



IRIS Regional Score Cards use subsets of accident year (AY) 2005-2015 claims data from CWCI's Industry Research Information System (IRIS) database to measure and analyze various aspects of claims experience within 8 regions of California. Over the next few months, CWCI will issue Score Cards for all 8 regions of the state, each profiling claimant characteristics and showing distributions of claims within the region broken out by industry sector; premium size; claim type; common "nature" and "cause" of injury categories; and primary diagnoses. Several exhibits compare results for the highlighted region against all other regions in the state, and in many cases the exhibits also show the statewide results, providing a wealth of detailed data not only on claims within the region, but within all of California.

The first Score Card in the series focused on claims filed by residents of the largest county in the state, Los Angeles County. This second Score Card focuses on claims filed by residents of the "Inland Empire" counties of San Bernardino and Riverside, east of Los Angeles, as well as Orange and Imperial Counties, south of Los Angeles. For the purpose of this Score Card, these counties will be collectively referred to as the "Inland Empire/Orange County." The Score Card notes that 19% of California workers' compensation claims are filed by residents of this region, while benefit payments on those claims account for 21% of total workers' compensation paid losses in the state.

A list of the exhibits included in the Score Card is provided below. Click the title to go directly to an exhibit.

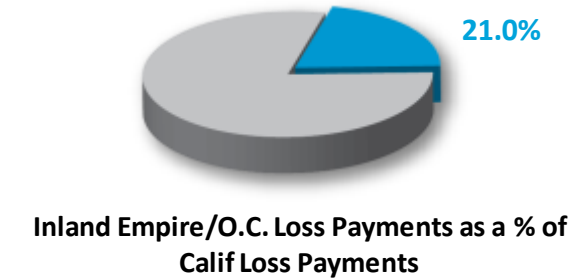
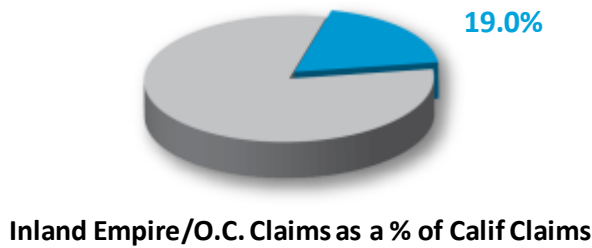
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Regional Claim and Payment Distributions

AY 2005 – AY 2015 Claims



Region	% of Claims	% of Payments
Los Angeles County	25.6%	31.9%
Inland Empire/O.C.	19.0%	21.0%
Valleys	18.1%	15.0%
Bay Area	17.5%	15.4%
San Diego	8.1%	6.2%
Central Coast	6.7%	6.3%
North Counties	3.3%	2.5%
Sierras	1.7%	1.7%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%

The IRIS Regional Score Card series analyzes California workers' comp claims data that has been grouped into eight geographic regions based on injured workers' ZIP codes. Each Score Card contains accident year (AY) 2005-2015 claims data compiled from CWCI's Industry Research Information System (IRIS) database, plus IRIS data on prescription drugs filled in calendar year 2014; sleep studies, MRIs/diagnostic tests, and nerve conduction studies from calendar years 2013-2015; and data on claims through 2015 that had lien payments. This Score Card focuses on claims filed by workers from San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange and Imperial Counties, which have a combined population of about 7.8 million people and account for 19% of the California workforce. For the 11-year period covered by the Score Card, the IRIS database captured data on more than 360,000 claims from residents of this region, which represents 19% of the roughly 1.9 million claims in the Score Card sample and 21% of the \$29.5 billion in benefits paid on those claims.

Inland Empire/Orange County Claims as a Percent of All California Claims by Accident Year

AY 2005 – 2015

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Inl Emp/OC	19.4%	19.5%	19.0%	18.6%	18.3%	18.6%	19.0%	18.6%	18.8%	19.6%	18.9%
All Other	80.6%	80.5%	81.0%	81.4%	81.7%	81.4%	81.0%	81.4%	81.2%	80.4%	81.1%

From AY 2005-2015, Inland Empire/Orange Co. residents consistently represented about 1/5 of all California claims.

Claim Distribution by Premium Size – Inland Empire/Orange County vs. Other Regions

AY 2005 – 2015 Claims

	Under \$1,000	\$1,000 to \$9,999	\$10,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$499,999	\$500,000 to \$999,999	Over \$1,000,000
Inland Emp/OC	1.9%	8.6%	17.5%	11.3%	29.4%	10.2%	21.3%
Other Regions	1.9%	9.5%	19.3%	12.2%	30.6%	10.1%	16.5%

The mix of insured claims by premium size shows a smaller share of Inland Empire/Orange County claims involve employers paying less than \$100,000 in annual premium (39.3% vs. 42.9% in other regions), while the percentage of claims against employers paying more than \$1 million in premium is much higher (21.3% vs. 16.5% elsewhere).

**Injured Worker Profile**

AY 2005 – AY 2015 Claims

	Inland Empire/O.C.	All Other	Statewide
Average Age	37.9	38.4	38.3
Average Tenure	4.3	4.7	4.6
Gender			
% Male	63.4%	63.6%	63.5%
% Female	36.6%	36.4%	36.5%
% of Claims			
Statewide	19.0%	81.0%	100.0%
% of Calif WC Translation Services*	10.9%	89.1%	100.0%

* CY 2013-2015 service dates only. Translation services identified by procedure code.

The average age of injured workers from the Inland Empire/Orange County tends to be slightly below the average for injured workers from other regions and their average job tenure is slightly less at the time of injury. From AY 2005 through 2015, the average age for Inland Empire/Orange County injured workers was 37.9 years vs. 38.4 years for claimants from the rest of the state, and their average job tenure at the time of injury was 4.3 years vs. 4.7 years for other areas. The breakdown by gender was virtually identical to that in other regions of the state, with males accounting for nearly two-thirds of the claims from AY 2005-2015. Injured workers who do not speak English may use a translator during medical services. From 2013 through 2015, 10.9% of the translation services used in the California workers' compensation system were for Inland Empire/Orange County residents, which was more than 8 percentage points below the proportion of California claims that came from the region.

Distribution by Industry Sector

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other (AY 2005-2015 Claims)

Industry	Inland Empire/O.C.	All Other	Statewide
Manufacturing	14.9%	12.5%	13.0%
Retail Trade	13.5%	11.4%	11.8%
Health Care	11.6%	12.5%	12.3%
Construction	10.9%	10.3%	10.4%
Clerical Workers	9.0%	6.8%	7.2%
Hotel and Food Services	7.8%	8.9%	8.7%
Transportation & Warehousing	6.0%	5.7%	5.7%
Wholesale Trade	5.1%	4.5%	4.6%
All Other	21.2%	27.4%	26.3%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Nearly 15% of Inland Empire/Orange County injured workers are employed in the manufacturing sector (vs. 12.5% of injured workers from other regions), making this the number one sector for claims in the region. Other sectors where this region has a higher percentage of claims than the rest of the state include retail trade, clerical workers, and wholesale trade. Sectors where the Inland Empire/Orange County has a significantly lower percentage of claims versus the rest of California include health care and hotel and food services. Agriculture claims, included in "All Other," account for 2.5% of the claims in this region (which includes the largely agricultural Imperial County), though that share is significantly below the 7.8 percent of claims from other regions that involve agriculture workers.



