

WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD A SAFETY CULTURE

**WSIS** | Workplace Safety  
and Insurance System

**Annual Meeting**

**2021**

# Welcome to the Workplace Safety and Insurance System 2021 Annual Meeting

# Agenda

- *Welcome*
- *COVID 19 Response*
- *System Performance*
- *Key Initiatives*
- *Guest Speaker – Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer*
- *Questions and Answers*



## **Labour, Skills, and Immigration**

## COVID 19 Response

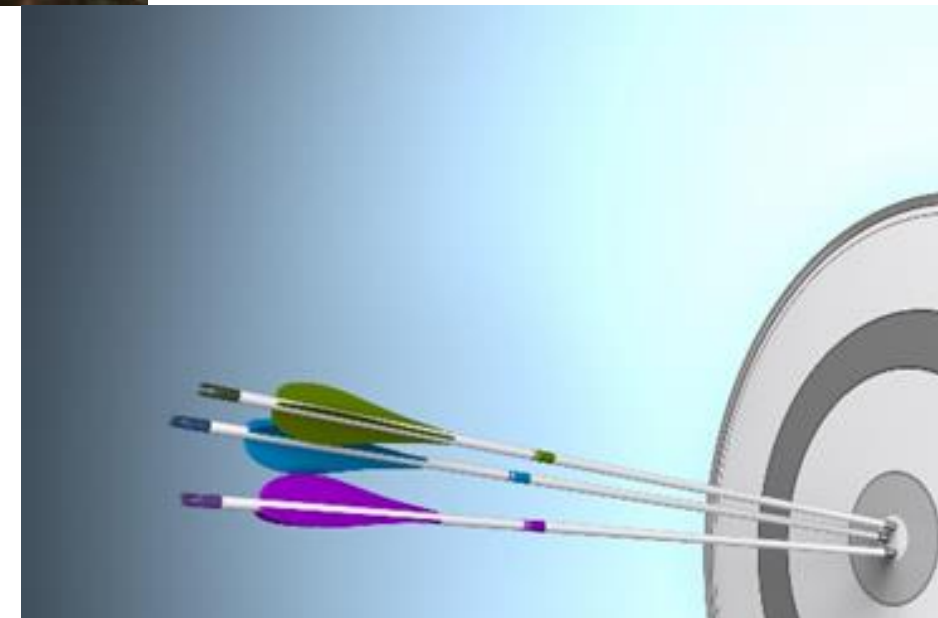
Let's make safer  
workplaces the  
new normal.



