



**YUKON WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
HEALTH AND
SAFETY BOARD**

**COMMISSION DE LA
SANTÉ ET DE LA SÉCURITÉ
AU TRAVAIL
DU YUKON**

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Message from the Board of Directors

In 2004, the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board continued to focus on building strong partnerships to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses.

We established a Prevention Committee, with representatives of employers, labour, youth and the First Nations community. The committee has two major goals:

- To ensure all Yukon employers have a safety management system in place by 2008.
- To positively influence change so that most Yukon workers and employers will place safety as the highest priority in the workplace.

We believe strongly in partnerships. The success of the Yukon Construction Safety Association, created by a contribution agreement between the Board and the Yukon Contractors' Association, is a compelling example.

In 2004, the association had close to 20 Yukon employers registered for the Certificate of Recognition (COR), an industry-based program that helps companies develop and maintain audited safety systems. We continue to encourage the safety association to expand soon to serve all Yukon employers and workers.

We have also seen the success of partnerships when it comes to promoting the safety of young workers. In 2004, six Yukon employers joined Passport to Safety, which provides safety awareness for workers under 25.

Partnership is an important element of our new Rehabilitation Policy, which emphasizes involving the worker and employer on a team whose focus is to return the worker – as closely as possible – to the life he or she had before the injury.

We continue to value our stakeholder advisory committees. It is crucial that we, as a Board of Directors, can feel confident that the direction we take addresses the concerns, issues and considerations of the workers and employers we serve. We thank our worker and employer stakeholder representatives for the time and guidance they have provided us.

Members of the Board

The Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB) is governed by a Board of Directors made up of two employer representatives, two worker representatives, a neutral chair and a neutral alternate chair. The chair of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal and the president of the YWCHSB sit as non-voting members.

- Craig Tuton, Chair
Appointed March 31, 2003 – March 30, 2006
- Phil Dyke, Alternate Chair
Appointed August 15, 2003 – August 14, 2006
- Barb Evans, Worker Representative
Appointed September 19, 2002 – September 18, 2005 (Earlier appointment: March 1, 2000 – September 15, 2002)
- Michelle Kolla, Worker Representative
Appointed July 21, 2003 – July 20, 2006 (Earlier appointment: July 10, 2001 – July 9, 2003)
- Barry Enders, Employer Representative
Appointed November 29, 2001 - November 28, 2004 (Earlier appointment: November 29, 2000 – November 28, 2001)
- Gary Annau, Employer Representative
Appointed November 29, 2004 – November 28, 2005
- Don Frizzell, Employer Representative
Appointed December 23, 2004 – December 22, 2007 (Earlier appointment: December 23, 2002 – December 22, 2004)
- Ed Sumner,
Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal Chair
Appointed March 31, 2003 – March 30, 2006
- Tony Armstrong – President and Chief Executive Officer



2004 Activities

Occupational Health and Safety

Partners

Developed a joint procedure with the Yukon Construction Safety Association for approval of the Certificate of Recognition for employers. Met with Yukon government departments to encourage safety management.

Occupational Health and Safety Director co-chaired the Safe Community initiative launched in Whitehorse. This initiative includes supporting Passport to Safety and other youth risk reduction programs.

Young Worker Safety

Introduced Passport to Safety – a national initiative that promotes the safety of young workers. Six employers signed on, including the City of Whitehorse, Yukon College, the Village of Mayo, Duncan's Limited, the Gold Rush Inn and the YWCHSB. About 150 Yukoners took the Passport to Safety online test.

Provided 31 courses on young worker safety in all of the Yukon's larger communities.

Courses

Offered a new course on preventing violence in the workplace. There were more requests than seats available. Most of the 34 participants were from First Nations and Yukon Government.

Provided an updated safety committee course, taken by 64 people. The Yukon Government continued to be the largest user because of its diverse worksites.

Inspections and Compliance

Focused the Target Risk program on the high risk activities of trenching and working from heights. There was one serious incident involving trenching. Three penalties were issued for working from heights without proper protection.

Increased inspections of high risk, remote exploration workplaces.

Provided consultation and support to Energy Mines and Resources - Wildfire Management Branch on safety planning and risk assessment.

Claimant Services

Reorganized services to injured workers on a triage model to provide better and more efficient service.

