



Workers' Compensation Program

Annual Report

State Fiscal Year 2006

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Introduction

The State of Minnesota's self-insured workers' compensation program is administered by the Minnesota Department of Employee Relations (DOER). The program consists of four distinct units: claims management, disability management, legal, and safety/ industrial hygiene. It covers over 57,000 employees in the executive, legislative, judicial branches of state government and quasi-state agencies, such as the Minnesota Historical Society, MnSCU, and the Minnesota State Fair.

The state's workers' compensation program receives on average 2,800 new claims annually and is funded by an administrative fee charged to each agency covered by the program. During state fiscal year 2006 (FY 2006), the program's total costs declined 5.2% (\$1,242,986), from \$23.7 million to \$22.5 million. We present the following report on the program's activities during FY 2006. This report will present the costs of indemnity and medical benefits provided to injured state employees, summarize pertinent information regarding claims for workrelated injuries, and note other significant data compiled by the program during the past fiscal year, including a section of this report that benchmarks the program's findings against Minnesota industry standards. This information is provided to state agencies, legislators, labor unions, insurance industry professionals, and others interested in the general operation of the program.

The Workers' Compensation Program welcomes comments about this report. Please direct comments to:

Minnesota Department of Employee Relations 200 Centennial Office Building 658 Cedar Street St. Paul, MN 55155 Phone: 651/259-3800 Fax: 651/297-5471 E-mail: workers.comp.doer@state.mn.us Internet: www.doer.state.mn.us/deptwide/wkrcomp.htm.

All comparisons made in this report are of FY 2006 figures to FY 2005, unless otherwise noted, and are actual costs. The cost data has not been adjusted for inflation, except for the benchmarks section (p. 4-8).

Executive Summary

The following is a summary of program activity for state fiscal year 2006:

Cost Per \$100 of Payroll

 Costs per \$100 of payroll remains steady and are less than the Department of Labor & Industry's estimated average for employers in Minnesota (p. 5).

Claim Numbers

 Agencies reported the same number of claims in FY 2006 (p. 9), with a 8.5% increase in the number of claims involving lost time from work.

Claim Costs

- Total program costs decreased 5.2% from \$23,736,169 in FY 2005 to \$22,493,183 in FY 2006 (p. 12-13).
- Expenditures for all benefits decreased 7.3% from \$18,144,402 in FY 2005 to \$16,817,690 in FY 2006 (p. 14-15).
- Expenditures for indemnity benefits decreased in FY 2006 by 4.7% (p. 17-18).
- Expenditures for medical benefits decreased 11.9% from \$8,596,151 in FY 2005 to \$7,573,499 in FY 2006 (p. 19-20).

Recoveries

 Recoveries – funds the program received from supplementary benefits, second injury fund and subrogation – increased 36.4% in FY 2006 (p. 21-22).

Agency Activity

- Nine agencies (MnSCU, Human Services, Transportation, Corrections, Natural Resources, Veterans' Homes, Public Safety, Administration, and Trial Courts) accounted for 89% of the program's payment activity (p. 25-26).
- Benefit costs for these nine largest agencies decreased 7.3% from FY 2005 to FY 2006 (p. 27-28).
- The workers' compensation incidence rate decreased from 4.6 in FY 2005 to 4.3 in FY 2006 (p. 33-34) for all agencies. The incident rate for individual agencies is located in Appendix C (p. 38).

Other Findings

- Claims that occurred prior to 2000 accounted for 34.6% of the program's benefit costs paid out during FY 2006 (p. 23-24).
- Most common injury continues to be to the upper extremities (p. 30).

How the Program Works

Mission and Enabling Legislation

The Workers' Compensation Program's mission is to work in partnership with state and quasi-state agencies to manage workers' compensation risk throughout state government. The program works primarily through each individual state agency's human resource and safety personnel.

The enabling legislation for the Program is found in Minnesota Statutes 176.541 through 176.611.

The Four Distinct Units

The Workers' Compensation Program delivers its workers' compensation services to state agencies and their employees through four distinct work units: claims management, disability management, legal, and safety/industrial hygiene. Below is a brief description of what each work unit does.

Claims Management Unit

The Claims Management Unit determines liability for workers' compensation claims filed against the state and quasi-state agencies by state employees. It then contests or pays these claims in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes 176. While carrying out this work, the unit represents the interests of the state and quasi-state agencies.

In addition to its responsibility for the administration of workers' compensation benefits, the unit also is responsible for directing the efforts to return injured employees back to the job, recovering costs from negligent third parties, and seeking final resolutions for all claims.

Disability Management

The Disability Management Unit provides rehabilitation services for state agencies and for injured state employees. The primary purpose of the unit is to work with employees and state agencies to help injured employees stay on the job or return to work as soon as possible. The unit provides services such as vocational screenings/assessments, on-site job analyses, job placement, statutory rehabilitation and return-to-work plans.

Legal Services

The Legal Services Unit provides legal representation to state agencies in workers' compensation disputes. Its purpose is to conduct all aspects of defense litigation and provide legal counsel to state agencies and staff members of the Workers' Compensation Program. Its objective is to protect the legal interests of state agencies in disputed cases and, to defend or resolve these cases in the best interest of the state.

Safety & Industrial Hygiene

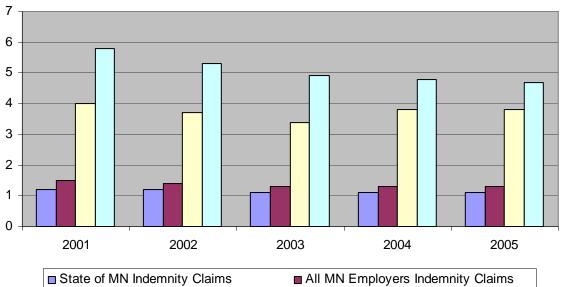
The Safety and Industrial Hygiene Unit provides safety and industrial hygiene consulting resources to all state agencies. Its purpose is to help state agencies identify and correct workplace safety hazards-both environmental and behavioral-that place employees at risk for work related injury or illness. The unit provides safety-related services to agencies such as worker exposure assessments, indoor air quality surveys, employee training and safety program development.

Benchmarks

Claims rate holds steady but has declined during the last five years (Chart 1).

Chart 1/Paid Claims Per 100 FTE's

Comparison of the State of Minnesota paid claims per 100 full-time equivalent employees to all Minnesota employers.



□ State of MN Medical Only Claims

All MN Employers Medical Only Claims

State of Minnesota Paid Claims Per 100 FTE CY DOI/FTE by FY								
Injury Calendar	Indemnity	Medical Only						
Year	Claims	Claims	Total Claims					
2001	1.2	4.0	5.2					
2002	1.2	3.7	4.9					
2003	1.1	3.4	4.5					
2004	1.1	3.8	4.9					
2005	1.1	3.8	4.8					

All Minnesota Employers Paid Claims Per 100 FTE CY DOI/FTE by FY								
Injury Calendar	Indemnity	Medical Only						
Year	Claims	Claims	Total Claims					
2001	1.5	5.8	7.3					
2002	1.4	5.3	6.7					
2003	1.3	4.9	6.2					
2004	1.3	4.8	6.0					
2005	1.3	4.7	6.0					

Data Source: DOLI System Report, 2005

The total cost of the state's workers' compensation program has been stable during the last five years when compared to payroll costs and to other Minnesota employers *(Charts 2, 3)*.