# COVID 19 Response



Re-opening guidance documents



Inspections



Use of technology

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# *System Performance*

# Workplace Fatalities 2020

**18** ACUTE FATALITIES  
[THERE WERE 5 IN 2019]

**14** CHRONIC DEATHS:  
[THERE WERE 17 IN 2019]

**7** OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

**7** OTHER HEALTH CONDITIONS



**INJURY RATE**

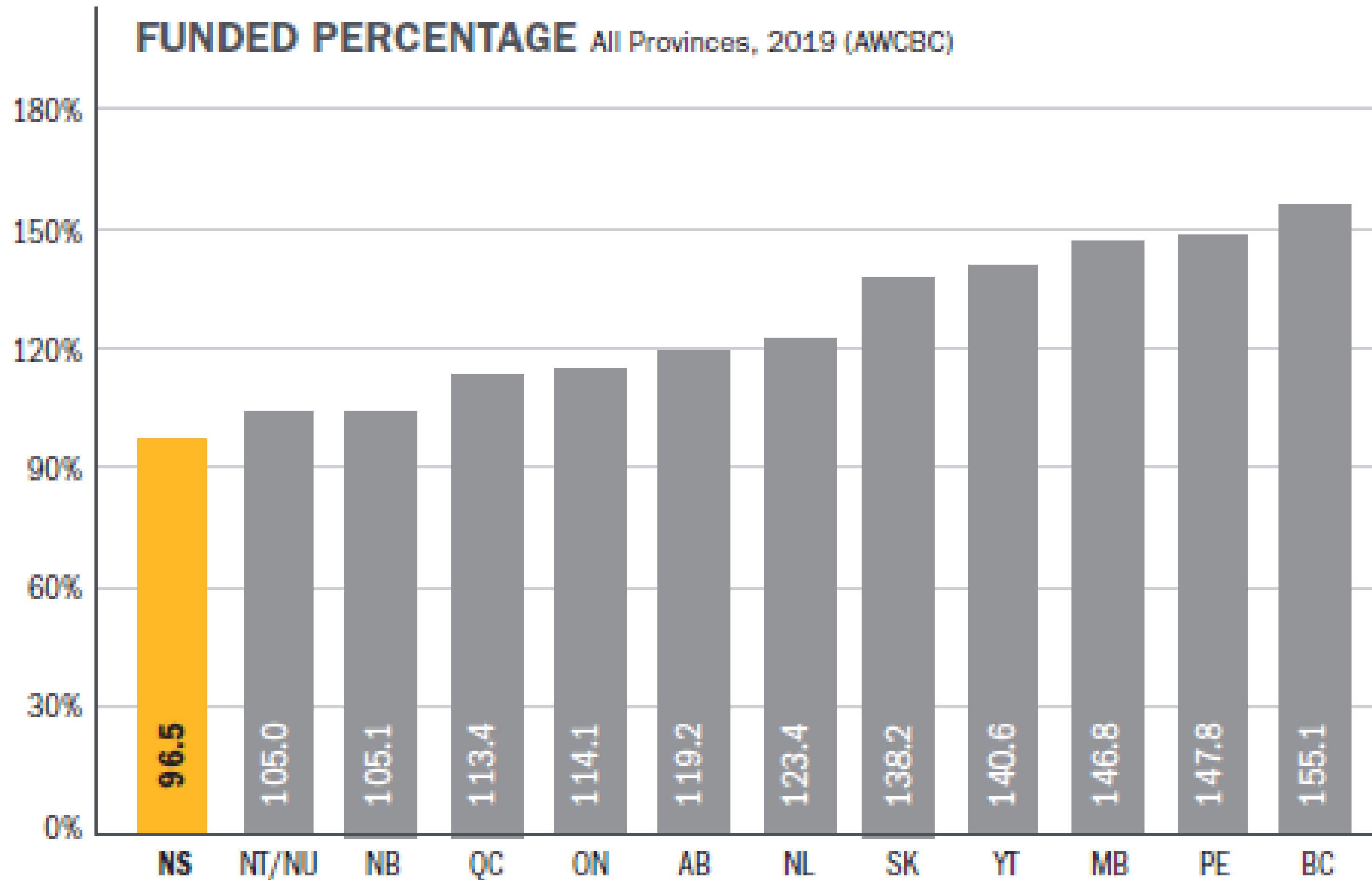
THERE WERE 1.53 TIME-LOSS INJURIES  
PER 100 COVERED WORKERS IN 2020,  
A DECLINE FROM 1.67 IN 2019.

