

2015 Workplace Injury, Disease and Fatality Statistics Provincial Summary

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1. Introduction

This report provides statistical information of workplace injuries, diseases and fatalities in Alberta for 2015. It contains highlights, tables and graphical representations of the results. The 2015 Workers' Compensation Board-Alberta (WCB-Alberta) data and results of Labour Force Survey conducted by Statistics Canada are used in this analysis. Due to an administrative process, there may be a difference between the year when a fatality claim was accepted by the WCB and the year when the worker died; this report provides results based on both years.

Note: Throughout this report, data may not add up to totals due to rounding in the analysis.

2. Highlights

2.1 Injury claims, injury rates and person-years (Table 1)

- The provincial lost-time claim rate decreased by 6.7 per cent to 1.26 from 1.35 per 100 person-years worked in 2014.
- The provincial disabling injury rate was 2.36 per 100 person-years worked, a decrease of 11.6 per cent from 2014.
- The number of lost-time claims decreased by 9.4 per cent; Modified work claims decreased by 15.5 per cent; and the combined measure of disabling injury claims decreased by 13.9 per cent from 2014.
- Estimated person-years for Alberta decreased by 2.6 per cent from 2014.

2.2 Major sectors (Table 2)

- Estimated person-years for Alberta decreased in four major sectors:
 - Construction and Construction Trade;
 - Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging;
 - Mining and Petroleum Development; and
 - Transportation, Communication, and Utilities.
- Except for Business, Personal and Professional Services, lost time claim rates for the major sectors experienced decrease from 2014 to 2015.
- Mining and Petroleum Development had the lowest lost time claim rate at 0.25, while Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services had the highest at 1.98.
- The disabling injury rate declined for all sectors from 2014 to 2015 with Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging having the highest rate at 3.25 and Mining and Petroleum Development having the lowest rate at 0.88.
- Injury rates (i.e., lost-time claim rate and disabling injury rate) for Business, Personal and Professional Services and Mining and Petroleum Development have been lower than the provincial average for the last two years.

2.3 Demographics

- Young workers (15-24 years old) had the highest lost time and disabling injury frequency rates, at 1.34 and 2.87, respectively (see Tables 3-4). Workers aged 65 years and over had the highest fatality frequency rate (see Tables 7-8).
- Men were at a higher risk of getting injured than women. Men had lost time and disabling injury frequency rates in 2015, at 1.42 and 2.89, respectively; while women had a lost-time injury frequency rate of 1.05 and a disabling injury frequency rate of 1.71 (see Tables 5-6).
- Men were at a higher risk of experiencing an occupational fatality than women (see Tables 9-10).

2.4 Characterises of injuries and diseases

- Bodily reaction or exertion was the major cause of disabling injury at 44.3 per cent (see Table 11).
- The leading nature of disabling injury was sprains or strains at 51.2 per cent (see Table 12).
- The trunk (Back, including spine, spinal cord) was the most commonly injured body part, accounting for 22.2 per cent of the lost-time claims and 21.9 per cent of the disabling injury claims (see Table 13).
- The two primary sources of disabling injuries were persons, plants, animal and minerals (26.7 per cent), and structures and surfaces (18.2 per cent) (see Table 15).

2.5 Occupational fatalities – by WCB acceptance year

- The number of fatality claims accepted by WCB decreased by 26.0 percent in 2015, from 169 in 2014 to 125 in 2015 (see Figure 3). Almost one third of them (33.6 per cent) was reported by Construction and Construction Trade Services.
- The provincial fatality rate decreased by 23.5 per cent to 62 from 81 per million person-years worked in 2014. The 2015 rate is the lowest rate for the last five years from the highest of 94 in 2013 and has been continuously declining for the last three years (see Figure 3).
- Among the major sectors, Transportation, Communication, and Utilities incurred the highest fatality rate in 2015 (see Figure 4).
- Occupational disease accounted for 52.8 per cent of all occupational fatality claims and continued to be the leading cause of worker death in 2015, followed by workplace incidents at 28.8 per cent, and motor vehicle incidents at 18.4 per cent (see Table 15).

2.6 Occupational fatalities – by year of death

- The general patterns for occupational fatalities identified based on the year of death are similar to those based on the year of acceptance.

3 Tables, Charts and Figures

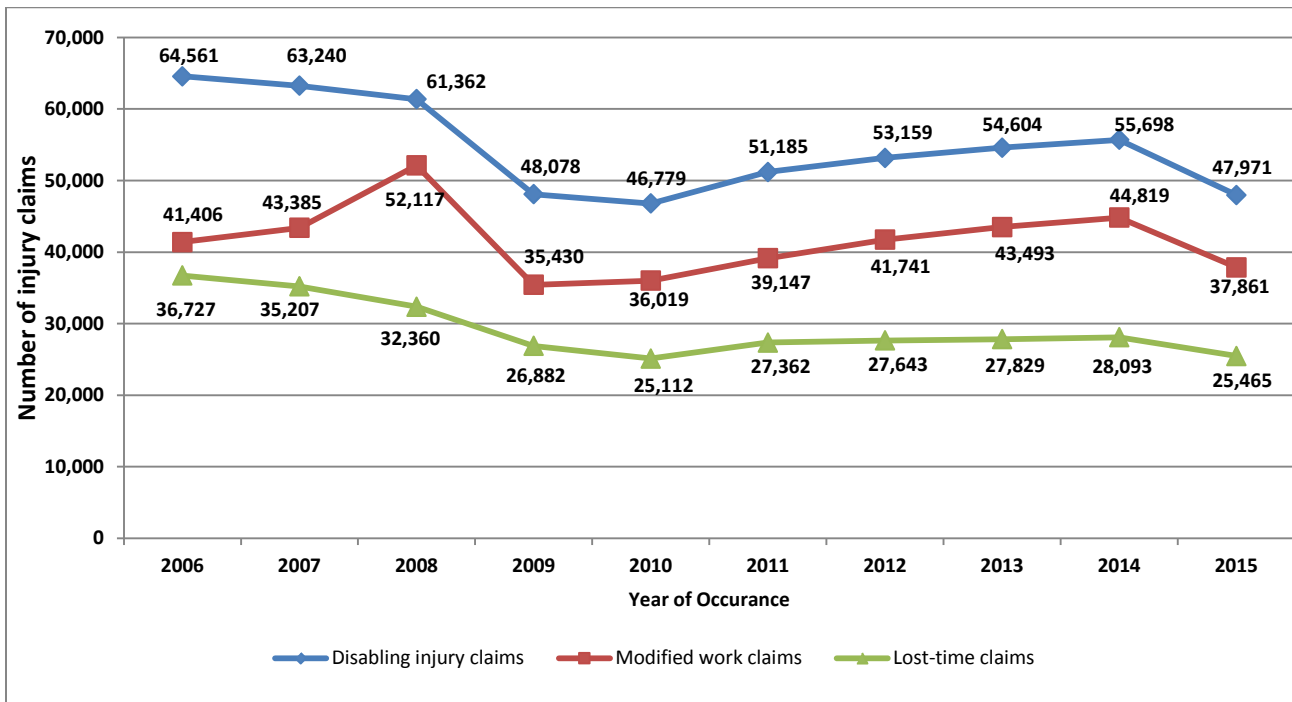
3.1 Injury claims, injury rates and person-years

