



January 16, 2007

Note on the Data

Source of the Council's Data:

All data comes directly from WorkSafeBC (WSBC) Notices of Incident. All information is preliminary and subject to change pending further investigation. Any changes are reflected as soon as the Council is notified of them.

There are two areas where the Council's reporting of serious injuries and fatalities differs from WSBC's.

The Council includes both "Sawmills" and "Traveling to and from work" in its serious injury and fatality statistics for the forestry sector: WSBC does not. As a result of including these two extra categories, the Council's serious injury and fatality count may be higher than that of WSBC.

Caution must be exercised when comparing the Council's Serious Injury and Fatality statistics with those of WSBC. WSBC and the Council use different collection and reporting conventions and this does not lend itself to a direct number-to-number comparison.

It is also important to note that neither the Council nor WSBC include heart attacks in the workplace fatality count.

The WSBC also includes all injuries and fatalities associated with occupational disease. At this time, the Council does not include these in the statistics.

When the Council has accurate information on a fatality it is immediately sent out as a Council Notice of Incident. The information is later adjusted upon receiving official notice from the WSBC and the changes are reflected in this website's database.

Other Data Considerations:

Comparisons of NOI counts using any of the above three categories should not be used for trending purposes or making quantitative generalizations. There are three reasons for this

1. NOIs are not time-loss claims that have been adjudicated through the WorkSafeBC compensation process.
2. NOIs are preliminary investigations and are subject to change as they are constantly updated.
3. NOIs are subject to significant under reporting when compared to the number of claims registered and reported to WorkSafeBC. Information sought from NOIs should be used for research purposes applied in conjunction with best Occupational Health and Safety practices on a case-by-case basis.

Effective January 1, 2007 the Council will be breaking down the reporting of the forest sectors serious injuries and fatalities into 2 categories: harvesting sector and production. This serves to distinguish between to very different working and hazard environments and aims to produce better information for the forest sector moving forward.