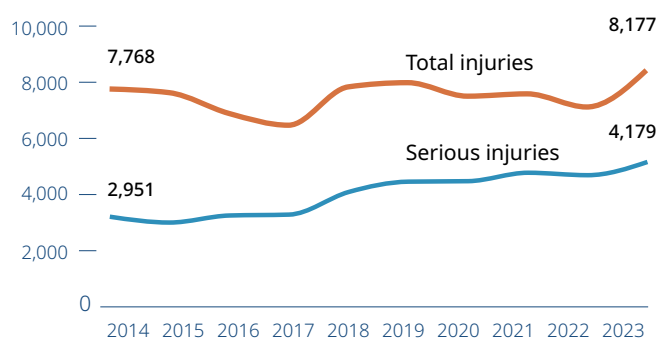
Injury numbers

There were 8,177 workplace injuries in Tasmania in 2023*.

The number of injuries in Tasmania has increased by 5% in the past ten years (see Figure 3), with individual industries varying from a 62% decrease in Finance and Insurance Services to a 36% increase in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.

In January 2018 changes to the *Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988* removed the requirement on employers to pay the first week of compensable wages on each workers compensation claim as an excess. This change led to a rise in claim numbers initially, which was expected, but injury numbers stabilised in the years following. Recent increases in injury numbers are at least partly a result of strong wage growth in the state in recent years, more people in the workforce has resulted in more injuries occurring.

Figure 3. Total injuries and serious injuries per year 2014– 2023



*Workplace Injury numbers refer to the number of injuries reported to have occurred in the 2023 calendar year, via workers compensation data, as at the time of reporting. This may differ from other injury/claim numbers reported elsewhere.

Serious injuries

A serious injury is one that results in the worker requiring at least one week off work due to their injury. The increase in injuries since the removal of employer wage excess payments in 2018 (as noted in the Injury numbers section at left) led to a corresponding increase in the number of serious injuries. This number has risen steadily during the past ten years, to 4,179 in 2023.

This continued increase in serious injury numbers results in a growing proportion of serious injuries. In 2023, 51% of all injuries progressed to being serious injuries, compared to 38% of all injuries ten years earlier.

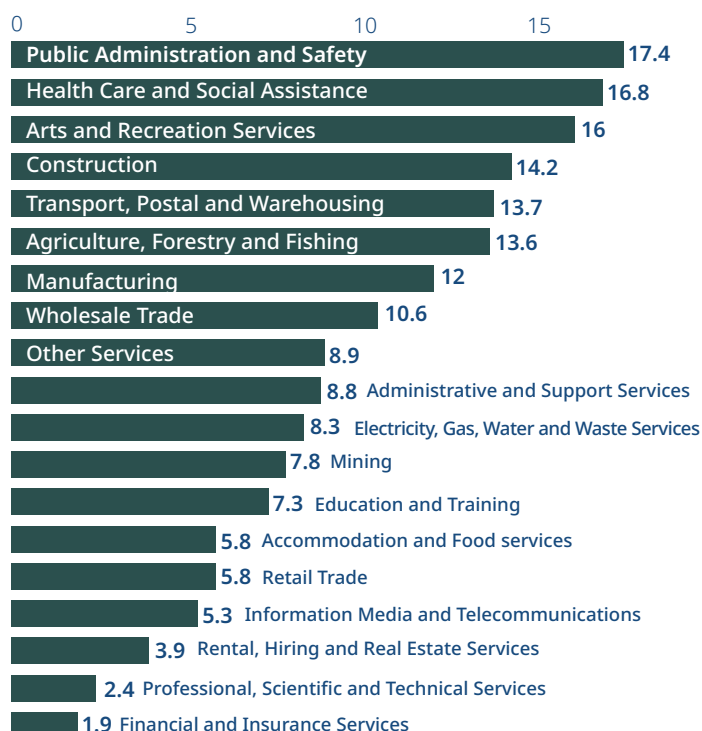
On average there have been 3,474 serious injuries per year over the past ten years (an average of 46% of all injuries).

Statewide, the serious injury frequency rate for 2023 was 10.6 serious injuries per million hours worked.

At an industry level, the serious injury frequency rate varies significantly. Public Administration and Safety has the highest serious injury frequency rate, estimated at approximately 17.4 serious injuries per million hours worked.