Table 1 – Injury Claims, Rates and Person-years: 2013 to 2015

	2013	2014	2015	Change 2013 to 2014 (%)	Change 2014 to 2015 (%)
Person-years	2,007,873	2,082,416	2,028,592	3.7↑	-2.6↓
Lost-Time Claims	27,829	28,093	25,465	1.0↑	-9.4↓
Lost-Time Claim Rate	1.39	1.35	1.26	-2.9↓	-6.7↓
Modified Work Claims	43,493	44,819	37,861	3.1↑	-15.5↓
Disabling Injury Claims	54,604	55,698	47,971	2.0↑	-13.9↓
Disabling Injury Claim Rate	2.72	2.67	2.36	-1.8↓	-11.6↓

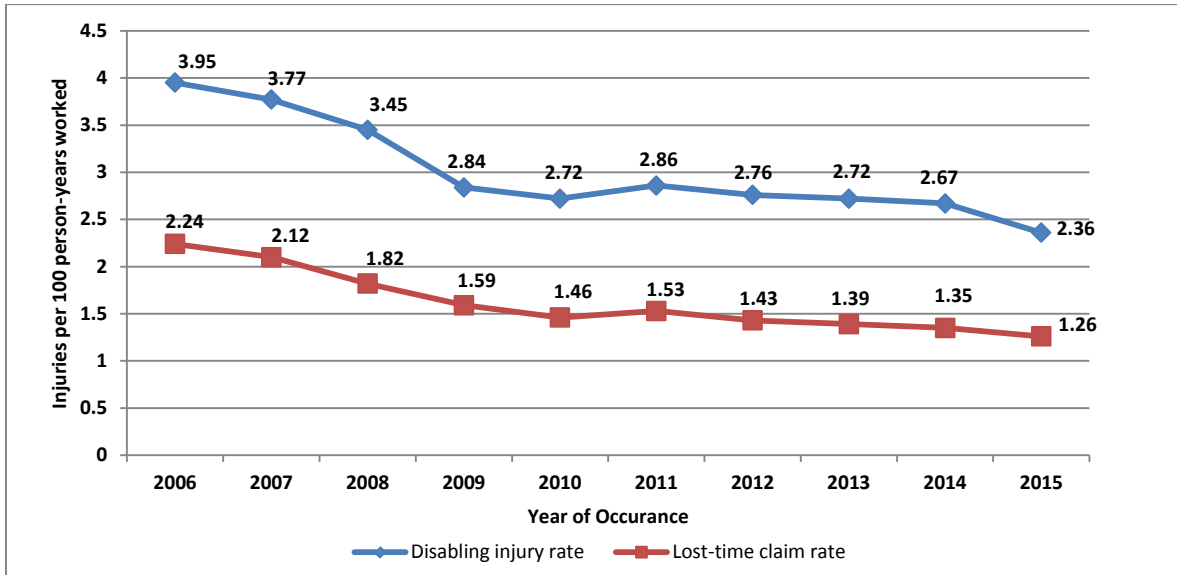
- The workplace injuries decreased in 2015. A total of 25,465 lost-time claims were identified by WCB, a decrease of 9.4 per cent from 2014. Modified work claims decreased by 15.5 per cent, from 44,819 in 2014 to 37,861 in 2015. As a result, disabling injury claims declined to 47,971, the lowest in the last 5 years.
- The person-years worked estimates decreased by 2.6 per cent to 2,028,592 between 2014 and 2015.

Figure 1 - Injury Claims, 2006 to 2015



- Between 2006 and 2010, both disabling injury and lost-time claims have shown a downward trend, while the number of modified claims increased by 25.9 per cent between 2006 and 2008.
- Over the period between 2011 and 2014, all injury claims have shown an upward trend. The trend reversed between 2014 and 2015.

Figure 2 - Injury Rates, 2006 to 2015



- Over the past ten years, the number of injury claims has consistently decreased relative to the person years, resulting in lost-time claim and disabling injury claim rates falling in 2015 to 1.26 and 2.36 per 100 person-years worked, respectively.

