2025 DIRT Report
Data Analysis

Prepared by:
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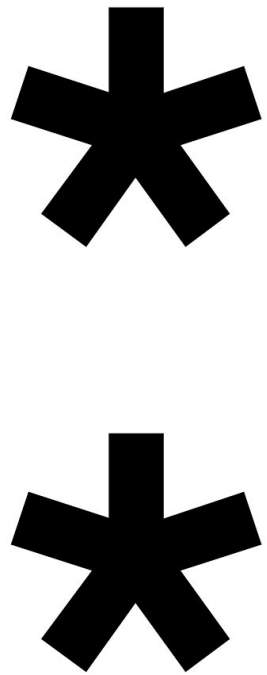
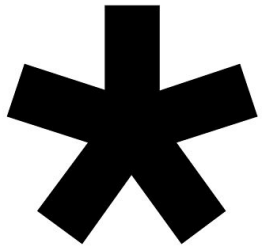
Oregon Utility Notification Center

Updated July 16, 2025



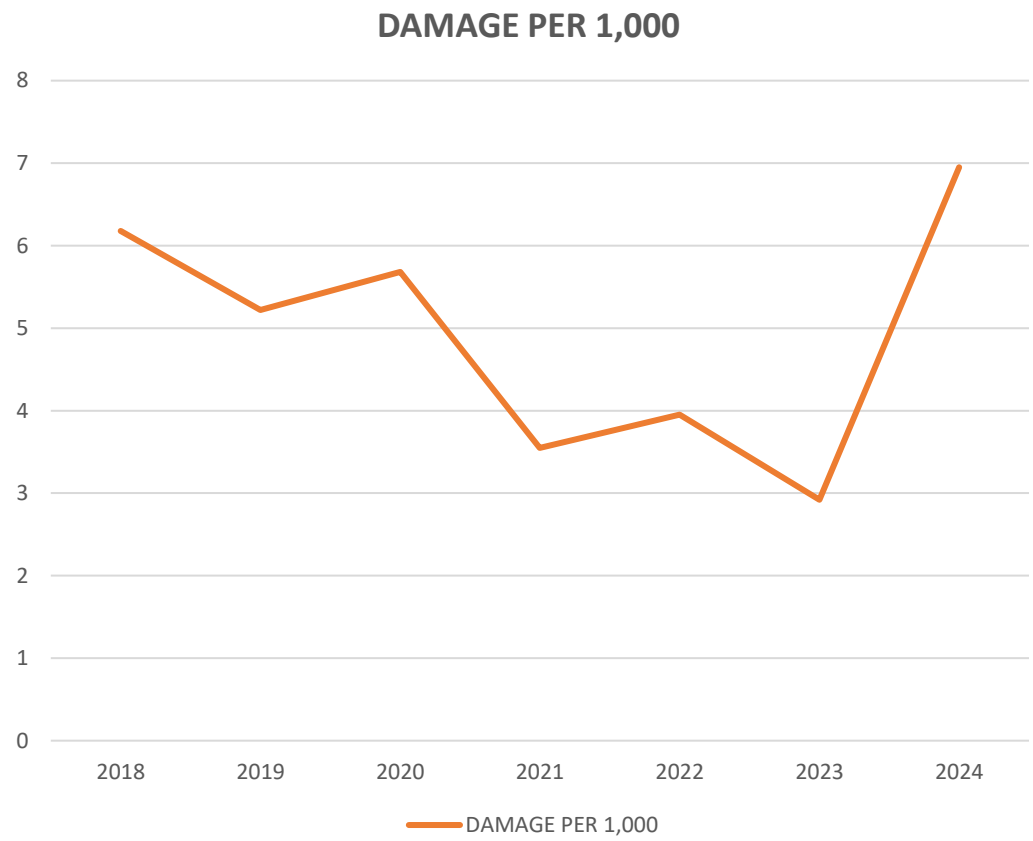


= REPORTED DAMAGES

* = REPORTED DAMAGES

Reported Damages and DPT

YEAR	TOTAL DAMAGES	DAMAGE PER 1,000
2018	2,034	6.18
2019	1,783	5.22
2020	1,989	5.68
2021	1,285	3.55
2022	1,405	3.95
2023	1,002	2.92
2024	2,456	6.95



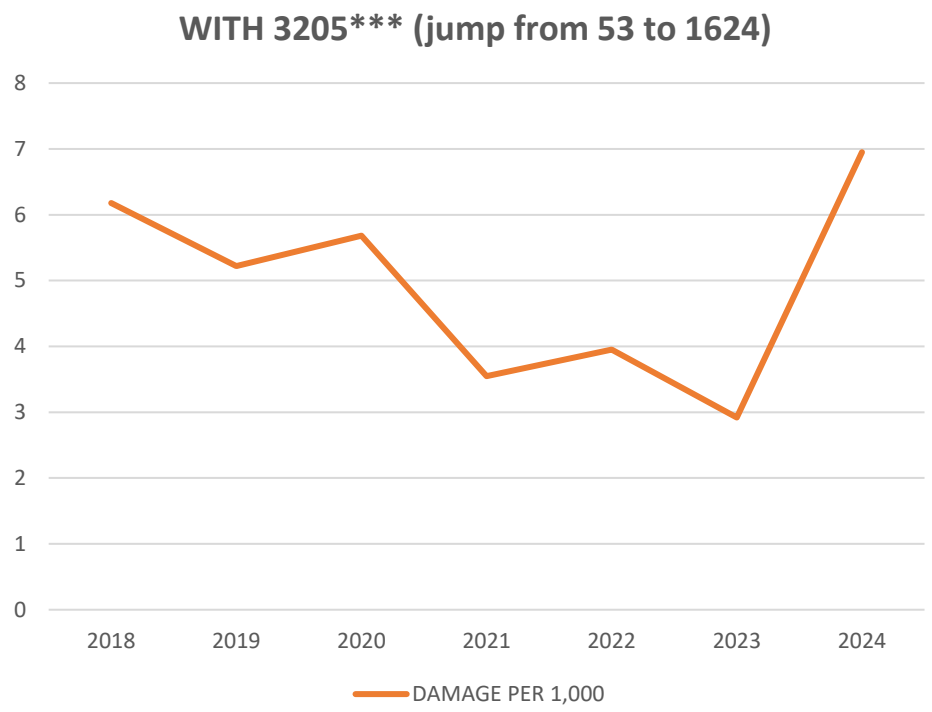
One Operator Can Make a Big Difference …