The lowest serious injury frequency rate was reported by Financial and Insurance Services at 1.9 serious injury per million hours worked (see Figure 4).

Figure 4. Serious injury frequency rate by industry 2022



Trends in serious injury frequency rates over ten years

Using a three year rolling average frequency rate balances the variations in injury numbers and workforce year to year.

The rolling average serious injury frequency rate for all industries in Tasmania was 10.6 serious injuries per million hours worked in 2023.

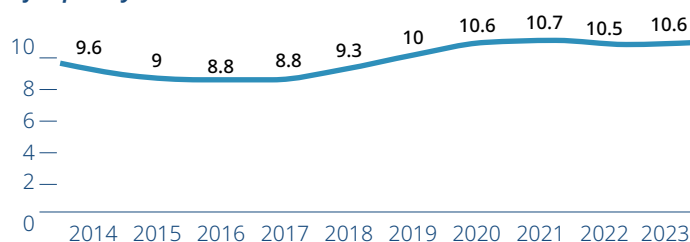
The increased number of serious injuries which followed the removal of the employer wage excess payments (as noted in 'Injury numbers' on page 8) resulted in an increase in the serious injury frequency rate after many years of decrease prior to this legislative change.

The 2023 serious injury frequency rate is slightly higher than the rate reported ten years ago but this has been relatively stable in recent years (see Figure 5).

At an industry level, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services has reported the greatest reduction in serious injury frequency rate over the past ten years with a three year rolling average frequency rate of 2.4 in 2023 compared to 4.3 in 2014.

In contrast, Mining rolling average serious injury frequency rate at 7.8 in 2023, was 85% higher than in 2014 (4.2). As a small industry this can vary year to year with even small variations in injury or workforce numbers.

Figure 5. Three year rolling average serious injury frequency rate 2013–2023



Fatalities

Statewide, there have been 77 work related fatalities in the past ten years (2014-2023).

Of these 77, 54 were workers and 23 were bystanders. A bystander is a person other than a worker who dies as a result of a workplace activity.

In the past ten years, there have been worker deaths in around half of the 19 industries, as shown in Figure 6 below.

Overall the majority of worker deaths resulted from vehicle accidents (as vehicle occupant), being hit by moving objects or falls from a height.

Fatality causes vary between industry. In Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, almost one in five fatalities are a result of quad bike or motorbike incident and a further one in five result from tractor-related incidents including rollovers. Almost one in four worker fatalities in Transport, Postal and Warehousing have involved fixed or rotary wing aircraft. In Construction, over half of fatalities have resulted from being hit by moving objects (including vehicles) or falls from a height.

Two thirds of bystander deaths were the result of vehicle accidents (either as a vehicle occupant or pedestrian).

Figure 6. Number of worker fatalities per industry 2014-2023

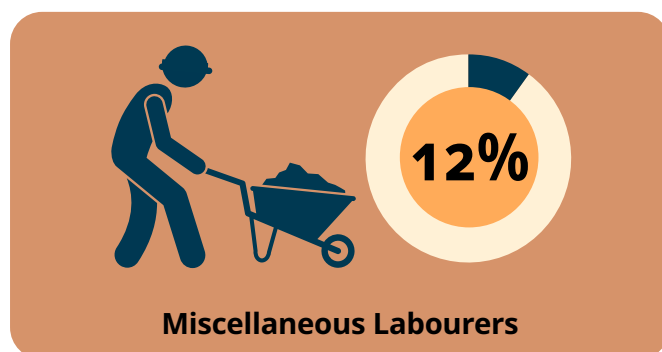


Injured worker demographics

Occupational analysis

Miscellaneous Labourers accounted for the largest proportion of workers with serious injuries at 12%. Personal Carers and Assistants were the occupation group with the next largest proportion of serious injuries at 10%, followed by Cleaners and Laundry Workers at 5%.

Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries



Workers in the 55-64 age group had the highest serious injury frequency rate of all age groups.

Miscellaneous Labourers make up the largest proportion of injured workers in 2023, at 12% of the total.

