

**National Work Injury Statistics Program  
(NWISP)  
and  
Challenges Capturing Work Injury Data**

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# **National Work Injury Statistics Program (NWISP)**

## **Overview**

# History of NWISP



Statistics  
Canada

Began *CWISP* in **1984**



NWISP **1996**

## Z795 Coding Standard

- Z795 coding standard owned by NWISP on **October 9, 2015**
- *Z795 previously owned by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA)*

# Work Injury Data Submissions for All Lost Time and Fatality Claims

## 2015 Injury Statistics Across Canada



### LOST TIME CLAIMS

#### BY GENDER

Male  
143,478



Female  
89,123

#### BY AGE

15-19	8,155
20-24	22,052
25-29	23,839
30-34	24,371
35-39	24,723
40-44	25,441
45-49	27,510
50-54	31,316
55-59	24,850
60-64	13,707
>64	6,586

#### BY INDUSTRY



# NWISP Subcommittees

## Coding Technical

- National data consistency
- Data relevancy



## Data Submission and Analytics

New

- Data submission processes
- Analytical information



# Coding Technical Committee (CTC)

## NWISP Mission and Strategic Priority

- To assist Boards and Commissions to code high quality, accurate data so that coders across the country are consistent in how they view things
  - Recommends resolutions for **national issues**
  - Prepares an **annual coding exercise** with real scenarios received from the jurisdictions
  - Will recommend new content for the **online coder training**



# Welcome to the AWCBC Online Data Community

Easy Access to Self-Service Tools for National Work Injury, Disease and Fatality Statistics and Key Statistical Measures

**Reports**

- NWISP Reports
- KSM Reports

**Submissions**

- NWISP Submissions
- KSM Submissions

**Coding**

- Coding Manual
- Coder's Reference Manual

**Training**

- Coder Training

**Help**

- AWCBC Website

**User Manual**

- User Manual

# Coding Skills

- ✓ Medical Terminology
- ✓ Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology
- ✓ Analytical thinking
- ✓ Graphology
- ✓ Coding Standards
- ✓ Occupational Standards



CBIA Mission

”To become a trusted leader in innovative information management”



# Who Requests NWISP Data?

- Boards and Commissions
- Safety and Industry Associations and Organizations
- Federal and Provincial Government Agencies
- Statistics Canada
- Trade/Labour Unions
- Private Agencies
- Employers
- Students
- Researchers
- Consultants
- Media



Z795

Nature of Injury  
Guidelines (a) to (e)

Part of Body  
Guidelines (a) to (f)

General Coding  
Rules (a) to (e)

Division Level

Major Group  
Level

# Challenges Capturing Work Injury Data

Source of Injury  
Guidelines (a) to (i)

Event or Exposure  
Guidelines (a) to (f)

Group Level

Hierarchy Lists

680+ Resolved Issues

Secondary Source  
Rules (a) to (x)

Code Level

Employer Reports

National Coding Exercise  
Answer Keys

Medical Reports

# Coding Decisions are Based On

- Rules
- Guidelines
- Resolved issues

# Reading and Research

Prior to searching the Coding Manual, Reference Manual, and decision-making, a Coder first reads and analyzes the documents available on file

- **Medical reports** (X-ray, MRI, Operative, Psychology, Pathology)
- **Employer reports** (Incident reports)
- **OT and PT reports** (Risk Factor Analysis)
- **Appeals Decisions** and **Internal Review Office Decision**
- **Internal correspondence** (phone logs)

The work injury data we capture  
is as vague or as detailed  
as the information available on file.

**Coders must not make assumptions.**

The Nature of injury variable (diagnosis) is the starting point.

The Nature of Injury determines how the remaining variables are coded

*Part of Body*

*Source of Injury*

*Event or Exposure*

*Secondary Source*

## How to Code a Vague Scenario

“Worker fell” (*only description of accident on file*)  
Diagnosis: Back pain.

**Nature of Injury:** Back pain

**Part of Body:** Back, unspecified

**Source of Injury:** Unknown

**Event or Exposure:** Fall, unspecified

**Secondary Source:** Unknown

# Example: How *Nature of Injury* Determines Remaining Variables

- Co-worker was using boom truck to move metal beam.
- Beam swung unexpectedly striking worker in the chest, throwing injured worker about 10 feet.
- His back and shoulders hit a metal plate.

Diagnoses: STIs multiple trunk locations; Fractured ribs

**Nature of Injury:** Fracture

**Part of Body:** Ribs

**Source of Injury:** Beam

**Event or Exposure:** Struck by swinging object

**Secondary Source:** Cranes



# Grouping Codes

whether same or different:

- Division Level *Example: 2\* Trunk*
- Major Group Level *Example: 23\* Back*
- Group Level *Example: 232\* Thoracic Region*
- Code Level *Example: 23201 Cervico-dorsal region*

# How to Group Body Parts

## 1) Shoulder and arm

- Shoulder (Division 2\* Trunk)
- Arm (Division 3\* Upper Extremities)

Captured together: 80090 Multiple Body Parts, n.e.c.

## 2) Shoulder and back

- Shoulder (Division 2\* Trunk)
- Back (Division 2\* Trunk)

Captured together: 28000 Multiple trunk locations

# How to Code Slip vs. Fall

*(both scenarios have strain for NOI and knee for POB)*

## Injury is caused by the slip:

Worker slips on ice, felt knee snap, fell to the ground.

Diagnosis—Knee strain.

**Source of Injury:** Bodily motion of injured worker

**Event or Exposure:** Slipping on something

**Secondary Source:** Ice

## Injury is caused by the fall:

Worker slips on ice, knee hit the ground when worker fell. Diagnosis—Knee strain.

**Source of Injury:** Ground

**Event or Exposure:** Fall to floor/walkway/other surface

**Secondary Source:** Ice

## How to Code a Violence Scenario

Nurse working alone in kitchen with psych patient, assisting patient with making tea. When nurse had her back to the patient, she felt freshly boiled water poured down her back. Diagnosis: 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns

**Nature of Injury:** Second-degree burns

**Part of Body:** Back, uns

**Source:** Water

**Event or Exposure:** Assaults, violent acts, harassment by persons, n.e.c.

**Secondary Source:** Patient

# In Summary

Coders translate the story of the worker's injury into standardized codes.

Worker slips on ice and falls against his pickup truck striking his elbow.

Diagnosis: Fractured elbow.

<b>Data Element</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Reason for choosing</b>
<b>Nature of Injury</b>	01200	Fractures	NOI Guideline (a)
<b>Part of Body</b>	31200	Elbow(s)	POB Guideline (a)
<b>Source of Injury</b>	82530	Pickup truck	Source Guideline (a)
<b>Event or Exposure</b>	13200	Fall onto or against objects	Event Guideline (a)
<b>Secondary Source</b>	93730	Ice, sleet, snow	Secondary Source Rule (j)

**On the Horizon  
for the  
NWISP Committee**

- **New codes for the Coding Manual**

- No new codes since 2011
- Do jurisdictions have capability of adding new codes?

- **No Lost Time claims**

- Should the AWCBC start collecting work injury statistics for No Lost Time claims?

- **Meaningful data analysis**

- What are our end users looking for?
- Substantial amount of data is gathered each year by the AWCBC.
- Many descriptive reports published, formally and ad hoc

- <https://aoc.awcbc.org/Account/LogOn>