Trained staff to prepare them for new duties related to the reorganization. Provided training in decision writing, implementation of appeal decisions, disability management and return-to-work planning.

Developed guidelines and met with key stakeholders to prepare for implementation of the new Rehabilitation Policy.



Employer Services

Increased audit activity with 214 audits, representing over \$174,000,000 in payroll. The audits resulted in additional revenue to the board of just over \$80,000.

Implemented the assessment rate subsidy reduction, based on the 2002 Assessment Premium Review.

Registered 448 new employers. Since accounts also closed, the total number of registered employers was 2,357.

Finance, Administration and Information Systems

Launched a public consultation in September on the YWCHSB's reserves. The consultation extended into 2005.

Made improvements to the claims medical payment process.

Installed financial software updates that improve the efficiency and performance of cheque production, bank reconciliation, payroll and accounts receivable functions.

Enhanced the assessments system by adding features that improve accounts receivable reporting and information to clients, among many other improvements.

Planning, Evaluation and Policy

Completed and approved the following policies: Rehabilitation, Lump Sum Prior Years, Merits and Justice of the Case, Access to Information, and Board and Appeal Tribunal Honoraria.

Began developing policies on deeming, traditional and alternate healing, and self-employment.

Researched emerging issues, including smoking and indoor air quality.

Completed the evaluation of the results of rehabilitation services. This work was in response to the recommendations of the 2002 special examination of the Yukon workers' compensation system by the Auditor General of Canada.

Initiated an evaluation of the Employer Consultant position.

Public Relations

Key campaigns included: Annual Day of Mourning, Passport to Safety, Preventing Violence in the Workplace, WorkSafe newsletter and Target Risk.

Hosted the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada's Congress in August, drawing 200 delegates from across Canada.

Human Resources

Arranged training for YWCHSB employees in the areas of safety, claims management, auditing, leadership and communication.

Medical Services

Provided two courses to Yukon physicians on the functioning of the YWCHSB.



2004 Statistics

PREVENTION

	2004	2003
Courses and presentations	76	62
Number of participants	1,001	727
Inspections	516	488
Serious accidents*	0	
Serious Injuries*	2	
Consultations	1,746	848
Sanctions		
Warning letters	1	7
Penalty levies	5	7
Prosecutions	0	0

*Definitions of serious accidents and serious injuries have been made much stricter to comply with Section 30 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, which means numbers are difficult to compare year to year.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Worker	73	80
Workers' Advocate	468	335
Appeal Tribunal	42	44
Employer	20	14
Other	6	10
Total Disclosures	609	483

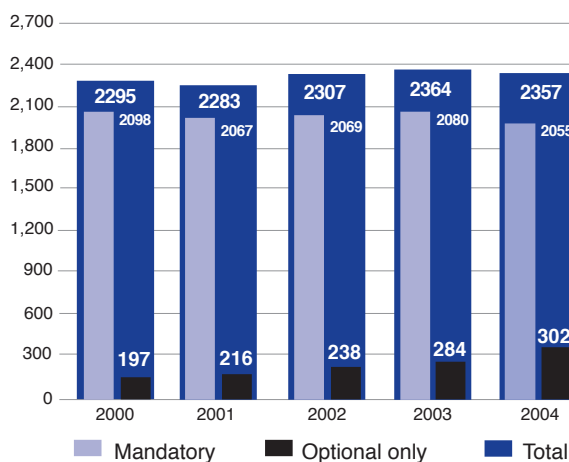
APPEALS

	2004	2003
Reviews by Hearing Officer	47	42
Decisions confirmed	24	22
Decisions reversed	7	12
Decisions varied	10	2
No jurisdiction	6	6
Appeal Panel		
Occupational Health and Safety Appeals	2	2
Confirmed	2	1
Revoked	0	1
Board Inquiry Panel Proceedings	1	0
Confirmed	1	0
Reversed	0	0

Assessment Appeals

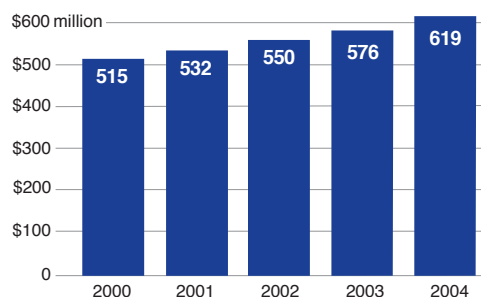
There were no assessment appeals in 2004 or 2003.

