



# **2022 DIRT Report Findings**

OUCC Board Meeting | September 20, 2023

**Josh Thomas**

Executive Director

Oregon Utility Notification Center



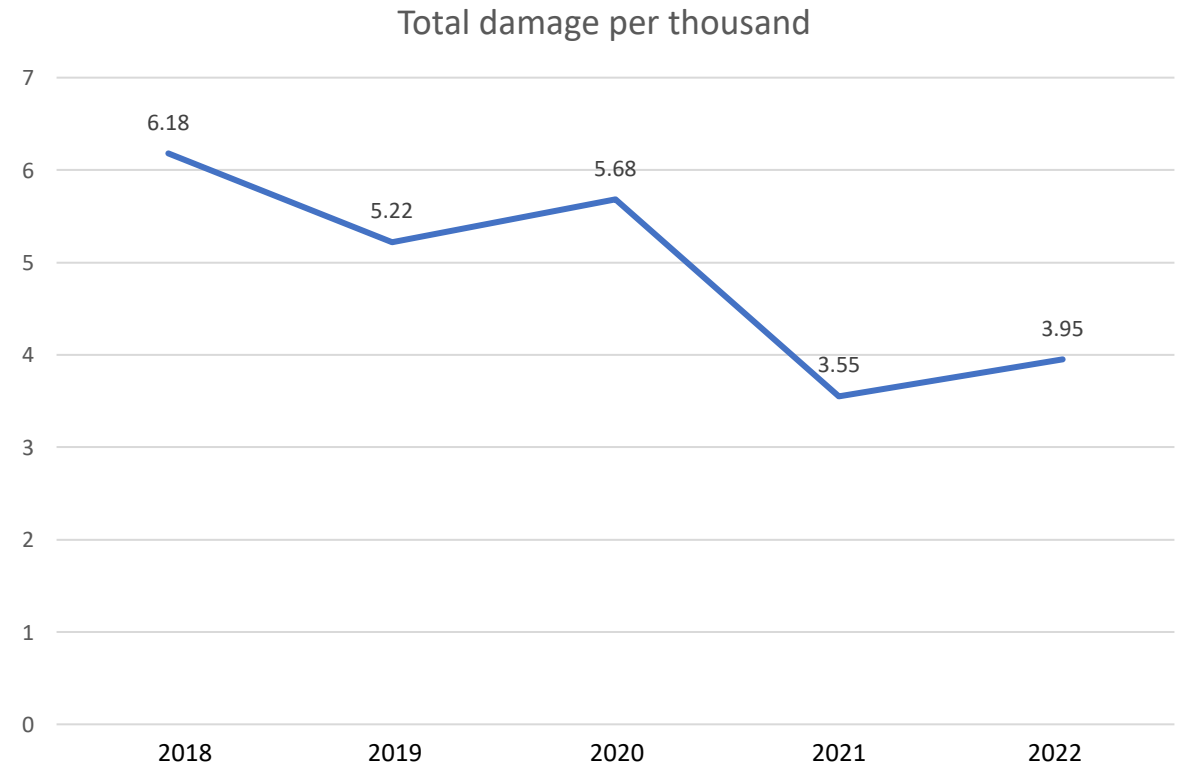
# Primary Objectives

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?

