



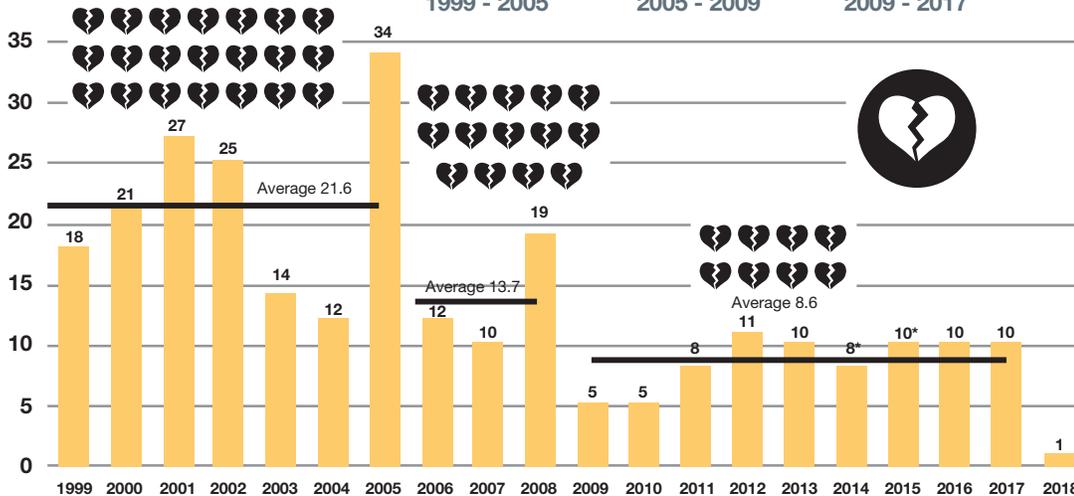
# Work-Related Deaths & Injuries

## WORK-RELATED DEATH CLAIMS

WORKERS KILLED ON THE JOB

22 ► 14 ► 8

1999 - 2005      2005 - 2009      2009 - 2017



The data (left) for 2016 is based on WorkSafeBC accepted claims and incidents that the BCFCSC is aware of that happened in 2016. Please note that this is preliminary harvesting data. \*There were 4 fatalities the BCFCSC is aware of that occurred in 2014 and 8 fatalities that occurred in 2015. WorkSafeBC tracks fatalities by the year in which they accept the claim. The BCFCSC uses the WorkSafeBC data of accepted claims for trends as it is the only long-term data base for comparative purposes.

## One direct harvesting, no manufacturing work-related deaths in 2018, year-to-date

As at July 12, there had been one direct harvesting and no manufacturing work-related deaths in 2018.

**March 7, 2018:** The driver of a loaded logging truck was fatally injured when the truck left the road and went into the ditch on the 100 Forest Service Road north of Fort St James. The impact caused the logs on the trailer to come forward, crushing the cab. See safety alert: <https://www.bcforestsafef.org/node/3087>.

## Injury rate data now available for 2017 – forest industry continues to make positive progress

WorkSafeBC has recently published injury rate data for 2017. Overall, the forest industry continues to make positive progress. In 2017, the overall harvesting injury rate was 4.7 which is the second lowest injury rate on record. 2009 is the only year with a lower injury rate of 4.2, which was strongly influenced by the 2009 financial crisis and record low harvest volume of 51.7 million m<sup>3</sup>.

The injury rate for manual tree falling was 22.7 in 2017 and also represents the second lowest injury rate on record behind 2009's rate of 18.8. While still very high, industry's continued focus on manual tree falling is generating positive results. This focus must continue to secure further reductions in injury rates and ensure improved faller safety.

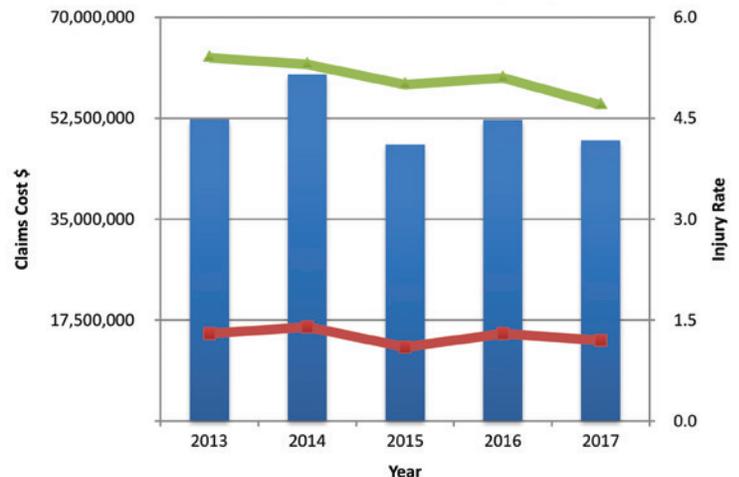
Sawmills, pellet mills and medium-density fibreboard (MDF) also continue to make positive progress with injury rates near or below provincial averages.

While there is still more work to be done, the injury rates demonstrate that industry's commitment and efforts aimed at reducing injuries are having an impact.

Please see [https://www.bcforestsafef.org/safety\\_info/statistics.html](https://www.bcforestsafef.org/safety_info/statistics.html) for current data for the 2013-2017 years re claims costs, serious injury and injury rates in specific Wood Product Manufacturing and Forest Harvesting Classification Units. Here are a sample of four graphs from harvesting and manufacturing Classification Units (CUs).

