

SHARE OF WORK PERSONAL DAMAGE COSTS

In 1995, the Industry Commission costed damage to people from work for the year 1992-93. In 2004, the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) updated the costings to the year 2000-01. They also added in the estimated costs of personal suffering.

Industry Commission (1995)

From "Work, Health and Safety" Vol. II pp 104, Table C.10,11,12 (National Accounts Basis) for the year 1992-93,

Employer 30% Worker 30% Community 40%

Also in Table C.15 pp 106, the ratio of Indirect Costs to Direct Costs (Workers Compensation Costs) was given for each state as X : 1,

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT
X =	3.4	1.9	7.4	5.1	2.5	4.7	2.0	3.5

NOHSC (2004)

From "The Cost of Work-related Injury and Illness for Australian Employers, Workers and the Community" pp 23 Table 2.1,

Employer 25% Worker 44% Community 31%

From Table 3.1 pp 28, including pain, suffering and early death,

Employer 10% Worker 77% Community 13%

Class I Fatal 65% Class I Non-fatal 90% Class II 3.5%

The vast majority of Class I damage is a by-product of "modern" technology (my experience of many thousands of Class I cases). "Modern" technology improves our standard of living.

If Class I non-fatally damaged people are not compensated and enabled to continue a comparable standard of living, they subsidise ours. Similarly, dependents of inadequately or inappropriately compensated Class I fatally damaged people subsidise us.

Do you wish to have your standard of living subsidised by Class I work damaged people?

Do you wish to belong to a nation which has the following cultural VALUE?

**CLASS I work damaged people
should subsidise
the standard of living
of the remainder of the community**