# Annual Results Over Five Years

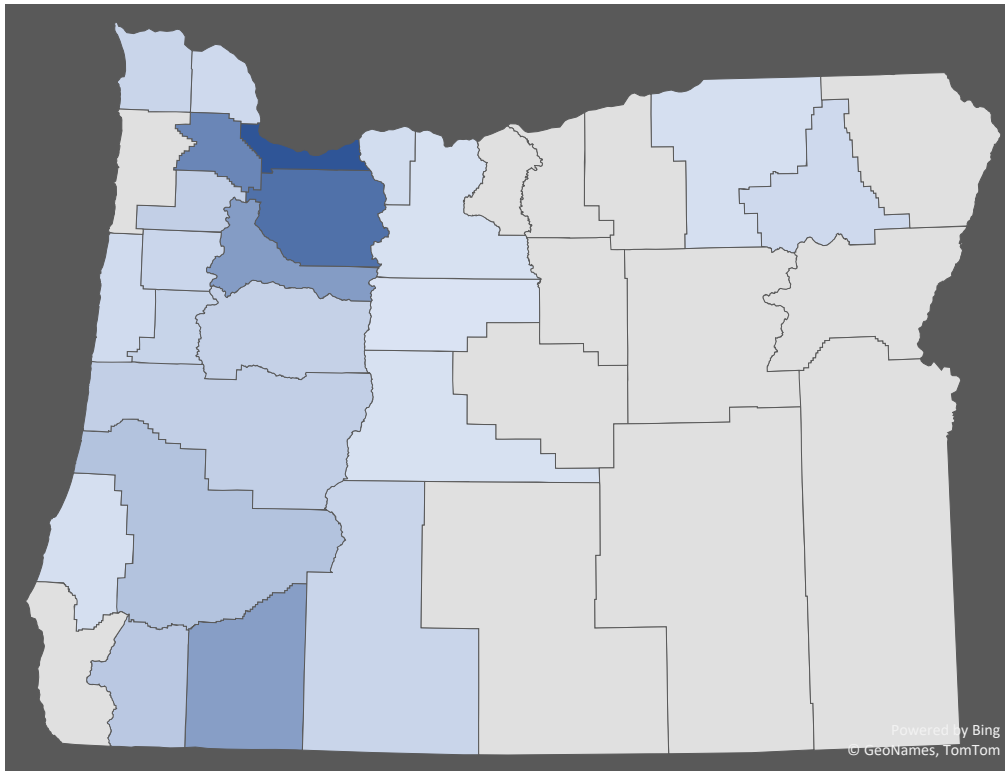
YEAR	TOTAL DAMAGES	DAMAGE PER THOUSAND
2022	1,405	3.95
2021	1,285	3.55
2020	1,989	5.68
2019	1,783	5.22
2018	2,034	6.18

*(totals do not match previous reports, but pulled directly from the DIRT database)*



# Total Damages Map is Fairly Predictable

*Higher population, more chances for damage to occur*



**2021 Top Ten**

Multnomah	177
Clackamas	143
Washington	117
Marion	90
Jackson	87
Douglas	42
Josephine	35
Lane	27
Yamhill	27
Linn	24

