



Damage Prevention Trends, TDRF Supporting Documents and FAQs

Ricardo Gamez
Pipeline Damage Prevention Program
July 2025



Agenda

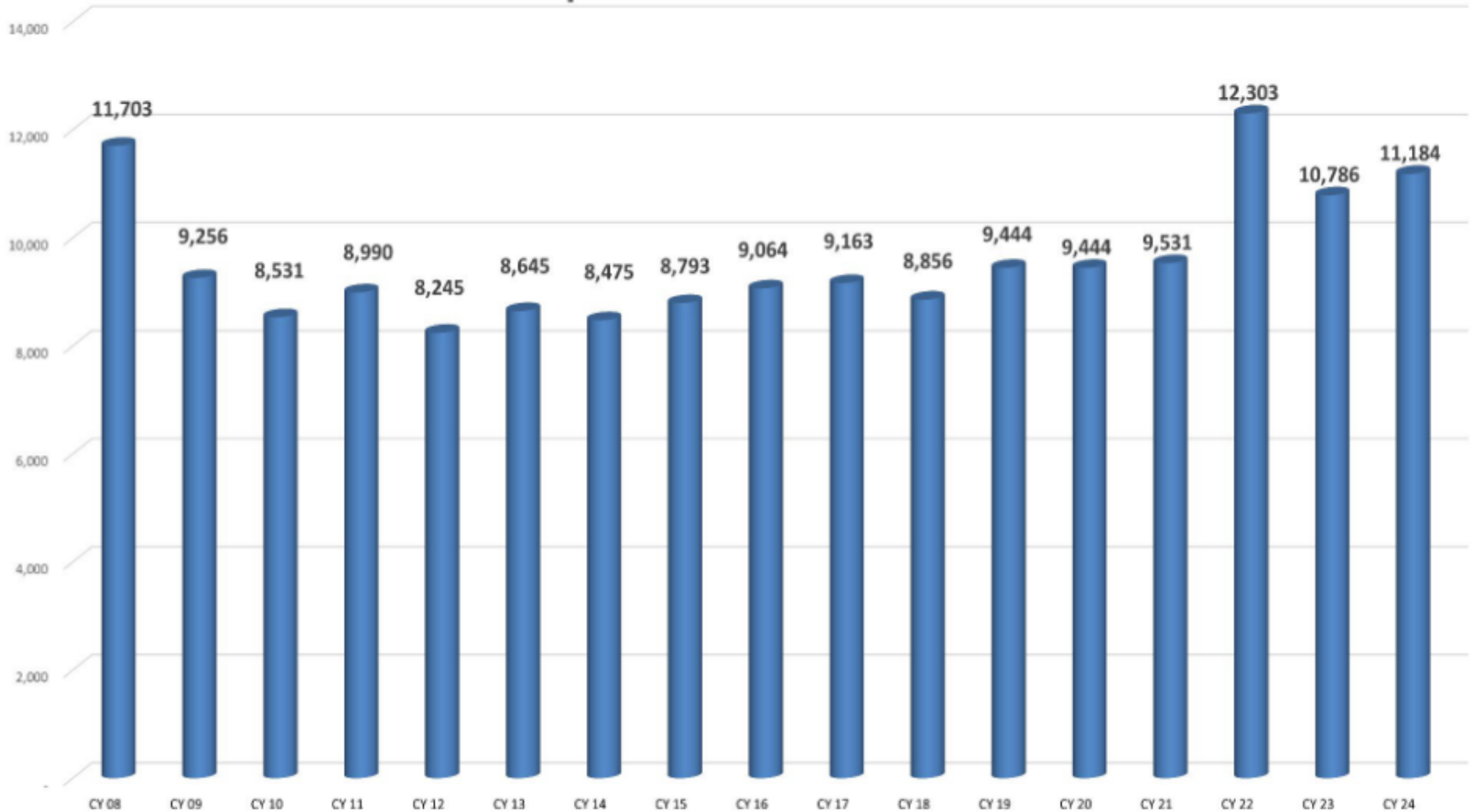


- Damage Prevention Stats
 - Changes from Previous CY Top 10 Reporting
- TDRFs – Good vs Bad examples
- FAQs and Open Discussion

Statistical Data (1 of 6)