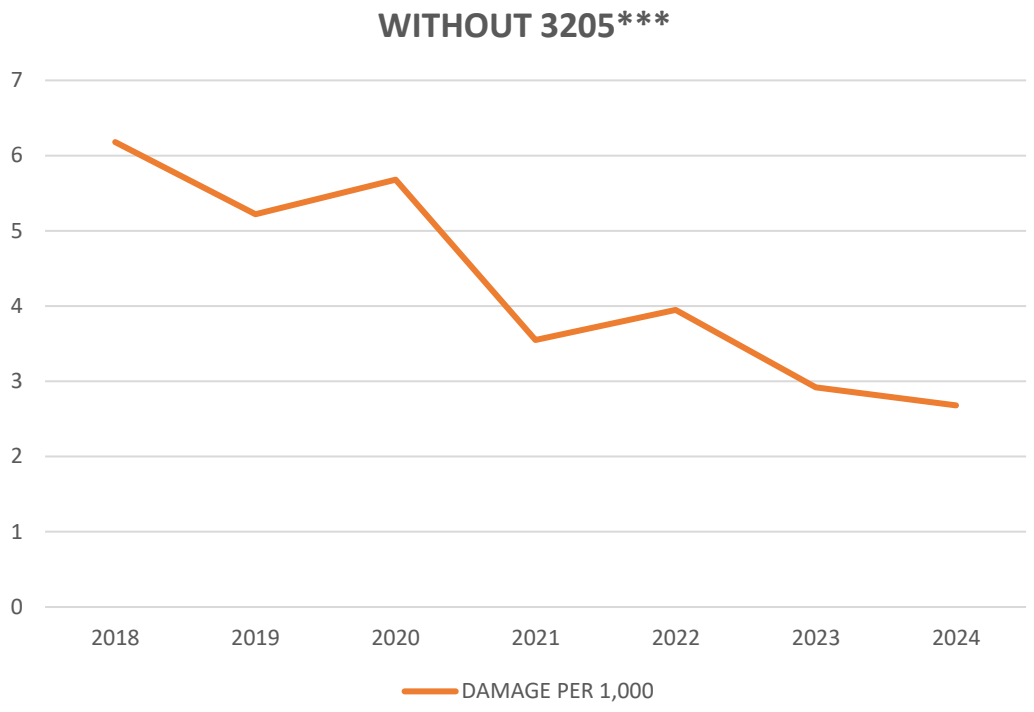
Telecommunications company increased their damage reporting:

- **2023 – 53**
- **2024 – 1,624**

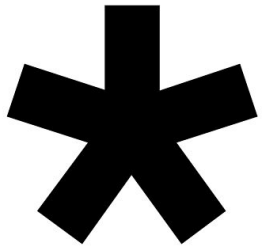
Most damages reported by this company are filed as unknown/other.

DATA QUALITY: BETTER REPORTING OF DAMAGES IMPACTS OUR TRENDLINE

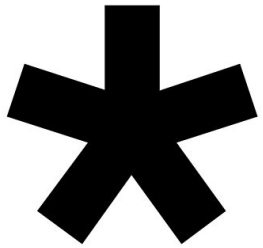




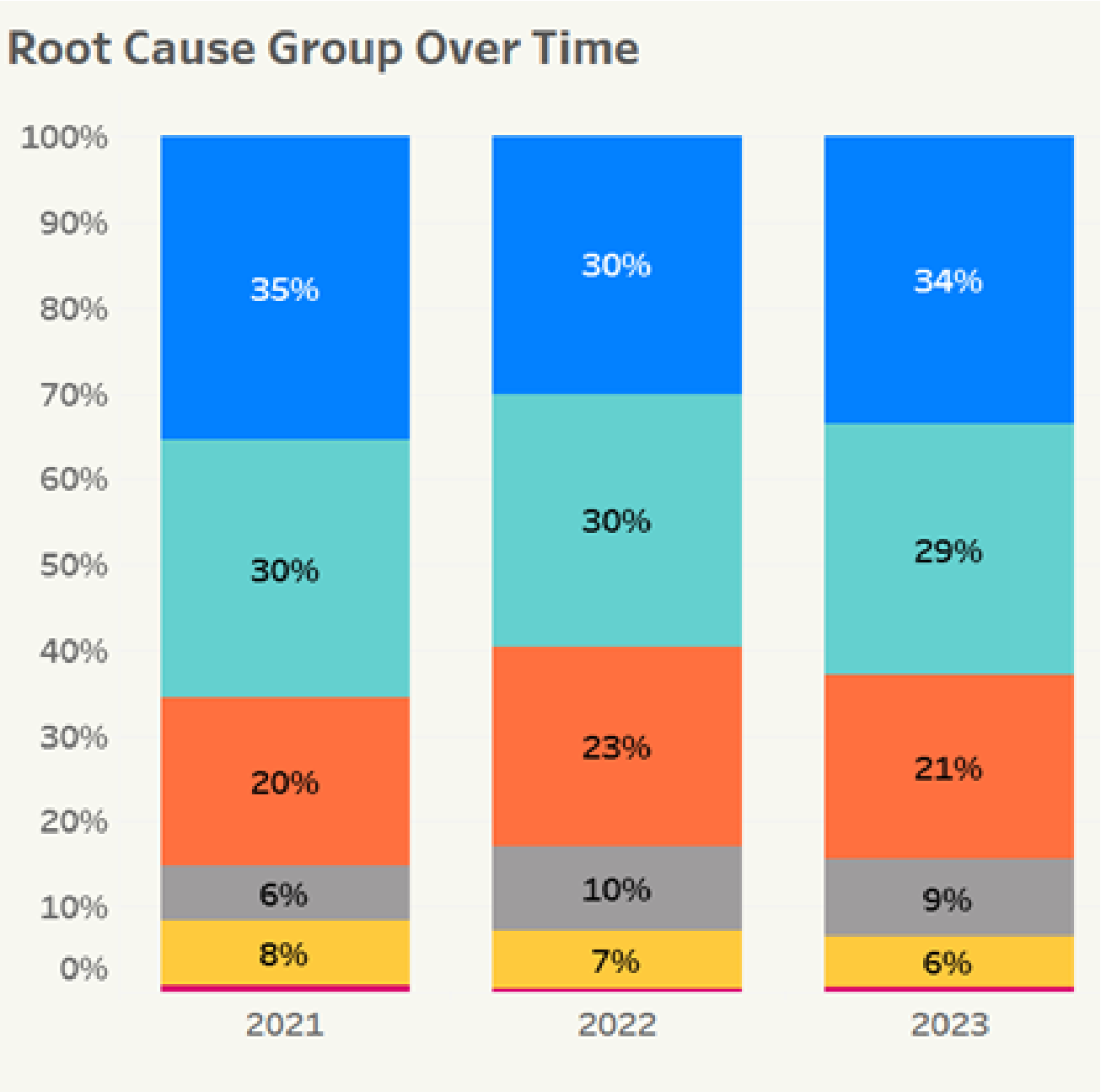
Success in improved reporting tends to appear as failure.