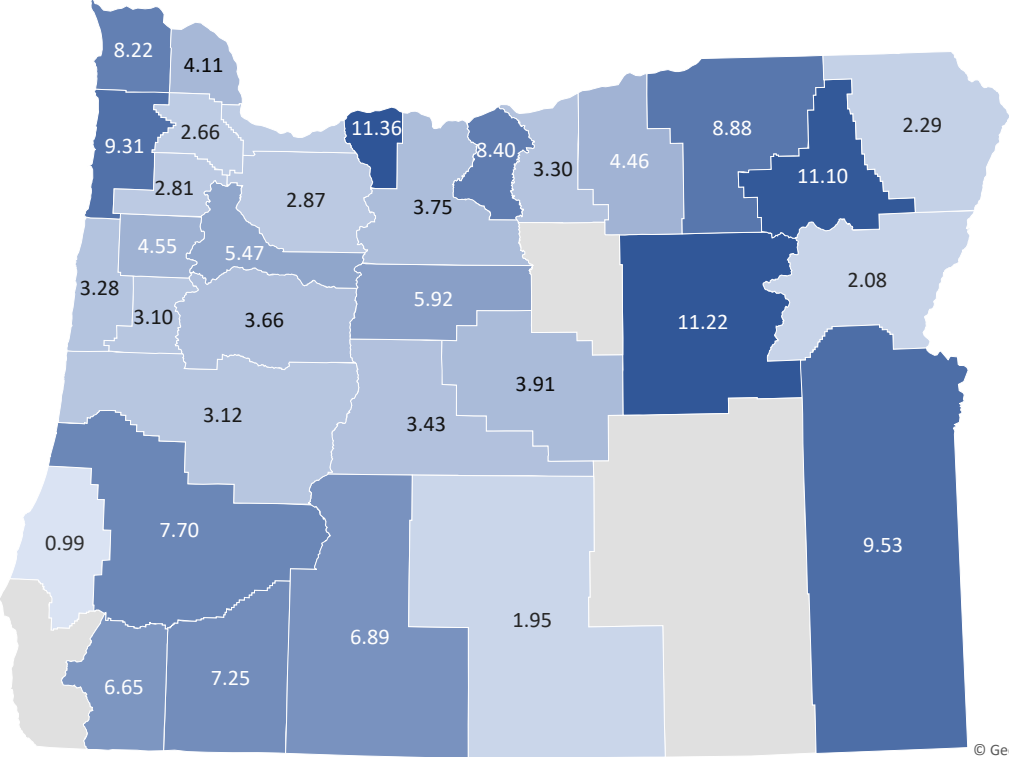
**2022 Top Ten**

Multnomah	183
Marion	160
Washington	134
Jackson	121
Clackamas	114
Lane	75
Deschutes	73
Douglas	67
Umatilla	56
Josephine	46



# Top Counties by Damage Per Thousand

2022 Damage per 1,000 (inbound tickets)



Top 10 inbound/1,000	DPT/damages
Hood River	11.36 (23)
Grant	11.22 (8)
Union	11.10 (23)
Malheur	9.53 (23)
Tillamook	9.31 (24)
→ Umatilla	8.88 (56)
Sherman	8.40 (2)
Clatsop	8.22 (30)
→ Douglas	7.70 (67)
→ Jackson	7.25 (121)

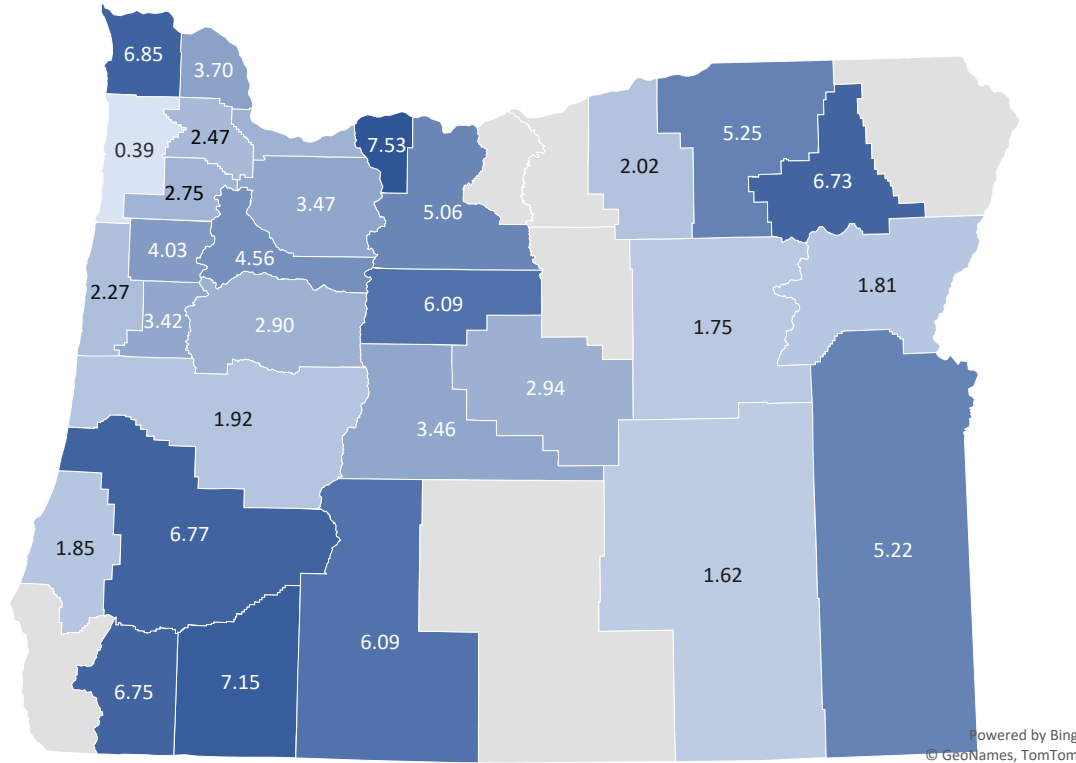
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	<b>Damages Reported</b>	<b>Locates inbound</b>	<b>Locates outbound</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Damage per 1,000</b>	<b>out/1000</b>	<b>pop/1000</b>
<b>ZONE 1</b>	720	214437	1226974	2485836	3.35762951	0.5868095	0.28964099
<b>ZONE 2</b>	152	46942	231375	661263	3.23803843	0.65694219	0.22986316
<b>ZONE 3</b>	278	45476	244078	588856	6.11311461	1.13898016	0.47210184
<b>ZONE 4</b>	126	29701	155908	310818	4.2422814	0.80816892	0.40538193
<b>ZONE 5</b>	129	19185	90853	193364	6.72400313	1.41987606	0.66713556



