

## 7. Work Injury Insurance

### A. General

Work Injury insurance provides an insured who has suffered a work-related injury a right to a benefit or other defined assistance, based on the nature of his injury.

- **Injury allowance** – is paid to an employee or to a self-employed person, who, as a result of a work accident, is incapable of engaging in his occupation or in other suitable work. An insured, whether an employee or self-employed, is eligible for an injury allowance for one injury, for a maximum of 91 days (13 weeks).

Until January 31, 2002, the work-injured had been eligible for an injury allowance for a maximum period of 26 weeks, at the rate of 75% of their earnings during the three months immediately preceding their injury. In 2005, the law was amended, and the eligibility period for an injury allowance at the expense of the employer was increased from nine days to 12 days. Work-injured persons who have no employer, such as those who are self-employed, are not eligible for payment for the first 12 days.

- **Disability benefits** – are paid to persons who suffered a work-related injury, and who, as a result of the injury, remained disabled for a limited period or became permanently disabled.

Following are the categories of disability benefits: a **temporary disability pension**, paid to the work-injured whose certified degree of temporary disability is at least 9%; a **permanent disability pension**, paid to the work-injured whose certified degree of permanent disability is at least 20%; a **disability grant**, which is paid to the work-injured whose certified degree of permanent disability is between 9% and 19%; a **special pension** and a **grant for nonrecurring arrangements**, paid to the work-injured whose certified degree of disability is at least 75% (in addition to their monthly pension). The amount of the temporary or permanent disability pension is determined based on the injured person's income during the three months immediately preceding his injury: The full disability pension paid to an injured person whose degree of disability is 100% is at the rate of 75% of his wages during the determining period; the pension for an injured person whose degree of disability is under 100% is calculated proportionately to the degree of his disability.

Payments of **disability grants** to the work-injured have undergone drastic changes in recent years. Anyone injured on or after July 1, 2003 receives a grant equivalent to 43 monthly pension payments (up until that date, the grant had been 70 pension payments). In 2005, the law was amended, and a **work-related disability grant** and a **temporary disability pension** began to be paid for a degree of disability of at least 9%, instead of the previous threshold of 5%.

In May 2008, the list of tests was amended and impairment sections were added for acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), low blood pressure, overweight and obesity, pancreatic impairments and impotence.

- **Dependents' benefits** – are paid to the family members of an insured who was killed during a work-related accident or whose subsequent death was a direct consequence of the accident, if the members of his family had been dependent on him for their subsistence. The full amount of the dependents' benefit is 75% of the deceased's wage during the determining period. The amount of a partial benefit is determined according to the degree of eligibility. The degree of eligibility for a dependents' benefit is determined according to the number of dependents (for example, a widow with no children is eligible for 60% of the full disability pension, while a widow with three children – for 100% of this pension<sup>1</sup>).
- **Medical treatment expenses (including hospitalization and medical rehabilitation)** – medical treatment is provided to the injured through the sick funds. Pursuant to an agreement, the NII pays the sick funds for such treatment. If necessary, the treatment includes also medical rehabilitation, convalescence, long-term care, etc.
- **Vocational rehabilitation** – is provided to a disabled person whose degree of permanent disability is at least 10%, and who, as a result of a work-related injury, is incapable of returning to his previous job or to another job.

## B. Benefit recipients

### 1. Injury allowance

In 2011, the number of recipients of an injury allowance declined and reached 67,556 – a decrease of 0.11% compared with 2010 (Table 1).

It should be noted that out of the 61,804 employees who received injury allowances in 2010, 18,016 were employed by “authorized employers” as defined in Regulation 22, and therefore the NII did not reimburse these employers for the injury allowances they paid for the first 12 days of eligibility – payments that other employers are required to pay to the NII. Under Regulation 22, the NII may permit an employer to pay the injury allowance on behalf of the NII, and the employer must pay the allowance on the dates on which it normally pays wages. The employer must submit a claim to the NII for the work-related accident during which the employee was injured, and the NII reimburses the employer for the sums paid (for 13 days and more), adding a commission at the rate of 2.5% of the injury allowance. If the NII rejects the claim, the employer is not reimbursed for the monies it paid to the injured employee.

