

# Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate



The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) is measured as the number of lost time claims per million hours worked<sup>1</sup> and allows analysis of the number of lost time claims without the distorting effects of the size of the workforce. Larger industries with many workers would expect to report more claims than an industry with few workers; by viewing claims occurrence as a ratio to the number of hours worked within the industry, a comparison of the relative performance of industries can be made.

Lost time claims are those claims where an income replacement payment has been made, indicating the injured worker has had time off work due to the injury. Injuries involving lost time can be viewed as being more serious injuries.

The table below shows the Tasmanian LTIFR for each industry division<sup>2</sup> for the financial years 2001-02 to 2006-07.

Table 1. LTIFR – Claims per million hours worked

| Industry                              | Report Year |             |             |             |             |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                       | 2001-02     | 2002-03     | 2003-04     | 2004-05     | 2005-06     | 2006-07     |
| Manufacturing                         | 28.2        | 28.5        | 27.8        | 25.5        | 24.7        | 26.0        |
| Government administration and defence | 12.4        | 21.0        | 25.8        | 19.5        | 20.7        | 22.3        |
| Health and community services         | 21.2        | 21.4        | 19.7        | 21.9        | 22.4        | 20.7        |
| Construction                          | 19.8        | 21.6        | 26.2        | 26.9        | 22.5        | 20.3        |
| Agriculture, fishing and hunting      | 19.7        | 21.0        | 26.0        | 20.6        | 14.0        | 18.9        |
| Personal and other services           | 11.6        | 15.3        | 13.5        | 16.6        | 15.8        | 17.1        |
| Forestry                              | 31.4        | 31.2        | 24.6        | 16.4        | 14.4        | 16.6        |
| Transport and storage                 | 23.2        | 19.5        | 20.5        | 24.4        | 21.1        | 14.2        |
| Mining                                | 38.0        | 32.4        | 20.2        | 15.0        | 22.4        | 12.3        |
| Education                             | 20.3        | 12.2        | 12.8        | 15.5        | 13.9        | 11.9        |
| Wholesale trade                       | 7.7         | 7.8         | 12.1        | 15.4        | 13.5        | 11.9        |
| Retail trade                          | 11.2        | 11.6        | 10.3        | 10.1        | 11.8        | 10.3        |
| Property and business services        | 13.2        | 13.1        | 9.5         | 11.0        | 14.6        | 10.2        |
| Accommodation, cafes and restaurants  | 11.2        | 10.9        | 11.3        | 10.3        | 9.4         | 8.2         |
| Communication services                | 9.0         | 12.4        | 10.9        | 10.1        | 10.1        | 6.2         |
| Cultural and recreational services    | 11.1        | 6.9         | 10.6        | 8.8         | 9.0         | 6.0         |
| Finance and insurance                 | 3.7         | 4.6         | 6.2         | 7.4         | 6.3         | 4.6         |
| Electricity, gas and water supply     | 3.1         | 5.5         | 4.6         | 5.0         | 5.2         | 3.4         |
| <b>All industries</b>                 | <b>17.1</b> | <b>17.0</b> | <b>17.1</b> | <b>17.1</b> | <b>16.6</b> | <b>15.3</b> |

The all industries LTIFR for 2006-07 was 15.3 lost time claims per million hours worked. There has been a downward trend in the all industries LTIFR with a 10.5% decrease since 2001-02. However, this improvement in LTIFR is much less than the ACFR for the same period, indicating that the reduction in minor injuries has been greater than the reduction in the more serious injuries.

*Manufacturing* has the highest LTIFR of all industries, which increased between 2005-06 and 2006-07 reversing the downward trend of previous years. *Forestry* also recorded an increase in 2006-07 compared with the previous year, but overall since 2001-02 the *Forestry* LTIFR has nearly halved.

The LTIFR for the *Mining* industry has decreased significantly during the period, falling from 38.0 to 12.3 lost time claims per million hours worked – a reduction of around 68%, and a shift from being the highest of all industries to less than the all industries average.

The LTIFR for the *Government administration & defence* and *Personal & other services* industries have been trending upwards since 2001-02, while the LTIFR for *Transport & storage* has been trending downwards in recent years. The LTIFR for *Agriculture, Fishing & Hunting* increased in 2006-07 after strong declines in the previous two years.

<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics denominator data, based on Labour Force Survey and Survey of Employment and Earnings data.

<sup>2</sup> Industries have been classified in accordance with the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 1993 (ANZSIC). However, the Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry division has been split into two industries (Forestry and Agriculture, fishing and Hunting) in this report. This has been done to enable analysis of the Forestry industry which is a significant industry within Tasmania.