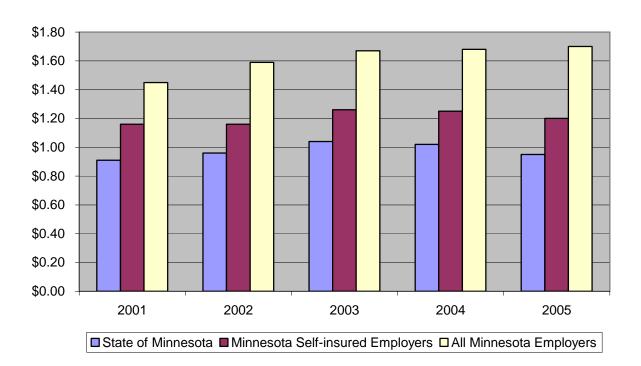
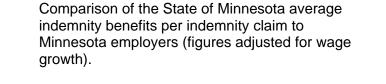


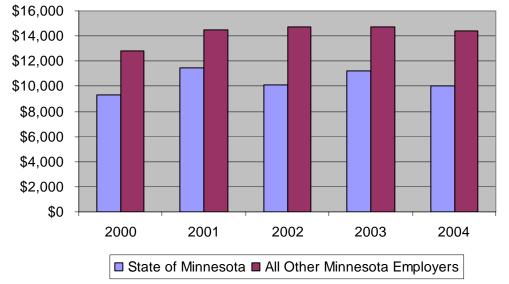
Chart 2/Estimated Cost Per \$100 of Payroll

Comparison of the State of Minnesota Cost Per \$100 Payroll									
to	Insurers and Self	-Insured Employ	ers						
		Minnesota							
	All Minnesota	Self-insured	State of						
Year	Employers	Employers	Minnesota						
2001	\$1.45	\$1.16	\$0.91						
2002	\$1.59	\$1.16	\$0.96						
2003	\$1.67	\$1.26	\$1.04						
2004	\$1.68	\$1.25	\$1.02						
2005	\$1.70	\$1.20	\$0.95						

Data Source: DOLI System Report, 2005

Chart 3/Average Cost of Indemnity Claims





Year	State of Minnesota	All Other Minnesota Employers
2000	\$9,300	\$12,800
2001	\$11,500	\$14,500
2002	\$10,100	\$14,700
2003	\$11,200	\$14,700
2004	\$10,000	\$14,400

Data Source: DOLI System Report, 2005

Chart 4a/Return-to-Work Rate

Comparison of the State of Minnesota return-towork rate against all other Minnesota employers. Return-to-work is affected by many factors, including the job market, injury severity, the availability of job modifications, and claim litigations.

Year of Closure		Return to Work: Same Employer (%)	Return to Work: Different Employer (%)	Not Employed (%)	Total (%)
2000	All MN Employers State Agencies	n/a 62.5	n/a 16.7	n/a 20.8	100
2001	All MN Employers	46.5	25.2	28.3	100
	State Agencies	68.7	12.0	19.3	100
2002	All MN Employers	45.9	23.0	31.1	100
	State Agencies	64.9	16.5	18.6	100
2003	All MN Employers	43.8	22.3	33.9	100
	State Agencies	63.5	17.3	19.2	100
2004	All MN Employers	43.9	22.9	33.2	100
	State Agencies	61.6	17.9	20.5	100
Average	All MN Employers	44.8	24.7	30.5	100
2000-2004	State Agencies	64.1	16.2	19.7	100

Data Source: DOLI System Report, 2005

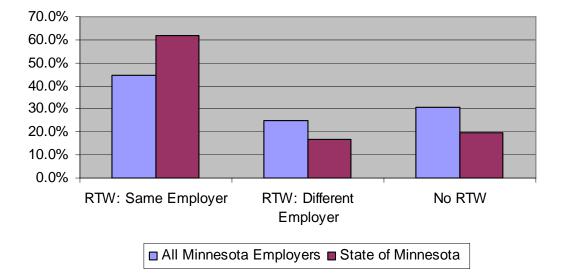


Chart 4b/Return to Work (RTW) Comparison 2000-2005/Average

Findings

The number of new claims remains steady, but more claims involve lost time from work (Chart 5 and Appendix A)

Number of claims increased (Chart 5)

The program had an increase of two in the number of claims reported from FY 2005 to FY 2006. Appendix A contains an agency-by-agency breakdown of the number of claims reported for FY 2005 and FY 2006.

Increase in lost time claims (Chart 5)

Lost time claims, those in which the employee is disabled beyond a three calendar-day waiting period, increased 8.5% (48) from FY 2005 to FY 2006. *Medical only claims* decreased 2.1% from FY 2005 to FY 2006.

Fewer claims were closed (Chart 6)

The program closed fewer claims (539) in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005. The program closed fewer claims than received during FY 2006 (2,720 received vs. 2,443 closed), thus increasing the number of claims being managed.

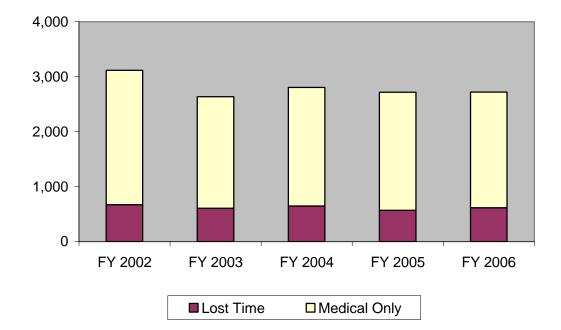


Chart 5/Number of Claims Reported/FYs 2002-2006

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
			% Ch	ange			
Lost Time	672	607	647	568	616	-8.3%	8.5%
Medical Only	2,446	2,029	2,158	2,150	2,104	-14.0%	-2.1%
Totals	3,118	2,636	2,805	2,718	2,720	-12.8%	0.1%

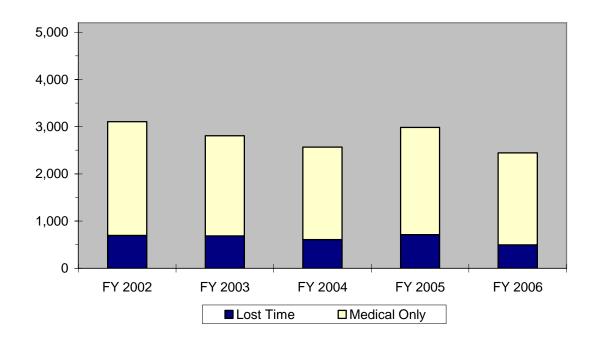


Chart 6/Number of Claims Closed/FYs 2002-2006

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
			% Ch	ange			
Lost Time	697	685	606	712	495	-29.0%	-30.5%
Medical Only	2,409	2,122	1,959	2,270	1,948	-19.1%	-14.2%
Totals	3,106	2,807	2,565	2,982	2,443	-21.3%	-18.1%

The program experienced a decrease in total costs (Chart 7)

The program's total costs decreased 5.2% (\$1,242,986) in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005. From FY 2002 to FY 2006, total program costs have increased 5.9% (\$1,246,823). These costs include all benefits, program administrative fees, indirect costs, special assessments, reinsurance, and managed care administrative fees.

Benefits

Benefit costs include all benefits paid under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 176. In FY 2006, these costs decreased 7.3% (\$1,326,712) compared to FY 2005. From FY 2002 to FY 2006, benefit costs increased 7.3% (\$1,143,388).

Administration

In FY 2006, the program provided claims administration, safety and industrial hygiene consultations, and disability management/rehabilitation services with an administrative operating budget of \$2,496,000 which is the same as FY 2005.

Special Assessments

The program's expenditure for *special assessments* decreased 1.0% (\$13,687) compared to FY 2005. Special assessments are levied by the Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) for payment of uninsured employer claims, reimbursement of supplementary benefits, and reimbursement of Second Injury Fund claims. This assessment is charged to all insurers and self-insured employers doing business in Minnesota based upon indemnity benefits paid. The decrease is due to a decrease in the special assessment rate from 25% to 24%.

Reinsurance

The program's expenditure for reinsurance increased 8.5% in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005. The Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association (WCRA) provides coverage to the state on claims exceeding our deductible or retention level. The increase in premiums in FY 2006 is associated with the overall loss experience of WCRA members.

Managed Care

The program's payment for *managed care* services increased 9.1% (\$101,924) from FY 2005 to FY 2006. The increase is due to the capitation rate increasing from \$1.88 per employee per month to \$2.00 on 7/1/05.

