

Provincial Overview, 2003

Number of Young Worker (Age 15-24) Accidents in B.C., 2003

- Number of accepted claims¹ for young workers in 2003 8,962
- Percentage drop between 1999 and 2003 16%
- Percentage drop between 1994 and 2003 38%
- Number of young workers injured every working day in BC² 36
- Number of young workers injured every hour 1
- Number of young workers permanently disabled each week due to workplace accidents³ 5
- Number of fatal claims accepted for young workers in 2003 9

Most Common Types of Young Worker Injuries, 1999-2003

1. Back and other strains 45%
2. Cuts 19%
3. Crush or bruise 13%

Serious Young Worker Injuries, 1999-2003

- Total number of young worker serious injuries⁴ 612
- Most common serious injuries:
 - Amputations (45%)
 - Major Fractures (41%)
 - 3rd Degree burns (9%)
- Serious young worker injuries most commonly occur in: Restaurants

Young Worker Injury Rate⁵, 2003

- 2003 workplace injury rate for workers aged 15 to 24 3.4
- 2002 workplace injury rate for workers aged 15 to 24 3.5
- Percentage decrease in young worker injury rate from 2002 to 2003 3%
- 1994 workplace injury rate for workers aged 15 to 24 5.9
- Percentage decrease in young worker injury rate from 1994 to 2003 42%
- 2003 provincial workplace injury rate for **all workers**⁵ 3.0

¹ Accepted claims refers to the number of short term disability, long term disability, and fatal claims accepted in the year, for all years of injury. It excludes health-care-only claims.

² Based on number of accepted claims for young workers in 2003.

³ Based on number of young worker LTD awards between 1999 and 2003.

⁴ Serious Injuries are based on 1st paid short term disability claims and include claims involving major fractures (e.g., skull, spine, pelvis, etc.), amputations, 3rd degree burns, multiple fractures, and other serious spinal or head injuries that are based on 124 medical diagnosis type ICD9 codes. The serious injury claim count between 1999 and 2003 is adjusted to include uncoded claims.

⁵ Injury rate refers to the number of Non-HCO claims per 100 person years. All 2003 injury rates, including those for young workers, are preliminary and subject to future revision.

Male Young Worker Accidents

- Number of accepted claims for young male workers in 2003 6,604
- Number of accepted claims for young male workers in 2002 6,859
- Percentage drop in accepted claims for young male workers: 2002 to 2003 4%
- Percentage drop in accepted claims for young male workers: 1994 to 2003 40%
- 2003 young male workplace injury rate* 5.1
- Percentage decrease in young male workplace injury rate from 1994 to 2003 43%
- 2003 young male injury rate relative to the 2003 provincial injury rate 70% Higher

Female Young Worker Accidents

- Number of accepted claims for young female workers in 2003 2,336
- Number of accepted claims for young female workers in 2002 2,360
- Percentage decrease in accepted claims for young female workers: 2002 to 2003 1%
- Percentage decrease in accepted claims for young female workers: 1994 to 2003 27%
- 2003 young female workplace injury rate* 1.7
- Percentage decrease in young female workplace injury rate from 1994 to 2003 37%

* 2003 injury rates are preliminary

WCB Regional Overview*, 2003

Region	% YW Claims in Four Targeted Retail/Hospitality Industries: • Restaurants • General retail • Supermarkets • Department stores	% YW Claims in Three Targeted Manufacturing Industries: • Wooden truss manufacture • Fish processing • Sawmills	% YW Claims in Six Targeted Forestry Industries: • Cable or hi-lead logging • Helicopter logging • Shake block cutting • Integrated logging • Brushing, weeding, tree thinning, spacing • Tree planting, cone picking	% YW Claims in One Targeted Agriculture Industry: • Ranching	% YW Claims in One Targeted Construction Industry: • Steep slope roofing	% YW Claims in ALL Targeted Industries	% YW Claims in Province
Vancouver Centre/North	10%	3%	9%	0%	7%	9%	9%
Burnaby/Coquitlam	14%	6%	4%	0%	7%	13%	14%
Vancouver	18%	7%	6%	0%	11%	16%	15%
South/Richmond/Delta							
Surrey	12%	8%	0%	0%	4%	11%	16%
Abbotsford/Kamloops	10%	13%	9%	60%	21%	10%	12%
Prince George/Ft. St. John	4%	10%	29%	0%	0%	6%	4%
Okanagan/Kootenays	10%	18%	20%	40%	14%	11%	11%
Victoria/Nanaimo	17%	18%	9%	0%	36%	17%	14%
Courtenay/Terrace	4%	16%	14%	0%	0%	6%	4%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

* Based on young worker claims with a 1st STD payment date in 2003. The above percentages reflect claims that are coded to region, as not all claims are coded to a Region.