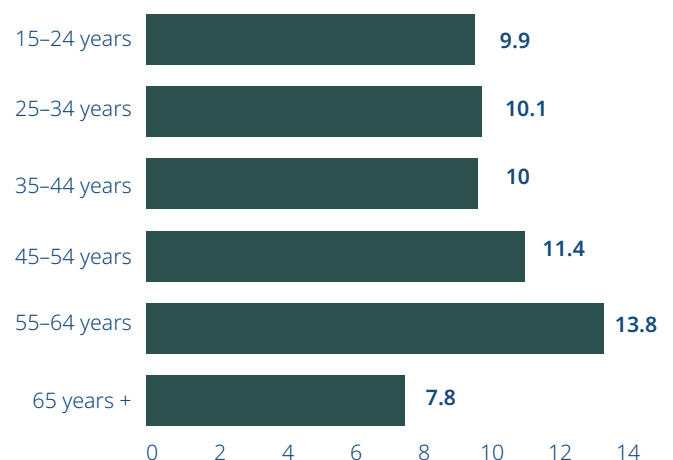
Health Care and Social Assistance is the industry division that reported the highest number of serious injuries. Public Administration and Safety reported the highest serious injury frequency rate.

At an industry group level, workers in Residential Care Services make up 9% of all injuries, the highest proportion of all industry groups.

Age group analysis

Workers in the 55-64 age group had the highest serious injury frequency rate at 13.8 serious injuries per million hours worked. This was followed by workers in the 45-54 year age group with a serious injury frequency rate of 11.4 injuries per million hours worked. The serious injury frequency rate for the other age groups were lower, ranging from 7.8 to 10.0 injuries per million hours worked (see Figure 7 below).

Figure 7. Serious injury frequency rate by age group



Employment Analysis

Around 83% of injured workers were permanent workers, 14% were casual and the remainder under other arrangements (including temporary visas). This proportion changes significantly when considering contracted hours, with almost a third of part-time workers employed on a casual basis, compared to just 6% of full-time workers.

At an industry level, employment status has a pronounced impact in some divisions. Casual workers were more likely than their permanent counterparts to get injured across Accommodation and Food Services, Administration and Support Services, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, Construction, Manufacturing and Retail Trade. This may be due to the use of labour hire and seasonal workers in these industries.

In contrast, permanent workers were more represented in Health Care and Social Assistance, Public Administration and Safety and in Retail Trade. Overall, part-time workers were a large proportion of injured workers across many industries.



