

SPINAL CORD INJURY LEVELS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

THE SPINAL CORD IS **18 INCHES LONG** ON AVERAGE

THERE ARE

- **120 MUSCLES**
- **220 LIGAMENTS**
- **100 JOINTS**

CONNECTED TO THE SPINE

SPINAL CORD INJURIES OF ALL LEVELS ARE CATEGORIZED AS **COMPLETE** OR **INCOMPLETE** DEPENDING UPON WHETHER THE CORD IS FULLY SEVERED

CAUSES OF SCI BY %

- **VEHICULAR - 36.5%**
- **FALLS - 28.5%**
- **VIOLENCE - 14.3%**
- **SPORTS - 9.2%**
- **OTHERS - 11.4%**



THERE ARE **12,500 INJURIES** IN THE U.S. EACH YEAR

SCIs COST THE U.S. **\$9.7 BILLION ANNUALLY** AND AN AVERAGE OF

\$70,575 IN LOST WAGES

CERVICAL SPINE C1 - C8 (NECK)

IMPACTS THE BODY DOWN FROM THE:

- Head and neck
- Diaphragm
- Arms and hands

QUADRIPLEGIA

Some degree of paralysis in all four limbs. May not be able to breathe without the assistance of a ventilator.

ESTIMATED COSTS:
Annual: \$181,328
Lifetime: \$1 Million

THORACIC SPINE T1 - T12 (UPPER BACK)

IMPACTS THE BODY DOWN FROM THE:

- Chest
- Abdomen

PARAPLEGIA

Paralysis or decreased mobility from the waist down, including the legs.

ESTIMATED COSTS:
Annual: \$64,415
Lifetime: \$508,904



LUMBAR SPINE L1 - L5 (LOWER BACK)

IMPACTS THE BODY DOWN FROM THE:

- Legs
- Bladder



SACRAL NERVES S1 - S5 (TAILBONE)

IMPACTS ON BODILY FUNCTIONS:

- Bowel
- Bladder
- Sexual function

Resources

Spine-Health.com
National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center
American Association of Neurological Surgeons

