



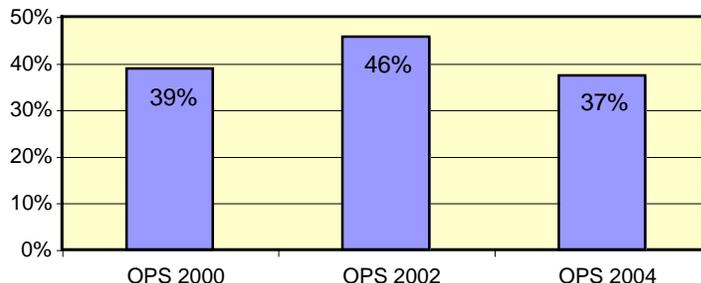
Workplace Injuries and Workers' Compensation Claim Filing: Results from the 2004 Oregon Population Survey

The Oregon Population Survey (OPS) <http://www.oea.das.state.or.us/DAS/OEA/popsurvey.shtml> is a statewide telephone survey conducted during even-numbered years since 1990. Led by the Oregon Progress Board, a partnership of state agencies surveys a random sample of 4,500 households. The survey's objective is to track health, social, and economic benchmarks.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services has compiled statistics on workplace injuries and workers' compensation claim filing from the 2004 Oregon Population Survey. An estimated 86,000 Oregonians age 18 and older who were working for pay in 2003 (almost 5 percent) required the services of a medical provider for an on-the-job injury or occupational illness. About 19 percent of these individuals reported experiencing more than one occupational injury or illness in 2003. Around 60,000 injured Oregonians (69 percent) missed at least a day of work as a result of their most recent occupational injury or illness.

Results from the past three surveys show that at least one-third of injured workers in Oregon have not filed workers' compensation claims for workplace injuries and illnesses. In the 2004 OPS,

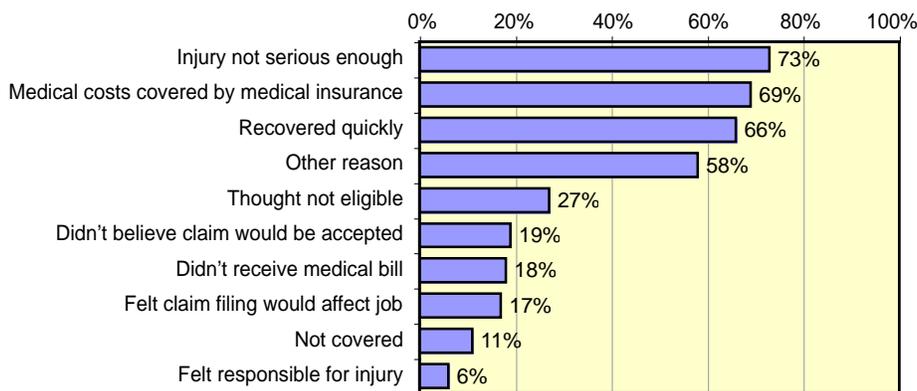
Figure 1. Percentage of adult Oregonians with workplace injuries and illnesses who did not file workers' compensation claims



the figure was 37 percent of respondents. This means that in 2003 about 32,000 injured workers did not file a workers' compensation claim for their most recent injury or illness.

The 2004 OPS was revised to ask Oregonians a series of yes-or-no questions about why they didn't file workers' compensation claims. The most frequent "yes" responses were that the injury was not serious enough, that medical costs would be covered by medical insurance, and that they recovered quickly.

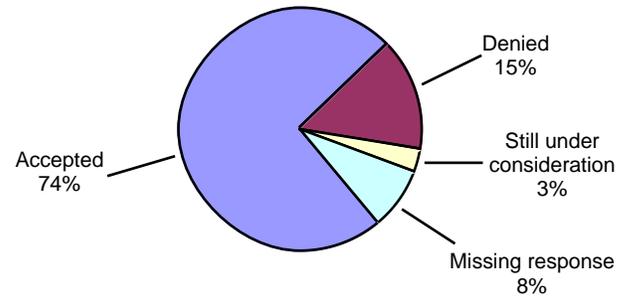
Figure 2. Reasons for not filing claims



The 2004 OPS also found that among Oregonians who did file workers' compensation claims, 74 percent (39,000) had their most recent claim accepted for payment of benefits.

For more information about the survey results, occupational injuries and illnesses, and workers' compensation claims, contact the Research and Analysis Section, (503) 378-8254, in the department's Information Management Division. Additional information is also available on the department's Web pages.

Figure 3. Status of last workers' compensation claim filed



If you have questions about the information contained in this document, please contact by e-mail or phone: [Mike Maier](#), Research Analyst, (503) 947-7352, Research & Analysis Section, [Information Management Division](#).

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