

2026 Premium Rates

Information for employers

Workplace injuries and illnesses impact people's lives. Financial sustainability of the workers' compensation system ensures Albertans continue to benefit from reliable and cost-effective protection against those impacts.

Employer premiums are the foundation of a strong and stable system

It is important you pay affordable and fair premiums for the system you fund. It's equally important that we collect enough premiums in a year to cover the costs of that year's workplace illnesses and injuries.

Typically, workers' compensation pricing models ensure today's employers are accountable for the full cost of today's injuries. We have purposely deviated from this funding philosophy in recent years by subsidizing rates to ease the financial burden on you while the economy recovers.

Our Board of Directors remains committed to supporting Albertans. In 2026, we will provide employers with **a further \$61.9 million in premium rate subsidies**, bringing the cumulative subsidy to more than **\$1.9 billion** since 2018.

Closing the rate-setting gap

We are several years into our multi-year plan to realign annual employer premiums with the cost of each year's workplace illnesses and injuries. We will continue this plan in 2026.

As we enter year four of our plan, a small increase to the average rate keeps us on track to align employer premiums and claim costs as planned. As we narrow the gap, we continue to provide relief for employers and protect worker benefits.

For 2026, the average premium rate includes a 5-cent discount on the rate that would be required to cover the full costs of 2026 injuries. The average collected rate in 2026 will be \$1.46 per \$100 of assessable earnings compared to the required rate of \$1.51. The rate of \$1.46 reflects a 3.5% increase over 2025.

It is possible to manage costs through injury prevention and return-to-work efforts.

More than half of all industries (64%) will see rates at or below the average increase due to their positive performance.

Your performance makes a difference




Efforts to reduce the number of workplace illnesses and injuries and get Albertans back on the job are working. Employers are driving positive change as the number of lost-time claims remains level and claim duration decreases for the second year in a row. This is excellent progress, yet we have more work to do.

If one of your employees is hurt at work, finding creative ways to help them get back to work can pay off. Safer workplaces, fewer claims and timely modified work opportunities can lead to lower premium rates.




The best way to impact the premiums you pay is by implementing health and safety programs that prevent your workers from getting injured and disability management programs to help them safely and successfully return to work.


Whether you're a small business owner in your community or a large employer with sites across Alberta, we have supports and services to help you manage your performance and reduce the impact of workplace illness and injury on your business. Here's what you can do to manage your costs while supporting your workers as they recover and return to work.

Take a proactive approach to prevent workplace illnesses and injuries with these steps:

Attend employer seminars and workshops .		Learn how you can support your workers with effective health, safety and disability management practices. Our workshops will help you prevent workplace injury through safe work practices and build solid return-to-work plans to help your injured workers get back to work safely.
Tap into your industry and/or safety association .		Industry and safety associations can help you build or improve your business's health and safety management program.
Belong to the Partnerships in Injury Reduction (PIR) program and hold a Certificate of Recognition (COR).		With a health and safety management program in place, you can choose to enroll in the PIR program and earn a COR to reduce your premiums up to 20% while creating a safer workplace.

Follow these steps to help your injured workers return to work quickly and safely:

Access our disability management toolkit in the myWCB mobile app and online employer portal .		Our online disability management toolkit is an essential resource for employers, offering clear guidance on managing workplace injuries like strains or sprains. The toolkit can help you ensure a swift, effective response, promote a safe return to work and reduce time loss and claim duration while supporting your workers.
Access Occupational Injury Service (OIS) clinics if one of your employees is hurt at work.		Our OIS clinics connect injured workers with fast access to medical professionals who specialize in work-related injuries. Quick treatment can reduce claims costs and can help you lower your premiums.
Offer modified work opportunities .		Whether it's changes to job tasks, workload, environment or hours, modified work programs can help you reduce the cost of workplace illness and keeps injured workers job-attached in meaningful ways.
Use the myWCB employer mobile app .		If you're regularly on the go, use the app to report new injuries as they happen, be notified when your worker submits a claim, get return-to-work support and stay up to date with your business's open claims.
Regularly access the myWCB employer portal .		Log on to access premium simulations, review industry comparisons and identify opportunities for proactive return-to-work planning.

We can help you improve your return-to-work results.  [Email us](#) or call us for support when you need it:



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