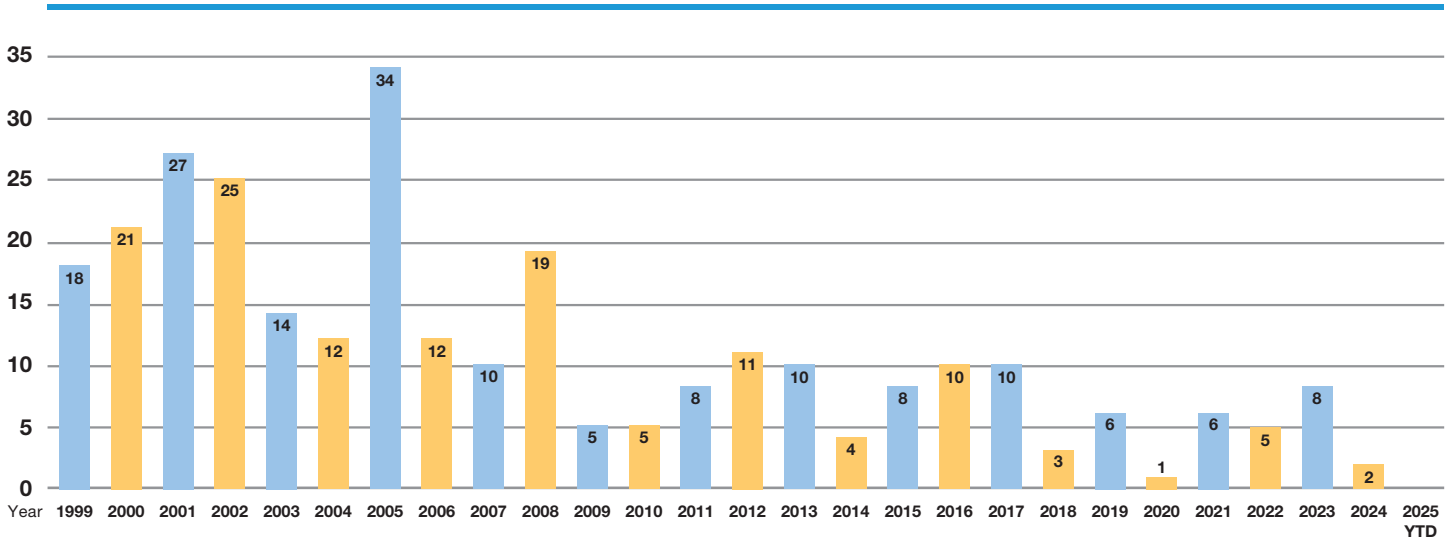




Work-Related Deaths & Injuries



WSBC Accepted Harvesting Work-related Death Claims



This information represents the number of work-related deaths by year in BC, up until February 2025.

Since our last publication, there has been two work-related deaths in the BC forestry industry. We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by these tragic incidents.

FATALITIES

Injury: Fatal
Core Activity: Medium Density Fibreboard and other Pressed Wood Manufacture
Location: Interior BC
Date of Incident: Jan 2025
On January 17th, 2025, a young worker was conducting maintenance work inside a sawdust storage silo at a mill located in Quesnel, BC. when they were engulfed by wet sawdust. The contracted worker was fatally injured.

Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert

Injury: Fatal
Core Activity: Integrated forest management
Location: Interior BC
Date of Incident: Dec 2024
On December 16th 2025, a log truck driver was fatally injured during an attempt to tow a log truck that had spun out on an icy road. The log truck was unable to traverse a section of a resource road and became stuck. A second log truck manoeuvred around the stuck truck and was backing up to prepare to tow it. The driver of the stuck truck was caught between the two trucks and sustained fatal injuries.

Read the BCFSC Fatality Alert

Recent work-related incidents reported to WorkSafeBC

The following sample of work-related incidents recently reported to WorkSafeBC may help prevent similar incidents in your workplace.

HARVESTING

Injury: Injury to head
Core Activity: Cable or hi-lead logging
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: Nov 2024
A young worker was positioned beside a guyline stump as the operator of a grapple yarder manoeuvred the guyline. The guyline was hooked under a 10-foot-long treetop. As guyline was tightened, the treetop slid down and struck the young worker. The guyline stump was below a road on a steep slope with accumulations of processor debris in the area.

Injury: Fractures, Injury to head
Core Activity: Brushing and weeding or tree thinning or spacing
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: Oct 2024
A silviculture worker was crossing a creek when they slipped on wet rocks and fell about 20 feet to the creekbed below.

Injury: Fractures, Injury to chest
Core Activity: Brushing and weeding or tree thinning or spacing
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal BC
Date of Incident: July 2024

A worker was using a log loader to swing logs forward to the road when the log loader rolled onto its side. The worker, who was wearing their seatbelt, was able to get out of the cab unaided.

MANUFACTURING

Injury: Laceration
Core Activity: Veneer or plywood manufacture

Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: Oct 2024
A worker was injured when they dropped a 4-foot guarded blade while changing blades on a lathe.

Injury: Close call
Core Activity: Sawmill
Location: Northern BC
Date of Incident: Oct 2024
A fire started in the main line saw box. The fire department attended and extinguished the fire.

INCIDENT FINDINGS

The summary of findings from a 2022 incident investigation into a serious injury involving a blaster assistant. The worker was struck by a fly rock (a rock propelled from the blasting area) sustaining serious injuries. The incident findings are posted on WorkSafeBC's website. 🚩