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**Work-related traumatic injury in Australian transport sector workers**

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**Objectives/aim**

The trucking industry is one of the highest risk industries for work-related injury and disease in Australia. The objective of this study was to compare the rate and distribution of work-related traumatic injury in truck drivers and other workers in Australia.

**Methods**

All accepted workers’ compensation claims from 2004 to 2015 were extracted from the National Dataset for Compensation-based Statistics. We used standardized industry and occupation coding systems to identify truck drivers and other occupational groups, and the Type of Occurrence Classification System (TOOCS) to identify the work-related traumatic injury.

**Main findings**

Traumatic injuries were the second most common condition of truck drivers’ compensation claims (24% of total), after musculoskeletal conditions. However, traumatic injury due to vehicle incidents was the most common cause of work-related fatal claims in truck drivers, accounting for over 70% of all fatal claims. Truck drivers also recorded an elevated rate of traumatic injury, at 16.6 claims per 1000 workers per year which was 66% higher than bus, delivery and automobile drivers. The incidence rate of traumatic fatal claims in truck drivers was about 15 times higher (23.7 per 100,000 workers) than all other workers (1.6 per 100,000 workers). In addition, traumatic injury comprised 15,315 weeks (12.9%) of the total annual average cumulative time loss

Conclusion: Truck drivers are at significantly higher risk of traumatic injury than other workers. Our findings support the continued focus on occupational health and safety and road safety research to reduce the number of traumatic injuries in truck drivers.