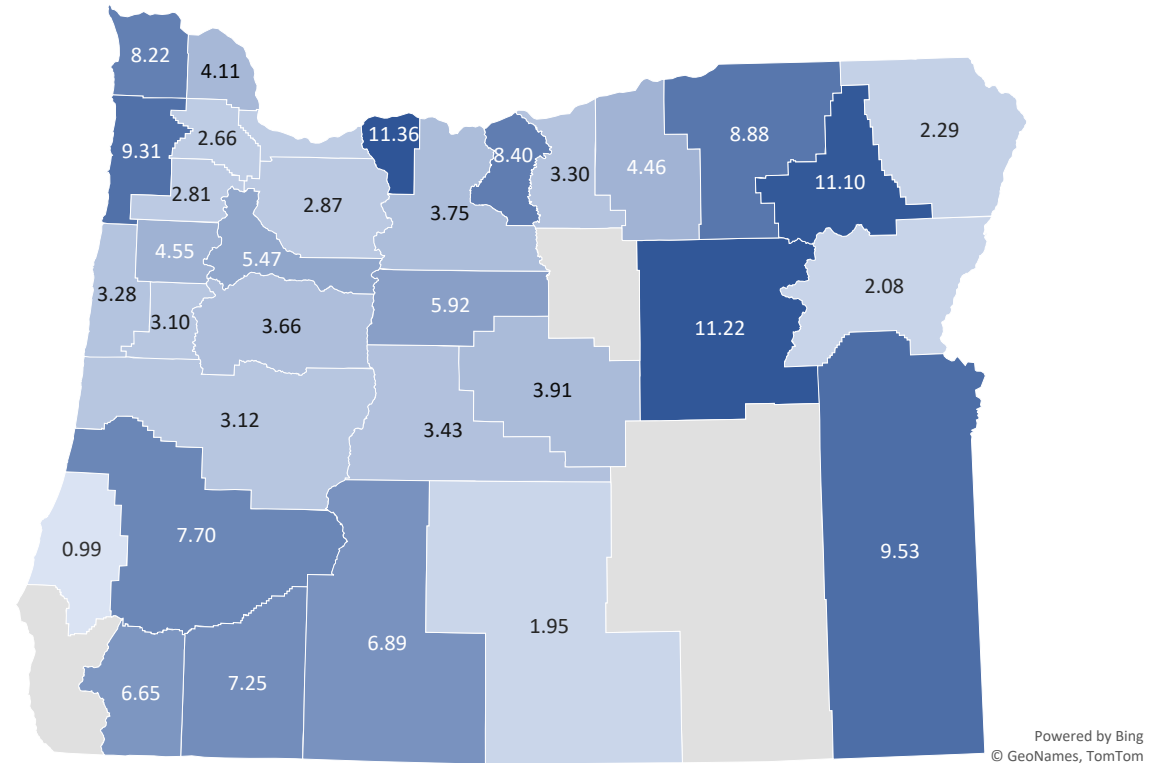
# Year over Year Comparison

2021 Damage per 1,000 (*inbound tickets*)



Total damages: 1,285  
Damage per 1,000: 3.55

2022 Damage per 1,000 (*inbound tickets*)



Total damages: 1,405  
Damage per 1,000: 3.95



# Tracking Root Causes



2021

Root Cause Detail	Reported Unique Damages	% of total
No notification made to One-Call Center / 811	398	26.86%
Marked inaccurately due to Locator error	154	10.36%
Root Cause not listed	138	9.31%
Excavator dug prior to verifying marks by test-hole (pot-hole)	136	9.14%
Excavator failed to maintain clearance after verifying marks	122	8.24%
Improper excavation practice not listed above	120	8.09%
Not marked due to Locator error	93	6.24%
Marks faded, lost or not maintained	65	4.39%
Excavator failed to protect/shore/support facilities	51	3.41%
Excavator dug prior to valid start date/time	43	2.90%
Excavator dug after valid ticket expired	37	2.46%

2022

No notification made to One-Call Center / 811	342
Root cause not listed	187
Improper excavation practice	168
Not marked due to Locator error	153
Marked inaccurately due to Locator error	149
Excavator dug prior to verifying marks by test-hole (pot-hole)	140
Excavator failed to maintain clearance after verifying marks	52
Excavator failed to protect/shore/support facilities	42
Marks faded, lost or not maintained	33
Not marked due to Incorrect facility records/maps	30

*The top three defined causes account for approximately half of total damages.*



# What types of projects and equipment are involved?



Type of Work Project	