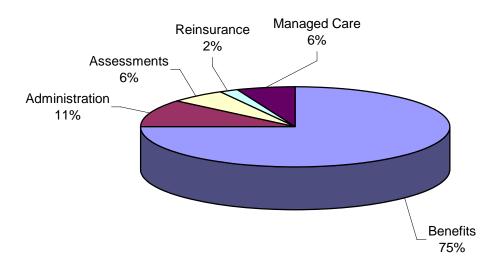


Chart 7/Total Program Costs/FYs 2002-2006

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
Benefits	\$15,674,302	\$16,328,631	\$16,952,210	\$18,144,402	\$16,817,690	7.3%	-7.3%
Administration	\$2,935,971	\$2,936,763	\$2,620,493	\$2,592,269	\$2,545,789	-13.3%	-1.8%
Assessments	\$1,110,971	\$2,221,019	\$1,426,962	\$1,381,559	\$1,367,872	23.1%	-1.0%
Reinsurance	\$338,101	\$318,800	\$362,473	\$492,628	\$534,597	58.1%	8.5%
Managed Care	\$1,187,015	\$1,145,848	\$1,078,135	\$1,125,311	\$1,227,235	3.4%	9.1%
Totals	\$21,246,360	\$22,951,061	\$22,440,273	\$23,736,169	\$22,493,183	5.9%	-5.2%

*Assessments Overstated in FY 2003

Due to changes in the timing of payments to the Special Compensation Fund, three assessment payments were made in FY 2003. The additional payment amount was \$705,964.

The program's expenditures for benefits decreased (Chart 8)

In FY 2006, total benefit expenditures decreased a total of 7.3% (\$1,326,712) compared to FY 2005. From FY 2002 to FY 2006, benefit costs have increased 7.3% (\$1,143,388).

Indemnity costs decreased

Benefit payments to compensate employees for lost wages or for permanent loss of body function decreased in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005 by 4.7% (\$355,748). Since FY 2002, indemnity costs have increased less than 1% (\$16,959).

Medical costs decreased

Payments for office and hospital visits, prescriptions, supplies, and reimbursements for travel and time off to see the doctor decreased by 11.9% (\$1,022,652) in FY 2006 compared to the previous year. The program managed one catastrophic claim received in FY 2005 for which the medical costs paid out in FY 2005 were over \$538,000.

Rehabilitation costs increased

Expenditures for medical and vocational rehabilitation services that aid in returning injured employees to work increased 3.3% (\$32,259) from FY 2005 to FY 2006. Rehabilitation expenses increased 15.6% (\$137,128) from FY 2002 to FY 2006. The expenditure for rehabilitation benefits is a claims management cost that can help reduce indemnity benefits by returning employees to work as soon as they are able.

Expense costs increased

Expenditures for investigations, independent medical examinations, medical records, court reporters, deposition fees, and legal defense costs increased 20.2% (\$110,083) in FY 2006. From FY 2002 to FY 2006, expenses increased 8.0% (\$48,517).

Employee attorney costs decreased

Fees paid to attorneys representing injured employees in FY 2006 decreased 18.3% (\$90,654) compared to FY 2005.

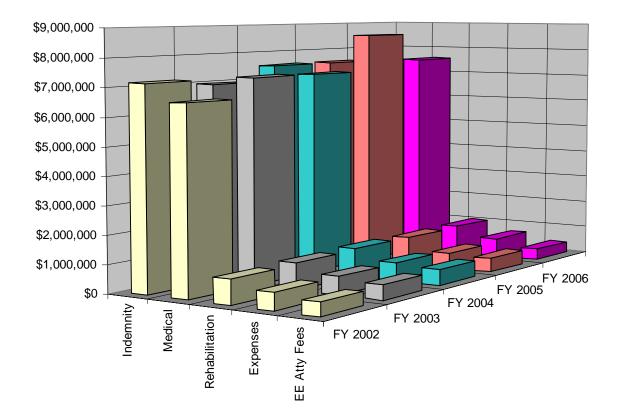


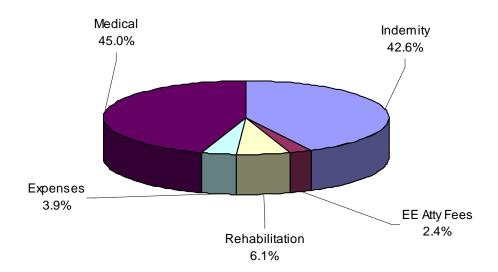
Chart 8/Benefit Costs/FYs 2002-2006

	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
			Benefit Costs			Cha	nge
Indemnity	\$7,149,300	\$6,966,626	\$7,521,542	\$7,522,007	\$7,166,259	0.2%	-4.7%
Medical	\$6,557,075	\$7,261,858	\$7,236,324	\$8,596,151	\$7,573,499	15.5%	-11.9%
Rehabilitation	\$881,068	\$934,692	\$1,005,417	\$985,937	\$1,018,196	15.6%	3.3%
Expenses	\$606,727	\$638,105	\$634,863	\$545,161	\$655,244	8.0%	20.2%
EE Atty Fees	\$480,132	\$527,350	\$554,064	\$495,146	\$404,492	-15.8%	-18.3%
Totals	\$15,674,302	\$16,328,631	\$16,952,210	\$18,144,402	\$16,817,690	7.3%	-7.3%

The majority of benefits were for medical payments (Chart 9)

In FY 2006, 45% (\$7,573,499) of the total benefits paid went to cover medical costs. 42.6% (\$7,166,259) of the total benefits paid went directly to employees in the form of indemnity payments to compensate for lost wages or for permanent loss of body function. The percentage of total benefits going directly to employees was slightly higher than the previous year (FY 2005) of 41.5%.

Chart 9/Composition of Benefit Costs/FY 2006



The program's expenditure for indemnity benefits decreased 4.7%. *(Chart 10)*

The program's second largest expenditure, indemnity benefits, experienced a decrease of 4.7% from FY 2005 to FY 2006. Since FY 2002, indemnity benefits have increased less than 1% (\$16,959).

Types of Indemnity Benefits

Indemnity benefits are usually paid on a biweekly basis to compensate employees for lost wages and permanent loss of body function due to a work-related injury. Indemnity benefits fall into one of the following categories:

Temporary Total Disability (TTD) benefits

are paid to employees who are unable to work, but who may be able to return to some type of work in the future. In FY 2006, TTD payments increased 2.1% (\$38,405) compared to FY 2005.

Other Benefits include lump sums to settle claims, death benefits to dependents, and retraining benefits. In FY 2006, these payments decreased 28.2% (\$419,700) compared to FY 2005. The decrease is attributable primarily to lump sum settlements.

Supplementary Benefits (SBs) are paid in conjunction with PTD, or to bring payments up to a percentage of the statewide average weekly wage. The majority of employees who receive SBs also receive Social Security Disability benefits. The program does not invoice agencies for these benefit payments, but rather receives full reimbursement from the Department of Labor and Industry. In FY 2006, SB payments decreased 1.9% (\$36,240) compared to FY 2005. The legislature has eliminated the requirement to pay Supplementary Benefits for injuries occurring on or after October 1, 1995.

Temporary Partial Disability (TPD)

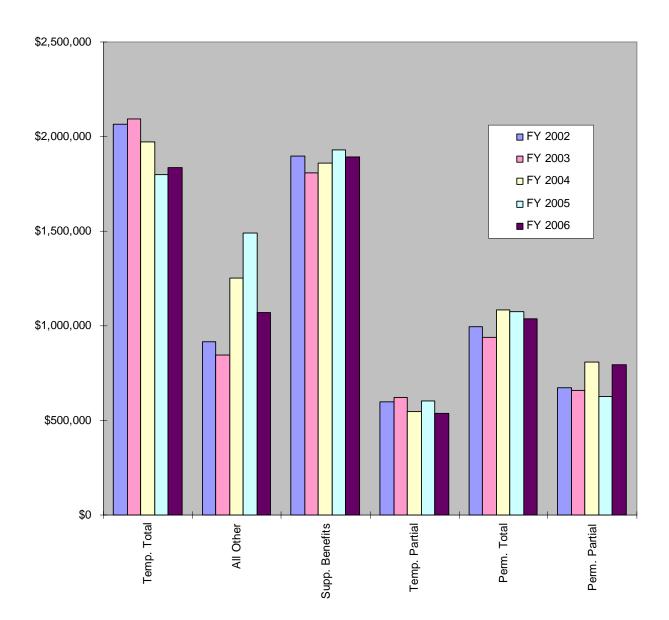
benefits are paid to employees who are able to work at either a reduced wage or a reduced number of hours. In FY 2006, TPD payments decreased 10.7% (\$64,474) compared to FY 2005.