EMPLOYERS REGISTERED

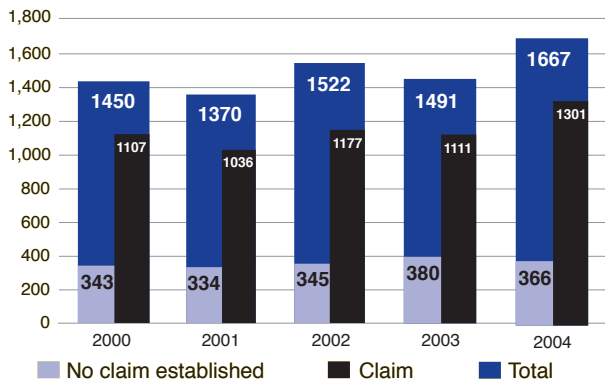


Definitions: An "employer" is an individual entity operating in one or more industries. One employer may have many businesses.

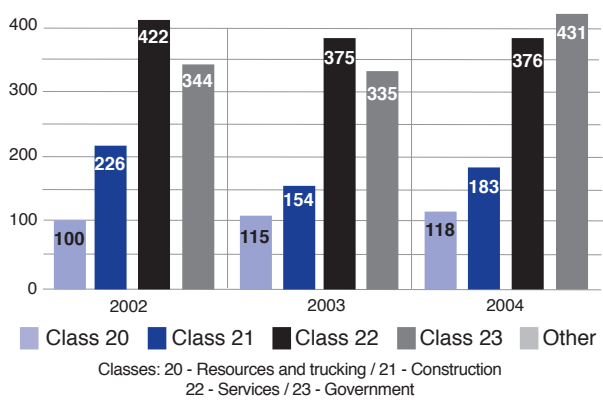
ASSESSABLE PAYROLL REPORTED



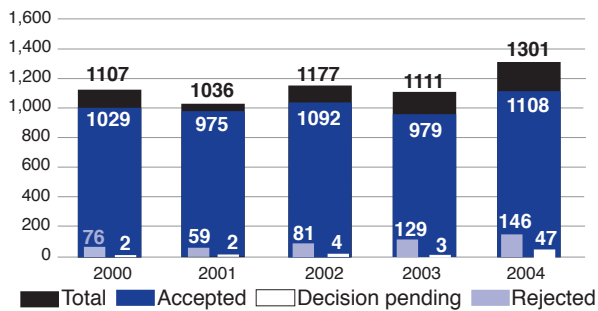
INCIDENTS REPORTED



ACCEPTED CLAIMS BY CLASS



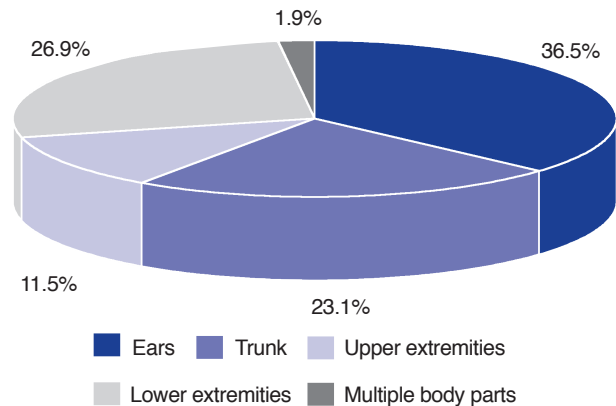
CLAIMS BY DECISION STATUS



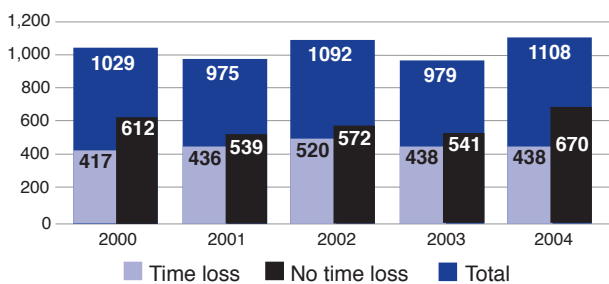
FATALITIES ACCEPTED/ PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT AWARDS MADE - 2004

