



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY DIVISION

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

Helping employers and employees reduce occupational injury and illness.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	1
The Department and the Division	2
Review of the Occupational Health and Safety Act	4
Court or Appeal Panel Decisions	4
Legislation and Regulation Creation or Review Activity	4
Proposal for Changes to the Act or Regulations	6
Reviews of Divisional Operations	14
Reduce Occupational Injury Rate	14
Promote Client Awareness and Responsibility	16
Linkages/Partnerships	18
Memoranda of Understanding	21
Committees	23
Encourage Internal Responsibility	24
Improve Client Service	25
Ensure Proper Internal Management	27
Conclusions from Review of Division Operations	52
Strategic Plan	53
Initiatives Outside of the Strategic Plan	56
Reviews of Trends in OH&S	58
Desire for Less “Red Tape”	59
Desire for Greater Government Accountability	60
Ergonomic Injuries Dominate All Other Injuries	61
Young Workers Have A High Accident Frequency	68
Other Items Included as Information	71

Preface

Clause 9(f) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act states:

Functions of Division

- 9** The Division shall annually, submit to the Advisory Council a report on a review of this Act.

This report addresses that statutory requirement. In addition, this document incorporates the annual report of the Occupational Health and Safety Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

This report follows the outline described in the document “A Framework for the Occupational Health and Safety Division Annual Report,” with required modifications and including the Strategic Plan for the Occupational Health and Safety Division. This framework was accepted by the Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Council in the summer of 2000 for the Division’s annual report. The framework document is available upon request.

This report is divided into four basic areas:

- Review of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and associated regulations
- Reviews of Divisional Operations
- Reviews of Trends in OH&S
- Other Items Included as Information.

In this document, the following short forms will be applied:

“Act” means the Occupational Health and Safety Act

“Advisory Council” means the Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Council

“Division” means the Occupational Health and Safety Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour.

“Framework” means the document “A Framework for the Occupational Health and Safety Division Annual Report”

“IRS” means the internal responsibility system

“OH&S” means occupational health and safety

“WCB” means the Workers’ Compensation Board of Nova Scotia.

The Department and the Division:

The Department of Environment and Labour officially came into existence on October 1, 2000.

The Department consists of:

- Occupational Health and Safety Division
- Alcohol and Gaming Authority
- Environmental Monitoring & Compliance
- Environmental and Natural Areas Management
- Financial Institutions
- Labour Services
- Labour Standards
- Pension Regulation
- Public Safety/Office of the Fire Marshal
- Workers' Advisers Program
- Communications
- Information and Business Services
- Policy
- Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Tribunals and Round Tables.

The mission of the Department of Environment and Labour is to protect and promote:

- the safety of people and property;
- a healthy environment;
- employment rights;
- the interests of financial services consumers and pension plan members; and
- consumer interests and public confidence in alcohol and gaming services sectors.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division operates within the Department of Environment and Labour. Our mission statement is:

Helping employers and employees reduce occupational injury and illness.

The objectives of the Occupational Health and Safety Division are to:

- reduce the incidence of accidents and illness of employees;
- improve health and safety conditions in the workplace by means of research, education, promotion, inspection and enforcement of legislation.

Specifically, the Division will:

- promote the provision of safe and healthful work environments;
- promote the development of occupational health and safety services within the province;
- promote the principle that every employee is entitled to a safe and healthy workplace;
- promote an understanding and acceptance of, and compliance with legislative requirements;

- conduct and develop education programs designed to promote an awareness of occupational health and safety;
- develop revisions to occupational health and safety laws, policies and practices;
- undertake research in matters related to occupational health and safety;
- publish from time to time such reports, studies and recommendations as are considered advisable;
- support the tripartite system of employers, employees and government to share in decision making as it affects occupational health and safety; and
- administer consistently with all clients all health and safety-related Acts and Regulations.

The Occupational Health and Safety Division has two service sections to meet specific occupational health and safety needs in the province.

The Inspection and Compliance Services Section is responsible for the delivery of a series of core services to the clients of the Division. These core services include: health and safety inspection, investigation, consultation, mediation, compliance promotion and enforcement. These services are delivered by staff organized into four regions in the province.

The OH&S Professional Services Section supports field activity by providing services in specialty areas such as engineering, occupational health, ergonomics, education material development, computer support and facilitation. The OH&S Professional Services Section develops policies, legislation, industry-based programs and service procedures in consultation with stakeholders that can be applied throughout the organization and the province.

Review of the Occupational Health and Safety Act

This review of the Occupational Health and Safety Act encompasses three areas:

- court or appeal panel decisions that have implications for the enforceability or interpretation of the Act
- legislation and regulation creation or review activity
- proposals for changes to the Act or regulations.

A review of the number and subject of orders issued pursuant to the Act or regulations is given in the Divisional Operations section later in this report.

Court or Appeal Panel Decisions:

- 1) R. v. Inco (Ontario Supreme Court)
Judge ruled that government officers cannot use broad administrative powers to conduct what are actually investigations.

Legislation and Regulation Creation or Review Activity:

There were no new acts or regulations created during this fiscal year.

During the fiscal year, revisions were passed to the OH&S First Aid Regulations.

The Division reviewed the following existing regulations during the fiscal year:

- Fall Protection and Scaffolding Regulations. A working group commissioned by the Advisory Council made recommendations on improvements to these regulations. At fiscal year end, the final report of the working group was being written.
- General Blasting Regulations. Letters were sent out to organizations and individuals requesting comments on these regulations with the intent of determining the best process to consider revisions. Discussions were also held with the Department of Education, the Provincial Apprenticeship Board, the Construction Association of Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Roadbuilders' Association and the Nova Scotia Chamber of Mineral Resources regarding the transfer of the blasters' certification system to the Department of Education. At fiscal year end, no decision had been made.
- Occupational Health Regulations. The Division completed a review and summary of the process to date. At fiscal year end, the Division was completing a jurisdictional review to identify major advances in the field of occupational health regulation since 1995, the year the proposed revisions were last considered.
- Temporary Workplace Traffic Control. Policy work on these regulations was completed during 2001/2002 with the exception of the issue of an updating mechanism for the

Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Manual that was acceptable to all parties.

Significant work was done on the following new regulations during the fiscal year:

- Indoor Air Quality. During the fiscal year, consideration was given to the role these regulations could play in the Provincial Tobacco Control Strategy. At fiscal year end, most sections had been finalized from a policy perspective. Finalization of all sections was not completed pending a decision by Government on the precise contents of proposed tobacco control legislation.
- Offshore Health and Safety. At fiscal year end, negotiations were ongoing with Natural Resources Canada and the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador over the revisions required to the various Offshore Accord Acts.
- Underground Mining. Work continued on these regulations. At fiscal year end, the Division was still awaiting policy direction on the issues of underground coal miner personal certifications and maximum allowable methane concentrations.
- Violence in the Workplace. During the year, the Advisory Council made final recommendations to the Minister on these regulations. At fiscal year end, the Division was completing the required forms to move these recommendations through the process.
- Occupational Diving. At fiscal year end, the Division was completing the required forms to move these recommendations through the process.
- Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee. During the year, the Advisory Council formed a sub-committee to advise on the possible content of these regulations. At fiscal year end, the sub-committee had yet to meet.

Superimposed on the above processes, during the fiscal year the Government adopted the proposals of the Red Tape Review Task Force for a Criteria Checklist for new or revised regulations. This adoption requires that, prior to the Department of Justice drafting a regulation, the Treasury and Policy Board must approve the Criteria Checklist. At fiscal year end, the Division did not have enough experience with the process to assess its impact on regulatory development.

From the Framework, the targets for these parameters are:

Description	Target	2001/2002 Result	2000/2001 Result
Number of existing Act /regulations reviewed with recommended changes submitted to the Minister	2	1	1
Number of new Acts and regulations submitted to the Minister	2	0	0

Proposals for Changes to the Act or Regulations:

The following proposals for changes to the Occupational Health and Safety Act or its regulations have been received by the Division. Note that this list is not a product of a thorough and comprehensive review of these laws by the Division or anyone else. It is simply a compilation of suggestions received. The list also does not in any way imply Divisional support for these proposals.

Recommended Changes to OH&S Laws

Occupational Health and Safety Act:

- 3(g) This definition limits “contractor” to “work to be performed at the premises of the person contracting to have the work performed.” Thus, a person signing a contract to work elsewhere (i.e. a person hiring a plumber to work at their parent’s house) is not within the definition.
- 3(o) Several sections of the regulations refer to “employees” doing things. However, in the context of a single proprietorship, there is no “employee.” The Act should be changed to ensure equivalent coverages to single proprietorships
- 3(ab) The test currently requires ALL 3 of time, trouble and money to be excessive. Should this be changed to some “summation” or total of the 3?
- 3(ah) By requiring an “employee” at a workplace, single proprietorships are exempted from all workplace controls.

Consideration should be given to how the definition of “workplace” applies to workers like tradespeople, who have a stable “base” but most often work in disparate locations.
- 13(c) The word “provide” is vague as to whether the employer is to pay and, if so, for what. This should be clarified.
- 13-20 Act should specify specific duties for supervisors as is done in the Ontario and NB OH&S Acts.
- 19 For an engineer’s certification of various items, is it acceptable that the engineer NOT be present - that they simply sign off on a technician’s test result sheet. (5)
- 28(3)(b) To conform with OH&S Division policy, the request should be required to be in writing.

- 29(1) The Act should clarify that workers who work “from” a central location but are not often physically “at” the central location (i.e. construction workers, repair persons, etc.) are still counted as working at the central location for the purposes of determining the need for a JOHSC.
- Since the Act creates project committees in places where company-specific committees would already exist, the Act should clarify which committee is responsible for what.
- In this and others sections of the Act and sections of the regulations, number of employees is used as a trigger for various requirements. This assumes that hazard is directly related to the number of employees. Given the data that now exists, cannot other criteria (such as industry or WCB rate group?) be used instead to define the threshold for various requirements?
- 33(1) Should there be an allowance for unions to appoint Representatives, as there is for JOHSC members?
- 35(1) Clarify that requests for information or reports must be in writing and separate from the minutes of the committee.
- 40(1) Act should allow for fax service of orders if there is reason to believe a specific fax number serves the relevant individual (i.e. the fax number is on the individual’s business card).
- 42(1) Clarify that “workplace occupational health or safety monitoring and the taking of samples or measurements that relate to the health or safety of employees . . .” includes all tests a significant part of whose rationale is based in either health or safety. This includes such things as air and noise tests, crane tests, vehicle safety checks and tests on safety devices. The Act should clarify that this section does not give employees the right to observe medical tests (such as audiograms or blood lead tests), or any other test where personal privacy is important. (1)
- Expand on the definition of regular and frequent in (a).
- 42(1)(b) Define Remote location in (b)to mean 30 minutes or more, by ground transportation, from the location of the observer (as in First Aid Regulations).
- 42(3)(a) Define “reasonable notice.”
- 46(1)(a) There should be a more user-friendly way to state these entitlements.
- 47 As Ontario did in response to the Inco case, we should consider providing justices of the peace and provincial judges, among other things, with the power to authorize by warrant, occupational health and safety inspectors to use any investigative technique or procedure if they are satisfied there are reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed

- 48(2) Consider adding "A copy of a record that purports to be certified by an inspector as being a true copy of the original is admissible in evidence to the same extent as the original and has the same evidentiary value."
- 63(1)(a) Define "Bodily injury"
- 64 Harmonize the terms "bodily injury" and "serious injury" in 63 and 64.
- 67/69 The time lines are different in that 67 refers to "days after service" and 69 refers to "date of the decision". Should they be harmonized?
- 75(1)(b) Should we add the power to conduct public education sessions on any topic, not just the offence?
- 82(1) Should a power be added to allow for JOHSCs to be established at classes of workplaces with less than 20 people (i.e. mines)?
- Should more powers be added to require owners to do things?
- Do we have the power to require an employer to do an inspection of a piece of equipment?
- Act should clearly allow for the automatic adoption of updated standards as is done in Canada Labour Code, subsection 157(5).
- 84(1) The window for this option has expired. Repeal.
- 89(2,3,5) The window for these options has expired. Repeal.

Fall Protection and Scaffolding Regulations:

At fiscal year end, these regulations were the subject of working group deliberations. A complete list of recommended changes will be created as part of the working group's report.

First Aid Regulations (the following suggestion was received after the revisions to the First Aid Regulations were finalized):

- 5(1) The onus is placed on the employee here, not the employer (1)
- 5(3) Nursing homes should not be required to comply as they have RN's on staff.
- 14 The "kit system" should be arranged to establish only one basic kit, with the number of basic kits varying as workplace numbers vary. (6)

- 17(2) The First Aid Regulations should require automated external defibrillators at larger workplaces.

General Blasting Regulations:

- 6 It is unclear which standards would prevail in event of a conflict.
- 7(3) This is an outdated reference. It should refer to sub-section 63 (1) of the 1996 Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- 17 The requirement for a magazine license should be deleted. This will automatically trigger federal licensing.
- 18 The requirement for a blaster's certification should be transferred to Education.

Occupational Health Regulations:

No recommended changes recorded.

Occupational Safety General Regulations:

- 2 "Act" is used several times in the regulation to refer to the OH&S Act. However, "Act" is never defined.
- 2(b) ALI stands for the "**Automotive** Lift Institute"
- 2(p) The definition is vague as to what "material" is. This leads to questions about whether garage door openers, Sobey's front doors are meant to be covered.
- This definition excludes all hoists in U/G mines, even boom trucks, chain falls, auto hoists, etc. The U/G Mining Regs only refer to main cages and ore/waste hoists. The exemption should be limited to hoists substantively covered by the UMR.
- 11 This requirement may be unsafe on a motorcycle, ATV or similar vehicle. Perhaps say "or other protective headwear specifically designed for the purpose and meeting the requirements of a relevant CSA or ANSI standard."
- 13(3)(b) There is an inconsistency here in that the standard says "Selection, Use, and Care" while the regulation states only "use, maintenance and testing." It should be clarified if the entire standard is adopted or not.

- 25 With the amendments to the Fire Safety Act, the references in this section should be reviewed to ensure only one regulator is overseeing fire safety.
- 47(3) This creates confusion in the public over who is in charge of fire safety - OH&S or the Fire Marshal. Especially considering that OH&S and the FM are in one Department, the government should place all fire safety within the realm of only one Division.
- 51(4) The issue of a machine shut down by a power failure and automatically restarting after restoration of power is not dealt with. California is proposing a law that requires provisions to prevent restarts upon restoration of power if inadvertent start-up is a safety hazard.
- 62(1)(b) Preamble calls up only SAE standards but b) is an ISO standard.
- 63(1) Industrial lift trucks should not have to have ROPS.