3.2 Major Sectors

Table 2 - Injury Claims and Claim Rates, by Major Industry Sector, 2014 to 2015

Major Industry Sector	Measure	2014	2015	Change 2014 to 2015 (%)
Agriculture and Forestry	Person-years	12,627	13,057	3.4↑
	Lost-time claims	263	244	-7.2↓
	Lost-time claim rate	2.08	1.87	-10.1↓
	Modified work claims	210	199	-5.2↓
	Disabling injury claims	349	331	-5.2↓
	Disabling injury rate	2.76	2.53	-8.3↓
Business, Personal and Professional Services	Person-years	370,858	373,564	0.7↑
	Lost-time claims	3,363	3,419	1.7↑
	Lost-time claim rate	0.91	0.92	1.1↑
	Modified work claims	4,034	3,829	-5.1↓
	Disabling injury claims	5,564	5,384	-3.2↓
	Disabling injury rate	1.50	1.44	-4.0↓
Construction and Construction Trade Services	Person-years	436,736	405,011	-7.3↓
	Lost-time claims	5,280	4,572	-13.4↓
	Lost-time claim rate	1.21	1.13	-6.6↓
	Modified work claims	10,548	8,660	-17.9↓
	Disabling injury claims	12,589	10,510	-16.5↓
	Disabling injury rate	2.88	2.59	-10.1↓
Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging	Person-years	202,582	191,057	-5.7↓
	Lost-time claims	2,778	2,334	-16.0↓
	Lost-time claim rate	1.37	1.22	-11.0↓
	Modified work claims	7,106	5,443	-23.4↓
	Disabling injury claims	8,051	6,204	-22.9↓
	Disabling injury rate	3.97	3.25	-18.1↓
Mining and Petroleum Development	Person-years	198,743	182,315	-8.3↓
	Lost-time claims	836	461	-44.9↓
	Lost-time claim rate	0.42	0.25	-40.5↓
	Modified work claims	2,692	1,471	-45.4↓
	Disabling injury claims	2,902	1,599	-44.9↓
	Disabling injury rate	1.46	0.88	-39.7↓
Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services	Person-years	340,176	342,779	0.8↑
	Lost-time claims	7,107	6,771	-4.7↓
	Lost-time claim rate	2.09	1.98	-5.3↓
	Modified work claims	6,628	6,436	-2.9↓
	Disabling injury claims	9,796	9,421	-3.8↓
	Disabling injury rate	2.88	2.75	-4.5↓
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities	Person-years	159,082	153,766	-3.3↓
	Lost-time claims	2,804	2,328	-17.0↓
	Lost-time claim rate	1.76	1.51	-14.2↓
	Modified work claims	4,308	3,364	-21.9↓
	Disabling injury claims	5,349	4,302	-19.6↓
	Disabling injury rate	3.36	2.80	-16.7↓
Wholesale and Retail	Person-years	361,612	367,043	1.5↑
	Lost-time claims	5,342	5,043	-5.6↓
	Lost-time claim rate	1.48	1.37	-7.4↓
	Modified work claims	9,098	8,243	-9.4↓
	Disabling injury claims	10,590	9,716	-8.3↓
	Disabling injury rate	2.93	2.65	-9.6↓

- With the exception of Business, Personal and Professional Services sector, lost time claim rates decreased in the seven major industry sectors from 2014 to 2015.
- Mining and Petroleum Development sector continued to have the lowest lost time claim rate in 2015 at 0.25. Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services had the highest lost-time claim rate in 2015 at 1.98.
- The disabling injury rate declined for all sectors from 2014 to 2015 with Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging sector having the highest disabling injury rate at 3.25 and Mining and Petroleum Development sector having the lowest at 0.88.

3.3 Demographics

Table 3 - Lost-Time Claims, Injury Frequency Rate and Employment by Age Group, 2015

Age	Lost-time claims	% of lost-time claims	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Lost-time Injury frequency rate
15-24 years	3,781	14.8	320.3	13.9	1.34
25-34 years	5,965	23.4	570.6	24.8	1.19
35-44 years	5,386	21.2	507.4	22.1	1.20
45-54 years	5,537	21.7	473.7	20.6	1.32
55-64 years	3,905	15.3	339.1	14.7	1.31
65 years and over	884	3.5	90.0	3.9	1.12
Other	7	0.0 ¹	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	25,465	100.0	2,301.1	100.0	

- The risk of occupational injury and disease varied by age. Young workers (15-24 years old) had the highest lost-time injury frequency rate in 2015, at 1.34 per 100 person-years worked, while accounting for 13.9 per cent of those in employment.

Table 4 - Disabling Injury Claims, Injury Frequency Rate and Employment by Age Group, 2015

Age	Disabling injury claims	% of disabling injury claims	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Disabling injury frequency rate
15-24 years	8,083	16.8	320.3	13.9	2.87
25-34 years	12,492	26.0	570.6	24.8	2.48
35-44 years	10,287	21.4	507.4	22.1	2.29
45-54 years	9,576	20.0	473.7	20.6	2.29
55-64 years	6,315	13.2	339.1	14.7	2.12
65 years and over	1,206	2.5	90.0	3.9	1.52
Other	12	0.0 ²	N/A	N/A	
Total	47,971	100.0	2,301.1	100.0	

- Young workers (15-24 years old) had the highest disabling injury frequency rates at 2.87 in 2015.

¹ The percentage is less than 0.05.

² The percentage is less than 0.05.

Table 5 - Lost-Time Claims, Injury Frequency Rate and Employment by Gender, 2015

Gender	Lost-time claims	% of lost-time claims	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Lost-time claim injury frequency rate
Men	15,816	62.1	1,262.5	54.9	1.42
Women	9,649	37.9	1,038.7	45.1	1.05
Total	25,465	100.0	2,301.2	100.0	

- The risk of occupational injury and disease varied by gender. Men had the higher lost-time injury frequency rate than women in 2015, at 1.42.

