

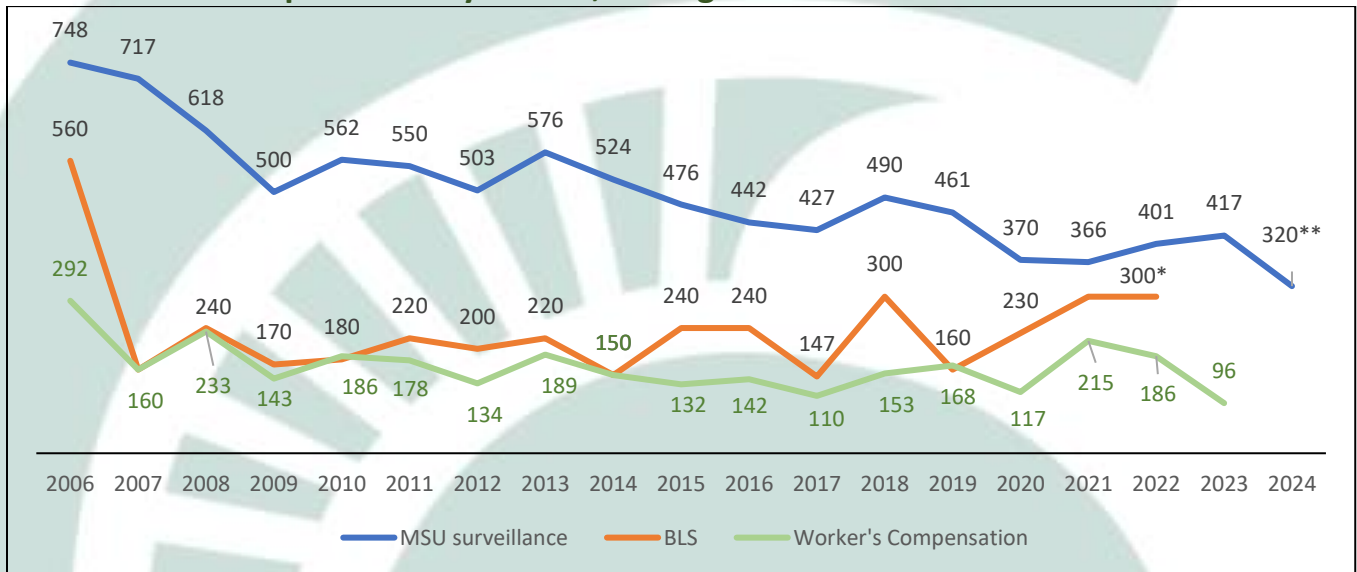
# Tracking Work-Related Amputations in Michigan

[www.oem.msu.edu](http://www.oem.msu.edu)

## Summary Statistics

The MSU work-related amputation surveillance system identifies significantly more cases each year than other traditional sources, as illustrated in the figure below.

## Work-Related Amputations by Source, Michigan 2006-2024



\*BLS data for 2021 and 2022 are combined and reported for one year. \*\*2024 preliminary data as of 1/27/2025, BLS data for 2023 and 2024 and Workers' Compensation data for 2024 are not currently available.

Among all age groups in the year 2023, amputations rates were more than seven times higher for male than female workers. Males aged 18 to 19 years were at the highest risk of a work-related amputation with a rate of 25.6 amputations per 100,000 workers. The rate of work-related burns was 70% higher for Black/African American than White workers and 160% higher for Hispanic workers than non-Hispanic. The majority (95.6%) of work-related amputations involved fingers. Most finger amputations (84.2%) involved the distal phalanx, with the index finger most effected (21.2%). Thirty-seven percent of the amputations occurred in the manufacturing sector. Within manufacturing, wood products manufacturing had the highest rate of work-related amputations (68.5 amputations per 100,000 employed persons). From 2006 to 2023, the number of work-related amputations fell by 44.2% and the rate fell by 45.5%.