= REPORTED DAMAGES



= MINIMAL VARIATION YEAR OVER YEAR

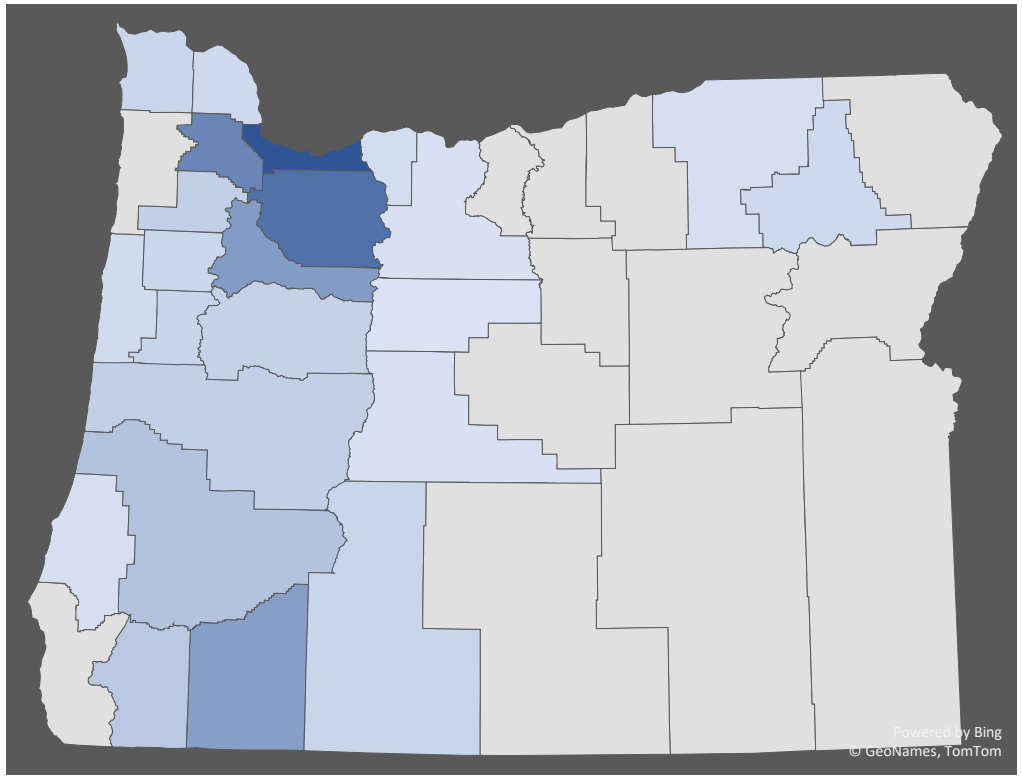


In 2024:

- About **35%** of damage is attributable to poor excavation practices
- **30%** because there was no notification/locates (didn't use 811)
- **23%** due to missing or bad locates
- **12%** is “other” or unknown

Top 10 Counties for Damage in Oregon

History shows higher population/more projects = more chances for damage to occur



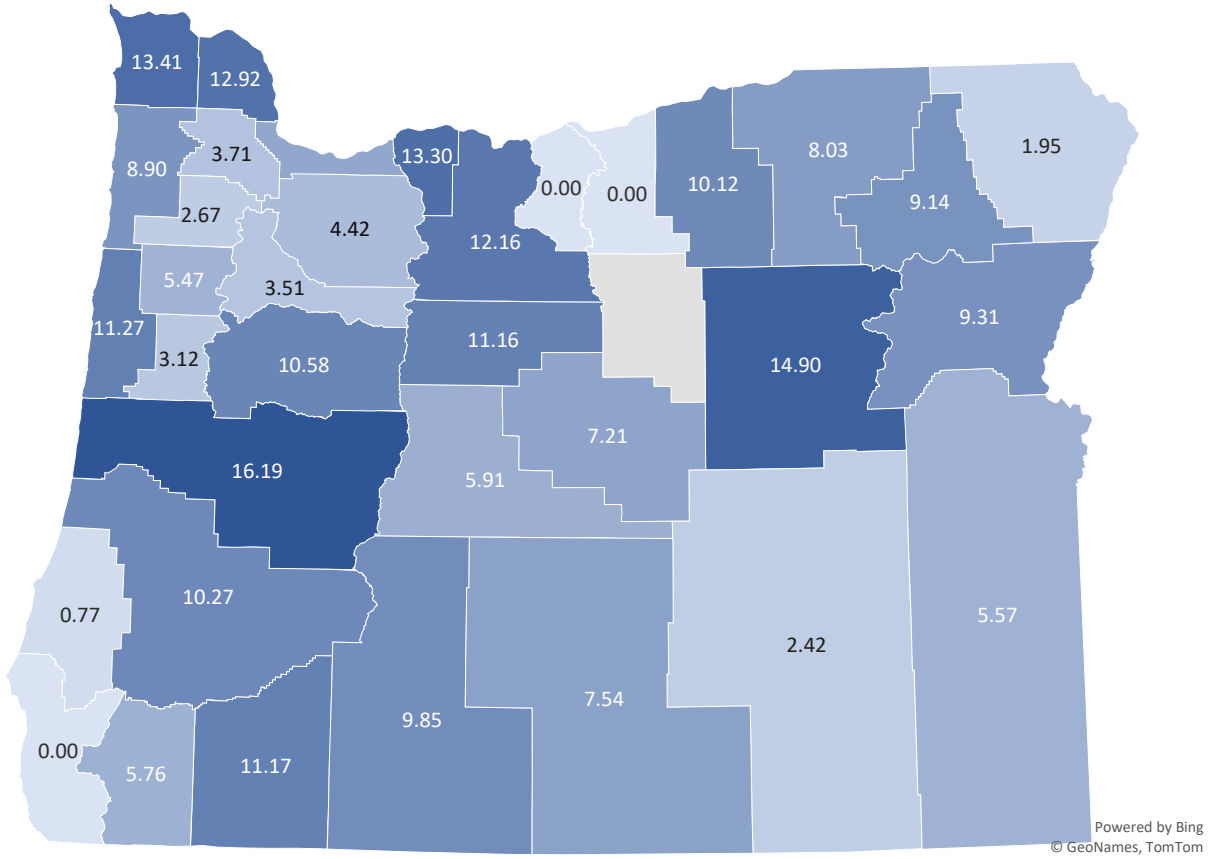
2023 Top Ten	
Multnomah	161
Washington	139
Clackamas	107
Marion	103
Jackson	72
Lane	62
Deschutes	42
Douglas	42
Linn	36
Yamhill	31

2024 Top Ten	
Lane	461
Multnomah	437
Washington	201
Jackson	181
Clackamas	168
Deschutes	125
Linn	113
Marion	95
Douglas	75
Josephine	65

Oregon Damage Heat Map (DPT)

