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# YOUNG WORKER SAFETY

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## MASHA Resources

- Young Worker Safety Package

Designed for new and young workers at Ontario pit and quarry operations, this package includes checklists and guides for orientation and supervision, and a video (*Speak Up!*) directed at young workers. Information may be obtained by contacting Jean Chadbourn at [jeanchadbourn@masha.on.ca](mailto:jeanchadbourn@masha.on.ca), or (705)474-7233 ext. 279.

## Internet Resources

- Canadian Injured Workers Alliance (CIWA): Youth Project  
<http://www.ciwa.ca/Eng/youth/index.html>

The CIWA “has developed a model workshop that is aimed towards educating young people about health and safety in the workplace, about workers’ compensation and about their rights as workers. The Youth Project’s long term educational and peer support initiatives seek to increase awareness and reduce the incidence of workplace accidents and injuries among young people.”

- CCOHS Young Workers Zone  
<http://www.ccohs.ca/youngworkers/>

The Young Workers Zone is a place where students, parents and employers can find tips, legislation, hazard information and other resources related to young worker safety.

- IAPA Resources on Young Worker Safety  
[http://www.iapa.ca/resources/resources\\_frame.asp?page=resources\\_downloads.htm](http://www.iapa.ca/resources/resources_frame.asp?page=resources_downloads.htm)

Downloadable publications on this topic include safety tips for young workers, tips for employers and supervisors, as well as the Québec City Protocol.

- JobSafe Canada  
<http://www.jobsafecanada.ca/>

“This site is about linking together all of the new and young worker information in Canada to help everyone - whether it is your first job, or if you are a parent, employer, or teacher - understand why it is important to work safely.”

- Job Safety Skills Society  
<http://www.jobsafetyskills.com/index.mgi>

“The JSSS is a not-for-profit organization conceived in 1991 and registered in Alberta in 1995. JSSS is a partnership with educators, industry, government and the community created to address the unacceptable number of workplace injuries and fatalities among young workers.”

- **NAOSH Week**  
<http://www.naosh.ca>

North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH), is an initiative that was launched in 1997. This year's theme is entitled "Build a Safe Beginning" and is intended to address the health and safety concerns for new and young workers.

- **NIOSH Young Workers' Site**  
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/youth/>

Styled in the form of a directory, the NIOSH Young Workers' Site includes helpful safety and health fact sheets, stories about injuries to young workers, reports, research, and other relevant web resources.

- **OSHA Teen Worker Safety**  
<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/teenworkers/index.html>

The OSHA Teen Worker Safety site is part of the Department of Labor's "Youth2Work" program (see "YouthRules"), and highlights issues such as workplace hazards, workers' rights and responsibilities.

- **Passport to Safety**  
<http://www.passporttosafety.com/>

Passport to Safety is "a unique, not-for-profit, cross-Canada catalyst for change intended to help eliminate needless injuries and preventable deaths of young Canadians aged 24 and under." It currently reports to the Safe Communities Foundation of Canada.

- **WorkSmart Ontario**  
<http://www.worksmartontario.gov.on.ca/scripts/default.asp>

WorkSmart is the official Ontario Ministry of Labour website for young and new workers. Work issues pertaining to OHS (Occupational Health and Safety Act) and ESA (Employment Standards Act) are addressed.

- **WCB of Alberta: Heads Up Campaign for New Workers**  
[http://www.wcb.ab.ca/workingsafely/heads\\_up.asp](http://www.wcb.ab.ca/workingsafely/heads_up.asp)

This is a joint collaboration of the WCB of Alberta, Alberta Construction Safety Association, Alberta Human Resources and Employment and the Alberta Hotel Safety Association.

- **Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia: Young Worker Safety**  
<http://youngworker.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/Home.asp>

The WorkSafe Centre for Young Workers is an "online resource for workers, employers, unions, educators, parents, and youth community groups."

- **WSIB of Ontario: Young Worker Awareness Safety Program**  
<http://www.wsib.ca/wsib/wsibsite.nsf/Public/YWAP>

See also:

- Young Worker Awareness Campaign 2003  
<http://www.wsib.ca/wsib/wsibsite.nsf/public/youngworker2003>

- Ontario Workplace Safety Student Video Awards Contest  
<http://www.wsib.ca/wsib/wsibsite.nsf/Public/PreventionStudentVideoContest>
- Young Worker Awareness Program  
<http://www.youngworker.ca/>

This site is sponsored by the Industrial Accident Prevention Association (IAPA), the Ontario Service Safety Alliance (OSSA), Workers Health and Safety Centre (WHSC) and the Workplace Safety & Insurance Board of Ontario (WSIB). It is designed to provide health and safety information to young workers, educators and parents; a Young Worker Awareness Program is also available to Ontario high schools.