Table 6 - Disabling Injury Claims, Injury Frequency Rates and Employment by Gender, 2015

Gender	Disabling injury claims	% of disabling injury claims	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Disabling injury frequency rate
Men	32,274	67.3	1,262.5	54.9	2.89
Women	15,690	32.7	1,038.7	45.1	1.71
Unspecified	7	0.0 ³	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	47,971	100.00	2,301.2	100.0	

- In 2015, men were at a higher risk of getting injured compared to women. Taking into account their respective proportion of employment in Alberta, men had a disabling injury frequency rate of 2.89 and women had a disabling injury frequency rate of 1.71.

Table 7 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of acceptance) by Type and Age Group, 2015

Age	Motor Vehicle Incidents		Workplace Incidents		Occupational Disease		Total	
	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%
15-24 years	1	50.0	1	50.0	0	0.0	2	100.0
25-34 years	5	71.4	2	28.6	0	0.0	7	100.0
35-44 years	4	26.7	11	73.3	0	0.0	15	100.0
45-54 years	2	16.7	7	58.3	3	25.0	12	100.0
55-64 years	7	29.2	9	37.5	8	33.3	24	100.0
65 years and over	4	6.2	6	9.2	55	84.6	65	100.0
Total	23	18.4	36	28.8	66	52.8	125	100.0

- Based on year of acceptance, workers aged 65 years and over experienced highest number of fatalities in 2015 and 84.6 per cent of them were occupational disease related, usually diagnosed many years after the initial or crucial exposure to the toxic substance.

³ The percentage is less than 0.05.

Table 8 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of acceptance) and Employment by Age Group, 2015

Age	Occupational fatalities	% of occupational fatalities	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Fatality frequency rate
15-24 years	2	1.6	320.3	13.9	7
25-34 years	7	5.6	570.6	24.8	14
35-44 years	15	12	507.4	22.1	33
45-54 years	12	9.6	473.7	20.6	29
55-64 years	24	19.2	339.1	14.7	80
65 years and over	65	52.0	90.0	3.9	822
Total	125	100.0	2,301.1	100.0	

- Based on year of acceptance, workers aged 65 years and over had the highest number of fatalities and lowest number of people in employment in 2015. As a result, this group of workers had the highest fatality frequency rate, followed by those aged between 55-65 years. Fatality frequency rate was the lowest among those 15 to 24 years of age.

Table 9 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of death) and Employment by Age Group, 2015

Age	Occupational fatalities	% of occupational fatalities	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Fatality frequency rate
15-24 years	2	2.0	320.3	13.9	7
25-34 years	6	6.0	570.6	24.8	12
35-44 years	12	12.0	507.4	22.1	27
45-54 years	7	7.0	473.7	20.6	17
55-64 years	19	19.0	339.1	14.7	64
65 years and over	54	54.0	90.0	3.9	683
Total	100	100.0	2,301.1	100.0	

- Based on year of death, workers aged 65 years and over had the highest fatality frequency rate in 2015.

Table 10 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of acceptance) and Employment by Gender, 2015

Gender	Occupational fatalities	% of occupational fatalities	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Fatality frequency rate
Men	120	96.0	1,262.5	54.9	108
Women	5	4.0	1,038.7	45.1	5
Total	125	100.0%	2,301.2	100.0%	

- In 2015, men were at a higher risk of experiencing an occupational fatality than women based on year of acceptance.

Table 11 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of death) and Employment by Gender, 2015

Gender	Occupational fatalities	% of occupational fatalities	People in employment (thousands)	% in employment	Fatality Frequency rate
Men	97	97.0	1,262.5	54.9	87
Women	3	3.0	1,038.7	45.1	3
Total	100	100.0%	2,301.2	100.0%	

- In 2015, men were at a higher risk of experiencing an occupational fatality than women based on year of death.

3.4 Characteristics of injuries and diseases

Table 12 - Type of Event or Exposure, 2015

Type of Event or Exposure	Lost-Time Claims	%	Disabling Injury Claims	%
Bodily Reaction or Exertion	10,268	40.3	21,263	44.3
Overexertion	5,339	21.0	11,009	22.9
Bodily Reaction ⁴	3,237	12.7	6,373	13.3
Repetitive Motion	703	2.8	1,857	3.9
Other Bodily Reaction/Exertion	989	3.9	2,024	4.2
Contact with Objects or Equipment	5,847	23.0	12,609	26.3
Struck by Object	3,038	11.9	6,232	13.0
Struck against Object	1,160	4.6	2,354	4.9
Caught in Object	962	3.8	2,483	5.2
Rubbed or Abraded	217	0.9	457	1.0
Other Contact with Object/Equipment	470	1.8	1,083	2.3
Falls	5,224	20.5	8,337	17.4
Fall on Same Level	3,545	13.9	5,788	12.1
Fall to Lower Level	1,527	6.0	2,295	4.8
Other Falls	152	0.6	254	0.5
Exposure to Harmful Substances	1,605	6.3	2,071	4.3
Transportation Accidents	1,413	5.5	2,080	4.3
Assaults and Violent Acts	858	3.4	1,142	2.4
Assaults and Violent Acts by Person(s)	570	2.2	733	1.5
Other Assaults and Violent Acts	288	1.1	409	0.9
Fires and Explosions	49	0.2	65	0.1
Other Events or Exposures	159	0.6	318	0.7
Type of Event - Unknown	42	0.2	86	0.2
Total	25,465	100.0	47,971	100.0

- In 2015, bodily reaction or exertion was the most common cause for both lost-time and disabling injury claims in all industries, and accounted for slightly more than 40 per cent of the lost-time claims and 44 per cent of the disabling injury claims.

