



WPI Estimates by Injury

Estimated levels of WPI are listed by chapter of the AMA *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Disability*, 5th Edition. The WPI levels are based on review of several thousand medical reports and should only be used for estimating impairment. Actual impairment can only be determined after examination by a licensed examiner.

Injury	WPI	Comments
Chapter 3 – The Cardiovascular System: Heart and Aorta		
Angioplasty or Coronary Artery Surgery (bypass)	10% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 3-6a)
Heart Transplant or Surgery for Cardiomyopathy	10% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 3-9)
Pacemaker	10% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 3-11)
Chapter 4 – The Cardiovascular System: Systemic and Pulmonary Arteries		
Aortic Surgery	10% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 4-3)
Chapter 6 – The Digestive System		
Recurrent hernia repair	0% WPI	
Inguinal hernia repair	0% WPI	
Chapter 7 – The Urinary and Reproductive Systems		
One kidney functioning	0% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 7-1)
Kidney transplant and functioning	15% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 7-1)
Dialysis Required	60% WPI	Minimum impairment, continued symptoms will increase impairment (Table 7-1)

This information is provided as a projection of impairment. Individual circumstances and results can significantly change the final level of impairment.



Chapter 11 – Ear, Nose, Throat, and Related Structures		
Total loss of hearing on one ear	6% WPI	Other ear has no loss (Tables 11-2, 11-3)
Chapter 12 – The Visual System		
Total loss of sight in one eye	20% WPI	Other eye is 20/20 with correction

Chapter 15 – Spine		
One level laminectomy/discectomy:		DRE Category III
Cervical	15% WPI	
Thoracic	15% WPI	
Lumbar	10% WPI	
Two level laminectomy/discectomy:		ROM method with no sensory or motor deficit ¹
Cervical	17% WPI	
Thoracic	9% WPI	
Lumbar	16% WPI	
One level fusion:		DRE Category IV
Cervical	25% WPI	
Thoracic	20% WPI	
Lumbar	20% WPI	
Two level fusion:		ROM method with no sensory or motor deficit. ²
Cervical	25% WPI	
Thoracic	12% WPI	
Lumbar	23% WPI	

¹ Using the ROM method, loss of motion is determined using the first level of impairment. For example: Using Table 15-12, the first level of cervical flexion and extension impairment is at 30 degrees of flexion and 40 degrees of extension, each is provided 2% WPI.

² Using the ROM method, loss of motion is determined using the second level of impairment. For example: Using Table 15-12, the second level of cervical flexion and extension impairment is at 15 degrees of flexion and 20 degrees of extension, each is provided 4% WPI.

This information is provided as a projection of impairment.
Individual circumstances and results can significantly change the final level of impairment.



Chapter 16 – Upper Extremity			
Arm:			
Carpal tunnel release	3% WPI	For each involved extremity	
Ulnar nerve transposition	3% WPI	Assuming 10% sensory deficit	
Shoulder:			
Repair torn rotator cuff	2% WPI	Assuming 10% loss of motion in all planes	
Shoulder arthroscopy	2% WPI	Assuming 10% loss of motion in all planes	
Shoulder impingement loss	2% WPI	Assuming 10% loss of motion in all planes	
Distal Clavicle Resection	6% WPI	Apportionment should be a significant factor	
Amputations:			
Ring or little finger at:			
MP joint	5% WPI	10% hand impairment	
PIP joint	4% WPI	8% hand impairment	
DIP joint	3% WPI	5% hand impairment	
Index or middle finger at:			
MP joint	11% WPI	20% hand impairment	
PIP joint	8% WPI	16% hand impairment	
DIP joint	5% WPI	9% hand impairment	
Thumb at:			
MP joint	22% WPI	40% hand impairment	
IP joint	11% WPI	20% hand impairment	
At or near CMC joint	23% WPI	38% upper extremity	
Distal third of 1 st metacarpal	22% WPI	37% upper extremity	
NOTE: If more than one finger involved. Add impairment for each finger at the hand level, then convert.			
Shoulder disarticulation	60% WPI		

Chapter 17 – Lower Extremity			
Hip:			
Total hip replacement	15% WPI	Assuming Good results – DBE method	

This information is provided as a projection of impairment.
 Individual circumstances and results can significantly change the final level of impairment.



Knee:		
Total knee replacement	15% WPI	Assuming Good results – DBE method
Arthroscopy	0% WPI	Without residuals
ACL repair	3% WPI	Assuming mild laxity
Arthroscopic patella shaving	3% WPI	Partial patellectomy
Meniscectomy:		
Partial – medial or lateral	1% WPI	Multiple partial receive multiple impairment not to exceed value of total.
Total – medial or lateral	3% WPI	
Partial – medial and lateral	4% WPI	Multiple partial receive multiple impairment not to exceed value of total.
Total – medial and lateral	9% WPI	
Ankle:		
Arthrodesis	4% WPI	Assuming neutral position. Maximum is 25% WPI.
Amputation:		
Lesser toes at MTP joint	1% WPI	For each toe
Great toe at MTP joint	5% WPI	All toes at MTP = 9% WPI
Great toe at IP joint	2% WPI	
Syme	25% WPI	Ankle disarticulation, includes removal of malleoli and anchoring of heel pad
Knee disarticulation	32% WPI	
Hip disarticulation	40% WPI	

Bradford & Barthel, LLP Locations:

222 S. Harbor Blvd., Suite 950* ANAHEIM, CA 92805 (714) 526-9120	5757 W. Century Blvd., Suite 660* LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 (310) 981-5004	7801 Mission Center Court, Suite 250* SAN DIEGO, CA 92108 (619) 641-7942
2005 Eye Street, Suite 6* BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301 (661) 347-4500	3270 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite 200* ONTARIO, CA 91764 (909) 476-0552	1737 N. 1 st Street, Suite 200* SAN JOSE, CA 95112 (408) 392-8202
2300 Clayton Road, Suite 100* CONCORD, CA 94520 (510) 268-0061	2701 Old Eureka Way, Suite 2F* REDDING, CA 96001 (530) 242-6909	100 Stony Point Road, Suite 225* SANTA ROSA, CA 95401 (707) 571-7415
155 E. Shaw, Suite 200* FRESNO, CA 93710 (559) 442-3602	2518 River Plaza Drive* SACRAMENTO, CA 95833 (916) 569-0790	1001 Partridge Drive., Suite 120* VENTURA, CA 93003 (805) 677-4808
1699 S. Virginia, Suite 202 RENO, Nevada 89502 (775) 453-7978	PMB# 338* SALINAS, CA 93901 (831) 758-8619	21650 Oxnard Street, Suite 1950* WOODLAND HILLS, CA 91367 (818) 654-0411

*Mailing Address for all California Locations
P.O. Box 348450
Sacramento, CA 95834

This information is provided as a projection of impairment.
Individual circumstances and results can significantly change the final level of impairment.