In 2000, recipients of injury allowance constituted approximately 3% of all employed persons, while in 2006-2011, they constituted 2.2%. The gradual downtrend that began in 1996 and continued until 2011 (Table 2) occurred concurrently with legislative amendments which obligated the employer to assume the payment for the initial days after the injury, and revoked the eligibility for injury allowance of any person without an

1 The rate of the dependents' benefit, according to the number of dependents and kinship, is specified in Section 132 of the law.

**Table 1**  
**Employed Persons, Recipients of Injury Allowance,**  
**and Days of Work Incapacity, 2006-2011**

Year	Employed persons (thousands)	Recipients of injury allowance*	Days of work incapacity	
			Total	Average per injured person
2006	2,832.4**	64,296	2,170,751	33.8
2007	2,968.7**	67,657	2,291,149	33.9
2008	3,093.4**	69,734	2,408,514	34.5
2009	3,116.9**	65,814	2,306,267	35.0
2010	3,219.8	67,633	2,406,337	35.6
2011	3,321.6	67,556	2,405,938	35.6

\* Since 1997, includes work-injured who did not actually receive payment from the NII, due to the legislative amendments that year, but had been approved and would have been eligible for payment had it not been for the amendments.

\*\* As per data from the Central Bureau of Statistics 2011, the National Accounts. The “employed” include Israelis, foreign workers (reported and unreported) and residents of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

**Table 2**  
**Rates of Change in Recipients of Injury Allowance and**  
**Days of Work Incapacity, 2006-2011**

Year	Recipients of injury allowance as percentage of all employed persons	Average annual rates of change		
		Employed persons	Recipients of injury allowance	Average number of days of work incapacity
2006	2.2	3.2	0.70	2.40
2007	2.3	4.8	5.20	0.30
2008	2.1	4.2	3.07	1.77
2009	2.1	0.8	-5.62	1.45
2010	2.1	3.3	2.76	1.71
2011	2.0	2.0	0.11-	0.00

employer (in 1997 and in 2005, respectively). In other words, the percentage of recipients of injury allowance from among all employed persons decreased with the decrease in the number of recipients of the allowance and the increase in the number of employed persons.

The average number of days of work incapacity per injured person reached a peak in 2001 (40 days). Since then, there has been a sharp drop which derived, inter alia, from legislative changes (the shortening of the maximum period that an injury allowance is paid from 26 to 13 weeks, since February 1, 2002). The downtrend in the average number of days of work incapacity stopped in 2003 and, since then, apart from minor fluctuations in both directions, has stabilized, with the average in both 2010 and 2011 being 35.6 days.

Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of “severe” injuries for which claims were submitted to the NII (Table 3). In 1996 (the last year prior to the legislative

Table 3  
 Recipients of an Injury Allowance, by Duration of Incapacity, 1996, 2000, 2006-2011

Year	Total employed persons**	Total days of incapacity	Total recipients of injury allowance	Number of days of incapacity									
				0	1-14	15-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91	92+	
Absolute numbers													
1996	2,133,800	2,990,363	92,274	72	45,401	21,862	8,228	4,643	2,941	1,889			7,528
2000	2,388,800	2,863,296	76,185	52	31,683	17,964	7,691	4,677	3,050	2,136			8,932
2006	2,685,000	2,170,751	64,296	37	23,432	15,469	7,245	4,547	3,218	5,182			65*
2007	2,807,100	2,291,149	67,657	42	24,582	16,298	7,695	4,673	3,432	5,424			35*
2008	3,041,000	2,408,514	69,734	35	24,831	16,606	7,981	4,931	3,569	5,837			11*
2009	3,037,000	2,306,267	65,814	40	23,159	15,447	7,456	4,786	3,499	5,947			12*
2010		2,406,337	67,633	11	23,492	15,762	7,488	4,927	3,525	6,442			37*
2011	3,219,800	2,405,938	67,556	2	23,500	15,564	7,733	4,915	3,669	6,309			17*
Percentages													
1996			100.0	0.1	49.0	23.6	8.9	5.0	3.2	2.0			8.1
2000			100.0	0.1	41.6	23.6	10.1	6.1	4.0	2.8			11.7
2006			100.0	0.1	36.4	24.1	11.3	7.1	5.0	8.1			7.9
2007			100.0	0.1	36.3	24.1	11.3	6.9	5.1	8.0			8.1
2008			100.0	0.1	35.6	23.8	11.4	7.1	5.1	8.4			8.5
2009			100.0	0.1	35.2	23.5	11.3	7.3	5.3	9.0			8.3
2010			100.0	0.0	34.7	23.3	11.4	7.3	5.2	9.5			8.5
2011			100.0	0.0	34.8	23.0	11.5	7.3	5.4	9.3			8.7

