

# Injury Statistics

## Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, or Recyclable Material Removal

### Overview

Just under 440 B.C. employers are registered in the Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, or Recyclable Material Removal classification unit (CU 732018). The vast majority of these employers have fewer than 20 workers. (Only 30 firms employ 20 or more workers.)

### Safety performance: how does Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, and Recyclable Material Removal compare?

There are approximately 225 time-loss injuries in the Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, and Recyclable Material Removal CU each year. On average, these workers miss 9 weeks of work, with claim costs totalling \$18,260. This figure does not represent the true cost of the incident, which may be two to four times higher.

With an injury rate of 6.8, approximately 1 in 15 workers will sustain a time-loss claim injury each year. This is almost 50% higher than the Transportation and Related Services Subsector, and three times higher than the provincial average.

### Injury Statistics: 5-Year Average (2011–2015)

	Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, & Recyclable Material Removal CU (732019)	Transportation & Related Services Subsector (7320)	All BC Employers
Time-loss Claims	225	4,100	48,400
Days lost	9,950	250,000	2.24 million
Total claims costs	\$4.1 million	\$103.1 million	\$874 million
Injury rate <sup>3</sup>	6.8	4.6	2.3

### A typical year in B.C.'s transportation industry

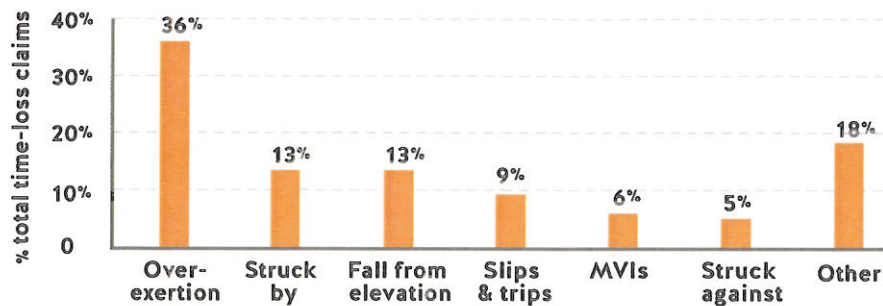
Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, or Recyclable Material Removal is one of 37 classification units (CUs) in the WorkSafeBC Transportation and Related Services Subsector. The Subsector employs approximately 105,000 workers, or approximately five percent of the provincial workforce. Each year, transportation workers on average sustain over 4,100 time-loss<sup>1</sup> injuries. The average claim duration is 12 weeks, costing approximately \$25,300. The injury rate<sup>2</sup> for the transportation subsector is 4.6 — twice the provincial average of 2.3.

1 Time loss claims: The number of claims where the injuries occurred in a given year and were accepted for short-term disability, long-term disability or survivor benefits in that year or in the first three months of the following year.

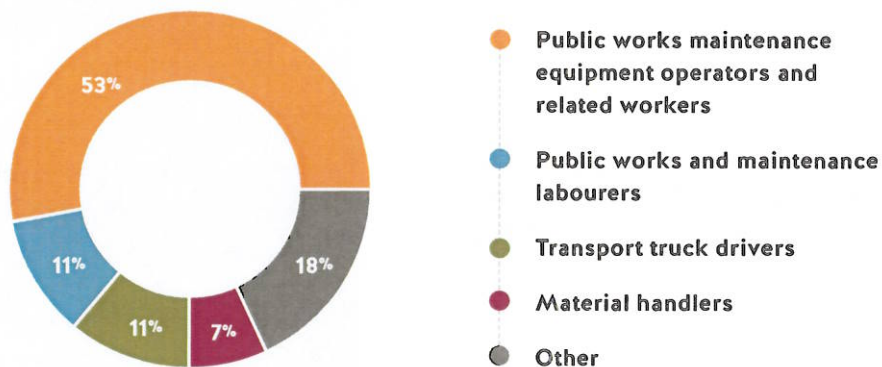
2 Injury rate: The number of time loss claims per 100 people working all year whether on a part-time or full-time basis.

3 2015 injury rate.

## How are workers in Garbage, Debris, Industrial Waste, or Recyclable Material Removal getting hurt?



## Who is getting hurt?



### Typical Workplace Incidents in General Trucking

Worker strained lower back when they threw a heavy bag of garbage onto the bed of a garbage truck.

Worker fractured lower leg when they slipped off top step and fell to the ground.

A transport driver sustained whiplash when the vehicle they were driving was hit from behind by another vehicle.

## Resources for Employers, Supervisors and Drivers

### Resources, Publications and Tools

Visit [WorkSafeBC.com](http://WorkSafeBC.com) for occupational health and safety books, brochures, videos, and posters. Our publications can be downloaded for free, or purchased at [worksafebcstore.com](http://worksafebcstore.com)

### Industry and Labour Services (ILS) Transportation

The ILS transportation team can provide assistance with occupational health and safety issues related to transportation. Contact Kevin Bennett at [kevin.bennett@worksafebc.com](mailto:kevin.bennett@worksafebc.com) or Shelagh Locke at [shelagh.locke@worksafebc.com](mailto:shelagh.locke@worksafebc.com)

### Prevention Information Line

If you wish to discuss a compliance issue with a WorkSafeBC officer, call the Prevention Information Line at 1.888.621.SAFE (7233).

### Trucking Safety Council of BC (TSCBC)

The TSCBC provides health and safety advice, tools and resources to help employers prevent work-related injuries and fatalities. Contact them at [info@safetydriven.ca](mailto:info@safetydriven.ca) or toll free at 1.877.414.8001.