Permanent Total Disability (PTD) benefits

are paid to employees who will never be able to work again. In FY 2006, PTD payments decreased 3.7% (\$40,180) compared to FY 2005.

Permanent Partial Disability (PPD)

benefits are paid to employees who have a permanent loss of body function. In FY 2006, PPD payments increased 26.5% (\$166,441) compared to FY 2005.





	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
		Inde	mnity Benefit C	osts		Cha	nge
Temp. Total	\$2,066,676	\$2,093,790	\$1,971,786	\$1,797,101	\$1,835,506	-11.2%	2.1%
All Other	\$917,588	\$847,079	\$1,250,637	\$1,489,879	\$1,070,179	16.6%	-28.2%
Supp. Benefits	\$1,897,937	\$1,806,284	\$1,860,745	\$1,928,993	\$1,892,753	-0.3%	-1.9%
Temp. Partial	\$599,180	\$621,049	\$546,393	\$602,084	\$537,610	-10.3%	-10.7%
Perm. Total	\$996,342	\$941,409	\$1,084,930	\$1,076,782	\$1,036,602	4.0%	-3.7%
Perm. Partial	\$671,577	\$657,015	\$807,051	\$627,168	\$793,609	18.2%	26.5%
Totals	\$7,149,300	\$6,966,626	\$7,521,542	\$7,522,007	\$7,166,259	0.2%	-4.7%

The program's expenditure for medical benefits decreased 11.9% (Chart 11)

In FY 2006, the program paid \$7,573,499 to various medical care providers and for medical reimbursements to the employee. This was a decrease of 11.9% (\$1,022,652) compared to FY 2005.

The only dollar increase was in employee reimbursement costs. As noted earlier in this report, the program experienced one catastrophic claim in 2005 that had total medical costs over \$538,000 which is influencing the decrease in medical office visits and hospital costs for FY 2006.

Medical office visits include all nonchiropractic care that is not provided in a hospital. From FY 2005 to FY 2006, these payments decreased by 20% (\$553,834).

Hospital payments include all inpatient and outpatient treatment that is provided in a hospital. In FY 2006, these payments decreased 9.3% (\$390,195) compared to FY 2005.

Chiropractic care payments decreased 2.5% (\$5,151) in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005.

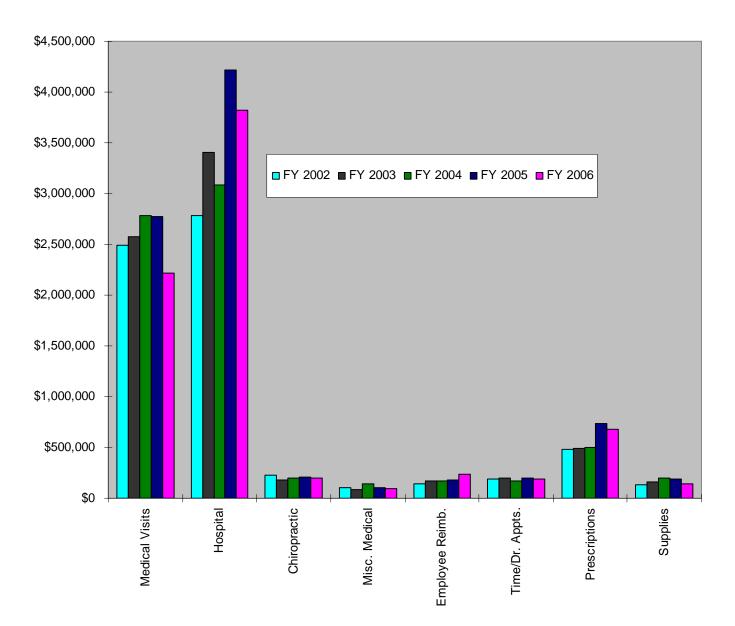
Miscellaneous medical includes payments to intervenors and diet and/or fitness centers. In FY 2006, these payments decreased 11.8% (\$12,241) compared to FY 2005.

Employee reimbursements include mileage, parking, and meals. These payments increased 30.3% (\$54,655) from FY 2005 to FY 2006.

Employee time for doctor is reimbursement of wages lost for time spent attending medical appointments. It does not include wages lost because of inability to work. These payments decreased 5.6% (\$10,929) compared to FY 2005.

Prescription costs decreased 8.8% (\$64,900) from FY 2005 to FY 2006.

Supplies include medical equipment and supplies. These payments decreased 21.8% (\$40,057) in FY 2006 compared to FY 2005.





	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
		Med	dical Benefit Co	osts		Cha	nge
Medical Visits	\$2,490,131	\$2,579,629	\$2,784,613	\$2,772,919	\$2,219,085	-10.9%	-20.0%
Hospital	\$2,785,688	\$3,408,647	\$3,080,918	\$4,213,674	\$3,823,479	37.3%	-9.3%
Chiropractic	\$228,413	\$176,124	\$194,734	\$204,637	\$199,486	-12.7%	-2.5%
Misc. Medical	\$106,664	\$81,512	\$138,730	\$104,172	\$91,931	-13.8%	-11.8%
Employee Reimb.	\$143,007	\$173,779	\$169,671	\$180,654	\$235,309	64.5%	30.3%
Time/Dr. Appts.	\$186,922	\$194,805	\$169,640	\$196,238	\$185,309	-0.9%	-5.6%
Prescriptions	\$481,719	\$486,097	\$495,916	\$739,763	\$674,863	40.1%	-8.8%
Supplies	\$134,531	\$161,265	\$202,102	\$184,094	\$144,037	7.1%	-21.8%
Totals	\$ 6,557,075	\$ 7,261,858	\$ 7,236,324	\$ 8,596,151	\$ 7,573,499	15.5%	-11.9%

Recoveries increased 36.4% — \$709,250 (Chart 12)

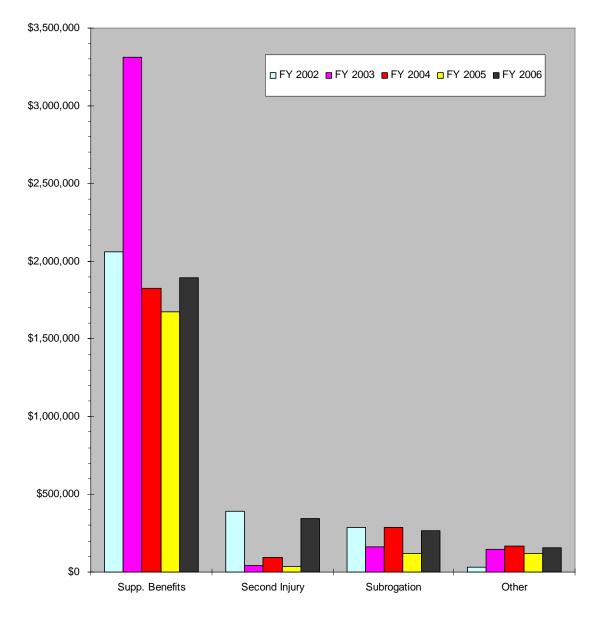
Recoveries are funds the program receives from three main sources: supplementary benefits, Second Injury Fund, and subrogation. Total recoveries in FY 2006 increased 36.4% (\$709,250) compared to FY 2005.

Supplementary Benefit Recoveries are reimbursed by the Department of Labor and Industry. In FY 2006, the program recovered 13.3% (\$222,762) more compared to FY 2005.

