

California Disability Rating System

Overview: The California Disability Rating System is used to assess the work capabilities of the injured worker and to make recommendations for their subsequent employment.

loss of lift capacity in percent = $\frac{((\text{ability to lift prior to injury}) - (\text{ability to lift after the injury}))}{(\text{ability to lift prior to injury})} * 100$

Loss of Lift Capacity	Features	Category
< 25%		no disability
25%	able to bend stoop climb and carry	A
	limited ability to bend stoop climb and carry	B
50%	able to bend stoop climb and carry	C
	limited ability to bend stoop climb and carry; able to grip and pinch	D
	limited ability to bend stoop climb and carry; limited ability to grip and pinch	E
> 50%	able to stand without limitation	F
	limited ability to stand without limitation	G
	limited ability to stand with limitation	H

Category	Lost Work Capacity	Recommendation
A	10%	no very heavy lifting
B	15%	no very heavy lifting
C	20%	no heavy lifting
D	25%	no heavy lifting repeated bending and stooping
E	30%	no heavy work
F	50%	light work
G	60%	semi-sedentary work
H	70%	sedentary work

References

Matheson LN. Chapter 18: Functional Capacity Evaluation. pages 168-188. IN: Demeter SL
Andersson GBJ Smith GM. Disability Evaluation. Mosby. American Medical Association. 1996.