\* Up until January 31, 2002, work-injured received an injury allowance subsequent to this date.

\*\* Source: Central Bureau of Statistics – National Accounts.

change prescribing that the initial days are to be paid at the employer's expense), work-injured who had at least 61 days of work incapacity constituted 13.4% of all recipients of injury allowance, while in 2011, they constituted approximately 23.5% of recipients, as part of a steady uptrend. Over the years, the percentage of work-injured with 15 to 45 days of work incapacity has been quite stable. Work-injured with 1 to 14 days of work incapacity constituted 49% of all recipients of an injury allowance in 1996 and slightly less than 35% in 2011, continuing the steady downtrend of recent years.

The percentage of work-injured recipients of injury allowance who are foreign workers or residents of the territories has been lower than the percentage of Israelis throughout the years. One might expect that the percentage of recipients of injury allowance among the above two population groups, considering the very hazardous economic sectors in which they work (agriculture and construction), would at least be similar to that of residents of Israel. The low percentage apparently reflects under-reporting of work-related injuries by these population groups, which stems, apparently, from their being unaware of their rights, from a fear of losing their jobs if they are absent from work due to an accident, from their illegal status or from their apprehension as to their fate should it become known that they are residing in Israel without a permit.

However, when serious work-related accidents occur, these workers have no other choice but to seek medical attention and to submit a claim for injury allowance or work disability benefits. The NII pays directly the expenses of the one-time treatment in the emergency room of foreign workers, and, since April 2008, also of workers from the territories who were injured during work-related accidents and who did not submit claims for an injury allowance.

A foreign worker is insured under Work Injury insurance even if he is staying in Israel illegally. Up until February 28, 2003, foreign workers and residents of the territories who were injured at work had been eligible for all the benefits being provided to any work-injured, whether or not they were working with permits. Since March 1, 2003, the benefit began being revoked from an unreported foreign worker: upon his exit from Israel, the benefit for which he has been deemed eligible is paid to him from the date of his exit from Israel, but the payment does not include the period during which the benefit was revoked. The gradual decrease in the number of foreign workers between 2002 and 2006 had been expected, due to the legislative amendments and the activities of the Immigration Police. In 2007, an increase was once again observed, which continued until the end of 2009. In January 2010, the Israeli Prime Minister announced a new immigration policy, which prescribed more stringent criteria for employing foreign workers, the aim being to reduce their numbers by approximately 30,000 to 50,000.

Another population group for which it is difficult to obtain data regarding safety at work is the category of employees who receive wages from manpower companies and manpower contractors. The Central Bureau of Statistics' manpower surveys identify these

Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of "severe" injuries for which claims were submitted to the NII; in 2011, they constituted 23.5% of recipients

**Table 4**  
**Employed Persons, Recipients of Injury Allowance, and Days of Work Incapacity, by Residency, 2000, 2006-2011**

