

Day of MOURNING

British Columbia Facts¹



Work-related death claims for 2019

- There were 140 work-related deaths in 2019. Of those:
 - 2 were young workers
 - 84 were the result of occupational disease, with 60 as a result of asbestos exposure
- The gender breakdown for work-related deaths is 135 males and 5 females.

Work-related death claims accepted, by year, 2015-2019

Year	Total work-related deaths	Male	Female
2015	122	115	7
2016	144	138	6
2017	158	152	6
2018	131	125	6
2019	140	135	5

Young worker work-related death claims accepted, by year, 2015-2019

Year	Young worker work-related deaths
2015	0
2016	5
2017	6
2018	4
2019	2

In 2019:

- There were a total of 110,172 short-term disability, long-term disability, and health-care only claims.
- Workplace injury and illness resulted in more than 3.2 million lost days of work.
- More than 3,000 claims were reported each week and approximately 101 long-term disability claims were accepted each week.
- More than 2 work-related death claims were accepted each week.

Work-related death claims by subsector in 2019²

Subsector	Number of work-related death claims
Agriculture	1
Fishing	2
Forestry	8
Oil & Gas or Mineral Resources	3
Food and Beverage Products	0
Metal and Non-Metallic Mineral Products	16
Petroleum, Coal, Rubber, Plastic, and Chemical Products	1
Wood and Paper Products	6
Other Products (not elsewhere specified)	1
General Construction	30
Heavy Construction	2
Road Construction or Maintenance	1
Warehousing	0
Transportation and Related Services ³	25
Retail	1
Wholesale	1
Public Administration ⁴	21
Accommodation, Food, and Leisure Services	4
Business Services	2
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2
Other Services (not elsewhere specified)	4
Education	1
Health Care and Social Services	1
Utilities	5

Number of accepted work-related death claims by regional district⁵ in 2019

Region	Number of work-related death claims	Region	Number of work-related death claims
Alberni-Clayquot	2	Mount Waddington	2
Bulkley-Nechako	4	Nanaimo	0
Capital	8	North Okanagan	2
Cariboo	1	Northern Rockies	0
Central Coast	1	Okanagan-Similkameen	1
Central Kootenay	1	Peace River	8
Central Okanagan	2	Powell River	0
Columbia-Shuswap	4	Skeena-Queen Charlotte	0
Comox Valley	0	Squamish-Lillooet	2
Cowichan Valley	0	Stikine	0
East Kootenay	2	Strathcona	1
Fraser Valley	3	Sunshine Coast	1
Fraser-Fort George	4	Thompson-Nicola	3
Greater Vancouver	44	Unknown or uncoded	0
Kitimat-Stikine	2	Out of province	4
Kootenay-Boundary	4	Disease with exposures in multiple regions	34

Work-related death claims accepted by year, cause of injury, 2015-2019

Category	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Traumatic	41	36	43	40	40
Motor vehicle incident	9	22	28	25	16
Disease	72	86	87	66	84
Total	122	144	158	131	140

Work-related death claims accepted by year, asbestos-related and other diseases, 2015-2019

Category of disease	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Totals
Asbestosis	7	9	6	3	12	37
Lung cancer	10	14	12	10	15	61
Mesothelioma	32	44	47	34	41	198
Other cancer	11	9	10	7	10	47
Cardiovascular	8	6	4	4	5	27
Other disease	4	4	8	8	1	25
Total occupational disease	72	86	87	66	84	395
Percentage of total work-related death claims	59%	60%	55%	50%	60%	57%

- 1 Preliminary statistics as of February 29, 2020.
- 2 Two work-related deaths claims are counted in deposit class and other subsectors.
- 3 Approximately 60% of the deaths were transportation-related where the worker was involved in a motor vehicle incident or a plane crash.
- 4 More than 80% of the deaths were attributed to municipal firefighters who were exposed to toxic substances at fire scenes.
- 5 Single-incident work-related death claims are primarily coded based on accident location; when accident location is unavailable, employer operating location followed by head office location is used.