

**The Work of Correctional Officers in British Columbia:  
An Update**

**July 17, 2003**

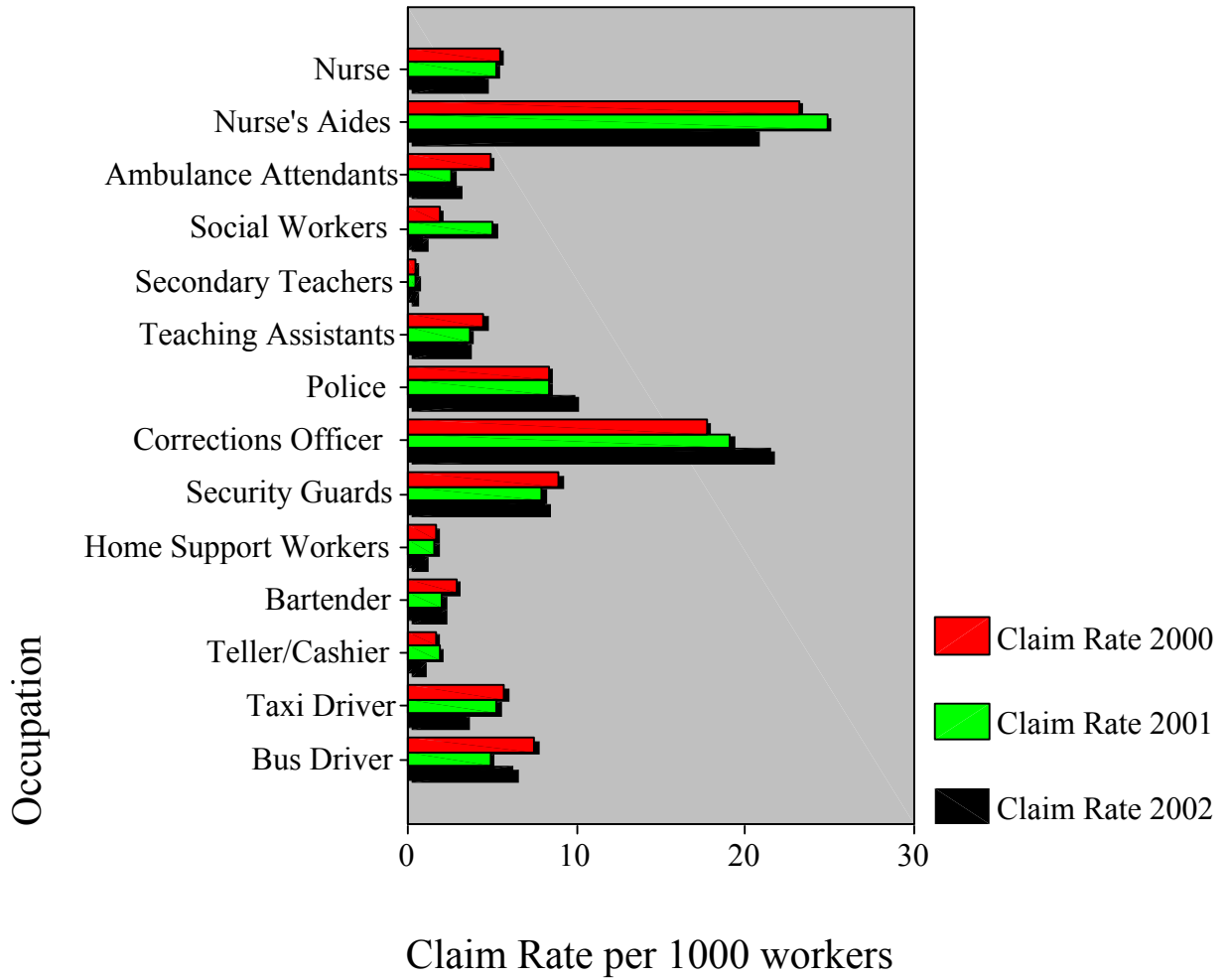
**Neil Boyd, Professor, School of Criminology,  
Simon Fraser University  
Aili Malm (PhD Candidate), School of Criminology,  
Simon Fraser University**

The following six pages set out the most recent data regarding WCB claims for provincial correctional officers. As the various charts indicate, acts of force or violence against correctional officers continue to rise, at a time when virtually all other occupations are experiencing declines in these types of claims. In 2002 a record number of violence claims -- 28 -- were accepted by the Workers' Compensation Board. Correctional officers continue to be at the highest risk of criminal violence of all occupations within the province.

