

TIP No. 043-1124

## Summary of Workers' Compensation Data for Army Civilians, FY2023

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### INTRODUCTION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies monitoring of public health outcomes as one of the ten essential public health services (CDC 2024). Monitoring Army injuries is part of the Defense Health Agency – Public Health (DHA-PH) mission to recognize trends, define the magnitude and distribution of injuries, identify emerging issues, and guide injury prevention priorities. Department of the Army (DA) Civilians are an essential component of the Army, providing significant support to accomplish the Army mission. Understanding injuries among DA Civilians can help prioritize injury prevention efforts to reduce lost time due to injuries.

DA Civilians typically do not receive medical treatment in the Military Health System; therefore, workers' compensation claims data is the best available data to capture medical conditions among DA Civilians. This document provides a summary of workers' compensation data for DA Civilians during Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. Civilian claims rates over time are summarized, as well as leading causes, occupations, units, and direct medical costs associated with workers' compensation claims.

### METHODS

To summarize workers' compensation data (e.g., lost time and lost days), DHA-PH Injury Prevention Branch (IPB) utilized the Force Risk Reduction System (FR2) (FR2 2024) "Injuries and Illnesses" and "DFAS Lost Time" dashboards were used for all metrics except medical costs. In FR2, lost time case rates represent the number of workers' compensation claims per 100 civilians. Lost day rates represent the number of lost days per 100 civilians.

FR2 is a web-based tool, managed by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), which integrates data from multiple data sources in support of military safety regulations (DoD 2019). FR2 data originate from the Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service (DCPAS) workers' compensation claims and Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) personnel records. FR2 presents DA Civilians workers' compensation lost time cases and lost days, which are sourced from the Electronic Data Interchange, Civilian Personnel Management System (SaFER) and Defense Finance Accounting System (DFAS) pay files.

Direct medical costs associated with DA Civilian workers' compensation claims were obtained from the Defense Unemployment Injury Compensation System (DIUCS) (DIUCS 2024), provided by the Office of the Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel. DIUCS data originates with the Department of Labor (DOL) and is operated by DCPAS (DoD 2017). Costs are aggregated by cause, condition type, and affected body region.

Installation-level civilian workers' compensation summaries can be produced upon request (Army Public Health Center 2022). For additional information, please visit the IPB Website at: <https://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/discond/ptsaip/Pages/default.aspx>, and contact us by email at: [dha.apg.Pub-Health-A.mbx.injuryprevention@health.mil](mailto:dha.apg.Pub-Health-A.mbx.injuryprevention@health.mil)

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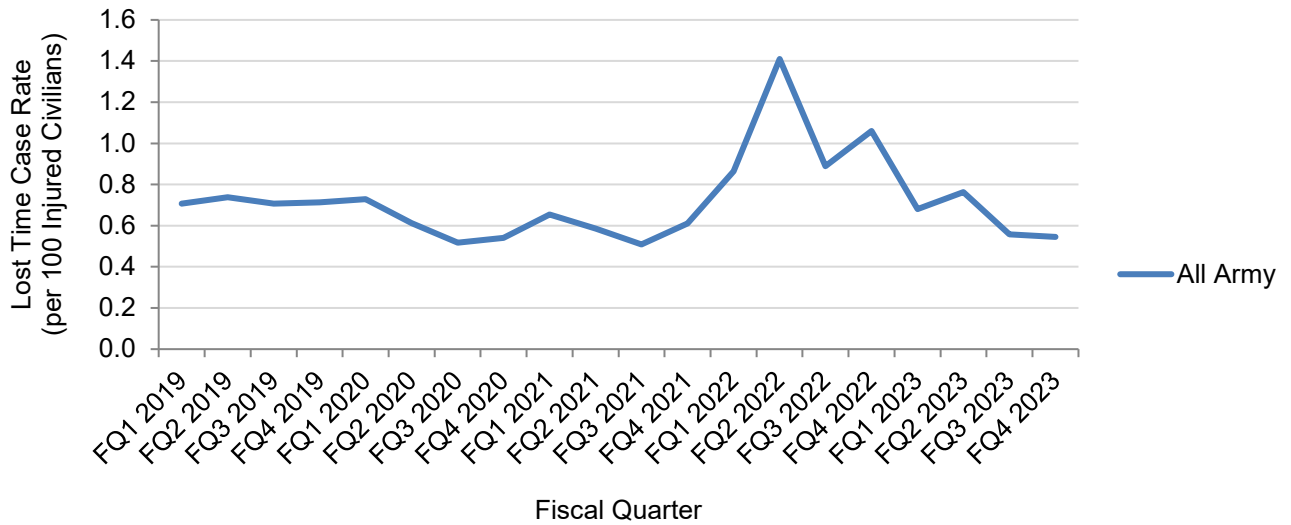
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## RESULTS