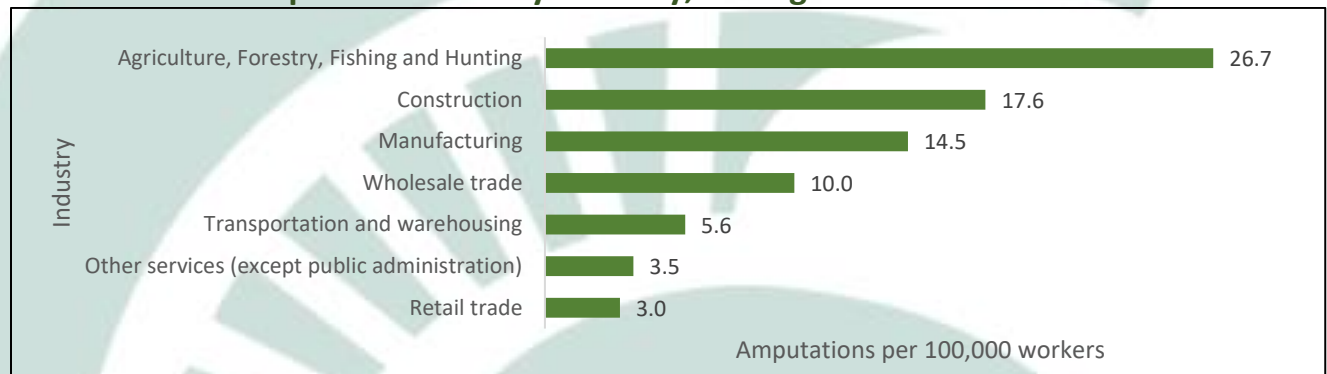


Table saws are a common cause of finger amputations.

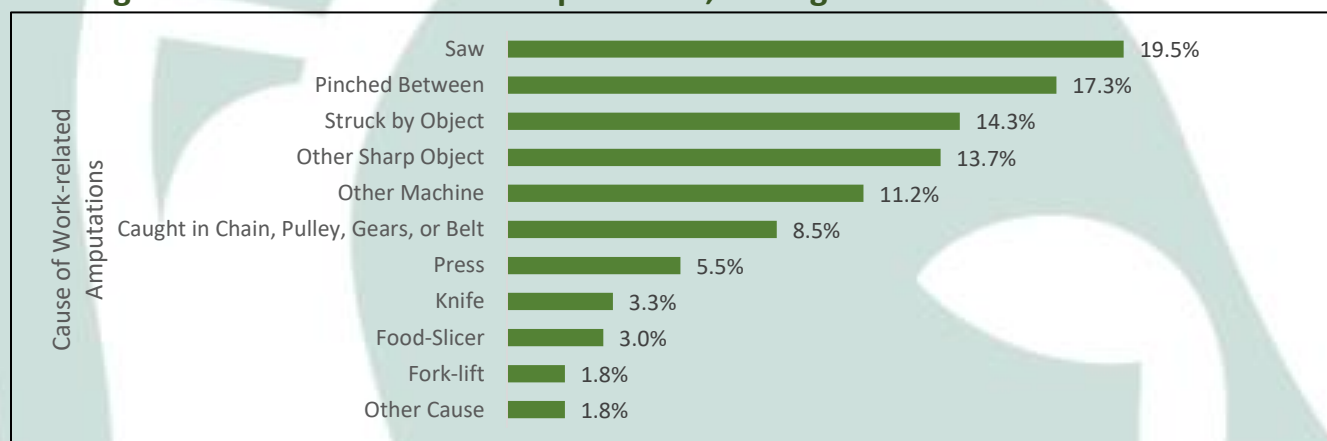
## Background

In 2004, staff in the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Division within Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine began reviewing hospital records to identify patients treated for work-related amputations and referring cases meeting designated criteria to MIOSHA. MIOSHA referrals were tracked through 2005. Beginning with 2006 data, a system to track all work-related amputations treated at Michigan hospitals was established. In addition, data were obtained from the Michigan Workers' Compensation Agency to supplement the hospital-based data and provide a more complete count of work-related amputations.

## Work-Related Amputation Rate by Industry, Michigan 2023



## Leading Cause of Work-Related Amputations, Michigan 2023\*



\*Does not include amputations with unknown injury cause

## Work-Related Amputation Narratives

- A male in his late-30's amputated his fingertip when it was caught between a fan belt and motor pulley. Doctors were unable to reattach the fingertip.
- A male in his 40's was working in a vent duct where he caught his hand on rotating blades. The rotating blades amputated three of his fingers.
- A male in his early 30's had his right index finger amputated with a circular saw. He was cutting a 2x4 at an angle when a knot in the piece of wood caused a kick back amputating the finger.

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