Cause of Injury

Claim Distributions for the Inland Empire/Orange County, All Other Regions and Statewide (AY 2005 – 2015 Claims)

Cause of Injury	Percent of Claims		
	Inland Empire/O.C.	All Other Regions	Statewide
Strain/Injury: Lifting	11.4%	10.5%	10.7%
Strain/Injury: Not Otherwise Classified (NOC)	8.5%	9.0%	8.9%
Miscellaneous Cause: Other Injury (NOC)	5.2%	5.6%	5.5%
Fall/Slip: Miscellaneous	4.7%	4.8%	4.8%
Struck/Injured by: Falling or Flying Object	4.5%	4.1%	4.2%
Fall/Slip: On Same Level	4.2%	4.1%	4.2%
Strain/Injury: Pushing or Pulling	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%
Miscellaneous (Cut, Puncture, Scrape)	3.4%	3.2%	3.2%
Struck/Injured by: (NOC)	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%
Repetitive Motion(Carpal Tunnel Syndrome)	2.8%	3.1%	3.1%
All Other	48.1%	48.7%	48.4%

The leading causes of Inland Empire/Orange County injuries are similar to those in other regions. The top 10 causes account for over half of all claims, led by strains from lifting and strains or injuries that are not otherwise classified, with strains from pushing or pulling accounting for another 4.2% of the claims. Slips and falls (either misc. or on the same level) were cited as the cause of injury in nearly 9% of the claims in the Inland Empire/Orange County and in other parts of the state. Ill-defined categories such as miscellaneous cause: other injury (NOC) and Struck/Injured by: (NOC) combined for 8.2% of Inland Empire/Orange County claims, marginally less than other regions, while repetitive motion/carpal tunnel was cited as the cause of injury in 2.8% of Inland Empire /O.C. claims vs. 3.1% in other regions.

Nature of Injury

Claim Distributions for Inland Empire/Orange County, All Other Regions and Statewide (AY 2005 – 2015 Claims)

Nature of Injury	Percent of Claims		
	Inland Empire/O.C.	All Other Regions	Statewide
Strain	28.5%	29.0%	28.9%
Laceration	12.7%	12.3%	12.4%
All Other, Not Otherwise Classified (NOC)	10.8%	9.9%	10.0%
Contusion	10.2%	10.1%	10.1%
Sprain	9.4%	9.5%	9.5%
All Other Cumulative Injuries	4.8%	5.0%	4.9%
Puncture	3.5%	3.6%	3.6%
Fracture	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%
Foreign Body	2.6%	2.8%	2.8%
Inflammation	2.4%	2.2%	2.3%
All Other	11.7%	12.2%	12.1%

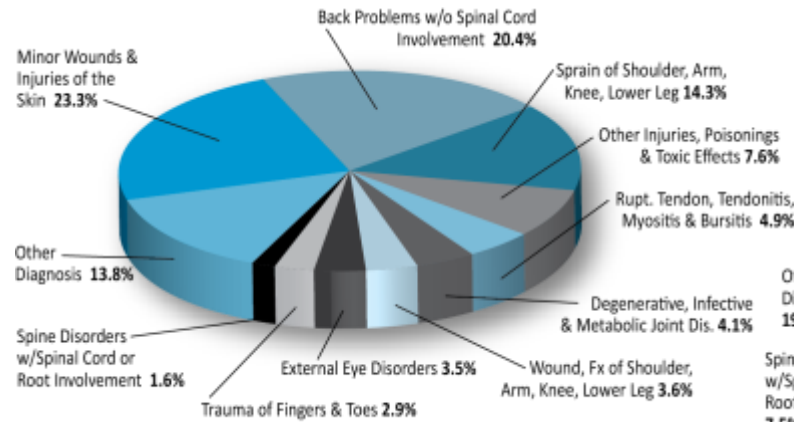
Strains are the top nature of injury category in the Inland Empire/Orange County and statewide, representing about 29% of all claims. The nature of injury distribution is remarkably consistent between the Inland Empire/O.C. and other regions, with the biggest differential being less than 1 percentage point in claims involving “all other, not otherwise classified” claims, which represent 10.8% of Inland Empire /O.C. claims vs. 9.9% of claims in other regions.



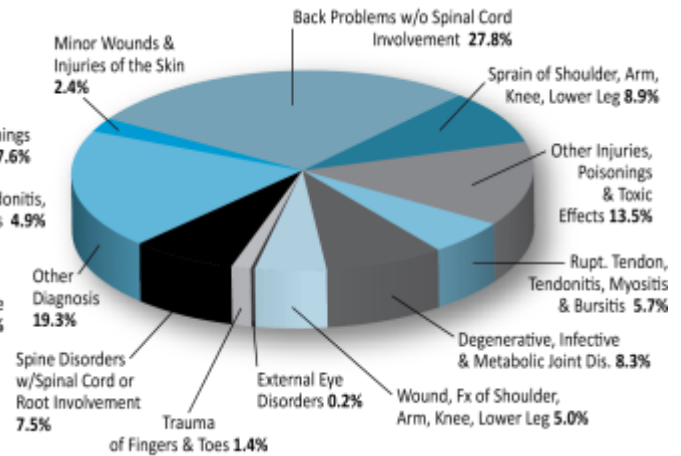
Claim and Payment Distributions by Diagnosis

Claim and Payment Distributions for AY 2005-2015 Claims

**Inland Empire/Orange County
% of Claims by Diagnosis**



**Inland Empire/Orange County
% of Payments by Diagnosis**



	Inland Empire/Orange Co.		All Other Regions		Statewide	
	% of Claims	% of Total Paid	% of Claims	% of Total Paid	% of Claims	% of Total Paid
Minor Wounds & Injuries to the Skin	23.3%	2.4%	22.3%	2.4%	22.4%	2.4%
Medical Back Problems w/o Spinal Cord Involvement	20.4%	27.8%	19.7%	26.0%	19.8%	26.4%
Sprain of Shoulder, Arm, Knee, Lower Leg	14.3%	8.9%	14.0%	9.3%	14.0%	9.2%
Other Injuries, Poisonings & Toxic Effects	7.6%	13.5%	6.9%	11.5%	7.0%	11.9%
Ruptured Tendon, Tendonitis, Myositis & Bursitis	4.9%	5.7%	5.8%	6.9%	5.6%	6.7%
Degenerative, Infective & Metabolic Joint Disorders	4.1%	8.3%	4.0%	8.5%	4.0%	8.5%
Wound, Fracture of Shoulder, Arm, Knee, Lower Leg	3.6%	5.0%	3.8%	6.0%	3.7%	5.8%
External Eye Disorders	3.5%	0.2%	3.6%	0.2%	3.6%	0.2%
Trauma of Fingers & Toes	2.9%	1.4%	3.0%	1.4%	3.0%	1.4%
Spine Disorders w/ Spinal Cord or Root Involvement	1.6%	7.5%	1.6%	7.5%	1.6%	7.5%
Other Diagnosis	13.8%	19.3%	15.3%	20.3%	15.3%	20.0%

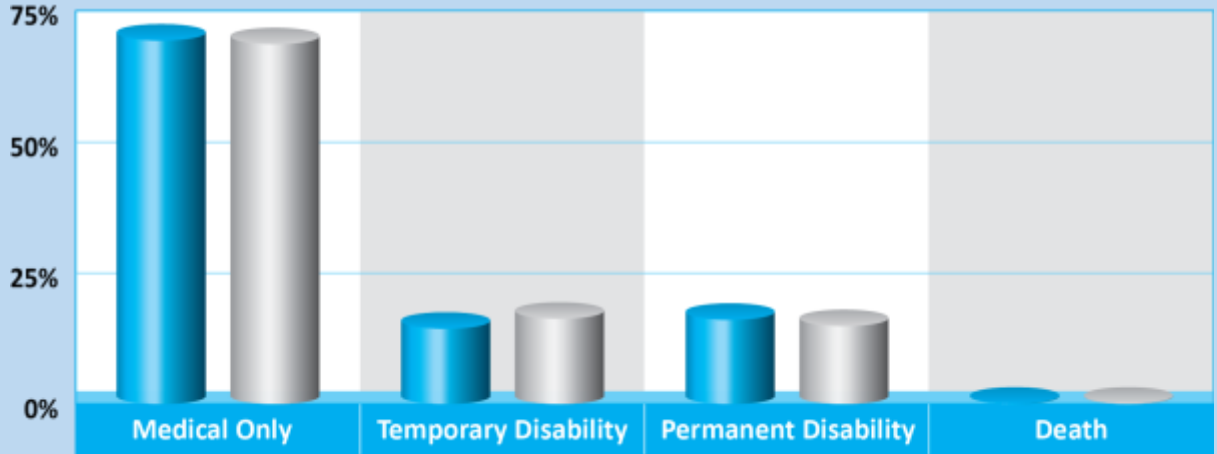
Over half of all workers' compensation claims in the Inland Empire/Orange County and the rest of the state involve injuries in 3 diagnostic categories: minor wounds and injuries to the skin, medical back problems without spinal cord involvement (back sprains and strains) and sprains of the shoulder, arm, knee and lower leg, and their percentage of all claims is only marginally higher in the Inland Empire/Orange County than elsewhere. The percentage of Inland Empire/O.C. claims involving "other injuries, poisonings and toxic effects," many of which fall into vague, nonspecific nature of injury categories such as "all other cumulative injuries," "all other injuries not otherwise classified," and "multiple physical injuries only" is slightly higher than in other regions, so these claims consume 13.5% of all loss costs in the region, vs. 11.5% in other parts of the state. On the other hand, the percentage of claims involving ruptured tendons, tendonitis, myositis and bursitis is lower in the Inland Empire/O.C., as is their share of loss costs (5.7% vs. 6.9% elsewhere). Claims involving back problems without spinal cord involvement consume the greatest share of total loss costs in the Inland Empire/O.C. (27.8%), compared to 26.0% in other regions and 26.4% statewide.