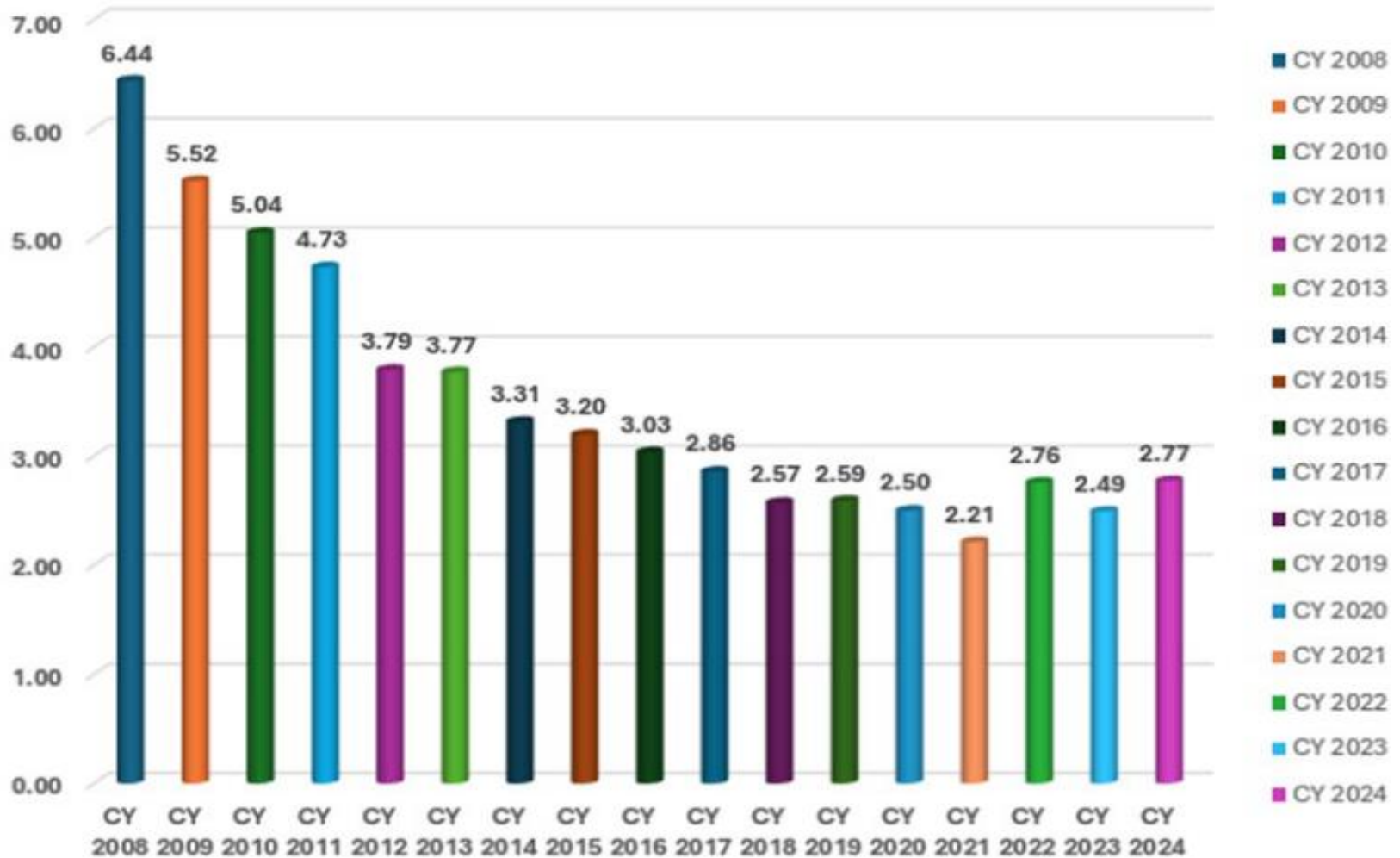
Incidents per Calendar Year



Statistical Data (2 of 6)



