

# Backgrounder

## B.C.'s Tourism & Hospitality Industry 2003 - 2007

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### ***How many employers are there in B.C.'s tourism & hospitality industry?***

There are nearly 18,000 tourism and hospitality-related business establishments in B.C. including accommodations, restaurants, resorts, attractions, and tour operators. Over three quarters of all businesses in this sector employ fewer than 20 workers each.

### ***What are the worker demographics in the tourism & hospitality industry?***

The tourism and hospitality industries directly employ over 117,900 British Columbians with a projected growth of 84,000 new jobs by 2015 to support the government's objective of doubling tourism revenues by that date. The workforce is highly mobile, and ethnically diverse with one third of the workforce between the ages of 15 and 24.

### ***What are the claim statistics for the tourism & hospitality industry?***

Between 2003 and 2007, there were 27,519 time loss claims accepted for the tourism and hospitality industry averaging more than 5,500 per year. In that same five year period, 381 serious injury claims and 21 fatal claims were accepted.

### ***Which types of accidents are most common?***

The three most common types of accidents are: struck by an object (19%); fall on the same level (18%) and overexertion (16%).

### ***Which types of injuries are most common?***

Sprains, strains, and tears were the leading injuries in tourism and hospitality between 2003 and 2007 representing 42% of all claims followed by cuts and lacerations at 18% and bruises and contusions at 10%.

### ***What are the most common sources of injury?***

Common sources of injury include: floor, walkways and ground surfaces (21%); containers - non-pressurized (13%); the person other than the injured worker (12%)

### ***What occupations have the most injuries?***

Between 2003 and 2007 chefs and cooks represented 22% of the total claims. Food counter attendants and kitchen helpers represented 21% and cleaners accounted for 13%.

### ***What do tourism and hospitality claims cost, and how many work days have been lost?***

Between 2003 and 2007, WorkSafeBC paid approximately \$146,000,000 in tourism and hospitality industry claims costs. During that same period, approximately 852,456 working days were lost. More than 8,000 young workers suffered work related time-loss injuries, costing the industry over \$23 million in claims costs and 150,000 days lost from work.