

# Who Pays for Agricultural Injury Care?

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## Abstract

Analysis of 295 agricultural injury hospitalizations in a single state’s hospital discharge database found that worker compensation covered only 5% of the inpatient stays. Other sources were commercial health insurance (47%), Medicare (31%), and Medicaid (7%); 9% were uninsured. Estimated mean hospital and physician payments (not costs or charges) were \$12,056 per hospitalization. Nearly one-sixth (16%) of hospitalizations were either unreimbursed or covered by Medicaid, indicating a substantial cost-shift to public funding sources. Problems in characterizing agricultural injuries and states’ exceptions to workers’ compensation coverage mandates point to the need for comprehensive health coverage.



Table 2: Payor Distribution

Payment Source	N=	%
Commercial	139	47.1%
Medicare	92	31.2%
Self-Pay (Uninsured)	27	9.2%
Medicaid	21	7.1%
Workman’s Comp	16	5.4%

Table 1: Distribution by Primary Diagnosis

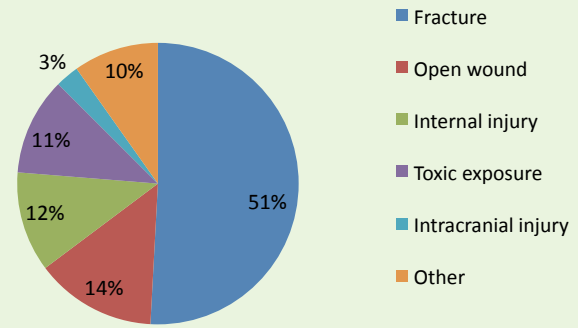


Table 3: Academic Health Center Payment Findings

	Hospital	Physician	Total
Total Charges	\$2,738,413	\$667,281	\$3,405,694
Mean Charges	\$36,512	\$9,017	\$45,529
Total Payment	\$725,132	\$176,688	\$901,820
Mean Payment	\$9,668	\$2,388	\$12,056