### LOST TIME

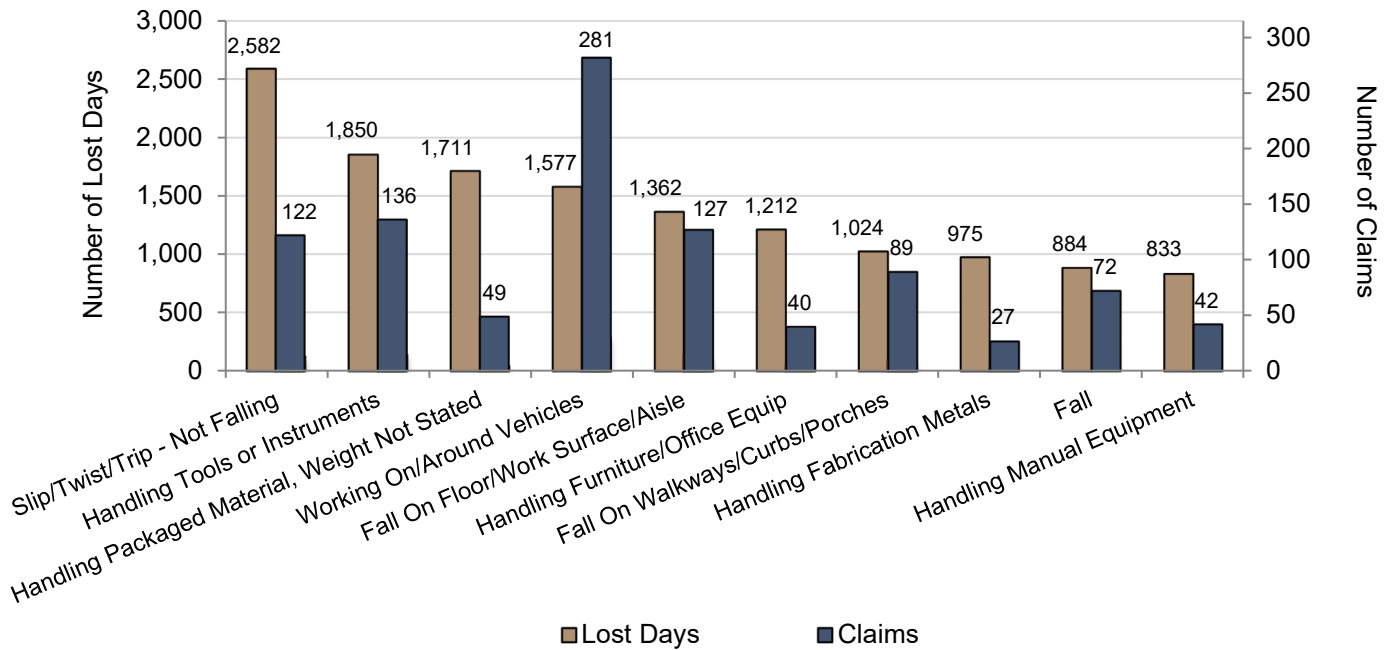
Lost time case rates fluctuated from FY2019-FY2023, peaking in fiscal quarter (FQ) 2 of 2022 then decreasing overall. Recent data points reflect updated requirements for COVID-19 claims, which were effective in January 2023 (DOL 2023).