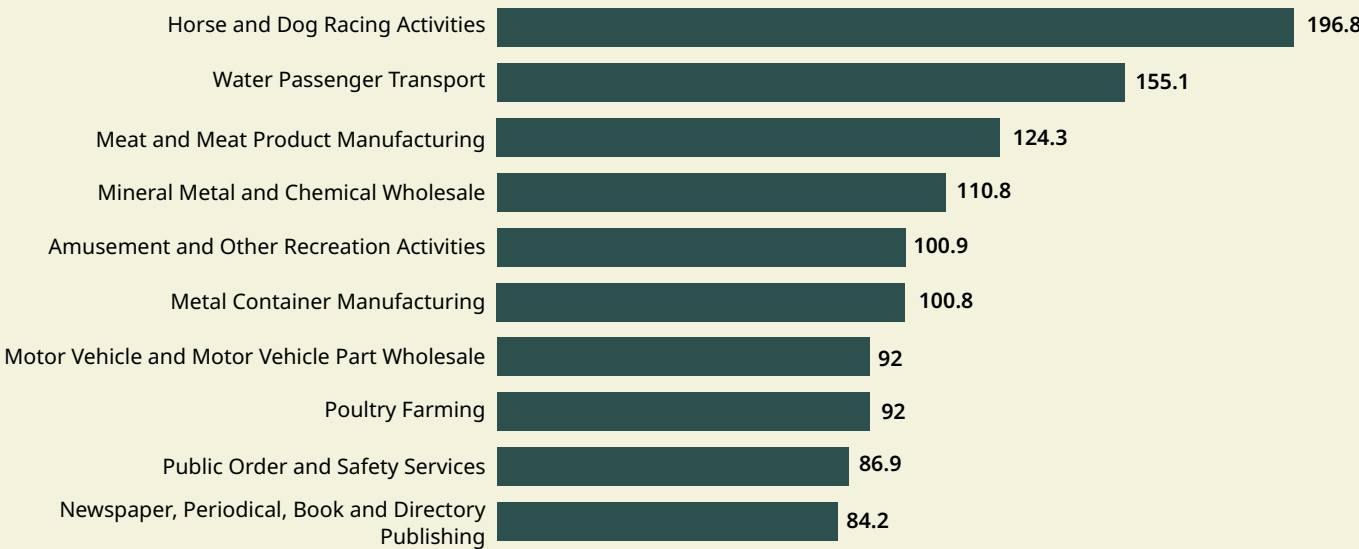
Industry analysis

At an industry division level, Health Care and Social Assistance reported the highest number of injuries but Public Administration and Safety reported highest serious injury frequency rate, as shown in Figure 4 (see page 9).

Breaking down to the more specific industry group level, in terms of injury numbers, Residential Care Services reported the highest number of serious injuries of all industry groups, accounting for 9% of total serious injuries for the year.

In terms of serious injury frequency rates, Horse and Dog Racing reported the highest serious injury frequency rate, followed by Water Passenger Transport. Many industry groups have a small number of workers, so small variations in injury numbers or injury severity can result in a high serious injury frequency rate. The industry groups with the ten highest serious injury frequency rates are shown in Figure 8 below.

Figure 8. Ten highest serious injury frequency rates by industry group



Injury causes

The most common cause of serious injury in 2023 was Body stressing, including Muscular stress while handling objects without lifting, carrying or putting down objects, and incidents involving Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects.

This was followed by Mental stress, Falls, trips and slips of a person, and Being hit by moving objects (including assaults).

Mental stress is now the second most common cause of serious injury, having increased from the fourth most common cause five years ago.

35%

of serious injuries in 2023 were caused by body stressing

Mental stress has increased

95%

over the past ten years



Mental Stress

was the second most common cause of serious injury in 2023



Most common causes of injury

At the broadest level, *Body stressing* was the most common serious injury cause, resulting in 35% of all serious injuries in 2023.

Mental stress and *Falls, trips and slips* of a person were the next two most common causes of serious injury, making up 19% and 17% respectively of the serious injuries in 2023.

At a more detailed mechanism class level, *Muscular stress while handling objects other than lifting, carrying or putting down* was the most common cause of serious injuries (14%) followed by *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* (12%). *Falls on the same level* was the next most common injury cause, resulting in 11% of all serious injuries.

These top three classes of injury causes accounted for 38% of all serious injuries.

Trends in injury cause

In 2023, *Body stressing* accounted for 35% of serious injuries, followed by *Mental stress* at 18%.

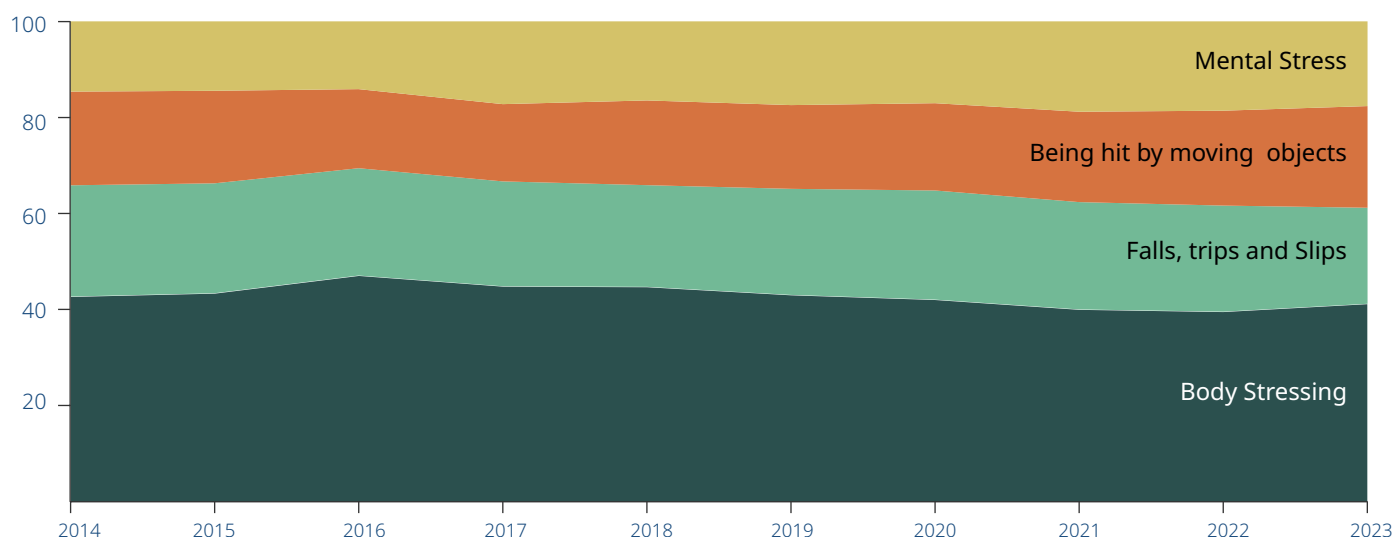
The next most common causes of serious injury were *Mental stress* and *Being hit by moving objects*.

