



**P C R B**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Compensation Rating Bureau

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# Medical Treatment Statistics Report

Based on Policy Years 2018-2020

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

2 - Introduction

3 - Office & Physical Medicine Visits

6 - Surgery

9 - Prescription Drugs

10 - Prescriptions with Opioids

## INTRODUCTION

This report provides statistics related to the medical treatment received by Pennsylvania Workers Compensation claimants by part of body injured.

This report contains claim data from Unit Statistical Reports and Medical Data Call transactions for policy years 2018, 2019, and 2020, therefore all claims have both an exposure and jurisdiction state of Pennsylvania.

The Unit Statistical Reports were used to determine the Part of Body category and the Medical Data Call transactions were used for all other data. The data is limited to medical services performed within the first two years following the accident date.

# OFFICE & PHYSICAL MEDICINE VISITS

For each injured part of body, statistics include claim counts and medical paid amounts.

**80%**  
*claims with at least one visit*

**37%**  
*other upper extremities required most visits*

**2%**  
*neck injuries required least visits*

**\$772-\$3509**  
*range of average paid per claim*

Part of Body	Claim Count	% of Claims	Paid Amount	Avg. Paid Amount per Claim
Back	34,683	13%	\$69,846,746	\$2,014
Head	31,285	11%	\$24,162,171	\$772
Knee	22,016	8%	\$44,554,859	\$2,024
Neck	5,578	2%	\$13,114,971	\$2,351
Other Lower Extremities	39,198	14%	\$56,264,520	\$1,435
Other Upper Extremities	100,573	37%	\$87,527,476	\$870
Shoulder & Upper Arm	25,676	9%	\$90,104,607	\$3,509
Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts	14,239	5%	\$28,262,997	\$1,985

-Other Upper Extremities includes elbow, fingers, thumb, wrist, hand, lower arm, and multiple upper extremities  
 -Other Lower Extremities includes ankle, foot, toes, hip, lower leg, upper leg, and multiple lower extremities

# TIME UNTIL FIRST TREATMENT

For each injured part of body, statistics include the median, 10th percentile, and 90th percentile to illustrate the general range and outlier values for different types of medical services provided to injured workers.

Part of Body	Percentile	Days to First Doctor Visit	Days to First Physical Medicine Visit	Number of Physical Medicine Visits
<b>Back</b>	10%	0	1	2
	Median	1	14	9
	90%	16	65	38
<b>Head</b>	10%	0	5	1
	Median	0	23	10
	90%	4	114	45
<b>Knee</b>	10%	0	3	2
	Median	1	27	11
	90%	21	104	40
<b>Neck</b>	10%	0	2	2
	Median	1	16	11
	90%	16	92	45
<b>Other Lower Extremities</b>	10%	0	1	1
	Median	0	26	9
	90%	10	100	40
<b>Other Upper Extremities</b>	10%	0	3	1
	Median	0	26	8
	90%	11	112	35
<b>Shoulder &amp; Upper Arm</b>	10%	0	4	2
	Median	1	28	14
	90%	29	123	55
<b>Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts</b>	10%	0	3	2
	Median	0	21	11
	90%	13	102	49

-Evaluation and management (doctor visit) procedures are those reported with CPT codes 99201 to 99499.

-Physical medicine procedures are those reported with CPT codes 97001 to 97799.

-We define visits as unique combination of Provider ID + Service Date/Service From Date + Bill ID + Claim #.



## KEY FINDINGS

### **FIRST VISIT TO DOCTOR OFTEN SAME OR NEXT DAY**

The number of days to first doctor visit is most often the same or next day, and this rate has been as long as 29 days for some Shoulder and Upper Arm injuries

### **MEDIAN OF 11 PHYSICAL MEDICINE VISITS**

The median number of physical medicine visits is 11 occurrences, ranging from 1 visit for Head injuries to as many as 55 visits for Shoulder and Upper Arm injuries

### **MEDIAN OF 27 DAYS TO FIRST PHYSICAL MEDICINE VISIT**

The median number of days to first physical medicine visit is 27 days, ranging from 1 day for Back injuries to 123 days for Shoulder and Upper Arm injuries

# SURGERIES

For each injured part of body, statistics include the number of claimants who required surgery within two years following the date of injury and the medical paid amounts for those surgeries.