⁴ Bodily reaction: injuries or illnesses resulting from a single incident of free bodily motion that imposed stress or strain on some part of the body. Source: Z795 Coding of Work Injury or Disease, Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

Table 13 - Nature of Injury or Disease, 2015

Nature of Injury	Lost-Time Claims	%	Disabling Injury Claims	%
Traumatic Injuries and Disorders	23,733	93.2	45,465	94.8
Sprains/Strains	12,108	47.5	24,562	51.2
Superficial Wounds	2,425	9.5	5,016	10.5
Fractures and Dislocations	2,598	10.2	3,843	8.0
Open Wounds	2,046	8.0	4,586	9.6
Burns	648	2.5	945	2.0
Other Traumatic Injuries and Disorders	3,908	15.3	6,513	13.6
Systemic Diseases and Disorders	1,073	4.2	1,734	3.6
Infectious and Parasitic Disorders	179	0.7	180	0.4
Neoplasms, Tumors and Cancer	16	0.1	16	0.0
Abnormal Symptoms/Conditions⁵	127	0.5	184	0.4
Multiple Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	7	0.0 ⁶	7	0.0 ⁴
Other Diseases, Conditions and Disorders	298	1.2	317	0.7
Nature of Injury - Unknown	32	0.1	68	0.1
Total	25,465	100.0	47,971	100.0

- Sprains or strains continued to be the leading nature of injury accounting for 47.5 per cent of the lost-time claims and 51.2 per cent of the disabling injury claims.
- The other three most common traumatic injuries and disorders were:
 - other traumatic injuries and disorders;
 - fractures and dislocations; and
 - superficial wounds.

⁵This division classifies symptoms, signs, or abnormal results from laboratory or investigative medical tests or procedures. It includes those ill-defined conditions that cannot be classified elsewhere. Source: Z795 Coding of Work Injury or Disease, CSA.

⁶The percentage is less than 0.05.

Table 14 - Part of Body Injured, 2015

Part of Body Injured	Lost-Time Claims	%	Disabling Injury Claims	%
Trunk	9,297	36.5	17,516	36.5
Back, Including Spine, Spinal Cord	5,646	22.2	10,498	21.9
Other Trunk	3,651	14.3	7,018	14.6
Upper Extremities	5,253	20.6	12,882	26.9
Finger(s), Fingernail(s)	1,898	7.5	4,930	10.3
Wrist(s) and Hand(s) Except Finger(s)	1,943	7.6	4,783	10.0
Other Upper Extremities	1,412	5.5	3,169	6.6
Lower Extremities	5,388	21.2	9,679	20.2
Leg(s)	2,615	10.3	4,638	9.7
Ankle(s) and Foot (Feet) Except Toes	2,485	9.8	4,562	9.5
Other Lower Extremities	288	1.1	479	1.0
Head	2,699	10.6	3,598	7.5
Other Head Parts	2,137	8.4	2,724	5.7
Eye(s)	562	2.2	874	1.8
Multiple Body Parts	1,774	7.0	2,754	5.7
Neck, Including Throat	564	2.2	973	2.0
Body Systems	464	1.8	526	1.1
Part of Body - Unknown	26	0.1	43	0.1
Total	25,465	100.0	47,971	100.0

- The trunk (back, including spine, spinal cord) was the most commonly injured body part, accounting for 22.2 per cent of the lost-time claims and 21.9 per cent of the disabling injury claims. This was followed by injuries to the upper extremities, 26.9 per cent of the disabling injury claims, and lower extremities, 20.2 per cent of disabling injury claims.

Table 15 - Source of Injury or Disease, 2015

Source of Injury	Lost-Time Claims	%	Disabling Injury Claims	%
Persons, Plants, Animals and Minerals	7,073	27.8	12,818	26.7
Person-Injured or Ill Worker⁷	4,425	17.4	9,057	18.9
Person-Other Than Injured or Ill Worker⁸	1,799	7.1	2,488	5.2
Minerals-Metallic or Non-metallic (except fuel)	125	0.5	207	0.4
Other Persons, Plants, Animals & Minerals	724	2.8	1,066	2.2
Structures and Surfaces	5,330	20.9	8,716	18.2
Parts and Materials	2,484	9.8	5,983	12.5
Containers⁹	2,526	9.9	5,282	11.0
Vehicles	2,168	8.5	3,550	7.4
Tools, Instruments and Equipment	1,947	7.6	4,566	9.5
Hand Tools – Non powered	833	3.3	2,181	4.5
Hand Tools - Powered	206	0.8	477	1.0
Other Tools and Equipment	908	3.6	1,908	4.0
Machinery	1,170	4.6	2,183	4.6
Furniture and Fixtures	855	3.4	1,540	3.2
Chemicals and Chemical Products	243	1.0	371	0.8
Other Sources	1,605	6.3	2,839	5.9
Source of Injury - Unknown	64	0.3	123	0.3
Total	25,465	100.0	47,971	100.0

- The two primary sources of disabling injuries were persons, plants, animal and minerals (26.7 per cent), and structures and surfaces (18.2 per cent). These two sources also accounted for 27.8 per cent and 20.9 per cent of lost time claims, respectively.

⁷ Person-injured or ill worker: classifies self-injured person, bodily conditions, and self-induced bodily motion injuries.