**DA Civilian Lost Time by Fiscal Quarter, FY2019-2023**

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In FY2023, the leading cause of lost days were slips/twists/trips, followed by handling tools or instruments, and handling packaged material. The leading cause resulting in worker’s compensation claims was working on/around vehicles, followed by handling tools or instruments.



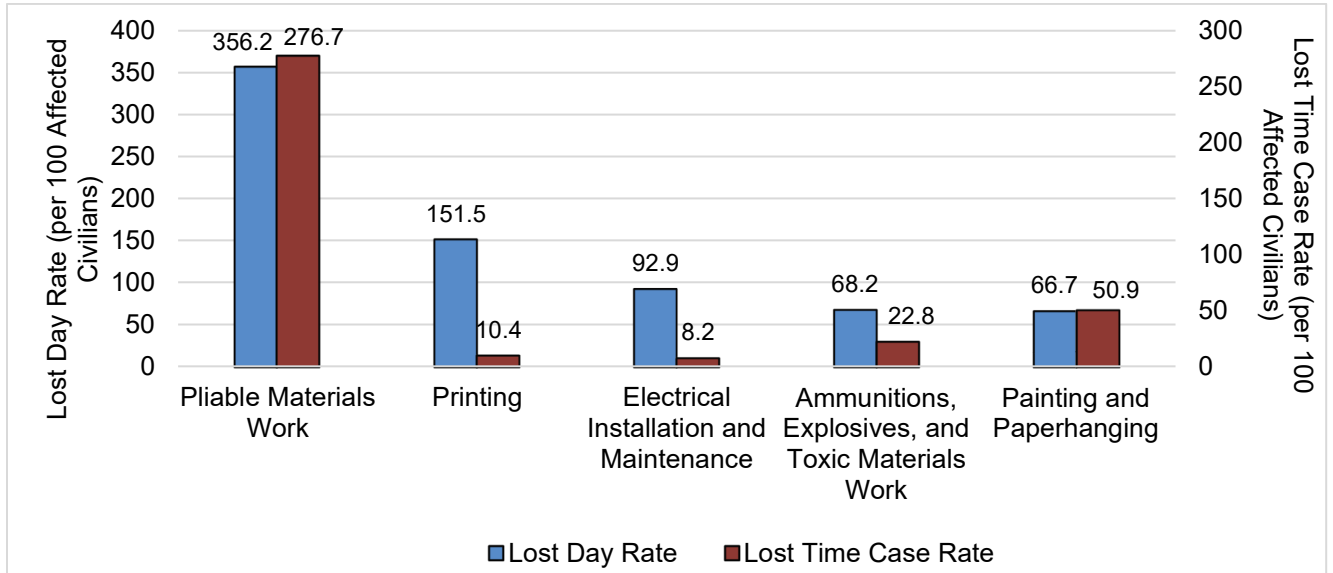
**Top 10 Causes of DA Civilian Lost Time, FY2023**

**Notes:**

Chart excludes categories with <20 cases, in accordance with national injury reporting standards <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/nonfatal.html>. Chart excludes injuries with no identified cause (n=145 claims).

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The highest lost day rate and lost time case rate during FY2023 was among DA Civilians with the job series of pliable materials work.