The regulation should allow for the adoption of more standards.

The regulation should require that ROPS be replaced after a rollover.
- 72(1)(e) Standard incorrectly referenced - should be "Automotive Lifts - Safety Requirements for Construction, Testing and Validation"
- 80(9) Rigging hardware does not need to have daily and every-use inspections recorded. Daily hoist inspections are not recorded.
- 101(2) This is inherently dangerous practice, believe clause needs to be reviewed and repealed.
- 104 The regulation should clarify whether or not a power "tool" is or is not also a "machine", as the requirements for tools and machines are different.
- 113(2)(b)(ii) Given that LEL's are normally +/- 5%, 1% of the LEL would be only 0.05%. This is far below any hazard. It should be 1% of total concentration.
- 126 Section restricts companies from performing a number functions that they do not believe pose a danger. Recommend criteria or procedure developed to allow work while addressing safety concerns.
- 127 The requirement for a plan should be limited to the situations described in 127(b)(i) to (iii).
The regulation should detail that enough information must be provided to allow for an adequate lock-out to be performed.

129(1) The definition as written could exempt sewers since they are in fact designed for regular and scheduled human occupancy in the form of inspections and maintenance. Suggest that (a) be rewritten to say “not designed or intended for regular human occupancy except for inspection, maintenance, cleaning or similar activities.”

There is a vagueness here as to the “credit” given to PPE and ventilation. Some rulings from Ontario have said that tanker trucks, because one can wear PPE to supply a safe atmosphere, cannot be called confined spaces capable of generating an unsafe atmosphere. The same logic applies to ventilation - because one can blow air into a tanker truck, one can totally escape the confined space requirements. Suggest qualifying (c) by saying “in the determination of whether a space is or may become hazardous to a person entering it because of its atmosphere, no allowance is to be made for the use or potential use of personal protective equipment or ventilation.”

134(3) As currently written, the “reasonably practicable” applies only to the provision of the harness, not its use. The use would be required in all cases.

148(2)(e) We should clarify if this bars working from platform ladders.

Part 11 There should be a requirement for GFCI in outdoor and wet locations.

Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Regulations:

This regulation is currently under revision. All comments have been accounted for in that process.

Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System Regulations:

1(m) From policy issue sheets, clarify that the term “laboratory” includes non-traditional laboratories, such as field testing situations, production line sampling/testing and steam heating plant sampling/testing.

1(n) From policy issue sheets, clarify that “Normal conditions of use” does not include an installation process, such as welding a copper pipe, or releases associated with maintenance or abuse.

From policy issue sheets, clarify that “Exposed to” means exposed to a sufficient quantity to pose a hazard

- 1(o) From policy issue sheets, clarify that an MSDS that meets the format criteria used by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or the European Community is acceptable provided all items required by the CPR are present somewhere on the MSDS.
- 1(p) From policy issue sheets, clarify that the “generic name” must be as precise as reasonably possible without disclosing any protected trade secrets. For example, calling a very complex and large molecule a “substituted ethylene” would not be acceptable, as there are names which could describe it more precisely.
- 2(3)(d) Under TDG, “being transported” includes warehousing operations. This then exempts warehouses from WHMIS. Is that intended?
- 4(a) This list actually never says to instruct in the specific hazards of the specific controlled product. This should be added.
- 5(1)(c) Add a H&S Representative to the consultations.
- 7(1) From policy issue sheets, clarify that in the special case of animal or human tissue or fluids that do or may contain biohazardous infectious materials, the workplace label shall identify the active biological organism that is known or suspected to be present.
- 11(2)(e) From policy issue sheets, clarify that in the case of biohazardous infectious materials, “chemical identity” means the name of the active biological organism.
- 11(2)(h) From policy issue sheets, clarify that the emergency telephone number does not have to be available at all times.
- 12(6) Add H&S Representative
- 14(1) Define “Readily available”. (1)
- Make a specific allowance for “Fax on Demand” systems, whereby MSDS’s are maintained by a contract organization offsite and faxed to a user location upon demand.
- 14(1)(b) Add Health and Safety Representative.
- 14(2)(c) Add Health and Safety Representative.
- 15(1) Note that this is an outdated reference. The correct reference in sub-section 61(1) of the 1996 Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- 19(1) Add Health and Safety Representative.
- 20(2) These dates are all passed. These sections have no current use.
- 20(3) These dates are all passed. These sections have no current use.
- 21(1) These dates are all passed. These sections have no current use.

Reviews of Divisional Operations

Reduce Occupational Injury Rate:

There are many factors which can influence the occupational injury rate. Although the following tables and figures accurately report the data, it would be inappropriate to infer that the efforts of the Division were solely responsible for any trends.

Table One

DESCRIPTION	ANNUAL DATA (based on calendar years)					5 YEAR AVERAGE
	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	
Actual Work Force ('000's) (1)	423.3	419.5	408.6	389.9	384.3	405.1
All Claims Registered with the WCB (2)	34,701	34,874	35,010	33,050	32,092	33,945
Compensable Time-Loss Claims Registered with the WCB (2)	9,200	9,061	8,200	8,170	8,192	8,565
Total # of Compensable Time-Loss Claims (2) for which Payments were Made During the Year	11,918	11,847	11,832	10,110	10,184	11,178
Total # of Compensable Days for Compensable Time-Loss Claims Registered with the WCB During the Year (2)	290,720	266,846	232,060	215,688	205,619	242,187
Total # of Compensable Days for All Compensable Time-Loss Claims (2) for which Payments were Made During the Year	669,792	566,879	561,428	450,906	406,851	531,171
Fatalities (3) Recorded During the Year	27	24	21	35	29	27
Average # of Claims Registered with the WCB per 100 Employees	8.20	8.31	8.57	8.48	8.35	8.38
Average # of Compensable Time-Loss Claims Registered with the WCB per 100 Employees	2.17	2.16	2.01	2.10	2.13	2.11
Average # of Compensable Days for Compensable Time-Loss Claims Registered with the WCB During the Year	31.60	29.45	28.30	26.40	25.10	28.17

Average # of Compensable Days for All Compensable Time-Loss Claims for which Payments were Made During the Year	56.20	47.85	47.45	44.60	39.95	47.21
Number of Fatalities Reported per 100,000 Employees	6.38	5.72	5.14	8.46	7.55	6.65

- (1) Reference: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review, 2001(R)
- (2) Workers' Compensation Board of Nova Scotia, Annual Reports, (1997-2001)
- (3) Fatalities - includes all fatalities which are occupational in nature, regardless of whether they are provincial or federal jurisdiction and which are known to the Occupational Health and Safety Division or the NS Workers' Compensation Board. Includes all work-related fatalities that occurred in the stated year regardless of incident date.

Promote Client Awareness and Responsibility:

The targets from the Framework and the associated results for this parameter are:

Issue	Target	2001/2002 Result	2000/2001 Result
No. of public working groups or sub-committees on law development active during the reporting period	2	4 ¹	2
No. of public information sessions or courses on OH&S laws or legal issues given by Division staff	*	30 (368 attendees)	45
No. of sessions or courses on OH&S laws or legal issues given by Division staff to individual clients or client groups	*	24 (339 attendees)	96
No. of publications created or updated	4	9 ²	10
No. of hazard alerts created	4	2	10
No. of partnered projects with a significant OH&S focus	*	14	10 ³
No. of page views of Divisional Internet pages	*	60,235 ³	not available
No. of downloads from Divisional Internet pages	*	23,891 ³	not available
No. of calls received at 1-800-9LABOUR	*	6,583 ⁴	not available

¹ For the Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Regulations, there was no formal working group. However, the Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Committee was heavily consulted and essentially acted as a working group. The others were the Fall Protection and Scaffolding Regulations and Underground Mining Regulations Working Groups and the Advisory Council Standing Sub-Committee on Regulations.

² The publications were:

- Atlantic Provinces Occupational Health and Safety Consultants List
- Guidance to Invigilators and Candidates for the Blasters Exams
- Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees: A Practical Guide for Single Employer Workplaces
- Crime Prevention Brochure
- List of Organizations Approved to Give First Aid Training under the amended First Aid Regulations
- Occupational Health and Safety Video Catalogue
- Regulatory Development and Review Process

- The Forest Professional - Guidelines for the Stewards of Tomorrow's Forests (3rd Ed.)
- Working in the Private Residential Homes of Clients.

Although not a publication per se, an open-captioned version of the OH&S Act video “Taking Responsibility” was created during the fiscal year.

³ Data only available from July 2001 to April 2002.

⁴ The toll free number would record calls to Halifax from outside of Halifax only. Clients who called the local numbers (Halifax or any other regional office) or who called the Halifax office long distance without using the toll free number are not counted.

Linkages/Partnerships

Partner Organization	Description
NS Construction Safety Association NS Forestry Safety Society NS Retail Gasoline Dealers' Association NS Trucking Safety Association	Industry-specific training has proven to be a successful way to reduce accident rates in both the construction and forestry industries. In order to encourage this activity in as many sectors as possible, the Division partners with safety associations in the construction, retail gasoline, trucking and forestry industries to deliver training to companies in those industries.
Department of Education	Accidents amongst younger workers are higher than one would predict based on demographics. There is a belief that there is a lack of safety training for young workers. Along with Human Resources Development Canada, the Division has provided funding to the Department of Education to develop a core health and safety curriculum for high school students prior to entering the job market. The course was piloted in 2001 and will be offered province-wide in 2002.
Workers Compensation Board	In order to teach and encourage safe practices, the Division made presentations to health care and roofing firms around the province stressing safety and how they could improve it. The WCB also participates in the annual safety awards.
North American OS&H Week Committee	North American Occupational Safety and Health Week is a premier event focussing public attention on OH&S. The Division supported North American Occupational Safety and Health Week through a financial contribution to the organizing committee, serving on the organizing committee and arranging for Division representatives at a variety of events. As part of this initiative, a supplement on health and safety was distributed with most daily and all weekly newspapers in the Province.
NS Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Nova Scotia Fisheries Sector Council, Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia	Fishing is an industry with hazards which are specific to their workplaces. To help disseminate relevant safety information to the industry, the Division is working with Agriculture and Fisheries to develop a booklet on fishing safety.

Partner Organization	Description
St. John Ambulance and others	It has been shown that people trained in first aid experience a generally lower accident rate than those without such training. This benefit is in addition to the actual knowledge of first aid techniques. In order to increase the number of first aid trained people in NS, the Division cooperated with St. John Ambulance and the Department of Education on a project to make first aid courses available to high school students. To date, this program has trained 83 teachers in 55 high schools covering 983 students.
Atlantic Provinces OH&S agencies, NS Forest Products Association	The book “The Forest Professional - Guidelines for the Stewards of Tomorrow's Forests” is a safety publication for the forestry industry. In cooperation with the partner organizations, the book was updated with new material added.
NS Safety Council	The NS Safety Council holds the largest safety conference in NS. In order to ensure that this conference remains as high quality as possible, the Division supports the conference with funding and by providing speakers.
Safe Communities Foundation	Safe Communities Foundation is a national organization aimed at mobilizing the resources of communities to deal with all aspects of health and safety - not just occupational. The Division supports this initiative through the temporary secondment on a half-time basis of one of our Education Development Officers to serve as Regional Coordinator.
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety	OHS Division continued to fund the inquiry desk on a per capita basis with the other Canadian jurisdictions to ensure that all employers and employees had access to a no cost information service to answer health and safety inquiries.
Human Resources Development Canada	The Division maintains regular contact with HRDC. In addition, HRDC staff provided technical and facilitation support to the Underground Mining Regulations Sub-Committee.
Canadian Association of Administrators of Labour Legislation - Occupational Safety and Health Sub-Committee (CAALL-OSH)	Labour matters are generally provincial jurisdiction. The Division, through CAALL-OSH, works to avoid unnecessary duplication and conflicts and to take advantage of synergies.

Partner Organization	Description
Canadian Standards Association (CSA)	Consensus standards are a valuable source of guidance and information to workplaces. The Division promotes standards development in OH&S fields through development grants to the CSA.
NS WHSCC, mining industry	Mine rescue is a very specialized field. To help insure that the personnel in this field are as well-trained as possible, the Division co-sponsored the joint NS/NB Mine Rescue Competition.
Research and other grants	There are many projects in OH&S worthy of support. Through programs of research and other grants, the Division supports such projects.

Memoranda of Understanding:

The Division was also partner in the following memoranda of understanding:

Other Parties to the MOU	Purpose of MOU
NS Workers Compensation Board	Provides for sharing services and expertise in such areas as statistics, communications, education and information technology to maximize services to our combined clients. The standing committee of both organizations continued to meet regularly to identify projects of mutual benefit.
Human Resources Development Canada	Provides for sharing services and expertise.
NS Department of Natural Resources, Environment Division of Department of Environment and Labour	One Window Committee for Mining: Provides a forum through which mining proponents can deal with all major government agencies at one time.
Natural Resources Canada (CANMET), Alberta, British Columbia and coal mining industry	Underground Coal Mining Safety Research Collaboration - Provides a forum where research needs for safety in the underground coal mining industry can be discussed and appropriate research programs initiated.
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety	National occupational health and safety web site - Provides for the maintenance of a national occupational health and safety web site through which users can be linked quickly to information on the Division's web site, as well as all other health and safety agencies in the country.
Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board	Provides for cooperation between the CNSOPB and the Division in the regulation of the offshore petroleum industry.
Natural Resources Canada	Provides for the inspection of explosives magazines licensed under the NS General Blasting Regulations.
Health Canada	Provides for the enforcement of the Hazardous Products Act and associated regulations in NS.

Other Parties to the MOU	Purpose of MOU
Government of New Brunswick Government of Prince Edward Island, Government of Newfoundland & Labrador	Provides that, subject to all applicable legislative requirements, all persons certified by any of the Parties or within the jurisdiction of any of the Parties as persons qualified in any of the categories of Blaster's, Traffic Control Persons or Asbestos Contractors shall be recognized by all of the parties and be permitted to work or act as a duly certified person within the jurisdiction of each of the parties.
NB WHSCC, PEI WCB, NF WHSCC	Provides for share services and personnel to assist in handling specialized skills requirements and peak workloads.
Petroleum Directorate, NS Department of Natural Resources, Environment Division of Department of Environment and Labour	Clarifies the working relationship between the parties with respect to onshore petroleum exploration and development in the Province and to promote and facilitate consultation, cooperation, and mutual assistance among the parties with respect to such onshore petroleum exploration and development.