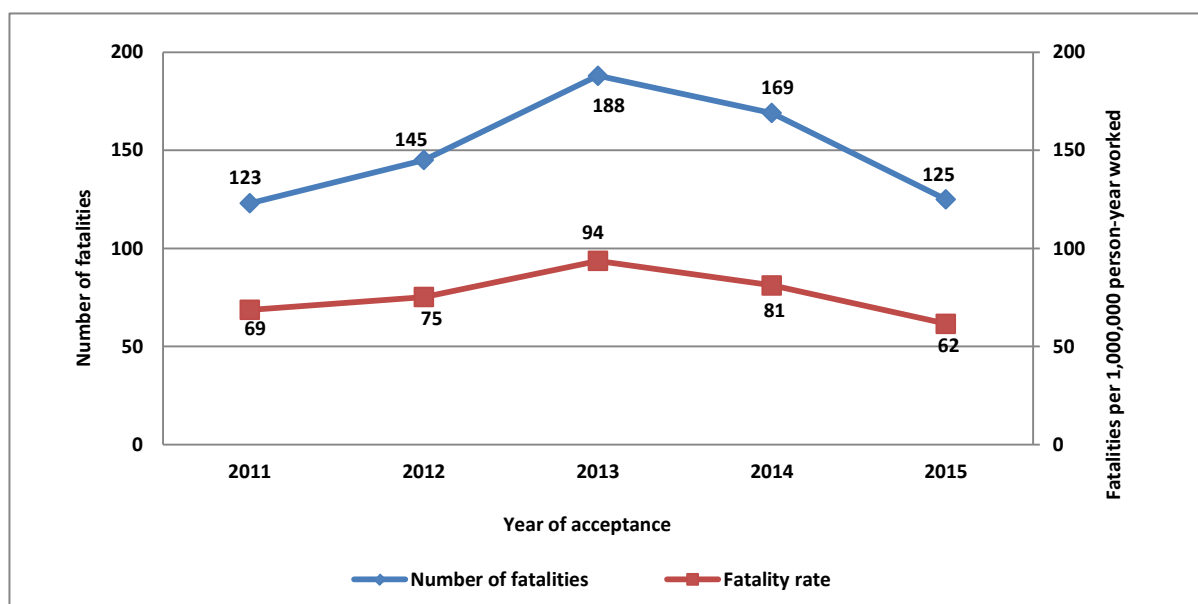
⁸ Person-other than injured or ill worker: classifies workplace injuries or illnesses inflicted by family members as well as non-family relations, including co-workers, former co-workers, and patients.

⁹ Containers: classifies receptacles that are commonly used to hold, store or carry materials (examples: dishes, cups and glasses, luggage, etc.).

Source: Z795 Coding of Work Injury or Disease, CSA.

3.5 Occupational fatalities - by WCB acceptance year

Figure 3 - Occupational Fatality Claim and Fatality Rate by Year of Acceptance, 2011 to 2015



- The number of fatality claims decreased by 26.0 per cent from 169 in 2014 to 125 in 2015.
- The estimated person-years in 2015 decreased by 2.6 percent from 2,082,416 in 2014 to 2,028,592 (see Table 2).
- As a result, the estimated occupational fatality rate based on year of acceptance in 2015 was 62 fatalities per million person-years worked, a 23.5 per cent decrease from 81 in 2014.
- From 2011 to 2015, there was a provincial average of 76 fatalities per million person-years worked with a downward trend since 2013.

Table 16 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of acceptance) by Type, 2011 to 2015¹⁰

Year	Motor Vehicle Incidents		Motor Vehicle Latent Incidents		Workplace Incidents		Workplace Latent Incidents		Occupational Disease		Total
	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	
2011	25	20.3	3	2.4	38	30.9	5	4.1	52	42.3	123
2012	35	24.1	1	0.7	42	29.0	9	6.2	58	40.0	145
2013	33	17.6	4	2.1	41	21.8	11	5.9	99	52.7	188
2014	27	16.0	2	1.2	47	27.8	12	7.1	81	47.9	169
2015	17	13.6	6	4.8	26	20.8	10	8.0	66	52.8	125
5-year total	137	18.3	16	2.1	194	25.9	47	6.3	356	47.5	750

- Occupational disease continued to be the leading cause of worker death, and accounted for 52.8 per cent in 2015 of all occupational fatality claims, followed by workplace incidents at 28.8 per cent.

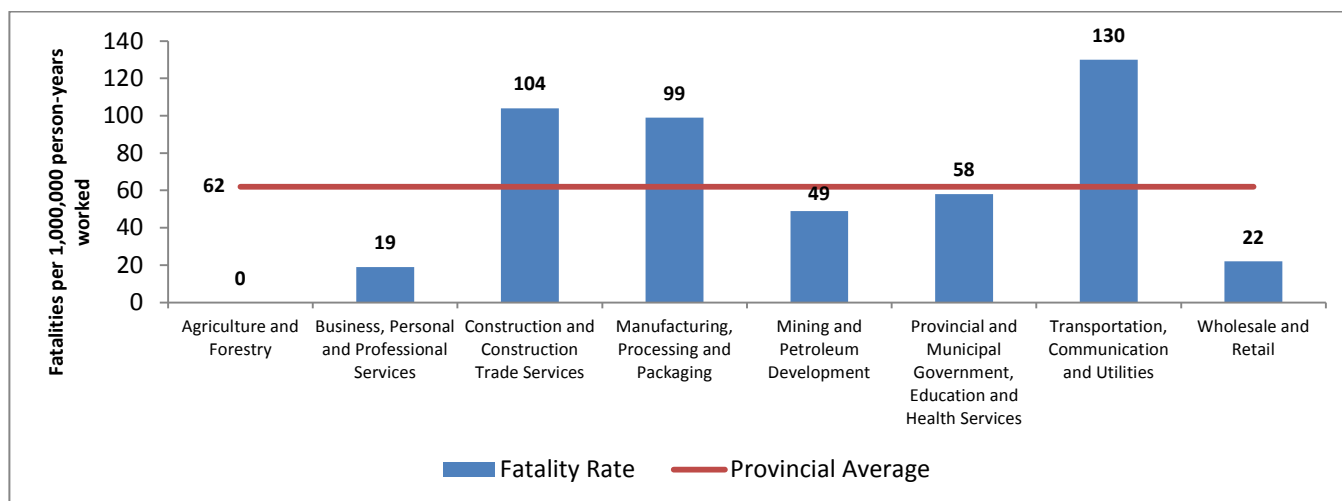
¹⁰ A latent fatality consists of a worker who was involved in a workplace incident or exposure, or a motor vehicle incident that did not become a fatality until a much later date, often years later.

