

2011 WCB of Nova Scotia Annual Report Highlights

- The total number of claims registered decreased by 0.8 per cent from 28,002 in 2010 to 27,786 in 2011.
- The total number of time-loss claims in 2011 is 6,616, a 4.4 per cent decrease from the 2010 total of 6,921. This represents 305 fewer workers who sustained injuries severe enough to miss three or more days of work.
- Musculoskeletal injuries (sprains and strains) remain the most common type of time-loss injury, comprising 62.6 per cent of all 2011 compensable time-loss claims.
- At 31.6 per cent, back injuries comprise nearly one third of all time-loss injuries in 2011.
- Total assessable payroll has increased steadily since 2005. The current figure is \$9.35 billion, a 23 per cent increase from the 2005 figure of \$7.61 billion.
- Health/Social Services is the largest industry sector in the province and accounts for the highest volume of time loss injuries at 1,562 in 2011. However, for the sixth consecutive year, the injury rate in Health/Social Services has dropped from a high of 4.5 per cent in 2005 to the 2011 rate of 3.0 per cent.
- The injury rate also dropped considerably in Construction, the fourth largest industry sector in the province from 2.9 per cent in 2010 to 2.4 per cent in 2011.
- Overall, the provincial injury rate has once again decreased from 2.13 per cent in 2010 to 2.02 per cent in 2011.
- 27 workers died due to workplace injury or illness in 2011. Six of these fatalities are considered *acute* – occurring as a result of a traumatic injury. The remaining 21 are *chronic* – occurring as a result of an industrial disease or medical condition.