Second Injury Fund Recoveries are reimbursed by the Department of Labor and Industry for benefits paid on claims in which the employee had certain pre-existing conditions. In 1992, legislation eliminated the Second Injury Fund for claims occurring on or after July 1, 1992. In FY 2006, the recovery of these funds increased \$306,358 (848.8%) compared to FY 2005.

Subrogation Recoveries are funds paid by third parties who are found responsible for employees' injuries and illnesses. From FY 2005 to FY 2006, the recovery of these funds increased \$144,864 (122.0%).

Other Recoveries include funds obtained through contribution and reinsurance. In FY 2006, the recovery of these funds increased 29.1% (\$35,266) compared to FY 2005.





	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
		Recoveries					nge
Supp. Benefits	\$2,061,839	\$3,314,650	\$1,823,416	\$1,671,773	\$1,894,535	-8.1%	13.3%
Second Injury	\$389,449	\$42,985	\$96,399	\$36,093	\$342,451	-12.1%	848.8%
Subrogation	\$287,260	\$162,042	\$286,901	\$118,697	\$263,561	-8.3%	122.0%
Other	\$30,845	\$147,531	\$169,114	\$121,343	\$156,609	407.7%	29.1%
Totals	\$2,769,393	\$3,667,208	\$2,375,830	\$1,947,906	\$2,657,156	-4.1%	36.4%

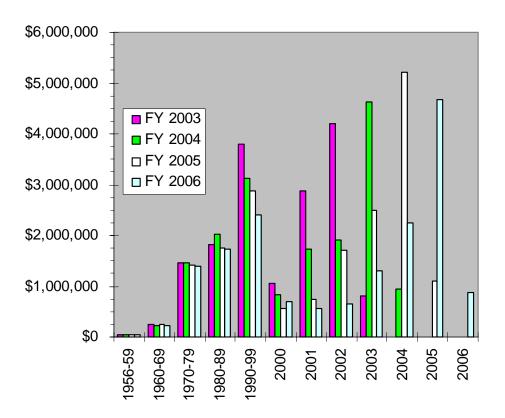
Claims that occurred prior to 2000 accounted for 34.6% of the program's FY 2006 benefit costs (*Chart 13*)

In FY 2006, the oldest claim the program managed was from 1956. Chart 13 shows a breakdown of total benefits paid from FY 2003 to FY 2006 for injuries occurring in calendar years 1956 through June 30, 2006. In FY 2006, 34.6% (\$5,812,291) of all benefits went to employees who were injured prior to 2000 which is a 8.5% decrease of what was paid out in FY 2005 (\$6,350,101).

Claims follow predictable pattern

In terms of cost, claims tend to undergo a "maturing" process. Claim costs tend to rise in the year following the injury as further benefits are paid. Then, in subsequent years, claim costs tend to decrease. Chart 13 shows claims payments made in FY 2006 which demonstrate this pattern.





Calendar Years	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
1956-59	\$47,106	\$50,159	\$55,317	\$51,790
1960-69	\$237,488	\$231,210	\$244,405	\$222,729
1970-79	\$1,459,990	\$1,466,754	\$1,423,754	\$1,393,027
1980-89	\$1,824,081	\$2,028,928	\$1,746,038	\$1,735,414
1990-99	\$3,805,265	\$3,132,262	\$2,880,587	\$2,409,331
2000	\$1,063,972	\$825,163	\$553,377	\$702,275
2001	\$2,867,510	\$1,739,945	\$738,662	\$564,905
2002	\$4,209,178	\$1,901,366	\$1,710,179	\$641,555
2003	\$814,041	\$4,637,530	\$2,485,307	\$1,300,982
2004	N/A	\$938,893	\$5,202,283	\$2,250,191
2005	N/A	N/A	\$1,104,493	\$4,666,274
2006	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$879,217
TOTALS	\$16,328,631	\$16,952,210	\$18,144,402	\$16,817,690

Nine agencies accounted for the majority of the program's activity (Charts 14, 15, and Appendices A, B)

Reported claims distribution among state agencies is consistent with agency size and the nature of work being performed by employees. The majority of claims reported (83.4% 2,268) and benefits paid (89% \$14,967,041) in FY 2006 are from nine agencies. The nine agencies are: Human Services, MnSCU, Transportation, Corrections, Natural Resources, Public Safety, Veterans' Homes, Administration, and Trial Courts.

Charts 14 and 15 contain information on these nine agencies, while Appendices A (Reported) and B (Benefit Costs) contain agency-by-agency comparison of the number of claims reported and the amount of benefits paid in FY 2005 and FY 2006.

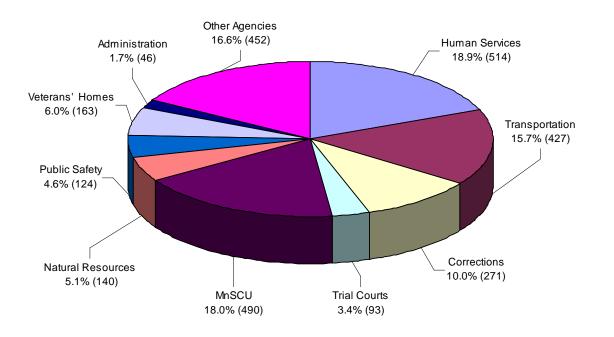
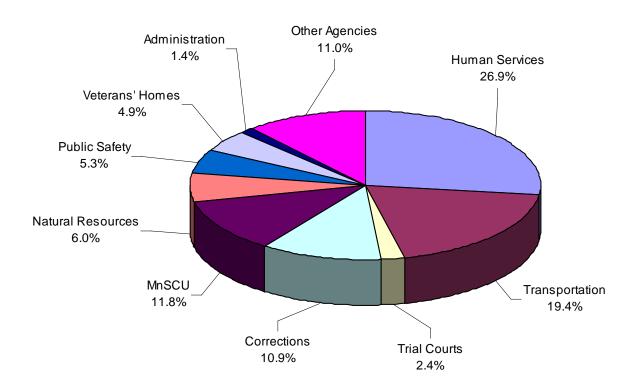


Chart 14/Composition of Reported Claims by Agency/FY 2006

Chart 15/Composition of Benefits Paid by Agency/FY 2006



Benefit costs for these nine agencies decreased 7.3% (Chart 16 and Appendix B)

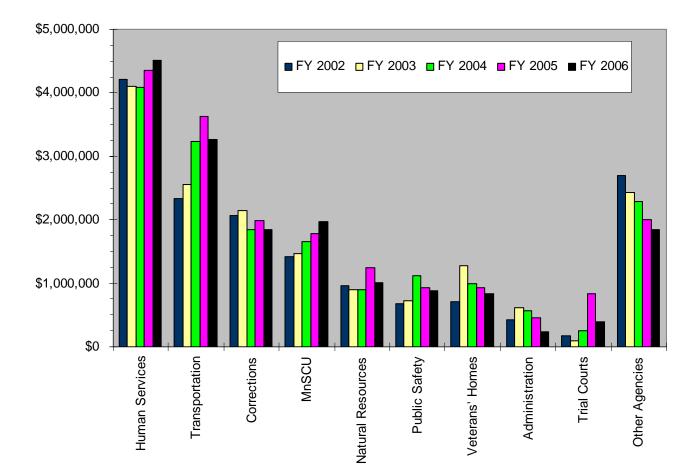
Combined benefit costs for the nine large agencies decreased a total of 7.3% (\$1,176,105) from FY 2005 to FY 2006. Chart 16 shows data for these nine agencies. Cost data for the remaining agencies is contained in Appendix B (p. 36).

Caution urged when comparing agencies

It must be noted that comparisons of agencies' workers' compensation costs may be misleading and must be kept in perspective. One must consider many factors when comparing costs among agencies: the number and age of employees, the type of work done, the salaries paid, the number of hours worked, and the type and severity of injuries.

Declines in Costs for Most of the Nine Agencies

All but two of the nine agencies experienced a decrease in benefit costs ranging from 3.5% to 52.3%. The combined total of all other agencies experienced a decrease in benefit costs of 7.5% (\$150,607) from FY 2005 to FY 2006.