Fatalities	1
Permanent Impairment Awards	52

PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT AWARDS BY PART OF BODY AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL - 2004



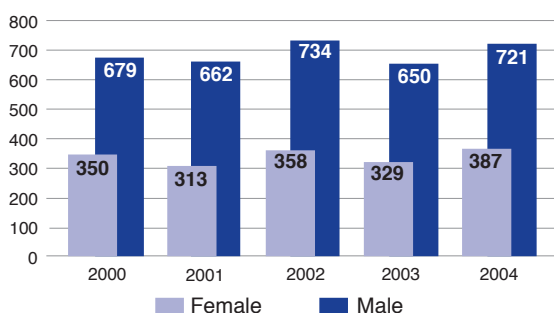
ACCEPTED CLAIMS TIME LOSS / NO TIME LOSS



NATURE OF INJURY FOR ACCEPTED CLAIMS

	2004	2003
Traumatic injuries & disorders	774	721
Systemic diseases & disorders	78	96
Infectious & parasitic diseases	0	0
Neoplasms, tumors & cancer	0	0
Symptoms, signs & ill-defined conditions	19	14
Other diseases, conditions & disorders	2	4
Multiple diseases, conditions & disorders	0	0
Nonclassifiable	233	144
Not coded	2	0
Total	1108	979

ACCEPTED CLAIMS BY GENDER



PARTS OF BODY AFFECTED FOR ACCEPTED CLAIMS

	2004	2003
Head Injuries		
Hearing loss		
Noise induced	12	29
Other hearing loss	0	0
Total hearing loss	12	29
Other head injuries	146	118
Total Head injuries	158	147
Neck injuries, including throat	16	8
Trunk injuries	336	295
Upper extremities	318	296
Lower extremities	190	163
Body systems	27	15
Multiple body parts	56	49
Other body parts	7	6
Total	1108	979

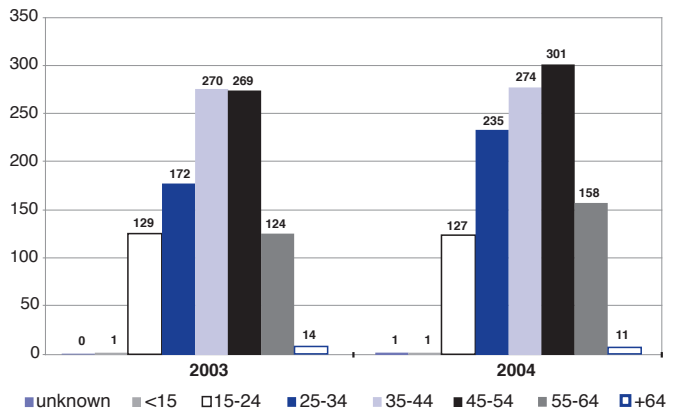
TYPE OF ACCIDENT FOR ACCEPTED CLAIMS

	2004	2003
Contact with objects & equipment	379	346
Falls	176	167
Bodily reaction & exertion	400	323
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	91	94
Transportation accidents	24	19
Fires & explosions	0	0
Assaults & violent acts	38	26
Other events or exposures	0	4
Total	1108	979

SOURCE OF INJURY FOR ACCEPTED CLAIMS

	2004	2003
Chemicals & chemical products	38	25
Containers	83	73
Furniture & fixtures	55	37
Machinery	59	54
Parts & materials	121	111
Persons, plants, animals & minerals	324	262
Structures & surfaces	202	168
Tools, instruments & equipment	101	114
Vehicles	33	27
Other sources	92	108
Total	1108	979

ACCEPTED CLAIMS BY AGE GROUP



ACCEPTED CLAIMS BY OCCUPATION GROUP

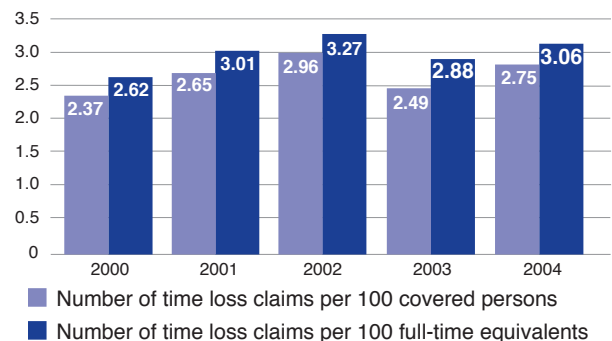
	2004	2003
Management	29	44
Business, finance & admin	56	61
Natural & applied sciences	32	37
Health	111	88
Social science, education, govt & religion	84	59
Art, culture, recreation & sport	16	13
Sales & service	246	246
Trades, transport & related	454	372
Unique to primary industry	39	35
Unique to processing, mftg & utilities	35	18
Unknown	6	6
Total	1108	979



