



Partnership for **Work,**  
**Health** and **Safety**



# Gender, Sex and Differences in Disability Duration for Work-related Injury and Illness



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a place of mind



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## Why gender/sex matters

- More women in labour force and in a wider variety of occupations and industries
- Difference in claim proportions, rates and changes over time
- Different health care experiences. Different compensation claim experiences...

## Research opportunity

- 30 years of workers' compensation claim data in BC
- 93% coverage of the workforce
- Multiple linked health databases, secure and confidential
- Of policy relevance... limited research

## Research questions

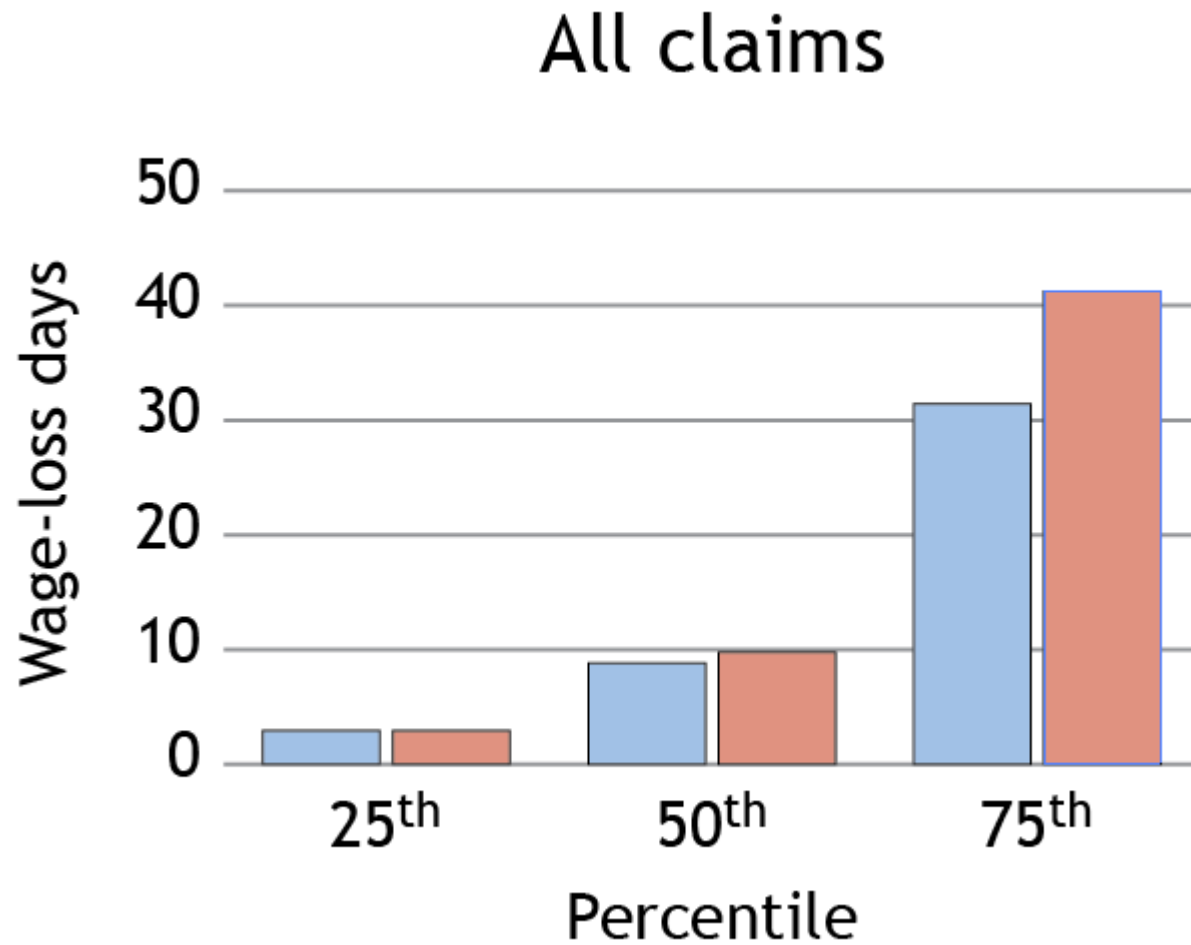
*Does the duration of workers' compensation claims differ for men and women?*

*Does this difference persist for workers in the same occupation and for the same type of injury?*