	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 02-06	FY 05-06
			Benefit Costs			Cha	nge
Human Services	\$4,212,445	\$4,103,952	\$4,082,300	\$4,354,401	\$4,517,894	7.3%	3.8%
Transportation	\$2,332,345	\$2,549,547	\$3,238,122	\$3,621,474	\$3,260,886	39.8%	-10.0%
Corrections	\$2,064,536	\$2,152,379	\$1,845,647	\$1,979,826	\$1,841,575	-10.8%	-7.0%
MnSCU	\$1,419,566	\$1,472,436	\$1,660,488	\$1,787,108	\$1,978,448	39.4%	10.7%
Natural Resources	\$961,395	\$896,443	\$893,452	\$1,239,895	\$1,006,271	4.7%	-18.8%
Public Safety	\$685,345	\$732,581	\$1,120,193	\$923,346	\$891,082	30.0%	-3.5%
Veterans' Homes	\$712,880	\$1,280,657	\$999,380	\$936,231	\$832,192	16.7%	-11.1%
Administration	\$419,342	\$613,478	\$560,660	\$459,191	\$237,632	-43.3%	-48.2%
Trial Courts	\$167,964	\$98,630	\$258,078	\$841,674	\$401,061	138.8%	-52.3%
Totals 9 Agencies	\$12,975,818	\$13,900,103	\$14,658,320	\$16,143,146	\$14,967,041	15.3%	-7.3%
Other Agencies	\$2,698,484	\$2,428,528	\$2,293,890	\$2,001,256	\$1,850,649	-31.4%	-7.5%
Totals Overall	\$15,674,302	\$16,328,631	\$16,952,210	\$18,144,402	\$16,817,690	7.3%	-7.3%

Claim Characteristics (Charts 17, 18 and 19)

Claims are defined in the Workers' Compensation Program by four different characteristics:

- body part
- cause
- nature
- source

We present charts 17 (A & B), 18 (A & B), and 19 (A & B) describing the distribution and average claim cost of injuries by body part, cause, and nature. Source is excluded from analysis due to the large number of possible source codes.

Average claim costs that are in parenthesis in charts 17B, 18B, and 19B, are based on at least a five year claim maturity and therefore represent the average of costs paid to date (6/30/06) on claims reported during the five year period FY 1998 through FY 2002.

For a complete listing of injury characteristic coding used by the Workers' Compensation Program, please go to http://www.doer.state.mn.us/eiwc/manuals.htm and click on Workers' Compensation Injury Coding Guide.

FY 2006 Reported Claims (Chart 17A) and 5-Year Comparison (Chart 17B) by Body Part

In FY 2006, upper extremities (arm, shoulder, elbow, wrist) continued to be the most frequently reported injured body part (28.8%), down 2.8% compared to FY 2005. Reported injuries from FY 1998 through FY 2002 that involve multiple body parts (\$6,099/claim) and injuries to the back and neck (\$6,231/claim) have the highest average cost per claim.

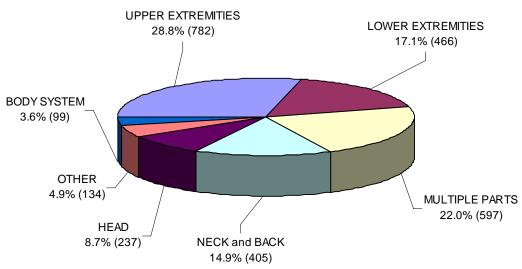
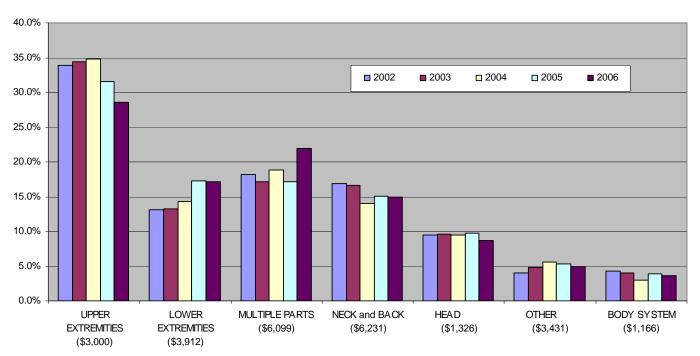


Chart 17A FY 2006 Reported Claims by Body Part

Chart 17B 5-Year Comparison by Body Part (%) of Reported Claims



NOTE: The dollar amounts shown in parenthesis in chart 17B above are the historical average claim costs on reported claims from 1998 through 2002 paid out as of 6/30/06.

FY 2006 Reported Claims (Chart 18A) and 5-Year Comparison (Chart 18B) by Cause

The injury "cause" or "type" identifies the event which directly caused the injury. In FY 2006, overexertion, defined as excessive physical effort (23.7%) and falls (18.6%) continue to be the most prevalent cause of injuries. Motor vehicle claims (\$7,955 per claim) are on average the most expensive cause of claims.

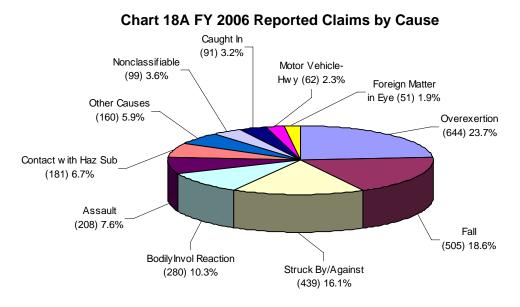
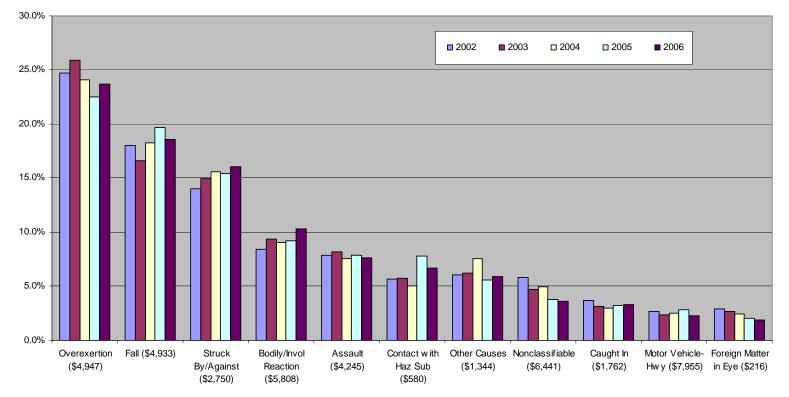


Chart 18B 5-Year Comparison by Cause (%) of Reported Claims



NOTE: The dollar amounts shown in parenthesis in chart 18B above are the historical average claim costs on reported claims from 1998 through 2002 paid out as of 6/30/06.

FY 2006 Report Claims (Chart 19A) and 5-Year Comparison (Chart 19B) by Nature

The "nature" of an injury identifies the injury or illness in terms of its principal physical characteristics such as: a cut, broken bone, or pain. In FY 2006, sprains/strains continued to be the most frequently reported nature of injury (39.3%), occurring more than twice as often as the next most frequently reported nature, contusion/crush/ bruise (17.1%). While occurring infrequently, multiple injuries (\$7,432 per claim) and fractures (\$7,806 per claim) represent the most expensive reported claims.

