**Lesson: Dark Day at Second Narrows**

**Lesson Activity 2: Extension Activity for students**

**Homework Assignment:** Complete the following questions/inquiries as directed by your teacher

**Source:** *Statistics, 2022,* Worksafe BC Publication date: January 2, 2024

<https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/annual-report-statistics/2022-statistics?lang=en>

Note: A Glossary of Terms Used by WorkSafe BC can be found in the Glossary of Terms pp 114-120 of the report; additionally, this resource is produced annually by WorkSafeBC

**Compensation to Survivors**

1. The Workman’s Compensation Act of 1958 (now Workers’ Compensation Act) forbade families from launching lawsuits against employers who paid into the WCB Fund. Dominion Bridge was a contributor to the WCB Fund. This meant that families could not sue either Dominion Bridge or the other sub-contractors who paid into the fund and were working on the site. There only remedy was to seek benefits from WCB.

Widows were given a one-time $100 carry-over allowance followed by a $75 monthly base pension plus $25 per month for each eligible child in the victim’s family. Widows were given a one-time $100 carry-over allowance followed by a $75 monthly base pension plus $25 per month for each eligible child in the victim’s family.

Assuming that the widow had two dependents the survivor would be entitled to $75 per month, plus $50 per month for the two dependent children for a total of $125 per month or $0.78 per hour based on a 2080-hour work year or a 160-hour work month.

Using the [Bank of Canada inflation calculator](https://www.bankofcanada.ca/rates/related/inflation-calculator/), determine what that amount of money would be today. (Put in $0.78 for the beginning entry and December 1958). Assume that the amount calculated is non-taxable, meaning that you don’t have to pay income tax on it.

Is the number you calculated financially sufficient for a family of one adult and two dependent children today? For a comparison, you might want to look at the [hourly living wage](http://www.livingwageforfamilies.ca/) that has been calculated for a place to start. (The living wage is calculated as the hourly rate at which a household can meet its basic needs, once government transfers have been added to the family’s income (such as the Universal Child Care Benefit) and deductions have been subtracted (such as income taxes and Employment Insurance premiums).

Additional information may be found at [the WorkSafe website](ttps://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/guides/what-you-need-to-know-about-benefits-and-lawsuits-for-injury-death-or-disease-in-the-workplace?lang=en&origin=s&returnurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.worksafebc.com%2Fen%2Fsearch%23sort%3DRelevancy%26q%3DDeath%2520Benefits%26f%3Alanguage-facet%3D%5bEnglish%5d&highlight=Death%20Benefits) and the Government of British Columbia [website](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/death/after-death/get-support).

**Who Are the Investigators?**

2. Identify the investigators for the following serious events where death has occurred

(Complete chart with the menu provided. In most cases, there will be more than one answer; provide a web resource to validate your selection)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Event | Serious incident/event where a death occurred. | Who are the investigators? |
| 1. | Motor Vehicle Accident |  |
| 2. | Explosion in a building causing a fire |  |
| 3. | Airplane crash |  |
| 4. | Workplace accident at a school construction site |  |
| 5. | Student death at a school site where school is undergoing major renovation and expansion |  |

**Menu of Investigators**: BC Coroner Service, BC Safety Authority, Office of the Fire Commissioner, fire department, police, lawyers, insurance investigators, Transport Canada, Transportation Safety Board, Human Resources Skills and Development Canada, WorkSafe BC investigators, school board, construction contractor and sub-contractor.

Use Table 1-1 to answer question 2a

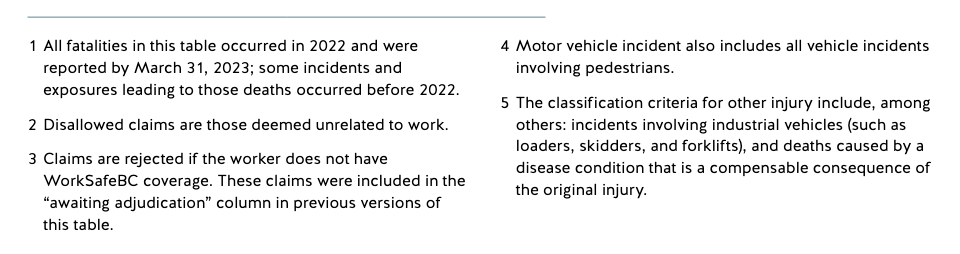
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Source: [Statistics 2022 | WorkSafeBC](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/annual-report-statistics/2022-statistics?lang=en) page 8

2a. Are there number of deaths increasing or decreasing? What observations can be made about injuries over the ten- year period? What observations can be made about deaths over the ten- year period?