Unknown/Other	309
Natural Gas	161
Sewer	143
Water	137
Electric	95
Telecommunications	71
Landscaping	65
Grading	61
Site Development	50
Building Construction	49
Fencing	47
Storm Drain/Culvert	41
Curb/Sidewalk	33
Road Work	32
Pole	31

Type of Equipment	
Backhoe/Trackhoe	696
Unknown/Other	248
Hand Tools	203
Trencher	64
Auger	54
Boring	49
Directional Drilling	42
Grader/Scraper	17
Drilling	12
Probing Device	8

## Includes:

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

## Observations:

- 1) Top 5 projects are also utilities we are working to protect.
- 2) These lists help prioritize our audiences and messaging.

# What was damaged? Who caused it?

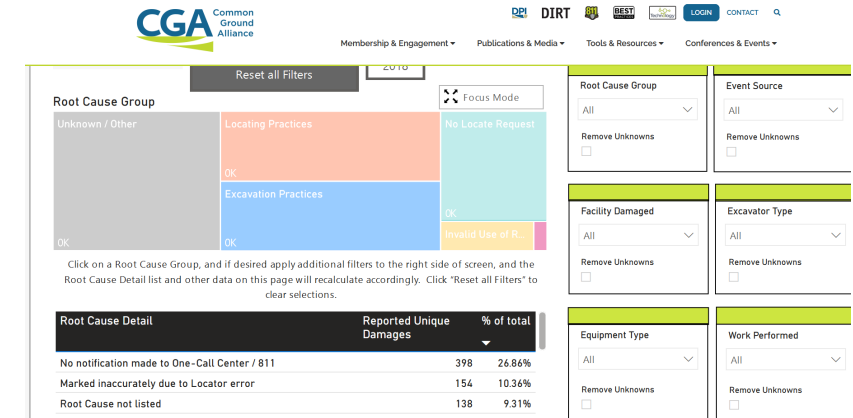


Facility Damaged	
Natural Gas	791
Telecommunications	423
Electric	140
Water	25
Sewer	13
Cable TV	8
Unknown/Other	5

Type of Excavator	
Contractor	789
Unknown/Other	357
Occupant	135
Utility	75
Municipality	36
Developer	6
County	3
Farmer	2
State	2

# What 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?*



# Moving the needle and measuring results



- Leverage additional data sources to fill gaps
- Strengthen strategic partnerships, sharing of information
  - Utilities, OUCC/UCC, agencies, contractors, locators, trade organizations
- Target Publicity and outreach efforts; training
- Pursue measurable goals in concert with Strategic Plan
- Show presence at OUCC/UCC meetings, two-way communication
- Report to board, partners, Governor and Oregon Legislature
- Continue assessment, reassessment; contact for expert analysis?



**Questions?**