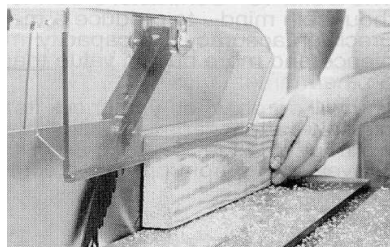


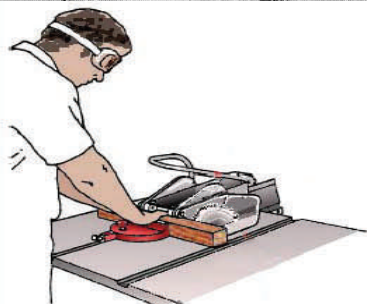


## Wood product manufacturing workers – Struck by

### Over 257 wood product manufacturing workers sustained serious struck by or against injuries in the years 2000–2004



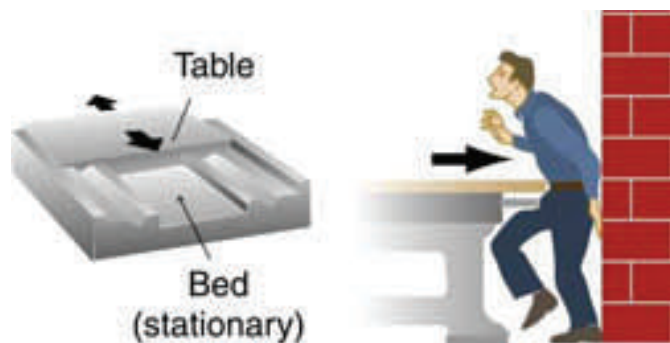
Serious struck by or against injuries are costly and affect your industrial insurance premiums. They contribute to the reason for the average base rate of \$1.27 per hour per employee paid by wood product manufacturing employers in 2006. If your company has a higher than average number of injuries (claims), your “experience rating” could increase by as much as 25% in one year to \$1.58 per hour per employee.



Stated in another way, if you had 20 full-time wood product manufacturing employees and had an average number of injuries (claims), you would pay about \$50,800 in premiums in 2006. If your experience rating increased by 25% because you had higher than average injuries, you would pay about \$12,400 more or \$63,200 in premiums in 2006.

### Causes of struck by injuries

One of the main causes of injuries among workers in the wood product manufacturing industry is improper or inadequate guarding of woodworking saw machines which lead to struck by or against injuries.



Source: *Concepts and Techniques of Machine Safeguarding*, OSHA

Reciprocating movements are most likely to happen when there is a lack of safeguards.

### Ways to prevent struck by injuries

- Train your workers in the proper use, maintenance, inspection, repair, and replacement of their equipment.
- Provide and enforce the use of personal protective equipment.
- Kickbacks and rotary and reciprocating movements are most likely to happen when there is a lack of safeguards, such as spreaders, anti-kickback fingers, and gauge or rip fences.
- Always use the appropriate blade and equipment for the job.
- Make sure workers follow proper lockout/tagout procedures when repairing or cleaning a machine.

Learn more on preventing injuries by going to L&I's online safety courses at: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/Safety/TrainTools/Online/Courses/default.asp#m> and OSHA eTools at: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/woodworking/index.html>