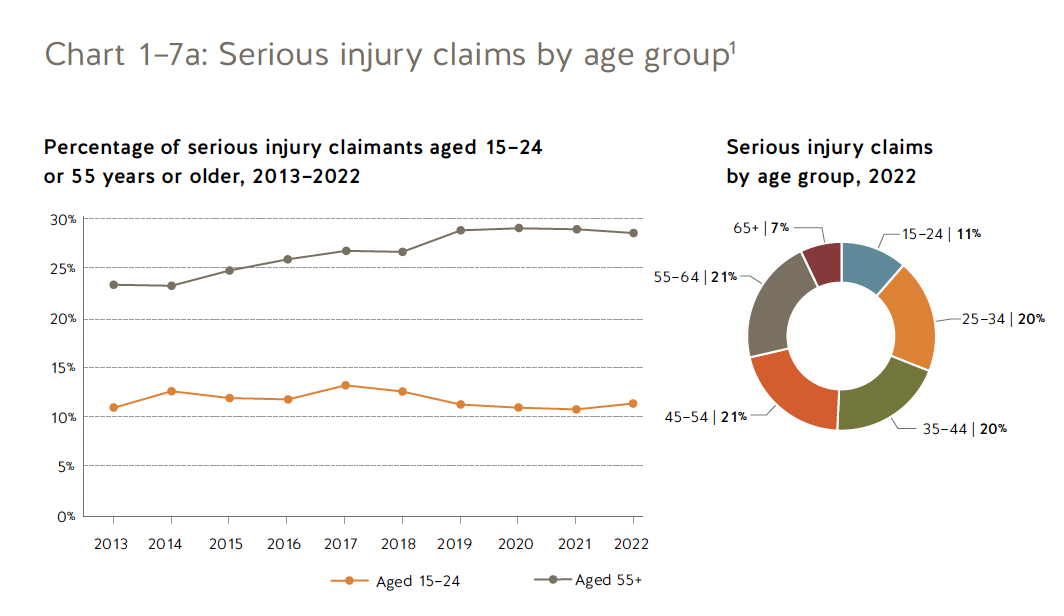
Use Table 1-2 to answer the question 3-6

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Source: [Statistics 2022 | WorkSafeBC](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/annual-report-statistics/2022-statistics?lang=en) page 9****

1. Suggestions reasons as to why so many accidents involve motor vehicles.
2. “Other injuries” among other involve industrial vehicles—what are industrial vehicles. Why are these vehicles treated differently from motor vehicles?
3. What is asbestos? It is no longer used in constructure, so how are workers exposed to it?
4. Name other diseases that cause work related deaths (examples: **loss of hearing** as a result of your exposure to loud industrial machinery for long periods, **influenza**)