Claim and Payment Distribution by Claim Type (Med-Only, TD, PD, Death)

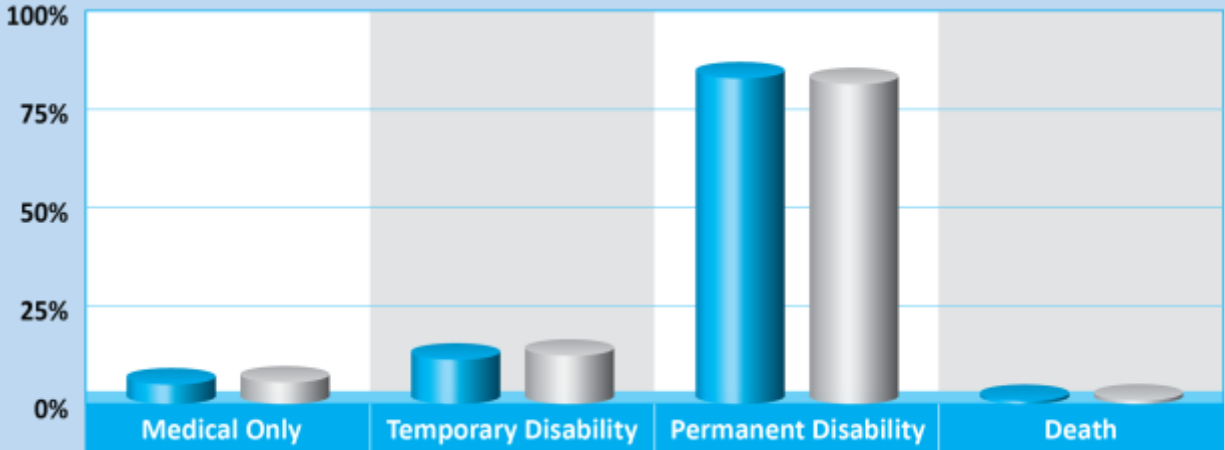
Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other Regions (AY 2005 – AY 2015 Claims)

Percent of Claims



Claim Type	Inland Emp/OC	All Other	Statewide
Medical Only	69.4%	68.7%	68.8%
Temporary Disability	14.4%	16.3%	16.0%
Permanent Disability	16.1%	14.9%	15.1%
Death	< 0.1%	< 0.1%	< 0.1%

Percent of Payments



Claim Type	Inland Emp/OC	All Other	Statewide
Medical Only	5.0%	5.5%	5.4%
Temporary Disability	11.3%	12.3%	12.1%
Permanent Disability	82.9%	81.4%	81.7%
Death	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%

Medical-only and PD claims accounted for a slightly larger share of the Inland Empire/Orange County claims compared to other regions, while TD claims comprised a smaller share of the Inland Empire/Orange County claims (about 1 in 7 claims vs. 1 in 6 claims for the rest of California). The distribution of paid losses by claim type shows medical only claims, TD claims and death claims all consumed a slightly smaller percentage of total loss payments in the Inland Empire/Orange County region, while loss payments on PD cases consumed a slightly higher proportion of the Inland Empire/O.C. claim payments over the 11-year span – 82.9 cents out of every dollar paid vs. 81.4 cents in the rest of the state and 81.7 cents statewide. Though relatively high, the proportion of the Inland Empire/O.C. loss payments going toward PD claims is still slightly below the figure for neighboring Los Angeles County, where the prior Score Card showed PD claims account for 84 cents out of every dollar paid.



Median and Average Notice and Treatment Time Lags

Injury Date to Employer Notice, Carrier Notice & First Treatment: Inland Empire/OC vs. All Other Regions (AY 2005 vs. 2013)

		AY 2005		AY 2013	
		Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Median Number of Days	Average Number of Days
Employer Notification	Inland Emp/OC	1.0	13.5	1.0	15.3
	All Other Regions	1.0	11.8	1.0	11.5
	Statewide	1.0	12.0	1.0	12.0
Carrier Notification	Inland Emp/OC	8.0	42.3	7.0	41.0
	All Other Regions	7.0	34.4	6.0	32.5
	Statewide	8.0	36.0	6.0	32.6
Time to First Treatment	Inland Emp/OC	1.0	27.9	1.0	39.0
	All Other Regions	1.0	28.7	1.0	33.9
	Statewide	1.0	28.6	1.0	34.8

The time lags between the date of injury and the employer notice, carrier notice, and initial treatment for AY 2005 and AY 2013 claims by residents of the Inland Empire/O.C., other regions, and statewide are noted above. The median is the midpoint in a series of numbers – the point at which half the values are greater than amount shown, and half are less. For Inland Empire/O.C. claims from AY 2005 and AY 2013, the median time to employer notice was 1 day, matching the median for all other regions and statewide. The median time to carrier notice for Inland Empire/O.C. claims improved from 8 days to 7 days between AY 2005 and AY 2013, but remained 1 day longer than the median for other regions, which improved from 7 days to 6 days over the same period. The median time to first treatment for Inland Empire/O.C. claims held steady at 1 day, matching the experience in other regions and statewide.

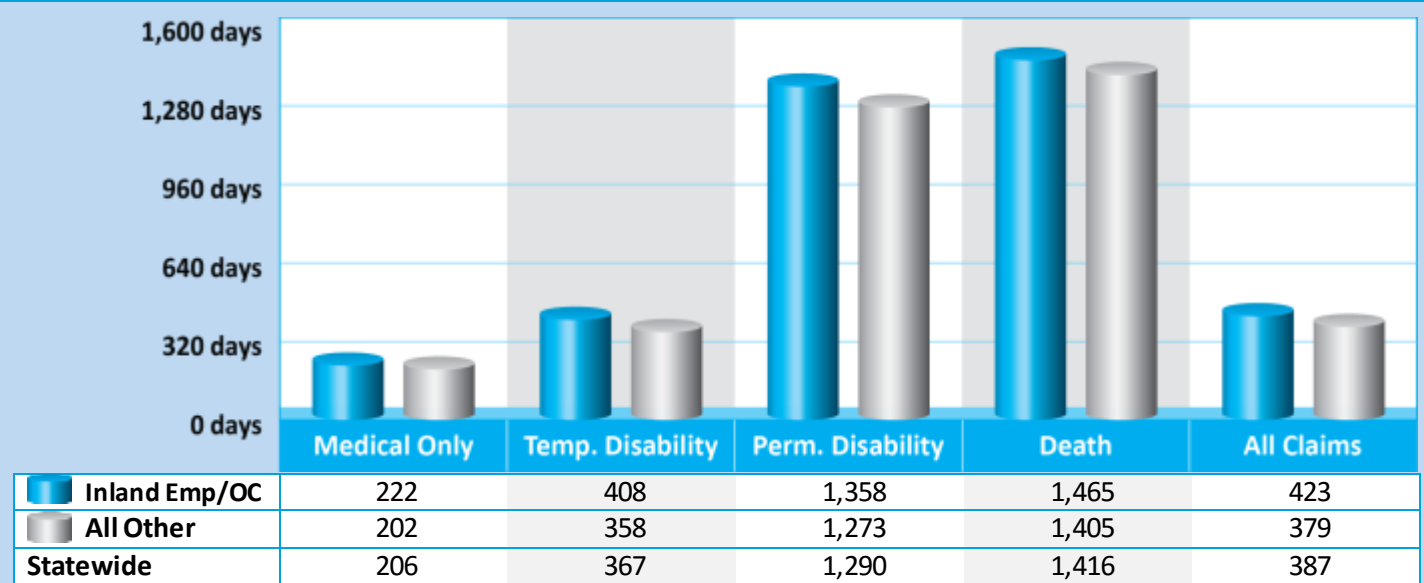
Large differences between the average and the median time lags from the injury date to all 3 of these benchmarks were noted in the Inland Empire/Orange County and in all other regions, indicating that the average time lags are highly skewed by outlier claims in which notifications or treatment were delayed for long periods. Among the Inland Empire/Orange County claims, the average number of days between the injury date and employer notification, and between the injury date and initial treatment both worsened between AY 2005 and AY 2013, while the average number of days to carrier notification improved slightly, falling from 42.3 days in AY 2005 vs. 41.0 days in AY 2013. In contrast, during this same time frame, the average number of days to employer notification in other regions declined slightly from 11.8 days in AY 2005 to 11.5 days in 2013, though in other areas of the state the improvement in the average lag time to carrier notice was slightly more pronounced, while the average time to first treatment in other regions increased only 5.2 days in other regions, less than half the increase of 11.1 days noted in the Inland Empire/Orange County.