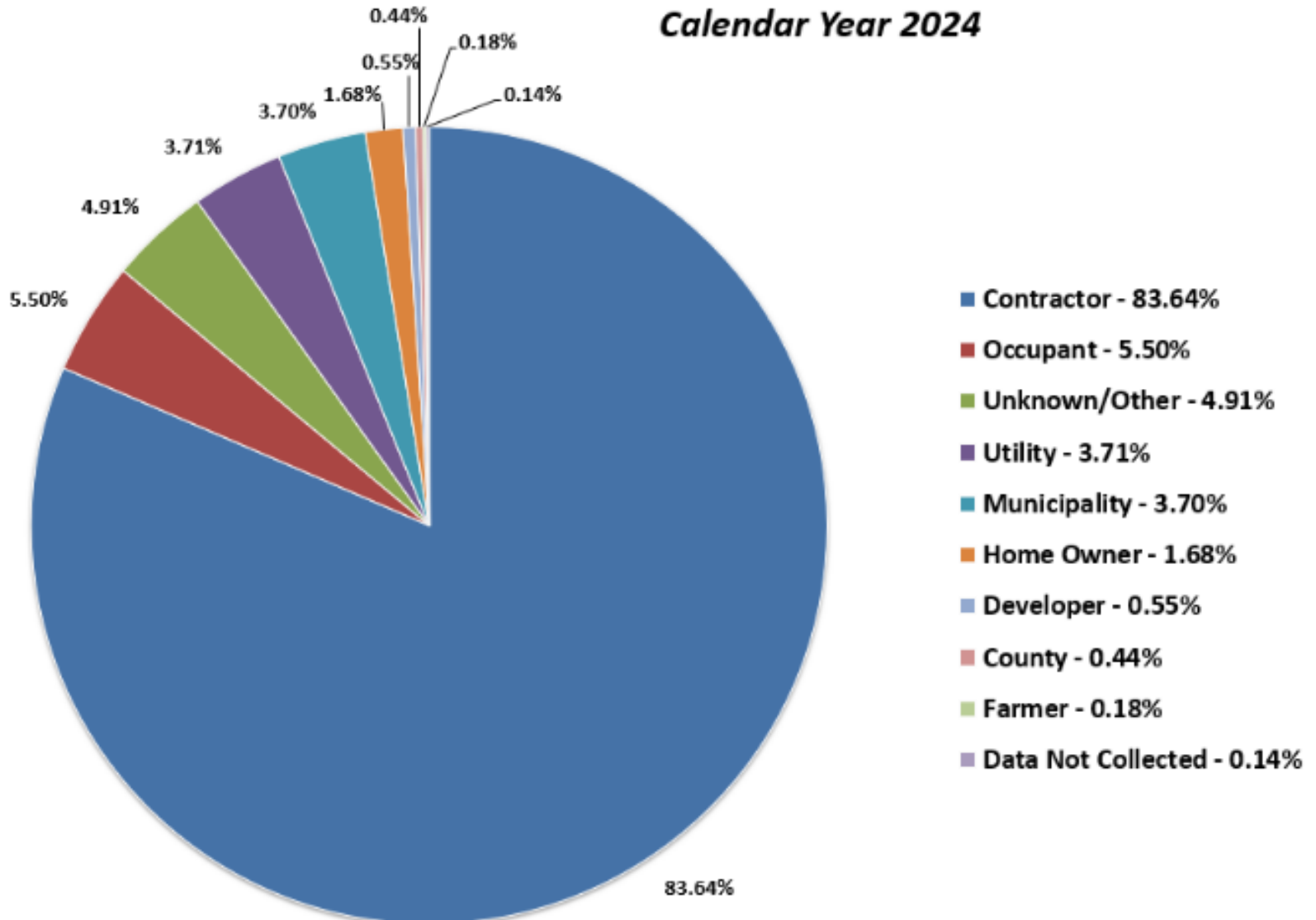
Damages per Thousand Locates Calendar Year



Statistical Data (3 of 6)