Ratio shows counties with a higher propensity for damage

2024 Damage per 1,000 (inbound tickets)



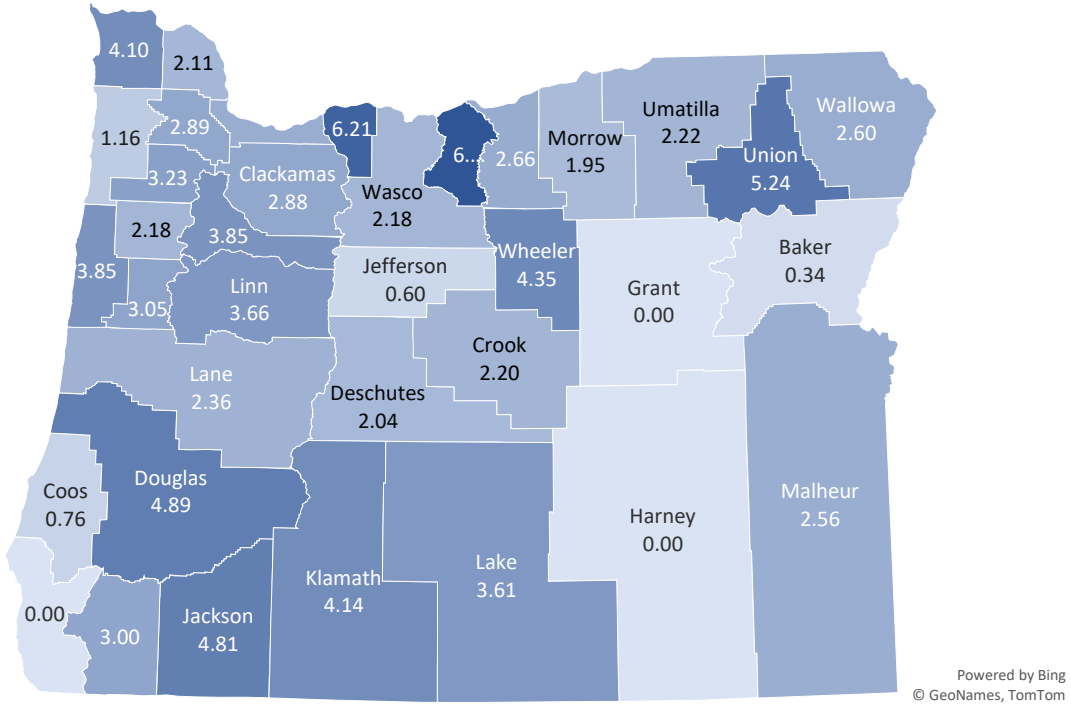
Top 10 (DPT)	
Wheeler	9
Lane	461
Grant	9
Clatsop	46
Hood River	26
Columbia	40
Wasco	26
Lincoln	52
Jackson	181
Jefferson	19

Notable Counties	2023	2024
Yamhill	31	24
Marion	103	95
Lane	62	461
Multnomah	161	437
Jackson	72	181

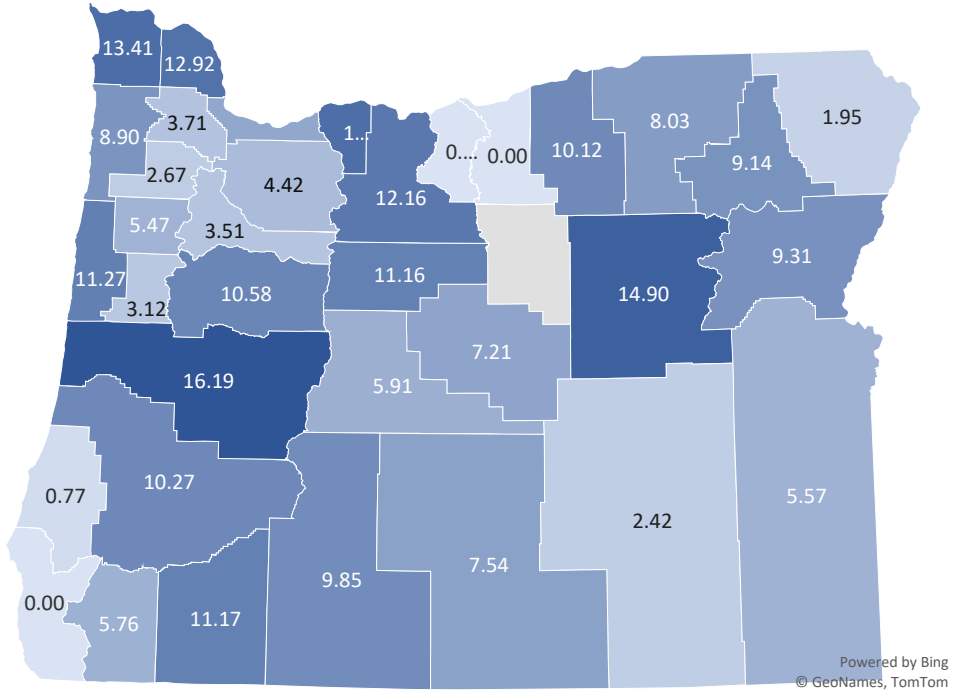
Oregon Damage Heat Map (DPT)

Ratio shows counties with a higher propensity for damage

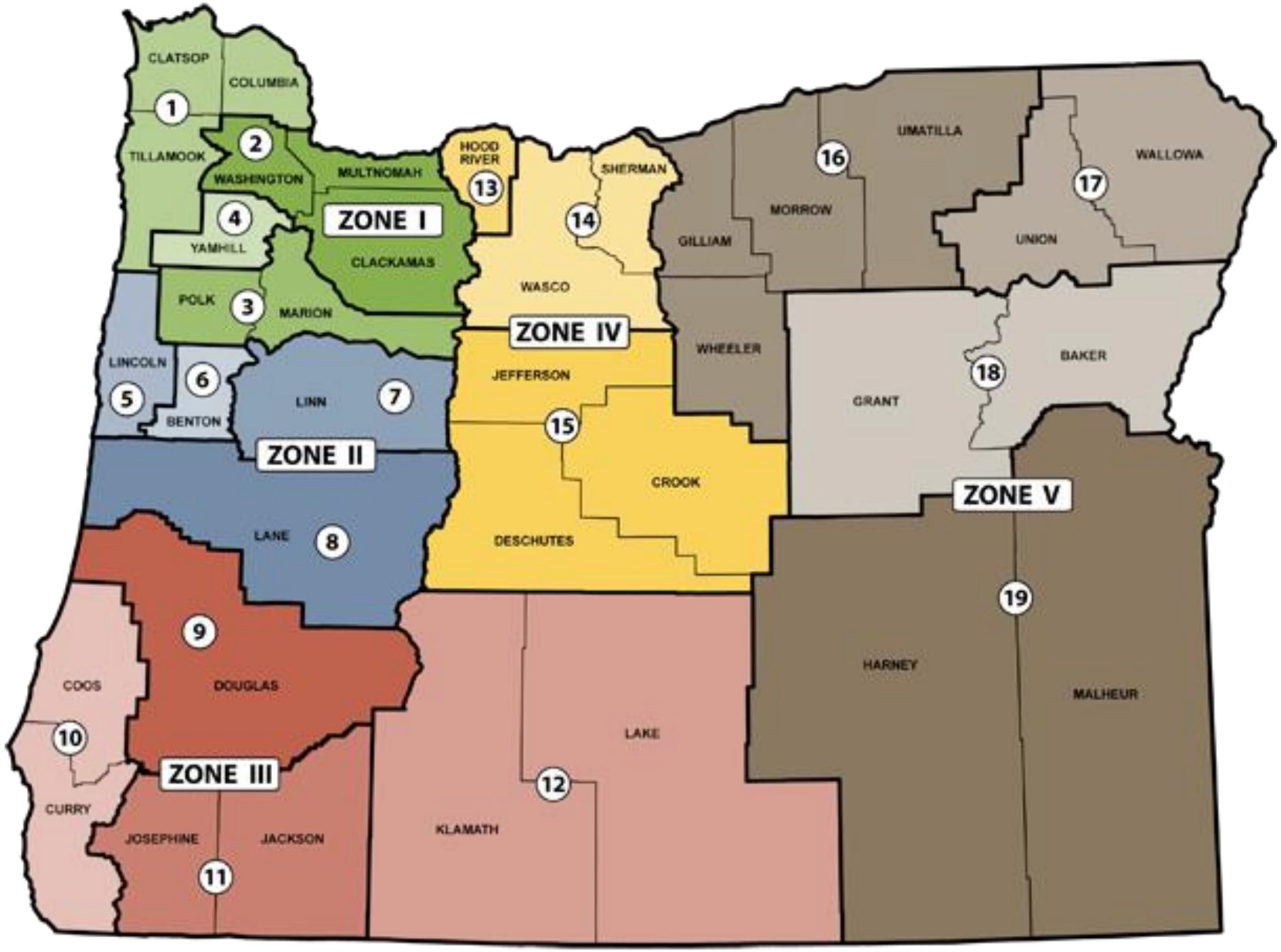
2023 Damage per 1,000 (inbound tickets)