The AY 2013 data show that average time lags from the Inland Empire/Orange County claims were significantly greater than the time lags noted for claims from other regions, as on average it took 3.8 days longer for the employer to be notified of the injury (15.3 days vs. 11.5 days); 8.5 days longer for the carrier to be notified (41.0 days vs. 32.5 days); and 5.1 days longer for the first treatment visit (39 days vs. 33.9 days).



Average Claim Duration

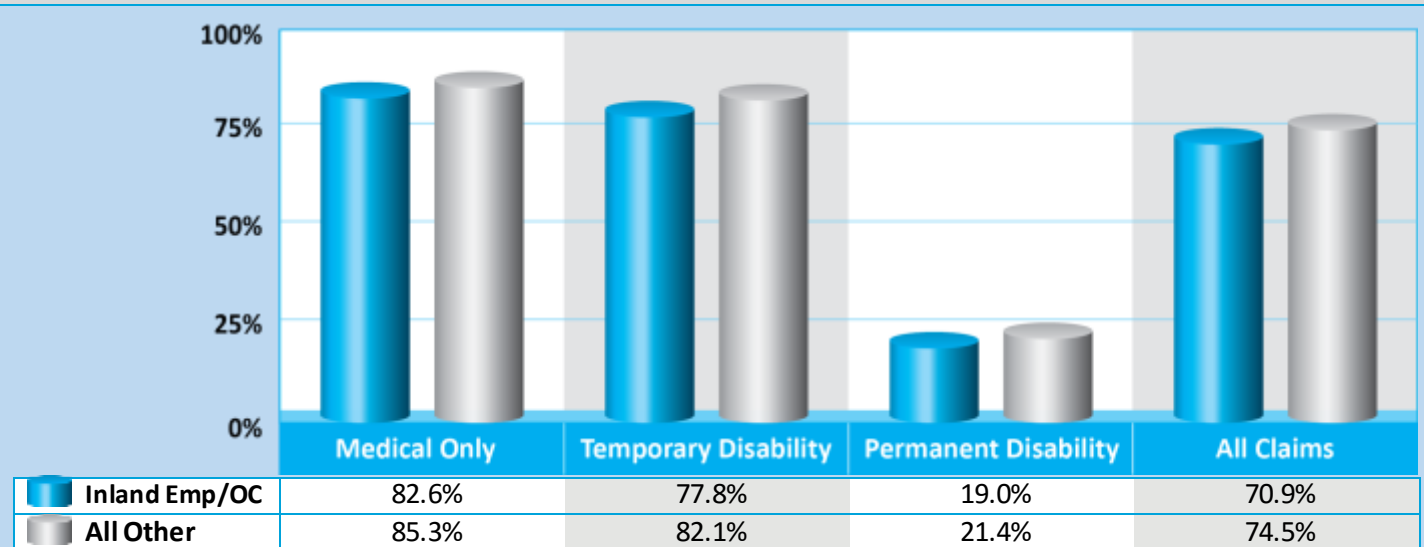
Average Number of Days (AY 2005-2015 Closed & Resolved Claims)



Average claim durations for claims involving injured workers from the Inland Empire/Orange County were significantly longer than for the rest of the state, and the results held true across all claim types. Overall, AY 2005-2015 claims filed by Inland Empire/O.C. residents averaged 423 days from the claim filing to the case closure, 44 days longer than the average for other regions and 36 days longer than the statewide average. As in neighboring Los Angeles County, the greater number of claims, heavy volume of liens at the Appeals Board, higher prevalence of cumulative trauma claims, higher volume and duration of treatment and higher levels of attorney involvement were all likely contributors to longer claim durations in the Inland Empire/Orange County region.

Claim Closure Rates by Claim Type at 24 Months Post Injury

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other Regions (AY 2005 – AY 2013 Claims)



At 24 months, 70.9% of all AY 2005-2013 Inland Empire/O.C. claims were closed, versus 74.5% of all claims from other regions. Lower claim closure rates were noted across all claim types, which as in Los Angeles County, may reflect more non-specific and cumulative injuries; more attorney involvement; and a greater percentage of claims involving PD.



Attorney Involvement Rates for Indemnity (TD & PD) Claims

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other Regions (AY 2005 – AY 2015 Claims)

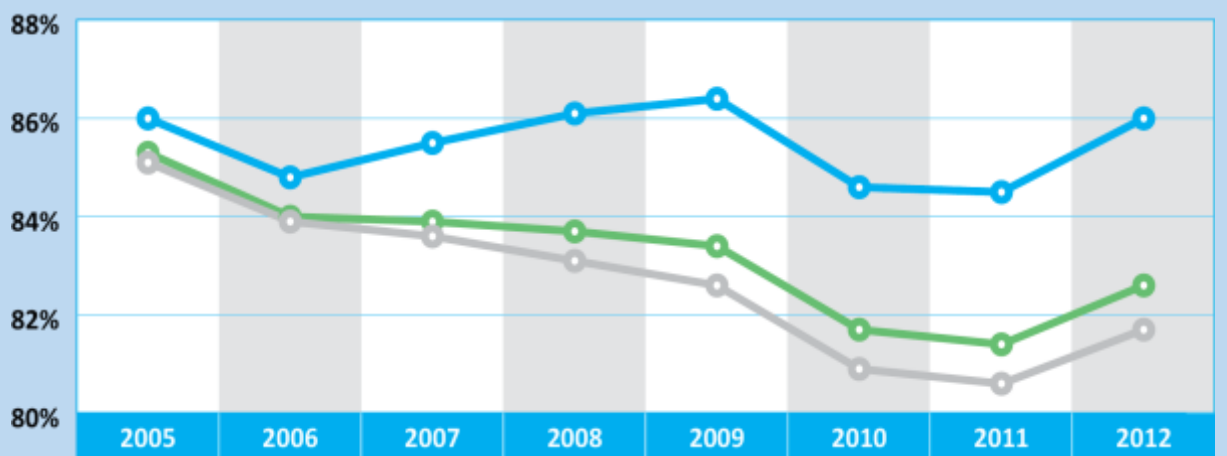


Inland Empire/OC	AY 2005 – AY 2015 Average	53.7%
Other Regions	AY 2005 – AY 2015 Average	47.6%
Statewide	AY 2005 – AY 2015 Average	48.8%

Nearly half of all AY 2005–AY 2015 indemnity claims in California involved attorneys, with statewide attorney involvement rates for individual accident years ranging from 23.0% in AY 2015 (where the data is least developed) to 53.5% for AY 2012 claims. During that 11-year span attorney involvement rates on indemnity claims filed by Inland Empire/O.C. residents averaged 53.7%, with attorney involvement on Inland Empire/O.C. claims exceeding that of other regions in each of the 11 years, ranging from 3.1 to 8.1 percentage points above the rates in other regions.