ACCEPTED CLAIMS BY INDUSTRY

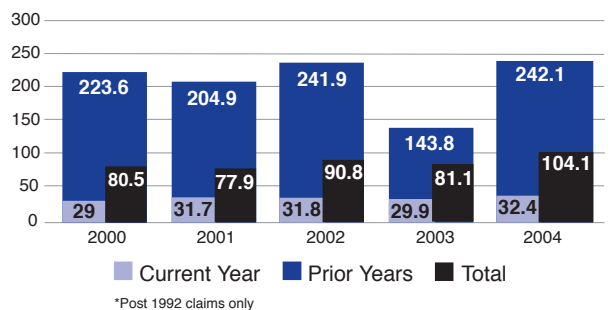
	2004	2003		2004	2003
Diamond drilling	14	3	Other service industries	19	20
Drilling gas or oil wells	0	0	Outfitting	2	4
Drilling or digging water wells	5	2	Printing, publishing or engraving	4	2
Exploration	10	7	Professional offices	34	19
Farming, trapping or fishing	3	7	Restaurants and caterers	16	17
Gravel crushing or stockpiling	2	1	Retail sales	51	62
Logging, log hauling, skidding or sawmills	2	0	Wholesale establishments	13	11
Long haul trucking	18	26	Wilderness adventure tourism	0	0
Mapping, surveying or prospecting	2	3	First Nations	48	23
Metal mining	6	5	Government of Yukon	383	312
Placer mining	19	16	Total	1108	979
Short haul trucking	20	24			
Slashing, staking or line cutting	1	6			
Bridge construction or road making	23	15			
Building construction	70	60			
Concrete construction	3	0			
Concrete mixing plants	2	0			
Construction of transmission lines	2	6			
Electrical contractors	6	9			
Excavation	9	3			
Heating and air conditioning	1	1			
Landscaping	1	0			
Lumber yards	10	12			
Machine, carpentry or glazing shops	19	8			
Other service trades	10	15			
Painting, drywalling or plastering	4	4			
Plumbing, steam fitting or gas fitting	6	6			
Trailer courts	4	0			
Welding shops or portable welding	13	15			
Air services	11	9			
Vehicle sales or service	37	42			
Bulk oil dealers	9	14			
Bus lines or school buses	3	2			
Churches, libraries, museums or schools	13	10			
Cities, towns, villages or municipalities	46	54			
Clubs or recreation centres	7	6			
Communication services	13	8			
Daycare	12	4			
Heavy equipment sales or service	5	8			
Homes for children or seniors	34	30			
Hotels, motels, lodges, cabarets or lounges	49	51			
Light and power operations	5	7			
Other business	9	10			

TIME LOSS INCIDENCE RATE



Note: "time loss" as per the NWISP/KSM definition. Calculations of Incidence revised May 24/2005.

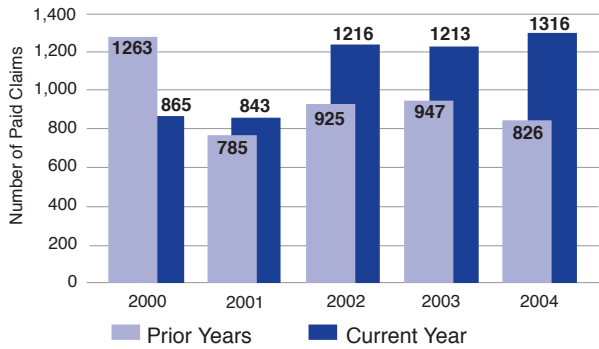
AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMPENSATED DAYS FOR EARNINGS LOSS PER CLAIM*