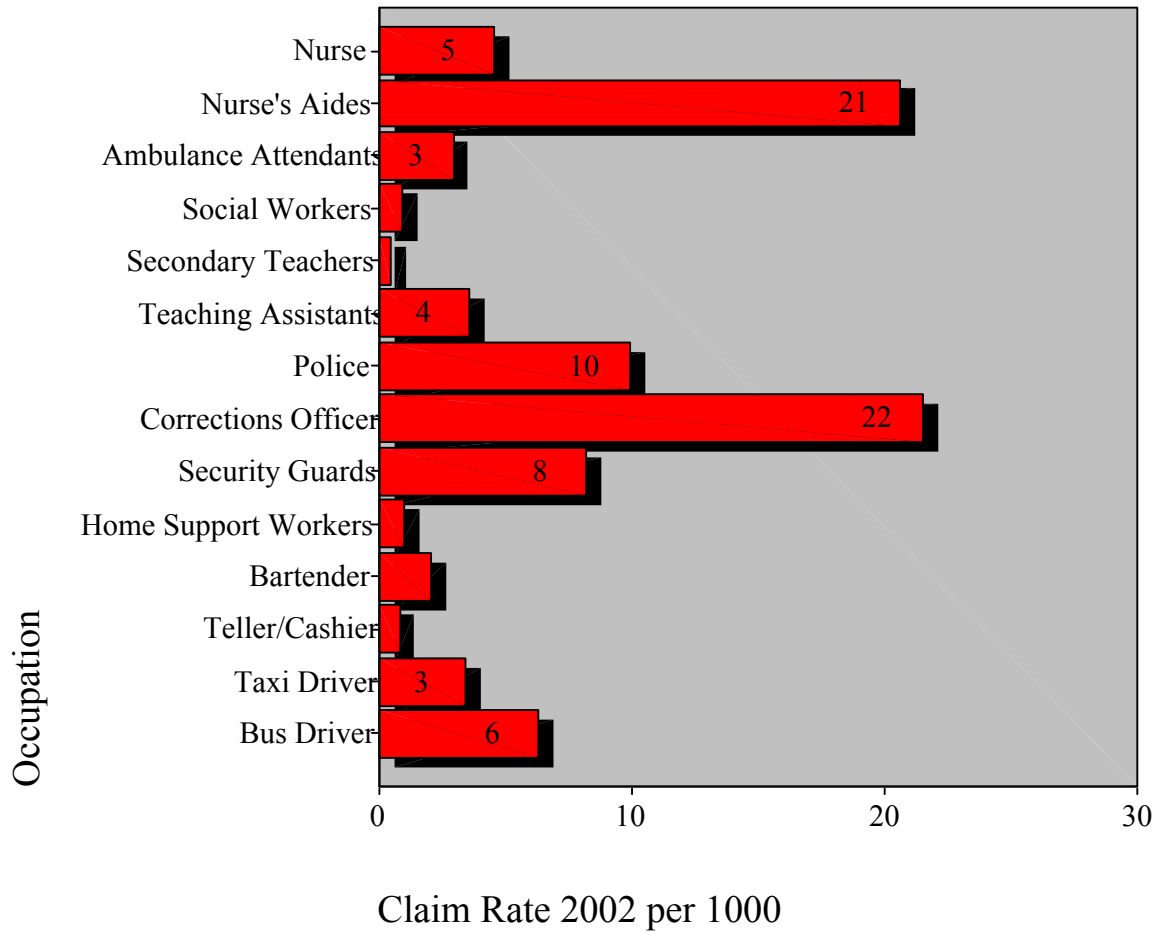
**PART A: COMPARISON OF CLAIMS**

2001 CENSUS FIGURES USED

**Claims per 1000 workers 2000 through 2002**



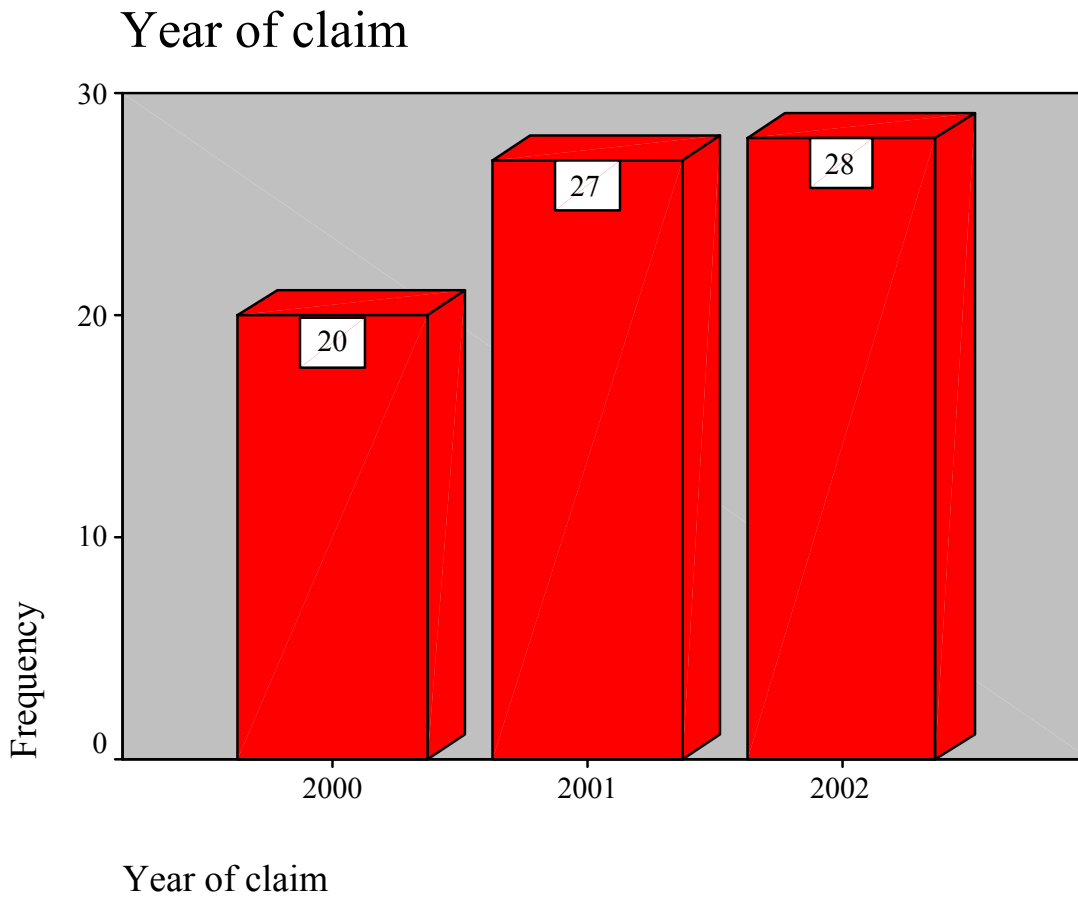
## Claims per 1000 workers 2002

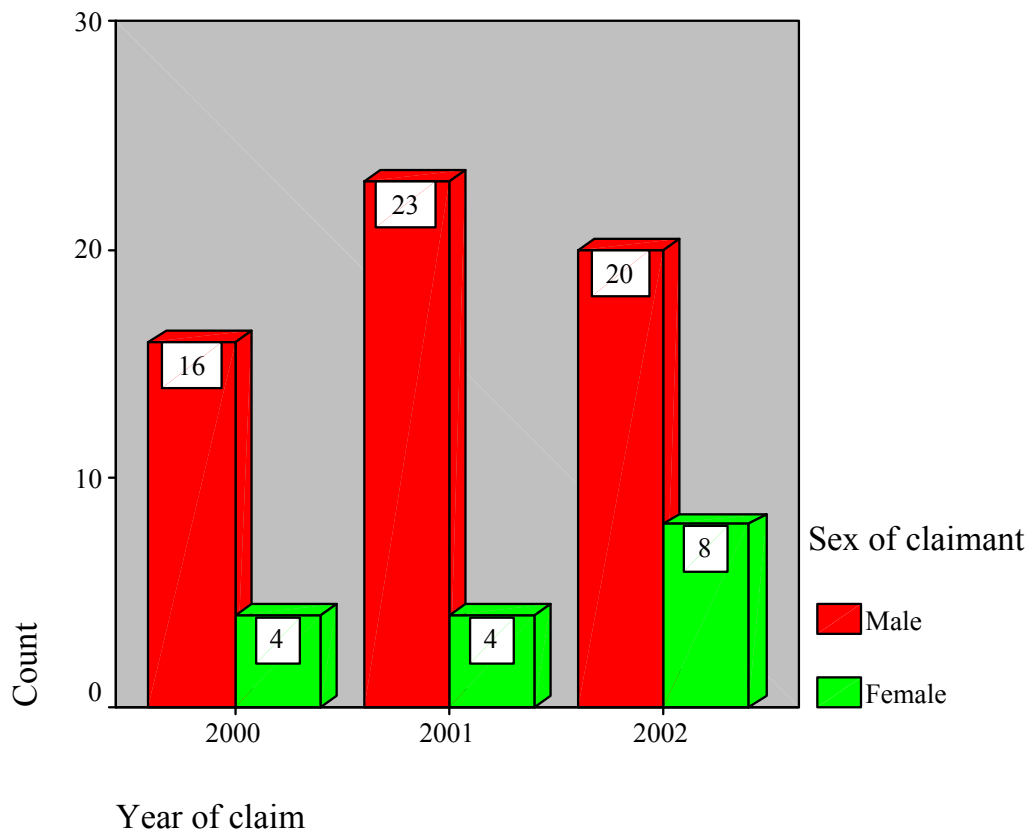


**PART B: PROVINCIAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER CLAIMS**

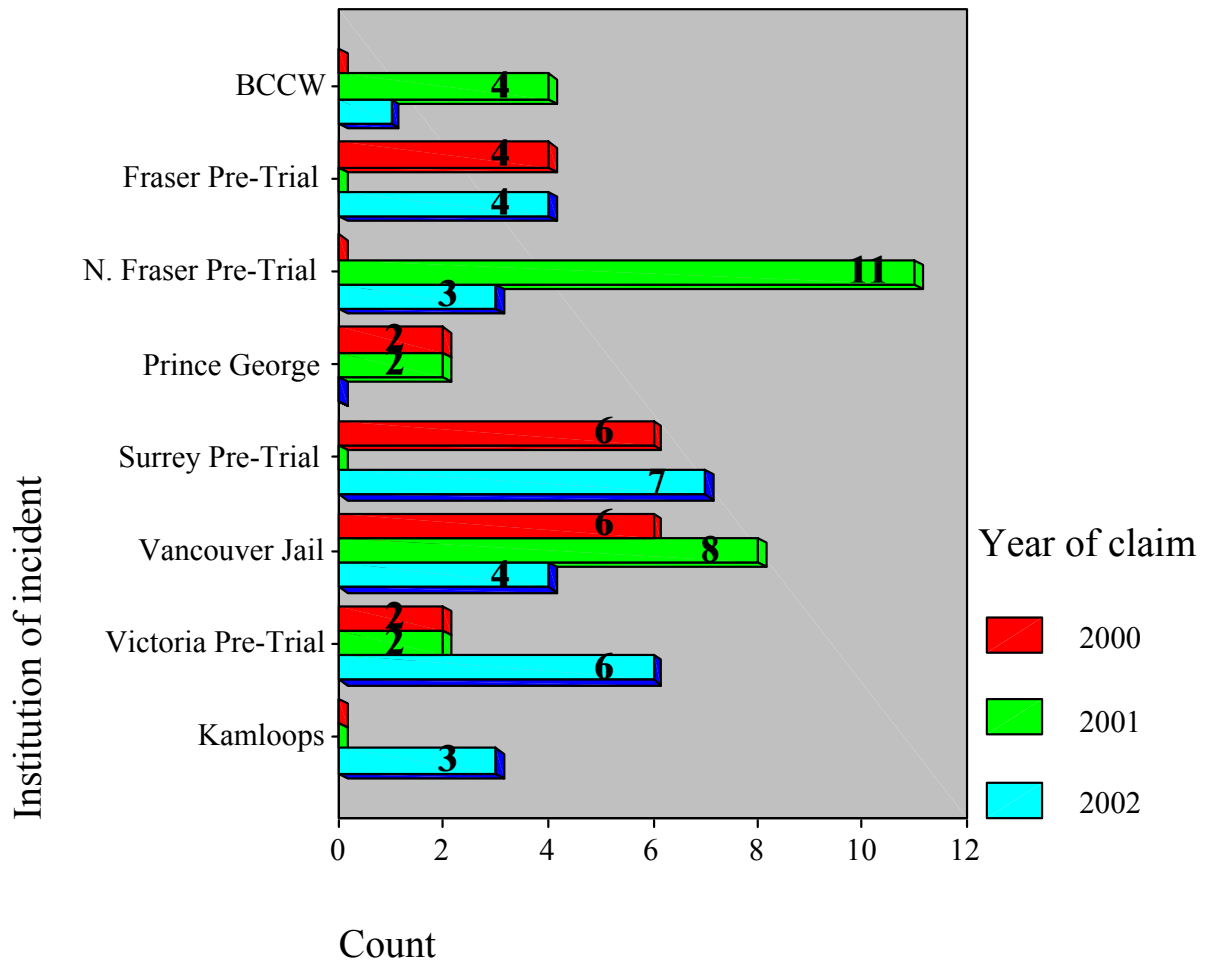
Year of claim

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2000	20	26.7	26.7	26.7
	2001	27	36.0	36.0	62.7
	2002	28	37.3	37.3	100.0
	Total	75	100.0	100.0	





# Institution of Incident



### Examples of Incident Descriptions

		Frequency
Valid	Altercation with inmate, potential transmission of HIV and hep C. Given hep C vaccine and spat in mouth of officer.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Bitten by inmate on right leg.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Elbow in face, right eye injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Groin and lower back injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Hand injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Left hand, rib and back injuries.