Mental stress serious injuries have increased the most in percentage terms between 2014 and 2023, increasing 95% over the ten year period. In 2023, 18% of all serious injuries were *Mental stress* related, compared to 12% in 2014.

Body stressing returned to a similar proportion of serious injuries as it represented in 2014 (see Figure 9).

Falls, slips and trips of a person and *Being hit by moving objects* both made up a similar proportion of injuries in 2023 compared to 2014.

Figure 9. Trends in percentages of the serious injuries represented by the most common injury causes 2014–2023



Trends in the most common injury causes

Body stressing

The most common serious *Body stressing* injury was *Muscular stress while handling objects without lifting, carrying or putting down* (41% of all *Body stressing* injuries in 2023).

Ten year trends show a slight decreasing trend in *Repetitive movement low muscle loading* and *Muscular stress while lifting, carrying or putting down objects* as a proportion of *Body stressing* injuries. This corresponds with an increase in the proportion represented by *Muscular stress with no objects being handled*, from 13% ten years ago to 15% in 2023.

Falls, trips and slips of a person

Falls on the same level makes up the majority of *Falls, trips and slips* of a person serious injuries. In 2023, 67% of serious injuries in this mechanism could attributed to *Falls on the same level*. *Falls from a height* made up a further 19% with the remaining 14% made up of *Stepping, kneeling or sitting on objects*. Ten year trends show a marked decrease in *Falls from a height* injuries in recent years, decreasing from 25% of *Falls, trips and slips of a person* injuries ten years ago.

Mental stress

Work pressure and *Work related harassment and/or workplace bullying* were the two most common causes of *Mental stress* serious injuries. Two thirds of all *Mental stress* injuries in 2023 were caused by either *Work pressure* or *Work related harassment and/or workplace bullying*.

Ten year trends show a notable increases in *Work pressure* as a proportion of *Mental stress* injuries.

Work pressure was the leading cause of *Mental stress* injury in 2023, making up 35% of *Mental stress* injuries. This was an increase from the 23% of *Mental stress* injuries attributed to *Work pressure* in 2014. In terms of injury numbers, there were over 3.5 times as many *Work pressure* injuries in 2023 as occurred in 2014. *Work pressure* includes stress arising from workload, deadlines and responsibilities, conflict with peers and supervisors, performance management etc.

Work related harassment and/or workplace bullying has varied between 29% and 42% of serious *Mental stress* injuries each year in the past ten years. It peaked in 2019 with the two most recent years having decreased slightly to more average levels of around 33%-of serious *Mental stress* injuries attributable to this class.

Repetitive movement injuries made up a 19% smaller proportion of body stressing injuries than ten years ago



Muscular stress while handling objects without lifting, carrying or putting down is the main cause of serious body stressing injuries



67% of falls, trips and slips of a person are falls on the same level



35% of Mental Stress injuries resulted from work pressure making it the most common cause of Mental stress injury



Work related harassment and/or workplace bullying made up

34% of mental stress injuries in 2023

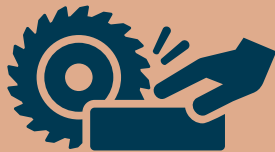


Being hit by moving objects

Being hit by moving objects as an injury class was the most common serious injury in the *Being hit by moving objects* injury mechanism division. It accounted for 30% of all serious *Being hit by moving objects* injuries in 2023.