■ Claims Cost Paid  
 ■ Serious Injury Rate  
 ▲ Injury Rate  
 Classification Unit = CU

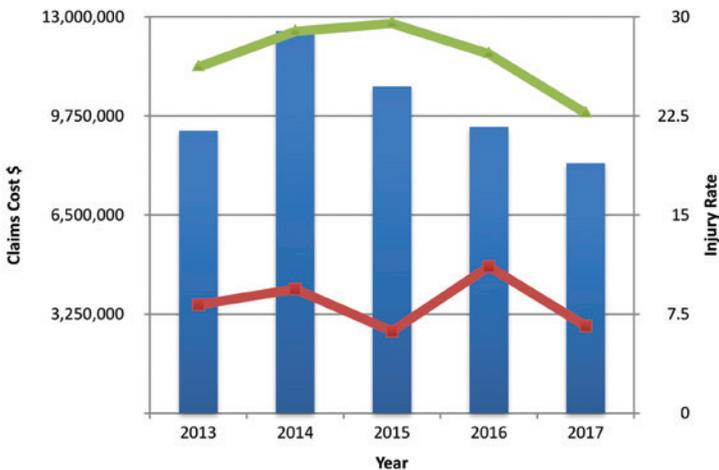
### Harvesting Aggregate all Classification Unit (CU)s



# Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

By sharing incident information with your crews and discussing how to prevent similar incidents in your workplace, you help support better safety outcomes.

## Manual Tree Falling and Bucking (CU 703013)



### HARVESTING

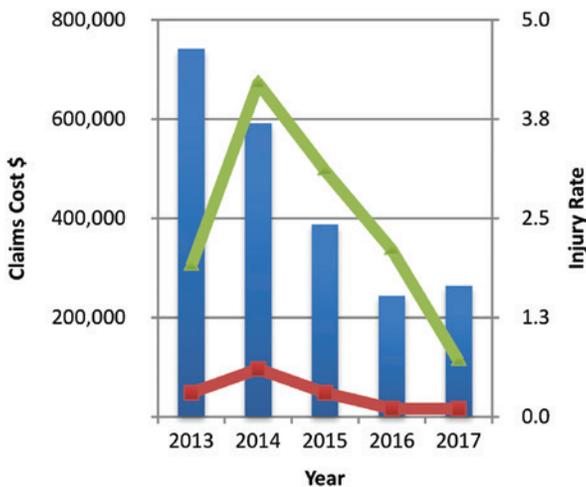
**Injury Type:** Close call  
**Core Activity:** Cable or hi-lead logging  
**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-Jun

A grapple yarder was travelling over a steel bridge when the sill logs on one end supporting the bridge collapsed. The yarder was able to get over the remaining part of the bridge. No injuries were reported.

**Injury Type:** Fractured ribs, internal injuries  
**Core Activity:** Manual tree falling and bucking  
**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-May

A worker was falling a 132-foot cedar tree straight down the hill when a 75-foot limb-tied hemlock fell across the hillside at a 90 degree angle from the direction of the felled cedar tree. The hemlock landed hillside, striking the worker before coming to rest directly above the stump of the cedar tree. The worker was airlifted to the hospital.

## Pressed Board Manufacture (CU 714019)



### OTHER

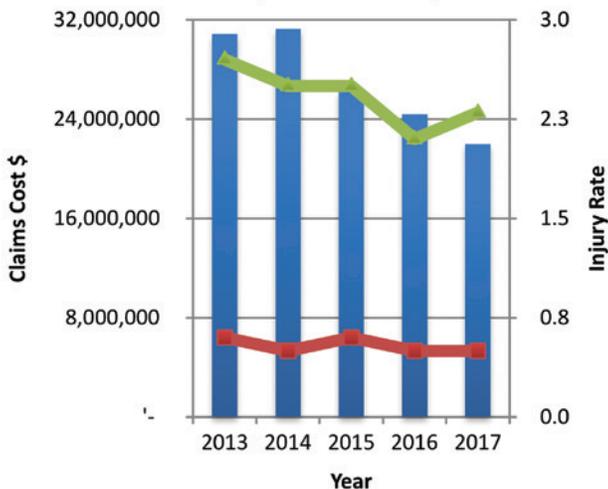
**Injury Type:** Leg fractures  
**Core Activity:** Shake block cutting  
**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-May

A worker was cutting a cedar log when it slid down the hillside, striking the worker. The worker was transported to hospital by Coast Guard helicopter.

**Injury Type:** Close call  
**Core Activity:** Log hauling / Fin fish farming  
**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-May

A loaded log transporter and a personal vehicle collided on a resource road. Three workers were in the personal vehicle on their way to work. No injuries occurred.

## Sawmill (CU 714022)



### MANUFACTURING

**Injury Type:** Close call  
**Core Activity:** Pressed board manufacture  
**Location:** Northern BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-Jun

A fire started in the cooler exhaust stack of a pellet mill. An on-site crew worked to extinguish the fire, but called the local fire department when smoke entered an adjacent building. The fire was localized to the exhaust stack only. No injuries occurred.

**Injury Type:** Multiple fractures  
**Core Activity:** Sawmill  
**Location:** Northern BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-May  
A worker climbing an extension ladder fell 7 feet to grade.

**Injury Type:** Amputation injuries to fingers  
**Core Activity:** Shake or shingle mill  
**Location:** Vancouver Island/Coastal BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-Apr  
A new worker in training was trimming a shingle that was pulled awkwardly into the saw blade. The worker's hand contacted the saw.

**Injury Type:** Possible smoke inhalation (2 workers)  
**Core Activity:** Pressed board manufacture  
**Location:** Northern BC  
**Date of Incident:** 2018-Apr  
During maintenance activities at a pellet mill, an upset condition in the dryer resulted in sparks exiting the dryer stack to the outside. The wind carried some sparks into the pellet mill facility, resulting in several small smoulders and fires. The fire department attended. 🚒