Attorney Involvement Rates on PD Claims ≥ 36 Months Old

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other Regions (AY 2005 – AY 2012 Claims)



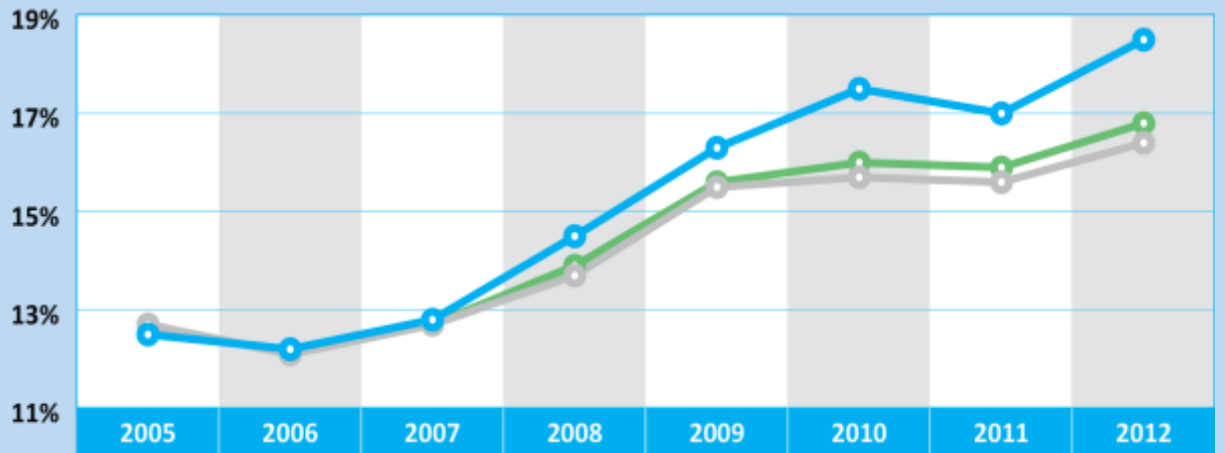
Inland Emp/OC	86.0%	84.8%	85.5%	86.1%	86.4%	84.6%	84.5%	86.0%
All Other	85.1%	83.9%	83.6%	83.1%	82.6%	80.9%	80.6%	81.7%
Statewide	85.3%	84.0%	83.9%	83.7%	83.4%	81.7%	81.4%	82.6%

PD claims are the most complex and frequently litigated claims, though attorney involvement often does not begin until well after the injury date. Among AY 2005–AY 2012 PD claims that were at least 36 months old, attorney involvement rates ranged from 0.9 to 4.3 percentage points higher for Inland Empire/OC claims than for claims from other regions, so the high attorney involvement rate in the region consistently pulled the statewide litigation rate up.



Permanent Disability Rates at 36 Months Post Injury

AY 2005 – AY 2012 Claims



	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Inland Emp/OC	12.5%	12.2%	12.8%	14.5%	16.3%	17.5%	17.0%	18.5%
All Others	12.7%	12.1%	12.7%	13.7%	15.5%	15.7%	15.6%	16.4%
Statewide	12.7%	12.1%	12.7%	13.9%	15.6%	16.0%	15.9%	16.8%

The percentage of claims from Inland Empire/Orange County residents that involved a PD award at 3 years post injury increased steadily from 12.5% of AY 2005 claims to 18.5% of AY 2012 claims, while over the same period the percentage of claims from other regions that involved PD at the 3-year benchmark grew at a slower pace, increasing from 12.7% in AY 2005 to 16.4% in AY 2012. For all regions, there was a short-term decline in the proportion of claims receiving PD immediately after adoption of the 2005 PD rating schedule, but in all cases that proportion began to trend up beginning with AY 2007 claims. Among the factors that may have led to this increase in claims with PD were several court rulings handed down during this period (Almaraz/Guzman, Ogilvie) which allowed PD in cases where previously there had been none.

**Average Number of Visits & Average Amounts Paid at 12 & 24 Months by Fee Schedule Section**

AY 2005-2014* Indemnity Claims, Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other Regions and Statewide

Visits at 12 Months

Region	E/M	Surgery	Radiology	Medicine	PT	Chiro
Inland Emp/OC	8.8	1.1	2.3	1.4	9.5	1.1
All Other	8.7	1.1	2.1	1.1	8.6	1.0
Grand Total	8.8	1.1	2.1	1.1	8.8	1.0

Paid at 12 Months

Region	E/M	Surgery	Radiology	Medicine	PT	Chiro
Inland Emp/OC	\$991	\$1,215	\$532	\$322	\$792	\$42
All Other	\$904	\$1,268	\$450	\$228	\$676	\$35
Grand Total	\$919	\$1,258	\$465	\$244	\$697	\$36

Visits at 24 Months

Region	E/M	Surgery	Radiology	Medicine	PT	Chiro
Inland Emp/OC	11.4	1.5	2.9	2.1	11.9	1.4
All Other	11.2	1.4	2.6	1.5	10.8	1.2
Grand Total	11.3	1.4	2.6	1.6	11.0	1.2

Paid at 24 Months

Region	E/M	Surgery	Radiology	Medicine	PT	Chiro
Inland Emp/OC	\$1,305	\$1,722	\$715	\$531	\$1,010	\$53
All Other	\$1,173	\$1,736	\$584	\$375	\$ 860	\$44
Grand Total	\$1,196	\$1,733	\$607	\$403	\$ 887	\$45

*12-month data is for AY 2005-2014 claims; 24-month data is for AY 2005-2013 claims.

The table above shows the average number of visits per indemnity claim for different types of medical services at 12 and 24 months post injury and the average amounts paid per claim for those services. Compared to claims from other parts of the state, Inland Empire/Orange County claims at 12 months average about the same number of Evaluation/Management, surgery and chiropractic visits, but more visits for radiology, medicine section services (e.g., cardiovascular, nerve and muscle testing, psychiatric testing and psychotherapy, physician-administered drugs and biologicals and ophthalmology) and physical therapy services. Except for surgery services, average first-year payments for all of these service categories are higher on the Inland Empire/Orange County claims than on claims from other regions, with the biggest differences noted in the average first-year payments for medicine section services (\$94) and physical therapy (\$116), which may reflect a greater number of visits, a greater number of services per visit, and/or differences in the types of services rendered.

Similar differences in the volume of services were evident at 24 months post injury, though at that point the average number of visits in all 6 medical service categories was higher for Inland Empire/Orange County claims than for other regions. Average amounts paid per claim also remained higher in the Inland Empire/Orange County than in other regions for all service categories except for surgery, with significant differences noted in the average 2-year payments for Radiology (\$131 more), Evaluation/Management (\$132 more), Physical Therapy (\$150 more), and Medicine Section services (\$156 more).

**PPO/MPN Utilization – 1st Year Visits**

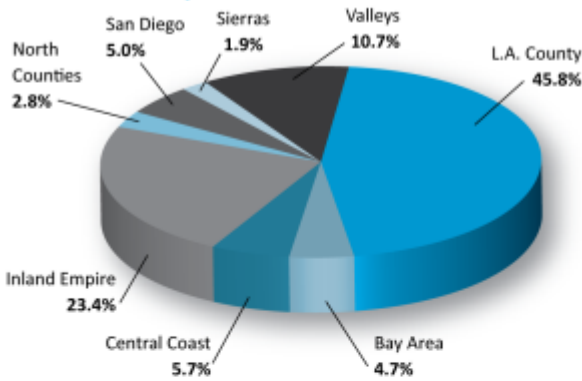
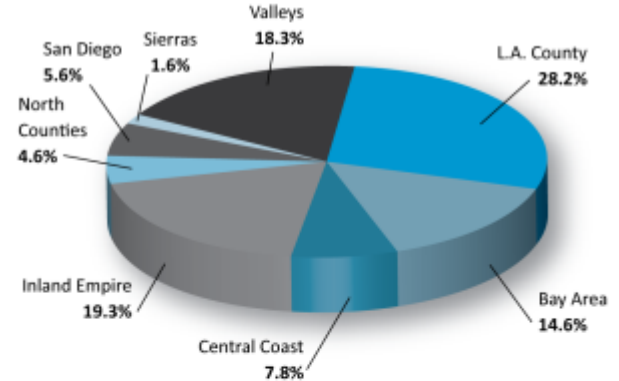
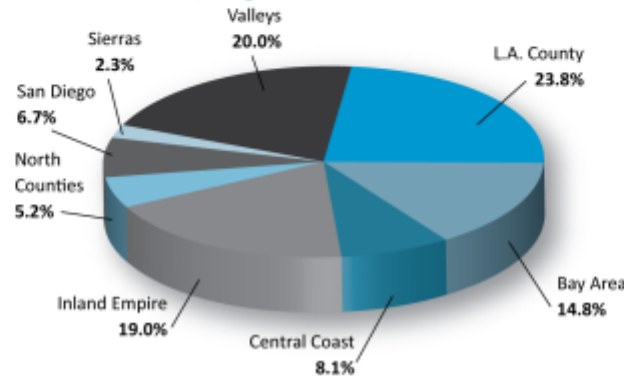
Network Utilization by Type of Service – Inland Empire/Orange County vs. All Other

