

LOGGING SAFETY

- Logging is a **hazardous occupation** with more frequent and serious injuries and fatalities than other industries.

1980-1989

- 6400 US workers died from work related injuries
- 1492 of these were logging related deaths
- Fatality rate is 23 times greater for loggers than all other US workers
- Logging industry has 14,000 injuries per 100,000 workers compared to 8,000 per 100,000 for other workers

1992-1999

- Slight drop in deaths, down to 124 average per year.
- 67% from falling objects
- 14% from contact with equipment
- 2% chain saw related
- 4% log truck or vehicle related
- 13% misc

1998 STUDY - JOB RELATED INJURIES

- Job function when injury occurred
- 8.9% mounting/dismounting
- 6.9% felling
- 18.8% maintenance/repair
- 14.5% operating
- 23.8% topping/delimbing

2008

- Logging industry employed 86,000 workers
- **93** deaths
- **30** times higher than any other industry

Virginia Study 1995-2000

- 11 logging companies
- Study was conducted 2 ½ years before mechanical tree felling & 2 years after
- No change in number of employees
- Before 19.4 injury claims per 100 workers
- After 5.2 injury claims per 100 workers



COST OF INJURIES

- 64% total cost under \$5000
- 23% total cost \$5000-\$20,000
- 12% total cost over \$20,000

Cost to Employee for Being Injured

- Lost wages
- Doctor & hospital bills
- Physical pain and suffering
- Mental anguish
- Loss of time with family and friends
- Loss of productivity on and off the job
- Family and relationship strain

Cost to Employer

- Medical bills
- Worker compensation claims
- Insurance costs
- Legal costs
- Property damage
- Wages paid for sub-worker
- Loss of valued employee
- Loss of productivity
- Possibility of replacing loss worker
- Hiring and training new employee
- Damage to equipment and tool
- Time to handle insurance claim
- Loss of moral

- 80% of all forestry related accidents are caused by human factors