

Ready for Work

You need more than a job to be *Ready for Work*: Fast Facts for Young Workers

Did you know that in 2010 ...

- More than 6,000 (6,217) young workers (15-24 years old) were injured in Saskatchewan.
- This is 7% less than the number of young workers injured in 2009.
- No young workers died in workplace incidents.
- Nineteen per cent of all injured workers were between the ages of 15 and 24.
- Seventy-three per cent of those injured young workers were male.
- Injuries occurred in all industries, but particularly in the commodity-wholesale-retail, service and building construction sectors.
- In the last five years, an average of three young people have died on the job per year (not including fatalities involving young people working in agriculture).
- Most young workers who were injured in 2010 worked in construction trades as helpers or labourers; or were retail salespersons or clerks in the service industry.
- The most frequent injuries occurred to the hands and wrists (35 per cent) and head (15 per cent; mainly to the eyes) and back (7 per cent).
- Contact with objects and equipment (such as being struck by moving or flying objects or getting caught in machinery) accounted for almost one-half (47 per cent) of all injuries.
- Twenty-four per cent of all injuries were caused by bodily reaction and exertion such as lifting, pushing, pulling or tripping.
- Nine per cent of all injuries were the result of exposure to harmful substances or environments.

Statistics are based on Saskatchewan Workers' Compensation Board 2010 claims data

What can you do to make work safe?

Young Workers

- Know your rights and responsibilities in the workplace.
- Be aware that all workers, including part-time workers, must receive training about potential hazards and safe work practices.
- Use safety equipment.
- Learn and follow safe work practices.
- Know where to get information and help with your questions.
- Co-operate with your employer, supervisor, occupational health committee or occupational health and safety representative.

Employers/Supervisors

- Be aware that young workers are more likely to be injured than older, more experienced workers. They may not be comfortable asking questions about workplace health and safety.
- Provide training so young workers recognize hazards and are competent in safe work practices and the use of personal protective equipment.
- Encourage young workers to report any suspected hazards.
- Ensure young workers are properly supervised.
- Know and comply with regulations that apply to your workplace.

Educators

- Set a good example. Demonstrate safe practices in school shops and labs, and during activities.
- Discuss students' rights and responsibilities as workers.
- Ensure employers who sponsor student work placements have a system to identify, assess and control hazards.
- Include information about health and safety in relevant curricula.
- Help students learn to identify hazards and ask questions in the workplace.

Parents

- Take an active role in your children's employment decisions.
- Learn about health and safety laws.
- Discuss work tasks and the training supervision provided by the employer.
- Encourage your children to ask for help and to ask questions when they feel uncertain about work practices.
- Set a good example.

If you have a concern ...

- about **safety** call:
1-800-567-7233 (Regina)
1-800-667-5023 (Saskatoon) or
visit www.worksafesask.ca or
www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/ohs
- about **labour standards** call:
1-800-667-1783 (Regina) or
visit [www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/
labour-standards](http://www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/labour-standards)
- about **unions** call:
(306) 787-0817 (Regina)
- about **Ministry programs** visit:
www.lrws.gov.sk.ca or
www.lrws.gov.sk.ca/youth-at-work
- **if you are injured on the job**
call the Workers' Compensation Board
at (306) 787-4370 (Regina) or (306)
933-6312 (Saskatoon); or visit
www.wcbsask.com

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