

Three-quarters of accident claims are made by women

ALMOST three-quarters of injury compensation claims are made by women, figures have revealed.

They showed that 1,443 successful claims, resulting in payouts worth €33million, were submitted by those hurt on public property last year.

Women accounted for 72 per cent of all public liability claims, while more than half of all payouts were for amounts of less than €20,000.

The report, from Injuriesboard.ie, formerly known as the Personal Injuries Assessment Board, found that trips and falls made up 65 per cent of all injuries.

Others were hurt after being struck by a falling object (9 per cent), by machinery (4 per cent) and food poisoning (1 per cent).

More than a quarter of all claims

By **Leah McDonald**

were made against local authorities and 8 per cent against transport and utility services.

The average award paid out was €23,143, up 1 per cent on 2008.

The report revealed how a travel agent was awarded €17,000 after suffering third-degree burns when a waiter spilled boiling water on her legs.

A man in his early 30s was handed €24,000 when he was forced to have part of his finger amputated after catching it in a faulty pub door.

Patricia Byron, of Injuriesboard.ie, said: 'These reviews provide an insight into the causes of accidents. Of course, consumers must also take responsibility for accident prevention and be vigilant to the risks.'