	Total	Residents of Israel	Residents of the territories	Foreign workers
<b>2000</b>				
Employed persons*	2,519,900	2,217,900	96,000	205,000
Recipients of an injury allowance	76,185	73,680	1,552	953
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	3.0	3.3	1.6	0.5
Average days of work incapacity	37.6	37.4	46.5	33.7
<b>2006</b>				
Employed persons*	2,832,400	2,603,200	48,900	180,300
Recipients of an injury allowance	64,296	63,522	175	599
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.3	2.4	0.4	0.3
Average days of work incapacity	33.8	33.8	44.8	28.4
<b>2007</b>				
Employed persons*	2,968,700	2,722,400	53,100	193,200
Recipients of an injury allowance	67,657	66,868	246	543
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.3	2.5	0.5	0.3
Average days of work incapacity	33.9	33.9	42.5	27.8
<b>2008</b>				
Employed persons*	3,093,400	2,823,300	58,900	211,300
Recipients of an injury allowance	69,734	68,709	354	671
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.3	2.4	0.6	0.3
Average days of work incapacity	34.5	34.5	50.7	27.6
<b>2009</b>				
Employed persons*	3,116,900	2,841,000	55,700	220,200
Recipients of an injury allowance	65,814	64,682	440	692
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.1	2.3	0.8	0.3
Average days of work incapacity	35.0	35.1	43.9	29.1
<b>2010</b>				
Employed persons*	3,219,800	2,938,300	60,600	220,900
Recipients of an injury allowance	67,633	66,900	493	240
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.1	2.3	0.8	0.1
Average days of work incapacity	35.6	35.6	45.0	22.0
<b>2011</b>				
Employed persons*	3,321,600	3,024,700	65,900	222,000
Recipients of an injury allowance	67,566	66,971	484	101
Ratio of injury allowance recipients to employed persons	2.0	2.2	0.7	0.05
Average days of work incapacity	35.6	35.6	40.8	5.7

\* Source: Central Bureau of Statistics, National Accounts.

employees by the question: “Who pays your salary?” The NII’s Work Injury insurance scheme does not categorize manpower companies by a designated code (economic sector or legal status of the employer); therefore, it is not possible to ascertain whether or not these employees are being exposed to hazards (as it is for employees who receive their wages directly from their workplace), or whether the fact that such employees are considered “exceptions” at the workplace tends to reduce the employer’s sense of responsibility for their safety conditions.

A problem also exists regarding contracting companies that do not supply workers but rather services, since the obligations that apply to manpower companies, particularly relative to licensing, does not apply to them. Ordinarily, receipt and renewal of a license is contingent upon compliance with labor and work safety laws.

The definition of “recipients of wages from a manpower company” does not include employees working through a subcontractor, who is responsible for their work performance and for their safety. These are employees who are employed primarily in two economic subsectors: the guarding, security and cleaning subsector, and home caregiver services subsector.

In 2011, the average number of days of work incapacity among foreign workers was lower than that of Israeli residents, even though one would expect it to be higher, considering the sectors in which they work. The average number of days of work incapacity of workers who are residents of the territories (Judea and Samaria) remained quite high, even though they work in occupations that are similar to those of foreign workers. In 2011, as in 2010, the number of recipients of injury allowance who are residents of the territories was higher than that of the foreign workers. (Table 4)

Table 5 differentiates between injury allowance recipients who are employees and those who are self-employed. The number of self-employed who received an injury allowance dropped from 9,483 in 1997 to 5,752 in 2011, and their ratio to total recipients of injury allowance decreased from 11.3% to 8.5%. This decrease apparently derived from the legislative amendments regarding the first nine days and the first 12 days, as well as from the wave of closures of small businesses during periods of recession. The average number of days of work incapacity among the self-employed was approximately

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**Table 5**  
**Recipients of Injury Allowance, by Employment Status and Days of Work Incapacity, 2011**

Category of insured	Recipients of an injury allowance		Average number of days of work incapacity
	Absolute numbers	Percentages	
Total recipients	67,556	100.0	35.6
Employees	61,804	91.5	34.2
Self-employed	5,752	8.5	50.8