- YouthRules  
<http://www.youthrules.dol.gov/>

YouthRules is a U.S Department of Labour initiative which promotes “positive, safe work experiences for young workers.”

## Journal Articles

Beharie, N. 2001. Profile of an accident victim. *OHS Canada* 17 (7): 22-24, 26-28.

This piece describes a workplace accident of a young worker in Canada, highlighting the dangers to young people in the workforce. It includes figures from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) for injury rates to young workers and facts gathered in a survey of young workers undertaken by the Industrial Accident Prevention Association (IAPA) relating to workplace safety.

Breslin, C., M. Koehoorn, P. Smith, and M. Manno. 2003. Age related differences in work injuries and permanent impairment: a comparison of workers' compensation claims among adolescents, young adults, and adults. *Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 60 (9):E10.

This report investigates the severity of work injuries among age groups, as increasing evidence shows that teenaged workers are at greater risk for work injury.

Chapeskie, Kathy Knowles, and F. Curtis Breslin. 2003. Securing a safe and healthy future: the road to injury prevention for Ontario's young workers. *Infocus* 34a (Fall 2003): 1-4.

Also available from the World Wide Web: [http://www.iwh.on.ca/archive/pdfs/in\\_34a.pdf](http://www.iwh.on.ca/archive/pdfs/in_34a.pdf)

Chapeskie and Breslin address several determinants of youth injury and suggest ways to ensure that this particular group does not remain at high risk.

Dehaas, D. 1996. Keeping young workers safe. *OHS Canada* 12 (3): 48-50, 52, 54-56.

For those left behind, the loss of a young co-worker can be devastating. [This article] is how to ensure your young employees are safe.

Everest-Hill, D. 2001. The big bang. *Accident Prevention* 48 (3): 15-19.

This article observes that young workers in Canada experience more injuries and deaths, cuts, lacerations, punctures, crushing and bruising than any other age group. It also discusses the economic and social pressures that influence the thinking patterns of young workers.

Gates, E. 1999. Old enough to work: young enough to die. *Occupational Safety and Health* 29 (11): 38-43.

Gates looks at the health and safety of young people on work experience placements, emphasizing the importance of risk assessment, supervision and training.

Loughlin, C., and J. Barling. 2001. Young workers' work values, attitudes, and behaviours. *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology* 74 (November): 543-558.

The authors discuss research on two major influences on young people's work-related values, attitudes, and behaviours, namely family influences and work experiences. Particular emphasis is given to the role of young people's work experiences in shaping their future work-related attitudes, values, and behaviours.

Miller, Ted R. and Geetha M Waehrer. 1998. Costs of occupational injuries to teenagers, United States. *Injury Prevention* 4 (3): 211-217.

This paper estimates the incidence and costs of teenage occupational injuries by severity in the United States.

Rubenstein, Harriet and Marna R. Sterbach. 1999. Protecting the health and safety of working teenagers. *American Family Physician* 60 (2): 575-592. Also available from the World Wide Web: <http://www.aafp.org/afp/990800ap/575.html>

This paper focuses on how to protect the health and safety of working teenagers.

Ross, Ian. 2003. Youth job safety: an employer's role. *Northern Ontario Business* 23 (9): 7.

This article focuses on issues concerning the safety of youth workers in Northern Ontario; it also provides information about employers' responsibilities and safety awareness promotion.

Zakaria, D., et al. 2002. Estimating the population at risk for Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board-covered injuries or diseases. *Chronic Diseases in Canada* 23(1): 17-21.

Also available from the World Wide Web: [http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/publicat/cdic-mcc/23-1/c\\_e.html](http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/pphb-dgspsp/publicat/cdic-mcc/23-1/c_e.html)

Difficulty in quantifying the population at risk for a work-related injury or disease limits the usefulness of workers' compensation data for surveillance. This article presents a method of obtaining estimates of the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB)-covered workforce using the Canadian Labour Force Survey (LFS). The method involves extracting that class of worker most likely to be insured by the WSIB and using actual hours worked to estimate full-time equivalents at risk.