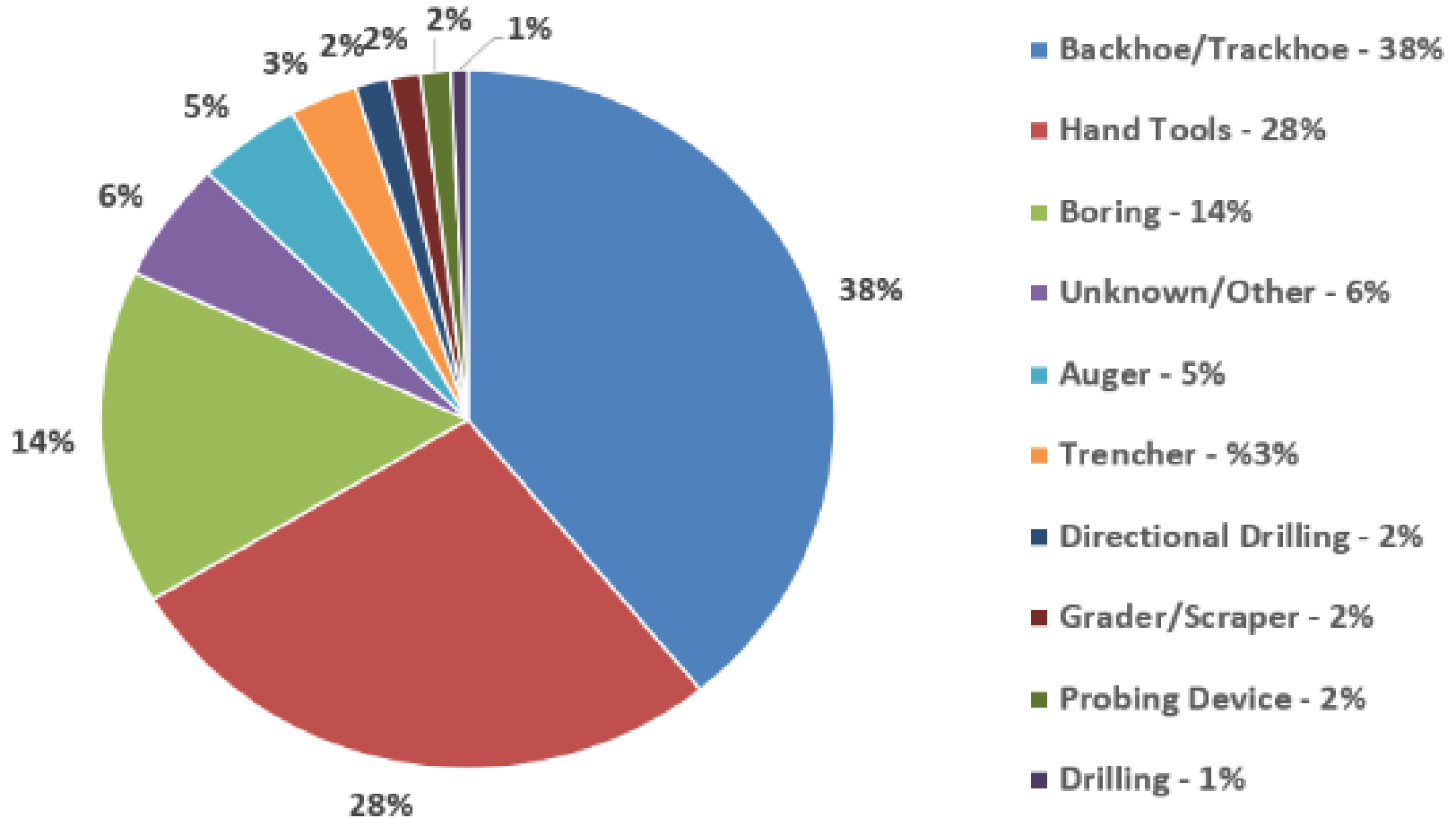
**Top Ten Types of Excavator
Calendar Year 2024**



Statistical Data (4 of 6)