Committees:

The Division also supported several outside organizations by serving on their committees. These organizations included:

Internal Department of Environment and Labour Committees:

Agencies, Boards and Commissions Committee
Coordinating Committee
Executive Committee
Inspection and Compliance Services Policy and Procedures Committee
Fire Warden's Committee
Inspection Integration Committee
Inspection Tracking System Committee
Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee
Library Committee
Newsletter Committee
OH&S Team Executive
Website Committee

Committees External to the Department of Environment and Labour:

American Industrial Hygiene Association - Atlantic Provinces Local Section
Blasters Board of Examiners
Board of Examiners for N.S. Social Workers
Canadian Chief Mine Inspectors Committee
Canadian Association of Administrators of Labour Legislation
Christmas Tree Produces Association - Special Event Committee
Coal Mines Board of Examiners
F/P/T Committee on Environment & Occupational Health
Hazardous Materials Information Review Commission
John T Ryan Safety Award Committee
NAOSH 2002 Planning Committee and its Communications Sub-Committee
Nova Scotia Farm Health and Safety Committee (NS Dept. of Agriculture and Fisheries)
Nova Scotia Government Employee Union, OH&S Committee
Nova Scotia Forestry Products Association
Nova Scotia Farm Safety
NS/NB Mine Rescue Committee
Offshore OH&S Accord Act Revisions Committee
OH&S Advisory Council and sub-committees
One Window Committee - Mining
One Window Committee - Petroleum Directorate
Temporary Workplace Traffic Control
Underground Coal Mining Safety Research Collaboration

Encourage Internal Responsibility:

The Internal Responsibility System checklist results revealed the following statistics:

Internal Responsibility System Measure	2001 / 2002 results (% Yes)			2000 / 2001 results (% Yes)		
	No. of Employees in Inspected Firm					
	1-4	5-19	20+	1-4	5-19	20+
Does the information available at the workplace meet the requirements of the Act?	50.8	36.9	47.7	60.6	54.9	58.9
Does the safety policy meet the requirements of the Act?		34.9	45.8		56.7	70.7
Does the safety committee meet the requirements of the Act?			40.6			58.8
Are the Functions of Committees fulfilled?			48.4			66.7
Does the safety program meet the requirements of the Act?			34.8			63.6

The Internal Responsibility System checklist is performed annually on companies as part of the Division’s regular inspection program.

In interpreting the above results, it is important to realize that 2001/2002 was the initial year of a major inspection targeting program aimed at directing our inspections at organizations with higher accidents rates. Thus:

- the results above are NOT necessarily indicative of the situation in all Nova Scotia companies
- as a result of targeting organizations with higher accident rates, the 2001/2002 results are most likely biased to under report actual average conformity with the elements of the Internal Responsibility System. The size of the bias is not known.

Improve Client Service:

According to the Framework, this parameter would be measured through the following statistics:

- 1) length of time before initial investigation of complaint by an OH&S officer
- 2) length of time for resolution of complaint
- 3) client satisfaction for services where client satisfaction is monitored

For statistics 1) and 2), the systems did not exist during the fiscal year to allow them to be tracked. However, it is planned that the new Inspection Tracking System would be capable of generating this data.

As for client satisfaction, this was measured for two services - the E-mail Question Service (whereby clients may e-mail in questions on OH&S laws and receive an e-mailed answer) and the publications mailout service. These surveys gave the following results:

E-Mail Question Service Client Satisfaction:

Question	Percent of maximum score (No. of responses*)		
	2001 / 2002	2000 / 2001	1999 / 2000
No. of e-mail surveys sent	251	220	Not recorded
Response rate (%)	41	40	**
The information answered my question.	86.1 (103)	83.1 (89)	92.5 (8)
The information was clear, concise and understandable.	87.1 (103)	85.5 (83)	95.0 (8)
The information was received within an acceptable time frame.	88.5 (102)	87.4 (73)	97.1 (7)
You are pleased with the service you received.	88.7 (100)	86.8 (85)	97.5 (8)
Average	87.6	85.6	95.5

* Note that not every respondent answers every question.

Publications Mail-Out Service Client Satisfaction:

Question	2001 / 2002	2000 / 2001
No. of responses received	24	37
Material received within an acceptable time (% Yes)	100 (24)	100
Correct material received (% Yes)	100 (3)	100
Friendliness (1-5 scale)	4.6 (24)	4.6 (35)
Laws well written (1-5 scale)	3.1 (20)	4.2 (27)
Laws interesting (1-5 scale)	3.8 (19)	3.6 (28)
Other materials well written (1-5 scale)	3.9 (21)	4.3 (28)
Other materials interesting (1-5 scale)	3.9 (21)	3.8 (29)
Overall satisfaction (1-5 scale)	4.6 (22)	4.7 (35)

* Number of responses in brackets.

1 = Worst

5 = Best

Ensure Proper Internal Management:

According to the Framework, this parameter would be measured through the following statistics:

- average number of activities per OH&S officer
- average number of targeted inspections per officer
- percentage of closed orders that went past the stated compliance date
- average duration of investigations, not including any prosecution time
- success rate in prosecutions
- average cost per activity
- level of staffing
- level of staff training

Where available, these statistics are reported in the following table, along with their corresponding Framework targets. The following pages expand these statistics and give much more detail on the Division's operations.

Statistics for "Average number of targeted inspections per officer" are not recorded prior to 2001/2002 as the targeting system was not in place.

Statistics for the "Average Duration of Investigations" and the "Level of staff training" are not recorded as the computer programs required to track the information were not available in fiscal year 2001/2002.

Statistics for the "Level of Staff Training" are not recorded prior to 2001/2002 as the computer tracking system was not in place.

DESCRIPTION	Target	ANNUAL DATA (based on fiscal year end)					5 YEAR AVERAGE
		2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	
Average number of activities per OH&S officer*	120	117.5	102.1	89.5	81.9	93.8	97.0
Average number of targeted inspections per OH&S officer*	60	16.5					
Closed orders that went past the stated compliance date (%)	< 20	41.6	47.1	47.4	45.6	44.2	45.2
Success rate in prosecutions ** (%)	> 80	71.4	86.7	66.7	44.0	68.2	67.4
Average cost per activity (Dec. 2001 \$)	No target stated	\$1,209	\$1,132	\$1,368	\$1,220		\$1,232
Level of staffing* (%)	95	85.4	87.2	82.4	76.7	78.7	82.1

* The number of officers for these calculations is derived from a consideration of individual

officer starting and ending dates.

** “Success” is defined as the percentage of “Guilty” verdicts in the total cases that were recorded as either Guilty, Not Guilty, Dismissed, Stayed, or Quashed.

Table Two
Occupational Health and Safety Division
Tracked Activity Numbers (Fiscal Years)

Tracked Activity	01 / 02	00 / 01	99 / 00	98 / 99	97 / 98
Prosecutions Initiated	24	14	37	14	16
Fatalities Investigated	18	11	14	12	18
Work Refusals Investigated	13	8	18	24	19
Appeals of Officer Decisions	23	30	29	17	15
Appeals of Director Decisions	15	13	10	5	6
General Inspections	1,287	1,897	1,563	1,022	1,288
Targeted Inspections	583	##	##	##	##
Joint Inspections	27	9	36	128	393
Reinspections	478	392	258	143	192
Complaints Investigated	860	775	703	533	391
Incidents Investigated	325	261	239	185	126
Discriminatory Action Complaints	50	35	50	51	26
Consulting Services	5	38	59	214	262
Educational Services	93	97	47	64	97
E-mail responses	251	220	#	#	#
Meetings	231	221	295	308	360
Total	4,283	4,021	3,358	2,720	3,209

This service started in 2000/2001.

Inspection targeting was first implemented in 2001/2002.

Table Three
Orders Issued Under The OH&S Act, MMQRA*,
Associated Regulations & Codes of Practice
Summary Version (Fiscal Years)

Category	Number of Orders Issued				
	01 / 02	00 / 01	99 / 00	98 / 99	97 / 98
Orders Issued Under the Acts					
Occupational Health and Safety Act	1,971	2,917	2,976	1,905	1,543
Stop Work Orders	137	144	202	167	80
Deviations Reviewed	21	17	13	30	57
Codes of Practice Required Under Act	9	6	12	13	6
Suspensions under the MMQRA*	0	10	0	0	0
Approvals under the MMQRA*	10	20	0	0	0
Orders Issued Under the Regulations					
Appeal Panel Regulations	0	0	0	0	0
Construction Safety Regulations [§]	0	27	554	323	258
Disclosure of Information Regulations	0	0	0	0	0
Fall Protection & Scaffolding Regulations	453	695	812	516	303
First Aid Regulations	637	944	830	471	499
General Blasting Regulations	30	40	26	17	16
Industrial Safety Regulations [§]	0	209	1,282	727	807
Occupational Health Regulations	34	16	12	3	33
Occupational Safety General Regulations	2,314	3,129	0	#	#
Temporary Workplace Traffic Control Regs.	22	33	14	15	10
WHMIS Regulations	394	593	469	296	266
Orders Issued Under Codes of Practice					
Managing Asbestos in Buildings	4	6	1	3	16
Removal of Friable Asbestos	0	1	0	0	0
Working with Lead	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	5,860	8,610	6,976	4,276	3,752

* "MMQRA" = Metalliferous Mines and Quarries Regulation Act

Regulations did not exist at this time.

§ All sections of these regulations were repealed in 2000/2001.

Table Four
Orders Issued Under The OH&S Act, Associated Regulations & Codes of Practice
Detail Version (Fiscal Years)

Law	Number of Orders Issued			Percent of All Orders		
	01/02	00/01	99/00	01/02	00/01	99/00
Occupational Health and Safety Act						
Employer duties, precautions	375	701	885	6.4	8.1	12.7
Employee duties, precautions	5	13	8	0.1	0.2	0.1
Contractor, Constructor and other duties, precautions	65	86	154	1.1	1.0	2.2
Policy	270	356	335	4.6	4.1	4.8
Program	226	285	243	3.9	3.3	3.5
Joint occupational health and safety committee	172	208	209	2.9	2.4	3.0
Health and safety representative	203	264	256	3.5	3.1	3.7
Communication of Information	257	539	376	4.4	6.3	5.4
Stop Work Orders	137	144	202	2.3	1.7	2.9
Deviations Reviewed	21	17	13	0.4	0.2	0.2
Codes of Practice Required	9	6	31	0.2	0.1	0.4
Other sections	231	298	264	3.9	3.5	3.8
Construction Safety	N/A	27	554	0.0	0.3	7.9
Fall Protection and Scaffolding						
Fall Protection but not roof work	248	343	371	4.2	4.0	5.3
Roof work	32	55	71	0.5	0.6	1.0
Scaffolding	173	297	370	3.0	3.4	5.3
First Aid						
General Responsibilities (section 4)	59	114	-	1.0	1.3	0.0
Certificates (section 5)	311	475	362	5.3	5.5	5.2
Supplies (sections 9 and 10)	41	51	116	0.7	0.6	1.7
Director's variations (section 13)	7	7	9	0.1	0.1	0.1

Law	Number of Orders Issued			Percent of All Orders		
	01/02	00/01	99/00	01/02	00/01	99/00
First aid kits, rooms (sections 14-17)	181	246	292	3.1	2.9	4.2
Remote location plans (section 18)	6	11	9	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other sections	32	40	42	0.5	0.5	0.6
General Blasting	30	40	26	0.5	0.5	0.4
Industrial Safety	0	209	1,282	0.0	2.4	18.4
Occupational Health	34	16	12	0.6	0.2	0.2
Occupational Safety General						
Personal protective equipment (sections 9 to 14)	221	294	0	3.8	3.4	0.0
Ventilation, Lighting, Sanitation, Accommodation (sections 15 to 25)	391	709	0	6.7	8.2	0.0
Handling, storage of material (sections 26 to 50)	152	258	0	2.6	3.0	0.0
Lock-out (sections 51 to 54)	63	30	0	1.1	0.3	0.0
Hoists, mobile equipment (sections 55 to 83)	513	459	0	8.8	5.3	0.0
Mechanical safety (sections 84 to 103)	267	401	0	4.6	4.7	0.0
Tools (sections 104 to 108)	11	19	0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Welding, cutting, burning, soldering (sections 109 to 119)	88	153	0	1.5	1.8	0.0
Electrical safety (sections 120 to 128)	203	307	0	3.5	3.6	0.0
Confined space entry (sections 129 to 137)	24	8	0	0.4	0.1	0.0
Premises and Building Safety, Construction and Demolition (sections 138 to 165)	286	401	0	4.9	4.7	0.0
Excavations and trenches (sections 166 to 173)	49	33	0	0.8	0.4	0.0
Surface mine workings (sections 174 to 189)	28	44	0	0.5	0.5	0.0
Equipment for firefighters (sections 190 to 203)	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Law	Number of Orders Issued			Percent of All Orders		
	01/02	00/01	99/00	01/02	00/01	99/00
Other parts	18	13	0	0.3	0.2	0.0
Temporary Workplace Traffic Control	22	33	14	0.4	0.4	0.2
WHMIS						
Prohibition (section 3)	47	52	67	0.8	0.6	1.0
Employee education (sections 4 and 5)	173	244	191	3.0	2.8	2.7
Labels (sections 6 to 11)	23	44	25	0.4	0.5	0.4
Material safety data sheets (sections 12 to 14)	150	252	186	2.6	2.9	2.7
Other parts	1	1	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Managing Asbestos in Buildings (COP)	4	6	1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Removal of Friable Asbestos (COP)	0	1	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Working with Lead (COP)	1	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table Five
Prosecutions by Industry Type (Fiscal Years)**

Industry	Prosecutions Initiated				
	01 / 02	00 / 01	99 / 00	98 / 99	97 / 98
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	0	1	0	0	1
Agricultural and Related Services	0	0	0	1	0
Business Services	0	0	1	1	0
Communications	0	0	0	0	1
Construction	10	6	17	7	10
Education Services	0	0	0	0	0
Finance and Insurance	0	0	2	0	0
Fishing and Trapping	1	0	1	1	0
Government Services	2	1	2	0	1
Health and Social Services	0	0	0	0	0
Logging and Forestry	0	0	0	0	0
Manufacturing	5	1	8	1	2
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0	0	3	0	0
Other Services	0	0	0	1	0
Real Estate / Insurance	0	0	0	0	1
Retail Trade	0	1	1	2	0
Transportation and Storage Industries	4	1	0	0	0
Wholesale Trade	0	0	2	0	0

**Table Six
Prosecution Results (Fiscal Years)**

Parameter	Fiscal Year Charges Laid				
	01 / 02	00 / 01	99 / 00	98 / 99	97 / 98
Total Charges	93	51	105	44	42
Decided charges - Guilty	10	13	28	11	15
Decided charges - Not guilty	0	0	4	0	5
Dismissed	4	1	8	6	0
Withdrawn	22	27	60	19	20
Stayed	0	1	2	1	2
Quashed	0	0	0	7	0
Pending	57	9	3	0	0

There were 17 prosecutions for which there was a decision made in the fiscal year 2001/2002:

Legend:

ISR: Industrial Safety Regulations
 FPSR: Fall Protection & Scaffolding Regulations
 CSR: Construction Safety Regulation
 OSGR: Occupational Safety General Regulation
 FAR: First Aid Regulations

Accused: High Liner Foods Inc.