2024 Damage per 1,000 (inbound tickets)



"Hot spots" are useful, but must look beyond the visual to the data


CLATSOP
COLUMBIA
1
TILLAMOOK
2
WASHINGTON
MULTNOMAH
HOOD RIVER
13
SHERMAN
16
UMATILLA
WALLOWA
17
ZONE I
4
YAMHILL
14
GILLIAM
MORROW
UNION
CLACKAMAS
WASCO
POLK
3
MARION
ZONE IV
WHEELER
LINCOLN
6
BAKER
18
5
BENTON
LINN
7
JEFFERSON
GRANT
ZONE II
15
CROOK
ZONE V
LANE
8
DESCHUTES
19
9
HARNEY
COOS
DOUGLAS
MALHEUR
LAKE
10
12
ZONE III
CURRY
KLAMATH
JOSEPHINE
JACKSON
11

OUCC Zones 2024

	Damages Reported	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000
ZONE 1	**1076**	208557	1208342	2467533	5.16	0.89
ZONE 2	651	51783	237233	661201	**12.57**	2.74
ZONE 3	379	47092	211022	582768	8.05	1.80
ZONE 4	215	29941	150707	317402	7.18	1.43
ZONE 5	145	17203	73532	192412	8.43	1.97

OUCC Zones 2023 vs 2024

	Damages Reported	Damage per 1,000
ZONE 1	580	2.90
ZONE 2	140	2.88
ZONE 3	175	3.65
ZONE 4	69	2.35
ZONE 5	38	2.15

2023

	Damages Reported	Damage per 1,000
ZONE 1	1076	5.16
ZONE 2	651	12.57
ZONE 3	379	8.05
ZONE 4	215	7.18
ZONE 5	145	8.43

2024

ZONE 1			Damages	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000	pop/1000
Area #									
1	**North Coast**		**107**	**8887**	**43818**	**121637**	**12.04**	**2.44**	**0.88**
		Clatsop	46	3431	18313	40002	**13.41**	2.51	1.15
		Columbia	40	3097	13328	54426	**12.92**	3.00	0.73
		Tillamook	21	2359	12177	27209	8.90	1.72	0.77
2	**Metropolitan**		**806**	**155582**	**939249**	**1799674**	**5.18**	**0.86**	**0.45**
		Clackamas	168	38042	215912	423283	4.42	0.78	0.40
		Multnomah	437	63427	373085	779968	6.89	1.17	0.56
		Washington	201	54113	350252	596423	3.71	0.57	0.34
3	**Mid-Willamette**		**139**	**35098**	**185807**	**437014**	**3.96**	**0.75**	**0.32**
		Marion	95	27051	144683	346785	3.51	0.66	0.27
		Polk	44	8047	41124	90229	5.47	1.07	0.49
4	**Yamhill**		**24**	**8990**	**39468**	**109208**	**2.67**	**0.61**	**0.22**
		Yamhill	24	8990	39468	109208	2.67	0.61	0.22
ZONE 1 TOTALS			**1076**	**208557**	**1208342**	**2467533**	**5.16**	**0.89**	**0.44**

OUCC Zone 2

ZONE 2			Damages	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000	pop/1000
Area #									
5	**Lincoln County**		**52**	**4614**	**25594**	**50959**	**11.27**	**2.03**	**1.02**
		Lincoln	52	4614	25594	50959	**11.27**	2.03	1.02
6	**Linn-Benton**		**25**	**8018**	**37415**	**97817**	**3.12**	**0.67**	**0.26**
		Benton	25	8018	37415	97817	3.12	0.67	0.26
7	**East Linn**		**113**	**10685**	**43897**	**133244**	**10.58**	**2.57**	**0.85**
		Linn	113	10685	43897	133244	**10.58**	2.57	0.85
8	**Lane**		**461**	**28466**	**130327**	**379181**	**16.19**	**3.54**	**1.22**
		Lane	461	28466	130327	379181	**16.19**	3.54	1.22
ZONE 2 TOTALS			**651**	**51783**	**237233**	**661201**	**12.57**	**2.74**	**0.98**

