

Background Info – Young Worker Safety

June 28, 2012

*Based on 2011 statistics from the WCB of Nova Scotia

- 3567 Nova Scotian workers under age 25 were injured in 2011.
- Of those, 651 young workers suffered injuries that were serious enough to result in time lost from work.
- The majority of those time-loss injuries occurred in five industries:

Industry	# of time-loss injuries (workers < 25)
Retail	142
Accommodation, Food and Beverage	103
Construction	87
Health and Social Services	87
Manufacturing	78

• Among all registered claims, fingers are the most frequently injured body part:

Five Most Commonly Injured Body Parts (all injuries)	# of claims
Finger(s), fingernail (s)	700
Back	511
Face	363
Hand(s) except finger(s)	267
Legs	243

However, among time-loss injuries, the back remains the most likely body part to be seriously
injured. Back injuries are the most common workplace injuries in Nova Scotia among all age
groups.

Five Most Commonly Injured Body Parts (time-loss injuries)	# of claims
Back	166
Finger(s), fingernail(s)	70
Leg(s)	65
Shoulder	59
Ankle	39



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Selected Injury Descriptions, Workers under 25, Time-loss Claims, 2011:

- WHILE DELIVERING FLYERS, WORKER STEPPED DOWN FROM DOORSTEP AND TWISTED ANKLE
- WORKER CUT THUMB WHILE DICING CARROTS
- WORKER LIFTED A BOX OF WATERMELONS ONTO A PALLET, WAS UNABLE TO GET ARM OUT, SQUEEZED IT BETWEEN THE BOX.
- WORKER WAS PINNED BETWEEN TWO LARGE HEAVY PIECES OF EQUIPMENT CAUSING INJURY TO LOWER BACK
- WORKER BITTEN BY A FERRET ON THE BACK OF HAND WHILE CLIPPING FERRET'S NAILS.
- WORKER WAS CUTTING MEAT ON SAW AND CUT TOP OF HAND AND FINGERS
- WORKER DROPPED AN EMPTY CONTAINER INTO DEEP FRYER AND PICKED UP IT WITH FINGERS, POURING HOT GREASE ONTO WRIST
- WORKER WAS CARRYING DISHES UP STAIRS; CAUGHT FOOT AND FELL
- WORKER WAS SWEEPING THE FLOOR AND SLIPPED ON A GREEN BEAN
- WORKER WAS SCANNING A BAG OF DOG FOOD WHEN SHE EXPERIENCED PAIN IN NECK AND LEFT SHOULDER