Table 17 - Occupational Fatalities by Year of Acceptance and Major Industry Sector, 2011 to 2015

Major Industry Sector	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Number	Percentage
Agriculture and Forestry	1	2	1	3	0	7	0.9
Business, Personal and Professional Services	2	7	6	5	7	27	3.6
Construction and Construction Trade Services	55	43	72	71	42	283	37.7
Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging	16	11	33	21	19	100	13.3
Mining and Petroleum Development	9	19	18	16	9	71	9.5
Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services	14	19	26	21	20	100	13.3
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	15	28	23	20	20	106	14.1
Wholesale and Retail	7	10	5	11	8	41	5.5
Unspecified	4	6	4	1	0	15	2.0
Total	123	145	188	169	125	750	100

- The Construction and Construction Trade accounted for 37.7 per cent of occupational fatalities over the last five years. In 2015, it accounted for 33.6 per cent of the fatalities.

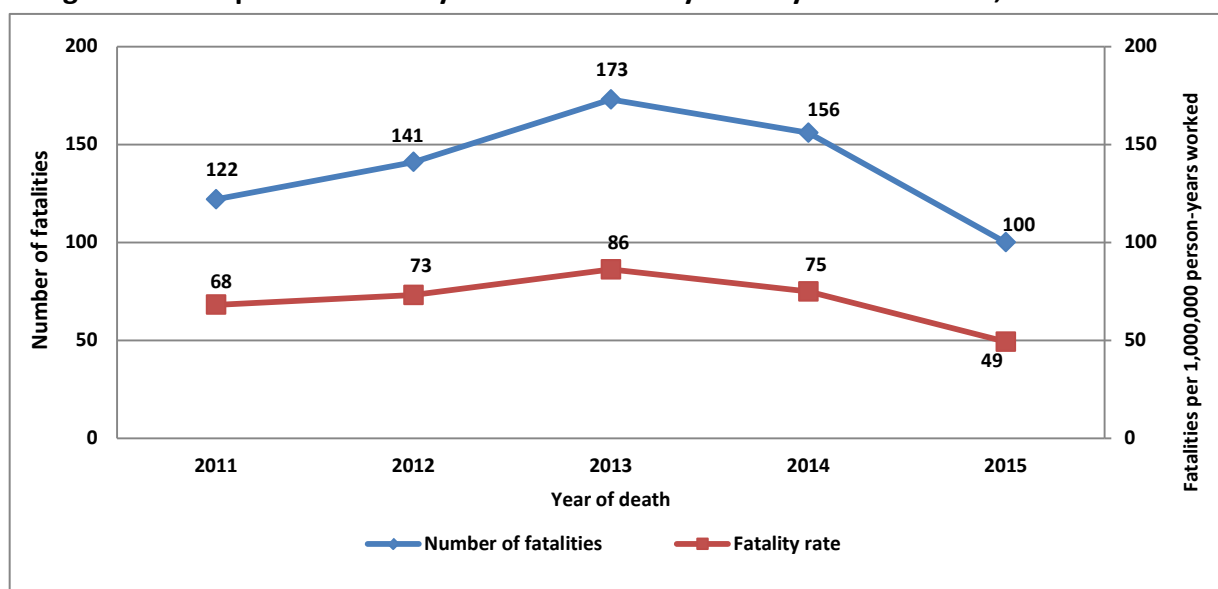
Figure 4 - Occupational Fatality Rate (based on year of acceptance) by Major Industry Sector, 2015



- Transportation, Communication, and Utilities sector incurred the highest fatality rate of any industry sector in 2015.
- Fatality rates continued to be lower than the provincial average in the following sectors:
 - Wholesale and Retail;
 - Business, Personal and Professional Services;
 - Mining and Petroleum Development; and
 - Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services.
- There were no fatality claims accepted by the WCB under the Agriculture and Forestry industry sector in 2015. However, caution should be exercised in considering the fatality rate for Agriculture and Forestry since most of the industries in this sector did not require compulsory workers' compensation coverage.

3.6 Occupational fatalities - by year of death

Figure 5 - Occupational Fatality Claim and Fatality Rate by Year of Death, 2011 to 2015¹¹



- The number of fatality claims decreased by 35.9 per cent from 156 in 2014 to 100 in 2015.
- The estimated person-years in 2015 decreased by 2.6 percent from 2,082,416 in 2014 to 2,028,592 (see Table 2).
- As a result, the provincial fatality rate based on year of death (i.e., a ratio of number of fatalities to the person-years) decreased by 34.7 per cent from 75 in 2014 to 49 fatalities per million person-years in 2015.

Table 18 - Occupational Fatalities (based on year of death) by Type, 2011 to 2015

Year	Motor Vehicle Incidents		Motor Vehicle Latent Incidents		Workplace Incidents		Workplace Latent Incidents		Occupational Disease		Total Counts
	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	Counts	%	
2011	27	22.1	4	3.3	36	29.5	10	8.2	45	36.9	122
2012	30	21.3	1	0.7	41	29.1	9	6.4	60	42.6	141
2013	34	19.7	2	1.2	41	23.7	10	5.8	86	49.7	173
2014	26	16.7	2	1.3	44	28.2	12	7.7	72	46.2	156
2015	16	16.0	5	5.0	25	25.0	3	3.0	51	51.0	100
5-year total	133	19.2	14	2.0	187	27.0	44	6.4	314	45.4	692

- Occupational disease continued to be the leading cause of worker death in 2015, and accounted for 51.0 per cent of all occupational fatality claims, followed by workplace incidents at 28 per cent.