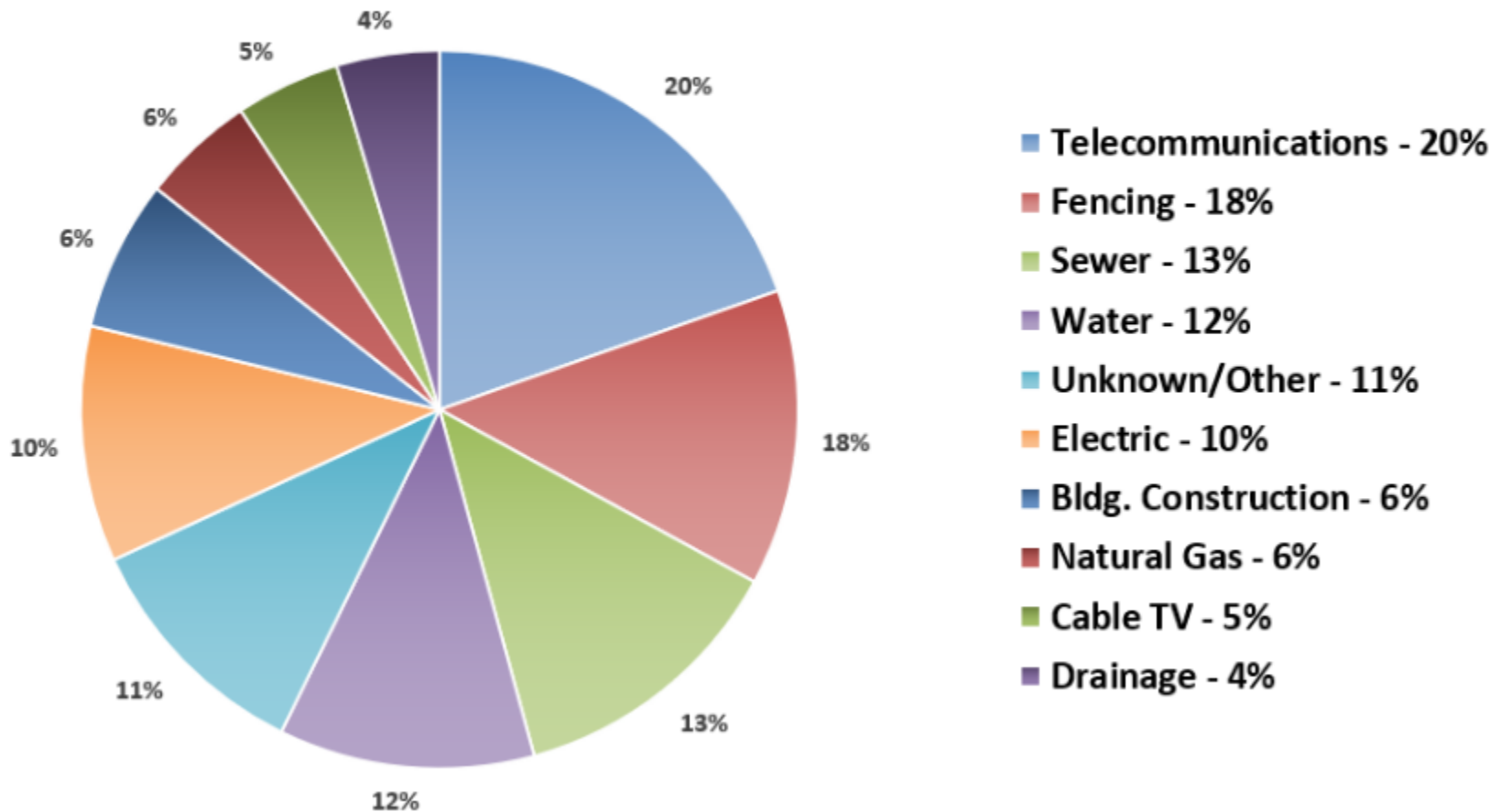


*Top Ten Types of Equipment
Calendar Year 2024*



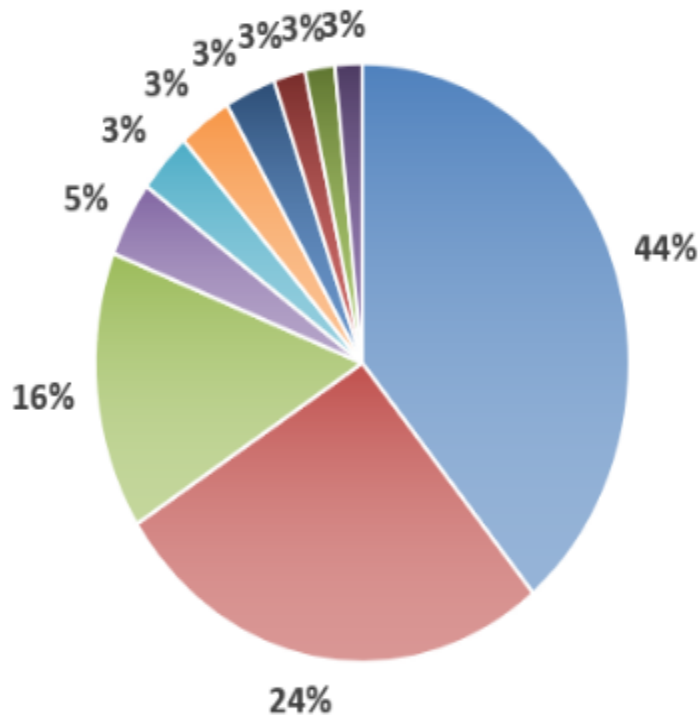


Top Ten Types of Work Performed Calendar Year 2024





Top 10 Root Causes - Calendar Year 2024



- No notification made to the One-Call center - 44%
- Failure to maintain clearance after verifying marks/failure to use hand tools - 24%
- Locator error - 16%
- Unlocatable Facility - 5%
- Failure to test-hole (pot-hole) - 3%
- Dug after valid ticket expired - 3%
- Root cause not listed - 3%
- Dug prior to valid start date/time - 3%
- Incorrect facility records/maps - 3%



All Supporting Documentation due upon TDRF submission

- Can help determine if penalties are warranted
- Can result in No Penalty - Conflicting Information closures
- Risk of being denied if provided after Final Notice has issued

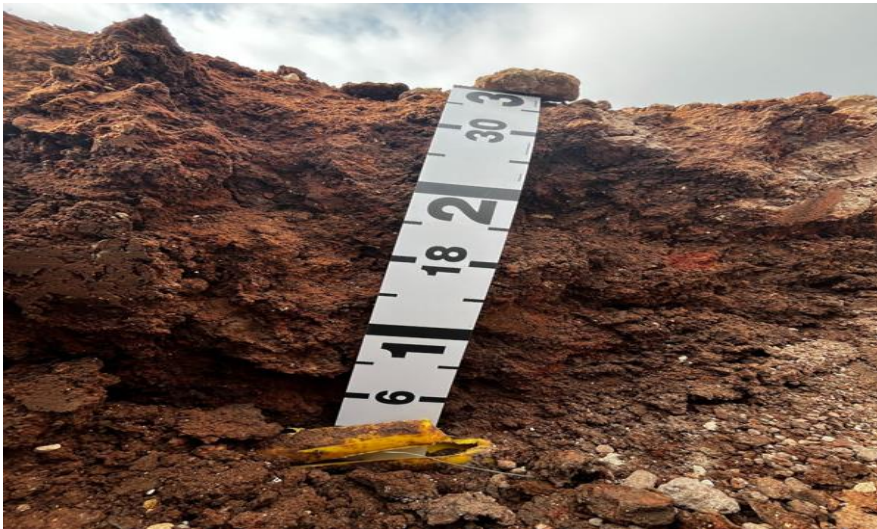
Supporting Docs: Good vs Poor (1 of 5)



Good or Poor?

- Reported jurisdictional depth
- Reported accurate marks
- Reported TZ violation

Supporting Docs: Good vs Poor (2 of 5)



While we do appreciate *seeing* the damaged line, a picture of a hole in the ground doesn't provide us much...

Supporting Docs: Good vs Poor (3 of 5)



These photos were submitted as proof of accurate marks...

...neither confirm accurate marks, jurisdictional depth or the line being damaged.



Supporting Docs: Good vs Poor (4 of 5)



Good or Poor?

- Clearly shows excavation through concrete material
- Depth measured from top of the pipe
- Ruler includes the concrete material



Hot Topics



- “Piggie Backing” locates
 - NOT allowed, or...
 - Excavator contact info must be listed on locates
- Smaller locates
- Extraordinary Circumstances
- Written agreements / Trouble locates
 - Must be kept on file, approved by both parties
 - Locates require positive response, regardless of trouble status



- Questions?
- Comments?
- Applause?

Contact Information



- Pipeline Damage Prevention Program
- (512) 475-0512
- tdrfinfo@rrc.texas.gov



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

- Ricardo Gamez
- 512-463-3084
- Ricardo.gamez@rrc.texas.gov