**Table 6**  
**Recipients of Injury Allowance, by Employment Status**  
**and Economic Sector, 2011**

Economic sector	Recipients		Days of work incapacity		
	Numbers	%	Numbers	%	Average days of incapacity per injured person
Total	67,556		2,405,938		35.6
Total employees	61,804	100.0%	2,113,804	100.0%	34.2
Agriculture	2,028	3.3	65,932	3.1	32.5
Industry	12,503	20.2	387,878	18.3	31.0
Electricity and water	621	1.0	18,143	0.9	29.2
Construction	6,104	9.9	284,454	13.5	46.6
Commerce, vehicle repairs	8,976	14.5	318,150	15.1	35.4
Hospitality and food	3,632	5.9	110,880	5.2	30.5
Transportation, storage	4,605	7.5	173,395	8.2	37.7
Banking, insurance	1,106	1.8	33,480	1.6	30.3
Realty, business services	7,492	12.1	254,102	12.0	33.9
Public service	5,965	9.7	171,202	8.1	28.7
Education	2,370	3.8	78,324	3.7	33.0
Community service	1,912	3.1	74,793	3.5	39.1
Health, welfare	4,131	6.7	126,893	6.0	30.7
Other and unknown	359	0.6	16,178	0.8	45.1
Self-employed	5,752		292,134		50.8

48.5% higher than that of employees (50 days, compared with 34 days, respectively). This difference apparently also stems from the fact that the self-employed are not inclined to submit claims to the NII for short absences (of less than 12 days.).

The distribution of employees who suffered work-related injuries by economic sector has remained stable over the years: approximately 20% work in industry, 14.5% in commerce and workshops, 12% in business services (which include manpower recruitment, the supply of manpower services, as well as guarding, security and cleaning activities) and 10% in construction. In terms of the severity of injuries (measured here by the number of days of work incapacity), the construction sector is in first place (47 days), followed by the following sectors: community services, including professional sports activities (39 days), transportation and storage (38 days) commerce and vehicle repair (35 days), real estate and business services (34 days) and agriculture (33 days) (Table 6).

With the increase in the percentage of women participating in the civilian work force which has characterized the last two decades (from 40% in 1988 to 47.0% in 2010), the

In terms of the severity of injuries, the construction sector is in first place



Table 7  
Recipients of an Injury Allowance, and Employed Persons, by Gender and Age, 2011

Age	Recipients of an injury allowance (numbers)		Israeli employed persons* (thousands)		Recipients of an injury allowance as a percentage of all employed persons				
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	67,556	46,268	21,288	3,024.7	1,477.1	1,308.8	2.0	3.2	1.6
Up to 17	174	149	25	20.3	11.2	9.1	0.9	1.3	0.4
18-24	6,979	5,349	1,630	290.6	135.4	155.2	2.4	4.0	1.0
25-34	15,551	11,544	4,007	764.8	404.0	360.8	2.1	3.0	1.1
35-44	15,299	10,904	4,395	684.3	368.0	316.3	3.2	3.0	1.3
45-54	14,519	8,978	5,541	555.1	288.9	266.2	2.6	3.2	2.0
55-64	12,312	7,333	4,979	391.5	215.9	175.6	3.1	3.4	2.7
65+	2,722	2,011	711	79.2	53.7	25.6	3.0	3.3	2.3

\* Source: "Microdata Under Contract" files, Manpower Surveys, the Central Bureau of Statistics, 2011.

**Table 8**  
**Recipients of Injury Allowance, by Accident Location,**  
**and Days of Work Incapacity, 2007-2011**

Year	Work-related accidents			Accidents to or from work		
	Total	During work*	Traffic accidents during work	Traffic accidents en route	En route without a vehicle	Other
<b>2007</b>						
Numbers	67,657	47,757	4,092	9,571	3,991	2,246
Percentages	100.0	70.6	6.0	14.2	5.9	3.3
Average days of work incapacity	33.9	33.4	38.9	32.9	35.4	37.0
<b>2008</b>						
Numbers	69,734	48,472	4,627	10,170	4,180	2,285
Percentages	100.0	69.5	6.6	14.6	6.0	3.3
Average days of work incapacity	34.5	34.3	39.1	32.2	36.1	37.7
<b>2009</b>						
Numbers	65,814	45,412	4,747	10,594	4,191	870
Percentages	100.0	69.0	7.2	16.1	6.4	1.3
Average days of work incapacity	35.0	35.0	39.5	33.0	35.7	35.4
<b>2010</b>						
Numbers	67,633	47,098	4,734	10,719	4,094	988
Percentages	100.0	69.6	7.0	15.8	6.1	1.5
Average days of work incapacity	35.6	35.6	41.2	33.5	37.2	35.2
<b>2011</b>						
Numbers	67,556	46,749	4,542	10,992	4,276	997
Percentages	100.0	69.2	6.7	16.3	6.3	1.5
Average days of work incapacity	35.6	35.4	41.1	33.4	36.9	37.6

\* Work-related traumas and wounds not caused by traffic accidents.