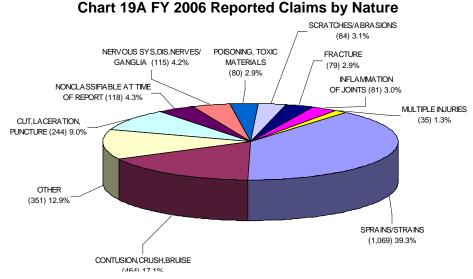
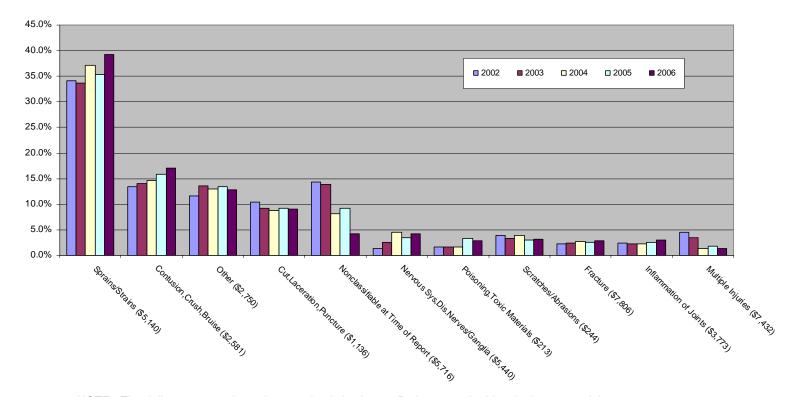


Chart 19B 5-Year Comparison by Nature (%) of Reported Claims



NOTE: The dollar amounts shown in parenthesis in chart 19B above are the historical average claim costs on reported claims from 1998 through 2002 paid out as of 6/30/06.

The average workers' compensation claim incident rate for these nine agencies and for all other agencies decreased in FY 2006 (*Chart 20*)

The workers' compensation claim *incident rate* is an indicator of an agency's claims experience. It is an approximation of the number of reportable claims paid per year, per 100 full-time employees and is calculated as follows:

Number of Reportable Claims Paid x 200,000

Incident Rate =

Total Employee Hours Worked

A *reportable* claim is one in which an employee seeks medical treatment, we accept liability, and expenses are paid.

The average incident rate decreased from 5.3 (claims per 100 FTE's) in FY 2005 to 4.9 in FY 2006 for the nine large agencies who account for the majority of the program's claims reported and benefits paid. The rate for all other agencies decreased in FY 2006, compared to FY 2005 by 0.1. This equates to fewer reportable injuries occurring for every 100 full-time employees. See Appendix C on page 37 for individual agency incident rates for FY 2006.

Overall, the incident rate for all agencies decreased from 4.9 in FY 2002 to 4.3 in FY 2006. See **Chart 21** for five year rate comparison.

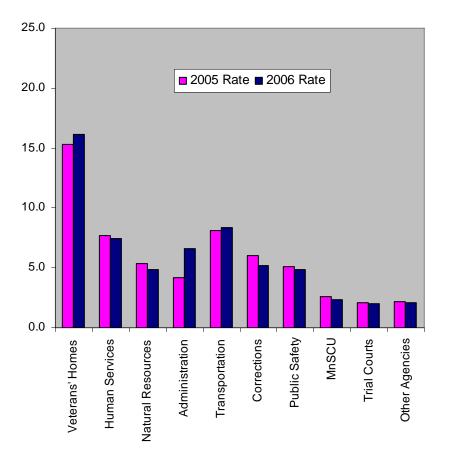


Chart 20/Incident Rates/FYs 2005-2006

	FY 2005	FY 20	005	FY 2006	FY 2	006	FY 05-06
	Reportable	Hours	2005	Reportable	Hours		Rate
Agency	Claims	Worked	Rate	Claims	Worked	2006 Rate	Change
Veterans' Homes	124	1,617,376	15.3	136	1,689,644	16.1	0.8
Human Services	420	10,926,833	7.7	423	11,370,586	7.4	-0.3
Natural Resources	123	4,631,152	5.3	113	4,658,974	4.9	-0.4
Administration	30	1,446,902	4.1	28	851,311	6.6	2.5
Transportation	342	8,391,187	8.2	338	8,113,505	8.3	0.1
Corrections	198	6,578,814	6.0	177	6,877,809	5.1	-0.9
Public Safety	87	3,392,352	5.1	83	3,430,544	4.8	-0.3
MnSCU	299	22,943,850	2.6	313	27,038,506	2.3	-0.3
Trial Courts	33	3,153,806	2.1	35	3,514,460	2.0	-0.1
Other Agencies	200	18,383,270	2.2	201	18,976,086	2.1	-0.1
All Agencies	1,856	81,465,542	4.6	1,847	86,521,425	4.3	-0.3

*Source of Hours Worked is SEMA4.

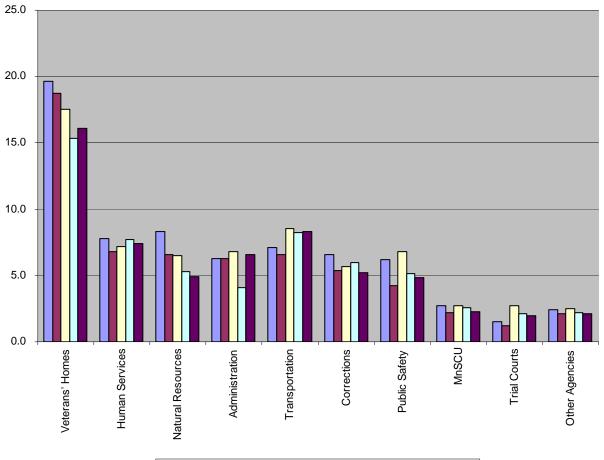


Chart 21/Incident Rate Comparison/FYs 2002-2006

■ 2002 Rate ■ 2003 Rate ■ 2004 Rate ■ 2005 Rate ■ 2006 Rate

	2002 Rate	2003 Rate	2004 Rate	2005 Rate	2006 Rate	02-06 Rate Change
Veterans' Homes	19.6	18.7	17.5	15.3	16.1	-3.5
Human Services	7.8	6.8	7.2	7.7	7.4	-0.4
Natural Resources	8.3	6.6	6.5	5.3	4.9	-3.4
Administration	6.3	6.3	6.8	4.1	6.6	+0.3
Transportation	7.1	6.6	8.5	8.2	8.3	+1.2
Corrections	6.6	5.4	5.7	6.0	5.1	-1.5
Public Safety	6.2	4.2	6.8	5.1	4.8	-1.4
MnSCU	2.7	2.2	2.7	2.6	2.3	-0.4
Trial Courts	1.5	1.2	2.7	2.1	2.0	+0.5
Other Agencies	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.1	-0.3
All Agencies	4.9	4.2	4.8	4.6	4.3	-0.6

Agency	FY 2005	FY 2006	% of Change
Administration	39	46	17.95%
Agriculture	16	16	0.00%
Animal Health Board	4	4	0.00%
Attorney General	6 9	3 4	-50.00% -55.56%
Boards & Commissions Perpich Center for Arts Educ	9	0	-55.56%
Commerce & Commerce Weights & Measures	9	8	-100.00%
Corrections	333	271	-18.62%
Court of Appeals	1	0	-100.00%
Education	8	6	-25.00%
Explore MN Tourism	1	0	-100.00%
Employment & Economic Development	53	51	-3.77%
Employee Relations	3	3	0.00%
Examining Boards	4	8	100.00%
Faribault Academies	13	24	84.62%
Finance	3	6	100.00%
Friends of MN Conservation Corp	60	86	43.33%
Gambling Control	0	0	No Change
Governor's Office	2	1	-50.00%
Health	21	25	19.05%
Higher Educ Services Office	2	1	-50.00%
Historical Society	9	18	100.00%
House of Representatives	9	9	0.00%
Housing Finance	4	9	125.00%
Human Rights	1	2	100.00%
Human Services	536	514	-4.10%
Indian Affairs Council	2	0	-100.00%
Investment Board	0	0	No Change
IRRRB	5	6	20.00%
Judicial	5	9	80.00%
Judicial Standards Board	0	0	No Change
Labor & Industry	12	16	33.33%
Legislative Auditor	0	0	No Change
Legislative Coord Committee/Revisor of Statutes	0	0	No Change
Lottery	9	6	-33.33%
Mediation Services	1	0	-100.00%
Military Affairs	24	19	-20.83%
MN State Retirement	0	0	No Change
MNSCU	456	490	7.46%
Natural Resources	164	140	-14.63%
Office of Enterprise Technology	0	7	100.00%
Ombudsman-Corrections	0	0	No Change
Ombudsperson for Families	0	0	No Change
Pollution Control Agency	16	14	-12.50%
Public Defense Board	8	3	-62.50%
Public Employee Retirement Assoc.	3	3	0.00%
Public Safety	140	124	-11.43%
Public Utilities Commission	0	2	100.00%
Racing Commission	0	0	No Change
Revenue	<u> 19 </u> 0	27 5	42.11%
Secretary of State		5 0	100.00%
State Arts Board	0	2	No Change
State Auditor State Fair	31	31	100.00% 0.00%
State Fail	8	6	-25.00%
Tax Court	0	0	No Change
Teachers Retirement Assoc.	2	0	-100.00%
Transportation	416	427	2.64%
	80	93	
Trial Courts Veterans Affairs	5	93	16.25% -80.00%
Veterans Home Board	148	163	-80.00%
Work Comp Court of Appeals	0	0	No Change
Zoo	17	11	-35.29%
TOTAL	2718	2720	0.07%