Type of Service		2005 – 2009	2010 – 2015
Evaluation/Management	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	78.3%	89.2%
	All Other	79.6%	87.8%
Surgery	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	73.0%	79.9%
	All Other	70.6%	77.8%
Radiology	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	69.5%	79.6%
	All Other	67.9%	78.4%
Medicine Section	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	69.5%	76.7%
	All Other	67.5%	76.6%
Physical Therapy	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	63.8%	77.6%
	All Other	63.1%	77.6%
Chiropractic Manipulation	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	55.5%	77.7%
	All Other	57.6%	79.8%
Total Visits	Inland Empire/Orange Co.	71.0%	82.7%
	All Other	71.1%	82.1%

The table above shows the proportion of first-year workers' compensation medical services rendered by network providers, with AY 2005-2009 and AY 2010-2015 results broken out for Inland Empire/Orange County claims and for claims from all other regions of the state across all diagnostic categories. The use of network providers to treat injured workers rose sharply following the introduction of medical provider networks in 2005, with increases in network utilization noted for all types of treatment. The overall network utilization rates for Inland Empire/Orange County claims grew from 71.0% of all treatment visits in 2005-2009 to 82.7% in 2010-2015, which was nearly identical to the growth noted in all other regions of the state. The breakdown of 2010-2015 medical visits by type of service shows that other than Evaluation/Management services, where nearly 9 out of 10 visits in the Inland Empire/Orange County and in other regions involved network providers, the network utilization rates now show little variation across the various medical service categories. In the Inland Empire/Orange County, they ranged from a low of 76.7 percent for Medicine Section visits to a high of 79.9% for surgery visits, which was very similar to the results for the rest of the state, where the network utilization rates ranged from a low of 76.6 percent for Medicine Section visits to 79.8 percent of the visits for chiropractic manipulation.

Regional Distribution of Claims with Sleep Studies, Nerve Conduction Tests, & MRIs/Diagnostic Tests

CY 2013 – CY 2015

Claims with Sleep Studies

Claims with Nerve Conduction Tests

Claims with MRIs/Diagnostic Tests


Sleep studies, MRIs and diagnostic tests, and nerve conduction tests have been associated with high-cost workers' compensation claims. Inland Empire/Orange County residents accounted for 19.1% of all California workers' comp claims from 2013 through 2015, but as was the case for neighboring Los Angeles County, during this 3-year period the region had a disproportionately high share of the claims with sleep studies (23.4%).

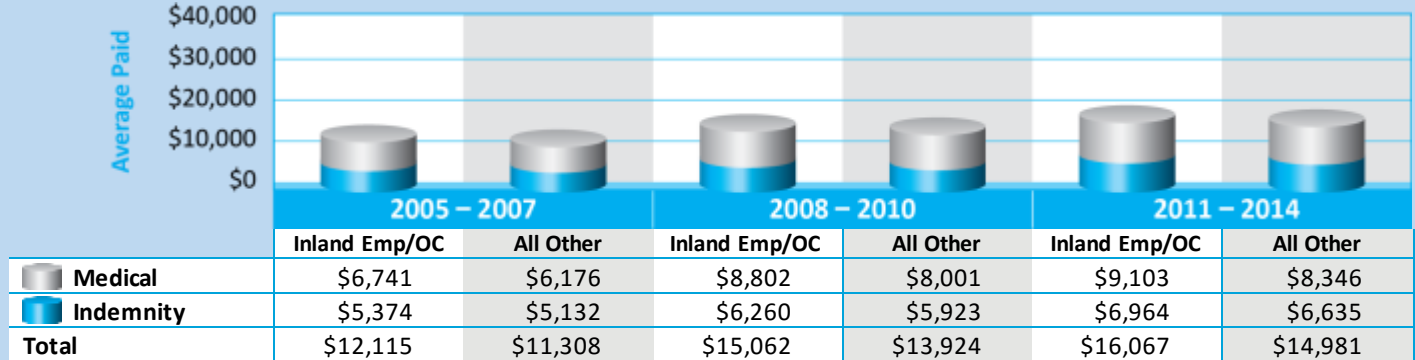
On the other hand, the use of nerve conduction tests, which was disproportionately high among the L.A. County claims, was in line with the overall claim volume for Inland Empire/Orange County region (19.3% of the nerve conduction tests vs. 19.1% of the claims). Similarly, the Inland Empire/Orange County residents accounted for 19.0% of all California workers' comp claims with MRIs and diagnostic tests, which was nearly identical to the percentage of all claims coming from the region, so the use of these medical services in the Inland Empire/Orange County was not out of proportion with the claim volume for the region.



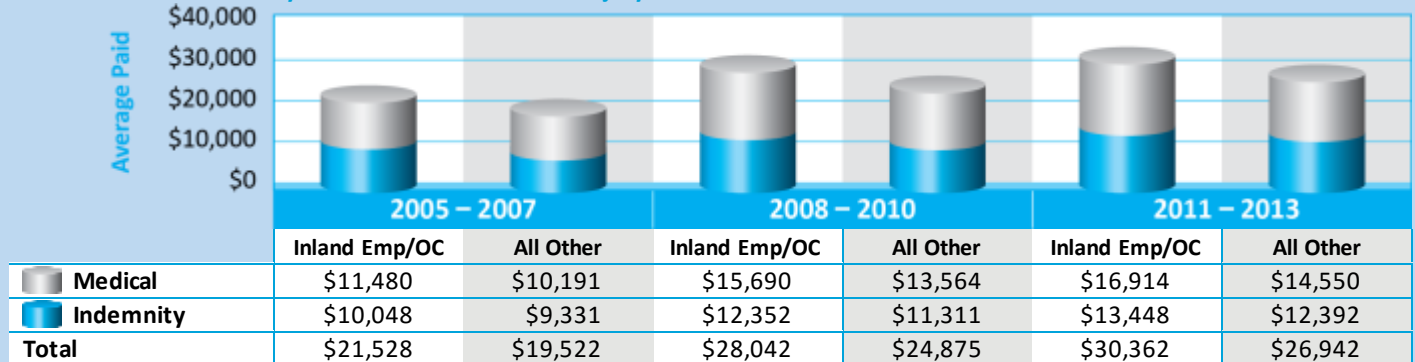
Loss Development at 12, 24 and 36 Months

Average Paid, AY05-07, AY 08-10, AY 11-14 Indemnity Claims – Inland Empire/Orange County Vs. All Other