Date Sworn: March 12, 1999 - January 27, 2000

Decision Date: June 7, 2001

Charges:

Act 13(1)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Quashed
ISR 122(c) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Quashed
ISR 122(c) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Quashed
Act 13(1)(f) & Act 74(1)(a)	Quashed
Act 13(1)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
ISR 122(c) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
ISR 122(c) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
Act 13(1)(f) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
Act 13(1)(c) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
Act 13(1)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed

Accused: Sweet & Turner Masonry Ltd.

Date Sworn: October 14, 1999

Decision Date: August 27, 2001

Charges:

Act 13(2)(d) & FPSR 7(1) & Act 74(1)	Withdrawn
FPSR 20(1) & Act 74(1)	\$8,000
Total Financial Penalty	\$8,000

Accused: Hantias & Son Ltd.

Date Sworn: October 14, 1999

Decision Date: December 21, 2001

Charges:

Act 15(e) & Act 74(1), FPSR 7(1)	\$5,000
Act 15(d) & Act 74(1), FPSR 20(1)	Withdrawn
Act 19(a)(ii) & Act 74(1), FPSR 9(2) & 9(3)	Withdrawn
Total Financial Penalty	\$5,000

Accused: Cresco Homes Ltd.

Date Sworn: May 2, 2000

Decision Date: April 18, 2001

Charges:

FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$3,000
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
CSR 264 & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
Act 56(1) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$1,000
FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$6,000
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
CSR 264 & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
Act 56(1) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$2,000
Victim Surcharge	\$1,800
Collected for Public Education or Training	\$6,200
Total Financial Penalty	\$20,000

Accused: W. L. Construction

Date Sworn: May 2, 2000

Decision Date: April 18, 2001

Charges:

FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 18(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a) & Act 56(1)	Withdrawn
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 18(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn

Accused: Eric Meldrum

Date Sworn: May 2, 2000

Decision Date: April 18, 2001

Charges:

FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 18(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(a) & Act 56(1)	Withdrawn
CSR 5(a)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FPSR 17(3) & Act 18(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn

Accused: Marinus Verhagen Enterprises Ltd.

Date Sworn: October 10, 2000

Decision Date: November 19, 2001

Charges:

Act 55(1) & Act 74	\$5,500	(includes court costs + victim surcharge)
Act 55(4)(a) & Act 74	Withdrawn	
Total Financial Penalty	\$5,500	

Accused: Atlantic Drywall 1997 Ltd.

Date Sworn: September 12, 2000

Decision Date: July 4, 2001

Charges:

Act 15(a)	\$10,000
Act 15(d)	Withdrawn
Act 15(e)	Withdrawn
FPSR 28(1)(a)(i)	Withdrawn
FPSR 28(1)(b)(i)	Withdrawn
FPSR 23(1)	Withdrawn
Victim Surcharge	\$1,500
Total Financial Penalty	\$11,500

Accused: Cresco Homes Ltd.

Decision Date: July 9, 2001

Charges:

Act 55(4)(b) & Act 74(1)(b)	\$6,000
Act 19(a) & Act 74(1)(b)	Withdrawn
Act 15(e) & Act 74(1)(b)	Withdrawn
Victim Surcharge	\$900
Total Financial Penalty	\$6,900

Accused: Mersey Seafoods Ltd.

Date Sworn: April 11, 2001

Decision Date: December 17, 2001

Charges:

Act 13(1)(b) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
OSGR 84(1) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed

Accused: Bickerton Industries Ltd.

Date Sworn: April 11, 2001

Decision Date: December 17, 2001

Charges:

Act 13(1)(c) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
Act 13(1)(e) & Act 74(1)(a)	Dismissed
Act 13(1)(f) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$20,000
Total Financial Penalty	\$20,000
Amount Directed to Public Education or Training	\$10,000

Accused: Elks Fabricators Ltd.

Date Sworn: July 3, 2001

Decision Date: March 13, 2002

Charges:

FPSR 7(1)(a) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$5,000
FPSR 7(1)(a) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a))	Withdrawn
OSGR 154(1)(a) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
Victim Surcharge	\$750
Total Financial Penalty	\$5,750

Accused: Kevin Boyd Campbell

Date Sworn: July 13, 2001

Decision Date: September 20, 2001

Charges:

Act 17(1)(c)	Withdrawn
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Accused: Steven Craig Campbell
Decision Date: September 20, 2001

Date Sworn: July 13, 2001

Charges:

Act 17(1)(c)	\$400
Court Costs	\$50
Victim Surcharge	\$60
Total Financial Penalty	\$510

Accused: Wayne Bernard Campbell
Decision Date: September 20, 2001

Date Sworn: July 13, 2001

Charges:

Act 17(1)(c)	\$400
Court Costs	\$50
Victim Surcharge	\$60
Total Financial Penalty	\$510

Accused: Kenomee Log Homes Ltd.
Decision Date: September 19, 2001

Date Sworn: July 30, 2001

Charges:

OSGR 11(a) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
Act 13(1)(c) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
FAR 5(3)(a) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	Withdrawn
Act 13(1)(a) & Act 13(2)(d) & Act 74(1)(a)	\$25,000
Victim Surcharge	\$3,750
Total Financial Penalty	\$28,750

Accused: Quarry Enterprises Inc.
Decision Date: October 18, 2001

Date Sworn: December 18, 2000

Charges:

Act 74(1)(b)(i)	\$250
Act 74(1)(b)(i)	\$250
Act 74(1)(b)(i)	Withdrawn
Victim Surcharge	\$75
Total Financial Penalty	\$575

**Table Seven
Percentage of Activities by Industry Type (Fiscal Years)**

Industry	SIC Range	01 / 02	00 / 01	99 / 00	98 / 99	97 / 98
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	7.5	3.3	2.2	1.6	1.6
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.0	1.2
Business Services	7700-7999	1.9	1.6	0.9	1.1	1.0
Communications	4800-4999	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.6	1.7
Construction	4000-4499	28.2	28.6	36.6	37.6	33.1
Education Services	8500-8599	1.5	1.3	1.6	2.8	3.1
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	0.8	0.6	1.3	0.6	0.6
Government Services	8000-8499	11.7	11.6	6.2	7.7	9.4
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	4.5	3.6	5.0	3.3	6.8
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.5
Manufacturing	1000-3999	16.9	12.9	16.9	16.5	16.6
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	2.4	2.7	2.8	3.7	2.0
Other Services	9600-9999	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.2	2.9
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.5
Retail Trade	6000-6999	9.2	16.2	8.9	7.5	10.1
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.4
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	3.7	5.4	5.3	4.9	4.2

**Table Eight
Percentage of Inspections Coded as “Targeted” by Industry Type* (Fiscal Years)**

Industry	SIC Range	01 / 02
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	31.0
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	1.4
Business Services	7700-7999	0.5
Communications	4800-4999	0.2
Construction	4000-4499	6.7
Education Services	8500-8599	0.0
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	0.0
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	2.1
Government Services	8000-8499	1.2
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	8.1
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	3.6
Manufacturing	1000-3999	32.2
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	0.9
Other Services	9600-9999	1.2
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	0.0
Retail Trade	6000-6999	5.7
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	1.9
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	3.4

* The Inspection Targeting System was implemented in 2001/2002.

During the 2001/2002 fiscal year, the average number of orders issued per targeted inspection was 2.80. There were, on average 18% more orders issued per targeted inspection than per general inspection (2.40 orders per inspection). The average number of orders issued per targeted inspection was about 62% higher than that of complaint investigations, which resulted in 1.75 orders each, on average.

**Table Nine
Percentage of Orders by Industry Type (Fiscal Years)**

Industry	SIC Range	01/02	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	13.6	4.5	3.4	1.7	2.3
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.4	0.8
Business Services	7700-7999	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
Communications	4800-4999	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.3	0.6
Construction	4000-4499	22.9	23.5	32.5	31.4	25.2
Education Services	8500-8599	0.6	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.8
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	0.4	0.4	1.3	0.3	0.3
Government Services	8000-8499	3.2	2.8	2.9	4.2	5.5
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	2.1	2.2	3.1	2.0	4.9
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.2
Manufacturing	1000-3999	25.0	15.2	19.2	19.3	21.2
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	2.7	2.4	1.3	1.9	0.9
Other Services	9600-9999	4.8	5.3	3.4	5.5	3.6
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Retail Trade	6000-6999	14.5	27.3	16.9	18.2	20.2
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.4	2.4
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	4.4	9.2	9.2	8.6	8.0

Table Ten
Percentage of WCB Time-Loss Claims by Industry Sector (Calendar Years)

Industry	SIC Range	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	7.3	7.9	6.8	7.1	6.3
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.3
Business Services	7700-7999	1.4	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.8
Communications	4800-4999	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.6
Construction	4000-4499	9.0	9.1	9.5	8.8	9.3
Education Services	8500-8599	#	#	#	#	#
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	#	#	#	#	#
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	2.9	2.5	2.0	2.1	1.6
Government Services	8000-8499	7.9	6.9	7.8	8.9	9.3
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	15.9	15.8	17.0	16.3	16.5
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	1.1	1.2	1.6	1.6	2.2
Manufacturing	1000-3999	22.9	23.7	22.9	22.8	21.6
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	1.3	1.5	2.5	2.6	2.6
Other Services	9600-9999	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.4	3.1
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	#	#	#	#	#
Retail Trade	6000-6999	10.3	10.5	10.0	10.4	11.3
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	5.9	6.2	5.5	5.7	6.2
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.4	3.6

Industry group not reported separately by WCB.

Table Eleven
Ratio of % of Orders to % of Activity by Industry Sector (+) (Fiscal Years)

Industry	SIC Range	01/02	00/01	99/00	98/99	97/98
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.1	1.4
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.4	0.7
Business Services	7700-7999	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.3
Communications	4800-4999	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
Construction	4000-4499	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8
Education Services	8500-8599	0.4	1.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	1.0
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.5
Government Services	8000-8499	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Manufacturing	1000-3999	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5
Other Services	9600-9999	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.2
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.0
Retail Trade	6000-6999	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.0
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.6	1.0
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9

+ A value of 1.0 would indicate an “average” number of orders were issued in a particular industry sector. Values above 1 suggest that, on average, more orders were issued in this sector; values below 1 suggest that, on average, fewer orders were issued in this sector.

Table Twelve
Ratio of % of WCB Time-Loss Claims to % of Activities by Industry Sector (+)
(Calendar Years)

Industry	SIC Range	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	1.2	2.9	3.4	3.9	4.5
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	0.4	0.5	0.7	1.6	1.2
Business Services	7700-7999	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.7
Communications	4800-4999	2.5	1.8	2.0	1.5	2.3
Construction	4000-4499	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Education Services	8500-8599	#	#	#	#	#
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	#	#	#	#	#
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	3.6	3.1	1.7	3.5	2.3
Government Services	8000-8499	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.9
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	3.4	3.6	4.6	4.1	2.5
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.8
Manufacturing	1000-3999	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.3
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	1.3
Other Services	9600-9999	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.0
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	#	#	#	#	#
Retail Trade	6000-6999	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.6	1.0
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	3.0	3.4	2.5	2.6	2.8
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9

+ A value of 1.0 would indicate a perfect balance between activities and claims experience. Values above 1 suggest that, given their claims experience, too few activities are carried out in this sector; values below 1 suggest too many activities are carried out in this sector.

Industry group not reported separately by WCB.

Note a systemic bias occurs in this data in that, while the OH&S Division covers all workplaces, significant industry sectors are not comprehensively covered by the WCB. That said, the values are thought to be “in the right ballpark” and the trends are thought to be informative.

Also note that the data presented in Table Twelve is based on calendar years. Therefore the % of Activities do not correspond with those presented in Table Seven.

Table Thirteen
Ratio of % of WCB Time-Loss Claims to % of Orders by Industry Sector (+)
(Calendar Years)

Industry	SIC Range	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Accommodation, Food, and Beverage	9000-9599	0.7	1.8	2.4	3.9	3.0
Agricultural and Related Services	0000-0299	1.1	0.8	0.9	2.2	1.9
Business Services	7700-7999	1.6	2.2	2.3	1.8	2.7
Communications	4800-4999	4.8	3.2	3.0	4.9	5.1
Construction	4000-4499	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Education Services	8500-8599	#	#	#	#	#
Finance and Insurance	7000-7499	#	#	#	#	#
Fishing and Trapping	0300-0399	4.8	8.3	1.5	10.5	5.3
Government Services	8000-8499	2.3	2.8	2.2	2.5	1.5
Health and Social Services	8600-8999	5.9	7.2	7.1	4.9	4.3
Logging and Forestry	0400-0599	0.8	1.2	1.2	3.2	1.2
Manufacturing	1000-3999	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0
Mining, Quarrying, and Oil	0600-0999	0.5	0.8	1.5	1.5	3.3
Other Services	9600-9999	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.4	1.1
Real Estate / Insurance	7500-7699	#	#	#	#	#
Retail Trade	6000-6999	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5
Transportation and Storage Industries	4500-4799	3.9	3.9	2.8	5.7	2.6
Wholesale Trade	5000-5999	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5

+ A value of 1.0 would indicate a perfect balance between orders issued and claims experience. Values above 1 suggest that, given their claims experience, too few orders are issued in this sector; values below 1 suggest too many orders are issued to this sector.

