

Forecast of serious injury claims 2021-22

Internal OIR analysis to compliment figures published by Safe Work Australia in the annual Comparative Performance Monitoring Report

This report provides more up-to-date data than the information published in the most recent Comparative Performance Monitoring Report 23rd Edition (CPM 23 Part 1 – published by Safe Work Australia in January 2023).

Forecast as at January 2023

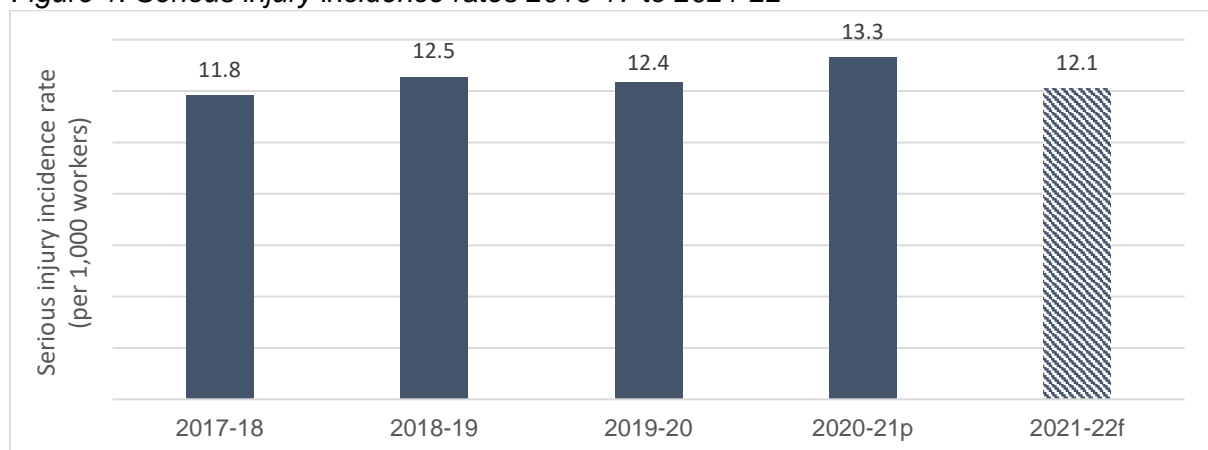
Internal Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) claims forecasts show that for 2021-22 the serious injury incidence rate (per 1,000 workers) as measured by Safe Work Australia (SWA) will decrease in Queensland compared with the financial year 2020-21. OIR expects to see a decrease in the serious claim rate for Queensland in 2021-22 to the order of 9.1 per cent after an increase of 7.7 percent in 2020-21. The rates each year are shown in table 1 below.

Table1: Serious claims numbers and incidence rates 2017-18 to 2020-21

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21p	2021-22f
Workers ('000)	2,279.3	2,300.3	2,325.7	2,420.0	2,538.5
No. Claims	26,967	28,865	28,730	32,191	30,701
Rate (per 1,000 workers)	11.8	12.5	12.4	13.3	12.1
Annual rate % change	0.8%	6.1%	-1.6%	7.7%	-9.1%

Serious claims forecasts are up to date for the 2021-22 lodgement year as at 31 December 2023. These forecasts have been produced by OIR and are comparable to Safe Work Australia Comparative Performance Monitoring Report. They may differ with Safe Work Australia published rates due to ABS adjustments to the labour force figures (which are used as the denominator when calculating rates) and Safe Work Australia adjustments to claims data to make it standardised across jurisdictions.

Figure 1: Serious injury incidence rates 2016-17 to 2021-22



Injury rates published by Safe Work Australia for 2020-21 are considered preliminary and may change on subsequent publications. Safe Work Australia collects the information nine months after the end of lodgement year to allow for claim development. In addition, there are further adjustments made by Safe Work Australia to the number of employees covered (denominator) which is based on the labour force survey and survey of employee earnings and hours.

Similar to the overall serious injury incidence rate for Queensland, the majority of significant industries are forecasted to have decreased in 2021-22. There are three exceptions; Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing, which is expected to increase (12.0 per cent) Wholesale trade, which is expected to increase (13.1 per cent), while Construction is expected to remain steady in the serious injury incidence rate for 2021-22.

Figure 2. Serious claim incidence rate forecasts by priority industry

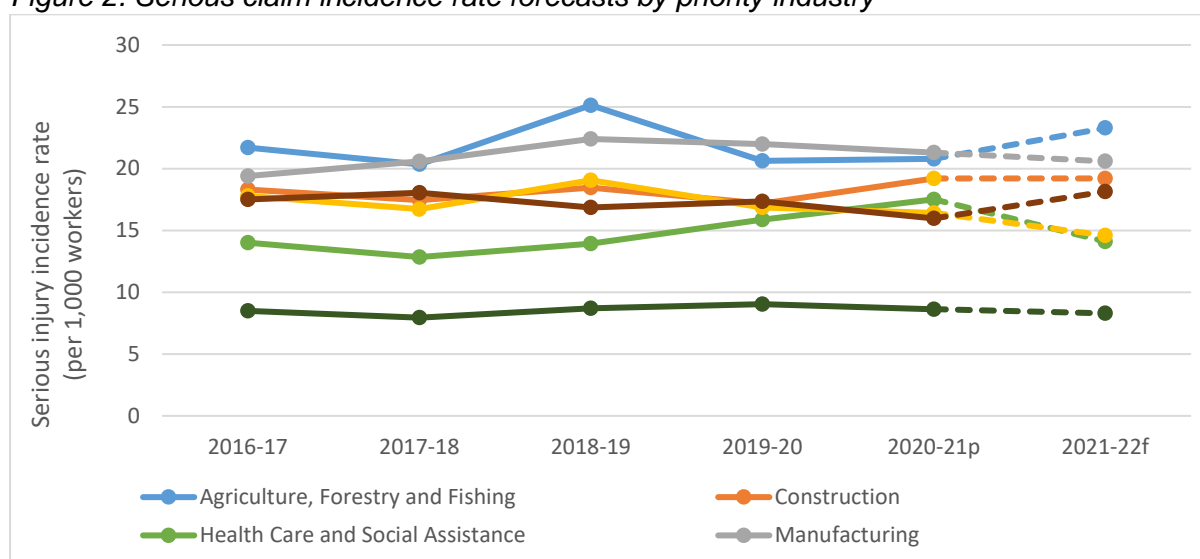


Table 2 shows the overall change in serious injury incidence rate for significant industries between 2015-16 and the OIR forecasted 2020-21 period. Over this period, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing experienced the largest increase in the incident rate of serious injuries at 14.8 per cent, while Transport, Postal and Warehousing recorded largest decrease with 12.6 per cent.

Table 2. Queensland serious injury incidence rates by Industry (per 1,000 workers)

Industry Sector	2017-18	2021-22f	Annual average	% change 2017-18 to 2021-22f
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	20.3	23.3	22.0	14.8%
Construction	17.4	19.2	18.3	10.3%
Health Care and Social Assistance	12.8	14.1	14.9	10.2%
Manufacturing	20.6	20.6	21.4	0.0%
Retail Trade	7.9	8.3	8.5	5.1%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	16.7	14.6	16.7	-12.6%
Wholesale Trade	18.1	18.1	17.3	0.0%
Other industries	9.0	8.8	9.2	-2.2%
Total	11.8	12.1	12.4	2.5%



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