# 1.53

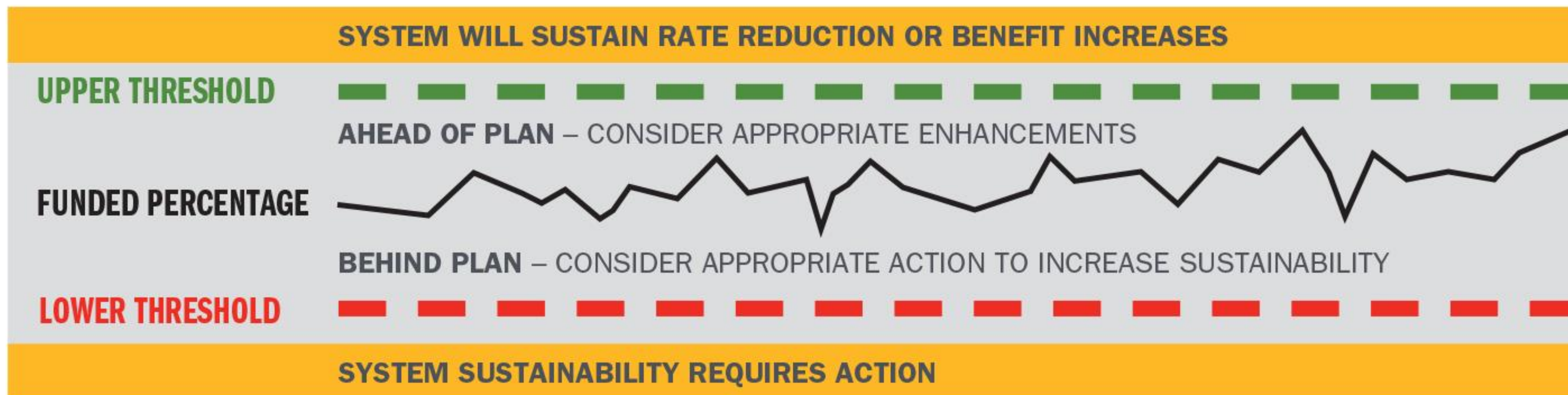
TIME-LOSS CLAIMS PER  
100 COVERED WORKERS

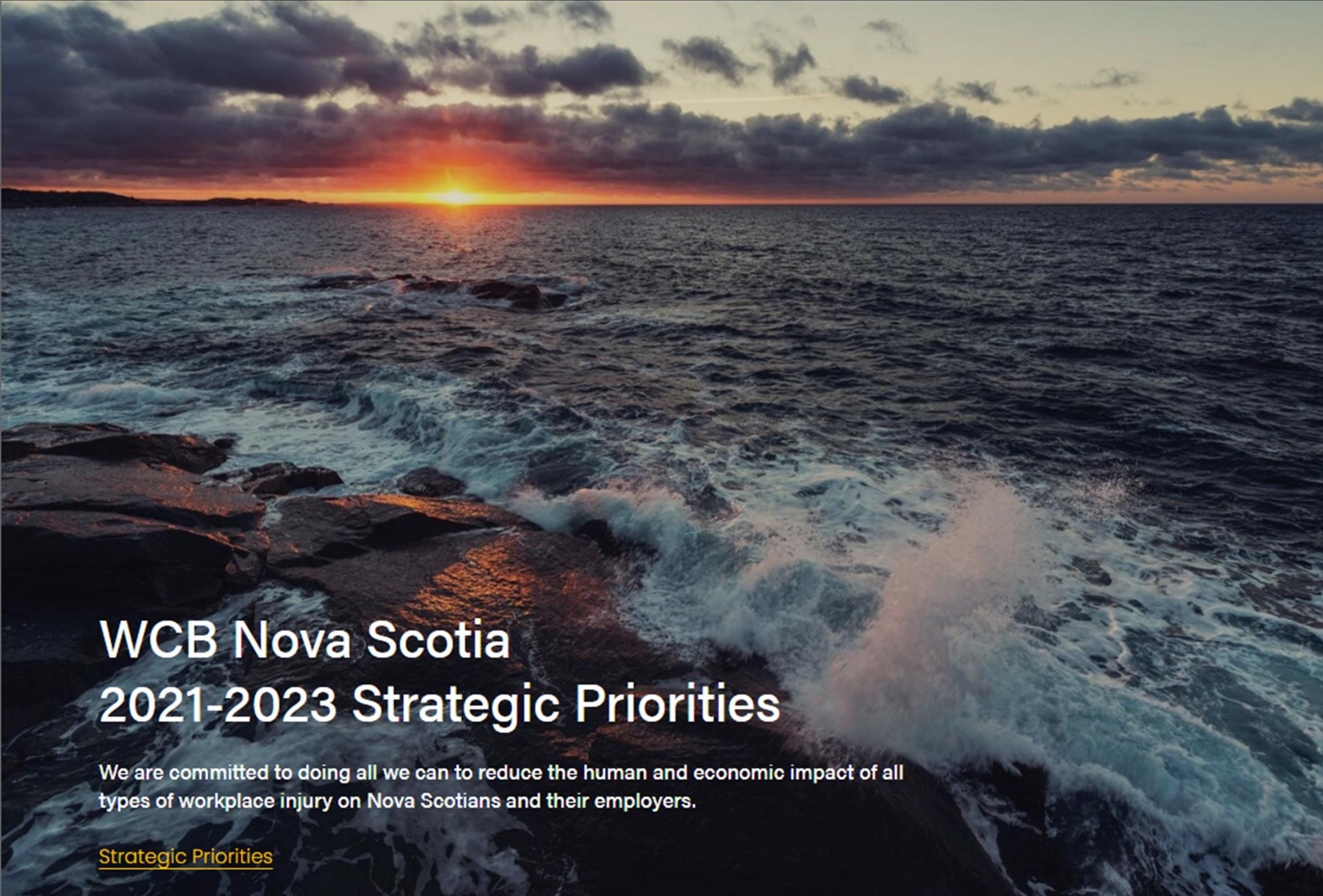
2016	1.74
2017	1.76
2018	1.72
2019	1.67
2020	1.53