The second most common serious injury in this mechanism division was *Being assaulted by a person or persons* (26%). In the past ten years, this class has increased 18% as a proportion of *Being hit by moving objects* incidents. *Being hit by falling objects* has decreased in the past ten years from 18% to 14% of *Being hit by moving objects* serious injuries. There has been a corresponding increase in the proportion of *Being trapped between moving and stationary objects* injuries.

15%



of being hit by moving objects injuries

result from being trapped between stationary, moving objects such as doors, windows, moving parts of equipments and piles of objects

Injuries caused by being assaulted by a person or persons have increased by

61%

in the last ten years



The following pages present summary snapshots, all available as individual printable files on the Worksafe Tasmania website. The first presents statewide analysis, the remainder are focussed on each of the 19 industry divisions found in Tasmania.

In its Strategic Plan 2018-2023, WorkSafe Tasmania has identified eight of these industries as high priority industries based on a number of factors including injury frequency, safety performance and the undertaking of high risk activities. These high priority industries are:

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- Construction
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Manufacturing
- Mining
- Public Administration and Safety
- Retail Trade
- Transport, Postal and Warehousing (specifically Road Transport).

The snapshots provide a summary of key workforce and injury facts for each of the 19 industry divisions. The eight high priority industry divisions are presented first in detailed posters, followed by postcards containing key facts for the remaining 11 divisions.



Industry Performance

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce

Industries divided into 19 divisions.

	Accommodation and Food Services.....	7%
	Administrative and Support Services.....	6%
	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.....	5%
	Arts and Recreation Services.....	1%
	Construction.....	9%
	Education and Training.....	9%
	Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services.....	2%
	Financial and Insurance Services.....	2%
	Health Care and Social Assistance.....	17%
	Information Media and Telecommunications...	<1%
	Manufacturing.....	9%
	Mining.....	1%
	Other Services.....	4%
	Professional, Scientific and Technical Services....	6%
	Public Administration and Safety.....	6%
	Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services.....	2%
	Retail Trade.....	9%
	Transport, Postal and Warehousing.....	4%
	Wholesale Trade.....	3%

17% of Tasmanian workers are employed in **Health Care and Social Assistance** making it the largest employing industry in the state

Statewide hours worked have increased in recent years



Rental, Hiring and Real Estate are the industries with the largest increase in hours



Information Media and Telecommunications has seen the largest decrease in hours worked



1 in 4

workers seriously injured in 2023 worked in Health Care and Assistance



► The people

55–64 year olds

reported the highest serious injury frequency rate of all age groups

Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

12% Miscellaneous Labourers



10% Personal Carers and Assistants



5% Cleaners and Laundry Workers



Mining

reported the biggest increase in serious injury frequency rate in ten years



Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

reported the biggest decrease in serious injury frequency rate in ten years



► The injuries

8177 injuries across the industry in 2023
4179 serious injuries

51% of injuries in 2023 resulted in at least one week off compared to 36% ten years ago



10.6
serious injuries per million hours worked in 2023

77
work related deaths in the last ten years
54 workers
23 bystanders

Serious injury frequency rate increased slightly
from 9.8 to 10.6
serious injuries per million hours worked over the past ten years



► The causes

The most common causes of serious injury across the state:



1 Body Stressing



3 Falls, slips and trips



2 Mental Stress



4 Being hit by moving objects

► Action areas

Priority conditions and causes identified in the WorkSafe Strategic Plan 2018–2023:

Musculo-skeletal Disorders



Slips, Trips and Falls



Asbestos-related diseases



Hazardous Manual Tasks



Safe movement of vehicles and plant



Mental Health Conditions



Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into 15 groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming
2. Fruit and Tree Nut Growing
3. Aquaculture

► The people

Poultry Farming

reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at 80 serious injuries per million hours worked



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

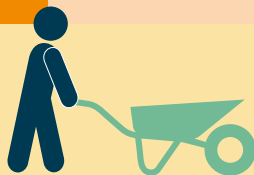
40%

Farm, Forestry and Garden Workers



17%

Farmers and Farm Managers



► The injuries

496

injuries across the industry in 2023
280 serious injuries

13.6

serious injuries per million hours worked
28% higher than the state average

6%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

16

work related deaths
in the past ten years:
14 workers, 2 bystanders

► The causes



1 **Body Stressing**



2 **Being hit by moving objects**



3 **Falls, slips and trips**

Construction

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into eight groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Building Installation Services
2. Building Completion Services
3. Residential Building Construction