OUCC Zone 3

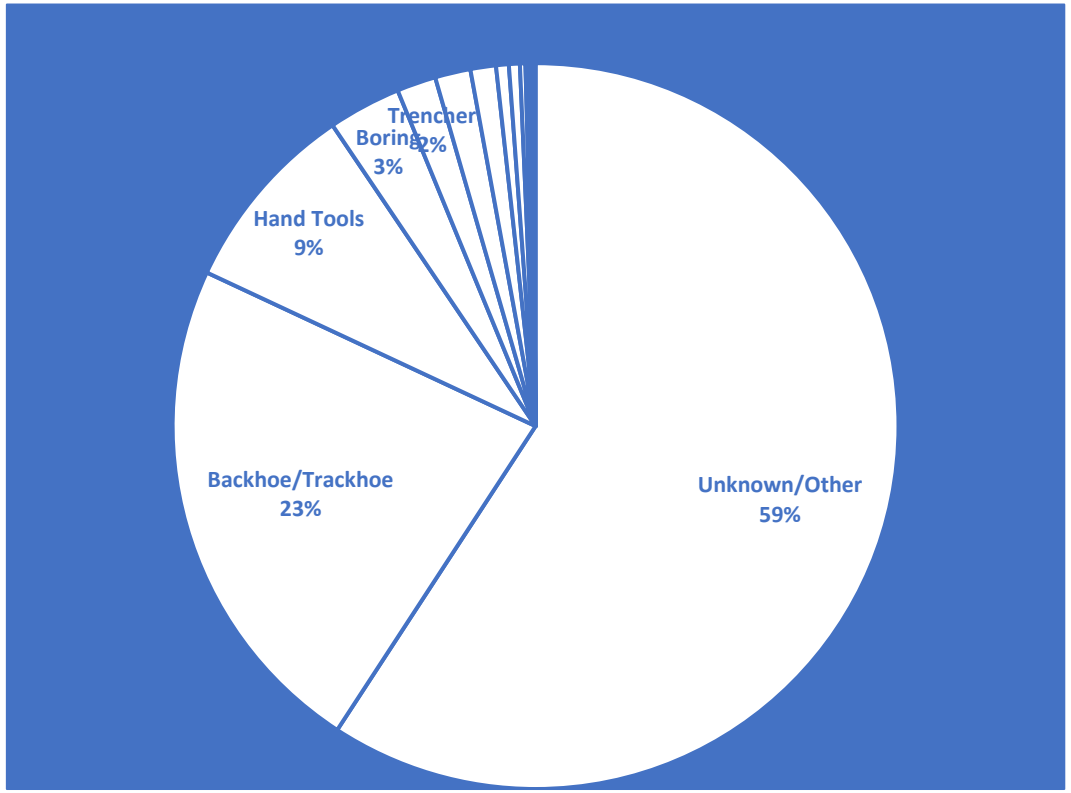
ZONE 3			Damages	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000	pop/1000
Area #									
9	**Douglas**		**75**	**7305**	**35457**	**112725**	**10.27**	**2.12**	**0.67**
		Douglas	75	7305	35457	112725	10.27	2.12	0.67
10	**South Coast**		**3**	**6559**	**32903**	**85452**	**0.46**	**0.09**	**0.04**
		Coos	3	3877	16537	62790	0.77	0.18	0.05
		Curry	0	2682	16366	22662	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	**Rogue Basin**		**246**	**27490**	**116028**	**306829**	**8.95**	**2.12**	**0.80**
		Jackson	181	16200	87989	218966	11.17	2.06	0.83
		Josephine	65	11290	28039	87863	5.76	2.32	0.74
12	**Klamath**		**55**	**5738**	**26634**	**77762**	**9.59**	**2.07**	**0.71**
		Klamath	50	5075	23617	69629	9.85	2.12	0.72
		Lake	5	663	3017	8133	7.54	1.66	0.61
ZONE 3 TOTALS			**379**	**47092**	**211022**	**582768**	**8.05**	**1.80**	**0.65**

OUCC Zone 4

ZONE 4			Damages	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000	pop/1000
Area #									
13	**Hood River**		**26**	**1955**	**10883**	**23165**	**13.30**	**2.39**	**1.12**
		Hood River	26	1955	10883	23165	13.30	2.39	1.12
14	**Wasco County**		**26**	**2485**	**9492**	**27848**	**10.46**	**2.74**	**0.93**
		Sherman	0	347	1210	1959	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Wasco	26	2138	8282	25889	12.16	3.14	1.00
15	**Central Oregon**		**163**	**25501**	**130332**	**266389**	**6.39**	**1.25**	**0.61**
		Crook	19	2634	10404	28102	7.21	1.83	0.68
		Deschutes	125	21165	112469	212573	5.91	1.11	0.59
		Jefferson	19	1702	7459	25714	11.16	2.55	0.74
ZONE 4 TOTALS			**215**	**29941**	**150707**	**317402**	**7.18**	**1.43**	**0.68**

ZONE 5			Damages	Locates inbound	Locates outbound	Population	Damage per 1,000	out/1000	pop/1000
Area #									
16	**Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam County**		**81**	**9080**	**40960**	**95459**	**8.92**	**1.98**	**0.85**
		Gilliam	0	511	1272	2062	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Morrow	24	2371	7482	12322	10.12	3.21	1.95
		Umatilla	48	5979	31549	79637	8.03	1.52	0.60
		Wheeler	9	219	657	1438	**41.10**	13.70	6.26
17	**La Grande/Union**		**18**	**2372**	**9289**	**33224**	**7.59**	**1.94**	**0.54**
		Union	17	1860	8000	25502	9.14	2.13	0.67
		Wallowa	1	512	1289	7722	1.95	0.78	0.13
18	**Baker**		**33**	**3182**	**13938**	**24057**	**10.37**	**2.37**	**1.37**
		Baker	24	2578	12115	16862	9.31	1.98	1.42
		Grant	9	604	1823	7195	**14.90**	4.94	1.25
19	**Malheur**		**13**	**2569**	**9345**	**39672**	**5.06**	**1.39**	**0.33**
		Harney	1	413	1430	7256	2.42	0.70	0.14
		Malheur	12	2156	7915	32416	5.57	1.52	0.37
ZONE 5 TOTALS			**145**	**17203**	**73532**	**192412**	**8.43**	**1.97**	**0.75**

What equipment was involved?