Appendix A: Reported Claims/FY 2005 – 2006 by Agency

Agency	FY 2005	FY 2006	% of Change
Administration	\$459,191	\$237,632	-48.25%
Agriculture	\$143,477	\$241,240	68.14%
Animal Health Board	\$191	\$22,101	11471.20%
Attorney General	\$25,640	\$44,061	71.84%
Boards & Commissions	\$58,651	\$36,423	-37.90%
Perpich Center for Arts Education	\$4,277	\$1,368	-68.01%
Commerce & Commerce Weights & Measures	\$58,933	\$62,232	5.60%
Corrections	\$1,979,826	\$1,841,575	-6.98%
Court of Appeals	\$759	\$0	-100.00%
Education	\$48,671	\$49,480	1.66%
Explore MN Tourism	\$1,344	\$6,730	400.74%
Employment & Econ Development	\$258,585	\$207,197	-19.87%
Employee Relations	\$2,392	\$1,830	-23.49%
Examining Boards	\$48,303	\$46,140	-4.48%
Faribault Academies	\$97,322	\$89,208	-8.34%
Finance	\$749	\$159	-78.77%
Friends of MN Conservation Corp	\$13,936	\$19,548	40.27%
Gambling Control	\$626	\$1,171	87.06%
Governor's Office	\$707	\$6,187	775.11%
Health	\$91,228	\$110,526	21.15%
Higher Educ Services Office	\$3,748	\$4,697	25.32%
Historical Society	\$14,727	\$22,863	55.25%
House of Representatives	\$34,472	\$1,829	-94.69%
Housing Finance	\$1,808	\$520	-71.24%
Human Rights	\$18,441	\$5,896	-68.03%
Human Services	\$4,354,401	\$4,517,894	3.75%
Indian Affairs Council	\$15	\$51	240.00%
Investment Board	\$0	\$0	No Change
IRRRB	\$241,775	\$54,355	-77.52%
Judicial	\$5,873	\$15,727	167.78%
Judicial Standards Board	\$0	\$0	No Change
Labor & Industry	\$43,385	\$92,954	114.25%
Legislative Auditor	\$0	\$0	No Change
Legislative Coord Committee/Revisor of Statutes	\$0	\$0	No Change
Lottery	\$16,416	\$14,060	-14.35%
Mediation Services	\$30,493	\$25,895	-15.08%
Military Affairs	\$236,340	\$126,400	-46.52%
MN State Retirement	\$0	\$0	No Change
MNSCU	\$1,787,108	\$1,978,448	10.71%
Natural Resources	\$1,239,895	\$1,006,271	-18.84%
Office of Enterprise Technology	\$0	\$76,500	100.00%
Ombudsman-Corrections	\$0 \$0	\$0	No Change
Ombudsperson for Families	\$0	\$0 \$0	No Change
Pollution Control Agency	\$43,726	\$29,654	-32.18%
Public Defense Board	\$11,231	\$11,042	-1.68%
Public Employee Retirement Assoc.	\$19,015	\$849	-95.54%
Public Safety	\$923,346	\$891,082	-3.49%
Public Utilities Commission	\$923,346	\$3,865	-3.49%
Racing Commission	\$0 \$0	\$3,865	No Change
Revenue	\$86,395	\$79,908	-7.51%
	\$18,572	\$79,908	-7.51%
Secretary of State			
State Arts Board	\$0 \$16.876	\$0 \$14.064	No Change
State Auditor	\$16,876	\$14,064	-16.66%
State Fair	\$56,900	\$78,077	37.22%
State Senate	\$16,627	\$3,795	-77.18%
Tax Court	\$0	\$0	No Change
Teachers Retirement	\$218	\$0	-100.00%
Transportation	\$3,621,474	\$3,260,886	-9.96%
	\$841,674	\$401,061	-52.35%
Trial Courts	A :		14 0 40/
Veterans Affairs	\$1,948	\$1,131	-41.94%
Veterans Affairs Veterans Home Board	\$936,231	\$832,192	-11.11%
Veterans Affairs			

Appendix C:	Agency	Incident	Rates/FY	2006
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Agency	# of Hours Worked	Reportable Claims	Incident Rate
Administration	851,311	28	6.58
Agriculture	722,186	12	3.32
Animal Health Board	69,019	3	8.69
Attorney General	622,546	2	0.64
Boards & Commissions	319,195	2	1.25
Perpich Center for Arts Education	123,499	0	0.00
Commerce & Commerce Weights & Measures	527,470	4	1.52
Corrections	6,877,809	177	5.15
Court of Appeals	148,224	0	0.00
Education	730,259	5	1.37
Explore Minnesota Tourism	86,586	0	0.00
Employment & Economic Development	2.714.455	30	2.21
Employee Relations	242,282	1	0.83
Examining Boards	307,076	2	1.30
Faribault Academies	309,040	20	12.94
Finance	252,292	1	0.79
Friends of MN Conservation Corp	Not Available	* 28	Not Available
Gambling Control	54,532	0	0.00
Governor's Office	79,500	1	2.52
Health	2,283,565	22	1.93
Health Higher Educ Services Office		1	1.93
	109,036	* 10	
Historical Society	Not Available		Not Available
House of Representatives	Not Available	* 5	Not Available
Housing Finance	316,561	4	2.53
Human Rights	76,122	1	2.63
Human Services	11,370,586	423	7.44
Indian Affairs Council	9,036	0	0.00
Investment Board	32,938	0	0.00
IRRRB	156,556	5	6.39
Judicial	472,325	4	1.69
Judicial Standards Board	3,367	0	0.00
Labor & Industry	752,807	13	3.45
Legislative Auditor	99,532	0	0.00
Legislative Coord Committee/Revisor of Statutes	160,066	0	0.00
Lottery	249,922	4	3.20
Mediation Services	26,244	0	0.00
Military Affairs	448,208	17	7.59
MN State Retirement	137,710	0	0.00
MNSCU	27,038,506	313	2.32
MNSCU-Student Workers	Not Available	* 36	Not Available
Natural Resources	4,658,974	113	4.85
Office of Environmental Assistance	4,870	0	0.00
Office of Enterprise Technology	489,021	3	1.23
Ombudsperson for Families	8,275	0	0.00
Pollution Control Agency	1,400,141	9	1.29
Public Defense Board	1,090,356	3	0.55
Public Employee Retirement Assoc.	152,121	1	1.31
Public Safety	3,430,544	83	4.84
Public Utilities Commission	73,485	1	2.72
Racing Commission	15,408	0	0.00
Revenue	2,158,885	18	1.67
Secretary of State	147,665	2	2.71
State Arts Board	147,005	0	0.00
State Auditor	194,135	0	1.03
		* 27	
State Fair	Not Available		Not Available
State Senate	Not Available	* 3	Not Available
Tax Court	9,604	0	0.00
Teachers Retirement	141,832	0	0.00
Transportation	8,113,505	338	8.33
Trial Courts	3,514,460	35	1.99
Veterans Affairs	61,783	0	0.00
Veterans Home Board	1,689,644	136	16.10
Work Comp Court of Appeals	24,502	0	0.00
Zoo	344,967	9	5.22
		1,847	4.27

* Reportable Claim #'s are not included in the **1,847** TOTAL