

# How are 2026 industry premium rates set?



The Saskatchewan WCB sets industry premium rates annually. The rate setting process ensures today's employers pay for the costs of today's claims.

## Step 1: Industry classification

- Employers are grouped into industry rate codes based on their primary business activity.
- This forms the WCB's classification system, which has 50 industry rate codes.
- The collective experience of all employers in each industry rate code determines the industry premium rate.
- All employers in the same rate code start with the same industry premium rate.

## Step 2: Industry premium rates

- An actuarial rate model is used to determine annual industry premium rates.
- Expected claim costs are projected for the upcoming year.
- Industry premium rate = costs/payroll.
- Premiums cover all current and future costs for claims that occur during the year.

## Step 3: Experience rating

- The experience rating program adjusts the industry premium rate based on an employer's individual claims experience.
- Employers can receive a discount or pay a surcharge depending on their claims experience.
- Reducing the number and cost of claims through injury prevention and workplace safety can improve your experience rating and reduce the WCB premiums you pay.

**Online services reminder:** in early December 2025, you will be able to view your 2026 industry rate, including your experience rating, through your WCB online account only. Sign up for your WCB online account by visiting [wcb.sask.com](https://wcb.sask.com).

## C51 – Lumber Yards, Builders Supplies

### Comparing your 2025 and 2026 rates

Rate components	2025 rate	2026 rate	Percentage change
<b>Claim costs</b>	<b>\$1.301</b>	<b>\$1.266</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>
Short-term disability and vocational rehabilitation	\$0.416	\$0.402	-3.4%
Medical costs	\$0.655	\$0.641	-2.1%
Long-term disability	\$0.198	\$0.197	-0.5%
Fatality and survivor benefits	\$0.032	\$0.026	-18.8%
<b>Administration costs</b>	<b>\$0.471</b>	<b>\$0.461</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>
WCB administration expenses	\$0.408	\$0.400	-2.0%
WorkSafe Saskatchewan	\$0.011	\$0.010	-9.1%
Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) and Injured Worker Appeal Services (IWAS)	\$0.052	\$0.051	-1.9%
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1.772</b>	<b>\$1.727</b>	<b>-2.5%</b>
Safety association funding	\$0.000	\$0.000	0.0%
<b>Model calculated rate (rounded)</b>	<b>\$1.77</b>	<b>\$1.73</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>
Additional rate reduction	N/A	(\$0.07)	N/A
<b>Total rate (rounded)</b>	<b>\$1.77</b>	<b>\$1.66</b>	<b>-6.2%</b>

### Updated payroll forecasts

Assessable payroll (\$ millions)	Used in 2025 rate setting	Updated 2025 projection	2026 projection
C51 rate code payroll	\$197.59	\$198.12	\$200.10

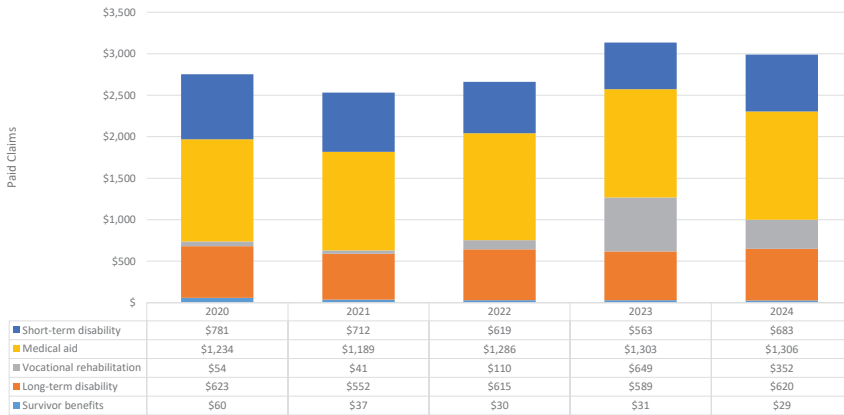
The overall reduction to the model premium rate for C51 is the result of increasing payroll forecasted for 2026, which is combined with decreasing claims and related administration costs. The largest change in claims in dollar terms is related to short-term disability and vocational rehabilitation costs. Recognizing the WCB's strong funded position, the C51 premium rate has been reduced by an additional seven cents for 2026.



# At a glance:

## C51 – Lumber Yards, Builders Supplies

### C51 Claim costs (thousands of dollars)



Injuries can happen  
at any age in C51

**38.0** average age  
at injury

**47.7** per cent of  
injuries under  
age 35

### Top five causes of serious injuries in

C51: 2020-2024

1. fall on same level, n.e.c.
2. overexertion in lifting
3. fall to floor, walkway or other surface
4. bending, climbing, crawling, reaching, twisting
5. struck by falling object

### Did you know?

Claim costs directly affect your premium rate. **Injury prevention is the best way to minimize your costs and reduce human suffering.**

For information on how to prevent injuries, visit [worksafesask.ca](https://worksafesask.ca).

### Top five parts of the body injured in

C51: 2020-2024

Part of body	Number of injuries	Percentage of injuries
Shoulder	107	9.5%
Back	224	19.9%
Arm	114	10.1%
Hand	211	18.8%
Leg	166	14.8%

### More info

Visit [wcbsask.com/statistics](https://wcbsask.com/statistics) for additional industry statistics, such as injury rates, or the average cost or duration per claim.



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