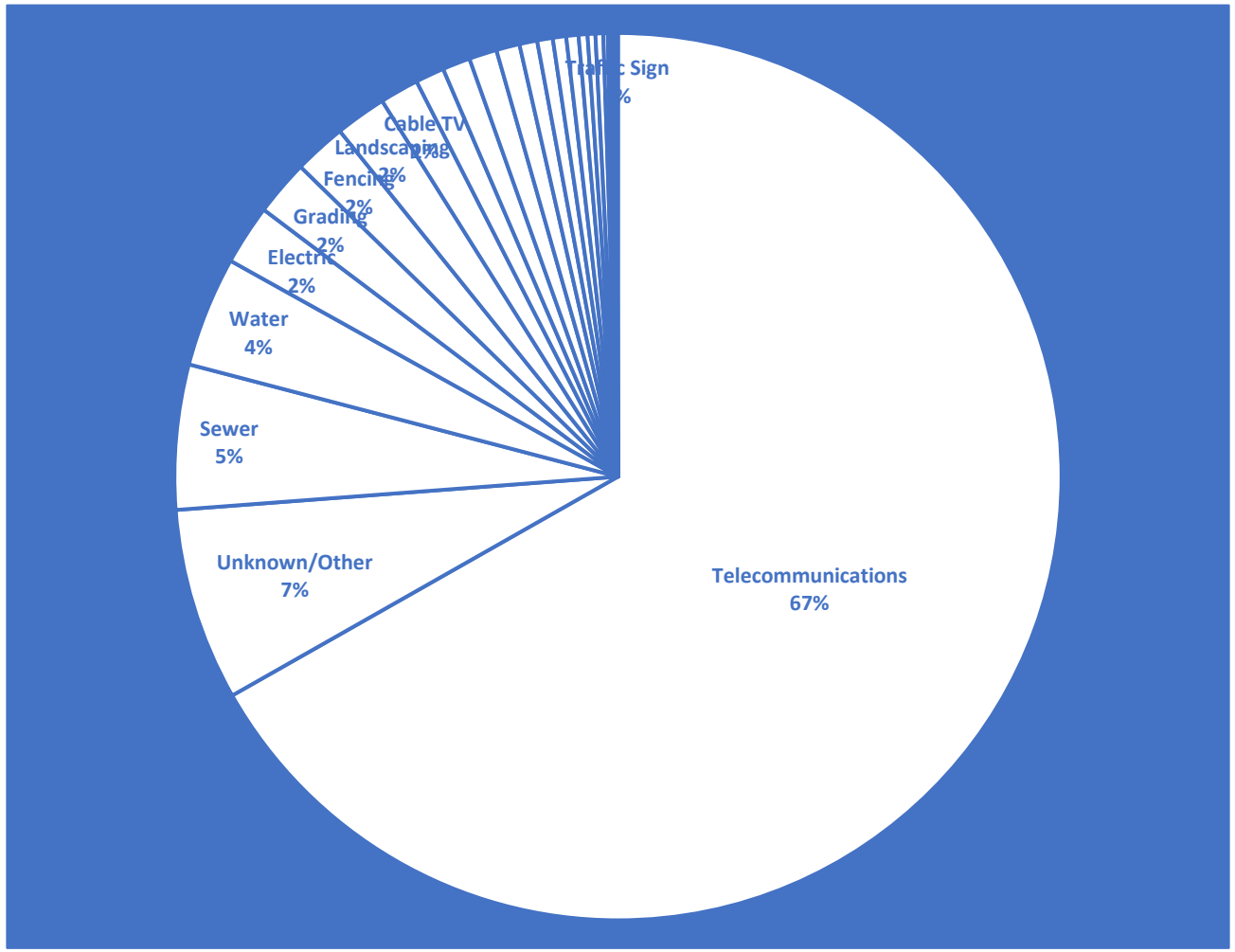


Type of Equipment	
Unknown/Other	1460
Backhoe/Trackhoe	561
Hand Tools	212
Boring	80
Trencher	43
Auger	39
Bulldozer	28
Grader/Scraper	14
Drilling	12
Probing Device	6

Includes:

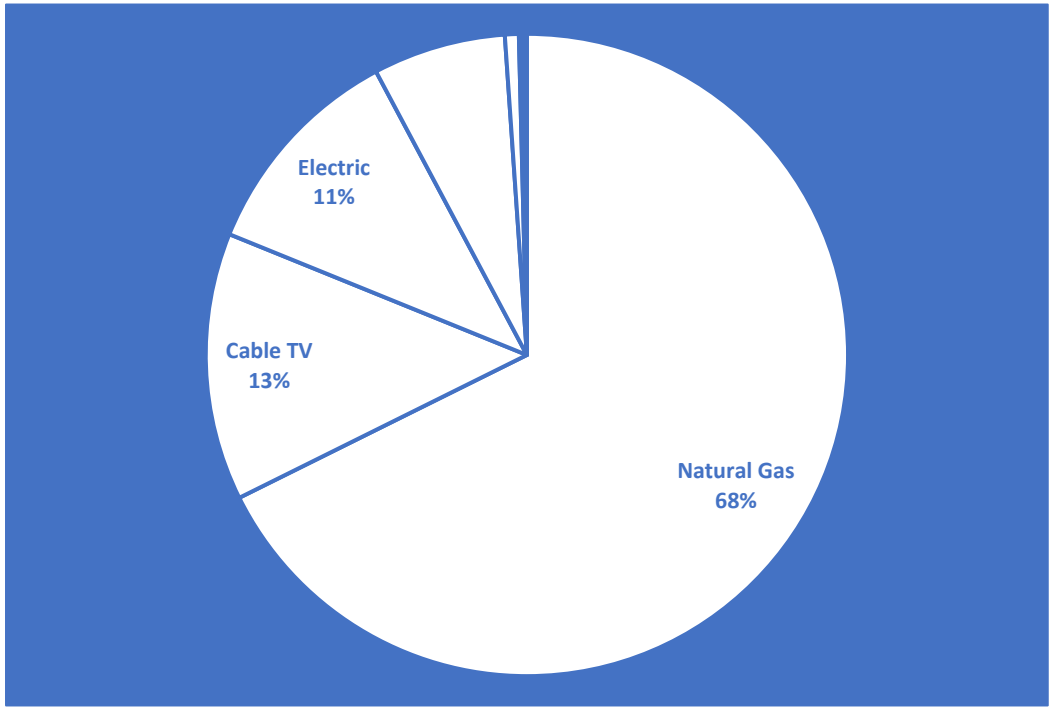
- Shovel
- Pickaxe
- Mattock
- Post hole digger
- Trench digger
- Spade

What type of work was involved?

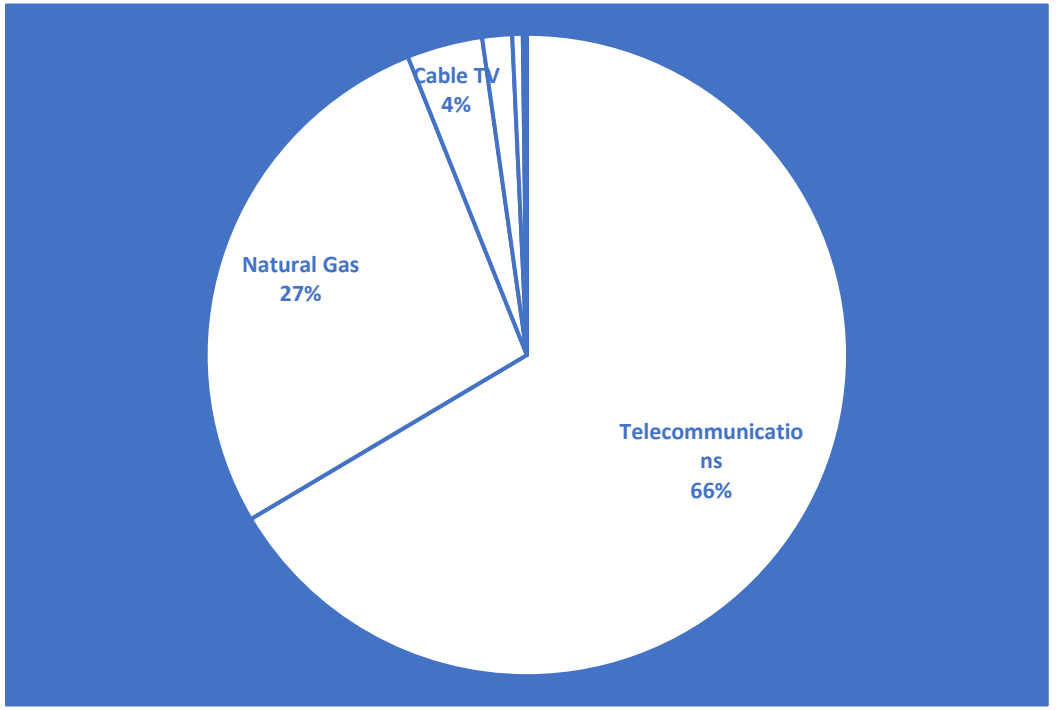


Type of Work Project	
Telecommunications	1647
Unknown/Other	173
Sewer	130
Water	99
Electric	54
Grading	50
Fencing	47
Landscaping	46
Cable TV	35
Natural Gas	26
Pole	25
Bldg. Construction	25
Storm Drain/Culvert	21

What was damaged?



2023



2024

What was damaged?