The percentage of women out of all recipients of injury allowance has risen gradually and steadily, from 19.8% in 1995 to 32% in 2011

percentage of women among recipients of injury allowance has also risen. The data for the second half of the 1990s and the beginning of the 2000s show that the percentage of women out of all recipients of injury allowance has risen gradually and steadily, from 19.8% in 1995 to 32% in 2011 (Table G/2 in the Appendix of Insurance Branch Tables).

An examination of the distribution by gender and age brackets shows that in the younger age brackets (up to age 34), men constitute 75% of the recipients of injury allowance, while in the older age brackets (45-59) they constitute only about 61% (Table 7). The average number of days of work incapacity among women is lower than among men – 31, compared with 38.

In 1996, traffic accidents (during work, or to or from work) constituted approximately 14.8% of all work-related accidents, while in 2011, traffic accidents constituted 15.1% of all work-related accidents. Between 1996 and 2011, the number of traffic accidents to or from work increased from about 9% of all work-related injuries to about 16.3% (Table 8). On the other hand, the number of traffic accidents that occurred during work constituted approximately 6.7% of all work-related accidents. In the past, traffic accidents had caused more severe injuries, expressed in the longer period of work incapacity than that of other accidents. This gap has narrowed considerably in recent years and today it almost no longer exists. It is reasonable to assume that this reduction stems from the revoking of eligibility for short periods (up to 12 days), which led to a significant drop in the number of claimants for mild accidents and thus raised the average number of days of work incapacity per injured person.

The distribution of recipients of injury allowance by cause of the accident and the consequences (nature) of the injury has varied only slightly over the years. The most prevalent causes for occupational injuries are: road accidents (15.1%) falls (from scaffolding, ladder or crane, from a building or structure, slipping or stumbling on stairs or on level ground – 13.7% of the recipients); and injuries from objects (that fall on, crush, or hit a person – 9.4%). In terms of the severity of the injury (which is measured by the number of days of incapacity), the severe injuries were caused mainly by falls (42 days). Falls caused mainly contusions, crush injuries, fractured limbs, strains and sprains. Occupational illnesses and explosives were the other two causes of the most serious injuries (occupational illnesses – 49 days of incapacity and explosives – 31 days).

Although the list of occupational illnesses is closed, in instances when the illness does not appear in the list and, in the opinions of the experts, there is a clear causal connection between the illness and the working conditions, the illness is recognized as an occupational injury. The majority of claims for injury allowance stemming from an occupational illness are submitted for the purpose of determining a work-related disability.

Regarding the distribution of recipients of injury allowance by the nature of the injury, the most prevalent consequences of work-related accidents are: crush injuries (16.3% of the recipients of an injury allowance), contusions (9.9%), lacerations of upper limbs (4.8%) and strains and sprains (2.8%). In terms of the severity of the injury (which is measured by the number of days of incapacity), the severe injuries were: injury to the vascular system (61 days), upper limb fractures (59 days), spinal fracture or spinal column injury (56 days) and dislocations without fractures (54 days). Lower limb fractures are at the top of the list in terms of severity of injury (66 days of incapacity).

The upper limbs are the most vulnerable in occupational accidents: fractures and lacerations in upper limbs caused approximately 8.3% of all recipients of injury allowances to be absent from work.

## 2. Work-related disability pension

The number of recipients of a permanent work-related disability pension has been rising steadily every year by more than 1,000 recipients, and it reached 33,925 in 2011. The majority (62.5%) of these recipients have low degrees of disability (up to 39%)

The number of recipients of a permanent work-related disability pension has been rising steadily every year by more than 1,000 recipients, and it reached 33,925 in 2011. The majority (62.5%) of these recipients have low degrees of disability (up to 39%). Among this category of recipients, 63.8% of the women have a degree of disability of between 20% and 39%, compared with 57.4% of the men. Some 9.4% of the men and 7.2% of the women have a degree of disability that exceeds 80% (Table G/3 in the Appendix of Insurance Branch Tables).