Use Table 1-7a to answer the question 7

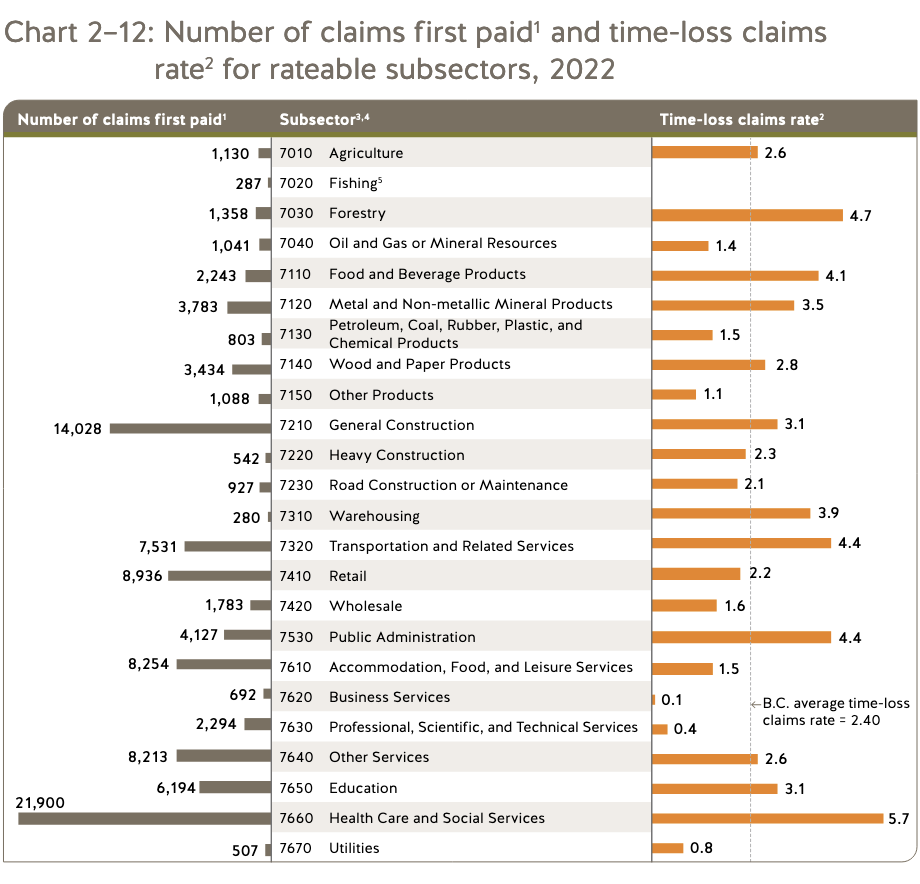
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Source [Statistics 2022 | WorkSafeBC](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/annual-report-statistics/2022-statistics?lang=en) page 31

1. There are is a higher percentage to serious injury claimants in the 55 years or older category than in the 15–24-year-old category, list some factors that might account for this reason. (example hearing loss)

Discuss how can employees and employers can help to reduce the numbers of deaths and injuries amongst young workers in BC.

Use Table 2-12a to answer the question 8

****Source: [Statistics 2022 | WorkSafeBC](https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/about-us/annual-report-statistics/2022-statistics?lang=en) page 55

1. List of the top three industries/sub-sectors that have the highest time-loss due to claims.
2. List some factors that would help explain why Health Care and Social Services, Forestry and Transportation and Related Services have above average time-loss claims.

**Closure: (the following class**)

A class discussion of the homework activity can follow. Key questions that you will want to consider include:

1. Answers to the who investigates: motor vehicle accidents, explosions in a building causing a fire, an airplane crash, a workplace accident at a school construction site, a student death at a school site where the school is undergoing major renovation and expansion
2. Are there number of deaths increasing or decreasing? What observations can be made about injuries over the ten- year period? What observations can be made about deaths over the ten- year period?
3. Suggestions reasons as to why so many accidents involve motor vehicles
4. “Other injuries” among other involve industrial vehicles—what are industrial vehicles. Why are these vehicles treated differently from motor vehicles?
5. What is asbestos? It is no longer used in constructure, so how are workers exposed to it?
6. Name other diseases that cause work related deaths (examples: **loss of hearing** as a result of your exposure to loud industrial machinery for long periods, **influenza**)
7. There are is a higher percentage to serious injury claimants in the 55 years or older category than in the 15–24-year-old category, list some factors that might account for this reason. (example hearing loss)
8. List of the top three industries/sub-sectors that have the highest time-loss due to claims.
9. List some factors that would help explain why Health Care and Social Services, Forestry and Transportation and Related Services have above average time-loss claims**.**
10. How does Workers Compensation (WorkSafeBC) benefit workers? How can individuals advocate effectively for changes in workplace safety?

Additional Classroom or school-based activity suggestion, organize a Day of Mourning event at your school.

**Day of Mourning: Accidents and Deaths in BC**

Across Canada, April 28 has been designated the Day of Mourning, a time when workers, families, employers, and others come together to remember those who have lost their lives to work-related incidents or occupational diseases. Every year, WorkSafeBC, the B.C. Federation of Labour, and the Business Council of British Columbia co-host a public ceremony to honour the occasion. Resources for teachers and students are available at the URL below in both English and French.

Day of Mourning Schools Project



Day of Mourning BC School Project: <https://domschools.ca/>