Facility Damaged	
Natural Gas	678
Cable TV	135
Electric	111
Telecommunications	67
Water	7
Liquid Pipeline	2
Unknown/Other	2

2023

Facility Damaged	
Telecommunications	1639
Natural Gas	678
Cable TV	94
Electric	37
Water	13
Unknown/Other	4
Sewer	1

2024

What we know …

- According to CGA, the top six root causes make up nearly 76% of damages.
- In Oregon, the majority of damage happens in tri-counties, with 80% of damage occurring in just 8 counties.
- Damage is caused by 20% homeowners and 80% professional excavators.
- Utilities (and/or their contractors) are damaging other utilities when working on their own facilities.
- Damage is caused primarily by backhoes and heavy equipment, followed by hand tools.

What we know …

- Shallow digging is a going concern, as excavators roll the dice when digging 1-2 feet deep and find things the hard way.
- Late locates are a going concern, causing project delays or risky excavation when digging without marks after waiting the two business days.
- Boring, drilling, pounding stakes, pile driving fence posts, and micro trenching not viewed as "excavation," but they meet the definition in Oregon state law, and result in costly damages.
- Cross boring and micro trenching activities are increasing.


DIRT
Damage Information Reporting Tool
2023 ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
CGA
To download or to access additional analysis, please visit dirt.commongroundalliance.com.
VOL. 20
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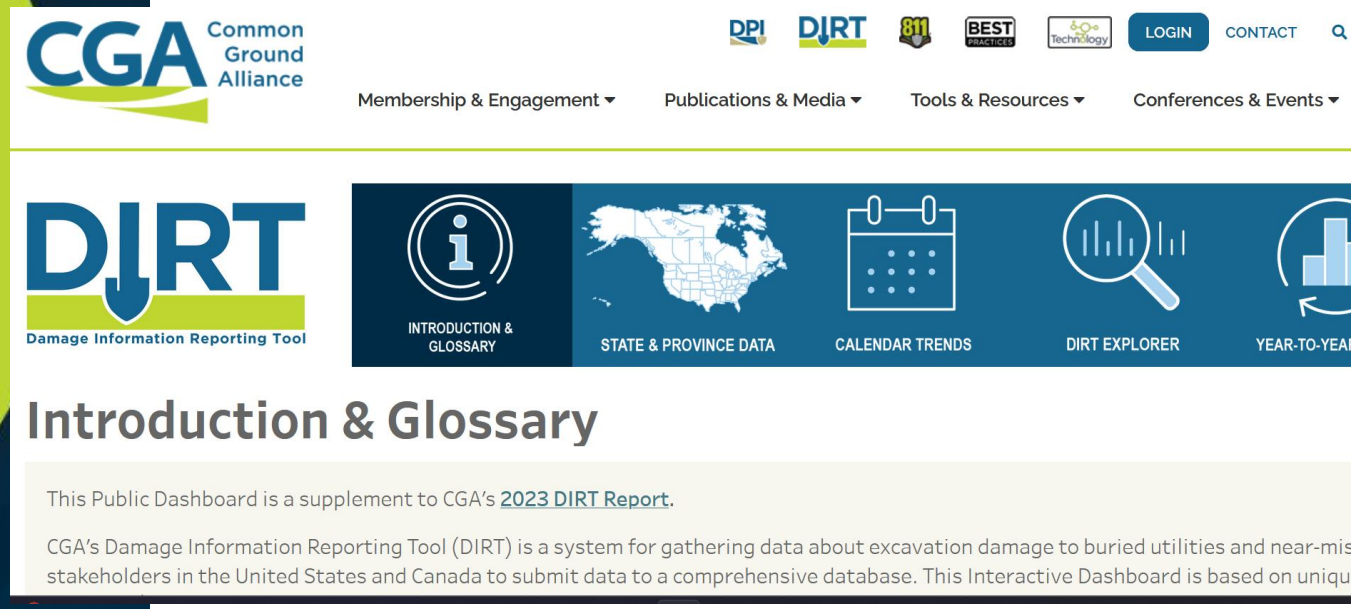

CGA Common Ground Alliance
LOGIN
CONTACT
Membership & Engagement
Publications & Media
Tools & Resources
Conferences & Events
DIRT
Damage Information Reporting Tool
INTRODUCTION & GLOSSARY
STATE & PROVINCE DATA
CALENDAR TRENDS
DIRT EXPLORER
Introduction & Glossary
This Public Dashboard is a supplement to CGA's 2023 DIRT Report.
CGA's Damage Information Reporting Tool (DIRT) is a system for gathering data about excavation damage to buried utilities and near-mis
stakeholders in the United States and Canada to submit data to a comprehensive database. This Interactive Dashboard is based on uniqu

DIRT Data Considerations and Limitations

- Not all facility operators/owners submit excavation damage information. Oregon does not require excavation damage reporting.
- How can we increase participation?
- Some flawed, conflicting, duplicate entries; near misses
- Consideration for reporting bias
- “Other” and “unknown/other” categories growing

Higher or lower damage rates also reflect the respective level of consistent and reliable reporting.

Primary Objectives

1. **GUIDING DIRECTION:** With all of the data available to us, how can we make better informed decisions about where to focus our efforts and allocate our resources?

2. **PROVING EFFECTIVENESS:** How can we use data to measure our effectiveness and prove our results (despite shortcomings)?

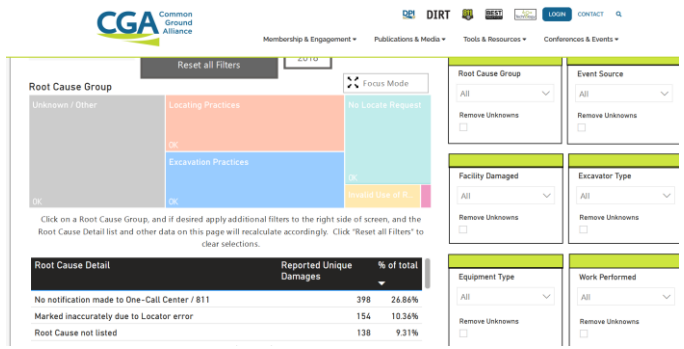
Questions raised:

- What data are we looking for specifically that we don't have?
- What can we actually do with it?
- Some have suggested more real time data – how would that be used?
- How can it help prevent/reduce damages?
- With minor shifts from year to year, how can we enhance the value of our reporting to be meaningful and actionable?

Emphasis on targeting allocation of efforts and resources, measuring results.

Questions/Comments?

What Other Data is Available?



- Common Ground Alliance
  - Damage Information Reporting Tool
  - DIRT Dashboard
- One Call Concepts
  - Master report spreadsheet - tickets (by day, month, year, county), in/out ratio, ITIC, billing details, ASA, subscribers
  - Past Due Accounts
  - Queries
- Oregon Public Utility Commission, Oregon OSHA – complaint/enforcement data
- OUCC/UCCs – qualitative reports/updates, case studies, some regular reporting
- Oregon utilities – damage statistics and analysis; some is restricted/proprietary
- Excavation Safety Alliance – topic-based Town Hall events
- *Others?*