## Study snapshot

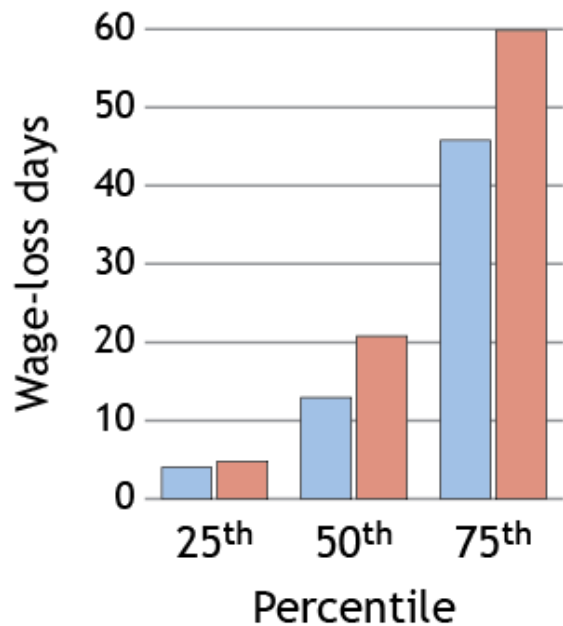
- Short-term disability claims, 2002-2008
- Half a million claims+, 34% women
- Wage-loss days, one year post injury
- Quantile regression (median days)
  - *To compare different groups in the distribution*
- Stratified by gender
  - *Type of injury and type of occupation*

# Is there a difference in wage-loss days?

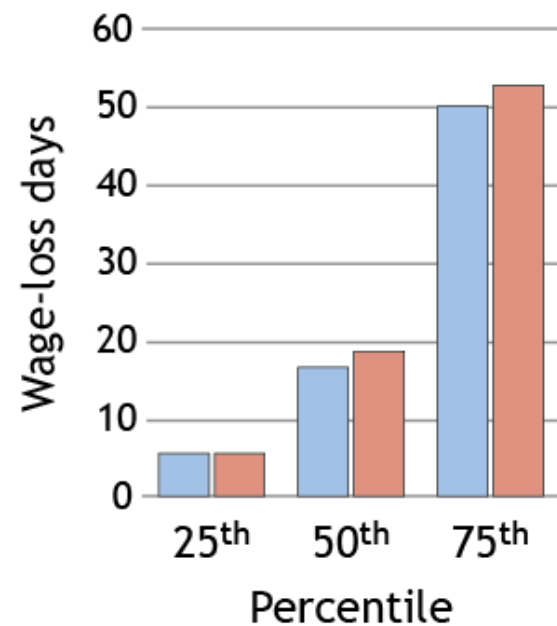


# Is there a difference in wage-loss days?

Strains and sprains in health care occupations



Strains and sprains in primary resource occupations

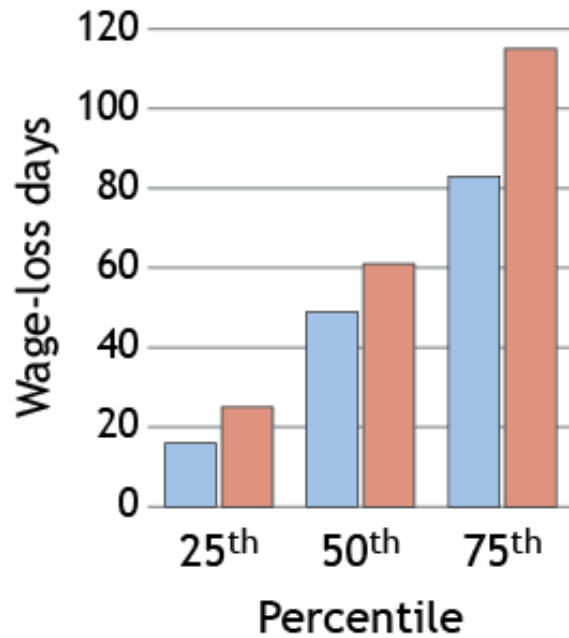


Male

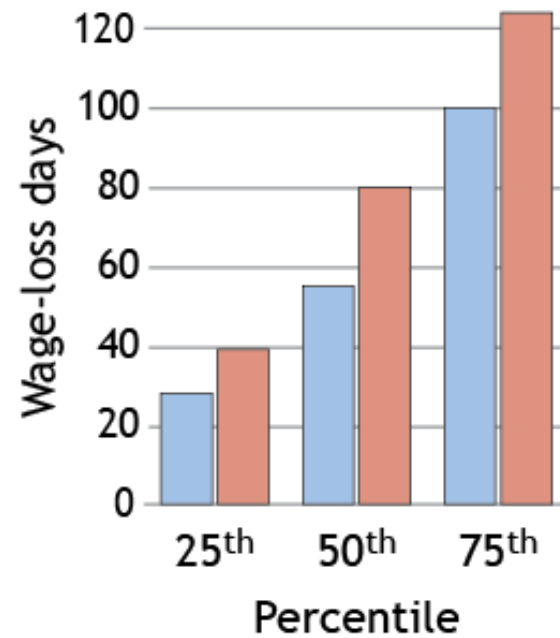
Female

# Is there a difference in wage-loss days?

Fractures in health care occupations



Fractures in primary resource occupations



Male Female



## There is a persistent difference...

- Especially for longer duration claims
- Different exposures, work experiences, injuries, health care, compensation experiences...
- Worthy of further investigation... CIHR grant
- Other thoughts...

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