Industry group not reported separately by WCB.

** No orders were issued.

Note a structural bias occurs in this data in that, while the OH&S Division covers all workplaces, significant industry sectors are not comprehensively covered by the WCB. That said, the values are thought to be “in the right ballpark” and the trends are thought to be informative.

Also note that the data presented in Table Thirteen is based on calendar years. Therefore the % of Orders do not correspond with those presented in Table Eight.

Table Fourteen
Total Costs of the OH&S Division

	2001 / 2002	2000 / 2001	1999 / 2000	1998 / 1999
Total Costs (actual \$000)	5,020	4,500	4,446	3,109
Total Costs (Dec. 2001 \$000)	5,020	4,488	4,593	3,318

Figure One
Activities, Orders, and WCB Claims by Industry Group
Calendar Year 2001

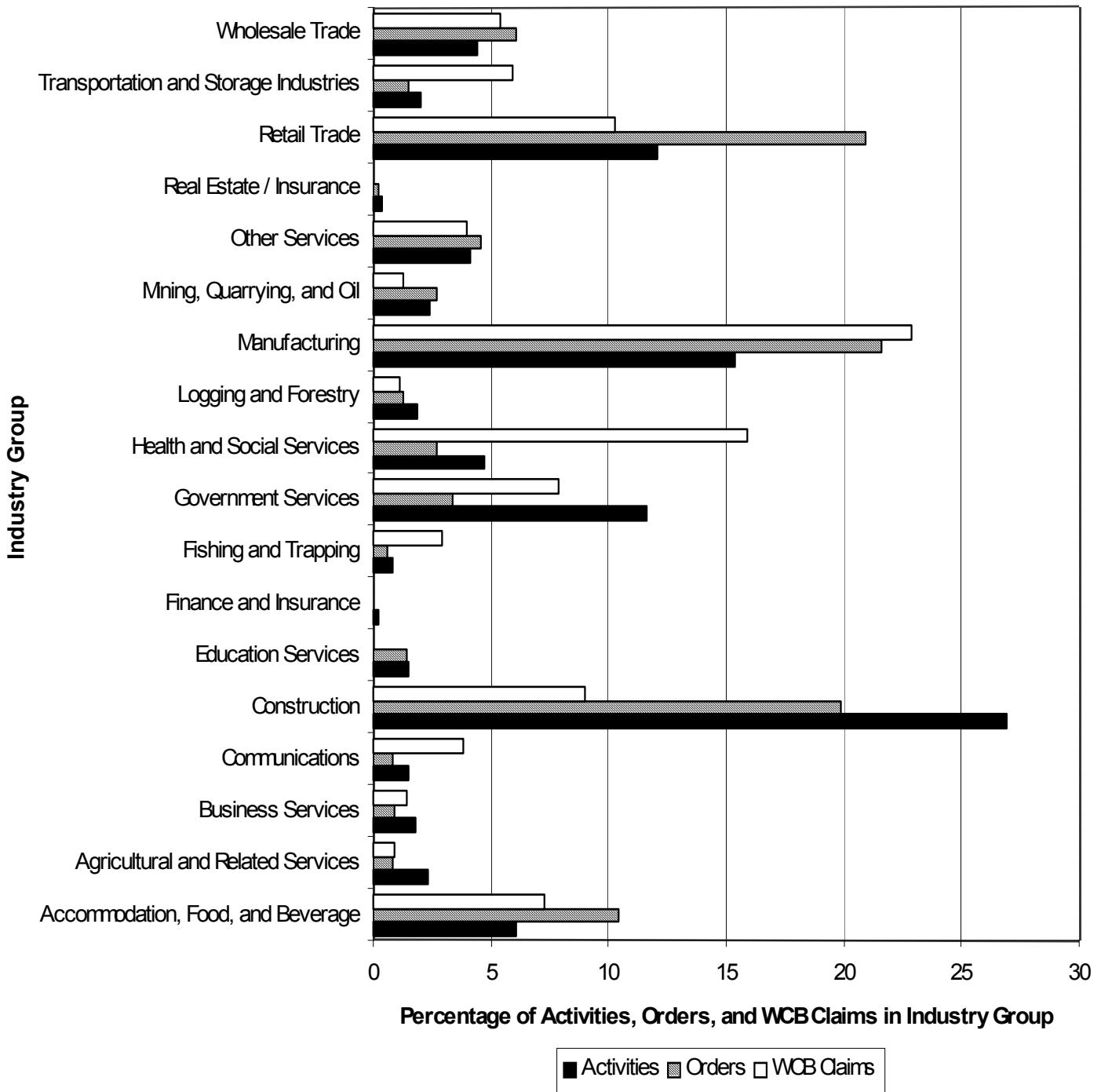


Figure Two
Ratio of % of Orders to % of Activities by Industry Group

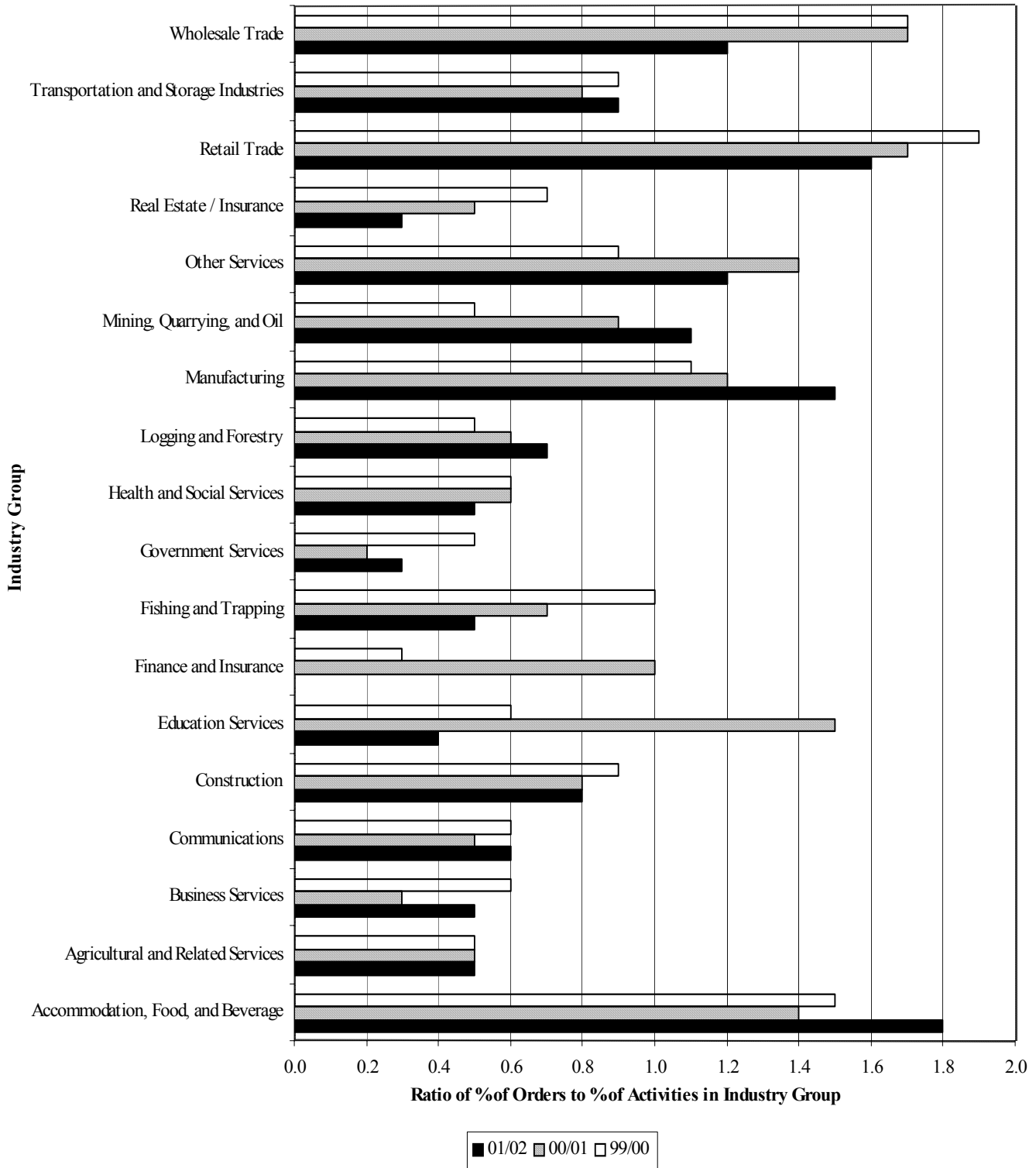


Figure Three
Ratio of % of WCB Time-Loss Claims to % of Activities by Industry Group