Recipients of a work-related disability pension may – when they reach the eligibility age for an old-age pension – choose whether to continue receiving the work-related disability pension or to receive the old-age pension. By law, if the old-age pension is higher than the work-related disability pension, the person may opt to capitalize the disability pension and receive the old-age pension, or to continue receiving the work-related disability pension at the rate of the old-age pension.

**Table 9**  
**Recipients of Permanent Disability Pension,**  
**by Employment Status, 2007-2011**

Year	Total		Employees	Self-employed
	Numbers	% of annual change		
2007	27,799	5.1	24,406	3,393
2008	29,249	5.2	25,665	3,584
2009	30,899	5.6	27,068	3,831
2010	32,331	4.6	28,319	4,012
2011	33,923	4.9	29,797	4,197

## 3. Disability grant

A disability grant is paid to a person disabled as a result of a work accident, when the degree of his disability has stabilized at between 9% and 19%. The amounts of the grants for the work-injured and their eligibility for disability grants have undergone drastic changes in recent years. Until the legislation of the Economic Recovery Plan Law in June 2003, the grant had been the equivalent of 70 monthly pension payments. This law prescribed that anyone injured on or after July 1, 2003 would receive a grant equivalent to 43 monthly pension payments. As a result of the legislation, there was a sharp drop in the amount of the average disability grants. In 2011, 8,927 grants were paid for various injuries – 7,897 to employees and 1,030 to self-employed persons. In 2011, the average disability grant paid to employees was NIS 34,945, compared with NIS 33,833 in 2010, and to the self employed, NIS 33,741, compared with NIS 30,809 in 2010.

#### 4. Special disability benefit

Persons disabled as a result of an occupational accident whose degree of disability is at least 75%, and disabled persons with walking difficulties whose degree of disability is between 65% and 74%, are eligible, in addition to any other benefit, for financial aid for personal assistance and for travelling; they are also eligible for a grant for nonrecurring arrangements, in the form of assistance in buying a car, in solving housing problems and in purchasing special accessories needed as a result of their disability.

In December 2011, 3,141 persons disabled as a result of an occupational accident received a special benefit paid through the Rehabilitation Department, at the average sum of NIS 3,452, in addition to a monthly work-related disability pension. In 2011, 116 rehabilitation grants were paid, averaging NIS 34,400 each.

In 2011, 116 rehabilitation grants were paid, averaging NIS 34,400 each

#### 5. Dependents' benefit

The number of recipients of a dependents' benefit has gradually risen, from 3,286 recipients in 1985 to 4,603 in 2011. The rate of the rise ranges between 0.1% and 1.1% per annum (Table 10).

**Table 10**  
**Recipients of Dependents' Benefit, by Employment Status, 2007-2011**

Year	Total		Employees	Self-employed
	Numbers	% of annual change		
2007	4,482	0.8	3,868	614
2008	4,518	0.8	3,907	611
2009	4,573	1.2	3,954	619
2010	4,565	-0.2	3,941	624
2011	4,603	0.8	3,981	622

#### C. Payments

The average injury allowances per day in real terms and as a percentage of the annual wage to the self-employed decreased in 2011, after they had risen significantly in 2009 and dropped a bit in 2010. The injury allowance to employees decreased slightly in 2010, both in real terms and as a percentage of the average wage (Table 11), reaching 62.6% of the average wage compared to 63.9% of it in 2010.

The average monthly permanent disability pension in 2011 was NIS 3,240 for employees and NIS 3,489 for the self-employed. The level of the pension, in real terms and as a percentage of the average wage, went down for both employees and for the self-employed.