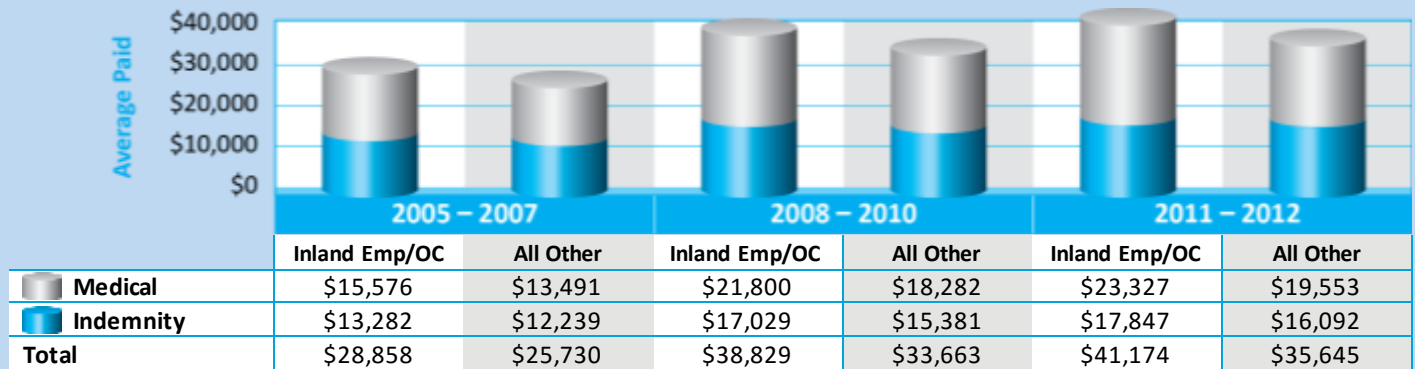
AY 2005 – 2014 Indemnity Claims – 12 Months Post Injury



AY 2005 – 2013 Indemnity Claims – 24 Months Post Injury



AY 2005 – 2012 Indemnity Claims – 36 Months Post Injury



Since AY 2005, average benefit payments on lost-time claims have been higher in the Inland Empire/Orange County claims than in other parts of California – a finding that holds true at 12, 24 and 36 months post injury. The biggest difference is in medical payments, which averaged as much as 10% higher in the Inland Empire/Orange County at 12 months, 16% higher at 24 months, and as much as 19% higher at 36 months. Indemnity payments on the Inland Empire/Orange County claims were also higher, averaging as much as 5.7% higher in the first year post-injury, as much as 9.2% higher at 24 months, and as much as 10.9% higher at the 3-year benchmark.

Looking across time at the 36-month data (the most developed in the sample) shows average benefit payments on Inland Empire/Orange County lost-time claims increased 42.7% from \$28,858 on AY 2005-2007 claims to \$41,174 on AY 2011-2012 claims, exceeding the growth in benefit payments in other regions, which increased 38.5% from \$25,730 on AY 2005-2007 claims to \$35,645 on AY 2011-2012 claims. A closer look shows medical payments led the growth in the Inland Empire/Orange County, increasing nearly 50% from an average of \$15,576 for AY 2005-2007 claims to \$23,327 in AY 2011-2012 claims, while in other areas, average medical payments rose just under 45%. Average paid indemnity at 36 months also grew slightly faster on Inland Empire/Orange County claims during this period, climbing 34.4% to \$17,847, while in the rest of the state average paid indemnity rose 31.5% to \$16,092.

**Regional Distribution of Prescription Drugs by Drug Category**

CY 2014 Inland Empire/Orange County v. All Other and Statewide

	Inland Empire/OC	All Other Regions	Statewide
Analgesics - Opioid	26.3%	27.7%	27.4%
Analgesics - Anti-Inflammatory	18.8%	18.6%	18.6%
Musculoskeletal Therapy Agents	9.7%	9.3%	9.4%
Ulcer Drugs	7.9%	6.6%	6.9%
Anticonvulsants	6.2%	7.1%	6.9%
Antidepressants	5.2%	6.6%	6.3%
Dermatologicals	4.9%	5.1%	5.0%
All Other	21.0%	19.0%	19.5%

Generic and brand equivalent drugs in the 2014 prescription drug sample were grouped into 8 drug categories, with prescription drug distributions calculated for claims from each region of the state. Opioid analgesics were the number one drug category in the Inland Empire/Orange County, other regions, and statewide, representing more than 1 in 4 prescriptions, though they did account for a slightly smaller percentage of the workers' comp prescriptions in the Inland Empire/Orange County than elsewhere in the state (26.3% vs. 27.7%). Anticonvulsants and antidepressants also represented a marginally smaller share of the Inland Empire/Orange County prescriptions, while ulcer drugs, which are often used to treat stomach issues that arise with opioid and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug use, represented a slightly higher percentage of the workers' comp prescriptions in the region.

Regional Distribution of Prescription Drug Payments by Drug Category

CY 2014 Inland Empire/Orange County v. All Other and Statewide

	Inland Empire/OC	All Other Regions	Statewide
Analgesics - Opioid	24.2%	26.3%	25.9%
Analgesics - Anti-Inflammatory	17.8%	14.4%	15.0%
Dermatologicals	10.2%	11.4%	11.1%
Ulcer Drugs	9.7%	8.2%	8.5%
Anticonvulsants	6.6%	6.8%	6.8%
Musculoskeletal Therapy Agents	6.1%	5.2%	5.4%
Antidepressants	4.4%	6.6%	6.2%
All Other	21.0%	21.1%	21.1%

Opioid analgesics such as Vicodin, Tramadol, Percocet, and Oxycontin represented 24.2% of the CY 2014 total drug spend for Inland Empire/Orange County claims, slightly below the 26.3% of the prescriptions that opioids accounted for in the region, and less than the percentage of the total drug spend represented by opioids in other regions and statewide. On the other hand, anti-inflammatory analgesics (i.e., Ibuprofen, Naproxen, Celecoxib) accounted for 17.8% of the workers' comp prescription dollars in the Inland Empire/Orange County vs. 14.4% in other parts of the state. Reimbursements for ulcer drugs and musculoskeletal therapy agents also comprised a slightly larger share of the workers' comp drug spend in the Inland Empire/Orange County than in other parts of California, while dermatologicals and antidepressants represented a smaller share.

**Top 20 Prescription Drugs by Volume**

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. Other Regions (Calendar Year 2014)

Generic Name	Common Name	% of Total Prescriptions		
		Inland Empire/OC	Other Regions	Statewide
Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen	Vicodin	13.9%	14.9%	14.7%
Ibuprofen	Advil	5.9%	6.0%	5.9%
Naprosyn	Aleve	5.7%	5.1%	5.2%
Omeprazole	Prilosec	5.2%	4.4%	4.6%
Tramadol	Ultram	4.9%	4.5%	4.6%
Cyclobenzaprine	Flexeril	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%
Gabapentin	Neurontin	3.6%	4.3%	4.1%
Diclofenac	Voltaren	2.2%	2.3%	2.3%
Zolpidem	Ambien	1.9%	1.5%	1.6%
Lidocaine	Lidocaine	1.6%	1.9%	1.9%
Oxycodone-Acetaminophen	Endocet/Percocet	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Carisoprodol	Soma	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%
Tizanidine	Zanaflex	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%
Celecoxib	Celebrex	1.4%	1.8%	1.7%
Nabumetone	Relafen	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%
Oxycodone	Oxycontin	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%
Pregabalin	Lyrica	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%
Meloxicam	Mobic	1.3%	1.2%	1.2%
Tramadol-Acetaminophen	Ultracet	1.3%	1.1%	1.1%
Duloxetine	Cymbalta	1.2%	1.7%	1.6%
Top 20		62.9%	63.9%	63.7%

The table above shows the top 20 drugs prescribed to injured workers in the Inland Empire/Orange County in calendar year 2014, as well as the distribution of those drugs in other regions and statewide. The opioid combination drug Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen (Vicodin) was the most prescribed drug in the Inland Empire/Orange County and in other regions, though it accounted for a slightly smaller share of the Inland Empire/Orange County prescriptions. The anti-inflammatory analgesics Ibuprofen and Naprosyn ranked second and third, with Naprosyn also accounting for a slightly higher share of the Inland Empire/Orange County prescriptions, as did the antacid Omeprazole and the opioid analgesic Tramadol, which were the fourth and fifth most prescribed workers' comp drugs in the region. The sleep aid Zolpidem also represented a slightly higher proportion of the prescriptions in Inland Empire/Orange County prescriptions, while drugs that were slightly less prevalent in the region were the anticonvulsant Gabapentin, the antidepressant Duloxetine, and the anti-inflammatory analgesic Celecoxib. Notably, several ingredients commonly found in compound drugs that were on the top 20 workers' comp prescriptions in neighboring Los Angeles County -- including Menthol, the muscle relaxant Orphenadrine, and the anti-inflammatory Fluribiprofen -- were not among the top 20 workers' comp drugs in the Inland Empire/Orange County.