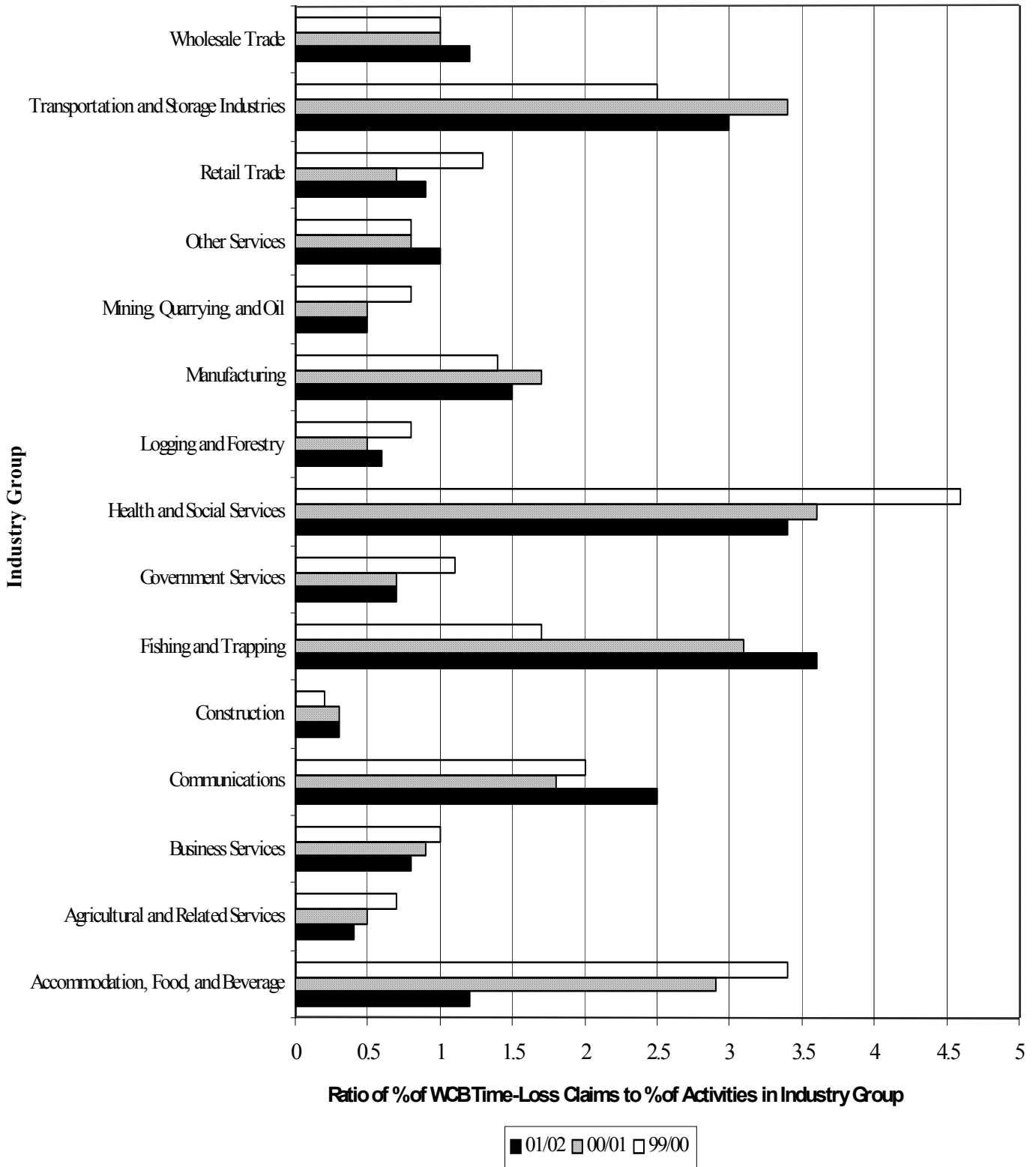


Figure Four

Ratio of % of WCB Time-Loss Claims to % of Orders by Industry Group

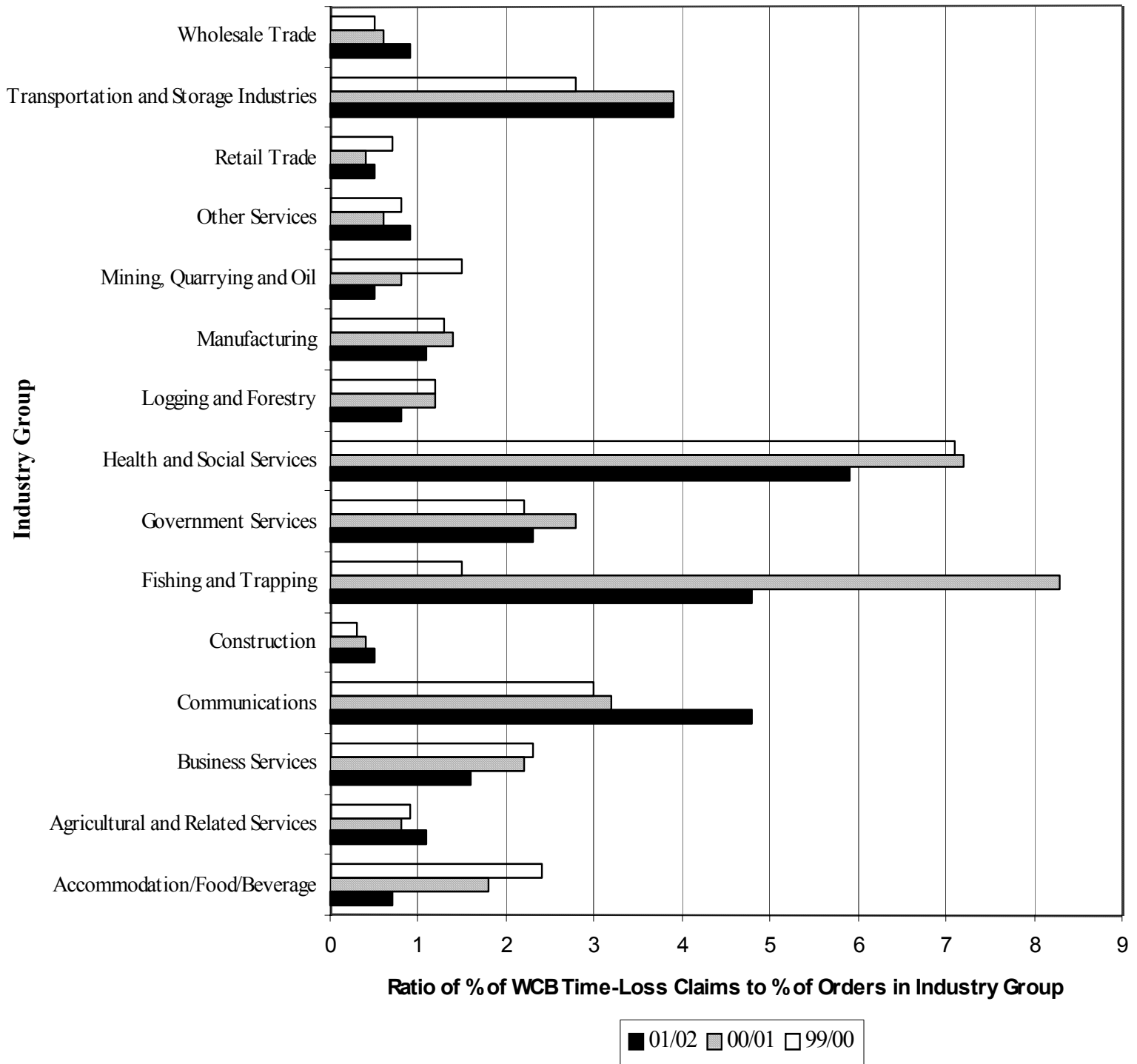
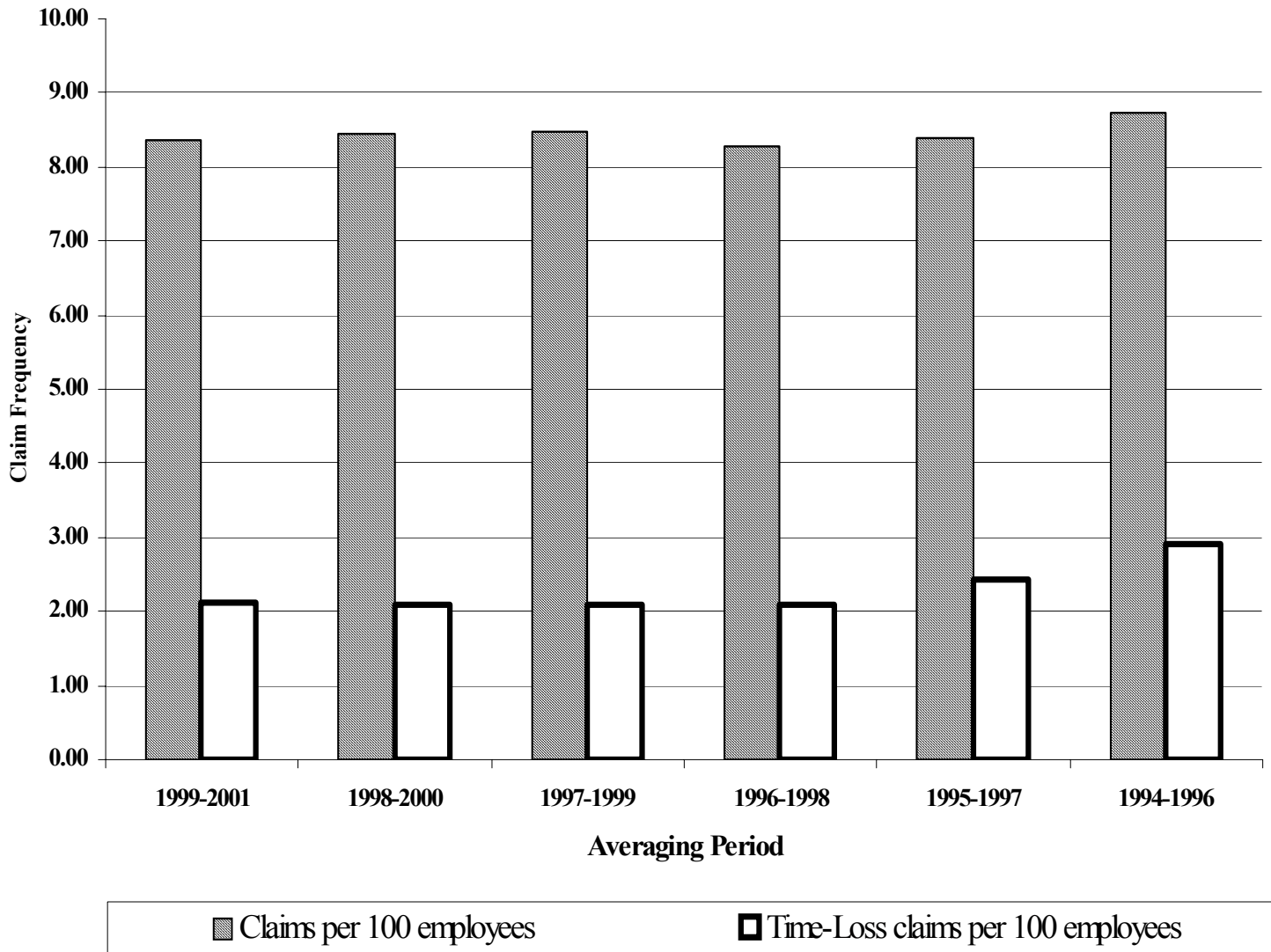


Figure Five
Number of Registered Workers' Compensation Board Claims
Three-year Moving Average
Calendar Years 1994 - 2001



Conclusions from Review of Divisional Operations:

Based upon the previous data on Divisional operations, the following conclusions are drawn:

- 1) From Table One, while the average number of claims registered with the WCB per 100 employees dropped, the average duration of each claim opened in calendar year 2001 (a rough measure of average severity) increased. Overall, no clear conclusions can be drawn as to improvement towards the goal of reducing the occupational injury rate.
- 2) Of the services where client satisfaction was measured (provision of information through e-mail and mail outs), client satisfaction is high.
- 3) The average number of activities per officer continued its upward trend, while the number of outstanding orders decreased. Both trends are very positive. The average cost per activity increased, partially due to “non-field activity” related costs such as support for the Grade 11 OH&S course mentioned elsewhere in this report. The overall staffing level was relatively constant, albeit still below target.
- 4) The number of targeted inspections per officer was lower than the target number. This is due to the “newness” of the targeting system and the lack of a proper ability to code such inspections until later in the fiscal year. The level of staff training was below target. This will be addressed in 2002/2003 during a thorough review of staff training requirements.
- 5) The major issues addressed by orders in 2001/2002 were:
 - IRS
 - Hoists, mobile equipment
 - Ventilation, lighting, sanitation, accommodation
 - First aid certificates
 - Premises and buildings safety, Construction and demolition
 - Mechanical safety

These were the same major issues addressed by orders in 2000/2001.

- 6) The 2001/2002 Inspection Targeting System successfully increased the percentage of activities in the target industries of manufacturing, accommodation/food/beverage and health care. Conversely, the percentage of inspections in the non-targeted construction industry remained at a lower level than historically seen. This lower percentage of activities in construction is more in line with the percentage of WCB claims originating from the construction industry.

Strategic Plan:

In 2001/2002, the Division adopted a Strategic Plan outlining those limited number of issues that the Division feels it can impact positively in the next three to five years. The elements of that plan, in no special order, are listed below, along with actions taken this fiscal year in furtherance of the plan:

- 7) **Improve and focus external communications to change perspective of both employers and workers towards a more positive safety/health culture**
 - i) Communications Officer hired for the Division
 - ii) Five commonly-themed television advertisements were created and run on the TV listings channel throughout Nova Scotia.
 - iii) Started work on a Divisional Communications plan. Expected to be complete in the summer of 2002.
 - iv) Formed a joint Communications Committee with the WCB.
 - v) Client Contact System created whereby clients have information on OH&S developments sent directly to them.
 - vi) Explanatory articles placed in the NS Business Journal each month starting December, 2001
 - vii) Published a newspaper supplement during North American Occupational Safety and Health Week
 - viii) Expanded the Divisional Internet site with more documents and pages, including all major forms used by the Division
 - ix) Published the booklet "Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees: A Practical Guide for Single Employer Workplaces" and started work on a companion document for Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees at construction sites
 - x) In cooperation with New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador and the Nova Scotia Forest Products Association, updated and published the booklet "The Forest Professional - Guidelines for the Stewards of Tomorrow's Forests"
 - xi) In cooperation with the Halifax Regional Police Service, the Burnside Business Watch and Safer Communities Across Nova Scotia, published the pamphlet "Crime prevention in your business"
 - xii) In cooperation with the NS Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Nova Scotia Fisheries Sector Council and the Aquaculture Association of Nova Scotia started work on an OH&S resource booklet for the fishing industry
 - xiii) Started updating the booklet "Health and Safety Guidelines for the Film and Video Industry"

- 2) **Ensure consistent application of laws and policies**
 - i) Intensive New Officer Training Program continued
 - ii) Management responses to legal interpretation questions shared with officers
 - iii) Policies on a range of issues related to investigations, appeals and prosecutions were reviewed and rewritten.
 - iv) Work continued on developing an updated Inspection Tracking System that would allow all officers to view all other officers' compliance work. During the year, it had been determined that the Nova Scotia Business Registry could not house the system, although they could support the system with a constantly updated list of companies. At year end, the Division was evaluating the responses to a request for proposals to write a new Inspection Tracking System.
 - v) All officers were trained on Project Joint Occupational Health and Safety

Committees and how they should be addressed.

- 3) **Initiate program to address emerging OH&S issues (i.e. ergonomics, IAQ)**
 - i) Full-time Ergonomist hired.
 - ii) Ergonomics Program started aimed at increasing awareness of ergonomics in the general workforce. The program contains the following elements:
 - Providing resource materials
 - Forming partnerships with associations or organizations aimed at promoting ergonomic solutions
 - Conducting pilot projects aimed at solving ergonomic problems
 - Developing training materials in ergonomics
 - Supporting Inspection and Compliance Services Officers as they address ergonomic issues
 - iii) Draft Indoor Air Quality Regulations completed with the exception of resolving the issue of smoking in the workplace

- 4) **Improve program to target work**
 - i) Full-time statistician hired
 - ii) Province-wide program to target industries that are underinspected successfully initiated. The targeted industries were manufacturing, health care and accommodation, food, and beverage

- 5) **Initiate program to help new/young workers**
 - i) The Ministers of Labour from across Canada have made reducing injuries amongst young workers a national priority.
 - ii) Young worker page established on the Divisional Internet site
 - iii) Distributed bookmarks with and OH&S theme to all public schools in Nova Scotia.
 - iv) Trained public school teachers in WHMIS.
 - v) Worked with the Department of Education to develop and pilot an occupational health and safety course aimed at Grade 11 students. The course is expected to be offered province-wide in September, 2002. Trained pilot teachers in the concepts of OH&S.

- 6) **Initiate program to help small business**
 - i) Explanatory articles placed in the NS Business Journal each month starting December, 2001
 - ii) Small business inspection checklist completed and distributed. Work started on a complementary small business OH&S audit form.
 - iii) In concert with the WCB, gave presentations to forestry and health care companies promoting OH&S and workers' compensation.
 - iv) Client Contact System created whereby clients have information on OH&S developments sent directly to them.

- 7) **Improve compliance**
 - i) In concert with the WCB, the Division gave presentations to forestry and health care companies promoting OH&S and workers' compensation.
 - ii) In order to promote those firms who have had success in OH&S, the Division and the WCB gave awards to the companies from each county with the best WCB records. The award winners were:

Firm	County
St. Anne Community Nursing Care Centre	Antigonish County
R. MacLean Forestry Ltd.	Richmond County
R.I. Smith Co. Ltd.	Shelburne County(tie)
Canus Fisheries Ltd.	Shelburne County (tie)
Sea Star Seafoods Ltd.	Shelburne County (tie)
Ronal Graham Pulp Contractor Ltd.	Colchester County
Atlantic Corporation Ltd.	Inverness County
Town of Kentville - Municipal Operations, Construction and Maintenance	Kings County
Brimac Masonry Ltd.	Cape Breton County
Darrin Carter Logging Ltd.	Cumberland County
ACS Trading - A Division of Farocan Inc.	Guysborough County
ABCO Industries Ltd. - Machine Shop Division	Lunenburg County
East Side Fisheries Ltd.	Yarmouth County
Annapolis County Adult Residential Centre	Annapolis County
Keltic Lodge -- Province of Nova Scotia	Victoria County
D.B. Kenney Fisheries Ltd.	Digby County
Carl Anthony Trucking Ltd.	Hants County
N.R. Kenney Logging Ltd.	Pictou County
Bowater Mersey Paper Company - Woodlands Divisions	Queen's County
Rideau Construction Inc	Halifax County

- 8) **Establish an on-going process to ensure regulations are in place, reviewed and updated**
- i) Pending a permanent appointment, an interim Coordinator of Regulatory Reform was appointed to oversee the regulation review process.
 - ii) In order to facilitate and standardize the regulation development process, the Division identified the six major phases and the 108 detailed steps involved in the process. In this way:
 - all regulations are treated in the same way
 - stakeholders have a better understanding of the status of each proposed regulation.
- 9) **Expand outcome measures and accountability framework for the OH&S system as a whole leading to a focus on performance and prevention**
- i) Continued to use the document “A Framework For The Occupational Health And Safety Division Annual Report” as the basis of reporting to the Advisory Council.
 - ii) Consulted with the Advisory Council on the issue of expanding or modifying the way we report on our activities. The Advisory Council made no formal suggestions for improvement.

