

Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month

Weekly Fact Sheet, Volume One

SEPTEMBER 4TH, 2026

Fast Facts

Nationally, there are estimated to be

311,560

people living with SCI (spinal cord injury).

Approximately

18,482

new SCIs occur in the U.S. each year.

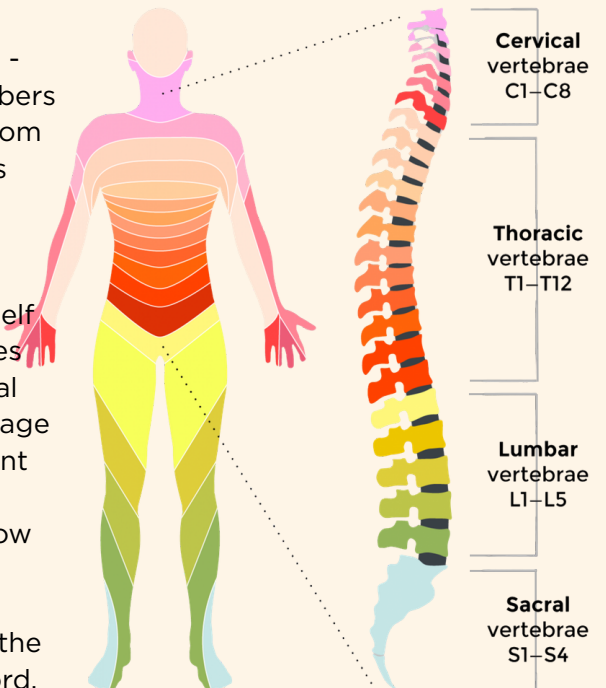
*Source: National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center

What is Spinal Cord Injury?

Spinal Cord Injury (also known as SCI) is damage to the spinal cord - the bundle of nerves and nerve fibers that sends and receives signals from the brain. The spinal cord extends from the lower part of the brain down through the lower back.

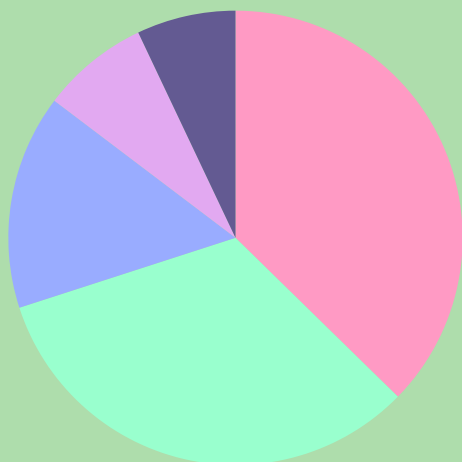
Direct injury to the spinal cord itself or damage to the tissue and bones (vertebrae) that surround the spinal cord can result in a SCI. This damage can cause temporary or permanent changes in feeling, movement, strength, and body functions below the point where injury happens.

The diagram to the right depicts the different sections of the spinal cord.



*Source: www.ninds.nih.gov/health-information/disorders/spinal-cord-injury

Primary Causes of Spinal Cord Injury



- Vehicular Accidents - 37.1%
- Falls - 32.5%
- Acts of Violence - 15.2%
- Sports/Recreational Activities - 7.6%
- Other - 7.6%

*Source: National Spinal Cord Injury Statistical Center