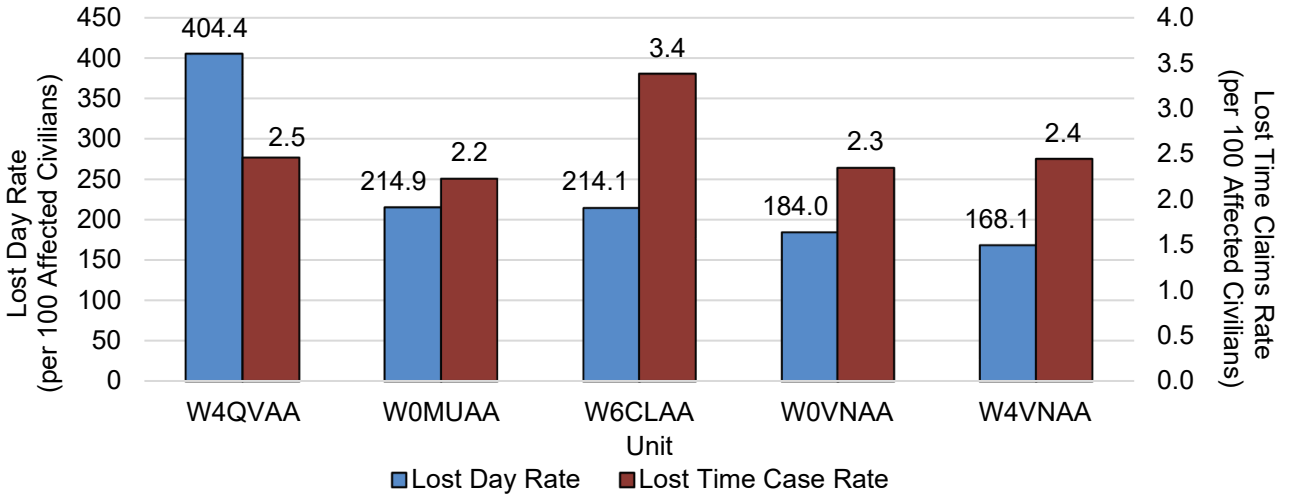
**Top 5 Occupation Groups with DA Civilian Lost Time, FY2023**

Notes:

Categories with <20 cases are excluded from this chart, in accordance with national injury reporting standards <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisgars/nonfatal.html>. Occupation categories are based on OPM series groupings.

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In FY2023, the unit with the highest lost day rate was W4QVAA at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The unit with the highest lost time case rate was W6CLAA at Fort Bliss.



**Top 5 Units with DA Civilian Lost Time, FY2023**

**Notes:**

Categories with <20 cases are excluded from this chart, in accordance with national injury reporting standards <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/nonfatal.html>.

**COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH LOST TIME**

There were 2,543 new workers' compensation claims from 01JUL22 to 30JUN23, with \$3,120,226 paid as of December 2023. Handling was the injury cause associated with the highest cost. The condition type associated with the highest cost was sprains/muscle strains/tendon injuries. Lower extremities were associated with the highest cost compared to other body regions.

**Costs Associated with New Civilian Compensation Claims All Army, 01July 2022 to 30 June 2023**

	Costs (% of total)	Number of Claims (% of total)
<b>Causes of conditions with highest compensation costs</b>		
Handling	\$840,893 (27%)	458 (18%)
Falls/ Jumps	\$584,158 (19%)	407 (16%)
Motor Vehicle	\$504,286 (16%)	292 (12%)
<b>Types of conditions with highest compensation costs</b>		
Sprain/Strain of Muscle or Tendon	\$767,184 (25%)	381 (15%)
Pain/Swelling/Stiffness in Joint	\$423,709 (14%)	176 (7%)
Fracture	\$337,252 (11%)	129 (5%)
<b>Affected body regions with highest compensation costs</b>		
Lower Extremity	\$1,138,456 (38%)	606 (25%)
Upper Extremity	\$984,929 (33%)	556 (23%)
Head and Neck	\$443,110 (15%)	536 (22%)

**Notes:**

There was a total of 195 claims (8%) reporting as 'Unknown' & 'Other' causes, accounting for a total of \$198,649 (5%). There was a total of 32 claims (<1%) reporting 'No Injury Stated' & 'Unknown' injury types, accounting for \$22,840 (<1%).

## KEY FINDINGS

- In FY2023, slips/twists/trips resulted in the highest number of lost days associated with workers' compensation claims, while working on/around vehicles resulted in the highest number of claims for DA Civilians. Pliable materials work resulted in both the highest lost day and lost time rates.
- The unit with the highest lost day rate was W4QVAA at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The unit with the highest lost time case rate was W0UCAA at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.
- Handling was associated with the highest claim costs. The condition type associated with the highest claim costs was sprains/muscle strains/tendon injuries, and lower extremities were associated with the highest costs compared to other body regions.
- Information in this report may assist with identifying occupational injury risk factors and prioritizing work-related injury prevention strategies for DA Civilians.

## REFERENCES

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