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Shoulder injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Back and neck injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Pain in arm and shoulder.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Resulted in back surgery.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Right hand injury.	1
	Altercation with resistant inmate. Twisted neck, pain radiating to arm.	1
	Assault by inmate. Broken nose, scratch on face, bleeding lip.	1
	Assaulted by inmate, computer thrown at face. Broken nose, cuts to face and stress.	1
	Assaulted by inmate. Left ribcage, foot and leg injuries.	1
	Assaulted by inmate. Pain in lumbar area, testicles injured and hard.	1
	Assaulted by inmate. Punched in head with closed fist.	1
	Claimant had a weapon pointed at them during an armed escape attempt. Treated for psychological stress.	1
	Claimant held at gunpoint during escape attempt. Traumatic stress claim.	1
	Claimant hit in the face by an inmate. Exposed to inmate's blood.	1
	Claimant injured back during response to an inmate attempting to escape.	1
	Claimant punched and kicked by violent inmate. Claimant fell backwards hurt neck.	1
	Claimant taken hostage by inmates. Sustained an abrasion and treated for psychological trauma.	1
	Claimant was attacked by an inmate and sustained a 2" laceration on the forehead.	1
	Claimant was restraining resistive inmate when inmate bit claimant's finger. Given HIV cocktail, liver failure ensued.	1
	During altercation with an inmate, inmates blood splattered on guard's open wound on his arm. Given Aids cocktail.	1
	Hit by a chain by inmate. Arm and shoulder injury.	1
	Injured breaking up an inmate fight.	3
	Injured breaking up an inmate fight. Claimant exposed to HIV tainted blood.	1
	Injured while trying to restrain a volatile inmate.	1
	Injury suffered during an ERT team response to a violent inmate. Strained right shoulder.	1
	Inmate assault on staff. Punched in the face. Resulted in facial injuries, back and neck strain, stress and PTSD.	1
	Inmate bit arm twice.	1
	Inmate bit officer's hand during restraint.	1
	Inmate came up behind claimant and hit them in the eye. Treated for a injured eye.	1
	Laceration to head from prisoners teeth. Tested for Hep C and HIV. Given AIDS cocktail and tetanus shot.	1
	Prisoner attacked claimant with a syringe. Claimant treated for psychological trauma.	1
	Stress related subject of numerous physical and verbal assaults.	1
	Struck in face and chest while restraining an inmate. Eye bruised.	1
	Unknown liquid placed in water by inmate and ingested by staff. tested for HIV and Hep C.	1
	While assisting a mentally disordered offender, offender hit claimant and cracked claimant's rib.	1
	While restraining inmate, claimant twisted back and right shoulder.	1
	While restraining volatile inmate, claimant's shoulder twisted.	1
	While wrestling with an inmate, strained thumb and back.	1
	While wrestling with inmate, claimant fell to ground and hurt back.	1