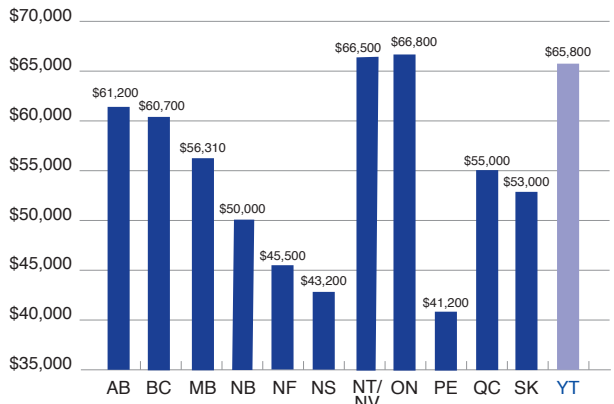
*Post 1992 claims only



PAID CLAIMS BY YEAR

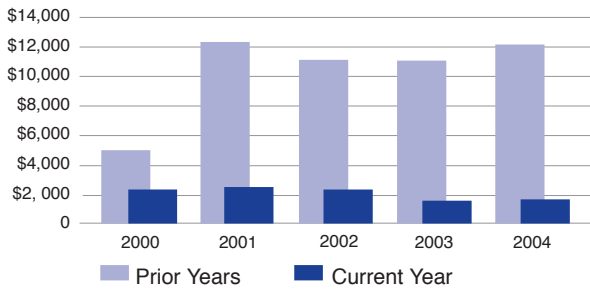


MAXIMUM WAGE RATE BY JURISDICTION - 2004



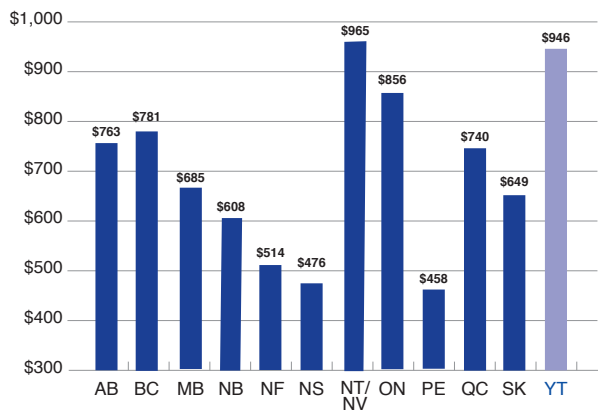
Source: AWCBC

AVERAGE PAYMENT PER PAID CLAIM, IN CONSTANT 2004 DOLLARS



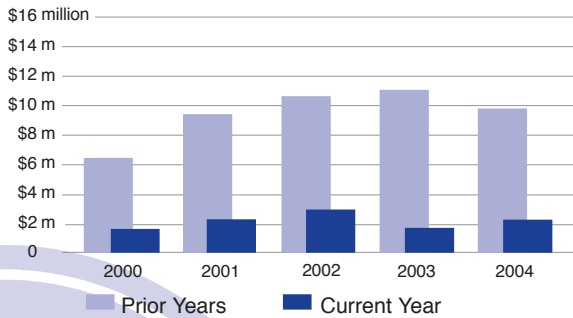
Note: Chart does not include future costs.

MAXIMUM WEEKLY BENEFITS FOR TEMPORARY DISABILITY BY JURISDICTION - 2004



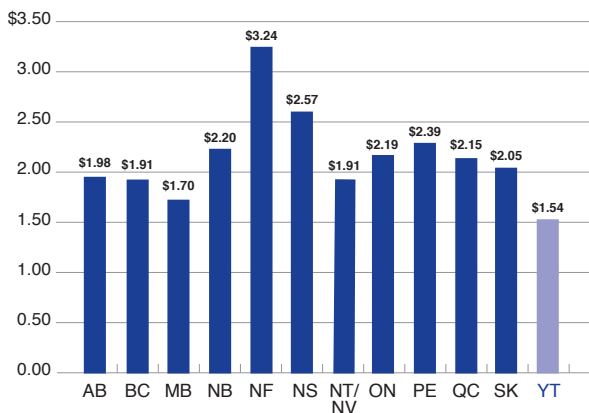
Source: AWCBC

CLAIMS PAYMENTS BY YEAR, IN CONSTANT 2004 DOLLARS



Note: Chart does not include future costs.

PROVISIONAL AVERAGE ASSESSMENT RATE BY JURISDICTION - 2004



Source: AWCBC