Initiatives Outside of the Strategic Plan:

In addition to those initiatives directly supporting the Strategic Plan, the following initiatives took place:

Safe Communities:

Safe Communities is a national foundation that promotes community-based health and safety initiatives. Their aim is to help Nova Scotia to become a safer place to live, learn, work and play. More information on the foundation is available at <http://www.safecommunities.ca/>.

During 2001/2002, the Division supported the foundation with the secondment, on a half-time basis, of an Education Development Officer to serve as the Atlantic Provinces Coordinator.

Auditor General Review:

The Auditor General reviewed the operations of the Division in 2001. Overall, the Auditor General submitted a favourable report on those operations. In 2001/2002 and through 2002/2003, the Division will respond to all of the recommendations and opportunities for improvements highlighted by the Auditor General.

Certification Transfer:

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Licenses, Permits and Approvals Task Force, the Division continued negotiations with the Department of Education towards the transfer of the blasters and coal miners certification systems to the latter department. At year end, the negotiations were continuing.

Blasters Recertification Course and Examination:

The General Blasting Regulations require certified blasters to renew their certification every three years. Previously, the renewal was automatic upon payment of the mandated fee. In 2001/2002, the Division, in cooperation with the Blasters' Certification Board, hired the NS Community College to create and deliver province-wide a one day blasting review and examination. Passage of the examination was a prerequisite for renewing a blasters' certification.

In total, 125 blasters took the course.

Radiation Issues:

On July 1, 2001, responsibility for the Radiation Emitting Devices Regulations was transferred to the Division. Accompanying the transfer, the Province's Radiation Health Officer was also transferred to the Division.

During the year, the Radiation Health Officer completed projects that were ongoing at the time of the transfer in preparation for having his activities more closely merged with those of the Division. The major project was a province-wide survey of radiation levels in dental offices.

Mine Rescue Competition:

The Division was a co-sponsor of the inaugural Nova Scotia/New Brunswick Joint Mine Rescue Competition held in Amherst, NS. The winning team was from the Cape Breton Development Corporation.

Cost Benefit Analyses:

As part of the recommendations of the Red Tape Reduction Task Force, the Division began calculating the public cost impacts of proposed regulations. At year end, costs had been calculated for the proposed Indoor Air Quality Regulations (with the exception of those sections related to smoking). Work had started on calculating costs for the Temporary Workplace Traffic Control, Occupational Diving and Violence in the Workplace Regulations.

WCB Statistics:

Building on the extract of the WCB accident database that has been provided to the Division since last year, the Division expanded its ability to use the data through the training of Divisional computer staff and the statistician. The Division has used this access to WCB data to:

- determine the winners of the annual awards (see Strategic Plan element number 7)
- determine which companies should be targeted for inspection (see Strategic Plan element number 4)
- calculate portions of cost analyses for proposed regulations
- calculate portions of this report.

Intranet Development:

The Division's computer systems are large and complex. As a result, staff often had difficulties finding needed information on the system.

To address that need, the Division created an Intranet site allowing OH&S Division staff access to:

- Canadian and international standards
- a variety of electronic books
- major documents and forms
- appeal and prosecution results
- management responses to client legal interpretative questions
- a variety of Internet sites.

Risk Assessment and Risk Management:

As part of a department-wide priority in the 2002/2003 Business Plan, the Division is strengthening processes to support the future development of a risk-based model for the delivery of OH&S inspection, monitoring and compliance services.

Reviews of Trends in OH&S

This section reviews trends in OH&S that have come to the attention of the Division. The reviews are based on the following four questions:

What is happening?

What are the recent facts, issues and trends?

Why is it happening?

To the extent that the underlying cause is known to the Division, explain why the facts, issues and trends are happening at the time and in the way they are.

Why is it significant?

What are the implications for occupational health and safety if the facts, issues and trends continue.

What is the Division's response?

How does the Division plan to respond to the facts, issues and trends noted above?

What is happening?

DESIRE FOR LESS “RED TAPE”

Government has identified that small business creates more jobs in Nova Scotia than any other sector. But some regulations, including those related to health and safety, are seen as placing undue hardship on business, limiting their competitiveness and preventing them from expanding and creating new jobs.

There is a desire in some quarters for less government regulation - so-called “red tape.” This desire led the Government to create the Red Tape Reduction Task Force to consider the issue.

Why is it happening?

The precise reason for the desire to decrease red tape is not known. However, the Red Tape Reduction Task Force Interim Report suggests that obsolete or imperfect regulations:

- are an irritant - and in some cases, an impediment - to doing business
- lead to gridlock, business frustration and economic stagnation
- discourage new businesses from locating in Nova Scotia
- are resulting in increasing costs to business with no perceived benefit.

Why is it significant?

The desire to minimize regulations perceived as “red tape” is a Government commitment. As a branch of Government, the Division must respond to this commitment.

What is the Division’s response?

The Division has initiated a 5-year review cycle for all regulations under the Act. This will ensure the regulations are as straightforward, fair, effective, balanced and enforceable as possible while still protecting health and safety.

The Division is also providing more information to Cabinet, as recommended by the Red Tape Reduction Task Force. This information includes cost analyses for all new regulations.

What is happening?**DESIRE FOR GREATER GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**

It is generally thought that governments should conduct public business in the open and provide effective opportunities for input. Throughout Canada, this philosophy has resulted in systems to demonstrate that governments are acting in the public interest and in an efficient and effective manner.

Why is it happening?

The current Government program of Departmental accountability is part of an ongoing evolution that originated with “Government by Design” and “Nova Scotia Counts.”

Why is it significant?

As a branch of Government, the Division must respond to the Government program to improve its own accountability.

What is the Division’s response?

To address the issue of accountability, the Division has:

- consulted with the Advisory Council to create a framework for its prime accountability instrument - the annual report. This framework was approved by the Advisory Council in 2000/2001, with this report being the second one written to that format.
- set targets, many of which are reported on in this document
- established inspection targeting systems to ensure that our resources are directed to where they are most needed.

What is happening?

ERGONOMIC INJURIES DOMINATE ALL OTHER INJURY TYPES

Ergonomic injuries like sprains and strains make up over half of all WCB claims (see Tables Fifteen through Seventeen and Figures Six through Nine). The same trend is seen across North America.

Why is it happening?

The precise reason there are so many ergonomic injuries reported is not known for certain. Some possible causes are:

- the injuries are often serious and thus tend to be reported to the WCB
- the technical causes of ergonomic injuries are complex. There is a lack of knowledge on how to address these hazards.
- there are no comprehensive regulations requiring employers to address ergonomic issues

Why is it significant?

If left unaddressed, ergonomic injuries will likely continue at or near their current rate. This will result in continued pain and suffering, as well as a continued drain on the provincial economy.

What is the Division's response?

The Division hired an Ergonomist in fiscal year 2001/2002. This person works with labour and management to start to address the information gap that hinders proper management of ergonomic risks.

In 2002/2003, the Division will have a full Ergonomics Program containing the following elements

- Providing resource materials
- Forming partnerships with associations or organizations aimed at promoting ergonomic solutions
- Conducting pilot projects aimed at solving ergonomic problems
- Developing training materials in ergonomics
- Supporting Inspection and Compliance Services Officers as they address ergonomic issues.

Table Fifteen
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Nature of Injury (Calendar Years)

Nature of Injury	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Sprains, strains	58.9	53.7	54.2	49.6	47.5
Contusion, crushing, bruise	11.8	11.7	12.3	12.7	13.6
Nature not stated	9.9	11.2	8.0	12.3	11.6
Cut, laceration, puncture	6.4	6.9	7.3	7.9	8.0
Fracture (includes teeth)	3.4	4.8	5.3	5.4	6.1
Inflamed joint, tendon, or muscle	1.8	2.5	3.0	3.6	3.7
Burn or scald (hot or cold)	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.7
Scratches, abrasions	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.3
Hernia, rupture	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.3	1.5
All Other	4.1	4.9	5.3	3.9	5.1

Figure Six
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Nature of Injury (2001)

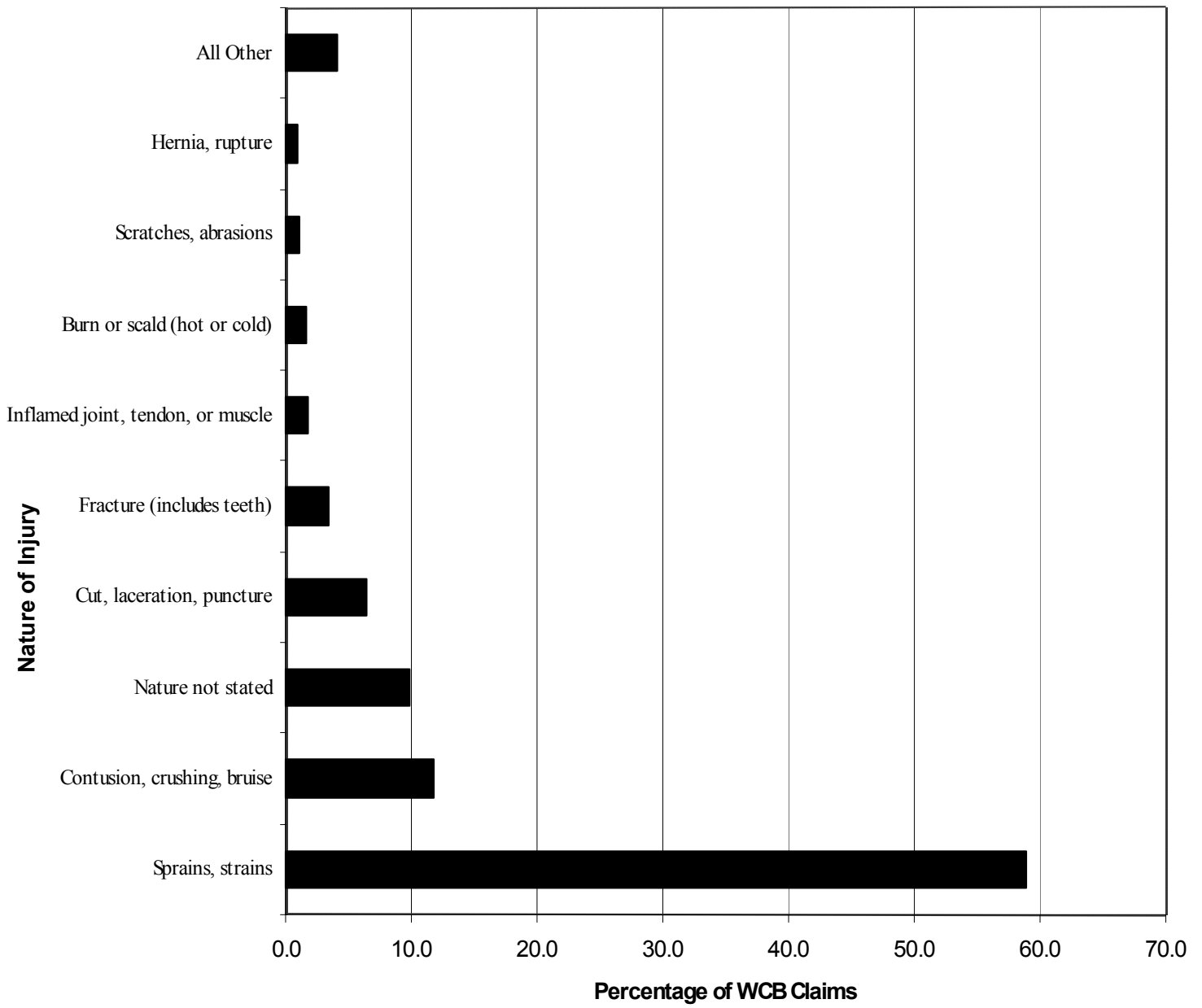


Table Sixteen
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Part of Body Injured (Calendar Years)

Part of Body	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Back	32.3	32.5	33.3	32.3	32.4
Multiple parts	9.9	8.4	7.8	7.8	8.9
Leg(s)	8.4	8.5	8.9	8.4	7.7
Shoulder(s)	7.8	7.3	6.9	6.9	6.8
Fingers	7.5	8.2	8.1	8.5	9.3
Arm(s) (above wrist)	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.2	4.7
Hand (does not include fingers)	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.9	4.1
Ankle	4.1	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.5
Wrist	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.9	4.0
Foot (does not include toes)	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.6	3.8
Neck	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.0
Chest	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.6
Hips	1.6	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.7
Eyes	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5
All other	6.0	5.3	4.9	4.9	4.7

Figure Seven
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Part of Body Injured (2001)