Part of Body	Claim Count	% of All Surgeries	Paid Amount	Avg. Paid Amount Per Claim
Back	5,776	6%	\$19,271,774	\$3,337
Head	9,673	10%	\$5,505,887	\$569
Knee	8,233	9%	\$15,956,021	\$1,938
Neck	1,121	1%	\$4,162,729	\$3,713
Other Low Extremities	10,708	11%	\$16,976,127	\$1,585
Other Upper Extremities	44,685	47%	\$39,887,925	\$893
Shoulder & Upper Arm	10,922	12%	\$35,931,286	\$3,290
Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts	3,761	4%	\$7,925,830	\$2,107

## KEY FINDINGS

**28%**

Claims that required at least one surgery

**47%**

Other Upper Extremities required the most surgeries

**\$569-\$3,713**

Average amounts per claim range for head injuries (low) to neck injuries (high)

**1%**

Neck injuries required the least surgeries

# MAJOR OR MINOR SURGERY

Surgical procedures are those reported with CPT codes 10000 to 69999. Major and minor surgery are defined by CPT code and differentiated by postoperative time frames that apply to each surgical procedure, as defined by CMS (Medicare). Minor surgery includes endoscopic or minor procedures with up to a 10-day postoperative period. Major surgery includes procedures with a 1-day preoperative period and up to 90-day postoperative period. We made the assumption that if a surgery is not a major surgery, then it is a minor surgery.

Part of Body	% Claims with Surgery	% Claims with Major Surgery	% Claims with Minor Surgery
Back	26.9%	1.8%	25.1%
Head	18.9%	5.0%	13.9%
Knee	15.1%	3.5%	11.6%
Neck	35.5%	18.8%	16.7%
Other Lower Extremities	25.5%	13.3%	12.2%
Other Upper Extremities	40.5%	12.1%	28.4%
Shoulder & Upper Arm	40.6%	23.3%	17.3%
Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts	23.5%	7.0%	16.5%

## KEY FINDINGS

### 40.6%

Shoulder and upper arm injuries required the most surgery, as well as most major surgery (23.3%)

### 15.1%

Knee injuries required the least surgeries

### 1.8%

Back injuries required the least major surgeries

# TIME UNTIL FIRST SURGERY

For each injured part of body, statistics include the median, 10th percentile, and 90th percentile to illustrate the general range and outlier values for surgical procedures provided to injured workers, with a breakdown of major and minor surgeries.

Part of Body	Percentile	Days to First Surgery	Days to First Major Surgery	Days to First Minor Surgery
<b>Back</b>	10%	0	5	0
	Median	71	141	75
	90%	232	450	237
<b>Head</b>	10%	0	0	0
	Median	0	13	0
	90%	17	238	15
<b>Knee</b>	10%	1	9	0
	Median	32	60	31
	90%	127	207	149
<b>Neck</b>	10%	0	6	0
	Median	63	155	66
	90%	252	441	253
<b>Other Lower Extremities</b>	10%	0	0	0
	Median	2	6	2
	90%	91	142	146
<b>Other Upper Extremities</b>	10%	0	0	0
	Median	0	11	0
	90%	56	173	51
<b>Shoulder &amp; Upper Arm</b>	10%	1	4	4
	Median	39	76	43
	90%	146	253	156
<b>Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts</b>	10%	0	0	0
	Median	4	34	4
	90%	160	298	168

-Surgical procedures are those reported with CPT codes 10000 to 69999.

-Defined major surgery based on a listing of major surgery CPT codes published by Medicare.

-We made the assumption that if a surgery is not a major surgery, then it is a minor surgery.

# PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The table below displays the percentage of claims that involved prescription drugs by part of body. This data is limited to prescriptions filled at a pharmacy and do not include prescriptions filled in other venues (such as hospitals, doctors office, etc.)

Part of Body	Claim Count	Paid Amount	Avg. Paid Amount Per Claim
Back	15,081	\$16,477,103	\$1,093
Head	6,283	\$4,131,649	\$658
Knee	8,059	\$6,443,017	\$799
Neck	2,147	\$2,566,778	\$1,196
Other Lower Extremities	10,019	\$10,414,142	\$1,039
Other Upper Extremities	25,546	\$11,610,209	\$454
Shoulder & Upper Arm	11,937	\$9,879,561	\$828
Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts	4,312	\$6,123,788	\$1,420

## KEY FINDINGS

### 29%

Percentage of all claims that had prescription costs

### \$454-\$1,420

Average range of paid amounts per claim for prescriptions, from other upper extremities to whole body injuries, respectively

# OPIOID PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The table below displays the percentage of claims that involved opioid prescription drugs by part of body. This data is limited to prescriptions filled at a pharmacy and do not include prescriptions filled in other venues (such as hospitals, doctors office, etc.)

Part of Body	% Claims with Rx (1)	% Claims with Opioids (2)	% Claims with Opioids (3) = (2)/(1)
Back	17.5%	1.2%	6.9%
Head	36.3%	4.7%	12.9%
Knee	41.9%	4.7%	11.2%
Neck	34.9%	8.2%	23.5%
Other Lower Extremities	23.9%	4.6%	19.2%
Other Upper Extremities	24.1%	4.0%	16.6%
Shoulder & Upper Arm	44.5%	12.7%	28.5%
Whole Body and/or Multiple Body Parts	27.0%	4.1%	15.2%

## KEY FINDINGS

**17%**

Percentage of all prescriptions that were opioid prescriptions

**44.5%, 12.7%**

Shoulder and upper arm injuries involved the most prescriptions and most opioids, respectively

**1.2%**

Back injuries involved the least prescriptions and fewest prescriptions with opioids



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