

Magnitude of Injuries: Fact Sheet

THE HUMAN TOLL

- Up to 90 to 95% of all injuries are both predictable and preventable.
- Preventable injuries are the leading killer of Canadians in the prime of their lives (one to 44 years old).¹
- More than 400,000 residents of BC are injured each year.¹
- Every hour of every day, 54 British Columbians suffer a preventable injury.¹
- On average, more than 2,000 British Columbians die and more than 35,000 are hospitalized every year.¹
- On a daily basis, over 1,300 British Columbians are injured seriously enough to require medical attention. Of these, approximately five die, 95 are hospitalized and some 23 are left partially or totally disabled.¹
- More children die from injuries than all other causes.²
- On average, 245 children and youth (one to 24 years) die from preventable injuries every year.¹
- On average one person dies every day due to a motor vehicle crash in BC.³

FINANCIAL TOLL

Preventable injuries cost the people of our province near \$7 billion annually

Direct cost breakdown for preventable injuries in BC:

- Direct health care costs of \$2.3 billion.¹
- Indirect costs (economic output lost due to disability or death) of \$1.4 billion.¹
- Direct Insurance Corporation of British Columbia claims costs of \$.7 billion.³
- Direct WorkSafeBC claims costs of \$1.6 billion.⁴

References

1. 'Piedt S, Rajabali F, Turcotte K, Barnett B, Pike I. The BC Casebook for Injury Prevention. BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit: Vancouver, BC; 2015.'
2. Public Health Agency of Canada (2005). *Leading causes of injury deaths in Canada, 2005*. Retrieved from: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dsol-smed/>
3. ICBC (2012). 2011 Annual Report. Retrieved from: <http://www.icbc.com/>
4. WorkSafeBC (2013). *WorkSafeBC 2011 Annual Report and 2012–2014 Service Plan*. Retrieved from: http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/reports/annual_reports/default.asp