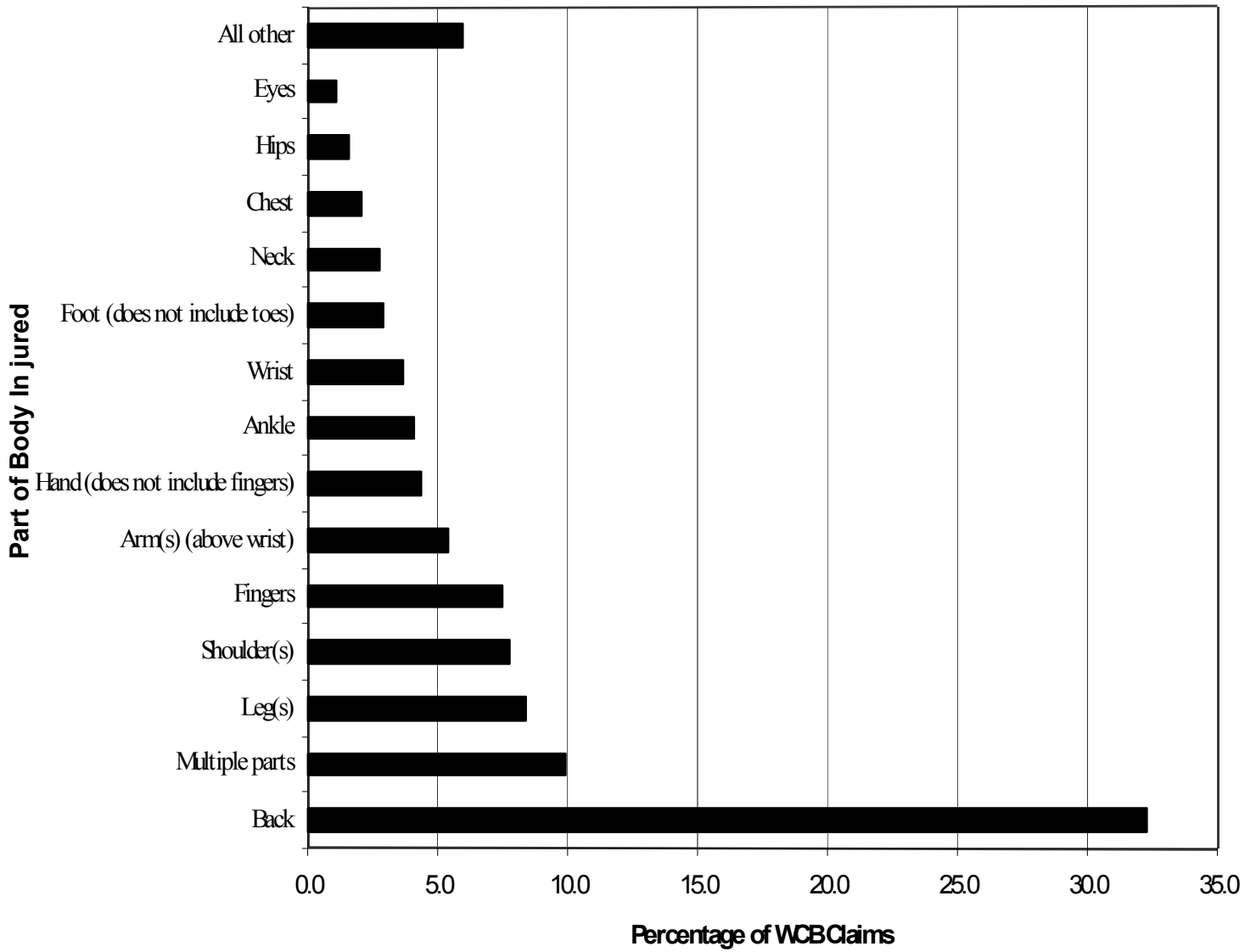
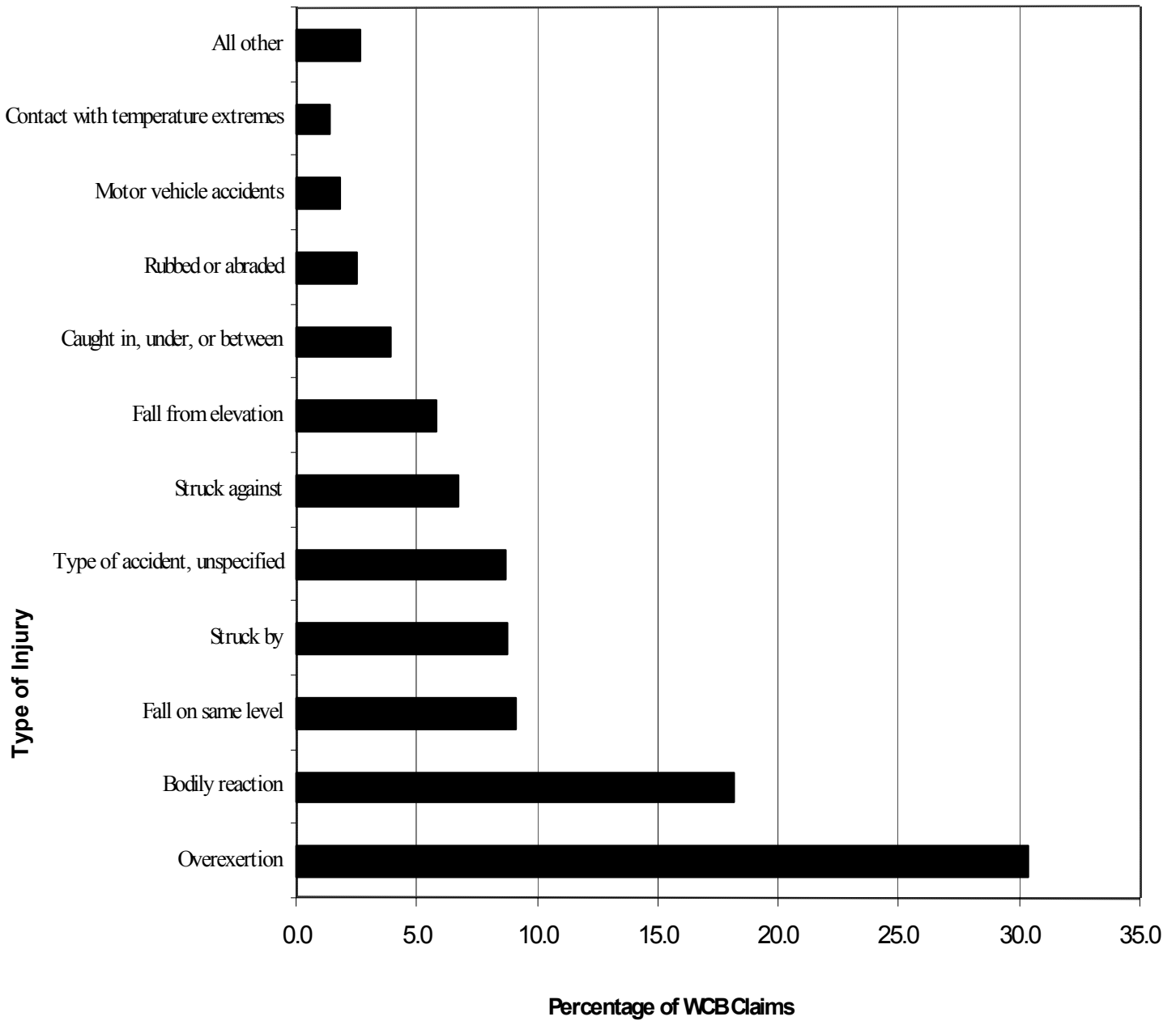


Table Seventeen
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Type of Injury (Calendar Years)

Type of Injury	2001	2000	1999	1998
Overexertion	30.4	28.9	29.4	27.6
Bodily reaction	18.2	20.1	23.9	24.5
Fall on same level	9.1	8.3	8.1	7.7
Struck by	8.8	9.8	10.6	11.0
Type of accident, unspecified	8.7	8.3	4.6	4.2
Struck against	6.7	6.1	6.5	7.3
Fall from elevation	5.8	6.4	5.7	6.0
Caught in, under, or between	3.9	4.4	4.4	4.6
Rubbed or abraded	2.5	1.5	1.3	1.2
Motor vehicle accidents	1.8	2.1	1.7	1.7
Contact with temperature extremes	1.4	1.8	1.6	1.9
All other	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.2

Figure Eight
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Type of Injury (2001)



What is happening?

YOUNG WORKERS HAVE A HIGH ACCIDENT FREQUENCY

Data from across Canada suggests that young workers, especially males, have a higher than average accident and injury frequency.

Why is it happening?

The precise reason so many young workers are experiencing injuries is not known for certain. Some possible causes are:

- OH&S not being a significant concern for youth
- lack of training and experience
- a sense of “invincibility”
- youth feeling intimidated and not wanting to refuse a task or ask questions
- the preferential assignment of less senior workers to less desirable, more hazardous jobs.

Why is it significant?

If left unaddressed, injuries to young people will likely continue at or near their current rate. This will result in continued pain and suffering, as well as a continued drain on the provincial economy.

What is the Division’s response?

The Ministers of Labour from across Canada have made reducing injuries amongst young workers a national priority. The Division has also made the reduction of injuries amongst young workers an element of the Divisional strategic plan.

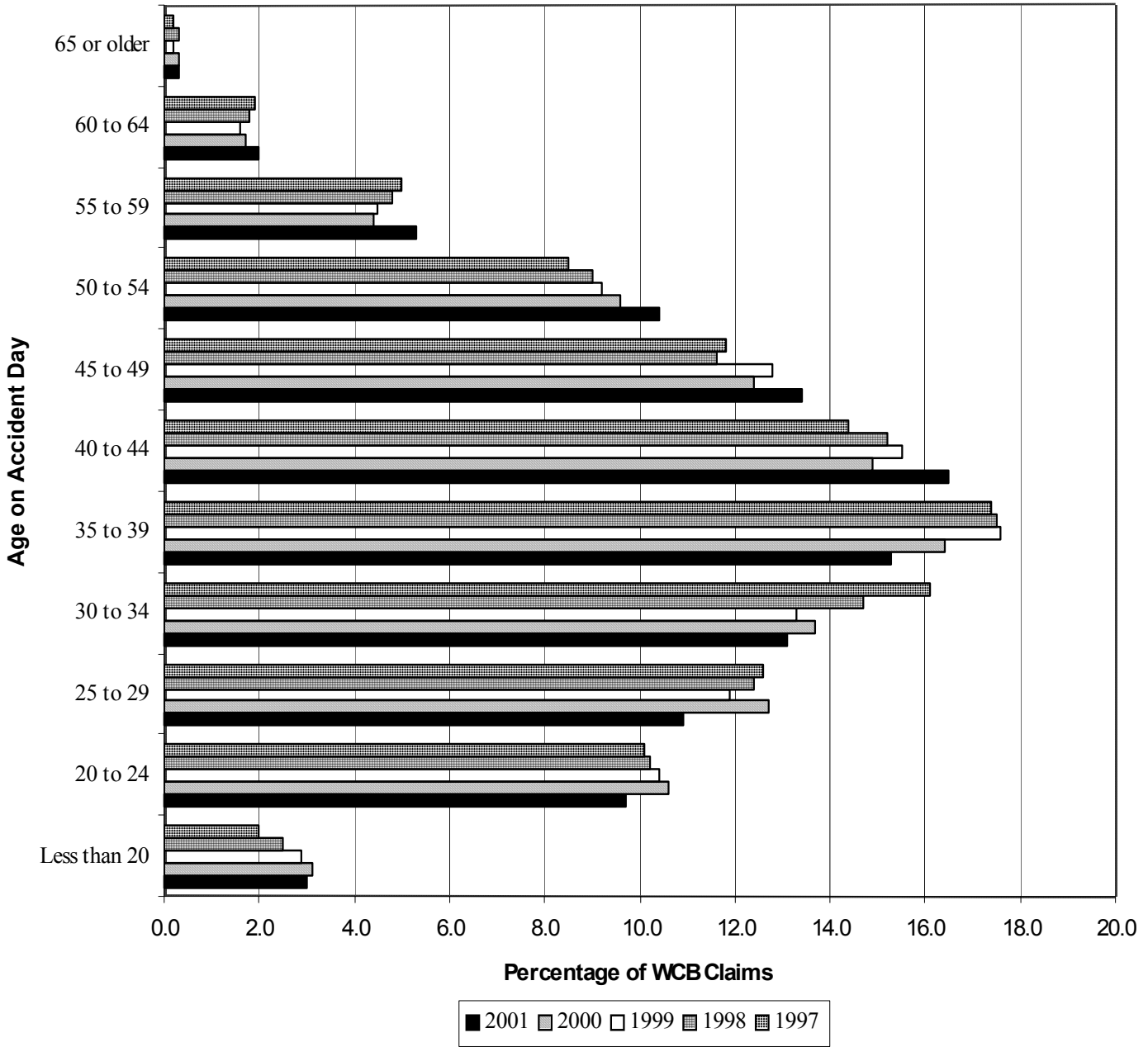
Specific initiatives aimed at addressing injuries to youth include:

- Young worker page established on the Divisional Internet site
- Distributed bookmarks with an OH&S theme to all public schools in Nova Scotia.
- Trained public school teachers in WHMIS.
- Worked with the Department of Education to develop and pilot an occupational health and safety course aimed at Grade 11 students. The course is expected to be offered province-wide in September, 2002. Trained pilot teachers in the concepts of OH&S.

Table Eighteen
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Client Age on Accident Day (Calendar Years)

Age at Accident Date	Employment (Work Force) Age Breakdown	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Not Stated	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Less than 20	6	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.0
20 to 24	9.4	9.7	10.6	10.4	10.2	10.1
25 to 29	11.2	10.9	12.7	11.9	12.4	12.6
30 to 34	11.6	13.1	13.7	13.3	14.7	16.1
35 to 39	13.7	15.3	16.4	17.6	17.5	17.4
40 to 44	14.2	16.5	14.9	15.5	15.2	14.4
45 to 49	12.8	13.4	12.4	12.8	11.6	11.8
50 to 54	11.1	10.4	9.6	9.2	9.0	8.5
55 to 59	6.4	5.3	4.4	4.5	4.8	5.0
60 to 64	2.5	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.9
65 or older	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2

Figure Nine
Breakdown of WCB Claims by Client Age on Accident Day (Calendar Years)



Other Items Included as Information

Occupational Health and Safety Division

Executive Director	J. LeBlanc
Director, Field Services	J. Vance (seconded for the period, Ray O'Neil acting)
Director, Central Services	S. Sampson
Regional Managers	
Central Region	O'Neil (acting for Director of Field Services for period; Gary Lively acting)
Cape Breton	Vacant (Milton Cooke acting)
Northeast	Vacant (Dale Bennicke acting)
Southwest	Vacant (Gary Ramey acting)

Board of Examiners for the Certification of Blasters

Chair:

K. Beaton

Members:

Paul Caza
Alan Miller

D. Clark

Board of Examiners for the Certification of Coal Mining Personnel

Chair:

S. Schwartz, P.Eng.

Members:

John Ling
Robert Gillis

J. Reid, P.Eng

Government Members:

P. Woodland (Division)

Observer:

F. Andrews

Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Council

Co-Chairs:

Employee:
R. Wells

Employer:

C. MacCulloch (April 1, 2001 - May 31, 2001)
S. Peverelle (June 1, 2001 to Mar. 31, 2002)

Members:

Employee Members:

S. Andrews (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
G. Hebb (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
J. Kennedy
R. Clarke
G. Fraser
R. Wells

Employer Members:

J. Amirault
J. Cruikshank (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
A. MacKeigan
S. Peverelle
C. MacCulloch (April 1, 2001 - November 30, 2001)
M. Lowe

Alternate Members:

Employee Members:

G. Bannister
M. MacNeil (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
D. Ryan
F. Wuite (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
C. MacRae
B.J. Sutherland

Employer Members:

H. Cruickshank (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
R. Gallant (April 1, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2001)
D. Grant Fiander
L. van Berkel
P. Vienotte
G. Slauenwhite

Statutory Members:

Division:

J. LeBlanc
S. Sampson (alternate)

WCB:

S. MacLean
L. McKenna (alternate)