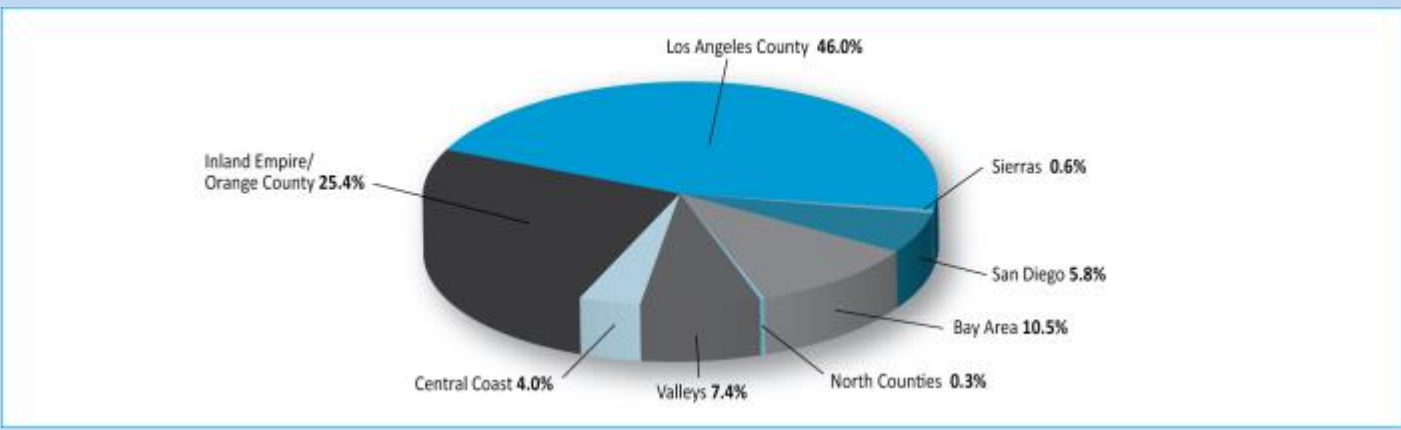
**Top 20 Prescription Drugs by Total Payments**

Inland Empire/Orange County vs. Other Regions (Calendar Year 2014)

Generic Name	Common Name	% of Total Prescription Payments		
		Inland Empire/OC	Other Regions	Statewide
Hydrocodone-Acetaminophen	Vicodin	6.8%	6.4%	6.5%
Omeprazole	Prilosec	6.4%	5.2%	5.5%
Lidocaine	Lidocaine	5.1%	5.5%	5.5%
Oxycodone	Oxycontin	5.0%	5.2%	5.0%
Flurbiprofen	Ansaid	4.6%	3.1%	3.2%
Pregabalin	Lyrica	3.8%	4.1%	4.0%
Tramadol	Ultram	3.7%	3.4%	3.5%
Naprosyn	Aleve	3.5%	2.3%	2.6%
Celecoxib	Celebrex	3.4%	4.0%	3.9%
Ibuprofen	Advil	2.6%	1.3%	1.6%
Oxycodone w/ Acetaminophen	Endocet/Percocet	2.6%	2.3%	2.3%
Cyclobenzaprine	Flexeril	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%
Diclofenac	Voltaren	2.5%	2.8%	2.8%
Duloxetine	Cymbalta	2.3%	3.6%	3.3%
Ketoprofen	Ketoprofen	2.0%	0.8%	1.1%
Gabapentin	Neurontin	1.9%	2.2%	2.1%
Capsaicin	Capsaicin	1.8%	1.4%	1.4%
Fentanyl	Fentanyl	1.5%	2.5%	2.3%
Pantoprazole	Protonix	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%
Tapentadol	Nucynta	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%
Top 20		64.5%	60.8%	61.4%

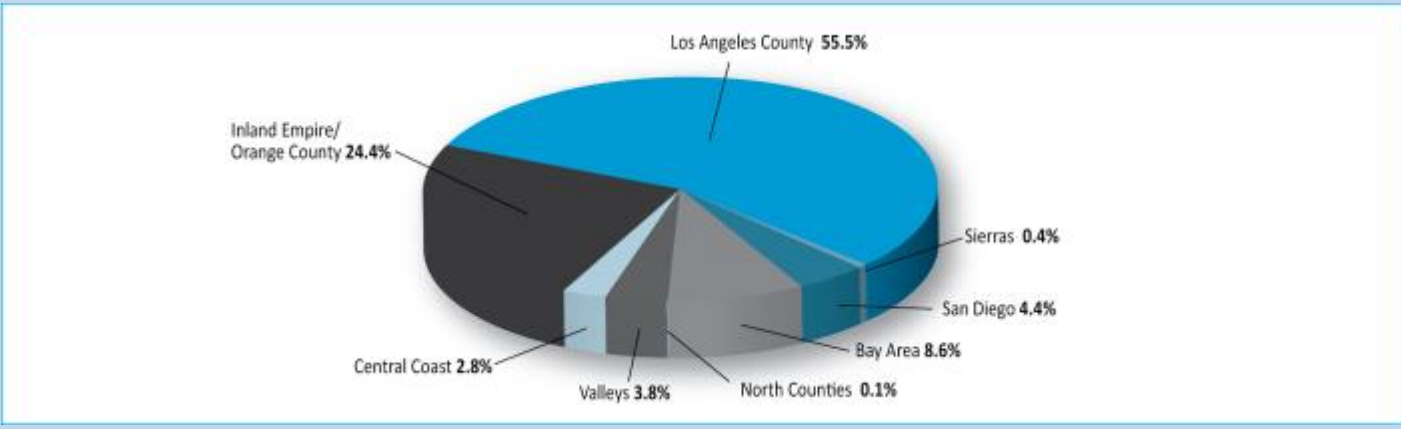
As in other regions of California, painkillers and non-steroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs) account for much of the workers' compensation prescription drug spend in the Inland Empire/Orange County region. Hydrocodone with acetaminophen (Vicodin) tops the list, though several other opioids (including oxycodone and tramadol) also are among the top 20 prescriptions based on total payments. The powerful opioid Fentanyl was also on the top 20 list, but it accounted for a smaller share of the drug spend in this region compared to other parts of the state (1.5% vs. 2.5%). Opioids and NSAIDs can cause digestive problems, so the antacids Omeprazole and Pantoprazole together accounted for 7.8% of the Inland Empire/Orange County prescription payments, slightly above the proportion noted in the rest of the state. The presence of compound drugs in the region was also evident in the payment data, as several common compound drug ingredients made the top 20 list, including Lidocaine, Flurbiprofen, Ketoprofen, and Capsaicin, which together accounted for 13.5% of the Inland Empire/Orange County drug spend, compared to 10.8% for all other regions, though that was significantly less than the 20.5% share noted in neighboring L.A. County.

Distribution of California Workers' Comp Claims with Lien Payments by Region



The IRIS data was used to identify a subsample of claims that involved lien payments. The regional distribution of those claims is shown above. While Los Angeles County alone accounted for 46.0% of all lien claims in California, the Inland Empire/Orange County accounted for another 25.4%, so altogether more than 71% of all claims with lien payments were from these two contiguous Southern California regions, illustrating just how heavily concentrated California workers' comp lien activity is in and around the Los Angeles Basin.

Distribution of California Workers' Comp Lien Dollars Paid by Region



The regional distribution of lien payments shows the lien dollars are even more heavily concentrated in Southern California. While 55.5% of all the total dollars paid for liens went to Los Angeles County, another 24.4% went to the Inland Empire/Orange County. Thus, these two regions, which together accounted for about 45% of all California workers' comp claims and about 53% of all paid benefits, accounted for nearly 80% of the lien payments.

IRIS Injury Scorecards are based on Industry Research Information System data, compiled and maintained by the California Workers' Compensation Institute, 1333 Broadway, Suite 510, Oakland CA 94612, (510) 251-9470, www.cwci.org.

About CWCI: The California Workers' Compensation Institute, incorporated in 1964, is a private, non-profit organization of insurers and self-insured employers conducting and communicating research and analyses to improve the California workers' compensation system.

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