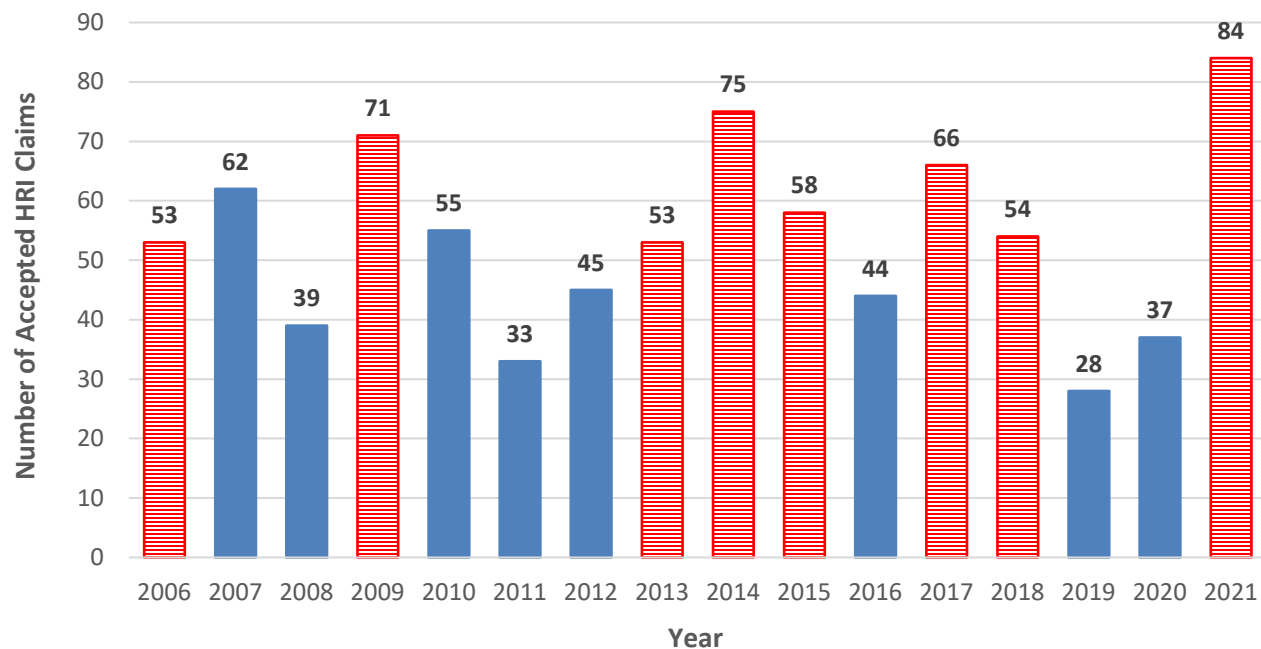


Washington workers' compensation heat-related illness (HRI) claims

Number of accepted state fund claims by year, 2006-2021¹



Of the 857 accepted Washington State Fund HRI workers' compensation claims from 2006 through 2021:

- Years with higher temperatures compared to historical norms tended to have greater numbers of HRI claims (red-striped columns).²
- 44% occurred below the current temperature trigger level for Washington's Occupational Heat Exposure safety regulation of 89 degrees Fahrenheit (WAC 296-62-095).
- 216 (25%) occurred in the Construction industry sector, 142 (17%) in Agriculture and 135 (16%) in Public Administration.
- Thirty-four accepted claims occurred from June 26 to June 30, 2021, when Washington State experienced extreme temperatures associated with a 'Heat Dome'.³

1. For HRI claims from 2018-2021, case identification and case validation methods were similar to those described for 2006-2017 in Hesketh M, et al. *Am J Ind Med*, 63(4):300-311. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ajim.23092>.

2. Temperature anomalies based on Washington State daily maximum temperatures for May-Sept from 1900-2021 historical baseline data. See <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/caq/statewide/time-series>.

3. The 2021 western North America heat wave among the most extreme events ever recorded globally. Thompson et al., *Sci. Adv.* 8 eabm6860 (2022). <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abm6860>.