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## Workplace injuries and deaths in Australia

### The Facts

- The most dangerous state to work in over the past five years was a close tie between Queensland and Tasmania, while Victoria had the least number of claims on a per capita basis.
- In 2012, there were over 210 traumatic workplace deaths, so far this year there are 118. However, these figures often take a while to be updated so it could be higher.
- Including work-related diseases such as chemical exposure and asbestos the death toll for Australian workers could be up to a staggering 7000 people per year according to Safe Work Australia.
- Transport and storage recorded the highest number of traumatic workplace fatalities in 2012 which is 74 in total.
- Finance and insurance workers are among the safest.
- Bullying remains under-regulated and affects both men and women causing long term physiological issues and in the worst case, death.
- On average men's claims cost around \$105,000, while for women it's about \$89,600 per claim.
- Claims in 2012 year cost the Australian economy \$60.6 billion.
- 63 workplace 'bystanders' were killed in 2012.

Top 3 most dangerous industries (based on number of claims) for men and women:

Men	Women
Manufacturing (16,795)	Health and Community Services (14,340)
Construction (12,570)	Retail Trade (5,975)
Transport and Storage (8,460)	Education (4,525)

The workplace death toll for the past two years:

Industry of workplace	Traumatic Worker deaths 2012
Transport, postal & warehousing	74
Agriculture, forestry & fishing	50
Construction	23
Manufacturing	17
Administrative & support services	7
Public administration & safety	6
Arts & recreation services	6
Mining <sup>b</sup>	5
Electricity, gas, water & waste services	4
Education & training	3
Health care & social assistance	2

Top 3 body location of injury/disease:

- Back
- Hand, finger, thumb
- Shoulder

Top mechanisms of injury/disease:

- Muscular stress while lifting
- Muscular stress while handling objects

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