

## Forecast of serious injury claims up to 2021-22

# Internal Office of Industrial Relations analysis to compliment figures published by Safe Work Australia in the annual Comparative Performance Monitoring Report

This report provides up-to-date data to complement the information published in the Comparative Performance Monitoring Report 23rd Edition (CPM 23 Part 1 – published by Safe Work Australia in November 2021).

*Forecast as at April 2022*

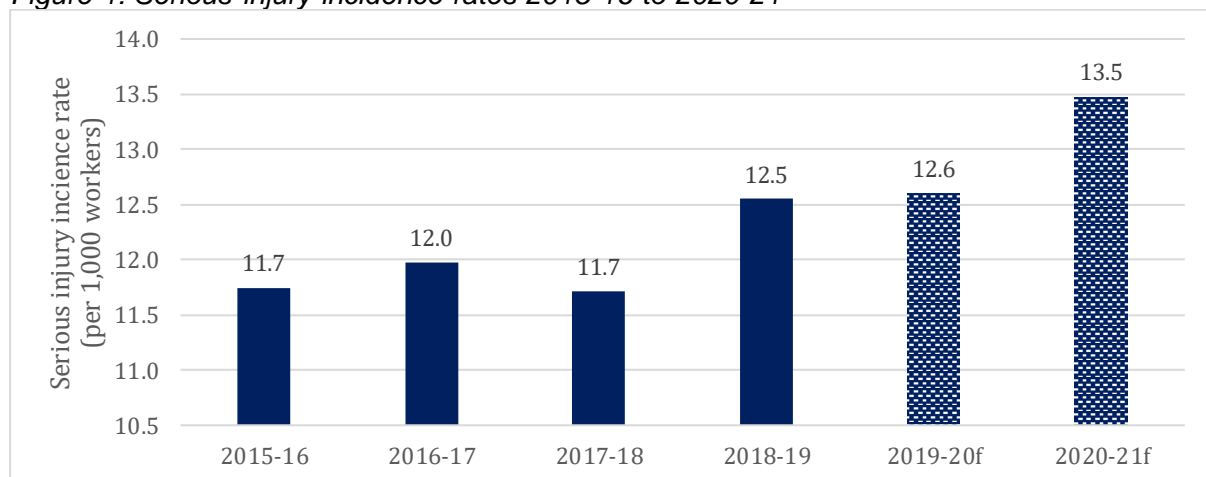
Internal Office of Industrial Relations (OIR) claims forecasts show that for 2019-20 and 2020-21 the serious injury incidence rate (per 1,000 workers) as defined by Safe Work Australia (SWA) will increase in Queensland compared with the financial year 2018-19. This increase is expected to be 0.4 per cent in 2019-20 and 6.9 per cent in 2020-21. The rates each year are shown in table 1 below.

*Table 1: Serious claims numbers and incidence rates 2015-16 to 2020-21*

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20f	2020-21f
<b>Workers ('000)</b>	2,165.1	2,180.2	2,279.3	2,300.3	2,325.7	2,392.3
<b>No. Claims</b>	25,425	26,097	26,702	28,865	29,305	32,233
<b>Rate (per 1,000 workers)</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>13.5</b>
<b>Annual rate % change</b>		1.9%	-2.1%	7.1%	0.4%	6.9%

Serious claims forecasts for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 lodgement years are current to 30 April 2022. 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 2015-16 to 2020-21*



OIR are unable to forecast injury rates for the 2021-22 lodgement year as the claims data is largely underdeveloped and unreported at this time. Safe Work Australia collects the information nine months after the end of lodgement year to allow for claim development. In addition, Safe Work Australia makes further adjustments to the number of employees covered (denominator) which is based on the labour force survey and survey of employee earnings and hours.

The serious injury rate for the Office of Industrial Relations priority industries are also forecasted to have increased in 2020-21 with the exception of manufacturing, which is expected to decrease (6.1 per cent) retail trade, which is expected to decrease (6.0 per cent) and wholesale trade which is expected to decrease (8.9 per cent) over 2020-21.

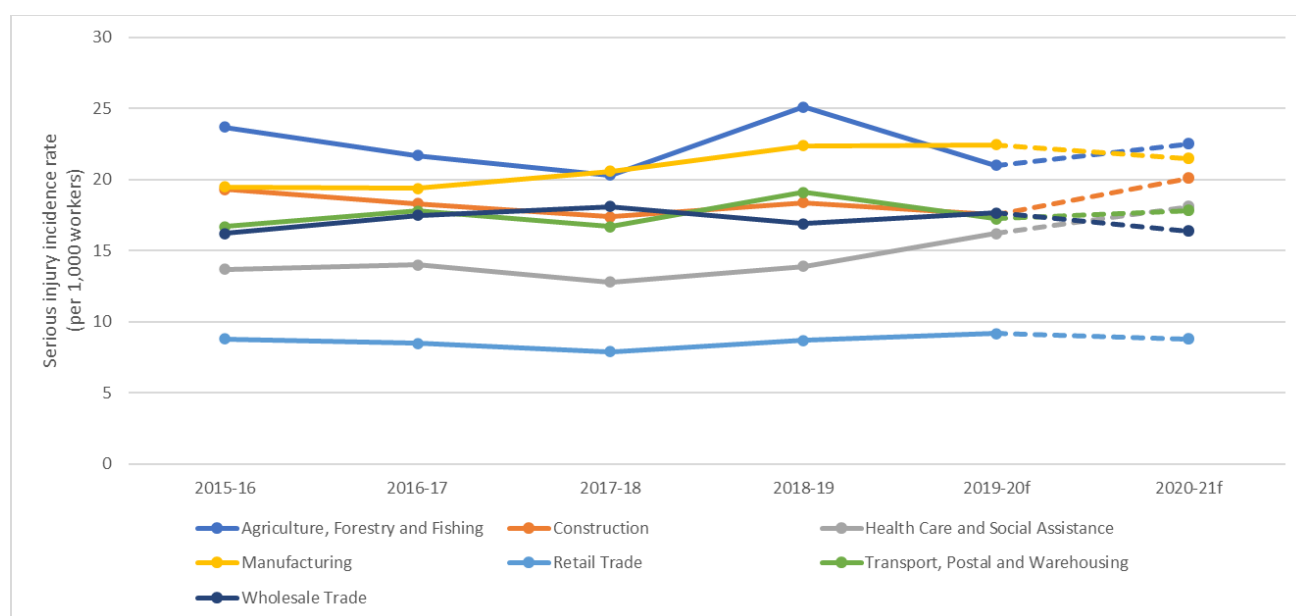


Figure 2. Serious injury incidence rate forecasts by priority industry.

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, Health Care and Social Assistance experienced the largest increase in the incident rate of serious injuries at 29.2 per cent, while Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing recorded largest decrease with 6.3 per cent.

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

Industry sector	2015-16	2020-21f	Annual average	% change 2015-16 to 2020-21f
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	23.7	22.5	22.4	-5.1%
Construction	19.3	20.1	18.5	4.1%
Health Care and Social Assistance	13.7	18.1	14.8	32.1%
Manufacturing	19.5	21.5	21.0	10.3%
Retail Trade	8.8	8.8	8.6	0.0%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	16.7	17.8	17.6	6.6%
Wholesale Trade	16.2	16.4	17.1	1.2%
Other industries	7.9	8.7	8.1	10.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>15.4%</b>



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