In 2011, the average monthly dependents' benefit was approximately NIS 6,010 for employees and approximately NIS 6,296 for the self-employed. The dependents' benefit

**Table 11**  
Average Injury Allowance Per Day, by Employment Status,  
2007-2011

Year	Employees			Self-employed		
	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage
2007	159.9	183.1	65.2	167.9	193.5	68.4
2008	174.6	191.4	68.0	199.2	218.3	77.6
2009	179.2	190.3	67.6	240.6	255.5	90.8
2010	175.8	182.1	63.9	205.2	212.1	74.5
2011	178.5	178.5	62.6	195.1	185.1	68.4

**Table 12**  
Average Monthly Permanent Disability Pension,  
by Employment Status, 2007-2011

Year	Employees			Self-employed		
	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage
2007	2,823.0	3,241.1	38.4	3,131.1	3,594.9	38.9
2008	2,894.8	3,177.0	37.6	3,204.1	3,517.3	41.6
2009	3,156.2	3,352.8	39.7	3,287.7	3,492.5	41.3
2010	3,419.1	3,537.0	41.4	3,403.2	3,520.4	41.2
2011	3,240.0	3,240.0	37.9	3,489.8	3,489.8	40.8

**Table 13**  
Average Monthly Dependents' Benefit, by Employment Status,  
2006-2010

Year	Employees			Self-employed		
	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage	Current prices (NIS)	2011 prices (NIS)	% of average wage
2007	5,185.3	5,952.5	68.0	5,451.1	6,257.7	71.5
2008	5,342.4	5,863.5	67.4	5,585.2	6,130.4	70.5
2009	5,992.2	6,366.3	75.1	5,812.3	6,174.9	72.9
2010	6,711.8	6,943.6	81.3	6,054.5	6,263.9	73.3
2011	6,010.3	6,010.3	70.3	6,296.1	6,896.1	73.6

Total payments in the Work Injury insurance branch totaled NIS 3.45 billion in 2011, a rise of 1.7% in real terms compared with 2010

dropped in 2011 in real terms and as a percentage of the average wage for employees, and went up for the self-employed.

Total payments in the Work Injury insurance branch totaled NIS 3.45 billion in 2011. Table 14 shows that this sum constitutes a rise of 1.7% in real terms, compared

**Table 14**  
**Total Volume of Payments\* in the Work Injury Insurance Branch**  
**(NIS thousand), 2007-2011**

Year	Current prices	2011 prices	Rate of real change (%)
2007	2,675,225	3,071,241	
2008	2,808,378	3,082,492	0.4
2009	3,087,170	3,279,714	6.4
2010	3,279,105	3,392,241	3.4
2011	3,450,150	3,450,150	1.7

\* Including payments for injury allowances, disability pensions, dependents' benefits, medical treatment expenses and rehabilitation expenses.

**Table 15**  
**Total Volume of Payments\* in the Work Injury Insurance Branch, by**  
**Benefit Category (percentages), 2007-2011**

Year	Total	Injury allowance	Disability pension	Dependents' benefit	Medical treatment expenses	Rehabilitation expenses
2006	100.0	9.1	61.6	11.2	13.4	4.7
2007	100.0	9.6	62.4	11.2	11.6	5.2
2008	100.0	10.6	62.6	11.1	10.6	5.1
2009	100.0	9.7	62.9	10.6	12.8	4.1
2010	100.0	9.8	63.7	10.3	12.1	4.2
2011	100.0	9.7	67.6	10.4	11.5	2.9

\* Not including payments for accident prevention activities, occupational safety activities, research studies, special enterprises, legal assistance, medical boards and expert opinions.

with 2010. The increase derives from the rise in payments of disability pensions and in medical treatment expenses.

Table 15 presents the distribution of all payments by the Work Injury insurance branch by main components: injury allowances, disability pensions, dependents' benefits, medical treatment expenses and rehabilitation expenses. Disability pensions constitute the majority of this branch's payments – approximately 68%. In 2011, a slight decrease was recorded in the payments of dependents' benefits. The disability pensions and the dependents' benefits are components that are paid over time (until retirement age and, sometimes even afterwards, as explained above in Section C).

Since 2008, there has been a consistent decrease in the injury allowance payments (0.9%), but in recent years this component constitutes 10% of the payments made by the branch. This decrease is explained primarily by the legislative changes in recent years that reduced the eligibility period for injury allowances. Medical treatment expenses, which decreased in 2006-2008, went up in 2009, and then dropped again in 2010-2011.