► The people

Non-residential Building Construction had the highest serious injury frequency rate with **30.2 serious injuries per million hours worked**



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

25%

Bricklayers, Carpenters and Joiners



17%

Miscellaneous Labourers



► The injuries

822

injuries across the industry in 2023
453 serious injuries

14.2

serious injuries per million hours worked
34% higher than the state average

41%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

6

work related worker deaths
in the past ten years

► The causes



1 Body Stressing



2 Falls, slips and trips



3 Being hit by moving objects

Health Care and Social Assistance

Industry Snapshot 2023

▶ The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into eight groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Hospitals
2. Other Social Assistance Services
3. Allied Health Services

▶ The people

1 in 3

serious injuries occurred in Residential Care Services



Residential Care Services reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at 48.6 serious injuries per millions hours worked.

Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

36%

Personal Carers and Assistants

15%

Midwifery and Nursing Professionals



▶ The injuries

1835

injuries across the industry in 2023
1080 serious injuries

16.8

serious injuries per million hours worked
58% higher than the state average

23%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

▶ The causes



1 Body Stressing



2 Mental stress

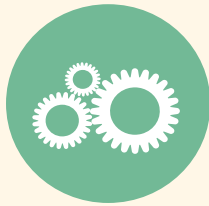


3 Being hit by moving objects

Manufacturing

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into 60 groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Dairy Product Manufacturing
2. Bakery Product Manufacturing
3. Beverage Manufacturing

► The people

Metal Container Manufacturing

reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at

58.8 serious injuries per million hours worked



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

15% Food Process Workers

14% Miscellaneous Labourers



► The injuries

957

injuries across the industry in 2023
400 serious injuries

12.0

serious injuries per million hours worked
13% higher than the state average

10%

lower serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

2

work related worker deaths
in the past ten years



► The causes



1 Body Stressing



2 Being hit by moving objects



3 Falls, slips and trips

Mining

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into ten groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Metal Ore Mining
2. Other Mining Support Services
3. Exploration

► The people

Other mining support services

reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at 23.5 serious injuries per million hours worked



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

46%

Miscellaneous Labourers

11%

Stationary Plant Operators



► The injuries

113

injuries across the industry in 2023
35 serious injuries

7.8

serious injuries per million hours worked
27% lower than the state average

85%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

3

work related worker deaths
in the past ten years

► The causes



1 **Body Stressing**



2 **Being hit by moving objects**



3 **Falls, slips and trips**

Public Administration and Safety

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into eight groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. State Government Administration
2. Central Government Administration
3. Public Order and Safety Services

► The people

State Government Administration

reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at

37.9 serious injuries per million hours worked



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

22%

Firefighters and Police

18%

Prison and Security Officers



► The injuries

829

injuries across the industry in 2023
384 serious injuries

17.4

serious injuries per million hours worked
64% higher than the state average - the highest of all industries

6%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

5

work related worker deaths
in the past ten years:
4 workers, 1 bystanders



► The causes



1 Mental stress



2 Body Stressing



3 Being hit by moving objects

Retail Trade

Industry Snapshot 2023

▶ The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into 14 groups. The three largest employing groups are:

- 1. Supermarket and Grocery Stores
- 2. Pharmaceutical and Other Store-Based Retailing
- 3. Specialised Food Retailing

▶ The people

Motor vehicle parts and tyre retailing reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at 12.2 serious injuries per million hours worked



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries



31%

Sales Assistants and Salespersons

19%

Storepersons



▶ The injuries

414

injuries across the industry in 2023
219 serious injuries

5.8

serious injuries per million hours worked
46% lower than the state average



10%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

5

work related worker deaths in the past ten years



▶ The causes



1 Body Stressing



2 Falls, slips and trips



3 Being hit by moving objects

Transport, Postal and Warehousing

Industry Snapshot 2023

► The workforce



This industry covers a wide range of activities, separated into eight groups. The three largest employing groups are:

1. Road Freight Transport
2. Road Passenger Transport
3. Postal and Courier Pick-up and Delivery Services

► The people

Water Passenger Transport reported the highest serious injury frequency rate at **64.6 serious injuries per million hours worked**



Occupations with the highest percentage of serious injuries

25%

Truck Drivers



18%

Automobile, Bus and Rail Drivers



► The injuries

313

injuries across the industry in 2023
239 serious injuries

13.7

serious injuries per million hours worked
30% higher than the state average



21%

higher serious injury frequency
rate in 2023 than ten years ago

29

work related worker deaths
in the past ten years:
17 workers, 12 bystanders



► The causes



1 Mental stress



2 Body Stressing



3 Being hit by moving objects

Industry analysis:

Other industries

This section presents a summary of key workforce and injury facts for each of the 11 industry divisions not identified as focus industries in the WorkSafe Tasmania Strategic Plan 2018-2023.

Industries in this section are:

- Accommodation and Food Services
- Administrative and Support Services
- Arts and Recreation Services
- Education and Training
- Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services
- Financial and Insurance Services
- Information Media and Telecommunications
- Other Services
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services
- Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services
- Wholesale Trade.



Accommodation and Food Services



350

injuries in the industry
in 2023
165 serious injuries

5.8

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
45% lower than the state
average

2%

**lower serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

1

**work related
worker death**
in the past ten years

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



2. Falls, slips and trips



**3. Hitting objects with
the part of the body**



Administrative and Support Services



233

injuries in the industry
in 2023
120 serious injuries

8.8

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
17% lower than the state
average

25%

**lower serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2022 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



**2. Being hit by moving
objects**



3. Falls, slips and trips



Arts and Recreation Services



206

injuries in the industry
in 2023
81 serious injuries

16

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
43% higher than the state
average

51%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

1

**work related
worker death**
in the past ten years

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



2. Falls, slips and trips



3. Mental Stress



Education and Training



688

injuries in the industry
in 2023
297 serious injuries

7.3

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
31% lower than the state
average

3%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

6

**work related
bystander deaths**
in the past ten years

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Mental Stress



2. Body stressing



3. Falls, slips and trips



Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services



116

injuries in the industry
in 2023
58 serious injuries

8.3

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
22% lower than the state
average

49%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

2

**work related
bystander deaths**
in the past ten years

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Mental Stress



**2. Vehicle incident and
others**



3. Body stressing



Financial and Insurance Services



23

injuries in the industry
in 2023
12 serious injuries

1.9

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
82% lower than the state
average

33%

**lower serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Mental Stress



2. Falls, slips and trips



3. Body stressing



Information Media and Telecommunications



16

injuries in the industry
in 2023
10 serious injuries

5.3

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
50% lower than the state
average

51%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Mental Stress



**2. Vehicle incident and
others**



3. Body stressing



Other Services



243

injuries in the industry
in 2023
147 serious injuries

8.9

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
6% lower than the state
average

1%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

1

**work related
worker deaths**
in the past ten years

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



**2. Being hit by moving
objects**



3. Mental Stress



Professional, Scientific and Technical Services



136

injuries in the industry
in 2023
12 serious injuries

2.4

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
78% lower than the state
average

45%

**lower serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Mental Stress



2. Body stressing



3. Falls, slips and trips



Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services



43

injuries in the industry
in 2023
21 serious injuries

3.9

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
70% lower than the state
average

62%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



2. Mental Stress



3. Falls, slips and trips



Wholesale Trade



252

injuries in the industry in
2023
119 serious injuries

10.4

**serious injuries per
million hours worked**
1% lower than the state
average

46%

**higher serious injury
frequency**
rate in 2023 than ten
years ago

Most common causes of serious injury:

1. Body stressing



**2. Being hit by moving
objects**



3. Falls, slips and trips



Action areas

As part of its Strategic Plan 2018-2023, WorkSafe Tasmania is working to reduce harm in Tasmanian workplaces through targeted harm reduction programs. This includes targeting priority industries and high consequence activities, and focusing on priority conditions and their causes.

All workplaces around the state should expect increased engagement with WorkSafe Tasmania through a range of avenues.

Priority areas

WorkSafe Tasmania will target the following priority conditions and causes of injury identified in the Strategic Plan 2018-2023.







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