IN 2020, **RETURN TO WORK WITHIN  
180 DAYS** WAS **77.97%**





**FUNDING THRESHOLDS: A CONCEPTUAL VIEW**





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WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF NOVA SCOTIA

About Us Our Priorities  

# WCB Nova Scotia 2021-2023 Strategic Priorities

We are committed to doing all we can to reduce the human and economic impact of all types of workplace injury on Nova Scotians and their employers.

[Strategic Priorities](#)



Injury Prevention



Return to Work



Our People and Their Service

**New approaches for a new reality**

## Other WCB initiatives in 2020:

- *New Return to Work approaches*
- *Workplace Mental Health supports*
- *Implementing final AG Report recommendations*
- *Health Care Action Plan*



**Labour, Skills, and Immigration**

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# Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee

## Focus Areas:

- ➔ ***Mental Health***
- ➔ ***Occupational Health***
- ➔ ***Training***

## Legislative and Policy Directions

- The affects of COVID-19 on Psychological Health in the Workplace
- Exploring amendments to the *Workers' Compensation Act*



Fishing



Construction



Manufacturing

## Aligned Organizations

- *Office of the Worker Counsellor*
- *Employer Advisor Nova Scotia Society*
- *Pictou County Injured Workers Association*
- *Cape Breton Injured Workers Association*

## Office of the Worker Counsellor (OWC)

- *Opened 259 new worker files*
- *Responded to 3146 telephone calls*
- *Assisted in filing 126 appeals*
- *Promoted the program on Facebook*
- *Participated in WCB's Tiered Services Audit*
- *Developed online training capacity*

## **Employer Advisor NS Society (EAS)**

- *Assisted 299 employers; cumulative file volume up 16% in 2020*
- *Conducted a return-to-work survey of 1200 workplaces*
- *Delivered 10 training sessions to 259 attendees*
- *Participated in 7 consultation sessions with 72 employers*
- *Achieved client satisfaction at 100%*

## Pictou County and Cape Breton Injured Workers Associations

- *Provided assistance, advocacy and support to injured workers and their families*
- *Supported workers in return to work/case conferences*
- *Assisted with case management and appeals*
- *Participated in consultations/committees*
- *Engaged in community activities*

# Guest Speaker

**Dr. Robert Strang**  
**Chief Medical Officer of Health**



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**Dr. Robert Strang**  
Honorary Chief Workplace  
Health and Safety Officer, 2020

Awarded by the Workplace Safety and Insurance System  
October 6, 2021

*A donation of thanks has been made in Dr. Strang's name to **Threads of Life.***

# Questions

# Thank you for attending the 2021 WSIS Annual Meeting Webinar

The meeting has now concluded

Visit [wsis.ns.ca](https://www.wsis.ns.ca) for more information about WSIS  
performance and activities