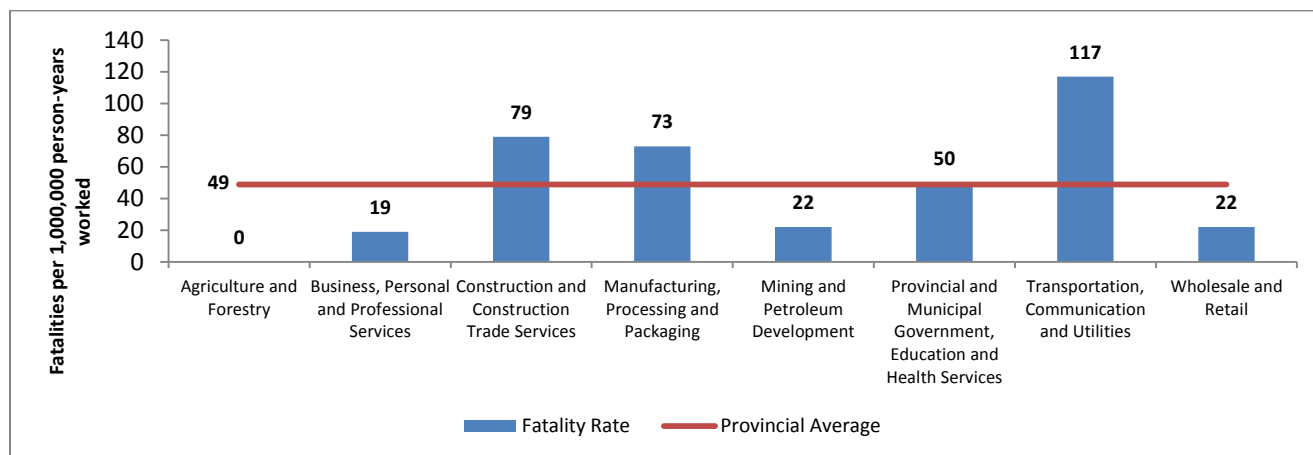
¹¹ The total number of fatalities is updated for accuracy/correctness until March 31, 2016.

Table 19 - Occupational Fatalities by Year of Death and Major Industry Sector, 2011 to 2015

Major Industry Sector	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Number	Percentage
Agriculture and Forestry	1	2	1	3	0	7	1.0
Business, Personal and Professional Services	4	7	5	4	7	27	3.9
Construction and Construction Trade Services	56	42	67	68	32	265	38.3
Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging	14	16	28	18	14	90	13.0
Mining and Petroleum Development	10	20	15	20	4	69	10.0
Provincial and Municipal Government, Education and Health Services	10	15	25	16	17	83	12.0
Transportation, Communication and Utilities	13	23	27	17	18	98	14.2
Wholesale and Retail	9	10	4	9	8	40	5.8
Unspecified	5	6	1	1	0	13	1.9
Total	122	141	173	156	100	692	100.0

- The Construction and Construction Trade sector accounted for 38.3 per cent of occupational fatalities over the last five years. In 2015, this industry accounted for 32.0 per cent of fatalities.

Figure 6 - Occupational Fatality Rate (based on year of death) by Industry Sector, 2015



- Fatality rates continued to be lower than the provincial average in the following sectors:
 - Wholesale and Retail;
 - Business, Personal and Professional Services;
 - Mining and Petroleum Development;
 - Manufacturing, Processing and Packaging.
- Transportation, Communication, and Utilities sector incurred the highest fatality rate of any industry sector in 2015.
- There were no fatal incidents recorded under the Agriculture and Forestry industry sector in 2015.

Appendix: Terms and definitions

Disabling injury claims combine both the lost-time and Modified work concepts to produce an overall figure where an occupational injury or disease disables the worker causing either time-lost from work or for their normal work duties to be modified.

The **disabling injury rate** is calculated by dividing the number of disabling injury claims by the person-year estimates, and multiplying the result by 100. The disabling injury rate represents the probability or risk of a disabling injury or disease to a worker during a period of one-year of work. The disabling injury rate is similar to the LTC rate although it covers a broader range of injuries, including those that are less severe in nature (do not require time away from work). The rate represents the number of claims per 100 person-years and includes claim made for both lost-time and Modified work.

An **fatality** is the death of a worker which resulted from a work-related incident or exposure and which has been accepted by the WCB for compensation. A fatality is counted in the year it is accepted. A **latent fatality** consists of a worker who was involved in a workplace incident or exposure, or a motor vehicle incident that did not become a fatality until a much later date, often years later. Usually, other contributing factors also cause a latent fatality, although these contributing factors are the result of the initial injury or exposure.

The **fatality rate** is calculated by dividing the number of accepted fatalities by the person-years estimate and multiplying the result by one million. The result is expressed as fatalities per million person-years. For the purpose of this report, fatalities that are found under the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada are included in the calculation of the fatality rate.

The workplace **injury or disease codes** used in this report are provided by the WCB.

The **injury/fatality frequency rates** presented in the report are calculated using different methodology and information than lost-time claim, disabling injury and fatality rates. Injury frequency rates for workers are calculated by applying the number of injury/fatality claims from workers of specific demographic to a proportion of WCB person-years worked figures. The proportion is determined using information available from the Labour Force Survey on workers employed.

A **lost-time claim** is a claim for an occupational injury or disease, which disables the worker beyond the day of injury. All claims receiving reimbursement of full or partial lost wages are included, as are payments for permanent loss of function.

The **lost-time claim rate** is calculated by dividing the number of lost-time claims by the person-year estimate, and multiplying the result by 100. The rate represents the probability or risk of injury or disease to a worker during a one-year work period. Comparisons of LTC rates between industries, or between years, can be used to indicate increases, decreases, or differences in this risk.

A **modified work claim** is a claim for an occupational injury or disease where a worker had their normal work duties altered enabling them to remain in the workplace without losing time. Also included are claims where injured workers were helped back into the workplace with modified duties after time lost due to injury or disease.

The **people in employment** refer to those individuals in the working-age population who held jobs, regardless of employment status, in a reporting period. It is estimated by Statistics Canada through the Labour Force Survey.

One **person-year estimate** is equivalent to one full-time worker working for one year, and can be assumed to equal 2,000 hours worked.