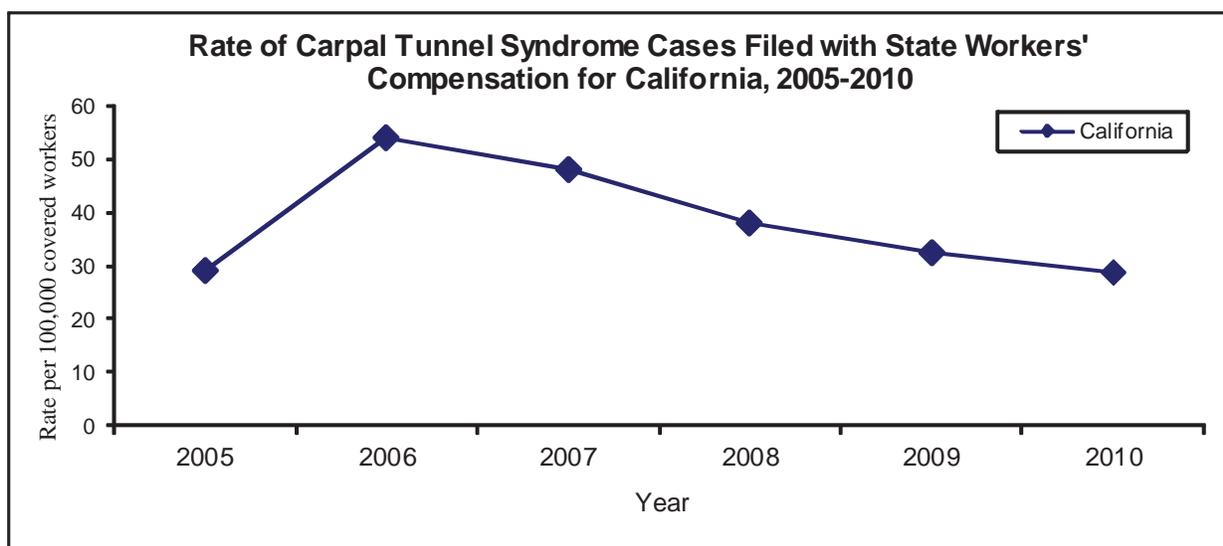


## Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Cases Identified in State Workers' Compensation Systems

Carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) is a painful and disabling condition that occurs when the median nerve through the wrist is compressed. Symptoms range from burning, tingling, or numbness in the fingers to difficulty gripping or holding objects. Workplace factors that may cause or aggravate CTS include direct trauma, repetitive forceful motions or awkward postures of the hands, and use of vibrating tools or equipment. Tracking work-related CTS can guide prevention efforts and identify contributing factors. The California Workers' Compensation Information System is used to identify claims filed for CTS, including lost time and medical claims. Since many workers do not file claims and some employees are excluded from workers' compensation, the number may be an undercount. Because of differences among state workers' compensation systems, national data are not available for this Indicator. See also the Indicator "Musculoskeletal Disorders Reported by Employers".



Year	California						U.S.
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2010
Rate per 100,000 Covered Workers	48.1	38.2	32.5	28.8	28.4	29.3	N/A
Number of CTS Cases Filed	7,214	5,824	4,998	4,385	4,085	4,148	N/A

Data Sources: California Workers' Compensation Information System, National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI)